

Hosterman Disappointed Campaign Wasn't About Issues

Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, the apparent winner in her race against councilman Steve Brozosky, said her victory was marred by a lack of discussion of the issues, both by her opponent and by reporters' post-election inquiries about whether a big Democratic Party turnout helped her in the race.

An updated count late Monday showed Hosterman with 11,667 votes to 11,478 votes for Brozosky, a margin of 189 votes. That was up from a margin of 165 votes in the previous count. Fewer than 100 ballots countywide remained to be counted.

The remaining ballots were all absentee ballots from precincts that don't have polling place voting, said county regis-

trar spokesman Guy Ashley. The deadline for official certification of the election is Dec. 5.

Political consultant Shawn Wilson, a Democrat, told the Independent that a Tri-Valley Democratic group, which was established for the campaign, phoned voters starting on the Thursday before the election, and urged them to bring their marked absentee ballots to polling places. The Democratic callers had the polling place addresses, said Wilson. Wilson noted that as a consultant, he helped write a piece for Hosterman.

Wilson said that the phone campaigning was heavy in support of McNerney in Pleasanton. That might have had a beneficial effect for Hosterman.

Wilson also serves as chief of staff for county supervisor Alice Lai-Butker, who is a Democrat. County supervisors are non-partisan on their ballot designations, as are mayors and city councilmembers in California.

When Brozosky made an issue of Hosterman's attendance at a nuclear non-proliferation conference of international mayors last year, some local activists defended her decision to attend. Brozosky said at the time that he wasn't taking sides on the issue itself, but thought that Hosterman should stick to city business. She should not use her name with causes, since people might get the impression that her views represent the city.

A group of local war veterans also

sided with Brozosky, although other veterans backed Hosterman in her speaking out. Her explanation was that such things as nuclear dangers are local issues, affecting every U.S. city.

Asked about the Democratic vote push, Hosterman said that she had "no idea whether it benefitted me. I'm disappointed that this mayoral position has become partisan."

Noting that other newspapers have contacted her about the Democratic vote turnout, she said, "As long as newspapers continue to try to find ways to characterize myself and my opponent in a partisan way, that pushes it to become a partisan race. When our names come up on the Alameda County web site, it says NP, for nonpartisan."

Hosterman said that the voters deserved a better election for mayor. "I'm still angry about it. People don't like negative campaigns. While I stayed the course in talking about the issues that were most important to the people of Pleasanton, my opponent did not," said Hosterman.

Issues that were raised by the public during the campaign included traffic congestion, both on local streets and freeways, and affordable housing.

She said that her endorsements carried more weight than her opponent's. His expenditure of three times as much money didn't win it.

Brozosky did not return phone calls seeking comment.

(See ELECTION, page 4)

Livermore To Look At Dream List For Open Space

The Livermore City Council will take a look at what open space projects it might be able to complete north of Interstate 580.

City staff is expected to put together a report after the first of the year, with council discussion following sometime in the first quarter of 2007, said Livermore assistant city manager Jim Piper. The report would look at potential projects, such as preserving the rare bird's beak plant in a salt marsh north of Livermore, or acquiring open space in Doolan Canyon, or other projects.

If open space were preserved in Doolan Canyon, it would serve as a buffer along the city's general plan boundary.

The Dublin city council said in an agreement with Livermore that it would halt its growth at Doolan Canyon Road. However, that commitment could be changed by a future city council.

Livermore has accumulated \$5 million in its open space fund. Some \$1 million of that is the estimated value of its transfer of development credits (TDC) fund, said Piper. That money is reserved for acquiring land in the northern portion of Livermore, up to the city's voter-enacted urban growth boundary (UGB), which is on a line running along May School Road and westward.

The TDC fund is the accumulation of money paid by developers to acquire higher densities in their developments in exchange for donating the money, which will go for open space mitigation.

(See OPEN SPACE, page 3)



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Special events in downtown Pleasanton (above) and Livermore (lower photo) kicked off the holiday shopping season. The Magical Holiday Evening included some of Santa's helpers collecting gift wishes. The elves are (left to right) Kayla Miller, Celia Ochoa, Nicole Martin, and Danielle Houston. In Livermore, it was an early bird bargain opportunity, with shoppers urged to come in their pajamas. Pictured Karina Perea and Synoma, age 5 months, check out the toys at Cooleykatz.



DUI Top Concern In Teen Survey

Driving a car under the influence of drugs or alcohol was the top concern cited among replies from 4250 students surveyed at many Valley high schools.

The next highest concern about teen behavior was simply the use of drugs and alcohol, regardless of impact on driving. A lack of counselors to help depressed students was another major concern. In another category, one-fourth of students who responded to the survey said that they did not always get help when they needed it on reproductive health issues.

The survey was written and processed by teens at various

high schools, through an Alameda County project, the Tri-Valley Adolescent Health Initiative, with a \$300,000 budget spread over three years. The health initiative is a partnership of Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, and the three cities. Its goal is to engage the youth in the Tri-Valley in the planning process on health and wellness services for adolescents living in the Tri-Valley.

A Youth Planning Board was established to work on the issues. The Board recently completed its first year of work. The plan-

(See TEENS, page 4)

McNerney Named to Democratic Steering and Policy Committee

Fresh off the heels of his recent election, Rep. Elect Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) was named to the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee.

The Committee, which is chaired by Speaker-Elect Nancy Pelosi, serves to determine individual committee assignments for Democratic Members, as well

as to provide policy recommendations to the party leadership.

"I am honored to be nominated to this committee," McNerney said. "I look forward to bringing a strong voice and fresh leadership to this important role. This is an opportunity for me to work with my colleagues

(See McNERNEY, page 4)

Literary Harvest Release Party Slated

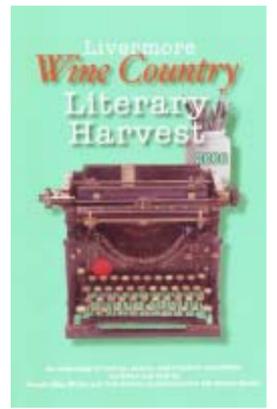
The "Livermore Valley Wine Country Literary Harvest 2006" will be celebrated at Tenuta Vineyards Saturday.

Literary Harvest 2006 is a 291-page paperback anthology of local writing, featuring short stories, poetry and nonfiction. Most of the contributors have been participants in the monthly readings in Livermore sponsored by People Who Write and Tell Stories.

"This book represents a true literary harvest — a harvest of what writers in the Livermore Wine Country have grown this year: comedy, tragedy, irony, reflections on the past seasoned with new perspectives..." writes Lisa Tromovitch in the Foreword.

The event at Tenuta Vineyards will be a release party for the anthology. Many of the contributors will be on hand, reading from their work between noon and 5. The book will be available for purchase. Price is \$15.

According to Karen Hogan, co-editor of the anthology, this will be the first of what she hopes



will be a series of winery readings spotlighting the book.

Tenuta is nestled in the hills, at 633 Kalthoff Commons, Livermore. For directions or other information about the party and/or book, call Hogan, 925-456-3100 or 4thstreetstudio@pacbell.net.

This is the second such literary harvest produced by Hogan. (See RELEASE, page 2)

Rural Easement Broker Group Starting Its Mission

A government partnership that will facilitate purchase of easements from rural landowners to preserve open space is underway.

It has already begun to meet, after appointment of its membership by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Members of the Alameda County Partnership for Land Conservation and Stewardship (PLCS) are David Kent, Charles Crohare, Sheila Barry, Chris Bazar, and Rod Tripp.

Kent is CEO of The Wine

Group, which owns Concannon Vineyards. Crohare is owner of Olivina, a major Valley olive grower. Barry is a UC cooperative extension natural resources advisor. Bazar is the county's community development director. Tripp is natural resources manager for EBMUD.

A consultant, Joe Ciolek, has been hired.

Five families in the Valley have been in touch with the PLCS already. Three are ready to move along in the process of selling

easements, according to Karen Sweet, executive officer at the state Resource Conservation District (RCD) in Livermore.

RCD provided \$90,000 and the county contributed a matching amount to fund the PLCS.

The PLCS puts willing landowners in touch with people looking for mitigation. For example, a developer might call the PLCS with a need to find red-legged frog habitat to mitigate the amount of land that a development would take. PLCS

might have a family that wants to sell a red-legged frog easement, and will put one party in touch with the other. Agencies that have grants available are another source that might want to talk to rural landowners.

Ciolek told the Independent that the PLCS will not work on easements, unless they are permanent.

Sweet said that typically families like to have permanent easements, because they can "get it

(See EASEMENTS, page 4)

Retiring Manager Credits Staff, Board For Zone 7 Success

By Ron McNicoll

Zone 7 Water Agency general manager Dale Myers, 62, will be retiring at the end of February, after 10 years in his current position and 25 years with the agency.

Myers made it known earlier this year that he was thinking of retirement during the next year or so, but didn't reveal exactly when it would occur. His announcement at the Zone 7 board meeting Nov. 15 surprised many in the audience, which included Zone 7 staff and some board members, although he had spoken to a few before the meeting.

Board member John Greci said the board "is in a state of shock."

He said that in his 13 years on the board, he has never thought of Myers as a general manager, but as a friend.

Greci, who was board president until the annual change of officers in July, said that he was on the committee that recommended Myers for the top spot. "He has been a teacher, a friend and a leader. It will be a tough transition. It's been emotional for me and for others," said Greci.

Board president Jim Concannon said, "Dale will be missed. His tremendous sense of duty and commitment to public service has brought a sense of urgency to his work." He noted that

Myers has a quiet personal style, and an attitude of getting a job done without fanfare.

Concannon appointed Greci, director Bill Stevens and himself as a transition committee to recruit candidates for job interviews.

One of Zone 7's top administrators, assistant general manager Jill Duerig, was praised by Myers in an interview with the Independent. Myers said that Duerig is someone who should be among the candidates considered for his job. Citing Duerig's degrees in business, law and science, Myers said that

(See RETIRED, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

As the days become cooler, vineyards take on their bright fall colors.

Pleasanton To Ask Dismissal Of Affordable Housing Suit

Pleasanton will move for dismissal of a suit against the city over what the plaintiffs say are policies that prevent development of affordable housing.

An affordable housing organization, Urban Habitat, and a Pleasanton resident, Sandra De Gregorio, filed the suit in mid-October. De Gregorio is a board member of Tri-Valley Interfaith Poverty Forum.

The complaint asks the court to overturn the city's residential building cap of 29,000 units, and cease the restriction of

(See SUIT, page 3)

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Pumpkin Pie First?

Susan Ivy Graham loved sweets and, according to her granddaughter, Frances Nissen Prevost, she "insisted upon eating dessert as a first course in order to have an empty stomach to completely enjoy the feast." Frances owns Susan's original cookbook—the majority of its entries are cake.

Susan Ivy Graham came with her husband, Robert W. Graham, to Laddsville, California in 1869. Laddsville was the earliest incarnation of Livermore; the hamlet was centered around the intersection of Old First Street and Junction Avenue. The Grahams built and operated a general merchandise store there. By 1870 Robert Graham had become Livermore's first postmaster.

On the 1880 census Graham gave his occupation as the town of Livermore's Justice of the Peace. City clerk Elmer G. Still noted that Graham had been appointed Justice of the Peace in 1878 and held that position until his death in 1887. The Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Society holds several of his court docket books in their Pleasanton museum.

Deciding to become a mortician, Graham gave up his store and attended a special school in San Francisco, passed required tests, and received a license. His first "undertaking a specialty" local newspaper ads are extant from 1884. Susan was definitely an active partner in the firm of Graham Mortuary, which was located on First Street and later on the northwest corner of Second and South L.

Perhaps like the early Schneer Mortuary at 706 Main Street in Pleasanton, the Graham Mortuary had a large glass window in front to display the embalmed bodies in their coffins, the custom of the time. The Livermore Grahams were not related to the Pleasanton Grahams, even though they were both in the undertaking business.

The Graham family home, a white clapboard, was at the southeast corner of Sixth and South K. Susan Ivy and Robert Graham had married in San Francisco in 1864, when he was 31 and she was 17. All but three of their children died before the age of five. Little Katy, Roberta, Mary, and Winnie are buried at Roselawn Cemetery with their parents.

On a Friday evening in late November 1887, as Judge Graham and another man were driving out of Roselawn Cemetery, one of their spring wagon's wheels sank into a hole, causing the seat to tip over. Graham was thrown out and suffered a badly bruised hip. Unfortunately, he also had internal injuries not at first apparent. He died five days later.

Susan Graham was 40 years old and eight months pregnant. She still had her older daughter and nine-year-old twins to support. After the stillborn birth of her last child, she followed in her husband's footsteps to become an undertaker and receive an embalmer's license—the first woman in California to achieve these goals, according to her granddaughter and a *Herald* article at the time of her retirement.

The *Echo* noted in November 1890 that she was taking lessons in the art of embalming from a "leading" firm of San Francisco undertakers. She was "now prepared to preserve bodies for any length of time." In September 1894 in addition to the "funeral car" she had recently acquired, she purchased "an equally elegant white hearse for use at the funerals of children." Both of these vehicles were pulled by horses.

Her granddaughter described her: "Although not tall, Susan made a striking figure with her auburn hair and sweeping long black skirts, a gold lapel watch pinned to her blouse." On call day and night, she was a familiar figure in Livermore and on byways outside of town in her one-seater buggy drawn by a roan horse.

After a broken hip left her with a noticeable limp, she carried a black walking stick with an initialed gold knob. Jim Elliott remembered that his uncle's funeral in Livermore in 1911 was handled by "the lady mortician with a limp."

Needing connection with a livery stable to conduct her business, she first took Louis Schaffer and then Arthur Fiedler as partners. John C. Reimers' Fashion Stable later bought Fiedler's business, and Graham sold out to Reimers when she retired in 1917 after falling ill with cancer. Leo Callaghan bought Reimers Mortuary.

The *Herald* commented on her retirement, "Mrs. Graham could tell of many curious and grisly experiences during her long years of service, especially in the early days, but undertakers never discuss their experiences and many thrilling stories are lost to the world."

When she died in 1919 at age 72, outliving her husband by 30 years, she was survived by two daughters—Hazzie, who married farmer William H. Galway, and Susan, who married into Livermore's Nissen clan. Graham Nissen was named for his grandparents. Susan's twin brother, Robert, had died at age 22 of injuries resulting from a bicycle accident.

One of Frances Prevost's favorite keepsakes is a Graham Mortuary sales sheet with a cake recipe hastily scribbled on the back by her grandmother. Surely, Susan I. Graham would approve of eating pumpkin pie garnished with a generous dollop of whipped cream before tackling the turkey.

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



Pruning Next Topic in Wine Education Series

Tri Valley Conservancy and Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association are hosting a Quest for Excellence Quality Wine Growing Educational Series. The purpose of this series is to assure the highest quality of wine grapes and wines are produced by Livermore Valley Wine Growers and Vintners.

The next Quest for Excellence seminar will be held on Tuesday, December, 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center, located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore.

The topic will focus on "Techniques and Effects of Pruning." The program will be presented by Robert L. Wample. Wample is the Julio Gallo Director of the Viticulture and Enology Research Center and Chairs the Department of Viticulture and Enology at California State University, Fresno, among other accomplishments.

The session will have a fee of \$10 to help cover the cost of materials. Please RSVP by December 7th to the Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association at (925) 447-WINE (9463).



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore Youth Advisory Commission hosted the Third Annual Livermore Idol Show last Saturday. More than 22 contestants participated in two rounds of singing auditions to be selected as finalists in the local contest. The "final" nine are in grades 6 to 12. All participants received a prize. The first prize winner was awarded a \$3900 scholarship to the John Robert Powers School of Performing Arts. The 11-member Livermore Youth Advisory Commission is a joint commission between the City of Livermore and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. It serves as a forum for Livermore youth to voice concerns and to plan recreation and community based youth events. Pictured is the winner, Cassidy Whitlach, a seventh grader at Mendenhall Middle School.

Five Homes Decked Out for the Holidays during Annual Festive Tour

Soroptimist International of Livermore will host its 23rd annual Holiday Christmas Home Tour on Sat., Dec. 2.

Five homes, decorated for the holidays, will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The tour begins at Alden Lane Nursery. There will be an opportunity to win baskets, flowers, and more. Maps for the tour will be handed out.

Tickets are \$25 per person. Proceeds will benefit women and children through local projects and charities.

Tickets are available at Proctor's, Valley Properties, and from any member of the

Soroptimist. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door the day of the tour.

For more information, call 449-4079 or 443-5897.

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RELEASE

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who hopes to keep it going as an annual. The anthology was inaugurated in 2005. The book is growing, with 36 writers in it compared to 24 in the 2005 anthology. Length requirements for the short fiction and nonfiction were relaxed, providing for longer pieces in the 2006 book compared to 2005. All the writers are from the Bay Area. Most are Livermore and Pleasanton residents.

There is much fine writing to be found here. Aging is one of the main themes. Frank Thornburgh, a former cop, contributes a spare, moving piece, "Her Last Smile," about a lonely old woman's death. Albert Rothman, in a witty poem entitled "Mirror," looks at himself in the mirror and remembers the "mature forest" of a beard he once had. He writes, "The forest now has clear cuts/Where are the environmental groups?"

Ethel Mays writes about a close encounter with a coyote, who was sitting next to a bush 10 feet from her. "We stared at each other across a primal chasm and I felt his otherworldly intelligence nudge mine."

One could go on and on about the treasures in this harvest. Better to buy the book and find them for yourself.

Karen Hogan believes a literary harvest like this, centered lo-

cally as it is, contributes in a deep and meaningful way to a sense of community.

"I think art is best when it comes from within the community," she said. "It's the artists of the community who most deeply express the spirit of the community."

"I like the old idea of the marketplace. The traditional marketplace was more than a place where things were sold. It was also a place where ideas were exchanged."

"There's a lot of artistic talent in Livermore," continued Hogan. "It's exciting to be here now, because things are poppin'. Things are really poppin'!"

Hogan is herself right at the center of it. In partnership with performing artist Lisa Tromovitch, she's forming Shakespeare's Associates, a non-profit enterprise that will produce dramatic readings of local writing.

They will help to organize a 50th anniversary celebration of Cask and Mask on January 27. Cask and Mask was founded in 1956 and existed for about 15 years, staging high-quality drama. Connie Duke, Joan and Garret Boer and Gil Stratton are among the Cask and Mask actors/directors involved in organizing the anniversary event.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Computing Award

A large-scale electronic structure simulation of the heavy metal molybdenum conducted on the world's fastest supercomputer, BlueGene/L, earned a team led by a former and current Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) scientists the 2006 Gordon Bell Prize for "peak performance."

