



Statue in front of Veterans Building in Livermore.

## Pleasanton to Rededicate Veterans Bldg.

A rededication ceremony is planned for the Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Pleasanton on Sun., Oct. 7. "In honor of the men and women who have served or are currently serving in America's armed forces." In a continuation of the festivities, an Opening Gala II is planned for Sat., Oct. 13.

A bronze sculpture of an elderly Army veteran in uniform leaning on a cane, holding a bouquet of poppies and an American flag, was installed last Friday at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building. The veteran wears a California Veterans of Foreign Wars cap and is seated.

(See VETERANS, page 11)



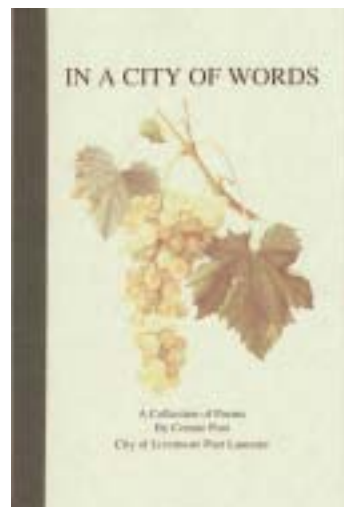
Shaolin Warriors

## Warrior Monks Performance Set

Warrior monks of China's legendary Shaolin temple display ancient forms of hand-to-hand and weapons combat in a thrilling and spectacular theatrical Kung Fu production. Inspired by the movements of wild animals, their stunning sword-play, club fighting, balancing, boxing, Qi Gong, and tumbling combine deadly martial arts with the agility and grace of gymnasts. The 20 member ensemble arrives at Livermore's new Bankhead Theater on Tuesday, October 9th for a heart-stopping performance of daring bravado and masterful technique. Tickets are available from \$31 to \$24 and \$11 for children under 12.

The Shaolin performers train in martial arts for several hours every day - perfecting the art of hand-to-hand and weapons combat. Each performer is required to achieve an extraordinarily high level of proficiency in each of the 18 traditional weapons, and to become a mas-

(See SHAOLIN, page 13)



The City of Livermore has reprinted a collection of works by City Poet Laureate, Connie Post, entitled *City of Words*. The collection, which contains 19 original poems written by Post, provide expression to a variety of civic or community events from June 2005 to June 2007. The collection of poems sells for \$10 (cost of printing & binding) and includes photographs and artistic images. To purchase a copy, contact the City of Livermore Economic Development Department at 925-960-4140.

# Ceremonies Celebrate Opening of Theater

"Livermore you did it," proclaimed Supervisor Scott Haggerty as the community gathered to celebrate the opening of the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

The crowd of nearly 1000 was in a festive mood. The Livermore High School band added to the celebratory feeling with a selection of songs prior to the dedication.

"Welcome to the first day of the cultural renewal of the City of Livermore," declared Mayor Marshall Kamena. "What's coming soon is unbelievable." He referred to the diversity of performances planned at the new 500-

seat performing arts theater.

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) executive director Len Alexander noted that the theater could not have been built without help on both the public and private side. "It started out as a dream twenty years ago. Now we are celebrating what we hope will be a bright and shiny future."

The celebration was a time to recognize those who made it possible.

Haggerty was introduced as someone "who was extraordinarily helpful" in making the project a success. He became emotional while making his re-

marks. "This is truly phenomenal that a community could come together like this. Eleven years ago, when I first heard the plans, I thought, this is not going to happen."

The county participated by providing millions of dollars from an impact fee at the Altamont Landfill. Haggerty said that when asked if Livermore could get some money for the theater from the landfill, I thought "what a great idea, an impact fee."

"I want to let Livermore know how truly proud I am. Very few communities could have pulled this off. To the city, the council

and volunteers who never said 'no,' this is your day," declared Haggerty.

Following a ribbon cutting ceremony, the public got its first look at the 500-seat performing arts theater.

"The theater is designed to provide a home for local performing arts organizations that existed in the past in schools, churches and other venues. The theater allows us to take away the ceiling that was limiting their growth," said Alexander. "It is not just the physical building, but all the wonderful things it will allow us to do."

He noted that over the next

two weeks, there would be performances both in the theater and on the SheaHomes Stage in front of it. "There is something for everyone. There are over 150 events scheduled over the next year. Some are free, some ticketed. It will all be a lot of fun," added Alexander.

He mentioned the 12 member LVPAC board of directors as being instrumental in making the theater a reality, with three deserving of special attention. One is Phil Wentz, "who has been an eloquent spokesperson." Phil Dean has kept records, time and the legacy alive. When it comes

(See THEATER, page 6)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Crowds gathered to celebrate the opening of the new Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

## Pleasanton Superintendent Says 'No Child' Law Future Train Wreck

Pleasanton school trustees and administrative staff sounded happy about the test score report they heard at their meeting Sept. 25. However, superintendent John Casey pointed to some darkness on the horizon.

The test scores, highlighted by district administrator Jim Rallis at the meeting, showed many good results. On the state tests, known as the Academic Performance Index (API), all of Pleasanton's schools are above the score of 800, which is the

minimum required by the state on a scale of 1000. Some Pleasanton schools are above 900.

All Pleasanton schools also scored above the standards set by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation. These test results are reported in categories of being proficient or excellent, on the one hand, or lacking proficiency, on the other hand. In the last school year's testing, which was reported Aug. 31, the number of Pleasanton stu-

(See PLEASANTON, page 3)

## Compact City Design Seen As Way To Cut Greenhouse Gases

California won't meet its goal of reduced greenhouse gases unless cities and urban planners make a strong effort to plan future growth on the village concept.

The concept encourages people to walk to services and recreation, and to create more efficient routes when they do use cars or public transit. It can also reduce their commute to work. That was the message by environmentalists, who held a press conference in Oakland on Sept. 27 to announce the release of a report about the partial solution to ozone layer problems.

Titled "Growing Cooler: The Evidence on Urban Development and Climate Change," the report was written by Smart Growth America and the Urban Land Institute.

The report concludes that it's not enough to further reduce emissions from motor vehicles and industrial sources. Any

gains by those means will be lost by the enormous California population increase. Some 52 percent of total California development will have occurred after 2000, according to the report.

The report says that a meaningful swing to smart growth is needed. One of those steps would be support for SB 375 in Sacramento, said Rico Mastrodonato, a spokesman for California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV), one of the participants in the press conference last week.

Steinberg's bill would enable cities and counties to encourage developers to design compact development by speeding the CEQA approval process. It could do so, because satisfying certain CEQA conditions by design would be built into the law, said Mastrodonato.

Stuart Cohen, director of the Transportation and Land Use Coalition, said, "This report

(See DESIGN, page 4)

## VA to Move Facilities Out of Livermore

Land that VA facilities occupy now in Livermore will be put to a new use. The current services offered to veterans will be relocated to the Central Valley and the East Bay.

Local Congressional representatives, Ellen Tauscher and Jerry McNerney expressed dismay at the decision.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson made the announcement last week that a new state-of-the-art nursing home and outpatient facilities would be built in the Central Valley as part of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) strategic plan.

The VA will seek to develop the vacated Livermore facilities to veterans such as a continuing care retirement commu-

nity with assisted living and rehabilitation and other services. The VA will retain ownership and control of uses on the property. The VA will use what is known as an "enhanced-use" leasing program. "We want to keep the Livermore campus as a resource for veterans in partnership with the private sector to develop innovative re-use proposals," according to Nicholson.

One use that has been rejected is a resort or hotel.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said he was very disappointed with the decision. "However, there is a little crack in the door with our local representatives working in Washington to keep the local VA open," said Kamena.

Keri Childress, spokesperson for the VA, said it won't be known anytime soon what the re-use might be. The VA will work with a private organization or nonprofit. Whoever leases the land could build new facilities or use those on the grounds, according to Childress.

She provided examples of possible uses. One would be a retirement community. The VA would grant a reduced rate for the lease, if the home provided ten beds to veterans. Another use could be similar to one in Menlo Park, where there are two homeless shelters with a certain number of beds reserved for veterans. Yet another option would be to develop low income housing on

(See VA MOVE, page 4)

## Union OKed at Lab

Last Wednesday, the California's Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) certified that skilled trades employees at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) have collective bargaining status with Local 11 of the University Professional and Technical Employees union, also known as the Society of Professionals, Scientists, and Engineers, or SPSE-UPTE, whose entire membership works at the UC-run laboratory.

SPSE-UPTE president Jim Wolford remarked, "This is a clear

signal from employees that they want to hold on to those things that have made LLNL a premier employer for 55 years." The move came just days before Oct. 1, when the Lab underwent a change in management from UC to a consortium led by Bechtel Corporation, known as Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC. UC will remain a major partner in the private-sector company.

The new company will face obstacles from its very first days

(See LAB, page 4)

## Mayor Unopposed in Re-election Bid

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena is unopposed on the November ballot.

Kamena said, "In general, that means someone is either very entrenched or doing a very good job." He added, "I have put my heart and soul into this job. It's the most fun a person could have."

The mayor said he believes a great deal of progress has been made in the city since he was elected in 2001. He said he has enjoyed being part of the planning and implementation of projects he believes benefit the

city, particularly projects that have enhanced the downtown. There are more to come. He mentions the El Charro Prime Outlets. Kamena noted that Livermore was 30th on the list and eventually was selected, because we were able to demonstrate the city had a lot of assets that would benefit the Outlet developers.

When it comes to funding the arts, Kamena said, "As a philosophy, I like the idea. The question is the number." He is referring to a proposed art fee on development. Kamena said he

(See MAYOR, page 6)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The 2nd Annual "Bras for the Cause" moonlight walk was held in downtown Pleasanton last Saturday. The event helped to collect money for the San Francisco Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The organization raises awareness about breast cancer.

## Dietrich Has Collected Most Cash

Livermore city council candidates have all raised a similar amount of money during the last reporting period that ended Sept. 22.

Challenger Jeff Williams shows the most money collected. However, his \$8,751 total includes a \$2000 loan to himself.

Incumbent Lorraine Dietrich has collected \$8485 in cash donations. The other incumbent, Marj Leider has a total of \$7500, including a \$1000 loan to herself.

Dietrich commented, "Although I got off to a late start, I'm doing well. I'm pleased to have raised the most money."

Mayor Marshall Kamena, who is running unopposed, has collected \$86,545. His total includes a \$32,000 loan.

Friends of Livermore has reported in with a total of \$15,848; with \$14,761 in cash contributions.

(See ELECTION, page 3)

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Caleb is a great family pet but is not allowed to remain his family's rental home. He is a tricolor 14-month old Walker Coon Hound who is gentle with small children and loves to play with other dogs. He likes stuffed toys, walks, dog parks, lots of attention and being groomed. He is housetrained and sleeps indoors at night, weighs 70+ pounds, and has a deep, hound

howl. For more information about Caleb, call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656. Visit our cats at the 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.

# Commuters Favor Toll Lanes on I-680

Commuters on Interstate 680 are in favor of a new high-occupancy/toll lane on the freeway by a margin of 2 to 1, according to a new study conducted for the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency. Sixty-four percent think the lane is a very good or good idea.

"The lane gives solo drivers the choice of paying for a speedier trip while carpools and buses continue to ride for free," said Jean Hart, executive director of the I-680 Smart Lane

Project. "The poll indicates that this lane will attract enough users to be financially successful, but not so many that the lane will be too crowded."

Planners are completing design work for a 14-mile southbound high occupancy vehicle/toll lane (HOT) on I-680 between Pleasanton and Milpitas over the Sunol Grade. The project is scheduled to open in 2010.

The HOT lane would be available free to carpools, motorcycles and buses, and to solo drivers who

pay a toll electronically using a FasTrak transponder. There would be no toll booths. Tolls would vary depending on the level of traffic congestion. They would be higher when the freeway is busiest and lower when there is less demand in order to keep traffic in the lane flowing smoothly. Toll revenue would pay the costs of operating the lane and also support public transit and other improvements in the corridor.

Alameda County commis-

sioned a survey of commuters who use the I-680 corridor to test opinions about the proposed toll lanes. Among the poll's findings:

- Freeway traffic is a major concern of survey respondents, higher than schools, jobs, crime or housing.

- Overall, commuters support high-occupancy/toll lanes 64% to 33%.

- 12% of commuters say they would use a toll lane every day, 9% three or four times a week, 15% once or twice a week, 23% a few times a month, and 42% would not use the lane.

- Major benefits seen are electronic collection that with no toll booths carpools continue to use the lane for free. Toll revenue helps public transportation.


Similar lanes operate in Southern California on State Route 91 in Orange County and on Interstate 15 in San Diego County. The I-680 project is planned as the first combined high-occupancy vehicle/toll lane in Northern California.

The poll, conducted by SA Opinion Research of San Francisco, measured attitudes of 466 licensed drivers who commute along I-580 and I-680 — 117 who commute on I-680, 282 on I-580 and 67 who commute on both highways. The margin of error was 4.5 percentage points.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Four Freshmen were the opening act at the new Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The group played to a full house.



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<p><b>Bernadette Peters in Concert</b> Gala Fundraising Benefit Saturday, October 6, 8pm</p> <p><b>Bringing Art to Life</b> Sunday, October 7, 2pm <i>Valley Dance Theatre</i></p> <p><b>Shaolin Warriors</b> Tuesday, October 9, 7:30pm <i>Legendary Masters of Kung-Fu</i></p> <p><b>Doc Watson &amp; David Holt</b> Wednesday, October 10, 8pm <i>World's Most Accomplished Flat-Picker</i></p> <p><b>The Brandenburg Concertos</b> Thursday, October 11, 8pm <i>Pacific Chamber Symphony</i></p> <p><b>Premium Blend</b> Friday, October 12, 6pm and 8:30pm <i>Bay Area Dance Company</i></p> <p><b>All the World's a Stage: The Bard, Baritones and Bassoons!</b> Saturday, October 13, 8pm <i>Livermore-Amador Symphony, Livermore Valley Opera &amp; Shakespeare's Associates</i></p> <p><b>La Boheme</b> October 20, 26, 27, 8pm October 21 &amp; 28, 2pm <i>Livermore Valley Opera</i></p> <p><b>Jake Shimabukuro</b> October 25, 8pm <i>The Hot Ukulele Player</i></p>	   
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## Livermore Valley Education Foundation Continues its Micro-lending Program

By Patricia Koning

Micro-lending is changing the world, and you don't have to look any further than the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District for proof. The Livermore Valley Education Foundation (LVEF) is starting the third year of its mini-grant program for teachers.

