

Foundation sponsors tribal chief's Livermore visit

OUR COUNTRY was founded with the idea that there would be no personages holding royal titles or a royal lineage to rule. This has been true, for the most part.

The closest we've come to royalty in this country, at least politically, were the Kennedys, and for people of a certain age, that means only President Kennedy and first lady Jackie Kennedy.

That doesn't mean Americans don't like royalty; we do. Who doesn't know who is being referred to when we say "the queen?" Of course, that person is speaking of Queen Elizabeth II of England. When she has visited the U.S., most recently in May, Americans flock to see her. We may not have royal families, but we do love royalty.

Why do I speak of royalty? Well, you have a chance to visit



MARK TARTE
Around Livermore

a chief of the Maasai people of Kenya. **Chief Salaton Ole' Ntutu** is a tribal chief, who, at the age of 14, spent seven years in the bush with the wildlife of Africa earning the title of warrior, armed only with the training of his elders, a blanket and a spear.

His visit is sponsored by the Friends of Asante Africa Foundation to promote their efforts to help young women and girls in Africa. Chief Ntutu now

spends his time teaching other young boys the Maasai ways to carry on their traditions, and he has built and protects a shelter for women and girls.

His appearance will be strange to most Americans. He dresses only in the traditional tribal attire and jewelry of a Maasai chief and has been working with young boys in, of all places, Oregon as of late.

The Asante Africa Foundation carries on its work in Chief Ntutu's region, and he is critical to the foundation's success.

The chief's visit to Livermore was sudden. He will be in the area only from Oct. 18-24, and the foundation was able to procure a location for this special event on Oct. 20. So, on that date, from 2 to 5 p.m., come to the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. to meet Chief Ntutu and help the foundation raise funds

for its work in Africa.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children or \$75 for a family pack. For tickets or more information, contact the Asante Africa Foundation at www.AsanteAfrica.org or call 925-292-0245.

THE ARC—Another worthy organization will also be holding a fundraiser in a few weeks. I've talked about them before and had the pleasure when I worked as a police officer to get to know some of the people from the ARC.

The ARC of Alameda County, which has had a presence in Livermore for decades, is holding an inaugural "Fall Carnival" at the newly renovated Veterans Hall in Pleasanton on Nov. 11. The ARC, formerly the Association of Retarded Citizens, has been helping developmentally disabled persons and their families in Alameda County since

1950. It is a nonprofit organization that provides both training and jobs to these disabled citizens.

The event runs from 6 to 10 p.m. It will feature food from Pampered Palate - Girasole Grill. Dancing, a silent auction and old-fashioned carnival games will also be part of the program. For more information, call 925-485-5465.

Two fine organizations that give people a helping hand to help themselves. What better way to start the holiday season?

Until next week, be alert, be safe and God bless America.

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