Time to move?
Seniors get inside scoop on relocation ➤ page 6

Hammering out the details
Residents present hardware needs to Home Depot ➤ page 5

On stage
Young stars shine at the Next Big Thing Summer Theatre camps ➤ page 14

Danville
BORN to BINGO
Danville seniors know it’s all about fun, friends and five in a row
page 12
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Yes, I’m compulsive that way. Anything I start I finish. I read newspapers and magazines cover to cover. I would finish a book I didn’t like. But, of course, I’m fussy about what I choose to read. I tend to go on reviews or choose something by a favorite author.

Helen Starosciak
retired

No. If it’s boring to me, it’s a waste of my time. I usually choose something by an author I’m familiar with. For example, I enjoy mysteries by Mary Higgins Clark.

Emma Giorsetto
homemaker, volunteer

I rarely read anything but non-fiction. Even for pleasure or entertainment, I would pick up a magazine or newspaper before a novel. I might read a novel if it’s going to be made into or has been made into a movie. I usually enjoy the movie more than the book. But then I love film. The written word just doesn’t move me like film.

Brian Cameron
construction worker

No. There are lots of books I haven’t finished. I like to read historical novels. I read James Michener’s “Hawaii” three times, but could not get through “The Source” or the one about the Caribbean. I like James Patterson espionage. I’ll read maybe a fourth of the book before I give up on it.

Gene Brown
science teacher

Of course for school I have to finish it whether I like it or not. I would finish a book even though it’s slow getting started. Sometimes it takes a while before the plot kicks in. You have to give it a chance. I tend to pick up a book based on its aesthetics; if the cover catches my eye, then I’ll turn it over and read what it’s about.

Brianne Spencer
student

Streetwise
ASKED AT THE LIBRARY

Q:

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ABOUT THE COVER
Bingo! Isabelle Graber was one of the winners at the Danville Seniors Club last week, which takes over the Danville Veterans Hall from 9:45 a.m.-2 p.m. each Monday. Photo by Shannon Corey.
Vote for Monte Vista grad

George Kelly, who graduated from Monte Vista High School in 2003, was scheduled to perform pop opera on Simon Cowell’s reality television show, “America’s Got Talent,” on Aug. 2 and again Aug. 9. The show airs Wednesday nights on NBC at 8 p.m.

Kelly, whose parents Irene and Henry Komsky live in Danville, advanced through the preliminary rounds and was now moving onto to the semi-finals this week and the wild card show next week. At this stage, phone-in viewers decide the winner of each show and who goes on to the final round.

Kelly was originally discovered by a talent scout while performing in a café in Los Angeles. Besides working with vocal experts Seth Riggs and David Romano, he has toured with the Irish dancing extravaganza “Riverdance” as a soloist.

“For George, this is one step in a long journey toward success,” said Joyce Tucker, a longtime neighbor. “He’s up against a lot of talent, and he’s going to need all the help our viewing community can give him.”

Kelly is a student at UCLA majoring in political science.

Thursdays stay hot

Downtown Danville continues with its excitement each Thursday night through the summer. The evening farmers market continues from 4-8 p.m. each Thursday until Sept. 14, in the town parking lot at the corner of Railroad and Prospect. Also on the schedule are:

Aug. 10 - Hot Summer Nights Car Show
Aug. 17 - Family Sports Night; Summer Nights at the Livery from 6-9 p.m. with live jazz and children’s entertainment
Aug. 24 - Final Hot Summer Nights Car Show
Aug. 31 - Do-It-Y ourself Fair at the farmers market, featuring a wide range of fun and educational activities.

Alamo Web site offers ‘more’

A recently launched Web site gives Alamo residents easy-to-access information on community activities and civic involvement. Alamore.org currently posts a calendar with dates and times for summer recreation activities like family fun nights, concerts in the park and outdoor movies. It is also a source for finding out when local meetings are, what will be discussed, and what has been decided in previous weeks.

The site was created by Steve Mick and Alicia Watson, retired Alamo residents who are members of the Alamo Improvement Association, Zone 36 Landscape and Lighting Committee, and R-7A Parks and Recreation Committee. The site states its name was inspired because Alamo has “more community involvement, more civic spirit, more recreational opportunities, and more quality of life.” The name combines “Alamo” and “more” to make that statement.

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Tassajara School—still a learning experience

Shapell contractors rebuild stable, add restroom to beloved old school grounds
by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

L et the school bell ring. The latest work at the old one-room Tassajara School has been completed by Shapell Homes, which rebuilt the stable and added a functional restroom behind the school.

The school, opened in 1889, is probably the only site in the Valley that looks much the way it did in the old days, noted Beverly Lane, curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley and a board member of the East Bay Regional Park District.

“The room looks like a period building,” Lane said.

The old stable and another shed that housed a woodshop had been fenced off for safety some time ago, said Roxanne Lindsay, a member of the board of directors of the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, which owns and maintains the property.

They were worried about the children attending the museum’s One-Room School Program, which began in 1995. Each spring third-grade classes, close to 2,000 students, attend the school for a day of living history. They also wanted to make the site authentic for the program.

“We started getting bids to restore the (old stable) but they were very high,” said Lindsay. “Because the fire department operates on tax-payer money, it wasn’t a legitimate expense (for them).”

They hired someone to take down the structures in 2004, and Gordon Rasmussen, a former student at the one-room schoolhouse, stored the wood at his nearby ranch.

Lane approached Chris Truebridge, a Danville resident and president of Shapell Homes, to ask if the company would be interested in helping, he recalled.

“I have a pretty good pool of civic-minded contractors who were willing to join in and do it at cost,” Truebridge said. “Shapell picked up the costs of material and labor.”

He said Lane provided photographs and construction details. “We went ahead and worked off those pictures pretty much,” Truebridge said.

Shapell provides handicapped accessible restrooms at all its models, he explained, so he ordered an extra one for the school grounds, with vertical siding and a roof to match the old schoolhouse. They also put new roofs on the defunct boys and girls outhouses.

The onsite coordinator was Tim Wright, who is project manager at Gale Ranch, working with CBC Framing, Pacific Rim Plumbing, Peterson Painting, and Peterson and Deon Roofing.

“The school, which is located on Finley Road off Camino Tassajara, was closed in 1946 when the Tassajara School District merged with the Danville Union School District. In 1957 the school was deeded to the Tassajara Fire District, which was under the purview of the county Board of Supervisors, and staffed by local residents who volunteered as firefighters.

Gordon Rasmussen, 71, stood in the schoolyard last week and recalled going to school there until it closed, sending him to attend seventh grade “in town.”

“It’s our part of history,” said Rasmussen, recalling the work to keep the building functioning as a community center, where for many years residents voted and meetings were held by 4H and the volunteer fire department. “Everybody had a love for the school!”

Alamo may bypass county to get trees
Activists want trees in front of Yardbirds again
by Natalie O’Neill

R esidents concerned with Alamo’s aesthetics are taking things into their own hands. Alamo Improvement Association and Zone 36 members may go around county staff to get three oak trees put back in front of Las Trampas Center, members said this week.