LVEF will award \$15,000 in mini-grants this fall and another \$15,000 in the spring. This is a significant increase in grant awards; last year the program awarded \$10,000 per cycle.

"We are so excited to be able to increase our mini-grants and reach even more teachers," says LVEF President Victoria Schellenberger. "This program aims to support our wonderful teachers by providing money for extras that are outside the District and school site budgets."

The program began as a way to reach a wide variety of grade levels and subjects. School staff members can request grants of up to \$500 for equipment, curriculum, or anything else that might enrich their educational program. Schellenberger says a primary goal of the program is to reach as

many children as possible.

Last year grants were awarded for library books, microscopes, thesauruses, testing and assessments, DVDs for film, health, and design classes, PE equipment for elementary school students, consumables for ceramics class, weight lifting bars, simple musical instruments, a new chop saw, Panini-press machines for home economics classes, and choir T-shirts for elementary level performances.

Cristina Alvarez, a science specialist at Altamont Creek Elementary School, received a mini-grant last year for a human skeleton as well as beakers and graduated cylinders to stock the science lab.

"When I took over second grade science, the lab was pretty empty," she says. "The human skeleton has been a huge hit. It is especially useful when we cover the human body in the spring. I am able to point out parts on the skeleton that the students are learning about as they are putting together their paper skeleton."

Nelson Fong, a physics teacher at Livermore High

School, received a mini-grant last year that he used to purchase dynamics carts and pulley clamps for laboratory exercises in which the students study Newton's Laws of Motion. The grant allowed him to replace worn out equipment and add new equipment to accommodate growth in physics enrollment.

Schellenberger says the response to the mini-grant program has been very enthusiastic.

"The LVEF mini-grants are wonderful. It was a simple process to apply," says Alvarez. "LVEF has been very generous to the Livermore schools, and I definitely appreciate them."

To maintain an even distribution of grants across the District, each grade level or team per site can only receive one grant per cycle. However, there is no limit to the number of grants a school site can win.

Applications are due October 18 and awards will be determined Nov. 5. Applications will be distributed through school sites. The spring grant cycle will begin on Jan. 18, 2008. For questions, send email to [vschellenberger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vschellenberger@sbcglobal.net).

## PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

dents scoring proficient or above was 11 percent higher than the NCLB standards for 2006-07 in various tested subjects.

However, the standards climb annually. By the 2013-14 school year, NCLB expects that 100 percent of the district's students will be at least proficient. It's a potential "train wreck" for all districts, including Pleasanton, said Casey. If districts don't meet the criteria, principals can be fired. Schools can be reconstituted, said Casey.

He perceives this as punitive. "I don't like the concept of punishment. I like to take the next step, and figure out what we can do," he said. "If someone can come in and help us show the way, fine. However, this idea of firing principals and reconstituting schools may have some merit, but there are a lot of things you can do before you get into that punishment mode," said Casey.

The district will try hard to meet the goals. In some cases, it will be impossible to do so, he said. For example, "Students with handicaps do pretty well, but to get to 100 percent, probably is not a reality. It might be to 100 percent of their ideals, but 100 percent of the state test, I don't think so." Raising economically disadvantaged children to 100 percent proficiency will be a challenge.

Long-time board trustee Pat Kernan said the test results overall are "light years ahead of 11 years ago. They have been ratcheted up the last four or five years to an incredible level."

The tests evolved over the years into being based on California standards that lined up with state curriculum expectations. Casey said, "What's exciting is that (the results) are based on meaningful standards. I haven't been able to say this for the many years I've been in the profession. These are world-class standards that are rated tops in the nation."

He added, "I congratulate hard working teachers, hard working parents, and certainly our students."

Trustee Chris Grant said that there is more ground to cover for the district. He read figures showing that from 23 percent to 30 percent in certain grades lacked proficiency in certain subjects. "That's the converse of all the stepping stones we should be proud of. Where can we do more?"

That would be my challenge to this district. It ultimately starts with this board. How do we go from 23 and 30 percent (not proficient) to 85 to 90 percent (proficient) in the next two or three years?"

### ELIMINATE CLASSROOM 'DONATIONS'?

The board held a work session before its regular meeting to continue its discussion about high school expansion and the separate issue of a parcel tax to pay for program enrichment.

Parent Julie Testa told the board that she would not support a parcel tax. Parents already are asked to pay for many things as part of the programs, she said. Testa said, "I'm asked as a parent to pay for items that are not my responsibility as a parent. There is pressure on us to pay, and pressure on our students, if we don't pay. If we approve a parcel tax, will we stop paying extra?"

Testa said she would pay for things that are "truly extra-curricular."

Testa's statement kicked off a discussion about the prospects of a parcel tax's ability to shift the economic burden from parents, who pay for many relatively minor items that add up in a school year. Casey estimated the average parent contribution is about \$150 per year at the elementary level, and a little higher at middle and high schools, mainly due to the science curriculum. If the schools don't receive the money from parents in the classroom, "what am I cutting?" asked Casey. "Are they donating to the core curriculum. We don't want people to do that. It's free public education."

However, the reality is that schools don't provide students with pencils and a ream of paper anymore, as they did when he was a kid, said Casey. "If we want to continue to provide things for our kids, donations are a reality for us. The reality is that our budget won't support programs as it used to," said Casey. People who can't afford it are able to let the district know. They don't have to pay.

Grant said that an estimated 20 to 35 percent of a parcel tax would be reimbursed through a tax deduction annually. The board continued the discussion to await a further report from staff.

### DIVERSITY HIRING ON FRONT BURNER

Trustees also looked over a list of goals for the staff for the coming year. Among them was one titled "global awareness." Part of that awareness is to have the staff's composition reflect the diversity of Pleasanton's population.

Trustee Kris Weaver said she thinks "it's great" to look at diversity in staffing. "Though we want to increase diversity on our staff, we are still going to hire the best employees," said Weaver.

"That's right," said Casey. "We won't sacrifice excellence and talent to create a more diverse staff."

Grant said, "You don't sacrifice quality by hiring a diverse teaching population that inspires our student population. It's not just people of color, but women teaching science and math who are motivators and mentors for our kids. I believe this is a priority for our district. If we can hire the best and the brightest, they are a diverse population. It takes a little extra effort to find those champions."

Trustees gave recognition in the past to an English-learners class at Amador Valley High School, singling out the Spanish speaking teacher who was mentoring the group. Along those lines, Casey told trustees that when the district goes to job fairs, it might expand its search into Arizona. The state has a proportionally high population of Latino and Native American residents.

Casey said that the whole topic raises several questions. "Are we a community that welcomes people of color into the community? Do we as a management team welcome diversity into our schools? We are talking about addressing that," he said.

On another item, Casey said that Amador Valley High School has been honored as a school of distinction by the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools (CCCMS). Amador placed second in the United States with its civics team in competition in the past school year. Casey noted with extra satisfaction that the late Pleasanton trustee, Juanita Haugen, had a major role in starting the CCCMS. Amador was a pilot school for the organization.

## ELECTION

(continued from page one)

Dietrich showed 53 contributors, with 8 non-residents. Among them is James Tong, who works with the Lin family, large landowners in North Livermore. He donated \$250. Other donors to Dietrich include former councilmember John Stein, \$200; Valerie Raymond, \$250; former Dublin mayor Linda Sailors, \$100; AVH Properties, \$250; Ayn Wieskamp, \$100; former Livermore mayor Cathie Brown, \$100; Milt Codioli, \$250; David Mertes and Barbara Mertes, \$250 each; Tom Bramell, \$200; Brett Wayne, \$250; Ideal Boat and Camper Storage, \$250; Cory and Anne Coll, \$250 each; Callahan Property Company, Inc. \$250; former councilmember Tom Vargas, \$250; former mayor John Shirley, \$100; and Pam Corbett, \$100.

All but two of Leader's 58 donors are Livermore residents. Among those donating are fellow councilmember Doug Horner, \$500; former councilmember Donald Miller, \$100; Patricia Hoenig, \$150; Neil Riley, \$100; Clarence Hoenig, \$150; Steven Miller, \$250; former mayor Archer Futch, \$250; Carolyn Ramsey, \$100; Mary Roberts, \$50; David Furst, \$50; Harriet Cole, \$250; Margaret Tracy, \$250; Susan Steinberg, \$100; and Citizens for Kamena, \$250.

One of Williams' 54 donors was a nonresident. Donating to Williams were Clarence Hoenig, \$250; Patricia Hoenig, \$150; Jeanette King, \$250; former mayor Archer Futch, \$250;

Roberta Hadley, \$100; Lynn Seppala, \$250; councilmember Marjorie Leider, \$500; Barbara Kornblum, \$250; John Taylor, \$250; Harriet Cole, \$250; Joan Green, \$100; Susan Steinberg, \$100; Margaret Tracy, \$250; and Mary Ann Zagotta, \$100.

Friends of Livermore listed 91 donors. Among the top donors is Bob Baltzer with \$9379; Archer Futch, \$500; Margaret Tracy, \$520; Jean King, \$515; Jon Harvey, \$500; and Michael Fredrich, \$2500.

### LEAGUE FORUM

The Livermore-Amador Valley League of Women Voters will present a forum for the candidates for the Livermore City Council, Wednesday, October 10, 7 p.m. at the Livermore City Council Chambers, 3375 Pacific Ave.

Three candidates for the council will state their positions and answer questions presented by a League moderator. The candidates for the two open council seats are: Lorraine Dietrich, Marjorie Leider and Jeff Williams.

Following this, Councilmember John Marchand will read a statement by Mayor Marshall Kamena, who is running unopposed.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The absentee voting period for the November 6, 2007 Consolidated District Election opens on Monday, October 8. Voters may request an absentee ballot by mail by completing the application on the back of the

sample ballot or by sending a written request to the Registrar of Voters. Additionally, voters now have the option and convenience of completing and sending the application electronically from the website, [www.acgov.org/rov](http://www.acgov.org/rov).

Written requests for an absentee ballot must include the voter's name, residence address, the address to which the ballot is to be mailed, and the voter's signature. All requests for absentee ballots must be in writing and include the voter's signature. Law precludes the Registrar of Voters from issuing a ballot based on a telephone request. Requests for absentee ballots may be faxed to 510-272-6982. Requests may be mailed to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters, 1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1, Oakland, CA 94612. The Registrar of Voters must receive all written requests for absentee ballots no later than October 30. Voted ballots must be returned to the Registrar of Voters or any polling place in Alameda County no later than the close of polls on Election Day.

Registered voters may also cast an absentee ballot in person, beginning October 8, in the office of the Registrar of Voters located in the basement of the Rene C. Davidson Alameda County Courthouse at 1225 Fallon Street in Oakland. The office is open from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

The Livermore city council and mayor's races are the only municipal elections on the ballot impacting Valley cities.



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# EDITORIALS

## Kamena, Leider, Williams

Livermore's upcoming election gives the voters an opportunity to demonstrate their support for the new direction Livermore is moving.

An urban growth boundary (UGB) is in place. Downtown revitalization is taking off. The thrust now of North Livermore planning is to preserve that area in agriculture and open space and focus the city's urban growth on the lands inside the UGB.

The election to the City Council of Jeff Williams and reelection of Marj Leider would be an affirmation of that. A large vote total by Marshall Kamena, who is running unopposed for mayor, would be a further affirmation of it.

Lorraine Dietrich, a councilmember since 1999, seeks reelection. Dietrich has served the developers, not the community, fighting the UGB and all other measures that would curb suburban sprawl and its attendant traffic.

She gave Pardee her total support.

The new general plan redirects the city's planning away from sprawl to downtown redevelopment and infill. Dietrich voted against the plan.

North Livermore development interests, such as the Lin family, look to Dietrich to keep their hopes alive; among the donors to her campaign is the spokesman for the Lins.

We hope that the voters who rejected the Pardee development by a 72% majority will take note of Dietrich's record and replace her with someone who will help Livermore rise to the challenges posed by the UGB and new general plan.

Jeff Williams is just the person for that.

Williams recently retired as head of the Lawrence Livermore Lab's mechanical engineering department and serves on the city's Design Review Committee.

He actively opposed the Pardee development. He fully supports the UGB and new general plan.

Indeed, he offers more than merely his support; he brings a vision. Williams would work to create "a complete living experience" in Livermore — a self-contained city where needs would be met and, in his words, "folks wouldn't have to drive on that freeway."

Marj Leider seeks her second term on the City Council. A retired chemist, she worked at both the Lab and Wente Vineyards. She served on the Planning Commission and Design Review Committee before running for the council four years ago.

Leider has been a stalwart on all the major issues — the UGB, the new general plan and downtown revitalization.

She has been an activist councilmember; Leider was the prime mover behind the recently enacted tree ordinance, which will help protect the city's "urban forest."

All the good things happening in Livermore today have Mayor Marshall Kamena's imprint on them. The UGB survived Pardee thanks in large part to the force of his early and continued opposition.

Pardee, however, isn't likely to be the last challenge. A vote for Mayor Kamena not only will be a way of saying "good work," but also will demonstrate the community's desire that he stay the course in the battles lying ahead.

## LAB

(continued from page one)

in charge. Budget shortfalls in the coming fiscal year have prompted the US Department of Energy to request that LLNL draw up a restructuring plan that is expected to include layoffs. According to Wolford, the union hopes that collective bargaining will effectively prevent layoffs for the new represented unit of employees, or at least make layoffs a last resort. "SPSE-UPTE formed in 1973 in response to several rounds of layoffs that followed the end of the Vietnam War." Union president-elect Sue Byars added, "It is especially fitting that our first collective bargaining unit would form in time

## Livermore Farmers Market To Go Year-round

The Livermore Farmers Market will continue through the year. It will make its home in the multi-story parking garage on Railroad Avenue, across the street from the Bankhead Theater.

A section of the garage's main floor will be cordoned off between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on sundays, starting Nov. 4. Extending the Farmers Market through the year will enable people to buy winter vegetables and fruit, in addition to the bread, cheese, and other foods that have been available in the summer and fall.