Three teams were selected from six finalists for Gordon Bell Prizes in two categories. A team from IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center was awarded a "Special Achievement" Gordon Bell Prize for work on BlueGene/L. A Japanese team earned a Gordon Bell peak performance honorable mention. The awards were announced at SC06 in Tampa, Fla. Named for one of the founding fathers of supercomputing, the prestigious Gordon Bell Prize is awarded to innovators who advance high-performance computing.

Led by Francois Gygi, formerly of Lawrence Livermore and currently at UC Davis, LLNL's peak performance team includes IBM's TJ Watson Research Center, Carnegie Mellon University and the Institute of Analysis and Scientific Computing at the Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria. Their entry was titled "Large-Scale Structure Calculations of High-Z Metals on the BlueGene/L Platform."

Molybdenum, a high-Z or heavy metal, is of particular interest to scientists with the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Stockpile Stewardship Program. NNSA scientists use simulation to better understand the effects of aging on nuclear materials.

"Conducting predictive simulations of heavy metals, such as molybdenum, is a very challenging problem which requires a machine of BlueGene/L's capabilities," said Erik Draeger of Livermore's Center for Applied Scientific Computing. "It's a challenge because this code has to do many things very efficiently to accurately render a simulation. Heavy metals are very complex elements."

This kind of simulation is much larger than any previously feasible FPMD simulation. Such calculations open the way for accurate simulations of the properties of metals, including the calculation of melting temperatures, defect energies and defect migration processes, studying the effects of aging on the structural and electronic properties of heavy metals and materials subjected to extreme conditions. Understanding the properties of heavy metals is critical to the Stockpile Stewardship Program.

Transportation Funding Okay

The Alameda County Transportation Authority (ACTA) and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) audits passed with clean bills of health.

At a public meeting held on November 11, the Citizen Watchdog Committee (CWC), a 17-member committee that oversees all ACTIA revenues and expenses, received a presentation from ACTIA's auditor on the audit results. ACTIA has stayed well under the 1% administrative staff cap and below the overall administration cost ceiling of 4.5%, and has spent the Measure B funds in accordance with the voter approved Expenditure Plan. The same report was also presented to the ACTA and ACTIA Board members.

The Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority administers the half-cent transportation sales tax approved by voters in November 2000 for a specific set of projects and programs.

The ACTIA audit summarized the expendi-

tures for the 2005/2006 fiscal year as follows \$40.2 million for public transit investments and operations, \$32.8 million for cities and the County local transportation, \$3.7 million for highway and street projects, \$4.9 million for administration, and \$33.1 million set aside for future projects.

Political Solution

Last week, the House Armed Services Committee heard testimony from the Commander of the United States Central Command, General John Abizaid. Rep. Ellen Tauscher warned about the absence of a political solution and stressed the need to change course in Iraq and ensure that the new Iraqi government formed by Prime Minister Maliki comes to a political agreement which will reduce the violence.

Rep. Tauscher is concerned that the Bush administration is continuing to fail to recognize that a political solution is far off. In the hearing, she cautioned General Abizaid, "With growing U.S. casualties and the failure to secure either Baghdad or the Anbar Province, a change in our fundamental policy in Iraq is just as important as a change in our tactics."

Tauscher further pressed General Abizaid, saying, "I have always said that the military solution in Iraq has to go hand in hand with a political settlement with the Iraqis. You met with Prime Minister Maliki on Monday; he changed his government on Sunday. What confidence do you have that he can secure a political solution that can help lay the groundwork for us leaving?"

Lack of Affordable Housing

Despite a cooling housing market where prices have fallen slightly, affordability continued to worsen in most California markets during the third quarter of 2006, the California Building Industry Association reported earlier this week.

CBIA's analysis of the quarterly National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index found that during the third quarter of the year, affordability fell in 14 of the 28 California metro areas surveyed. In 20 metro areas less than 10 percent of the homes could be afforded by families earning the median income there.

California's homeownership rate is just 57 percent, 13 points below the rest of the nation.

The index calculates the percentage of homes in a metro area that were sold there during a three-month period that could be afforded by a family earning the region's median income. The index assumes buyers will finance 90 percent of the purchase price with a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage, and takes into account prevailing interest rates, property taxes and insurance costs. Although prices eased in some markets, interest rates ticked upwards as well, according to the NAHB study.

Los Angeles County, for an eighth consecutive quarter, continued to have the nation's lowest affordability of the 203 metro areas surveyed, with just 1.8 percent of the homes sold affordable to the county's median-income family. Other metro areas in the nation's bottom five are Monterey County (2.6 percent), Orange County (3.8 percent affordable), Stanislaus County (4.1 percent), and Merced County (4.3 percent).

The California Building Industry Association is a statewide trade association representing some 6,700 businesses - homebuilders, remodelers, subcontractors, architects, engineers, designers and other industry professionals.

RETIRED

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Duerig is "well-experienced. As I spent more time in Sacramento (working on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan for the State Water Project), I've been really comfortable with her running the company."

He also praised the rest of his administrative staff as people who have a high degree of competency, which he said will make it easy for any successor to make a transition. Myers gave credit to "directors and staff. The (water plant) operators have been there 24/7. The water is clean and it's safe. Engineers are getting projects ready to go. It was not just me by a long shot. It took every one of them to make it work."

The agency has won awards, including the prestigious Partnership for Safe Water. That one was credited in part to former director John Marchand, who now is a Livermore city councilmember. Marchand participated in many statewide meetings for Zone 7, which helped lead to the award.

Myers said that he is "more inclined to complete jobs, rather than apply for awards. If we competed for more, we would have won more."

Myers, who grew up on a farm in Colorado, has a business degree. He put it to work as an administrator in the Army, including a one-year tour in Vietnam during the war. He used the GI Bill on his return to earn a master's degree in English, with a minor in drama, thinking that he might choose a teaching career.

However, an opportunity came along with Alameda County government in the county administrator's office, so he took that. It led to four years

in the business area of the sheriff's department, and then his transfer to Zone 7, which then was run primarily by the county.

Later, Zone 7 gained more independence from the county, with the board being responsible for charting its own finances for the most part. Myers oversaw the transition, and steered Zone 7's course through many important projects.

He said that one of the agency's most significant accomplishments on his watch has been the lining up of water contracts for a 100 percent reliable water supply in the future, with plenty of off-site storage in the Central Valley's basin.

Early in his administrative tenure, Myers encouraged the board to catch up with needed increases in the water connection and flood control fees for developers. Under his leadership, the district drew up a far-ranging plan for flood control — not just the mechanics of arroyo safeguards and containment lakes, but also a stream management plan, with stakeholders meeting to work out the best approach for recreation and wildlife conservation. He was as proud of the communication among the parties as he was with the final draft of the plan.

Zone 7 also embarked on a large capital improvements expansion to keep up with growth to build-out. The agency is building the Altamont water treatment plant, and adding capacity to the South Bay Aqueduct.

For several years Zone 7 worked with the Valley's Agricultural Water Task Force to see how more agricultural water could be brought in to encourage farming in North Livermore. Myers per-

sonally attended many of the meetings.

Zone 7 also developed a demineralization plan to cut down the amount of salts in the drinking water in the west valley, a major, longtime demand there. Communication also improved greatly with Pleasanton's city government, as noted by Greci at the meeting Nov. 15 in a report about the most recent liaison meeting between the two entities.

Myers saw the agency through several controversies. There were difficult negotiations with developers of Dougherty Valley and DSRSD, which threatened to become a state water contractor and compete against Zone 7. That would have eroded Zone 7's customer base.

There was also a controversial DSRSD proposal for injection of treated waste-water into the Valley's underground water storage basin. The Zone 7 board came out against it, saying that the technical points were fine. However, since there was great doubt about the majority of the public about its safety, the public was strongly against it. DSRSD then agreed to drop the injection plan.

Many retirees in the business and water utilities fields undertake some consulting work. However, Myers said he doesn't feel stirred by the idea. He has looked into enrolling in a Ph.D program, or finishing a teaching credential.

A Livermore resident, Myers will have more time to spend with his horses, which he has boarded in Tracy and Idaho.

SUIT

(continued from page one)

building to 350 units per year. The city should also rezone more land for affordable housing, said the plaintiffs.

A hearing was set for Dec. 1 in Superior Court in Oakland. However, the city won't be ready. City attorney Michael Roush was to ask for a continuance this week.

Roush told the Independent that the city's first action will be to try to dismiss the suit. The city will argue that there was a window of opportunity to block the policies from going into action within 90 days of their passage.

The housing cap was adopted in 1996. The housing element came into effect in 2003. The growth management ordinance last was amended in 1998.

The city also doesn't agree with the plaintiffs' contention that voters had no right to adopt a housing cap. "But even if were true (that they had no right), we say that you have to file in 90 days, not 10 years," said Roush.

OPEN SPACE

(continued from page one)

In addition, the city could apply for significant funding from the Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee (ALOSC).

Livermore planners visited ALOSC at its meeting three weeks ago in Dublin. The panel wanted to hear about Livermore's current ability to fund open space, as part of a possible future consideration to grant the city some money out of its open space fund. ALOSC generally wants its funds to enable significant projects, and so looks for solid financial ability in the funding partner.

ALOSC, the result of a lawsuit settlement over the landfill permit, is made up of representatives from Livermore, Pleasanton, Alameda County and the Sierra Club. It allocates open space

funding raised by a 75 cent portion of a \$1.25 per ton tipping fee at the landfill.

Some 80 percent of the lawsuit settlement's open space money is reserved for Livermore projects. The remaining 20 percent is for west Valley projects. Pleasanton brought Dublin into eligibility for project money in the spirit of west valley environmental cooperation.

Much of the west valley's 20 percent has been used up, with Pleasanton acquiring land for EBRPD park facilities on the Pleasanton Ridge.

However, the Livermore portion has been accumulating. It totals approximately \$4 million, said Chris Gray, chief of staff to supervisor Scott Haggerty, who represents the county on the panel.



The Quarry Lane School OPEN HOUSE

Discover the Quarry Lane difference!

Kindergarten Information Night: Nov. 29, 7 pm

Middle & High School Information Night: Nov. 30, 7 pm

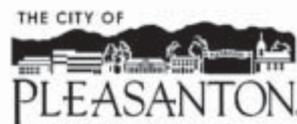
Open House Grades K-10: Dec. 13, 9 to 11 am



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NOTICE OF COMMISSION/COMMITTEE VACANCIES

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

City of Pleasanton Commissions/Committee (Four-Year Terms)

- * Housing Commission
- * Civic Arts Commission
- * Economic Vitality Committee
- (1) At-large Member
- (1) Residential Builder Representative
- (1) Financial Institution Representative
- * Library Commission, Alternate Member
- * Planning Commission

Regional Commissions/Boards

- * Alameda County Housing Commission, Pleasanton Representative, Term: September 2006-December 2007
- * Tri-Valley Conservancy, Pleasanton Representative, Four-year term

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee

The 11 members will be appointed by the City Council and the Pleasanton Unified School District Board. This is a non-paid position.

The purpose of the Committee is to implement the goals and objectives of the Youth Master Plan of Pleasanton such as: Plow411 web page, Youth-related workshops, events and special projects. The Plan focuses on providing services to youth throughout the community. Specifically it addresses issues of programs and activities, health and wellness, childcare, jobs, leadership and communication amongst children, youth and families. The Committee is comprised of representatives from various community organizations, schools and businesses.

The YMPIC is comprised of 30 members. Applications are being accepted for the following representatives:

- o 3 At-Large Parent Representatives - one representative from a pre-school, one representative from an elementary school and one representative from a middle school
- o 1 Health and Crisis Representative
- o 1 Non-Profit Agency Representative
- o 1 Senior Citizen Representative
- o 1 Alternate Representative from Amador High School
- o 1 Youth Representative and 1 Alternate from Village High School
- o 1 Youth Representative from Hart Middle School
- o 1 Youth Representative from Pleasanton Middle School

It is anticipated that the YMPIC will meet at least monthly for the purpose of implementing these projects. Committee members will be appointed for a one-year term initially.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office, 123 Main Street, Pleasanton or on the City's Website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us. For additional information, call the office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 P.M., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006. Postmarks are not accepted.

Interviews will be held the week of December 11. Applicants will be notified regarding interviews and the selection process once the filing period is closed.

EDITORIALS

Pombo's Freeway

We anticipate that Jerry McNerney, with his professional background as a wind power consultant, will be one of Congress' leaders in efforts to liberate America from dependence on foreign oil and to turn global warming around.

In assuming this important role, McNerney will hopefully confront one of Richard Pombo's pet projects, a proposed new freeway across the hills between the Central Valley and Silicon Valley via the Route 152 corridor.

While Pombo saw it as a way to ease the traffic gridlock of the I-580 corridor, the long-range effect of this new freeway corridor would be to promote sprawl and make traffic even worse than it is today.

It's the kind of planning that contributes to problems like oil dependence and global warming, rather than helps to solve them.

Now that McNerney has ousted Pombo as the 11th District congressman, Pombo's freeway needs to be similarly retired.

Great Friend Of Alternative Sports

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has voted to take over the climbing wall at Sunrise Mountain Sports on a one-year trial, commencing in January.

Sunrise's owners plan to close the wall for business reasons. The activity, however, has become popular in the community. A contingent of climbers, both young and old in age, came to the LARPD board meeting two weeks ago to urge the district to run the facility. Though staff recommended against it because of cost concerns, the board okayed the venture in a 4-1 vote: Scott Kamena, Maryalice Faltings, David Furst and Steve Goodman aye, Dale Turner no.

During the discussion about cost, it was noted that the climbing wall has never been properly marketed and there's a lot of potential to increase usage and the income from it. The board was told that only one other recreation district in California offers this kind of activity. Since the climbing wall already exists, LARPD's venture into the activity will entail relatively little investment and risk.

"This is a unique opportunity to get into an alternative sport," said Maryalice Faltings.

Actually LARPD is already well along that path. In dealing with skateboarders, BMX bikers and now rock climbers, LARPD has been consistently open-minded and responsive. Livermore can happily boast of having a recreation district that has become a real pioneer in meeting recreation's changing needs.

LARPD Scores Win-Win

LARPD has decided not to preserve the softball field at the Bothwell Arts Center. Replacement ballfields will instead be developed at May Nissen and Max Baer Parks. One or both of the new fields will have to be open before the Bothwell diamond is removed.

Meanwhile, the Bothwell grounds will be redesigned to serve as a quiet neighborhood park, as requested by residents of the area.

"This was truly a win-win situation ..." said Tim Barry, LARPD general manager.

We applaud LARPD board and staff for making it happen. In addressing the conflicting desires of the neighborhood and the Livermore Girls Softball Association, the district acted with sensitivity and wisdom.

County Closes Zoning 'Loophole'

The Alameda County Planning Commission moved to prevent further slurry ponds on land zoned for agriculture.

A slurry pond involves the preparation of finely ground concrete material from Caltrans for landfill disposal or limited reuse. The activity includes the placement of a liquefied slurry of ground concrete and water into textile lined settling and drying ponds. After they have dried, the cakes of ground concrete material can be removed.

The vote was unanimous to direct staff to prepare an ordinance listing slurry ponds as a use not allowed. In making the determination that slurry ponds are not an allowed use, commissioners noted, "There are holes in the oversight and permitting process. We have plugged one of them."

The issue of slurry ponds was brought to the attention of the county by residents of Collier Canyon Road. They were concerned that the actions of property owner Larry Gosselin, in using his land for slurry ponds, had endangered their water.

Commissioners were told their focus should be on land use only. "We are not dealing with the merits of neighbor issues, the water quality or oversight by Caltrans or other agencies. This is a land use decision. The rules were not clear about whether the use was allowed. This motion is meant to address that."

The slurry is comprised of materials removed from a Caltrans project on I-680.

What became apparent during public hearings, said commissioners and members of the public, was that the various agencies, including the county health department, zoning administration, the regional water quality control board, and Caltrans failed to act in response to complaints from the public.

The water board, after inspecting the site, did issue a notice of violation to the property owner. According to Gosselin, the ponds have been closed down and the material removed. A reclamation plan is under consideration by the water board.

The water board notes that the best management practice for Caltrans is to landfill the waste once it has been dried. In its notice, the water board said that best management practices were not followed. That has led to a potential threat to water quality and the potential for a threat to public health and safety created by blowing concrete slurry dust.

The water board also asked that a reclamation plan for the site be submitted.

Keith Lichten, a member of the water board, admitted to the planning commission that none of the material on site had been tested to determine whether or not it was toxic. He said that the level of acidity and the sediment were the two main concerns. "If the sediment doesn't go anywhere, the acidity it not a huge issue," he stated. Since the soil is generally clay in the area, the material can't go too far. "It is our belief, that once the material is removed from the site, we wouldn't expect to see a long term impact."

Gosselin had planned to use the dried slurry as a soil amendment on his property. Lichten said that would not be an appropriate use because of concern that the material could be washed into nearby waterways. Lichten told the commission, the water board, wanted the material removed before the rainy season.

The potential impact on water used by residents along Collier Canyon Road is still an issue that needs to be resolved, say the neighbors.

Allison Batteate, one of the neighbors, said during an interview, "Yes, the operation has been shut down. Yes, they plan to clean it up." However, she says, the problem should never have come up, because the property owner was denied a permit by the regional water board. Batteate provided documentation of the fact that the property owner began the operation on his land without first obtaining the permit and continued to operate it after the permit was denied.

Batteate said that neighbors were most concerned when water board staff said they observed problems including the absence of a stormwater pollution prevention plan at the site, improperly constructed slurry drying ponds that were discharging water through their berms and, potentially, into the local groundwater, and evidence that polluted water had been pumped out of at least one drying pond and improperly applied to land adjacent to the pond.

Neighbors want the site cleaned up, their wells and water quality tested and then monitored for at least five years.

"Now it is going to cost me money to assure that my water is safe, because somebody else was making money. It's one thing to test for naturally occurring things that may threaten my water quality," Batteate added, "I wonder how much money is being made by the property owner and why can't some of that money be used to test our water."

She and other neighbors wondered why all of the regulatory

agencies let the project proceed, when it was apparent early on that the use was not allowed.

The contractor pays for the use of the land for the slurry ponds.

Gosselin presented his side. He said county staff had been notified of his plans. He said he described clearly his plans to use the material as a soil amendment.

"There are multiple levels of authority involved. They seem to have been aware of the materials in question and let the project go ahead. There seems to be no interaction between departments and no oversight. I did everything I was required to do."

Gosselin said he doesn't believe the materials are toxic. He said the contractor has conducted a chain of control testing that has shown it is not toxic. He added that the contractor is in charge of the project, not he.

Caltrans told the commission that once the contractor removes the material from the Caltrans project site, the material belongs to the contractor. "The contractor is responsible for all permit-

ting. The agreement calls for removal of the dried slurry to an appropriate disposal site."

