By Ron McNicoll

The Dublin Unified School District Board elected four people in June, and two seats will be up for ballot in 2022, with a third expected in 2023. The school board will take election updates in October 2021, and two seats on the board are open. The school board will fill the two seats that are open. The result will then take place with help from the Dublin Unified School District.

The origin of this transition was a legal demand letter from a California attorney, who sequenced the Board act to make this change under the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA).(See CHARTER, page 4)

The school board, in a special meeting July 24, voted 4-1 to make the change for the 2022 election. Dan Griswold, a candidate for the position, said he was concerned about making a change now, representing all of the community.

The new council chamber will be designed and developed in a modular to fit the layout. Hi-tech audio-visual equipment will be installed. The new council chamber will allow the city to host large system.

Livermore OKs New Council Chambers

After over twenty-five years of meeting in a trailer, the Livermore City Council will have a new facility. The Livermore City Manager, Monica Arey, said the city will be used as an operational headquarters for the city. Meetings and future committee meetings will be held here.

Complying with the law will be the building's main focus. Hi-tech audio-visual equipment will be installed. The new council chamber will allow the city to host large system.

Livermore Charters' Experience Could Bring Oversight Reform

The East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve a new system to enforce regional trails in the Park District. The program will be used as an operational headquarters for the city. Meetings and future committee meetings will be held here.

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A second action, listed as a high priority, involved identifying funds and other resources needed to improve the park’s functionality. Proposed facilities include a classroom, staff space and a kitchen.

A site plan to improve landscaping and maintenance of the park was developed as a third action. Phase II of the project, which is almost complete, was made possible through the planting of heirloom apple trees. Corn, grass and pumpkins are now growing in an organic garden.

The implementation plan recommends moving forward with outline and other improvements in the area of Alevo Adobe can serve as the primary staging area for the new Castleridge trail on Pleasanton Ridge. The East Bay Regional Park District operates the Castleridge trail. The district has been working with the city to convert the Castleridge open space to a signalized pedestrian crossing over Foothill Road to connect to the park to the trail.

Funding of $350,000 was identified for the construction of facilities in 2018. Mayor Jerry Thorne commented, “This is a great move for the city. It was the first project I worked on as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner. We have to stabilize the Adobe. We have been disappointed with the level of activity. I hope we are doing things that will increase usage. Marketing will help as much as anything else.”

Commissioner Kathy Nations stated that the city has 45 active parks. “This park is unique in its natural beauty, with things to do for everyone. Karla Brown added that it is a ‘fabulous park that is underutilized. I know we will all be watching as the Castleridge open space is made available to the public to ensure that the Adobe park, parking and users are protected. I hope to see the changes in the strategic plan will make a difference.”

The Alviso Adobe Commission has moved to make Alviso Park the story of California from its earliest human history. This fully restored interpretive park focuses on the history of the Amador Valley offering a glimpse into the area from its Native American beginnings to the days of Spanish Ranchos managing herds of cattle on the original 12,000 acre Rancho Santa Rita, through a period in the early to mid-19th century when it was operated as a dairy.
Street Work in Pleasanton

The Pleasanton City Council last week awarded a construction contract for almost $5.5 million to Bay Cle-


care and Grinding, Inc. for the City’s annual street resurfacing and preventive maintenance project. Work is expected to begin later this summer.

The City’s street resurfacing program comprises two
different elements; street resurfacing and Stanley
cleaning. The street resurfacing involves overlaying old pavement with a new layer of asphalt; slurry sealing is done on roads in better condition and acts as preventive maintenance to extend the life of a road.

Street repairs and improvements are ongoing and usually occur annually. The effort was deferred in 2016 due to other significant public projects underway, most notably the Cups of Sugar and Spices Project. As a result, crews will work through the summer to resurface streets that will need attention prior to the next annual street cleaning.

To learn more about the condition of City streets overall, visit the City of Pleasanton’s website where the online Street Map will be available for users to explore.

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Charter Schools

Reform measures may be the one good thing that comes out of the closure of Livermore's two charter schools. Last week the State Assembly Education Committee approved and the Assembly approved legislation that would close the Tri Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) and its two Livermore charter schools, Livermore Valley Charter School and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory. It is also the final decision on the Tri Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) and its two Livermore charter schools, Livermore Valley Charter School and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory. It is also the final decision on the Tri Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) and its two Livermore charter schools, Livermore Valley Charter School and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory. It is also the final decision on the Tri Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) and its two Livermore charter schools, Livermore Valley Charter School and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory.

Although they are financed by public money, charter schools are treated under the laws and scrutiny as public schools. For example, charters must respond quickly when faced with violations that require urgent action. Rather a slow process involving notices of violations takes place. There are no consequences when a charter school fails to respond.

Senator Steve Glazer, who represents Livermore at the state level, said his SB 806. If approved, it would allow all district charters by the local district, a Public Charter School Act or the Bay Area Charter School. Schools would be subject to the Public Records Act and the Records and Open Meeting Act. It is a good start. However, additional rules regarding oversight are needed, particularly when it comes to budgets and audits.

The independence, charter schools offer children unique opportunities. (on page 9)
The event will take place at Shadow Puppet Brewery, 4771 Shadow Puppet Road, Livermore, CA. Volunteers for the LAB. Donations of equipment to support the programs unless otherwise specified. Contact Michelle to arrange for a drop-off after hours. The office is open 9-12 and 1-5.

More than 100 scholarship applications were received from students attending the Fall of 2017. The Bay East Association of Realtors® awarded $1,000 scholarships to students attending college in the Livermore Valley. The following $1,000 scholarships were awarded to the students listed below.

Chastain, and Chiwetel Ejiofor. Jessica Ruth, University of California, Berkeley; Michael McKinley, University of California, San Francisco; Krista Turetsky, University of California, Los Angeles; Almada Tong. The library is open at 1188 South Livermore Avenue, for more information, to learn more about citylife and citygov/library.

Attend our Social Security workshop in your area. Reserve your spot today at www.millerhvac.com/events. #AmazonJobsDay to learn more about our latest opportunities and apply at: amazon.com/newarkjobs

Send in your resumes. We have a number of positions in technology and retail that will have immediate openings. We have a number of positions in technology and retail that will have immediate openings. We have a number of positions in technology and retail that will have immediate openings. We have a number of positions in technology and retail that will have immediate openings.

Backpack, School Supplies Donations: America’s Never Too Old to Learn, Inc. is accepting donations for a backpack drive or to make a donation during an open house event on July 29, 2017. There is a $7 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to the park. There is a $7 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to the park. There is a $7 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to the park. There is a $7 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to the park.

For more information about STAR_Net or to participate, email Melinda Chastain, director of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, at melinda.chastain@livermore.org. For more information about STAR_Net or to participate, email Melinda Chastain, director of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, at melinda.chastain@livermore.org. For more information about STAR_Net or to participate, email Melinda Chastain, director of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, at melinda.chastain@livermore.org. For more information about STAR_Net or to participate, email Melinda Chastain, director of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, at melinda.chastain@livermore.org.

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Attend our Social Security workshop in your area. Reserve your spot today at www.millerhvac.com/events. #AmazonJobsDay to learn more about the magic behind the smile.

Amazon Jobs Day is our biggest hiring event of the year. On August 2nd, Amazon will be hiring for thousands of jobs that include medical benefits and tuition pre-payment for high demand careers.