There will be a small seating area with tables, where people can consume crepes, sold by a vendor who began appearing at the market in late summer, said Sarah Flores, administrative assistant at Livermore Downtown Inc., which coordinates the market.

The vendor serves sweet crepes with fruit filling, and also crepes with chicken, vegetables and cheese. There are also two tamale booths at the market, including one that serves them hot, so they may be eaten on the premises.

to face another layoff challenge."

LLNL's skilled trades employees include air conditioning mechanics, boiler and pressure systems workers, carpenters, electricians, heavy equipment mechanics, locksmiths, maintenance mechanics, painters, plumbers/fitters, riggers, sheet metal workers, trades helpers and welders.

UPTE is part of local 9119 of the Communication Workers of America, AFL-CIO. PERB's decision was a victory for the union during a difficult time. SPSE-UPTE's campaign for collective bargaining has faced a combination of challenges including a workforce unaccustomed to having to fight for favorable employment conditions, an October 1st deadline for LLNL to become privatized, and an aggressive counter-campaign by management. Wolford calls this move by the PERB a milestone in employees' year-long fight for union recognition. The PERB certification notice gives UC ten days to file an appeal.

## DESIGN

(continued from page one)

shows that by changing how and where we expect to grow, we reduce the amount that people have to drive by 20 to 40 percent."

The environmental organizations are interested in the new report because it can help implement AB 32, which is California's nationally pioneering effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The organizations are working under one umbrella group, ClimatePlan, which intends to work with government to develop strategies and funding sources to overcome the pollution problems. The group's web page is at [climateplan.org](http://climateplan.org).

Other groups represented at the press conference were the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Greenbelt Alliance and the California Center for Regional Leadership.

# Slight Further Boost Recommended For Water Rate

Fixing the Delta's environmental problems to make it possible to pump water from it for continual water delivery to the Valley may result in a slight boost in the water rate proposed for next year.

Zone 7 Water Agency's finance committee had already recommended an 8 percent boost in the charge to its four water-retailing customers. Those retailers are Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and the private California Water Service, which operates in Livermore.

The full board traditionally sets the water rate in October. The rate takes effect Jan. 1 in the following calendar year. The finance committee met Sept. 26 to consider new costs associated with the Delta. It came up with a recommendation to boost its earlier recommendation of 8 percent to 8.4 percent.

At the 8 percent boost, the cost of treated water would be \$686 per acre foot (AF). Adding the 0.4 percent would bring the

total to \$689. One AF is the amount of water used by two households each year. The cost would be \$25.50 per household at \$686, and with the 0.4 percent increase, it would be \$27 per year.

The percentage increase on a homeowner's water bill would not necessarily be the 8.4 percent discussed by Zone 7. For example, in Dublin, it would be more like 4.5 percent or so, said DSRSD general manager Bert Michalczuk. The Zone 7 fee is only about 50 percent or 60 percent of the total DSRSD bill, because the retailer also has to charge for its costs. Therefore, the Zone 7 percentage shrinks as a portion of the retail water bill, said Michalczuk.

To date, Zone 7 has set the agency's untreated water rate, which is used by agriculture, by simply passing along its costs from buying it from the state water project. Typically, it sells for approximately \$90 to \$100 per AF, depending on water delivery costs set by the state. However,

Zone 7 might consider a change. The board's lone grower, Jim Concannon, who is also a member of the finance committee, said that Zone 7 should find a way in its ag water fee to enable agriculture to help fix the Delta, too.

Representatives of the Valley's water retailers were in the audience at the committee meeting. They said that their organizations don't oppose the proposed increase. However, they don't endorse it either. Their position is that they understand what Zone 7 must do.

They had suggestions about how to finance the agency's equipment replacement fund, a discussion from the past, which was continued to the future.

On raising the 2008 rate to fix the Delta, Livermore water supervisor Darren Greenwood said for argument's sake that Zone 7 should consider raising the treated water rate by 16 percent. "We should do what we need to do to cover costs, and explain it

to people. Do it in one big rise. Tell people (if they complain) to call the judge," said Greenwood.

Greenwood was referring to a federal judge whose order shut down Delta pumps for a few days. The judge is compelling a plan that likely will interrupt pumping from time to time between December and June every year for many years, until a physical solution is in place to save the smelt and other species.

"It's hard to say I support 16 percent. But maybe the increase should be on the table to discuss," said Greenwood.

"Not DSRSD," was the quick response from another audience member, DSRSD financial services manager Lori Rose.

Directors agreed with Zone 7 staff that more study of the Delta solution and the court order's consequences need to be completed before any major change in plans about the water rate could be taken. As far as they are concerned, 8.4 percent is the prudent increase for 2008.

## VA MOVE

(continued from page one)

the property, said Childress. "There are all kinds of potential uses that could benefit veterans and the City of Livermore," she stated.

Childress emphasized that nothing would happen in Livermore until new facilities are open. "If all goes perfectly in the funding cycles, new facilities would not be open any earlier than 2015. In the meantime, there will be no changes at Livermore and no one will be moved," according to Childress. "We won't put anyone out on the street."

Two Congressmen from the Valley have been battling to keep the Livermore VA facility open. They expressed concern about the decision announced last week, calling it shortsighted.

Congressman Jerry McNerney stated, "It appears the Bush Administration is determined to cut veterans' services at a time when they should be expanded. In fact, cutting back on services now is shortsighted. Our commitments

overseas are creating a new generation of veterans whose impact on the VA system has yet to be fully realized. I told Secretary Nicholson when I met with him in May and July that I oppose the restriction or elimination of services for veterans in the Tri-Valley and the Central Valley. That is why I oppose this plan."

McNerney said that while a needed nursing home is planned for the Central Valley, the plan results in a harmful reduction of services in the Tri-Valley. "Unfortunately for the veterans in our region, the announcement is noticeably and disappointingly short on details. Because Secretary Nicholson is set to resign from his post October 1, that means waiting even longer to hear the true fate of veterans' care in our region."

"As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I will continue to fight for the needs of veterans in the Tri-Valley and the Central Valley, and

to ensure all veterans are treated with the respect they have earned," McNerney added.

McNerney has advocated offering expanded services in Livermore to deal with post traumatic stress disorder that returning veterans are exhibiting.

Childress said that a facility could be established on the Livermore site to deal with the disorder. "This decision does not prevent that from happening." She said that it would not be a VA operated facility.

Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher declared, "The Veterans Administration has backed an irresponsible plan to shut down needed services at the Livermore VA Hospital. I will oppose any plan that falls short of providing the facilities and services that East Bay veterans need and deserve."

"Serving vets in the Central Valley should not come at the expense of vets in the East Bay. Our commitment to veterans can-

not be an either or proposition. Congress hasn't endorsed this plan. The VA should go back to the drawing board and only proceed with a solution that reflects our commitment to veterans and their needs," Tauscher stated.

Childress said the main reason for the decision to move the facility was to locate to an area where the majority of veterans are living now.

No location has been chosen for either the East Bay outpatient clinic or the Central Valley facility. Childress said that at this time the outpatient clinic would not be in Livermore. A committee would be established to select the Central Valley location.

This decision concludes the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) review process for Livermore and the Central Valley, which began in 2004 as part of an effort to upgrade VA health care facilities across the country.

## 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.)

### Just Say 'No' Christine Steiner Pleasanton

Pleasanton residents, wake up. You are being sold a bill of goods under the guise of those apple pie words, "open space." Before signing the initiative, I urge you to look at the piece of property (Staples Ranch) the proponents of the initiative want to save. Ask yourself, does this make sense? Preserving the surrounding hills is one thing. But, wait a minute, a flat piece of land bordered by 580 and El Charro Road - a gravel truck route - I hardly think that is worth saving.

Our city entered into a memorandum of understanding with Alameda County to annex and develop the property in the City of Pleasanton. Your city council will be considering a plan that includes a park (open space), an ice skating facility for our families, a full range of senior housing development (low traffic impact), and an auto mall (annual sales tax \$5 million). The initiative proponents came back with a second initiative that allowed the auto mall to remain. What logic did they use to decide an auto mall was okay but senior housing and sports facilities were not acceptable? This misguided initiative does a disservice to Pleasanton residents. The bottom line is if we lose control of Staples Ranch the property will go to either Livermore or Dublin. Do you really believe they will keep it as open space? There is no law on the books that prevents them from developing it to suit their needs. Please, just say "no" when asked to sign.

### A Dog's Life Howard Neely Pleasanton

This letter is being transcribed by a human for all of us dogs in Pleasanton: Most of us dogs don't recognize each other, because we don't get out very much, and when we do there is only one dog park where we can really socialize...touch noses and smell each other. We truly lead a dog's life, but if we were cats, raccoons, deer, or wild turkeys...we'd be free to roam. Many of us get taken out by our slow walking masters, holding us back with collar and leash. Most dogs stay at home

and bark at strangers, and too many stay inside human smelling houses...we need a break...like fresh air.

Humans reading this might think we are "dumb-dogs" and don't keep up with the numbers game...so listen up you two legged creatures.

Everyday Officer Roy Ficken and his partners look out for us, even taking us home if we have a license to be out on the street. He told us that there are 3,132 officially tagged tail wagging dogs in P-Town, but there are probably just as many that are not law abiding. He's heard that the National average home has 2.5 dogs, so when Pleasanton reaches 29,000 homes and apartments, we could possibly have 72,500 hounds...now that is something to yap about.

Whether we yap, holler, bark or howl, one dog park just isn't fair. We heard one Park and Recreation Commissioner suggest at least four dog parks be built. Some dogs have growled about moving out. If we were more free and better organized we would run, not walk, down to the City Council Meeting and really yap, bark and holler for our cause.

In closing we dogs suggest a leg-up on a new park, so you humans most not sign any of those petitions against progress.

Thanks to our transcriber.....Howard Neely

PS: For readers not acquainted with this opportunity of not signing...it is all about the Stoneridge extension to our Eastside border with Livermore.

### Endorsements Jean King Livermore

As president of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, I am thrilled at the prospect of beginning our 2007-08 concert season in the beautiful new Bankhead Theater.

The spacious stage and state-of-the-art support systems for performing companies will make life easier for all of us.

Audiences will enjoy the gracious ambiance and enhanced amenities of a modern concert hall. And everyone will appreciate the convenience of free nearby parking.

As a private citizen who has contributed much volunteer effort to our local cultural organizations, such as the Livermore-Amador Symphony, Del Valle Fine Arts and Livermore Cultural Arts Council, I am grateful to the City Council majority whose plans culminated in such an outstanding civic asset.

In the November 6 city election, I am personally supporting Mayor Kamena and Councilmember Leider for re-

election, as well as Jeff Williams, a member of the City's Design Review Committee, for Council.

### Legal Holiday Mary Puthoff Livermore American Indian Center

The members of the local Livermore Valley Native American population would like people to know of the following legal holiday in our state: California Native American Day, September 28, 2007.

The fourth Friday in September is known as "California Native American Day," a state legal holiday approved by the state legislature on Sept. 21, 1998. The action recognizes the participation of Native California Indians in California history.

Today California has the highest Native American population of any state in the Union. The bill also authorizes public school boards to recognize the holiday with the inclusion of Native American lesson plans. This should be funded with existing resources and conducted in schools respecting the day. Lesson plans can be found on the following websites: [www.nativeamericanday.com](http://www.nativeamericanday.com), [www.Californianativeamericanday.com](http://www.Californianativeamericanday.com), and [www.nahc.ca.gov](http://www.nahc.ca.gov).

This bill authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt a model curriculum guide related to Native American Day. Therefore the following code of law was established: California Government Code 6712 - proclaiming 4th Friday in September as Native American Day.

Please contact your local school districts and urge them to recognize Native American Day in California schools.

### Dietrich for Balance Steven Hunter Livermore

I applied for the vacant Livermore City Council seat recently because I wanted to serve the community and help preserve Livermore's quality of life. Despite the fact that I favor slow growth and Lorraine Dietrich has voted for development in the past, I feel that the voters should return her to the City Council.

Lorraine Dietrich provides a voice for the business community that would otherwise be largely absent. The City Council is enriched by this balance.

Even for those who favor slow growth, as I do, should vote for Lorraine Dietrich for City Council. Growth issues will still be determined by the slow growth majority on the council. National politics should show us that the people are not well served when all of the politicians speak with one voice. It is better if people of

differing opinions have to compromise, otherwise the extremists tend to take over.

### Companion Spirit Tom O'Neill Springtown, Livermore

Back in the boom times of the Gold Rush, there was a large ranch on the Bay side of the Altamont where a rancher named Robert Livermore worked hard at raising cattle and dreamed of a great viticulture economy flourishing in the vicinity of his ranch. People coming up from Monterey or down from San Francisco would, on their way eastward, stop there before crossing the mountains into the San Joaquin Valley. The hospitality they received was something they could depend on - unostentatious, but solid and genuine.

This man, Robert Livermore, who loved his land and dreamed of its improvements, was good at making friends. So after his death, when his friend William Mendenhall established a town nearby, he named it after Livermore. One must hope that as this town has grown into a thriving city, the kindly ghost of Robert Livermore continues to brood over it - lending it his optimism and his friendliness.

In the last eighteen years, is it too much to claim that we have been visited by a patron very much like Robert? That we have come to know an unassuming man, of great friendliness, with a deep sense of the preciousness of our community and a dedication to its possibilities? Robert Livermore, who liked most people would very much have liked this man. He'd see in him a kindred spirit - a man who chose his words carefully, and meant them in the interests of others. The ghost of Robert Livermore would not see Tom Reitter as a rival, but as a companion - a spirit welcome to brood over the Livermore rancho for as long as he wished. Amid those who aspire to be worthy of our namesake our amigo Roberto, there are a multitude of us who share that view.

### Response to Letter Austin Miller Livermore

In response to Ted Tully's letter ("honoring" the Troops) published September 27th, I'd like to emphasize that while others may not agree with the war in Iraq, it is quite a leap in logic (and an insult) to consider them disrespectful to the troops. By reading the names of fallen soldiers in honor of them during Pleasanton City Council meetings, Tully feels this "ploy is an insult to the troops." Where is the insult?

