



### See Inside Section A

Section A is filled with information about arts, people, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board.

## Valley Link Applies for \$400 Million In Funds Once Earmarked for BART

By Ron McNicoll

Valley Link is now officially asking the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) for an amendment to Measure BB, which would replace BART with Valley Link as the recipient of \$400 million. BART's extension to Livermore is now dead.

ACTC Executive Director Art Tao acknowledged that a request has been received from Valley Link. More information is needed from the applicant, as part of ACTC's due diligence, before its

board can formally consider it.

Valley Link representatives point out that because Valley Link will help connect Livermore to the Pleasanton BART station, the money will be used for the same purpose, that is, to support Alameda County residents who passed transportation Measure BB. It will be up to cities in San Joaquin County to pay for the stations and improvements in their county.

The picture for transportation grants has shrunk in recent years. Valley Link Executive Director

Michael Tree has said the agency will be looking for good funding sources.

The total cost of the Tri-Valley portion of Valley Link is estimated at \$1.2 billion. Even after \$188 million in bridge tolls are provided, and \$40 million in development impact fees from the City of Livermore, there will be a shortfall, perhaps as much as \$600 million, because of dwindling government grants.

Valley Link is exploring the possibility of getting \$600 million

from a potential nine-county Bay Area sales tax. Organizations such as San Francisco-based planning group SPUR and the Bay Area Council have banded together to try to gauge support for a \$100 billion fund that would be produced by a regional 1% sales tax.

They point to huge regional sales taxes which have been supported in Los Angeles and Seattle, and believe Bay Area voters would support a similar approach.

(See VALLEY RAIL, page 10)

## Author Gives Captivating Talk On Immigrants' Experiences

By Jeff Garberson

A prize-winning author last week described her personal journey to explore the challenging and sometimes brutal system faced by immigrants who arrived in U.S. without papers.

Speaking at Livermore's Bankhead Theater, the author, Shanthi Sekaran, said she was motivated to write about the topic after hearing an NPR radio report about a Guatemalan mother whose baby was adopted by an American couple while she was being deported from the U.S.

As a writer, but also as a mother and the daughter of immigrants

(See IMMIGRATION, page 2)



The AC Hotel in Pleasanton hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 14. Named using the initials of hotelier and President Antonio Catalan, the AC Hotel offers visitors a modern, European-inspired place to stay. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## New AC Hotel Opens in Pleasanton

By David Chircop

After years of work and millions in renovations, AC Hotel Pleasanton, formerly Sheraton Pleasanton, is now open for business.

On a recent weekday afternoon, a guest sat near a glass wall separating the lounge and pool deck, tapping at his laptop keyboard filling in a spreadsheet. Past the portico, new arrivals crossing into the lobby were greeted with a bright space and sharp modern design aesthetic softened by warm

neutral colors, chill music and strategically placed accent lighting dialed-down to a pleasant glow.

"As with each AC property, every moment of the AC Hotel Pleasanton experience is designed to create a comfortable, elegant and unobtrusive experience that lets guests maximize their enjoyment and efficiency," said Toni Stoeckl, global brand leader for Marriott Hotels.

The 171-room hotel at 5990 Stoneridge Mall Road opened earlier this month following more

than \$20 million in renovations, according to its operator, Hersh Hospitality Management. It serves food and beverage offerings from a full bar and kitchen, provides an open dining space, and a large pool deck, complete with an outdoor bar and cabanas for guests to relax.

It is a stone's throw from Workday, Inc.'s shimmering new glass and steel corporate headquarters and a short walk to the West Dublin Bart Station. Like much of the Tri-Valley's existing lodging

(See HOTEL, page 12)

## PUSD to Set Bond Total at \$323 Million

By Ron McNicoll

Pleasanton Unified School District voters will be asked to authorize bond sales up to \$323 million for school improvements in the March 3, 2020 election.

At least 55% of the votes cast must be in favor of the bond sale for it to pass. Polling in the district showed that 57% would OK a \$323 million bond.

The bonds would not be sold all at once, but over the years to finance construction projects as they are ready. Bond sales will also consider timing intended to pay the lowest interest rates, which would save the district money.

The district's five trustees made their unanimous decision at their Nov. 12 meeting, with Trustee Mark Miller attending

(See PUSD BOND, page 8)

## New President Named to Las Positas College

By Larry Altman

Dyrell Foster, a veteran Southern California community college administrator, said this week that he is "looking forward to really hitting the ground running," when he takes over in February as president of Las Positas College in Livermore.

Foster, the vice president of student services at Moreno Valley College in Riverside County, was appointed to his new post during the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District's Nov. 12 meeting.

"Definitely excited about this

(See LPC PRESIDENT, page 3)

## Airport Making Upgrades; More Military Traffic

By David Chircop

Things are looking up at the Livermore Airport.

A full-service bar and restaurant called Elevation appears set to open any day. In recent months, the old terminal building was demolished. In addition, three outdated underground storage tanks, which held a total of up to 45,000 gallons of fuel, were removed. Last week, to help lower the chances of aircraft hydroplaning in wet conditions, grooves were physically cut along the entire stretch of its largest runway, which is 100 feet wide and just short of a mile long.

The airport is owned by the City of Livermore and is operated as a division of the city's public works department.

While total air traffic at the airport is still below the peak of 233,405 operations back in 1991,

(See AIRCRAFT, page 10)

## Livermore Man Charged for Sexual Assaults That Occurred in 1997

By Larry Altman

For 22 years, police in Livermore and Union City hoped to identify a man who brutally sexually assaulted two women as they walked along the street.

Investigators collected DNA evidence at the time, but for more than two decades the assailant remained unidentified, his victims wondering if they would ever feel

safe.

This week, however, police and prosecutors announced that scientific technology, including a common public DNA database and saliva from a Baskin-Robbins plastic spoon, helped them identify the alleged attacker. Gregory Paul Vien, a 60-year-old Livermore handyman with a wife and children, was arrested Nov. 5 and

charged with the crimes.

"He was shocked," Livermore police Sgt. Steve Goard said. "To all criminals: We will find you."

Vien, who declined to talk to investigators, is charged with offenses that could send him to prison for the rest of his life. At a Nov. 7 court hearing, he pleaded not guilty to a string of sexual assault

(See ASSAULTS, page 8)

## New Solar Panels Help Bankhead Theater Become Energy Efficient

By Bruce Gach

If there were a theme for the Bankhead Theater's Nov. 12 reception marking its new array of solar panels, it might have been "Curtain Up! Light the Lights! We've Got Nothing to Hit But the Heights!"

The 156 new solar panels are the latest evolution in an effort to make the Bankhead Theater more energy efficient. The "Green the Bankhead" campaign kicked off in 2017. Last year, LED lights replaced the original stage lights to save energy and costs. In addition,

attendees to the theater have been treading on new environmentally friendly carpet recently installed.

Other green energy projects are planned, such as low-flow plumbing fixtures and an office redesign to take better advantage of natural light. Chris Carter, Director of Development and Communications, said, "As an independent nonprofit arts organization, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) depends on the generous support of our donors."

A \$140,000 challenge campaign

(See SOLAR, page 8)



Solar panels placed atop the Bankhead Theater save both energy and money. (Photo - S. Kenison)

### PET OF THE WEEK



### HUFFLEPUFF

Are you the nicest guy around? A hard worker with a strong sense of justice, patient and loyal to a fault? If so, your inclusive house would be perfect to welcome Hufflepuff, a six-month-old domestic mediumhair cat looking to sort himself into a forever home. Meet Hufflepuff at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am - 4pm. Visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information.

Photo credit: Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz

## INSIDE

### MAIN SECTION

Classifieds.....	11
Editorial.....	4
Mailbox.....	4
Obituaries.....	9

### Sports.....

6	
<b>SECTION A</b>	
Art & Entertainment.....	8
Bulletin Board.....	10
Short Notes.....	4



With the rusty and steely colors of autumn, the valley adopts a moody vibe. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## IMMIGRATION

(Continued from first page)

herself, Sekaran found herself deeply curious about the feelings and interactions of the story's key players – of the mother being deported, but also of the American couple adopting her baby.

Her novel, "Lucky Boy," which received critical praise when published in 2017, is an imaginative and sometimes agonizing recasting of that story.

She described the experience of writing "Lucky Boy" as part of the Rae Dorrough Speaker Series.

Pondering the bare outline of the story as reported on NPR, she said she wanted to understand much more.

"I wanted to know what people were saying to each other," she told the Livermore audience. "I wanted to know what they were thinking. I wanted to know what the adoptive parents were saying to themselves and saying to each other."

"It was very clear that they were adopting another woman's son, not out of malice, but out of love. So I was interested in that paradox -- how love could cause such pain to another mother."

The main characters in "Lucky Boy" are a naïve, undocumented and impoverished Mexican immigrant, Soli, who gives birth in the U.S.; and the Indian-American couple, Kavya, the mother, and Rishi, the father, who adopt the child.

### Some clues

Sekaran found some clues to their interactions in her own upbringing, which was typically American at several levels. She had grown up in Sacramento in the 1980s and '90s, doing the things that many young people did – camping with her family, skiing, listening to American music.

Engaging in typical teen activities did not mean she fit in seamlessly, however. There were snags in the seemingly smooth fabric of her life, and that was part of her message at the Bankhead.

"As American as we were, there was always this undercurrent of not being exactly like the other families in our neighborhood."

Trying to understand why and how she and her family were different "is part of what made me a writer," she said. "Having to dig into these differences, living with these differences, thinking about the tension between what one part of me was and what the art of other part of me was."

"It kept me questioning my place within my community."

There were no easy answers, but she came to recognize factors like the place of her parents' origin (India), as well as their religion (Hindu). "It had to do

with the color of our skin."

Her sense of separateness has only become stronger in recent years. In an email following her Bankhead talk, she said, "It's in the current day, post-2016... that I feel the danger of being different."

"White supremacy is becoming an active, violent threat to people like me, and to new immigrants, in a way I've never experienced."

Much of the action of "Lucky Boy" takes place in Berkeley, where Sekaran lives.

### Fear, isolation, brutality

The Berkeley environment is generally welcoming, but Soli, the Mexican woman whose child is taken from her, experiences fear, isolation and even brutality as she tries to navigate the economic and social systems of a strange new country.

Sekaran wrote that she "wanted to show that you can be anywhere – even someplace as liberal and hospitable as Berkeley – and still feel the deeply unsettling uncertainty of being undocumented, and perhaps even have your life yanked out from under you."

Sadly, in Sekaran's view, the brutality experienced by Soli is not a rare exception, but typical of the system in which Soli was enmeshed.

She sees the news media as playing an important role in the trend toward greater polarization.

In an email, she wrote, "I

don't think we will get back to a state of mutual left-right tolerance until our media becomes less polarized."

While she recognizes the existence of media on the left, with its progressive bias, she is particularly critical of reporting on the far right as qualitatively different -- patronizing and dishonest.

In concluding her Bankhead talk, Sekaran likened the American experience to a story with many participants, including immigrants.

"Immigrants," she said, "even the ones who don't go camping, even the ones who don't speak English, want to be part of the American story."

Changing perspective as if she herself were one of the immigrants, she said, "We want to be here, we want to be part of the American story. We want to beautify this space. We want to complicate it and complicate it and, yes, we want to take up space because we are here."

"I feel like more and more immigrants are told that, 'No, we can't take up space.' Our voices are being silenced, slowly."

As a writer, she noted, she has questions rather than answers. In that context, she asked the audience: "If America is a story and you – we – are its authors, how did we get here, to this part of our story? Who will write the new pages? And what will happen?"

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# Public Records Request Seeks City Communications That Led to Its Lawsuit

By David Chircop

Livermore City Clerk Sarah Bunting is being asked to turn over emails and other documents that might help shed light on what led her office to sue the backers of a November 2020 ballot initiative.

Loretta Kaskey, a Livermore resident, submitted a request with Bunting's office on Oct. 15 under the California Public Records Act. The request seeks to obtain copies of:

- All records regarding the decision to file the lawsuit against William Dunlop, Calvin Wood, Jeanette King, Jose Barrientos, and Loretta Kaskey's husband Jeffrey Kaskey;
- All non-privileged re-

records relating to the lawsuit; • All non-privileged records relating to the City of Livermore's employment of the law firm Richards Watson Gershon of San Francisco to prepare and litigate the case.

"I am filing to better understand the background on the suit filed by the city via the City Clerk," Kaskey wrote in a statement to The Independent. "A city clerk is most often a liaison between the city council and the city's citizens. I don't dispute that she has the ability to file this legal action, but I want to better understand what direction or communications led to the decision."

Bunting confirmed

receipt of the request and said her office would respond within 10 days, notifying Kaskey of the status of her request.

Under the California Public Records Act, state and local records must be open to the public, subject to certain exemptions. The Act also imposes a duty on a public agency to take out exempted portions of a public record that is requested, and to make the reminder of the document available.

If a portion of the request is denied based on an exception, Bunting's office is required to notify Kaskey within 10 days of the denial via a signed letter, and to cite the law that requires or justifies the denial.

## LPC PRESIDENT

(Continued from first page)



Dyrrell Foster

already be underway when he arrives, and he is ready to jump right in. "I think it's an exciting time and there are a number of initiatives that are coming from the state and a lot more accountability as far as outcomes for our students," Foster said. He added he will "assess and look at all the great things that are happening," looking to enhance them and focus on what needs to be improved.

Las Positas College, which has an enrollment of nearly 8,500 day and evening students, offers career preparation, transfers to four-year institutions and career retraining and enrichment.

In his job at Moreno Valley College, Foster helped develop the college's strategic initiatives, educational partnerships, community engagement, and student support programs.

Through its programs, the college experienced a 4% increase in enrollment from fall 2016 to spring 2019. In addition, Moreno

Valley increased the number of degrees awarded, from 1,520 in 2016-17 to 2,394 in 2018-19.

"That's our focus," Foster said. "I've been able to take the lead with our team and our campus to make that a priority for our college here. That's what I'll bring with me."

Foster previously worked as an administrator at Rio Hondo College in Whittier, Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Evergreen Valley College in San Jose and San Jose State University. He earned a doctorate in education at USC; a master's degree in counseling at Cal State Long Beach; and a bachelor's degree in applied behavioral science at UC Davis.

Foster, who is married with a 7-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son, said he grew up in Vacaville, has family in Sacramento, and worked early in his career in San Jose.

"It's almost really a homecoming for me in some ways," he said.

opportunity," Foster said. "It's a comprehensive college, one of the top community colleges in terms of transfer rates. It also has some great career education programs, outstanding support services — everything that a student would want in terms of education."

Foster was selected from a "large, highly competitive and outstanding group of candidates from throughout the region, state and nation," the district said in a statement. Foster will begin Feb. 10.

"Dr. Foster is a recognized leader in the California community colleges. His experience and knowledge in student and academic services will be an asset to Las Positas College," said Ronald Gerhard, the district's interim chancellor.

"He is a highly respected administrator and is on the front lines of new initiatives and issues facing our students, such as food and housing insecurity. He brings to the position a passion for teaching, learning and his focus has always been student success. I look forward to having him on our team."

Foster called Las Positas College an "outstanding institution," focused on academic excellence and student success. He said the spring semester will

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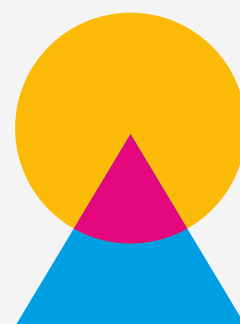
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# EDITORIAL

## A Quarter-Century of Conservation

We join with Rep. Eric Swalwell, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Pleasanton Vice-mayor Karla Brown and Dublin Vice-mayor Melissa Hernandez in congratulating the Tri-Valley Conservancy on 25 years of preserving local lands. Since it was established in 1994 with the purpose of preserving open space in the South Livermore Valley, the Conservancy has expanded into Pleas-

anton, Dublin, San Ramon and Sunol. Today, it protects more than 4,500 acres with permanent conservation easements. It has spearheaded the development of land-use plans to preserve 8,000 more acres of orchards, vineyards, farms, trails and parklands. Next month, the completion of the Edward R. Campbell Bridge will complete a 44-mile trail link connecting 25,000 acres from Livermore to Fremont.

Once land is built over with shopping malls, parking lots and subdivisions, it is nearly impossible to recover in anything close to its natural state. By conserving thousands of acres of Tri-Valley land, the Conservancy has given a gift of lasting value to present and future generations. We thank the organization, Chairman Ryan Callahan and its other public spirited leaders, and urge Tri-Valley residents to continue supporting them.

## MAILBOX

*(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them and city of residence. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com)*

### Let's Hear from Both Sides, Together

**Peg and Jim Folta, Livermore**

To truly inform the citizens of Livermore on this topic, why not bring the people representing the approved downtown plan and those representing their desires for the downtown together to state their piece and answer questions from the public? A debate with a structured format and a mediator could help clear up the "he said, she said" situation that is now prevalent. As is always the case, hearing from one side of an argument can be convincing, but when you hear from both sides the picture gets clearer and the public can make up their own minds.

We are deeply saddened by the negative environment created by the arguments surrounding the support for and opposition to the approved Downtown Livermore Development Plan. We need to get back to a unified Livermore.

Experience has proven that the best approach to conflict resolution is for both sides to work together on a solution. Unfortunately, this has not proven effective in this situation. The arguments continue to evolve and conflicting claims have caused confusion - many citizens are having trouble understanding the underlying facts and motivations. So, let the parties come together to discuss their views for the benefit of the public and the resulting downtown.

### Keep the Holidays Bright

**Lori Martin, Tracy**

Both ends of California have had an unpleasant welcome to the holiday season. Northern California dealt with the wind-whipped Kincade Fire in Sonoma County, while blowtorch-like winds in Southern California fueled the Maria Fire in Ventura County. I thank all First Responders, like Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, for fighting on the front lines.

Holiday gatherings will happen, nevertheless. Some drink for fun or to interact socially. Whatever the reason, you must take caution.

