## Livermore Agrees to Purchase Historic Farm

an agreement to purchase the historic
Hagemann Farm on OlivinaAvenue. The
sale is based on the city finding funds
for the $\$ 1.8$ mill lion purchase price.
The city council on M onday autho-
rized staff to seek out tunding sources,
programs and both public and nonprofit
partnerships to acquire the site.
The city has a six month option pe-
rod at no cost with two additional six
month extensions, at a cost of $\$ 55,000$
per extension, to explore funding op-
tions.
One potential source of funding is a
California Cultural and Historical En-
dowment grant.
Members of the public were enthusi-


 luded a request to remove the historic
the east half. The application was withdrawn and the property placed on the
market. It was sold to Steve Bosch local residential real estate developer. A ccording to the staff report, Bosch evaluated the historic significance of the site and determined it was unlikely
any development would be approved any dhevelopment would be atproved the city to have the city purchase the Under city ownership the entire site would be preserved and become a muMayor M arshall Kamena com mented, "We will have a lot of fun plan-

## College Mentor Program To Help Young Students

 have created the College B ound Scholars (CBS) Program for
middle school students Working midale schoo students. Working the program targets select middle
school students from the Tri-Valley region and pairs them with college and community mentors who will guide them into postThe mission of the College increase the number of first generation college students enrolling in higher education, specifi-
cally Las Positas College. The program will match public Dublin, Pleasanton, and Liverwho will support and encourage vem. A $\$ 1,000$ scholarship is inticipant at the beginning of the
six year term of the program from 6 th grade to 6th grade to college. Upon suc-
cessful completion of the program each student will receive the invested funds, plus interest, as
they transition out of the program and into college.
opportunity to reach out to middle school students in the Tri-Valley and help them prepare vice president of student services at Las Positas College. "Our community benefactors have been very generous in supportthat speaks to our community's

## The Local Impact of No Child Left Behind

By Patricia K oning

the news and school administra tors complain about it, but what M ore importantly, how does it

affect theLivermoreSchool District? scribes No Child Left Behind (NCLB) as the cornerstone of his A dministration. The legislation, which President Bush intro-
duced in January 2001, aims to improve school performance through increased accountabil-
ity. Critics of NCLB, who sometimes call it "No Child Left Untested," say that it requires too
much testing, unfairly hold schools accountable for student performance, and
Kelly Bowers, A ssistant Superintendent of Educational Services for the Livermore School District, believes the concept
behind NCLB is oood However the law is flawed in implementa-
${ }^{\text {tion. }}$ i am all for holding schools serve and meet the educational needs of all students. Program improvement is something we focus on constantly, no matter are", she says "Howestresurs requirements of this law are not adequately funded or uniformly applied. The consequences and apply only to the schools and districts with significant numbers of socioeconomically disadvantaged students.
To meet NCLB, schools and equate Yearly Progress (AYP) each year. AY P is based on four criteria: $95 \%$ or better partici pation rates; percentage of students


David Anderson, Angelo Marcelino, Darylen Terry, Catherine Kennedy, and Carena Schmidt hold the trophy the team received for winning the state title.
'People'Team Raising Capital To Compete in U.S. Capital

## By Ron McNicol Teamwork pro <br> Teamwork propelled 30 civHigh School to first place in the state meet of the "We the People" competition in Sacramento Feb. 9. They hope that their same tion will succeed in raising $\$ 40,000$ to pay their way to the national finals in Washington,

Last year's team fell only 10 tional championship out of 1080 point total. Each year, the team is comprised of only seniors. So,
this is a new group that has to go this is a new group that has to go
for the gold, both in the sense of the first place trophy and the money needed to send them
there.
The students will be thinking
reach out to residents for pledges to do all that they can to help, said Brian Ladd, the faculty adviser to the team. Early contact efforts al ready Early contact efforts al ready
have paid off. Residents J erry Pentin and Jim Ott, who is a
Pleasanton school board member, are both avid cyclists. They will be in a Death Valley bicycle ride
(See WE THE PEOPLE, page 12)

## Pleasanton Council Takes Aim at 70 Projects

## has approved a list of projects they plan to tackle over the next they plan to tackle over the nex two years. The 2007-08 work plan is the culmination of input from the city's various commissions, the public, and a council workshop pubblic, and a co held in January. City $M$ anager N elson Fial ho referred to the work plan referred to the work plan as a roadmap for staff in allocating time and funds. There are fourteen categories under which are listed a total of under which are listed a total of 70 projects. They are not prioritized in any order. Several councilmembers suggested that future work plans should priorifuture work prans should priori- tize projects in order of preferCouncilmember Cindy ence. M CG overn said there may be too many projects. She would like

 many projects. She would liketo see some kind of priority systo see some kind of priority sys-
tem. She was willing to try the tem. She was willing to try the
system for a year to "eee how it
goes. If we can't get projects done, we may need to hone some
of this down," she stated. Councilmember $M$ att Sullivan was interested in a process that provided a better way
of obtaining input from the various commissions. He also
wanted to look at a prioritizing system in the future. He noted that the council has done a lot in
the last two years. "We do have our work cut out for us." M ayor J Jnnifer Hosterman
agreed "We have accomplished agreed, "We have accomplished
much in the last two years. This much in the last two years. This unwieldy. It's a long, long list of things the council would like to

Fialho summarized the cat egories. He talked about several to the list. plan update. Seven element have been completed. Still to be tion, noise, air quality, and re gional planning. A water element has been added. Fialho noted that the decision to add a wate element is based on information successful in obtaining grants when they were able to show frastructure fore water use and in Fiastho said cess, "A lot has been accomplished over the last two years,
The goal is to complete the update goal is to this year."
Economic development is another area of focus. There will be continued support by the city
for expansion of the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Implementation of the Staples Ranch M OU
is on the list of projects.. A nother goal would be to host an eco nomic in the community one in the community, is proceeding on restoring Berna Creek, building lighted sports fields, and completing the Val
ley Avenue underpass (due to open in March). open in M arch.
N ew to the cral category is a plan to finance the B ernal park. measure community support for (See GOALS, page 3


Students perform a group song.
Arroyo Seco Fourth-Graders Sing and Dance Their Way through African-American History

By Patricia K oning
A rroyo Seco stud ebrated Black History M onth with an energetic, fact-filled asrelevance of A frican-A merican history. Fourth-graders from Lisa Wi son's, A my M CCarthy's, and
onathan Ruff's classes were the stars of the show. Wilson wrote the scriptfor the performance based on her experience teaching in East Oakl and
for seven years. She observed or seven years. She observed
that such events were a very positive experience for both students and teachers, and thought it could benefi
"This is one way to educate
students culturally and provide
recognition for our growing Af- farming methods
rican-A merican population," she says. "Events like this one give
students confidence, bring parents to school for a positive reason, and improve teacher/parent The performance featured dialogue betw een the students about
the importance of A frican-A merican history. The students pointed out that such history played a role in driving to school today,
as the traffic light was invented as the traffic light was invented
by A frican-A merican Garrett Morgan.
M any
Many kids probably have
George Washington Carver to
credited with inventing peanut
butter, as well as revolutionizing
lesson were sang the history esson were songs capturing the historical eras from slavery to
M otown. The kids started off the show with the traditional A frican children's chant "M iss M ary Mack." This was followed by
"Swing Low Sweet Chariot" from the slavery period and "G et on Board Little Children,", a song of the Underground Railroad. was highlighted with an emo was highlighted with an emo-
tional rendition of "We Shall Overcome" and the traditional chant "Little Sally Walker." The kids switched into pop culture
with "For Once in M y Life" by with "For Once in M y Life" by
Ray Charles, the crowd-pleaser (See ARROYO SECO, page 12)

## Advisory Board

Formed to Aid
The Firehouse
Arts Campaign
The Pleasanton Cultural Arts
Foundation (PCAF) has formed a Community Advisory Board in
support of the Firehouse Arts support of the Fir
Center Campaign.
Center Campaign.
Members of the advisory
board include newly elected Congressman Jerry McNerney, representatives of the business
community, the arts community, community, the arts community,
educational organizations, the
City of Pleasanton and other prominent citizens.
They include John Casey, They include John Casey,
school superintendent; William
Cody fire chief; Nelson Fialho Cody, fire chies; Nelson Fialho
city manager, Martin Inderbitzen attorney at law; Ted Kaye, CEO
Las Positas College Foundation; Las Positas College Foundation;
Toby Leavitt, executive director Toby Leavitt, executive director
San Francisco Shakespeare Fes-
tival; Deborah Acosta McKeehan, former city manager; Weldon Moreland, CPA; Eric
Nostrand, owner HopYard Ale Nostrand, owner Hop Yard Ale-
house and Grill; Jim Ott, presi-
dent and CEO of UNCLE Credit Union; James Paxson, president Hacienda Business Owners As-
sociation; Robert Randick, mansociation; Robert Randick, man-
aging partner, Randick O'Dea \&
Tooliatos LLP; Christine Salidivar, executive director
Pleasanton Downtown AssociaPleasanton Downtown Associa-
tion; Charlotte Severin, artist; and community members Tim Hunt, Watkins. Greg Reznick, President of
PCAF, said, "We are thrilled to have the support of so many prominent community members for this important project for
downtown Pleasanton. These people share our vision for a new hance the vitality of downtown provide economic benefits to our community, enhance arts educa-
tion opportunities for our chil tion opportunities for our chil-
dren and youth and provide lo-

## Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan
California Property at Only $\$ 1.25$ an Acre! When the M exican-A merican War was over and California had
become part of the United States, U.S. surveyors excavated a hole become part of the United States, U.S. surveyors excavated a hole on Mount Diablo's southern peak in 1851 as the central survey this point they ran an east/west base line as well as a north/south meridian. Ensuing surveys divided the surrounding land into a grid of tow nships, each six miles square, which are in turn divided into 36 square 640 -acre sections. These townships were drawn around the existing Spanish and $M$ exican land grants; for example, Robert Livermore's Las Positas and the Bernal family's EI VaIl de San Jose.
The sections can be divided into halves ( 320 acres) or quarters ( 160 acres). A piece of property is located with these aids. For
example, a person might own 320 acres: the east half of section 12, example, a person might own 320 acres: the east half of section 12,
township 1 north, range 2 east. This is abbreviated as T1N/R2E. "N orth" indicates that the property lies north of the point at M ount Diablo's summit, and "east" that the property lies east of the point. Once the avail able land had been surveyed and divided into townships, California settlers had three methods for claiming land. One was called "preemption." An A merican citizen 21 years of more than 160 acres (one quarter section), settle there and make improvements. Later, the citizen could purchase the land from the federal government for $\$ 1.25$ an acre after establishing proof of settlement.
The law allowing this sort of claim went into effect in 1852; in the mid-1870s the preemption price rose to $\$ 2.50$ per acre. On Feb. 5,1875, school teacher Francis R. Fassett was granted the patent to R2F The western border of the claim was Beck Road now North Livermore Avenue. The Homestead Act of 1862 permitted another type of claim. A $n$ A merican citizen 21 years or older could choose a maximum of
160 acres, and the land was free except for minimal filing fees. The 160 acres, and the and was free exceplfor min the property for five homesteader had to live on and cultivate the property for five
years. Within the next two years, proof of actual settlement and years. Within the next two years, proof of actual settlement and
cultivation had to be filed, with testimony from the claimant and cultivation had
two witnesses.
A homesteader who did not want to wait this long to own the land officially could at any time, after six months of settlement, "prove up" and pay for the land with cash or scrip. Sheep raiser Michael Mulqueeney received the patent for his homestead on Nov. 20, 1877; with certificate \#810, he received 160 acres of section 12 T3S/R 3E intersected by Patterson Pass Road. Government scrip - paper issued by the U.S. government that entitled the claimant to a selected amount of public land for a owner. A gricultural college land scrip was one type. To encourage and help pay for the establishment of agricultural colleges, the federal government gave a certain amount of public land for individual states to sell. The resulting federal scrip could be sold by one state to another or to individuals.
Between 1862 and 1903, holders of this scrip acquired 1,397,760 acres of California public land at $\$ 1.25$ an acre. On J an. 5, 1972
Midway hotel owner Franz H era used scrip issued for agricultural colleges in the state of New York to purchase 160 acres, the northwest quarter of section 32 T2S/R4E.
A other type of scrip was the military bounty land warrant. A veteran could settle on and purchase 160 acres at the price of $\$ 1.25$ an acre with military scrip issued by the federal government. After M arch 1852 these military bounty lands were made assignable, and a citizen could sell the scrip or buy it from a broker. Rancher everrants and purchased the southeast quarter of section $18 \mathrm{~T} 2 \mathrm{~S} /$ RUE, 160 acres in the AI lamont on Sep. 6, 1876.
A dam Fath immigrated to the United States from Bavaria and served in the U.S. Army as a blacksmith from 1846 until 1856, during the war with M exico and later in Northern California. A fer he left the army, he moved to the Livermore Valley and, using his own military bounty land warrant, received the patent to 160 acres in section 9 T3S/R2E on A pril 10, 1876. This property is just to The house he built there, the first private home in what became Livermore, is still on the continuation of Old First Street, Gardella Plaza.
The final step in all claims- preemption, homestead or scrip purchase -was a patent affirming ownership issued to the settler by the western headquarters of the federal land office in San Francisco or the governor's office in Sacramento.
Owners of the Spanish and Mexican land grants did not use understandings, when new settlers came after California statehood and claimed what they assumed was open land.
(Readers can reach me at am3homan@ yahoo.com.)

Granada Black Students Launch Speaker Series


Nisan Robinson (left) and DeVon Hardin talked about playing basketball and attending school at UC Berkeley.
The Black Student Union The program was the first of a Tuesday's program was "awe-
(BSU) at Granada High hosted (BSU) at Granada High hosted
members of the U University of California men's basketball team Tuesday.
An est
An estimated 300-400 stu-
dents attended the dents attended the event, held in
Granada's Small Gym during lunch period. They heard talks by DeVon Hardin, who himself is from Livermore, and Nican The two guest speakers discussed life at Cal, from the accdemics to the social life, as well
as what it's like to play sports at as what it's like to play sports at
the Division I level. the Division I live

## LPC Express Goes Weekly

Las Positas College (LPC) "Express" is now being pubdished on a weekly basis. The change took place at the begin-
ning of the spring semester and steps up production from bimonthly to weekly. Readers can look for the student new paper most Fridays that
school is in session. The Express regularly garners awards in Genoral Excellence and for indvidual reporting from the Journalism A ssociation of Communits Colleges. The Express, now
in its 18th year of publication was started under the direction of A boy M cC ann, who still teaches at $L$ as Posits College. to a weekly publication was spearheaded by the new Editor-In-Chief, Lauren B arnard, and the ongoing production editor, Jeff Bennett. Student journal its on the Express staff expect that
with a weekly schedule, they will be able to keep the student body apprised in a timelier manner about topics such as school
sports, A ssociated Students sports, A associated Students of
Las Positas College (ASLPC) activities, campus news and entertainment. some." In statement of purpose, the by th e canada iBSen. The group BS U says it aims "to foster a event as part of Black History $\begin{aligned} & \text { sense of community among all }\end{aligned}$
ings, the BSU speaker series, our
leadership and mentoring proleadership and mentoring pro-
gram, and community service, we gram, and community service, we
seek to educate ourselves and the seek to educate ourselves and the
larger Granada community in hopes that awareness will spark action and ignite change in our community.
"In addition, the Black Stu
dent Union shall serve as a conte to all other groups on source to

## Ped DG St Bloomingcamp <br> Optometry <br> OPEN <br> HOUSE

March 27, 2007
5 PM - 8 PM
Trunk (Frame) Show

- Koali
- BCBG
- Ellen Tracy


## 505 Harvest <br> Farms <br>  <br> BANANAS $25 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{LB}$.

 10-LB BAG POTATOES $\$ 1.99$ YELLOW ONIONS 25c/ LB. TOMATOES 39 39c/The Granada BSU has been "The Granada BSU has been marks their first official public event," explained Michael Hardin, a leader of BSU's adult advisory group and father of
DeVon Hardin. "One of their goals is to bring in an interesting
speaker to talk with the student
body once a month or so." body once a month or so."
Hardin said the turnout at

\section*{CaDealer airect.com} | press can be viewed at |
| :--- | :--- |
| www.lpcexpress.org through |\(\quad \begin{aligned} \& No Salesman - No Hassle <br>

\& Selling your car? We buy cars for cash!\end{aligned}\) www.Ipcexpress.org through
College Publisher, the largest interactive network of online colliege newspapers in the nation. The parent company of College purchased by M'TV Networks, adding more clout to the youthmarket appeal of the company, which now adds Internet to its
information resources. A study conducted by Y 2 M reveals that $77 \%$ of college students surveyed read the print edition of their campus paper at least once
per month and $57 \%$ read it online. (PR Week (US) (August 14, 2006): p12. From General Business FileASAP.)

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Tuesday, March 6th: 9 am - 2:30 pm
1385 s. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, Callomia 94550 Tuesday, March 6 th: $9 \mathrm{am}-2: 30 \mathrm{pm}$
13B5 s. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, California 94550

## your doctor. Here for you. <br> your doctor. Here for you.

 students of the A frican-A mexicanculture at Granada High School. the intellectual, political, culltural and social growth of all Granada students," continues the
statement "Through enrichment statement. "Through enrichment

. have affiliated with the Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) and are ready to care for you at our new Dublin Center.

