



Poet Kay Ryan

Year Starts with Wine and Words

Wine and Words will be held Sun., Jan. 6 at the Martinelli Conference and Event Center in Livermore.

Featured poet will be Kay Ryan. The event is hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post.

Ryan will read starting at 2 p.m. Following the featured reader, an open mic will take place after a short break (one poem per reader- 40 lines or less).

Ryan was born in California in 1945 and grew up in the small towns of the San Joaquin Valley and the Mojave Desert. She received both a bachelor's and master's degree from UCLA. Ryan has published several collections of poetry, including *The Niagara River* (Grove Press, 2005); *Say Uncle* (2000); *Elephant Rocks* (1996); *Flamingo Watching* (1994), which was a finalist for both the Lamont Poetry Selection and the Lenore Marshall Prize; *Strangely Marked Metal* (1985); and *Dragon Acts to Dragon Ends* (1983).

About her work, J. D. (See POET, page 7)

Correction

A December 6, 2007 article stated that Lon Goldstein had been terminated from his position as Executive Director of the Livermore Valley Charter School amid rumors that he had mishandled school funds. While state and local agencies had expressed concerns about the mismanagement of the school's finances, the action of the school's Board of Directors was not based on any alleged mishandling of funds by Mr. Goldstein and he was offered another position with the school, which he declined.

Especially amazing was the appearance of a pigmy owl. A pigmy — a diminutive owl about the size of a starling — hadn't been seen in the area for 36 years, according to Peeters.

The bird put on a show for

arrived and the two mated.

Peeters made sightings of several other owl species during this period — much more than normal. For awhile it seemed that every time he looked, there was an owl sitting in a tree

Hybrid Bullet Train Plan Livermore Wins Major Battle

The Tri-Valley picked up important support for a hybrid plan to bring a future bullet train to Livermore, where it would deposit and pick up passengers at an intermodal station linking passengers to BART and an upgraded Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) trains.

With no formal vote, but with an agreeing nod from its board the staff of the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) said it would coordinate efforts by the Tri-Valley Regional Rail Working Group (TVRRWG) and the San Joaquin County Council of Governments (COG)

Change, Controversy Marked the 1st Six Months of 2007

The first six months of 2007 were marked by the resignation of several elected officials, including Steve Pulido from the Pleasanton School Board; Tom Reitter from the Livermore City Council; and Dale Turner from the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board.

In Pleasanton, controversy continued over the Stoneridge Dr. extension and arose concerning the approval of a second Home Depot. A group of residents launched an initiative drive aimed at keeping Staples Ranch in open space.

A new management team, that included the University of California, was selected to manage the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Livermore began gearing up for the opening of the new 500-seat Bankhead Theater in the downtown.

There was controversy over a proposal to establish a maintenance district in the redevelopment area to be partially financed by property owners in the area.

JANUARY 2007

Pleasanton's Callippe Golf Course was ranked in the top ten nationally in the January edition of *Golf Digest* magazine. It was ranked 9th in "Best New Public Courses Under \$75." Callippe was the only California course listed in the top-10 under \$75 in green fees category.

Five cities in the Tri-Valley organized a sex predator task force. The group was to review policies in each city dealing with sex offenders as a prelude to a discussion about what policies might evolve so that cities can deal with sex offenders when they are released from custody.

Seven candidates applied for a vacancy on the Pleasanton School Board. They were Jill Buck, Robert Gehl, Marti Scalise, Joseph Russo, Stephen Page, Shirley Herrera and Corine Fanene. The vacancy would be created by the resignation of Steve Pulido on Feb. 2 to become a judge.

Long time resident Barbara Bunshah died. She was recognized for her work in retaining

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and their familiar sibling spats should definitely entertain the children, as will the yummy

POET

(continued from page one)

McClatchy has said, "Her poems are compact, exhilarating, strange affairs, like Erik Satie miniatures or Joseph Cornell boxes. She is an anomaly in today's literary culture: as intense and elliptical as Dickinson, as buoyant and rueful as Frost."

Ryan's awards include the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, a Guggenheim fellowship, an Ingram Merrill Award, a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Union League Poetry Prize, the Maurice English Poetry Award, and three Pushcart Prizes. Her work has been selected four times for The Best American Poetry and was included in The Best of the Best American Poetry 1988-1997.

She was named to the "It List" by Entertainment Weekly and one of her poems has been permanently installed at New York's Central Park Zoo. Ryan was elected a Chancellor of The Academy of American Poets in 2006. Since 1971, she has lived in Marin County in California.

Martinelli Event Center is located at 3585 Greenville Rd. in Livermore. Admission to Wine and Words is \$5; free to students with valid ID. Information at Connie@poetrypost.com for further information.

much cheaper than the up-front and center tickets for their shows. For tickets or further information, call the Regal Hacienda office at 560-0900 or reach their website at fandango.com.

And, heads up you Shakespeare fans: a simulcast of Verdi's "Macbeth" is scheduled for Sat., January 12 at 10:30 a.m. (half-hour later) at the Regal.

Comedy Competition Open to Teens

The Livermore Public Library will sponsor a teen comedy competition; "Livermore's Last Teen Comic Standing" on Jan. 11 starting at 4 p.m. Teens, ages thirteen to seventeen, will each perform a two minute comedy act that will be judged by a panel of young adult volunteers.

The best comedy acts will be asked to return for the semi-finals and possibly advance to the final round of the competition. For more information and to view the rules for participation, please visit TEEN SPACE at www.livermore.lib.ca.us or call 925-373-5504.

Ticket Prices

The ticket prices for Ravi Coltrane's performance on February 8 in the Amador Theater were stated incorrectly in last week's Independent. The correct prices are adults - \$25, \$30 and \$35; students - \$15, \$18 and \$21. www.civicartstickets.org or 931-3444.

experienced singers with ing skills who enjoy s lenging music. To appointment, call (925) More information about Concert Chorale is www.valleyconcertcho
Deer Ridge Vineyards, C tel artist, Victoria Ryan of Ryan's work, "D Color," will be at Deer E January 23, 2008. Gall Thurs.-Sun. 11 am. to Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Livermore. 1-866-561
Pirate Day! Workshop, to 4 p.m. Dublin Her 6600 Donlon Way, 1 452-2100. \$3 per p shrunken heads, follow sing sea chanties and Lingo - arr! Dress up - costume. Songs and m Bingo Schmingo.
Wine and words, Jan Featured reader Kay R Open mic is a www.poetrypost.com Center, Greenville Rd Hosted by Livermore Connie Post. \$5 admi
Taste and See: A Mus through ten centuries cred Music. Sun., Jan. terian Church, 2020 5 more. 5 p.m. pre-con p.m. concert. Specia Francisco Symphony Granger, cellist, Victor violinist with pianist

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NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN Showing Daily: 7:10 9:30

ENCHANTED (PG) Showing Daily: 12:00 2:20 4:45

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