Be a part of this historic day! We are currently hiring in Newark, CA for part-time warehouse associates. Apply today!

Benefits Include:
- Seasonal positions available
- Weekly pay schedule
- Flexible schedule options
- Casual dress

Learn more about our latest opportunities and apply at: amazon.com/newarkjobs

Making the right decisions about Social Security could be worth thousands of dollars. Attend our free Social Security workshop in your area. Reserve your spot today at 1-888-2-HANSON or visit HansonMcClain.com/Events

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Ralph G. Hanson, Retirement Plan Strategist, author of 50 Ways to Prepare for Retirement, is a partner in the advisory firm Hanson McClain Advisors. He writes frequently about our nation’s retirement crisis for major media outlets. The views expressed in the content reflect the author’s personal opinions and do not reflect those of the firm or any affiliated organization. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location. The content will be archived in a separate location.
West Coast Kaos U15 went undefeated at the Rage College Showcase. They beat 4 teams, scored 5 goals, and only gave up 2 to finish with 35 points, 8 above their closest competitor. Picture are the ladies of West Coast Kaos and their Coach, Dave Mahabali, celebrating their success at the showcase.

Pictured is the West Coast Soccer Club U5 premier girls team Wildkatz.

The Livermore Mavericks Fastpitch 10u Travel team finished as the Gold Bracket runner up of the USSSA 10U “Queen of Diamonds” tournament in Martinez, Ca. The team finished strong as the players prepare to move up to 12U this fall. Players are Brianna Bernstein, Kaitlyn Bosques, Jailyn Cook, Gretchen Eberstein, Elle Gaulton, Taylor Guest, Jessica Guzman, Kaitlyn Timberman, Hannah Miller, Alie Phillips, and Mahiyah Sae.

West Coast Soccer is gearing up for their upcoming girls youth soccer tryouts on Monday, July 31, 2017 at 9am-12pm. The girls are looking for new members to their 2018-2019 youth soccer season. New players are welcome to participate in the tryout. Location is at the Livermore Community Park (1255 N. California Ave). For questions or more information, please contact Coach Mark Bahlar at mark@westcoastsoccer.com or call 925-209-7520.

On Friday, July 14th-16th in Davis, California, Placer United Gold will be participating in the Davis Legacy College Showcase tournament. This is an annual showcase tournament and a great opportunity for the girls to gain exposure to college coaches. The team finished strong by scoring multiple goals and showing determination in every game.

In the final match on Sunday, Kaos moved ahead 2-1 and the victory. The nine Kaos goals scored at the West Coast Kaos and their Coach, Dave Mahabali, celebrating the showcase.

The Livermore Smoke 14U ended the summer season with a Championship win in the Gold Bracket at the USSSA - Queen of Diamonds tournament on July 27, 2017. Smoke battled their way all weekend with only 9 players, in taking 1st place in an International tie breaker against NorCal Thunder. Smoke 14u came out on top by 5-4. Smoke didn’t commit a single error in the infold during their championship game. Picture are the ladies of Livermore Smoke 14U coming on the trophy presentation.

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chamber said. Police Chief Michael Harris said of the EOC, “when fully activated it will provide 450 sq. ft. of space. The current EOC, located overlooking the Lake, provides only 104 sq. ft. The EOC is used both for training exercises and for actual incidents such as earthquakes, hazardous materials spills, traffic, terrorism, shootings, and major traffic incidents. Councilmember Bob Woerner commented, “The EOC is very important. It’s generous to say we have an existing EOC. We have a space that is called that.” Councilmember Stephen Spedewfski commented, “If the EOC were not activated only in the case of an earthquake then it doesn’t make sense for some of the events such as hazardous spills or fires. The longer we wait, the more expensive it becomes to provide the EOC.” Members of the public spoke in favor of moving forward.

E-BIKES

E-Bikes. All-terrain region wide trails, including the current 15 mph speed limit will remain in full effect during the pilot program. Closed 1/2 to 2/2, E-bikes include those with fully operable handlebars and a motor of less than 750 watts. The outreach effort will include gathering information about users’ views, perceptions, and experiences. Park District employees will be performing user counts, monitoring usage, and conducting surveys on the trails currently the pilot.

The Park District has an active Green Transportation network of paved trails that connect parks to schools, parks to schools, and parks to jobs. The District is currently awarded $10 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation to expand these trail connections. There has already been an increase in bicycle commuting via the district’s trails. E-bike users will likely continue the trend, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, reduce air pollution, reduce noise, and improve safety. It is hoped that many E-bike users will be those currently using the trail who have physical limitations. E-bikes are not just used by commuters,however. Many seniors and individuals with disabilities are opting for a bicycle that can fit into their daily lives. They can’t afford those E-bikes provide new mobility opportunities to people who need extra assistance.

In 2015, the Governor signed Assembly Bill 1096 (October 13, 2015) which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways, which will help reduce traffic congestion on roadways. E-bikes are not just used by commuters, however. Many seniors and individuals with disabilities are opting for a bicycle that can fit into their daily lives. They can’t afford those E-bikes provide new mobility opportunities to people who need extra assistance.

Most speakers pointed to the lack of overflow space and the inability to see land/ or hear presentations in the current council chamber. They also spoke to the necessity of the EOC.

Prior to the vote, Spedewfski said, “There have been a lot of great moments in this building. Addressing the state of the building, he noted that one person had said to him, “You guys seem to be permanently projecting public participation.” Mayor John Marchand relayed a comment from Planning Commissioner Gina Borris, “If we had a new facility we could get more public participation.” He added, “I’d like to move forward before the trailer qualifies for historic review.”

Resident-Centered Senior Care Coming Soon to Pleasanton

Stop by and visit our decorated models to experience what life will be like at our community when we open our doors this fall. While you’re here meet the team, and learn more about the individualized care and services our experienced team of caregivers will offer residents.

Community Highlights:

- Assisted living, memory care, short-term stays, and hospice care
- A full program of activities designed to enrich your mind, body, and spirit
- Three meals daily, freshly prepared by our in-house chef
- In the heart of the Tri-Valley, close to San Francisco and San Jose
- Minutes from the ValleyCare Medical Center
- Close to dining, shopping, wineries, and museums

Stop by today or call 925-550-6598 to schedule a personal tour.
Taste Our Terroir 2017 Crowns Dante Robere, Longevity, Nottingham, Occasion & Wood Family

By Laura Nos

Each year, the main event of Taste Our Terroir gets more competitive and far more so last year. There were close to 100 competitors vying for one of 20 trophies - and last year it seemed as though there was a winner in almost every category. So what makes a great pairing? Let’s talk about waste: It could be argued that using up, saving and storing food is a thoughtful and considerate act that your loved ones will appreciate your efforts.

Photo: Doug Langlas

Judges’ selection for most innovative pairing went to Longevity Wines and BackDoor Bistro. The wine, 2016 Vintner’s Select Pinot Grigio, Livermore Valley was paired with spicy lamb meatballs with pickled beets with green goddess sauce. Pictured are winemaker Phil Long, Lindsey Chelini, BackDoor Bistro head chef and Dober, and Laeta Long.