Both physicians are now a part of the Pall Alto Medical Foundation, an association that will benefit patients by providing access to some of the area's most advanced health care services, including:

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- PAMFOnline.org, our secure patient Web site that offers you online access to your medical history, test results and electronic messaging with your doctor
- Advanced Access, providing same- and next-day appointments with your personal physician

You can now find your doctor at our Dublin Center, located at the corner of Tassajara Road and Dublin Boulevard. Dr. Fry and Dr. Lin will begin seeing patients in this new location on March 1st. For more information, call 925-875-6100, or visit pamf.org/dublin.
800.810.SWIM
www.FremontSwimSchool.com


| pamf.org/dublin | Plo Alto Medical <br> Foundation <br> A25-875-6100 <br> Wither Heath Ampliate |
| :---: | :---: |
| With For Life. |  |

## VLIITRONDUP

Transit Fair Slated
A Transit Fair will be held at the Pleasanton
Senior Center on Fri,., March 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Representatives from Wheels, Pleasanton Paratranist Service, BART, Alameda County Connection, and the Pleasasaton Police Depart ment will he and the Peasanton Poice Depart information and options.
The fair will also incude a lecture presented by the Pleasanton Police Department on public transportation safety wareness, opportunities to
discuss the $\begin{aligned} & \text { mericans with } D \text { isabil } 1 \text { ties } A \text { ct with }\end{aligned}$ transit representataives, refreshments, door prizes and more.
The C enter's $S$ nappy C afe will also have a $S$ S.
Patrick's corn beef lunch available for purchas at $\$ 3.50$ for seniors and $\$ 5$ adults. Paid reservations for the lunch must be made by Wed., March 14 at the senior center front desk. For more information, call the Senior Center
at $931-5365$. The Senior Center i l located Sunol Blva.

## Online Auction of Property

A Aameda County Treasurer TTax Collector county's online auction to sell tax delinguent parcels of property. The auction will take place atw ww.bidAassets.com M arch 21 through M arch 22, 2007.
Interested persons may preview the proper lies on the website through M arch 20. If a potential biddder does not have internet access, an off
line bid form is avai abl efrom the tax col lector's office, 1221 Oak Street, 1st Floor, O akland. The properties for sale are located primarily in Oakland. To be eligible to participate in the auction, a budder must pre-qualify with a $\$ 5000$ deposit. M ore information regarding the online index.shtml.

## Most Unaffordable Housing

rices to fall slighty Caiffornia thatallowed the most unaffordable state in the nation during he fourth quarter of 2006, the Cali fornia Build ing Industry A ssociation reported last week.
CBIA's analysis of the quarterly N ational A sociation of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Hous ing Opportunity Index found that during the declined in five of the 28 Cal ifornia metro areas surveyed. In 18 metro areas less than 10 percent of the homes could be afforded by families earning the median income there. Wes K eusder, CBIA's Chairman and owner of
Costa M esa-based Keusder Homes said the port verifies what most Californians already know all too well: affording a home in Califor nia is becoming more and more out of reach. California's homeownership rate is 57 perent, 13 points below the rest of the nation. A CBIA study found last year that this fornia families are being denied the benefits of owning their home, including the fact that homeownership is the biggest source of wealth creation for most families across the nation. K eusder noted that nationally, 41.6 percent 98 metro areas across the country, at least half of the homes are still affordable. In comparison, affordability is greater than 25 percent in only one California metro area - Butte County. K eusder said that housing affordability would would make it possible for homebuilders to build enough homes to house the state's growing popuation - especially more homes designed for first time buyers.
Senator D enise Ducheny introduced legislations plan for housing and zone enough land to meet their housing needs for the next 10 years.

Award for Tauscher
This week, C hairman of the Strategic Forces EllenTauscher received the Satile I adership

## in Government Award from the Satell ite Indus-

The award recognizes those in government who have done the most to modernize the that satellite technologies play in the nation's economy, video distribution, and national and homeland security.
Also receiving the award this year is M aj. Gen. rity Space Office). Previous recipients of the Satellite L eadership in Government Award include Senator Ted Stevens (2006) and Admiral J ames 0 . Ellis J r , former Commander of US Strategic

UC Cited for Nuclear Safety Violations The Department of Energy's (DOE) National
Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) notified the University of California of multiple nuclear safety violations that occurred at the Los Alamos
National Laboratory in New Mexico The Univer Nity of California was the contractor responsible for managing and operating the laboratory when the violations occurred in 2005.
Due to the University of California's statutory exemption from such penalties at the time of the violations, no civil penalties were issued in this
PNOV. However, had the exemption not been in place, DOE would have issued a fine of $\$ 1.1$ million based on the number and severity of violations and this would have been the single largest civil penalty in the history of the program.
The Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) cites multiple violations of the department's
nuclear safety requirements associated with operational events and performance deficiencies at the laboratory.
Specific citat
Specific citations were identified in the areas
of work planning and of work planning and control, adequacy of pro-
cedures, training, quality improvement, assessment programs, safety basis, and radiological and contamination controls. The PNOV noted that many of the deficiencies were programmatic and long-standing in nature, and had been the subject of previous
the laboratory.
In March 2005, several workers received small intakes of radioactive material while performing decontamination operations at Building TA-5066. In July 2005 , a worker at the laboratory's Sigma Facility inadvertently contaminated himself and
transported radioactive contamination to several locations offsite and out state, An inspection performed by DOE's Office of Independent Over-
ight in November 2005 also identified multiple deficiencies in the laboratory's implementation of environmental, safety and health programs. ment and operation of the laboratory was transferred to the Los Alamos National Security, LLC, which will have responsibility for implementation
of corrective actions. With this transfer, the statuory exemption from civil penalties no longer exists for any future Price-Anderson violations at
the laboratory.

Congress At Your Corner
Rep. Jerry M cNerney (CA-11) has announced he next install ment of the Congress atY our Corner program, designed to allow constituents to
meet and discuss issues with Rep. M cNerney in the places where they al ready shop and recreate. "Instead of asking community members to come to one of my offices, I am going to go to them to make it as easy as possible for them to see their M ember of Congress," Rep. M cNerney
said. "I am committed to meeting with residents throughout the district so that I can effectively serve them and address their needs."
Congress atY our Corner part of an ambitious effort to reach out to residents of California's 11th District. M CN erney and his staff will be on to their opinions, and aid them in finding solutions to any difficulties they may encounter in dealing with federal agencies.
Upcoming Congress at Y our Corner times and locations: M anteca, Sat., M arch 3, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at M ain Street Café, 1351 N. M ain
St., M anteca; and, D anville, Sat., M arch 3, 4 to 5 p.m. Safeway, 3996 C amino Tassaj ara D anville.

Students Receive Trees As Part Of Arbor Day Observance

In observance of A rbor Day,
the Livermore A mador Valley the Livermore A mador Valley
Garden Club and Alden Lane Nursery will provide a special program to all second graders in
Pleasanton during the first two California Arbor Day is observed on $M$ arch 7 in commemoration of
Burbank is well known for de--
veloping improved varieties of flowers, fruits, grains and trees. A rbor Day is observed to cel-
the great benefit they provide to
our well being. During presenta-
tions to the $2^{\text {nd }}$ graders, Club members encourage the children to identify the many uses of trees
and tell how trees make our environment better. An important part of the pre-
sentation is gifting sentation is gifting each child
with a seedling to adopt. Tey with a seedling to adopt. They
will be shown how to plant and ware be shown how to plant and
care for the sedling. Children are encouraged to place the seedling in a pot until a
home is identified.

A Iden Lane Nursery donates

all the Coast Redwood tree seed-
lings for the program; the Calilings for the program; the Cali-
fornia A ssociation of Nurseries and $G$ arden Centers provides financial support for the printed materials. The Livermore A ma-
dor Valley Garden Club prepares the seedl ing labels, tags and sorts the seedlings for distribution to the schools and provides the Pleasanton presentations. The of the cooperation of the elemen tary school teachers and staff who arrange for the presentation and
supervise the on-site event.

## Earn An Award of Excellence

The Livermore Redevelop-
ment A gency has been awarded the California Redevelopment A ssociation (CRA) Award of Excellence for its successful rede-
velopment project- First Street Streetscape Improvement Project. This project is the winner in the category of Public Spaces and Linkages and is one of eight projects honored this year for major contributi
California communities. Livermore's First Stre provement Project has created a pedestrian-friendly streetscape environment, and set the stage for revitalizing the downtown
core.
Livermore Mayor M arshall K amena, said, "The Streetscape
Project has not only changed the physical characteristics of D owntown, but it has enhanced the
community's spirit, and has been community's spirit, and has been nesses to locate in our Downtown."
Lisermore's downtown was historically the heart of the community, the economic hub, and
the civic and cultural center. In the 1950's, major stores and offices migrated from the downtown business district to outlying areas. In 1960, First Street was designated as State R oute
84 which became clogged with vehicular traffic and created a pedestrian obstacle in the down town area. Highway 84 has been

## COLLEGE

(continued from page one)
commitment to higher educa-
tion." The project is funded by the as Positas College Foundation through a grant underwritten by
a donation from the Foresters court \#77 of Livermore, an organization that attributes its roots
to Robin Hood and the A ncient to Robin Hood and the A Ancient
Order of Foresters in England and Order of foresters in Enguand and
is committed to community services and philanthropic endeavors. Additional funding from Sandia $N$ ational Labs supports
activities and materials for the program.
In the first phase of the pro-
gram, $\mathrm{K}-12$ school districts in gram, K-12 school districts in Dublin, Pleasanton and Liver-
more will identify a total of 30 sixth graders using several crite-
ria including socioeconomic ria including socioeconomic need, first generation college, potential to sollowing the selection process, mentors will be matched with students; then the program will
get underway. get underway.
soring a "M eet Your M spontor" Awards Night. CBS students and their parents will meet their men-
tors, and LPC students will work tors, and LPC students will work
with the CBS students to participate in college activities, tours and aw ards.
Las Positas College is located
a 3033 Collier Canyon R at 3033 Collier Canyon Road in
Livermore.