(continued on page 5)

## MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

When it comes to issues regarding the war, I think a vast majority of people mistake dissent for disrespect, claiming those who don't support the war aren't supporting the troops. Tully assures that the families of the soldiers who died would regard the "honors" with disgust. What is truly disgusting is the fact that acknowledging their deaths as a tragic failure in foreign policy (assuming the claimed prejudice of those reading the names is true) is regarded by so-called "patriots" as a travesty.

### A New White Hat Paul Weiss Livermore

I'm proud to have worked on the past campaigns to ensure Livermore's intelligent growth and progress.

Both the successful Urban Growth Boundary Initiative and the winning battle against Pardee's massive development were a tribute to this city's long-term vision. And they showed our willingness to put money, time, and energy into securing that vision.

Newspapers from San Francisco to New York cited us as a rare shining example of civic will in action. Part of that civic will was also expressed by the landslide election of the "White Hat" slate for Mayor and City Council.

When Tom Reitter, the Gary Cooper of the White Hats, announced his early retirement, he left a big pair of boots to fill. After all, well-heeled developers are always waiting in the wings for a weak-spirited Council to cave in to them.

Fortunately Jeff Williams, running for a vacant Council seat, shares Tom's rock-solid convictions and his dedication to hard patient work to achieve important goals.

In fact Tom believes enough in Jeff to become his campaign manager. That says a lot!

Jeff is also being supported by Friends of Livermore, Mayor Marshall Kamena, Councilman John Marchand, and popular candidate for re-election Marj Leider.

We're lucky to have someone like Jeff to take Tom's place on the council. I urge residents to read about him, get out and work

for him, and vote for Jeff Williams.

### Tree Ordinance Ken Bradley Livermore

Have you seen Livermore's official peeping Tom? The city has hired a person to peek in your back yard to see if you have any trees that the city might want to control. Of course Amendment IV to the Constitution of the United States and Article I Section 13 of the Constitution of California should protect you from these improper searches. These protections only work when you have elected officials that believe in your individual rights.

You would think that a tree in your yard would be your tree. You might have even planted that tree. The city thinks that you are not responsible enough to control your own property and they plan on having you get their permission. Initially the city permits will be free. You will have to justify your request to the city. Later the city may establish permit charges.

This ordinance will affect you when your tree reaches a specified size. For a multiunit property the size is 7.6 inches in diameter. That is less than the width of a sheet of letter sized paper. For some properties the size will be a little larger. How large a tree can you have without the city taking away your rights? Maybe you should check with your council person.

### Hit Piece Thomas Jefferson Livermore

The recent hit piece on Tom Reitter by Ken Bradley deserves a strong rebuttal. Tom Reitter served on the Livermore City Council for more than 17 years and he always made his decisions based on what was best for the residents of Livermore, not for the outside interests.

Other local politicians have started their careers on the side of the residents, but then turned to favor the outsiders. Tom never turned. Thank you Tom for serving us all those years.

Mr. Bradley suggests that since Tom Reitter is now planning to move from Livermore that he must not like what he has accomplished during his long tenure in office. How ridiculous of

Bradley. Any sensible person could imagine any number of reasons to relocate that have nothing to do with the status of Livermore.

Of course, the true reason for Bradley's letter is made apparent when he says that development north of Livermore has been defeated and no one running for Livermore City Council will attempt to overturn the will of the people.

He wants you to forget that candidate Lorraine Dietrich wanted (and still wants) that development so much that in 2005 she actively supported the proposed 2450-unit Pardee development in north Livermore and even appeared in TV commercials for the developer.

The 2005 vote for the Pardee development failed 72-28, despite Dietrich's active support.

Time and again (Geldertown, Las Positas New Town, Pardee) development proposals have been defeated, and you can bet we have not seen the last of them. No, this battle is not over.

Only two candidates for November's Livermore City Council election are opposed to the development of north Livermore, favoring instead agriculture. They are Jeff Williams and Marj Leider, who are on the side of the residents of Livermore. That third candidate has shown what side she is on.

### Drop Lawsuit Shelley Ward Cartier Pleasanton

I just read the article in the Independent, 9/27/07, about you suing the owners of the land of the strawberry patch. How could you??? The details of the story are appalling!!!

I travel frequently from Pleasanton just to go there and pick out fresh, organically grown strawberries. They are so delicious. You must not have tried them or you wouldn't be doing everything in your power to put them out of business. And guess what happens, while I'm in Livermore? I do a little shopping or frequenting of restaurants and coffee houses. This farm is good for Livermore businesses.

The bottom line is this. Food in this country travels an average of 1500 miles to get to our plates. In Europe, it's 30 miles

on average. People who believe in eating locally grown foods, such as me, are at a disadvantage in this area. There are few farms and the ones that do exist are large corporate farming operations which are not good for anyone but the corporations. So those that do exist must be supported. Traveling only 5 miles for strawberries saves gas, saves our environment, lowers our over all carbon footprint, and stops global warming. Supporting local organic farmers and buying direct from them, helps the farmers, the environment and the economy.

As for your complaint about the driveway and traffic, yes sometimes it is hard to turn left out of the driveway. So, here's a compromise, put up a "no left turn" sign coming out of the farm. It's not hard and it's a very low cost solution to your problem. And as for condemning part of their property, taking it over by eminent domain and adding a trail and then using that trail as a reason for why the driveway is dangerous is preposterous! And for the City of Livermore to require their suggested plans with a permit to be done during the summer months, at the height of

their business, shows that you have no regard for small business, or you're just plain mean.

Help Livermore be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem. Support that local farm, drop your lawsuit, and next season go buy some of their delicious strawberries.

### Bradley Out of Step Susan Steinberg Livermore

Of all the countless dyspeptic letters from Ken Bradley, last week's diatribe takes the cake!

With never a positive word for anything or anyone, he's gone too far in bad-mouthing retired civic leader Tom Reitter.

Hasn't this curmudgeon noticed that Reitter has been the most popular elected official in Livermore, winning an unheard-of 72% of the vote in the last election?

Doesn't he remember that Reitter led the successful campaign to preserve the Urban Growth Boundary against the Pardee Development Company? An unprecedented 72% of our citizens joined him in defeating this sprawl proposal.

In other words, Tom Reitter has always acted on behalf of the vast majority of us, but obviously

that majority does not include Mr. Bradley.

Let Bradley march to whatever off-beat drummer he hears; he is certainly hopelessly out of step with the popular rhythm of this community.

And how mean-spirited to criticize anyone's personal reasons for moving! Since when has he become the arbiter of other people's lives,

especially those who, like Tom Reitter, have dedicated so many years to selfless public service?

Personally I am grateful for all that Tom Reitter has accomplished for my city, and will continue to help defend the Urban Growth Boundary against the inevitable future development schemes.

And since Reitter believes enough in candidate Jeff Williams to serve as his campaign manager, I'll certainly be working hard to elect Williams to the City Council.

I urge all those voters who gave Tom Reitter his landslide victories and appreciate his civic legacy to join me in supporting Jeff Williams in the coming election.

## STORE CLOSING

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## JPA Will Unite Two Counties' Emergency Radio Response

Thirty-two agencies in Alameda and Contra Costa counties have signed a joint powers agreement (JPA) to build a uniform emergency communication system. The system will enable all emergency services in the county to talk to each other on the radio.

Currently, various agencies have different equipment and band widths that prevent them from communicating with many other emergency agencies quickly in a severe emergency, such as an earthquake or a terrorist action.

"This will put all responders on the same network in both counties. There are over 15 different radio systems now. Some can talk to others, and some can't," said Bill McCammon, project coordinator for the new

authority. Fire departments have been coordinated, because of a state-wide network. However, police agencies are not.

The new JPA will be acquiring and installing equipment for each of the 32 agencies in the agreement. The official name for the group is the East Bay Regional Communications System Joint Powers Authority. The program it will be operating is called the East Bay Regional Communication System (EBRCS).

Organizing the authority and securing the initial funding has taken approximately one and one-half years said McCammon, who was Alameda County fire chief for 14 years. So far, the authority has obtained \$15 million in federal grants to construct the system. The sum has enabled the

purchase of equipment for 10 of the 32 sites.

The authority is working on obtaining another \$11 million in grants. The chief available grant sources are the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The authority has 23 directors, and includes public safety officials, elected officials and city managers and county supervisors from both counties. Supervisor Scott Haggerty of Dublin is one of the members.

The first meeting of the board won't occur until October, when the JPA legal papers are expected to be returned from Sacramento. In the early stages, monthly meetings are planned. Later they probably will be changed to quarterly, said McCammon.



### Notice of Commission/Committee Vacancies (Extended Recruitment)

The City of Pleasanton is now accepting applications to fill vacancies on the following commissions or committees:

- \* Civic Arts Commission
- \* Human Services Commission
- \* Economic Vitality Committee
  - (1) Biomedical Business Representation
  - (1) Environmental Community Representative
  - (1) Commercial Services Firm Representative
  - (1) Telecommunications Representative

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Call for Applicants

The City of Pleasanton has vacant seats on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). The BPAC is an informal working group, which provides advice and recommendations to City staff and consultants on all matters relating to bicycle and pedestrian facilities planning. The BPAC will oversee the development of the City of Pleasanton Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.

The four vacant seats are designated for Pleasanton residents (including one representative of the youth community) who are interested in providing input on bicycle and pedestrian issues, and who are able to attend evening meetings.

BPAC meetings will be held at the City of Pleasanton offices located at 200 Old Bernal Avenue, in downtown Pleasanton. The appointment term is for two years. Additional information may be received by contacting Janis Stephen in the Traffic Engineering Division (925) 931-5671 or at [jstephen@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:jstephen@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

Applications for commissions and committees are available at the City Clerk's office, 123 Main Street, Pleasanton or on the city's website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us). For additional information, call the office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than **5:00 P.M., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007**. Postmarks are not accepted.



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# Forum Offers Opportunity to Learn More about Regional Theater

The ability to attract audiences, size of the theater, and financing were all concerns voiced by members of the public during a forum held last week in Livermore. The focus of the town hall meeting was the proposed regional performing arts theater in downtown.

Len Alexander, executive director of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC), provided an overview of the plans for the theater. He noted that there would be in the neighborhood of 1800 to 2000 seats. "If you were in New York City, it would offer the kinds of activity you would see at Carnegie Hall or the Lincoln Center. It would allow residents to experience Broadway touring shows without the extra effort of going into the city."

The goal is to have the theater up and running by 2010. The increasing costs of construction is a major factor in moving forward now, said Alexander. There will come a time when there won't be enough private money to build the theater if construction were delayed.

Architect Steve MacCracken discussed the current plans for the building. It would occupy the southeast corner of South Livermore and First Street. The 3-level building would be sized between 74,000 to 75,000 square feet. One of the levels would be a basement. At this point, there are 1960 seats. The height of the building on Livermore Ave is 40 ft. It steps up to 74 feet at its highest point. Green building standards would be followed.

The trees on the site can be moved. A location for the trees hasn't been determined, said MacCracken. Suggested sites are near the western corner of the 500-seat theater or Lizzie Fountain.

Alexander stated that one of the challenges in building the regional theater has been how to pay for it. The projected cost is \$73 million. "It's clear that private fund-raising will not cover the cost," said Alexander.

Financial consultant Bob Gamble explained the current financing proposal as a partnership between LVPAC and the city that includes the use of redevelopment agency tax increment financing. Bonds would be issued backed by a letter of credit from a bank. Debt service on the bonds would be paid by both parties. At the beginning, LVPAC would have responsibility for the largest portion of the debt, using private donations. Over time the city would assume a larger and larger share as the tax increment increased.

The city is contributing \$61.4 million (in today's dollars), and LVPAC \$89.5 million (in today's dollars) for the construction of the two theaters. None of the

city's share would come from the general fund. The city would not be responsible for operating costs. Gamble added that the proposal does not use all of the city's redevelopment agency bonding capacity.

Gamble explained that for the two theaters the attendee expenditures per year would be \$18 million, the operating expenses would total \$12.5 million annually. The total impact for both theaters would be \$28 million each year.

City Manager Linda Barton commented that the city has hired consultants to look at the data provided by LVPAC. The numbers with regard to the overall bonding capacity of the redevelopment agency are substantial over time. There are projects in the downtown that will continue to increase the tax increment, particularly residential development on the Lucky and Groth Bros. sites, said Barton.

Operating costs are also being considered, according to Alexander. The smaller theater would generate about 60 percent of its operating cost. The larger theater would cover 85 percent. "When a show such as the 'Little Mermaid' comes, people will pay \$80 for a ticket and drive 60 miles to see it." Such shows could also attract corporate sponsors, said Alexander. For example, Safeway might want to sponsor "The Little Mermaid." The corporation would be able to use the Disney name in its advertising.

An endowment is being established to operate both theaters. Alexander said LVPAC is now talking about \$12 million. There is a signed letter of intent from a family in Livermore that will provide \$6 million for the endowment from the family's estate. "Some day there will be a \$6 million endowment in place from one family," he said.

The audience was asked if there were questions.

Tom Ramos wondered why LVPAC was going ahead with the regional theater now. He suggested both theaters should have been in one location, adding that it might be better to see how the smaller theater works before going into the big one.

Alexander explained that the smaller theater is a home for indigenous performing arts groups that can easily handle audiences of 300 to 500. The theater seating is sized to serve local groups. That cuts out some regional groups. The best way to serve the immediate need and look to the future is to have two venues.

The theaters are designed for different uses. The 500-seat venue is a producing house. The larger one a presenting house, where producers install the show in one day, present, dismantle and move on.

He repeated the escalation in

construction costs as a driving factor behind moving forward. LVPAC is committed to raising \$33 million. If construction costs keep going up, "there will be a point where we can't raise the needed money."

Barton said that there is a common theme from consultants who have looked at the plans. One is that there is an audience with an income level that would support shows. Barton said one of the problems with the Leshner Theater is sizing. The 800 seat theater is too big for small groups and too small for touring attractions. "It is important to get the size right," said Barton.

Kathy Chase said she had serious questions about the ability to fill the seats in both theaters. She pointed out there are other theaters that are not filled now.

Alexander said, "It's a good concern. That's why so many studies have been conducted. All of the consultants over the years have agreed there is a market here. There is no question that there is a shift in the way people look at performing arts. It is a challenge for us to find ways to generate audiences." He added there is some hope. The Livermore Valley Opera sold out the last weekend of its most recent production.

