



Scott Schwartz, who plays Flick, will be at the showing.

Special Showing Of 'A Christmas Story' Slated

The California Independent Film Festival Association will hold its second annual showing of the holiday classic, "A Christmas Story," on Saturday, December 1, at 10:30 a.m. at the Vine Cinema in downtown Livermore.

In attendance this year will be two of the movie's stars, Scott Schwartz, who played "Flick" in the timeless classic, as well as Ian Petrella, who played "Randy."

Tickets are \$10. They can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling the festival office at (925) 371-1104.

A holiday toy drive will be held in conjunction with the screening. Attendees are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit a local Livermore children's charity.

"A Christmas Story," is the (See CHRISTMAS, page 9)



Anna Fitzpatrick danced the role of Snow Queen in the Livermore School of Dance production of "The Dream of the Snow Queen." The performance was last weekend.

This Weekend In the Valley

Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings, Pleasanton Playhouse production at Studio Theatre in Pleasanton. Performances are Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9, Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Studio Theater is located at 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. Suggested donation for tickets is \$20. Tickets may be purchased by calling out ticket office at 925-462-2121 or go to www.pleasantonplayhouse.com.

ArtSpace Gallery, 133 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore There will be an art show and two receptions featuring Pat Katz, "New Works Exhibit." The first will be on Thurs., Nov. 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The second reception will be Sat., Dec. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Nan Rachlin at 925-371-2500.

Las Positas College Dance Performance, December 1 at 8 pm and Sunday, December 2 at 4 pm. Las Positas College Theater and are \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. 925-424-1100.

Livermore Amador Symphony, Saturday, December 1, 8:00 pm. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Ticket information 373-6824 or www.livamsymph.org.

Las Positas College Speech Tournament, Friday, December 1, 1-5 pm, Room 711. 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

Hometown Holiday Celebration Parade and Tree Lighting, Main Street, Pleasanton. December 1, 2007, 5:30 PM

(See WEEKEND, page 6)

Pleasanton Initiative, Referendum Campaigns Run Ahead of Schedule

Leaders in the Pleasanton drive for a referendum on the Oak Grove development proposal and for a separate hillside protection ordinance initiative say they are running ahead of schedule in collecting more than 4,000 signatures by Dec. 6.

The goal is more than the 3,500 or so signatures that are required. The group, Save Pleasanton Hills, hopes to obtain 20 percent more than the minimum to offset the inevitable disqualification of invalid signatures that occur on every petition.

Former councilmember Kay Ayala said that people are eager to sign the petitions. Very few people are turning her down. People are telling her that they want no more growth until the city's traffic congestion gets better. "There is a lot of anger out there all around the city about traffic congestion," she said.

Ayala called the current mood "the perfect storm." In the northern sector of the city, people are concerned about the

Staples Ranch land, and its impact on the general plan, especially if the city were to exempt hundreds of units in a senior lifestyle care center from the population cap. There are also worries about the potential general plan change for many more residential units in Hacienda Park.

On the city's west side, residents are scrutinizing proposed development of the Merritt property along Foothill Road. On the south side, homeowners oppose

building a Home Depot at Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard. On the east side, some residents are angry about plans for Stoneridge Drive to go through to Livermore's Jack London Drive.

Ayala said the signature gathering is going well "despite being hounded by other side." She said that at the Farmers Market, people opposed to the initiative have come up to people signing her petitions and told them that there were errors in the arguments.

They also said that people could sign a document that would remove their signatures from the initiative petition, said Ayala.

A website for the opposition group Save the Park confirms that the removal petition is available for signing. It is available for downloading.

PICO EXPLAINS ROLE

One prominent Pleasanton resident taking an active role in campaigning against the initiative and referendum is former

(See OAK GROVE, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

One of the trains at the Great Train Expo at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton drew excited exclamations from young viewers.

New Livermore Council Sworn In

The new Livermore City Council was sworn in Monday night.

Reelected to office were Mayor Marshall Kamena and Councilmember Marj Leider. Jeff Williams replaced Lorraine Dietrich on the council. Kamena ran unopposed. He received 9,463 votes. Williams was the leading vote getter in the council race with 8,220; Leider received 8,142, Dietrich 5,120.

There are 42,317 registered voters in Livermore with 12,161 casting ballots for a 28.74 percent turnout on November 6.

Kamena and former mayor Cathie Brown, the two mayors with whom Dietrich served, honored Dietrich for her 19 years of public service. They read a proclamation recounting some of her achievements, including her service as co-chair of Measure L, support of a revitalized downtown Livermore, and her efforts in establishing the South Livermore Plan.

Kamena commented, "It's been an honor for her to serve

the city. I have appreciated her ability to ask questions and reach conclusions." He noted that at the beginning the two were "not the best of friends. However, I have come to appreciate that anyone who is a member of the council is a person with great devotion to the citizens of the city. I commend you and thank you."

Brown created a hat for Dietrich on which she had pasted symbols representing all aspects of Dietrich's service to the city, such as low cost housing, soccer, construction of the library, etc. Brown stated, "Over the past ten years, there is nothing that hasn't happened without your hand in it. You've been a dedicated servant."

Dietrich then made some farewell comments, noting that it was a time for reflections, to offer appreciations and to offer advice for the community.

She began by explaining how she had become involved. It started with the assassination of

(See COUNCIL, page 3)

Isabel Widening Prompts Grassroots Meeting

Residents concerned about the future widening of state highway 84 will have a public protest meeting at 7 p.m. Nov. 29 in the multi-purpose room at Emma C. Smith Elementary School, 391 Ontario Drive, Livermore.

The meeting comes a month after Caltrans, Livermore and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) conducted an informational meeting Oct. 30 at the school. That meeting was attended by an estimated four dozen or more residents, as well as more than a dozen people from the agency staffs. The officials took the public's comments as part of the EIR process, and let them know what the widening project would involve.

Highway 84 (Isabel Avenue) runs through Livermore. Caltrans plans to expand the road to six lanes north of Stanley Boulevard to Jack London Drive, and to four lanes south of Stanley to Vineyard Avenue near the Ruby Hill subdivision.

The comment period for the EIR closed Nov. 15. The meeting called by concerned residents on Nov. 29 shows that many are worried about the project. The residents have set up a web page, www.highway84facts.org. No name or phone number is listed on it.

The concerns discussed on the web page include noise, landscaping and traffic safety.

Among the assertions on the page are that Caltrans designed the widening to accommodate and encourage traffic to cut through from Interstate 580 to Interstate 680 via Isabel Avenue. The web page also says that the city is encouraging the widening to "pave the way for a large industrial park at Jack London Boulevard, and the widening supports the city's desire to expand the Livermore airport."

The web site says that the officials have not addressed safety issues for pedestrian and bike traffic, have made no plans to abate the increased noise and decreased air quality, and have no commitment to restoring the

(See WIDENING, page 3)

Decision on Pleasanton Housing Lawsuit Appealed

Affordable housing advocates appealed the Superior Court ruling that threw out a challenge to Pleasanton policies as they relate to low cost housing. The advocates argue that Pleasanton's housing cap prevents the construction of affordable housing.

Public Advocates, a civil rights firm, filed an opening brief appealing the decision in

Alameda County Superior Court to dismiss the original lawsuit. Attorney Richard Marcantonio of Public Advocates said that he believes the judge "got it wrong."

The judge dismissed the suit on grounds of timeliness and ripeness.

The original lawsuit and the

(See APPEAL, page 4)

Haggerty Rounding Up Counties To Go Green On Emissions

Six California counties, including Alameda, have signed up for a commitment to reduce greenhouse gases by 80 percent by 2050 in a bid to reduce global warming. One of the big movers behind the drive to reduce emissions has been Supervisor Scott Haggerty of Dublin.

Haggerty attended a convention of the National Association of Counties in July in Texas, where he heard a presentation about cutting greenhouse gases. With Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Legislature committing the state to greenhouse gas reduction, Haggerty wanted to put the county on record for the drive, said deputy chief of staff Dawn Argula.

Haggerty comes to the topic of greenhouse gas reduction via his seat on the Bay Area Air Quality Board, said Argula. "Greenhouse gas emission is real. He has seen the impacts (from his perspective) on the board," she said.

Alameda was the first California county, and one of only 12 in the nation, to join with the Sierra Club at the national convention

in forming what is called the Cool Counties initiative.

After returning home, Haggerty and county administrator Susan Maranushi took a leadership role in enlisting other California counties. So far, Alameda has been joined by Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Los Angeles, Yolo and Lake counties.

Haggerty delivered a speech at the state convention of counties in Oakland earlier this month. He said, "Government has a golden opportunity to lead the rest of society in taking action to combat global warming. We must not miss this opportunity. We must act now."

Alameda County's recruiting of other counties goes hand in hand with its pioneering in green building. County supervisors authorized installation of solar panels at Santa Rita Jail several years ago. The county has been converting its vehicle fleet to hybrid vehicles wherever possible as old vehicles wear out.

The new county youth facility in San Leandro has solar panels

(See GREEN, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Brandon Rubello of Livermore tries out the new bicycle stunt course in Livermore. It will be dedicated this Sat., Dec. 1. The course is located at the end of Pacific Avenue.

Livermore OKs Public Art Program for New Development

The Livermore City Council approved an Art in Public Places Program that includes a requirement that developers provide an art component on all private development.

The council vote was unanimous.

Consideration of the program Monday came at the conclusion of a series of meetings by a task force comprised of representa-

tives from the development, business and art communities. The development community had asked for the meetings as a way to come up with a program that

(See ART, page 4)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Princess is a stunning Calico with Tortoiseshell markings, a true royal beauty! She is about 2 years old and is very friendly. Once she gets to know you, all she wants to do is cuddle. She gets along with other cats and with children. She is a strictly indoor kitty, and would love a home with a quiet sun spot to curl up in. Princess, and other

adoptable cats, can be seen at Valley Humane Society Wed-Sun from 11AM to 5PM. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Adoptable dogs can be seen every Saturday from 11AM to 2PM. For more information call VHS at 925.426.8656, or visit our web site at www.valleyhumane.org.

Wheels Offering Free Rides for Food Donations

During the week of Dec. 1 to 7, those riding the bus can help make a difference to families in need.

Wheels will offer free rides to passengers boarding any fixed route bus with the donation of any nonperishable food item. There is no limit on the number of food donations or the number of free rides during the week.

All food collected will be donated to the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry in Livermore. The pantry volunteers distribute free groceries to well over 1000 low

income residents each month. The pantry also acts as a doorway to Tri-Valley Haven homeless services.

A kick-off event is planned for Sat., Dec. 1 with Wheels volunteers stationed at the following grocery stores between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to collect food donations:

Lucky's, 2000 Portola Avenue, Livermore; Lucky's, Hopyard and Las Positas, Pleasanton; and Safeway, 7499 Dublin Blvd., Dublin.

The Wheels annual food drive

is co-sponsored by The Independent.

Donations can also be made

at the Wheels administrative office, 1362 Rutan Ct., Suite 100, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., and

the Livermore Transit Center, 2500 Railroad Ave., Livermore, between 5 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

For additional information, call the Wheels customer service line at 455-7500.

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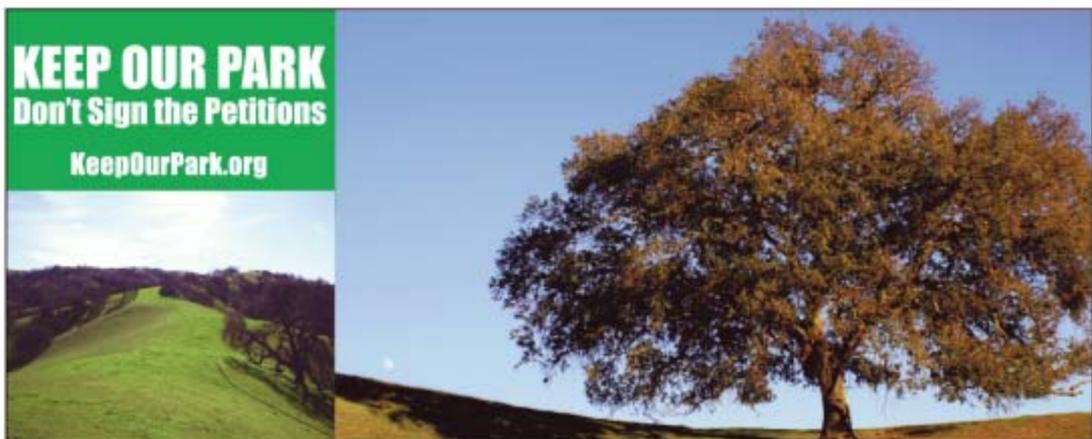


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Above Left: View of future regional trail in the new park at Oak Grove. Above Right: Photo of the new Oak Grove park by Keep Our Park Chair, Jerry Peattie, a Parks and Recreation Commissioner

THE NEW PARK AT OAK GROVE IS WORTH KEEPING...

Pleasanton's Largest Park. Public access to the southeast hills. Preserves open space forever.

"Oak Grove carries out the Trails Master Plan with miles of local trails and a major link in the regional trail system that will eventually connect our region's magnificent wild areas from Sunol through Callippe Preserve towards Shadow Cliffs and the Iron Horse Trail."

—Kurt Kummer, Parks & Rec Commissioner

"I believe this development represents a model of productive compromise with lasting benefits to residents and the environment."

—James Ian Dyke, Vintage Hills resident

"Oak Grove is the keystone property in the Pleasanton southeast hills to help spawn the remaining open space connections between the Vineyard Corridor and the Callippe Preserve."

—Jon Harvey, Kottlinger Ranch resident

"Similar to what the city achieved with the Bernal property, Oak Grove provides nearly 500 acres of public open space in exchange for minimal development within the context of a collaborative neighborhood process and the support of four out of five council members."

—Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and City Councilman Matt Sullivan

"Far from saving open space, the petitions jeopardize over 15 years work by environmental, open space and trails advocates to protect our southeast hills. Every signature brings Pleasanton closer to losing a 500 acre park at Oak Grove."

—Becky Dennis, former City Councilwoman

Quotes pulled from Letters to the Editor 2007

"What was the result of the many informed citizens working within the democratic system? We garnered mega-concessions from the developer: homes reduced from 98 to 51; 496 acres of open space dedicated to the city and protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement; a public trail system and staging area constructed at no cost to the city."

—Dolores Bergtson, Retired Director Pleasanton Parks & Community Services

"Pleasantonites, what has happened to our ability to look beyond our own neighborhoods and see what is best for the community? Please before you sign, get the facts at KeepOurPark.org, or just say 'NO.'"

—Christine Steiner, Senior Advocate



Photos of Pleasanton's newest and largest park at Oak Grove. Taken by Keep Our Park Committee member Becky Dennis while walking in the future park.

For a complete listing of endorsees or to add your name to our list, go to:
www.KeepOurPark.org

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

California Least Affordable

Despite falling home prices throughout most of the state, California remains the nation's least affordable market for housing in the third quarter, the California Building Industry Association reported.

The quarterly NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index, compiled by CBIA's sister organization, the National Association of Home Builders, found that homes were less affordable in 13 of the state's metropolitan areas when compared to the second quarter, while affordability inched upwards in 15.

On a statewide basis, just 12.6 percent of all the homes sold could be afforded by a median-income family, up slightly from 11.7 percent in the second quarter.

During the third quarter, nine of the 10 least-affordable communities in the nation were located in California, as were 26 of the bottom 33. Napa County saw a significant decrease in affordability, overtaking Los Angeles County as the nation's least affordable market - only 3.3 percent of homes sold were affordable to a median-income family. Los Angeles County had been the least-affordable market in the nation for 11 consecutive quarters, but is now second with affordability inched upwards to 3.7 percent. Monterey County was the third least-affordable market (4.2 percent), followed by Orange County (4.8 percent), and San Luis Obispo County (5.7 percent).

Only one metro area scored affordability levels higher than 25 percent - Butte County, which decreased from 30.0 percent to 27.2 percent. Affordability climbed by more than 2 percentage points in four California markets, including Merced County, where the affordability rate climbed from 3.8 percent to 7.4 percent. Santa Barbara County saw affordability climb from 6.2 percent to 8.6 percent, while Stanislaus County saw an increase from 7.0 percent to 9.7 percent, and Sacramento County had an increase from 15.0 percent to 17.2 percent.

Nationwide, 42 percent of new and existing homes sold in the third quarter were affordable to families earning the national median income. Kokomo, Ind., became the nation's most affordable major housing market with an affordability ranking of 90.5 percent, overtaking Indianapolis, Ind., which came in second with a ranking of 87.5 percent.

For income, NAHB uses the annual median family income estimates for metropolitan areas published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. NAHB assumes that a family can afford to spend 28 percent of its gross income on housing; this is a conventional assumption in the lending industry. That share of median income is then divided by twelve to arrive at a monthly figure.

Holiday Cards for the Troops

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) is asking 11th district residents to participate in his "Holiday Cards for Our Troops" program.

McNerney will collect holiday cards for soldiers recovering from battle and stationed away from their families this holiday season. He will then deliver the cards to soldiers at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., sailors and marines at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, and to National Guard and Reserve soldiers at Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin, CA.

"The holiday season can be a difficult time of year for those who serve our country in uniform, particularly those who have returned from battle injured," Rep. McNerney said. "Some are separated from family, friends, and the traditions that have brought comfort and joy throughout the years and all of them are faced with a life forever changed by their service to our nation. Thoughtful words of encouragement and support from the great people of the 11th district can do a lot to boost the morale of our brave men and women."

Constituents are asked to make or purchase a holiday card, inside write a message of thanks to a service member, then send or bring the card - unaddressed and with an unsealed envelope - to one of Rep. McNerney's district offices in Stockton or Pleasanton by December 9. The Congressman's staff will address and seal the envelopes and the Congressman will deliver them on behalf of the people of the 11th district of California.

The offices are at the following locations: Stockton, 2222 Grand Canal Blvd., Suite 7, Stockton, CA 95207; (209) 476-8552, and Pleasanton, 5776 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Suite 175, Pleasanton, CA 94588; (925) 737-0727.