Drinking has dug up many social evils. One vile act is driving drunk. A drunken driver hit me when I was 16 in 1992. My hearing, talking and walking were damaged.

Alcohol rapidly moves throughout the body once swallowed. You are not to the point where you are falling off the earth, but feel warm and bubbly. If you feel different, you drive different. Buzzed driving is drunk driving.

Show appreciation to the First Responders service by following laws. If you are "a little tipsy," do not drive! Taking roads like Interstate 580, or secret pathways to get home after drinking is foolish.

If you drive drunk, your reputation will go foul. People will be taken aback and possibly avoid rides from you. Who wants a ride from a drunk?

Avoid dreadful consequences and impress people by having a sober person drive you. Do not end the year with an arrest or death. Be the drinker who follows my words and saves lives. Happy Holidays.

### Campaign Contributions

**Tamara Reus, Livermore**

A lot of noise is being made about the amount of the contributions from some of the donors to the Central Park Plan initiative campaign. As a person who does not have the means to contribute financially to every cause I support, I appreciate that these people are in a position to do so. These contributions are legal, and these donors will not benefit financially from the success of the initiative. This is not like a situation in which a developer finances a campaign with the goal of building a development (think Pardee Homes and Measure D in 2005).

A recent letter points out that several donors live outside the city limits. These people are as much a part of this community as people who live inside the city limits. Livermore is where they shop, work, and seek entertainment and night life. Some have businesses inside the city, pay business taxes, and are affected by decisions that the city council makes. They are contributing to the city's economy. They cannot vote in local elections but they can show support in other ways, and financial activism is one option. In fact, there are people who have spoken out publicly on both sides of the downtown issue who do not live within the city limits. Vilifying people who spend their hard-earned dollars on causes they believe in is not fair and is not helpful to the voters who should be voting on the merits of the issues.

All the contributors to the initiative and referendum efforts recognize the serious flaws in the City's Plan. They know that the City's Plan lacks parking where it is most needed along Livermore Ave., and places 130-140 units of 3 to 4 story housing in the center of downtown instead of an expansive Central Park designed for the community. Through their contributions, these donors, large and small, are helping to make

it possible for the people of Livermore to decide what is best for their community when they vote next year in March and November.

### Stop the Conspiracy Theories

**Jeff Kaskey, Livermore**

Not sure why conspiracy theorist Robert Gage insists on picking a fight with the LVPAC board or Scott Kenison.

Mr. Gage believes Mr. Kenison is lying about his reasons for leaving, and then theorizes that the LVPAC board is instead responsible by not acting "reassuring and caring enough." He says nothing about any conversation with these folks to back up his theory.

I'll take a different tack. As an active member of the board, I personally, and the board as well, highly value all that Scott has done for the LVPAC / Bankhead Theater. His programming has been brilliant, he manages the awesome staff and volunteers wonderfully, and as far as I can tell, both staff and volunteers really enjoy being part of his team.

Running a business, whether as the executive director or as a board member, is a serious, thoughtful process that takes discussion, debate, support and trust. With Scott, this board has had all that and more, and to suggest otherwise is, well, just a crazy conspiracy theory.

### LVPAC Theater Performance

**Brian Mayall, Livermore**

Friday, Nov. 15, was an unusual evening for us. At the last minute, we decided to go to the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore for the opening night of Annie Baker's "Circle Mirror Transformation." And were we surprised!

The producer, Scott Kenison of LVPAC, had created a theater in the round, where we experienced this transformative play close to the actors, but not on top of them. The play and the acting are brilliant. The setting is the fictional town of Shirley, Vermont; the situation is an acting class half a century ago; and the play is the interactions of the five characters both with one another and also in "being" one another at their weekly sessions. The suspense is never knowing what is going to happen next.

If you appreciate live theater, or even if you have never experienced it, I urge you to go and immerse yourself in two hours of pure entertainment. You have four more chances to experience Transformation: Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday and Sunday matinees. Go try it!

### Park Increase Too High

**Daryl R. Carlson, Livermore**

Livermore Parks informs me that there will be a usurious 50% increase in the cost of a Senior Parking Pass for Sycamore Grove for 2020, bringing the price comparable to this year's fee for the East Bay Regional Parks, which offers over 75 locations from Redwoods to Bayshore.

In the age of Trump, it is trendy for governmental bodies to levy against those less capable of absorbing the increase. Double-income "Mummy and Daddie" pay nothing for parking their Porsche SUV while taking their soccer kids to Robertson.

The LARPD elected board should remember that this organization is taxpayer funded and a not-for-profit, and should reconsider this increase.

### Ask Why Before You Decide

**John Lawrence, Livermore**

There are strong disagreements over which downtown development plan is the best one for Livermore. Before making decisions, residents should look into the various claims and counter-claims, and ask themselves why each group is saying and behaving the way that they are.

For instance, why is one group claiming their hotel location is the best for businesses when the local business organizations and owners are supporting the other plan? Why does that same group claim that their "plan" will not cause any delay in the project, even though it is only a conceptual drawing that has yet to go through any public input process or a municipal compliance review? Why has this group changed their name multiple times and now uses "Protect the Central Park Vote" as their moniker, which the other group could use just as well, because there is little to no difference between the parks in either plan? Why does this group repeatedly claim to represent the majority of residents, when the entire elected City Council does not support them and the Council candidates they supported in the last election lost so spectacularly? Why are they bombarding the public with large untruthful ads in the Livermore weekly paper, along with organized letter writing campaigns by their supporters and blatantly mischaracterizing promotional pieces as news articles? If you are willing to make up your own facts and disregard the truth, if you are a group of performing arts supporters who don't want any development near "your" theater and if you have a wealthy benefactor who is willing to toss aside the expected standard of fair and balanced news reporting in her weekly paper, then you do all of the above.

### Trust Issues

**Gary Estee, Livermore**

One of the greatest problems incurred during the 2016 Presidential Election was the lack of trust by the populace in either candidate. Another, of course, the preponderance of falsehoods, slanders and misconceptions spread everywhere by social media via the INTERNET. My opinions on people that believe everything they see online are well known (and negative.) In any case, one way to restore trust in presidential candidates would be the addition of a new amendment (XXIX) after Article II Section 1 Paragraph in the Constitution of the United States.

My draft of the proposed Amendment XXIX follows: Section 1.

All candidates for the offices of the President and Vice-President of the United States shall make available for review to the member of both the House of Representatives and Senate the following financial materials:

- Federal and State Income Tax Return Statements for the most recent five years.
- Financial records pertaining to any involvement (viz ownership and/or participation - active or otherwise) with any foreign companies, corporations, institutions or other organizations.

Comprehensive listing of all assets and debts belonging to or controlled by either the candidate or the candidate's legal spouse including all property, financial accounts, stocks and bonds.

Section 2  
Failure to provide this material must result in the complete disqualification of the candidate from pursuing the office of either President and Vice-President of the United States and removal of said candidate's name from the election ballot or any other voting system.

Section 3  
If, during the Congressional review of this material, sufficient question arises as to the legality of the candidate's possession and/or management of listed resources or involvement with foreign organizations, then all supplied materials will be delivered to the Attorney General of the United States for possible criminal and/or civil action.

It is my hope that such a requirement would ensure that (1) Candidates of shaky character would never attempt to run for election, (2) The past bad behavior of candidates would be revealed early in the campaign process and forcibly eliminate such persons, and (3) Give all Americans better reason to trust their elected officials. (This requirement could be extended to all elected officials, too...)

If this action seems logical to you, then please contact your representatives and senators to advocate its passage. I already have done so with mine.

### The Homeless Games, Part XXVI - Common's Page

**Greg Scott, Livermore**

"Hope" is the thing with feathers - That perches in the soul - And sings the tune without the words - And never stops - at all" (Out of a poem by Emily Dickinson).

If we really needed to do something about homelessness we would get organizations and individuals on the same 'page' to do so. These entities are non-profit service providers, governmental organizations, committees, businesses and private individuals. Central to the 'page' would be a 'commons' in some form for the homeless. It could be a pilot program and it could be only temporary, for at least that would be a beginning of a broader scope to the homelessness problem. Without a commons we are not even on the approach to significant amelioration of the rapidly expanding homeless situation. We are simply playing the fatuous "Homeless Games" for the most part, which is undermining the basic structural sociology of our Tri-Valley communities.

With homelessness we have to ask two fundamental questions: Where do we expect the homeless to go? And what do we expect the desperate unsheltered homeless to do?

An example of an organization that seems to have little clue on the overall issue is the County of Alameda. The County of Alameda awarded a contract, as I understand it 'no-bid,' to do "Crisis Intervention Services" for the homeless in the Tri-Valley. The contract award was for \$494,000 of State

of California money from the Homeless Emergency Act Program (H.E.A.P.) to be spent by March 31, 2021. I think the awarded service-provider means well, however this organization had little in place structurally to service the homeless. The faith-based organization got the contract predominately because they were in the Homeless Information Management System (HMIS).

Now there is another organization that has the largest organizational structure in place for servicing the homeless in the Tri-Valley. They are not in the HMIS because of data security issues. They deal with battered women and other clients where they have to be very cautious with data security and therefore cannot be in the HMIS.

The problem in the contract award is in what is called the "opportunity cost" in economics. In awarding the contract the way it was, money goes to building the organizational structure of the service-provider to service the homeless - the 'Homeless Industrial Complex' - when, if the contract was awarded to an organization with a larger service-provider structure in place, more of this money would go for greater direct results with the homeless. Speak to us all of the "Crisis Intervention Services" and I will speak to you all of the crises. The County of Alameda did what was bureaucratically easiest, not what was most effective for the homeless situation. The County of Alameda does not possess the vision to have awarded the contract for both organizations to work together? And even this is a 'one-by-one' case-management approach, not a broader approach to homelessness as a commons would be.

Now we have an upcoming election for Alameda County Supervisor in District 1, which includes the Tri-Valleys. The Mayor of Dublin is running and also a City of Dublin councilmember. The Mayor of Dublin has put homelessness in his top three priorities in his run for county supervisor. What has the City of Dublin done for the homeless? Export a lot of the problem to Livermore? Police harassment of the homeless in Dublin with the 'revolving-door-game' with Santa Rita Jail under the guise that Dublin can arrest their way out of homeless problem?

Alameda County electorate: It is time to hold your politicians' feet to the fire as far as the increasing social degradation problem of homelessness. It is time to get the County of Alameda to be more effective with expenditures toward the problem of homelessness instead of just dispersing lots of money and sanctimoniously proclaiming, "Look how much money we spent on homelessness!" This is doing very little for the overall homeless problem.

As far as what we can have the desperate unsheltered do: We could very well have some of them work on our number one problem of biodiversity loss. The metaphoric and somewhat literal answer is, "And Truffula Trees are what everyone needs. Plant a new Truffula. Treat it with care. Give it clean water. And feed it fresh air. Grow a forest. Protect it from axes that hack. Then the Lorax and all of his friends may come back." (From "The Lorax," by Dr. Seuss).

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## Assistance League of Amador Valley Brightens School for Livermore Students

By Carol Graham

In September and October, the Assistance League of Amador Valley has provided clothing for children in need throughout the Tri-Valley area. Over the last 19 years, 5,500 children have been clothed through the League's Operation School Bell.

"This year, once again, Assistance League volunteers had the privilege of personally shopping with 400 youngsters at Kohl's stores in Livermore and Pleasanton," said Barbara Campos, Public Relations Chairman for the Assistance League of Amador Valley. "Some of these students had never worn brand new clothes.

"The students often know exactly what they want in

school clothes. The boys love sporty jackets, and for the girls, patterned warm leggings were all the rage. Often, at the end of shopping, the kids give their personal shoppers a big hug."

Children were able to walk through the store with a volunteer to select their own clothes, spending \$125 to \$150 each. The kids also enjoyed selecting a new toothbrush and tooth-care kit.

"The kids are fun to watch as their eyes light up when they see the right choice for them, knowing that they can take it off the shelf and bring it home with them," Campos said. "This year one of the teenage volunteers from Granada High School

in Livermore, who had received clothing through our program many years ago, returned to help the younger students shop."

The students were selected by their schools, and were invited to meet at Kohls at a particular time to shop.

Nancy Carter, who co-chaired the program with Carol Sum, said, "One young boy mentioned that his sister needed more clothes than he did, so he offered to give some of his clothes money to her. There is often the impression that the Tri-Valley has no families struggling to make ends meet. Such is not the case."

Members of Assistance League strive to make a difference in the lives of

struggling families so that children's lives may be bettered during a time when they are sensitive to their appearance in school.

Funding comes from grants and a once-a-year appeal for funds.

"All of our budgets have been cut substantially this year, and with more funds we could reach many more people who are in need in our community," Campos said. The group raises funds through their annual Mad Hatter's Tea, and, this year, with a poinsettia sale. Another new fundraiser is a Crab Feast, set for Friday, Jan. 24. Tickets and more information can be found at [www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley](http://www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley).

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## Life Saving Medications Now at Livermore Schools

By Bruce Gach

Severe allergic reactions and opioid overdoses can be fatal if not treated immediately with appropriate medications.

With that in mind, the board of the 14,000-student Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District has decided to ensure that epinephrine injection pens and naloxone doses are available at all schools, and that staff are trained in how to use them.

The Board of Directors on Nov. 12 unanimously voted to update protocols and

policies for the two drugs. The change goes into effect after the second reading at the Board's Dec. 10 meeting.

"Two epinephrine auto-injectors will be available at all school sites for school nurses or other trained employees to use in serious allergic reactions," said Scott Vernoy, Director of Student Services.

Naloxone nasal inhalants, such as Narcan, will be available at the district's high schools. First, school nurses and other staff will be trained in policies and procedures for its use. Narcan is effective in counteracting the

effects of opioid overdose.

"Up to this time only the two police officers directly assigned to the entire school district carried naloxone," Vernoy said. "The addition of naloxone is appropriate because of the spreading opioid epidemic throughout the country. This gives us another layer of preparation in the case of an event occurring on our campuses."

In 2014, the California Education Code authorized guidelines concerning training of nurses, storage and the use of epinephrine in cases of severe allergic reactions.

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## It's Not Just A Hotel Development Agreement. It's A Poison Pill.

### A DECEPTIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

When 6,959 Livermore voters not happy with the City's downtown plan signed petitions to qualify the superior Central Park Plan for the ballot, our City Council should have put both plans on the ballot and let voters decide. Instead, they passed a deceptive Development Agreement with the intent to kill the Central Park Plan without voters knowing it.

### THAT'S REALLY A POISON PILL

The Development Agreement with the Presidio hotelier is really a "poison pill," which, if passed, could make the Central Park Plan impossible to implement. With the Development Agreement, the City intends to secure a hotel on the eastside of Livermore Avenue, harming the location of a westside hotel in the Central Park Plan. This could make the November vote on the Central Park Plan meaningless even if a majority of voters support it.

### DON'T SWALLOW IT

We have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to make our downtown truly special. We can have a better park, better parking, better hotel and a better Livermore.

It starts by making sure we don't swallow the deceptive poison pill.

**Don't Swallow The Poison Pill. Vote NO on the Presidio Hotel Development Agreement Referendum**

Ad paid for by Protect the Central Park Vote.

# SPORTS NOTES



Friday night lights showed off the action as the Livermore Cowboys faced the Campolindo Cougars (Moraga) on Nov. 15. The Cowboys lost the first round NCS CIF Division 2 playoffs to the Cougars, 41 to 16. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



Fusion's 2008 (U12) Boys Gold are league champions.



Players of the Week are Sofia & Ryan.



The West Coast Krush 04 Girls Teams closed out the 2019 Fall Season.



West Coast Avalanche win last league game of the Season vs San Ramon FC.

## Livermore Fusion Soccer Club

On Sunday, November 10, Fusion's 2001 (U19) Girls Gold traveled to Fremont to take on the Fremont YSC Seniors, with an undefeated league season and a league championship on the line. Two goals by Hanne W and one by Marisa M propelled Fusion to a 3-1 victory, a 6-0-4 league record and first place in the Silver Region. Our team had a fantastic season and going undefeated in league was special," said Coach Frank Vitale. "Our success was achieved through hard work, believing in ourselves, having a great attitude and setting team goals. It's a blessing to coach these players and be a part of this Club.

## Fusion Soccer Club Players of the Week

Fusion Soccer Club's Players of the Week are Sofia & Ryan. They earned this honor by being Fusion's Rec & Select players who best exemplify the Club's Word of the Week: Determination. Sofia plays for the U7 Zooming Zebras and Ryan for the U6 Wolf Pack.