"Part of our mission is to help local groups tell their story better to attract audiences. Most now are made of people who already know about the group. Most of the groups have no money for advertising," Alexander continued.

He talked about Livermore as one of the "edge cities." Such cities, located near large urban areas, have the means, opportunity and will power to create and support their own performing arts environment.

In response to the question of who would be responsible for the bonds if either theater were to fail, Alexander stated, "The city would not be on the hook. The bank that issued the letter of credit would have to make good on the bond. The bank would own the theaters and could elect to sell them. The city could step forward and have an asset that it paid very little to acquire."

Another audience member asked who would buy the bonds and why.

Gamble said that the bonds would be backed by a triple A rated bank. "That is the highest quality credit that can be offered. The bonds are highly marketable and could be purchased by everyone." The bank issuing the letter of credit for the 500-seat theater did its due diligence concerning LVPAC. "The bank found it well managed, run by a capable board and supported by the community. The second transaction

will be easier to complete, based on the success of the first one," said Gamble.

Barton added that some of the consultants hired by the city have been exceedingly impressed with the LVPAC organizational structure and its ability to carry off this project on time and on budget and to hire talented staff. "That is generally not true of nonprofits," she said.

Barton said that the city would be looking at cities of similar size who have completed projects like this.

Alexander said that LVPAC would also conduct a comparison study. In addition, LVPAC will redo its marketing study.

One audience member noted, "This is a huge project that will have a huge impact on the community. I felt that the public has not been given an opportunity to take part in the planning. Without exception, people I ask about the large theater wonder why we don't just see how the smaller one works. There needs to be a better way to let people know about it. A lot of good stuff is coming out of this meeting."

Alexander said he was disappointed more people weren't in attendance. The final analysis will come down to the city council to decide what is in the best interest of the community. "It is up to citizens to speak up for and against."

Jim Hadley said there doesn't seem to have been a visible effort to publicize the theater plans.

Barton and Alexander noted that the plans are posted on the city's website.

Barton stated, "I assure you, staff and the city council are looking at this very carefully. We are pursuing a variety of issues and options. It's never an easy decision to make. Staff will provide the council with a lot of good information on which to base its decision."

"We are trying to be transparent. No one wants to complete a project that will fail," added Alexander.

Kathy Chase brought up the topic of a high rise building. She declared, "This theater's height slaps me in the face. Why so high. It greatly changes the complexion of downtown."

Hutch Mouradian, with MacCracken Architects, said that every change has been to make the building smaller physically and appear smaller. There is a certain size beyond which acoustic quality will be compromised.

Ramos added, "I get the sense that you are all dedicated and honest. The answers made sense to me. You seem to know what you are doing."

Alexander observed, "The

project is first and foremost to serve the community. The interesting thing I find about Livermore is that it's a community that has been able to hold onto some "through lines" of its history - ranching, the Lab, and viticulture. One of the challenges is to figure out where the line is going. There was a period in the history of Livermore where it stayed frozen and was at risk of being left behind. Change is not easy. That means choices not everyone likes. There is a need to think about where the city is going, not what it is trying to protect. I'm not interested in a project that no one knows about."

Traffic and parking were other issues.

Bob Vin, city traffic engineer,

## THEATER

(continued from page one)

to Joan Seppala the word, "relentless comes to mind, but in a very loving way. I honestly believe that without Joan and that relentlessness, we wouldn't be standing here today," said Alexander.

Seppala, President of the LVPAC Board, remarked, "When I first came to Livermore forty-five years ago, I was struck by the texture of the community, the rich juxtapositions of lifestyles. I came from a suburb where everyone did pretty much the same thing. But here in Livermore at the Livermore Saloon on First Street, you could see cowboys at the bar a few feet from physicists playing chess. Some of those chess players were actors in local productions of Bertold Brecht and James Joyce at the May School Theater, an old country school in North Livermore not far from the Bankhead Ranch.

"What's particularly wonderful about our donors is that they, too, come from every walk of life. There is something about the Bankhead Theater that is bringing us all together," said Seppala. They include ranchers and vintners, scientists, developers, CEOs, high tech entrepreneurs, arts lovers, environmentalists, business owners, professionals, educators, and even journalists.

"The opening of the Bankhead Theater is really the celebration of a renewed sense of community, a celebration of something larger than ourselves," she stated.

Five hundred individuals, corporations, foundations and public entities have contributed, she said. They include the following "local angels": Alameda County, The Bankhead Family, City of Livermore, Livermore

Valley Winegrowers Foundation, The Madden Family, Lynn and Joan Seppala, The Wentz Family, Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation, John and Evelyn Fletcher and Family, The Charles Smith Family, Topcon Positioning Systems, Inc., Rick and Pam Corbett, Douglas and Liz Kinney, Mortimer and Marion Mendelsohn, Shea Homes, Barbara and Cyrus Sweet. The Watkins Family, Petie and Bob Baltzer, The John Loll and Jane Bielke-Loll Family, Phillip N. and Muriel F. Dean, Henrietta Fankhauser, Markus and Ann Huber, Dr. Susan DuPree and Hollis Bascom, Retzlaff Vineyards, Joe and Madge Callahan & Family, Jean King, Livermore Cultural Arts Council, Michael and Linda Ransom, Gregory Reznick, Shames Construction, Hugh Walker and Family, and The Independent.

Seppala stated, "There are many things that can separate us. We have different political agendas, different views on religion, and even different ideas of what is right and wrong. But when we attend a performance at a theater, there is a sense of ritual. When we laugh in unison, or cry, or are quietly moved because we have experienced something profound, we feel one with those around us. When we see fellow citizens at intermission and afterwards in the lobby, we feel bonded to them.

"Today, we join together as a community to dedicate not just our theater, but a place of the spirit that has the power to transform us all," she concluded.

Alexander praised the city and the council for their efforts in making the theater a reality. He referred to the mayor as a mentor of the plan.

In addition to the Livermore High School Band, under the direction of Dean McNair, the Livermore School District Chamber Choral, directed by Art Gagnier, provided entertainment for the celebration. The Livermore High School drama students performed improv selections and the Brian Peterson Band played. Poet Laureate Connie Post read a poem she described as a "continuation of the poem written for the groundbreaking."

"After each wall/ Has been elevated/ By the quiet strength of familiar hands

After the concrete has found its way/ Deep into the earth  
After the rain has dried/ From near by roads

When even the wind stops/ To feel the texture of stone  
You find a place/ Where a town will gather/ Open its arms/ And sing in an octave

Never before heard  
Even when the ground/ Was first broken/ Voices could be heard/ Dances remembered/ Symphonies played

But no one could have known/ How the sky would change

How even the clouds would silently nod/ To a concerto/ - Lean forward to hear each note  
No one could have known/ How a structure can call our name/ Know our story/ Tell us to step across/ The threshold

And find a seat/ Where we know/ We have always belonged.

## MAYOR

(continued from page one)

doesn't know what the proper number is. A recommendation is coming from a committee established to study the issue.

Kamena said of the regional theater, "As exciting as the 500-seat theater is, the regional theater will be another magnitude of joy." Some people subscribe to stopping at the 500-seat theater. "The regional theater would put one of the last cogs of the wheel of success in the downtown," he declared.

Kamena noted that there had been tons and tons of work done with regard to the ultimate size. He said it appears that 2000 seats would be about the right size.

"A beautiful part of a public-private partnership is that the review becomes a public process. That is also the difficult part. Many people want to see the theater happen, others don't. One of my objectives is to have a unanimous decision by the council. That answers the question, is the city behind the regional theater," he added.

Kamena thinks that it is possible to provide additional affordable housing. He noted that it's not just about building the housing, it's getting the people into them. He is proud of the fact that none of the people who worked through the regional housing center have been in foreclosures. All of them were first time buyers.

Inclusionary housing will likely never go away. However, Kamena believes there is an opportunity for the city, a nonprofit, and private developers to put to-

gether a plan that would create a village that looks attractive and provides homes to first time buyers.

Kamena brought up the subject of education in relation to home ownership. He said that parents should value education as a means to advance themselves and their children. People with more education generally make more money and can afford to buy homes.

Rather than the city asking the school district how it could help with educational issues, Kamena suggested that the school district ask the city. There is precedent for the city and school district to work cooperatively.

The city is a diverse community. The Community of Character program is another step towards valuing all of the people. The school district has already implemented the program.

North Livermore is an ongoing issue. Kamena said he plans to go to LAFCO in the near future to ask that Livermore's sphere of influence be extended in North Livermore. Currently, it ends at the city limits. Kamena believes that will provide Livermore with a stronger voice when projects are brought before Alameda County, such as the proposed cemetery.

He says he hasn't been working on ideas for the area. "My wish list has been concentrated in the city limits and what is contained within." He agrees that pressure continues. "There are some who say they have never

seen land that didn't look better covered with concrete," he quipped.

Doolan Canyon is one area that the city would like to see preserved. Kamena said that the most effort needs to go there first.

The eastern portions of North Livermore have been developed. Residents there have come to the council to complain about what they see as a lack of amenities. They were also concerned about the future of the Springtown Golf Course. Kamena said that the area is part of Livermore. He believes the city has delivered a good faith effort to make the golf course successful. A new operator is expected to improve the course.

"Over the years, I have heard people say there is no place to buy bread; no place to buy gas; the fire station is too far away; and there is no library. None of these things are true today. I agree there should be more recreational opportunities in the area. A dialog to make that happen starts with collecting facts and figures. The city would line up priorities based on good fiscal back-up. The city is making a concerted effort to listen to what people in Springtown want," declared Kamena.

Lack of infrastructure main-

tenance is "the biggest, most worrisome thing. The city has to deal with it. It's such an immense figure, that it wouldn't be possible to establish maintenance districts or use general fund money. It would need a bond measure," said Kamena. Bond measures are successful when there is an effort to educate people as to the need. A blue ribbon committee will be appointed to go to neighborhoods and homeowners associations to provide that education. "I think then there is a chance to have the bond approved," said Kamena.

Traffic is an ongoing issue. Kamena has been a leader in the regional rail planning effort. He believes that electrifying the ACE train would be a help. It would run faster, be quieter, less polluting and have an extended schedule, which should attract more riders.

Truck climbing lanes on the Altamont are in the works. HOT lanes would help on I-580 said Kamena. He suggested that the auxiliary lanes being constructed could become tariff lanes.

Gangs aren't just a Livermore problem, they are a Valley problem, said Kamena. "That is a priority in the city. We have a task force working on the issue. I ex-

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## SHORT NOTES

### Cancer Fundraising

Curves® of Livermore will be teaming with the American Cancer Society's *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer* fundraiser during October Breast Cancer Awareness month. The goal is to create awareness of breast cancer and to raise funds to help eliminate it. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women in the United States.

Curves of Livermore has plenty of ways for everyone to get involved. New members who join between October 8 and 20 will pay only \$25 for the service fee when they bring in a minimum \$25 donation to the American Cancer Society or show proof of a current mammogram.

Current members who make a minimum \$5 donation to the American Cancer Society will receive a donation certificate that will hang in the club. Each \$5 donation also entitles the member to put her name in a treasure chest and be eligible for weekly prize drawings all through October.

Anyone in the community can purchase Curves' *diane* fragrance products and help in the fight against breast cancer. Curves founders Diane and Gary Heavin will donate 10 percent of the wholesale sales of all *diane* fragrance products in October to *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer*.

Curves of Livermore is located in the Granada Shopping Center at 1129 Catalina Drive, 960-9199. It is open daily from 5:45 AM - 8:00 PM (closed 1:30 - 3:00) Saturday 7:30 AM - 12 noon.

### Livermore History A to Z

The Senior Services division of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) will feature a discussion by local author Anne Homan on Thursday, October 4. Homan will discuss her new book, "Historic Livermore, California A-Z."

The book is a comprehensive history of the city of Livermore beginning with its early inhabitants, the Ohlone Indians, prior to the arrival of the Spanish in the 18th century. This history also covers Livermore's role as a popular stop-off for prospectors headed to the Mother Lode during the Gold Rush, and continues through the present day.

This free event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Services lounge at the Robert Livermore Community Center, located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore. For more information, please call (925) 373-5700.

### WWII Remembered

Herb Street will be the featured speaker at a program with the theme, "WWII Remembered," at the Pleasanton Library on Sun., Oct. 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Street will talk about his experiences as a World War II dive bomber pilot and prisoner of war. Popular music from the war era will be performed by Kit Nelson and the Muir Station Band.

There is no admission charge for this program. It is open to all. No reservations are required.

The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue. For more information, call Penny Johnson, Programs Librarian, at 931-3405.

### Halloween Luncheon

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Senior Services department will host a special Halloween Luncheon for seniors on Friday, October 26.

The event takes place in the elegant Cresta Blanca ballroom of the Robert Livermore Community Center, located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore. Costumes are encouraged but not required, and there will be a costume parade and contest.

Doors open at 11:00 a.m. and lunch is served at 12:00 noon. The menu features meatloaf with tomato sauce, mashed potatoes and gravy, a green salad, steamed broccoli, a roll, and creamed parfaits for dessert. The donation is just \$7 and advance reservations are required by October 19. Call (925) 373-5760 to reserve a spot today.

### Comedian at Library

Funny Girl Faith Alpher will be at the Livermore Public Library on Wed., Oct. 10.

Comedian, writer, actress and KKIQ radio personality Faith Alpher finds humor in everyday life. Sharing her life stories, Faith brings a rich background to the stage that is delightful, intriguing and downright belly-laughing fun.

Alpher started out in comedy by auditioning for Nick at Nite's Funniest Mom in America Contest. After catching the eye of a producer, she was asked to open for the 3 Blonde Moms' comedy act whenever they are touring the Bay Area. She has also shared the stage with headliners such as Sean Wayans, Tommy Davidson, Earthquake, and Huck Flynn to name a few. Faith truly brings a rare and exceptional show filled with music, drama and clever comedy. This remarkably good-humored show is for adults who need a satisfying side-splitting laugh.

This free event will be presented at 7 p.m. at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check at [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us).

### Immunization Clinics

Axis Community Health has scheduled its free fall immunization clinics for children on October 6, November 3 and December 1, from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only, 4361 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

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.

### Blessing of the Animals

Blessing of the Animals, benefiting the Valley Humane Society will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 7 at the Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton.