“I’m going” to Yardbirds, independent of the county, to see if they will offer a tree program in front of the store,” said Mike Gibson of AIA.

He and members of Zone 36 Landscape and Lighting Committee are interested in preserving the small-town character of downtown Alamo. And they are turning to Yardbirds and Home Depot to get on-going tree issues solved.

Gordon Rasmussen, a former student at the old one-room Tassajara School, admires the replication of the old stable, built by Shapell Homes. He recalled the school children coming on bicycles and leaving them in the shed.

Blackhawk home suffers fire damages
Hot weather accelerates combustion of oily rags
by Jordan M. Doronila

Fire consumed an attic, a garage and a room above it in a multi-million-dollar home last week on South Ridge Court in Blackhawk.

“Fire was rolling in the attic space,” said Jack Barton, battalion Chief for the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District.

Spontaneous combustion occurred between oily rags and flammable stains in the 108-degree weather shortly before 4 p.m., Tuesday, July 25.

The rags had been used to varnish the deck, and they were placed in an open one-gallon metal can next to the house, Barton said. The hot weather accelerated the combustion.

The fire climbed up the home’s exterior and spread into the attic space and extended into the garage and the exercise room.

Home Depot pledges customer service
Alamo residents nail representative with questions on new Yardbirds format and give their suggestions
by Natalie O’Neill

A lamo residents told Home Depot representatives last week they want a basic community-oriented hardware store when the company reopens Yardbirds in fall 2007.

About 200 people packed into a hot room at Creekside Community Church during a power outage to hear the company’s upcoming plans and give their input. Some were frustrated with the change, others were pleased, and all seemed to hold Alamo’s unique home improvements close to heart.

“Yardbirds is the city hall of Alamo. On a Saturday morning, you can find almost anyone from Alamo there,” said Hal Bailey, outspoken member of the Alamo community of neighbors.

Major product changes will include replacing lumber and hardware, such as bulk nuts and bolts, with upscale appliances and cabinetry. The store will offer more home improvement supplies for outdoor patios, gardens, bathroom designs and kitchens.

“We will merge Home Depot with what you find at an Expo Center,” said Tim Seymour, Home Depot spokesman.

We’re not looking for a show-room type store, its really about convenience,” said Mike Gibson of AIA.

Alamo residents will make a statement by what they do and do not buy, another audience member said.

“We will speak with our dollars,” he said.

The interior of the store will be remodeled to include new display fixtures, racking, and painting jobs on the floor and ceiling, but the size of the store won’t be expanded. Signs will be the same size, likely in the same locations, and will read “Home Depot Yardbirds,” with “Home Depot” in smaller text, Seymour said.

During the time the store is being remodeled, and considering the recent closure of the Danville Ace Hardware store on San Ramon Valley Boulevard, Alamo residents will now have a longer drive to nearby hardware stores. Home Depot in San Ramon and Ace Hardware in Blackhawk will be the closest available hardware stores until the reopening.

Concerns about the store’s out-of-the-area draw—namely, its effect on parking and traffic—were also raised. Las Trampas Center draws busy crowds to its Starbucks and The Dog, a popular lunch restaurant.

“Alamo doesn’t need any more compact parking,” one man said, and the audience responded with sounds of agreement.

With a Home Depot nearby in San Ramon, Seymour said he doesn’t expect the draw to be from outside the area.

But patrons who come into
DOLORES FOX Ciardelli working on it,” noted Rasmussen, “We were mostly ranchers foundation. also a community effort to find a held fundraisers for the rest. It was district paid half of the expense began leaking, which threatened dows were broken. When the roof Vandalism became a problem, Rasmussen said, and the win- Everybody pitched in,” he said. Rasmussen recalled the building being rented out for $10, and a big room Tassajara School. He recalled that when he attended the school, until 1946, it had a similar turnstile to prevent the horses from leaving.

School

Rasmussen recalled the building being rented out for $10, and a big community picnic held each July. “Everybody pitched in,” he said. “I still have the long rope we used for a tug of war.” Vandalism became a problem, Rasmussen said, and the windows were broken. When the roof began leaking, which threatened the inside of the building, the fire district paid half of the expense for a new roof and the community held fundraisers for the rest. It was also a community effort to find a construction crane to lift up the old schoolhouse and build a new foundation. “We were mostly ranchers working on it,” noted Rasmussen, explaining they were used to constructing and repairing their own buildings. “Then we started working on the windows.” They also put up lights, inside and out, which halted the vandalism. “The community did it,” Rasmussen said. “Not the fire district or the school district.” Everyone can learn more about the school at an exhibit called “The One-Room School House” that opens today at the museum, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville, and runs through Sept. 27.

The school marm program has been renting portable outhouses for the children to use as they take part in school life, circa 1890, being taught by Mistress Joan Kurtz. But now, with the new restroom, the museum will be spared the expense and inconvenience.

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Adult Day Care Network of Contra Costa County: 284-7942

—provided by Catherine Ramey

Seniors talk about moving

Step-by-step plan is important when relocating, says gerontologist

by Jordan M. Geronia

Attention seniors! Reach out and ask and oceans of help will flood your way.

Gerontologist Catherine Ramey says this to be so, explained at a presentation she gave to seniors at the Danville Public Library last week, organized by the town Parks and Recreation Department.

Her presentation, “Seniors on the Move: The Inside Scoop on Relocation,” talked about the process of moving and gave a step-by-step plan for making change as smooth as possible.

“You want to make an informed decision,” Ramey said. “The more information you have, the more control you have. They just don’t know what’s out there. It’s hard for them to come to a decision.”

Seniors might decide to move to be closer to their grandchildren, because it will allow them more vacation time, or to let go of housekeeping, she said. Some may need assistance with their daily activities.

Ramey said only a small percentage of the elderly are institutionalized. She noted that many are lively and energetic, and some still date.

“Age is just a number,” she said. “It’s really a distinction.”

She said when older people decide to relocate they must be aware of four major aspects: making the decision; planning and preparing; making the move; and settling in. She also discussed defining what a “home” is, selling property, and selecting a new lifestyle and getting the most out of it.

Folks must decide why they are moving and where before they begin to relocate, she said. After these decisions are made, they must make sure they are financially secure and also must check out their new environment.

During relocation, Ramey recommended the elderly give serious attention to what belongings they want to bring and what they want to discard.

“It’s really important you have control over your belongings,” she said. “You create your environment with your belongings.”

“Moving can be horrendous,” she added. “It depends on how you approach it.”

Upon completing the moving process, she advised settling into the new place by getting to know the community and building a social network whether it is a church, friends or family.

“At the workshop, the audience raised issues they had faced when they left their old homes. One resident complained that it’s difficult to live alone and make decisions by herself.