## West Coast Soccer Club

Katz continued to show their dominance and their perseverance this weekend. In league play against San Ramon, Katz managed to find themselves behind 3-1 at the start of the second half. However, they never gave up and continued to fight back to a 4-4 tie. We saw great passing from Taylor Conover, Cailey Sasaki, and Natalie Miller, who managed to keep the ball in San Ramon territory through most of the first half with numerous attempted shots from the Katz. Fortunately, the Katz were finally able to sink a goal from Sydney Stephens, assisted by Addison McNeil, within the last two minutes of the first half. Second half we saw the Katz come out

ready to fire, with Stephens managing to fire it in with a great pass from Carly Martins. The Katz defense, consisting of Bella Hansen, Addison McNeil, and Taylen Dayak refused to allow any shots from San Ramon, stopping them at their 3 goal lead. Amazingly, Stephens was able to head a shot right into the goal from a beautiful corner kick by Martins, helping the Katz tie the game. Unfortunately, San Ramon was able to sink another goal, but that still did not stop the Katz who continued their push towards victory. This time Martins had another corner kick opportunity that San Ramon was able to assist into their own goal. Katz tied San Ramon 4-4, but they would get their chance to face them again in the State Cup the next day. First game of the State Cup, Second Round, Katz faced San Ramon again. This time, Katz came out with full throttle. Katz unbreakable defense from Bella Hansen, Addison McNeil, and Taylen Dayak refused to allow any opportunity for San Ramon to take a shot in the box. Katz forwards Cailey Sasaki, Taylor Conover, Sophia Rodriguez, Natalie Miller, Sydney Stephens, and Alexis Zamora continued their driving dominance with shot after shot attempts. Katz midfielders Carly Martins and Delaeni Grajeda were set up every time San Ramon tried to cross the half. First half ended with no score from either team. Soon after the start of the second half, Martins was able to sink a shot made from a hand ball penalty just between the top of the box and the half field line, giving Katz a 1-0 lead. Katz defense continued their dominance and the Katz forward Carly Martins was able to score again with the assistance of Sophia Rodriguez. Katz beat San Ramon 2-0. Second game of the State Cup, Second Round, Katz faced San Carlos. We saw forward Taylor Conover try for pass after pass, with forwards Alexis Zamora, Cailey Sasaki, Sophia Rodriguez, Natalie Miller, and Sydney Stephens trying for shot after shot. Katz dominance kept the ball in San Carlos terri-

tory for most of the game. Midfielder Carly Martins was able to score again from a corner kick, this time with the assistance of San Carlos deflecting it in their own goal. Unfortunately, Katz shortly after allowed for a wide open shot from San Carlos, giving them their one and only goal of the game. Carly Martins was unstoppable though and managed to sink a goal with the assistance of Taylor Conover, and then again with the assistance from Alexis Zamora, giving the Katz a 3-1 lead. Katz defense refused to let the ball end up in home territory for even a second, thanks to Bella Hansen, Addison McNeil, and Taylen Dayak, who all managed to acquire shots on goals themselves. Delaeni Grajeda swapped places with Carly Martins at midfield and kept the defense on fire. Alexis Zamora was able to sink a goal with the assistance from Sydney Stephens and then Natalie Miller was able to end the game with a great goal from the box. Katz beat San Carlos 5-1

The West Coast Krush 04 Girls Teams closed out the 2019 Fall Season this past Saturday, 11/9, with a 4-3 victory at home in Livermore over neighboring Pleasanton Rage 04 Orange. Krush dominated the first half, scoring three unanswered goals. Krush started their scoring drive six minutes into the game when Francesca Ramos and Susan Contreras teamed up to steal the ball away from a Rage midfielder off a Rage throw in. In the end, Contreras came away with ball, crossing it Kaya Brown. Brown then sent a quick touch pass to Hailey Rodaer as she ran towards the six-yard box. Rodaer was able to get a quick shot off as she was tackled by a Rage defender. Her low shot bounced off the inside corner of the side post, past the diving goalie, into the net. Rodaer scored her second goal of the game later in the half, this time with an assist from Alexis Berlin, after Berlin intercepted a Rage goal kick. Krush went up 3-0 with three minutes remaining in the half. In another demonstration of strong teamwork, Kimmie Keller threw the ball in to Taylor Salsman, who then passed the ball up to Julia Morfin. Morfin, seeing that Contreras was open, passed the ball over to her, where Contreras fired the ball high in the corner of the net. Krush took a 3-0 lead into halftime. Rage countered in the second half, scoring three goals of their own, eventually tying the game. Contreras put Krush back on top for good with 6 minutes remaining. Intercepting a Rage pass with a single touch, Contreras blasted a shot from well outside the 18-yard box that sailed high, just under the crossbar, into the net. Contreras second goal of the game secured the 4-3 victory for Krush. Krush finished in third place overall for the 2019 Gold League Fall Season with a 5-2-2 record. Krush continues with State Cup, Group Stage play this Sunday followed by participating in the Silver Lakes Fall College Showcase Thanksgiving.

On Sunday, 11/10, afternoon West Coast 01/02 girls traveled to Placer-

ville to face off against Placer United 01 team in the fore-mentioned champions league matchup. In the first few minutes of the game Mia Mendoza set up Heather Tarabini who was driving to goal but would get fouled by Placer in the box. Jaden Hall stepped up take the pk and squeak it into left corner of the net putting West Coast on top 1-0. Midfielders Fayth Hinojosa, Meredith Hagler, Ashleigh Ward and Kaitlin Carlton moved the ball quickly and worked hard to control the tempo of the first half. Forward Heather Tarabini would speed past Placers defenders to put the ball in the back of the net putting West Coast up 2-0. Placer would get a goal of their own making the score 2-1 at halftime. Second half Placers offense came out firing scoring 2 goals and taking the lead 3-2. Defenders Ari Moore, Leyla Gantz, Jordan Brown, Holly Mcritchie, and Julianne Munoz led the back line to limit the damage in keeping Placers forwards from scoring further giving West Coast a chance to tie in the last few minutes of the game. West Coast forward Heather Tarabini got the ball slipped past placer defender and nailed a beautiful shot from outside the 18 yard line that hit in the top right corner of net tying up the match at 3-3. Next up for West Coast 01/02 girls they will resume NPL Champions League play in the NPL College Showcase followed by the SilverLakes College Showcase down south over Thanksgiving weekend.

This weekend, 11/9-10, the West Coast Avalanche Earthquakes played San Ramon FC at their home field at Rancho Park. The first half started off with Avalanche owning possession of the field with several attempted shots but they took about 15 minutes before they found their flow. Connor Giuliani battled the ball up the midfield and served Austin Aycock a nice pass who scored and put the first point on the board. Not too long after, defender Bryce Perry dribbled the ball up and scored another goal. Before the end of the half, Avi Nukala scored and brought the score up to 3-0. San Ramon came out in the second with more of a fight and would answer back with a goal of their own. That only drove the Earthquakes to fight back to secure their lead and Yusif Khalil made a pass up to Tyler Knaus who dribbled the ball passed the defender and kicked one in. They kept their momentum and possession going and scored one more additional goal by Austin who blasted a shot in from right outside of the box. This was a nice win for Earthquakes last league game.

## Former Amador and Cal Student Swims English Channel

On Tuesday, 11/12, former Cal swimmer Catherine Breed completed her swim across the English Channel — doing so in nine hours and 50 minutes. At its shortest distance, the English Channel is 21 miles across, but the currents move the swimmers



Catherine Breed completes English Channel swim.

around so that their actual distance usually exceeds that. Breed finished her Cal career among the Bears' all-time top-10 in three events: the 500-yard free (7th), 1,000-yard free (5th) and 1650-yard free (3rd). At the 2015 Pac-12 Championships her senior year, she was 15th in the 500-yard free and 16th in the 1650-yard free. Breed was also a two-time Pac-12 All-Academic. Of her experience swimming the English Channel, she wrote on Facebook: "Well, I did exactly what I set out to do. I attempted and completed swimming from England to France via the English Channel in 9 hours and 50 minutes. TLDR; it was hard and I am incredibly grateful for all the support. It was not pretty nor easy. For those of you that do not know, the channel is very volatile and conditions change quickly. My pilot, Eddie Spelling, reached out to me Sunday morning asking if I could swim Monday night the 25th, meet on the dock at 21:30. I landed at Heathrow at 14:30 and after an exceptionally long customs line and over a 3.5 hour drive due to an accident and bumper to bumper traffic, we arrived in Dover at 20:45. In 45 minutes I did a shake out and then we all hustled down to the dock, starting the swim around 22:30. It was a hard decision but the advice given by many experienced channel swimmers was to take it. The first few hours felt great, the water was smooth and it was clear that I was moving. The night was beautiful and between the glowing orange moon and the bioluminescence it was never really dark. I swam through two large pods of orange and brown jellyfish. Surprisingly, I welcomed their stings as I figured it would move blood to my extremities and it was something to think about until the sting subsided. After the swim I found that I had a jelly stuck in my suit and have a nasty mark from that — oh the joys of the ocean. The sunrise, as many of you saw, was amazing. Bright pinks, reds, and oranges illuminated the sky and I think it was during that time it finally sunk in that I was here, I was

swimming my first solo channel swim, and I was doing it well. At about hour 6 things started going downhill, we were fighting a strong southern current and I was essentially swimming north to go east and moving south. After a much needed re group with the crew while we waited for a tanker to pass, I pressed on. Stroke by stroke I was closer to France and I would die (maybe a slight exaggeration) before I gave up. Even with the current and the many hours of swimming, I still held over a 2mph pace. The last few hours were mostly a blur. At hour 8:30-9:00 the crew needed me to push hard, so I gave it everything I had for those 30 minutes. 15 minutes after that, it hit me how exhausted I was. Everything inside burned and I was in physical pain, as well as starting to get emotional. So I cleared my head and pushed on. My motivation at this point was fish and chips and the beaches of Majorca, sometimes it is the little things. I finished in France on some very large boulders. I found the first one I could safely crawl up and I just sat down, it was over. I joked to some close friends and family that if someone tortured me by withholding sleep, I would give up all information within 48-72 hours. I love sleep and I prioritize it over many other things. Swimming the English Channel on no sleep was honestly more difficult for me than just swimming it, emotionally and mentally. That is part of channel swimming though, being ready to go when conditions are good. My longest feed was around :45 with an average of less than 20 seconds, something I have been working on at least a month. How am I feeling now? Still tired, still sore, and it still hasn't hit me, but I don't know if it ever really will. I started this journey because I am competitive and am always striving to see what my mind and body can do; that, coupled with a love for the ocean and swimming led me to channel swimming. I started this sport and continue to do it for a few reasons. One, I love being in the water and being able to move myself across large bodies of water, while fighting or working with Mother Nature. It feels like a pretty cool thing to be doing. Two, I love the community. Seriously, if you want to make some life long friends and hang out with inspirational people every day - join an open water swimming community. ... Three, I hope that I can inspire just one person to push a little harder in their goals or that because of one of my swimmers someone else wants to try swimming or swimming in the ocean. For myself, success is doing something that inspires others and that someone can say, "because of you my life is different". I know many open water swimming greats and it is because of them I set out and accomplished this. I hope that this endeavor can in turn inspire someone else. On to the next challenge. First of many, this story isn't over."

# Advanced Stroke Care Is Close When You Need It Most



**Good news for all of us in the Tri-Valley:** Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare in Pleasanton has been certified a primary stroke center\*.

Being a primary stroke center means we provide high-quality care to stroke patients around the clock.

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Having access to quality care is extremely important for individuals suffering from a stroke. Getting treatment sooner can be life-changing.

Stanford neurovascular specialists and our entire 24/7 stroke response team are ready to help. We all share the Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare commitment: to ensure that every person in every community we serve has access to the best possible care.

\*Certification by the Joint Commission, the independent body that accredits health care organizations and programs worldwide, including more than 21,000 in the US.



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Viewers can enjoy the sunset over the open space in north Livermore. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

## SOLAR

(Continued from first page)

was announced at the reception. Three donors, new to the role, will match any new gift or pledge made to LVPAC between Nov. 11 and Dec. 31.

All proceeds from the challenge campaign will support events at the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center, as well as

educational outreach, student ticket subsidies, and free community events.

Since the Bankhead Theater opened in 2007, the organization has increased its community involvement each year with greater individual and corporate giving, as well as new ticket buyers and attendees. Membership

this year reached an all-time high of 959. Currently, there are nearly 130 donors who consistently contribute more than \$1,000 to LVPAC each year.

"To support LVPAC as it grows, our base of support will have to grow as well," said Jean King, Chair of LVPAC's Board of Directors.

The Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center together support eight resident performing arts companies and over 40 studio artists and cultural arts instructors.

Donations can be made online at [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org). Gifts of securities also qualify for the one-to-one match.

## PUSD BOND

(Continued from first page)

electronically from out of state.

The improvements will pay to upgrade classrooms and other facilities, and to support anticipated enrollment growth. Other projects include revamping physical plants for HVAC systems and those that boost access for students with disabilities.

Parents whose students are active with bands and athletics urged the board to create a project priority list that would include upgrading gyms. Several of them said the Amador gym was in deplorable condition,

and that it failed to keep up with the high quality of the programs presented there. One parent drew applause when she said, "We've got to get it on the ballot, so we can vote for it."

Trustee Steve Maher said he has been in the district for more than 40 years, when he started on staff at Fairlands Elementary School. He has since served at various schools as an administrator. He coached at Foothill High School 15 years ago, and the gym has become worse over the years, he said.

"I go to Dublin. I look at

their Fine Arts building," he said. "I think, 'Holy Mackerel,' what is going on in our district? I see nice gyms, and wonder how come they have a nice gym, and we don't? We need to act. I think \$323 million is just a drop in the bucket."

Miller said that, at \$323 million, the list of projects is realistic. The district can go from "scraping by" to "moving our schools into world class," he said.

Trustee Joan Laursen said that the first sale of bonds under measure I-1, which was approved by voters in 2016, fell short

of funding such things as gyms, because of rising construction costs. But she was confident that voters will approve the new bond, since they understand what it takes to bring facilities up to current standards.

## ASSAULTS

(Continued from first page)

charges and special allegations including kidnapping, use of a deadly weapon and having multiple victims. He was scheduled to make an appearance Wednesday (Nov. 20) at the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin.

The allegations stem from May 6, 1997, when a 41-year-old woman walking home from a Union City BART station was attacked on the street, dragged into a secluded area of a nearby field, and sexually assaulted by a man who cut off her clothes with a knife. The victim described the man as 6 foot 3 inches tall, 240 pounds, wearing a hooded jacket and gloves, a county court document said.

Police collected the assailant's biological fluid from the inside of the victim's jacket and uploaded it into a DNA database, hoping for a match.

Four months later, a 22-year-old woman on an evening walk at Livermore High School was attacked. Again, police collected DNA evidence and uploaded it into the system. Although they did not obtain an identification, the DNA matched that was taken from the Union City crime, police said.

Despite periodic checks by law enforcement over the years, no one in the state's prison system matched the DNA until July when a public database, Genebygene.com, a site similar to 23andme.com, identified a familial link to one of Vien's distant relatives who had used the site. An authorization gave law enforcement the right to investigate the match, Goard said.

Detectives immediately looked into Vien's family, finding that he still lived in

the same Livermore home as in the 1990s, three miles from the second crime scene.

Investigators put Vien under surveillance, watching him as he moved about the city. According to a court document, Vien stopped for ice cream at a Baskin-Robbins. After he walked away, detectives moved in and collected the plastic spoon. DNA from the spoon matched DNA from the Livermore victim's jacket.

Vien had been arrested over the years for drug offenses, but nothing serious enough to warrant submitting his DNA to the system, Goard said.

Vien's arrest stunned his family, which discovered he allegedly lived "an alternative life," Goard said.

Goard described the two victims as "very relieved."

"One described it as 'living in 22 years of fear not knowing where my at-

tacker was,'" Goard said. "Now they know he has been apprehended and is behind bars."

Investigators also were relieved, excited that they could solve a crime from so many years ago.

Detectives believe Vien might be a suspect in three more unsolved sexual assaults that occurred in Livermore from 1995 to 1997. Officers would not release his photograph while the crimes are under investigation, Goard said.

The crimes appeared to stop after that. Vien was known to frequent Union City, Fremont, Hayward, San Lorenzo and San Ramon in the mid to late 1990s.

Police asked anyone with information about the sexual assaults or any other suspicious activity involving Vien to contact Livermore detectives at 925-371-4790.

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# OBITUARIES

## Barbara Lee Anderson

Nov. 6, 1931 - Nov. 14, 2019

Barbara Lee Anderson was "Mom" to many, a trailblazer at work, and fervent community member. Her energy was boundless and her love unconditional.

Barbara Lee Anderson passed in peace on Nov. 14, 2019, in Antioch, Calif.

Born on Nov. 6, 1931 in Hayward, Calif., to Phil and Blanch Anderson, Barbara attended Hayward Union High School, graduating in 1949. After graduation, she attended Mills College in Oakland, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1953.

Barbara married Thomas (Tom) Smales in 1954 and moved to Elko, Nev. Later returning to Hayward, she gave birth to her daughter, Sharon Smales. Subsequently, Barbara and Tom divorced.

From 1956 to 1963, Barbara worked as a personnel dosimetry technician at the University of California Radiation Laboratory (later the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory). While working at the Laboratory, Barbara met George Costella and they married in 1962. Barbara gave birth to her son, Mark Costella, and from 1963 to 1967 was a housewife. Barbara and George divorced, and Barbara purchased her home in Livermore, where she lived until her passing.

Returning to work in 1967, Barbara was a purchasing agent for the Defense Depot in Tracy; in 1968 she was promoted to lead operator in the Data Processing Division. Barbara returned to LLNL in 1974 as a senior team member in the Operations Division of the Computing Department and advanced to "owl shift" supervisor in 1975. She advanced again in 1979 to senior technical/scientific coordinator. In 1981, Barbara was named curator of the new Computation Department Museum.

While at the Laboratory, Barbara helped to create the Women's Technical and Professional Symposium, Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons Conference, and numerous multi-cultural fairs. Barbara retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1993, with 26 years of service, and continued as an active retiree, working for AKIMA as security escort from 1998 to 2017.

An avid runner, Barbara participated regularly in fun runs and organized others to run. Barbara chartered a bus to Bay to Breakers, coordinated past Alameda County Fair runs, and organized The (Annual) Last Annual Barbara Costella Memorial Prediction Run and Beer Can Recycling Social.

Barbara was, above all, a devoted mother and energetic community member. Barbara was a 4-H leader for 32 years, and was proud of Sharon's and Marks' participation as 4-H members and leaders.



Barbara was also an adoring grandmother to her grandson, Mark Sandner, born in 1977. With pride, she celebrated his high achievement of 4-H Diamond Star.

In retirement, Barbara served as coordinator of the Amateur Gardening Department and Agricultural Feature Exhibits Department for the Alameda County Fairgrounds. A member of the Alameda County CattleWomen, Barbara received the 2010 Cattle-Woman of the Year award. Barbara was also a member of the Livermore Garden Club, Livermore Wine Growers Association, California Academy of Sciences, de Young Museum, and Asian Art Museum.

Barbara's life was rooted in her Swedish heritage, sharing Swedish traditions from attire to smorgasbords – to be enjoyed with the family's special recipe for Glögg.

Barbara's life was also rooted in faith. Barbara was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oakland and later became a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livermore. Barbara lived her faith. In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, Barbara cared for those who were suffering. Barbara also volunteered at East Bay Stand Down to assist homeless and at-risk veterans.