## GOALS

desired amenities, according to TheV ineyard Corridor area is developing in a way the city can be proud of. "It is a beautiful gateway into Pleasanton," said
Fialho. Still to be completed is the w ater infrastructure. Affordable housing projects
will include an updated housing will include an updated housing element and a workshop to discuss housing strategies. progress with traffic issues, said Fialho. These include the TriVall ley Triangle Study of regional
improvements. He anticipates a recommended regional plan
would be ready sometime in M arch. . fun area," said Fialho, "is "A fun area," said Fialho, "is
thequality of life category." This includes the A 1 viso A dobe Park,
preservation of 500 acres of open space in the southeast hills, moving forward with the Firehouse
A rts Center construction in 2008, and competing the Veterans Me emorial Building renovations. New projects include redevelopment of Lions Wayside and
Delucchi Parksin the downtown, Delucchi Parks in the downtown, the ACE train station, and working with the M useum on M ain to operate the A Iviso A dobe Park. Public safety projects include
upgrading radio communications equipment and establishing a police substation in the
Stoneridge Shopping Venter area.
ourse has bee cond is a huge success, pointed out city is to build a Happy Valle bypass road. Fial ho said a pre
ferred alignment as recom erred alignment as recom mended by a atakk force will com
to the council within the next 30 to the council within the next 30 be discussed.
Other categories on the list
include fiscal sustainabily, include fiscal sustainabilty, environmental awareness, youth lic information.

Under the environmental cat egory consideration will be given
to climate protection program under ICLI. The city will also
look at new garbage rates and look at new garbage rates and
new recycling programs. Improved city services will include a more streamlined development review process.
Councilmember Jerry Thorne sked how thefee study was pro gressing.
Fialho
Fialno explained that a constructure. "W hen it comes to cost recovery, the city is at the botthe full cost for a service Wharg to look at whether we want to raise the fees and if so, how much. The general fund has been percent of the development ser vices. The idea that developmen pays for itself does not exist when it comes to services."


## Our World Class Physician Staff Continues to Grow

PLEASE JOIN VALLEYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM IN WELCOMING:


Rakhee N. Shah, M.D.
Board Certified in General Surgery
Dr. Rakhee Shah has joined ValleyCare Health System specializing in general, laparoscopic and cancer surgery. Dr. Shah received her medical degree from Sheth KM School of Medicine \& Research in India in 1994 and went on to complete her residency in general and cancer surgery in India. After coming to the United States, she ulfilled internship requirements in general surgery at lllinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago in 2001 where she received honors, and then completed her residency at the University of Missouri, Kansas City in 2005. Dr. Shah recently Califorma. She is board certified in general surgery and has participated in several research projects.

Dr. Shah has joined the surgery practice of Dr. Chau Dang and Dr. Ramar Nambisan at 5575 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton. For an appointment, please call 925-460-3883.

## EDITORIALS

LARPD At 60
The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Events and discount fees are planned through the year, including 60 -cent gym and pool days in the sum mer and many special programs oriented to 60 -year
olds. LARPD is soliciting stories and memories for 60th anniversary "memory book." (If you have something to share, send it to 60years@larpd.dst.ca.us) Originally known as the Livermore A rea Park Rec-
reation and Parkway District, the agency was established by a vote of the Livermore electorate in 1947. The name was changed to the present one in 1959.
Reaching 60 didn't come easy. Just a few years ago state cutbacks were falling hard on small independent agencies like LARPD. The
survival seemed in doubt.
However, LARPD weathered the crisis and today is not only still breathing, but enjoying a renaissance. LARPD has become the go-to agency whenever some sports and regular sports, the arts, the stewardship of list of what LARPD does seems limitless. The birthday party should be joyous.

## Movies

The art of film making is on a roll here
Foremost, there's the annual California Independen Film Festival in Livermore (this year slated for A pril 14-22). In addition, other special cinema events have begun taking place through the year, with an especially the Contra Costa International Jewish Film Festival are being shown at Livermore's Vine Cinema this week. A dustry, is scheduled for 2 pm Saturday at the Pleasan dustry, is scheduled for $2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Saturday at the Peasan
ton Library. Then at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 15 loca film maker Scott Cornfield will come to Pleasanton's M useum on $M$ ain Street to show and discuss his documentary "Children of Alcatraz."
The cinema trend adds sparkle, diversity and an in ternational breadth to the Valley's cultural scene. We hope it grows.

## Commissioners Question Mayor's Choice

Members of the Pleasanton
Planning Commission were up-
set with the mayarors selection to
replace Brian Arkin on the comAt last Tuesday's city council
meeting current and meeting, current and past plan-
ning commissioners vooiced sup-
portfor the current alternate G reg Jennifer Hosterman's selection,
K athy Narum. (Narum has been a ation Commission. She served as election campaign.)
Several of the speakers ac-
cused the mayor of punishing 0 c onnor for supporting her op-
ponent in the last election. There ponen in the austions raised about
were al
the process used to make the apIt was the second time H oster-
man has passed over O' Connor
for the regular seat on the com-
mission. Hosterman's selection of
Narum was endorsed by the council, 4 to 1 . Cindy M G Govern was
the "no" vote. She agreed with planning commissioners that
$0^{\prime}$ 'Connor should have been the
choice. Other councilmembers said little about the persons in-
volved, pointing out that it is the volved, pointing out that it is the
mayor's right to select the plan-
ning commissioners. M ary R oberts, a former plan-
ning commissioner, said she had no quarrel with Narum being on the planning commission. She to regular commission. "That is Roberts pointed out that the some tough issues in the coming months, including the certifica-
tion of the general plan EIR. O'Connor has been involved
with the process and would not have to catch up on the issues.
Hosterman said, "I find it uncomfortable to talk about an don't want to have a lot of diswant to talk to him. I haven't had
the opportunity to do so. I have
$\qquad$
Fox prrent commissiod O'Connor's work on the planning commission. She
said he had been serving as a regular member since A Arkin re-
signed lastN ovember. "Hecomes to all the meetings and studies
the issues whether he is voting or not. To pass him
a slap in the face."
litical one. She noted that
Hosterman's choice the firsttime
O'Connor was not chosen to
serve as a regular commissioner
had developed a website for the
mayor during her campaign. Fon
said thatin 2006 , $\mathbf{N}^{\prime}$ Connor gava
$\$ 150$ to $\$ 150$ seve rozosky mayora
campaign. Fox felt that refusing
to appoint him to the commission was payback for that dona-
tion ul believe that working or contributing to a campaign
should not be part of the criteria
to be a planning commission to be a planning comm
member,"
Hox declared. Hosterman replied, "I am ab-
soluty flabbergasted that you solutely flabbergasted that you
think this is politically moti-
vated. I've appointed many people who have opposed me."
She noted that she had originally
appointed O'Connor as the alterappointed O'Connor as the alter-
Aate. nother commissioner, Phil
Blank stated, "T he appointment Blank stated, "The appointment
is at the mayor's discretion. She
doenn't have to explain the rea-
sonsto us." However, Blank then


## Hayashi to Host <br> Town Hall On <br> Health Care


 of our community of characte spect or integrity. I believe this
could have the appearance of
being political As a planning have to worry about who 1 sup-
port in the next election," added
Blank


Hayashi (D-Hayward) is hosting a health Care Town Hall on
Thursday, March 1 st at
ValleyCare M edical Center in Pleasanton from 7:00 p.m. to will provide the community
with an opportunity to hear directly from A ssemblymember Hayashi, who sits on the A ssem-
bly Health Committee, Iearn about each of the various health care proposals being discussed
in the legislature, and voice
and the current state of our health care.
Assemblymember H ay ashi will address several bills she has
introduced in the legis ature that introduced in the legislature that children's health. The meeting
will also be her first health care discussion since announcing her cide Prevention under the
partment of $M$ ental $H$ eal th. Following an overview of the
major health care proposals and the A ssemblymember's health
care bills the audiencewill have
an opportunity to ask a panel of an opportunity to ask a panel of
health care experts to provide
knowledge on a wide variety of health care topics. Panelists include health care professionals
and health policy leaders: Riand health policy eaders: RI-
chard Thomason, United
nat HealthcareWorkers; Dave K ears,
A lameda C ounty's Health Care Services; Sharon Cornu, Central
$\qquad$ Heal th System; and a represen-
tative from K aiser Permanente. Hayashi serves the 18th A s-
sembly District, which includes

## millndependemit

San Leandro, H ayward, Dublin,
most of Castro Valley and Pleasmost of Castro Valley and Pleas-
anton, and a portion of Oakland, as well as the unincorporated
areas of A shland, Cherryland and