Irma Konecny said transportation is a big issue. She said there is not enough public transportation in the Danville area, and the high cost of real estate posed financial challenges when she and her husband Anthony moved to San Ramon. She added that elderly communities in the Danville area are “cliquey.”

But despite the struggles of moving from Oregon and Oklahoma to California, she and her husband wanted to be closer to their grandchildren.

“It’s very positive,” Konecny said, about the Ramey’s presentation.

Ramey is a member of the Gerontological Society of America, American Society on Aging, National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers, and National Council on Aging and American Society on Aging Joint Conference. Additionally, she is a Realtor for Intero Real Estate Services.

She said she combines her real estate and gerontology background to help seniors.

“I could be talking about this forever,” she said.

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TIMES-HERALD OAKLAND"
OK’d the removal of three oaks that had been dedicated with the Boulevard of Trees project. In April, Supervisor Mary N. Pipher offered to replace the trees at an undefined location in Alamo, after being informed the trees were part of a project to beautify the area. The Public Works Department and Zone 36 then began looking into spots where dead, diseased or removed trees need to be replaced along Danville Boulevard.

Now members of the community are demanding the new trees be put in where they were taken out.

“Everybody wants them back at Las Trampas Center, so she would prefer the trees go back in where they were taken out. She recently said something was missing where the trees were removed. Schooley said it looked like someone had dug up the tree, and Zone 36 then began looking into spots where dead, diseased or removed trees need to be replaced along Danville Boulevard.

Problems are popping up with the county, however, for several reasons: The sidewalk would have to be dug up, permission from the property owner is needed, and empty holes in the sidewalk could pose a liability issue.

“It’s something that can be talked about with the development team,” said Eric Whan, Contra Costa County Senior Civil Engineer. The issue was discussed last week at a meeting with Home Depot, which purchased Yardbirds in late 2005 and will reopen the store in fall 2007.

“Home Depot (was) informed that they can garner great public opinion by putting three trees in,” said Steve Mick of Zone 36. Home Depot spokesperson Tim Seymour said he can’t yet make a statement one way or another on the likelihood that the trees will be planted in that location.

Getting Home Depot to take on the project would be a weight off the shoulders of Zone 36, considering its small budget, said Valerie Schooley, chairwoman of the committee.

At a meeting this spring, Schooley said it looked like something was missing where the trees were taken out. She recently said she would prefer the trees go back in front of Las Trampas Center, so long as funds for the replacement don’t come out of the Zone 36 budget.

The original location would be easier for Zone 36 to water, Burns pointed out at the last Zone 36 meeting. Instead of contracting a watering team, it could be done through the center. Zone 36 will fund watering maintenance for the new trees while the county will pay for the trees themselves and planting labor.

Watering of the Boulevard of Trees is an issue that is also pending. With the recent heat wave, residents said they were concerned that the Public Works Department isn’t on top of watering the Boulevard of Trees.

“It’s a very hot summer and I’m really disappointed that this has fallen through the cracks again,” Burns said.

Watering trouble can be attributed to change of county staff personnel, Whan said. Lisa Carnahan, who recently left the county, was formerly in charge of that aspect of maintenance and the responsibility will now be up to him, he said.

Upsets and community input will be given at the next Zone 36 Landscape and Lighting Committee at Hap Magee Ranch Park at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 13.

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**Home Depot**

Continued from page 5

Alamo to buy cabinets and appliances will likely spend more time in the store, Gibson said. Where old customers might stop by for a light bulb or a screw, these customers will spend hours in the store, he said.

Seymour said they plan to avoid parking issues by creating a faster, more efficient check-out system.

“We will move customers through more rapidly,” Seymour said.

Patrons said they hoped efficiency wouldn’t take priority over customer service, pointing out they valued the intimate connection Yardbirds’ management and employees had with customers.

Self checkout machines will be available to accommodate those who are in a hurry, but those who enjoy person-to-person contact will also have that option, Seymour said.

“I look forward to your mom and pop hardware store because that’s what we want,” said Steve Mick of AIA.

“We want a store that looks and feels like the community we live in,” one woman said.

With large chain retail stores all over the country replacing small businesses, the change was hard for some to stomach. Carroll Hudson, general manager for Yardbirds, addressed that issue, explaining that the change is best for Yardbirds and Home Depot.

“I hate to see everybody’s attitude about our company, but the purchase of Yardbirds was inevitable,” he said. “Competing today against multi-national chains isn’t easy.”

Most Yardbirds employees will stay the same, and customer service will be a top priority, Seymour said. Maintaining the same small-town feeling is something he said he hopes to succeed in.

“What we want is a nice, down-home, well-stocked hardware store.”

—Ruth Gulliford, Alamo Improvement Association

“We are reinvesting in our employees so they understand they have to take care of customers first,” Seymour said.

Home Depot might not get everything right the first day, Seymour said, but the company understands it has a responsibility to prove it can meet Alamo’s needs.

In the end, Home Depot and Alamo have similar interests—the company wants to sell and the community wants to buy. With this in mind, much of the community is optimistic, one neighbor commented.

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**Fire**

Continued from page 5

Barton said. The homeowner was in Pleasanton and called 911 after she heard from her housekeeper in Pleasanton and called 911 after she heard from her housekeeper in Pleasanton and called 911 after she heard from her housekeeper in Pleasanton and called 911 after she heard from her housekeeper in Pleasanton and called 911 after she heard from her housekeeper. Barton, as he drove near the home. "We couldn’t see anything," said Barton, as he drove near the home. "No smoke was noticed."

But as firefighters drew closer, they saw light smoke coming from the attic area. They first made sure the fire did not spread to other areas of the home. Once the house was clear, they pulled the ceiling walls out and removed the roofing from the attic area to ventilate the flames.

"It’s easier to extinguish," Barton said. “A confined fire will continue to gain momentum.”

An estimated $500,000 was damaged structurally. Approximately $50,000 worth of contents was destroyed, including a treadmill and other exercise equipment.

While the homeowners were present, firefighters doused the fire with water and foam.

Spontaneous combustion occurs when specific chemicals mix and heat, eventually reaching an ignition temperature. If homeowners are doing varnish work, they need to be careful where they store the flammable materials, Barton said.

“They should be fully contained in a metal container.” He said. “Certainly place them away from any structures that will burn.”

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When the kids were custodians

Whatever happened to marbles? Out at the old one-room Tassajara School last week, Gordon Rasmussen, 71, was reminiscing about playing marbles in the old dirt schoolyard. He still has his bag of marbles, he said. He also recalled a game where the kids, boys and girls together, would split into two groups and throw a ball over the top of the schoolhouse, with the object being to retrieve it and run it back around the school to some goal. We both stood looking up at the roof, wondering, “Could we throw that high?”

Gordon was kind enough to meet me at the old school, on Finley Road off Camino Tassajara, to talk about the recent renovations on the grounds. A former stable has been rebuilt and a restroom has been added in the rear, midway between the old girls and boys outhouses. It was fun to stand in the old school yard hearing about life in that very spot more than 60 years ago. Gordon said it looked just the same—except back then, of course, everything had seemed much larger to him. His father also attended the school, after his family moved to the nearby ranch in 1912. Gordon said it looked just the same—except back then, of course, everything had seemed much larger to him. His father also attended the school, after his family moved to the nearby ranch in 1912.