Barbara was a world traveler, embracing many cultures and peoples, but perhaps her greatest joy was visiting Disneyland and Disneyworld with her children and grandchild.

No story of Barbara's life would be complete without horses. In the 1950s and 1960s Barbara rode in matched pairs class competitions and parades. When Sharon was old enough, she rode with her mom, beginning with the Livermore Rodeo Parade in 1957.

Barbara Lee Anderson is survived by her daughter, Sharon Smales; son, Mark Costella; and grandson, Mark Sandner; and her extended family of Annick Santer-Gillen, Adam Nino, Karen Newberg, and David Silverman.

The family will announce a celebration of life for Barbara Lee Anderson at a future time, and will establish a foundation in her memory. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the future foundation to honor Barbara.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Anderson family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghan-mortuary.com](http://www.callaghan-mortuary.com).

## Donald Ritchie Lesuer

Apr. 27, 1946 – Oct. 8, 2019



Donald Ritchie Lesuer, age 73, of Hilton Head, S.C., and before that Livermore, Calif., passed away on Oct. 8, 2019 after a long battle with multiple cancers, including prostate and multiple myeloma, at the Fraser Health Center in Hilton Head.

Donald was born on April 27, 1946, to Donald and Pearl Lesuer in Waltham, Mass.

He leaves behind his wife Suzanne Lesuer, son David, daughter-in-law Lara, two grandchildren Faith and Ava, sister Barbara Alden of Deerfield, Mass., brother Robert Lesuer and wife Melanie of Plymouth, Mass., niece Martha of Massachusetts, and nephew Ben and family stationed at Fort Stewart, N.C.

Donald was a graduate

of Waltham High School, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Stevens Institute, and received his doctorate in materials engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

Donald was in the Army Reserves for eight years. He pursued his scientific career at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 38 years. He was a very active person – an avid biker, swimmer, runner and accomplished triathlete. He belonged to the power squadron and enjoyed his Boston boat for his years in Hilton Head.

There will be a celebration of life at 2927 Bresso Dr., Livermore, on Saturday, Nov. 23, at noon.

## Helga Helene Wilkins

Helga Wilkins passed away quietly on Oct. 24, 2019, at the age of 94, holding the hands of her beloved caregiver and companion, Jerr-bel Jose. She was then living at Stoneridge Creek/Creekview Assisted Living after having moved from her home in Pleasanton, following the death of her husband, Mark Wilkins, in 2011.

Prior to that, Helga and Mark had lived in Livermore, where Helga taught French at Livermore High School for 20 years, and Mark enjoyed a lifetime career in physics at Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. Students will remember their French teacher for the times they read "Le Petit Prince" aloud and celebrated with French food feasts.

Helga always has been known for her love of travel, which started in her early 20s when she flew for Eastern Airlines and ultimately Pan American Airlines. She was known as "Stevie" by her cohort of stewardesses who lived and played together in between flights. In those days, international flights could take a week to complete, with days-long layovers in faraway places such as Calcutta, Istanbul and Casablanca. Helga thrived on the adventure, and continued to enjoy vacations with her husband all over the world that involved in-



dependent driving trips, river cruising and eventually over 30 ocean cruises.

In their 50s Helga and Mark decided to become yachters themselves, and after taking a Coast Guard boating course, bought their first motor cruiser. They explored the West Coast up through Alaska and then the East Coast where they kept another boat in Florida. Friends from the Marco Island Yacht Club will remember when they almost lost the Wilkins in a maiden cruise to the Bahamas, but that didn't deter the couple from boating for another two decades.

Helga's family includes her two daughters Gale McCreary and Jeanne Hollingsworth, Mark's children Eileen Marsden and Mark Wilkins, her brother Martin Giesbrecht, and her niece and two nephews. She additionally is survived by six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

## Valerie Ball

July 5, 1957 – Nov. 2, 2019



Valerie Ball, 62, passed away Nov. 2, in Pleasanton, Calif., after a sudden heart attack at home. She had her closest family by her side and had celebrated two years clean and sober in July. She was born July 5, 1957, in Bloomington, Ind., where her parents were attending Indiana University.

Valerie began school in Mountain View, Calif. The family moved to Reno, Nev., in 1966, where she attended Elmcrest Elementary, Clayton Junior High, and Reno High School. She graduated from RHS in 1975 with her "pack," among them her lifelong friends: Jane, Cindy, Deby, and Debbie. Remarkable for always being the center of a large group of friends, to whom she was unfailingly loyal, Val was known for her colorful vocabulary, her love of reading and of dogs. She earned the nickname "Auntie Oops" for the treats she pretended to drop by mistake.

Val worked in Reno in her early years at Baskin-Robbins, the Majestic Theater, and Mountain View Cemetery. Wherever she was employed, Val adopted the business and her coworkers, whom she would always refer to as "we." She was 43 when she went to college, embraced by the returning student program at Las Positas College in Livermore, and earning an Associate Degree. In return, she never left – working initially as a student, then a temporary assistant and finally as the Administrative Assistant to a series of deans. She always kept candy on her desk and provided a friendly shoulder for students and coworkers to lean on.

Val loved passionately and with all her heart. She spent years with Matt Ronnie Gianola, father of Jennifer, and with Pat Garrett Jordan, father of Tai. They

made homes in Reno, New Mexico, and California, as well as traveling the country. She often talked about living on the beach in Belize, though once she returned from that adventure, she never wanted to leave home again. She was so proud of her daughters and thrilled to be grandmother to Jace Ronnie.

Valerie is survived by her daughter Tai of Livermore, her daughter Jennifer (Coley) and their son Jace of Reno, and her adopted family of Catherine, Richard, Stella and Ulric Dunbar of Livermore. She was also survived by her mother Joyce Ball, of Hemet, Calif.; father Robert Ball, of Las Vegas, Nev.; sister Stephanie (Jack) of Reno; brother Steven (Gwen) of Alameda, Calif.; and nieces and nephews Chase, Rowan, Emily, Cameron, Jackson, and Madolyn.

She was preceded in death by her loves Ronnie and Pat, and by her stepfather Stefan.

There will be a celebration of her life on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019, from 2 to 4 p.m., in the Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts main theater, at Las Positas College, Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a scholarship fund in her honor at [www.GiveCampus.com/schools/LasPositasCollege](http://www.GiveCampus.com/schools/LasPositasCollege). Click on the "Make a Gift" button and select the "Valerie Ball Memorial Scholarship" designation in the drop-down menu. Checks can be sent to the LPC Foundation at 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore, CA, 94551, with "Valerie Ball Memorial Scholarship" in the memo.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Ball family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

## Shirley Ann Rollins

Nov. 5, 1937 – Nov. 9, 2019

Shirley was born Nov. 5, 1937. She celebrated her 82nd birthday four days prior to her passing on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019. Shirley died as she lived...on her own terms! She was able to be at home until her passing. Shirley will be missed by her family and her close-knit apartment complex community.

Shirley did not want a funeral service.



## Kara Wilburn Morgan

Aug. 6, 1926 – Nov. 16, 2019



Kara Wilburn Morgan, aged 93, died peacefully at his residence on Nov. 16, 2019, and was reunited in Heaven with his beloved wife of almost 60 years, Joyce Cleo Morgan.

Kara was born on August 6, 1926, to Thelma Lee Spurlock Morgan and Kara Narce Morgan in Wolfe City, Texas. He was the oldest of their nine children.

After high school graduation, Kara enlisted in the Army and was stationed at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He served as the Brigadier General's Chauffeur from December 1944 to June 1949. He met Joyce in the Adjutant's Office where she worked as a clerk typist. Their love blossomed when Kara drove Joyce to the hospital for an office-related injury to her finger. On June 4, 1948, Kara and Joyce were married, and together they created a beautiful life filled with love and laughter.

Kara retired from Sparklets as an auditor with over 35 years of service that began with him driving the trucks and delivering bottled water while completing his A.A. at San Bernardino Valley College and raising his daughters. He built two mountain cabins where the family spent most weekends, playing card games, and watching and reading Westerns.

Kara and Joyce enjoyed traveling the world, from the sandy shores of Hawaii to the snowy Alps in Switzerland, from the glaciers in Alaska to

the beaches of Cancun, from the tranquil waters at Lake Louise to the heart of the Holy Land, from family cruises and road trips across the U.S. to the houseboat on Lake Shasta – they shared their love for adventure with their children and grandchildren.

Kara is survived by his daughters, Carole Carlson and Chrissy Langley; granddaughters, Tara Rider, Amy Kudenov, Jessica Walser, and Lisa Carlson; three great-grandchildren, Harmony Wayland, Autumn Robbins, and Damon Rider; and three great-great grandchildren, Remedy, Wayland, and Anakin Robbins. He is also survived by his sisters, Eris Holloway, Mona Eubanks Aleman, Corine Ledbetter, Linda Eakin, Diana Keener, and Dora Burnett; and many grand-nieces and nephews.

Kara will be remembered for his tenacious spirit and tremendous strength of character.

Per his request, a memorial service will not be held. A private interment will be held at a later date. We ask friends and family to celebrate his life in their own way.

## Gertrude (Margaret) Marsh (nee Hart)

Jan. 26, 1937 – Nov. 15, 2019



Margaret Marsh, 82, passed away at her home in Livermore, after a hospital stay with heart complications. Gertrude was born in Frankfurt, Germany. She was married to Richard Marsh before residing in Livermore. Margaret worked at Louise's Fish & Chips and Intel Corporation. Since her retirement she continued her crocheting and knitting, at which she was an expert. She had a passion

for gardening and landscaping. She not only groomed her property but her neighbors' as well. She is survived by many, many friends and former husband Richard. She will be sadly missed by all, especially the Hansen family.

Her Celebration of Life will be on Dec. 7, 1 to 4 p.m., at Sunrise Mobile Home Park, 856 Sundial Circle, in the Springtown area of Livermore.

## Shirley (Roque) Fernandez

July 27, 1935 – Nov. 1, 2019



Shirley Fernandez passed away quietly and peacefully on Friday, Nov. 1, 2019, at Summit Alta Bates Hospital in Oakland, Calif., with her immediate family at her side. Shirley ultimately lost her battle to chronic congestive heart failure complicated by coronary disease. She touched many lives with her infectious smile and laugh, and at the age of 84, she remained feisty, funny and thoughtful till the very end.

Shirley was born in the town of Wailuku on the island of Maui, Hawaii. At the age of seven, she successfully fought a two-year battle with polio that placed her in the hospital for an entire year. She eventually went on to graduate from Baldwin High School in 1954 where she was an athlete playing volleyball, softball, and on the school's varsity basketball team.

Shortly after graduating from high school, Shirley moved to California where she held jobs at Sunshine Cookies and Continental Can before marrying Lionel Fer-

nandez, her second-grade classmate and husband of 50 years. Shirley spent her married years as a homemaker, or "domestic engineer" as she put it, raising her family of three. Shirley enjoyed attending her grandchildren's many activities, visiting with friends, gambling, sports, crafts and other family activities.

Shirley is survived by her loving children Lionel Fernandez Jr (Theresa) of San Ramon, Michael Fernandez of Livermore, and Debbie Marzocco (Marty) of Pleasanton; and her grandchildren Danielle and Cameron Fernandez of San Ramon, and Myranda and Alyson Marzocco of Pleasanton. She is also survived by her brother Howard Roque of Pleasanton. Shirley always brightened the room; her friends and family will miss her immensely.

Shirley will be laid to rest with her husband at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, Calif., where the family will hold a small, private ceremony.



The vermillion-colored grapevine leaves will be long gone by the time the Ravenswood Historic Site celebrates its annual Victorian Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 8, when visitors experience a free old-fashioned yuletide with tours, decorations, music, and a trip to the gift shop. Till then, Ravenswood is open for its regular tours ([www.larpd.org/ravenswood](http://www.larpd.org/ravenswood)) and perhaps to provide the perfect backdrop for holiday photos. Ravenswood is located at 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## AIRCRAFT

(Continued from first page)



Last June, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) chose to host its two-day Fly-In at the Livermore airport. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

the airport has seen its total numbers tick upwards over the past several years. It appears to be on pace to top last year's total of 156,209 total takeoffs and landings.

There has been a significant increase in military flights in and out of the airport over the past year, according to records the city keeps. So far, 291 "itinerant military" operations were recorded from Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019. There were just 40 in the previous 12-month period.

Most of these were helicopters, or, in aviation speak—rotorcraft—from the United States Coast Guard and Army National Guard Aviation Support Facility out of Stockton, said David Decoteau, the airport's manager. The Army's Chinooks, Blackhawks, and Lakotas, as well as the Coast Guard's Dolphins, have touched down on the airports helipad, with some performing drills and training exercises. Decoteau said the airport provides a good training environment.

A Coast Guard official told the Airport Commission last month that training time in Livermore is especially appreciated during the summer when other Bay Area airports are typically fogged in until the afternoon.

"We have a lot of cool things happening for us in Livermore," said Pete Sandhu, owner of 5 Rivers Aviation. The company provides a variety of pilot and charter support services and

has a long-term contract to run fuel concessions at the airport.

In June, around 10,000 people attended, and nearly 500 aircraft participated, in the two-day Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Fly-In in Livermore. The airport was selected among dozens of others vying for the opportunity. The event pumped an estimated \$800,000 into the local economy, Decoteau said.

An annual air show and open house draws similar crowds. And for the past 27 Memorial Day weekends, Livermore has hosted the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom tour, which showcases two fully restored WWII bombers, a B-24 Liberator and a B-17 Flying Fortress. Early last month, the B-17 crashed in Connecticut with 13 people aboard, killing seven, including the pilot and copilot.

More than air shows, the 590-acre airport plays an important role for aircraft owners and enthusiasts of all levels.

Fees for storing aircraft range from \$76 a month for a small airplane tie down space, up to \$1,775 a month for a large hangar. While there are many tie down vacancies, hangar space is all booked up. The waiting time expected for a small hangar is about six months, Decoteau said.

"For large hangars, there's a 15-year wait," he said.

## VALLEY RAIL

(Continued from first page)

They hope to put a tax on the ballot in November 2020.

There are several obstacles. One is a state limit on how high a sales tax can rise in a city or county. Special legislation would have to

be passed in Sacramento to permit lifting those ceilings. In addition, taxpayer opposition could sink the idea of a new regional sales tax, since it would need a two-thirds vote to pass.

## OBITUARIES

### Magda Ortiz

Nov. 28, 1940 – Nov. 19, 2019

Magda passed away peacefully on the morning of Nov. 19, 2019. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Lupe Ortiz, her son Rogelio, daughter Bertha, granddaughters Natalie and Sabrina, grandson Adan, and many brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and friends.

Visitation will be on Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, from 5 to 7 p.m., and Rosary at 7 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary. Mass on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019, at 10 a.m., with a burial to follow at St. Michael Cemetery.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Ortiz family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Jack Roland Matthews

Nov. 1, 1928 – Nov. 15, 2019



Jack Matthews was born in Fort Cobb, Okla., on November 1, 1928, during the Dust Bowl and Depression. His family moved to California in 1942 when his parents both got jobs on the shipyards preparing ships for World War II. Jack left high school early to join the Air Force in 1946. He was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1949. He was always grateful to the G.I. Bill for providing him the opportunity to go to San Francisco State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in math in 1953. He taught math briefly and then became one of the first Computer Programmers at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he met his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Kotowski. He would continue working at the lab for 30 years until retiring in 1985.

Jack was an avid Warriors, 49ers, and A's fan. He followed politics, sports, and took art classes. He enjoyed ping-pong in the service and both dancing and bowling with his wife. He had six daughters, 11 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and four great great-grandchildren.

He lost his wife, Peggy, of 44 years in 2000, but started a new chapter with his fiancé, Ruth Vince. Together Ruth and Jack took art classes, and traveled to China, Japan and

Alaska until Ruth's death in 2015.

Jack's daughters and their spouses are Lorraine Matthews (deceased), Cheryl Murdaugh of Lake Station, Ind., Megan Laquidara of Middletown, N.Y., Beth and Troy Trenchard of Santa Cruz, Calif., Nancy Matthews and Craig Culppepper of Tracy, Calif., and Cindy and Glenn Sherman, of Livermore, Calif. His grandchildren are Richard Rightmire II, Kim Peck, Amanda and Miles Culppepper, Andrea, Anthony, and Allison Laquidara, Mathew, Cassidy, and Daniel Sherman. His great grandchildren are Rebecca Vose, Richard Rightmire III, Amanda Blum, Samantha Barbee, Charlotte, Ethan, and Reid Peck. His great great-grandchildren are Makenzie and Alexandria Vose, Cristian and Chanelle Weaver. Jack is survived by his brother-in-law Roy Cox of Martinez, Calif. His sister, Glenna Cox, preceded him in death.

Services are being held on Friday, Nov. 22, at 2:30 p.m., at Roselawn Cemetery, with Celebration of Life following at his daughter's home. Please call Callaghan Mortuary for further information.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Matthews family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Emilie Ann Coyne

Sweet Emilie Dies at 77



Emilie was the wife of Livermore winemaker extraordinaire, the late Thomas S. Coyne, adored mother of Anne Marie (David), Laura (Shawn), and Steve (Jodi); sister to Mary Beth Louro, James Nixon and Patricia Patronski; and grandmother to Sebastian, Alexis, Bryce, Madeleine, Charlie and Braidan.

Born and raised in Niagara Falls, N.Y., Emilie graduated from Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in 1963 and spent 14 years working as an R.N. in New York state, first at St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston and later at Horton Hospital in Middletown.

In her early 20s, friends set her up on a blind date with a young chemical engineer from Pennsylvania who was then working in the Niagara Falls area. Tom swept Emilie off her feet and they married shortly thereafter, becoming lifelong partners and best friends.

After relocating to Livermore, Calif., in 1977, she was hired by the Blood Bank of ACCMA where she made many friends with whom she was close until the day she died.

Eventually, Tom decided to turn his winemaking hobby into a professional endeavor and together with Emilie

opened the Thomas Coyne Winery at bucolic Chateau Bellevue in Livermore. A woman of exceptional hospitality, she left her nursing career behind and oversaw the tasting room. Tom named his dessert wine Sweet Emilie in her honor.