COUNCIL

(continued from page one)

John F. Kennedy, "a real world changing event for a lot of us." The assassination of Martin Luther King and Bobbie Kennedy, the war in Vietnam, and the events of Jonestown all impacted her. She cited John Kennedy's speech, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country," Dr. King's speech, "I have a dream;" and a statement of Bobbie Kennedy as influencing her.

Dietrich quoted Bobbie Kennedy, "Since the days of Greece and Rome when the title of citizen was an honor, we have put more emphasis on the rights of citizenship than on the responsibility. Today, as never before in the free world, responsibility is the greatest right and service freedom's greatest privilege."

She suggested that it is impor-

tant for members of any community to engage in dialogue and raise questions whether it is popular to do so in the face of what some might think is "group think." She continued, "I have a passionate belief that each member of a community has an obligation to engage and better that community. That's what I have tried to do."

Dietrich commented on her relationship with the mayor, noting they traveled a rocky road before they figured out how to work together productively for the benefit of the community. She praised city staff and said she would miss working with them.

She stated that she could offer advice regarding the Independent newspaper and Friends of Livermore complex, but would not do so.

Dietrich closed by quoting a

commencement speech by Dr. Seuss entitled, "My Uncle Terwilliger on the Art of Eating Popovers." It ends with the lines: "Do a lot of spitting out the hot air. And be careful what you swallow."

After he was sworn in, Kamena stated, "It has been my privilege to serve the community. I believe the accomplishments of this council have been considerable. Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth."

Williams and Leider both thanked voters for their support. Williams declared, "I will do everything I can to maintain the well being of the community and citizens as long as I am part of this city council."

Leider noted that there are many exciting things left for the council to accomplish.

WIDENING

(continued from page one)

landscaping along the widening route.

All of those assertions are mistaken, according to the Livermore engineering department officials who have worked on the project. Highway 84's relocation from First Street was not a new idea. It has been in the Livermore general plan since the 1960s. The widening project will bring Isabel up to state route expressway standards, said project manager Mike Mikasa.

There is no link between the widening and the airport improvements or any business park lands, said Ken Ross, who worked on the initial Isabel project, before the current widening phase taken over by Mikasa. The aim for decades has strictly been to move the traffic down Highway 84 from I-580 to Vineyard Avenue and then Sunol, where the highway meets I-680.

Ross said that he wasn't sure what issue the web page is referring to when it mentions pedes-

trian safety. He noted that when the original Isabel Avenue extension was built, the city included a multi-use trail, from Alden Lane to Jack London Boulevard. The widening project includes an analysis of an extension south to Vineyard Avenue.

Brigetta Smith, spokeswoman for Caltrans, said that one of the project's goals is to improve bicycle and pedestrian routes there. The project will address noise abatement. There is no need for mitigation, except at two points on the route, said Smith.

One of them is near the Ruby Hill recreation area. Otherwise, all of the sound measurements show readings below 67 decibels, which is the federal standard, said Smith.

As far as restoration of landscaping is concerned, the city is committed to mitigating any adverse impacts, said Ross. One example of it is the 11-foot berm that was built along the west side of Isabel to provide separation

from the nearby quarries, he said. There was also landscaping completed on Isabel's east side, said Mikasa.

However, some of the residents are skeptical. Pam Picazo of Picazo Vineyards, near Kalthoff Common, said that a small amount of her property was taken for the work in an earlier project that moved the Isabel roadway near Ruby Hill. She said that olive trees were taken, and haven't been replaced.

Another resident in the area, Mike Thompson, said he is concerned about noise. His property is elevated above the roadway, about 100 yards from the project. Sound rises, so a sound wall wouldn't do him any good, but would help only the neighbors living on the same level as the road.

Smith said that Caltrans is looking forward to working with the neighbors on solving the problems as part of the mitigation process.

OAK GROVE

(continued from page one)

Mayor Tom Pico.

He told The Independent that he did not come up to petitioners during their activity. However, he did stand some distance away from the petition circulators, and held a sign that expressed his opposition.

Ayala said that Pico's work for Charter Properties as an advocate for the project is a reversal of his image as an environmentally sensitive mayor.

Pico told The Independent that he hasn't changed. He said that he was asked by the Lin family, which owns Charter Properties, to represent them in talks with city staff and the Kottlinger Ranch homeowners. Contrary to any possible rumors or speculation, Pico said that he has done no other work for Charter Properties.

"(The Lin family) asked me to come up with a project that would be a win/win for Pleasanton, one that could be representative of the entire community. It's not any different from trying to obtain the Bernal property from the city of San Francisco to create a public space for citizens to enjoy," said Pico.

Ayala said she finds it ironic that Pico wants to keep the two measures off the ballot. The initiative calls for any hillside development of more than 10 homes to be put before a vote of the city's electorate. It is reminiscent of the CAPP initiative in the late 1990s, which did not pass. If CAPP had passed, it would have required a citywide vote on any development over 10 units. Therefore, the Oak Grove development automatically would have been referred, said Ayala. She claimed that Pico supported CAPP.

However, Pico told The Independent that he was not sure that he supported CAPP. He said that he couldn't remember, and that he may have had some objections to it.

Pico continued by stating that what is important is that he is opposing overturning the Oak Grove project. "It's being accepted by the people of Pleas-

ton. It has been a great compromise with positive benefits for the entire community. The park far outweighs the impacts of 51 homes."

Ayala quarrels with calling the 497 acres in the Oak Grove plan a park. "The only negative we hear (in circulating petitions) is the confusion that Charter Properties has brought to the situation. Their fliers say the city will lose a park, but there is no park. When people are told it's a park, they think soccer fields and equipment for the kids, something everyone in Pleasanton wants. But this is a trail. It will never be more than a trail."

Pico declared, "It's a park, with 497 acres of park land, accessible to the public, with a staging area, at no cost to the city. The (development's) homeowners association will pay for maintenance. An easement over the park will be dedicated by the developer to the Tri-Valley Conservancy, and protected as open space."

Karla Brown, a Kottlinger Ranch resident working on the initiative campaign, said that teen-agers already build campfires on the land when they hang out there at night. It can only get worse as a wildfire hazard and partying site for teens if more access were granted, she said.

Pico said, "I am not going to attack the children of Pleasanton as undesirable. We want to see the park as a legacy to future generations. It will improve the overall health of society, with places where they can go off and hike." As for security on the site, the police and other city departments have already weighed in on all pertinent issues, said Pico.

Ayala stated, "We always need additional help" in circulating petitions. So far, 63 people are circulating them. "People shouldn't think the referendum can be accomplished without their signature. We'd love to overshoot (the required number of signatures) and send a very clear message to the city council that people are not happy about what goes on."

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EDITORIAL

McNerney Presses On

Our congressman, Jerry McNerney, continues his tireless effort to keep the Livermore VA open.

Washington has made the decision to close Livermore, but says it may reconsider "if such a need could be demonstrated."

McNerney wrote recently to Veterans Affairs administrator Gordon Mansfield. He pressed the point that with the "nation's overseas engagements creating a new generation of veterans, we should be working to expand services to veterans. The Livermore VA Medical Center presents just such an opportunity. The peaceful, serene setting is ideal for a treatment clinic for PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) and other mental distress."

The congressman had already made that point to the VA hierarchy. This time, though, he was armed with stronger evidence to support his case, namely an article in the November 14 Journal of the American Medical Association concerning follow-up screenings of returning combat soldiers. The study, the article reports, revealed increased percentages of problems such as alcohol excess, major depression and PTSD. These veterans are falling through the cracks and not getting the treatment they need, the article says.

Livermore VA would be "a perfect fit for the kinds of needed mental health services highlighted in the study," observed McNerney in his letter to Mansfield.

Washington is lavish in its spending when it comes to sending Americans to war, but becomes a penny pincher when the troops come home. This is the kind of prioritizing our congressman is working against. We can only hope he will finally get Washington to see that Livermore VA should not be closed — that Livermore has a major role to play in the healing of wounded veterans.

APPEAL

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appeal target the city's zoning efforts and the 29,000 unit voter approved housing cap. The dismissal stated that the time to challenge the housing cap was when it was adopted.

Marcantonio stated that the lawsuit does not challenge the adoption of the cap. The argument, he said, is that the cap comes into conflict with state law approved last year. Because of the cap, Pleasanton is unable to meet state housing goals. He said the law does not say the city has to build the housing. It does have to provide zoning where the housing could be built.

Pleasanton City Attorney Michael Roush stated that the new arguments are not substantially different than the first. The time to have challenged the cap was when it was approved. He said as to the ripeness issue, "There has never been one project impacted or turned down because of the cap. Until the city reaches the cap limit, the case is not ripe."

Marcantonio argues that there is no need to await resolution of the housing cap until the city exhausts the maximum number of units permitted under the cap. "Housing element law imposes on the city a present duty, not a future one. The cap today makes it numerically impossible for the city to comply."

The state has informed Pleasanton that it is out of compliance with its housing element because it has failed to rezone any land to accommodate affordable housing. The city has indicated that the rezoning would take place once the general plan update has been completed.

Roush stated that the city's housing element does not require land to be rezoned. "It simply says that the city will conduct a study to create opportunities for properties to be rezoned."

Marcantonio said the general plan update is not a good excuse for not rezoning land. "They

have vacant land within their jurisdiction that their general plan governs. Unless they do their part to rezone sites, affordable housing cannot be built anywhere."

The lawsuit states that the city's policies are creating a hardship by causing a housing shortage in Pleasanton, preventing those who need it from finding affordable housing in the city.

Pleasanton city officials have said that they are not standing in the way of affordable housing. Part of the general plan update is to determine where to build the remaining housing units left under the cap. The update began April 2003. Roush said it would be completed in September 2008.

New preliminary housing numbers covering 2006 to 2014 have been issued by ABAG. Pleasanton has been assigned 3,685 units, a number that it has challenged.

With so few units left under the cap, Marcantonio said there is no way for Pleasanton to comply with state law.

Pleasanton principal planner Janice Stearn said there are 2,748 units that have not yet been built. The remainder under the cap have been approved or are under construction.

Roush said that the city recognizes that the new numbers from ABAG will present a challenge for the city to meet and still be consistent with the cap.

Marcantonio said there is no problem with the urban growth boundary. That is one of the tools used to stop sprawl. However, the trade-off for an urban growth boundary is that extra density is added within the boundaries. "By law, Pleasanton is obligated to do so."

A three judge panel will review the appeal. The panel could uphold the previous decision or send the lawsuit back to Superior Court for further consideration.

Zone 7 Mulls Policy Status For Energy Saving

Zone 7 Water Agency directors had their first look at proposed goals for saving energy used by the utility. However, they aren't sure what form they want the commitment to take.

The agency's staff noted at the board's meeting Nov. 14 that Alameda County is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as part of the state's move to make reductions and monitor results.

Although Zone 7 acts largely independently, the county still has an oversight role. The county created the zone as a flood control agency in the 1950s. Zone 7 staff is recommending proposals that will dovetail with the county's goals, as well as the state's goals on greenhouse gas emissions.

The goals are to reduce energy usage when and where possible, reduce energy-related costs, reduce adverse energy-related environmental impacts when and where possible, and investigate the feasibility of using sustainable energy sources, considering both their costs and benefits.

Zone 7 already has been looking at ways to save energy, just as a matter of staff effort in designing projects.

The staff is proposing that the

goals be approved as policy. However, some directors at the agency's meeting said that a policy implies that the commitment is fixed at a high level, and that employees' actions have to be judged against that standard.

Director John Greci said the goals are good. They can save money for customers. Just by having staff look at projects' designs, energy can be saved, and a formal policy isn't needed for that.

Board president Bill Stevens said the goals should be just goals, and not a policy. "PG&E should have an energy policy," said Stevens. Zone 7 has policies on things more pertinent to a water and flood control district, and should not expand the high stature of policy commitment into the energy area.

Jim Kohnen, a member of the board's energy committee, said that the committee, which met Nov. 6, is calling for a "culture change in Zone 7, but the board cannot dictate it." He said he favors giving policy status to the goals. Kohnen said that whatever is done, the challenge is a motivational one. "We should encourage employees to participate in the energy program, and applaud their efforts."

Also favoring the program as

a policy was another energy committee member, Dick Quigley. He wants to see Zone 7 move forward "before we get pushed by the regulators and water retailers."

Sarah Palmer said that she was on the fence about whether to make the goals a policy. She wants to wait until a final draft of a consultant's report is available in December. Stevens said, "Let's wait and get the information. Then we can do it or not. I was not elected for the latest fad. That's what I regard this as."

KOHNEN AGAIN VOTES AGAINST ARRANGEMENT

The board also approved a minor amendment to an agreement it made last month with Municipal Finance Corporation over the financing of up to \$60 million in water facilities expansion projects. The vote on the amendment was 5-1, with Kohnen opposed.

He opposed it because he believes Zone 7 is overcommitted in view of the growth slowdown.

The financial agreement will be made with Wells Fargo. It works something like a line of credit, in that money can be taken on an as-needed basis by Zone 7, instead of committing to the entire \$60 million up front, and having to start payback immedi-

ately, with a higher interest charge coming in the early years. The financial obligation would be paid off by 2013 from growth connection fees.

Kohnen opposed the agreement when it was approved by the board last month. He is skeptical about the agency's ability to pay off the financing over five years. "I haven't seen where we're going to build \$60 million in the next five years, collect that (in fees), and pay it back (to the bank)," he told the Independent. The slowdown in home construction should make people uneasy about the financing, he said.

General manager Jill Duerig said that the staff took a slow-growth, slow-revenue scenario into consideration when it built its model for the next five years' connection fee collection and payments to the bank. She said that if revenue were lower than projected because of a growth slowdown, Zone 7 could take the money from other projects.

Duerig named the second phase of the Altamont water treatment plant and the second phase of a demineralization project as the logical candidates for the fund diversion. The justification would be that a growth slowdown would delay the need for those second phases, said Duerig.

ART

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was acceptable to all concerned.

David Best of Shea Homes commented Monday that the process had worked. While he said he was philosophically opposed to any new fees, he appreciated the attempts to have all sides of the issue provide input. "The process was great. I hope the city continues to use it in the future."

The program would require private development to provide art at the value of .33 percent of the construction cost. The art could be incorporated into the proposed development project or the developer could pay an in lieu fee into the city's art fund.

All new commercial and industrial projects would be required to participate in the program, as would residential development of five or more units. The artwork would be required to be located in a public place that is easily accessible and clearly visible to the general public.

No more than 10 percent of the funds collected could be spent on implementation of the policy. Eighty percent of the art

fund would be used to acquire, install and maintain art; 20 percent could be used for exhibitions, displays or public performances. The ordinance sunsets on Oct. 1, 2014. It could be extended at that time. A biennial review will also take place on how the fee is working. It could be increased, decreased or eliminated following a review.

Based on the city's development pattern, it is estimated that the city could receive \$207,000 in lieu fees per year.

The artwork must remain in place for thirty years. Councilmember Jeff Williams felt that was a long time for a piece of art to sit in one place. It presupposed that tastes and sensibilities wouldn't change over time.

City Manager Linda Barton noted public art laws that are very strict regarding how art can be changed or moved. It was suggested that discussion on how art is handled be considered by the Commission for the Arts as part of establishing guidelines as to how the ordinance to be implemented.

John Mahoney, chairman of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce Board, thanked the city for bringing the art and business community together. He was pleased with the process, noting that he believes a better product has been provided for the city as a whole. He was also happy that affordable housing was exempted from having to participate in the art program.

Artists Peggy Riley echoed the comments by Best and Mahoney. "The art community learned a lot about challenges facing businesses. They learned a lot about our commitment and volunteerism. It was a great way to bring people together."

Mayor Marshall Kamena commented, "It was not easy to form the group. I am delighted it happened. It was a good precedent."

GREEN

(continued from page one)

els and such things as low-flow faucets and other features designed from the building's inception. The facility won a gold award from a national organization that certifies green building.

Haggerty found that the counties' state convention that rural counties are challenging to bring on board, said Argula. "They may not have the rising of sea level in the Bay to affect them. However, they do have alpine trees dying off because of global warming." Another issue will be an earlier snow-melt, and its impact on ag-

ricultural irrigation.

Argula said that Haggerty has agreed to visit rural counties' boards accompanied by scientists to convince residents in the rural counties to join the Cool Counties initiative. The county already has been reaching out by sending some of its General Services Administration staff to educate staffs at other counties.

Argula said that it's primarily up to staffs to implement changes. "At some point, they need to get up to speed on it," she said.

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.)

Lions Thank You Buzz Valente Event Chairman

The members of Amador Valley Lions Club extend a huge thank you to those merchants and individuals who helped make our annual Big Money Giveaway a success. It was through the particular generosity of Wal-Mart of Livermore, Allegra Printing of Pleasanton, Carpet One of Livermore, San Jose Sharks Foundation of San Jose, Art Thoms Locker Room of Moraga, and Livermore Travel that the Amador Valley Lions Club was able to insure a successful fund-raiser.

Many other businesses helped through advertising on our placemat project. These businesses are: Sarah Cares, Round Table Pizza of downtown Pleasanton, Pleasanton Financial Advisors, Killroy Pest Control, J. Phillip Chubb Insurance, Randi DeHollander of Vintage Mortgage, Groth Brothers Chevrolet, The Door Doctor, Tina Barbera of Bellissima Hair Salon, Atom Appliance, Baker Brothers Carpet Cleaners and David Greiner of Beckman Investment Securities. We thank each of you for your patronage of this placemat fund-raising project.

Many other businesses supported this event through advertisements as well as donating items for auction. Those businesses are: Splashes Car Wash, Ken Cook of Tri-Valley PC Medic, Terra Mia Restaurant of Livermore, Howard Hertz of Tri-Valley Tax, Teri Carlson of Millleur, Rosewood Gardens of Livermore, Trader Joes of Livermore, OSH of Livermore, Longs Drug Store of Livermore, Safeway Stores, Target Stores, Tommy T's, Holland America and Princess Cruise Lines, and Owen Saupe

for art work. Our silent auction was a huge success due to your generosity.

