### PAGE 12 - The Independent, NOVEMBER 15, 2012

# SHORT NOTES

## Youth Speech Contest

Pleasanton North Rotary is taking entries in the Richard D. King Annual Youth Speech Contest.

The Rotary Clubs of District 5170 sponsor the Richard D. King Annual Youth Speech Contest each year.

Prizes are awarded with "no strings attached." However, it is hoped that the award might be used to further the student's education.

The 2012-2013 Rotary Year theme, is "Peace Through Service." Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka tells Rotarians that peace through service is realized by helping others, even in the simplest of ways, which could help to bring peace.

Students are only eligible to enter the District 5170 Contest for one Rotary Club.

Each student may choose any topic of interest, however all speeches must address the 2012-2013 theme "Peace Through Service," and include a reference to at least one principle of The Rotary 4-Way Test. Use of this theme in the speech should be clear and unmistakable. The speech must be the original work of the contestant. register to be a "Lucky Fan" go to www.trivalleytv.org and click on the "Lucky Fan" icon located on that page.

# Toys for Tots Challenge

Landmark Mortgage Group is kicking off its third Toys for Tots drive; in conjunction with the Livermore/Pleasanton Fire Department. This year, the Group, is inviting area real estate offices to "A Landmark Challenge" to see who can collect the most toy donations. The winning office will get to display a Livermore/Pleasanton fireman's helmet trophy for the next year as bragging rights. Real estate offices participating as of now are Legacy, Better Homes and Gardens, Remax, Prudential and JRockcliff.

"The community plays such an important part in our business and contributing towards the Toys for Tots program gives us all a chance to give back," said Tony Russo, Landmark managing partner. "We thank the real estate offices for participating in this drive and brightening the holiday season for many families in need."

The culmination of this charitable cause happens at the holiday movie event at the Sun., Nov. 18. Meet at 2 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arrovo Road.

Turkeys aren't just on the table, they're out in our parklands, too. Join this program to learn about wild turkeys and hopefully find some to admire. This will be an easy, slow wander of less than a mile and will be great fun for both kids and adults. Participants can make a fun Thanksgiving craft.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

## **Excel Classes**

The Pleasanton Library is presenting Excel classes in November – intermediate, and expert level classes. Gain skills for career advancement, learning formatting, advanced formulas, visual basic programming, and more. Classes are taught by a finance professional with 9 years of experience.

Sign up for sessions from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Library.

Monday, November 19: Intermediate Excel cian Jill Brown to learn how and why waxes work and all about base preparation-structure, major and minor repair, and stone grinding. Please bring questions, and leave skis or snowboard at home.

## Narcotics Search

The Livermore Police Department's Special Operations Unit in conjunction with the East County Tactical Team executed a narcotics search warrant in the 1600 Block of Chestnut Street in the City of Livermore on Nov. 7. The warrant resulted from an investigation concerning drug use and drug sales associated with the target residence. The Tactical Team use resulted from information concerning the residence being used as a sureno gang house with firearms readily available.

During the execution of the warrant, several people fled from the residence in both vehicles and on foot. Officers quickly apprehended those people inside the residence. One subject physically resisted officers and was later found to have a loaded firearm concealed on his person. A total of eleven people were detained as a result of the warrant and a total of ten Neighborhood Watch groups are a great way to get to know your neighbors and to be further engaged in the happenings in your community. These groups work closely with the Police Department in addressing issues and solving problems.

• Be vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police department either through our non-emergency number at (925) 371-4987 or through 911 (emergencies / crimes in progress).

### Hacienda Holidays

Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton will be installing its annual holiday decorations on Monday, November 19, 2012. Once again, the installation will be done by long-standing Pleasanton business, T. Marshall Electric, who has performed this work for Hacienda for well over a decade. The installations will begin at approximately 4:30 am and will be conducted throughout the day, weather permitting.

"We look forward to helping welcome in another holiday season to Pleasanton." said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "Hacienda always enjoys being a part of all of the activities that will be occurring in the area and adding a festive touch to the community at this time of year."

Each year, Hacienda's wreaths are hung from the arches at Hopyard Road and Stoneridge Drive, and Hacienda Drive and Interstate 580. Decorative accents are also included at all four of Hacienda's feature intersections which, in addition to the two just noted, include Hacienda Drive and Stoneridge Drive, and Hacienda Drive and Owens Drive. Kathy Miller, T. Marshall Electric, notes, "It's a great feeling to help bring the start of the holiday season to Hacienda and Pleasanton."