The school has majestic black walnut trees throughout the grounds. The original students, in 1889, were responsible for keeping them watered. Gordon said by his time, they didn’t need any special care, and they had even been well-established when his father went to school there. He remembered the children collecting the walnuts and putting them into big sacks to be sold at the feed store belonging to Mrs. Arendt’s husband.

Gordon said he had culture shock when the one-room schoolhouse closed in 1946 and he had to take the school bus to Danville Grammar School to attend seventh grade. He was stunned to be in a class with 25-30 kids all his age. “The noise level is what I remember the most. That first week I thought, ‘This is not going to work,’” he said with a laugh. But of course he got used to it.

When he grew up, he stayed on the ranch, remaining part of the community that loved the old schoolhouse and used it for their social center. They voted there and had meetings of the volunteer fire department. To hear more about the old days at the schoolhouse, visit the display at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave., that opens today and runs through Sept. 27. On Saturdays, former students of Tassajara School will be there to share their memories, including Gordon Rasmussen. Maybe he’ll bring his marbles.

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The nuts and bolts of it

The meeting between Home Depot officials and residents recently was a good first step in putting back together a neighborhood hardware store after the closing of Yardbirds in Alamo. We hope Home Depot listened to what the people had to say and will truly respond.

We like our grocery stores and our drugstores but there is something about a hardware store that appeals to our basic instincts, maintaining our homes that we love. We like our neighborhood hardware store when we want to fix the nagging drawer in the kitchen that doesn’t quite pull right. We ask advice at the hardware store for a product to repair a damaged wall or a table. When we want to paint—either a touchup or an entire room—we go to the hardware store for supplies and advice.

Not only did Yardbirds close recently but so did Danville Ace Hardware, Tassajara Valley Ace Hardware in Blackhawk seems to be thriving but that’s quite a distance from Alamo and West Danville. Walnut Creek residents are still mourning their loss of Simon’s downtown and it’s been at least 10 years since it was demolished.

The good news is that Home Depot purchased Yardbirds and it is in the same business. Since the location in Alamo is not as large as Home Depot full service locations, something has to go. Apparently the lumber will be eliminated and the new store will focus on high-end appliances and fixtures. But the main thing people at the meeting said they wanted was the basic supplies needed to fix up a 50-year-old house.

No matter how much our house prices go up, there still comes a time when we need to replace the do-hickey in the toilet. And we depend on our neighborhood hardware for supplies. Home Depot’s motto is “We can do it. We can help.” It made the effort to send in Alamo, following through on the ideas expressed at the neighborhood meeting and giving us a true neighborhood hardware store.

There is something about a hardware store that appeals to our basic instincts, maintaining our homes that we love.

Dear Editor:

I’m sorry I was unable to attend the Alamo Improvement Association meeting on July 25 at which a representative from Home Depot discussed the plans for the former Yardbirds store. I am a 48-year resident of Danville and have shopped at Yardbirds since it opened. Like others, I am saddened by the lack of choice that has resulted from the closures of stores like Simons Home Center and Kelleway Hardware in Walnut Creek as well as Ace Hardware in Danville and San Ramon, and now Yardbirds in Alamo.

From the reports I have read regarding the meeting on July 25, it seems like a lot of people were pushing for a neighborhood type hardware store, not a big warehouse store. I’m not certain if the representatives from Home Depot mentioned it, but I believe they currently operate “urban” type Home Depot stores in Manhattan, New York, that operate on a smaller footprint than the big warehouse stores and focus on carry-out type items rather than larger items. I’m wondering if that type of approach would be best for the Alamo location. They could then always direct customers to the San Ramon or Concord stores for other items they don’t carry in Alamo.

Good luck to Home Depot working through the process. I anxiously await the outcome.

Gary M. Parsons, Danville

Define ‘hardware store’

Dear Editor:

What is a hardware store? Bring up the word Hardware in Alamo and you can draw a crowd but you might not be able to define that word. It seems patio stores, cabinet stores, appliance centers, tool shops, paint stores and garden centers are all part of Home Improvement Centers and that is what is meant by Hardware. Those things contain hardware but are not hardware.

It’s likely we need a new word for Hardware to cover screws, nuts, bolts, nails, lumber, braces, sockets, switches and more. Not all hardware is used to improve a home so we need to invent a word that tells the shopper that they are entering a Hardware store. It can’t be the fancy aisle names such as Fasteners, Electrical, Coverings, but a real word that says this is a Hardware store.

It has to be a new word because Hardware is not taught in schools and colleges. Shop classes today are Math, Science and Lab classes for would-be engineers who use components, assemblies and fixtures, and not Hardware. Hardware in most people’s minds is computers, printers and more so we need that new word for real Hardware.

In Alamo, we have that word. It’s Yardbirds and everybody knows what it means and knows exactly what was offered.

Hal Bailey, Alamo
OBITUARIES

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

Troubled week in Diablo

A short string of disturbances disrupted the harmonious silence on Caballo Ranchero Drive in Diablo last week. A burglary, a domestic violence dispute and an illegal dumping transpired on the road, said officials from the Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office.

“The three incidents occurred on the same street, but they are not connected,” said spokesman Jimmy Lee. “The reality is that this can happen anywhere.”

On Tuesday, July 25, a couple engaged in a physical altercation and harmed one another. One of the household members called police after the incident ensued. Both sustained minor injuries and an officer eventually arrived.

On Sunday, July 30, a job foreman reported that tools were stolen from a house under construction, said police. Sometime between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. Sunday, culprits snatched $1,900 worth of tools from upstairs plus took a $600 small compressor that was chained to the house. They also hooked up a $2,220 utility trailer to another vehicle and drove away.

The dollar amounts are estimates, said Urrutia. She also noted the neighbors didn’t see or hear anything.

On July 30, a resident filed a report that someone illegally dumped an old water heater on the resident’s property sometime between 4 p.m., Friday, July 28, and 8 p.m. Saturday, Urrutia said. People dumping items illegally on the resident’s property has been a problem, she said.

—Jordan M. Doronila

Bruno ‘Buzz’ Biasatti

Bruno “Buzz” Biasatti, an Alamo resident for the past 48 years, passed away July 25 in Pleasanton at the age of 74.

He was born Feb. 19, 1932, in Stockton to Emenguido “James” and Lucia Biasatti. He was raised in Livermore, and attended St. Michael’s Grammar School, Livermore High School (class of 1949) and Santa Clara University, graduating with a degree in business administration. He served for two years in the Army at Fort Benning, Ga. He worked for State Farm Insurance as a claims adjuster for 45 years.

