



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.

Citizens Submit Petitions with 8,110 Signatures to City Clerk

On Tuesday, July 16, the Citizens for a Livermore Central Park submitted a total of 8110 signatures to the City Clerk in support of the Central Park Plan initiative. The clerk will review the petitions and send them to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters to validate the signatures.

According to a press release from Tammy Reus, secretary of the organization, "The number of signatures submitted far exceeds

the number of validated signatures needed. We are confident that the measure will qualify for the ballot."

Livermore Mayor John Marchand stated, "This initiative frustrates the will of the people who, in the recent election, overwhelming supported candidates who were strongly in favor of moving forward with the downtown plan. If it passes, it will delay any progress on new parking, new parks or a

hotel in the downtown for years to come. Finally, this initiative will triple residential densities in the downtown to 150 units to the acre and include co-housing micro-units.

"The Council heard loud and clear that residents opposed increased densities and micro-units. Once people understand what the initiative really does, I believe they will reject it," Marchand added.

According to the Citizens' press

release, "The signatures were gathered more quickly than anticipated, even though the signature gatherers were repeatedly heckled and interrupted while speaking with the public. Despite the efforts of the opponents, the signature drive was easily concluded with signers expressing their preference for the Central Park Plan over the Council's Plan. They indicated that

(See PETITIONS, page 7)

LARPD Board Hears Reports On Ranger Outreach and TVC Bridge

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors received reports on the Rangers Reading Outreach Program and the status of the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) bridge in Sycamore Grove Park.

Both items were placed on the July 10 agenda as information only items.

Ranger Amy Wolitzer told the board, "We feel it is our responsibility to reach all members of the community. The Ranger Reading Outreach Program attempts to do that."

The target audience consists of families who live in Livermore but have not been to Sycamore Grove Park for various reasons. Wolitzer continued, "They include the lack of transportation – with the nearest bus stop at least a mile away, unfamiliarity with parks and trails, and nervousness about entering 'wild' areas."

Funding was a question mark, she added. "We received a generous grant from the Jerry Cohen Foundation that paid for a bus and staff time to run the program."

"To reach this audience, we went to the library and also worked with existing programs that reach under-served Livermore residents."

"At the library, rangers visited and took part in story times. They provided information about Sycamore Grove and brought things to look at, such as a snake."

"To further the outreach, the district worked with a migrant outreach program that serves 3- and 4-year olds. They were provided with information about the park."

The culmination of the program involved a visit to Sycamore Grove. Wolitzer said that the bus brought 37 participants. Another 100 arrived by private car, mainly from the Spanish speaking community. "They were concerned about getting on a bus with someone they didn't know," she commented.

Activities upon arrival included a magnification station, puppet play area, a binocular burrow and most popular, a scavenger hunt in

(See TVC BRIDGE, page 2)



Kalia Derry enjoys the summer sunshine at Hansen Park in Pleasanton. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Magnitude 4.3 Quake Centered in Blackhawk

A 4.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Tri-Valley at 1:11 p.m. Monday, followed by an aftershock 13 minutes later measuring 3.5 on the moment magnitude scale.

The U.S. Geological Survey converted from the Richter Scale, which was invented in 1935 by Caltech seismologist Charles Richter, to the moment magnitude scale.

The quake and its aftershock were centered 7 miles east of Blackhawk near Danville, and rumbled from a depth of 7 miles.

A survey of police and fire departments in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin showed no reports of damage in the area.

Zone 7 Has Backup Plan to Keep Water Moving in Power Outages

By Ron McNicoll

If PG&E shuts down power as part of its plan to prevent fires in northern California, the water will keep flowing in the Valley, thanks to Zone 7 Water Agency's preparations.

PG&E sent out notices with May bills that stated it had formed a Public Safety Power Shutoff

program that would halt power deliveries in rural areas that may be threatened by wildfires. Investigators found that last year's fatal Camp Fire, in Butte County, was caused by sparks from PG&E equipment.

The northern California power grid is interconnected. If PG&E shuts down power in one location,

other areas in northern California could be affected.

PG&E states in its May letter to customers that an area could be missing power for 24 to 48 hours after the shutoff starts, but that could stretch to five days.

One effect not mentioned in the PG&E letter is water service

(See OUTAGES, page 3)

City Council to Consider Development Agreements for Downtown Livermore Projects

The Livermore City Council will consider development agreements for downtown projects at its July 22 meeting.

The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers starting at 7 p.m.

The council will vote on whether to authorize execution of a Development Agreement (DA) with Presidio Companies, LLC to develop a boutique hotel on the southeast corner of South Livermore Avenue and Railroad Avenue.

At its July 8 meeting, the city

council had voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing staff to proceed with negotiating terms for a development agreement with Presidio.

Presidio is proposing to build a project described as a three-story, approximately 65,000 square foot, 125-135 room upscale-branded hotel. The hotel will include 1,400 to 2,000 square feet of conference space and a rooftop deck.

As proposed, the DA establishes a term of 30 years, beginning on the effective date. It includes a general

performance schedule that includes completion of design entitlements by March 2020, building permit issuance by May 2021, and hotel opening by November 2022.

Staff anticipates bringing the revised hotel project and purchase and sale agreement back to the planning commission and city council in late summer and early fall, respectively.

Presidio requested a DA with the goal of providing certainty regarding land use and develop-

(See DOWNTOWN, page 8)

Blackman Officially Declared DUSD Board Member

Gabrielle Blackman has been cleared to become a member of the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD), now that official results have been certified by Alameda County Voter Registrar Tim Dupuis.

DUSD Public Information Officer Chip Dehnert said that Blackman will have voting rights on the board at the next meeting, Aug. 1. The special meeting replaces the regularly scheduled meeting on July 23.

The official oath of office will be administered at the board's Aug. 20 meeting, after the school is back in session, when more people can attend, said Dehnert.

After it became evident that the unofficial tally for Area 4 in DUSD showed that Blackman won 70% of the vote, she was seated on the board dais at two meetings. She was allowed to take part in the board discussion, but not vote.

Blackman defeated Niranjana

(See BLACKMAN, page 2)

Bankhead Talk: Genetic Engineering And the Future of the Human Race

The genetic revolution now taking place in scientific and medical laboratories around the world will dramatically alter the future of the human race, according to an author and futurist who will speak next week at Livermore's Bankhead Theater.

As the revolution progresses over the next few decades, it will make it possible for parents to select healthier and smarter children, but it will also open up the possibility of societal abuses including a world of genetic haves and have-nots, according to the speaker, Jamie Metzl.

We are rushing toward this vastly different world, but we aren't prepared for it, Metzl be-

lieves. His views on the topic are laid out in detail his recent book, "Hacking Darwin: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Humanity."

His talk is part of the Rae Dorrough Speaker Series. It is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 25.

Issues raised in the book, and explored in various interviews, range from the personal to the scientific, from the agonizing decision of parents who select one offspring and discard others, to the role of data science and artificial intelligence in advancing the field.

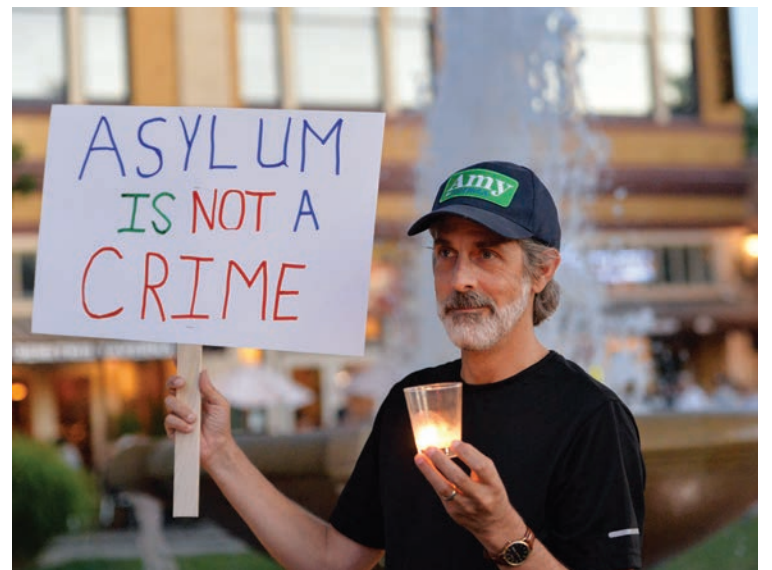
Geopolitical competition and ethics are prominent. Metzl notes that the U.S. today has a govern-

ment that is turning its back on science just as China is making the world's largest investment in the field of artificial intelligence.

How will this affect the quality of future choices that people are able to make? Metzl is careful to pose questions and raise issues rather than give hard and definitive answers.

He summarizes the fears of those who, like James Clapper, former head of U.S. national intelligence, have warned that gene editing could lead to weapons of mass destruction wielded by "countries with different regulatory or ethical standards than those of Western countries."

(See GENETICS, page 7)



About 200 people participated in Lights for Liberty, a vigil to end human detention camps, on Friday, July 12th. Livermore Indivisible hosted the event, which took place at the flagpole in downtown Livermore. The vigil was intended to draw attention to the inhumane conditions faced by refugees being held in confinement. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK



BOBBY

Bobby is a hometown hero. He arrived at Valley Humane with a long laceration down his side. Thanks to the diligent care by our foster and facility volunteers, he's recovered and enjoying his chance to explore Kitty City while he awaits his forever family. Bobby is a 3 year old male longhaired cat. He has been neutered and microchipped. Meet Bobby 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

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Dublin's second Family Campout took place in Alamo Creek Park on July 13-14. The final campout of the season will take place on August 3-4 at Schaefer Ranch Park. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

TVC BRIDGE

(Continued from first page)

the native garden. A half-mile walk with a lot of stops including one at the Hobbit Tree followed.

Wolitzer said a diverse group took part in the field trip, with half to two-thirds Spanish speaking. Other languages included Punjabi, Hindi, Tagalog, Dutch and Vietnamese.

Suggestions made by participants to improve the experience included recruiting high school students to help with the event, using a portable microphone, and forming smaller groups.

Wolitzer said, "We are hoping this will become an annual program."

Asked if he wanted to comment, Steve Cohen from the Foundation, noted that

the program meshed with the goal of the foundation to support science education programs. "It is our intention to continue it. It's a great program. We're just happy to be a part of it."

TVC BRIDGE

Laura Mercer, executive director of TVC, reported that construction was to start July 15, 2019. The southern part of Sycamore Grove Park will be closed until November/December 2019, when the project is expected to be completed.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held Monday, July 22, 2019. It will be held in the staging area across from the Wentle complex. "We look forward to passing the keys to LARPD," she

concluded.

Once completed, nearly 25,000 acres of open space will be linked together through five parks—Sycamore Grove Park, Del Valle Regional Park, Ohlone Regional Wilderness, Sunol Regional Wilderness, and Mission Peak Regional Preserve.

The bridge will become part of a continuous 44-mile regional trail. There will be more than 17 times the trails to explore through the five linked parks. Trail access will open up for equestrians, cyclists, strollers, and people with disabilities to enjoy, also. Wildlife will also have the interconnected habitat needed to survive.

BLACKMAN

(Continued from first page)

"Nini" Natarajan for the seat vacated by Joe Giannini, who resigned in October, due to a time conflict in his busy schedule.

The board appointed Natarajan on a 3-1 vote. However, a group of voters filed a petition to nullify the appointment and go to an election. Because of the relatively small percentage

that state school code permits to call for a special election, compared to the state election code requirements, only 75 valid signatures were needed.

Another reason few valid signatures were needed was the district's switch from at-large elections, where all residents had a chance to vote for a candidate, to area

seats. That cut the numbers of voters by about four-fifths.

The switch to area elections was the result of a Walnut Creek attorney's lawsuit threat that demanded the district make the change, to make it more likely that minority candidates would find a more level playing field in campaigning.

Citizens Academy and Youth Leadership Academy Accepting Applications

Applications are being accepted for two civic engagement academies: one for adults, and one for local high school juniors and seniors. Both programs are free to attend, and are designed to provide insight to county services and operations through learning and discussing the County's Vision 2026 core themes: Healthy Environment; Thriving & Resilient Population; Safe & Livable Communities; and a Prosperous & Vibrant Economy.

The Citizens Academy is open to adults who live, work or own a business in Alameda County. The program includes six Wednesday evening sessions (September 4, 18; and October 2, 16, 23, 30). Applications are accepted from July 8 - August 10, 2019. To learn more or apply for the academy, go to www.acgov.org/academies/citizens.

The Youth Leadership Academy is open to 11th and 12th grade students who live and attend high school in Alameda County. The program includes five Saturday morning sessions (September 14, 21, 28; and October 12, 19). Applications are accepted from July 15 - August 16, 2019. To learn more or apply for the Academy, go to www.acgov.org/youthleadership.

Each Academy is designed to educate participants about county programs and services, promote engagement with elected officials and county staff,

build leadership/networking skills, and to help solve community problems. Interactive presentations by county leaders provide insight into the inner workings of Alameda County government. Academy members are able to network with others in the community, and county officials have an

opportunity to hear from the people they serve.

Space is limited and applications for both academies are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, with consideration given to geographic location to ensure representation throughout Alameda County.

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On July 11, a topping out ceremony was held at Carl Zeiss Meditec in Dublin. Topping out refers to placing the last or highest steel beam during construction. The building, located at 5300 Central Pkwy., will serve as the U.S. headquarters for the Zeiss Medical Technology group, the company's Industrial Quality & Research branch, and its Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology division. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Opportunity for Tri-Valley Community to Have Fun and Support Girls Soccer Worldwide

Girls Soccer Worldwide has equipped female high school athletes from Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin to become Ambassador for Change Leaders over the past four years. Through sports, they help to break the cycle of poverty by empowering female student athletes in international rural areas to be strong leaders in their own communities and become a voice for change, on and off the field. These Bay Area girls help raise their own funds to travel abroad to a rural area in South America where they promote the importance of equality in sports and education. They lead empowerment workshops, coach soccer clinics, and volunteer in local schools to provide the tools of confidence, courage and character that are so needed for young

tend to lose this opportunity first. Through Girls Soccer Worldwide's Kicking It For Education campaign, continued schooling can be achieved by ensuring basic needs are met — one family at a time.

The entire Tri-Valley community has a fun opportunity to support an international effort of equality, empowerment and education. The Aquatic Park in Pleasanton is the site of the 3rd Annual Sweat 4A Cause event, hosted by Prodigy Fitness Performance, on Saturday, July 27, from 7 - 10 a.m. The entire family can register for a fun 30-minute workout, join in silent auction and raffles, meet the 2019 Girls Soccer Worldwide Ambassadors, enjoy a cup of coffee, and experience a community-filled morning in the park.



Girls Soccer Worldwide Ambassador for Change Leaders from the Tri-Valley enjoy new friendships in Coronel Bogado, Paraguay.

girls who have limited opportunities. Returning to California, local girls have not only experienced life from a different perspective, but they have developed the gift of empathy.

Paraguay is listed as one of the poorest countries in South America, and when families are faced with the struggles of poverty, receiving a proper education is often set aside in order to provide what is needed at home. In rural areas, only 45% of students complete school past grade 6; girls

Two Maids & A Mop of Livermore is partnering with Girls Soccer Worldwide for the fundraising event. As part of the silent auction, Two Maids & A Mop of Livermore will be offering a free cleaning to the highest bidder.

For more information about Girls Soccer Worldwide visit girlssoccerworldwide.org. To learn more about and register for the Sweat 4A Cause fundraiser, visit prodigyfitness-sweat4acause.com/optin22288780.

What's Next for the Present City Council Chambers?

By Bruce Gach

Future uses for the present Livermore City Council Chambers were discussed at the July 8 city council meeting. Within the next few months, the new City Council Chambers, at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and S. L Street, will be completed, leaving vacant the old chambers, 3575 Pacific Avenue, with the building itself slated to be demolished.

Councilmembers agreed unanimously that a study of future utilizations for the site should be brought back for discussion. Ideas include police department uses, and possible benefits for the arts, sciences and other groups.

Livermore Principal Planner Scott Lee told the council that the police department has requested the space for an indoor training facility, and storage of vehicles, equipment, and police

property and evidence. Several local nonprofit groups have also asked to use the facility for storage and a meeting place.

Councilmember Bob Coomber and Vice Mayor Bob Carling wanted verification that the present building was not going to be used. Lee answered that was correct. City Manager Marc Roberts noted that significant resources would be necessary for the present building to remain in service. Mayor John Marchand reminded the council that the current building was "on the verge of collapse."

Councilmember Bob Woerner remarked that, concerning future uses of the site, a study should figure out what makes sense. He wanted to be sure that the plan would take into account what some of the nonprofits have asked for at the site.

During the Citizens Forum, Greg Scott suggested

using the current building for the homeless.

Lisa Tromovitch, producing artistic director of the Livermore Shakespeare Festival, said she hoped part of the site would be considered for arts and science groups in the city.

Nancy Bankhead agreed, stating that she wanted to have space available for the working part of the arts, as the arts do a lot for downtown businesses and the people of Livermore.

Alan Burnham noted that the science center in the downtown plan will have little space for fabrication and storage.

Jim Schmidt, president of the Livermore Valley Opera, said that his group has been looking for a place to build sets, and named nine other cultural groups that also needed space.

Karl Wente stated that public safety should be of the highest and utmost im-

portance. "The primary need was identified for police department facilities, but also to make the plan as comprehensive as possible for other uses," he said.

Councilmember Carling suggested a study for the area including the homeless, the arts and the police department.

Councilmember Trish Munro said she wanted to see a few plans offered for a range of uses.

Coomber agreed that other groups should be considered along with the police department.

Woerner concurred, with the full understanding and proviso that a plan will come back later after staff considers other requests.

Livermore Community Development Director Paul Spence said that a space-assessment study would be initiated, with presentation to the council at a later date.

Homicide Investigators Request Help Identifying Possible Witness

The Livermore Police Department is looking for a potential witness to the homicide that occurred on July 8, 2019. They are hoping the driver of a white VW would call the Livermore Police Department at (925) 371-4790. The car was in the drive-thru of Taco Bell at the time of the incident.

On July 8, at 9:25 p.m., LPD officers responded to 985 E. Stanley Boulevard for a shooting that had just occurred. Officers arrived and located a 16-year-old male victim suffering from a gunshot wound to the

abdomen. The victim was immediately transported to a local hospital for medical care.

The Livermore Police Department activated their Criminal Investigations Unit (CIB) along with their Special Operations Unit (SOU). Detectives responded and took over the investigation.

During the early morning hours, the 16-year-old victim succumbed to his injuries.

The investigation has revealed there was a verbal altercation between the victim and the suspect. During

the altercation, the suspect pulled out a gun and shot the victim, then immediately fled the scene.