The commission commented, in reality Caltrans should be a little more responsible about hiring contractors and in checking their paperwork.

Doug Silverwood, of ACC, the contractor, said that 70 loads of material have been removed from the Collier Canyon site. He admitted, that contrary to the agreement with Caltrans, he had agreed to leave the material on the Gosselin property. The plan was to use it as a soil amendment.

Scott Seery of the county health department said that the contractor had been notified as early as Sept. 11 that the material was not suitable for re-use at the site. "As late as mid-October, ACC was still under the impression the material was suitable for re-use," he noted.

Commissioners said, "In looking at emails exchanged over several months, it was clear this use was not allowed on the property. We hope there has been no damage to the water or to the canyon."

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.)

Film Festival Frank Thornburgh

The California Independent Film Festival put on another great show Saturday evening as part of the five day festival that ran from October 25 to 29 at various wineries and theaters in Livermore and Orinda.

My adventure Thursday evening at the Orinda Theater and last night at the Ed Asner Lifetime Achievement Award at the Livermore Community Center was a peek into another world.

A tender highlight of the evening was the appearance Ed Asner's high school sweetheart from long ago.

Mr. Asner and all of the other stars were so gracious and friendly to the capacity crowd.

Another noteworthy experience was meeting two representatives from the Sapporo Japan Short Film Festival which is a sister city event to Livermore's. Toshiya and Akira are two quiet,

well mannered young men visiting here for our festival.

Short films by free-thinking artists make me wonder why I pay so much to see big-name full-length movies that usually are not nearly as entertaining or thought provoking as the independent short works.

When you stay to study the credits at the end of a 15-20 minute short you fully realize how many dedicated people put forth so much effort for their art. Go meet all those artists who are so open and free with their ideas and knowledge. It doesn't take long to find out how expensive film making is. Where the beginner finds the financial support is a story in itself. Obviously it involves some sort of magic.

As the worn phrase goes, "What's wrong with this picture?" There are thousands of great short movies from all over the world floating around in the mail or laying on someone's desk and Hollywood spends millions promoting a full length dud that you and I are expected to pay \$9.00 to see.

Jet Port Evelyn Murphy Livermore

Steven Rego's 10/26/06 "Wake Up Call" letter stated, "If the jet noise doesn't wake you now just wait until the City of Livermore gives the nod to FBO (continued on page 5)

ELECTION

(continued from page one)

Incumbent Jerry Thorne, elected to a second term, and newcomer Cheryl Cook-Kallio, won the council seats. Brozosky vacated the seat won by Cook-Kallio.

Thorne said that he felt voters judged him by his first term, and liked what they saw. He said he heard comments from voters that he was fair in listening to both sides on the issues that come before the council.

Cook-Kallio said that she felt that she and her campaign manager, Angela Ramirez Holmes, did a good job of framing strategy for the campaign. She felt that her experience as a consensus builder impressed voters. She is a government teacher at a Fremont high school, and has done internships with politicians, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

Asked about a Democratic help, she said some Democrats worked on her campaign. She received the endorsement of the Central Labor Council.

Brian Arkin, who finished fourth in the council race behind Dan Faustina, said that outside money helped to defeat his candidacy. He pointed to \$35,000 spent on the race by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee. Some \$6000 of it went to Cook-Kallio.

PG&E sent out an \$11,000 mailer for Thorne. If another power plant application comes to Pleasanton, as it did in 2000, PG&E might expect a return on its money, said Arkin. The chamber also has its own agenda, with completion of Stoneridge Drive on it, he said.

Arkin said he collected \$14,000. He received no PAC money.

Arkin added, "It's discouraging for people, regular citizens,

trying to run a better town, when that type of money is spent on a candidate. They are indebted to those people and what they support. Why else is that money thrown to those candidates?"

In contrast to the big money spent in Pleasanton, in Dublin Kate Ann Scholz won one of two city council seats. She spent \$2500 and credited walking precincts with literature for her victory. She is a 73-year-old retired school teacher who served on the Ohlone College board for 23 years. She said that prepared her for the campaign.

Former councilmember Tim Sbranti won the other seat, with 39 percent of the vote. Scholz received 19 percent and planning commissioner Bill Schaub 17 percent. Three other candidates finished behind them.

EASEMENTS

(continued from page one)

done once and for all." Also, virtually all of the easement funders expect to receive permanent easements for their money, she said.

The PLCS won't hold easements and will not conduct the negotiating between buyers and sellers of easements. The main goal is to put out information to buyers and sellers of easements, and put parties in touch with each other.

The partnership has met three times and is developing a strategic plan, which Sweet said is expected to be ready after the holidays.

The PLCS has also been contacted for staff technical advice by the San Lorenzo Creek task force about their watershed issues and some local neighborhood issues.

Hosterman, Runyon Elected in Close Races

With less than a 100 votes left to countywide as of Tuesday, incumbent Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman is the apparent winner.

Hosterman has a 189 vote lead over challenger Councilmember Steve Brozosky: 11,667 for Hosterman to 11,478 votes for Brozosky.

Guy Ashley, the spokesperson for the Alameda County Registrar of Voters, stated, "With the small number of ballots left to count, it's unlikely the results will change in Pleasanton."

The day after the election, Brozosky had a 163 vote lead over Hosterman. By Thursday as absentee ballots were counted,

Hosterman had taken a 115 vote lead.

The county has until Dec. 5 to certify the election.

The tally in the council race shows Jerry Thorne with 12,247 votes followed by Cheryl Cook-Kallio at 9235, Dan Faustina 8315 and Brian Arkin 6779.

In the other closely contested race in the Valley, Kate Runyon has been selected as the third member chosen by voters to serve on the Livermore School Board. She finished with 265 more votes than McKinley Day, 12,169 to 11,904. Anne White led the voting with 12,657, William Dunlop was second with 12,644 votes.

TEENS

(continued from page one)

ning board members were asked to think broadly about health issues that affect them, their friends and other youth in their communities.

Reports on the work have been made to city councils and school boards in the area.

Not all of the Valley high schools were approached in time for the survey to be given to students near the end of the last school year. Livermore High School was the one major school missing from the survey.

This is the first year of the survey. Participation varied from school to school. Amador Valley High School had 1432 students, or a 61 percent participation rate. Foothill High School had 638 students, or 29 percent. Granada High School's 1495 students represented 72 percent of its enrollment. Highest participation rate was 99 percent at Del Valle continuation high school, with 82 students responding. Horizon, also a continuation school, had 48 students, for 91 percent.

Overall, 51 percent of the students returned questionnaires. That amount of participation "is unheard of in a health survey,"

said Scott Tucker, one of three students who made a presentation Nov. 7 at the Pleasanton school board meeting. All of Pleasanton's comprehensive and special high schools participated.

Tucker didn't release any statistics from the report, because it is still being summarized. However, he did share that the top reasons for alcohol and drug use were to have fun, escape pressure and boredom, and to fit in with one's peer group.

The reasons cited for emotional health difficulties were stress from academics, having to plan for the future, and family behavior.

The Pleasanton school board earlier this year added counselors after state money became available. Tucker thanked the board for that. He noted hiring of the counselors happened after the survey was taken in late spring.

Tucker said that in looking over ways to help remedy problems, one suggestion that came up was to have a teen center. He said that maybe it could have a "scream room, where the youths can release stress in a non-violent way."

McNERNEY

(continued from page one)

in tackling some of the important issues that face our constituents, like energy independence, while helping my party lead our country in a new direction."

McNerney was appointed to the committee after a unanimous vote by the Northern California Delegation, which recognized his potential leadership and dedication to the state.

"Jerry McNerney brings a wealth of knowledge and an innovative outlook to Congress and I am pleased to welcome him as the thirty-fourth member of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation," said Delegation Chair Zoe Lofgren (D-San Jose). "I also am proud to have him represent Northern California in the Committee on

Committees' and think this choice shows the high regard California Members have towards him."

McNerney was selected to represent the regional interests of not only Northern California, but Guam, Hawaii and American Samoa as well.

McNerney said of the election, "It restored my faith in the system. The people won this. They stood up against the people in Washington. We're going to use this mandate to get us (the country) back on track. They are so far off track, that they have put our nation at great risk. They were unfriendly to the environment, and unfriendly to ethics. The campaign was a lot of hard work. I had a blast."

school and middle school students, explained Lund.

Pennewell commented, "Youth need places to go and have people to talk to."

A regional stakeholders meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2007 to discuss the issues raised by area students. It will be held at the Dublin Senior Center starting at 4 p.m. All area youth and adults are invited to take part in the session. Those attending will learn about the findings of the survey and youth recommendations to deal with those findings.

"We want to work with adults, to have our thoughts heard," explained Lun. "We do realize we need adults to make things happen."

Jesus Veracruz is the adult leader for the group. He called those participating, "A brilliant group of youth, who have been pushing the project forward. Anything we do is sponsored or led by youth."

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena complimented the youth on their work, noting that they had collected valuable data through the survey.

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

(fixed base operators). That would allow a once recreational airport to become a commercial airport." Well, that appears to be just around the corner.

The future of municipal airports such as the one in Livermore is spelled out in the Sunday Supplement called USA Weekend dated October 27-29, 2006. It states "Flying somewhere close? take a taxi." And, they don't mean an automobile. Quoted directly from this article, "Airline are standing by for the next big thing in short distance (600 miles or less) air travel - the jet air taxi."

"The first VLJ (very light jet), the Eclipse 500, made by Eclipse Aviation, seats three to five passengers and one or two pilots. VLJs can take off and land on runways as short as 2,500 feet. That opens up thousands of small airports across America, many without any major airline service, to offer these flights."

... it launches a 'per seat, on-demand' jet service in early 2007. Flights will cost about \$1 to \$3 per mile, compared with \$9 to \$13 per mile on charter jets and \$15 on large private jets. Other aviation companies ... have expressed interest in manufacturing VLJs says airtaxflights.com.

This is the jet port we have all feared. It's here now. With well over 210,000 takeoffs and landings happening now, further airport expansion spells disaster. Peace and quiet and the quality of life in this valley is at stake. Please, stop the airport expansion.

Voting

Barbara Hempill President League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters Livermore-Amador Valley thanks everyone who voted in this election and all those people who ran for public office. We also want to acknowledge all interested voters who wrote letters to the Editor as well as The Independent for publishing their letters.

The League's primary goal is an informed and active electorate. While the League is non-partisan and does not endorse candidates or parties, it does take positions on issues. During the past election, the League provided voting information on its website www.smartvoter.org, registered voters, held candidates' forums, distributed copies of Pros and Cons on the ballot issues, and placed Easy Voter guides in five languages throughout the Valley.

On the local level, the Livermore-Amador Valley League is studying our water supply and distribution this year. We will also be pursuing the National League study of immigration. In addition, we are working with the State League in supporting the OneCareNow campaign toward passage of SB840 which would provide health care for all Californians.

To find out more about the Livermore-Amador Valley League, go to <http://www.lavwvnet.org>. To contact us, call 443-VOTE or mail us at lavwv@comcast.net or P. O. Box 702, Livermore 94551.

Endorsement

Diana McIntyre Pleasanton

I was disheartened to see how you joined the Pleasanton Weekly in endorsing Ms. Hosterman for Mayor of Pleasanton. You not only espoused her because of her stand on global warming causes, but failed to do your homework on why she is an ardent activist for Green causes. The following email was sent to me two days ago. I am sure you too had access to it, and if you haven't already, you owe it to your readers to read it.

"A while back Dan Carl was offended when Mayor Hosterman resorted to calling him an offensive name in her email response to him. He began to wonder about her actions in other regards so requested copies of her emails as a matter of public record. After receiving those he found numerous instances of other abuses in her public emails and has now put together a website so that Pleasanton voters can read her words for themselves. Click on this link to view www.hostermanspeaks.com/ Steve Brozosky already had my

support but I hope that if any of you are still undecided you will be sure to check this out!"

Furthermore, I went into the website and found Ms. Hosterman raises a falcon, takes pleasure in throwing live quail in the air to train it to kill, and also has mainly gas exploration and petroleum stocks. Of course she wants us to cut back the need, and boost her stocks! Her foul language shocked me in her emails, as well as misusing our public funds to solicit votes and "cold hard cash."

Please stop skewing voters' minds with your own opinions, and be like Jerry Thorne, impartial. We are intelligent people who should make up our own minds, not take your little list to the polls to vote.

Thank You Dan Roanne Hibz Pleasanton

This letter is addressed to the community in general and to the recent city council candidate, Dan Faustina, specifically. Dan won this election! Maybe not in tangible votes (although 6,000+ votes is an awesome show of support) but because he stayed true to himself, because of the positive way his campaign was run, and by the way he served as a role model for future candidates.

Dan, you're a winner because you never made remarks about the character of another candidate. Dan, you're a winner because your campaign was run, not for special interest groups but for your absolute desire to preserve Pleasanton's character and insure its future for all of us and the generations to come. You are a winner because you chose to run your campaign the old-fashioned way, door-to-door, handshake to handshake. Spending money on expensive, catchy looking mailings just isn't your style and we respect that. You are a winner because you always had time to stop and listen to each of us regardless of age.

The other candidates took this election to a new level. Accusations, mudslinging, and misrepresentation abound. Stands were changed to fit neighborhoods. Special interests added the spice. And the new fall campaign style was the talk of the town. No longer were lawn signs enough - we saw billboard-sized photos of candidates and families on the side of rundown trucks; roving, larger-than-life portraits strategically moved from opportunity to opportunity.

Dan, this entire community owes you a debt of gratitude. Thank you for being the one to bring dignity to this election.

Ayala and the Brown Act Thomas Jefferson Livermore

California is so very fortunate to have the Ralph M. Brown Act, and Pleasanton is similarly fortunate to have Kay Ayala, whom I long admired when she served on the Pleasanton City Council.

The Brown Act prescribes how government meetings must be conducted so that the public has access to both the meetings and to the decision making process.

Ayala uncovered that the Pleasanton City Council had broken the law, the Brown Act, in discussing a Council pay raise in closed session. At the November 7 Council meeting, because of this Brown Act violation, she passionately implored the Council to take the ethical path and forgo any further consideration of pay raises at this time. Sadly, Councilman Sullivan and Mayor Hosterman, wanted to essentially trivialize the Brown Act violation and to approve the pay raises. The majority of the Council—Brozosky, Thorne, and McGovern—recognized their mistake, did the right thing, and voted to do nothing about pay raises at this time.

All Californians should thank Ralph M. Brown, and the residents of Pleasanton should thank Kay Ayala.

The Election Mike Duarte Pleasanton

I had an observation concerning this past election that I would like to share with others.

One of the beautiful parts of our representative democracy is the smooth transition of power

as defeated seat-holding politicians peacefully turn over the reins of government to elected individuals. Isn't it odd after eight years of recounts, lawsuits, and numerous conspiratorial rumors and movies that last Tuesday's election ended without any recounts or lawyers. I guess our election system has miraculously been repaired to the shrill crowds satisfaction.

Seriously, it's nice to see that a political party and its politicians can conduct themselves with grace and dignity in a time of turmoil. Close races developed across the country and at all levels of government. George Allen and Conrad Burns chose not to challenge vote counts and honor the citizen's choices in Virginia and Montana.

Richard Pombo graciously accepted defeat and publicly stated he would do everything possible to make sure McNerney has an effortless transition into office. President Bush immediately reached out to Speaker Pelosi in the spirit of bipartisanship.

People should recognize and emulate this part of American life. I saw it after the recent Amador/Foothill football game when both teams embraced their shared experience and graciously accepted victory and defeat without any negative incidents.

In our council race, Dan Faustina is surely disappointed after another close defeat but he has chosen not to turn the election into a circus by prolonging the inevitable. The mayor's race will soon be finalized and I urge both candidates to accept the results without a messy recount and negative comments. I saw on our local news report that Steve Brozosky has stated he will not ask for a recount if he comes up short but in the same report, our current mayor continued to snipe at Brozosky and bemoan her situation.

Everyone is passionate about something in their life and a person's true character is demonstrated in times when things don't work out the way they expect. This election cycle, grace and dignity rule the day... let's don't change that! One last observation to the Pleasanton City Council. Stay focused like a laser beam on local issues and you should not have any problems being re-elected.

Thank You Smith School Livermore

The parents, students and faculty of Emma C. Smith Elementary School would like to thank those who made our annual fundraiser, Autumn Treasures, a great success.

Platinum Sponsor: Daisy Borba; Gold Sponsor: Caratti Jewelers; Silver Sponsors: Kathleen and Larry Waelde, Keller Williams and Madeline Walker, Intero; Bronze Sponsor: Gail Henderson, Intero; Advertisers: Remax Executive, Sonja S. Sommer, D.D.S., Terra Mia, A.P. Concrete, Norcal Electric, Susan Jackson (Tupperware, Mary Kay), Twin Stiches, The Cake Dude, LOL Childcare, Almeida & Son Painting;

Contributors: 360 Burritos, Acrylic Nails, Alden Lane Nursery, Amelia's Deli, American River Raft Rentals, Anita's Mexican Restaurant, Applebee's, Aquarium of the Bay, Artisan Salon, Bagel City Café, Bakers Square, Beeb's, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Bill and Vickie Aboumrud, Billy G's, Boomers, Brownie Troop 1903, Café Art, Café Paradiso, California Gymnastic's Academy;

Camille Phelps, Candy Bouquet, Canton Village, Caratti Jeweler, Carl's Jr., Casa Mexico, Casa Orozco, Castle Rock, Chabot Space Center, Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose, City of San Jose, Happy Hollow

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Score, Sea World, San Diego, Sherri Allen, Six Flags Magic Mountain, Splashes, Spring Time Tumbling and Trampoline, Springtown Golf Course, Sri Hai Thai Restaurant, Stacey's, Starbucks, Stephanie O'Brien, Emma C. Smith Elementary School Student Council, Subway, Sunrise Rock Gym, Super Cuts, Susan Shultis, Taco Del Mar, Teresa de Bord, Terra Mia, Tire Mart, Togo's, Towne Center Books, Tracey Remund, Tri Valley Car Care, Ultra-Spective, Vegas Magic, Walt Disney Company, Wax Museum at Fisherman's Wharf.

Response to Letter Rabbi Laura Novak Winer President, Tri-Valley Haven Board of Directors Ann King Executive Director, Tri-Valley Haven

Thank you so very much for your support of the Haven and its Food Pantry. You are correct in stating that the public should know "just how significant the pantry is to the lives of so many families in the Valley."