Zone 7 OKs Budget, Honors Departing Manager

| Zone 7 Water A gency's budget for 2007-08 has the stamp of approval from the agency's board to approve the $\$ 189$ million budget at their meeting Feb. 21. <br> Director Bill Stevens was absent. <br> The operating expenses portion of the budget totals $\$ 69 \mathrm{mil}-$ lion. It is the portion supported all the cost of acquiring water will be going up $\$ 2$ million in the budget. A price increase of $\$ 2$ per acre foot from the state water project (SW P) is in part re- sponsible for the boost. There also will be more water acquired, because of new water storage capability, which Zone 7 has acquired from the Cawelo Water <br> The budget shows that Zone 7 is still on target for an 8 percent increase in the water rate, ber, and made effective J an. 1 . <br> B esides the state's increased cost of water, there is al so a need to raise the rates to fund the money devoted to replacing pipelines and other equirs two years ago set a 10 -year goal to gradually increase the water rate to ensure enough money to cover the rising cost. <br> The capital improvements portion of the Zone 7 budget will rise from $\$ 50$ million in the curThefund varies widely from year to year, as construction projects are begun or ended. A major share of the cost in the 2007-08 budget is $\$ 74$ million for work on the A Itamont Pipeline treatment plant, which is due for complelation growth caused the need for expansion to a third water plant, the cost is paid from the connection fees that the agency charges developers. <br> Some $\$ 8.8$ million of the capital improvements budget will be |  |
| :---: | :---: |

est accomplishment." sentation from Bert M i chalczyyk Ramon Services District
(DSRSD). Conveying the sentiments of the DSRSD board and staff, M ichal czyk said that M y yers
deserves much creditfor looking ahead to ensure an adequate wanext 25 years.
Pleasanton city staff member city's plaque. He thanked M yers
to an anti-drought water supply and for helping initiate measures quality in Pleasanton and Dublin. The Livermore City Council its meetings. $M$ archand pre sented him with the city's plaque.

Frehouse Ars Center wirbe a gen that will draw people into ide andeasanton. It will pro that touch our emotions and bring us together as a community for years to come.
Reznick added, "The involve nity members demonstrates the type of leadership that is needed
in this community as we evolve

## Council OKs Infill Neighborhood


(Opinions voiced in letters
published in $M$ ailbox are those



## Incorrect Caption <br> Joe Brabant

Today I showed up at the Sun-
day tough rugby match and the day tough rugby match and the
guys were calling me matt. When I was ler in on the the joke att. When
I was told that in a photo of some of us
touch rugby players (article by
Robert Several, pg $17, M$ arch
2007- l'm wearing the wool hat) 1 am described as P Peasanton City
Councilmember M att Sullivan. I assure you it was good for a
few laughs during the touch
match. Furthermore the rugby group would like me to use my
stature to put in a good word for

## Iraq War Discussion

## MikeDuarte

Pleasanton
1 uut returned home from
speaking at the February 20,
2007 Pleasanton
speaking at the February
2007 Pleasanton City Counc
meeting. The Iraq War discus

## NO CHILD

students with disabilities, En
glish Language Learners (ELL), Hispanic/L Latino, A frican-A meri can, A sian, and filipino subfor two col hative years goes into Program Improvement (PI). in the first year, schools must reare eligible to transfer their children to a non-PI school with paid transportation. If a school stays in PI for 4-5 years, sanctions can
include removing staff, decreasing management authority, extending the school day or year, and restructuring the school's internal organization.
school districts receiving federal Title 1 funds. Livermore currently has five Title I schools: unction Avenue Middle School and J ackson A venue Elementary Schools. Of those schools, Portola and M arylin are in PI.
Both schools met their schoolBide API targets in math and language arts. However, Marylin ELL and Hispanic/L atino subgroups did not meet federal languages and math targets. The so-
cioeconomically di sadvantaged subgroup did not meet its language arts target.
cally disadvantaged and pically disadvantaged, and His panict federino subgroups did not gets. All subgroups met math targets at Portola.
Junction became a Title 1 school at the start of the current says required careful consideration. The school is entitled to the extra funding. However, taking Title 1 money exposes the
school to federal sanctions if it does not meetAY P.
Last year, J unction did not
meet AYP because its Hispaid atino, socioeconomically disdvantaged and ELL subgroups did not meet the percent proficient goals in both math and language arts. It is unclear if Junc-
tion will go into PI if it does not achieve AY P this year. Bowers says she's received conflicting answers on the issue. The Livermore School Board day for all students at unction making it the only middle school in the District with this schedule. Trustee A nne White describes this action as a proactive
attempt to keep the school out of

The new schedule will take effect next fall and extend Junction's school day by about
50 minutes. The longer day will allow intervention or an elective or sixth graders. Seventh and eighth graders can take two elecin an intervention class. "One of the sanctions under
NCLB is lengthening the school day," says Junction Principal Uusan Sambuceti. "We're already will benefit all of our students. TEST EXEMPTIONS The $95 \%$ participat
quirement causes problems
Cal ifornia, because state law Iows parents of students in grad 2-11 to exempt their children from taking standardized tests.
Livermore schools have typically met the participation rate requirement. Last year A Itamont C reek EI-
ementary, which raised its score by 34 points to 842 , did not meet one AY P criteria because the participation rate in the
students with group was to o low. NCI B consequences do not apply because the school
funds.
A ss

A ssessing students with disabilities is complicated under
NCLB. Students with disabilities who take state assessments with their Individual prescribed in Plan (IEP) are deemed "non parlating school participation rates for AY P. They are automatically given a Far B elow B asic score of
200 for the school or district's API calculations. API is one of the four criteria used as indicators for the AYP Pa well, so the
score of 200 affects both AP and score of 200 affects both A Pl and
AYP, but does not affect the individual child's score.
MAKING SENSE OF REQUIREMENTS On this issue, the CSBA asks,
it makes sense to design indiIf it makes sense to design indigrams for students woals and di probilities, doesn't it also make sense to measure their academic
achievement using specialized achievement using specialized
instruments?" Some adjustments have been
made to allow for the needs of students with disabilities. However, critics say the reform is not
complete. Severely disabled stu dents can take the California AIternative Performance A ssessmaximum of $1 \%$ of all students
The California D epartment of lar alternative developing a simiwith moderate cognitive disabili ities called the California M odifed A ssessment (CM A ). Federal
regulations for the CM A are expected to be finalized early this year. The stated purpose of the
CM A is to provide students with di sabili ities greater access to the

LOW SCORES FOR NON-PARTICIPATION Participation rate and its ef fect on overall scores becomes
more compli cated in high school. To take a CST, the basis for API
and thus AYP. students must be and thus AY P, students must be
enrolled in a course in that subAn analysis of Livermore's test scores for the $2005 / 06$ school and Livermore High School Students who did not take a M ath
The report found that 89 LHS students did not take a M ath
CST, resulting in a loss of $18-36$
API points Grand A PI points. Granada lost $28-56$
A PI points because A PI points because 157 of its stu-

Failure to take a CST results in an automatic score of 200, or comes far more complicated af ter examining why students are not taking the CST.
To take the M ath CST, students in grades $9-11$ must be enrolled in a math class for the en-
tire school year. Yet state gradutire school year. Yet state gradu-
ation high school requirements only call for two years of math. Granada's block schedule al so
adds an interesting twist. On the adds an interesting twist. On the
block schedule, students take just three or four classes each semester. Each class represents a year's worth of work. Some advanced math students are able to
complete the entire math sequence before their junior year. These advanced students, who are not allowed to take the test because of their course schedule,
automatically receive the lowest possible score.
This smpacts the school's participation rate, even though
schools legally cannot test those schoois leg
students.
W hite at a me get this right," said "We are not allowed to test them. yet they still count as a non par
ticipant? This is ludicrous." The District is lookrous. eral remedies to this particular issue. Students who have completed Al gebra II can take the
Summative High School M athsummatics Test, which counts for A PI/AY P, est, which if they are not enrolled in a math course. "We just have to make sure we get
these students tested," says Bowthese students tested," says B ow-
ers. "Sometimes teenagers don't understand how important these tests are for schools."
The District is considering in creasing the graduation require-
ment to three years of math. The Dublin Unified School District recently increased its graduation requirements to match the Uni
versity of California admission versity of California admission
requirements. The change, which requils for six. semesters of math, will go into effect for the class of
2012.