During the investigation, LPD Detectives identified the suspect as 21-year-old Jorge Luis Tellez of Livermore. LPD's SWAT team served a search warrant on Jorge Tellez's residence on the morning of July 11 in an attempt to apprehend him. Tellez was not at his residence, and is still outstanding.

An arrest warrant has been obtained for Jorge Luis Tellez and he is wanted

for murder. Tellez should be considered armed and dangerous. If anyone sees Tellez, they should immediately notify law enforcement.

Additionally, anyone with information regarding the shooting is asked to call the Livermore Police Tip-Line at (925) 371-4790. Those who wish to remain anonymous may do so. Those with information can also submit their tip to the You and Blue Crime TipLine at youandblue.org/LPD424/cases/homicide-investigation-19-4137.

OUTAGES

(Continued from first page)

delivery. Pumps at Zone 7, the Valley's water wholesaler, and at the four retailers here — Livermore, Pleasanton, DSRSD, and privately owned Cal Water — run on electricity. If the power were out, there would be no water circulating for cooking, bathing, or toilets.

But Zone 7 and the retailers are ready for such an emergency, said Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor.

Zone 7 has two plants for water treatment and distribution — one at Patterson Pass in the Altamont, and the other at Lake Del Valle. Both plants have backup generators in case power stops. Each has a three-day supply of fuel, but the agency also has contracts

with other generator suppliers who can each roll out at least three days of juice.

Zone 7 staff met with the retailers on the issue, and attended the Alameda County Emergency Managers' Association meeting. It featured a briefing on the PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff program. PG&E staff reviewed potential power shutoff factors, and the notification system and processes. Staff has taken the information provided and is taking the necessary steps to prepare for potential outages during fire season, according to an agenda report prepared for the July 17 Zone 7 board meeting.

The letter that PG&E sent to customers notes that the utility will notify cus-

tomers before the shutoff via email, phone, or social and traditional news media.

It may take 24 to 48 hours to get the power back on after a shutdown. In general, PG&E will be looking for high winds and low humidity as signs of danger that would turn land into a tinderbox.

Sacramento TV station ABC 10 reported online that its own outreach on social media showed some concerns about people's vulnerability. The station said that many people on Facebook pointed out that warnings to

medically vulnerable people are not valuable, unless they have a place outside the powerless area where they can stay.

Cities receiving the PG&E notices are "scrambling to come up with a plan to keep people safe, in case power does get cut for days at a time."

In Manteca, which is 75 miles east of Livermore, the city plans to offer emergency charging stations in various locations, but only for medical devices. If people need a cell phone charge, they are on their own.

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EDITORIAL

Outreach a Success

We applaud the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on its Rangers Reading Outreach Program. The program attempts to connect with all members of the community, particularly families who live in Livermore, but have not been to Sycamore Grove Park for various reasons.

Migrant 3- and 4-year olds were among

those provided with information about the park.

A diverse group of 137 participants attended a field trip to the park with half to two-thirds Spanish speaking. Other languages included Punjabi, Hindi, Tagalog, Dutch and Vietnamese.

A grant from the Jerry Cohen Foundation funded the program.

The district hopes to continue the program. Given the strong response, we think it will.

Honoring Dr. Shirley

The new Livermore City Council Chamber has been named for Dr. John Shirley. A ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony honoring Dr. Shirley took place last Saturday.

Dr. Shirley, a WWII veteran, earned a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and a Purple Heart. He is a former Livermore Councilmember and Mayor, serving on the City Council from 1958 to 1966. He also opened Livermore's first veterinary hospital.

Naming the chamber after him was an appropriate way to honor his service to country and community.

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)

Climate is Not a Single Issue

Sarah Lee, Pleasanton

We need a presidential debate on the climate emergency so candidates can show us their plans to stop the collapse of civilization as we know it and create millions of good jobs.

As a citizen of the world, I support a climate debate because it is past time to treat the climate crisis like the emergency it is. The UN says that we have just 11 years to transform our society to stop climate change and preserve civilization as we know it for our generation.

Climate change is an emergency that impacts every aspect of life. Our overuse of resources and uncontrolled pollution and dependence on dirty fuel is not only affecting the air above us, but is responsible for causing the natural disasters that turn people into refugees, who have lost their homes and then are placed in overcrowded cages, treated less than animals.

The topic of climate change, however, can be used as a uniting fight to bring real equality to all the people marginalized and oppressed in the current system, and therefore MUST be a point of debate.

Why Take Up Valuable Space?

Rion Causey, Livermore

I am astounded at the number of people in the city of Livermore that are being duped into believing that we need a central park in Livermore. I may have missed a couple in the count, but it appears that we have at least 38 parks in our fine city. Why would we consider taking up valuable space right in the business center of our city for a park? It is beyond absurd.

I can only see this as coming from finances provided by someone with an agenda for the city that primarily meets their goals.

I was particularly put off by paid individuals pestering me for a signature at Safeway.

Re: "Trump's Salute to America"

Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

This letter is a response to the July 11, 2019, letter "Trump's Salute to America," by Carla Biermann.

I was truly amazed that two people, the writer of that letter and myself, can have such opposing views of our country under President Trump.

I would like to touch on only one issue. The writer states, "No other nation has such an advanced scientific and medical community..." She is correct. However, what good is the advanced science when our President and his party not only ignore our scientific assessment on human-induced

global warming, but actually censor federal scientists from publishing their results?

Furthermore, what good is our advanced state in medicine, when far too many citizens are not insured and cannot afford needed MRI's or scans which cost thousands of dollars?

Both, global warming and the lack of affordable and universal health insurance are existential issues on which the President is miserably failing this country. His "Salute to America" and his Soviet-style military parade convey a shallow and fake kind of patriotism from a man who weaseled out of military service due to "bone spurs."

Insist That We Vote

Vanna Born, Livermore

What's happening to Livermore? I've lived here for 67 years. Over those years, our City Councilmembers represented us. Our present City Council see themselves as the permanent "deciders." They were voted in, they say, to make decisions. Period!

Take back representative democracy in Livermore, and insist that we vote on the initiative for the Central Park Plan.

When is Enough, Enough?

John Lawrence, Livermore

There are lies, damn lies, and then there is what an out-of-control special interest group is spreading around Livermore. Creating alternative facts, spinning the truth, and making misleading statements is one thing, but this name-changing group is way beyond that. Their members blatantly misrepresent the truth in front of our City Council and are then so audacious as to complain and attack the Council when questioned or corrected.

The group's supporters and paid signature gatherers misrepresent and are untruthful about what they are asking people to sign, while making unfounded and libelous statements about Council members.

This group thinks laws are only for other people, that they are free to say and do whatever they want and that they have a constitutional right to circumvent public processes and waste public funds fighting community-approved downtown development. All this, just because their own narrow special interests aren't driving the project. And of course, they take absolutely no responsibility or accountability for their actions or the untruthful ads printed in their sponsor's newspaper.

Speaking of the paper, journalism classes can use The Independent's coverage of the downtown development issues and this special interest group's efforts, as a classic example of "yellow journalism." While omitting a considerable amount of relevant contrasting comments and activities from their biased "news coverage," I do appreciate that at least the paper will publish letters to the editor that are not in agreement with the owner's opinions and activities.

I invite the letter writers and council meeting speakers who have been supporting an alternative downtown development plan to take a step back and look at what their group has been doing. Is truth and accuracy important to you? Are you OK with the way the group's leadership and spokespeople have behaved? Do their ends justify the means? Are you proud to be associ-

ated with them? Is a wealthy benefactor's uncompromising vendetta worth all this? If not, please join our Livermore residents who want to keep big money out of our local politics and who stand up to special interest attempts to govern by frivolous petitions and wasteful lawsuits.

Initiative Signature Gathering

Jean King, Livermore

I was one of the volunteers who collected signatures for the Livermore Central Park Plan Initiative. We also had paid signature gatherers whom we monitored to be sure they were not aggressive and were being factual. If complaints about the signature gatherers were verified, we worked with the company to rectify the situation.

But, both the volunteer and paid workers were bothered by interference from the opposition, who made it impossible at times for both volunteer and paid workers to talk to the citizens. We were advised that we should call the police, but we tried to ignore or work with them instead. The opposition has misrepresented the facts. It is disappointing that they are making personal attacks on the supporters of the Initiative, blaming the messenger. This is a distraction from the real question of what we want for the heart of our downtown.

When people responded to us that they did not want to sign because they liked the city's plan, we asked what it was that they liked about it. As a result, we had a few interesting discussions. Some responded that they wanted more housing, though were surprised that 222 units were to be built on the Groth property just across L Street. Most just said they wanted the city's plan and did not say what elements they liked.

Citizens who signed the Initiative wanted a continuous Central Park from the Bankhead Park Plaza to L Street, convenient parking, and affordable residential units on the periphery of the plan.

This is the chance to make the downtown special. What we need is a discussion of the elements of both plans. We had site maps of both plans at the farmers markets for comparison of the plans. When the voters understood the two plans, they did not want to settle for the city's plan and signed the petition for a vote.

Because of the community's support for the initiative, we were able to secure the necessary signatures in less time than we had originally planned.

The voters want to have a real say on the plans for the downtown.

A Disturbing Trend

Steven Spedowski, Livermore

I've noticed a disturbing trend in the articles written by The Independent regarding the City Downtown Plan, currently under construction.

After the plan was adopted by the City Council, interviews with the City Council members ceased. Only select statements from the council members are printed, without requests for follow up quotes to either clarify or add to what occurred at the meeting. After the Downtown Plan adoption, interviews have only been conducted with supporters of the private downtown concept - a calculated attempt to counter council member statements.

I also want to clarify a statement made in my prior letter. Council Member Woerner received more votes than the two Friends of Livermore supported candidates combined. The previous written statement could have been interpreted as Council Member Woerner receiving quadruple the votes, which was not my intent.

In Gratitude for the Overwhelming Support

Loretta Kaskey, Livermore

To all the Livermore voters

who signed the petition for the Central Park Plan Initiative, and to those who stopped to talk and learn more, "Thank You!"

With over 8,000 signatures gathered, your civic participation helped exceed by a wide margin the 5,270 signatures needed to qualify the initiative for the ballot.

I am humbled by the overwhelming support received during signature collection, amazed by the diversity of citizens who are following the process, and optimistic that we can vote in a truly iconic plan that Livermore deserves.

Livermore Citizens Deserve Better

Allie Felker, Livermore

No doubt you have probably noticed the large two-page ad for Better Livermore right in the middle of today's paper. Maybe you have run into signature gatherers and volunteers while you were shopping or visiting the Farmers Market. As a Livermore voter you deserve the truth. You deserve a detailed and well thought out plan for your downtown. I received neither from "Better" Livermore as I engaged with signature gatherers in town and on their Facebook page.

During my first conversation with volunteer signature gatherers I was told that there were traffic studies done on both plans, and could not receive an answer on the findings of that study. I was also told that putting the issue on the ballot "is not going to slow the process down," and that this is not the work of the Friends of Livermore. Each of these statements is completely untrue.

In a separate interaction, a paid signature gatherer stated, "They're trying to build a development on top of a park." I was honestly shocked by this level of deception. I turned to Better Livermore's Facebook page and asked what they would do to ensure truthfulness, however I never received a response.

The Central Park "Plan" isn't a plan by any means. These are pretty pictures with no details, strategies, or action steps. Please ask the volunteers how much this plan is going to cost. If this plan is voted on, it will mean the movement of a street, additional green space that the city doesn't have a budget for (think water and security), and tiny apartments on land not even owned by the city. Who is going to pay for Better Livermore's negligence in creating a financially viable plan? That's right, it's you - the taxpayer.

This Central Park is not good for Livermore. Even if Better Livermore came up with details, the concept would still include 450 square-foot micro unit apartments at market rate cost. This was something Livermore residents spoke out against during the outreach process. Additionally, when an

RFP went out for the hotel development, five developers bid on the east-side hotel, while none bid on Better Livermore's west-side hotel.

We have had enough of the lies. The plan is done, let's move forward.

Will the City Listen?

Maryann Brent, Livermore

As a volunteer for the Central Park initiative, I have heard comments from many in the Livermore community.

While some in Livermore prefer the City's plan, many more do not. The City Council believes that because they have been elected, it is proper for them to make decisions that strongly counter the wishes of the majority of Livermore residents regarding the last important developable site downtown.

The Central Park Initiative gives all Livermore voters an opportunity to speak. Next March the ballots will be counted, and the Central Park Committee will be listening. Will the City listen?

Central Park Plan

Jan Brovont, Livermore

I gathered signatures as a volunteer for the Central Park Plan initiative.

I had numerous people tell me they are concerned about the City's Downtown plan - the traffic, parking, and the lack of open space in downtown - and were very supportive of what the Central Park volunteers are doing. They believe we as a city should be voting on this.

Goal Exceeded

Linda Milanese, Livermore

I'm happy to say the Central Park Plan Committee exceeded its goal, and we officially turned in boxfuls of petition books to the City of Livermore this week. Over 8,000 registered voters want the Central Park Plan on

the ballot! May we vote now?

Hateful Townsfolk

Eugenia Reuschel, Livermore

I suppose as this point in the downtown process we have heard everything. Several upstanding townsfolk have referenced Nazis in conjunction with our City Council. Alan Heckman has called our council "white trash," and Joan Seppala has implied its all okay as long as they are promoting her agenda. I call BS! This is Livermore, not Joan's Town.

First we were subjected to months campaigning against the "Lennar Plan," and the town spoke when they elected council members more aligned with their views. Next we went through months and months of outreach with the Steering Committee of which Friends of Livermore, aka Better Livermore, were prominently featured. While going through the process the town was subjected to repeated changes to Joan's pretty pictures of HER design for our downtown, regardless of other input. When the Steering Committee's priorities were delivered to council, a plan was crafted utilizing hundreds of hours of staff time. It was the culmination of all the input. There was a vote and we moved forward.

Then the glorious revival of Joan's Town plan number...I've lost count. And off we ran straight into a referendum. That was a fun-filled exercise in lies and mendacity, complete with the ugly World War II references by two of Joan's minions. There was video tape of lies with responses to these reports that people were picking on paid signature gatherers. Finally the signatures were gathered, counted, and in an effort to save the town wasted dollars on a special election, the council adopted the referendum. Joan got her way, or

(See MAILBOX, page 9)

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Sellers of 50,000 Acre Ranch Hope to See it Preserved

By Ron McNicoll

A longtime ranching family is selling the 50,000-acre N3 Ranch near Livermore, after 85 years of family ownership.

The ranch has an entrance near Lake Del Valle, about 14 miles from downtown Livermore. It is so large that parts of it are located in four counties — Alameda, Santa Clara, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus. It is the biggest ranch for sale in California.

The asking price is \$72 million. The broker, Todd Renfrew of California Outdoor Properties, said, “I

listed it Friday, and I already got a ton of calls on it.”

Renfrew said that the ranch was started in the 1930s by Clara Vickers Naftzger, and expanded later by her son, Roy Naftzger, Jr., who made purchases from the 1950s through the 1980s. Naftzger’s daughters have been operating it for the past 20 years, but now feel it’s time to sell.

In a YouTube video posted on Renfrew’s web site, a five-minute video shows a beautiful, pristine area that is a working cattle ranch, with many rolling grassy hills, common to the Livermore Valley. Although the

video does not show it, the 4,000-foot Eylar Mountain in Santa Clara County can be seen from the ranch. Eyker Mountain is located about a dozen miles from Mount Hamilton.

SELLERS HOPE TO KEEP IT PRISTINE

Renfrew said that the sisters selling the ranch would like to see the pristine setting preserved, with a conservation organization as the ideal buyers. They definitely do not want urban development there, added Renfrew.

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) leases

to N3 Ranch some 4,000 acres of adjoining property. Kristine Kelchner, Assistant General Manager of Acquisition, Stewardship & Development, said the district has been following the situation closely.

“We are always interested in passive recreational opportunities. There is a lot of buzz about it in the park community. It would be wonderful to see it preserved,” said Kelchner.

Since the ranch is spread through four counties, it would take a large partnership to bring off a coordinated approach to preservation, said Kelchner.

Feed Tri-Valley Food Drive July 7-21

Hunger affects more than 700 households in the Tri-Valley. In a single month, local food providers will supply 25,000 meals for food-insecure families and individuals. This summer, take part in the movement to end local hunger by supporting Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore food providers and pantries during the annual Feed Tri-Valley food drive.

All are invited to donate food and grocery store gift cards at designated drop-off locations in the Tri-Valley between July 7 and July 21. Gift cards are encouraged.

Drop-off locations include: Pleasanton Public Library (400 Old Bernal), Towne Center Books (555 Main Street, Pleasanton), Pleasanton Senior Center

(5353 Sunol Blvd.), Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce (777 Peters Ave.), Dublin Senior Center (7600 Amador Valley Blvd.), Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza), Livermore City Hall (1052 S. Livermore Ave.), and Livermore Civic Center Library (1188 S. Livermore Ave.)

All donations will be distributed to food-insecure residents of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore through neighborhood organizations like Open Heart Kitchen, Interfaith Sharing, Valley Bible Church, and Tri-Valley Haven.

To learn more, visit www.townlife.org/feedtrivalley, or contact Nicole Thomas at pytsupervisor@cityofpleasanton.ca.gov.

Hacienda Activity Stable in Second Quarter

Hacienda tenant occupancy remained relatively unchanged quarter over quarter at the close of the first half of 2019. Net absorption for the year is in excess of 75,000 square feet above the close of 2018. Over 285,000 square feet of activity has been seen so far this year. The park is the largest mixed-use development of its kind in Northern California.

“While there has been some increase in vacancy in Hacienda’s Flex products, activity in other areas has still produced an increase in occupancy overall since the close of 2018,” said James Paxson, Hacienda’s general manager. “What is particularly interesting is the variety of tenants seen in the market and the constructive re-use of existing facilities to accommodate tenants in different industries. Furthermore, we are continuing to see a very healthy investment climate in Hacienda.

2019 will likely be very similar to the last two years in this regard — an ongoing validation of the value of Hacienda’s real estate.”

Several notable transactions occurred in the first half of 2019. Major commitments were made by companies in a variety of business segments, including: ServiceMax (software development), Venture X (business services), Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty (real estate services), Dentis Implant (dental), and Irisvision (biomedical).

Having just recently completed a large number of projects, construction activity has slowed for the moment. However, plans are moving forward related to a number of large tenant improvements for commitments made earlier this year, and planning has also commenced on both building rehabilitation projects for new tenancy as well as potential new construction.

Newly-Elected Assessor Releases Assessment Roll, Reports 7% Increase Over Last Year

Newly-elected Alameda County Assessor Phong La today released the 2019-2020 local Assessment Roll. The annual Assessment Roll accurately reflects assessments of more than 518,600 taxable properties.