Emilie was a gifted pianist and loved sharing her musical talents with those closest to her. She especially loved classical music and delighted in attending symphony performances in San Francisco with friends. A woman of great Catholic faith, she was a member of St. Michael's parish in Livermore where she sang in the folk group and choir.

All who loved Emilie are invited to gather at her home following her funeral on Monday, Nov. 25, where we will share stories, light fare and a glass of wine.

In lieu of flowers, please make a tax-deductible donation to American Cancer Society in memory of Emilie Coyne. Gifts help fund life-saving research, education and care.

Emilie died peacefully on Nov. 11, at her residence in Livermore. Thank you to all the wonderful R.N. angels from Hope Hospice in Dublin who cared for Emilie during her final days.



## Honor Your Departed



As a non-profit agency serving the Tri-Valley for 40 years, Hope Hospice relies on donations to help provide end-of-life care and support to all who need it. If your family is designating charitable donations in memory of a departed loved one, please consider Hope Hospice. Your generosity will allow us to continue providing excellent care, grief support, and caregiver education to the local community.

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 564784**  
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Signature of Registrant/s/ Mark Amaro, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 24, 2019. Expires October 24, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4658. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2019.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 564978**  
The following person(s) doing business as: deharo Construction, 4361 Technology Dr. Unit I, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): deharo Construction, 4361 Technology Dr. Unit I, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: April 1993. Signature of Registrant/s/: Dustin Prusso, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 30, 2019. Expires October 30, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4659. Published November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2019.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565216-565217**  
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of Registrant/s/: Kim Bonde, Treasurer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2019. Expires November 6, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4660. Published November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2019.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565357**  
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of Alameda on November 13, 2019. Expires November 13, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4662. Published November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2019.

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# 'Flying Kites' Soar Against a Brilliant Blue Sky



By Carol Graham

On a gorgeous autumn afternoon, the City of Livermore added its own touch of whimsical beauty: a 15-foot sculpture titled "Flying Kites."

At a Nov. 19 dedication ceremony for the sculpture, Mayor John Marchand said, "Public art contributes to the quality of life in our community. It can transform its location - whether it's a piece of public art, like Flying Kites, or the Peace Monument, or one of the utility box murals, or performance art, or music. In the words of Pablo Picasso, 'Art washes from my soul the dust of everyday life.'"

Located on the City Hall Campus, near the intersection of S. Livermore and Pacific Avenues, Flying Kites joins two other works of art: the Peace Monument and the Japanese Lantern.

"These three pieces will form the beginning of a new Sculpture Garden," Marchand said. "Each additional piece of public art invites the community to become engaged - to view the art, to discuss it, and to bring family and friends to experience it."

Flying Kites was created by Colorado metal sculptor Kevin Robb. With his

unique style and flawless welding quality, Robb's works have made their marks on the national and international art scenes.

The placement of each element is an answer to a question of relationships, which, according to Robb, he discovers as the work is in progress. He becomes one with the metal and intuitively knows the precise twists and turns that will be required to achieve the desired result.

Although a stroke in 2004 left Robb physically challenged, he is back in the studio creating the artwork

that he loves so much. His ideas remain free flowing, and his commitment to quality continues to soar, as Robb's art work gives testament to his artistic dedication, expertise and resolve.

Flying Kites was chosen out of 81 proposals sent to the City. Added Marchand, "Public art is provided through Public Works Projects and private developer fees. Livermore recognizes the importance of the arts to our quality of life. That is why the City endeavors to have the experience of art to be a part of everyone's daily life."

A dedication for the new sculpture, Flying Kites, took place on Nov. 19, at the City Hall Campus. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## HOTEL

(Continued from first page)

stock, the hotel straddles the Interstate 580 corridor and is expected to draw its share of business and government customers as well as passers-through.

It also hopes to be an attraction in itself.

Unlike nearly every other wine region in California, the Tri-Valley lacks lodging with quality restaurant, resort and conference

facilities.

This was among the key findings of the City of Livermore's recently completed 2020-2025 Economic Development Strategic Plan.

Adam Van de Water, Livermore's Director of Innovation and Economic Development, said that business and hospitality leaders surveyed for the plan identified a lack of high-end

accommodations as an inhibitor to future growth and marketing of the wine region as a destination.

Both Dublin and Livermore are working to help spur the development of higher-quality hotels in their downtown areas.

Last week, the Dublin City Council rezoned a swath of land, at the Dublin Transit Center between

Arnold Way and Campus Drive, to allow for the construction of a proposed five-story upscale hotel with nearly 200 rooms, under the Westin brand.

In Livermore, the city and a residents' group both agree that the downtown area should feature a hotel, but are battling over the hotel's location, amenities, size and quality.



Pictured is the modern interior of the new AC Hotel in Pleasanton. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## VALLEYCARE

(Continued from first page)

nosing and treating stroke, which occurs at the rate of one every 40 seconds somewhere in the United States.

Only about one-fifth of stroke victims reach appropriate care fast enough for doctors to expect to prevent or reduce serious complications.

Not every medical center or hospital is qualified to handle stroke cases, however. Until recently, stroke victims had to be transported out of the Livermore-Pleasanton area for treatment.

That changed in early autumn, when the national

review agency known as the Joint Commission completed its survey of Stanford-ValleyCare and certified it as a primary stroke center.

After that, ambulances could bring stroke victims to ValleyCare for local diagnosis and treatment.

In the 40 days after certification, according to Rick Shumway, CEO and president of Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare, the Pleasanton hospital received 45 patients who had experienced possible strokes.

"To have this kind of activity in the first month really demonstrates why

this program is so important to the community," he said.

Sulikyan, the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation's executive director, said the fundraising drive will "bring to fruition the extensive stroke care program that Tri-Valley residents need.

"Thanks to the incredible generosity of Lynn and Joan Seppala and Don and Sharon Ritchey, the (drive) will help fund state-of-the-art rehabilitation services and equipment, stroke support services, a multidisciplinary stroke clinic, training and education and much more

right here in our community."

To contribute, phone 925-373-4560 or mail a check payable to VCCF to ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore 94550.

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# Circle Mirror Transformation is a Play That Uses Games to Reveal the Truth

By Carol Graham

For writers, intimate theater spaces offer a mini slice of heaven: while remaining unobserved, writers are free to discourteously listen to and inspect all sorts of human conditions without being called upon to reveal any of their own.

Unless, of course, the writer will be writing a review about the production.

For “Circle Mirror Transformation,” currently playing at the Bothwell Arts Center, I find I must forsake my beloved anonymity to say . . . I loved these characters, all five of them – a multigenerational group of small-town Vermont residents enrolled in a community center acting

class; I loved their desire and their hope, just as I ached for their pain and empathized with their faulty attempts to mask it.

“I love intimate theater spaces; you become a fly on the wall watching these lives unfold in front of you,” says Director Misty Megia. “It allows for greater connection to the play for audiences and actors. The stolen glances, the touch of a hand, the pain someone is trying to hide – these are much more exposed, more raw and tangible when an audience is within breathing distance.”

Circle Mirror Transformation, written by Annie Baker, won an Obie Award

for Best New American Play in 2010. It gets its title from an acting workshop game in which everyone stands in a circle. One person starts the game by making a sound and a motion, and everyone in the circle mirrors it. Then the next person transforms the gesture into a new sound and movement, and so on. The game is often used as a warmup to help students get used to fully using their bodies and voices without feeling self-conscious. (A quick side note: this is the only game in the play that is actually improvised by the actors during each performance.)

Upcoming shows are on

Friday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 23, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 24 at 3 p.m. Tickets, ranging from \$20 to \$50, are for general seating.

The fun begins at the Bothwell itself – an inviting old character draped in black feather boas with portraits of Elizabeth Taylor. It’s a far cry from community center where parents stood in line before dawn (and before the internet) to make sure they’d be able to register little ones into the right classes. Today, the Bothwell is warm and quirky, with ballroom dancers two rooms down, and someone learning computer skills in another room.

For Circle Mirror Transformation, a double row of 60 seats create a crescent around the circular stage, with its main prop: a three-sided, full-length mirror.

The one-act play takes place over six-weeks with around 30 brief scenes — so brief, in fact, that some of the silences seem longer. In Megia’s deft hands, the pauses are potent.

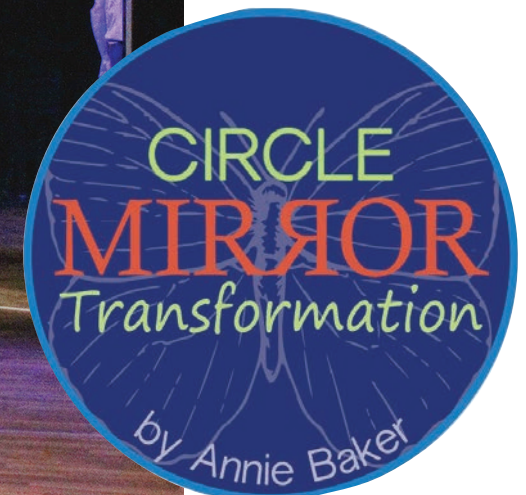
“This play’s story is told through the subtext as much as the words. The silence provides the breathing room needed to tell the story that words can’t communicate,” Megia says. “The pauses allow for the experience of real-life awkward moments,

they provide the space for romance to bloom, and to see the powerful moment when someone digs up the courage to break their circular habit for the first time. Everything in the pause is as important as the word that disrupts the quiet.”

Typically stage productions travel along at break-neck speeds, but this show has the confidence to give audience members a chance to absorb and process what’s happening.

“This show has a 20-second pause with no one on stage, or 30-second pauses with no words, just action or deep reflection,” Megia adds. “It can feel as if someone missed their cue. That’s rare and awkward, but it’s purposeful. That silence sets up the moment that follows so well, you feel rewarded for the wait! There are other moments when the pause allows the audience to sink into the story. My approach

(Continued on page 5)



## Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, Livermore families are expressing their gratitude by giving back. Residents are filling shoeboxes with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items to send to children in need around the world. For many of these children, it will be the first gift they have ever received.

During Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week Nov. 18 – 25, local residents will collect shoebox gifts at drop-off locations in the area. The Samaritan's Purse project, partnering with churches worldwide, will deliver these gifts to children in need. Area volun-

teers hope to collect more than 16,288 gifts during the week.

"It's amazing to see the local community rally together for a global impact," said Regional Director Nathan Bates. "We see all ages getting involved – and more and more every year."

Livermore residents are not alone in their effort to help children around the world. More than 150,000 U.S. volunteers including families, churches and other groups are joining forces to contribute to the largest Christmas project of its kind. In 2019, Samaritan's Purse hopes to collect enough Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts to

reach 11 million children, with 16,288 coming from the local area.

For more information on how to participate in Operation Christmas Child, call (714) 432- 2950, or visit [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ). Participants can donate \$9 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination. Those who prefer the convenience of online shopping can browse [samaritanspurse.org/buildonline](http://samaritanspurse.org/buildonline) to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

## Country Hitmakers Phil Vassar and Lonestar are Coming to Town



Spend an evening with platinum-selling artists Phil Vassar and Lonestar as they perform at the Bankhead Theater, on Monday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m., as part of their second annual "Holiday & Hits" Christmas tour.

Audience members will have the chance to hear Christmas standards as well as the artists' hits, including their original Christmas single "Not So Silent Night." Prior to this year's tour, Vassar and Lonestar will re-record their single with the help of some friends, donating all the proceeds to the Salvation Army.

Lonestar, composed of Richie McDonald, Michael Britt, Keech Rainwater and Dean Sams, released their first Christmas album, *This Christmas Time*, in 2000. The ACM and CMA award-winning group recorded 11 songs for the Dan Huff produced project, which featured new material such as the title track co-written by Sams and the touching "Reason for the Season," co-written by McDonald.

Vassar, who has headlined Christmas tours since 2009, released his first Christmas album, *Noel*, in 2011. The 10-track collection, co-pro-

duced by Vassar and Dane Bryant, showcases four of the ACM award-winning and ASCAP Songwriter of the Year's original songs, including the humorous "Santa's Gone Hollywood," and "Big Ol' Texas Christmas," a duet with Asleep at the Wheel's Ray Benson. Previously, Vassar and Kellie Pickler headlined a sold-out holiday tour.

Tickets, ranging from \$20 to \$145, are available for purchase at [LVPAC.org](http://LVPAC.org), [PhilVassar.com](http://PhilVassar.com) and [LonestarNow.com](http://LonestarNow.com). The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St., in downtown Livermore.

## Tri-Valley Community Outreach Thanksgiving Dinner

On Thursday, Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Dinner is being provided by the Tri-Valley Community Outreach Committee for anyone needing a place to go on Thanksgiving Day. The 8th annual dinner is sponsored and supported by a coalition of churches, community organizations and businesses in the Tri-Valley area.

The dinner serves seniors, military members, veterans, singles and anyone in need of a place to go for Thanksgiving dinner in the Tri-Valley community. Join us for a traditional sit-down dinner,

served at your table (no standing in lines, no paper plates).

Dinner is free and reservations are not necessary. In addition to a wonderful meal, there will be entertainment and children's activities.

The location is St. Raymond Catholic Church, Moran Hall, located at 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin (across from the Shannon Center). Dinner will be served from noon to 4 p.m.

To volunteer by donating food and supplies, or cooking a turkey, go to [www.TVC-Thanksgiving.com](http://www.TVC-Thanksgiving.com).

## The Long Christmas Dinner and Other Works by Thornton Wilder

Encore Players invites you to share in the warmth and humor of this American playwright and three-time Pulitzer Prize winner. Martie Muldoon and Ray Spooner direct two of his one-act plays and three monologues.

Performances take place on Friday, Dec. 6 and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m., and on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore.

"The Long Christmas Dinner" showcases four gen-

erations in the lives of one family. As family members appear, have children, age and depart, only the audience appreciates what changes and what remains the same. In "The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden," a family shares observations and laughter on the road to visit the oldest daughter. Rounding out the program are monologues from "The Matchmaker," a story of love and money. Cast members are Tim Ackerman, Donna

Blevins, Lea Blevins, Lesleyanne Coker, Grare Davis, Don Faul, Judy Fenton, Yana Ghannam, Louie Hesemann, Austin Maisler, Martha McDowell, Meredith Sarboraria, and Robin Spindler.

Tickets are available at the Bankhead box office by calling 925-373-6800, or online at [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org). Tickets are \$25 for general admission or \$20 for seniors (62+). A wine and cookie reception follows each performance as guests of Encore.

## Race to the Flagpole Starts The New Year Off Right

The Livermore-Granada Boosters will host the 10th Annual "Race to the Flagpole" on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2020. The event offers several distances that include a 5K run/walk, 10K run, and one-mile fun run. All events start at Independence Park and go through Livermore's scenic Sycamore Grove Park. These events are open to all ages and abilities. They encourage awareness and appreciation for fitness, as well as community pride. This year the opening ceremonies will include the VFW Color Guard.

All race proceeds support the Livermore-Granada Boosters scholarship program. For over 70 years, the Boosters have honored varsity scholar athletes from both high schools at their annual May awards banquet. Substantial scholar-

ships are awarded to young men and young women who exemplify athletic excellence and high academic achievement. The Boosters believe students who excel in academics, athletics, and community service become exemplary civic leaders. Since 1958, the Boosters have awarded more than \$280,000 in scholarships.

Race-day registration begins at 6:45 a.m. at Independence Park, 2798 Holmes St., Livermore. The 10K will start at 8:45 a.m., and 5K at 9:00 a.m. The one-mile fun run begins at 10:15 a.m. Pre-registration entry fees for the 5K are \$35, and the 10K are \$40 per runner. Student rate for 5K and 10K are \$20. Pre-registration discounts are available until December 20 when all races will go up \$5.

On race day, all registra-

tion entry fees will be an additional \$5. Group/family discounts are available for four or more runners. The one-mile fun run entry fee is \$12 and \$15 on race day.

Every race participant receives a commemorative T-shirt, medal, and post-race refreshments. The awards ceremony honors the top finishers in each race, school participation, and a tribute to our veterans. All schools in Livermore may compete for the top participation award. The school with the most participants receives a \$250 cash donation. For more information, sponsorship opportunities, or to register, visit [www.livermoregranadaboosters.org](http://www.livermoregranadaboosters.org), or contact Mike Nagel, race director, at 925-667-6535 or [flagpole@yaho.com](mailto:flagpole@yaho.com).



Race to the Flagpole kicks off at Livermore's Independence Park on Jan. 25  
(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Presents Madeline Yanov

Do you have ancestors who were farmers? Many of us have farmers in our family trees. Have you found them in any records other than the census? Did you know how farming changed throughout time or how those changes affect our ancestors? Were they employed in other industries? Many farmers had side jobs and some of them had patents for inventions. You will find out that these people were more than just farmers!

Madeline Yanov will guide us in finding available records and give tips on searching the many types of government records listing your farmer ancestors. She will examine the many non-governmental sources that can help to "put the flesh on the bone" on those ancestors. You will see how Social History and Economic resources might show information affecting your ancestors. Farmers were influenced by more than just the weather.

Yanov, the owner of Time Travel Genealogy, has more than 30 years of genealogy experience, specializing in American research. Since most Americans are descendants of immigrants, she is familiar with European genealogy — specifically Irish, British, Slovakian, and Russian with a little German on the side.

She also has been instrumental in locating and helping to reunite adoptees with their birth parents. In her "other life," prior to becoming a fulltime genealogist, Yanov was a paralegal whose expertise included the "discovery" for cases. This experience helped her in genealogy in analyzing what to search for and how to find it. She is a weekly volunteer at the Oakland, Calif., Regional Family History Center. Since 2011,

she has been an indexer with FamilySearch.org. In 2012, Yanov was elected to the Board of Directors of the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society and is currently the President of that society. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and loves traveling around the Bay Area — meeting people


and hearing their family stories, and sharing her love of history and genealogy with local groups.