A nother option is introducing a math class with broad appeal
to encourage students to tak three years of math, similar to G ranada's Forensic Science class.
As a result of the new forensic as a result of the new forensic
class, which is not required Class, which is not required,
nearly all of $G$ ranada's freshmen now take science.
Trustee K ate R unyon sug-
gested an excel-based math class, gested an excel-based math class,
focused on science or business as a course that might have both broad appeal and practical appli


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STATE HASMORE
NON-NATIVE SPEAKER A ssessing ELL students is other California-specificic issue, as the state has more non-native
speakers than most other states. Currently students who have yeen in school for more than one lar assessment tests.
The 2005/06 school year was sidered ane that ELL was consubgroup in Livarm significant assessment under development, California English Language Deallow students to be tested in spanish. Livermore is participatThe CSBA says the problem with assessing ELL students is hat by definition, students in this mastery of the English language o be proficient on standardslonger considered ELL.
$\qquad$ new students who have not yet subgroup A s a result ciency requirements of this rroup can never be met. CSBA believes
hat NCLB should focus on growth relevant to that subgroup. the child need that doesnn't knows th glish well," says White "We should be testing progress in a morefair way."
InJ anuary, $W$
In J anuary, W hite attended the National School Boards
A ssociation's Federal Relations Netw ork (FRN) Conference in Washington D.C. At the conference board members gave mem bection on educational issues including NCLB and the Disabilities E ducation A ct.
President Bush is committed to reauthorizing NCLB this year. School Board A ssociation NCLB" campaign with the goal of "fixing NCLB to ensure it
achieves the laudablegoals itwas created to meet."
ing school boards acr representtion attended, with about the from California. This is the first year handful of has sent more than sentatives to the conference. Caliornia is unusual in that all of its educational interests, from unions to school boards, are
working together to solve the issues.

Community Center 'Elbow Room' Open to Families
The Livermore A rea Recreation and Park District (LA RPD) has
opened the "Elbow Room" family fun center to the public. It is open six days a week.

The room was previosuly used as a teen center.
Located in the Robert Livermore Community Center at 444 EastA venue in Livermore, the "El bow R oom" offers activities such The center also features Wii, the fifth video game console released by Nintendo that has a wireless controller. It can be used as a handheld pointing device that can detect motion and rotation in three dimensions. A nother "El bow Room" option is Guitar Hero II day season. The game allows for solo lead guitar, or create your own band and then go on tour, starting out in a Midwest high school battle of the bands and progressing to bigger venues that finally culminate at Stonehenge in England. The game venues now feature The "Elbow Room" is open on a drop-in basis each M onday through Thursday from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00.p.m., and on school rel ease days from noon to $6: 00$ p.m. The fee is $\$ 2$ per person. Children ages and under must be accompanied by an adute or sibling age 15 and For more information, please call (925) 373-5729.

## Bills Address HOT Lanes, Baby Safety

A ssembly $M$ ember A Iberto Torrico ( $D-$ Fremont) has reintroduced
a bill to extend the time mothers have to surrender their babies signated sites to prevent infant deaths caused by abandonment. The bill is part of his legislative agenda, which al so focuses on High Occupancy Toll lanes, special education, affordable Torrico represents District 20, which includes portions of Pleasanton. 81 extends the 72 -hour safe surrender baby (SSB) provision to 30 days, giving mothers a chance to recover and clearly conside their options, while also accounting for various mental-health reing for a public aw areness campaign to inform mothers that SSB is a safe and confidential option. Additionally, this bill offers grants to county social service agencies that have safe esurrender public caware ness programs and creates a $1-800$ number in multiple languages.
AB 574 would remove sunset dates on High Occupancy Tol lanes in A lameda and Santa Clara counties, allowing both counties to bond against future revenue to hel p puild the lanes sooner. It also allows A lameda County to operate three rather than two HOT lane projects, and grants Santa Clara County the ability
public-private partnerships to operate its HOT lanes.
A HOT lane is authorized, but not yet built, to operate on the Sunol $G$ rade segment of Highway 680 . The highway tolls would be collected in a similar fashion to that used to operate the Fastrak be allowed to access the lanes by paying a toll.
AB 641 would assist the financial feasibility of constructing affordable housing by requiring the defearral of some local fees on housing projects where at least 49 percent of the units are affordabl until construction is completed.


1870 First St, Livermore Ph 925.447.9629 Hours: M-F 9 to $8 \cdot$ Sat. 9 to $6 \cdot$ Sun. 10 to 5

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Irish Dance at Library


| About the Birds <br>  Livermore A Area Recreation and Park District March 4. 4 ARPD) ranger 5 taff on Sun. $M$ eet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 8 a.m. at the Nature A rea entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. This bird walk (yes, it's a birdwalk) will last about two hours A few binoculars and field guides to lend. Beginning birders are encouraged to attend. Cancelled if raining. <br> fee. A $\$ 2$ donation is requested parking <br>  |
| :---: |

## OBITUARIES



Family Science Night



## Ask the Doctor

## 



Police Promotions


Diabetes Seminar



Immunization Clinic






 District Honored











William H. Roeben, Jr.

## William H. Roeben, r. died Feb- ruary 22, 2007 in Walnut Creek. He

Hewas raised in Visalia, wherehis fatherowned afruitpacking company.
He retired from the A lameda C ounty

$\qquad$ Search of work. Hejoined the carpenters' union and worked as a carpententer
on many local projects until his retireon many local projects until his retire-
mentin 1977 A skilled craftsman, he
madefunnituref orfamily andfrieds Hewas an active member of theCam brian Park Church of the Nazarene In the last several years, Doug
lived in Castro Valley with his wife Gerri. After her confinementto anursing home, helived with sons and their
famil iesatvarioustimes inLivermore Pinoleand Sacramento.
He will be honored at a memorial
celebratin bis lif celebrating his life at 11 a.m. on Sat.,
M arch 3 at Cambrian Park Churchof TheN azarene, 2577 CoitDr., SanJ ose.
In lieu of flowers, the family invites donationsto the church.
A rrangements by Call aghan M or-


The Human Services Commission of the City of Pleasanton has set Wednesday, March 7, 2007, at the hour of 7:00 p.m., in the Pleasanton Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, as the time and place for a meeting to consider the following matter:

> Presentation from Nonprofit Agencies and Recommendation to Allocate Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for Fiscal Year 2007 (2007-2008). Following the hearing, the Commission will formulate a funding recommendation for review by the City Council at a separate meeting to be held in April.

Notice is hereby given that the above hearing shall be held and all persons concerned shall be heard by the Human Services Commission.


The Sky Martial Arts Academy, Las Positas College and American Martial Arts Association hosted the 8th Annual American Open International Taekwondo Tournament Championships last Saturday at the college. The competition

## Baseball Gear Sough



## Youth Soccer



CYO Basketball
8tharade boys $\pm$ \#804) won the CYO basket-
ball champioinshin of the National Division
by defeating












Run Like the Wind

 ers). This eventer features a a run, or a a walk, for
every member of the family iod
 Ramon' sestablished and recentyty constructed
planned communities (eastside of highway
680 )








 family registration: race-team competition
reigetration and scoring; course maps; and
much more.

California Gymnastics


## JV Softball



## 

 Pet Sitting Services
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## Sponsors Exemptions Annnounced for Wine County Championship

The Bay A rea influence on the 2007 Livermore Valley Wine
Country Championship at Wente Vineyards continues to grow. OfCountry Championship at Wente Vineyards continues to grow. Of-
ficials of the Nationwide Tour event M arch 29-A pril 1 announced that Pleasanton's Joel K ribel has received one of four sponsor exemptions to
wine event.
tional tour veteran Tom Gillis ans have been awarded to internaand sand San Jose tour proJ ohn Ellis. A mong the players who have confirmed to play at Wente Vineyards are 2004 . S. Ryder Cup Team member Chris Riley, Hank
K uehne, whose 2006 season on the PGA Tour was limited to nine events because of a back injury, and two-time PGA Tour winner $M$ ark W iebe from San Jose, who turns 50 in september. "Hometown ton are al ready committed to play in the Wine Country Championship. and 2004. Last year he finished No. 98 on the Nationwide Tour money list, with $\$ 53,279$, with two season-best finishes of tied for pro, recently playing in the AT\&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. A four-

Tiger Woods, K ribel's amateur career included the finals at the 1997 World $A$ mateur team member.
Gillis, 38 , is a former member of the European Tour who has flown more than a million miles in his career, which began in 1990 Gillis played on the PGA Tour in 2003 and 2005, and last year was In lis most recently has played on the Canadian Tour, where last year he was $44^{\text {th }}$ on the $O$ rder of $M$ erit.
The international field of 144 is to compete at Wente Vineyards
for a total purse of $\$ 625,000$ in the fifth event of the 2007 season for a total purse of $\$ 625,000$ in the fifth event of the 2007 season.
competition is 72 holes and features top players on the Nationwide Tour in its only Bay A rea stop.
While the field of tour pros fills, so are spots in the two pro-am tournaments, March 26 and 28 - each day featuring teams of four amateurs are paired up with a touring profesional. There are a limFor more details, call (925) 447-2200 or e-mail tournament director Chris Conway at chris@ winecountry championship.com. Tickets for the tournament are avail able at Ticketmaster and TriValley Safeway stores. On-line orders benefit various local non-
profit organizations, go to www.winecountrychampionship.com/ tickets.html

Pony Baseball





Track and Field Sign ups


## Gymfinity Gymnastics

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Golf TourneyTicket The Livermore Valley Wine Country
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The Courshat Wente ineyaracts from M arch N Apitit tournament show cases the PGA
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 Golf Tournament


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sorship opportunities are also avai ible.