Additionally, a thank you is extended to Pleasanton Police Department's DARE officers Ted Young and Jason Knight for your assistance throughout the evening in and out of the kitchen area. Thank you to Sergeant Mike Tryphonas and Pleasanton Police Explorer Post # 836 for their assistance in food preparation, table service and clean up. We could not have done it without your invaluable assistance, such a great group of teenagers. It was through the collective efforts and financial support of all mentioned that the Amador Valley Lions Club was able to have a successful fund-raiser. Thank you again.

Thank You Emile Meylan Livermore

Mariela, Lisette and Emile Meylan would like to thank the members of the Livermore Valley Tennis club, the Soroptimist International of Livermore, the participants of the tennis tournament, and the classmates of the Granada High School class of 1997/10 years reunion for the amazing fund-raisers for Mariela.

BART in Median Robert S. Allen BART Director (1974-1988) Livermore

Far better - and likely cheaper - than a high speed rail spur over the Altamont: BART in a widened I-580 median to Greenville Road with stations at BART-owned sites near Isabel and the truck scales.

East of Greenville, BART would go under the elevated westbound I-580 lanes and up to an ACE intermodal station on the former SP roadbed.

BART could then extend along the SP and Old Altamont Pass Road to Mountain House and on to Tracy and an HSR intermodal station near Lathrop/Manteca.

MTC's fatally-flawed "Regional Rail Plan" calls BART the backbone of regional transit, yet then writes off extending BART, despite BART's legendary safety,

efficiency, and appeal. Logical extensions; along I-580 to Greenville Road, along SR-4 to Antioch, Del Norte along I-80 to Crockett, around SF Bay, and toward the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco.

Planners should aggressively seek right of way to widen I-580, before more development escalates the cost beyond reason. That, not piecemeal mods like an interim eastbound HOB lane, should get first call on transportation funding.

In the meantime, Livermore deserves a direct freeway-oriented bus linking BART's Airway park/ride with every BART train, at least during commute hours. Probably three buses costing about \$250,000/year (coming mostly from fares) would provide cheap, effective relief from I-580 congestion.

For the Future Lex Manwill Livermore

Here are the Top Ten reasons to skip the turkey this Thanksgiving:

10. You will pardon a turkey - just like President Bush, but for the right reasons.
9. You'll celebrate life and good fortune, rather than death and misfortune.
8. You won't suffer nightmares about how the turkey lived and died.
7. You won't have to call the Poultry Hotline to keep your family alive.
6. You won't have to sweat the saturated fat and cholesterol.
5. Your vegetarian friends will adore you.
4. Your kids will tell their friends about their cool "tofurky."
3. You won't fall asleep during the football game.
2. You are what you eat. Who wants to be a "buttermilk"?
1. Commercial turkeys are too fat to have sex. Could happen to you.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks for our good fortune, health, and happiness with a life-affirming, cruelty-free feast of vegetables, fruits, and grains. My family's Thanksgiving dinner menu will include a "tofurky," lentil roast, mashed potatoes, corn stuffing, stuffed squash, chestnut soup, candied yams, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, and perhaps even carrot cake. An

internet search on Vegetarian Thanksgiving got us more recipes and other useful information than we could use.

Y Event a Success Tim Stier Tri-Valley YMCA

The recent Meet Your Y event at the restaurant, Stacey's at Waterford in Dublin, was a great success. A cross section of community leaders joined with the Tri-Valley YMCA staff, board of managers and volunteers to learn about YMCA programs.

Guests were asked for their ideas and support for future YMCA programs. Over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, guests particularly enjoyed an inspirational talk by the San Ramon Mayor H. Abram Wilson, who spoke of his family ties to the YMCA and how Y programs provide an invaluable resource to children.

The Y board of managers and staff are grateful to all who attended and look forward to future collaborative efforts for the building of strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.

Biosafety Lab Beverly King Livermore

As your newspaper recently reported, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory caused an anthrax release when shipping more than 4,000 vials of the pathogen to Florida and Virginia.

Two anthrax vials had missing lids and a third was not properly secured.

The accident occurred in 2005, but the information was not made public. Fortunately, this carefully held secret was exposed in 2007. The Lab management was fined \$450,000 as these shipments violated CDC regulations and exposed workers to danger.

The Department of Energy plans a Biosafety 3 (BSL3) in Livermore, which would experiment with not only anthrax, but plague, Q fever, and a host of other deadly pathogens. Without being a BSL3, the Lab's track record is already suspect. What

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CAMPAIGN NEWS

Three-time Assemblymember Loni Hancock, candidate for the 9th State Senate District, has received the endorsements of Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums.

"Loni and I share a commitment to fixing our health care system," said Lee. "I look forward to working with her to make sure that every Californian has access to affordable, quality health care."

"Loni Hancock has been a tireless advocate on issues East Bay residents care most about, such as improving opportunities for our youth, providing quality education, and protecting the

environment," said Mayor Dellums. "Oakland needs her voice in the state capital."

Hancock has received strong support from elected officials throughout the 9th Senate District, including State Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata; Congressional members George Miller and Ellen Tauscher; and Assemblymember Sandré Swanson.

For the past five years, Hancock has represented the 14th District in the California State Assembly. Prior to that, she served six years as a top education official in the Clinton Administration, as well as two terms as Mayor of Berkeley.

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MAILBOX

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would happen if large amounts of these pathogens were used in experiments and shipments? There is no foolproof guarantee these pathogens would be handled safely. Careless handling, as in the 2005 anthrax incident, accidents, earthquakes, and faulty procedures endanger everyone. Many of these pathogens are airborne. Once let loose they do their damage indiscriminately.

As a community where these pathogens would be used and as a nation through which these materials will be transported, this BSL3 must never be established.

I call on my neighbors to join me in opposing this new biolab in Livermore. Check www.trivalleycares.org for more information.

Keep Our Park

Jerry Pentin,
Chair, KeepOurPark.Org

Proponents behind the SavePlsHills referendum are using hyperbole and misleading Photoshop renditions of homes they claim will be placed on our ridgelines in the southeast hills of Pleasanton. They are running out of time to gather signatures, so they're resorting to measures that omit the full truth about the Oak Grove project.

In contrast, KeepOurPark.Org encourages Pleasanton residents to be fully informed about Oak Grove, and to politely decline to sign any referendum or petition.

KeepOurPark.Org supports the many years of collaborative effort by our slow-growth city council, the Oak Grove property owner, and the project's neighbors (i.e. Kottinger Ranch) in securing 496 acres of open space for a natural park in Pleasanton. The SavePlsHills advocates will omit mention of this park when they ask for your signature. They don't appear to care that their referendum/initiative will eliminate access to this open space for all residents of Pleasanton, or that the Oak Grove project has the potential to add even more acres that someday could create a park stretching all the way to Callippe golf course.

A few facts about this project: Only lots, with many, many conditions, have been approved, each and every home will, individually, have to be brought to the city for approval, and I promise you, there will be a full public vetting with each proposed home. And no home as is being represented by the SavePlsHills advocates will ever be built on any ridgeline in Pleasanton.

This project has decreased the number of homes allowed from 98 to 51, which also decreases the amount of traffic in half as well. The property owner has also agreed to pay one million dollars in traffic mitigation fees.

This park will not cost the residents of Pleasanton a dime. Ever. The property owner is deeding the 496 acres to the city, will build the staging area and trails at their cost and pay the endowment to the Tri-Valley Conservancy. The Oak Grove HOA will be responsible for all maintenance costs.

To become better informed, please visit KeepOurPark.Org, and join our many community leaders who have chosen not to sign away this great opportunity for everyone in Pleasanton.

Please Sign

Matt Morrison
Pleasanton

Many years ago when the lights came on at the "Hayward Hotel" atop Pleasanton's western hills it was too late to preserve a natural, unbroken ridge top no matter how disconcerting the view became for many of us.

The construction of one home was the single driving investigator for a community move-

ment to preserve Pleasanton Ridge, but every time one looked where the western expanse met the night sky right in the middle was that streetlight and we couldn't do a thing about it.

A big "Thank You!" to Kay Ayala, Karla Brown-Belcher, and the many Pleasanton residents who are circulating both a referendum to allow all residents to decide whether the Oak Grove southern hilltop development is a good project and an initiative to amend Pleasanton's General Plan to prohibit large developments from building on hills with 25%+ slopes or within 100 vertical feet of a ridgeline.

If you value the sense of a small-town Pleasanton nestled within our natural skyline of hills, please sign both the referendum and the initiative. It really doesn't do a whit of good to miss something after it's gone!

Oak Grove Referendum

Bill Rasnick
(concerned Pleasanton resident)

While at the Farmer's Market on Sat., I saw our Mayor and Councilman Sullivan asking our citizens not to sign the Referendum against the Oak Grove Development. Were these the same people who told us how strongly they support the referendum process at the Nov. 6 City Council Meeting? I guess when they heard how many people are signing the Referendum, they decided that this process wasn't so great.

Could these be the same people who complain about how the Federal Government is not listening to the will of its citizens? It seems like they don't want to hear the will of Pleasanton's voters in an open election.

Let's all exercise our right to have a vote on the Oak Grove Development by signing the Referendum to put this choice on the ballot. The developer is spending thousands and thousands of dollars to try to suppress this right. All we ask is for all the people to have a vote.

Learn about Oak Grove

Jerry T. Thorne
Pleasanton

The purpose of this letter is to encourage my fellow citizens of Pleasanton to make sure they have factual and complete information before signing the Oak Grove referendum or voting for it should it qualify for the ballot. Since this project will be a model for preserving up to 2000 acres of our South Pleasanton hills in perpetuity, it is too important to this community to make a decision based on "sound bites" and incomplete information.

A consensus plan for this project was developed after 3 1/2 years of discussions with the City, developer, land owner, Home Owner's Association representatives, trails and open space advocates and others. This consensus plan was approved by the City Council in an open, public process and it requires the land owners/developers to provide the following:

- Almost 500 acres of ridge land open space dedicated to the City and preserved in perpetuity.
- \$1M in traffic mitigation fees for the neighborhood.
- Public access to the park with trails and a trail head.
- An additional fire truck for the City.
- A new water tank that will be used by the project as well as other residents within the City.
- 20 affordable housing units located somewhere in Pleasanton.
- A plan that reduces the number of homes from 98 to 51 homes.

It is important to remember that not one home has been approved. Each home will be con-

sidered individually and will be compared to very stringent requirements including environmental concerns, visibility, size, etc. This is the most comprehensive Development Agreement that has ever been prepared in Pleasanton. The 12,500 square feet number being used by the advocates of the referendum is a limit set on 7 of the 51 lots, not an approval to actually build homes of any size. All approvals will be subject to a full public hearing process if requested by any Planning Commissioner, Council Member or member of the public wishing to appeal the decision of the Zoning Administrator.

Our vision is to eventually have approximately 2000 acres of our ridge lines dedicated in perpetuity as open space with trails connecting the Callippe Preserve Golf Course and Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. However, if this referendum is successful, the Oak Grove property will remain as private property and will not be accessible to the public.

Democratic Process

Dolores Bengtson
Pleasanton

With other dedicated citizen environmentalists, I jumped into the planning of the Oak Grove project to protect public interests and fulfill the vision of a megapark on the southeast hills. We wanted the best for the community and gave our time and energy to shape the project. We read EIR's, studied countless reports, attended stakeholder and public meetings and provided input to assure public needs were met and the fragile and valuable resource protected.

Now it appears that since we are opposing the initiative to protect that hard work, and the project we believe the best possible for the land, we are accused by the initiative promoters of being less than democratic! What could be more democratic than participating in a public process and working to protect the resulting project? The initiative promoters forget democracy works both ways - they are free to propose an initiative, others are free to oppose!

What was the result of the many informed citizens working within the democratic system, fully participating in a community process? They garnered mega-concessions from the developer: homes reduced from 98 to 51; 496 acres of open space lands dedicated to the city and protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement; a public trail system and staging area constructed by the developer at no cost to the city.

If your interest is in preservation of open space - follow the lead of open space advocates listed on our [Keep Our Park](http://KeepOurPark.org) website: www.keepourpark.org. Most importantly, don't sign the initiative petition.

Save Our Southeast Hills

Cindy McGovern
Pleasanton

A Pleasanton grassroots organization is seeking the help of Pleasanton voters. Signatures are needed to place the "Save Pleasanton's Hills and Housing Cap Initiative" and the Referendum overturning the approval of the Oak Grove Housing Project on a 2008 voter ballot. Please join me and sign these petitions.

Protecting the Southeast Hills ridgeland is clearly important to Pleasanton residents. Pleasanton's 1996 General Plan, the official City planning document, describes this area as follows: "The Southeast Hills provide a major visual backdrop for South Pleasanton as well as the entire City." This Plan also states, "Preserve scenic hillside and ridge views of the Pleasanton, Main and Southeast Hills ridges."

It's time to honor the General Plan and preserve and protect the natural resources of the Southeast Hills including Blue Oak woodlands, plant and wildlife habitats, heritage trees, watershed areas and the scenic resources that enhance the visual beauty of our entire community. The General Plan actually shows us the way, "Develop a ridgeline preservation ordinance and scenic hillside design guidelines to improve safety and reduce the potential negative visual impacts of development in hilly areas." Eleven years have passed since this Plan's adoptions and no ordinance is in place.

If this ridgeline preservation ordinance had been developed and adopted, the Oak Grove Development would not have been approved since it has ridgetop streets and driveways, houses of up to 12,500 square feet (plus an additional 800 sq ft garage) within 100 vertical feet of the ridgeline, and grading on slopes of 25% or greater in these picturesque Southeast Hills. In addition, another housing development is being proposed in the Southeast Hills. Without an adopted ridgeline preservation ordinance similar housing developments could be built in these hills. Therefore, to protect all Southeast Hills ridgelines, we must referend the Oak Grove housing project and pass the Save Pleasanton's Hills & Housing Cap Initiative establishing the ridgeline preservation ordinance.

Language in the Save Pleasanton's Hills & Housing Cap Initiative states, "Ridgelines and hillsides shall be protected. Housing units and structures shall not be placed on slopes of 25 percent or greater, or within 100 vertical feet of a ridgeline. No grading to construct residential or commercial structures shall occur on hillside slopes 25% or greater, or within 100 feet of a ridgeline."

I have many concerns with the approved Oak Grove Project, the loss of Blue Oak woodlands, the loss of the Callippe butterfly habitat, the lack of a 5 minute fire response time with only one

street for ingress and egress for residents, the proximity to two earthquake faults, the enormous up to three story houses with proportionately vast consumption of energy and water resources, etc.

Signing both the initiative and referendum petitions gives Pleasanton voters a chance to discuss the issues, become informed and vote on the future of development in our Southeast Hills. Please give us all the opportunity by signing the petitions. The Community deserves the dialogue.

With respect for those who serve and live in our community, Cindy McGovern.

A Bad Trade

Karla Brown
Co-Author of the Initiative
"Save Pleasanton Hills"

Don't trade Ridgetops for Trails! Are you willing to trade Pleasanton's pristine ridge tops for a 1-1/2 mile dirt trail and some unbuildable land? Four City Council members are. Help us put this to a Vote of the People in 2008 for a final decision.

On November 6, 2007, Jennifer Hosterman and Matt Sullivan joined Cheryl Cook and Jerry Thorne in approving the Oak Grove Development. The terms were: Trade our pristine southeast hill tops for 1 link in their dirt trail "system" and almost 500 acres of unbuildable and very steep terrain. I supported two of these candidates as they touted their campaign promises of "Slow and Planned Growth." Oak Grove is neither, and it is the first phase in their plan to trade ridge tops for trails.

Through bulldozing, our southeast ridges will be reduced 32, 38, and in some places 43 vertical feet - sliced off of the top. Construction will follow with 51 Mega-Mansions, put on the "hill tops," at least what is left of them! These ridges plus 1000 trees will be gone forever. They want to call this a "Park." It is not a park. There are no playgrounds, no soccer fields, no tennis courts and no lacrosse. There is nothing but a dirt trail and the loss of our ridges.

We need your help to put two

things on the ballot in 2008. One, a Referendum (to place the Oak Grove Development's approval in the hands of the people), and Two, an Initiative (permanent protection of the ridges). If they pass on election day, Pleasanton will finally have the ridgetop protection in place like our neighbors Danville and Lafayette. Moraga will vote for ridge protection in 2008. Please sign the Referendum and Initiative to put these decisions in your own trusted hands. Go to www.SavePleasantonHills.com and find how. We need 3500 signatures by December 6, 2007 to put this on the ballot - so we can all vote. Help protect these ridgelines which frame our town, and provide hillside views and growth limits now and in the future.

Home Depot

Heather E. Truro
Concerned Citizen

Most people know intuitively that it does not make sense for Pleasanton to rezone the property on Stanley/Bernal to allow the proposed Regency/Home Depot project. As we approach build out and remaining space is limited, we must ask ourselves, "Do we really want a second Home Depot?" The residents of Pleasanton overwhelmingly say "no."

Recent data shows the revenue projections are a fraction of what was originally contemplated and the traffic and code enforcement issues are much more serious than were originally projected. So many people think it's a done deal but it is not. I urge all Pleasanton residents to come to the City Council Meeting at 200 Old Bernal Ave. on Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. and to write to City Council at mlcampbell@ci.pleasanton.ca.us as soon as possible.

I am certain our elected City Council Members and Mayor will act on the people's behalf but the people must speak up. Now is the time to say no to tractor-trailers in our neighborhoods and no to increased traffic in the worst traffic bottleneck in Pleasanton.