“Thanks to the dedication and efforts of the staff at the Assessor’s Office, I am pleased to report that the gross value of all taxable property in Alameda County is a record \$321.5 billion, which is a \$21.4 billion or 7.13% increase above last year’s roll,” announced La. Crediting the recovering economy and increase in real estate values, he stated, “The revenue generated by the Assessment Roll continues to support schools, public safety, parks, roads, and other essential services.”

Other factors leading to this year’s total assessed value growth included the 2% mandatory inflation

index being applied to all properties’ assessed values that were not affected by assessment declines in prior years. This factor added \$5.6 billion. Sales/transfers of real estate also added \$11.3 billion, and new construction activity added \$2.5 billion. Many companies in Alameda County have flourished, becoming a key factor in the growth in the Assessment Roll, as these company’s business personal property assessments have increased by \$1.1 billion. Since 2014, the assessment roll has increased 35% or \$73 billion.

Of the 14 cities and unincorporated areas within Alameda County, the City of Oakland remains the highest assessment jurisdiction in Alameda County with a total assessed value of \$68.8 billion. The City of Fremont continues to have the second highest assessed

value of \$55.4 billion. The City of Dublin received the highest percentage increase in assessed value from the prior year at 10.3%.

With Alameda County’s historic unemployment rate of 2.7%, lower than both the state and national averages, the future of the County appears optimistic, but La cautions that “There are indicators that this tremendous growth in the economy may be coming to an end. It’s better to begin preparing for a potential recession now rather than having it come as a surprise. We also need to deal with the fact that residents can no longer afford to live in our County.”

Notifications of this year’s individual assessments are being mailed to all secured roll Alameda County property owners, as of July 8, 2019. If property owners have questions regarding their property

assessment, they are encouraged to call the Assessor’s Office at (510) 272-3787 (real estate assessments) or (510) 272-3836 (business personal property assessments), or visit us online at www.acassessor.org. As indicated on these notifications, formal appeals of the 2019-20 assessed values must be made between July 2 and September 16, 2019, with the Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Assessment Appeals Unit, on their Assessment Appeal Application. For your convenience, the application and instruction booklet can be viewed and printed from their webpage at www.acgov.org/clerk/assessment.htm.

Property tax bills for fiscal year 2019-20 will be mailed by the Alameda County Tax Collector in October, and will be based upon the Assessor’s 2019-20 assessed values.

THANK YOU, LIVERMORE

8,110 Signatures Collected And Submitted For The Central Park Citizens’ Initiative!



Thank you to the 8,110 Livermore citizens who signed the Central Park Citizens’ Initiative and to the many volunteers who went out to supermarkets and farmers markets to gather signatures. Once the signatures are verified, the City Council must either adopt the plan or put it on a future ballot to let voters decide. We now have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create the downtown we deserve!

BETTER PARK, BETTER PARKING, BETTER LIVERMORE!

Call (925) 243-7098 or visit betterlivermore.com to find out more.

Ad Paid for by Citizens for a Livermore Central Park.

Dozens of Environmental Groups Want to Contribute to Newsom's Water Portfolio Plan

By Ron McNicoll

A coalition of 55 environmental, fishing, and water policy groups has written Gov. Gavin Newsom, backing his Water Portfolio planning process, and announcing that they plan to take an active part with their own proposals for the plan.

Newsom announced his Water Portfolio on April 29. He ordered three state agencies — Natural Resources, EPA, and Food & Agriculture — to prepare “a water-resilience portfolio that meets the needs of California’s communities through the 21st Century.”

The plans will be developed in consultation with the Department of Finance.

The study will include analyses of the following: the goals recommended in the 2016 California Water Action Plan; an update of expected impacts as measured by Climate Change data since 2016; existing water quality for the state’s rivers, lakes and beaches; and projections of impacts on the economy and the environment.

The evaluation process will take a look at the current plan to have a one-tunnel conveyance around the Delta. The plan was made to enable water agencies to access as much water in a year as possible from the State Water Project, which uses the Delta as part of its conveyance system.

Court decisions blocked water agencies from taking water at certain times of the year, in order to protect environmentally-threatened fish and plants. The tunnel is supposed to be a bypass that won’t be affected by the court-ordered pump shutdowns, because the water, although put into the south end of the Delta, would be farther south of the sensitive areas, and would not affect

them.

Former Gov. Jerry Brown wanted a second tunnel for maintenance and as a backup for reliability in case the first one broke down, for example in an earthquake. However, Newsom cut it to one tunnel to save money, and to analyze its desirability further.

The state agencies will examine a variety of water topics, such as the capacities of underground water basins, the lack of safe drinking water for 1 million Californians, and impacts of climate change, including droughts and floods.

CONSERVATION GROUPS POINT THE WAY

Among the signers of the coalition’s letter was Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, Executive Director of Restore the Delta, which is based in Stockton, but has statewide membership, including the Valley.

“To be successful, the Water Portfolio plan must accomplish two goals. First, it needs to reduce reliance on Delta water use. Second, it must create regional water projects that solve water challenges experienced by environmental justice communities from the North Coast down to Chula Vista, while producing local green jobs throughout the state,” Barrigan-Parrilla said in a news release announcing the coalition’s support.

The three-page letter to Newsom says, “In most years, California uses more water than its aquifers and rivers can sustain. As a result, public health and environmental conditions have declined to unacceptable levels and continue to deteriorate. Contaminated drinking water wells, endangered fish species, collapsing fisheries, toxic algae blooms, and land subsid-

ence all evidence the unsustainability of California’s water systems. They are harbingers of even greater consequences with the likely effects of climate change. This is not the legacy to leave for future generations. Instead, we must leave our children a culture, policies, and infrastructure for sustainable water use.”

The letter continues, “However, the Water Portfolio must be more than a list of ideas and projects to improve water use efficiency, storage, and transport. Preparing California for Climate Change will require transforming our economy into a model of sustainability. The Water Portfolio can be a cornerstone of this transformation.”

The groups name two “pillars of sustainability.” One would guarantee safe and affordable clean drinking water for all Californians. The second would protect healthy rivers and the Delta.

They suggest creating a framework that prioritizes projects according to their ability to become sustainable rapidly in a cost-effective way, noting that water supply sources should have priority, so relying on the Delta will become less necessary. They add there should be an emphasis on investments in science and technology to improve water quality monitoring, storm forecasting, river flow management, water use tracking and reporting, and auditing of water use efficiency.

There should also be a “reliable and ample funding stream for all aspects of the State Water Resources Control Board and the regional water boards; a functional water system needs strong regulators. The old models of California water

policy are failing to serve the public interest, even if they serve private interests. The Water Portfolio should establish a new model for managing California’s water, grounded in the public interest and long-term sustainability,” the organizations say.

Among the groups signing the letter are Alameda Creek Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity Audubon California, Sierra Club California, San Francisco Baykeepers, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council, and The Nature Conservancy.

SPORTS NOTES



Pleasanton Valley Club Dolphins 13/14 Boys Free & Medley Relay Team (left to right): Evan Grell, Dustin Schmidt, Evan Hoffman, Nathan Bodensteiner

Pleasanton Valley Club Dolphins

In their final dual meet of the season, the Pleasanton Valley Club Dolphins beat the San Ramon Aquabears 979 to 815. Over half of the PVC swimmers were personal best times at this meet and several pool records were broken. Evan Grell, Evan Hoffman, Nathan

Bodensteiner, and Dustin Schmidt broke PVC records in two events: the 13-14 boys medley relay and the freestyle relay. Laird Muise also broke records in both the 9-10 boys 25 yard breaststroke and the boys 100 yard individual medley. Makayla Rauscher broke the record for the 11-12 girls 50 yard backstroke.

Bring the kids and grand kids to the family event of the year!

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Quentin Tarantino's 9th Feature Film Opens July 26th!

Showing Fri-Sun: 11:00 1:30 4:15 7:00 9:15

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LAONO

Intermediate World Series Returns to Livermore

PETITIONS

(Continued from first page)



The Livermore/Granada All Star Team, representing District 57, winners of the 2018 national championship, will again host the Intermediate World Series in Livermore. In the photo, the team is pictured with Lou Seal, mascot of the San Francisco Giants. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

The Little League Intermediate World Series returns to Livermore July 28 to August 4 with games to be played at Max Baer Park.

Teams of players, 11 to 13-years-old, will represent 6 regional and 6 international areas. U.S.A. bracket teams will come from District 57, Central, East, Southeast, Southwest and West regions. District 57, the host Little League, will be represented by the Liver-

more/Granada All Star team. International teams will qualify from Asia-Pacific, Australia, Canada, Europe-Africa, Latin America, and Mexico.

Opening ceremonies will be held on Saturday, July 28 at the Oakland Coliseum. The Oakland A's have invited all teams and families to the Saturday night game and fireworks. Dave Wetmore, Tournament Director, commented, "That should be

very special for many."

Wetmore noted that this year Mexico received an automatic regional bid. Puerto Rico, who had the automatic bid in the past, had to play for the Latin America championship. The won by beating a very good Columbia team.

Wetmore said that ESPN will be on site all week with 21 games to be aired on one of the ESPN family of networks. In the past, the

network just covered the championship weekend.

Teams arrive Friday, July 26, with the first day of practice July 27. Play begins Sunday, July 28 at 9 a.m., 12 noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. The rest of the week, the games are as follows: Monday -Thursday, 9 a.m., 12 noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Friday, off day; Saturday, Challenger Game at 9:30 a.m.; International Championship at 1 p.m. and USA Championship at 5 p.m.. The Title Game on Sunday August 4 - 6 p.m. will be covered by ESPN2. All games up to the Sunday game will be available on ESPN+.

2018 Champions were Asia-Pacific Region - West Seoul (South Korea) Little League. They won the International bracket and faced the U.S.A. champions, the Livermore/Granada team, in the finals.

Field upgrades have taken place with Little League putting in new sod in the infield.

Admission to all games is free. Max Baer Park is located at 1310 Murdell Lane.

For the complete schedule, box scores and videos, go to www.littleleague.org/world-series/2019/5070/tournaments/world-series/

they want a large continuous Central Park in their downtown with plenty of parking near Livermore Avenue. They said that they like the idea of placing 84 affordable multi-family units on the periphery of the park area, with an additional 46 units transferred to Pacific Avenue so that additional affordable units can be built there."

The press release continued, "The Central Park Plan Initiative effort was started because of the City Council's failure to listen to the public about the development of the former Lucky's site, which is currently being used for parking. Initially, the Council considered adopting the Lennar Plan to build 260 homes on the lot in the center of downtown. This idea was hugely unpopular."

The City continued to move forward with development of a plan. The citizens wanted to provide input so the plan would reflect the public's vision for downtown. The Council conducted a \$500,000 community Outreach Process. The press release stated, "That process resulted in a 3-1 preference for the construction of a hotel on the westside of Livermore Avenue. Despite these results, the Council adopted a plan placing 130 homes on the west side and a hotel on the east side of Livermore Avenue. This is not what

the people wanted.

"Citizens then circulated a referendum to address the community's dissatisfaction with the Council Plan. The measure qualified for the ballot, but the opportunity to vote never came. The Council found a way to work around a vote by modifying their plan, leaving the essence of the plan unchanged. The current Central Park Plan initiative then followed.

"The people deserve a chance to vote on the plan they want for downtown Livermore. The Council is now considering yet another tactic to undermine voter rights. On July 22, the Council has scheduled a public hearing to consider entering into a formal development agreement with the developer, Presidio, for a hotel on the east side of Livermore Avenue. We believe the Council is trying to expedite their plan in order to confuse the public and interfere with the initiative process.

"The signatures have been gathered. The initiative will qualify for the ballot. The voters can and should decide the future of downtown Livermore. The city's goal in executing a development agreement so quickly is intended to create the impression that the initiative is dead and that voters have no power to create a better plan. That is not the case."

GENETICS

(Continued from first page)

Metzl himself has an extraordinarily diverse background. He is a senior fellow on the Atlantic Council who has served with the National Security Council, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the State Department.

He is the author of two books on the Cambodian genocide, one a history and the other an historical novel. He has written two genetics-oriented science fiction novels. He is an Ironman triathlon competitor and an ultra marathoner.

Early this year, he was appointed to a World Health Organization expert committee on developing standards for human genome editing.

In "Hacking Darwin," Metzl surveys the history of our understanding of heredity, from the ancient practices of plant and animal breeding to 19th century giants Darwin and Mendel, and on through the discovery of DNA, sequencing of the human genome and learning to prevent and treat some genetic diseases.

He imagines future fertility clinics in 2035 and in 2045, where parents are attracted to the prospect of being able to choose a potentially superior child in the form of a fertile, genetically advantaged embryo.

Who would not choose a smarter child with reduced chances of genetic abnormalities if they could?

At the same time, the parents realize, they are facing the reality of making life and death decisions for their own offspring; they will need to discard those whose genomes are less promising.

This is only one of the many challenges that Metzl believes we must face in the immediate future.

His book, "Hacking Darwin," is available at Towne Center books in Pleasanton as well as online.

Tickets for the Bankhead talk are available online at <http://raedoroughspeaker-series.org/tickets/> or may be purchased at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First Street, Livermore, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m., or by calling (925) 373-6800.



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Upcoming Event at New Dr. John Shirley City Council Chamber

This September, the City of Livermore is holding a community-wide open house and emergency preparedness fair at the new Civic Center Meeting Hall, located at 1016 S. Livermore Avenue. The public is invited to tour the building, which includes the new Dr. John Shirley City Council Chamber and the City's new Emergency Operations Center.

Livermore Mayor John Marchand commented, "This building was designed

to serve our community. We, the members of the City Council, were elected to represent, to serve and to protect our community. Our number one priority is public safety and this Emergency Operations Center is a testament to how seriously we take that commitment. One need only look back to the quakes in Napa or the fires in Santa Rosa and Paradise to understand the importance of planning ahead for the emergencies that will come. I have learned that if you fail

to plan, you plan to fail." Attendees will also be able to learn about emergency preparedness with hands-on activities and presentations. This is a family-friendly event and additional details will be communicated via social media and the City's website.

On July 13, 2019, invited dignitaries, community partners, and friends and family of Dr. John Shirley attended a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony honoring Dr. Shirley.

Dr. Shirley, a WWII veteran, earned a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and a Purple Heart. He is a former Livermore Councilmember and Mayor, serving on the City Council from 1958 to 1966. He also opened Livermore's first veterinary hospital. The ceremony recognized Dr. Shirley for his dedication, commitment, and service to his community and his country.

Marchand said of the council chamber, "When we held the groundbreaking last year, John Shirley told me that the old library was

the only building in town that had a plaque with his name on it. It is fitting that his name is included in this building. Dr. Shirley has served this community for decades as a veteran, mayor, statesman, and civil servant and he continues to serve. Livermore is a better place because of his compassion and his caring for our community. The Dr. John Shirley Council Chamber is where the people and the Council will plan Livermore's future together. Together, we will keep Livermore a great place to live."

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Livermore Mayor and City Council, along with Congressman Eric Swalwell, former Mayor Dr. John Shirley, and former Councilmember Steven Spedowski cut the ribbon at the new Livermore Civic Center Meeting Hall. (Photo courtesy of Don Wentz)

Swalwell Proposes Bill to Slash Student Loan Interest Rate to Zero

On July 15, Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15) introduced the No Student Loan Interest Act to help address the nation's growing student debt crisis and ensure that all students have a fair shot at paying off their loan balance without accumulating interest charges.

This bill is a step toward reducing student loan debt, and would prohibit the federal government from profiting off of borrowers. Specifically, the No Student Loan Interest Act would eliminate and forgive all interest charges on existing federal student loans, as well as eliminate all interest charges on future federal student loans, by enacting

a zero percent interest rate.

"Congress can no longer ignore the growing student loan debt crisis we have in this country," said Swalwell. "We can return billions back to our economy if we just reform the way some 40 million individuals pay back their student loans. There's no reason the federal government should be profiting off of students. By bringing the interest rate down to zero we can give borrowers a fighting chance to pay back their loans and participate in our economy."

Student loan debt in the United States has become a \$1.4 trillion crisis affecting more than 43 million Americans, according to

Swalwell's office. More than 23.6 million borrowers being under the age of 35 and more than 10 million borrowers carrying a student loan debt above \$40,000, which comes in well over the federal poverty level for a family of four (\$25,100).

"The cost of student debt is preventing young people from making major life decisions, like buying a home, starting a business, or starting a family," said Swalwell. "We must do all we can to lift the burden off of student loan borrowers so we can strengthen our economy and secure a brighter future for generations to come."

To learn more, visit swalwell.house.gov.

DOWNTOWN

(Continued from first page)

ment standards. According to the City staff report, the DA would secure Presidio's right to develop and use the property.

A second hearing at next Monday's council meeting involves resolutions authorizing negotiation of DAs that include terms, permitted land uses, intensity of development, building heights, provisions for public uses, amenities, and performance schedules. The DAs would include Red Bear Property Management Inc. for commercial uses; Livermore Science and Society Center for a science and society center; Eden Housing for residential workforce housing; and Shakespeare's Associates, Inc. for a black box theater. All would be developed between Railroad Avenue and L Street and Railroad Avenue and Veterans Way.

According to the staff report, the current initiative proposal threatens the significant investments made by the parties by generating uncertainty regarding the permitted land uses. Uncertainty would likely lead to difficulty securing funding for design, construction, and operations. The parties are requesting DAs with the intention to establish certainty regarding permitted land uses, and the development standards that will apply to their respective projects.

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

did she?

Nope, not good enough, so here we are with an initiative with yet another pretty picture and no fiscal responsibility. Micro units: the outreach determined this wasn't what people wanted. A garage with a bar on top: Do we want a city that is in the alcohol business with the kind of financial liability that comes with? No! It's enough. Quit trying to dominate our town with your selfishness. We get it, you have money to burn. Just think if you used it to combat homelessness how much good you could do.

A Tale of Two Cities**Richard Langlois, Livermore**

A long-running dispute over development of the Livermore downtown has led to a Citizen's Initiative to determine which of two plans will go forward. The Livermore City Council is aggressively pursuing contracts and construction for one plan before the results of the Initiative are known.

The experience of a neighboring city, Half Moon Bay, shows that drastic consequences can occur if a City Council locks the city into one plan before the dispute has been resolved.

The city of Half Moon Bay was involved in a long-running dispute over development on a land parcel. Before this dispute was resolved, the city blocked the development. In 2007, a judge ruled that the city was in error so they must pay \$36 million (three times the total city budget) to compensate the developer. While part of the judgment was covered by insurance, the city had to tighten its belt, eliminate its police department while contracting with the Sheriff's Office, and significantly downsize staff. The city was still paying off a related bond ten years later.