He was an avid fan of the SF 49ers and Giants, and after retirement in 1999, enjoyed many happy hours in his garden.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Diane; daughters Loni (Tony) Bracho and Lynne Croak; sons Brian (Sharon) Biasatti and John (Dennis) Biasatti; and three grandchildren, Natalie Croak, Daniel Croak and Brian Patrick Biasatti. He also leaves three sisters, Rina Azzarello, Mary Shepherd and Giannina Hibbun, and a brother, John Biasatti, as well as in-laws, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Bruno’s life was held July 30 at Wilson and Kratzor Chapel of San Ramon Valley, and a Mass was celebrated the next day at St. Isidore’s Catholic Church followed by a reception in the parish hall. Interment is at St. Michael’s Cemetery in Livermore. The family requests that any donation be made to the American Diabetes Association, 1900 Powell St., Suite 120, Emeryville 94608.
Champs again!
The Tassajara American Little League 12-year-old All-Stars successfully defended their championship in the Granada Invitational again this year. They won it as 11-year-olds last year, beating the same opponent in the title game both years, San Ramon Valley Little League. The score was 22-4.
There were originally 16 area all-star teams vying for the title, in a tournament played over six days, three of which had 114-degree temperatures. The boys survived the heat wave and outscored their opponents 57-18, winning six straight games on their way to the title.
Holding first-place trophies are (l-r) Anthony Villa, Brian Peterson, Casey Chavarria, Kevin Hare, Kyle Haggard, Brody Rovner, Michael Hernbroth, Dylan Burkhart, Cody Chavarria (absent players: Joey Viscuglia, Max Dutto). The team was led by manager Stan Chavarria and coaches Steve Villa and Ken Hare.

S P O R T S D I G E S T

“Tiger’ book hits the shelves
“Walking 18 Holes with Tiger,” by Danville residents MJ and ML Mc Colgan, who are National Special Olympics champions, is now available at Barnes and Noble as well as some Danville businesses, such as Chamois Car Wash. The 50-page hardback book, which sells for $16.95, tells the story of Mc Colgans.
MJ Mc Colgan is three-time National Championship and has won the Northern National Special Olympics Golf

Backstroke record-breaker
Spencer Peugh, 14, of Del Amigo Swim Team broke the team record for 13/14 boys 50-yard backstroke swimming against Diablo country Club on July 12 with a time of 28.25 seconds. The previous record, set last year, was 28.34 seconds, also set by Peugh.
Bill Walsh stands on the stage of the Danville Veterans Hall, calling out the numbers. The plastic balls tumble in the machine until one pops out.

"B-12." Walsh says into the microphone. "B-12."

The room is silent as people concentrate on their bingo cards, most playing multiples, either propped up in stands or lying on the tables.

It's the gathering of the Danville Seniors Club, which meets from 9:45 a.m.-2 p.m. every Monday for bingo, line-dancing, bridge, mah jong and more.

"Some do four or five cards but two maxes me out," says Gerry Fuller with a laugh. She moved to Danville from Palm Desert to be near her daughter last year, and said she also comes here to play pinochle.

Walsh keeps varying the bingo games. One wins with all odd numbers. Another is "layer cake," which is the entire top, middle and bottom rows across. "Three postage stamps" means four squares in three of the corners.

"Every week it's the same thing," said president Fran Britt. "We have about 80 members but not everybody shows up. We have an attendance book and it's usually about 45, it depends."

There's a lot of history in this room. Britt, 86, had her husband in band during the Japanese bombing and stayed in China during the Sino-American construction after World War II. Britt, who passed the seniors club a general meeting.

Next comes the other goodies from Trader Joe's.

Jane Britt, who belonged to the seniors club. "I've been in the bingo card company."
Kathleen Kelsey, 90, is President of the Danville Seniors Club, which was founded in 1971 and its 35th anniversary is in September. The club was founded in 1971 and its 35th anniversary is in September, which of course calls for a celebration. "We've invited the mayor and we're trying to have entertainment," said Britt. Meanwhile the Monday fun continues. Walsh calls number after number until someone yells: "Bingo!" It's Isabelle Graber, looking cool in turquoise. The numbers are verified, and Graber accepts her $10 bill with a smile.

The club has trips once or twice a year, usually to Reno or Indian casinos. Membership costs $10 a year; call 743-4026. Britt enjoys the club but laments the fact that it doesn't have a site to call its own. At least the parking dilemma near the Veterans Hall was recently resolved when the Danville police began to issue permits to the seniors to park in the two-hour zones for longer periods of time on Mondays.

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New generation hits the stage as the Next Big Thing

by B. Lynn Goodwin

A group of animated teens sits on the stage of the Village Theatre, dressed in costumes for the closing number of “Footloose.” They are waiting for notes about their final dress rehearsal.

Carrie Blanding, “administrative goddess” and music director of Danville’s Next Big Thing Theatre Company, stands before the crowd.

“I’ll give notes tomorrow,” she announces. “Right now, I have stars.”

The cast buzzes with excitement, wondering who will be honored today.

“This is for somebody who was with us last summer and has really made progress. Drum roll, please...”

Blanding says.

Hands drum against the varnished wooden floor as she announces an actor’s name. A burst of cheers goes up, as a boy costumed in a black leather jacket comes forward.

Blanding repeats her presentation of stars and Next Big Thing pencils, accompanied by enthusiastic cheers from the crowd. One goes to someone who has “shown a lot of commitment,” and another is given to a “round-faced bundle of joy.” There is a star for “someone who has ‘done a lot of great work,’” and “someone who is new and a welcome addition.” Everyone is valued here and the participants are bursting with pride. If they are not honored today, they know their turn will come.

Next Big Thing has been training performers from ages 8 to 18 in summer camps over the last five years. In addition to rehearsals, the camp offers audition workshops, field trips, dress-up days and game days, all leading up to quality performances. The talented staff plays a huge role in the growth of each performer.

Carrie Blanding and Erin McKevitt took over the company five years ago when the original director, Charlie Merenghi, left the area. He picked them for their energy, enthusiasm and devotion to the kids. Although Blanding has a background in arts administration, it is her directing talents that shine as she coaches and mentors the kids.

Erin McKevitt, who teaches drama at Borrello Middle School in San Mateo, is the “artistic genius” and choreographer. She puts on the same musical at Borrello that she will be working on with Next Big Thing, gaining experience with the script, the demands of the show, and even collecting costumes that can be reused. Like Blanding, she bubbles with enthusiasm and the kids love and respect her.

“Acting guru” and assistant director Jeff Morris was passionate about energy at the final dress rehearsal. He demands the best and he gets it. Who wouldn’t want to please this dynamic director?

Summer intern Mia Filippakoff, aka Smithers, rounds out the staff, performing numerous tasks that are critical to the success of each production. Blanding loves her relationship with the aspiring actors and with the staff. It’s like “playing all day long,” Blanding says. Her enthusiasm is contagious.

The Teen Camp, for ages 12 to 18, was so popular among returning performers this year that it was filled by March 3. Thirty of the 37 performers came back. That’s a “big strength,” Blanding said.