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Mental Health Services Act

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AT ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY INPUT MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 27, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Eastmont Branch Library (in Eastmont Town Center)
7200 Bancroft Ave., Suite 211 (Oakland, CA)

Wednesday, November 28, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Taylor Memorial Church - Harris Hall
1188-12th Street (Oakland, CA)

Thursday, November 29, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Odd Fellows Hall - Banquet Room
1349 Hays Street (San Leandro, CA)

Monday, December 3, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Alameda County Conference Center
Oakland Room
125-12th Street, Suite 400 (Oakland, CA)

Tuesday, December 4, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Livermore Public Library - Community Rooms A & B
1188 South Livermore Avenue (Livermore, CA)

Wednesday, December 5, 2007 (4pm - 6pm)
Fremont Family Resource Center - Pacific Room
39155 Liberty Street (Fremont, CA)

Thursday, December 6, 2007 (4-6pm)
Alameda County Community Development Agency
224 Winton Avenue - Room 160 (Hayward, CA)

SYSTEM PARTNERS MEETING for County and other Public Service Agency Employees
Monday, December 10, 2007 (2-4pm)
Behavioral Health Care Services - Alameda Room
2000 Embarcadero Cove, Suite 400 (Oakland, CA)

AT A SMALLER FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Contact us at 510-567-8133 if your or your organization would like to attend or host a Focus Group of twenty people or less.

Come to these meetings to learn about the state PEI guidelines and give input on what our local priorities should be.

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For more information on the PEI guidelines visit:
www.dhrh.ca.gov/peia/

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WEEKEND

(continued from page one)
to 7:30 PM. Holiday open house during the day.

Holiday Sights & Sounds Parade and Tree Lighting, December 1 at 6:00 pm. Livermore Downtown, Inc. Downtown Livermore. Holiday open house in downtown during the day; snow at Lizzie Fountain. The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Board of Directors will lead the annual parade.

24th Annual Holiday Home Tour, Sunday, December 2, 2007. Soroptimist International of Livermore presents the 24th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Five homes elegantly decorated for the holidays will be open from 11:00-3:00 PM. Tickets are \$25 per person, tax deductible. Donation supports local community projects benefiting women and children. Tour begins at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Tickets may also be purchased the day of the tour at Alden Lane Nursery.

Sycamore Strings Holiday Recital, Dec. 2, 3 pm, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Holidays in the Vineyards, Saturday & Sunday, December 1 and 2 An open house at area wineries celebrates the season by

sharing special wines, crafts, music and more! All of the wineries throw open their doors and offer special music, gifts and holiday experiences for you and your friends and family to enjoy. Call 925-447-WINE (9463) for more information.

A Christmas Story, The California Independent Film Festival Association will show the holiday classic on Saturday, December 1, at 10:30 a.m. at the Vine Cinema in downtown Livermore. In attendance this year will be one of the movies stars, Scott Schwartz, who played in the timeless classic. Tickets are \$10. They can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling the festival office at (925) 371-1104. A holiday toy drive will be held in conjunction with the screening. Attendees are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit a local Livermore children's charity.

Holiday Open House, Livermore Heritage Guild and Livermore Art Association, Carnegie Building, 3rd St. between J and K Streets, Livermore on Dec. 1, Sat. from 1 pm - 3 pm. Cookies and cider will be served. There is no admission charge. The public is welcome. 449-9927.

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce has announced the recipients of its 45th annual Community Service Awards program. The four recipients for 2007 will be honored at a dinner on November 30, 2007 at Castlewood Country Club. The public is invited to attend.

Business Service Award: For businesses that have provided philanthropic service beyond the scope of normal business activity goes to Fremont Bank.

Fremont Bank has supported the Pleasanton and surrounding communities with both monetary donations and talent for over 11 years. The Bank has donated over \$60,000 to the Pleasanton Spirit Run alone, and fundraised about another \$60,000 for the event. Both high schools have benefited, including the bank being a founding sponsor of the new Amador scoreboard. Other beneficiaries of the bank's foundation giving have been PPIE, Keystone, Hope Hospice, ValleyCare, Axis Health, Open Heart Kitchen, and many more totaling more

than \$350,000 over the last few years.

Business Development Award: For businesses that have made a positive impact in the Pleasanton community through their achievement within the scope of normal business activity. The winner is Parkview Assisted Living.

The Parkview is an Assisted Living Facility for seniors providing all types of non-medical care including housing, meals, activities, transportation, medication management, care giving and companionship. The Parkview's Below Market Rate (BMR) Program—made possible by the City of Pleasanton, Eskaton and Bridget Housing—provides seniors with a place to turn. They can qualify for an apartment at The Parkview including full amenities and care at a significantly reduced rate. The Parkview provides care to seniors in a very friendly and professional way.

Non-profit or Public Service Organization: Hope Hospice is the recipient of this award for

non-profit organizations that have contributed to Pleasanton through philanthropic efforts.

Hope Hospice has provided quality end of life care to patients and families since 1980 regardless of their ability to pay. Hundreds of families have been the recipient of their compassionate care during a time of great emotional turmoil. Hope Hospice provides services in Alamo, Blackhawk, Castro Valley, Diablo, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and Sunol - communities in the San Francisco, California East Bay.

Individual: For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through philanthropic efforts. Chuck Deckert will receive the award.

Chuck Deckert has been involved with a number of associations throughout the years including: St. Vincent de Paul - St. Augustine Conference, Treasurer; Rotary Club of Pleasanton, Senior Christmas Dinner Chair 2000-2007; Hometown Holiday Celebration Steering Committee

Member, Tree Lighting Coordinator; Friends of Pleasanton Seniors, donor advised fun committee member; Hike for Discovery - Raised \$20,000 in the past two years in the community as a benefit for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society; and prior Human Services Commissioner, 8 Years. Chuck currently is involved in the following boards: Senior Support of the Tri-Valley, Vice President; Pleasanton Gardens; Museum on Main (ALVHS), Membership Director.

During the first portion of the program, the 2008 Chamber Board Officers, Directors and the Foundation Board will be installed and individuals will be recognized for special awards including: Chairman's Award, Ambassador of the Year, Carol Bush Award and Jenny Doehle Award.

A no-host cocktail reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner program is at 7:30 p.m. Cost to attend is \$95 per person. Reservations can be made online at www.pleasanton.org. Please RSVP by Monday, November 26th.

SPORTS NOTES



Brandon Fischer and Katrina Anderson.

Scholastic All Americans

Granada High School has announced that two students, Brandon Fischer and Katrina Anderson, have been named to the 2007 Scholastic All-American Swim Team. Both students achieved a 4.0 GPA while swimming competitively both at the Sectional and National levels this past year.

Both of these athletes swim for the Granada High School swim team and the Pleasanton Seahawks swim team.

During the year, they put in approximately 25 hours of swim practice a week, both before and after school each day and on Saturdays. They compete in local swim meets once or twice a month. Once homework and swim practice are done, what spare time left to them is consumed by eating, sleeping, school activities, and being with family and friends.

Katrina, a junior at Granada High, has been swimming competitively since age 13. She swam at a Sectional meet in 2007 and placed 42 out of 150 swimmers in the 100-, 200-, and 500-yard free style. She also swam solidly at the Senior State Championships in Clovis this year, and was high-point runner up for the women's events. Katrina also participated at the Spring Nationals for the first time and competed in a 400-yard free relay. She rounded out her summer by taking 3rd place at Far Westerns in the 200-meter back and 800-meter free. Anderson says, "This past year has been both challenging and rewarding, because I accomplished a lot of my goals, worked hard, and had fun in the process. My goals for 2008 are to qualify for the Santa Clara International meet this summer and to final in the top 8 at NCS."

Brandon, a senior at Granada High, has been swimming competitively since age 11½. He's competed both internationally and nationally, and made his first US Open cut in the 100 breaststroke three years ago. Since then, he's competed at Sectional meets, swimming in the top eight in the 200- and 400-yard IM, and placing second in the 200-yard breaststroke and fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke in 2007. At Senior State Championships this year, he also swam strong, placing 1st in the 100-meter and 200-meter breaststroke, and 1st in the 200- and 400-meter Individual Medley. At both Spring and Summer Nationals, he competed and placed in finals in the top 16 in the breaststroke and swim strong in the 200- and 400-meter IM.

In high school competition, Brandon swam to 1st place in the breaststroke at EBALS all three years, and 1st or 2nd in the 200 IM, and at NCS he's placed 2nd and 3rd in these events.

Fischer says, "I know it's crazy, but I am pretty much driven in whatever I do, whether it's in school or in the water. I'm always trying to challenge myself. It doesn't always come easy for me, so to achieve a 4.0 GPA is amazing and my hard work is paying off. I attribute my success to the great supportive teachers I've had at GHS, and the support of my two coaches, Steve Morsilli and Bruce Wolfe. They've always believed in me and strengthened my belief in myself, even when others haven't."

He added, "My goals for 2008 are to continue to work hard in school and in the water, pushing myself to achieve a best time in my breaststroke, take 1st at NCS, and graduate."

Brandon has received a swimming scholarship and signed with the University of Wyoming.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 8th Grade Girls American Team defeated St. Anthony's 49-23 in CYO basketball action. The girls played in the Michael Enea Invitational Tournament over the weekend winning 2 out of 3 games. In the final game, there were outstanding efforts by the post players McKenna Daly (12 pts, 7 rbs & 3 steals) and

Jennifer Plantenga (11 pts & 15 rbs). Also having great offensive games were Theresa Keaney (7 pts, 7 rbs & 3 steals), Nicole McDougall (5 pts & 6 rbs) and Sanni Schiller (5 pts, 4 rbs & 6 steals). Awesome defensive games were turned in by Ashley Holmes, Camille Cauthen, Kaila Williams and Alyse Kline, who put pressure on the ball causing many St. Anthony turnovers.

Youth Soccer

The Livermore Elite Fury girls U12D3 team captured first place in the South San Jose Thanksgiving tournament.

Three shutout victories placed the Fury in the finals against the Tracy Fusion. Livermore dominated play in the first half as Marissa Scheid and Morgan Brandt led the offensive surge with shots on goal. The Tracy defense withstood the Fury attack and the first half ended scoreless. The Fusion opened the second half by driving the ball into the Fury zone and scoring on a cross that deflected off a Livermore player into the goal. Trailing for the first time all weekend, the Fury offense stepped up the pressure. Amanda Fairclough sent a long, high ball to the goal which bounced loose in front of the goal. Katie Lortie pushed the ball through the Tracy defenders for the equalizer. Livermore controlled the remaining 25 minutes of the half and had several scoring opportunities but could not convert. The Fusion had a good run into the Fury zone late but defender Alyssa Stevenson turned away the threat. After a scoreless overtime, the game was decided by penalty kicks.

Fury goalie Emily Kalantar stopped two Fusion kicks while Amanda Fairclough, Skyler Kriz, Rebekah Johnson and Katie Lortie all connected on theirs to seal Livermore's fourth tournament win of the season. In game one versus the Manteca Rangers Unified, the Fury controlled first half play. Alison Pierson, Katie Lortie and Marissa Scheid each had scoring chances while Ryley Landreth played excellent defense. Livermore finally broke through two minutes into the second half when Katie Lortie controlled an Amanda Fairclough corner kick and drilled a shot past the Rangers goalie for a 1-0 lead. Midfielder Callie Crowe played a strong midfield and Alyssa Stevenson provided good defensive support as the Fury held on for the victory.

Against the Walnut Creek Raptors, the Fury dominated play. Morgan Brandt opened the scoring in the 12th minute when she directed in a rebound from a Mikayla Mollen shot that hit the right post. Minutes later, Katie Lortie won possession in the box and passed to an open Rebekah Johnson who drilled the shot for a 2-0 lead. Brittany Ahrbeck followed with a well-placed kick to the left corner for a 3-0 halftime lead. Livermore got second half goals from Kaitlin DaDalt, Alison Pierson and Mikayla Mollen in the 6-0 win.

In game three versus the Hayward Amazons, the Fury applied good pressure early and Erin Winegamer deflected the Hayward forwards well to keep the ball out of the box. In the 22nd minute, Livermore scored when Marissa Scheid drove a long shot from the corner box into the back of the net. Two minutes later, Alison Pierson took a short pass from Katie Lortie and converted the shot for a 2-0 lead. The Fury opened the second half with a quick score from Lortie. Mikayla Mollen and Emily Kalantar followed with goals and Ryley Landreth completed the scoring by drilling a penalty kick by the Amazon keeper to cap Livermore's 6-0 victory.

The Mustang Strikers U-16 boys team represented the Bay Area in the Super Y League North American Finals in Tampa, Florida November 16-20, making it to the semifinals before losing a tough fought match with the New York Red Bulls 1-0. Mustang started off in Pool Play with a

match against DC United (Mid Atlantic Champions) defeating them with a score of 3-0. Mustang got on the board with a throw in to the box by George Mayer to Nadav Kariv, who then netted the first goal of the game. Nadav Kariv added goal #2 and Joseph Cairel netted goal number 3.

In the 2nd match of Pool Play, Mustang lost to Cleveland Academy (Midwest Runner Up) 2-1. Nadav Kariv netted the lone goal for Mustang assisted by Chris Bernardi.

Needing to win game 3 in Pool Play versus Mountain WFC of Canada (Northwest Champion) This was a rough match for Mustang, but Mustang Strikers came away with a 3-1 win. Chris Bernardi netted 2 goals for Mustang assisted by Jose Garcia. Nadav Kariv added the 3rd goal assisted by George Mayer.

In a tough semi-final match with the New York Red Bulls, Mustang had several chances to score, but could not land a goal.

Ryan Rivera played awesome in the nets for Mustang, coming up with several big saves. Terrific defense was provided by Patrick Watson, Michael Janjigian, Dominic Daley, Tory Joregensen and Nick Feeny.

Midfielders and Forwards George Mayer, Gerardo Garcia, Alex Alvarez, Jose Garcia, Justin Chew, Joseph Cairel, Emrah Klimenta, Scott Brensel, Chris Bernardi & Nadav Kariv did a great job pressuring the defense and creating scoring opportunities.

The Livermore U14 girls Blaze capped off a perfect season by winning the title in the Crossroads Tournament on November 17 & 18th.

The Blaze recorded two wins on Saturday. The first was a 3-0 victory over Pleasanton the other a 3-0 win over San Ramon. On Sunday morning they played Newark and won 5-0 advancing into the championship game.

On Sunday afternoon they played Danville. Both teams were undefeated. The score at halftime was tied 2-2, the score ended with a 4-4 tie. They played two overtimes with the score remaining tied. The game came to a shootout with both teams making 3 out of five for another tie. The game was then to be decided by sudden death, first team to miss in another shoot out loses. The Livermore Blaze made their first shot. Danville's try hit the crossbar and the Livermore Blaze were crowned Tournament Champions finishing with an 18 win 0 loss season.

Best Times for Seahawks

Pleasanton Seahawks competed in the C/B/A+ meet held from November 17th to 18th in the Contra Costa College Pool hosted by Bear swimming. The Seahawks was represented by 24 swimmers ages from 8 to 16.

Every participant from the Seahawks did a terrific job. Almost everyone reached at least one personal best time. There were two swimmers deserve special recognition for their great performance as well as teamwork. Alex Wang (11) swam to 8 of 8 best times, all were new Junior Olympics cuts, and almost made the Far Westerns team in five of those events. Alex was named Swimmer of the Meet due to his outstanding performance and his unselfish act of giving up his goggles to a teammate whose goggle-strap had snapped right before he was about to step out and swim his race.

Bridget Moran (13) swam to 7 of 8 best times, including the 400 IM, an event that she could have skipped out on at the end of the meet. Bridget chose to stay and complete her meet with another best time.

Other competitors: Girls Division: 8-under: Couture Tianan, Wang Michelle. 10-under: Chinn Analaser. 11-12: Cox Elise, Gallo Brianna, Mcgrath Morgan, Wong Winky. 13-14: Annamalai Uma, Chang Iris, Thundiyil Shruti. 15-16: Toor Armin. Boys Divisions: 8-under: Gallo Colton, Li Aaron, Nair Rishabh. 10-under: Lin Frankie, Scott Robert, Wang Jeffrey. 11-12: Lin Danny, Shi Robert, Wang Alexander. 13-14: Huang Peter, Ramineni Krishnasai.

Four Shine in Water

Pleasanton Seahawks swimmers attended a preliminary and final swim meet hosted by PASA from November 17th-18th. Thirty-five swimmers ages from 9 to 18 represented the team at this meet.

Four swimmers achieved 100 percent best times. The four swimmers are: Jonathan

Ong (10), Rachel Knowles (10), Nick Silverthorn (11), and Brandon Chandler (14). Both Rachel and Nick participated in six events and finaled in all of them. This means they swam 12 times within two days. Jonathan swam 9 times and Brandon 8 times.

Other competitors: Girls Division: 10-under: Ching Eva, Kauffeld Margaret, Lindsay Kayla, Sun Lillian, Woods Mary. 11-12: Nair Roshini, Woods Maggie. 13-14: Booe Cassidy, Stikler Danielle, Strond Kristen, Wong Natalie. Open: Anderson Katrina, Breed Catherine, Coughlin Casey, Foley Kayleigh, Houston Tory, Lau Krystal, Narum Lisa, Neumayr Brianna, Nguyen Nedal, Poon Bethany.

Boys Divisions: 11-12: Dourov Christopher, Shen Anthony, Wang Caleb. 13-14: Lindsay Kyle, McLaughlin Timothy, Seitz Andrew. Open: Barrett Robert, Fischer Brandon, Guido Christopher, Meints Joshua.

Bowling News

Charlie Butkiewicz rolled 11 strikes in a row for a 279 and completed a 744 series at the Granada Bowl. Mark McCreary's 11 strike 279 game helped him to a 742 three game set in league action last week.

Another 279 game was rolled by Ken Sartoris and added a 234 on his way to a 706 series. Ray Salas in the Generation Gap League used a 268 to complete a 709 series while Tim Spring of the Kings and Queens was consistently above average with games of 258, 236 and 209 for a 704 series. Chris Quinn took top spot for the gals when she improved her 160 average with games of 225 and 215. Sandy Jones upped her 150 average when she rolled a 222 game.

John Foscalina rolled a 223 and completed a 616 Series in the Primetime Seniors. High game honors went to Senior Bowler Dwayne Childress, who recorded a 245 Game.

Youth Bowler action saw Shawn Donahue record a 276 Game and a 218 on his way to a 674 series.