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By Susan Steinberg
debt of gratitude to Dominique Piana, the indefatigable founder and sparkplug of the glorious This is a superb network of professional musicians and teacherswho gather at infrequen chamber repertoire, and are kind nough to let the public listen. Although busy with their or joy the small ensemble music
making in an intimate setting, as making in an intimate setting, as played. Their listeners can share al so the joyful zest of their interactions, as if guests at a private gathering.
was cleverly kind," and featured such unusua pairings of "like instruments" a ets, as well as several voca

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Author Speaks on 'California's Experience'
America's Future"" and most recently, "California" America's High-
Stakes Experiment," will present a program in Livermore on March
The program will be held at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Liv-
Longtime educutation writer and a weekly columnist for the Sacra-
mento Bee, Schrag will focus his talk on "The New Coliforna and mento Bee, Schrag will focus his talk on "The New California and There is no admission charge. The Friends of the Livermore and arts events.
For additional events, check the library's website at

[^1]heavenly sound - a rare combination al most never experienced
ased a wide variety of selections
anging from 11 th Century B ach and classical 18th Century comas Schubert, Schumann, and Bellini, Vordi, opera composers and even a thoroughly modern The program offered something for everyone's taste, like hors-d'oeuvres. Not to imply that the selections were lightweight or trifling. On the contrary, the was impressive and tectified to the many hours of rehearsal nec-

The double-flute and doubleclarinet duets were especial ly delightful. Their carefully atsical conversations between two dear friends, with the audience happily "eavesdropping" on
by concert-goers.
$\qquad$ lustrated the fine art of skilfull harmonizing in the familiar "B arof Hoffman." In contrast, the same singers demonstrated impressive technical mastery of
florid bel-canto style in the duet from Bellini's "B eatrice di Tenda."
Adding to the warm intimacy of the afternoon was the obvious camaraderie of friends enjoying making music with each other,
and the spontaneous personal and the spontaneous personal selection, making the audience feel part of their friendship. Dominique Pianc flutists Karen Dominique Piana; flutists K aren
Stasko Veca and Teresa O rozcoPetersen; clarinetists Joseph Bonfiglio and Gary Sears; celists Laurence Granger, Gay
agen Dunn, Peter Bedrossian,
and J im Aikin; baritone Robert Steiner; soprano Sarah Franklin, and mezzo-soprano Lisa Scarborough.
Sensitively-nuanced piano
accompaniment by Mary M artin nd Priscilla Carter G rantin proved a particular delight to this istener. Such intuitive phrasing supporting and complementing the various performers is a
rare pleasure to hear in recitals these days.
Enthusiastic applause from an ppreciative audience kept the artists returning for numerous bows. It was a well - -deserved tribour Valley's musical scene. This reviewer is eagerly awaithich will concert on A pril 29, a work composed specifically or the Pleasanton Chamber Play sical mil estone yor another muensemble.

Valley Concert Chorale auditions, by
appointment. for experienced sing-
ers interested in singing with the
2: Barber: K noxville: Summer of
1915. Tirfany Comarti, soprano,
Soloctit Grofe: Grand Canyon suite.
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www. ivicartsticets.org. Informa-
vion: $931-5361$
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Fourth and South $L$ Streets. Tickets
$\$ 18$ genal admission, $\$ 6$ seniors
over 62 and full-time students; free



 and over, and military ID, and $\$ 15$
for students 18 and under. Tickets
are aval able on the at
www.shakespearesassociates.org or or
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ntries. Propams at musem are
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The cast of "The Mikado" in rehearsal.

## Livermore Valley Opera Presents Gilbert \& Sullivan's The Mikado

Livermore Valley Opera con- to the post of Lord High Execu- be relatively painlessly decap tinues the celebration of its 15th season with Gilbert and
Sullivan's The Mikado. Performances will be M arch 10 and 17 at $8 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. and M arch
11 and 18 at $2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. at the Livermore High School Theater, 600 $M$ aple Street.
The story of The Mikado revolves around a young fellow Smucker) who has banished himself from the little town of Titipu. Nanki-Poo, it seems, has fallen in love with a beautiful young ady called Yum-Yum (K rista Wigle). Unfortunately, Yum-Yum guardian, the tailor K O-K O (Robert Sholty).
However, when Nanki-Poo hears that K o-K o has been concrime of flirting he hastily re turns to Titipu, only to learn that K o-K o has not only been granted a reprieve, but has been promoted

## SF Comedy Competition in Pleasanton


#### Abstract

A pastSan Francisco Comedy Competition finalist in the Best of San Francisco Comedy wil perform in Pleasanton on Satur ay, $M$ arch 10, at $8: 00$ p.m. be 2003 Competition Finali ist Rob Little, whom The D Detroi Free press selected as M ichian's Free press selected as Michigan's "Best Up and Coming Comedian." A ppearing with Little will be DrakeW itham, a surprise host and a special guest. City of Pleasanton City of Pleasanton Civic Arts mancents will host the perfor mance at the A mador Theater 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasan "The Best of San Francisco orite," says Civic Arts M anag A ndy Jorgensen. "It's a great op portunity for Tri-Valley resident to enjoy top-notch comedy talhome. We're looking forward to enjoying a relaxing evening of fun and adult humor with our audience again this year. summed up in two words, pure optimism. His ability to see things in a positive light has served him well as a comedian fter being fired from his job as couraging his coworkers to "quit



be relatively painlessly decapi-
tated. Nanki-Poo agrees on the condition that he is married to Yum-Yum right away so that he
can spend his last month in wedcan spend his last month in wed-
ded bliss. But just as the wedded bliss. But just as the wed-
ding celebration begins, a law is ding celebration begins, a aw is
discovered, much to Yum-Yum's distress, which decrees that a condemned man's wife must be buried alive with his corpse! proven to be an audience favor proven to be an ada ence eavor-
ite. The Mikado was originally staged at the Savoy Theatre in London on M arch 14, 1885 and is widely considered to be th
jewel in the $G \& S$ crown jewel in the $G \& S$ crown.

Producer K athieen Breedveld has assembled a talented cast for Manwell will present a pre-opera lecture at 7 pm .
Tickets are $\$ 25$ to $\$ 40$. Information or tickets available at
$960-9210$ or the website at www.livermorevalleyopera.com.
tioner. A pparently, those in power, wishing to slow down the
rash of executions, reason that since K o-K o was next in line for one else's head until he cuts off his own!
The M ikado (Paul Sinasohn), however, soon takes notice of the lack of executions in Titipu and
decrees that if no executions take place within the time of one month, the city shall be reduced to the status of a village. K O-KO own head, vows to find a substi tute, and as luck would have it just at that moment Nanki-P wanders onto the stage with
rope determined to take his own life rather than live life without his beloved Yum-Yum. Ko-Ko immediately seizes on this op portunity and offers the young
lad one month of luxurious living at the end of which he would

## Beth Emek to Present Rock Concert

Congregation Beth Emek is hosting a rock concert by the in- Dan, who remains engaged in the ternationally-acclaimed Jewish rock band Dan Nichols \& E18hteen on Saturday, M arch 17 at $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$. The concert, one of
the biggest undertakings in the congregation's history, will be held at Beth Emek's facility at 3400 Nevada Street in PleasanJewish themes and values through music Beth Emek' rabbi, Richard Winer, and mem bers of the congregation realized that) ew ish youth in the area hunger to hear those themes presented in a way that speaks di-
rectly to them. Dan Nichols \& E18hteen answer this need by presenting the spirit of Judaism n a modern rock format.
The band's music has been
embraced across the country.

Dan, who remains engaged in the gregations in gregations in North Carolina and
Five, and others. E18hteen's cofounder M ason Cooper has written and produced television and film themes and been involved
in the careers of $G$ George B ernie Taupin, and Stevie Wonder.
The concert is open to anyone interested in hearing spiritu-
ally inspired, high quality rock ally inspired, high quality rock
music. Advanceticket prices for reserved seating are $\$ 36$. Prices for general admission tickets for adults are $\$ 18$ if purchased in advance and $\$ 20$ at the door; for
teens $\$ 16$ advance and $\$ 18$ at the teens $\$ 16$ advance and $\$ 18$ at the door; and for seniors and youth
(ages 3-12) $\$ 10$ advance and $\$ 12$ at the door. All advance tickets must be purchased by February
19 and reserved ticket sales end


Tickets can be purchased online at www.bethemek.org dan nichols or at the Beth Emek Pleasanto 3400 N evada Street in Pleasanton M onday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday from 9A M
to 2PM. For more information call Congregation Beth Emek 925-931-1055 or e-mail programs@ bethemek.org.