The Haven attempts to highlight different components of its services at various times of the year. The recent solicitation letter to which Ms. Leonard referred, was sent out in observance of Homelessness Awareness Month. Our goal for that letter was to highlight the Homeless services the Haven provides, including the Sojourner House shelter. In October we also observed Domestic Violence Awareness Month and held programs to educate the community about our many Domestic Violence services, including the legal clinic which assists women in attaining restraining orders against their batterers, the sexual assault hot line, available 24/7 to assist women who may have been victims of an assault, and our domestic violence shelter, Shiloh House, which provides confidential shelter to women and their children trying to escape abuse.

With the winter holidays around the corner, the Haven is seeking support for its homelessness and hunger services, particularly those provided by the Haven's food pantry. During our Thanksgiving Food Distribution, we will have provided needed food to more than 500 families who, otherwise, might not have food for their holiday tables. And during our Holiday Warehouse program, we will provide food and holiday

gifts to more than 700 families who are in need this holiday season.

The Haven is grateful to its supporters and partners in the Tri-Valley Community who tirelessly volunteer their time in our many programs and share their resources. We are indebted to the schools, service groups and faith communities that partner with us through out the year in an effort to help us end homelessness, end hunger and create homes safe from abuse.

Hooray for Pelosi Steve Brackenbury Pleasanton

Hooray for Nancy Pelosi! She has not allowed religious dogma to supersede moral reasoning and genuine compassion. Hooray for Nancy Pelosi! By upholding the separation of church and state she strengthens the freedoms of all Americans to worship (or not), safely and freely, in their homes and churches. Hooray for Nancy Pelosi!

South Livermore Valley Rich Buckley Livermore

Bless her heart Gail Shearer (9/28/06) is wrong. I did not represent Cedar Grove Community Church in their purchase of the South Livermore Avenue property. Had the opportunity availed itself indeed I would have represented them. Nonetheless I deeply care about Cedar Grove and churches in general and their continued relevance in the western secular world and I would ask Gail not to devolve an open and needed discussion of this important matter to attempts to embarrass participants that fundamentally disagree with their fine group on this one issue. We can all rise above that level Gail.

More importantly, I responded because the wine group is being unnecessarily intolerant on these matters and not open to our real heritage. I am amazed at the extent of secular red-lining on this one matter when the real issue should focus on control and design of beauty in our South Livermore Valley. Make the churches pull their weight on quality control if they locate in these areas. Make the requirements tough and consistent. What really counts in this tourism-ag area is architectural beauty kept to a high level. If parking is a concern, build it underground. If appearance is a concern, design it as like a French chateau or some other acceptable motif; if noise is a concern, engineer quite; if safety is a concern, engineer safety, and if control is concern, form a South Livermore Valley Architectural Control Committee and staff it fairly including local landowners in the district.

Prove to yourself how important churches are in our cultural heritage even in the wine country. Spend an hour on line and look up key words like "French Wineries", Country Churches, Famous Vineyards in France (Italy, Sicily, etc). I found prominent vineyards with beautiful churches sitting in their midst throughout Europe in places most of us would consider vacation destinations to die for. Architectural elements of some of the churches look like entries to fine wineries and vice versa. It's really not a reach to see the connection among churches, culture, tourism, rural-country, agriculture, beauty and heritage.

One perspective that cuts to the heart of the law at the time of the South Livermore Valley Plan creation and its adoption process is relevant. Existing practice with the City of Livermore at the time the South Livermore Valley Plan had been approved, a practice often cited in local newspapers, was (and probably legally remains to this day) that Churches are acceptable uses in any zoning district subject to an ap-

proval of a Conditional Use Permit.

The above policy is in keeping with the traditions of a deep cultural heritage of the establishment and practice of religion in the US as historically recognized within our community.

The County and the City of Livermore worked together in forming the South Livermore Valley Plan and as such the City of Livermore was given the lead to help shape the exact, defined, architectural feeling and ambiance of the region under a joint understanding for which both city and county accepted the final outcome.

No where in the public hearings, no where in the touted materials of this planning achievement was there ever to my memory a declaration that other institutions and/or churches would be categorically deemed unacceptable uses within the South Livermore Valley Zone, and (this is important) no where in the process was the standing zoning procedures and policies of the City of Livermore specifically modified as to zoning practices and rules effecting churches. Thus if a church was deemed suitable before the adoption of the South Livermore Valley Plan subject to a conditional use permit process, it was deemed suitable after the adoption of the Plan.

The latest iteration of interpretation of zoning applicability by these private parties is Monday morning quarterbacking after the game has been played and not conforming with the rules at the time of adoption of the South Livermore Valley Plan.

Two additional points need to be made, in this lengthy response to Gail's letter of intended embarrassment (A) churches have traditionally gone to rural properties to expand including my own church, the Methodist Church, who's entire history in Livermore has been a wonderful integration of community, growth, and rural surrounding, only recently have we been brought into the city, and (B) Subjective restrictions that a church is too big for a site servers only to prohibit and unnecessarily restrict our great institutions from access, through arbitrary restrictions.

Thank You Julie Orvis Mary McMahon Livermore

What do you call a person who attends school site councils, CSEA dinners, band, orchestra and choral musicals, plays, all sporting events and observes classes?

Dedicated.

We thank Dr. Julie Orvis for her dedicated years on the School Board of Trustees in Livermore.

The Election Herbert H. Marshall Pleasanton

A retrospective on the last election: I must agree with the statement, of a few years ago, by my erudite young daughter, "The masses are asses."

Response to Brogden Albert Rothman Livermore

How long do we have to hear from right wing nuts? They love to distort information for their ends. A recent letter from Dora Brogden said that Nancy Pelosi has the reputation as "the most far left Liberal the house has ever seen!" In fact Pelosi's stance is far from the extreme left. She is close to the center of the Democratic party. She even supported John Murtha for majority leader in the House who is socially conservative, and whose main stand is advocacy of early withdrawal from Iraq. He lost to a more liberal Steny Hoyer.



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Notice of
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Nonprofit, community-based organizations providing human services, youth programs and services, or promoting culture/arts.

Civic Arts, Human Services and Youth Commissions
Welcome applications

Application Packets will be available to the public beginning on January 16, 2007.

- ✓ Pick-up packets - Department of Parks and Community Services Main Office 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
- ✓ Request packets to be mailed by calling (925) 931-5346
- ✓ Packets available through the City website: www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us

Pre-Application Meetings
You only need to attend one (1) of the following:

- ✓ Wednesday, December 6, 2006
1:00-3:30 p.m.
City of Livermore Council Chambers
3575 Pacific Avenue, Livermore
- OR
- ✓ Tuesday, December 12, 2006
10:00-11:30 a.m.
City of Pleasanton Council Chambers
200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton

Questions? Contact 931-5346
Eileen Hofstad, Community Services Manager

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SPORTS NOTES

Fastpitch Tryouts

Livermore Smoke will be hosting tryouts for the 12U A-Ball team. This will be a highly competitive travel team for advanced skilled girls players who are 100% committed to fastpitch softball. Pitchers and catchers will have a separate tryout, Saturday, December 9, 2006, check-in 8:30am. Joe Mitchell Elementary, 1001 Elaine Ave., Livermore. Further information: John Heinz, (925) 454-1406.

Baseball Tournament Teams Signup

Golden Era Baseball, based in Dublin California, has limited openings remaining for their 12U and 13U advanced travel teams and are currently seeking talented players to fill these positions for the upcoming 2007 Season.

Any players who would like to be considered for these positions should contact Golden Era Baseball at: (866) 230-1781 right away to schedule a try out. Full details regarding the program can also be found on the web at: GoldenEraBaseball.com.

Youth Soccer

The Livermore Roadrunners boys U12 soccer team claimed another NorCal Cup victory, beating the DVSC Revolution 4-0 on Sunday.

The Roadrunners controlled the game right from the start but were unable to score during the first half, despite several opportunities. The Roadrunners earned their first goal early in the second half off of a corner kick taken by Tanner Turner and scored by Ryan Gollott. The Roadrunners scored again when a shot taken by Trevor Long rebounded off the cross bar to Gollott for the short pass to Patrick Taylor, who finished the ball. Taylor scored the 3rd goal on a penalty kick after being fouled in the box. The Roadrunners final goal was scored off of a free kick taken by Hector Gomez. Taylor received the ball and made a short back pass to Marco Arana-Nolasco for the shot. Brandon Marantan, Anthony Dubberly, Gomez and Derek McGovern combined well on defense to aid goalkeeper, JT Addington, in the shut out.

Livermore's Crew '97 girls U9 division 1 team traveled to Rohnert Park to play in the 2006 NorCal Cup tournament and went 3-1-1 to bring home the silver division championship. Crew '97 opened the tournament against Santa Rosa United Gold 98 with Ashley Arnett scoring late in the second half off of a Cameryn Long corner kick to salvage a 1-1 tie.

In their second game, Crew '97 spotted Almaden Fury a 2-0 lead at the half before battling back with a goal from Ashley Arnett off a Hanna Beauchamp assist and a penalty kick goal from Cameryn Long. But the Fury recovered with a late goal for a 3-2 final and the only blemish to Crew '97's record in the tournament. Elk Grove 98 Blue provided the competition for the third game and a rare evening contest under the lights. Cameryn Long's two penalty kicks proved to be enough to propel Crew '97 to a 2-1 win and top seed in the silver division. Crew '97 over matched Santa Rosa United Blue 98 Ice 5-0 in the semi-final game with Ashley Arnett scoring three times along with a goal from Hanna Beauchamp and Cameryn Long. The offense was spread around in the final game when Crew '97 won 6-0 with goals from five different players. Rooptie Atwal, Morgan Leonard, Cameryn Long and Carleigh Thurman each scored along with two more goals from Ashley Arnett.

Livermore Fireballs under-10 competed in the Crossroads Tournament in Dublin. The Fireballs completed a 10-0 season with 8 shutouts and over 40 goals scored. In the first match of the Crossroads tournament the Fireballs beat Dublin girls 2-1. In the second match, they defeated San Ramon 2-1.

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club recreational team league (rain make up games):

Under-14: Phoenix 1, Phantoms 1: Michael Fontana scored the only goal for the Phantoms. David Smith of the Phantoms made several superb saves in goal and was aided by Jason Almeida, Sam Akarsoo, Sai Edara, Russell Flock, Anthony Hu and Alex Newman on defense. Michael Fontana narrowly missed scoring the winning goal during the last few seconds on a long shot after the Phoenix goal charged out to block the shot. Blake Sell, Kyle Silvers, Amatya Taran and Iden Yekan kept the pressure on the opposing defense.

Predators 6, Panthers 2: Top Offensive Players: Ryan O'Neill, Esac Mohammed, Joseph Urban - Predators; Top Defensive Players: Zachary Sill, Christopher Pocs, Prescott Jackson - Predators.

Under-10: Jetstream 6, Jaguars 1: Jordan Ott led the Jetstream with 4 goals. Brennan Morris and Ricky Muro scored one goal each for the Jetstream. Patrick Pipitone, Shantani Deshmane and Luis Garcia also helped the Jetstream with their strong offensive effort. Brennan Morris, Miles Santos and Vincent Chang led the Jetstream defensive effort. Barret Morris played outstanding goalie for the Jetstream. The Jetstream ended their season with a 6-3-1 record and a second place finish.

Under-8: Mustangs had 3 players who were selected for All Stars: Joshua Ott, Sam Cukar and Bobby Fjerstad. Representing the Colts were Paul Meyere, Sebastian Gwozdz and Mark Medved. Top Offensive Players: Joshua Ott, Sam Cukar, Bobby Fjerstad - Mustangs; Paul Meyere, Sebastian Gwozdz and Mark Medved - Colts.

In their last outing of the season, the Mavericks played the Muskateers. Marcus Toombs and Koedy Baxter led the Mavericks offense with 2 goals each and Daniel Newman scoring 1 goal. The Mavericks defense was led by Andrew Cho, David Natsch and Nicholas Barnett. Top Offensive Players: Marcus Toombs, Koedy Baxter, Daniel Newman - Mavericks; Jonathan Chesnut, Quentin Conboy-Monroe, Joey Brasil - Colts; Top Defensive Players: Andrew Cho, David Natsch, Nicholas Barnett - Mavericks; Nathan Caluya, Josiah Almeida, Yash Chitropkar, Gregory Arnold - Colts.

Under-9: Midfielder Kyle Genoni led the Daredevils offense with two goals, starting with a long mortar shot that arced over the defenders and just beyond the goalie's hands. Cole Morrell notched the Daredevils' second goal when an in-bounds throw squirted into

the center of the field to leave him alone for a one-on-one shot past the goalie. Afterward, the game settled into a defensive standoff, with fullback Jake Leyman shutting down attack after attack, forward Michael Schwanhauser racing back to block a ball in front of the Daredevils' goal, and goalie Nick Tucker laying out to deny a shot, then scrambling on his knees to corral the carom. As the clock ticked down, fullback Adit Shrestha controlled a ball deep in Daredevils' territory, pushed down the left sideline past midfield, passed it to Tucker, who flicked it past the last defenders to Genoni, who drilled it into the corner of the net for a game-ending goal. Top Offensive Players: Kyle Genoni, Cole Morrell, Nick Tucker - Daredevils; Top Defensive Players: Jake Leyman, Adit Shrestha, Michael Schwanhauser - Daredevils.

CYO Basketball

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 7th grade girls (team 7005) defeated St. Raymond (team 7008) 28-16. It was an all out team effort for the commanding win. CCOP trailed by 1 at the end of the first period but poured on the offense with 13 points in the second period to lead 17 to 9 at the end of the half. Both teams scored 6 points in the third period but CCOP came up with 5 points to St. Raymond's 1 point in the fourth period to end the game with a CCOP win. The top scorer was Michele Mann with 9 points (3 rebounds, 1 steal). Key assists from Vivian Hare and Kelly Parsons fed the offensive attack. Contributing to the win were Nicole Ponzini (7 points, 1 steal), Emily Alberts (4 points, 2 steals), Lauren MacDonnell (5 points, 2 steals), Kelly Parson (2 points, 1 steal) and Jessica Morosoli (1 point, 2 steals, 1 block). Top defensive players were Sydney Okumura (6 rebounds, 2 steal, 2 blocks) and Lyndsay Godwin (5 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block).

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 4th grade boys (#411) played Catholic Community Of Pleasanton (CCOP) (#409) lost 32 to 21 in CYO basketball action. Ryan Holmes with 9 points lead SM/SC on offense. Michael Pierce and Jason Bohl had a combined ten points to keep CCOP close. Tough defense for SM/SC by Jordan Lewis, Michael Bohl and Patrick Miron kept the offense of CCOP at bay for most of the game.

SM/SC 7th grade girls (#7010) vs. St. Isidore (#7006) won 26 to 19. Ashley Holmes had 6 points in the 4th quarter to help SM/SC hold off the strong St. Isidore team. Also strong on offense was Brittany Campiotti and Shannon Sunnergren. Defense was lead by Erin Walthall, Navneet Kahlon and Dani Arnold. A great defensive game by both teams.

In 5th grade action, St. Isidore's (5010) full court defense led to several first half baskets which allowed them to open up a 16-6 halftime lead. CCOP (5011) battled back in the second half, but was unable to make up the halftime deficit. The final score was St. Isidore 24 and CCOP 15. CCOP was led by Paige Zollars with 8 points, Elysa Roman with 4 points and Nicole Dees with 2 points. Madison Steele, Tara Ross and Jaime Rinnetti were the top defensive players for CCOP.

Seventh grade girls CCOP team members boosted their efforts for their second game of the season by defeating SM/SC in a tight game 22 to 19. With only 1:19 left on the clock, and the score tied at 19 to 19, CCOP rallied to bring home their first win. Game highlights include outside shooting by Autumn Whitney and Marissa Victor, a great defense, and the team executing their full court traps with precision. High scorers were Autumn Whitney and Marissa Victor - 6 points each.

Livermore Football

The Livermore Norsemen are heading to the Turkey Bowl after defeating the Antioch Cougars 36-14, in the JR Midget division of the Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference. Antioch came out tuff against Livermore scoring first. Livermore answered back when Diquan Madison found the endzone on a 24 yard touch down run. Jeremy Mata's PAT was good and Livermore lead 8-6. On defense Zach Robbins forced a fumble that was recovered by Devin Ridenour. That set up another Madison touchdown and the Norsemen led 16-14. Livermore's offense turned it up with less than a minute before halftime. Jeremy Mata connected with a 56 yard touchdown pass to Tyler Leasau. Livermore's Brandon Hall then recovered on a one yard kick. Mata then found Madison for a 60 yard touchdown pass. Madison would finish the game with 185 yards rushing. Just before halftime Antioch was down inside the Livermore 10 yard line when Robbins intercepted an Antioch pass at the buzzer sending Livermore to halftime leading 28 to 14. Livermore would score on the first drive of the second half with a 50 yard run by Malik Gilmore. Mata's PAT was good and the Norsemen led 36-14.

Livermore's defense was led by Cameron Sawyer with 14 tackles, Luc Hamilton, and Tyler Leasau. Jordan Moss had an interception, while Frankie Robles, Gilmore and Madison all had tackles for a loss. Livermore 11-0 will face Clayton Valley 10-1 in the finals. Clayton Valley's only loss in the regular season was to Livermore in a close 8 to 0 game. The Championship game will be held at Antioch High School Saturday November 25th at 1 p.m.

The Livermore Warriors fell to the San Leandro Crusaders 20-0 in Semi-final PeeWee action. Livermore fought hard throughout the game but ultimately could not stop some big plays from San Leandro and could not convert scoring chances inside the Crusaders 25-yard line. The defensive front of Tyler Rardon, Fritz Eibel, Bryan Brinkley, Zack Sturgill, Marshall Peters and Jake Bohland bottled up the inside running game. Kevin Coburn had another good day running the ball behind Brinkley, Sturgill, Mikey Walls, Jeffrey Brinkley and Jacob Kirby. Jake Williams and Mac Morgan also hooked up for several passes. The Warriors finished the season at 7-4 after a 6-3 regular season.