Baseball Winter Camp

Livermore High Varsity Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting a three day winter baseball camp. Each camper will receive individual instruction from coaches and Livermore High players, a snack each day and a camp shirt. This 5-12 year old camp costs \$130 and runs from 9:00-12:00 everyday. The dates are December 26-28. For more info to sign up please contact David Perotti at (925) 443-2742 or lvbinfo@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb.

Granada LL Signup

Granada Little League baseball registration will be Tuesday, December 4th, 6 pm to 8 pm at Mountain Mike's Pizza, First Street. Players must be 5-18 years old or under before April 30, 2008. New players must bring original birth certificate and proof of residency.

LNL Registration

Livermore National Little League has a walk-in registration scheduled for Thursday November 29, from 6-9pm. It will be located at Mountain Mike's Pizza 1472 Vasco Rd. in the PW Shopping Center. Those new to the League need to bring a copy of their child's birth certificate and proof of residency. For more information visit our website at

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Fastpitch Tryouts

Softball tryouts are set for the Young Guns 18A girl's fastpitch softball team for the upcoming 2008 summer travel season. Tryouts will be held Sundays, Dec. 2 and 9 starting at noon at Creekside Middle School in Castro Valley. For information, call Rocky at 510-886-0243 or Jeff at 510-828-3812.

Baseball Camp

Tri-Valley Baseball Camp is set for December 2nd, 10:00am-3:00pm. Camp is for Boys and Girls ages 5-13. Camp is run by Diamondback Scout Brian Kolmdrow along with College and Pro Players. For further information email springtrainingcamp@comcast.net

American LL Signups

American Little League will hold registration on Thurs., Dec. 6, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Players must be 5-18 yrs. old or under before April 30, 2008. New players must bring birth certificate and proof of residence. Information www.eteamz.com/LALL.

Baseball Bricks.

The Livermore High School baseball field is undergoing some major renovations. It will have a new brick backstop. The team is selling engraved bricks to help raise funds for the project. Bricks are 4x8 or 8x8. They will be engraved with whatever you wish installed at the field forever. The cost is \$50 per small brick and \$100 per large brick. There are discounts for multiple bricks. Please go to www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball for more info or contact David Perotti at (925) 606-4812 x2438 or dperotti@livermore.k12.ca.us. The deadline is November 30.

Fastpitch Tryouts

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

Dec. 1: Tryouts for Pitchers and Catchers only 10-11am; All Players Hitting 11:00-12:30; All Players Fielding/Running 1:30-2:45.

Dec. 9: Tryouts for All Players Fielding/Running 1:30-2:45; All Players Hitting 3:30-5:00; Pitchers and Catchers Only 5:00-6:00.

Tryouts are at Double Diamond Sports Academy, Livermore/Robertson Park softball field, 2272 Research Dr., Livermore. Please register for tryouts in advance at www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com. For information call Coach Teresa Bochard at 785-0846.

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Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Morgan Territory Road

Morgan Territory Road began as a muddy wagon track linking ranches in the Black Hills east of Mount Diablo. Contra Costa County accepted the northern part of the dirt road in 1886, surveying and grading it as an official public road. The southern end of the road, after realignment at the summit, had been accepted by the county as a public highway in 1895. The final piece in Alameda County was accepted as a county road in 1907. Early pioneer Jeremiah "Jerry" Morgan had settled at the northern end about 1857. The area here is called "Morgan Territory," and the road was officially designated Morgan Road in 1892.

On a map the road travels through four townships in a wavy diagonal from southeast to northwest across surveyors' rigid section squares, from the Livermore Valley to Marsh Creek Road east of Clayton. As it exists now, the road is 14.5 miles long, and for most of its length it is barely wide enough for two cars to pass even if they go onto the shoulder. At several points, two cars cannot pass.

The road is so narrow for 10 miles there is no center line. Fortunately, county workers do paint white side lines. Sometimes when the fog blows in from the west, finding a driveway—in fact, just staying on the road itself—is a tricky business. One of the more exhilarating moments for today's driver comes when rounding a curve to confront a double-trailer gravel truck, especially when the steep drop-off is on the car's side. Along its entire length the road has no exit routes, only gated fire roads without public motor access.

Beginning at its southern end at Manning Road, a short distance from North Livermore Avenue, the road weaves up into the Black Hills, rising in only five miles from the approximately 600-foot-elevation valley floor to an apex of 2,063 feet. En route, it ascends a 14 percent grade for about a quarter mile. This stretch is known as "the Levy," after early landowner Samuel Levy, who owned the property alongside the grade. Many early cars, since they did not have fuel pumps, could only climb the Levy backwards. Early resident John Gleese's first car, chosen partly with that in mind, was a 1925 Star. His son Jack recalled that his dad bought the car at Frank Duarte's Highway Garage in Livermore. "This was, I believe, the first lower-priced car with four-wheel brakes, and they were just what the doctor ordered for Morgan Territory Road." The road remained gravel until some time in the early 1950s.

The southern half of the road in its windings overlooks the broad landscape of the Livermore Valley and the gently rolling vistas of surrounding hills. On most days the blue dome of the sky blazes over the large valley oaks still clinging to the hills. For a short distance the road is in Alameda County. A little north of the Morris ranch, after entering Contra Costa County, the road crosses over one branch of Cayetano Creek. About two miles north of Manning Road, warned by some eucalyptus trees, the traveler finds that narrow one-car section, the only place with a closed-in feeling on this half of the road, with a cliff to one side and Cayetano Creek, with its assortment of willows and wild almond trees, on the other. Scrub jays often flash by here, and occasionally a family of quail trots with quick baby steps across the road. After the Levy, the panorama of the valley spreads out beyond the wild oaks and leaning fence posts. Cattle have patiently trod the hills into zigzags. Kestrels, red-tailed hawks and northern harriers soar out over the hills in the daytime; owls taking off suddenly from fence posts startle drivers at night.

Above the Levy the road follows a ridge for about two miles. Much of the ridgetop is treeless, and the winter north winds are especially strong, sometimes reaching hurricane force. The summer west winds, which bring cooling coastal fog, are more welcomed by the residents. Morgan Territory Regional Reserve, a holding of the East Bay Regional Park District, begins just after the highest point on the road. Immediately past the park staging area, the atmosphere changes completely as the road plunges into a dark wood pungent with aromatic bay laurel trees as well as big-leaf maples, buckeyes, and seven varieties of oak. The road follows down the narrow meandering canyon of northward-flowing Marsh Creek. Some turns are extremely and unexpectedly sharp, with steep drop-offs. A few small meadows allow the sun to dazzle the eye and then the tree canopy closes in again. Travelers on their way up and down the road see bobcats, gray foxes, coyotes and red foxes as well as the ubiquitous black-tailed deer.

As the road finally comes down to fairly level ground, it zigzags over the creek on four one-lane bridges. The white bark of a sycamore occasionally interrupts the riparian greenery. After the bridges the road acquires a white middle stripe, and the excitement of one-lane driving is over. The road continues past the site of Curry Creek Park and the tailings and catch pond of the old mercury mines to its dead-end at Marsh Creek Road. (Readers can reach me at am50homan@yahoo.com.)

Website Highlights 'Lights of the Valley'

The most lights, the best displays, the most creative and unique homes are featured on the Lights of the Valley website at <http://lightsofthevalley.com>.

Lights of The Valley is designed for showing holiday decorations in the greater San Francisco Bay Area that are unusual, elaborate or decorated beyond the traditional lights.

This year all the houses and information are displayed from a database that makes getting the information out to the public easier and more standardized. There are options to have multiple photos for each house, a description section and legends to indicate whether or not the

house is a "Must See" or if it has synchronized lights and an FM transmitter for the music. Each house / address has a mapping function so that it is possible to obtain turn by turn directions to that house.

Also new this year is a House of the Day feature. A different (preselected) house is automatically displayed daily thru the season.

The public can help by sending emails to lights@lightsofthevalley.com with confirmations of houses and they can even send in digital photos of the houses that are "Camera Shy."

SHORT NOTES

'We the People'

Foothill High School's "We the People" academic team competes against other schools in a mock congressional hearing format.

The group's first competition will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 29, at the CarrAmerica Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, in Pleasanton. The contests are open to the public. Foothill will compete with cross-town rival Amador Valley and Fremont's Irvington and Washington high schools.

Students who take part in "We the People" study the current relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The competitions let them show their knowledge and skills by testifying at a simulated congressional hearing before a panel of judges. The "We the People" regional competition will be held December 15 at Oakland's Laney College. The regional winner advances to the state finals in Sacramento in May.

Foothill's team includes Aditi Abraham, Shahezad Ahmadi, John Bang, Chelsea Crandall, Brendan Duddy, Jonathan Forman, Alex Freed, Melanie Gin, Andy Guo, Sam Hyams, Salwa Kamal, James Karavakis, Michael Kim, Mohini Kundu, Tiffany Lee, Zahra Murtaza, Sarah Peterson, Samar Shah, David Sin, Kelly Watkins, Ellen Yang, Madeline Yung, Mihir Zaveri and James Zhou. The team is coached by teacher Cindy Juarez.

Jazz at Library

On Sunday, December 9, from 2 to 3 p.m. an hour of free jazz music will be performed at the Pleasanton Public Library Meeting Room by the Justin Hellman Trio.

The group strives for a dynamic sound that carries a great deal of tension and release yet also possesses an element of lyricism. The program is free and open to all. No registration is required. The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is sponsoring the program.

For more information, call Penny Johnson at 931-3405.

Winter Birds

Winter Birds of Sycamore Grove will be the topic of a nature program presented by The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on Sun., Dec. 2.

Meet Ranger Patti Cole at 9 a.m. at the Nature Area entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

Participants will be hiking on rocky or dirt trails which could be muddy. Bring binoculars and field guides; there will be some to lend. This program will last approximately 2 hours. Canceled if raining.

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

Livermore Library Programs

Storyteller, John Weaver will be at the Springtown Branch Library on Saturday, December 8 at 11 a.m. for Storytime with Wolves John thinks it's time to share the wolf's side of the story. The Springtown Branch Library is located at 998 Bluebell Drive next to the duck pond in Springtown.

Find out how toys can get out of hand this time of year at Toys on Parade storytime at the Civic Center Library on Monday, December 10 at 7 p.m. The Civic Center Library is located at 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

John will be at Rincon Branch Library on Saturday, December 15 at 11:00 AM for a fun and "not-too-ancient" storytime in English and Spanish: Pyramids/Pyramides. John claims they are just waiting to be climbed, photographed or eaten! The Rincon Branch Library is located at 725 Rincon Avenue in May Nissen Park and Swim Center.

The Mountain Musers will be at Civic Center Library on Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m. Three sled dogs (and their trainers) will share stories about dogs, sled dog racing and show a film on mushing.

Jungle Joe, animal puppet trainer, is returning for an encore performance on Wednesday, January 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Civic Center Library.

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.

Toys & Food Donations

Aventine Medspa will be accepting unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots. Aventine will also be accepting canned foods until the end of December. The food will be donated to a local shelter in Livermore from now until the end of December.

Last month, Aventine donated 5% off of their "In The Pink" Package sales to the Susan G. Komen foundation for breast cancer. Other charities Aventine has sponsored and/or supported are Livermore High School, Granada High School, Emma C. Smith Elementary, Livermore Rotary, Livermore Chamber of Commerce, Women's Council of Realtors, Bay East Realtors, San Ramon 19th Annual Wine and Dine, Primo's Run, Fremont Rotary, Washington Hospital and more.

Clients can help contribute this holiday season by participating in a variety of programs. A portion of the sales of these programs will go to a local charity. Or, come to the Holiday party on Tuesday, December 4th and bring an unwrapped toy or can food.

For more information or questions, please contact Debbie Apellanes at (925) 846-0511.

Aventine Medspa is located at the foot of Ruby Hill next to Campo di Bocce.

Apellanes Advertising will be accepting unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots. Canned foods will also be accepted to be donated to a local shelter in Livermore from now until the end of December.

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

Wine Release

Mitchell Katz Winery will release two new wines on Sat., Dec. 8.

The event will be noon to 5 p.m. The wines are a 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, Clark's Corner; and 2004 Tawney Port.

Admission is \$15 per person, which includes appetizers, a keepsake wine stem and various varietal tasting. No reservations are required.

The winery is located at Ruby Hill, 1188 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Information is available at www.mitchellkatzwinery.com or 931-0744.

UN Vote

If there was a date that changed history in the Middle East, it would be November 29, 1947 when the UN passed Resolution 181 calling for the establishment of both a Jewish and an Arab state in Mandatory Palestine. The plan was approved by the United Nations General Assembly by 33 votes to 13, with 10 abstentions. The plan would have partitioned the territory of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states, with the Greater Jerusalem area, encompassing Bethlehem, coming under international control.

An Israeli wine and cheese reception will be part of the celebration on Nov. 29, followed by a key note address, *Israel 60 Years Later*, by Aryeh Green, top policy advisor to Natan Sharansky. A hi-tech business consultant and journalist, Green is a San Francisco-born, UC Berkeley-educated Israeli who believes in the power of encouraging democracies. "The only guarantor of Israeli peace and security is the opening of Arab society," he has been quoted as saying. To be part of this memorable evening, RSVP to 510-839-2900 ext.256 or email marilyn@jfed.org.

The Contra Costa Jewish Community Center is located at 2071 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek. Admission is \$10 or \$5 age 18 and under. The event begins at 7:30 p.m.

Immunization Clinic

Axis Community Health has scheduled its free fall immunization clinic for children on 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.

Altamont Creek

Altamont Creek Elementary School events include the following:

- On October 26th families gathered at 7pm under the bright full moon for a night of trick-or-dooring. Each classroom door was decorated with Halloween and fall-themed pictures and art projects. This annual event is a hit with the ghosts and goblins that came away with lots of treats!

- On Halloween, students dressed in costume attended an outdoor School Spirit assembly followed by the costume parade. There were lots of "incredible" costumes, including all second grade teachers who dressed as "The Incredibles."

- In October, the third grade classes visited Smith Family Farm in Brentwood where they learned about different kinds of pumpkins, sang along with a banjo player and took a hay ride. They visited a Miwok Indian Village where they saw tule huts and learned to grind corn into flour. Before leaving, everyone picked a special pumpkin to take home. Students in Mrs. Borjon's class used their decorated (not carved) pumpkin to write a story about their "pumpkin character."

- First graders took a field trip to G&M Pumpkin Farm. The visit started out with a hay ride and outdoor classroom activity where they learned how pumpkins grow. The hay maze and farm animals were a big hit with the group. Before heading back to school,

the kids ate a picnic lunch and picked out the biggest pumpkin they could carry home!

- Character Counts is being implemented at Altamont this year. The school community has been learning about Trustworthiness. Next month the topic will be Respect. Concepts are discussed at monthly Spirit Assemblies, teachers teach lessons in class, and the school provides information to the parent community so parents can support this program at home.

Ask the Doctor

Television viewers in the Tri-Valley will have the opportunity to ask the guest physicians about "Depression and Mood Disorders" on TV30's Ask the Doctor show airing live on Wednesday, December 5 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Channel 30.

Michael Levin, M.D., psychiatric pediatrician, and Michael Schierman, M.D., family medicine specialist, will be guests on this upcoming show. Bela Kenessey, M.D., family medicine specialist, will serve as the medical commentator. Viewers can phone in their questions for the doctors by calling (925) 462-3030.

The "Depression and Mood Disorder" episode will rerun the remaining Wednesdays in December at 7 p.m. Ask the Doctor is sponsored by San Ramon Regional Medical Center. TV30 produces and broadcasts the program on Comcast Channel 30 in Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon. The show will be available through a live Web cast or past shows on www.tv30.org.

Ancestor Code

"DNA-Cracking the Ancestor Code" is the topic for the Wednesday, Dec. 5 lecture of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Cal State East Bay's Concord Campus, 4700 Ygnacio Valley Road.

The presentation by George Miller, CSUEB professor of anthropology and director of the university's C.E. Smith Museum of Anthropology, will begin at 4 p.m. and be held in the Oak Room, adjacent to the Concord campus library. Admission is free for members of OLLI, \$5 for non-members. OLLI at Cal State East Bay is sponsored by the Bernard Osher Foundation and university's Concord Campus. The institute provides opportunities for intellectual stimulation and learning for students 50 and older.

Registration and additional information on the institute and other fall programs are available by telephone at (925) 602-6776 or online at www.scholaroll.com.

PPIE Grants

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation has announced the latest round of PPIE Student Grants. Nine Pleasanton Unified School District students have been selected to receive funding for their Student Grant projects.

The PPIE Student Grant program, now in its eighteenth year, promotes positive learning experiences inside and outside the classroom, and supports co-curricular and extra curricular student activities and projects. General guidelines require each application to be student authored, to have a teacher sponsor and the site principal's approval. To better support student interests, two grant cycles are offered, the first in the fall semester and the second in the spring semester.

PPIE Foundation also offers Education Grants for Pleasanton Unified

School District employees to fund projects that are student-focused, that promote creativity and innovative thinking, and that offer expanded learning opportunities to students. Applications are available on the PPIE Foundation website, www.ppie.org. Grant requests are accepted in amounts up to \$2500.00.

Grants:
Flag Football, Owen Browne, Walnut Grove Elementary School, \$210.00: Flag football equipment to promote a less physical football game and avoid possible injuries during recess.

Food Scrap Recycling, John Guthrie, for Pleasanton Middle School, \$350.00: Equipment and supplies required to design and build garbage & recycling bins to promote more efficient recycling efforts.

Every 15 Minutes, Michelle Khoury & Melissa Martin, Foothill High School, \$500.00: Funding to support anti-drinking and driving program delivered to Juniors and Seniors.

World AIDS Week, Anna Lei, Foothill High School, \$500.00: Funding to support assemblies that will provide awareness and education about AIDS / HIV.

Foothill High School Science Olympiad Team, Jenny Mei, Foothill High School, \$500.00: Support for reference books, supplies, and registration fees for annual regional science Olympiad Team competition.