After three days of auditions, the Teen Camp had four weeks to mount “Footloose,” which played to full houses in the Village Theatre on July 14-15.

Rising Stars Camp, for performers 8-12, is following. The camp culminates in the “Rising Stars Review,” which will be performed at the Village Theatre at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 10, and Friday, Aug. 11. Tickets cost $6 for children and seniors, and $10 for adults. Contact the Village Theatre Box Office at 314-3470.

“The review will include excerpts from productions we’ve done over the last five years since Erin and I took over—it’s a five-year anniversary show,” Blanding said.

Next Big Thing will offer performing arts camps again next summer and has information on its Web site, www.nibits.com. Sign up for the mailing list by e-mailing goddess@nibits.com. The camps will also be announced in the Town of Danville Parks and Recreation Activity Guide for Summer 2007.

Next Big Thing offers a great opportunity for kids who want to be part of a tight, upbeat, performing arts community. They try on roles and search for their special talent, knowing they will be performing soon.

“It provides a place for kids who don’t have a niche elsewhere,” Blanding said. They get recognition, a place to belong, respect and friends. Next Big Thing Children’s Theatre is a place to build lasting skills—and memories.
Keeping your cooking cool as temperatures rise

O.K., everyone in the pool for dinner... the cook is taking a couple days off! When the temperatures get above 100 degrees, the last thing I look forward to is heading toward a warm kitchen and turning on the oven or stove. Yet, really warm weather forces most of us inside so it’s usually the time you’re likely to have a full house for meals. While other family members hover around the ice dispenser or take cold showers, the cook needs to stay cool, too.

One strategy is preparing meals with minimal cooking and maximum efficiency. No-sweat but how, you ask? Here are a few suggestions:

• Do your prep work early in the morning and refrigerate various parts during the day; assemble and/or re-heat just before serving.
• Marinate meats and vegetables the night before then cook them on an outside grill after the sun sets.
• Cook more dishes in two-day portions, alternate various parts during the day; assemble and/or re-heat just before serving.
• Prepare your favorite baked casseroles as a chilled think “leftovers.” or modify second day servings so the family doesn’t feel “cooler” and lighter to consume. Take advantage of seasonal ingredients that your family most enjoys. Think salads, fresh fruits and chilled soups. Think iced cold beverages. Think frozen desserts. And, think easy to make, eat and clean up.

To help everyone in the family stay cool, focus on dishes that can lower the body temperature or at least feel “cooler” and lighter to consume. Take advantage of pre-cooked meats and ingredients in the dairy and frozen sections.

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RECIPES

Cool foods for hot weather more recipes at www.DanvilleWeekly.com

Cucumber/Zucchini Soup & California Garden Rolls

CUCUMBER ZUCCHINI SOUP (serves 2)
1 lb. zucchini, chopped
3/4 lb. seedless cucumber (usually plastic-wrapped), peeled and chopped (2 cups)
1/3 cup chopped sweet onion
1/4 cup white-wine vinegar
1/4 cup water
1 tsp. fresh hot green pepper, chopped
1 3/4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. ground coriander
1/2 cup crème fraîche (4 oz)

Purée zucchini, cucumber, onion, vinegar, water, chopped pepper, 1 tsp. of the salt, and 1/2 tsp. of the coriander in a blender until very smooth. Whisk remaining salt and coriander into crème fraîche. If not serving immediately, refrigerate until serving. Serve soup topped with dollops of crème fraîche.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN ROLLS (4 rolls for 2 servings)
Four flour tortillas, 10-inches each (Note: Rice flour rolls may be substituted)
1/2 medium avocado, lightly mashed
2 leaves green- or red-leaf lettuce
4 small tomatoes, thinly sliced
1 cup shredded carrot
2 cup torn spinach leaves
1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion
2 cup shredded red cabbage
4 tsp. red wine vinegar
1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Spread the tortillas with avocado and top with lettuce and tomato. In a bowl, combine carrot, spinach, onion and cabbage; toss with vinegar, add salt and pepper to taste.

Divide salad among tortillas and top with cheese. Fold and roll the tortillas around the salad. Serve alone or with your favorite salad dressing on the side.

Grilled Ahi Niçoise Salad (makes 6 servings)
Serve with mini-baquettes

Dressing:
3 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
1 Tbsp. Dijon-style mustard
1 tsp. anchovy paste
1/2 tsp. dried thyme, crumbled
1/4 tsp. sugar
1/3 cup olive oil
1 pound green or wax beans or a combination, trimmed and cut into 2-inch lengths
1 red bell pepper, roasted and cut into 2-inch pieces
1 pint red or yellow cherry tomatoes or a combination, quartered
1 cup Niçoise (or Kalamata) olives, drained

In a small bowl or processor, whisk together the vinegar, mustard, anchovy paste, thyme, sugar, and salt and pepper to taste. Add the oil in a stream, whisking, and whisk the dressing until it is emulsified.

Set aside 2 Tbsp. of the dressing. Arrange the tuna pieces on a baking sheet, and brush them lightly with the mixture. Let the mixture stand for 15 minutes.

In a pot of boiling water, cook the beans for 5 minutes, or until they are crisp-tender. Drain them in a colander and transfer to an ice water bath. In another bowl toss the beans with 3 Tbsp. of the remaining dressing.

Grill the tuna for 2-1/2 minutes on each side; grill the red pepper in a tent of aluminum foil until crispy-tender. Line 6 plates with the lettuce, on each plate a piece of tuna, sliced diagonally, and divide the beans, roasted pepper, tomatoes and olives among the plates. Drizzle the remaining dressing over the salads or serve it separately.
A well-arranged school house
The San Ramon Grammar School, an all-wood structure, had two rooms with 13-foot ceilings and a bell tower. Carpenter Ebenizer Dole built the 46- by 26-foot school in 1867. According to the Contra Costa Gazette in 1874: “the building is one among the neatest and best arranged school houses in the county.”

In this circa 1900 photograph teacher Mary Wilson stands in front with her students and the San Ramon Methodist Church can be seen in the background.