Livermore: (925) 447-5299 • Pleasanton: (925) 417-0110 new income for their activities. By purchasing tickets to theWine arts supporters can enjoy the best in professional golf while supporting their favorite performing arts group," said Len A lexander,
LV PA C's Executive Director. "We're committed to bringing exciting arts and entertainment activities to Livermore and the
Tri-Valley. Partnering a world-

events (instrument families)
Brass and Percussion, Wood winds, Strings, and Vocal and Piano.
The The purpose of a Solo \& Enfor "Art" music. Performanceliterature therefore will consist of "classical" repertoire. Students may perform either as a soloistor as part
etc.).
Entrants will have five minutes to perform a selection in front of a judge. All judges are public
school educators known for their expertise as musicians and teachers. A fter the recital each sol oist/ ensemble receives comments and a rating which compares their
performance against a standard for their age group. Ratings



Ronda Ropes (left) as Melody Plunkett and Ron Smith as Colt Revolver, Jr. rehearse for Sunol's annual melodrama performance
Audience Encouraged to Hiss \& Boo The Sunol Repertory Theatre was founded in 1982 by Tom and has been presenting a mel odrama every year for 25 season. Season 26 performance is entitled, "Taming the Widd Wild Villain the Slip." Performances are $M$ arch 10 , 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 at Sunol
Glen School Theatre, 11601 Glen School Theatre, 11601 $M$ ain Street, Sunol. All
mances begin at 8 p.m.
The show is adapted by Billy St. John and directed by Klay Kunkel.
The Sunol Repertory Theatre Vicki Harland to provide entertainment, establish a community tradition, and create an opportu-
nity to raise funds to benefit the educational experience for students at Sunol Glen School. The company has donated more than
$\$ 84,000$ to the school over its 25 $\$ 84,000$ to the
year history.
Tickets ar Tiskers. are $\$ 12.50$ for
Terved seating. They can be purchased at Elliston Winery pund
chan Little Valley Winery on Kilkare Road in Sunol on weekends be-
tween 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. or online

## Watch Championship Golf And Support Arts Groups

## The Livermore Valley Per- forming Arts Center has estab-

 forming Arts Center has estabthe Livermore Valley Winegrowers' Foundation, host of the Liv Chmore Valley Wine country cial support for several of the TriValley performing arts organizations that will use LV PA C'S new 500 -seat theater beginning inOctober of this year. October of this year.
The Wine Countr onship will be held M arch 29April 1 at The Course at Wente Vineyards. It is the fifth stop on
the PGA NationwideTour. By visiting Championship's website at www.winecountrychampionship.com, arts supporters may purchase PGA event tickets and designate $1 / 2$ of their favorite performing arts group. Participating groups include the California Independent
Film Festival Del Valle eine film Festival, Del Valle FineArts,
ivermore Valley Opera, Valley Concert Chorale and Valley Dance Theatre.
"We are delighted to be able to provide additional ways to that will use our theater generate
class golf event with our performance arts groups is just one ex-
ample of that commitment. We hope that the community will continue to join us in our efforts." LVPAC's 500 -seat theater, the ues, is slated to open in O ctober of this year and will serve as home for a number of Tri-Valley
performing organizations. In adperforming organizations. In ad-
dition, the theater is expected to host visiting performers from around the Bay A rea and beyond along with conferences, public
events lectures and seminars.

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After eight days leading the peloton of 144 elite, international cyclists that included Olympic medalists and world champions, Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team's Levi Leipheimer (USA) was crowned as champion of the 2007 Amgen Tour of California today with a total time of 24 hours, 57 minutes and 24 seconds. A resident of Santa Rosa, Calif., Leipheimer is the second consecutive Californian to win the title. Stage three of the tour, between Stockton and San Jose, went through Livermore. Riders in a sixteen man break-away head up Patterson Pass. Jason McCartney from Team Discovery is the front rider in this photo. He finished third in the race, 54 seconds behind the winner.

## WE THE PEOPLE

M arch 3. Each has pledged $\$ 1$ course.
The pledge money has been expanded. Pentin, a past president of Pleasanton North Rotary Club, asked the club to donate mileage he will cover on the bike ride. He received nearly $\$ 1000$ in pledges. Pentin said that any one interested in making a donation can get in touch with him at jerry@ pertincom orry@pentin.com. tact, at 447-5001, ext. 1103. A nother donor has been the Chinese-A merican Council. The organization collected the fair in Pleasanton, where they celebrated the lunar New Year. The civics class has also begun writing grant applications, said
IT'SALIFESTYLE,NOT JUST A COMPETITION Teamwork is one of the thin that stands out about the "We the People" experience, said team member Carl Schlachte. "Befffort we lace a lot of and It's not likewriting a paper. These people are my best friends. I have 30 people I know I can hang out with," he said.
Typically, many of the students are on the civics team behistory and current events. Th was Schlachte's case. He said, " was al ways interested in politics. In the eighth grade, I drew a political cartoon lampooning more an idea of using this information to further my know ledge of politics."
Whether or not he pursues polther field in college or some said that the result of his work on We the People has been acquisition of better speaking and thinking skilis. We re lucky to have
five seconds to answer questions
from judges. Thinking on our feet is very important. If you stumble in competition," he said. Summing up the competition's effect on him, Schlachte said, "I have become a person more comfortable under
pressure. It's a good developpressure. It's a good develop-
ment process. Everyone changed in some way."
The team started conducting its research and preparing its talks in earnest last fall, though some got a start in the summer. A ggregately, the 30 students
combined for a total of 15,000 hours of research and speech preparation, said adviser Ladd. A nother 10,000 hours will pre-
pare the pare the team for the finals.
A mador Valley was not favorite going into the state competition. However, the hard work paid off, said another team member, Bianca Poncedeleon. "I knew we worked as hard as we possibly could. We were well-pre-
pared. (The research and preparation) is the equivalent of all our homew ork put together," she
said. said. Once they were at the state contest, the students could tell how it was going for them by the "If they have a lot of criticism, then it probably didn't go so well. If they are stumbling to find
something, then you know it's something, then you know it's
good," she said good, CONSTITUTION

STUDIEDIN DEPTH
the U.S. . the U.S. Constitution. That's the subject matter for seniors in Cali
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## Janice Pementel "Thanks Dad"

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take part in the competitions. The students examine the colonia
era and its influence on the nation's founders and on government today. Students delve into current conflicts over constitutional issues, such as freedom of the expansion of civil rights and civil liberties.
Ladd said that attention is also paid to "what makes good citizens. How do we influence other countries, and how do they influence us?" This is all done in
non-partisan context, he said. We the People is voluntary. A elatively small number of chools take part. A mador was one of three that competed in the
11th Congressional District (CD). A fter winning at the congres sional district level, A mador Val ley beat winners from five congressional districts, before Members of the team ar avid Anderson, A dam Bacal Olga Beltsar, M ika B hatia Yvonne Chi, Tyler Creighton, A aron Diggins, Robert Doxey, A lexene Farol, Wesley Garwood,
A lex Hall, Emma Holmquist, L auren Ivey, Garima K al ra, Catherine K ennedy, Taylor Lane, Christopher Loncarich, Devin Maguire, A ngelo $M$ arcelino, Elena M oreno, Bianca Ponce de Leon, Prachi Priyam, Carl
Schlachte, Carena Schmidt Elizabeth Smutz, Darylen Terry, -inda Wan, Frederick Young Alen Yu, A lex Zhu.
The team is coached by Brian Ladd.

ARROYO SECO
"Hit the Road Jack" by Ray A she, Venus and Serena Williams, M ichael Jordan, Bessie Throughout the performance, Charles, Oprah Winfrey, A lice each of the 64 students shared information about one famous are doing a research report. The personalities featured ranged from the historical-such as Frederick D ouglass, M artin -uther King, Jr., and Sojourner Barak Obama, Colin Powell, and Condoleezza Rice. $M$ any students chose enter-
tainers, writers tainers, writers, and sports stars
from the past and present A rthur

## Kitchen Needs Volunteers

Open Heart K itchen is in need lection Saturdays 12:30 to $2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.
of volunteers to help prepare and serve meals.
Open Heart is a non-profit meal service with programs in Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton. A bout 2500 meals are served
every week.
It would not be possible to serve over 10,000 meals each month without the help of the
community.
Volunter opportunities include the following: Pleasanton: senior hot meal program at Ridgeview Com-
mons; weekdays, 3 shifts available; hot meal programs at Trin-
ity L'utheran C Church Fridays 4 to
6:30 p.m.; Pleasanton Farmers
M arket, produce donataoins col-


PET OF THE WEEK Sparks is a very playful, friendly and energetic 2 -year old
Pomeranian mix. We don't know what other breeds are in his lineage, but it is something larger,
as he weighs 28 pounds. He loves as he weighs 28 pounds. He love
to play outside, chasing toys and going for walks. In his toys and life, he was kept outdoors, bu
since he has moved to his foster since he has moved to his foster
home, he is making rapid progress home, he is making rapid progress
on his house training and leash training. An active family with another friendly dog would make a very happy home for Sparks. For
more information, call Valley Humane Society at $925-426-8656$ Mobile pet adoptions for dogs and cats are held at Pet Extreme in
Livermore every Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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1 \$7.99 HAIRCUT \$ $\$ 45$ FULL нוGнLIGHTS Open 7 Days
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    Visit our Parent Information Meetings \& website to discover our 21st century Piano Program. See how we use social cognitive neuroscience, developmental psychology, and other research (including our own) to develop better piano teaching practices! 866-929-2787
    www.pianoweb,net for location and dates.