There is so much food waste in this highly anticipated year for their Kampachi would go to Page Mill this year. Would it be time to add an award for a minute. In some cases, let’s talk about waste for a moment. It was a little chaotic early for VIPs, and add-...
Christophers Corbett by his loving family. He was commonly known as Pete. Pete was born in Fossil, Oregon on April 5, 1941. After spending five years in Leavenworth, Kansas, to Yuma, Arizona. Their adventures took them out by high housing costs. After spending five years in Fossil, Oregon on April 5, 1941. After spending five years in Leavenworth, Kansas, to Yuma, Arizona. Their adventures took them out by high housing costs. After spending five years in Fossil, Oregon on April 5, 1941. After spending five years in Leavenworth, Kansas, to Yuma, Arizona. Their adventures took them out by high housing costs.
New Policy Statement Approved for HCIF Use

The Livermore City Council unanimously ap-
pproved a new policy state-
ment regarding uses of the 
High-Capacity Infrastructure 
Fee (HCIF) for the Bank-
head Theater.

The money comes from fees 
paid by developers 
for construct-
ion projects, and Vesco Road 
landfill, and is used to 
pay off the part of the 
garbage dumps on the 
Southside.

The negotiations creating 
this revenue stream were led 
by Alameda County Super-
intendent of Schools. Liver-
more City turned the neces-
sary documents to help buy out the Bankhead Theater.

In 2014, the city pur-
chased 14 acres of land 
from a Contadora of 
Carpenteria for $7.8 million. 
HCIF funds were 
identified to pay off the 
Corp.
The HCIF continues to be 
collected by the city and 
then sent to the city 
transfers.

Current policy includes 
mandating that all HCIF 
revenue received in excess of 
required debt service be 
held in reserve for future 
and for the maintenance 
replacement of the Bank-
head’s structural and 
mechanical systems. 

The policy also states 
that the HCIF would happen if 
the total HCIF funds exceeded 
the debt service and 
transfers over the 22-
year repayment period.

The decision on Monday 
would require excess funds 
collected to be placed into 
thrusting the theater at the end of the 
22-year period.

Mayor John Marchand, who served 
staff at the issue to the council, 
said there has been a mission 
regarding the HCIF funds 
for the building’s capital project. 

According to him, the council 
clearly up the misconception 
for the downtown development 
process for the new ownership.

Speakers at the pub-
lic hearing pointed out that 
LVO pays 15% of what the normal 
analysts, including service fees 
are used to pay for these services.

The idea of another theater 
will threaten nonprofits by 
computing for donations.

After the meeting, Ken-

Response to a recent 
query from a Corporation 
will be paid to the County Clerk of 
Alameda on June 27, 2017.

2017

The date on which the reg-
istered business is hereby 
registered by the County Clerk 
for the purpose of conducting 
This statement was filed with 
4164. Published July 20, 2017.

4166. Published July 20, 2017.

4167. Published July 20, 2017.

The Independent Legal No. 
Expires July 12, 2022.

Alameda on June 27, 2017.

The Independent Legal No. 
Expires June 27, 2022.

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National Anthem Performance Set

Derik Nelson and Family will perform the National Anthem at the 2017 Little League Intermediate World Series on August 1 before the 7 p.m. game.

The group previously sang the Anthem at the Seattle Seahawks vs. Philadelphia Eagles game last fall to a crowd of nearly 70,000.

Derik, who had a recurring role as the lead guitarist on the television show “Glee,” is joined by his siblings Riana and Dalten. The group will be running a music intensive for teens at the Bankhead July 31-Aug. 4 and then performing a full length concert at the Bankhead on Aug. 4. Special pricing is available.

The eleven World Series teams and their fans will be welcomed during a ceremony at 10 a.m. and at 9 p.m. on July 29 at the plaza in front of the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Games will be played from July 30 through August 5 at Max Bats Park.

The International, National, and Series championship ships will be aired on ESPN. To learn more, visit www.intermediateworldseries.org.

1310 Mandell Lane. Admission is free.

The International, National, and Series championships will be aired on ESPN. To learn more, visit www.intermediateworldseries.org.
Grammy winners, hall-of-famers, legendary names and award-winning productions are all headed to the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, for the 2017-2018 season. The full schedule, plus ticket and membership information, is now available at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Firehouse Arts Center.

(continued on page 4)
New Christy Minstrels at the Bankhead Theater

The New Christy Minstrels, still under the direction of founder Randy Sparks, make a return to Livermore in August with their Grammy Award-winning folk music. The New Christy Minstrels forged a fresh folk sound in the 1960s when their original hits, including “Green, Green” and “Today,” as well as covers such as “Sing in the Sunshine,” climbed up the charts.

The New Christy Minstrels will appear at the Bankhead for a special afternoon performance on Sunday, August 13, 2017 beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Prolific singer-songwriter Randy Sparks has said that his goal in forming The New Christy Minstrels was to create a sound and style that would have the exuberance of the Kingston Trio and the harmony of a professional choir. In the 1960s, not only was their large-group format unusual, their feel-good songs were seemingly at odds with the challenging and emotional anti-war era. Nonetheless, the universal appeal of their songs, from originals such as “Saturday Night” to their hit version of Woody Guthrie’s “This Land is Your Land,” made them instantly popular. Their debut album “Presenting the New Christy Minstrels” won the Grammy Award for Best Performance by a Chorus in 1962. They were soon regulars on the Andy Williams Show and playing venues from The Troubadour to Carnegie Hall.

No other performing group has ever spawned as many successful musical careers, including those of Kim Carnes, Kenny Rogers, and other members of the 1960s rock and roll band, The First Edition. After a short break from performing to pursue other endeavors, Sparks rejoined the group in the 1990s and has since reunited some of the original members and recreated the group’s fundamental style. Now officially seven members strong and a mix of old and new, Sparks considers the group to be the best it has ever been.

More than 20 albums since their debut, The New Christy Minstrels’ recordings continue to reflect the lighthearted spirit and rich harmonies that have made them audience favorites for more than five decades.

Tickets for the show on Sunday afternoon, August 13, start at just $40 with $16 tickets for active military personnel and students. They are on sale now through the Bankhead Theater box office at 2400 First Street in Livermore, by calling (925) 373-6800, or online at www.bankheadtheater.org.

Final 1st Wednesday Party in Downtown Pleasanton Offers Something for Everyone

Pups take over Downtown Pleasanton during the annual Pooch Parade during the 1st Wednesday Street Party on August 2 from 6-9 p.m. This will be the 1st 1st Wednesday Street Party of the summer. The street party is hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

• The 20th Annual Pooch Parade will take place at 7pm on Main Street. Line up to watch dogs strut their stuff, many of them in costume, during this playful parade. Registration and judging are from 5:30-7:00pm with trick dogs performing at 6:30 pm at Lions Wayside Park. Dogs can be entered in seven different categories. Prizes will be awarded. For complete details and to download a registration form visit www.trivalleyguidedogs.org.

• Rock out with Public Eye in the Entertainment Garden from 6-9pm. In addition to the featured band in the Entertainment Garden, live music featuring local bands and artists will be performing throughout Main Street.

• Located within the Entertainment Garden in the Inklings Parking lot at 530 Main Street adults 21 years of age and older can purchase beer and wine while rocking with Public Eye. In August, Wente and Cellar Door will be serving up their best varietals by the glass while Handles on Main pours craft beer for the beer lovers.