Room 9 Track Trek (A Run Across America), Sahit Nallani Menon, Fairlands Elementary School, \$250.00: Funding for pedometers and supplies for 5th graders to monitor their fitness progress.

Amador Valley High Robotics Club, Yichuan Sun, Amador Valley High School, \$500.00: Support for the construction and maintenance of the Robotics Club's autonomous submarine to be entered into competition.

Cultural Holidays, Armin Toor, Foothill High School, \$350.00: Funding for promotional materials to help promote awareness / education of all cultural holidays occurring throughout the year.

Scholarships Available

Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) International, an organization of about 100,000 members worldwide, is dedicated to upholding the ideals of research, service, and leadership in education. As part of fulfilling these ideals, the CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter of PDK is offering three \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue a teaching career. These recipients also may be eligible as candidates for 30-40 scholarship grants of \$500 to up to renewable awards totaling \$5,000 over four years from PDK International.

Seniors attending high schools in or residing in Castro Valley, Dublin, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Pleasanton, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Sunol, and Union City as well as Eastern Contra Costa County are eligible to apply. Last year's scholarship winners were Tyler Cornfield of Foothill High School in Pleasanton and Rosa Lee of San Leandro High School.

All applications must be received by Friday, February 1, 2007. Completed applications consist of an application form, two letters of reference (at least one from an educator), an essay (up to 500 words), and an official transcript. Winners will be notified by February 28, 2008. To obtain an application, write to Phi Delta Kappa, CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter, 1822 Harms Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566, or call 925-484-0169.

Court of Honor Held for New Eagle Scout

Ian T. Jinks from Livermore Troop 924 has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts.

Ian started as a Tiger Cub in Cub Scouts with Livermore Pack 914. He earned the Arrow of Light Award and then bridged into Boy Scouts. He has served in various positions within the troop: Assistance Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Den Chief for his brother's Cub Scout Den and is currently a Junior Assistant Scout Master (JASM). He is also a member of the Order of the Arrow.

For his Eagle Project, Ian was the project manager for refinishing the underside of the roof structure and overhang at his church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livermore. The project was completed with the help of 31 volunteers and a total of 357 hours of volunteer time.

Ian is a senior at Livermore High and also pursues his inter-

est in karate. A Court of Honor was held at his family's home with a twilight Eagle Fire Ceremony.



Ian T. Jinks

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709 Hazel Street, Livermore
Charming 3 BR/ 2 BA home with spa and gazebo. Updated kitchen with granite counters, dual pane windows, side yard access and much more. See it at www.709Hazel.com Offered at \$559,950

5456 Arlene Way, Livermore
Popular Rohneswood Neighborhood. Large updated Chalet model with 4BR/3BA. Conveniently located near schools and parks. See it at www.5456Arlene.com Call for pricing

5656 Agatha Way, Livermore
Gorgeous Woodbury model on a large lot in Coventry. This large home has 4 BR/ 2.5BA and a pool with spa and waterfall. See it at www.5656Agatha.com Offered at \$850,000

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Education, Prevention & Treatment

Axis Community Health is a licensed, nonprofit healthcare organization committed to serving the community.

Mental Health Counseling is available for adults, families, teens and children.

The following insurance plans/EAPs are now accepted:

- Cigna
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- Magellan including Aetna
- UBH
- MHN

Counseling is available on a sliding scale to those without insurance.

Information & Appointments:
(925) 201-6240
www.axishealth.org

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Holiday Boutique/Craft Fair, Donlon Elementary School features representatives from various direct sales companies as well as hand crafters. They will be displaying from handmade crafts of all types, to scrapbooking, beauty supplies, and housewares. The Boutique will be open on December 1st from 9am-3pm. A raffle will be held with merchandise from each of the vendors up for grabs. Food will be available for purchase. Donlon Elementary School is located at 4150 Dorman Ave. behind Lucky's off W. Las Positas. For more information, please contact Barbara Benedetto at 425-9279 or barbbenedetto@comcast.net.

Holiday Boutique at Emma C. Smith Elementary School, 391 Ontario Dr., Livermore, Saturday, December 1 from 10:00-4:00 in the Multi-Purpose Room. Two dozen crafters and direct sales vendors.

Holiday Home Tour, Sun., Dec. 2. Soroptimist International of Livermore hosts the 24th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Five beautiful homes elegantly decorated for the holidays will be open from 11:00-3:00 PM. Tickets \$25 per person tax deductible. The donation supports local community projects benefiting women and children in need. Tour begins at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. For advanced tickets make checks payable to SIL, mail to: SIL, PO Box 812, Livermore, CA 94550. Tickets are available at Proctor's Custom Framing, 2200 First Street & Valley Properties, 1841 Fourth Street. Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour at Alden Lane Nursery. For more information please call President Denise Montalvo, 925-640-7465 or Charlotte Newman, 925-449-4079. For information about Soroptimist please go to www.sifounderreg.org.

Artisan Affaire Holiday Boutique, Sunday, December 2, Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton, 10-4pm. Free admission. Gifts, pottery, Vegan spa products, stained glass, jewelry, scarves, baby gifts, scrapbooking, journals, gourmet foods, ethnic arts, and more. Raffle, need not be present to win. Portion of proceeds go to

UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center. Visit www.ArtisanAffaire.com or call Brandi (925)-922-1750.

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

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

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

Ohlone Audubon meets 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 4 at Pleasanton Middle School in the library, 5001 Case Ave. Glenn Nevill, photographer, will present a program on Peregrine Falcons of SF and San Jose. This will be followed by a members slide show and cookie exchange. Information at 510-507-3383.

Save Mount Diablo's 36th Anniversary & Slideshow, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. Las Lomas

High School. Richard Walker will first speak about his book *The Country in the City*, The Greening of the San Francisco Bay Area, the history of the Bay Area environmental movement. The lecture will be followed by a photographic presentation of the images by Bob Walker from *After the Storm*. Bob Walker and the East Bay Regional Park District, prepared by Scott Hein and accompanied by The Bob Walker Suite, original music composed by Steve Sturman. A reception & hors d'oeuvres precede, a book signing follows. RSVP by November 30, 2007. \$36 per person in honor of Save Mount Diablo's 36th Anniversary Saturday, December 8, 2007, 7:00pm - 9:30pm Name held at the door. Las Lomas High School Theater 1460 South Main Street, Walnut Creek Call 925 947-3535 or smdinfo@savemountdiablo.org.

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

Valley Spokenmen Bicycle Touring Club, Fri., Dec. 1, 60 miles zoo loop from Dublin through Pleasanton to Oakland Zoo, meet 10 a.m. at Shannon Center in Dublin, Curtis Stallins, 922-2461. Please call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

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

Amador Valley Garden Club meets on Tuesday, December 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Alisal School, multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. The speaker will be Rose Level from Morning Sun Farms in Sacramento. Her topic will be Herbs and Gifts from the Garden. Visitors are welcome.

For questions, call Sally at 417-8809.

Passport to Adventure, Fri., Nov. 30, 10 a.m. City of Pleasanton naturalist Eric Nicholas presents, "Rediscovering the Beauty of Open Space in Pleasanton." In addition to an overview of open spaces in the Pleasanton area (lecture and DVD), Eric will also include an up-close and personal look at a few indigenous reptiles and amphibians. Also included is information on the opening of the Adobe House Museum and how seniors can become involved as volunteers. No charge. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Livermore. Library Board of Trustees, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 6 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Retired Public Employees Association, Tri-Valley Chapter 075, Christmas party 10:45 a.m. on Thurs., Dec. 6 at Emil Villa's, 3054 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Charge for brunch is \$5 per person. There will be a Christmas ornament exchange (no more than \$10). For information and reservations contact Bob at 845-6563 or June at 461-0315.

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

Child care licensing orientation will be held Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. The Licensing Orientation is the first step in becoming a licensed family child care provider and is open to all. Participants will receive the application packet and handouts with information from Department of Social Services - Community Care Licensing regarding the licensing process. Child Care Links will be present to offer an overview of the services provided to potential child care providers. There is a \$25.00 Community Care Licensing Orientation fee for all attendees. This fee applies to every person attending the orientation. Must pre-pay and pre-register prior to attending a licensing orientation. For more information, contact Child Care Links at (925) 417-8733 or Department of Social Services-Community Care Licensing (510)

622-2602.

Service news, Air Force Airman Travis A. Jacobs has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Sharon Jacobs of Livermore, and nephew of Ronald Jacobs of Clarington Drive, West Hills, Calif. Jacobs is a 2006 graduate of Granada High School, Livermore.

Student news: Valparaiso University student Jordan Even of Livermore is performing with the university Kantorei choir this year. The choir of 45 voices serves the University's Chapel of the resurrection, specializing in festive liturgies and a diverse repertoire of sacred music. Jordan is a senior music performance and history major.

Cheer clinic, Foothill High School's Nationally ranked Cheer squad will be holding a Cheer Clinic on December 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Just returning from the Camp of Champs, Foothill's Cheerleaders will teach new dances, cheers, jumps, motions and other fun cheer games. Cost is \$45.00 for the clinic, which includes a shirt, certificate, prizes and lunch. A performance for parents will be at the end of the day. Space is limited. Register early. To receive a registration form or more information, please e-mail Suzanne Oliveira at suz96GT@aol.com or call 510-226-8832 or Kim DeJoy at kdejoyfhscheer@comcast.net or call 925-360-6102.

Funds for Veteran, The Ale House on First Street in Livermore is collecting money to help injured veteran Mariela Mason to pay for her therapies. On Wed. December 5th, the Ale House will donate 10% of all sales to Mariela. The Livermore resident was severely injured during her deployment in Kuwait in support of the war in Iraq. She is currently at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Livermore. The funds help to pay for therapy not provided by the VA.

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

Sunday morning group ride, 8:30 a.m. every Sunday through December. Routes vary, start at Cyclepath. All riders warm up together and split into smaller groups based on skill level. Cyclepath, 337-B Main St., Pleasanton. Free. Information, 485-3218 or www.cyclepath.com.

RELIGION
Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore, 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton, Fri., Nov. 30, new member dinner at 6 p.m. followed by lay service at 8 p.m. Sat., Dec., 7 p.m. speaker and Havdalah. Information 931-1055.

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

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

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Services are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Lenten Service at 7 p.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Christmas Concert, brothers Ben and Jonathan Burchfield, award-winning Christian recording artists from Nashville, start their California Christmas Concert Series in Livermore. The brothers combine their down-home humor with the sweet sounds of guitar, electric marimba, and other percussion. Admission is free to this one-night-only event to be held at Discovery Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., on Sunday, December 2nd. Love offering and donations welcomed. Call 925-449-5256 for more information.

Advent Movie & Popcorn Night on Monday, December 3 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm in the Borromeo Hall at 1315 Lomitas Ave. in Livermore, hosted by St. Charles' and St. Michael's Bible Study Group is hosting. Film is *The Nativity Story*. All are welcome.



Doris Bankhead, one of the oldest members of the Livermore Odd Fellows, Rebekah Lodge 154, achieved her 50th jewel. She has been a member since June 19, 1957. The Lodge presented the 50 year jewel on Aug. 29 at a potluck and bingo dinner. It was a surprise party. Doris Bankhead's daughter, the Noble Grand of the Lodge, Delphine Ridolfi Perry, presented the jewel to her mother. Other family members present were Delphine's husband Richard, daughter Janet Garcia and her husband Hector, and daughters Danyelle and Briana. Doris's son Gordon Bankhead and his Emily were also present with daughter Debbie Meiers and husband Matthew and son Jonathan and Samuel; niece Maureen Bankhead and her daughter Maloie as well as four granddaughters, five great granddaughters and four great grandsons were also present.

Bioaerosol Detection System Decreases False Alarms

Commercially available, fast-response bioaerosol detectors that can help guard against bioterrorist strikes in large public spaces face a significant hurdle: false alarms. Facility managers responsible for airports, train stations, sports arenas, and other venues will be loathe to install biodetection systems until they can be close to certain that the hardware won't alarm without cause and force unnecessary evacuations.

A Department of Homeland Security-funded project involving a group of Sandia National Laboratories researchers promises to answer the question of why false alarms occur and how to bring down the rate. The project, currently called Enhanced Bioaerosol Detection System (EBADS), aims to enhance the performance of bioaerosol detectors, specifically those based on laser-induced fluorescence (LIF). EBADS literally takes a second look at what is in the air when a LIF sensor alarms. It then determines if there is sufficient bioaerosol present for concern. If successful, EBADS could be paired with existing sensors for a more refined and commercially deployable detector system.

In February, the method will undergo a real-world test. Aerosol to liquid collectors will be deployed alongside the existing sensor system and take in samples with each alarm. Alarms are expected to occur about once a week. The collectors will be deployed for one month each in an office building and major U.S. subway station and airport.

The samples will be sent back to Sandia, where they will be analyzed to distinguish false alarms from true alarms. If successful, the group anticipates working with an outside partner later next year to develop a tool that employs Sandia's methodology.

The project is a multilab effort involving Sandia, Lawrence Livermore, Oak Ridge, and Pacific Northwest national laboratories. Work began in 2005 as a follow-on to Sandia's PROACT (Protective and Responsive Options for Airport Counter-Terrorism) program.

"The first phase focused on understanding the problem," says principal investigator Tom Kulp. The Sandia EBADS team, he says, collected particles present in the air when a false alarm occurred and analyzed them in the field and in the lab.

The researchers came to the conclusion that existing sensors don't discriminate well between biological and nonbiological particles. If the capability to do so could be enhanced, the result might be a sensor system with significantly fewer false alarms.

The goal, says Kulp, is not to identify particles, but to determine within one to two minutes if there is an unusual amount of biological aerosol in the air — sufficient information to know you've got something to worry about.

This project is unique in that it seeks to develop a method, not produce a physical tool. ns.

At the end of the study phase last year, Sandia and Oak Ridge researchers determined that a staining process could be used

to double-check false alarms. Kulp explains that could be accomplished either by impacting and measuring the particles on a surface, or by measuring the particles in a flowing mode.

Sandia went with the flowing mode, in part because of the availability of commercial equipment. The method uses a flow cytometer, a tool widely used in lab analyses in a number of fields including molecular biology, pathology, immunology, plant biology and marine biology.

The method is fairly simple. The cytometer pulls in aerosols, which swirl through a cyclone

while being immersed in a solution containing a fast-reacting stain that couples to the particles. The liquid then flows through a very fast laser zone at a rate of 5,000 particles per second where the proteins are measured. Particles with proteins light up. The system will determine there is cause for an alarm based on the distribution of fluorescence.

In the second phase of the program, the Sandia and Oak Ridge groups tested 18 blind samples from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. The method correctly determined with each sample whether there was cause for an alarm.

Lab Preparing NIF for New Round of Experiments

With their target completion date just a year and a half away, scientists and technicians at the National Ignition Facility (NIF) are quickening their pace to install and test the rest of NIF's 192 lasers in preparation for a new round of preliminary experiments in 2008.

Ninety-six NIF beamlines have been fired together for the first time, with "excellent" control system and laser stability, according to NIF & Photon Science Principal Associate Director Ed Moses. Last month the facility's injection laser systems, which initiate the laser pulses, were fired for 144 beamlines.

Reportedly, tests and sophisticated computer simulations confirm that NIF, under construction at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, is well on the way to reaching its design specification of 1.8 million joules of ultraviolet energy when all beamlines are completed in 2009 (NIF's infrared laser energy is converted to ultraviolet for laser fusion experiments to minimize energy loss.)

The first of the facility's two 96-beam laser bays was commissioned at the end of July. Each of the 96 beams fired an infrared output energy of about 22,000 joules, more than enough to meet NIF's operational and performance requirements. Since then, six more eight-beam "bundles" are being commissioned in the second laser bay, and three of these bundles have been operationally qualified.

"This is a significant event as we move towards completion of the National Ignition Facility," said Thomas D'Agostino, administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).

Overall, commissioning of the NIF beamlines is scheduled for 2009.

The laser shots last about 25 billionths of a second, a tiny fraction of the time it takes to blink an eye. Firing the beams requires operation of 2,300 high-quality optics and instrumentation modules and nearly 400 computers running a million lines of control system code.

Data gathered from experiments conducted at NIF in 2003-2004 have enabled sophisticated computer simulations that confirm NIF's ability to reach the energy levels and beam quality required to produce the world's first demonstration of inertial confinement fusion.

NIF experiments next year will focus 96 beams on a gold hohlraum (the eraser-sized capsule containing the fusion target) filled with a light gas mixture. Dubbed "Eos" for the Greek goddess of dawn, the experiments will use the first set of beams from the completed laser bay, traveling to the center of the ten-meter diameter target chamber. They are designed to help validate key aspects of the full-scale ignition campaign that begins in 2010.

Deacon Dave Celebrates Anniversary

All are invited to a Parish Celebration of Deacon Dave Rezendes and the 25th anniversary of his ordination. The Jubilee Mass will take place at the regular Saturday St. Michael's Parish 5 p.m. Mass on December 1st. Bishop Emeritus John S. Cummins will preside. Parish clergy and visiting clergy will take part in the Mass. A Reception will follow at the Parish Hall.

In lieu of gift a contribution may be made in Deacon Dave's name toward two Advent Tapestries for the Church that will be utilized beginning in Advent 2008.

Deacon Dave has ministered at St. Michael's Parish since he was ordained in 1982. He is also the Bishop's Representative to the Deacons and Director of Deacon Personnel of the Diocese of Oakland. Deacon Dave is Secretary General of Santa's Secret Service, an organization that has distributed over 1 million Christmas Gifts to people of all faiths who are in hospitals, shelters, care centers, teen group homes, shut-ins, homeless and the poor over the past 48 years. The Deacon was President of the Deacon Board from 1988 - 1994. He has served continuously on the Deacon Council and Deacon Board since he was ordained.

Deacon Dave also celebrates this year his 25th Anniversary of his Christmas Lights and Display at his private residence The House of the Dove, with the Blessing of the Lights and opening Friday December 7th.