The meeting is free and visitors are welcome. It takes place on Monday, Dec. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton.

L I V E R M O R E

— arts —

B A N K H E A D T H E A T E R



**CIRCLE  
MIRROR  
Transformation**  
*by Annie Baker*

"Annie Baker's play is an absolute feast... the kind of unheralded gem that sends people into the streets babbling and bright-eyed with the desire to spread the word..."  
— *New York Times*

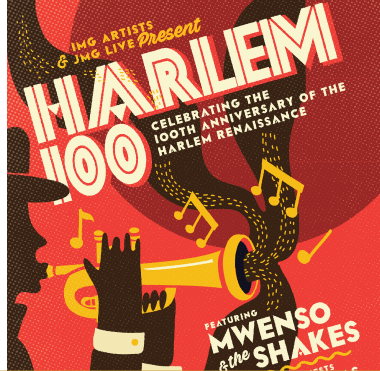
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Performed in an Intimate, Transformed Setting  
at the Bothwell Arts Center

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Honoring the centennial of the **Harlem Renaissance** with a joyous celebration of song and dance

**Sat NOV 23**  
at 8pm



**HARLEM 100**  
CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE  
FEATURING **MWENSO & THE SHAKES**

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**Chris Perondi's STUNT DOG EXPERIENCE**

featured on  
*The Ellen DeGeneres Show,*  
*The Tonight Show,* and  
*Pet Star!*

**Sun NOV 24**  
at 2pm & 6pm

925.373.6800 • [LVPAC.org](http://LVPAC.org)  
2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

## SHORT NOTES

### Audubon Meeting

Ohlone Audubon will meet Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m., at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, in the Palo Verde Room.

Holiday Cookie Exchange, Photo Share and Least Tern Recovery and Monitoring at Eden Landing.

The evening will include a short presentation by Ben Pearl, Director for the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO), who will talk about the upcoming Least Tern recovery and monitoring program at Eden Landing in the spring of 2020 and the need for volunteers to participate to make this program a success.

All are welcome, and cookies are not required. Visit [ohloneaudubon.org](http://ohloneaudubon.org).

### Las Positas Vineyards

On the weekend of Nov. 22-24, Las Positas Vineyards Weekend features its food pairing flight with their new Cheesecake Cupcake & Wine Pairing flight, and also be offering our Reserve Flight. Tasting Room hours are open 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact [curt@laspositasvineyards.com](mailto:curt@laspositasvineyards.com).

Sunday, Nov. 24 at Las Positas Vineyards is Sunday Funday! We've launched our new elevated Tasting & Tour Experience: a guided tour by the Wine Ambassador of our vineyards & winery that finishes in our Winemaker Cottage with a private sit down food & wine pairing experience. The experience is offered at noon and 2:30. Email [andrew@laspositasvineyards.com](mailto:andrew@laspositasvineyards.com).

### Change in Livermore Meeting

The City gave notice that the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting on Monday, Dec. 9, has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled City Council Meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 13, 2020, at 7 p.m., at the Livermore Civic Center Meeting Hall, 1016 S. Livermore Ave.

### Livermore Ladies Boutique

Livermore Ladies are hosting their annual crafts and gifts boutique on Friday, Nov. 22, and Saturday, Nov. 23, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 727 Polaris Way, Livermore. Livermore Civic Center Meeting Hall, 1016 S. Livermore Ave.



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# New Location for Boy Scouts Christmas Tree Lot



Livermore Boy Scout Troop 999's Christmas Tree fundraiser at 187 N. L St., starts on Friday, Nov. 29.

The City of Livermore is well underway with improvements to its downtown — which includes the lot at the corner of Railroad Ave. and N. L St. that has served as BSA Scout Troop 999's tree lot location for over 20 years. This block is presently being developed, and left the Troop without a tree lot location.

As luck would have it, BSA Scout Troop 999 won't be moving too far away from its previous location. The landowner of the location previously serving Arrow

Rentals has generously offered this spot to the scouts, which happens to be across the street from their old location.

"It's fantastic to know our tree lot will be conveniently located across the street from our preceding location," said BSA Troop 999 Scoutmaster Jim Silva. "It was a concern where our lot would be located this year and if we would miss serving our long-standing customers. This new location is equally convenient and offers great visibility. Plus our custom-

ers will be able to easily find us."

The tree lot business is Troop 999's sole fundraiser for the year. Revenue generated from tree sales helps fund scout camps, pay for camping equipment and pays for other scout activities.

The former location of Arrow Rentals is a temporary spot to serve Troop 999's needs for 2019. To continue their longtime, successful tree business, the Troop will seek an alternative place to continue their successful tree business in

2020. Vacant land and other creative ideas in Livermore are being discussed as options for next year.

Postcards from BSA Troop 999 have already been mailed this year to previous customers. With over 500 customers on their mailing list, they have many loyal supporters who buy trees from them every year. Additionally the scouts advertise their Christmas tree lot by passing out over 1,800 postcards during their annual Scouting for the Community service efforts in November.

## Red Cross Makes It Easy and Rewarding To Save Lives this Holiday Season

The holidays are a busy time of year, but the American Red Cross is making it easy and rewarding to give the most important gift on some patients' wish list — a lifesaving blood donation. In thanks for being the lifeline patients need this holiday season, the Red Cross is thanking those who come to give Nov. 18-Dec. 18 with a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane. (Restrictions apply; see [amazon.com/gc-legal](http://amazon.com/gc-legal)).

11/18-12/4 Pleasanton Blood Donation Center, 5880 Las Positas Boulevard, Suite 34  
11/20 - Livermore City Hall, 1052 S. Livermore Avenue  
12/6 - Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza  
12/6 - California Water Service, 195 South N Street  
12/6-12/18 Pleasanton Blood Donation Center, 5880 Las Positas Boulevard, Suite 34



## A Magical Parade Caps Off Pleasanton's Hometown Holiday Celebration

The City of Pleasanton is pleased to announce its upcoming Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 7, 2019, at 5p.m. on Main Street, under the Pleasanton arch in downtown Pleasanton. The event will run from 5 -8 p.m., and



The Pleasanton Hometown Holiday Parade starts at 6 p.m., following a Hometown Holiday Celebration from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., and Tree Lighting at 5 p.m.

December 7, 2019, at 5p.m. on Main Street, under the Pleasanton arch in downtown Pleasanton. The event will run from 5 -8 p.m., and



the tree lighting ceremony is anticipated to occur around 6:45 p.m.

The annual event will kick off the holiday season with a festive parade, which will include the Foothill and Amador Valley high schools' marching bands, animal groups, hot rod clubs, floats and more. Immediately after the parade, there will be musical entertainment featuring The December People performing familiar holiday songs in the styles of the top bands of our time. This musical event will take place on the main stage at the Museum on Main followed by the tree lighting by the

Mayor with a special visit from Santa.

The deadline for parade entry application is Wednesday, November 27.

Main Street will close to vehicular traffic at 3:30 p.m. that day. Parade spectators are encouraged to shop and dine in downtown after finding a favorite viewing place along the parade route.

In the event of inclement weather, a parade cancellation telephone hotline will be implemented and updated each hour after 2:30 p.m. on parade day. The Hometown Holiday Hotline is (925) 931-5352. For more info, visit [hometownholiday.com](http://hometownholiday.com).

## Livermore Resident to Star In SCROOGE IN LOVE!

Livermore resident Edward Hightower is playing Jacob Marley in 42nd Street Moon's beloved Holiday musical SCROOGE IN LOVE!, a show full of optimism, charm, fun and deep emotion that will be running from Dec. 4-22 at the San Francisco's Gateway Theatre located at 215 Jackson St, San Francisco. Set a year after the events of the Dickens tale, we find a reformed Scrooge looking for his lost love, Belle, and revisiting past, present, and future with hilarious, ghostly friends! Both side-splitting and hopelessly romantic, SCROOGE IN LOVE! is the perfect holiday show for the whole family—and now



Edward Hightower

a cherished San Francisco tradition. Tickets can be purchased at [42ndstmoon.org/2019-2020-season](http://42ndstmoon.org/2019-2020-season).

## CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION

(Continued from page 1)

is to help find the story in the silence so the pauses feel justified, understood and appreciated."

The synopsis of the play goes like this: In the small town of Shirley, Vermont, five people gather in a community center studio to embark on a journey together in a creative drama class for adults. Taught by Marty (Rhonda Taylor), their free-spirited and supportive leader, the group consists of Schultz (John Giro), a recently-divorced, emotionally vulnerable carpenter;

Teresa (Rebecca Davis), an earnest and vibrant former actress; James (Ray Renati), Marty's quiet and genial husband; and Lauren (Emma Nelson), a reserved and self-conscious high schooler.

Together, in this one small room, the group moves through a series of acting exercises, ranging from the heartbreaking to the ridiculous. Yet through these seemingly trivial games, quiet wars are waged, emotional wounds are nursed, and healing is finally, slowly, able to begin. In these char-

acters, we see glimpses of ourselves – of the pain we would do anything to be rid of, the desire to be desired, the yearning to be understood, and the longing to be respected.

Heavy stuff. But even in the darkness, this play somehow feels luminous and light: there are many laugh-out-loud moments that ensure the show does not become maudlin or self-indulgent.

As for the five actors – they are superb. And Megia, who also directed "Red" at

the Bankhead last year, has a profound way of neither over- nor under-doing it.

In Annie Baker's quiet masterpiece, Circle Mirror Transformation, the audience takes a transcendent journey through the mundane into the profound. In the end we are left feeling closer to the characters, and more charitable toward others and ourselves.

For tickets or to learn more, visit [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org) or call 925-373-6800. The Bothwell Arts Center is located at 2466 Eighth St., Livermore.

**BANKHEAD THEATER**  
2400 First Street, Livermore

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*The music,*

*The memories...*

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**(925)373-6800 / [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org)**

# Yesterday into Today

By Sarah Bobson

## The Band and The Last Waltz: Part I

When I saw *The Last Waltz*, I remember thinking: This is a concert documentary like no other I've seen. I was impressed by the rich color and sound, the interesting camera angles of the performers, both on stage and backstage, and the candid-looking interviews of The Band members. The sophisticated, classical look of the film, what many call the greatest concert documentary ever made, should come as no surprise since award-winning filmmaker Martin Scorsese directed it.

As a devoted fan of The Band, I was curious to know what had taken place behind the scenes, before, during, and after the farewell concert. So I read the memoirs of two Band members: Robbie Robertson's *Testimony* and Levon Helm's *This Wheel's On Fire*. I found that while they agree on a number of details, their tone and attitudes differ greatly. Robertson tends to give a more positive slant, especially about his own contributions, while Helm doesn't hold back his bitterness about a number of issues, including his feelings that Albert Grossman (The Band's manager for many years), Robertson, and the music publishers cheated the rest of The Band members out of publishing rights and royalties that went to Robertson. From their accounts, it is easy to see why The Band split up.

*The Last Waltz* has become inextricably associated with The Band's farewell concert, even though the documentary film, which lasted a few minutes shy of two hours (including interspersed Band member interviews), captured less than half of the actual concert, which clocked in close to five hours. The concert was held on November 25, 1976, at San Francisco's Winterland Ballroom, where The Band had held their first concert 17 years before. Returning full circle to where it had all begun felt right to the band of musical brothers. They had traveled a long road together, touring the U.S. and abroad. They had lived and created together in houses they had turned into recording studios (Big Pink in Saugerties, New York, and Shangri-la in Malibu). They had faced many of life's vicissitudes together: difficulties in maintaining marriages in light of performance schedules, financial difficulties, health problems due to substance abuse and car accidents, physical and mental fatigue from many years on the road, including the difficult Dylan-goes-electric years

when audiences continuously booed them. The added stress arising from creative disagreements and fights over publication rights proved to be too much to bear.

The idea to film the last concert had been an afterthought, according to Robertson. Bill Graham, impresario and rock concert promoter for many sixties musical groups, had suggested the momentous event be documented on film. After considering other directors, Robertson approached Scorsese, who by then was heralded for two critically acclaimed films, *Mean Streets* (1973) and *Taxi Driver* (1976) and for filming the biggest musical event of the sixties: Woodstock.

The Band wanted the concert to be "a musical celebration," according to Robertson, something that would capture the essence of what they were about. And they wanted "not just artists who were close friends and influences, but people who represented the many different musicalities we respected" to be part of that celebration. This would mean more than a dozen performers, and a long evening, something that posed technical challenges in terms of filming. Scorsese and his cinematographers, Vilmos Zsigmond (*Close Encounters of the Third Kind*), and László Kovács (*Easy Rider*, *Five Easy Pieces*), feared the cameras could overheat if run continuously for several hours, especially if the better-quality 35 millimeter film were used. "It's never been done for a concert before," Scorsese is quoted in *Testimony*.

Graham took charge of the logistics. Winterland, opened in 1928, was an old building. Graham was concerned that the balconies overlooking the ballroom, once a skating rink, looked scruffy, and he wanted them refurbished. He was also concerned that filming requirements would damage the interior. Scorsese had said he wanted to drill holes through the floor and send stabilizing poles to the solid ground in order to secure the setups for three main cameras on the "cushiony floor." Graham didn't want these modifications to be made, but Robertson threatened to cancel the show if the changes were not made, so Graham relented.

The production's tight budget forced the filming and production crews to get creative. Scorsese, ever the meticulous filmmaker, wanted a more theatrical look to the set, "... something ... with backlighting

and amber footlights and spotlights, like in MGM musicals." The crew borrowed elegant chandeliers for the ballroom, but there's some discrepancy in the accounts whether they came from the set of the San Francisco Opera's production of Verdi's *La Traviata*, or from the set of *Gone With the Wind*. Wherever the chandeliers came from, they provided a set that Scorsese described as "completely original for a rock concert, especially one called *The Last Waltz*."

The most interesting bit of planning, I think, involved what took place before the event. Since the performance was to be held on Thanksgiving Day, Graham suggested that real turkey dinners with all the trimmings should be provided for each of the guests, friends and relatives of the performers. White-clothed dining tables, and chairs, would be set up on the ballroom floor, and after dinner they would be cleared to allow the guests/audience to waltz to the tunes of the 38-piece Berkeley Promenade Orchestra. Interestingly, this part of the evening, along with some other aspects of the farewell concert, would never appear in the documentary (but more about that later). Getting back to the food, just how many turkeys and trimmings does it take to feed 5,000 people (figure provided by Wikipedia)? Here are the stats, according to Helm's memoir: 220 turkeys, 500 pounds of cranberry sauce, 90 gallons of brown gravy simmering in crocks, a ton of candied yams, 800 pounds of mincemeat, 6,000 rolls, and 400 gallons of cider. The stuffing was made of 500 pounds each of onions and celery, 70 bunches of parsley, and sixteen quarts of herbs sautéed in 100 pounds of butter. The guests who didn't eat meat could still sample some of the 400 pounds of fresh salmon from the Alaska fish company owned by Lou Kemp, organizer of the Rolling Thunder Revue and a Minnesota boyhood friend of Bob Dylan. All of that food staggers the imagination, and yet not one breadcrumb, or slice of turkey, or giblet was captured on celluloid.

In Part II, I'll talk about heated-up efforts to finish writing songs just before the performance, other last-minute activities, the concert itself and the tensions behind the scenes, and the fallout afterward.

# Pleasanton Downtown Promises a Cool Yule with a Spirit & Sweater Stroll

It's going to get ugly! Ugly sweaters that is. The Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) is excited to announce the Spirit & Sweater Stroll set to take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bust out your ugliest of sweaters and join the fun as we celebrate the holiday season in downtown Pleasanton.

Event guests check in at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Upon check-in, ID's will be verified and event goers will receive a wristband, commemorative 2019 Spirit & Sweater Stroll glass, and program.

Programs will have a map and listing of all participating businesses/distilleries along with a menu of poured items. From there, guests are free to stroll through downtown at their own pace, enjoying spirits and craft cocktails at over 15 locations throughout downtown. Participating distilleries include Bay Area Distilling Co., Dutch & Dewey Distillery, Home Base Spirits, Humboldt Distillery, Malahat Spirits, South Bay Spirits, Spirit Works Distillery, Sutherland Distilling, St. George Spirits, and more.

The PDA will also be hosting an ugly sweater contest. Event guests are invited to show up in their most creative (and ugly) sweaters, snap a photo, and tag us on social media to be entered into a raffle to win a \$50 PDA gift card, good at over 100 locations downtown.

Ticket pricing schedule is \$45 November 15 through 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 13, or \$50 at the door (if available). Tickets can be purchased at [pleasantondowntownassociation.insta-gift.com](http://pleasantondowntownassociation.insta-gift.com).



## Visit Tri-Valley “Spreads Cheer With Beer”

Just Five Stops on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail = \$20 to Taylor Family Foundation.

Back by popular demand, the Tri-Valley Beer Trail's annual charitable campaign, Spread Cheer with Beer, returns November 15 – January 31. Each year, Visit Tri-Valley finds a philanthropic group to support with the efforts of the Tri-Valley Beer Trail by donating \$20 for every beer passport that is turned in with five stamps. This year's recipient is The Taylor Family Foundation, a local nonprofit working to preserve the wellness of children with life-threatening

illnesses, developmental disabilities and youth at-risk.

To start spreading cheer with beer, pick up a passport at any stop on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail or download a passport at [www.trivalleybeertrail.com](http://www.trivalleybeertrail.com) and start sipping suds. Get a stamp from your choice of any five participating breweries or taprooms and redeem your passport via email or in person to ensure the \$20 donation.

Amateurs and aficionados alike enjoy sampling flights of local craft beer and chatting with passionate brew masters. And with a col-

lection of 22 participating stops in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Danville, a passport stamp is just a pour away.

“It's awesome to partner again with all these talented folks who give so generously to us and many others in our community,” said Angie Carmignani, CEO of The Taylor Family Foundation. “I am proud to be a part of this event and feel so fortunate to have such amazing support from everyone on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail.”