While it is unclear if the Livermore Initiative will be successful, signatures have been delivered to the City Clerk indicating a strong possibility the Initiative will be approved by the voters. It would be incredibly irresponsible for our city leadership to continue to lock us in to the Eastside hotel plan placing Livermore and its citizens at risk for potential drastic losses if the initiative succeeds.

The Livermore Mayor and City Council have the sole responsibility to determine if we incur drastic losses like Half Moon Bay or Livermore follows a wiser plan that can successfully implement either downtown plan.

One Small Step in Protecting Our Democracy**Johnna Thompson, Livermore**

I am proud to have been one of the Livermore citizens collecting signatures to allow all Livermore voters to choose the vision of downtown that they prefer.

The appropriate response, when one disapproves of the actions of government at any level, is not to "go back to the broken and crime-infested places from which you came" (Houston, Texas, in my case), but to work to effect a change for the better.

Placing an initiative on the March 2020 ballot that permits Livermore voters to have a direct say in how our downtown will look for decades to come is democracy in action, the right to petition being guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

If the initiative is certified, Livermore voters will have the opportunity to exercise their constitutionally-guaranteed right to vote yea or nay on the Central Park Initiative in March 2020, and that is one small step in protecting our democracy.

Transparency Wanted**Asa Strout, Livermore**

"I have been told by our Facebook manager that he is allowed to remove comments that are extremely argumentative, uncivil, disrespectful and/or not factual."

These are the words of Joan Seppala, owner of The Independent newspaper, to justify the censorship of dissenting voices on the Facebook page "Better Livermore." The Facebook page is the online organizing effort of "Better Livermore," with the intent to completely mislead and misinform citizens of Livermore to undo the last four years of planning our downtown.

The administrators have deleted comments and banned members of the community from participating in future discussions. Though not incorrect that the owner of a Facebook page has the discretion

to ban and delete comments, we expect better transparency and honesty from a journalist and owner The Independent newspaper.

Why do we expect this? Because the comments deleted and individuals banned are members of this community who would never be defined by that statement.

Unify Livermore's own Jake Anderson has had his comments removed and banned from the page. I have known Jake personally for as long as I can remember, we grew up together, and to imply that Jake is nothing but a model of what we define as a Livermore citizen. It is offensive to Jake, myself, and everyone who knows him. Joan should be ashamed to make such a statement and associate to a member of our community like Jake.

For those who do not know Jake, here is a little bit about him. He is a loving husband and father, a teacher at Del Valle Continuation High School giving students their second, third, and fourth chances at educational success, an officer at Unify Livermore, a member of the City of Livermore's Planning Commission. I can go on but there may not be enough ink to print it all.

Other Livermore residents who have been banned include Bob and Gina Coomber. Bob Coomber, who is a current City Council member in Livermore, and his wife Gina are both supporters of the current downtown plan, but, more than that, they are supporters of honesty and transparency. They are vocal when they both feel that the public is being misled. Their integrity keeps them from sitting on the sidelines.

Another member is Steven Spedowski, former Livermore City Council member, who has been nothing but honest throughout the process of developing Livermore's Downtown Plan.

What do all of these people have in common? They are speaking out against what "Better Livermore" is proposing with clear, honest, and factual information that goes against what "Better Livermore" wants you to know. So their solution is to remove them from the online conversation instead of having their ideas stand alongside with the ideas of "Better Livermore."

Censoring those you do not agree with is not the behavior the owner of Livermore's only newspaper should be taking. If she supports those policies for her online message, what kind of policies does she take in her newsroom? I worry transparency is not one.

If you find yourself banned, or your comments removed, please reach out to Unify Livermore on social media (facebook.com/unifylivermore) or by email (unifylivermore@gmail.com) and share your story.

President Trump in Your Food**Greg Scott, Livermore**

Recently the Trump Administration approved an insecticide – sulfoxyflor – to be used on all 190 million food-crop acres in the United States. Sulfoxyflor, which is also sold under the name "Isoclast," happens to be highly toxic to honeybees and other insects.

Honeybees pollinate around one-third of those 190 million acres. They are critical to food production in the United States, as they are critical to food production in the rest of the world.

We are having a problem with honeybee survival. Last winter, 2018–2019, beekeepers in the United States lost around 35% of all their hives. We have now in this country the lowest honeybee population since World War II. Why was sulfoxyflor approved for use in crop lands by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Trump Administration?

For a number of reasons, with the foremost being political-economic graft and profiteering. The manufacturer of sulfoxyflor – DowDupont – by one example, contributed \$1 million to the President Trump Inauguration festivities. Other reasons are so-called 'science' studies used by the EPA that were conducted by the pesticide industry. Unbiased of course!

Sulfoxyflor is an insect neurotoxin. It is also a mammalian neurotoxin in a far lesser degree. (This would include the ability to have an effect on you.) Sulfoxyflor has "Suggestive evidence of carcinogenic potential." (Source: Minnesota Department of Agriculture, "New Active Ingredient Review," "Sulfoxyflor," March 2013).

Sulfoxyflor works by being a "systemic." This means it

gets in the plant juices, or sap and then supplants itself on a neuro-receptor in an insect's brain. This makes it very effective for control of sap-sucking insects such as aphids. This also means that when a food crop is sprayed with sulfoxyflor and you eat part of this crop plant, you are also eating sulfoxyflor. President Trump is going to be in your food!

Sulfoxyflor approval for use is a great tragedy, and will exacerbate the ecological and economic calamity that is already occurring with diminished pollinator populations in American agriculture that is a result of pesticides (especially neonicotinoids), expanded monocultures, Varroa mites, and anti-biotic resistance by more virulent diseases.

Add to the Trump Administration's nefarious actions the fact that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) was ordered to stop monitoring honeybee hive statuses on July 5, 2019 – just previous to the EPA approval of sulfoxyflor!

And if you have it in your own brain that "checks-and-balances" is like, as you know, like an "American principle" kind-of-thing: The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals revoked the registration of sulfoxyflor on September 10, 2015. Not 'whatever' - Wake up! And then think about that next bite!

Emotional Council Predictable**Elizabeth Judge, Livermore**

Predictably, Livermore City Council is rushing ahead with all the development agreements for construction of its own downtown plan, despite the fact that it may have to be undone if the Initiative for the Central Park Plan passes! See their Agenda for 7/22/2019.

Council is hoping that the thousands of citizens who signed the Initiative will not vote for it if it is going to cost millions to undo their mischief!

(Indeed, the Council may even privately vote for the Initiative since it will enhance their legacy with a more viable boutique hotel, a far more attractive, greener downtown inviting more upscale amenities, less housing, and more convenient parking.)

If the Initiative passes, Council will try to blame the Initiative and the people who supported it for the disaster, not themselves. However, if the Council knowingly subjects the city to possible financial ruin because they do not wish to abide by the wishes of the people, it has to have political consequences.

Council made a mistake eighteen months ago when they refused to heed the will of the people evidenced in the data from the Public Outreach Process. They adopted another design foreign to the public process, but friendly to seven self-interested groups.

Instead of owning up to their mistake, they lash out at the private citizens facilitating the public to rectify the situation through an Initiative. The Council's personal animosity toward pro-initiative speakers was the soup du jour at the 7/8/19 Council meeting.

This is an emotional power struggle, pure and simple, not any backroom money exchange, but emotions should not rule the day at the expense of the city's financial health.

Council should focus on the thousands of public residents who feel so outraged that they support an Initiative to get a better downtown plan on the ballot.

Thank You for Supporting Lights for Liberty Vigil**Kristine Kansa, Livermore**

Thank you, Livermore, for coming out in such great numbers on Friday evening, July 12, in support of humane treatment of babies, children and adult refugees at the Lights for Liberty Vigil.

Thank you to Angela, a Dreamer, for being our gracious mistress of ceremony and telling her own story. Thank you to speakers, Ruth Gasten, Co-Founder of Interfaith Interconnect, Kathy La Point Collup, Pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church, Spojmie Nasiri, Immigration lawyer from Pleasanton, and Trish Munro, Livermore City Council member. Thank you also to Bob Woerner, Livermore City Council member, who made brief remarks in support of this effort. All spoke movingly and with conviction about the inhumane treatment and conditions these refugees endure in the camps in our country. Some shared personal

(See MAILBOX, page 10)

OBITUARIES

Christian "Chris" W. Faltings**Resident of Livermore****Nov. 17, 1968 - June 27, 2019**

On June 27, Chris passed away unexpectedly but peacefully in Reno, Nev., due to complications of diabetes.

Chris was born in Livermore on November 17, 1968, attended local schools, and graduated from Granada High School in 1986.

Chris loved NASCAR racing and jet skiing with friends. He is preceded in death by his father, Larry Faltings.

He is survived by his mother Ginny Reineking (Bill), brother Dan (Debbie), and nieces Jacky and Jesslyn.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, July 19, at 2 p.m., at Graham Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, donations made to the Diabetic Youth Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

Eleanor Boerner Siglock**Resident of Livermore****Eleanor Boerner Siglock died on April 26, at the age of 99 and a half.**

She is survived by her son, Timothy James Siglock, M.D., of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., and his wife, Marcy B. Freedman, her grandsons Devin Siglock, Blake Siglock, MD, and his wife Carly Siglock, MD, her younger brother Thomas Boerner and his wife Carol, and her younger sister Dorothy Levens and her husband Loy. There are numerous loving nieces and nephews, too many to list here.

She was predeceased by her husband of 51 years, Robert, and her daughter Ellen Christine Magiotta, as well as her sisters Jean, Peggy and Mary Alice, and her brothers Robert, Edward and Joseph.

Eleanor graduated from Marquette High School in Alton, Ill. She received a scholarship to go to college, but she elected to go to work to help out with family expenses. It was 1937, after all, and the country was emerging from a recession.

Eleanor married Robert Leo Siglock in January of 1948. He came out to Livermore ahead of the family, in 1955, to recruit engineers to work for Sandia Corporation. She followed him to Livermore from Albuquerque, N.M., in January of 1956. It rained for two straight weeks, she would remind everyone, and she initially missed New Mexico terribly. She grew to love Livermore, of course.

She was a faithful congregant at St. Michael Church, and loved the church and all it stood for. She was an enthusiastic supporter of the Mothers' Club of St. Michael School, and she counted the collection on Sunday nights for years with a gaggle of good friends from the parish. She liked to walk to church.

She did not play any sports. At all. She was the most unathletic person in the entire family, and some think that might be why she lived so long. She did love to garden, and her bank of "party girl" roses were, and continue to be, the talk of the neighborhood in the spring and summer. They still produce 4-5 flowerings.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Siglock family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

LaVelda LeeAnn Singleton**Aug. 30, 1946 - June 30, 2019**

LaVelda was born August 30, 1946, in Oakland, Calif. She grew up in San Lorenzo then moved to Dublin, Calif., and she attended Amador Valley High School. She went on to become Miss San Ramon Village.

She married Bill Singleton and had two children. She moved to Livermore, Calif., in 1965, where she attended Trinity Baptist Church and taught Sunday School and children's choir for over 50 years.

LaVelda had a nursing degree, and also a degree in Early Childhood Development. She owned and operated Love and Care Christian Preschool in the Dublin/Pleasanton area since 1981. The doors closed when she was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Everyone knew her as "Grandma," and she loved that. She had a servant's heart and no one was ever a stranger to her. She was loved and is going to be missed...

She fought a tough fight but passed away on June 30, 2019.



She is survived by her daughter Meleasa Singleton-Clement, son Damon Singleton, and daughter-in-law Sarah Singleton. She has eight grandchildren Anthony Palomino, Jeremy Thomas, Zackery Clement, Isaiah Clement, Devony Clement, Cullen Wheaton, Trent Singleton, and Mya Singleton; great-grandsons Jaiden Palomino and baby Elijah Thomas; nephews Jerry Hyatt, Gary Hyatt, Brian Buchanan, and Bert Miller; nieces Cheryl Hyatt, Michele Buchanan Pirante, Ruby Valdivia-Serrano, and Marcia Miller; and many other family members and friends.

Her services will be on July 25, 2019, at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave. in Livermore.

The viewing will be at 11 a.m. service at noon, and burial at 1 p.m. Her Celebration of life to follow.

Proverbs 18:10: The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Singleton family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Patsy Anne Lund**Resident of Pleasanton****Mar. 2, 1934 - July 6, 2019**

Patsy passed away on Saturday evening surrounded by her family after a courageous battle with lung cancer.



Throughout the years, she has touched the lives of many with her leadership and optimism. Patsy was the rock for her family, and many others.

Patsy was born in Dubuque, Iowa. Her family included her mother, father, and four siblings: Elizabeth, Barbara, Ed and Richard. They moved to the East Bay in 1944. In 1949 her father moved them all to Pleasanton. Patsy later graduated from Amador Valley High School, and shortly after was hired at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

In 1954, she married the love of her life, Victor Lund. They later had two sons. The eldest was Michael, shortly followed by Jeffery. Patsy and Victor raised their two sons on a cattle ranch in Pleasanton, then eventually moved their cattle ranch near North Livermore. While also being a rancher's wife and a mom of two boys, she worked for the City of Pleasanton in the financial department. She worked there for 29 years! She retired in 1991 and started her career with Mary Kay where she received many awards for her accomplishments.

One of her many accomplishments included being president of the Alameda County Unit of Cattlewomen (then known as Cow Belles) from 1975 through 1976. One of her board members said it was a most productive term of office as three members of Patsy's board had one or more babies from 1975 to 1977. Patsy took on the responsibilities of may board of directors offices as well as serving to chair many of the activity committees of the organization. Patsy was instrumental in forming the Alameda County Cow Belles' mounted parade color guard, and she participated in many beef education demonstrations and presentations.

Patsy served as the president of the California Cattlewomen from 1991 through 1992. During her term of office, California hosted the National Beef Cook-off. As Jean Barton, a long time California State officer said, "Patsy was a fierce advocate for the California Beef Industry at this time, making sure that California needs were met." Jean stated that Patsy was a "gorgeous lady." Patsy believed that it was important for the beef industry that as many women as possible should be knowledgeable not only on the local level, but also on the state and national levels. Patsy and her husband, Vic, were a wonderful couple working hard to better the California Beef Industry.

For 25 years, Patsy spent many hours volunteering at ValleyCare Hospital. While at ValleyCare, she spent time on the committee and board. She made many friends there and was known by everyone. She was also very active with her church, Crosswinds. She dedicated lots of her time helping with Vacation Bible School and other children's events. Patsy and her husband also helped serve coffee and bagels before Sunday church, also staying after to clean.

Patsy is survived by her loving husband, Victor, and her devoted children, Michael Lund and Jeffery Lund. In addition are her grandchildren, Cassie Lund and Tyler Lund. She is also survived by her sisters, Barbara Mills and Elizabeth Olivares. Patsy will be missed by so many people.

There will be a celebration of life to be posted at a later date for friends and family. Help us celebrate her beautiful life.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hope Hospice, the Junior Livestock Auction Boosters, the Museum on Main in Pleasanton, and the American Cancer Society.

Emanuel David Moseby**Feb. 18, 2003 - July 9, 2019**

Emanuel David Moseby was born on February 18, 2003, at St. Rose Hospital in Hayward, Calif., to Stacey Juanita Stuart and Earl David Moseby Jr.



Emanuel attended schools in Oakland, Oakley, Stockton, Union City and Livermore, Calif.

Emanuel excelled in all sports, but football was his first love. He started playing at 6 years old for the Berkeley Jr. Bears. He then played Livermore youth football, and for the Livermore High School Cowboys.

Emanuel's laugh was hilariously contagious and his smile was infectious. He had a unique relationship with everyone he came into contact with and he was extremely loved by all.

Emanuel was preceded in death by his grandmother Josephine Stuart, his mother Stacey Juanita Stuart, and his uncle R'Cell Harris Jr.

Emanuel departed this life on Tuesday, July 9, 2019. He leaves to cherish his legacy his father Earl Moseby Jr., his stepmother Nafeesah Bashir, his siblings Quiana Canon, Earl Moseby Jr., Xavier Moseby, Ajai Franklin, and Zhariah Franklin, his grandmother Cynthia Moseby, his grandfathers Calvin Stuart Sr. and Earl Moseby Sr., and a host of cousins, aunts, uncles, friends and teammates.

Shine Peacefully Angel Baby.

Funeral Service: Sunset Community Church, Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 11 a.m.

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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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 9)

experiences as refugees themselves, others reminded that such treatment is contrary to the basic tenets of Christianity and Judaism.

For me, the evening was very moving and the music and singing led by John Hughes and Cathy Griggs were a big part of that. I thank them also for volunteering and leading us all in song.

I am proud of our city coming together in such numbers to support our basic values: that human beings, no matter where they are from or how they got here, should be treated with dignity and decency.

If you were unable to attend the event, or attended but did not get the information provided, and you would like to help in some way, please consider the following ways:

Contact your elected representatives:

Senator Diane Feinstein, 202-224-3841 (DC), 415-393-0707 (San Francisco) @ SenFeinstein

Senator Kamala Harris, 202-224-3553 (DC), 415-981-9369 (San Francisco) @ KamalaHarris

House Rep Eric Swalwell, 202-225-5065 (DC), 510-370-3322 (Castro Valley) @ RepSwalwell

Check out these organizations who help migrants and donate:

American Immigration Council: www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org

Asylum Seekers Advocacy Project: www.asylumadvocacy.org

Immigrant Bail Fund: www.immigrantbailfund.org/take-action

Kids in Need of Defense: www.supportkind.org

One Nation AAPI: www.onenationaapi.com/

Refugees and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES): www.raicestexas.org

Sanctuary Movement: www.sanctuarynotdeportation.org

Although this event provided an opportunity to come together in solidarity for human decency, it does not change what is happening. It is a call to keep paying attention, and to take action and make our voices heard. Please let your voice be heard.

Don't Ignore The Citizens Anna Lim, Livermore

Over 8,000 Livermore residents have expressed their desire to vote on the Downtown plan. The Downtown plan is too important to the city's future development to ignore the opinion of our citizens.

Assembly Member Seeks Public Input

Many critical issues come before legislators every day, and decisions must be made — many of which impact every Californian. As the Legislature enters the height of the legislative session in Sacramento, it is vital for legislators to hear directly from citizens about their priorities and top concerns for the district and state in order that they can be represented accurately.

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, 16th District, has posted an online survey to help citizens communicate what is most

important to them.

To take the survey, go to a16.asmdc.org/district-survey. Rank the issues in order of importance with one being the most important, and six being least important. Within each issue block, there are three sub-issues; rank those in similar fashion.

In addition, Bauer-Kahan invites people to reach out to her staff at her district office in San Ramon with any questions, comments, issues or suggestions: a16.asmdc.org or (925) 328-1515.