Source: Picture from museum files; information from “San Ramon Valley: Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon” by Beverly Lane and Ralph Cozine.
AT THE MOVIES

CineArts @ Pleasant Hill: 2314 Monument Blvd., Pleasant Hill (687-1100)
Century 14 Walnut Creek: 1201 Locust St., Walnut Creek (937-7025)
Blackhawk Movie 7: 4177 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville (785-1178)
Crown Canyon 6: 2625 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon (820-4831)
Hacienda Crossings 20/ Regal Imax Theater: 5000 Dublin Blvd., Dublin (561-9603)

Internet address: For show times, visit the Danville Weekly Online Edition at www.DanvilleWeekly.com

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

An Inconvenient Truth (PG-13)

Ant Bully (PG)

Barnyard: The Original Party Animals (PG)

Cars (G)

Clarks II (R)

Click (PG-13)

John Tucker Must Die (PG-13)

Lady in the Water (PG-13)

Little Man (PG-13)

Little Miss Sunshine (R)

Miami Vice (R)

Monster House (PG)

My Super Ex-Girlfriend (PG-13)

Night Listener (R)

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest (PG-13)

Scoop (PG-13)

Superman Returns (PG-13)

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13)

The Descent (R)

The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13)

World Trade Center (PG-13)

Yos, Moe, and Deepee (PG-13)

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5th Year Max Monthly Payment $2,145 $1,686

Washington Mutual

Danville Weekly • August 4, 2006 • Page 17
Calendar

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Art

Calling for Artists
San Ramon Arts Walk & Festival, Sept. 23-24, in San Ramon is looking for artists ages 18 and over, residing in California to enter a piece of original fine art in any medium, with a Sept. 1 deadline. There will be a special garden display for sculptures. Digital images should be sent in the form of jpegs. A non-refundable entry fee of $10 per artwork. For information, call 336-0267 or visit www.sanramonarts.org.

San Francisco Fine Craft Show
Danielle artist Rob Tribble will show his glass art along with more than 260 artists at this craft show Aug. 11-13, at the Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. For information, call (212) 274-0830 or visit www.craftcouncil.org.

Author Visits

Nina Planck
Rakestraw Books will host Nina Planck, author of “Real Food: What to Eat and Why,” at 7 p.m., Friday, Aug. 18, at the bookstore, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. She will be providing information to help make the appropriate decisions in regard to food. The night will include dinner and “four home wines,” which cost $25; reservations are required by calling 837-7307.

The Century House Poetry Readings
City of Pleasanton will host Milt Miller, guest poet at the Century House Poetry Readings event, from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 6, at 2401 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Admission is $5.

Alamo–Danville Newcomers’ Club
This club is open to new and longtime residents of Alamo and Danville interested in making new friends while learning more about the area. Many activities are available. Their Prospective Member Coffee is held the fourth Thursday of the month, and a monthly luncheon on the second Tuesday. Call 775-3233 or visit www.alamodanvillenewcomers.com.

Danville Area Cultural Alliance
The Danville Area Cultural Alliance (DACA) will have a board meeting at 7 p.m., every third Monday of the month at the Fine Arts Gallery, 233 Front St., Danville. For information, call 383-1959 or visit www.danvilleareaculturalalliance.org.

Diablo Valley Fly Fisherman
This club meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at Heather Farm Lakeside Room, 301 N. San Carlos, Walnut Creek. Guests are welcome. For information, visit www.dvflyfish.com.

Diablo Valley Quilters’ Guild
The Diablo Valley Quilters’ Guild meets at 7 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Guests are welcome. For information, call 581-5350 or e-mail PoetsLane@comcast.net.

Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society
The society meets from 1-3 p.m., the third Thursday of every month except August, at the California Saving & Loan Shopping Center, Tice Valley Blvd. and Rosemeor Parkway, Walnut Creek. Guests are welcome at each meeting.

San Ramon Valley Exchange Club
This next meeting will feature "Defense of Civil Emergencies" with Col. Mark Armstrong at noon, Wednesday, Aug. 9, at Faz, 500 Hartz Ave., Danville. Cost is $16. To reserve your spot, call 775-2412 or e-mail coachstepper@yahoo.com.

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society
The society meets at 10 a.m., every third Tuesday of the month, except August and December, at the LDS Church, 2449 Stone Valley Road. Guest speaker at each meeting. All welcome. For information, call Ed at 299-0881.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club
This club is for both "new" and "not so new" Tri-Valley residents. They invite prospective members to attend a luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 18, at Canyon Lakes Restaurant, San Ramon. To reserve your spot, call Jan at 735-3508.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 75
The Tri-Valley District meeting will beginning at 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Danville Veterans Hall, 400 Hartz Ave. The regularly scheduled meetings for July and August will be held on the third Thursday of the month. The Sept. meeting will return to its monthly rhythm. For information, call Post Commander Marc McCuisky at 837-2744 or visit www.vfw.org.

Concerts

Alamo’s Summer Concert Series
Alamo Parks and Recreation will host its last Summer Concert Series from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 18 (Boz Scaggs), 8-10 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 19 (Livorna Road, Alamo). You are sure to get up and get down. Call 837-9176.

Mid-Summer Night’s Piano Concert
This concert will include a program of Bach, Ravel, Schubert and Chopin performed by pianist Julianne Boal of Pleasanton. Thursday, Aug. 5, at 8 p.m., at Peace Lutheran Church, 201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. Tickets are $20. A dessert, wine and fine art reception will follow the performance. Call 383-1959.

Music in the Park
The Town of Danville is holding its 21st annual Music in the Park series from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays in August at Oak Hill Park, 3031 Stone Valley Road. The concerts are supported by East Bay BMW, Charterhouse Mortgage and Intermountain Bank. A dessert, wine and food event will be held on the lawn at the Danville Exchange Club, 2449 Stone Valley Road.

Diablo Valley Women in Business
This club will host a networking event called "Out of the Swamp" from 7:30-9:30 a.m., Friday, Aug. 4, at Canary Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Admission is $40 for non-members, or $30 for first time guests. Call 866-0626 or visit www.dbwob.com.

Friends of the Danville Library
Friends of the Danville Library are renewing annual memberships and recruiting new members to help support programs for the Danville library. There are many benefits of being a Friend including merchant discounts, volunteer opportunities and preview of book sales. Donations and dues are tax deductible. Application forms are at the library, 400 Front St. Call 837-4455.

Diablo Valley Single Parents
This group meets at 6:30 p.m., on various days each month, and at different locations in the Danville city limits. Contact Rich at abersr@toast.net or 838-9487.

Diablo Valley Women in Business
This club will host a networking event called "Out of the Swamp" from 7:30-9:30 a.m., Friday, Aug. 4, at Canary Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Admission is $40 for non-members, or $30 for first time guests. Call 866-0626 or visit www.dbwob.com.

Funk in pajamas
Stars 2000 Teen Theatre, sponsored by the Diablo Light Opera Company, is presenting “The Pajama Game,” with Danville resident (picture) Stephen O’Malley who plays the lead part of Sid. The evening performances start at 8 p.m. with matinee performances at 2 p.m., until Aug. 6, at Diablo Valley College Center for the Performing Arts, 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill. Tickets are $10-13. Call 798-1300.

Weekend Preview

Funk in pajamas
Stars 2000 Teen Theatre, sponsored by the Diablo Light Opera Company, is presenting “The Pajama Game,” with Danville resident (picture) Stephen O’Malley who plays the lead part of Sid. The evening performances start at 8 p.m. with matinee performances at 2 p.m., until Aug. 6, at Diablo Valley College Center for the Performing Arts, 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill. Tickets are $10-13. Call 798-1300.

Inventions, Inc.
Blackhawk Museum will host "Inventions, Inc." explore how to make things using household items that go, move, fly and bounce, from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 10, at the museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circe, Danville. Participants will color their own play dough, build a car and eat a treat that "moves." Free with admission to the museum. Call 738-2277.