Gymfinity Gymnastics

Angelica Leporati represented Gymfinity Gymnastics at the Norcal Level 5 States

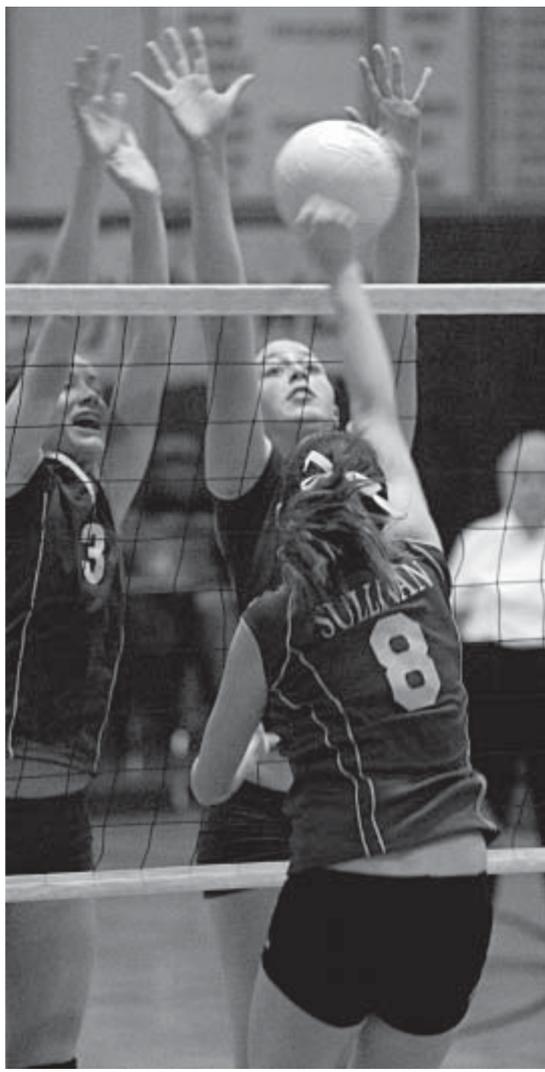


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

In the photo, Foothill High School girls volleyball team was on its way to defeating Liberty High School in the opening round of the North Coast Section Division I last Wednesday. They defeated Monte Vista on Thursday and stayed perfect with a victory over Deer Valley in finals on Saturday. The Foothill team played for the Northern California championship against Skyline at Foothill on Tuesday. The matches were held after the Independent's deadline. In Football, the Falcons defeated James Logan 32-29 in a come-from behind win in the first round of NCS playoffs. The football team will play Pittsburg at 7 p.m. Sat., Nov. 25 at Foothill in the second round of the playoffs.

Championships held this past weekend at Diablo Valley College. Leporati, competing in the 10C age group, placed seventh on vault and sixth on bars on her way to finishing eighth in the all-around. Full results for Leporati: vault, 7th, 8.675; bars, 6th, 8.75; beam, 8.55; floor, 8.55; all-around, 8th, 34.525.

Tsunami Aquatics

Tsunami Aquatics continued their quest of time drops as they attended the Orinda Aquatics C/B/A+ meet this past weekend. The team was led by Katie Kulp and Eric Santin who achieved Junior Olympic qualifying times and Sarah Swanson and Alexander Gonzalez who brought home a total of 9 new "A" times. Each Tsunami swimmer met their personal goals with impressive time drops in most events.

Results: Alexander Gonzalez (8), 5 new A times (25 Free, 50 Free, 25 Back, 50 Back, 50 Fly); Sarah Swanson (8), 4 new A times (25 Free, 50 Back, 25 Breast, 25 Fly); Katie Kulp (10), 2 new JO times (50 Back, 200 IM); Shelby Swanson (11), 8th place (200 Breast) and new best times in majority of races:

Kylie Clark (11), 6th place with a 20.5 second time drop (200 Breast), 7th place (200 Free); Evan Carlo (14), 1st place with a 11.37 second time drop (100 Fly), 12.24 second time drop (400 IM); Eric Santin (14), 1 new A time (50 Free), 1 new JO time (100 Breast); Patrick Kulp (14), 12 second time drop (200 Free) with new best times in all races.

Bowling News

A unique feat was performed during the Eagles Renovation Match Point league at Granada Bowl in Livermore. Three team-

mates made it over the 700 mark with Steve Ohlsen leading the way with 232-255-240-727, Gerald Cain close by with 228-227-268-723 and Carl Rogers 225-263-221-709 set.

Maria Lockridge led the women with 247-21-211 for her 679 total and Chris Quinn, upped her 170 average with highs of 224-202 for a 603 set. Gene Bruhl, ReMax Cheyenne league on the Gene's Pro Shop Team, used an eleven strike game of 279 for a 728 series and followed up the Classic with a 269; high for a 730 set. Glen Thompson posted games of 244-240-236; Ken Sartoris started with a 257 then continued with 254-220 for his 731.

The Friday Family Affair watched youth bowlers take the lead with Shaun Donohue 199-253-205 for his 657; Erica Smith had 227-221-596 series. The Modified Guys and Dolls was led by Glen Thompson 237-221-258-716; Parker Stone, 176 norm, career high 278 for a 698 series. The Generation Gap saw Mike Adema roll a 704 series with 218-228-258.

Little League Signup

Livermore National Little League will hold sign-ups at Mountain Mike's off of Vasco in Livermore on December 4th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. All ages are welcome! If new to the league, please make sure to bring a copy of birth certificate and proof of residency.

Winter Baseball Camp

Livermore High Varsity Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting a three day winter camp. Each camper will receive individual instruction from coaches and Livermore High players, a snack each day and a camp shirt. This 5-12 year old camp costs \$125 and runs from 9:00-12:00 everyday. The dates are

December 18-20. If you sign up before December 11th (post marked), pay only \$110. For more info sign up please contact David Perotti at (925) 443-2742 or lvbinfo@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb.

Alumni Soccer Game

Foothill and Amador Valley High School Alumni will be playing in the 4th Foothill-Amador Alumni Soccer Game on Saturday, December 30th. There will be 2 games featuring Men's and Women's soccer players from the 70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's.

The games have become an annual event that benefit the Soccer Programs at Foothill and Amador. All gate receipts (\$7 adults and \$4 students) and Snack Bar proceeds will go directly to the programs.

The teams will be playing for trophies that will be awarded to the schools of the winners. The winning school will gain possession of the trophies each year. Games during the 1st three years featured victorious teams from both Amador and Foothill.

Ryan Gordon was a 2003 graduate of Foothill High School. He was killed in a boating accident shortly after graduating. He played soccer at Foothill for four years and was planning on attending Santa Barbara City College where he planned to continue playing soccer. The original Alumni Game was organized to fund a scholarship that benefits a graduating member of the Foothill women's or men's soccer team who aspire to play soccer in college. Since the 1st year all proceeds go directly to the soccer programs at the 2 high schools.

If you are an ex-soccer player from Amador or Foothill and would like to play, you can get more information and/or register at All-Star Sports. There is a \$20 fee to play. Players and fans are invited to the "Hop Yard Alehouse" after the games. Fifteen percent of proceeds will be donated to the programs.

There will be "special entertainment" at each of the half-times this year!

The games will be played at Amador Valley High School, women at 4 p.m. and men at 6:30 p.m.

To register go to All-Star Sports, 3037-

A Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton; 846-7928. For more information, call Curt Gordon, 426-1540 or Janet Mullaney, 426-6756.

Phantom Girls Softball

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

Stroke Camp

Livermore Blue Dolphins will be offering a free stroke camp especially tailored to swimmers aged 11 - 13. The clinic is perfect for those on summer rec leagues who want to get a competitive edge for next summer season or anyone wanting to start year round swimming.

Swimmers will receive underwater video analysis and individualized feedback. The middle school camp will last for 3 weeks and will run M.W.F from November 27 - December 15, 6PM to 7PM.

Space in the camp is limited to only 16 swimmers. Please contact the Blue dolphins at (925)-447-SWIM to enroll.

Pleasanton Lacrosse

The Pleasanton Lacrosse Club Spring 2007 season registration is now open. Programs are available for girls and boys grades 3 thru 8. The season runs from February thru mid May. Full equipment required for all players. Register early as spots are limited and additional fees for late registration will apply after October 31st. To register and/or obtain more information go to www.pleasantonlacrosse.com or call Byron Hay at 925 998-5550.

Livermore Lacrosse

Spring registration has opened for Livermore Phantom Lacrosse. Boys and Girls, grades 3 through 8 are welcome. For information, go to www.phantomlacrosse.com.

Library Offers New Online Service

The Livermore Library has added a new online service, Bookletters, that keeps readers up to date about new and notable books whatever their reading interests.

Bookletters includes a variety of different book newsletters. They include the latest best sellers, mysteries, titles for children and teens, books in Spanish and much more. Readers can tune in each day to listen to "The Chapter a Day" selection, obtain in-depth author information with "Meet the Author," find out what book everyone is talking about at "Book Sizzle," view Oprah's Book Club selections, or find prize winning titles under "Award Lists."

Bookletters is available by clicking on the Bookletters link on the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us. Readers can receive regular updates

of the library's latest titles by selecting Newsletter Signup and selecting the newsletters that match their reading interests. Titles and book reviews will be delivered to the individual's inbox. The booklists are linked directly to the library catalog making it possible for readers to find out whether copies of the book are available.

For more information, contact Rosemary Dukelow at 373-5500 ext. 5514.

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LIVERMORE AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE

Last Opportunity to Sign-Up in Person!

Registration for the 2006 - 2007 Season will take place from 6:00 - 9:00 pm on Thursday, December 7, 2006 in Room 10 at Asbury Church, located at 4743 East Ave. Avoid late charges and sign-up by Dec. 31.

For more info and/or to register online, please visit our website www.eteamz.com/lall or call our hotline 447-5255.

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SHORT NOTES

Fractured Fairy Tale

Children will delight in this fractured fairy tale about a Grandmother, a Wolf and a girl in a red cape as Puppet Art Theater Co. performs a special holiday production of Little Red Riding Hood in the Pleasanton Library meeting room on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 2nd starting at 2:00pm.

Free tickets to this show will be limited to children age 5 and older. Tickets will be distributed to children from the children's desk 30 minutes prior to the start of the program. Due to the popularity of this program, library staff will only be able to include parents and younger children if space becomes available.

Patrons are asked to please arrive on time as doors will close to late arrivals at the start of the program.

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

Peace Poster Winners

The Livermore Lions Club recognized five local school site winners in the first round of the 19th annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest at an awards night held at the East Ave Round Table Pizza. Certificates and prizes of \$20 were awarded to each winner.

This year's contest theme, "Celebrate Peace," emphasized the importance of world peace to youth everywhere. The Lions received more than 350,000 entries from approximately 200 countries around the world.

Livermore winners are: Lei Wei, Christensen Middle School 7th grade; Angelina Jacoby, Junction Ave Middle School, 7th grade; Jonathan Blea, Livermore Valley Charter School, 7th grade; Ceilidh Morrison, Mendehall Middle School, 7th grade; and Kylie Clark, Our Savior Lutheran School, 6th grade.

Winning posters have been forwarded to the Lions District 4C3 contest including Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. A winning poster will be selected and forwarded to the California contest, from which the winner will be forwarded to the International contest. Posters of past international finalists and winners may be viewed at www.LionsClubs.org by clicking on Youth Programs and then Peace Poster.

"Our club is cheering for our local winners as their posters advance in the competition, and we hope that their vision for world peace will be shared with others around the world," said Livermore Lion president Gary Potter.

For further information see our website at www.LivermoreLions.org.

Victorian Tea

Beginning Friday, December 1, reservations will be taken for the Victorian Tea held at Ravenswood Historic Site, located at 2647 Arroyo Road in Livermore.

The 2007 Victorian Tea will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2007. There will be two seatings, the first from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., and the second from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., with a maximum of 50 guests at each seating.

Ticket price donations of \$35 per person benefit the Ravenswood Furnishing Fund, an ongoing project of the Ravenswood Progress League, the non-profit organization that supports historic programs at the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's Ravenswood Historic Site.

For reservation information, please call (925) 443-0238.

Speakers Contest

The Lions Clubs of California is sponsoring the 70th annual Lions Speakers Contest. The topic for this year's contest is, "Global Warming - Fact or Fiction?" The contest is open to all students, grades 9-12.

The Livermore Lions Club has scheduled the local club contest for 7 p.m., Tuesday, February 6, 2006 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave in Community Room A. The maximum number of student speakers permitted in a local club contest is six. The Lions hope to have three students each from both Livermore and Granada High schools. Preliminary contests will be conducted at the high schools prior to February 6 to select the 6 finalists for the club contest. All finalists will receive a \$25 check for participating. The club winner will receive a \$50 check and will advance to the Zone 9 contest (Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin). The winner at each level will advance from club, zone, region, district, and area to the final California contest scheduled for June 2, 2006 in San Jose. The total prize and scholarship funds to be awarded to the winners will exceed \$100,000.

Interested students are urged to register with their HS principal as soon as possible to begin preparing their speech.

While students are to write their own speech, the Livermore Toastmasters Club has agreed to provide assistance for students who desire coaching in the delivery of their speech. Students may contact Tim Elson, President, Livermore Toastmasters, at telson@finisinc.com to arrange for assistance.

Neutral judges for the contest will be provided by the Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin AAUW.

Holiday Birds

Holiday Birds is the topic of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Sun, Nov. 26 nature program. Meet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 8 a.m. at Veterans Park.

The focus will be on owl during this stroll through Veterans Park's bird-rich, riparian woodland. This birdwalk will last about two hours. Bring binoculars and field guides; a few to lend will be available. Beginners are encouraged to attend.

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.

FormFactor News

FormFactor, Inc. (Nasdaq:FORM) recently announced that Lothar Maier,

chief executive officer (CEO) of Linear Technology Corp., has been elected to the FormFactor Board of Directors. Maier is a veteran of the semiconductor industry with more than two decades of management experience including significant expertise in global business management and operations.

Lothar Maier has served as CEO of Linear Technology since January 2005. Prior to that, he served as the company's chief operating officer for more than five years. Before joining Linear Technology, Maier was employed for 16 years at Cypress Semiconductor where he held various management positions; most recently, as senior vice president and executive vice president of worldwide operations. Maier holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.

New Year's Party

Tesla Vintners will be having a New Years Eve Party on Dec. 31st from 8pm-1am. At the event a new wine, Patty's Passion, will be released. This is a musical blend of Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, and Petite Sirah.

The festivities will take place in the new Tented Facility. There will be live music by the Singing Winemaker and Driving Force. Light Hors d' Oeuvres will be served. Two complimentary glasses of wine and sparkling wine for a New Year's Toast will be served. Additional wines from Fenestra, Red Skye and The Singing Winemaker will be available for purchase through out the evening.

Cost is \$70 per person. Call 925-606-WINE (9463) for reservations.

Butterfly Life

Nicole Lestochi and Kerry Myers, owners of the Butterfly Life women's fitness center in Livermore, are running a very successful weight-loss program in their club and bringing the benefits to the entire community. For every pound lost members are bringing in a pound of non-perishable food to the club. At the end of the program the club will donate the collected food to Open Heart Kitchen, a non-profit meal service providing nutritious food to those in need throughout the Tri-Valley area.

The program is called Weight Loss Express. It incorporates nutrition, fitness and motivation with group support for an 8-week session. In the first six weeks of the program the 20 participants have lost 130 pounds collectively. The Weight Loss Express program includes a 30-minute circuit for strength training, a variety of aerobic classes, diet book with easy recipes and meal planning, nutritional seminars, and the support and motivation of a group environment. This program will run through November 25.

The nutrition program uses real food, not prepackaged food, and has no point or calorie counting, just simple menus to choose from for each meal. Butterfly Life Livermore is located at 2267 Las Positas Road, for more information call 925-454-1815. A new location will be opening soon in Dublin at 7723 Amador Valley Boulevard.

Food for Families

Raley's non-profit organization, Food For Families, offers an easy way for customers to donate to needy families in their communities this holiday season. Between Nov. 15 and Dec. 24, shoppers can purchase a bag filled with groceries, worth approximately \$20, for only \$10 at their neighborhood Raley's, Bel Air, Nob Hill Foods or Food Source store. The bags will then be donated to the local food banks in the community in which they are purchased and the food will be distributed to families in need.

Customers can also donate year-round by making a cash donation at checkstands in any store. Raley's absorbs all administrative costs of the program with 100 percent of every donation going directly to help feed the hungry. All donated food is distributed by local food banks and stays in the community in which it was collected.

Yellow Ribbon Tree

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

Book Events

Towne Center Books programs: Have Breakfast with Santa Claus at Towne Center Books on either Thurs. Dec. 7 from 9-10 or Wed. Dec. 13 from 9-10. Seats will be limited. There will be a simple breakfast, party favor, photo op and some special time with Santa. \$5.00 per person. Call 846-8826 or respond to this email to reserve your seat. Ages 3 and up - siblings welcome.

Towne Center Books is at 555 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. For information, call 846-8826.

Windermere Welcome

Windermere Welcome Home Real Estate in Livermore is pleased to announce its association with Kelly DeYoreo. Kelly has been serving the needs of the Livermore real estate community since 1999, and has been awarded the Bay East Association of Realtors Masters Club designation for achievement in real estate sales.

For information, contact Kelly at 925-824-4840 or visit her website at www.kellydeyoreo.com.

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 are eligible to apply. Last year's scholarship winners were Clinton Christopher Cornfield of Foothill High School in Pleasanton and Joel David Moody of Granada High School in Livermore. They were chosen from nine applicants.

All applications must be received by Thursday, February 1, 2007. Completed applications consist of a three-page 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, 2007. To obtain an application, go to www.pdkintl.org/awards/pros_edu.htm, or write to Phi Delta Kappa, CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter, 1822 Harms Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566, or call 925-484-0169.

Calorie Management

LifeStyleRx® ValleyCare Health System is now offering the bodybugg™, an innovative calorie management system by Apex Fitness Group™. While traditional weight loss programs focus on tedious calorie counting, bodybugg™ accurately tracks calorie expenditure automatically, providing a real-time view of actual calorie consumption.

It consists of a small armband that uses multiple sensors to determine calorie burn at all times and in all activities, and works in conjunction with a web-based program. "Bodybugg™ is the most accurate device on the market today for measuring calorie expenditure outside of a clinical setting," says Anne Mitchell, MS, RD, LifeStyleRx dietitian. "People have the ability to view actual food intake (calories in) and energy output (calories out), putting them in complete control of their weight loss results."

During a consultation with a LifeStyleRx dietitian, the user establishes his or her goal (generally weight loss) and a daily calorie deficit number. For example, to lose ten pounds in ten weeks, one must consume 500 fewer calories than one burns each day.

After that, it is simply a matter of moving enough throughout the day and eating less to hit the deficit number. Once the user starts wearing the armband, he or she can upload the armband data of calorie burn at any time by connecting the armband to a computer wirelessly or via USB. The user also has the option to track calorie intake by logging food through an intuitive 18,000-item menu. With this information, the user can determine his or her calorie needs, and can then make food and activity choices that create a calorie deficit for weight loss, or meet their calorie needs to maintain a healthy weight.

The bodybugg™ program also features a comprehensive menu-planning function. The system creates a suggested menu based on the users likes and dislikes.

For further information, contact Anne Mitchell at LifeStyleRx at (925) 454-6316, or the LifeStyleRx website at www.lifestylere.com.