Deacon Dave is a 4th generation Livermore resident. He was baptized at St. Michael's Church and graduated from St. Michael's School. His grandparents the late Manuel and Clara Gomes were Livermore Ranchers. Deacon's father, the late Charles Rezendes, was employed 43 years by the former Cresta Blanca Winery. The Deacon's mother, Norma Rezendes, is a life long parishioner of St. Michael's Church.

Deacon Dave has ministered at countless weddings, funerals and memorial services in Livermore.

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Wendy Wisely Chooses Winners

by Susan Steinberg

Wendy Wisely has done it again! The petite powerhouse of Las Positas College's Theater Department has staged another stunning show, called "The Diners."

Every aspect of the production was impressive, from the stark unforgiving set to the subtle effects of lighting, projections, sounds, and even the surprise of real rain on stage.

But most captivating of all was the cast - an incredibly believable ensemble. Within moments, listeners were pulled into the world of poor rural Midwesterners in a small town hit hard by the Depression.

Tom Darter's opening monologue as farmer Basil Bennett was so natural that he seemed to embody the iconic simple strength of the American Heartland.

Other players also inhabited their roles as if born into them: Karen Hogan as the skeptical Mrs. Bennett, Kathi Hileman as a Bible-thumping true believer, Eliana Denson as her flirtatious young niece (with a singularly skewed personal take on the Scriptures), and Rachel Ferris as the briskly practical diner owner (who figures a religious revival would be good for business).

The core of the story revolves around Buddy Laymen, a teenager traumatized by his near-drowning as a child, and the death of his mother trying to rescue him. In rural parlance, he would be called "slow" or "touched," especially for his terror of water.

Ironically, he has the gift of sensing water, and is prized by the locals for his ability to "divine" or "witch" underground water sources, and his uncanny

knack of predicting rain, even on a beautiful clear day.

His simple hardworking father (a faultless David Collins) is still mourning the death of his beloved wife, and expresses his deep grief in painfully broken phrases - his only articulate speech. He seems at a loss to help his son or to give his overworked daughter (a sympathetic Allison Morley) a chance to enjoy life between chores.

Into their town wanders an preacher who has given up the religious huckstering of his family heritage. Unlike Professor Harold Hill of "The Music Man", who arrives to sell dreams, C.C. Showers comes to hide from his failure and to seek healing.

William Giammona does a superb job of creating a troubled, self-doubting man, grateful to be taken in by Buddy's family. His modest hope is to find relief in honest physical labor for the father, gently resist the daughter's shy romantic overtures, and fend off the town ladies who envision him as their new preacher for a religious revival.

His innate goodness and compassionate "vocation" are engaged by the hapless Buddy, who becomes his friend and "disciple." Attempting to free the boy from his terrors (and help cure his ringworm), he leads a reluctant Buddy to the river. There he effects a "salvation" of sorts, but not the happy resolution the audience obviously craved.

Everyone was anticipating that Buddy would be "cured" and able to live "happily ever after," because in the person of Sean Cullen he was so lovable, innocent, vulnerable, and emotionally needy. A true theatrical wunderkind, Cullen was by turns a leprechaun, Peter Pan, a Very

Lost Boy, and the saddest stage character since Lennie in "Of Mice and Men." Almost constantly on stage, he was consistently a wonder to watch, whether twitching in nervous apprehension, gazing at birds in rapt wonder, grinning with foolish pride at having clumsily tied his shoe, or stiffening in wide-eyed terror at the idea of being washed.

Creating a person like Dostoyevsky's "Idiot" or Wagner's "Parsifal" is an enormous challenge, even for a veteran performer. The "pure fool" must be both silly and saintly, irrational but instinctively wise. Sean Cullen embodied all the contradictions of his role with a simple grace that was anything but simple.

A shining boy like the angelic "Little Prince," Buddy is a fragile innocent in a harsh world where he cannot survive. The tragedy is that Sean Cullen has made the audience love him. His death, however appropriate a resolution, was met with the shock and dismay of people losing a real beloved child.

It is a rare player, young or old, who can achieve such an effect on theatergoers. Hats off to a consummate actor who completely carried me and everyone else into his special reality. How sad that this play was limited to only four performance dates when it merited a much longer run.

So run, do not walk to Wendy Wisely's next production. She has selected a glorious string of shows, many, like this one, little-known. And she has staged them all to the highest theatrical standards. We're extremely fortunate to have her talents in the Valley, and should all be showing our interest and appreciation for her outstanding work.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Deer Ridge Vineyards, artist reception with California pastel artist, Victoria Ryan, on Sat., Dec. 1 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The public is invited to meet both artists at a special wine reception. This event is free. It is open to the public. All artwork will be available for purchase. The exhibit of Ryan's work, "Dreaming in Color," will be at Deer Ridge through January 23, 2008. Gallery hours are Thurs.-Sun. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Deer Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Wetmore Rd., Livermore. 1-866-561-0838.

Melodrama auditions. Sunol Repertory Theater, "Wagon Wheels a Rollin'" try-outs are Thurs., Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St. Performances are weekends in March. Information at www.sunol.net/srt or call 862-9006.

Auditions. Iron Curtain at Las Positas College, Dec. 3 and 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. Musical comedy takes place in the 1950s and is about a pair of New York song writers who are kidnapped and taken to Moscow to help the Soviets create a propagandist musical. Bring a prepared song with sheet music. Be prepared to move. There will also be readings from the script. Auditions in the theater, room 800. Show directed and produced by Ken Ross. College at 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. Information email kross@laspositascollege.edu or call 424-1166.

Holidays with "Voices in Harmony," Northern California's Premier Men's A Cappella Chorus, with special guests UC Men's Choral from Berkeley, as well as an award winning a cappella quartet. Sun., Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. \$25. 925-373-6800.

ArtSpace Gallery. 133 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore There will be an art show and two receptions featuring Pat Katz, "New Works Exhibit." The first will be on Thurs., Nov. 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The second reception will be Sat., Dec. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. Katz is known for

elegant and eclectic assemblage work, framed to evoke a sophisticated aura. Meet Pat and see her latest work at this gallery event. For more information, call Nan Rachlin at 925-371-2500.

Art Fundraisers. Sue Evans of Sue Evans Photography and Design is sponsoring a holiday fundraiser to support the Arts in Pleasanton and Livermore. She has created two different holiday cards for each community. The Pleasanton design includes the Pleasanton Arch, museum and Christmas tree, while the Livermore design features Ravenswood. Both cards are available in a colored photograph version and a black and white sketch with red highlights. A portion of her wholesale and retail sales will be donated to the Pleasanton Firehouse Project and the Livermore Performing Arts Center. Evans is a member of the Tri-Valley Visitor and Convention Bureau, the Livermore Chamber of Commerce and ABWA Express to Success. Sue can be reached at (925) 989-4113 or SueEvansPhotography@comcast.net for further details and to order cards.

Razzle Dazzle. The Livermore Art Association Gallery presents the theme "Razzle Dazzle!" Dec. 1 to Jan. 31. Holiday Sparkles, wearable art, dress-up with fine and costume jewelry, hats, scarves and fancy bags. Dress up your home with new art and holiday decorations which include handmade ornaments by our gallery members. Gallery Hours: 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday at Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third Street, Livermore. For more information call: (925) 449-9927.

The Wonder of Christmas: A Concert. Featuring original compositions by Clayton J. Foor along with seasonal favorites. With the East Bay Festival Chorus, Flutes Con Moto, and soloists Gayle Staehle, Diane Hardy, Joan Davis, and Kelly Callahan. 4 p.m. Dec. 2, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets: \$15 ad-

vance; \$20 at the door; for families: \$40 advance; \$35 at the door. Call (925) 783-3965 for tickets. www.claytonjfoor.com.

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

Ohlone Community Chorale. Saturday, December 1, 3pm under the direction of Darryl Guzman, Centerville Presbyterian Church, 4360 Central Ave., Fremont. Tickets \$15 adults, \$10 seniors/staff/students, \$8 youth. (510) 659-6031 www.smithcenterpresents.com.

Christmas Concert at Our Savior. The musical groups of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 South Livermore Avenue, will present a concert of Christmas music on Sunday, December 9, at 4:00 p.m. The concert will include music by choirs, bell choirs, brass, flute, and violins. Traditional carols, "And the Glory of the Lord" from *Messiah*, and fresh new Christmas music will be featured. The audience will also have the opportunity to sing along with a few carols. The concert has been a tradition at Our Savior for many years; the community is invited to share in the joy of the Christmas season. There is no charge for the concert, and a reception following the concert will highlight Christmas foods from around the world.

Benefit Concert. Winter Clothes Drive. Presented by the Liberty Movement Zine and Bothwell Arts Center, 5 p.m. Sun., Dec. 2. An acoustic show featuring many young and local groups - Us & The Brotherhood; of Shape & Sound; Violet Club; Joe Rosa; Rob Goodson; Seth Lael; Gordon Jonas; Jonathan meek; and Alex Flores. \$7 admission; donate warm clothing for the underprivileged and receive \$2 off admission. For information, contact lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org or christopherflecker@comcast.net.

Celtic Christmas Concert, Crafts Boutique and Artists' Open Studios presented by the Bothwell Arts Center, 4 to 7 p.m. boutique and open studios; 7 p.m. Celtic concert. Dec. 9. Free admission to the Boutique and Open Studios from 4-7pm; Celtic Concert Tickets are \$10, \$5 for children 12 & under, \$8 students/charter members, show starts at 7pm. To hold tickets to the performance, contact a c t lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-447-ARTS. The Bothwell Arts Center is located at 2466 8th Street, Livermore, CA, just west of So. Livermore Avenue.

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

Livermore Amador Symphony Performs 'Consecration of the House'

The Livermore Amador Symphony will present its holiday concert on Sat., Dec. 1 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The performance will begin at 8 p.m. The theme is "Consecration of the House."

The program will include Beethoven's "Consecration of the House" overture; Albiner's "Ballade," featuring soloist Dominique Piana on harp; Barber's "Die Natali,"

Wagner's "Lohengrin: Act III Prelude;" and Tchaikovsky's "Symphony Nov. 3, Polish."

Seating is reserved. Tickets are \$21, \$26, \$31, seniors \$19, \$24 and \$27; high school age and younger admitted free.

Tickets are available through the Livermore Valley Performing Arts box office at livermoreperformingarts.org or 373-6800.

For further information, call 373-6824 or go to www.livamsymph.org.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

Program of Carols Planned by Concert Chorale

The Valley Concert Chorale will perform the annual holiday concerts. The concert includes an audience sing-a-long of traditional carols.

Concerts are set for Sat., Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton and on Sun., Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore.

"We celebrate the season with an entire concert of carols that includes a fun arrangement of The Twelve Days of Christmas, each verse with its own surprise," says Artistic Director and Conductor John Emory Bush. "I am

confident the audience will be in the spirit of the holidays by the end of the concert."

The program also features Jackson Berkeley's Anniversary Carols, familiar carols with new rhythms, accompanied by harp, percussion and piano, and John Rutter's Dancing Day, a collection of vibrant carols featuring the women of the Chorale.

Tickets are \$18 if purchased in advance, and \$20 at the door. Students age 18 and under are admitted free. Advance tickets may be ordered by calling (925) 866-4003, or by email to info@valleyconcertchorale.org.

More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

The Valley Concert Chorale is its 44th season. Under the direction of John Emory Bush, the Chorale has offered a variety of musical performances to serve the diverse musical tastes of its audiences. The all-volunteer, non-profit chorale receives financial support from grants, ticket sales, membership dues, and donations. For information, call Pam Grove at 925-462-4205.

'A Christmas Carol' Performed In Livermore

The King's Players Drama Troupe will present a family-oriented production of "A Christmas Carol."

This timeless Victorian tale looks back at innocence lost and forward to hope regained... This holiday season come meet Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge (a mean-spirited, miserly old man who has everything, but enjoys nothing), and Bob Cratchit and his son Tiny Tim (whose family has very little, yet counts every small thing a blessing).

Performances are Fri., Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore (corner of College and L Streets).

There is no admission charge. The production is appropriate for all ages, 5 to 105.

For information, call 447-2351.

California Writers Club Taking Reservations for Meeting

The California Writers Club-Tri-Valley Branch offers writers of all genres and experience levels the opportunity to learn about their craft and share their work. The next meeting is on Saturday, December 15 from 11:30 am - 2 pm at Oasis Grille, 780 Main Street, Pleasanton.

Author and writing teacher Susan Taylor Brown will present "Writing at Red Lights: How to Keep Going When the World Tells You to Stop." Brown, a speaker known for her ability to weave humor into her presentations, will discuss how writers can motivate themselves to keep writing as they balance competing claims on their time, especially during the busy holiday season.

Brown is the author of numerous works of children's literature,

such as Can I Pray with My Eyes Open, Robert Smalls Sails to Freedom, and most recently, Hugging the Rock, a middle grade verse novel. She is also a former newspaper columnist for the New Orleans Times Picayune and past instructor for the Institute of Children's Literature.

The meeting cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Anyone curious about the group is invited to attend with

no obligation to join. Reservations are required. To make a reservation for the December 15 meeting, contact Fred Norman at Fnorman300@aol.com or 925-462-7495 by Wednesday, December 12.

For more information on the California Writers Club-Tri-Valley Branch, contact Kathy Urban at 925-296-0447 or kkurban@sbcglobal.net or go to www.trivalleywriters.com.

'Friends by the Fire' Concert

"Friends by the Fire" is the theme of Harmony Fusion Chorus's holiday concert.

Harmony Fusion is a member of the Sweet Adelines International. There will be two performances of the holiday program on Dec. 1, one at 2 p.m. and a second at 7:30 p.m. at the Hill and Valley Women's Club, 1808 B St., Hayward.

Holiday Open House Slated

Livermore Heritage Guild and Livermore Art Association will host a "Holiday Open House" at the Carnegie Building on Dec. 1, Sat. from 1 pm - 3 pm.

Cookies and cider will be served. Come in and browse the Art Gallery and History Center for unique gifts from local artists and authors.

There is no admission charge. The public is welcome.

The Carnegie Building is located on 3rd St. between J and K Streets, Livermore.

For more information call 449-9927.

CHRISTMAS

(continued from page one)

most played holiday film in history, annually running 24 hours straight Christmas day by the TNT network. The films director, Bob Clark, was honored posthumously with a Golden Slate Award at the 2007 California Independent Film Festival.

The 10th Annual California Independent International Film Festival (April 16-20, 2008) is presented by the California Independent Film Festival Association, a nonprofit arts and educational organization dedicated to furthering the art of independent filmmakers. The festival is produced by the California Independent Film Festival Association and the Tri-Valley, California Convention & Visitors Bureau. For more information go to www.caindiefest.com.

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AUGUST RUSH (PG) DLP	1:50	4:25	6:55 9:35
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) DLP	12:05	3:15	6:45 9:50
BEOWULF 3D (PG-13) DLP	1:40	4:10	6:50 9:35
BEOWULF (PG-13) DLP			8:55 9:25
MIR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM (G) DLP	12:20	2:35	4:55 7:10 9:20
FRED CLAU (PG) DLP	1:40	4:35	7:20 9:50
BEE MOVIE (PG) DLP	12:10	1:10	2:40 4:00 4:45 7:15 9:40
AWAKE (R) DLP	12:15	2:25	4:40 7:00 9:45
AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) DLP			12:30 4:15 7:30
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) DLP	12:30	2:35	4:55 7:05 9:35
THIS CHRISTMAS (PG-13) DLP	1:30	4:30	7:10 9:45

WEEK OF FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30-THURSDAY DECEMBER 6



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2:45 3:45 5:00 6:15 7:15 8:30 9:25
Showing Mon - Thur: 2:30 3:45 5:00 6:10 7:30 8:15
No 11:00am showing on Friday

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December 1 • 1 pm • \$9

CONSECRATION OF THE HOUSE
Livermore Amador Symphony
Dec. 1 • 8 pm • Adult \$21, \$26, \$31, Seniors \$18, \$22, \$26

YOUNG MUSICIAN'S FESTIVAL
Sycamore Strings Academy
December 2 • 2 pm • \$16

HOLIDAYS WITH VOICES IN HARMONY
Northern California's Premiere Men's A Cappella Chorus
December 2 • 7 pm • \$20, \$25, \$35

JON NAKAMATSU
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December 8 • 8 pm • \$19, \$24, \$29

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OBITUARIES

Lawrence Wilbur Allen

On Sunday, November 18, 2007, California lost a native son who was nearly 80 years old, Lawrence Wilbur Allen. He passed away after battling heart disease and cancer at the Kaiser Hospital in Walnut Creek. Larry was born in Oakland, CA. At the age of 13 his parents moved the family out to Pleasanton. It was there that he graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1946.

Larry was very industrious and mechanical, and upon graduation he took a job in Oakland, as an electrician for Crowley Tug Boats. It was during this time that Larry met the love of his life, Bernice Donatsch from Iowa, whom he married in Reno, NV on October 30, 1948. They had three children Dyanne, Marianne and Gary.

He moved his family out to the Altamont Pass area in 1954 and added farm work to his list of hobbies. After many jobs, working for Safeway and driving trucks, he bought his own truck in 1960. He was in the trucking business until 2001, as an owner-operator.

Larry had a passion for traveling and enjoyed some cruising vacations, along with setting up his G-gauge trains and of course his truck and ranch. He was a past member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Livermore. He was always fascinated with events of the world and an avid reader, and was a very knowledgeable man. Indeed, he was a hard working man who provided the best he could for his family and we will all miss him.

Larry was preceded in death by his son Gary Laurence, his fa-

ther, Frank T. Allen and mother, Zella (Gray) Allen, and his brother Frank Gerald. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Bernice, two daughters, Dyanne (Ray) Loyola of California & Marianne (Kevin) Lee of Washington, three grandchildren, Larry Loyola, Tom Morris (Pia) and Yolanda Morris. He also has three great-grandchildren, David, Jonathan & Abigail Morris, plus his step-mother Florence Allen, brothers Roger (Sandy) Allen of California and Bruce (Shirley) Allen of Nevada and nieces and nephews.

Larry's family wants to give a special thanks to his caretaker Joyce Chand and Sheri Cronin for their services as his Caregivers for nearly two years.