Multi-Day Feast Awaits at Taste Our Terroir

By Laura Ness

Tickets are available to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association's annual food and wine pairing contest that partners wineries with Bay Area chefs to compete for coveted honors.

This year, there are 17 teams preparing to wow visitors with their creativity: Big White House Winery and Sauced BBQ & Spirits, Cuda Ridge Wines and Campo di Bocce, Darcie Kent Vineyards and Monica's Livermore, Eagle Ridge Vineyards and Terra Mia, Fenestra Winery and Backyard Bayou, Garré Vineyard & Winery and Garré Café, Las Positas Vineyards and Las Positas Vineyards, Longevity Wines and PLaYT, McGrail Vineyards and Bottle Taps, Mitchell Katz Winery and Atria Senior Living, Murrieta's Well and Murrieta's Well Culinary Team, Nella Terra Cellars and On the Vine Catering, Page Mill Winery and Millennium Restaurant, Retzlaff Vineyards and Salt Craft, the Steven Kent Winery and Sabio on Main, Wente Vineyards and the Wood Fired Kitchen, and Wood Family Vineyards and First Street Alehouse.

Tickets still remain for the headliner wine and food pairing event, which will be held on the evening of Thursday, July 25, at Casa Real at Ruby Hill. However, VIP tickets sold out quickly this year. VIP guests are welcome to attend the VIP Party, beginning at 4:30 p.m., in the garden patio, where a sparkling wine reception will be hosted by VINO Destinations, Nella Terra Cellars and Page Mill Winery. Doors to the main event open at 5 p.m. for VIPs, and at 6 p.m. for other ticket holders.

Both Aloft in Dublin and Courtyard by Marriott will be offering special rates on accommodations for those attending this event.

For the last several years, Taste Our Terroir has con-

tinued to expand in scope. It's no longer just one evening of indulgent wine and food pairing during which a new set of winners will be crowned. It's also a chance to bid on some very fun auction items. Perusing the online site, I spied a tasting of 2016 Pinot Noir for two at Nella Terra, a vertical of Dante's Inferno, two tickets to attend the Livermore Valley Wine Auction's 25th Anniversary Gala on September 21, a magnum and tasting for four from Fenestra, early admission for four to the Front Porch Music Festival hosted by Fifth Generation Winegrower Karl Wente, a facial and skincare products from Affinity Spa, an electric bike romp through the Livermore Valley courtesy of Pedego Electric Bike, 30 yoga classes from Dragonfly Yoga, a European River cruise, plus a case of the award-winning wines from 2019 Livermore Uncorked.

At press time, limited tickets were still available for several of the other Taste Our Terroir weekend events. Consult the Livermore Winegrowers website to purchase tickets to any of these events, which include:

Vineyard Table Garden Tour & Tasting Lunch: Friday, July 26, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at Wente Arroyo Road. Master Gardener Diane Dovholuk will lead a tour of the sustainable Wente garden, followed by a three-course lunch, paired with Wente Wine in the Veranda Dining Room. Wine Director Jorge Tinoco will guide you through the pairings at the newly renovated Vineyard Table. Only 24 tickets are available for this event. [\$105]

Behind the Bubbles: Friday, July 26, 5-7 p.m., Page Mill Winery. Why are bubbles so special? They take a bit of extra effort to pull off. Discover the behind the scenes work that goes into the making of Page Mill's Blanc de Blanc, as winemakers Dane and Michael walk



Wine pairing at Taste Our Terroir

you through the process of creating a timeless sparkling wine. Each guest will have the opportunity to learn how to saber a bottle of champagne. [\$55]

PortaPalooza: Saturday, July 27, Rios-Lovell, 7-9 p.m., at Rios-Lovell Winery. Winemaker Dan Baldwin will present an educational seminar of the History of Port, and how it is made. The next step is to sample Ports out of the barrel from several Livermore Valley wineries, and pair them with several delectable cheeses and chocolates. Participating wineries include Rios-Lovell, Mitchell Katz Winery and Charles R Vineyards. [\$35]

Falconry, Fly and Wine!: Sunday, July 28, 10 a.m.-noon, at el Sol Winery. Meet and greet with a California State licensed falconer, and Embodied Wines winemaker and owner Kimmie Orani Spears and her falconry birds. Watch a flight demonstration in the vineyards at el Sol Winery, while you sip on Embodied Wines' 2016

Corset Rosé of Pinot Noir and 2017 Chardonnay. There are only 30 tickets available for this event. [\$40]

Pink Party Rosé Brunch: Sunday, July 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Retzlaff Vineyards. Head to Retzlaff Vineyards for a fabulous brunch provided by Chef Matt Greco of Salt Craft. Accompanying this feast will be a lineup of rosés from Embodied Wines, Fenestra Winery, Garré Vineyard, Nella Terra Cellars, Omega Road Winery & Retzlaff Vineyards. [\$65]

Vertical Tasting of Livermore Valley Award Winning Wines: Sunday, July 29, 12:30-2:30 p.m., at 3 Steves Winery. It's never been done before in Livermore, but you're invited to experience the thrill of verticals from three Sweepstakes Award Winning Wineries: 3 Steves, Las Positas, and McGrail Vineyards. Cast your vote for your favorite vintage varietal in this fun and educational tasting at 3 Steves Winery. [\$60]

REAL ESTATE NEWS & NOTICES

Trivial and Not-So-Trivial Real Estate Notes

By Cher Wollard

Complex subjects, such as housing, require thoughtful exploratory pieces to explain the intricacies of the issues. But we can gain a lot of insights — and perhaps a few chuckles — from tidbits of information.

Here are few related to real estate:

- The United States is about 2.5 million units short of its estimated future housing needs, based on long-term projections, according to Freddie Mac. In fact, the Urban Institute has found a shortfall of 350,000 units per year beginning in 2009, due to underbuilding.

Real estate costs, as in most transactional businesses, are based on the laws of supply and demand. Clearly supply is not keeping up with demand.

- Millennials (ages 23-38) have overtaken Baby Boomers as the largest generation of U.S. adults. And they are starting to buy homes.

In fact, Millennials currently account for more than one-third of U.S. homebuyers, with the Bay Area one of the five hottest housing markets for this age group.

- In Indiana, homeowners can spray lines of purple paint on trees or posts in front of their property instead of posting "no trespassing signs," thanks to the Purple Paint Law enacted last year.

Signs get torn down and vandalized, and building a fence is expensive, so this is an inexpensive alternative. In Texas, that same paint indicates "no hunting allowed."

- The rate of homeownership for African-Americans is falling, while homeownership rates among the Hispanic

population are rising, according to census data.

Black homeownership has dropped 8.6 percentage points since its peak in 2004.

This divergence marks the first time in more than two decades that the two largest racial or ethnic minorities in the country are not on the same path in terms of owning homes.

- Every school child knows the original White House was burned down by the British during the War of 1812. But did you know parts of the current building burned a little over a century later?

On Aug. 24, 1814, British soldiers led by Major Gen. Robert Ross burned down what was then known as the Presidential Mansion, as well as the Capitol and other government buildings, in retaliation for U.S. attacks in Canada. Reconstruction began almost immediately and was completed in 1817.

In 1902, the gaslights were replaced with electric ones, the East Terrace was rebuilt, the State Dining Room enlarged, and a "temporary" executive office space that would become the West Wing was added.

In 1929, the interior of that West Wing was destroyed by fire.

Other additions and renovations were conducted over the years, but the most recent major changes occurred after World War II, when the entire building was completely gutted and its original wooden joists replaced with concrete and steel beams.

The project lasted three years, from 1949 to 1952.

- Both the lowest- and the highest-priced homes in the Valley are in Livermore.

There are currently 170 homes on the Multiple Listing Service in Livermore, 141 in Pleasanton, and 130 in Dublin — a high point for the year, as July is usually a slow time for home sales.

Those homes range in price from \$349,900 to \$7.9 million, with a median home price of \$925,000. The most affordable home listed is a 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom condominium in Brookmeadow Park. At the top of the list is a 20-acre vineyard property with a 5,287-square-foot home on Kalthoff Common.

- For about the median price of a home in the Valley, you can purchase a genuine castle complete with turret on about 50 acres in Midi-Pyrenees in France.

The castle has 10 bedrooms, nine bathrooms, a pool and a wine cellar. A separate caretaker's cottage has three bedrooms and one bath. It's all fully furnished. Stunning views.

French property specialists are claiming there are now more castles on the market than ever before, with many being purchased by foreigners from places such as Australia, where their currency is strong against the euro.

- In Crossville, Tenn., a local minister labored 20 years to construct the world's largest treehouse.

In 1993, according to the Rev. Horace Burgess, God told him, "If you build a tree house, I'll see that you never run out of material."

The result: a 100-foot-high structure of 10,000 square feet with multiple floors and dozens of hidden rooms and passageways built almost entirely with recycled materials. The roofing material is clear to let in natural light and illuminate the interior. One whole room is filled with dozens of hand-carved religious statues. The top floor features a 5,700-pound chime tower with bells made of oxygen acetylene bottles.

At the epicenter is a chapel.

The structure is supported by a massive 80-foot oak and several other smaller trees. A swing hangs from one of the highest points of the tree house, allowing visitors to swing a few feet above the ground.

It probably won't surprise you to learn that the treehouse was not built to code, so the state fire marshal closed it to the public in 2012.

Burgess spent thousands of dollars making his dream a reality. No one lives in it, but before it was shut down, about 1,000 people visited this tourist stop each week.

- A home with a picket fence may be a traditional part of the American dream, but you can't have it in Scranton, Penn. City regulations outlaw "pointed fence pickets" there.

In Rhode Island, fences "unnecessarily higher than six feet" that are put up to annoy your neighbor are labeled "spite fences" and considered to be a private nuisance and thus forbidden by law.

For more information about houses, housing, fences or anything else to do with real estate, contact your local Realtor today.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Drysdale Properties in Livermore.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560410

The following person(s) doing business as: Azure Electrolgy and Aesthetics, 60 Fen-ton, Suite II, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kerri Schaeffer, 895 Camelia Dr, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Kerri Schaeffer, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 12, 2019. Expires June 12, 2024.

ameda on June 19 2019. Expires June 19, 2024.

The Independent Legal No. 4574. Published June 27, July 11, 18, 25, 2019

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560187

The following person(s) doing business as: Thinker Travels, 517 Ruby Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jared Heymann, 517 Ruby Road, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Jared Heymann, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 12 2019. Expires June 12, 2024. The Independent Legal

No. 4576. Published June 27, July 11, 18, 25, 2019

CITATION FOR PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS CASE # FL-2019-2115

Attorney of Party without attorney: Christopher Haverkamp, 389 Violet Place, Tracy, CA 95344. Telephone: (209) 740-6066 Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin 180 E. Weber Avenue Stockton, CA 95202 Petitioner: Adoption Pet of Christopher Haverkamp Respondent: Monty Barham, Jr. In the matter of the petition of Christopher Haverkamp. To: Monty Barham Jr. Please take notice that you are ordered to appear on 8/2/19 at 9:00 AM in Department 4B of the above entitled court for the hearing of the petition to free the following minor(s) for adoption:

Mason Bradley Briggs (DOB 11/12/07)

If granted this petition will terminate forever your parental rights and duties regarding the child. If you have been served at least ten (10) days before the date listed above, this matter will proceed whether you are present or not. You are ordered to show cause, if any you have, why the Petition to Freedom from Parental Custody and Control (Family Code 7800, et seq), should not be granted pursuant to the allegations of the Petition. You have the right to be represented by an attorney. If you cannot afford representation, the court will, on the above date, appoint an attorney to represent you. If the court determines that the best interest of the child requires representation, the court will appoint an independent attorney for the child. The court may continue the proceed-

ing, on a showing of good cause, to appoint counsel to allow counsel time to prepare. Date: June 14, 2019 Rosa Junqueiro, Clerk of the Superior Court.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560549

The following person(s) doing business as: Mediterranean Culinary Consultant, 761 Old Oak Rd, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hassan Reza, 761 Old Oak Rd Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: May 2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Hassan Reza, Owner.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 24 2019. Expires June 24, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4578. Published June 27, July 11, 18, 25, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560786

The following person(s) doing business as: Ibarra Investigations, 782 Ursula Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Veronica Ibarra Hattaway, 782 Ursula Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Veronica Ibarra Hattaway, Private Investigator, Qualified Manager. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 1, 2019. Expires July 1, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4579. Published July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560780

The following person(s) doing business as: Soul Strides, 4061 E. Castro Valley Blvd. #484, Castro Valley, CA 94552, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Soul Strides, PC, A Marriage and Family Therapy Corporation, 4061 E. Castro Valley Blvd. #484, Castro Valley, CA 94552. 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: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Katherine E. Leahy, CEO. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 1, 2019. Expires July 1, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4580. Published July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560714

The following person(s) doing business as: D & K Co. 2927 Danielle Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kevin S. Smith, 2927 Danielle Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2016. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Kevin S. Smith, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 27, 2019.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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Expires June 27, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4581. Published July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2019.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CARMEN E. CUNHA Case No. RP1902026

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

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: VICTORIA LYNN LEWIS in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 TIME: 9:31 AM Dept 202. at: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley Courthouse. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California

Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Attorney for Petitioner: RONALD A. AUGUSTINSKY, 7077 Koll Center Parkway, STE 120, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (925)-225-1010 The Independent Legal No. 4582 Published July 11, 18, 25, 2019.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. RG19007008

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner:

Azadeh J. Vahidi, Vahidi Law Group 555 Peters Ave, Suite 105 Pleasanton, CA 94566 (925) 469-9700 Attorney for Maria Magdalena Braz Coelho, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Maria Magdalena Braz Coelho Proposed Name: Maria Magdalena Braz Caldeira

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 8/16/2019 Time: 11:00 AM Dept: 17 The address of the court is: Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612 A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: July 3, 2019 /s/: Frank Roesch, Judge of the Superior Court. The Independent Legal

No. 4583 Published July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 560882

The following person(s) doing business as: Joe Sprouts, 6701 Koll Center Parkway - Suite 250, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Citrus Stone, LLC, 4892 Bernal Ave, Apt. O, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: July 1, 2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Alexandre C. Munaretto, President, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 3, 2019. Expires July 3, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4584. Published July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 559606

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Valley Landscape & Maintenance, 1751 4th St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Samuel R. Fernandez, 1751 4th St, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Samuel R. Fernandez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 24, 2019. Expires May 24, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4585. Published July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 559606

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Valley Landscape & Maintenance, 1751 4th St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Samuel R. Fernandez, 1751 4th St, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Samuel R. Fernandez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 24, 2019. Expires May 24, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4585. Published July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2019.

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



Our current weekly adoption events include: Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Arador Plaza Rd. Hours: 11am to 3pm. Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

Follow TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION

Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livemore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

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

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For this independent contractor position, work must be conducted each Wednesday for posting by midnight. All articles from The Independent's print newspaper must be uploaded to the website using a content management system. Writing and editing proficiencies are required, as well as attention to detail. A basic background in website design, and experience with InDesign are advantageous.

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Livermore Shakes Rounds Up Bay Area Shakespearean Actors for Mash Up

Come mid-July, audiences will be rollicking in their seats at Wente Vineyards as Livermore Shakespeare Festival produces the irreverent *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised]* by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield.

The *Complete Works* is a mash-up of all 37 plays in the canon, performed by 3 actors in 97 minutes. “It is truly insane. If you like Shakespeare it is funny. If you hate Shakespeare, it is really funny.” Says Producing Artistic Director, Lisa A. Tromovitch. “We have cast three of the top Shakespearean actors in the Bay Area – all have worked extensively with the major Shakespeare festivals in the area.”

The play features Sydney Schwindt, Jed Parsario and Robyn Grahn. Schwindt appears frequently with San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and is one of the most sought after Fight Directors in the area. In addition to starring in *The Complete Works* this season, she directs all of the fights in *LSF*’s, *Othello*. Parsario recently completed *Sweat at American Conservatory Theater* and his credits include California Shakespeare Theater, Marin Shakespeare Company and Altarena Playhouse. He is a graduate of Shakespeare and Co. in Lenox, MA. Grahn has appeared with Livermore Shakespeare Festival previously as “Elinor” in the 2016 production

of *Sense and Sensibility*. Grahn can often be seen working with San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Ross Valley Players, and Shotz SF.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival is presenting Shakespeare’s *The Tragedie of Othello* and the irreverent madcap comedy *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised]* by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield on the grounds of Wente Vineyards Estate Winery & Tasting room at 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore July 3 – August 4, 2019.

For dates and detailed information visit LivermoreShakes.org. Tickets range from \$25 to \$58



Sydney Schwindt appears in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised]*, 2019. Photo by Gregg Le Blanc, CumulusLight.com.

and are day-dependent, with discounts for seniors, students and educators.

For tickets call (925) 443-BARD or visit www.LivermoreShakes.org

A review of *Othello* can be found on page 7.



Camp staff

Pleasanton Launches Youth Theater Company

The newly launched Pleasanton Youth Theater Company celebrates Summer 2019 with a boat-load of camps, workshops, and performances. Mark Duncanson, City of Pleasanton Recreation Coordinator and visionary director of PYTC, notes that over 200 youth will take part in the 17 performing arts camps, including: Technical Theater Camp for high school students, five different Musical Theater Camps

for ages 5-17, Theater Arts Intensives, Improv Camps, and more.

The expanded vision for youth theater and music development has roots in many award-winning City of Pleasanton youth programs, including the popular *Creatures of Impulse*, Civic Arts Stage Company, Youth Music Festivals, and High School Music Collaborative.

City of Pleasanton’s Tamara Whitney, Recreation

Manager for Civic Arts and Special Events, said, “A theater program provides transferable life-skills such as public speaking, conversation, and creative problem solving, while teaching dedication and commitment to a production. PYTC is a full-circle program for young children through to teens, plus teaching opportunities for parents.”