Camp Bow Wow

Lisa Malachowsky, President of JoyMal Enterprises, Inc. announces that a Camp Bow Wow franchise dog daycare and overnight boarding camp is coming to the San Francisco East Bay. Camp Bow Wow Tri-Valley has entered into a lease agreement with John Ferreri of the Ferreri/Takahashi Family trust to open a Camp Bow Wow at 6430 Preston Ave., Livermore.

Upon receipt of a conditional use zoning permit by the City of Livermore, the facility will be open to take dogs for daycare and overnight boarding. It is expected that the grand opening will be before Christmas 2006. For information, go to <http://mycbw.com/Tri-valley>.

Wente Named Tops

Viewers of NBC 11's In Wine Country lifestyle television program have spoken: Wente Vineyards is the "Best Winery to Visit." This honor was announced as the culmination of In Wine Country's Golden Grape Awards episode, which reveals the results of the show's annual popular viewer poll.

"This is a huge honor," said Christine Wente, fifth generation winemaker. "We have a great team here that is passionate about wine, food and hospitality. And before us, generation after generation of my family and many others in the Livermore Valley have created a long-running tradition of producing quality wines and warmly welcoming visitors to the region. This all combines to make a visit to Livermore Valley and Wente Vineyards an unparalleled experience."

In addition to producing award winning wines, Wente Vineyards is home to The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, the Greg Norman designed Course at Wente Vineyards, and the annual Concerts at Wente Vineyards series, which alone brings 20,000 guests to the winery every summer. Wente Vineyards is also one of Northern California's top winery wedding destinations. The winery's properties are located just 25 miles east of the San Francisco Bay in Livermore Valley Wine Country, a region that includes a total of 38 wineries.

Each week, In Wine Country host Mary Babbitt takes viewers on a journey to wineries, restaurants, resorts, homes and gardens from all corners of wine country - from Napa and Sonoma counties to Livermore Valley and throughout all wine-making regions. The weekly show, produced by NBC11 and nationally syndicated, is a James Beard Award winner.

Child Care Programs

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

Workshop facilitators will provide valuable information on important issues to parents at their work site. Workshops are available on a variety of

topics and can be tailored to the needs of employees. The length of each workshop can range from 45 minutes to 2 hours. Workshops can be during the lunch hour, or at another time arranged by the employer. Child Care Links can also provide a series of workshops.

Training Topics include: Choosing Child Care, Parenting Skills, Child Development, and Work/Family Balance. A Child Care Links facilitator will present the curriculum, related handouts, resource materials and answer questions. Child Care Links' staff is available during business hours to answer further questions, provide free child care referrals and community resources.

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

Immunization Clinics

Axis Community Health offers drop-in immunization clinics for low-income and uninsured families. A clinic will be held from 9:00-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 2. All immunization clinics are held at Axis' Pleasanton location only, 4361 Railroad Avenue.

The clinics are open to all Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured. Families enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care programs are also eligible. Parents are required to bring their children's immunization records and any information they may have about family income and medical insurance, including Medi-Cal. There is a charge for some immunizations.

Immunizations for children are also provided during regular weekday clinic hours at the Pleasanton and Livermore locations by appointment at (925) 462-1755.

Bilingual Storytime

The Pleasanton Library will host a special series of bilingual storytimes during the new school year. The Spanish-English series will be offered the first Wednesday evening of each month. Special celebration for Las Posadas on Dec. 6th.

Storytimes resume in 2007 beginning Feb. 7th, continuing Mar. 7th and concluding April 4th.

The programs are free, lasting approximately 30 minutes and will be held in the library meeting room. Registration is not required. Families with children of all ages are welcome to attend and enjoy stories and song.

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

Shea 'Builder of the Year'

Shea Homes has won Professional Builder Magazine's "Builder of the Year" award. The award is based on all aspects of homebuilding: innovative design, operations, building practices, productivity, marketing, leadership, community relations and customer satisfaction. Builder reputation with peers and personnel were also critical factors.

"This is clearly a team award," said Dan O'Brien, Trilogy Area President for Shea Homes. "Shea Homes' commitment to being the best in every way is key to the ongoing success of Trilogy at The Vineyards in today's challenging Bay Area housing market."

On the heels of the award, Trilogy at The Vineyards announced that thirty-five of its first seventy-five home sites were reserved at its Pre-Sales Gala and Home Site Selection Reception held on October 1st. "Anxiety grew as names were chosen and home sites selected," said O'Brien. "People literally erupted into tears of joy, hugs and cheers when their name was drawn. The energy was incredible. In all my years of creating resort communities, I've never seen anything quite like the reaction to Trilogy at The Vineyards."

The new Brentwood community will feature a landscape of 30-acres of active vineyards and olive tree groves, the 31,500 square foot Los Meganos Club featuring Abby's Culinary Studio, Sava Spa for Health and Wellness, and state-of-the-art Delta Athletic Club with resort style outdoor pool and an Olympic indoor lap pool. Proposed additional amenities include a boutique winery, outdoor amphitheatre, and 18-acres of adjacent commercial/retail development. A model gallery of 10 homes ranging from 1,750 to 2,900 square feet will open January of 2007. Public sales are also anticipated to open in early 2007.

3-D Learning On-Line

California State University, East Bay graduate students will be the first to use TDVision's technology to create an enhanced learning environment for youths. The project will introduce real life experiences and travel to the classroom.

For the project, Deborah Clarkson, Vlad Andric and Rosa Gudino, are creating a 3 dimensional interactive immersive environment that uses stereoscopic video. They will be filming the historic ghost town of Bodie, Calif., east of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, to develop an educational video that enables the user to navigate through the town of Bodie. Viewers will be able to learn about its history and the life of gold miners in the late 1800s.

TDVision Systems, Inc., the owner of several 3-D related patents for proprietary system architectures, provided the camera for the project. The user, with the TDV Visor, will be able to view the educational video in true 3-D and high definition quality.

The long-term goal of the project is for each student in school to have a visor and computer available in order to streamline TDVision's technology over the Internet. Children will be able to travel through space and time as well as to have an exciting, realistic way to learn and understand history.

TDVision Systems, Inc. is the owner of several 3-D related patents for proprietary system architectures, which can propel a media breakthrough by providing true 3-D by means of this

completely new digital technology. This technology allows the acquiring, emulation, and processing of a three dimensional image from a video stream or computer generated image. The architecture allows the use of current existing infrastructures and with the addition of TDVision's hardware enables true 3-D.

Hearing Made Easier

The First Presbyterian Church in Livermore has installed a Telecoil system that makes it much easier for most people who have hearing aides to hear much better.

This is the first installation of the system in a public building in Livermore. It is available for concerts and a variety of civic events that take place there, as well as for church services.

Most theaters and churches presently have infrared and FM systems. The problem with these systems are that nobody wants to go to the trouble and embarrassment of finding the receivers and headsets, taking their hearing aids out, and putting on the headsets. For the telecoil system, they can simply flip a switch in their existing hearing aids and the sound is picked up by a small coil in their hearing aid and they hear it through their hearing aid. The sound is not just louder, but the frequency spectrum is corrected to compensate for the person's hearing loss.

Studies have shown that about 50% of the hearing aides people now have, have this telecoil system built into them and about 75% of those sold today have them.

Move to Valley Properties

Ted Rudolph and Kimberly Moore, partners in Real Estate, announce their move to Valley Properties.

Ted Rudolph has a degree in Engineering, several years in real estate, has completed all required Broker's courses, is a REALTOR and member of NAR (National Assoc. of REALTORS) and CAR (California Association of REALTORS), is a member of and subscribes to MLS services with Bay East Association of REALTORS (BEAR) and MetroList, is President of Livermore Marketing Association (the local real estate meeting and weekly broker tour forum), is vice-chair of the Marketing Council at BEAR, is on the MLS Council at BEAR, is on the task force for the NCREX (Northern California Real Estate Exchange), and is an ambassador for the Livermore Chamber of Commerce.

Kimberly Moore has 16 years experience in sales and marketing. She has completed a majority of the Broker's courses, is a Notary Public, has the e-PRO designation, is a REALTOR and member of NAR (National Assoc. of REALTORS) and CAR (California Association of REALTORS), is a member of and subscribes to MLS services with Bay East Association of REALTORS (BEAR) and MetroList, is a member of Livermore Marketing Association, is a member of the Valley Marketing Association, is a member of the Women's Council of REALTORS, is on 6 task forces and a Council for BEAR, is an ambassador for the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, and is on the Marketing and Fundraising Committees for the Livermore Performing Arts Center.

Valley Properties is owned by four veteran agents, three of which are Brokers. The office was established in 1992 and is one of most well known and successful offices in the city. Joan Rushford is the supervising Broker. She has been practicing real estate since 1974.

For more information contact Ted Rudolph at 925-321-0468, Kimberly Moore at 925-337-6061, or Valley Properties at 925-447-1900.

Top Crabby Chef

For the second year in a row, Neil Marquis, Executive Chef at the Pleasanton Hotel has captured 1st place in the Spenger's Fresh Fish Grille in Berkeley Crabby Chef Contest held on Sunday, October 15.

He was defending his title against 15 Bay area chefs. At the start of the contest, the mystery ingredient was revealed: Papaya. Contestants had 20 minutes to prepare a dish containing this ingredient. Marquis's prize recipe is a fried Ravioli with Papaya, Dungeness Crab and Gorgonzola with a Hanger One Citron Vodka, Papaya Heirloom Tomato Mornay sauce.

Home 4 the Holidays

The Iams Home 4 the Holidays program is hoping more than 350,000 families welcome furry friends into their hearts during this year's annual adoption drive. This year's adoption drive takes place from November 6, 2006 through January 2, 2007, at Romania Animal Rescue Inc.

Entering its eighth season, the Iams Home 4 the Holidays international pet adoption drive has placed more than one million animals with loving families.

This year, Helen Woodward Animal Center will team with more than 2,000 animal shelters; Academy

Award-winner Diane Keaton; Kristen Bell, star of the hit TV show "Veronica Mars"; and Iams to encourage prospective pet parents to take a shelter pet home for the holidays.

During this year's adoption drive, each new adopting family will receive an Iams adoption kit containing food samples, coupons and important tips on pet care, behavior, training and nutrition.

Prospective pet parents can learn more about the Iams Home 4 the Holidays adoption drive by calling (800) 421-6456 or visiting www.home4theholidays.com or www.home4theholidays.com.

November at Wente

Wente Vineyards is cooking up two sets of Thanksgiving feasts, one at The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards on Sunday November 19th, and one in the comfort of your own home on Thanksgiving Day. Over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, Wente Vineyards invites you out to the Estate Winery Tasting Room.

Join Jerry Register as he celebrates his first holiday dinner as executive chef, dishing up a delicious array of festive fare. The special menu will be served Sunday, November 19th at The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards. Cost is \$75 per person plus tax and gratuity, children under 10, \$25 plus tax and gratuity. For reservations and information call (925) 456-2450 or online at wentevineyards.com.

Wente Vineyards' tradition of offering gourmet take-home Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners continues. Order your meal and specially paired wines in advance, and take advantage of a 20% discount on wines for pick up with your meal. Featured wine pairings: 2004 Riva Ranch Chardonnay, 2004 Syrah, and 2005 Riesling. At the center of this delicious take-home family-style menu for 6 (additional food can be ordered for larger parties) is a herb and garlic scented "all natural" Diestel Farms turkey with caramelized shallot gravy. Dinner comes with all the trimmings. All this for \$229 plus tax (not including wines). Order your dinner online at www.wentevineyards.com or by calling (925) 456-2400 by Friday, November 17, 2006 at 5pm, for pick up on Wednesday, November 22, 2006 between 1 pm-6pm at the Wente Vineyards Event Center, 5050 Arroyo Road.

On Friday November 24th, through Sunday November 26th, get a jump on your holiday shopping and entertaining ideas. Enjoy a fun and relaxing weekend, where tastes of new release wines, cellar tours, and holiday gifting start the season right, 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road. For information call 925-456-2305x4.

On Thursday, November 30th, "Flight Night" at The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards welcomes Ricardo Aguirre, winemaker at Bodegas Aguirre Winery. Ricardo will pour his signature wines to enjoy with The Restaurant's wine country cuisine. Flight Nights fall on every Thursday of each month and are a great way to learn about and sample a diversity of wines while gaining first-hand insight into different regions and varietals. Wine flight pricing ranges from \$12 to \$25. The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, Thursday, November 30th, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For reservations call 925-456-2450 or online at wentevineyards.com.

Expand your hors d'oeuvres making repertoire just in time for holiday entertaining! Catering Chef Scott Ritchie will teach you how to make balsamic garlic glazed chicken, grilled Portobello mushrooms, fondue, vegetable bruschetta, romesco, and chicken galantine. Champagne cocktails from The Restaurant bar will whet your appetite for these tasty treats. Tuesday, November 15th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$59.00 per person. The Event Center at Wente Vineyards

Tossing coins in a pond could bring you good luck, but tossing coins in a fish tank will reap better benefits. My Gym Children's Fitness Centers nationwide are encouraging people to toss their loose change in fish tanks at their various locations for the Kids Can 'Change' the World Fundraiser - an effort spearheaded by the company's nonprofit organization called The My Gym Challenged America Foundation (MGCA).

The fundraiser, which will go on through Dec. 16, is aimed at raising money for equipment, services and scholarships for disadvantaged children.

Participating My Gym locations have placed a fish tank on their counters for people to toss their loose change. To help the momentum going, MGCA will supply small objects that can be placed in the fish tanks and when children come to their classes, they will be asked to help bury the special "object of the week."

MGCA is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of children who are physically challenged, cognitively delayed, underprivileged, at-risk or suffering temporary economic

(continued on page 8)

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SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 7)

difficulties. Founded in 2002, the foundation was established as a partnership between My Gym Children's Fitness Center and Randy Bertisch, a physically challenged individual whose inspiring journey toward recovery from a catastrophic automobile accident has empowered him to help children in need.

To find the nearest My Gym Children's Fitness Center participating in the Kids Can Change the World Fundraiser, please contact Dee Wu at (925) 244-1171, or send a check or money order to: My Gym Challenged America Foundation, 15300 Ventura Blvd., Suite 414, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403, 818-907-6966.

Huntington Learning Center

Managing Director Molly Preble has just returned to Pleasanton's Huntington Learning Center after two weeks of intensive training at the HLC headquarters in Oradell, New Jersey. Preble joined the learning center's staff in July of this year.

Preble is a former high school English teacher who has taught at San Ramon Valley High, as well as in Colorado and Washington state. She brings her enthusiasm for helping all students do their best in school.

"I loved being a classroom teacher, but because of large classes and mounds of homework to correct, I'd go home at night feeling like too many of my students were slipping through the cracks. Now I'm in an environment in which I have the time and resources to make sure each student's needs are being met," said Preble.

She is a graduate of Kenyon College in Ohio and holds a Master's Degree in Education with Honors from the University of Denver. In 2003 Molly traveled to the Czech Republic as a J. William Fulbright grantee to conduct comparative research in teaching strategies and student motivation.

Molly joins Center Director Kirsha Zupetz, who has been with the Pleas-

anton center for three years. Zupetz began as Assistant Director and was promoted in 2005 to Center Director. Her expertise with students of all ages has earned her high marks from families and students alike.

Rounding out the Pleasanton staff is Chandra Lee, Center Trainer, who has been with Huntington for twelve years in varying roles, and with the Pleasanton center since 2004.

Huntington's mission is to help students of all ages build the skills, confidence and motivation to attain better grades. Students struggling in school, as well as those simply seeking a more enriching academic experience, benefit from the individualized programs offered at Huntington.

In January of 2007, the center will celebrate its 20th year of tutoring students in the Tri-Valley area. In addition to the Pleasanton site, Huntington Learning Centers are also located in Antioch, Walnut Creek, Moraga, Fremont, San Jose, and Cupertino.

Greenbelt Outings

Greenbelt Alliance offers a 2006 fall outings series featuring some of the Bay Area's best hikes and farm tours. The following is a list of outings happening from November through December.

For directions, or more information visit www.greenbelt.org or call 415-255-3233. Reservations are required only when noted. Please see outings key below for the hike's degree of difficulty.

Sunday, December 17, Best of Berkeley, Alameda County: This challenging urban trek starts near downtown Berkeley and winds through neighborhoods into the hills. Hikers will visit the Rose Garden, hike along Tilden Park, pass by Grizzly Peak, walk above Claremont Canyon, and then descend through Berkeley's walkable city streets. 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Martial Workshop

Tai Chi/Chi Gong expert Bernard Langan will offer a special workshop in Livermore, "Skill and Poise: Moving with the Field of Gravity." The workshop will be held on Tues., Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

With a specialty in martial and restorative arts, Langan has conducted cross-discipline research in martial, meditative, healing and movement systems.

Beginner and advanced students are welcome. Fee is \$25 per person. For further information and registration (class 8053), call the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District at 373-5700.

Sweepstakes Win for Band

It's a Sweepstakes win again for the Amador Valley High School Marching Band and Colorguard! This past Saturday, the Marching Dons earned a season high 85.90 score to win the class AAAA/AAAAA Sweepstakes Award at the James Logan High School WBA Marching Band Competition in Union City. The strong field included seven class AAAAA bands from across the bay area. The band also won three caption awards - Best Music, Best Visual and Best General Effect.

In southern California on October 28, the band turned in another outstanding performance in the Los Angeles Coliseum at the Bands of America Regional Competition. This was the band's first appearance at this very competitive level. The AVHS Marching Band and Colorguard was the last finalist announced in a randomly ordered list of ten bands who qualified to advance to the evening's final competition. The band earned a 7th place overall in finals.

For more information, visit the Western Band Association website at <http://www.westernband.info>, or the Amador band website at www.amadorband.org.



Melissa Gutierrez, Heather McLean, and Lauren Swift of Livermore High School, winners of the prestigious NCTE Achievement Award for Writing.

Three Livermore High Seniors Chosen Among Top Student Writers Nationwide

By Patricia Koning

Melissa Gutierrez, Heather McLean, and Lauren Swift have several things in common. They are seniors at Livermore High School (LHS). They love to write. And, this year they each earned an Achievement Award in Writing from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

The NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing is a school-based writing program to encourage high school students in their writing and publicly recognize some of the best student writers in the nation. This year 606 winners were chosen from 2,080 nominees from the United States, Canada, the Virgin Islands, and American Schools Abroad.

Winners don't receive any cash prizes. Instead, NCTE sends letters to their selected colleges recommending them for admission and scholarships. For students planning to major in English in college, as is the case with Livermore's three winners, this can be significant.

"I love writing, so I figured it was high time I got my writing out there," says Heather. "This was great validation."