Stops on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail include: Beer Baron Bar & Kitchen, Pleasanton; BottleTaps, Pleasanton; Main St. Brewery, Pleasanton; McKay's Taphouse and Beer Garden, Pleasanton; The Hop Yard Ale House, Pleasanton; Altamont Beer Works, Livermore; Beer Baron, Livermore; Eight Bridges Brewing Company, Livermore; First Street Ale House, Livermore; Hop Devine, Livermore; Hops and Sessions, Livermore; Shadow Puppet Brewing Company, Livermore; Tap 25, Livermore; Working Man Brewing Company,

Livermore; Caps & Taps, Dublin; Dublin Vine, Dublin; Inc 82 Brewing, Dublin; Thirsty Bay Tap 'n Pour, Dublin; Three Sheets Craft Beer Bar, Dublin; World of Beer, Dublin; Danville Brewing Company, Danville; and The Growler Pub, Danville.

For those who want to support the cause without the brew, a limited edition “ugly” sweater featuring the “Spread Cheer with Beer” message is available online at [VisitTriValley.com](http://VisitTriValley.com). The Taylor Family Foundation will receive a \$20 donation for every sweater sold. Priced at \$60 (includes tax and shipping), the colorful sweaters are available in large and XL sizes while supplies last.

Visit Tri-Valley is the official destination marketing organization for the California cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Danville. The 501(c) (6) non-profit organization attracts visitors to the region through creative marketing campaigns, community outreach and sales initiatives.



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# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

## ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

### Livermore Art Association

**Gallery**, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2155 Third Street, Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sat. 11:30 to 4 pm and Sunday 10 to 2:30 pm. For information call 925.449.9927.

### Members of the Pleasanton Art

**League Public Art Circuit** are currently exhibiting art at five businesses in the area. Viewing locations are: The Stanford Health Care Dermatology Clinic, 1133 E. Stanley Blvd. Suite 111, Livermore; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 183, Pleasanton; The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton; and The Bagel Street Café at 4101-A Dublin Blvd., Dublin. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at 510.877.8154.

## MEETINGS/CLASSES

**The Young Artists' Studio** has openings in its 2018-2019 school year art classes. Artist Peggy Frank offers small group, individualized instruction in art to students ages 7 through high school, and adults. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. Contact Peggy at 925.443.8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

**Figure Drawing Workshop**, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need

written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info: 925.373.9638 or microangelo@earthlink.net.

**Preschool Art Classes**, Thursday mornings 9:45-10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at 925.216.7231 or thomasin\_d@hotmail.com or visit childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com.

**Art Classes**, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin\_d@hotmail.com for further info.

**Piano and Keyboard Lessons**, for children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin\_d@hotmail.com for further info.

**Ukulele Circle**, Meetings held the last Saturday of each month from noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First Street, Livermore.

## MUSIC/CONCERTS

**Harlem 100** is a joyous celebration of song and dance that honors the centennial of the Harlem Renaissance and features Michael Mwenso, his band The Shakes and special guests. At 8 p.m. on Sat. Nov. 23, Bankhead Theater. Visit [www.lvpac.org](http://www.lvpac.org), or call 925-373-6800.

**Pleasanton Community Concert Band** presents a free Holiday Music Concert on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 2 p.m., in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

**Roy Orbison Returns** at the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's Bankhead Theater on Sat., Nov. 30, at 8 p.m. Featuring Wiley Ray & The Big O Band, this concert will delve into the hit songs real-life moments and career achievement highlights of the legendary country singer Roy Orbison. For tickets, \$58, or to learn more, visit [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org).

**The Glorious - Handel Messiah**, presented by the Pacific Chamber Orchestra under the

direction of Conductor Lawrence Kohl, with soprano Marnie Breckenridge, mezzo-soprano Silvie Jensen, tenor Ricky Garcia, and baritone Ben Brady, and the Pacific Chamber Orchestra Chorus, Ofer dal Lal Chorus Master. Sunday, Dec. 1, 3 p.m., at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St. in Livermore. (An additional show takes place in Lafayette on Saturday.) Tickets may be purchased for online at [www.pacificchamberorchestra.org](http://www.pacificchamberorchestra.org) or [pvpac.org](http://pvpac.org), or by calling 925-373-6800.

**Phil Vassar and Lonestar**, Mon., Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., as part of their second annual "Holiday & Hits" Christmas tour. Tickets, ranging from \$20 to \$145, are available for purchase at [LVPAC.org](http://LVPAC.org), [PhilVassar.com](http://PhilVassar.com) and [LonestarNow.com](http://LonestarNow.com). Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore.

**Retzlaff Estate Winery**, Live music every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave. [retzlaffvineyards.com](http://retzlaffvineyards.com).

**Chris Bradley's Jazz Band** appears regularly at Old Mexico Bar & Grill in Livermore on Portola Avenue - the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30. Dance floor, full bar, small cover.



### The Long Christmas Dinner, Dec. 6-8

## ON THE STAGE

### Circle Mirror Transformation

will be presented for eight performances in an intimate small-stage setting at the Bothwell Arts Center, opening on Friday, Nov. 15. To learn more, visit [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org) or call 925-373-6800.

### The Long Christmas Dinner

performed by the Encore Players, Fri., Dec. 6 and Sat., Dec. 7 at 8 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Tickets are available at the Bankhead box office by calling 925-373-6800, or online at [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org). \$25 for general admission or \$20 for seniors (62+). A wine and cookie reception follows each performance.

## COMEDY

**Free Comedy Show** every Thursday at Rebel Kitchen & Libations, 2369 First St., Livermore 7:30pm.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience**, Sun., Nov. 24, at 2 and 6 p.m., with ticket prices ranging from \$20 for students and military, to \$30 for general admission. At the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St. in downtown Livermore. Visit [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org).

### 4th Annual Mony Nop Turkey

**Drop** benefiting Tri-Valley Haven takes place on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in front of Livermore's City Hall Building, 1052 S. Livermore Avenue. To make a donation or to learn more, visit [www.trivalleyhaven.org](http://www.trivalleyhaven.org), or contact Christine at 925-667-2707 or [Christine@trivalleyhaven.org](mailto:Christine@trivalleyhaven.org).

**The Tri-Valley Turkey Burn** celebrates its 5th anniversary on Thanksgiving Day morning, as hundreds of adults, teens and children run, walk and stroll through Ken Mercer Sports Park in Pleasanton at 9 a.m. on Nov. 28. Organized by Pleasanton North Rotary, the Turkey Burn benefits Tri-Valley Haven, by donating cans of food and nonperishable food items brought by participants to the event.

**LumiNight Lantern Festival**, Nov. 29, 2019 to Feb. 2, 2020. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday hours are 5 to 10 p.m.; Friday, Saturday and holiday hours are 5 to 11 p.m. LumiNight takes place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 2100 Valley Ave., Gate 12, Pleasanton. Visit [www.LumiNightLanterns.com](http://www.LumiNightLanterns.com).

**A Writers Meetup for Adults**, 18 and older meets on the first Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. There



LumiNight Lantern Festival, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Nov. 29 - Feb. 2

is no charge and no sign-up needed to attend this informal gathering. Hosted by local writer and NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) participant Sydney Dent. Learn more at [Livermorelibrary.net](http://Livermorelibrary.net) or call the library at 925.373.5500.

**Hagemann Ranch Open House,** Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 p.m. Go to [www.livermorehistory.com](http://www.livermorehistory.com) for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

## Senior Center Hosts Holiday Tea & Sing-Along



Holiday Tea & Sing-Along, Dec. 5

The Pleasanton Senior Center, in partnership with the Friends of Pleasanton Senior Center, is hosting an afternoon holiday tea. Guests will enjoy tea, dessert and a sing-along to live holiday music.

The tea takes place on Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$3. Space is limited. To reserve a seat, or for more information, call 925-931-5376.

## TV30 Thanksgiving Football-A-Thon

Game On! Want to experience all the excitement of local high school football on Thanksgiving Day? Then sit back and join the TV30 Sports Team, Ian Bartholomew, George "Dr. B" Baljevich, and Tim Sbranti, for the High School Football-A-Thon on Thursday, Nov. 28.

It all begins Wednesday at midnight and continues for 24 hours through midnight Thanksgiving Day. TV30 will broadcast three exciting high school games played earlier this season. The games may be viewed on Comcast TV Channel 30, AT&T U-verse via Channel 99, as well as streaming live on the TV30 website at [tv30.org](http://tv30.org).

Schedule for Thanksgiving on TV30: Dublin @ Livermore midnight, 9 a.m., 6 p.m. Amador Valley @ Foothill 3 a.m., noon., 9 p.m. Livermore @ Amador Valley 6 a.m., 3 p.m.

Tri-Valley Community Television, a 501c3, provides commercial and industrial production at their studio located in Pleasanton. The facility also broadcasts programming over channels TV28, TV29, TV30 on Comcast Cable and on AT&T U-Verse via channel 99. Live streaming and Video on Demand are available on the website at [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org). Watch TV30 on the go! Mobile devices can view the stations without an app by going to [tv30.org](http://tv30.org) and clicking on the station to view. Check out the latest shows and what's going on at the studio on our Facebook page.

## Valley Dance Theatre Opens 40th Season with "The Nutcracker"

Valley Dance Theatre will present its annual full-length production of Tchaikovsky's magical holiday classic *The Nutcracker*,

from Saturday, Dec. 14 to Sunday, Dec. 22, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore.

Highlighting this 40th

anniversary production will be new backdrops by celebrated designer Jean-François Revon, whose vibrant new creations will grace much-loved scenes: Land of Snow and Kingdom of the Sweets.

"We wanted to create something new and fresh for this special Nutcracker," Revon said. "So I designed the drop (canvas curtain at the back of the set) for Land of Snow to be a colorful complement to the dancers' white costumes. Drop designs are usually driven by the set, not the costumes, so this is a new way of doing things. I think the audiences will like it!"

Evening shows take place at 7 p.m. on Dec. 14, 20, 21, and 22. Matinees take place on Dec. 14, 15, 21, and 22, at 2 p.m. All performances will be accompanied by the Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra.

Artistic Director Betsy Hausburg said, "Both the Land of Snow and The Land

of Sweets scenes hold many surprises, thanks to Jean-François -- a non-traditional house, asymmetrical tree, floating balloons, unexpected uses of light, and more. We invite everyone to join us in celebrating our 40th anniversary of our beloved Nutcracker with all of its exciting new touches."

Tickets to *The Nutcracker* are \$42 adults and \$21 for students 18 years and younger. Children under two years old must have tickets, obtained through the Bankhead Theater box office at no charge. Group tickets are also available. All tickets may be purchased online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org), by phone at (925) 373-6800, or in person at the theater box office located at 2400 First St., Livermore. Box office hours are Tuesday-Saturday, noon to 6 p.m., and for two hours prior to each show time.

For more information, visit [www.valleydancetheatre.com](http://www.valleydancetheatre.com).



Valley Dance Theatre's Anna Mount and Guest Artist Maxwell Simoes perform as Snow Queen and Snow King in Valley Dance Theatre's 2019 *The Nutcracker*, Dec. 14 to 22. (Photo- Jerwin Chua)



TV30 hosts 24 hours of local football festivities on Nov. 28.

# BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to editmail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

**Livermore Valley Gem & Mineral Society** is holding its annual Gem & Mineral show at the Livermore Barn on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Barn is located at 3131 Pacific Ave., near the Livermore Civic Center.

**Caring for the Caregiver**, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), Life Transitions for Aging Adults, Tues., Dec. 3, 1:00-2:30, St. Charles Borromeo Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore Borromeo Hall. All are welcome! For information contact: Molly Fisher, 925-449-8849, fisher.molly@comcast.net.

**Pet Photo With Santa**, Saturday, Dec. 7, from 1 to 4 p.m., at Pet Supplies Plus, 4230 Rosewood Dr., Suite B, Pleasanton (in the Rosewood Shopping Center).

**The Del Arroyo 4-H Club** meets once a month, usually on the third Wednesday, at 6 p.m., at Arroyo Seco Elementary School, 5280 Irene Way, Livermore. 4-H is a national program which encourages members to learn by doing, offering a variety of projects, events, and community service activities. For more information, contact Miranda Munro at delarroyo-4hclub@gmail.com.

**Political Issues Book Club** meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs, both national and international. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 925.872.7923.

**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA)** is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. No dues, fees, or weigh-ins. Join us on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Multi Service Center, 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Visit [www.foodaddicts.org](http://www.foodaddicts.org).

**ClutterLess (CL) Self-Help Group** meets every Monday (excluding post office holidays) at 7 p.m. at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, in Pleasanton.

**LifeRing** is a secular recovery group, an alternative to the 12-step program that accepts all people with drug and alcohol issues. We meet in a friendly, down-to-earth atmosphere to create a sobriety program that works for YOU. Meetings are every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from noon to 1 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Contact is Steve Bowman, 925.207.2430.

**Tri-Valley Fly Fishers (TVFF)** invites everyone, at no charge, to the regular

monthly meetings featuring guest speakers who share their knowledge of the sport. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month, September through June, at the Livermore-Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club, 4000 Dagnino Rd., Livermore.

**Livermore Valley Coin Club**, Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you enjoy collecting coins or other numismatics this is the place for you. The meetings incorporate shared numismatic knowledge, various club raffles, a Coin of the Month and a club coin auction. For information contact: Gary Antone 925.373.6758.

**Valley Children's Museum**, a community based, non profit, children's museum for children 3 to 10 years old, offering fun and educational STEAM based play activities. Located in Emerald Glen Park, Dublin, off Gleason Dr. Open Thursdays 4 to 8 pm during Dublin Farmer's Market & third Saturday of the month. Volunteer opportunities for teens and seniors. For more info visit <http://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org> or contact Linda Spencer, 925.683.4741 or [linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org](mailto:linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org).

**Livermore Lions Club** meets for dinner every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at Emil Villa's Restaurant, 3064 Pacific Ave. in Livermore. Lions are the world's largest service organization. Livermore Lions support the needs within the community and state, the nation and the world. Funds provided to support the homeless, the fire victims, and the hurricane and earthquakes victims. Charities include: Canine Companions, Blind Centers, and the Ear of the Lion. Check out our website ([livermorelionsclub.org](http://livermorelionsclub.org)) for up-coming projects and events. All are welcome.

**Master Gardeners Talks**, Demonstration Garden, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Trained Master Gardeners are on site at to answer question and give tours of the garden 9:30am-11:30am on the second Saturday of the month; talks on seasonally appropriate topics. All Talks are 10 -11 am on the second Saturday of the month Mar-Nov.; Oct. 12 Propagation: Seed Saving; Nov. 9 MG Plant Favorites.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)** Tri-Valley's Connections Support Group, meets every Wednesday, from 7:15pm - 8:45pm at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. This group provides support and education for anyone experiencing a mental illness. For further information, visit [www.nami-trivalley.org](http://www.nami-trivalley.org) or contact Kendall @ 925.872.0170.

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)**, DAR was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the

world during the past three years. For more information, please visit <https://josemaria.californiadar.org/> or contact Debbie Janes at [jmadar.regent@gmail.com](mailto:jmadar.regent@gmail.com).

**DAR Jose Maria Amador, Pleasanton Chapter**. The local Jose Maria Amador chapter meets on the second Saturday of the month from September to May, with a short business meeting and a program.

**DAR Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter**. Meets September through May on the first Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit <http://jhl.californiadar.org>.

**Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group**, those with Parkinson's or a variant diagnosis plus their care partners meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center on the second Saturday of every month from 10am - noon. Hear speakers on a variety of related topics and share challenges, solutions, and triumphs! Contact mary.behrendt@comcast.net or 925.462.5081 for more information. No cost.

**Pleasanton Amer. Leg. Post 237** located at 301 Main St. is looking for few good veterans to join us. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1900 hr. or consider joining us for coffee/donuts every Saturday 0700-0830. All veterans all welcome to join us at coffee. You qualify to attend if you served. Come and meet other veterans and you will hear and see nothing has chan. We guarantee you will enjoy being around veterans. Visit our post at [americanlegionpost237@comcast.net](mailto:americanlegionpost237@comcast.net).

**Alcoholics Anonymous** if you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call AA: 925.829.0666.

**Native Daughters of the Golden West**, (California born Women) is a fraternal and patriotic organization founded on the principles of: Love of Home; Devotion to the Flag; Veneration of the Pioneers; Faith in the Existence of God.; Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore, meet first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, I.O.O.F Hall, 2160 First St., Livermore (easy entrance from back of building) Rec. Sec.: Shelley Buchberger, 925.698.4345, NDGW.org.

**Scottish Country Dancing** in Livermore. Enjoy the lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Make new friends and have fun while you exercise. Join us Mondays 8:00 to 10:00 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience or partner required. We welcome new dancers at any time. Call Margaret Ward at 925.449.5932 or Sheena MacQueen at 925.784.3662 for more information.

**Wednesday Night Run with Sunrise Mountain Sports**, every Wednesday night (rain or shine) at 6:30PM. Start/End Location: Sunrise Mountain Sports 2184 First Street Livermore. The run/walk will start at 6:30PM, but come hang with us around 6PM to socialize/warm-up/change. There are a variety of distances starting at 2 miles and they go up to 9 miles. The most popular is the 3.5 mile course (that does have two water fountains along its

route). Dogs, kids, and people of all paces are welcome. More information located on Sunrise's Facebook event page: [www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/](http://www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/).

**The City of Pleasanton Library's Literacy Program** is searching for patient, caring volunteer tutors to help adults practice and improve their English reading, writing, and conversation skills. Volunteers will work one-on-one with students, lead small group conversation practice, conduct citizenship test preparation, or lead book clubs. No advance preparation is needed. Find more information contact the Adult Literacy team [literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov), or 925.931.3405.

**Livermore Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post 7265**, seeking returning Veterans from foreign conflicts who are interested in staying engaged with other Veterans and their families. The VFW is one of the strongest Veterans organizations in America but is in serious decline because of lack of membership. Meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month with a light dinner social at 6:00pm followed by a business meeting at 7:00pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 522 So. L. St. (corner of So. L & 5th Street-enter on 5th St.). For more information contact Commander Hank Jean: 480.585.8970 or Service Officer Ron Gillette: 925.443.4444.