The three main-stage productions take place at (continued on page 9)

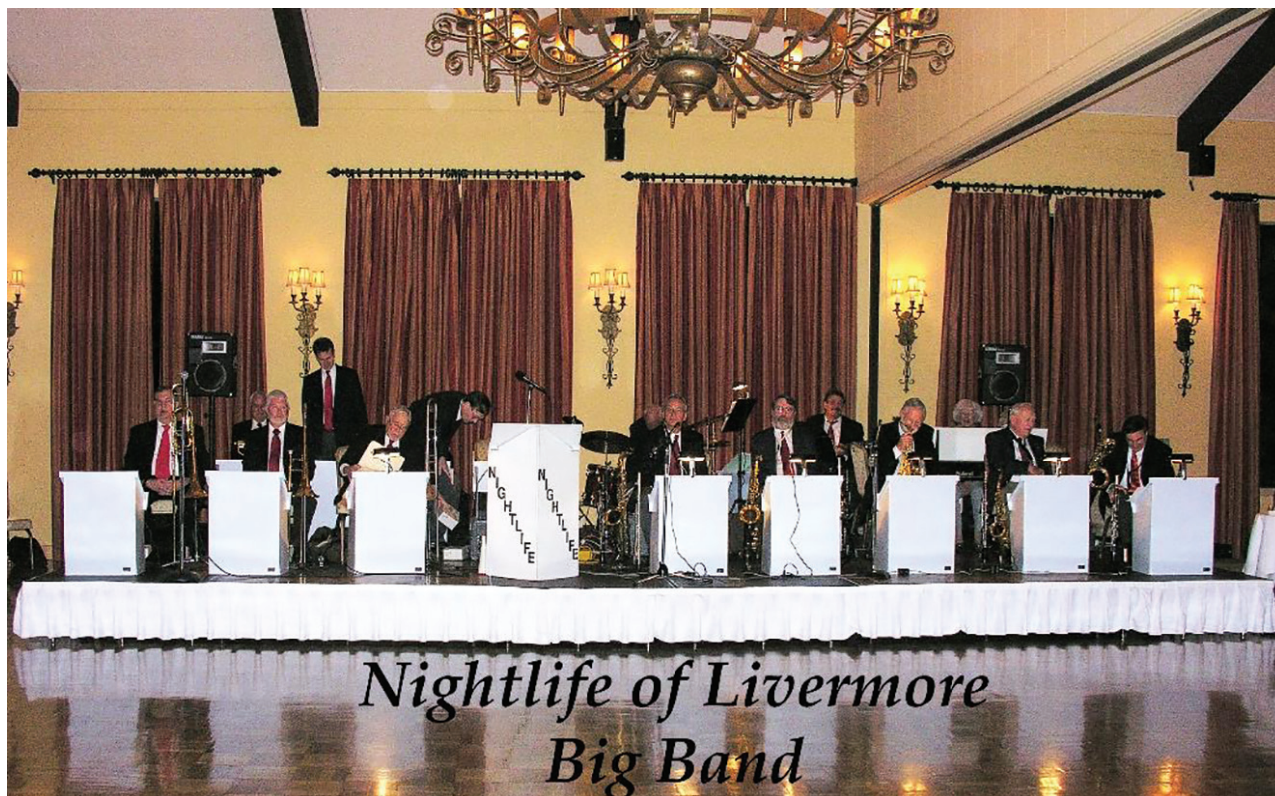
Big Band Sounds of Nightlife Set for Tuesday Tunes

NIGHTLIFE Big Band, a 16-piece swing band, plays the 7th concert of Tuesday Tunes on July 23 at 6:45 pm. Organized by the Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC), this concert highlights music in the style of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James, Les Brown, and Benny Goodman. Led by band leader Bob Olness, the musicians in the band are talented amateurs who thrive on the music of the 40's and 50's.

Formed in 1974, NIGHTLIFE has played numerous public performances, including several Livermore Arts Festivals, plus concerts at the Alameda County Fair and other public and private events.

Each Tuesday through August 13, LCAC brings family-friendly free entertainment for the community to gather and enjoy on the Shea Homes Stage in front of the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore. Shea Homes is also the major sponsor of "Tuesday Tunes". This eclectic 10-concert series is also made possible by funding from Heritage Bank, Tri-Valley Conservancy, Uncle Credit Union, Uncle Yu's, and The Independent. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner, or sit outside at one of the many restaurants surrounding the Plaza. Concertgoers should heed City Municipal Codes curbing alcohol use in public areas.

Next up on July 30th, Audio Illusion will play classic rock, pop and blues from the 50's and beyond. A full schedule and information about the bands can be found at the Livermore Cultural Arts Council's website www.LCAC.org.



Songs and Stories of the Kander & Ebb Musicals

Award-winning theater and opera star Tielle Baker returns to Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center Theater in a tribute to the music of legendary songwriters Kander & Ebb, the creators of Chicago, Cabaret, and Funny Lady. The show's set list includes classic numbers "All That Jazz," "Maybe This Time," "New York, New York," and many more. One performance only, will take place on Sunday, July 28, at 2:00 p.m.

Bay Area fans will remember Tielle from her hit revue performances in The World of Webber and Broadway Divas. She has

appeared in over 50 productions with 20 different companies, including in her multi-award-winning role as 'Velma Kelly' in Lucky Penny Productions' CHICAGO: The Musical. Other performances include 'Eliza Doolittle' in CTA's My Fair Lady, 'Joanna' in ACLO's Sweeney Todd, and 'Dulcie' in Playhouse West's The Boyfriend. Classically, she has performed with Diablo Light Opera, Livermore Valley Opera, and Golden Gate Opera.

Composer John Kander teamed with lyricist Fred Ebb in the 60's to forge one of the longest-running and most successful creative

partnerships in Broadway history. The duo's brassy 1966 phenomenon Cabaret rocketed them to massive critical and commercial success, winning seven Tony awards (including Best Musical) and an Oscar-winning film adaptation. Other high points in a career of high points are Liza Minnelli's Emmy-winning television special Liza With a Z, Streisand's Funny Girl, Chicago, and Martin Scorsese's film musical New York, New York (birthing Sinatra's hit and the Big Apple's unofficial theme song).

Joining Tielle in this



Tielle Baker

(continued on page 3)

Hits of Boston and More Coming to the Bankhead Theater in Livermore

Formerly of the multi-platinum band Boston, David Victor, together with four other lead vocalists will bring a new dimension to the greatest hits of iconic classic rock groups in "Hits of Boston and More" at the Bankhead on August 2 for an 8 p.m. show. With a blazing hot rock sound and multi-part harmonies, they deliver a night of music featuring such legendary hits as "More Than a Feeling," "Peace of Mind," and "Amanda," as well as Victor's own original songs.

A Bay Area native and now a resident of San Ramon, Victor first picked up a guitar at the age of 16 after seeing his sister's boyfriend pick out a few chords. Just two years later he was performing with hard rock and cover bands throughout the area. After his first solo release in 1991, "Proof Through the Night," he took his rock act Velocity on tour, filling venues across the US. Victor's life took a rock star dream turn when he was plucked from a tribute band to play in the very band he was paying tribute to. He joined Boston for two North American tours, performed vocals on their classic rock #1 hit song "Heaven On Earth" in 2014, and was featured as guitarist and lead vocalist at the sold-out Boston Strong benefit for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing.

Victor continues to keep a busy performing schedule, appearing solo and in groups he has formed with vocalists and members of other renowned rock bands. In addition his program, Harmony & Healing, brings acoustic music into hospitals and medical care facilities to brighten the spirits of patients. At the show on August 2, a signed guitar will be auctioned to benefit the Harmony & Healing program. For more information on David Victor visit <https://davidvictor.com/>

The "Hits of Boston and More" concert on August 2 is nearly sold out. Remaining tickets start at just \$25. While all regularly priced \$20 tickets are sold, student and active military tickets are still available at that price.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets are available at the box office, online at www.lvpac.org or by calling 373-6800.



David Victor

MUSICALS

(continued from page 2)

production are musical theater pros Anya Absten and Greg Zema. Anya is seen on stages all over the Bay Area, including Broadway by the Bay, Berkeley Playhouse, and CCMT. She earned her BFA in musical theater from Kent State University, and subsequently was a member of Theatre Three Acting Company in New York and a variety of regional theater companies across the U.S.

Greg Zema has lived and performed in the San Francisco Bay Area for the past 25 years. He has worked as an entertainer, actor, and musical director throughout the United States and Europe, performing with theatre companies, symphonies, cruise ships, cover and original bands,

and just about anywhere they'll have him. In his pianoman guise, he is lauded everywhere for both his skills and his breadth of knowledge of all genres.

Reserved seating tickets are \$15 - \$25. Tickets online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, in downtown

Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00 p.m., Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and two hours prior to performances if not sold out. Free parking available in the center lot, entrance on Spring Street.

Open Mic Scheduled

Whistlestop Writers will host an open mic for writers of all genres and abilities on Wednesday, July 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Swirl on the Square, 21 South Livermore Avenue, in downtown Livermore.

This will be an evening of food, wine, and writing. Livermore Poet Laureate Cynthia Patton, the event's host, says, "Even if you don't have something to read, come listen to talented local writers and poets. Jumpstart your creativity."

The Whistlestop Writers Open Mic will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month. For more information contact LivermorePoetLaureate@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

L I V E R M O R E

— arts —

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OPENING THIS WEEKEND!

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JUL 20 – AUG 4

Tri-Valley
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BANKHEAD THEATER
GALLERY EXHIBIT

Man on the Moon

50th Anniversary
of the Lunar Landing

COMMEMORATION RECEPTION

Sat JUL 20 • 1-4pm

FREE • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Exhibit Runs July through August 25

Keiko Matsui

Smooth
Contemporary
Jazz

Fri AUG 16 • 8pm

Glen Miller
Orchestra

The Greatest Band
of the Greatest
Generation

Sat SEP 14 • 3pm

925.373.6800 • LVPAC.org
 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore



Photos were taken at last year's performance.

Tenth Annual "Ballet on the Green" Event at Shea Stage

Le Tableau Magnifique ballet company with Livermore School of Dance will be performing excerpts from its 2018 - 2019 repertoire season. The performance will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Shea Stage in front of The Bankhead Theater.

The performance will showcase classical and contemporary styles of ballet set to music by Leonard Bernstein, Etta James, Sting, Ezio Bosso, and many others. Dancers ages 7 to 40 will offer an encore performance of excerpts from "The Snow Queen" and "Anastasia" productions, complete with icicles, butterflies, strutting crows, and a sunrise.

Le Tableau Magnifique Ballet Company dancers com-



mit many hours each month outside of their regular dance classes to the art of ballet and the community. They have performed and volunteered at local charitable venues, including The Livermore Veteran's Hospital, The Taylor Family Foundation, Relay for Life, Rosewood Gardens, Heritage Estates, The Livermore Art Association, Kids Against Hunger, Shepherd's Gate, and ValleyCare Medical Founda-

tion. Le Tableau Magnifique recently became a public non-profit corporation, with the hopes to bring more affordable productions to the Livermore community.

Admission to "Ballet on the Green" is free, so pack a picnic dinner, bring a blanket, and watch talented and entertaining dancers perform.

Book to Be Introduced at Gathering with Author

Poet, author and artist Matteo Musso will be at a home studio on Saturday July 20th at 11:00 am for a presentation with his mother, Annette Musso. Matteo is spreading his message loud and clear, "Assume intelligence and look beyond what you see to learn the truth about people." Matteo speaks by pointing using the SOMA RPM method.

At age 11 and a half, Matteo who is autistic, was finally able to communicate for the very first time.

Matteo has deemed himself a "voice for the silent ones." In only two short years he has traveled the USA presenting over 65 talks to schools, parent groups, autism conferences, universities, medical industry, as well as companies and corporations.

Matteo's first book, *Handbook of Us: Understanding and Accepting People with Autism*, is the culmination of locked up thoughts and messages.



Although his books are available on Amazon, his books are available, for the same price, at the release party (or from him directly) to better support his cause.

If planning to attend, RSVP for the Livermore address and so we can get an idea of how many people to expect by emailing jenny@rhythmicinnovation.com. Light food available for optional social afterwards.

Livermore Library to Host Cardboard Challenge

The Livermore Public Library will host the Cardboard Challenge on Thursday, July 25, 2019 from 6pm to 8pm at the Civic Center Library, located at 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

Children will have the opportunity to build with cardboard appliance boxes. Attendees can use their creativity to transform cardboard and recycled materials into new items: games, race cars, castles and more. This is a free event designed for all ages.

Summer reading is for everyone at the Livermore Public Library! The 2019 Summer Reading Program has a reading game for every age. Prizes will be awarded in all games, with the goal of reading, sharing what was read, and having fun. Browse the Livermore Public Library's website for more detailed information and start playing on June 1st. All programs run through August 14th.

Visit the library to pick up a Summer at Your Library events booklet, call 925-373-5504, or visit the library's website, www.LivermoreLibrary.net, to find further details.

Brilliance

at the **BANKHEAD**

2019 SEASON GALA

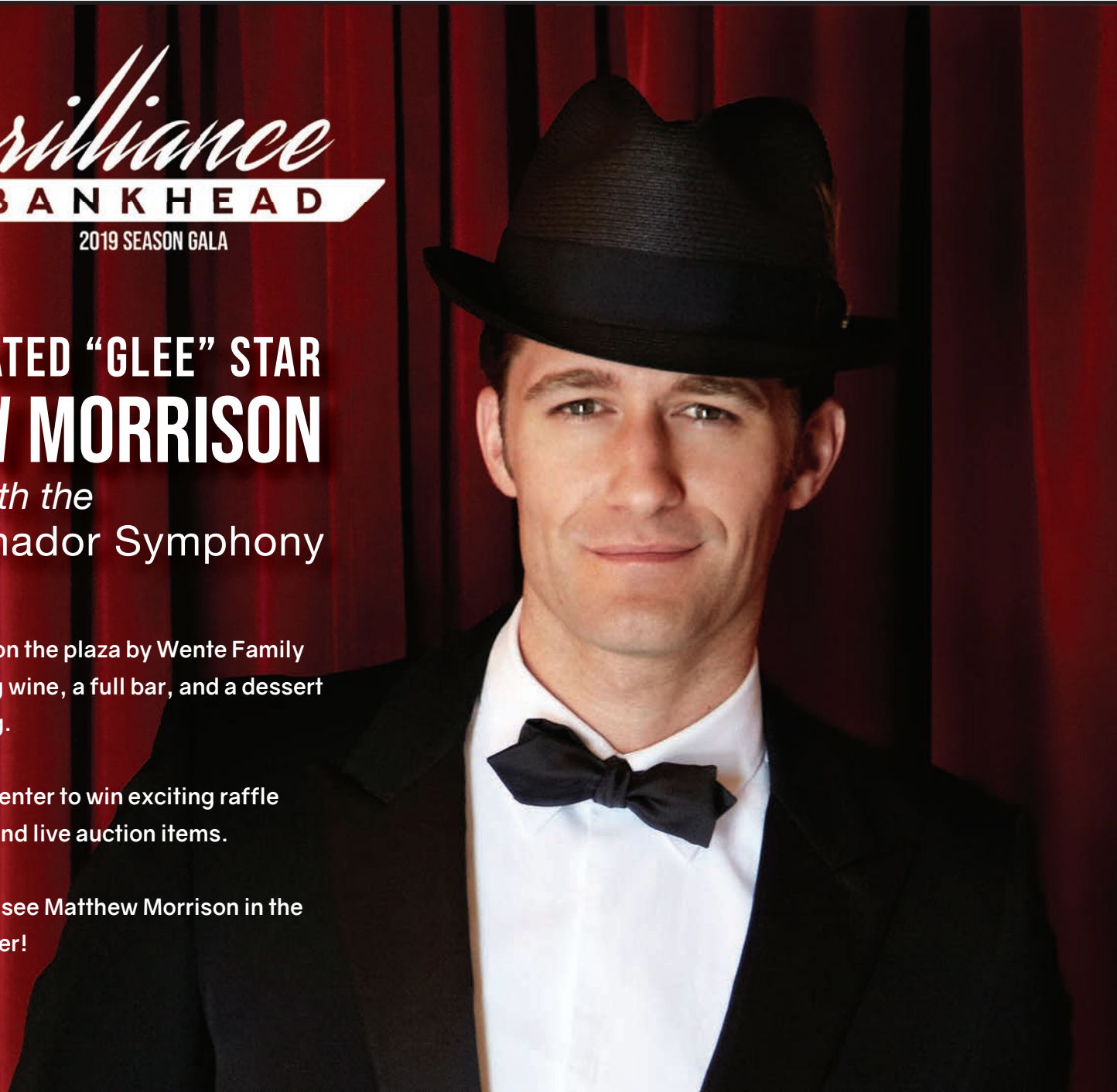
**EMMY NOMINATED "GLEE" STAR
MATTHEW MORRISON**
with the
Livermore-Amador Symphony

Enjoy a dinner reception on the plaza by Wente Family Vineyards, plus sparkling wine, a full bar, and a dessert buffet later in the evening.

Before the performance, enter to win exciting raffle prizes, and bid on silent and live auction items.

Don't miss this chance to see Matthew Morrison in the intimate Bankhead Theater!

SATURDAY
SEP 7



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2400 First Street, Livermore • www.LVPAC.org • 925.373.6800

Last month, I talked about commercials advertising supermarket products. Here's a hybrid product, in this last column about commercials, that's neither fish nor fowl, that is, neither food nor non-food, but a bridge between the two.

Did you ever think of the vegetable bin in familial terms? Well, back in the sixties we certainly did, apparently, with the commercials for Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head, a toy brought to us by Hasbro, the makers of other unforgettable play products like the action figure G.I. Joe (produced in 1964). One commercial showed Mr. Potato Head, Hasbro's first successful toy, as "new and improved." The tuber head now had a car and a boat trailer to drive around town, something very befitting the head of the family (sorry, I couldn't resist the pun). Mrs. Potato Head had a car, and a shopping trailer (not a boat trailer). Okay, so the commercial wasn't exactly politically correct, but that was still the sixties, after all.

The actual "Mr. Potato Head" toy consisted of "body parts" (eyes, ears, a nose, a mouth, as well as accessories like a Charlie Chaplin/Little Tramp-looking hat, a smoking pipe, and eyeglasses) that children could stick into a potato, or any other vegetable or piece of fruit, for that matter. The commercial's slogan went: "Potato Head people look different every time you make them." All a child needed were the body parts, the cars, the trailer, the shopping cart (all of which could be had for only two bucks) and, of course, a bunch of potatoes.

In addition to potatoes, a child could use cucumbers, bell peppers, etc., resulting in a veritable mixed salad of character

Yesterday into Today

by Sarah Bobson

60S COMMERCIALS AND JINGLES: TOYS

heads: Mr. Green Bell Pepper Head; Mr. Cucumber Head; and Mr. Oscar, the Orange Head, wearing a Groucho Marx moustache, and large, round, black eyes. But all of the members of the Potato Head family (and its extended-family salad veggie cousins), had those menacing eyes, inspired, I suppose, by the black spots on real potatoes. Of course, Hasbro wasn't satisfied to stop with that offering. The television commercial pointed out that the toy manufacturer had also created a vanity case (in the shape of a lunchbox with a handle) containing "toy cosmetics and beautiful accessories," and "real-looking doctor and nurse kits."