• Those attending are invited to bring school supply donations for a back to school “stuff the bus” drive. The Pleasanton Unified School District will be parking a school bus in the 700 block of Main Street to collect donations of school supplies such as backpacks, colored pencils, crayons, pens (blue, black or red), spiral notebooks, glue sticks, binders, binder paper, and pencils (#2 or mechanical). The school supply drive is being hosted by The Hanger, a donation center located on PUSD’s Village High School campus that supports Pleasanton families in need.

• Bring the kids out to enjoy theme park style Teacup rides and more by Fun and Game Rentals. Get creative with the Alameda County Fair and explore their arts and crafts experience. All happening in the Kids Zone located on St. Mary Street and Main.

• Street eats of the Bay Area will be presented by Food Truck Mafia. In August Food Truck Mafia will feature 333, Southern Comfort Kitchen, Big City Country Boy and Sam’s Chowder Mobile. Indulge in sweet treats from downtown vendors Primrose Bakery, Noland’s Cake Shop and Rita’s Italian Ice. Or, relax and take in the scene at one of our beautiful restaurant patios and enjoy a delicious meal.

The 1st Wednesday Street Party is sponsored by Hacienda Business Park, The Alameda County Fair, Club Sport of Pleasanton and Inklings Coffee and Tea. Information about the Pleasanton Downtown Association is available by calling (925) 484-2199, or visiting www.pleasantondowntown.net.
Eugene O'Neill Festival

Events Highlight the Tradition of Irish Story-Telling

The grand tradition of Irish story-telling is the focus of the 18th Eugene O’Neill Festival in Danville in September. With music, drama, and a lot of Irish blarney, the month-long “Telling Tales” Festival celebrates the resilience of the Irish spirit.

Sponsored by the Eugene O’Neill Foundation, Tao House, the O’Neill Festival takes place at the Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site in the Danville hills, and at locations in downtown Danville. It was at Tao House in Danville where writer Eugene O’Neill, the only American playwright to be honored with the Nobel Prize for Literature, wrote his most celebrated plays.

The Festival features two plays that capture the spirit of Ireland. Role Players Ensemble will be presenting the most Irish of Irish plays, John Millington Synge’s The Playboy of the Western World at the Village Theater in downtown Danville from September 1-17. The Eugene O’Neill Foundation, Tao House will host Eugene O’Neill’s tribute to the heart and soul of the Irish spirit with A Touch of the Poet performed September 16-30 in the Old Barn at Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site.

“Both plays feature characters who swear by a fantastic story of heroic deeds only to have their stories catch up with them,” says Eric Fraisher Hayes, the O’Neill Foundation’s director of artistic programs. “Their reckonings are both comical and tragic, displaying the resilience of the Irish people.”

Tickets for the two productions are now on sale at www.villegetheatreshows.com, or by calling (925) 314-3400.

Three special events are on tap to compliment the two stage productions.

On Thursday, September 7 the grand tradition of Irish story-telling lands in Danville with “Ballads and Blarney: An Evening of Traditional Irish Music and Song.” The evening features performers from the United Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco. The group is headed up by noted story teller Donagh McKeown (who promises to tell the truth at least 50% of the time!), along with Erin Ruth Thompson who will share her passion for performing Irish songs with her emotional and powerful voice. Joining in will be Cormac Gannon (on guitar and uileann pipes), Kenny Somerville (banjo and mandolin), and John Caulfield (fiddle and mandolin), all with strong Irish roots.

The festivities for “Ballads and Blarney” begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (205 Railroad Avenue, Danville). Tickets are available online at www.villegetheatreshows.com or by calling 314-3400. Seating at the Museum is limited.

On Saturday, September 9, beginning at 10:00 a.m., Beverly Lane, curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, will lead a guided walk in downtown Danville to explore sites from O’Neill days in town. The tour -- “The Secrets of O’Neill’s Danville” -- begins at the O’Neill Commemorative across from the Danville Library on Front Street. This is a free event.

“Parks an Plays: A Hike to Tao House” on Sunday, September 10 provides an opportunity for a moderate hike from the O’Neill Commemorative on Front Street to Tao House led by National Park Service and East Bay Regional Park District Rangers, and former O’Neill Foundation President Trudy McMahon. The hike begins at 9:00 a.m. Advance registration by September 5 is required of participants. E-mail to taohouse.eonf@gmail.com.

Tours of Tao House can be arranged through the National Park Service. For information and reservations call: (925) 838-0249 ext.6320. Ranger-guided tours are available Wednesday-Friday and Sunday. Informal visits with no reservations are available on Saturdays by NPS free shuttle from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Avenue, Danville.

Artists Invited to Participate in Livermore En Plein Air Painting Event

The Bothwell Arts Center is looking for artists to participate in a week-long “En Plein Air” painting event featuring the historic landmarks and landscapes that make the City of Livermore distinctive.

The Livermore Paint Out, to be held from August 5th to 11th, will result in a showcase of works to be exhibited at the Bankhead Theater Gallery beginning in September. Artists may choose any public historic site during the week and will be welcome to paint the vineyards at select local wineries on invitation-only dates set aside for this event.

The event will connect art with the community both by capturing on canvas historic and familiar local scenes, and by allowing people to engage in the creation of art as they watch artists at work around town. En plein air, a French term meaning “in the open air,” generally refers to painting done outside during the daylight hours.

There is no registration necessary to participate in Livermore Paint Out. Deadline to submit artwork electronically is August 21st at 5:00 p.m. Paintings accepted for the exhibit will be on display from September 5 through October 31, 2017. Cash prizes will be awarded. A Call for Artists prospectus with more information, rules and restrictions is available online at bothwell.lvpac.org.

Part of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, the Visitor’s Center and Galley is located in the lobby of the Bankhead Theater at 2400 First Street, Livermore, and is open seven days a week from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free.
December People Band

TRIBUTE CONCERTS
The Firehouse’s tribute concert line-up is again first-rate. ‘Firsts’ include: Fleetwood Mask, endorsed by Mick Fleetwood himself; “This One’s for You” Barry Manilow tribute in the award-winning Firehouse Cabaret Series; and Forejour, celebrating the ‘80s mega bands Foreigner and Journey.

Firehouse publicist Jane Onojafe notes, “For Season 8 Rob has really out-done himself, grabbing loads of new (and returning) top-tier performers and productions, with something for literally every audience. Returning special-mentions have to include the flamboyant We Banjo 3 from last season, The Special Consensus with their bluegrass, and of course the inimitable, irascible Will Durst and gang with their 25th anniversary Big Fat Year End Kiss Off!”

December 3 features Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas, premier fiddle player from Scotland in concert with his California cellist collaborator. Fraser played Lincoln Center when fellow Scotsman Sean Connery was honored, to name just one of many notable appearances for this legendary performer. “I have been working with Alasdair’s agent for years to see if we could get him on the Firehouse stage,” says Rob, “and we finally made it happen this season!”

“December People” appear December 15 and 16. Best feel-good holiday show of the season; all the favorite holiday tunes rocked out in the style of all the great rock n’ roll anthems. Light shows, musicians from Boston, Greg Kihn Band, The Tubes, and more. Benefits local food banks.

THEATER
Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, the award-winning professional theatre company, presents two rousing musicals, 42nd Street and Rock of Ages, plus their first Firehouse “straight” play (non-musical) Noises Off, the Tony Award winning “funniest farce ever written.”

Civic Arts Stage Company, City of Pleasanton’s youth theater program, in collaboration with Bay Area Children’s Theatre, have another super line-up. September - James and the Giant Peach Jr; December - The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (a true holiday classic); March - The Music Man Jr.