Winners' names are posted on the NCTE website and both winners and their teachers receive a certificate of commendation. For the winners from Livermore, the recognition of their writing was the big award.

"Writing is something that usually goes unnoticed. There are awards for sports and volunteerism and other things," says Melissa. "So this award feels really good."

Melissa, Heather, and Lauren were among 85 winners from the state of California and the only winners from the Tri-Valley area. In fact, there was only one other winner from Alameda County, from Holy Names High School in Oakland.

"These kids are good at ev-

erything they do," says Linda Milanese, a retired LHS English teacher. "Writing is so important and they take it very seriously."

For the past four years Milanese championed the NCTE Achievement Awards in her honors English classes and shepherded students through the process. Interest in the program has been so high that she held in-school "try-outs" to select LHS' nominees. Schools can submit one nominee per 500 students in grades 10 through 12, which works out to 3 or 4 nominees for LHS.

The award submission consists of a sample of the student's "best work" in either prose or verse, not to exceed 10 typed, double-spaced pages. The students must also complete a two-hour impromptu writing assignment written under teacher supervision on a topic designated by NCTE.

The LHS students completed their writing assignments in March of last year. Winners were notified in October.

"I had sort of forgotten about the contest when I found out I'd won," says Lauren. "It's really

nice to be recognized for something I love to do."

Over the past four years, since Milanese has been involved in the process, LHS has had at least one NCTE Achievement Award winner each year. The winners have gone onto prestigious universities and received scholarships. One of last year's winners, Grace Ryan, is now attending Harvard on a full ride.

Melissa, Heather, and Lauren have all applied to the colleges of their choice and are anxiously awaiting admission decisions. All three plan to major in English and pursue careers as writers. Melissa hopes to attend Carleton College in Minnesota or UC Irvine. Heather's dream school is Swarthmore in Philadelphia or UC Berkeley. Lauren has her sites set on the University of Chicago or UC Irvine.

"The writing just gets better every year," says Milanese. "This is like the Eagle Award of writing. It's something these kids will put on their resumes forever."

For more information on the NCTE Awards, see <http://www.ncte.org/about/awards/student>



The 2006 - 2007 Amador Competition Cheerleading Squads swept the competition on November 12th and Washington High School in Fremont against a number of Northern California teams. The squads brought home first place trophies in all three divisions they competed in: JV Show Cheer; Group Stunt and Varsity Show Cheer. The girls are judged based on choreography and execution of stunts, tumbling, formations, jumps and motions, as well as overall crowd appeal and showmanship. JV and Varsity teams perform a 2 and 1/2 minute routine that is half music and half cheer. Group Stunt is a group of 5 girls who stunt to music for an entire minute. The 26 members of the competition teams represented Amador (and Pleasanton). JV Members: Alyssa St.John, Annie Harbottle, Briana Snyder, Casey Caspersen, Chelsea Nice, Hanna Persin, Julia Trizuto, Kiley Norvell, Kim Carmichael, Lisa MacFarland, Megan Long, Morgan Cater and Sarah Mahoney. (Coached by Kiera Huntze); Varsity Members: Alexa Pullen, Alyssa St.John, Amy Monical, Ashley Miller, Ashley Patula, Ashley Royer, Caterina Natale, Danielle Butler, Emily Pesicka, Kaitlyn Cilk, Kristin Hong, Lauren Bricker, Marina Chinn and Stacey Anderson. (Coached by Katie Pesicka); Group Stunt: Ashley Miller, Caterina Natale, Danielle Butler, Emily Pesicka and Lauren Bricker.

Wineries Plan Special Activities over Weekend

Crooked Vine and Stony Ridge Wineries will host a joint barrel tasting weekend during the three days after Thanksgiving, Nov. 24-26, in their tasting room at 4948 Tesla Rd. in Livermore.

Admission is free for Crooked Vine and Stony Ridge wine club members; \$5 for the general public. The event will be held during normal tasting room hours of 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. all three days.

Guests will have the opportunity to sample a 2004 Petite Sirah and a 2005 Syrah, among other varietals, and taste for themselves how different barrels from different compositions affect the taste of a wine. Those with questions can call 925-371-8156.

Thomas Coyne Winery will host a fall open house on Nov. 24, 25 and 26, from noon to 5 p.m. in his historical tasting room built in 1881. Visitors are invited to bring a picnic.

New wines to be released include 2003 Reserve Syrah Chateau Bellvue, 2004 Livermore Petite Syrah, 2003 California Port, and 2004 Tinto Reserva. Fine cheese and fruits will be served. The winery is located at 51 E. Vallecitos Road Livermore. For more information, call (925) 373-6541 or go to <http://thomascoynewinery.com>.

John Christopher Cellars will be featuring the first 2004 Late Harvest Zinfandel on Friday, November 24th, Thanksgiving Weekend. This wine is produced from grapes harvested

from the Dry Creek Valley appellation in Sonoma featuring the same vineyard as John Christopher Cellars' 2003 Reserve Zinfandel.

Bold fruit and spice flavors resonate in a delicious late harvest style. Not overly sweet, this wine will pair nicely with your gourmet cheese selections or paired with dark, rich chocolate. Only 54 cases of this wine are available.

John Christopher Cellars will be open Thanksgiving weekend November 24-26th from noon to 5 PM. Flights Wine Club is also now available to join at the tasting room. Only 250 memberships will be accepted.

John Christopher Cellars at Blacksmith Square, 25 South Livermore Ave., Suite 103, Livermore. Information at (925) 456- WINE (9463) or www.johnchristophercellars.com.

Fenestra Winery will host "Prelude to Christmas" festivities this weekend, Nov. 24, 25 and 26 from noon to 5 p.m. each day.

The winery is decorated for the holidays. Featured are party

foods along with Christmas and holiday gifts.

Fenestra is located at 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore.

For information, call 447-5246.

Chouinard Vineyards and Winery will present a Photo and Pottery exhibit and demonstration, Nov. 24, 25 and 26, noon to 5 p.m. each day. Collect all your turkey-stuffed relatives and friends, pack some turkey sandwiches and enjoy a special wine tasting. 33853 Palomares Road, Castro Valley. Information at 510-582-9900.

Wente Vineyards Estate Winery will host a holiday preview November 24 through 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Visitors will be able to taste special vintages of handcrafted Nth Degree wines, tour the cellars, browse new holiday merchandise, stock up on holiday favorites and pick up gifts for friends and family.

Estate Winery at 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. For information call 925-456-2305.

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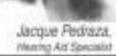
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Fine Magic Flute Finale

By Susan Steinberg

My reward for a punishing drive back from LA was a golden afternoon: the final performance of LVO's "Magic Flute." It was a triumph of soloists, ensembles, and, above all, the musical vision of conductor Barnaby Palmer.

His overture set the tone and tempo for a well-paced Mozartean orchestra that displayed uncommonly fine intonation, alternating solemn seriousness with bubbling light-hearted fun. The clever little musical "conversations" among different instrumental sections were especially well-delineated.

Obviously Palmer also worked diligently as chorus master to achieve an even, well-blended sound and admirable enunciation of the German text, often a weak point for American singers. All the principals also handled their sung German very well, despite the difficulty of switching in and out of English for the spoken dialogue. Their German had a rare clarity and expressiveness, making the simple words stand out even without translation.

As Pamina, Heidi Moss fulfilled both her singing and acting promise with a pure radiant soprano that epitomized the noble heroine. Her whole-hearted sincerity elevated this above the mere fairy-tale princess role as she defended her virtue from the lustful Monostatos and refused to obey her mother's command to murder the high priest Sarastro.

A particularly fine moment came as she was caught trying to

escape Sarastro's realm. Her terrified companion Papageno has asked her what they can possibly do to avert their captor's wrath. Her guileless look and tone show her soul as she answers simply: "Die Wahrheit" (the truth).

Pamina's counterpart Prince Tamino (Brian Thorsett) sang with a rich and compelling sincerity, thrilling the audience with the strong ringing notes of his love declaration and pledge to risk death for her. His beautiful modulations and floating high notes were also the textbook model of a fine Mozartean tenor who is also warmly human.

And what a pleasure it was to see two young and good-looking leads close-up and personal, rather than the portly middle-aged singers so common on opera house stages!

Even more of a treat was finally hearing the Queen of the Night, Shannette Sulker, who nailed the death-defying coloratura rollercoaster of her First Act aria in a carefully controlled presentation. For Act Two, she displayed all the emotional fireworks as well as the stunning vocal acrobatics, and truly became the stage-commanding evil dominatrix. Even her slight figure seemed to grow to menacing proportions as she flung out her final outraged notes - a real show-stopper!

A tough act to follow for the "good guys" leader Sarastro, but Roger McCracken sang with the reassuring mastery of a voice able

to produce the demanding low bass line and a physical stature to aptly impress a brash Tamino and comfort a distressed Pamina. (Some large priestly regalia and an appropriate head-dress would have greatly enhanced his imposing symbolic appearance.)

Simpler musically but much more demanding in versatility is the role of Papageno the birdcatcher. He must begin as the clownish simpleton who wants to attract all the pretty females he can with sweet treats, just as he captures birds. Suddenly he is singing a serious duet with Pamina, hailing the divine ideal of a perfect married union.

In this role an accomplished Martin Bell proved not only his vocal prowess, but also his expressive acting ability, with body language and even mugging that rivaled the deliciously scene-stealing Monostatos of Michael Mendelsohn.

The perkier petite Papageno in memory, Joanne Um, was a delightful match in voice and high-spirited acting for her rather dense mate Papageno. Their comic "duel" over the expected genders of future children was an especially popular audience-pleaser.

Unexpected fun in the first act was the unusually vivid portray-

als of the queen - three ladies, usually a cookie-cutter trio. Each of these females had a distinct personality, ALL with an obvious yen for the handsome Prince Tamino.

The words of their verbal sparring are seldom acted out with such lively and catty realism. The impishly amorous Kathleen Moss was a special standout among the three repressed romantic rivals, who included Meaghan Todd and Terry Alvord. Matthew Perry, Cameron Kurotori, Brandon Yim, Skyler Jones, and Wyatt Koon, from the Cantabella Children's Chorus added a sweet soprano tone as the magical sprites. They serve to guide the principals to a happy conclusion and the full-voiced four-square finale hailing the emblematic triumph of good over evil.

The rousing music sent a very enthusiastic audience out with an appreciation of LVO's increasing professional accomplishment, and anticipation of their spring production, "The Mikado."

Meanwhile, hats off to Producer Pauline Krieger and all those hard-working volunteers who make such a successful show possible. Community members who'd like to share the fun in future productions can call 925-243-1138



Paul Jacobs performs in Livermore.

Organ Program Offers Variety of Music

Paul Jacobs, who the *Chicago Tribune* has called, "One of the most supremely gifted young organists of his generation," is returning to play the fine Casavant Freres pipe organ at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore.

He will be performing in Livermore on Saturday, November 25 at 8 p.m. as part of the Del Valle Fine Arts concert series.

The program will be "Sinfonia from Cantata No. 29," Johann Sebastian Bach; "Trio Sonata in G Major, BWV 530," J.S. Bach; "Suite, Op. 5," Maurice Durufle; "Fantasia for Organ," John Weaver; and "Prelude, Fugue, et Variation, Op. 18," Cesar Franck.

The *Hartford Courant* compares him to organ legends Virgil Fox and E. Power Biggs.

Now, at age 29, he heads the Organ Department at Juilliard and has been acclaimed for his phenomenal technique, his charismatic stage presence and his huge and varied repertoire.

According to Vaughn Ormseth, Producer, Saint Paul Sunday, American Public Media, "Jacobus is one of the world's great organists, perhaps best known for his epic performances of Bach and Messiaen, whose complete works he's performed from memory, beginning to end, in continuous sequence. Those are near-mythic feats, to be sure, but after meeting Paul and listening to him perform, they now seem to me as much a sign of his profound love for the organ and its music as an expression of his thrilling musical powers."

Jacobs made musical history

at the age of 23 when, on the 250th anniversary of the death of J. S. Bach in 2000, he played the composer's complete organ music in an 18-hour non-stop marathon in Pittsburgh. Today, Mr. Jacobs is one of America's most active organists with performances in North America, South America, Australia, Asia, and Europe. He is also among the youngest faculty appointments at The Juilliard School, where he was named chairman of the organ department in 2004.

His recording "Paul Jacobs Plays Bach" (JAV) was listed as one of the top 10 classical recordings of 2004. This unedited recording of Bach masterworks combines audiophile sound quality and radiant playing, showcasing the staggering talents of Jacobs. Among the highlights: the Trio Sonata in C, which sparkles with every color of the rainbow; and the 'Great' Fugue in G minor, which unfolds with awesome drama and inexorability." (Newsday, New York).

All Del Valle concerts are presented at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets in Livermore.

Tickets are \$18 general admission, \$16 for full-time college students and seniors over 62, and free for students through high school. Individual tickets will be available at the door, or in advance from the Book Oasis in Livermore or the Towne Center Books in Pleasanton. More information is available at www.delvallefinearts.org or by calling 447-2752.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Livermore Wine Country Literary Harvest, release party on Sat., Nov. 25, noon to 5 p.m. at Tenuta Vineyards, 633 Kalthoff Commons, Livermore. Anthology of stories, poems and creative nonfiction written and told by People Who Write and Tell Stories. Information 456-3100 or 4thstreetstudio@pacbell.net.

Auditions Sunol Repertory Theatre for the performance of the melodrama, *Taming the Wild, Wild West* in a Dress or Let's Give the Villain the Slip by Billy St. John. Auditions will be held on Thursday evening December 7 at 7:00pm in the Sunol Glen School auditorium. Kids as well as grown-ups who think it's fun to act like kids are invited.

Cantabella Children's Chorus, Sat., Dec. 8, 2 p.m. Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. "What Sweeter Music," the annual Christmas concert featuring over 200 children's voices and instrumentalists. Information, www.cantabella.org; ticket information 292-2663.

Auditions - City of Angels, Las Positas College musical production: Tues., Dec. 5 and Wed., Dec. 6, 7 to 10 a.m. Cast includes eight principal singing/acting roles, an eight member jazz chorus and various smaller speaking roles. Bring a prepared song and sheet music. Las Positas College, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. For more information, call 424-1166 or email kross@laspositascollege.edu. Performances are March 22-April 8.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, Duane Carroll conducts "Winterfest," a holiday concert featuring seasonal favorites, familiar carols, a new work celebrating Hanukkah, and a sing-along, with singers and musical theater artists Keith and Bobbie Barlow. 7:30 p.m. December 11. Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. Free admission. Information: (925) 944-5392, www.CCWindSymphony.org.

Concert featuring the Amador Valley High School Wind Ensemble and the Chabot Wind Symphony will be performed at the Chabot College Performing Arts Center beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Dec. 6. Tickets will be available at the door. For directions, www.chabotcollege.edu/PAC.

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

Oils by Yiling Zhen, In November, Lian Zhen's water colors graced the walls of the Wente Vineyards Estate Tasting Room. In December, daughter Yiling's evocative oils take their place. Reception with the artist, Sun., Dec. 10, 1 to 3 p.m. Exhibit will be on display through December 31, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Estate Winery Tasting Room, open daily, 5565 Tesla Road. For information call 925-456-2305

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

Auditions, Play It Again Sam, by Woody Allen. December 18 and 19 at 7:00 p.m. Auditions will be cold readings from the script. Scripts will be provided at the audition. Roles are available for 3 men ages 35 - 55 (1 man plays the role of Humphrey Bogart) and for 8 women ages 22 to

40. Production runs March 2 - 18, 2007. For information about auditions visit us on the web at www.dmtonline.org. The Douglas Morrisson Theatre 22311 North Third Street Hayward; (510) 881-6777.

And Then There Were None, Contra Costa Civic Theatre production of a mystery. Nov. 10 through Dec. 9, Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. 951 Poma Ave., El Cerrito. \$18, \$11 age 16 and under. 510-524-9132, www.ccct.org.

Gift of Words - Poems for the Iraqi People, Sunday, December 3, 1 to 3 p.m. Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. City of Pleasanton Civic Arts presents program hosted by Poet Laureate Cynthia Bryant. Cost \$5. Information www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/arts/civic-arts-presents.html or (925) 931-5350

Worthington Gallery West, Cuna Indian Benefit, December 5-30. Benefit for the San Blas Medical Mission through the sale of colorful Mola textiles. Proceeds of the sale go directly to the Mission. December 1, 7 to 9 p.m., Photographer Sue Evans Pleasanton Photographer Sue Evans will be in the gallery. December 8, 7 to 9 p.m., Pleasanton Jewelry Designer Kim Pace will be in the gallery for a trunk show. December 15, 7 to 9 p.m., Bracelets by Ruth Van Slyke - bracelets made with vintage buttons, buckles and ribbons. All Friday night events free to the public; seasonal refreshments. 739-J Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 485-1183 www.worthingtongallerywest.com. Tues. - Sat. 10:30-5:30.

Jim Gamble's puppets will perform "The Nutcracker" at the Amador Theater, Friday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m. The Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host. Master puppeteer Jim Gamble will present a captivating marionette performance of "The Nutcracker," tracing the original classic ballet story and utilizing the enchanting music of Tchaikovsky. Advance tickets are \$10, \$14, and \$18 for adults, and \$6, \$10 and \$14 for children. Tickets may be purchased online at www.civicartstickets.org until 1:00 a.m. the day of the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group discounts are available.

Concerto Competition, Prometheus Symphony Orchestra for Bay Area string, wind and percussion players age 18 or younger. Competition is Tues., Jan. 30, 2007 at Zion Lutheran Church, Piedmont. The winner will perform with the orchestra on Sun., March 25, 2007 and will receive a \$150 award. Application deadline is Jan. 20, 2007. Applications are available by calling 447-3659 or on-line at www.prometheussymphony.org.

All-Star Musical Variety Program, "Happy Holidays and All That Jazz," includes silent auction. Benefiting the Young Actors' Theatre Camp Scholarship Fund. Hosted by cabaret star Samantha Samuels. Sat., Dec. 2. Silent auction 7 p.m., show 8 p.m. Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. General admission \$25; seniors and youth \$23; children 12 and under and groups of 10 or more, \$20 per person. Tickets and information at (925) 943-SHOW. The Young Actors' Theatre Camp (www.youngactors-theatre-camp.com), held at Camp Arroyo in Livermore, is a 6 day, 5 night intensive theatre training congress specially designed for young actors between the ages of 10-18 years old.



The Edlos will perform a program of holiday music.

Edlos Bring Their Music and Comedy to Holiday Show

The Edlos will present a program of holiday music for the whole family on December 1 in Pleasanton.

The 8:00 p.m. performance will take place at The Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road on the Amador Valley High School campus in Pleasanton. The program is part of City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents.