Like the Charmin commercial, this one also suckered me in, but, since my mother only bought frozen french fries, I could clearly see that one fry would accommodate, at best, the tiny hat hanging down jauntily over one eye, giving it, appropriately enough, a somewhat sophisticated, Parisienne look. No room for a down-to-earth American look, with a nose, a mouth, ears, a hat, and a pipe. In effect, not really a Mr. Potato Head. More like a saucy Monsieur Frite!

Building on the hybrid Mr. Potato Head, a toy using a food item, are the toys not using any foods. In other words, just straight-up toys.

How about this one? "It

walks downstairs, alone or in pairs, it makes a" Can you guess the rest of the jingle? "... slinked-y sound." Does that give away the product's name? "Everyone knows it's Slinky!" The jingle went on to tell us, "The hit of the day, when you're ready to play the favorite of girls and boys." In the commercial, two sets of hands, one belonging to a girl, one to a boy, are lifting the flexible coiled wire up with one hand, causing the coil to drop downward into the lower hand.

In some cases, the coil, once set in motion, seemed like a living creature that could navigate even further, perhaps down a flight of stairs, all by itself. I can't tell you the amount of time my friends and I spent, or the delight we derived, from this simple toy. The Slinky, which first bounced its way into children's hearts in the 1940s, originally cost \$1.00. By 1996, it had nearly tripled in price to close to \$3. Even so, our parents got off cheap, unless you factored the cost and maintenance of the overused stairs into the monthly rent or mortgage.

Of course, there were more elaborate versions, called Slinky pull toys. You could get the coil sandwiched between a plastic animal head and rear end, with wheels underneath, which resembled a dachshund, or a

hotdog dog, as we used to call the animal. You could also get a Slinky hippopotamus, one wearing a tiny hat which looked like the same one that Mr. Potato Head wore, or you could get a Slinky train, or a Slinky caterpillar.

Other sixties toys and games featured in commercials included Barbie and Twister. Somehow, I never got caught up in the whole Barbie craze, probably because by the time Barbie was first manufactured, at the beginning of 1959, I was through playing with dolls. Even if I hadn't been, I'm not sure I would have joined the legions of young Barbie fans who wanted to look and dress like her. If you're not familiar with the doll's look, think Ivanka Trump, with her long blonde tresses, tiny waist accentuated by broad shoulders, willowy build, fair skin, perfectly chiseled facial features, and designer wardrobe, and what you've got is Barbie, the fashion-show-runaway doll.

In one television commercial, you see young, pigtailed girls around the age of 7 or 8 fussing over Barbie, who is wearing a bridal gown (the counterculture emphasis on free love and communal living had not yet messed with young girls' dreams of growing up to become wives and mothers). Others girls in the commercial prance their sheekly dressed Barbie

clones across a table in their make-believe social scenario when one of the girls asks, "What do you like best about Barbie?" Another answers, "It's the wardrobe." Still another, younger-sounding girl, probably without the noun "wardrobe" in her vocabulary, answers, "She's got some wonderful clothes."

Twister stepped into the entertainment scene a few years after Barbie, in 1966, and has been around ever since. The game is not just for girls, or boys. Adults can enjoy it too, that is, if they have the muscular flexibility of an octopus. The game goes something like this. A plastic sheet with rows of colored circles on it is placed on the floor. As a participant, you spin an arrow, then you place your foot or hand where the arrow indicates. If after the spin the arrow indicates "right foot blue," you place your right foot on a blue circle. If the spin indicates "left hand red," then you place ... well, I think you get the picture.

So on and on it goes. Sounds easy enough, but there are usually other hands and feet blocking your access to the colored circle you need. In the television commercial, you see people contorting their bodies around other bodies. After awhile, the extended arms and legs resemble one of those old telephone switchboards you see in vintage Hollywood movies of the 1940s, where telephone chords are intertwined like a nest of snakes. Usually, though, at that point people fall down on top of each other and break out into laughter. I never played the game until the first decade of the new millennium, well past, shall we say, my flexible prime.

My students back then, bless their young little fourth- and fifth-grade supple limbs, had thrown me a surprise birthday party, and one of the games they had thought would be really cool to play with their teacher was Twister. So I played ... until the point where I got stuck and needed assistance in becoming vertical again.

VA to Be at Library

The Pleasanton Library will host the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach team to facilitate free examinations, consultations, and referrals for veterans. Additional VA resource information will be available. The event will run from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 25. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue. The VA will return to the library monthly through November 2019.

Veterans uncertain of their benefits eligibility are encouraged to visit as requirements have changed, and VA health care may complement current medical coverage. VA representatives will provide information or assistance with questions and enrollment for VA care.

Veterans should bring an extra copy of military discharge papers (Form DD-214) and a list of current medications. For more information or assistance with obtaining proof of service documents prior to the event, contact the library's information desk, 925-931-3400 x4 or jeseltine@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

The City of Pleasanton Library has been a member of Veterans Connect @ the Library, a statewide outreach to Veterans sponsored by the California State Library, since 2013.

Review

Compelling Production of Othello at Wente Vineyards

By Carol Graham

“Men should be what they seem.”

Iago was correct, but it was Shakespeare who ensured a chilling effect by having those words uttered by a calculating psycho-

path.

Malcolm Rodgers, who plays Iago in Livermore Shakespeare Festival’s extraordinary production of Othello, said, “There is something cathartic about playing an unrepentant,

opportunistic and vengeful character. Iago is terrified of being discarded — whether as a white man, a soldier or a lover — and this fear comes out in many devious and wonderful (for the actor) ways.”

For audience members, this production is equally compelling. But time is running out: the final two shows of Othello take place on Friday, July 19, and Sunday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m., at Wente’s Estate Winery & Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore.

“What’s interesting and advantageous about the way the play is written is that it is so linear; one scene almost spills into the next,” Rodgers added. “For Iago, it is one long journey of constantly striving to achieve his goals.”

Othello tells the story of a powerful black general who married the white Desdemona. Othello’s ensign Iago, seething that another soldier, Cassio, has been promoted to lieutenant instead of himself, seeks to exact revenge on Othello, manipulating everyone around him. In the end, many lives are destroyed.

What makes the LSF production so superb is a series of insightful artistic choices made by Director Michael Wayne Rice that heighten Othello’s themes of racism, duplicity, honor, love, jealousy and revenge. For instance, although the play was originally set in Venice, Rice chose to set this production during the American Civil War, with Othello being a general for the Union. It was a decision that accentuates the drama’s messages about racism and its long history in our home country.

“There are big issues in the world that have never

What makes the LSF production so superb is a series of insightful artistic choices made by Director Michael Wayne Rice that heighten Othello’s themes of racism, duplicity, honor, love, jealousy and revenge.

been properly addressed,” Rice said. “Racism is real. Destructive manipulation is real. Abuse towards women is real. And it continues to happen in our own backyard. In this country, there is still a lot healing that needs to happen.”

Another interesting and effective choice was Rice’s casting of Iago’s wife.

“The marriage of white Iago to black Emilia is deliberate. It is meant to send a message to highlight a faulty way of thinking about racial relations in the United States,” Rice said. “This is very evident to black people, and tends to be not so evident to white people. Racism is defined by how you treat a race of people, over time and to the extent in which negative, punitive actions and behaviors affect the subjected class of people. In other words, ‘I have a black friend’ or ‘I married a black person’” is statistically irrelevant in excluding oneself from being a racist. Moreover, we cannot exclude the notion that supremacy was and is about power, control, oppression and subjugation. This very dynamic is alive and well today in marriages across the world, continually perpetrated against women. What better way for a man who otherwise feels powerless in his ‘whiteness’ to feel powerful but than to marry a black woman — one whom he can control, manipulate and disregard without a second thought.”

While Rice’s perceptive

artistic choices underscore the play’s dramatic themes, what makes Othello a not-to-be-missed production are the outstanding performances: Skyler Cooper brings exquisite life to the brilliant but vulnerable Othello; Rodgers downplays Iago’s true villainy, but with a glance reveals what truly lies beneath; Nicole Odell captures a strong woman who is ultimately flummoxed by betrayals; Summer Brown is deeply moving as Emilia, bringing heft to the pivotal role; Jeremy Gallardo plays Cassio with youthful gusto; and Natalie DeBoer brings moments of humor that provide momentary relief from the drama’s ever-building tension.

“As a general guideline, the shows this season are PG-13,” stated LSF Managing Director Katie Marcel. “With that being said, I am a huge advocate for exposing kids to live theater, and guiding discussion with them to help them process intense subject matter.”

Sensitive scenes include simulated whipping, stage violence, a protracted murder, and a couple minutes of cigar smoke.

Marcel also notes that this summer’s shows offer the last chance for audiences to experience LSF’s in-the-round stage at Wente. Next year, they’ll be moving to traditional outdoor theater at Darcie Kent Vineyards, also on Tesla Road.

“We look forward to expanding to year-round programming indoors

downtown, and our Outdoor Vineyards program will continue,” she said. “The Livermore Valley Winegrowers have been an integral part of the growth and artistic development of this program, and have nurtured us along since 2002. As we have outgrown one venue, they have introduced us to our next host. Next year, we move out of in-the-round to a more traditional stage at Wente’s colleagues’ just down the street — Darcie Kent Vineyards. We’re so lucky to have generous and cooperative winemaking families that support our community.”

Next up for LSF is The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised], a comedy that covers all of The Bard’s 37 plays in 97 minutes. It opens on Thursday, July 18, and closes on Sunday, August 4. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for either show typically range from \$18 to \$58, although some special events offer lower- and higher-priced tickets.

While the upcoming show promises to be laugh filled, there’s something enormously gratifying about a haunting tragedy on a warm summer night. The Civil War-era songs and spirituals, and the evocative performances, will likely stay with you for days on end.

“Othello lends itself readily to Post-Civil War America, Shakespearian England, or present day America; the themes of racism, intolerance, misogyny and revenge continue to pervade our culture and social structures,” said Rice. “I hope attendees take away a sense of the timelessness of this story, and an experience that excites and incites.”

To learn more, visit LivermoreShakes.org.



Pockets



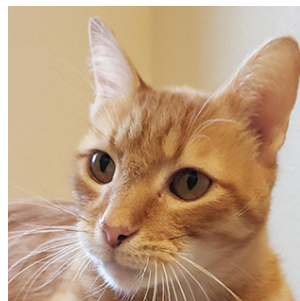
Fettucine

Free Adoptions Extended

Due to the overwhelming success of Feline Freedom Days, Valley Humane Society announces the extension of this special adoption event. Now through July 31st, take home any feline friend for only \$25. It’s the last opportunity to join in the celebration of feline independence.

While the festivities of the Fourth came and went in a flash, Valley Humane Society’s tribute to tabbies (and other types) cannot be confined to a single day. For the rest of the month, you have the opportunity to match up with the perfect cat or kitten. Take advantage of a fantastic adoption rate, save a furry life, and add a new member to your family before the end of July!

All adoptable cats have been assessed by a veterinarian, spayed or neutered, tested for FeLV/FIV, and



Goldie

microchipped, as well as given appropriate vaccinations, dewormer and flea treatment. Adoptions are handled on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified adopters. Please allow approximately one hour to complete the adoption process.

Located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Valley Humane Society is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. Visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information.

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 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.

"Bay Area Parks: Outdoor Treasures." California Art Club fine art exhibit, including oils, watercolors, pastels, acrylics: June 14 through July 20 in the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations always appreciated.

Man on the Moon: 50th Anniversary of the Lunar Landing Exhibit, July 10-Sept. 9. The Commemoration Reception July 20 from 1-4 pm. Bankhead Theater Gallery, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvoac.org

33rd Annual Art Under the Oaks celebration the weekend of July 20 and 21. Event combines art, wine, food, live music and family fun for all ages. Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Free admission.

Play Date exhibit focused on play and playfulness, including toys, imaginary creatures, and art games. August 2-September 14. Opening Reception: Thursday, August 1, 7:00-9:00pm. Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton www.firehousearts.org

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. She also works with adults. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. Home schoolers and high

school students working on advanced portfolios are welcome. Peggy has been an art instructor in the Livermore Valley for many years. Contact her 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 about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

Preschool Art classes: Thursday mornings 9:45-10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join this class. 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 <http://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 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

WINERIES

Fun Fridays at Wood Family Vineyards. Live Music Acoustic Wednesdays each and every Wednesday: 7/24: Jenny DeSantis & Ron Bruder 7/31: Maddy Hudson. Tasting Room opens at Noon with music from 4-7pm. Fun Fridays each and every Ryan Scripps 7/19: The Foxcatchers 7/26: Frankie Bones. Tasting Room opens at Noon with music from 5-8pm.

2407 Research Dr., Livermore.
Las Positas Vineyards, July 20th & 21st

featured food pairing flight will be Chocolate Truffle & Wine Pairing flight, also offering our Reserve Flight. Tasting Room hours are open 11:30am-4:30pm. For more information please contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com Friday, June 26th Evening in the Vineyards summer concert featuring Joey T & Friends on the patio; wine and artisan pizzas available for purchase (sorry no outside food or beverages permitted) to purchase tickets go to www.laspositasvineyards.com. Space is limited.

Charles R Vineyards, 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore. www.charlesrvineyards.com 925-454-3040. Ukulele Jam & Open Mic with Steve Kritzer Saturdays, July 27, August 24 and September 28. 1:00pm to 4:00pm Music sheets will be provided, or email Steve at steveonstrings@gmail.com for a PDF of the songs in advance. Bring a picnic, kids are welcome, and wine is available for purchase by the glass or bottle. An Open Mic session will give those with more expertise a chance to strut their stuff.

Charles R Vineyards 4th Friday Free Summer Concert Series July 26 - Chris Ahlman - Singer Songwriter, playing acoustic pop, folk and rock; August 23 - Rick Spitaleri - Danceable rock and roll from the 60s through today; September 27 - The Spencer James Band - A remix and a mashup of great blues and rock 'n' roll. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore, www.CharlesRVineyards.com 925-454-3040.

Taste Our Terroir in Livermore Valley Wine Country, July 25 - July 28, Livermore Valley Wine Country. Food and wine affair at Casa Real. Friday through Sunday, wineries across the region host ten food and wine events including Port tastings, a hike in the vineyard, honey tasting and more. Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, www.lvwine.org

Sip By Sunset at Rodrigue Molyneux, Saturday, July 27 5:00 -8:00 p.m. Music performed by Ben Gill. Wine will be available for purchase by the bottle and the glass. Picnics welcome. 3053 Marina Ave, Livermore. www.rmwinery.com

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Retzlaff Estate Winery, Live Music every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. <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.

New Christy Minstrels, 8 p.m. July 26. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore; www.lvpac.org or call 925-373-6800.

How Lucky Can You Get? The Songs of Kander & Ebb performed by Tielle Baker, 2 p.m. July 28. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

David Victor formerly of BOSTON 8 p.m. August 2. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore; www.lvpac.org or call 925-373-6800.

GEORGE! The Concert starring Nick Bold, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 7. Firehouse Art Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. It can also be downloaded

NorCal Vocal Jazz Academy (5:00pm Free Public Concert), Aug. 10. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. www.laspositascollege.edu/theater/events.php

The Family Stone, 8 p.m. August 10. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore; www.lvpac.org or call 925-373-6800.

Mitch Polzak & The Royal Deuces with Special Guest Mads Tolling, 8 p.m. August 10. Rockabilly, Honky Tonk and Bluegrass. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Keiko Matsui, 8 p.m. August 16. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore; www.lvpac.org or call 925-373-6800.

Lunafish "Woodstock Revisited", 8 p.m. August 17. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore; www.lvpac.org or call 925-373-6800.

Queen Nation, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 28. Firehouse Art Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.

ON THE STAGE

Tri-Valley High: The series 2019. Firehouse Arts Center Theater in Pleasanton, Wednesdays in July. The Bay Area's one-and-only live improvised teen sitcom, presented by Creatures of Impulse, the award-winning teen improv troupe. Unique shows full of angst, heartbreak, teen drama, and total improvised hilarity. Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.: July 24. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. General admission tickets: students \$5; adults \$10. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. NOTE: Best suited for ages 12 and up.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival, July 3 to August 4, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, The Tragedie of Othello and The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridges) (Revised). www.LivermoreShakes.org.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, July 20, 27 and Aug. 3 at 8 p.m. and July 21, 28 and Aug. 3 and 4, 2019 at 2 p.m. his family. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 373-6800.

Golden Follies: Trip the Light Fantastic, 2 p.m. August 17 and 18. Firehouse Art Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.

H.M.S. Pinafore, Lamplighters Musical Theatre August 24 and 25. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org, 373-6800.

The Glass Menagerie, Role Players Ensemble. August 30-September 15, 2019, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm; Sundays at 2 pm The Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville www.RolePlayersEnsemble.com.

COMEDY

Free Comedy Show every Thursday at Sanctuary from 7:30-9 pm in the Skylight Room at Sanctuary, 2369 First St. in Livermore.

Free comedy show every Thursday at Rebel Kitchen & Libations, 2369 First St., Livermore 7:30pm.

In the Better Than Therapy Tour, Mary Carouba and Regina Stoops, August 17, 7:30 pm. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org, 373-6800.

DANCE

Xtreme's Favorite Things, Dance Company performing in their end of year showcase. 11 a.m. June 22. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org, 373-6800.

MOVIES

Classic Film Series, Pleasanton Public Library, Classic Films series returns for the summer with two films shot on location in Pleasanton. Both will be screened for free in the library's large meeting room. It Ain't Hay (1943) Thursday, July 25, 6-9 p.m. For more information or assistance, contact the Pleasanton Public Library at (925) 931-3400, extension 4. 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

Pleasanton Movies in the Park, fun activities and games! All movies are free and begin at dusk: The Wizard of Oz, July 18; Bumblebee, July 25; Spider Man into the Spiderverse, August 1; Incredibles 2, August 8. Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Ave. (behind the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center)

Dublin Picnic Flick, Free Summer Movie Series at Emerald Glen Park. Coco, July 26, Incredibles 2, August 30. Movies will begin at dusk usually 8:30 - 9:00 p.m. Food trucks and other snack food vendors such as kettle corn will be on site.

Wall-E (2008 movie) August 7, 7:30 p.m. all tickets \$5. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org, 373-6800.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Livermore-Amador Symphony Association's 47th Competition for Young Musicians. Application dead-

line is Sunday, September 8, 2019. (Applications will be accepted starting September 5, 2019.) Competition open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, the city of Tracy, or the community of Mountain House. The selection, one movement of a concerto, should have the minimum length of about 10 minutes. All instruments will be considered. Students are eligible through the age of 19 (being 19 at the time of concert performance February 22, 2020). Two young musicians will be chosen to perform as soloists with the symphony on February 22, 2020 in the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$500. Applicants must submit a completed application form, a non-refundable fee of \$20 and a recording of their playing (submitted link to YouTube via email). Additional information may be obtained from www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at (925)525-6070.