Creatures of Impulse, the award-winning City of Pleasanton teen improv troupe, celebrates their 10th Anniversary Season all year, bringing back teaching artists and musicians who have been influential for the troupe, plus a full slate of new programming and guests.

HSMC (High School Music Collaborative): Topping the HSMC list is the concert collaboration with Grammy Award winning “kid-hop” artist Secret Agent 23 Skidoo. In its 2nd season, HSMC will hit the Hyde Street Studios in SF for recording sessions, and offer masterclasses scheduled with Broadway star Michael Wartella and singer-songwriter Matt Nakoa before their respective Firehouse appearances. (open auditions, registration required: August 29 and 31).

The regular season wraps up May 20, 2018 with The James Hunter Six, fronted by Grammy-nominee and blues chart-topper James Hunter, the British soul powerhouse with a rabid fan-base for both his recordings and live gigs on both sides of the Atlantic.

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.
Concert Presents Fresh Arrangements of Classics

Fresh arrangements of classical repertoire are on tap at the Firehouse Arts Center Theater on Sunday, August 6, at 2:00 p.m. The new vibrant young ensemble known as Duo Lémonart presents a modern, classical-fusion concert with French guitarist Gabriel Hotier and French-American violinist Julia Reddy, classical musicians currently based in Montreal, Quebec.

The show is the final concert in the duo’s 2017 summer season, which featured performances with the Oasis Musicale (Montreal), in St. Angel, Bergerac (France), and around California. In addition to performing all-new arrangements for violin and guitar this season, they premiered two original compositions by Reddy.

The duo met during their first day at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University in Montreal in 2014, where both were pursuing advanced performance studies, and they have been playing and concertizing together ever since.

Julia Reddy is an up-and-coming violinist raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. In California, she has studied with Ming Shiu Yo, and was a member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. In 2014, Julia moved to Montreal to study with Axel Strauss and pursue her violin performance degree. Julia currently performs with numerous ensembles in the Montreal area.

As an Amador Valley High School alum, Julia was also busy locally in the TriValley this summer, directing the City of Pleasanton’s first Brass and Strings Music Camps at the Firehouse Arts Center. And yes, the name is familiar. Julia is sister to Creatures of Impulse member Emma Reddy, and recent COI graduate and vocalist Chloë Reddy.

Guitarist Gabriel Hotier hails from Mont-de-Marsan in southern France. In 2013, he received his DEM (Diplôme d’Étude Musicale) from the Conservatoire de Clermont-Ferrand, where he studied with Jean-Pierre Billet. He went on to study with Jeremy Jouve at the Conservatoire d’Aulnay-Sous-Bois near Paris, and in 2014 moved to Montreal, Canada to continue his musical education, currently with Jerome Ducharme. Gabriel will in 2018 complete his Licenciate of Music (a professional degree just below PhD bestowed by many European universities).

Says COI director Mark Duncanson, “It is a real joy to work with Julia. Her genuine passion and professionalism in music is so contagious. I can’t wait to see her on stage.”

Duncanson went on to note that he is thrilled to be able offer the stage to professional musicians that have graduated from Pleasanton schools. “For me, that’s one of the things our intimate setting at the Firehouse Arts Center is all about.”

General admission tickets: $8 students, $12 adults. Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848 [Call: 925-931-4848], and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00pm, Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm, and at the door. Free parking.

Authors to Discuss Books During Read It & Eat Session in Pleasanton

Towne Center Books will host authors Michelle Richmond and Gin Phillips for a lunch inspired by their books. Michelle will be discussing her new book The Marriage Pact, and Gin her latest book, Fierce Kingdom.

Read It & Eat will take place on August 3 with 11:30 a.m. social time and lunch at noon.

Reservations are required. $15 for lunch; 846-8826 or www.townecenterbooks.com.

In Michelle Richmond’s chilling new novel, newlyweds Alice and Jake are invited to join a mysterious group called The Pact. The goal of The Pact seems simple: to keep marriages happy and intact. And most of its rules make sense. Always answer the phone when your spouse calls. Exchange thoughtful gifts monthly. Plan a trip together once per quarter. . . . Never mention The Pact to anyone. But as Alice and Jake soon discover when one of them breaks the rules, The Pact will go to any lengths to enforce them. And the marriage of their dreams soon becomes their worst nightmare.

Michelle Richmond is the New York Times bestselling author of five novels and two award-winning story collections. Her novels include the 2014 literary thriller Golden State, which imagines modern-day California on the brink of secession from the United States, and the international bestseller The Year of Fog. Her debut story collection The Girl in the Fall-Away Dress (2001) won the AWP Award for Short Fiction, and her latest story collection, Hum, received the Catherine Doctorow Innovative Fiction Prize. Her novels are set in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she lives, and in the South, where she grew up.

Gin Phillips’ novel explores the primal and unyielding bond between a mother, Joan, and her son, and the lengths she’ll go to protect him after the two become trapped in a zoo with a gunman on the loose.

Gin Phillips is the author of five novels. Her debut novel, The Well and the Mine, was the winner of the 2009 Barnes & Noble Discover Award. Since then her work has been sold in 29 countries. Born in Montgomery, Al., Gin graduated from Birmingham-Southern College with a degree in political journalism. She worked as a magazine writer for more than a decade, living in Ireland, New York, and Washington D.C., before eventually moving back to Alabama. She currently lives in Birmingham with her family.

Towne Center Books is located at 555 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton.
Following an extended 20-day run over four weekends, Alameda County Fair concluded its 105th year on Sunday with the final stretch of live horse racing, smash-n-crash fun at the RV Demolition and crowd-favorite Night Ranger rocking the Mattress Firm Amphitheater. “It’s been one of the best Fairs in every way,” said CEO Jerome Hoban. “We sincerely appreciate the community’s enthusiasm and support for the first-ever Opening Day Cattle Drive and Western Weekend. Top that with the stellar concert lineup, live Action Sports and an amazing season of horse racing and it really was the Best Summer Ever. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon as Fall Racing returns this September.”

The 20-day fair attendance was higher than last year with a total of 463,783 visitors. However, because of two extra days, the average daily attendance was lower with an 18-day total of 450,806. Opening Day Cattle Drive – 60 cowboys and cowgirls herded 150 steers through downtown Pleasanton and into the Fairgrounds to celebrate the Fair’s Opening Day on June 16. A special Western Weekend followed with a ranchers rodeo, horse show and prizes in the Action Sports Arena.

The Big O Tires Concert Series top-attended shows included Sheila E, Clint Black, Sugar Ray, Wynonna & the Big Noise, Ann Wilson of Heart Night Ranger and John Michael Montgomery.

The Action Sports Arena featured different shows each weekend including Extreme Rodeo, Monster Trucks and Demolition Derby. K9 Kings Frisbee Dog Show and Freestyle Motocross exhibitions featuring a new snowmobile jumper were showcased daily in the Arena.

The 4th Annual SNACKDOWN crowned Doritos Corn on the Cob the new Grand Champion. Other top winners included the Deep-Fried Mac & Cheese Balls, Chicken & Rice Pineapple Bowl, the Chickle and the Gelato Donut Sandwich.

Horse racing extended a special holiday schedule over the 4th of July holiday and continued over the final weekend, crowds increased 5%. On-track handle was up at the race track by 5%. Racing will return September 21 through October 1 when the Pleasanton Track hosts its second Fall Race Meet.