There is no charge. All donations are appreciated. Animals of all shapes and sizes are welcome, but must be on a leash or in a carrier. Each animal blessed by the friar receives a Saint Francis of Assisi medallion.

Contact VHS at 925-426-8656 for more information.

### Pleasanton Oktoberfest

Pleasanton Downtown Association will host an Oktoberfest on Sun., Oct. 7 from 1 to 5 p.m.

The event will take place in the parking lot behind the Cheese Factory building at 830 Main Street. Admission is free.

Entertainment will be provided by the Harmony Fusion Chorus and Public Eye Band. Polka Music will be performed by the Oompah Quartet.

A variety of beers, including Becks and local microbrews will be available for purchase. There will be a selection of arts and crafts booths for browsing and shopping.

The PDA is located at 830 Main Street, Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94566. The phone is (925) 484-2199 and fax is (925) 484-3064.

### AAUW Public policy

Lisa Maatz, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations for the American Association of University Women, will be the featured speaker at a workshop to be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 7, at the City of Alameda Main Library, 1500 Oak Street, Alameda. Maatz appearance is sponsored by AAUW branches from Oakland-Piedmont, Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin, Alameda, Fremont, Hayward, and Castro Valley. Ms. Maatz will be discussing Pay Equity in Jobs, the Supreme Court and the Federal Ban on Abortion, and the state of Title IX.

As AAUW's top policy advisor, Maatz works to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill, through the executive branch, and in coalitions. She has done similar work for the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Older Women's League, and was a legislative aide to U. S. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY). Her grassroots advocacy career began when she was the Executive Director of Turning Point, a battered women's program, recognized for excellence by the Ohio Supreme Court.

The public is invited to attend. Attendance donation is \$5.00. For further information about the workshop, call 846-9739.

### Monart Open House

Tri Valley Monart will host a Fall Open House Celebration on Sunday, October 7th from 2:00 to 5:00.

Children between the ages of 6 and 12 can attend one of two free classes, to be held at 2:30 and 3:30. Class space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to free classes, parents can view current student artwork, enjoy refreshments, and hear more about the Monart program. A free 6-week class will be raffled off at the end of the event.

According to Roni Mertes, owner of Tri Valley Monart, "This event is a great way for families who have heard about Monart to get hands-on experience and learn more about our program in a fun and relaxed environment."

Just as a new reader learns his ABCs, Monart students learn the elements of shape and how to recognize them in everything they draw. The Monart approach is more than a drawing technique. Classes are taught in a non-competitive, non-judgmental manner. Students are encouraged to develop their own unique interpretations of each project. Students not only learn how to draw a subject, but learn the history and science behind it.

The studio is located at 3015-I Hopyard Road, at the corner of Hopyard and Valley in Pleasanton. More information can be obtained by visiting the website at [www.pleasantonart.com](http://www.pleasantonart.com) or calling (925) 484-0126.

### October at Wente

Wente Vineyards' October events:

The Summer Cinema series at Wente Vineyards comes to a close in October with the timeless Hitchcock classic, "The Birds." Before the movie, dine at the Wente Vineyards' Reel Classics Café (think juicy burgers, grilled sandwiches, fresh popcorn, and more). And guests who dine at The Restaurant on movie nights receive a free movie ticket for each entrée purchased. The movie will be shown Wed., Oct. 3. Gates and Café open at 6:30pm, movie begins at Twilight. Tickets for the movie only are \$9 adults, \$5 kids (12 and under). Proceeds benefit the California Independent Film Festival. For tickets call (925) 456-2400 or online at [www.ticketmaster.com/venue/229578](http://www.ticketmaster.com/venue/229578)

Wente Family Estates is hosting a "Harvest Wine Weekend" with special barrel tasting and wine tastings at their three estate wineries: Wente Vineyards, Murrieta's Well & Tamás Estates. Wine Weekend passports are available at [www.wentevineyards.com/fallpassport](http://www.wentevineyards.com/fallpassport). Have the passport stamped at all three wineries and receive a \$25 gift certificate good at Wente Vineyards, Murrieta's Well and Tamás Estates. The event is Oct. 13 and 14 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nominal fees are charged for tasting and barrel tasting at the wineries. Wente Vineyards Vineyard Tasting Room: 5050 Arroyo Road; Wente Vineyards Estate Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road; Murrieta's Well, 3005 Mines Road; and Tamás Estates, 5489 Tesla Road.

The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards will offer a pre-opera gourmet prix fixe Italian style dinner or brunch in conjunction with the Livermore Valley Opera's production of "La Bohème" at the new Bankhead Theater. The Restaurant's specially chosen rustic menu sets the mood for La Bohème, one of Puccini's most beautiful and moving Operas. The dinner is Oct. 20, 26 and 27 at 6 p.m. followed by the opera at 8 p.m.; brunch is Oct. 21 and 28 at 10:30 a.m. with the performance at 2 p.m. For more information, visit [www.wentevineyards.com](http://www.wentevineyards.com) or call 456-2425.

### Leadership Academy

The 7th Alameda County Leadership Academy will begin in November. The Academy is a free, five-session interactive forum of classes for County residents interested in learning firsthand about Alameda County while developing leadership and communication skills.

Anyone who lives, works, or owns a business in Alameda County is eligible to apply. However, due to space and resource constraints, only 40 individuals will be selected to participate. Participants will attend a series of meetings with elected officials, panel presentations, small group discussions, and mock public policy exercises focused on the County, its budget, programs, and the many challenges it faces. It's also a great opportunity for the County to hear from its residents.

The Alameda County Leadership Academy consists of five Wednesday evening sessions conducted from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on November 7, December 5, 2007, and January 16, February 6, and March 5, 2008. Participants will meet the County's elected officials and attend educational sessions at facilities throughout Alameda

County. To graduate from the Academy, participants are required to attend at least four of the five sessions and make a presentation about the County to a public group or meeting of the participant's choosing.

Applications for the 7th Leadership Academy are available on the County's web site, [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org), or can be obtained by contacting the County Administrator's Office at (510) 272-6984. To be considered, applications must be returned to the County Administrator's Office by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 19, 2007. Participants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis and will represent the County's various geographic areas. Selected participants will be notified by October 29, 2007.

### Girls Collaborative

The California Girls Collaborative Project will hold its 3rd annual mini-grant conference on Wednesday, Oct. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the UC Berkeley Clark Kerr Campus at 2601 Waring Street, Berkeley.

This one-day conference targets organizations with programs that support girls in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Representatives from K-12 schools, higher education, professional organizations, business, government and community-based organizations are encouraged to attend. Participants will learn about the CAL Girls mini-grant program and have excellent opportunities to network and form collaborations in order to apply for a \$1,000 mini-grant.

CAL Girls is part of the National Girls Collaborative Project, which has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) three-year grant to extend the capacity, impact and sustainability of existing and evolving STEM projects and programs committed to motivating girls.

The registration fee for the conference is \$25, which includes morning coffee, lunch and parking. Online registration is available at: <http://calgirls.lnl.gov/reg>.

The conference is sponsored by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, American Association of University Women and University of California, Davis.

For more information about the mini-grant program, including examples of previous grant recipients, visit <http://calgirls.lnl.gov/>. Questions or comments should be addressed to Tamara Helfer at [helfer2@lnl.gov](mailto:helfer2@lnl.gov).

### Buckeye Brigade

There will be a Buckeye Brigade on Sat., Oct. 6. Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at the nature area entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

The California buckeye is a unique and unusual native of the oak woodlands. Its seed, which looks like a "buck's eye," is now ripe. Come out and help collect some of that seed for springtime planting in the park. Visitors will learn more about the survival strategies and lifestyle of what some call the truffala tree of the west. Good for all ages. Bring gloves if you have them. Canceled if raining.

There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (925) 960-2400 for more information.

### Spirit Month

A seance will be held in the mansion at Elliston Vineyards and Little Valley Vineyard on Oct. 12 during Spirit Month.

Irma Slage, author, lecturer and psychic, will be featured. The event will be from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

To begin the evening, the wines of Little Valley Vineyard and Elliston will be served with cheese. Guests will then proceed to the drawing room for an evening with the Spirits. Seating is limited. Call 862-9006 for reservations. Speak to Sandi for more details. The cost is \$25.

Contact (925) 862-9006 or email [javafixx@tdl.com](mailto:javafixx@tdl.com) for more information.

### Grants Conference

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) will hold a grants conference on Saturday, October 6 to provide information about the availability of federal grants as well as how to apply for them. The conference is targeted at government, educational, and non-profit organizations as well as small businesses interested in grant information.

"Organizations and small businesses throughout Northern California could benefit greatly from the wide variety of federal grant programs," said Rep. McNerney. "Yet with over 1,000 federal grant programs the application process can be overwhelming and confusing. The expert panels will be able to provide useful guidance for local groups."

The grants conference will focus on helping organizations throughout the 11th district to better take advantage of

federal programs to stimulate education and economic development. Expert panelists will include business, civic and government leaders from throughout the East Bay and San Joaquin County.

The grant conference will be held on October 6, 2007, at the San Ramon Valley Community Center in San Ramon from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Rep. McNerney will make opening remarks and chair the event.

The community center is located at 1201 Alcosta Blvd. The meeting will be held in the Fountain Room.

### Cancer Awareness

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Aventure Medspa is donating 5% of all "In The Pink" package profits to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to help support the cause.

Aventure is also holding two events to raise money for breast cancer awareness. One is a silent auction. Anyone wishing to donate an item is asked to please contact Aventure Medspa at 925-846-0511.

The Botox and Restylane event and silent auction is set for Tues., Oct. 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Space is limited, RSVP required 925-846-0511.

A look younger event and silent auction is set for Tues., Oct. 23 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Learn how to look younger with our Anti-aging treatments. Space is limited, RSVP required 925-846-0511.

For more information or questions, please contact Debbie Apellanes at (707) 694-8600.

Aventure Medspa is a state-of-the-

art medical spa at the foot of Ruby Hill next to Campo di Bocce. Aventure Medspa offers skin rejuvenation procedures like Laser Hair Removal, Botox, IPL, Photorejuvenation and an array of medical peels and facials.

### Library Storytimes

Teddy bears and families are welcome at the Family Storytime at the Civic Center Library on Monday, October 8 at 7 PM. Bears and people will hear fun stories about all kinds of bears. The Civic Center Library is located at 1188 S. Livermore Avenue and Family Storytimes are held in the Youth Services area of the library.

Friendly ghosts and goblins will be featured at this pre-Halloween Family Storytime at the Springtown Library on Saturday, October 13 at 11 AM. Everyone is welcome to stay around after the stories to make a Halloween craft from 11:30 until 2:00 PM. The Springtown Library is located at 998 Bluebell Drive next to the duck pond.

A Great Green Storytime will be presented at the Rincon Library on Saturday, October 20 at 11 AM. The whole family is invited to come and enjoy stories about broccoli, frogs or other green people and things presented in English and Spanish. The Rincon Branch Library is located at 725 Rincon Avenue in May Nissen Park and Swim Center.

All ages are welcome to these free library programs. Contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 for more information or pick up a Fall Storytime schedule at any one of the Livermore Public Libraries.



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## Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



### Where's the Beef?

Before the days of refrigeration and supermarkets, housewives shopped almost daily at their local butcher's shop. The cattle and sheep raised on the valley hills made for a plentiful supply of local meat. Before refrigeration, ice was shipped in by the railroads.

Peter McKeany came to Livermore in 1871 and opened the City Meat Market in rented space. He soon purchased property on First Street and built a two-story structure next to Frederick A. Anthony's tin shop. Today a small one-story brick building stands on the site between the Masonic Building and the Schenone Building. For some time McKeany used the old bull ring in Laddsville for a corral; in 1876 he bought the entire city block now containing Carnegie Library and Park for his cattle. He built a large hay barn there, with stabling along the sides; in 1909 the city paid him \$9,000 for the library site, nine times what he had paid for it. McKeany retired in 1910; his butcher shop was torn down in 1929.

In 1875 Pleasanton butcher William Ludwig excavated a "large and commodious cellar under his butcher shop" where he could keep "meats nice and cool for customers." The year before he had won the bid to supply members of the Livermore Grange with beef for the season.

In the 1880s a number of local ranchers—John and Laughlin Moy, John Connelly, the Collier brothers—worked at the Livermore Meat Market. The Collier brothers advertised their fresh beef, veal, mutton, corned meats, pork, bacon, lard in cans, California cured hams, and fresh and bologna sausage in the February 3, 1887 *Herald*. During the December holiday season in that era, the butchers in town put on quite a display to entice customers. The 1897 Christmas Day *Herald* boasted that Frank Fennon's Grand Central Market "outrivals anything of the kind ever attempted in Livermore. ... Fatted calves, young stall-fed steers, porkers, mutton, and lambs are there galore. Upon a raised platform are two huge porkers and their aggregate weight is 1,113 pounds. ... On the center of the table is a miniature snow-covered wagon to which are hitched four roasters. A wee-wee pig attends to the driving. On the sides of the wagon are the words 'Bound for the Klondyke' and 'Grand Central Market.' The meats were dressed by Messrs. Collier and Murray."

On 15 May 1909 an ad in the *Herald* for the California Market on First Street said Frank Fennon was the proprietor and carried "all kinds of fresh salted and smoked meats." This shop has the largest and most complete refrigerating plant in the interior of Alameda County and makes a speciality of its refrigerated meats, acknowledged to be superior in flavor to fresh killed meats."

Henry Moller, after serving an apprenticeship in an Emeryville meat packing plant, came to the Dublin/Pleasanton area to start his own business in 1914. He married Bertha Koopman, a Dublin native. They had three sons: Harold, Lloyd and Roy. There were actually three different buildings, but the last and largest slaughterhouse was built in the 1950s on the west side of Foothill Road on the 200-acre Moller Ranch, now a housing development. After each of the boys graduated from Amador Valley High School, he joined the family business, now called H. Moller & Sons, which packaged and sold meats wholesale. They slaughtered beef, sheep and pigs. During hunting season local hunters often brought their deer to be slaughtered. In the early days, "Pops" Moller, according to an article in the *Herald* "used to drive his meat truck around to farms to sell his cuts. He always had free hot dogs for the kids ... when he pulled into their yards."