**Tri-Valley Haven** Individual Counseling & Group Therapy Openings. Tri-Valley Haven, a non-profit agency provides free, professional individual and group therapy for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and poverty. For more information on Tri-Valley Haven's Support Groups and Individual Counseling, please call 925.449.5845.

**Decents for the Livermore History-Mobile**. Volunteers interested in Livermore history and/or like working with children (mostly 3rd graders) are needed. Mission is to teach children the history of Livermore and instill in them a sense of pride in the city. There will be training. Time commitment could be as little as a few days a year. There are usually have 3 decents at each school. If interested, call Nancy Mulligan, 925.443.3076 or email [n.mulligan@comcast.net](mailto:n.mulligan@comcast.net).

**Sing for Fun**, Music Sing-a-Long, sing familiar tunes with other folks along with piano accompaniment. The words of the songs will be provided. No musical experience needed. Most Mondays, from 11:00-12:00 at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Small fee.

**Counter Point** (Addiction Family Support Group), a free faith based, Christ centered (AI Anon based) program designed to help individuals with family members who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at the St. Michael Convent building, first floor (375 Maple Street, Livermore). For further information contact Rachel at 510.501.1411.

**Tri-Valley Geeks**, group of adults who get together for events like board games, movies and fan conventions. Meetings

every Tuesday at 5:30 for dinner and board games A schedule of upcoming events can be found on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks). Text Melody Even-son at 925.209.1214 for more information.

**Golden Circle Seniors**, meetings Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Sewing, knitting and crocheting all year, saving items for the annual bazaar in November. Ninety-five percent of the proceeds are donated to local charities.

**Pleasanton Lions Club**, meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Inklings Coffee Shop, 530 Main Street, Pleasanton. Check website for meeting updates [pleasantonlionsclub.org](http://pleasantonlionsclub.org). Pleasanton Lions Club is a non-profit organization that seeks to identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved visit [pleasantonlionsclub.org](http://pleasantonlionsclub.org). All are welcome.

**Al-Anon and Alateen** offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. [www.AlanonTriValley.org](http://www.AlanonTriValley.org), 925.277.7661, [help@AlanonTriValley.org](mailto:help@AlanonTriValley.org).

**Recovery International (RI)** is a free weekly self-help group, led by a trained, peer volunteer leader, for people who want to reduce their stress. Anyone 18 or older is welcome; just drop in. Meetings every Sunday 2:00 to 3:30 PM at Arbor Vista library room, 1300 South Livermore Avenue. Call Barbara, 916.335.8836 or Dave, 415.948.9462.

**Ethos**, free and confidential services related to pregnancy include guidance and referrals, baby clothing, and diapers. 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore. Call 925.449.5887 for an appointment.

**Meals on Wheels Volunteers** are needed to deliver fresh meals to home-bound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 p.m. For more information, please call 925.483.1989.

**Rotary Club of Livermore Valley** invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to [www.livermorevalleyrotary.org](http://www.livermorevalleyrotary.org), or Jill Duerig at 510.378.7243 or [jillduerig@hotmail.com](mailto:jillduerig@hotmail.com).

**Del Valle Folk Dancers**: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel 925.447.8020 or [george.pavel@gmail.com](mailto:george.pavel@gmail.com).

**Square Dance Lessons** in Livermore, 7 p.m. at Del Valle High School, 2253 5th Street. All ages welcome. Dancing Thursdays weekly from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. No partner or special attire needed. For more information call Margaret 925.447.6980 or

[mmiller1435@gmail.com](mailto:mmiller1435@gmail.com). **Shepherd's Gate New Life Thrift Store**, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9-7 Monday through Friday, 9-5 Saturday, closed Sunday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. M-F, 8-2:30 p.m. Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

**Italian Catholic Federation**, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 925.462.2487.

**ClutterLess Self Help Support Group (CL)** is a non profit, peer based, all volunteer, self help in-person support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings at Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton, every Monday 7- 8:30 p.m. (except postal holidays). See clutterless.org (national) ClutterlessEastBay.org.

**Questers** is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. Members learn about antiques, share and view members' collections, visit historic sites, museums and antiques shops and help non-profit organizations with restoration and preservation work. Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday monthly from September to May. If interested call President Rickie at 925.292.8123 or e-mail [rfgiono@comcast.net](mailto:rfgiono@comcast.net).

**Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club**. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 p.m. For more info visit us at [www.trivalleystargazers.org](http://www.trivalleystargazers.org).

**Ravenswood Historical Site**, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Decents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Decent Program, please call the Decent Coordinator at 925.443.0238.

**Sons in Retirement (SIR)** is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at [www.trivalleysir.org](http://www.trivalleysir.org)

# BULLETIN BOARD

and the Statewide SIR at [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org). For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925.967.8177.

## American Legion Post 47 in

Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans' causes. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to <http://www.calegion.org/> or contact Bill Bergmann at [calegion.post47@gmail.com](mailto:calegion.post47@gmail.com) or 925.443.2330 or Roy Warner at 925.449.6048.

**Eric's Corner** is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30 - 8:00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at [ericscorner.org](http://ericscorner.org).

**Assistance League of Amador Valley** invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, [www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org), e-mail [assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com), or call 925.461.6401.

**Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military"** is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit [www.operationssam.org](http://www.operationssam.org), email [operationsam@comcast.net](mailto:operationsam@comcast.net).

**Pleasanton Newcomers Club**, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925.215.8405 or visit [www.PleasantonNewcomers.com](http://www.PleasantonNewcomers.com).

**Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL)** offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community. CRIL has offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore, providing information and referrals, community education at senior centers, and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550. Phone: 925.371.1531, fax: 925.373.5034, e-mail: [abril.tamayo@cril-online.org](mailto:abril.tamayo@cril-online.org). All services are free.

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group** meets every fourth

Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome.

**DBE Daughters of the British Empire**, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Contact Edith Caponigro at 925.998.3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925.621.8946 for additional information.

**Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC)**, Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endorurance training program. [www.trivalleytriclub.com](http://www.trivalleytriclub.com).

**Pleasanton Military Families** is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collects supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact [PMFSG.ca@gmail.com](mailto:PMFSG.ca@gmail.com) for the location of the next meeting.

**Livermore Military Families**, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925.784.5014 or email [livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com](mailto:livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com).

## RELIGION

**Interfaith Interconnect of the Tri-Valley** hosts its annual interfaith Thanksgiving program on Sunday, Nov. 24., from 5:30-6:30 p.m., at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Afterwards, there will be a simple reception from 6:30 to 7 p.m., offering light refreshments and the opportunity for attendees and presenters to socialize.

**First Presbyterian Church**, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information: [www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us) or 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. 925.449.4403 or [www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com](http://www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com).

**Unitarian Universalist Church**, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. Sunday

Service 10:30am. Church of the open mind, loving heart and helping hands. All are welcome. Childcare, and religious education for children as well as adults are offered. For more information, visit [www.uucil.org](http://www.uucil.org) or call 925.447.8747.

**Congregation Beth Emek**, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information: 925.931.1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, [www.bethemek.org](http://www.bethemek.org).

**Tri-Valley Cultural Jews**, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 925.485.1049 or [EastBaySecularJews.org](http://EastBaySecularJews.org).

**First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore**, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. 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. 925.447.2946.

**Sunset Community Church**, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 925.447.6282.

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**, Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 925.447.8840.

**Our Savior Lutheran Ministries**, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925.447.1246.

**Calvary Tri-Valley**, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. [www.calvarylivermore.org](http://www.calvarylivermore.org) or 925.447.4357.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 925.447.3428.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. [www.livermoresda.org](http://www.livermoresda.org). All are welcome.

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God**, Pleasanton, 6656 Alisal Street. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 10:35 a.m., Nursery, Children's Church (ages 3-12) at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday Women's Bible Study will be taking a break, Senior Adult Ministry every other month. Call for date and time and other church programs at 925.846.8650.

**Trinity Church**, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. New Sunday Worship Services & Children's Ministry times now at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Small Groups also meet on Sundays, and during the week at various times/locations. Trinity Student Ministries (7-12th Grade) meet on Sundays at 9 a.m. and on Weds. eve. from 7-9 p.m. Awana meets Sundays from 3:30-5:30PM [trinitylivermore.org](http://trinitylivermore.org) or 925.447.1848.

**St. Charles Borromeo**, 1315 Lomitas

Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 925.447.9800.

**St. Innocent Orthodox Church**, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to [www.stinnocent.net](http://www.stinnocent.net) or contact Father Augustine Lewton at 925.400.8119 or [pateraugustine@gmail.com](mailto:pateraugustine@gmail.com)

**St. Clare's Episcopal Church**, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925.462.4802.

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. [www.saintbartsLivermore.com](http://www.saintbartsLivermore.com). Sunday service with Rev. Andrew Lobban, pastor and priest, 10:00 am Eucharist with music, childcare and Godly Play children education.

**Little Brown Church**, United Church of Christ 141 Kilcare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. [www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org](http://www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org) or 925.862.2580.

**Pathway Community Church**, 1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday, 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcome. [www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org](http://www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org) 925.322.1222.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/ Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit [www.goodshepherd-livermore.org](http://www.goodshepherd-livermore.org) or call 950.371.6200.

**Bethel Family Christian Center**, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925.449.4848.

**Valley Bible Church**, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. 925.227.1301. [www.thecrossing.org](http://www.thecrossing.org).

**Valley Bible Church**, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. [www.thecrossing.org](http://www.thecrossing.org).

**Cedar Grove Community Church**, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. [www.cedargrove.org](http://www.cedargrove.org) or call 925.447.2351.

**Chabad of the Tri-Valley**, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. [www.jewishtrivalley.com](http://www.jewishtrivalley.com). Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

**Well Community Outreach Center Ministry** provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable

food items, call the office at 925.479.1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

**Lynnewood United Methodist Church** offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Their winter schedule has begun, with Sunday services held at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. Lynnewood is located in Pleasanton at 4444 Black Ave. Visit [www.lynnewood.org](http://www.lynnewood.org) or call 925.846.0221.

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints** - Livermore Stake: Sunday services - 1501 Hillcrest Ave. Sycamore Grove Ward 9:00 am; Windmill Springs Ward 10:30 am. 950 Mocho St.; Valley View Ward 9:00 am; Vineyard Hills Ward 10:30 am; Del Valle Branch (Spanish) first meeting 11:40, Sacramento meeting 12:40; 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 12:30.

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

**John Knox Presbyterian Church**, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. [www.jpkcldublin.org](http://www.jpkcldublin.org) 925.828.1846.

**St. Francis of Assisi**, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 a.m. Communion - 9:30 a.m., 925.906.9561, [stfrancisanglican.church](http://stfrancisanglican.church).

**Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley** - A Lighthouse to the world. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Parish Hall, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. For more information contact [revharriet1@yahoo.com](mailto:revharriet1@yahoo.com) or visit us at <http://cslvllighthouse.org>.

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ**, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4481 E. Avenue, Livermore.

**Christ Church** (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: [www.christchurch-trivalley.org](http://www.christchurch-trivalley.org) or call 925.846.0665.

**GraceWay Church** worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at 1183 Quarry Lane in Pleasanton. Services include band-led worship music, Bible-based messages and Sunday School for pre-schoolers and

elementary through high school students. Infant care is provided. [www.gracewaylife.org](http://www.gracewaylife.org) or 925.846.4436.

**Grace Missionary Baptist Church**, meets at 1759 Locust St., Livermore. 925.667.1610. [www.gracembc.com](http://www.gracembc.com). Sunday School, 9:45 am; Sunday Worship, 11 am. Relevant and refreshing Bible teaching. Pastor: Jeff Barger.

**Discovery Church of the Nazarene**, 5862 Las Positas Road, Livermore. Pastor Curtis Lillie, 925.449.5256. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

**Asbury United Methodist Church** 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. A Reconciling Church, where all are welcomed. Sunday Worship time is at 10:00 a.m. Children's and youth groups Sunday School during worship services and Sunday evening Middle School and High School Youth Groups. Caregivers Support Group will meet the second Saturday of each month. For more information, contact the church office at 925.447.1950. Visit our website at [www.asburylive.org](http://www.asburylive.org) or call 925.447.1950. Asbury UMC can also be found on Facebook at "Asbury UMC Livermore."

**Gateway Church**, 811 Marilyn Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit [gatewaylivermore.org](http://gatewaylivermore.org) or call Larry Trummel at 925.449.1444.

**Grace Missionary Baptist Church** in Livermore invites members of the community to Wednesday evening study, "Discovering the Bible." Currently, the subject is, "The Holy Spirit and His Work." The church address is 1759 Locust Street in Livermore. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 6:30 p.m., [www.gracembc.com](http://www.gracembc.com).

**Celebration Church**, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore. 925.455.4250. Sunday Service: 9:45 a.m.; children's programs: 9:45 a.m.; Spanish service at 1:00 p.m.; Jr. & Sr. High: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information or weekday Bible study and Prayer group schedules, go to [www.celebrationcc.org](http://www.celebrationcc.org). Welcome home.

**Brit Anabab Messianic Congregation**, worship every Saturday, 11 a.m. at 193 Contractors Ave., Livermore. Congregation and Jews and Gentiles. Liturgy presented in both Hebrew and English. Families are welcome. Blessing of bread and wine (or grape juice) follows each service and all are invited to Oneg, a fellowship meal.

**Tagalog Mass**, 3rd Sunday of the month (remaining dates for the year: Nov. 17); Time: 3:30 p.m. St. Michael Catholic Parish, 458 Maple St.; Potluck reception to follow in the parish hall. Check https://stmichaellivermore.com/Filipino for details.

**Tri-Valley Cultural Jews - Jewish Culture School** The school-wide curriculum for the 2019-2020 Jewish year 5780) will be "Jewish Ideas." It will cover topics like Jewish views of Justice, Learning, Family, Being a Mensch, Israel or Diaspora and the Jewish Community. Contact [culturaljews@gmail.com](mailto:culturaljews@gmail.com), or call 510.384.8756 with any questions.

# After Livermore's Downtown Holiday Parade, the Livermore-Amador Symphony Performs a Winter's Dream

By Patricia J. Boyle



Livermore-Amador Symphony opens its 57th regular season with “Winter Dreams” at Livermore’s Bankhead Theater on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 8:15 p.m. Conducted by Music Director Lara Webber, the concert will feature: Mozart’s “Three German Dances,” including “The Sleigh Ride;” Saint-Saens’s “Carnival of the Animals” with narrator Michael Wayne Rice; and Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 1 “Winter Dreams.”

“The music of Mozart puts us in the holiday spirit with his ‘Three German Dances’ that feature charming sleigh bells,” Webber said.

Mozart loved to dance and wrote a lot of music for dancing, including many compositions while serving as Imperial Chamber Composer in Vienna. He wrote “Three German Dances” in 1791, a very productive year for him but also the year in which he died on December 5 from illness at age 35.

Each of the three dances employs different instruments, with the violin being the only instrument present in all three. The first dance features violins and trumpets while the second one uses woodwinds with the violins. Lively sleigh bells appear in the third dance, which has quite a different style from the first two, in addition to woodwinds, trumpets and violins. Many of Mozart’s dance music was written for formal balls in Vienna. Listening to “Three German Dances,” one can imagine a brightly lit ballroom with the jingling of sleigh bells on horses and carriages in a snowy courtyard announcing the arrival of elegantly dressed dancers.

Next, we turn to Saint-Saens’ beloved “Carnival of the Animals.” Rich with lyricism and invention, this “Grand Zoological Fantasy” is much more than animal imitation. Its humor is surprisingly human, particularly when paired

with the famously clever wit of poet Ogden Nash.

“Saint Saens’ inventive and expressive ‘Carnival of the Animals’ is a delight for all ages,” Webber said. “It features the cock-a-doodle-doo of roosters and hens, the hee-haw of donkeys, the shimmering slippery magic of fish, a royal lion, an elegant swan, kangaroos, cuckoos, elephants, and tortoises. Narrating the performance is actor and director Michael Wayne Rice, known to Livermore audiences through his wonderful work with the Livermore Shakespeare Festival. Two talented young pianists, Daniel Mah and Hailing Wang, will join the orchestra as soloists.”

Tchaikovsky’s groundbreaking first symphony, full of endless melodic inspiration evokes the beauty and isolation of a wintry landscape.

“Tchaikovsky struggled so mightily with his first symphony; he believed at one point it might kill him, he was so exhausted from lack of sleep. The pressure surrounding this milestone was enormous, but we hear none of that struggle in this brilliant music,” Webber said. “Infused with Russian folk song, the architecture of the music is clean and clear like the bright sparkle of new snow. He creates uniquely beautiful themes and endless expressive melodies. There is a deeply nostalgic slow movement, a bright scherzo with a waltz in the middle, and a grand finale that builds in excitement right to the end. It’s a gem, often overlooked in favor of his more famous later symphonies.”

At 3 p.m., immediately preceding the Livermore Holiday Parade, Livermore-Amador Symphony will present a free Family Concert at the Bankhead Theater. The afternoon performance will be geared toward families with children, featuring Hanukkah and Christmas music as well as the “Carnival of the Animals.” Michael Wayne Rice will narrate, pianists Daniel Mah and Hailing Wang will accompany

the symphony, and the Valley Dance Theatre will perform selected dances from their upcoming performance of “The Nutcracker” with the orchestra. Following the program, children may participate in the Instrument Petting Zoo—a hands-on experience in which they can meet the performers and play some instruments. Although the afternoon concert is free, tickets are required and may be obtained from the ticket office.

The evening concert begins at 8:15 p.m. Webber will provide brief commentary during the concert in lieu of a prelude talk. The Symphony Guild will host a post-concert reception in the lobby. Tickets range from \$12 to \$36. Visit [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org), or [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org).



**Prior to their evening performance on Dec. 7 at the Bankhead Theater, the Livermore-Amador Symphony hosts a 3 p.m. Free Family Concert complete with an instrument petting zoo where kids can hold and try various instruments. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)**