Favorite daily attractions included Alaskan Pig Races, Freestyle Motocross, K-9 Kings Frisbee Dogs, Chinese Acrobats, Hypnotist Tina Marie, Great American Petting Zoo, Brad’s Reptile World, carnival rides & games and the world’s best Fair food.

2017 Alameda County Fair by the Numbers: race track attendance 45,662; competitive exhibit entries 17,836; exhibitors 5,078; jr. livestock auction $703,574; small animal sales $58,754; fine art sales $16,196.

There were 34,103 corn dogs devoured, 16,998 turkey legs and 32,904 funnel cakes. Attendees donated 23,987 pounds of food.

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The Alameda County Fair is operated by the Fair Association, a non-profit organization, without any tax funding from the government. It is ranked one of the Top 50 North American Fairs and the 7th largest Fair in California. The Fairgrounds is home to the Oldest One-Mile Race Track in America.
New winery, venerable vineyard

Favalora Vineyard Winery Opens a Tasting Room

by Harry Stoll

Favalora Vineyard Winery will join the remarkable tasting rooms in the Vasco Road corridor. These industrialistas provide a warm and pleasing experience in unusual sites. Owner/winemaker Frank Favalora now owns both a vineyard and a winery, sharing production space with Ehrenberg Cellars. He will soon share the tasting room, which is a down home space with the barrels right there behind the tasting bar.

The preponderance of Favalora Vineyard Winery grapes are grown in Favalora Vineyard in the sandy soil of Oakley, an ideal terroir for Zinfandel. Other varieties also thrive there. Winemaker/owner Frank Favalora is a son of The Delta who grew up in Antioch—neighboring Oakley. “...I did a lot of four wheelin’ on Oakley sand dunes before they were all ruined for housing,” said Frank. Spoken like a man of the soil. An amiable backyard kind of guy, he looks as though he would be comfortable in cowboy boots. “I did ride horses,” said Frank.

Frank planted his vineyard in 1999, using cuttings from the vineyard of his aunt and uncle, Gertie and Stan Planchon; thus the “Planchon Clone” designation for his Zinfandel. The Planchons planted their vineyard in 1902 and it’s still thriving.

Zinfandel from Favarola Vineyard grapes has been produced by Ehrenberg Cellars. The 2012 Ehrenberg Zinfandel won a gold medal at the 2017 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. The tasting notes describe it as having a floral aroma and flavors of smooth spice, caramel, coffee, sage, rose petal, and blackberry.

Rockwall Cellars in Alameda used the Favalora 2012 vintage zinfandel. The winemaker commented, “Eucalyptus baby! This gorgeous wine shows its Contra Costa location exhibiting unique aromas of Girl Scout ‘Thin Mint’ cookies, eucalyptus and sage. Juicy flavors of blueberry, blackberry, and black tea create a lengthy finish.” Rockwall also noted that the eucalyptus essence “…paired with the innate CoCo County ‘cowboy’ flavor profiles creates many layers of flavors.” Rockwall Cellars also wrote, “Frankie Favalora’s beautiful Sophia Favalora Vineyard is … (much like Frankie) extremely well manicured; there’s not a weed in sight.” Frank is also a very particular winemaker. Rosenblum Cellars, of Alameda, and R&B winery in Richmond have also purchased zinfandel grapes from Frank.

At the new tasting room, Frank will be pouring a 2013 zinfandel, Planchon clone, from his Sophia Favalora Vineyard; a 2015 zinfandel, St. Peter’s Church clone, from Madruga Vineyard in Oakley; a 2015 late harvest Zinfandel from Madruga Vineyard; a 2014 Carignane from Del Barba Vineyard in Oakley, from 100-year-old vines; and a 2015 Carignane from Del Barba Vineyard. Del Barba is a well-known name in Oakley. In 1912 Italian immigrant Venanzio Del Barba opened a store on Main Street. He was also a farmer.

Frank will be adding a Barbera, a Mourvèdre, and a Petite Sirah. Prices will range from $20 to $40. Frank wants to keep prices low as his is a boutique winery.

Some brief general notes on the above grape varieties:
• Zinfandel is often considered the American wine. Eno DNA sleuths show it is related to the Croatian Crljenač Kašteljanski (pronounced as spelled). Zin is juicy.
• Carignane originated in Spain and migrated to France. Carignane mostly produces wines that have high color, acidity, and tannins.
• Barbera comes from the Italia Piemonte area.
• Acidic and pizza perfect.
• Mourvèdre is the “M” in the New World GSMs (Rhône wines). It’s deep, rich and spicy, and goes well with braised meats.
• Petite Sirah. There’s nothing petite about its flavor. This is a heavy hitter widely planted in the Rhône Valley. It’s also known as Duriff, the eno scientist who developed it in his lab and modestly named it for himself.

Frank’s main incentive is to showcase the unique terroir of Oakley; an area he’s proud of. The grapes from this unique area are well known to winemakers, now they can also be appreciated by visiting the Favalora Vineyard Winery tasting room and enjoying what insiders have long known. Savor the Favalora flavors.

The tasting room should open in August. Contact Frank by email frankiefav5@yahoo.com or checking his Facebook page “Favalora Vineyard Winery” for more precise opening day information.

This endeavor shows evidence of fine wines in a comfortable atmosphere poured by the friendly and knowledgeable Frankie, who grew and harvested the grapes and made the wine. The tasting room is opposite Eckert Estate Winery and within walking distance of several other industrialistas. This whole scene is unique and worth exploring.

Favalora Vineyard Winery, 5937 Graham Court Unit 8 (off of Vasco Road), Livermore.

The Sound of Steel Drums to Signal the Start of School; Special Music Event

A free back-to-school music event is planned for Fri., Aug. 11 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Held on the last Friday before the 2017-2018 school year begins for students in the Tri-Valley, the final celebration of the summer will feature a performance on the steel drums by Shawn Thwaites inside the Bankhead lobby.

A Trinidadian-American musician and educator from Washington D.C., Thwaites is an innovator in the music of the steel drum creating a distinct sound that intertwines jazz, hip-hop, funk, calypso, reggae and more. He has performed at the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., as well as numerous other prestigious venues and is the founder of the Shawn Thwaite Rebel Quartet.

In addition to Thwaites’ performance, there will be other activities for children and stations with information about local educational programs. Free ice cream treats will be served. The back-to-school event is sponsored by Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

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

The Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center offer numerous events each year, from classes and workshops, to concerts and performances, as well as extensive educational outreach in the arts. For more information visit www.mylvpac.com
Art & entertainment

Local artist Amy D. Leung's painting "Cherry Blossom at the Library" depicting the Pleasanton Library will be showing at Firehouse Arts Center's Harrington Gallery together with work by the members of Pleasanton Art League from July 27 to September 2nd. Some of Amy's other local paintings are also on display at Studio Seven Arts on Main Street in Pleasanton. Amy's painting style is characterized by meticulous playing on light and colors. She is a signature member of National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society and American Women Artists.

Art/photo exhibits

Livermore Art Association Gallery, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, painting rentals, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2153 Third St., Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sun. 11:30-4 p.m. For information call 449-9927.

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at six businesses in the Pleasanton - Dublin area. Viewing locations are: Bank of America at 337 Main Street, Pleasanton; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang & Alamedia CPA's at 4900 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Cafe at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Triemming at (510) 877-8154.