Harold's daughter, Linda, remembered the three sons as being much alike in personality; they worked hard together in harmony all their lives. She saw her father, the oldest, as being the leader who was in charge of raising the cattle. Lloyd's main responsibility was farming—growing the hay and grain necessary for feeding the cattle and horses; he was the middle child. The youngest, Roy, worked mostly at the slaughter house although the others worked there, too, when needed.

Jay Bodenhausen, who mans the Safeway fish department in Livermore, recalled that Roy was the quiet one of the three. Gordon Rasmussen, Tassajara rancher, remembered the trust that existed between local ranchers and the Mollers, whom he characterized as "solid people." He could go to the slaughterhouse, for example, at nine o'clock at night when no one was around, weigh a beef carcass on the scale provided, tag it and hang it on a hook. Soon a check would arrive in the mail at the Rasmussen house. "There was never a problem with protocol." Henrietta and Tom Greer, ranchers on Patterson Pass Road, bought day-old bull calves from the San Joaquin County dairies, raised them and sold them to the Mollers.

Many outlets, including Tri-Valley restaurants and markets—for example Fiorio's—as well as Oakland venues such as the Melrose Meat Market and Oakland Meats were customers of the Mollers. Jay remembered the round-ups at the Moller Ranch. A huge crowd attended, many of whom did not participate in the work, but just the celebration that followed. He said that the occasions were legendary; "nobody walked away without a glow." The Moller's business closed in the late 1980s, not long after the local roundups that had ended at the slaughterhouse on Foothill Road became too dangerous on modern roads crowded with vehicles.

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

## 'Bon Appetit' Benefits Pleasanton Schools

Pleasanton Partnerships In Education (PPIE) Foundation will host its annual fundraiser: "Bon Appetit - Toasts & Tastes of Fall!"

It will be held Oct. 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the CarrAmerica Conference Center in Pleasanton.

This festive cocktail party features sixteen culinary teams, each starting a Corporate/Community sponsor, a Pleasanton School District School Principal, and a local Chef. Each team will offer a signature hors d'oeuvre or dessert and compete for the \$500 cash "Best In Show" award. Celebrity judges from our community will make the decision. The evening will be hosted by a KPPIX - Channel 5 Weather Reporter Roberta Gonzalez.

The event also includes live jazz, live and silent auctions, martini bar and lots of fun. This event is PPIE's major fundraising effort. It raised \$80,000 for Pleasanton Schools last year. Proceeds will assist in funding programs PPIE facilitates at various school sites and to fill grants submitted by students and teachers of the Pleasanton Unified School District.

### Make an Escape Plan and Win Dinner with the Fire Chief

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is joining forces with the National Fire Protection Association during Fire Prevention Week to remind residents and businesses to "Practice Your Escape Plan." October 7 to 13, the department will work to raise awareness about the need to have an escape route from a home or business.

"Many people don't realize that they are at greater danger from fire at home than anywhere else," said Fire Chief Bill Cody. "Your ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning. It's not enough to have a home fire escape plan; to escape safely, you've got to make sure that everyone in the home has practiced the plan."

Families with children are encouraged to develop a home escape plan and submit a completed plan at any of the events scheduled in October. One winner from Livermore and one from Pleasanton will have dinner at a fire station hosted by the fire chief, fire marshal and firefighters. Escape plan entry forms can

Corporate Sponsors include: ADP / ProAction Foundation, Black Tie Transportation, The Clorox Company, ClubSport Pleasanton, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Fremont Bank, Greenbrier Homes Communities, Kaiser Permanente, KKIQ Radio, Madden Charities, Oracle, Robert Half International, Summerhill Homes, Taleo, Visioneer, Vulcan Materials.

Food provided by the following (partial list): Bibiane Bakery, Cabana Dave, Castlewood Country Club, FAZ, First Street Cafe, Girasole / Big Horn Grill, Hopyard American Alehouse & Grill, Jeffrey's Catering, McNamara's Steak and Chop House, Oasis Grille, Panda Restaurant, PF Chang, Pleasanton Hilton, Pleasanton Hotel and Wente Vineyards

Ticket are \$55 per person. They may be purchased through the website at [www.ppie.org](http://www.ppie.org), at the PPIE office at (925) 846-5620 or [mail@ppie.org](mailto:mail@ppie.org). For more information on how to become a sponsor and donate to PPIE, please contact the PPIE office (925) 846-5620 or [mail@ppie.org](mailto:mail@ppie.org) or visit the website at [www.ppie.org](http://www.ppie.org).



Vicki Schellenberger, President of the Livermore Valley Education Foundation (LVEF) and Randy Watson, Music Coordinator for the Livermore Valley School District, accept Wente Vineyards' donation of \$29,576 on behalf of music programs in Livermore Valley Schools. Karl Wente, fifth Generation Winemaker, presented the check. To date, Wente Vineyards has raised more than \$125,000 for the LVEF.

## Las Positas Presents Speakers on Diversity

Las Positas College will celebrate diversity and equity in a year-long speaker series that begins this week.

The Campus Change Network is planning and presenting the series of panels and speakers that are open to the public. The events will focus on the immense diversity of color, ability, gender, thought and identity in the Tri-Valley Community.

The network consists of Las Positas faculty, staff and students committed to creating an inclusive college and community.

Held on the first Friday night of the month, the series will include traditional heritage month events for Native American, African American, Latino and Women's experiences, as well as topical discussions about veterans' issues, poverty, and more.

The first event in the series is a panel discussion in recognition of National Coming Out Day on Friday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in room 2400 on the Las Positas campus. It's co-sponsored by the Las

Positas Gay/Straight Alliance. The alliance is one of 31 different clubs on the campus that range from the newly formed veterans' club to the environmental, art and astronomy clubs.

During Friday night's panel, students, faculty, staff and community members will present their own stories with discussion to follow.

The November 2 program will focus on California Native Americans, while the December 7 program will feature Cuban literature.

The community is welcome by paying a \$5 admission fee. Students with college or high school ID are free. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, please call Jenna Heath at (925) 424-1487 or email her at [jheath@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:jheath@laspositascollege.edu). The faculty contact is TeriAnn Bengiveno, history professor at (925) 424-1287 or [tbengiveno@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:tbengiveno@laspositascollege.edu)

### Major Exploration Faire Set at LPC

Las Positas College hosts the 9th annual Major Exploration Faire on Wednesday, October 10 in Livermore.

College and high school students alike are invited to attend.

The event is designed to allow students and potential students to explore a variety of ca-

reer and college major options. These range from immediate preparation for jobs in the medical field or a variety of other hands-on fields to transfer majors that will prepare students for advanced degrees.

Law enforcement professionals from the FBI, the county sheriff's office as well as the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department will be present as will representatives from the California State University East Bay, San Jose State University and other colleges.

The event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Las Positas College, located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive.

### Adventure for Wheelchair Hikers Offered by LARPD

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) presents an Outdoor Adventure for Wheelchair Hikers on Sunday, October 14, at 11:00 a.m. Specifically designed for those in wheelchairs seeking to explore open-space parks, Ranger Patti Cole and internationally-known wheelchair hiker Bob Coomber will present an introduction to discovering the wonders of nature on wheels. Coomber will offer suggestions and strategies for enjoying parks and trails, and the event will include a short hike.

While the program has been designed primarily for wheelchair hikers, non-wheelchair hikers are welcome as well. The group will meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance of Sycamore Grove Park in Livermore. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee and a \$2 donation is requested to help support the

programs. Participants may call (925) 960-2400 for more information.

After years of training, Coomber scaled California's third highest summit, the 14,246-

foot White Mountain Peak in August. Coomber, who has been in a wheelchair for 16 years, is now setting his sites on the 19,340-foot slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.

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## Children's Author Featured at Pleasanton Library

Well-known children's mystery author Bruce Hale visits the Pleasanton Library on Tuesday evening, Oct. 9 at 7:00pm to kick off this year's *Meet the Author* series for children.

Bruce Hale is an award-winning author, illustrator, storyteller and Fulbright Fellow. He began his career in children's writing in 1989 and has written or illustrated twenty books for young readers, including the very popular Chet Gecko Mysteries series. For this visit Hale will feature his book *The Malted*

*Falcon*, nominated for an Edgar Award for best children's mystery by Mystery Writers of America.

This event is also part of The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. The library recently received a grant from the NEA to sponsor a city-wide "The Big Read" program, and selected for Pleasanton's participation Dashiell Hammett's famous detective novel, *The Maltese Falcon*. Hale's book pays tongue-in-

cheek homage to the Hammett classic.

The 45-minute program is free and no registration is required. This program is recommended for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Towne Center Books will be on hand with titles available for purchase.

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

## Legendary Musician on Theater Slate

A force in bluegrass, folk, and country music for more than half a century, and an acoustical music icon of legendary proportions, Doc Watson has inspired generations of musicians with his flatpicking and fingerstyle guitar. Doc performs with longtime friend and collaborator David Holt, master of clawhammer banjo and other instruments. Their *Legacy* CD won the 2002 Grammy for Best Traditional Folk Music Recording. Joined by Doc's grandson, Richard Watson, the Doc and David arrive at the Bankhead Theater on Wednesday evening October 10<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm. Tickets range from \$28 to \$41.

This event is a part of LVPAC Presents, a series of nationally recognized artists and ensembles being brought to the Bankhead Theater by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

Doc was born Arthel L. Watson in Deep Gap, NC on March 3, 1923, into a family already rich in musical tradition. His mother, Annie Watson, sang traditional secular and religious songs, and his father, General Watson, played the banjo, which was Doc's first instrument, as well. Then, at age thirteen he taught himself the chords to

"When the Roses Bloom in Dixieland" on a borrowed guitar, and his delighted father bought him a \$12 Stella. He later picked up some chords from a fellow student at Raleigh School for the Blind, and began to incorporate material that he heard on records and the radio with the music of his heritage. It wasn't until 1953 at age thirty that he met Jack Williams, a local piano player, and began to play gigs for money. Doc played with Williams' rockabilly/swing band for seven years. In 1960, spurred by the growing folk revival, Ralph Rinzler and Eugene Earle came south to record Ashley and heard Doc Watson in the process.

From then on, he was a full-time professional, playing a wide range of concerts, clubs, colleges and festivals, including the Newport Folk Festival and Carnegie Hall. As the late sixties brought a waning of the folk revival, Doc's son Merle Watson provided the musical and emotional companionship that he needed to continue touring. With Merle playing guitar and banjo and serving as partner and driver, the father-son team expanded their audience nationwide. A series of remarkable recordings, including collaborations with Flatt &

Scruggs, Chet Atkins and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, helped make Watson the gold standard among traditional pickers.

For over three decades, David Holt's passion for traditional music and culture has fueled a successful performing and recording career. He has earned four Grammy Awards and performed and recorded with many of his mentors including Doc Watson, Grandpa Jones, Bill Monroe, Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff and Chet Atkins. In 2002, Doc Watson and David won the Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Recording for *Legacy*, a collection of songs and stories reflecting Doc Watson's inspiring life story.

Holt is host of public television's *Folkways*, a North Carolina program that takes the viewer through the Southern Mountains visiting traditional craftsmen and musicians. David can also be seen as a musician in the popular film, *O Brother Where Art Thou*.

The Bankhead Theater ticket office is open Monday through Saturday from 12 noon to 6pm. To order tickets for all performances at the Bankhead Theater, call 925-373-6800 or visit the calendar and ticketing section of the LVPAC website: [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

## Wente to Promote New Musical Artists

Wente Vineyards has entered into a partnership designed to bring fine wine and emerging musical artists to new and diverse audiences.

"Discover the Wine, Discover the Music" will introduce each partner to new and diverse audiences. Featuring six artists from a mix of popular musical genres, Phase I will roll out in retail markets across the nation this fall. Wente Vineyards' Estate Grown wines will carry "Discover the Wine, Discover the Music" bottle-neckers, designed to replicate album cover art and liner notes. Inside, consumers will find Fifth Generation Winemaker Karl Wente's selected artists and a redemption code to download a free song from each artist. Additionally, all partners will promote the project to their fan bases through events, website postings and email campaigns.

"As winegrowers, we always seek to have new people taste our wines," says Karl Wente. "Artists also need every opportunity to

have their music heard. This project brings together my passion for wine and music in a very exciting way, and allows new audiences to share in both great wine and music."

Phase I artists and songs include the pop, funk, dance, blue-eyed soul sensation, Under the Influence of Giants' track "In the Clouds;" Brooklyn rapper and urban educator Talib Kweli's hip-hop-poetic cut, "Listen;" turbo rockabilly heartthrob Jesse Dayton and singer/songwriter Brennen Leigh's duet, "We Hung the Moon;" blues, soul, funk-punkers The BellRays' seductive, "Have a Little Faith;" the soulful psychedelic rockers Hopewell and their epic, "Beautiful Targets;" and electronic, jazz, trip-hop duo Bitter:Sweet with the Thievery Corporation remix of "Bittersweet Faith."

Wente Vineyards is integrating the project into its 125th anniversary celebrations in 2008, and upcoming in-market "Vindulgence" events in New

York and Los Angeles.

"From the music industry's marketing perspective," says John Anderson, Senior Vice President of Film & TV Music/Lifestyle at Windswept Pacific and project partner, "this is a great opportunity for our artists who continually fight to be heard and seen. We believe the eclectic and adventurous wine drinker is exactly who we want to be interacting with."

For twenty-two years, the Wente family has been producing The Concerts at Wente Vineyards, hosting the likes of Ray Charles, Buena Vista Social Club, Chris Isaac and ZZ Top. Project creator, Paige Poulos Communications, worked with Wente Vineyards, music publisher Windswept Pacific, HRMP Lifestyle Marketing & Promotion and Abbot Monroe to launch the project. The "Discover the Wine, Discover the Music" details, artists information, and free music downloads will be hosted at [www.wentevineyards.com/discover](http://www.wentevineyards.com/discover) beginning October 2007.

## Well Known Poets to Read

Guest poets for the next Century House Poetry Reading will be Armand Brint, Ukiah, California's first Poet Laureate, and Jan Steckel, an award-winning writer of both poetry and prose.

City of Pleasanton Poet Laureate, Martha Meltzer, will host the reading on Sunday, October 14, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Century House is located at 2401 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton. Admission is \$5.00 or free to students with identification.