Auditions, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre

for: Mamma Mia. Monday, July 22, 2019 at 7:00pm or Tuesday, July 23 at 7:00pm. No appointments necessary. Auditions are First come, First seen. Auditions will be held at the Tri-Valley Repertory rehearsal space: 1020 Serpentine Lane Suite 101, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Call Backs are by invitation only: Sunday, July 28, 2019. Bring completed audition form with all rehearsal conflicts listed starting on October 21, 2019 (there will be time off from rehearsals for the holidays), current resume, headshot or picture, comfortable clothes for dancing, covered shoes for dancing. For questions, contact the Producer, Kathleen at: kbreedveld@trivalleyrep.com. Audition form: https://www.trivalleyrep.org/data/assets/docs/audition_form%20mamma_mia.pdf Detailed role information: https://www.trivalleyrep.org/data/assets/docs/mamma_mia_auditions_info.pdf

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions. .

2019 Alameda County Fair -- June 14 -July 7. Live Action Sports shows, big name concerts and Live Horse Racing. For more information and schedules, visit www.AlamedaCountyFair.com

Jamie Metz, Hacking Darwin, Rae Dorough Speakers Series, 7:30 p.m. July 25. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 373-6800.

Little League® Intermediate Baseball World Series, July 28 – August 4, 2019. Livermore, Max Baer Park. <https://www.littleleague.org/world-series/2019/5070/>
Museum on Main, An Afternoon or Eve-

ning with... Pablo Picasso: Tuesday, August 13th, 2pm; Tuesday, August 13th, 7pm; Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets at www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

125h Anniversary Celebration activities, Pleasanton, Museum on Main: August 2: special exhibit opens

"Pleasanton at 125" from August 2 until the end of the year; August 2: new permanent history gallery opens "Growing Pleasanton." Firehouse Arts Center: August 1: Play Date Art Exhibition Opening 7:00pm-9:00pm. August 2: Pleasanton Downtown Associa-

tion Concert in the Park Anniversary Celebration. www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/

Fertile GroundWorks Taste for Giving Fundraiser - Sunday, September 8, 2019 at The Barn in Livermore 4 to 8 p.m. at 3131 Pacific Avenue. Food,

beer, wine and music plus auctions and drawings for all. Early bird tickets, \$65.00 each or sponsor a table of 8 for \$480.00, available through Brown Paper tickets now through August 31st <https://bpt.me/4287415> Save the Date!

154th consecutive Scottish Highland Gathering and Games, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Celebrate the very best of Scottish culture, competition, cuisine and entertainment. www.caledonian.org/

Two More Concerts in Jazz in July at the Livermore Library

Two concerts remain in the Jazz in July series at the Livermore Public Library.

Dan Marschak will perform Sunday, July 21, 2019 at 2 p.m.

The Oakland-born jazz pianist, composer, and educator currently serves as full-time music faculty at Las Positas College (LPC), where he teaches composition, music theory, piano, and jazz combos. Marschak's debut album *Likewise* was heralded as "adventurous and well developed" by pianist, conductor, and composer Lalo Schifrin. Steering clear of conventional formats, the album explores an array of genres, instrumentations, and textures, while maintaining a unique compositional sensibility. He is also

music director, composer, and pianist on the 2018 album *Time Stops* by vocalist Kalil Wilson. Marschak will be joined by fellow LPC faculty Cindy Browne Rosefield on bass and Kelly Fasman on drums. The trio will perform a family friendly set of jazz standards, originals, and arrangements.

Mimi Fox will be featured on Sunday, July 28 at 2 p.m.

As a virtuosic improviser who has collaborated with many of jazz's greatest figures, Mimi Fox has earned her spot in the jazz guitar pantheon. With her 11th album as a leader or co-leader, *This Bird Still Flies*, Fox delivers a seamless but far-ranging album that is breathtaking in its

beauty, emotional immediacy and stylistic reach. Over the years Fox has performed and recorded with an intergenerational who's who of jazz guitar stars, including Charlie Byrd, Kenny Burrell, Mundell Lowe, Charlie Hunter and Stanley Jordan. A six-time winner of Down Beat Magazine's International Critics Poll, this Bay Area guitarist is recognized by colleagues and writers as one of the most eloquent six-string improvisers on the scene.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten the Jazz in July series. Time: 2:00 PM

Performances are at the Civic Center Library Storytime Room, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

THEATER GROUP

(continued from front page)

either Firehouse Art Center at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton, or Amador Theater at 1155 Santa Rita Road. Both venues have free parking lots. General Admission tickets are \$5 for students, and \$10 for adults, available at the door, at the Firehouse Box Office, or online at www.firehousearts.org.

Disney's Aristocats KIDS (approx. 40 minutes) – Firehouse Arts Center. Thursday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m., and Friday, July 19 at 2:00 p.m. Set in Paris, with a jazzy, upbeat score, Disney's *Aristocats* features an eccentric millionaire-ess, her high-society cat and kittens, a rough-and-tumble alley cat with his band of swingin' jazz cats, a greedy, bumbling butler, and the ultimate cat-napping caper. Performed by campers ages 7-11, joined by their younger counterparts in Lil' Bit Players ages 5-6. Directed by PYTC newcomer Aubrey James.

Shrek The Musical JR. (approx. 60 minutes) – Firehouse, Thursday, July 18 at 2:00 p.m., Friday, July 19 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, July 20 at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film and the Broadway musical, everyone's favorite ogre, Shrek, leads a cast of fairytale misfits on an adventure to rescue a princess and find true acceptance. Actors ages 8-13. 2 casts: Sunrise Cast directed by Bay Area actor Patrick Maravilla; Sunset Cast directed by PYTC Senior Recreation Leader Jeff Zattero. (Last year this camp registration filled up in 6 minutes noted Mark!)

Urinetown the Musical – (approx. 2 hours including intermission) Amador Theater, Thursday through Saturday, July 25-27, at 7:00 p.m., plus matinee on 27th at 2:00 p.m. Actors ages 12-17; directed by Bay Area Actor,

AVHS and UC Irvine graduate Andrew Mondello. Winner of three Tonys and multiple other prestigious awards, this irreverent satire for the new millennium is outrageously funny and touchingly honest. In a Gotham-like city a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. One guy decides that he's had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom.

Plus: Creatures of Impulse Teen Improv Show – Firehouse. Friday, August 2 at 5:00 p.m. Final performance of the troupe's summer camp.

Teen Playwrights' Summer Workshop, now finished. Participants ages 11-14 wrote their own one-act musical, and were directed by Sabrina Finke, COI alum. Songwriter and vocal director was Lauryn Hedges, current member of High School Music Collaborative and a prolific songwriter (on youtube under Lauryn Marie).

Here are highlights from PYTC's upcoming 2019-20 calendar:

PYTC Mainstage: Ages 10-17 by audition only. *Frozen JR* (based on the Disney animated movie) – Winter Production – Amador Theater, and *Honk JR* (musical story of the Ugly Duckling) – Spring Production – Firehouse Arts Center Theater.

Sparks: Education based theater program for ages 7-11. 3 sessions to choose from (Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays). Students will audition after they register so production staff can cast within each session. Fall-Winter

production is Disney's *101 Dalmatians KIDS*, to perform in January 2020.

Lil Sparks: Education based program for ages 5-6. Learn select songs from *101 Dalmatians* and have a small in-class culminating showcase.

College Theater Prep for Teens: see website for details. **Improv for Theater Parents:** Parents play theater games in the interest of learning the process of theater in PYTC, and discuss best practices in being a theater parent.

Music Theater Showcase for Parents: Parents learn and perform songs from the shows their children are in.

More information about the Pleasanton Youth Theater Company at www.firehousearts.org/programs/pytc/ or contact Mark Duncanson at mduncanson@cityofpleasantonca.gov



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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.)

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA. July 20, 11:30 a.m. lunch in Fremont, RSVP by July 22 to Vickie, 510-656-1166. July 27, 1 p.m. friendly bridge, RSVP by July 20 to Ruby, 462-9636.

Twilight Tasting at Page Mill Winery proceeds support Rowell Ranch Day of the Cowboy which puts on a free Cowboy Education day on National Day of the Cowboy 7/27/19. This program offers free activities, free lunch, and free gift for kids. Dutch Oven cooking samples, and shopping for western goods. Wine Tasting is \$10 and all proceeds (including 10% of wine sales) go to Day of the Cowboy. For more information call Allison Batteate 826-548-3161.

5th Annual Matthew Yount Memorial Scholarship 3-Stick Golf Tournament- Hosted by Pleasanton Lions Club: August 9, 2019 at Pleasanton Golf Center located in the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Check-in at 2:30pm., Shotgun Start at 3pm. All skill levels welcome. Following golf, guests will enjoy beverages & Cabana Dave's barbecue dinner in the pavilion, silent auction, raffle & closest to the pin contest Admission Cost- \$ 85: Golf, beverage, and dinner \$ 50: Student Price or \$40 Dinner Only. Sponsorship opportunities available also- Large Banner \$1000 or Individual Hole Sponsorship for \$200. For more information or to reserve your spot contact Greg Yount at yountbz@yahoo.com or call (925) 730-3874. Tournament Proceeds will benefit scholarships to students at each of the three Pleasanton high schools and Cal Poly SLO with annual study abroad scholarships.

Citizens' Climate Lobby, meeting, on Monday, July 22, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 440 Old Bernal Ave. 6:00 - 7:00: Potluck appetizers, snacks, drinks, desserts. 7:00 - Speakers: Local youth activists will share their summer projects: Monitoring energy use of City of Pleasanton buildings with the Go Green Initiative, and organizing a "Youth Environmental Action Summit of the Tri-Valley". CCL -TV member Max Katz will speak on "Reflections on CCL Lobby Day in Washington, D.C." Review the message of the CCL National monthly speaker, Drew Jones. 7:30 - Reports and Updates: - The North American Mayors' Conference, passing the Resolution to Protect Climate <https://www.usmayors.org/mayors-climate-protection-center/> Report on contact with State Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan. - The outreach to the community - Tri-Valley Climate Film Festival - coming soon - volunteers are needed for many small tasks. We are actively seeking a venue and sponsors.

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

Castlemont High School All Classes Reunion Saturday, September 7 from 10am to 4pm at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunaol Blvd. Bring own food and beverages, no alcohol allowed. Entrance is \$15. ea. or \$10. ea for Castlemont Alumni Association members. For more information contact Greg Hickey 925-461-1381 or whizman@prodigy.net.

The Fifth Annual Hope 100 Golf Marathon accepting player registrations. Join Hope Hospice for a fun and challenging day where you will be among an exclusive group of passionate golfers completing 100 holes in one day, all for a great cause! The event takes place September 30 at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. Each golfer commits to raising \$2,500, with net proceeds benefiting Hope's patient care and grief support programs in the East Bay and Tri-Valley areas. You can pay your own \$2,500 entry fee directly, or encourage friends and family to collectively support you and cover the fee. Register at hope100golffairmarathon.com. For registration questions or sponsorship inquiries, contact the Hope Hospice Development Department at (925) 829-8770.

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) for up-coming projects and events. All are welcome to meetings and to participate in activities.

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 am- 11 on the second Saturday of the Month Mar-Nov. Aug. 10 Soil- why does it matter so much; Sept. 14 Firescaping in a Suburban environment; Oct. 12 Propagation: Seed Saving; Nov. 9 MG Plant Favorites- Winter interest

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 educa-

tion for anyone experiencing a mental illness. For further information, visit www.nami-trivalley.org or contact Kendall @ 925-872-0170.

Daughters of the American Revolution (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 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.

Grief support meetings. 7:30 pm at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, on July 25 and August 8. Please call Eleanor at 846-8708 for more information. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Josefa Higueria Livermore Chapter. Meets September through May on the first Saturday of each month. DAR was founded in 1890 to promote education, historic preservation, and patriotism. Its members are descended from patriots who supported and/or fought for American independence during the Revolutionary War. With nearly 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. 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 Sr. Center on the 2nd Sat of every month from 10am-12Noon. Hear speakers on a variety of related topics and to 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 changed since you were discharged. We enjoy new faces and guarantee you will enjoy being around veterans. Please consider coming and joining your comrades, because there still fun to be around. Lock and Load. Ready on the right ready on the left. Visit our post at americanlegionpost237@comcast.net

AA if you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous 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- website: 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: <https://www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/>

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, For over forty years, Tri-Valley Haven, a non-profit agency, has provided shelter and counseling for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, and their children in the Tri-Valley. The Haven 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.

Docents for the Livermore HistoryMobile. 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 docents at each school. If interested, call Nancy Mulligan, 925-443-3076 or E-mail 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 (Al 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 Evenson 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, dinner meetings every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. BottleTaps -3020 Bernal Ave Suite 160, Pleasanton. Check website for meeting updates 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. All are welcome.

Have you been affected by someone's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. www.AlanonTriValley.org, 925-277-7661, help@AlanonTriValley.org.

Recovery International (RI) is a weekly self-help group, led by a trained, peer volunteer leader, for people who want to reduce their stress. There is no charge. 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 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore. Free and confidential services related to pregnancy include guidance and referrals, baby clothing, and diapers. 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/ or contact Frank Vallejo, President of Rotary Club of Livermore Valley, at 925-595-2004 or FVallejo@CalWater.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

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.

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 AM to 5 PM M-F, 8-2:30pm 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, 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 pm (except postal holidays). www.clutterless.org (national) or www.ClutterlessEastBay.org for more info.

Questers is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. At chapter meetings, 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. New members are invited to join the local Amador Chapter. If interested call President Rickie at 925-292-8123 or e-mail rjfgiono@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.

Milestones

Stroke Program in San Ramon Recognized

San Ramon Regional Medical Center has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award with Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus. This award recognizes the hospital's commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive

the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

In addition, San Ramon Regional Medical Center received the association's Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved

by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke.

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States. On average, someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke every 40 seconds and nearly 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

To learn more about San Ramon Regional Medical Center, please visit www.SanRamonMedCtr.com.

EBRPD Adds to Parkland

After more than 20 years of community support and involvement, the East Bay Regional Park District has accepted 2,216 acres of former Concord Naval Weapons Station land from the U.S. Navy for a future regional park. An additional 327 acres are set to transfer to the Park District at a later date.

"Conveyance of the property to the Park District is the culmination of a decades-long community effort," said Beverly Lane, who has represented Concord on the East Bay Regional Park District board since 1994. "This is a proud moment for the Park District and shows the great power of persistence and working together with the community."

On July 2, 2019, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors unanimously approved accepting the land from the U.S. Navy. The board action authorizes the Park District to accept conveyance of the property and fee title ownership. Transfer of ownership to the Park District is expected to take six months.

NEW FACES

The following babies were born at Stanford Health Care/ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton:

A daughter to Anupama Thakur and Haramit Banga of Dublin on June 22, 2019.

A son to Gurdeep Kaur and Gaurav Jhamat of Livermore on June 29, 2019.

A son to Rita and Eric Fetty of Pleasanton on July 2, 2019.

EDUCATION

James Coombs of Livermore was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2019 Spring Semester. Coombs is in the computer science program.

The following students have been selected for inclusion on the Dean's List for academic achievement during the Spring 2019 semester at St. Lawrence University.

Abbie R. Cooper of Pleasanton. Cooper is a member of the Class of 2022 and is majoring in biochemistry. Cooper attended Amador Valley High School.

Madison E. Cring of Pleasanton. Cring is a member of the Class of 2021 and is majoring in environmental studies and business in the liberal arts. Cring attended Foothill High School.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.

Wheaton College student Isabella Olfert of Livermore, was named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2019 semester. To earn Dean's List honors at Wheaton, an undergraduate student must carry 12 or more credit hours and achieve a 3.5 grade point average or higher on the 4.0 scale.

Sonic Drive-In Donates to Teachers

In May, SONIC® Drive-In recognized teachers and the contributions they make to education as a part of its Limeades for Learning initiative in partnership with nonprofit partner, DonorChoose.org. With the goal of helping teachers obtain much-needed classroom supplies and learning resources, SONIC launched a donation match in honor of Teacher Appreciation Month. In total, SONIC donated \$1.2 million matching donations made to SONIC Teacher projects in May.

The following teachers received the following rewards: In Livermore, California, SONIC rewarded four entrepreneurial teachers at two schools \$1,182, including Elizabeth Perez at Arroyo Seco Elementary School for the project "Chromebook for First Graders!"; Perez a for the project "Classroom Chromebook"; Perez a for the project "Reaching Everyone with Chromebooks"; Jackson Avenue Elementary School for the project "Summer Goal: Organize Our Learning for Next Year!"; Megan Clappin at Jackson Avenue Elementary School for the project "Learning in the Wild Part II"

In Pleasanton, California, SONIC rewarded one entrepreneurial teacher at one school \$8,130, including: Thomas S Hart Middle School for the project "Learn What You See", "Out of My Mind" and "Print the Evidence!"

For more information, visit SonicDriveIn.com and InspireBrands.com

Credit Union Given 5-Star Rating

UNCLE Credit Union has again earned a 5-Star Superior rating from Bauer Financial Inc. for financial strength and security. A rating that the credit union has held for thirty consecutive quarters, it is based on the independent research firm's analysis of financial data obtained directly from federal regulators. Separately, UNCLE has been named "Best in East Bay" for credit unions by the East Bay Times Readers' Choice Awards for a second sequential year in 2019.

"Both of these endorsements are highly meaningful to us as an organization that exists to promote the financial well-being of our members," said UNCLE Credit Union Board Chairman Chung Bothwell. "A 5-star rating from Bauer attests to our overall financial health and long-term earnings power. It not only reflects our stability, but also our capacity to deliver optimal value to our members."

The national source for unbiased, independent bank and credit union ratings, Bauer Financial has been analyzing and reporting on the financial condition of the nation's banking industry since 1983. No financial institution pays for its rating, nor can they avoid it. The highest rating that the firm assigns, 5 stars indicates that a credit union is among the strongest in the nation according to criteria including capital levels, earnings, liquidity, historical data, regulatory compliance, loan quality and more. Ratings are compiled from financial data for the period noted as reported to federal regulators.

Realtor Recognized for Client Satisfaction

The American Institute of Real Estate Agents has recognized the exceptional performance of California's Real Estate Agent Wanda Thompson as a Three Years 10 Best Real Estate Professionals for Client Satisfaction.

The American Institute of Real Estate Professionals is a third-party rating organization that publishes an annual list of the Top 10 Real Estate Agents in each state. Professionals who are selected to the "10 Best" list must pass AIOREP's rigorous selection process, which is based on client and/or peer nominations, thorough research, and AIOREP's independent evaluation. AIOREP's annual list was created to be used as a resource for clients during the selection process.

Contact Wanda Thompson directly at: 925-858-9128.