"Stylin' is Wild" captures the essence of street art, exhibit in the further gallery at the Bankhead Theater. Curated by the Bothwell Arts Center, "Stylin' is Wild" runs through August 27, 2017. Visitor’s Center and Gallery is located in the lobby of the Bankhead Theater at 2400 First Street, downtown Livermore, and is open seven days a week from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free. Most works on display during the exhibit are available for purchase. For more information go to bothwellvpa.org.

Blackhawk Gallery Exhibit Impulse!' On view seven days a week from July 14 to September 17. Opening hosted by the Alamo Danville Artists' Society. Exhibit free and open to the public. Guest artist Linda V. Hubbard will be showing her 3D Fiber Art. Members' artworks include paintings, drawings, sculptures, ceramics, photographs, and wearable art. The exhibit is curated by Debby Koonce, Kerima Swain and Beverly Turner. Blackhawk Gallery is located at 3416 Blackhawk Plaza Circle in Danville in the Blackhawk Plaza. (925) 648-8023. www.BlackhawkGal.org.

Pleasanton Art League, full members' exhibit at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. July 27 - Sept. 2. Reception and awards, July 26, 6 to 8 p.m.

Meetings/art classes

Bothwell Arts Center, ongoing art classes: figure drawing, drawing and painting, colored pencil, oils, collage, portraiture, beginners through intermediate. Contact Anne Giancola, bothwellvpa.org or email agiancola@vpa.org.

Show and Tell: Artists are invited to a monthly function at the Bothwell Arts Center, called Show Tell 4th, Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Artists bring finished or unfinished work to show and if desired, receive a critique from the group. Refreshments are brought by some of the artists, and a donation of $5.00 is desired although not mandatory. Contact for this event is D'Anne Miller at danne_miller@att.net, or Linda Ryan at LRyan1946@verizoncom for additional information.

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost $20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore.

Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info. 925-216-7231 or email barbara@teanart.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 information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit http://childrensartclassprojects.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. Weekend and weekday 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 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.GalinaMusicStudio.com. Beginners welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small $10 fee to cover meeting costs.

Wine & spirits

Wente Vineyards: Garden Tour & Workshop Series: Discover the Garden at Wente Vineyards with Master Gardener, Diane Dovhulk. Aug. 5, 10 a.m. to noon, Hall Vegetables, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. to noon, Wine with a Glass, Oct. 14, 10 a.m. to noon, The Art of Composting. Price per guest, per session: $20 Entertainment Club, $25 Non-Club. Space is limited. Reservations are required. Call 925-452-2424 or visit wentevineyards.com.

Cedar Mountain Winery, summer grill and chill series featuring BBQ and music, 6 to 9 p.m.: July 29: James Nagel. Winery supplies the hot coals, bring grilling food; wine by the glass/bottle, no alcohol. Relaxing music, salads, cheese and crackers available for purchase. For information, call 373-6636. Fee is $5 per person cash collected at the winery. All fees go to the band. www.cedarmountainwinery.com.

Charles R Vineyards, Fourth Friday Free Summer Concert Series, July 28 from 6pm to 9pm. Free Summer Concert Series features acoustic folk rock music with Frankie Bones. TGIF! Wine down your week with live music on the patio, while you sip, sing and sway the week away. Bring your grill or bottle or glass to purchase. 9190 Crane Ridge Road (end of Greenville Road) in Livermore. www.charlesrvineyards.com.


Music/concerts

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

Bluegrass open mic and pick up band: The Bandstand in Carnegie Park, 4th and K Streets, Livermore. 2 to 4 p.m. first Sunday of each month until Oct. 1, 2017.

Blacksmith Square, music every Saturday 3 to 6 p.m. in the courtyard. 21 South Livermore Ave., Livermore.

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/on Portola Avenue-- the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-10 pm--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

Music in the Orchard concert series, presenting Northwest artists, every Friday from 7-9 p.m. at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave, Pleasanton. General admission tickets: students $5; adults $12. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.


The Front Porch Music Festival, Sept. 2 at Wente Vineyards. Full day of independent music and fine wine hosted by winemaker Karl Wente. Performers include Wolf Hamlin and The Front Porch Drifters, and Kingsborough. and more. 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Estate Winery & Tasting Room, 5563 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Advance purchase at Eventbrite, for information, call 456-2305.

On the stage


The Wizard of Oz, Tri-Valley Repertory Theater production, July 15, 8 p.m.; July 16, 2 p.m.; July 22, 8 p.m.; July 23, 2 p.m.; July 29, 2 p.m.; July 30, 8 p.m.; July 30, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org.

Arsenic and Old Lace, 15 performances, including one preview, August 24 through September 17, 2017, at the Douglas Morrison Theatre, 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward, CA. Tickets are $10-$29, and are available through the Box Office at (510) 881-6777 or online at www.trouttline.org.

The Yeomen of the Guard, Lamp lighters Music Theatre, August 26, 8 p.m. and
Restoration of Pleasanton Mural Underway

Pleasanton's first public art, a mural on the Old Cheese Factory Wall depicting early Pleasanton scenes from the 1800s, is being restored by the advanced students of Charlotte Severin's "Art Made Easy" class. The restoration is sponsored by the Pleasanton Art League (PAL) and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) with cosponsorship of Way Up Art & Frame in Livermore.

The group began working on July 12, carefully bringing the mural's colors back to life after years of solar bleaching.

In 1967, Mayor Bernard Gerton had a dream to create a mural on that wall. He asked artist Charlotte Severin to help him create a competition for designs. Helen Weaver and Esther McIntosh (two Livermore artists) won. Volunteer artists helped to recreate the design on the wall. It was dedicated in 1969.

The mural was restored once by volunteer local artists inn 1996 for Pleasanton's "Fiesta '75." The work kept the colors bright. The list of participating artists is on the wall and includes Charlotte Severin, coordinating artist Helen Weaver, J. Hawley, P. Zellner, Y. Nataraj, K. Coberg, Roylance, Miranda Miller, and Kim Coberg.

The current restoration is being completed by Charlotte Severin, coordinating artist, Steve Barkkarie, Bev Barkkarie, Cynthia Altman, Julie Frey, Annika Frey, Lydia Frey, Jeanne Tierney, Steffi Gross, Helene Roylance, Miranda Miller, and Kim Coberg.

A dedication will take place later in the summer after completion of the mural and three coats of UV varnish have been applied.
CableWholesale, a national cable manufacturing and supplying company, gained significant recognition from the San Francisco Business Times, ranking 81st on the newspaper’s top “Family-Owned Businesses” list. The list ranked the 105 Bay Area companies by 2016 companywide revenue.

Sharon Jiang, Founder and CEO of CableWholesale, emigrated from China for college in the Bay Area. Jiang built her online marketplace in 1996 while enrolled, with the aim of providing top quality products for its clients, while maintaining simplicity and affordability. Along with her husband, Michael Capone, Jiang has taken the Livermore-based company from the confines of its original, one-car garage headquarters, to the international marketplace, providing top quality products for its clients, while maintaining simplicity and affordability. Along with her husband, Michael Capone, Jiang has taken the Livermore-based company from the confines of its original, one-car garage headquarters, to the international marketplace, providing top quality products for its clients, while maintaining simplicity and affordability.