Brint received a master's degree in creative writing from San Francisco State University and taught creative writing in universities and colleges in the Bay Area and Mendocino County. He has published widely in literary magazines and is the author of two books of poetry: *Schools of Light* and *The League of Slow Cities*. He is currently circulating a new manuscript, *Talking Fish*.

Brint served as Ukiah's first Poet Laureate from 2001-2004. He describes his work as "filled with gifted animals, shadows and



Jan Steckel (left) and Armand Brint.

cultural oddities-all in the service of spirit."

Steckel of Oakland is a Harvard and Yale trained pediatrician who left a busy medical practice in 2001. She is author of the poetry chapbook, *The Underwater Hospital*, and has published a hundred short stories, poems, nonfiction pieces and book reviews. She won the 2006 Triplopia Best of the Best Competition for poetry and the 2007 Jewel by the Bay poetry contest, sponsored by the Frank Bette Center for the Arts in Alameda. Her work has been nominated twice for a Pushcart Prize, once for poetry and once for nonfiction.

Steckel has just completed a collection of short stories and is

circulating a new poetry manuscript.

Following the guest readings, attendees may participate in an open mic segment. Each poet may read one favorite or original poem of 40 lines or less. Light refreshments will be served during intermission.

The next The Century House Poetry Reading, a "mega open mic," is scheduled for December 9, 2007. The series will continue throughout 2008 on designated Sundays of even numbered months.

For more information about all Civic Arts poetry events, contact Michelle Russo at (925) 931-5350 or

[mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us) or visit [www.civicaliterary.org](http://www.civicaliterary.org).

## Volunteers Sought for Film Festival

Volunteers are needed for 10th Annual California Independent Film Festival and Associated Events

A volunteer meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Thursday, October 11th at the new California Independent Film Festival Office in downtown Livermore, 171 South J Street, Livermore (Forrester Hall).

The California Independent Film Festival Association will hold the 10th Annual California Independent Film Festival from Wednesday April 16th thru Sunday, April 20th, 2008 in Livermore. Volunteers are needed to help at the film festival, as well as at the many other events held to support the film festival over the next 12 months.

Interested individuals are invited to call Stephanie Petermeier at (925) 462-6964 or send her email at [spetermeier@comcast.net](mailto:spetermeier@comcast.net) for more information.

California Independent Film Festival Schedule for 2007/2008: Horror Film Fest., Oct. 25-27 at the Vine Cinema; Holiday Movie Event, December 1 at the Vine Cinema; Annual Oscar Party, February 24 at the Village Theater in Danville; California Independent Film Festival, April 16-20, 2008 at various locations in Livermore and East Bay; 5th Annual Danville International Children's Film Festival, May 16-18, in Danville.

For more information about the event, visit the festival site at [www.caindiefest.com](http://www.caindiefest.com).

**Shakespeare's Associates  
Livermore Valley Opera  
&  
Livermore-Amador Symphony**  
*in association with the*  
**Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center**  
*present*

**All the World's a Stage:  
The Bard, Baritones  
and Bassoons!**

**Celebrating the gala opening of the new  
Bankhead Theater in Downtown Livermore**

**Saturday,  
October 13 at 8pm**

**Ticket Prices: \$27-\$35  
Box Office: 925-373-6800  
[LivermorePerformingArts.org](http://LivermorePerformingArts.org)**

**Reception Following with Livermore  
Downtown's 2007 Art Banner Auction!**

## SHAOLIN

(continued from page one)

ter of one. However, it is the daily practice of seated meditation which enables the individual performer to sustain a demanding physical regimen. Through a practice known as *Ch'an* (Chinese for *Zen*), they calm the body and focus the mind to a single collected point. It is in this quiet yet highly focused state of mind that they are able to sustain extreme physical discomfort and pain and to undergo the intense daily training required to achieve and maintain the level of proficiency for which they are so highly praised.

There are over 20 weapons used by the Shaolin Kung Fu masters today. Among all these weapons, the cudgel, spear, sword and broadsword, are known together as the four major weapons

of Shaolin Kung Fu. Traditionally, Shaolin Kung Fu masters weren't just armed with the major four. They had many hidden short weapons such as the dart, iron fan and flute, Bhodhidharma staff and others solely unique to Shaolin practices. In addition a Shaolin Kung Fu master can utilize virtually any common, everyday object as a weapon.

The Shaolin Warriors are the opening attraction in the second week of the Bankhead Theater's two week grand opening celebration. Additional activities include:

- Doc Watson and David Holt - Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 8pm
- The Bach Brandenburg Concertos - Pacific Chamber Sym-

phony - Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

- Premium Blend - Bay Area Dance Company - Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

- All the World's a Stage: The Bard, Baritones and Bassoons! - Livermore-Amador Symphony, Livermore Valley Opera and Shakespeare's Associates - Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

The Bankhead Theater ticket office is open Monday through Saturday from 12 noon to 6pm. On performance evenings the ticket office remains open until 9pm. To order tickets for all performances at the Bankhead Theater, call 925-373-6800 or visit the calendar and ticketing section of the LVPAC website: [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

TRI-VALLEY ARTISTS GUILD PRESENTS

**Art Walk**  
LIVERMORE

**October 13, 11-5:00**  
In the heart of Livermore's Downtown  
150+ Artists, 50 Locations, Winetasting  
Music Event to 7:00 at the Flaggpole, 1st & N. Livermore  
[www.tvag.org](http://www.tvag.org) for info and online gallery  
Special Thanks to ArtWalk Star Sponsor - Wente Vineyards

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Closed Sundays

**BANKHEAD THEATER**

**SHAOLIN WARRIORS • Tues, October 9, 7:30pm**  
Warrior monks of China's legendary Shaolin temple display ancient forms of hand-to-hand and weapons combat in a thrilling and spectacular theatrical Kung-Fu production.  
Tickets: \$31, \$28, \$24, Under 12 \$11

**DOC WATSON & DAVID HOLT • Wed, October 10, 8:00pm**  
A force in bluegrass, folk, and country music for more than half a century, and an acoustical music icon of legendary proportions, Doc Watson has inspired generations of musicians with flat-picking and fingerstyle guitar.  
Tickets: \$41, \$36, \$31, \$28

**JAKE SHIMABUKURO • Thur, October 25, 8:00pm**  
Known as the "Jimi Hendrix of the ukulele", Jake expands the dynamic range of the ukulele from traditional Hawaiian music to jazz, funk, bluegrass, flamenco and rock.  
Tickets: \$41, \$36, \$31, \$28

**LIVERMORE VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**  
2400 First Street, Livermore, CA  
**For tickets 925-373-6800**  
[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399820
The following person (s) doing business as Stella Che Bella Interiors, 579 Colusa Way, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Star Rusca Woodbridge, 579 Colusa Way, Livermore CA 94551

94588 This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 1, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400470
The following person (s) doing business as Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Daniel Davis, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400470
The following person (s) doing business as Tech Support Guy, 1725 Shattuck Ave. #302, Berkeley CA 94707 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Mark Giorgi, 1725 Shattuck Ave. #302, Berkeley CA 94709

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400520
The following person (s) doing business as Awesome Apartment Leasing Services, 6485 Alford Way, Pleasanton CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Robin Leanne Takata, 6485 Alford Way, Pleasanton CA 94588

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400520
The following person (s) doing business as West County Builders, 7070 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Amy Elizabeth Burchett, 7310 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton CA 94588

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400520
The following person (s) doing business as West County Builders, 7070 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Amy Elizabeth Burchett, 7310 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton CA 94588

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Amy Burchett and Jonathan Burchett
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on September 11, 2007. Expires September 11, 2012.

CITATION TO APPEAR CASE NO. 1233396
IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF: LINCOLN KRAUTKRAEMER ON BEHALF OF: JACOB MICHAEL MUNOZ (Minor)
Minor for Freedom From Parental Custody and Control

The People of the State of California To: BRIAN ANTHONY GARCIA
By order of this Court, you are hereby cited and required to appear before Department SM1 of the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Santa Barbara on October 31, 2007 at 8:30am, then and there to show case, if any you have, why Jacob Michael Munoz should not be declared free from your parental control according to the petition on file herein to free the minor for adoption.

The name and address of the Court is: Santa Barbara County Superior Court. Located: 312-C East Cook Street, Dept. SM1, Santa Maria, CA 93454.

For a failure to appear without reasonable cause, and abide by the order of the Court, you will be deemed guilty of a contempt of Court.
Dated August 10, 2007
By Julie A. Hernandez Deputy Clerk

The Independent Legal No. 2223. Publish September 20, 2007. Expires September 20, 2012.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401053
The following person (s) doing business as West County Builders, 7070 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Amy Elizabeth Burchett, 7310 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton CA 94588

hereby registered by the following owner (s): West Avenue Real Estate, Inc., 7070 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore CA 94551
This business is conducted by a corporation
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399920
The following person (s) doing business as Antrim Construction, Inc., 1635 Chestnut St., Suite A, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Antrim Engineering and Construction, Inc., 1635 Chestnut St., Suite A, Livermore CA 94551

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400419
The following person (s) doing business as Kelly Copenhaver and Valentina Morales is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Kelly Copenhaver, 1934 Nicosia Court, Pleasanton CA 94566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400421
The following person (s) doing business as 1)MLSDSD, 2)ML/SD, 3)MLSD Steel Detailing, 1560 Holmes St., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): MLSD Steel Detailing, LLC., 1560 Holmes St., Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401243
The following person (s) doing business as Baby Cakes, 3010 Verdala Dr., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Diane Peterson, 3010 Verdala Dr., Livermore CA 94550

27, October 4, 11, 2007.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400321
The following person (s) doing business as @Link Communications, 4512 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Shoochi Chan, 4512 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton CA 94566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400959
The following person (s) doing business as Century Home Loan Center, 1300 Bancroft Ave. Ste., San Leandro CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Glen Peterson, 3010 Verdala Dr., Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400985
The following person (s) doing business as Gods Kingdom Now, 1934 Nicosia Court, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Kelly Copenhaver, 1934 Nicosia Court, Pleasanton CA 94566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401243
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names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s:/Diane Peterson
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on September 19, 2007. Expires September 19, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 400959
The following person (s) doing business as Century Home Loan Center, 1300 Bancroft Ave. Ste., San Leandro CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Glen Peterson, 3010 Verdala Dr., Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401410
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Paradigm Coaching and Consulting, 2)Paradigm Coaching, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jennifer Backer, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401410
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Paradigm Coaching and Consulting, 2)Paradigm Coaching, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jennifer Backer, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401410
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Paradigm Coaching and Consulting, 2)Paradigm Coaching, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jennifer Backer, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550

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Place your ad here call Barbara 925 243-8000
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 401410
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Paradigm Coaching and Consulting, 2)Paradigm Coaching, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jennifer Backer, 1612 Cheryl Drive, Livermore CA 94550

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65) CAREGIVERS
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68) HAIR SERVICES
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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)

Open Houses

Real estate listings table with columns: PRICE, SIZE, DAY(S), ADDRESS. Includes listings for Castro Valley, Danville, Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton.

Colorado T-Shirt advertisement: 'I DO STROGAURUS', 'LET'S TALK COLORADO', 'GET YOUR FREE COLORADO T-SHIRT.' Choose from 12 designs.

Vintage Roofing advertisement: Residential • Commercial • Industrial. All Types of Roofing. Serving the Tri-Valley Since 1980. (925) 447-2207

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ATOM APPLIANCE advertisement: Major Brands Both New & Reconditioned. Serving You Since 1963. Open 7 days a week. FREE Local Delivery & Haul Away. (925) 447-9087

Flow-Rite Rain Gutter Cleaning advertisement: Maintenance & Repair Gutter Guards Installed Spring & Summer Savings. Locally Owned & Operated Since 1996. PAUL COONEY (925) 449-1387

Tri-Valley PC Medic advertisement: 'I make house calls!' Repairs • Training • Upgrades • Tune-Ups • Networking. Ken Cook 925-485-9040. www.TriValleyPCMedic.com

Amador Valley Computers advertisement: Supplying Technology (for the rest of us) 925.518.3016. 20% DISCOUNT ALL COMPUTER SERVICES. COUPON

FAST-TEKS ON-SITE COMPUTER SERVICE advertisement: We Come Directly To You • Repairs • Upgrades • Networking • Virus & Spyware Removal • Serving the tri-valley area. 925-875-1911

WALLEY EYE CARE CENTER advertisement: Specializing in complete eye care. Pleasanton (925) 460-3000. Livermore (925) 449-4000

LANDSCAPING advertisement: Landscaping Flowers. Seasonal Planting. Weekly Maintenance. Installation & Repair. Sprinklers & Drip • Lighting. Free Estimates. License #07571. Call (925) 339-3981

ROOFING advertisement: Kelly Roofing 'RELIABLE SERVICE'. Family owned & operated roofing co. 10 years specializing in residential roofs. OWNER - OPERATOR - INSTALLER. Licensed & Bonded. Call Ryan Kelly today for a free estimate: (925) 292-4371 • (510) 303-2163 cell

GOT SOLAR? advertisement: Grid-Tied Solar Electricity for Home or Business. Hurry to lock-in the highest CA Rebates & Federal Tax Credits. Free Solar Site Analysis. Bret Riner (925) 789-0588

WALLEY CARE HEALTH SYSTEM advertisement: Visit Us At www.valleycare.com

PLUMBING advertisement: Icemaker FILTERS AQUA-PURE. 15% OFF DUBLIN PLUMBING. 6883 Village Parkway, Dublin, 828-2010

WINE CELLARS advertisement: Vino Cellars. Custom Wine Cellars. Temperature and Humidity Controlled Wine Cabinets. 1772 First St., Livermore. 925 447 8000

TO PLACE YOUR AD IN THE BUSINESS DIRECTORY, CALL (925) 447-8700

ADOPTEE OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 391746-391747
The following person (s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name 1)Klickcar.com, 1412 Portola Ave., Livermore CA 94551

ADOPTEE OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 401274-401275
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Klickcar.com, 1412 Portola Ave., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Martin Hernandez, 1737 First St., Livermore CA 94550

ADOPTEE OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 401274-401275
The following person (s) doing business as 1)Klickcar.com, 1412 Portola Ave., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Martin Hernandez, 1737 First St., Livermore CA 94550

ADOPTEE OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 401274-401275
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