Fun in pajamas
Stars 2000 Teen Theatre, sponsored by the Diablo Light Opera Company, is presenting “The Pajama Game,” with Danville resident (picture) Stephen O’Malley who plays the lead part of Sid. The evening performances start at 8 p.m. with matinee performances at 2 p.m., until Aug. 6, at Diablo Valley College Center for the Performing Arts, 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill. Tickets are $10-13. Call 798-1300.

Inventions, Inc.
Blackhawk Museum will host "Inventions, Inc." explore how to make things using household items that go, move, fly and bounce, from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 10, at the museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circe, Danville. Participants will color their own play dough, build a car and eat a treat that "moves." Free with admission to the museum. Call 738-2277.
Place your ad early!

To respond to ads without phone numbers go to FOGSTER.COM
OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Danville

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Bedrooms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>137 Midland Wy.</td>
<td>$489,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1-4</td>
<td>Coldwell Banker 984-3060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>416 Sycamore Cir.</td>
<td>$529,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Intero 413-1068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2198 Shoshone Cir.</td>
<td>$695,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Empire 984-1793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>731 Glen Eagle Ct.</td>
<td>$715,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Remax 242-9899</td>
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<th>3 Bedrooms</th>
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<tr>
<td>140 Maiden Ln.</td>
<td>$1,099,000</td>
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<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Remax 962-0422</td>
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<tr>
<td>124 Lawview</td>
<td>$699,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Alain Pinel 791-2548</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Danville Oak Pl.</td>
<td>$639,000</td>
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<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Intero 413-1068</td>
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<tr>
<td>167 Heritage Park Dr.</td>
<td>$695,000</td>
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<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Keller Williams 855-6410</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989 Ridgeland Cir.</td>
<td>$699,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 1-4</td>
<td>Intero 413-8383</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Laurel Ct.</td>
<td>$765,000</td>
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<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>CPR Group 216-8062</td>
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<tr>
<td>818 Lux Ct.</td>
<td>$779,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 11-1</td>
<td>Pacific Union 314-4803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 Casablanca St.</td>
<td>$789,950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 1-4</td>
<td>Intero 856-4012</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Sage Hill Ct.</td>
<td>$820,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1-4</td>
<td>Pacific Union GMAC 314-4803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186 Tivoli Ln.</td>
<td>$842,000</td>
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4 Bedrooms

| 73 Edgegate Ct. | $1,039,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Keller Williams 260-8883 |
| 104 Club Terr. | $1,050,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Interotechnology 997-1787 |
| 129 Parkhaven Dr. | $1,074,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Keller Williams 260-8883 |
| 3845 Sheffield Cir. | $1,075,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Prudential CA 484-0900 |
| 131 Parkhaven Dr. | $1,090,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Keller Williams 260-8883 |
| 84 Stowbridge Ct. | $1,099,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Alpha Pinel 209-7498 |
| 141 Turini Ct. | $1,149,850 |
| Sat/Sun 1-4 | Interotechnology 875-1738 |
| 368 Verona Ave. | $1,179,000 |
| Sat/Sun 1-3-4-30 | Interotechnology 832-4108 |
| 114 Trowbridge Wy. | $1,189,000 |
| Sun 1-3-4-30 | Keller Williams 322-6735 |
| 899 Buckingham Pl. | $1,195,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Better Homes 785-4320 |
| 1024 Ocho Rios Dr. | $1,199,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Keller Williams 314-2428 |
| 117 Merano St. | $1,249,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Empire 217-5048 |

5 Bedrooms

| 133 Conway Ct. | $1,050,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Empire 361-5589 |
| 26 Borno Ct. | $1,049,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Prudential CA 984-1543 |
| 2023 Scarlet Oak Pl. | $1,750,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Remax 819-0660 |
| 711 Camino Amigo | $1,799,000 |
| Sat/Sun 1-4 | Intero 855-1152 |

6 Bedrooms

| 251 Royal Palm Pl. | $1,175,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Intero 832-4300 |
| 1357 Lawrence Rd. | $2,899,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Intero 788-6155 |
| 265 Montego Dr. | $4,480,000 |
| Sun 1:30-4:30 | Alain Pinel 209-3451 |

Alamo

| 1491 Laurentina Wy. | $999,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Intero 832-4300 |

5 Bedrooms

| 101 Daniel Dr. | $1,549,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Intero 832-4300 |
| 1606 Liliana Ln. | $1,699,000 |
| Sun 1:30-4:30 | Alain Pinel 323-6735 |

Diablo

| 2315 Caballo Ranchero | $2,195,000 |
| Sun 1-4 | Empire 217-5048 |
### ALAMO
- **Privately Gated Alamo Ridge**: $3,497,000
  - Knock-out gorgeous home situated on nearly 7 acres, in an enclave of exclusive estates on large parcels. Smashing views of Mt. Diablo. 4bd, 3-full/2-half baths.
  - Carol Erbert 925.736.1666

- **Pepperwood District of Blackhawk C.C.**: $2,599,000
  - Private, end of court surrounded by open space. 5bd, 3.5ba, large granite/stainless kitchen. Downstairs master and office. Pool, spa, outdoor kitchen.
  - Bonnie King 925.855.4072

- **Privacy & Close to Town**: $1,798,950
  - Beautiful gardens on this .7+/acre. 2983+/-sf, 5bd, 3ba, updated and staged home. Enjoy sitting by the pool.
  - Constance R. Hughart 925.648.5328

### BLACKHAWK
- **Pepperwood District of Blackhawk C.C.**: $2,599,000
  - Private, end of court surrounded by open space. 5bd, 3.5ba, large granite/stainless kitchen. Downstairs master and office. Pool, spa, outdoor kitchen.
  - Bonnie King 925.855.4072

- **Single Story with Carmel Charm**: $1,359,000
  - Reduced!! Stunningly updated 4bd, 3ba single story with sparkling pool and spa. Serene and private setting on 10th fairway.
  - Vance and Sue Smith 925.648.5342

- **Stunning Location**: $1,299,900
  - Gorgeous 4bd, 2.5ba, Sotillo tile throughout 1st floor, Andersen windows, custom paint in and out, new shake roof. Pool, spa, waterfall and more.
  - Bonnie King 925.855.4072

### DANVILLE
- **Breathtaking Mt. Diablo Views**: $1,710,000
  - Breathtaking views of Mt. Diablo and the Martinez straits from this spectacular 4bd, 3ba custom home on 1.77+/acre close to downtown.
  - Ralph Sessa 925.858.5233

- **The Best of the Westside**: $1,179,000
  - Over $100K in recent upgrades including granite, hickory hardwood floors, dual pane windows. Large great room adjacent to kitchen.
  - Clarke Stone 925.855.4108

### Contact Information
- **Danville**
  - 15 Railroad Avenue
  - 925.855.4000

- **Blackhawk**
  - 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle
  - 925.648.5300

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