The Edlos, a world class a cappella quartet, is known for powerful voices and a broad comic approach to performing music from all eras and many lands. The Edlos Holiday Show combines traditional and not-so-traditional songs with broad appeal to audiences from young children to seniors.

Comedy is an integral part of any show by The Edlos and audiences across the country have found them to be infectiously funny. Their use of wigs, hats and costume changes further enhances their entertaining stage presence.

The San Francisco Examiner described The Edlos as an "a cappella quartet supreme, splendid, magnificent."

The group was formed in 1989 by four classically-trained singers, Craig Knudsen, Eric Morris, Larry Venza and Avi

Jacobson, who wanted to explore a wide range of music and musical styles. Their musical journey traveled from early Gregorian chant to bluegrass and country, from Motown to rock and roll and, finally, to original compositions that incorporated elements of all those genres.

The Edlos tours nationwide and has performed with such celebrities as Lou Rawls, Tower of Power, Ray Charles, and Waylon Jennings and performs in "The Lonesome Pines Special" for PBS. The quartet has recorded eight CDs (compact discs) on Auriga Records. Among them are *Retropella*, an a cappella journey back to the psychedelic '60s. Their two holiday collections are *WinterSongs* and *A Cappellan Christmas*.

Advance tickets to The Edlos' performance are \$10, \$14, and \$18 for adults, and \$6, \$10 and \$14 for children. Tickets may be purchased online at www.civcartstickets.org until 1:00 a.m. the day of the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group sales discounts are available.

Art by County Youth on Display

The Alameda County Office of Education's Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership is host to an art exhibit featuring works by students from throughout the region.

The exhibition showcases the works of students from the 18 unified school districts throughout Alameda County. The artwork will remain on display for public viewing through Jan. 12, 2007 at the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse Jury Room Gallery, 1225 Fallon St., Oakland, CA. 94612.

The exhibit at the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse - called "Through The Bird Dancer's Window: Community Artist and Classroom Teachers Give Flight to Students' Creativity and Understanding" - is the culmination of two years of workshops and performances guided by artist Patricia Bulitt, who fashioned a team of visual artists, educators, environmental activists and children to capture wildlife and birds of Lake Merritt.

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OBITUARIES

Terence C. Selna

Terence C. Selna died November 14, 2006. He was 60. He is survived by his wife Joan Selna, children, Brian Selna (Rebecca), Jennifer Lefteroff (Tracy), and Susanne DeStefano (Robert), a brother James Selna (Harriet), his father-in-law and mother-in-law Mel and Virginia Gianola, a niece, Christine Selna, and nine grandchildren.

A Mass celebrating Terry's life was held November 17 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Pleasanton. A reception followed.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a charity of choice.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

George Willis

George Willis died Nov. 14, 2006 in Pleasanton. He was 73. The native of Sacramento had lived in Pleasanton for 2 years. Prior to that he had lived in Fremont for over 20 years. His hobby was NASCAR.

He is survived by his sons Richard (Debbie) Willis of Union City and Robert (Terry) Willis of Pleasanton, a brother, Loren Willis, and grandchildren, Michelle Bice of Florida and Richard and Kristi Willis of Union City. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Kathy Willis.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

George H. Famariss

Longtime Livermore rancher George H. Famariss passed away Nov. 5, 2006 following an extremely bad fall at his ranch. He was 83.

George grew up in Livermore and attended Townsend County School, Fifth Street School and Livermore High School. After graduating, he was drafted into the First Marines. He fought at Guadalcanal and other Pacific Islands. He finished his tour of duty in Tiensin, China. After two years in the First Marines, he returned to his ranch where he spent the rest of his life.

He is survived by a brother, Richard Famariss and a niece,

Sandra Baird.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on November 28 at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore.

Jim T. Shepard

Jim T. Shepard died November 17, 2006 at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. He was 63.

The native of Riverside, CA had lived in Livermore for 40 years. He owned and operated First Street Shell and Towing in Pleasanton for 30 years. During the holidays, he would dress up as Santa and hand out toys to customers' kids and play Santa Claus for neighbors. He was known for his joker personality. He enjoyed fishing and spending time with family and friends. Jim and two Shitzu puppies that he loved very much, Goofy and Bruiser. After retirement, he helped his wife Kay run her coffee shop at Kaiser, Livermore.

He is survived by his wife Kay Shepard, sons Richard Shepard of Tracy, Robert Alford of Copperopolis, and Mike Alford of Chicago, IL, a sister Sharla Gooch of California, and a brother Larry Mack of Stockton, and his puppies, Goofy and Bruiser.

Funeral services were held Nov. 21 in Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Dorothy M. Perry

Dorothy M. Perry died November 17, 2006 in Livermore. She was 89.

The native of San Francisco had lived in Livermore for 13 years.

She is survived by daughters Teeme Calderon and Debra Lopez of San Leandro, a son, Thomas McClure, and her friends Timothy Norwood and Patty Manzaneros of Livermore, as well as several grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son Bobby Perry.

Funeral services will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 24 at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore.

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.

Ohlone Audubon Chapter meets Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m. at Pleasanton Middle School, 500 Case Ave., Pleasanton. This will be a member slide show/Christmas cookie exchange - 1/2 hr. program to be determined.

E-waste recycling, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, December 2, 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". (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 Coteleer at 630.272.1776 or the Lodge at 925.455.8829

Valley Spokenmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Nov. 25, 24 miles Franklin Canyon and Scenic Drive, meet 10 a.m. at Pleasant Hill Community Center, Randy Huey, 679-0375. Sun., Nov. 26, 34 miles San Ramon to Walnut Creek, meet 10 a.m. at Central Park, Peter Rathmann, 828-1973. Wed., Nov. 28, 38 miles Benicia via Fairfield and Green Valley to the Rockville Cafe, meet 10 a.m. at Matthew Turner Park, Edith Norby, 707-748-1508. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Fine Arts and Crafts Boutique, Thurs., Nov. 30, 3-30 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 9th St., Livermore. Children's activity table, jewelry, candles, miniatures, handpainted ornaments and wine glasses, fused glass, mosaic, collage, fine art paintings, photography, scarves and more. All items are handmade.

Life Planning for Women - your options and what it may cost. is the topic for the Nov. 30 meeting of the Livermore Valley Business and Professional Women. Public welcome to attend the dinner meeting at Nordstrom Cafe in Stoneridge Mall, Pleasanton, at 6 p.m. or the program at 7 p.m. Nona Belous, financial advisor, will be the guest speaker. Reservations required. Call Mona at 829-3505 by Nov. 27. Cost is \$18 with dinner, \$5 for program.

CARE/CalWorks Holiday Party, hosted by Las Positas College. The program provides assistance to welfare recipients at the college as they pursue job training and education. Providing gift cards for these families or making a cash donation can help the low-income students and their children. Contributions collected at two locations: CalWorks Office, Building 900 or the Taco Club, Building 100. Cash or check donations should be given directly to the CalWorks office. Gift card donations will be given to the families at a holiday party on Fri., Dec. 15. For additional information, contact Kimberly at 424-1459, or ktomlinson@laspositascollege.edu.

Livermore Library Board, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 30 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

34th annual Crab Feed and Dance, hosted by the Livermore Knights of Columbus Council #4588 on Sat., Jan. 6 at St. Michael's Hall, 3rd and Maple Streets, Livermore. Menu includes crab, pasta, salad and cake. Social hour 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m.,

music and dancing 8 to 11:30 p.m. Live music by Open Road. Tickets \$35 per person until Dec. 21 and \$40 per person after Dec. 21. For more ticket information, contact Michael and Cecilia Valent, 455-9420; Manny and Chris Figueiredo, 455-0543; or Jake and Angel Raposa, 449-1278.

Holiday Boutique, hosted by Livermore Valley Charter School, 543 Sonoma Ave., Livermore on Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the children's craft center. Free admission. Featuring a host of merchandise created by talented local Artisans including Bree Trostrud, Trice Cunningham, Bee Thoughtful Gift Baskets, Bill's Daily Grind, Children's Books, Christmas Floral, Crafts by Mercy, Home Decor/Staging Consultant, Inspired Designs Jewelry, La Vida Baby, Mezotroma Aromatherapy, Monica's Jewelry, Paper Artichoke, Piano Tinker, Sugar Magnolia Cakes and Baked Goods, Twin Stitches Embroidery, Artisan Marshmallows, Princess Dresses, Roxiebaby Children's Accessories, Rozalia Handcrafts, Up Town Girls Fashion, Woodworking by Anita Martin, and more. Direct Sales companies such as Arbonne Int'l, Beauti Control, Close To My Heart, Cookie Lee, Creative Memories, Homemade Gourmet, Longaberger Baskets, Pampered Chef, PartyLite, Mary Kay, Southern Living, Tastefully Simple, and The Body Shop at Home will also be there. For more information contact Julie Snyder at 925-371-6515 or rjnsnyder@comcast.net

Holiday workshop, Sat., Dec. 2, 1 to 4 p.m. Dublin Heritage Center, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Make crafts from pinecones, oranges and spices, listen to holiday music. Gingerbread and hot cider served. \$3 for children and \$5 adults, includes craft supplies and refreshments. 833-6645.

Breakfast with Santa, Sat., Dec. 9, Dublin Senior Center, 8:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. seatings, \$6 residents, \$7 nonresidents. Includes pancakes, sausage, fruit, milk and coffee. Proceeds benefit the Dublin High School marching band. Information, 833-6645.

Christmas boutique, Joe Mitchell Elementary will host 3rd Annual Christmas Boutique, 1001 Elaine Avenue, Livermore, December 2, 2006. 9am-2pm. Food and Beverage available for purchase. Additional information contact (925) 454-1406.

Christmas Dinner, Rotary Club of Pleasanton will host seniors at the 25th annual Christmas Dinner on Sun., Dec. 10, Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Doors open 2:15 p.m., dinner at 3 p.m. Entertainment. Free to Pleasanton seniors. For information, call 931-5365. Ticket distribution will be Tues., Nov. 30 beginning at 10 a.m. Only one ticket per senior. Proof of residency is required. Bring spouses ID to pick up one additional ticket.

Public Employees Association, Tri-Valley Chapter 075, Christmas Party will be held Thurs., Dec. 7, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Emil Villa's Hickory Pit, 3054 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Brunch charge is \$5 per person. Please bring a wrapped Christmas ornament to be raffled off during the party. Door prizes. For information and reservations, contact Bob at 845-6563 or Jan at 447-9549.

San Ramon Newcomers, luncheon Dec. 14 at Barones Restaurant in Pleasanton, 11:30 a.m. social, noon lunch. For information, call 735-3508 or go to http://newcomers.home.comcast.net.

Holiday Lights Tour, Hop onto the Holiday Bus for a tour of festively decorated homes in the Pleasanton area. Sing along to favorite Christmas Carols. Cookies and hot cocoa will be provided. Please sign up early as space is limited at the Pleasanton Senior Center located at 5353 Sunol Blvd, 931-5365. Date: Thursday, December 14, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Cost: \$6.00 for residents

or \$7.00 non-residents.

Pure Girls Holiday Window Modeling Party - Dec. 2nd. The party starts by watching the downtown Holiday Parade from box seats in front of the store. Dinner and dessert will be served and then helpers will be around to show the latest modeling poses. The event is for girls age 6+ and lasts from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. \$35/girl or bring a friend for \$5 off, plus a gift to each girl who brings a soccer ball to benefit the KICK project. Reservations at 925-485-4380 or 660 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton.

Teachers, Interested in teaching, sharing a special talent? Livermore Adult Education is looking for community members who have talents and training which may qualify them to teach a class. Dance, Tai Chi, Floral Design, Fitness, or suggest a class. Please call 925-606-4722 or stop by 1401 Almond Ave. in Livermore.

Mini Cheer Camp, presented by Foothill Falcon Competition Cheerleaders for grades K-6. Sat., Dec. 2, at Foothill, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Fee \$45, payable to Foothill High School, includes class, certificate, lunch and t-shirt. The nationally ranked Foothill High Competition Cheer squads will teach new moves, dances and cheers. Space is limited. For registration information contact Kim DeJoy at 426-2374 or kedejoyhscheer@comcast.net, or Suzanne Oliveira at 510-226-8832 or suz96CT@aol.com.

Support group for caregivers of aging relatives, A free support group/class is being offered to meet the needs of members of the "sandwich generation," who are caring for infirm parents, grandparents, and other family members. The students will receive information and learn about helpful resources as well as get emotional support from each other. The class is being held in Room 801, Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on every other Tuesday evenings, November 28, and December 12. Students are invited to join at any time. Ruth Gasten, class facilitator, is an experienced adult educator, who cared for her mother until her death at age 94. To register call Amador Valley Adult School at (925) 426-4280 or visit them at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted.

Laughter Yoga at Dublin Senior Center, ongoing Mondays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$5 drop-in okay. All ages welcome. Information, 390-4105.

RELIGION

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

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

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Topic for Nov. 26 is "Emptying into Riches. A Lesson of the Season." Rev. Eric Meter speaking. 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. Information 931-1055.

Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton. Two Sunday worship services: 8:30 a.m. service will have a classic emphasis and nursery care for children under 3 will be provided. The 10:15 a.m.

service will have a contemporary emphasis and nursery care, as well as Sunday school classes for preschool through high school age children will be provided. For more info, call the church office at 846-4436.

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

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org), Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, has services 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. with Pastor Derek Meekins. 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.

Third Friday Night Labyrinth Walks, 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Open to the public, the walk takes place on the 11-circuit Chartres-style labyrinth in the courtyard, accessible from the 4th St. entrance. The walks are enhanced by candlelight and include meditative music. If you would like more information about these walks or about labyrinths in general, please contact Judy Hughes, labyrinth facilitator, 925-485-2524, or the church office, 925-447-2078.

Tri-Valley Unity Church meets at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Sunday service and children's school at 10 a.m. Ongoing classes and groups. Special Thanksgiving Day service, 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call (925) 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Advent Evening of Reflection and Concert on Friday, December 1st at 7:30 - 9:30 pm at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. The Community of St. Charles invites all families of all ages to come and quiet their pre-Christmas, frenzied, life with music and reflection. Performing will be Sr. Rebecca Shinas. A candle light procession by the children and liturgical dancers will open the evening. Sr. Rebecca Shinas, O.P. is the Adult Spiritual Formation coordinator at St. Simon's Parish in Los Altos. She is a spiritual director and published musician. Refreshments to follow in the Borromeo Hall. This is the part of a year long adult education series presented by L.I.F.E. (Lessons in Faith Experience) A \$5 free-will donation will be accepted. For more information contact Julie at 925-447-4549 or e-mail at upatholt@aol.com.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, Pleasanton, 6656 Alisal St. Sunday school for all ages 9:30 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. (nursery for both Sunday school and worship), children's church program, age 3-12, 11:15 a.m. Singles and young married home Bible study Monday 7:30 p.m. (call for address). Women's Bible study Wednesday 10 a.m. Information, call the church office, 846-8650.

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LEGAL NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387035

The following person (s) doing business as Interior Doors Direct, 4536 Las Lomitas Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Brad Boldrini, 4536 Las Lomitas Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/Brad Boldrini

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 23, 2006. Expires October 23, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2071. Publish November 2, 9, 16, 23, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387054

The following person (s) doing business as Wagner and Son, 2405 Wedgewood Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby reg-

istered by the following owner (s): June Bedford Interprises, Inc., 2405 Wedgewood Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3/28/2006.

Signature of Registrant: /s/June Bedford

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 23, 2006. Expires October 23, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2073. Publish November 2, 9, 16, 23, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387609

The following person (s) doing business as JAES Construction, 1347 Marigold Rd., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jason Edeal, 1347 Marigold Rd., Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by a limited partnership. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s:Patrick S. Roberts and Nitaya S. Roberts

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 386382

The following person (s) doing business as Royal Carpet Care, 5211 Sundance Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Patrick S. Roberts, 5211 Sundance Dr., Livermore, CA 94551

Signature of Registrant: /s:Gina Marie Baronian

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 27, 2006. Expires October 27, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2076. Publish November 9, 16, 23, 30, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387019

The following person (s) doing business as BeeBash, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Marriaha Eden McDonald, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 6, 2006. Expires October 6, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2075. Publish November 2, 9, 16, 23, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387245

The following person (s) doing business as Sunshine Accessories, 2965 Moreno Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Gina Marie Baronian, 2965 Moreno Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94588

Signature of Registrant: /s:Thia Pilar

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 27, 2007. Expires October 27, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2077. Publish November 9, 16, 23, 30, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387091

The following person (s) doing business as BeeBash, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Marriaha Eden McDonald, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387246

The following person (s) doing business as Hairini, 202B South "L" Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Thia Pilar, 624 Shelley Street, Livermore, CA 94550

Signature of Registrant: /s:Thia Pilar

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 27, 2007. Expires October 27, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2077. Publish November 9, 16, 23, 30, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387019

The following person (s) doing business as BeeBash, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Marriaha Eden McDonald, 943 Hazel Street, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name of names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s:Marriaha McDonald

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 23, 2006. Expires October 23, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2078. Publish November 9, 16, 23, 30, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387963

The following person (s) doing business as Steel Creek Consulting, 1756 Valley of The Moon Rd., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Scott R. Rohe, 1756 Valley of The Moon Rd., Livermore, CA 94550

Signature of Registrant: /s:Scott Rohe

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 14, 2006. Expires November 14, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2079. Publish November 23, 30, December 7, 14, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387838-387841

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

This business is conducted by limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on November 9, 2006.

Signature of Registrant: /s:James Frost

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 9, 2006. Expires November 9, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2080. Publish November 23, 30, December 7, 14, 2006.

ORDERTO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. VG06290407 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 5672 Stoneridge Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: Christine Nicole Tatro filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Christine Nicole Tatro Proposed Name: Harmony Nichol

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

NOTICE OF HEARING

a. Date: 1/09/2007 Time: 2:00PM Dept: 707

b. The address of the court is: 5672 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588

3.a. A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county:

The Independent Dated: September 22, 2006 /s:Jacob Blea III Judge Of The Superior Court

The Independent Legal No. 2072. Published November 9, 16, 23, 30, 2006.

ANIMALS/PETS

1)CATS/DOGS

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

7)AUTOS WANTED

DONATE YOUR CAR to the Original 1-800-Charity Cars! Full retail value deduction if we provide your car to a struggling family. Call 1-800-CHAR-ITY. (1-800-242-7489) www.800CharityCars.org (CAL/SCAN)

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

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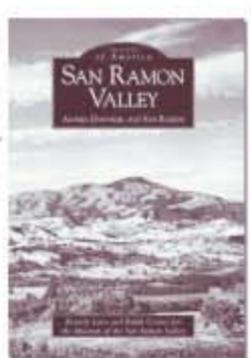
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