CableWholesale Recognized as Top Family Owned Business

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“The family-centered aspect of our business is a major reason why we are so trusted by our customers. They know they will get top-notch products, while receiving down-to-earth, personalized service from our team,” said Jiang.

“These lists are filled with many prestigious companies, so it is an honor to be named among them. The Bay Area has a wealth of deserving businesses like these, and we are constantly motivated by them to continue providing the high-quality service expected by our customers.”
BULLETIN BOARD

people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans’ causes. The American Legion is the largest federally chartered veteran’s organization that is the veterans lobby and voice to congress. The Yorker American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at the post. To contact the Secretary, 925-494-5151.

Eric’s Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5:27 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30 -8:00 PM on the second Monday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericscorner.org

Assistance League® of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, www.assistancetheleagueamadorvalley.org. e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com or call (925) 461-6401.

Marine, Navy, Corp & Coast Guard Veterans. Meet with other like minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans causes. The Fleet Reserve Association is a charter organization that provides a voice in Congress. Young of veterans causes. The Fleet Reserve invites all visitors to join this dedication of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held every other month on the 2nd at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th street side. For more information go to http://www.calegion.org/ or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or (925) 443-2330 or Roy Warner at 925-494-6048.

North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. – Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 8:00 a.m. – Elementary aged children go to Kid’s Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. – Back to the Point Bible Study, all ages; Friday 7 p.m. – Celebration Televangel; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore, Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedar grove.org or call 497-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 4384 Pale- mino Dr., Livermore, 847-6070. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Rabbi Reuven, Rabbis Rabbi Reuven. Well Community Outreach Ministry provides meals, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nis san Road, Livermore.

Lynnwood United Methodist Church at 4448 Ave. A. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Summer worship schedule begins on May 29th with one service at 9:30 a.m. Child care provided. Contact Rev. Henry Kim or the church office at (925) 846-0221. Well Community Outreach Center, 501 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Visit gatewaylivermore.org or call 925-846-0655. Unity of Tri-Valley is a welcoming spiritual community for people of all faiths and backgrounds. Children’s program available. Ongoing groups and activities. Rev. Micah Murdock, minister, 7567 Ama dor Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 am Sunday service. www.unityoftrivalley.org.

GraceWay Church worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at Alisal Elementary School, 1544 Santa Rita Road while its new facility is being prepared. Services include band-led worship music, Sunday School for preschoolers and elementary through high school students, family friendly, www.gracewaylife.org (925) 846-4436.


Discovery Church of the Nazarene, 5802 St. Charles Borromeo, Pleasanton, Pastor Curtis Lille, 925 449-5265. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 AM. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 a.m. www.discoverychurch-trivalley.org.

Gateway Church, 811 Marilyn Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit gatewaylivermore.org or call Larry Trumpe at 443-1444. 

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints—Livermore Stake: Sunday services—1001 Hillcrest Ave: Yocum Grove Ward 9:00 a.m.; Windmill Springs Ward 11:00 a.m. 950 Main Street, Livermore Ward 9:00 a.m.; Vineyard Hills Ward 11:00 a.m.; Mosco Branch (Spanish) 12:20 p.m. 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin—Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 1:30 p.m. The Church of the Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints—Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paisa Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave, Pleasanton 2nd Ward 8:45 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave, Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paisa Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 2023 College Ave. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church—Dublin: Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m. at 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m., followed by Bible Study/ Sunday School at 10:20 a.m. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd livermore.org. Bethel Family Christian Center, 1315 Lemitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups follow- ing the sermon. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-4703. www.recoverylive.org. All are welcome.

Services: Sunday school – 9:45 a.m.; worship – 10:30 a.m.; Children’s classes during adult worship. Adults education begins on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; 10:30 AM. Small Groups also meet on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0655.


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Gillig Receives PG&E Rebate Check for Energy Reduction Program

By Katie Allen

When Gillig, the largest school and transit bus manufacturer in the country, needed more space to accelerate production, it moved its operations from Hayward to a 700,000-square-foot facility in Livermore earlier this year. The new building was the size of 12 football fields.

Gillig wanted to ensure the larger facility didn’t also produce a larger electricity bill, so the company signed up for an energy assessment through PG&E’s Savings By Design. PG&E commercial customers benefit from the free program because they receive personalized attention from a customer relationship manager who supports their unique business needs, including during construction.

PG&E representatives presented Gillig with a $315,650 rebate check for its recent lighting upgrade project.

A PG&E energy assessment found that by replacing more than 1,300 lighting fixtures throughout the new Gillig facility, the company would save hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual operating costs.

The monetary savings were only part of it. The company also learned it would be reducing its carbon footprint after switching to energy-efficient LED lighting.

“The upgraded lighting that we have completed at Gillig fits into the culture of who we are as a company. We are committed to building buses that connect communities, eliminate congestion, and contribute to a greener environment and this lighting project works right into that philosophy by reducing our carbon footprint and greenhouse emissions,” said Derek Maunus, Gillig’s president.

PG&E’s Shannon Bell, customer relationship manager, worked closely with Gillig officials. A PG&E team effort with engineering services was also involved in the process over the past two years.

Bell was on hand last month to help present the company with a $315,650 rebate check for its recent lighting upgrade project.

The bus manufacturer will also benefit from a reduction in ongoing maintenance costs associated with labor and lamp replacement. The LED lamp life is approximately four times greater than the previous high bay fluorescent system. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency calculator, the energy savings for this project is equal to removing 204 passenger vehicles off the road and ensuring 307 tons of waste stays out of landfills.

Golf Event Raises Funds for Hope Hospice

The Toll Brothers Northern California Division recently raised $93,747 for Hope Hospice during their inaugural golf benefit at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. “Thank you to Toll Brothers for their generosity and hard work in putting on an event of this size,” says Bob Boehm, Hope Hospice CEO. “This amazing donation makes it possible for us to carry out our mission to provide quality care, comfort and compassion to patients and their families at life’s end,” he adds.

More than 180 golfers participated in this tournament. “We could not have done this without our great sponsors who helped us exceed our goal,” says Toll Brothers’ Deny Bart, who organized the event. “Hope Hospice’s staff members are angels dedicated to helping patients and their loved ones live each day to the fullest by providing compassionate care and helping them navigate their way through the end of life with dignity,” she states.

When the Toll Brothers event committee began planning for this event their original goal was to raise $30,000 for Hope Hospice. “They far exceeded their goal and we are grateful for their support,” notes Boehm. Many thanks to the Toll Brothers committee that put this event on: Deny Bart, Andrew Gunson, Joel McMillan, Brian Thierrin and Dan Masterson.

Best Yoga Student in the East Bay

Bikram Yoga Livermore was named 2017’s “Best of the East Bay” yoga studio by Diablo Magazine.

Established in 2015, Bikram Yoga Livermore offers classes in three different yoga practices -- Bikram, Vinyasa, and Yin -- along with Inferno Hot Pilates and Barre Fury. Day and evening classes are available, 7 days a week.

“We are honored to receive this coveted award,” said BYL owner Deanna Hasni. “We have worked extremely hard to build a thriving Yoga community, and I’m delighted that Livermore has embraced our vision to bring a wide range of wellness opportunities to people of all ages and fitness levels.”

For more information visit bikramyogalive.com.

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Pictured, from left are Toll Brothers staff Deny Bart, Andrew Gunson, Bob Boehm (Hope Hospice CEO), Joel McMillan, Brian Thierrin and Dan Masterson.