Funeral services were held Nov. 26 Livermore. Burial was at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Beth Ann Taylor

Beth Ann Taylor died November 24, 2007. She was 45.

She was a resident of Dublin. The native of Salinas graduated from Salinas High School in 1980, and went on to earn a Bachelor of Social Science degree from Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo in 1984. She was the senior vice president of human resources for Activant Solutions, Inc. in Livermore. Beth shared her warm smile, kindness and gentle spirit with everyone around her. She was a sports mom, incredible daughter, loving wife and dedicated friend. She always listened with her heart and gave caring support to all.

Beth is survived by her husband of 8 years, Donnie Taylor,

children, Tyler Schaaf of Dublin, Paul Schaaf and Breanna Schaaf, both of the home; parents John and Fran Carothers of Post Falls, Idaho, and brothers Matt Carothers of Coalinga, Stan Carothers of Aromas and Mike Carothers of Couer d'Alene, Idaho. She also leaves many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her grandparents Grady and Edna Carothers and Frank and Vivian Hamner.

A memorial service was held Nov. 28 at CrossWinds Church in Dublin. AS reception followed.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to Shepherd's Gate, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore, CA 94551, or the American Cancer Society, Tri-Valley Unit, 7000 Village Parkway, Suite E, Dublin, CA 94568.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Susan M. LaRochelle

Susan M. LaRochelle peacefully passed away Wednesday, November 21, 2007 at her residence in Livermore with her husband and sisters by her side. She was 53.

She was a native of Southern California and a graduate of Lawndale High, Lawndale, CA, and was most recently employed at Logitech in Fremont, CA.

She is survived by her loving husband Raymond F. LaRochelle, her sisters Jill O'Reilly of El Camino Village, CA, Bonnie O'Reilly of El Camino Village, CA, Jan O'Reilly of Vista, CA, Patricia O'Reilly of Torrance, CA, Maureen O'Reilly of Janesville, CA, Kathy Rodriguez of Roseville, CA, her brother Rich-

ard O'Reilly of Auburn, CA, 9 nieces, 6 nephews, 5 grandnieces and 4 grandnephews.

Friends and family are invited to a Memorial Service on Saturday, December 1, 2007, at 1:00 PM, at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore.

William Clair Mumper

William Clair Mumper passed away at the age of 81 after a brief illness on November 23, 2007, at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Walnut Creek. He was preceded in death by two sons: Newton Clair and James Alan Mumper, and is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marion, their three remaining children, Melanie, William Jr. and Matthew, and eight grandchildren.

Born in Turtle Creek, PA, Bill joined the Navy at age 18 and went on to serve in WWII and Korea. Before his honorable discharge in 1955, Bill earned his pilot's license, as well as certificates in business administration and as a radio technician. Upon his honorable discharge, Bill began a 27-year career as a Senior Scientific Associate, at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, then, remained as a consultant for three more years. Until the time of his death, Bill remained at the Lab working as a security escort.

Bill and Marion made their homes in Hayward, Livermore, then concurrently in Modesto and Mesa, AZ, before finally returning to Livermore in 1996. A former member of both the Elks and E Clampus Vitus, Bill was a current member of the Sons In Retirement, and served as treasurer of his local homeowner's association. He enjoyed his weekly pinocle games, and

loved his life, his wife and his family. He will be greatly missed. Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Charles "Kyle" Wood

Charles "Kyle" Wood, 56, a native of San Francisco, died after a 5 month battle with lung cancer. Before moving to Dublin, where he has lived for the past three years, he resided in Pacifica.

After graduating from San Lorenzo High in Santa Cruz, he was a self-employed contractor/painter for 20 years. Kyle enjoyed RC racing, remote control racing boats and outdoor recreational activities.

He is survived by his friend of 38 years, Juanita Hayes, a sister Dena Delorme of Mariposa, and nieces and nephews, Danielle Buri, Brad Nichols of Sacramento, and Richard Drozen and Denise Aday of Mariposa. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ruth Marie Whitcomb and Boyd Edward Wood and a sister, Patricia Nichols.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Dec. 1 at Hamilton Square Baptist Church in San Francisco with a reception to follow.

donations to Vitas Hospice, 39899 Balentine Dr., Suite 161, Newark, CA 94566.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

J. Donald Loughman

J. Donald Loughman died November 29, 2007. He was 78. His final moments were spent quietly in prayer with his three children who were providing hospice care in his Livermore home.

A native of New York City, Don was preceded in death by Harriet, his wife of 44 years. He is survived by a brother, Robert Loughman of Long Island, NY, a sister Virginia Shepard of Fremont, sons Kevin Loughman of Patterson, and Peter Loughman of Anchorage, Alaska; a daughter Karen Samuelson of Coarsegold, and seventeen grandchildren.

Visitation will be 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thurs., Nov. 29 at Fellowship Church, 348 N. Canyon Parkway, Livermore. Services will begin at 1 p.m. Burial will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402933

The following person (s) doing business as: Bollinger Nail Salon, 2375 Railroad Ave #201, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Bollinger Nail Spa, Inc., 18080 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San

Ramon CA 94583

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Minh Nguyen
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 31, 2007. Expires October 31, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2248, Publish November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402696-402697

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)The Kind Company 2)The Kind Realtor, 3120-C Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Edward Margherio, 1728 Almond Ave., Walnut Creek CA 94596

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Octo-

ber 5, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Edward Margherio

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 24, 2007. Expires October 23, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2249, Publish November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403061

The following person (s) doing business as: Alliance 1 Staffing, 43170 Christy Street, Fremont Ca 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Edward K. Bernal, 7412 Flagstone Dr., Pleasanton CA 94588

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Edward K. Bernal

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 2, 2007. Expires November 2, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2250, Publish November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402970

The following person (s) doing business as: Artisan Salon, 1837 Holmes Street, Liver-

more CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Hair I.D. Inc., 76 Tourmaline Avenue, Livermore CA 94550

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Georgina Taylor

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 1, 2007. Expires November 1, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2251, Publish November 15, 22, 29, December 6, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403412

The following person (s) doing business as: Absolutely Sharp, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Mark A. Giudici, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Mark A. Giudici

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 13, 2007. Expires November 13, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2255, Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402762

The following person (s) doing business as: Energy Metrics, 23 Diamond Dr., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Keith Rothenberg, 23 Diamond Dr., Livermore CA 94550

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Keith Rothenberg

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 26, 2007. Expires October 26, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2256, Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403403

The following person (s) doing business as: Holistic Bodywork For Women, 1080 Concannon Blvd., Ste 180, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Tracy Ann Chesney, 2653 St. Helena Ct., Livermore CA 94550

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Tracy A. Chesney

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 13, 2007. Expires November 13, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2257, Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402684-402687

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Bittmore Horses, 2)Bittmore,

1286 Geneve Ct., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Bittmore Horse Services, LLC, 1286 Geneve Ct., Livermore CA 94551

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Christine Louie

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 6, 2007. Expires November 6, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2261, Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402922

The following person (s) doing business as: Beads and Stuff, 1421 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Barbara Santos, 1421 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton CA 94566

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

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Barbara A. Santos

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 31, 2007. Expires October 31, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2262, Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DOROTHY MARGARET CHAPPELL, AKA DOROTHY M. CHAPPELL, DOROTHY M. CHAPPELL & MRS. ORTON K. CHAPPELL

Case No. VP07353612

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:

DOROTHY MARGARET CHAPPELL, AKA DOROTHY M. CHAPPELL, DOROTHY M. CHAPPELL & MRS. ORTON K. CHAPPELL

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: BEVERLY Y. PITCHER & JAN A. HOFER in the Superior Court of California, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BEVERLY Y. PITCHER & JAN A. HOFER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: JANUARY 7, 2008 at 1:30PM in DEPT. 707 at

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 5672 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: DONALD R. TRAVERS, LAW OFFICES OF DONALD R. TRAVERS, 529 PEARSON ROAD, PARADISE, CA 95969-5113

The Independent Legal #2252, Publish NOVEMBER 15, 22, 29, 2007

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given that on October 19 2007 the Regents of the University of California filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C. for a construction permit for a new noncommercial educational FM Station on Channel 210 at Livermore, CA. The proposed Class A Station will operate with effective radiated power of 200 Watts and antenna height of 36.9 meters above ground from a transmitter located 1 mile south of E. Grant Avenue on Research Drive lot 33 in Livermore, Alameda County, California. The main studio for the proposed station will be located at 14 Lower Freeborn Hall UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616.

The officers and members of the governing board of the applicant are Arnold Schwarzenegger, John Moore, Peter Preuss, Charles Robinson, Dianne Griffiths, Marie N. Berggren, John Garamendi, Fabian Nunez, Jack O'Connell, Jefferson Coombs, Stephen Schreiner, Robert Dynces, Richard C. Blum, Judith Hopkinson, Odessa Johnson, Joanne Kozberg, Sherry Lansing, Russell Gould, Monica Lozano, Benjamin Allen, Gerald Parsky, Norman Pattiz, Leslie Tang Schilling, George Marcus, Eddie Island, Frederick Ruiz, Paul Wachter, Bruce Varner, and William De La Pena.

A copy of the application and related materials are on file for public inspection during normal business hours at 14 Lower Freeborn Hall UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616. The Independent Legal No. 2253, Publish November 15, 22, 29, 2007

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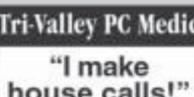
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tion will operate at 1.1 kilowatt of power, using an antenna-84 meters above average terrain, from a transmitter location with the coordinates 37-39-24 N, 121-41-42 W (NAD 27), station studios will be located at a site to be determined in Livermore. Officers and directors of, and individuals voting a 10% or greater interest in, the applicant include Damon Ferreira, Ebony Ferreira, Anita Blake, and Mi Hyon Lim. A copy of the application and related material is available for public inspection at the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, 2157 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94550. The Independent Legal No. 2254. Publish November 15, 22, 29, 2007

ANIMALS/PETS

1) CATS/DOGS

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

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue hosts cat and dog adoptions at the Pleasanton Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Cat adoptions are at Dublin Pet Food Express on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dublin PetsMart on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM and rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. For more information please visit www.tvr.org or call (925) 803-7043.

5) FOUND

FOUND Female Pitbull brown, red collar. Murieta & Pine Livermore on Sat. Nov. 17th Call 925 980-4217

8) LOST

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

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7) AUTOS WANTED

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9) USED AUTOS

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EMPLOYMENT

56) ADULT CARE

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

60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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64) CLEANING SERVICES

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75) HELP WANTED SALES

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MERCHANDISE

118) FREE/GIVEAWAY

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124) HORSES/LIVESTOCK/FARM EQUIP

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

127) LOST/FOUND

LOST/DIGITAL CANON VIDEO & PICTURE CAMERA on 10/31/07 in vicinity of Sunset Dr, Cherokee & Mohawk. Personal Pictures on Memory Card. Reward if Found. Call 925 447-8959

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130) MISC. FOR SALE

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,990 - Convert your logs to Valuable Lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.NorwoodSawmill.com 500A - Free Information: 1-800-578-1363x500-A (CAL*SCAN)

NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

150) BOUTIQUES/EVENTS/SHOWS

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE Sun, Dec 2 Veterans Memorial Hall 301 Main Street, Pleasanton. 10-4pm www.ArtisanAffaire.com (925)922-1750

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE! Saturday 12/8/2007 10am-4pm. 793 Catalina Drive, Livermore. Handmade & Unique Gifts & Goodies!

153) MISCELLANEOUS

Axis Health Center 4361 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Serves Valley residents with emphasis on those with low income. The center has general medical services, family planning, well baby, prenatal and maternity programs, social services, blood pressure checks, WIC food supplement programs, premarital blood test, sports/camp physicals, TB screening, free transportation available. 925 462-1755

155) NOTICES

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

156) SPORTS

Livermore Smoke Softball 13U Tryouts on Dec. 8th, 1-4 pm, Joe Mitchell School, 1001 Elaine Ave., Livermore, questions or pre-registration: rickm@vertical.com

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157) APT/DUPLEX/HOUSE/RENTAL

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162) HOUSE/ROOM FOR RENT

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Place a classified ad here Call Barbara 925 243-8000 Tuesdays before 8am. or go to www.independentnews.com Also you can pay by Credit Card for Classified and Display ads.

163) HOMES/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE

"FOR SALE WITH OWNER" HOMES Help-U-Sell Tri-Valley See our website for our complete list of Open Homes, with addresses, prices, owners' phone numbers etc. www.helpuselltrivalley.com 925-484-1000

168) LAND FOR SALE/OUT OF STATE

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SO. COLORADO RANCH Sale 35 Acres - \$39,900. Spectacular Rocky Mtn. Views Year round access, elec/tele included. Excellent Financing available w/low down payment. Call Red Creek Land Co. Today! 1-866-696-5263 x3155 (CAL*SCAN)

BULK LAND SALE 40 acres

\$39,900. Moses Lake, Washington. Priced for quick sale. Beautiful land, interesting topography, good views & setting, abundant wildlife. Surveyed on maintained road. Financing available. Call WALR 1-866-585-5687

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LAKEFRONT LOG HOME in Tennessee. 470' of shoreline, year round water, sea wall. Beautifully wooded 1 acre level lot, 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Call Jamie Russell 1-865-717-7775 (CAL*SCAN)

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170) MANUFACTURED/MOBILE HOMES

NEW WHOLESALE MANUFACTURED Homes direct to the public are now approved in California and immediate surrounding states. Call for free & comprehensive information packet. 1-866-467-8811. (CAL*SCAN)

178) MISC. REAL ESTATE

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182) BUSINESS SERVICES

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190) SCHOOLS/INSTRUCTION

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195) TIMESHARES/RESORTS

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Open Houses

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$695,000	3BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	81 Mountain Valley Pl 925-519-1455
\$1,282,888	4BD/5BnRm/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	842 Matadera Cir 925-260-2508
\$549,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	7566 Ironwood Dr 925-337-2461
\$699,900	3BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	3285 Monaghan St 925-249-6831
\$639,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	7621 Ashford Wy 925-408-1324
\$399,950	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	199 Northwood Cmn 925-784-6208
\$409,950	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	314 Garden Cmn 925-292-0437
\$499,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-5PM	5903 Crestmont Ave 650-504-6590
\$480,000	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	1321 Hollyhook 925-443-3110
\$549,950	3BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	4024 Pomona Wy 925-200-9901
\$550,000	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	911 Verona 925-443-3110
\$669,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	6608 Tiffany Cmn 925-963-8322
\$575,000	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 263 Nadine St	1828 Cassioipa 925-443-3110
\$530,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	819 Wall St 925-583-1121
\$568,999	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	566 Kinglet Rd. 925-321-0468
\$647,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	642 Debra St 925-200-9901
\$649,950	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	1657 3rd St 925-583-1121
\$654,950	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4 Medina St 925-872-1323
\$689,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	2329 Rapallo Cmn 925-463-0436
\$719,500	4BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1141 Baltusral Ct 925-249-6831
\$799,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	4052 Emerson Dr 925-270-9000
\$849,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4278 Muton Wy 925-455-6048
\$895,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	657 South M St 925-847-2300
\$1,399,900	5BD/4.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	2294 Minerva Ct 925-249-6831
\$499,900	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	7303 Stonedale Dr 925-249-6831
\$599,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	6386 Shorewood Ct 925-463-0436
\$665,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4694 Carson Ct 925-463-0436
\$749,900	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	1037 Hometown Wy 925-447-2723
\$1,098,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	3302 Prairie Dr 925-463-0436
\$265,000	2BD/1BA	SAT 1-4PM	9024 Craydon Cir 925-417-7138

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Foothill Plans Activities During World AIDS Week

Students at Foothill High School in Pleasanton are joining people across the globe in celebrating World AIDS Week. Activities are scheduled at the school from November 27 through 30.

Four panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, a memorial to those who have died of this disease in the United States, will be displayed in the school's multipurpose room.

On Thursday, November 29, during lunch period, a special guest speaker will share his experience living with HIV/AIDS.

On Friday, November 30, students will have the option to see the powerful and award-winning theater presentation, "Secrets." Produced by Kaiser-Permanente, this production teaches high school students the facts about HIV infection and other sexually-transmitted infections, us-

ing humor, drama, and music. For additional information, contact Linda Gullick, Health & Bioscience Academy teacher, at (925) 461-6600. Foothill High School is located at 4375 Foothill Road in Pleasanton.

Friends of Library To Host Party

The Friends of the Livermore Library invites all book lovers and library supporters to an end of the year party.

It will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Civic Center Library, Community Rooms A and B, 1188 So. Livermore Ave.

Refreshments will be served. There will be a silent auction of collectible books from the Friends of the Livermore Library Bookstore cabinet of literary treasures. The winners of the silent auction will be announced at 8:30 p.m. However, bidders need not be present.

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POWER STEERING FLUSH \$103.95 <small>Commercial Vehicles Extra +Tax and Hazardous Fee. Expires 12/15/07.</small>	TRANSMISSION SYSTEM FLUSH \$149.95 <small>Commercial Vehicles Extra +Tax and Hazardous Fee. Expires 12/15/07.</small>

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LIVERMORE \$598,999 819 Wall Street Open Sun 1-4 Desirable neighborhood! Remodeled kitchen and baths. Beautiful refinished hardwood floors, 4bd/2ba, 1,676+/-sf home.	LIVERMORE \$559,000 By Appointment Great South Livermore home located just blocks from access to Highway 84. Close to top rated schools. Lot size is 9,200+/-sf.	FREMONT \$529,950 By Appointment Beautiful 3br/1ba, 1,000+/-sf home located in the desirable Irvington district. Remodeled throughout. This is a must see!	LIVERMORE \$465,000 By Appointment Clean Fixer Upper great for someone who wants to add their own touches to the baths and kitchen. 3bd/2ba, 1,471+/-sf home.	LIVERMORE \$392,950 314 Garden Common Sun 1-4 This is a complete remodel. New lighting/appliances/maple cabinets/granite counters in kitchen. New carpet/flooring/paint.

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