

What a racquet

Monte Vista girls clinch tennis title > page 22

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for teens has
cultlike following

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Danville

W E E K L Y

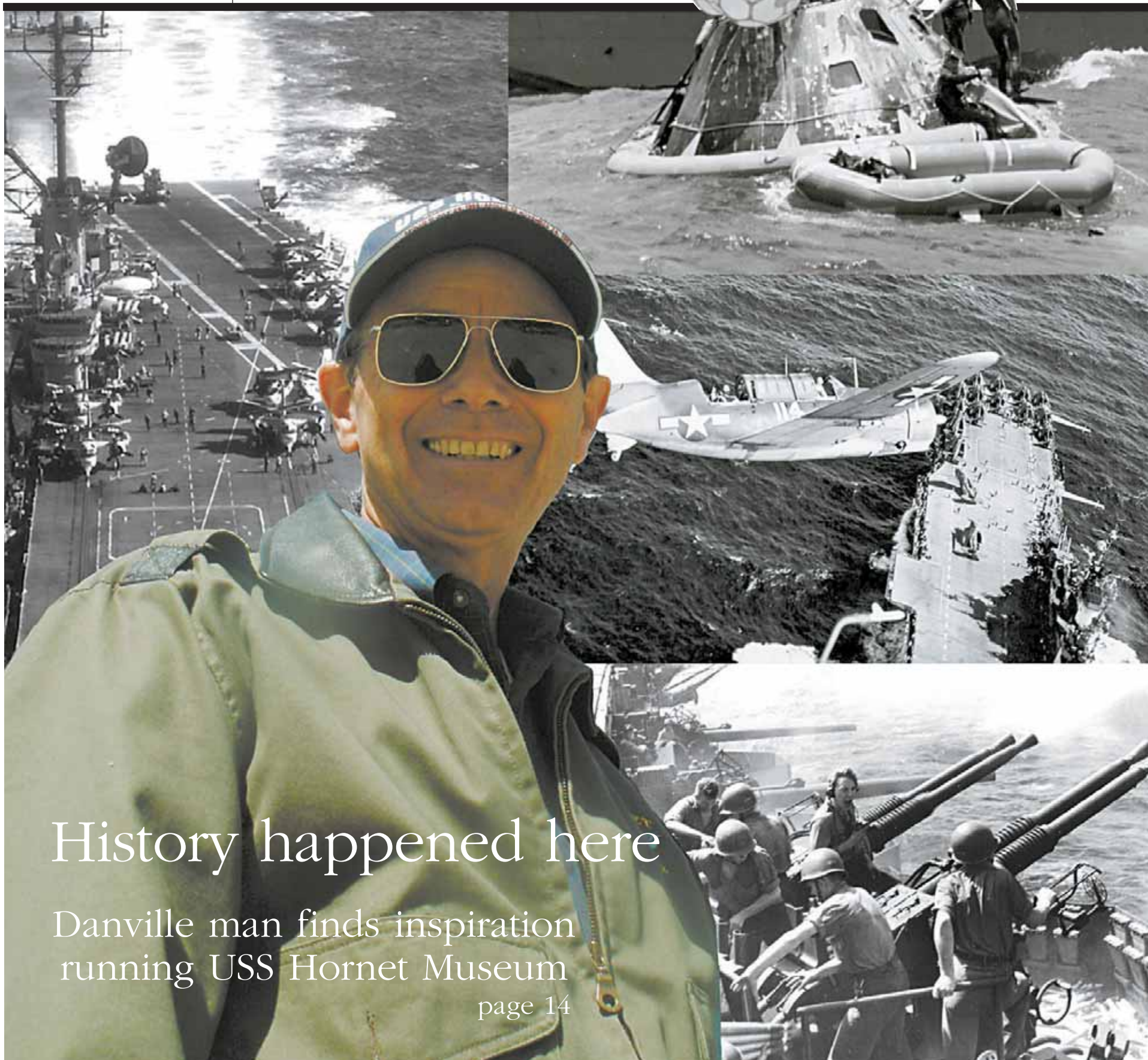


Measure S

Alamo to vote
on funding for parks
and recreation

> page 7

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History happened here

Danville man finds inspiration
running USS Hornet Museum

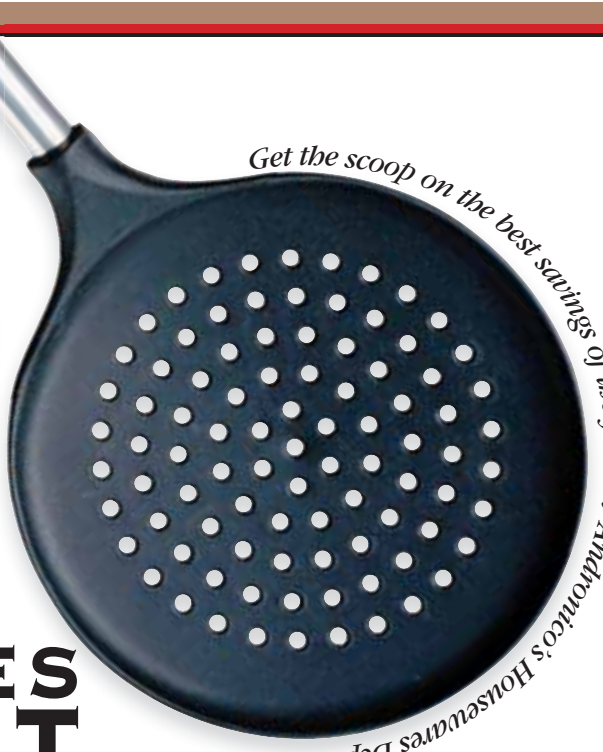
page 14

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Q: If the propositions in the special election Nov. 8 don't pass, do you think Gov. Schwarzenegger will be re-elected?



Yes, I feel he should be re-elected. California has overwhelming problems that need to be addressed and no one governor will do a perfect job addressing those problems. Gov. Schwarzenegger has given it his best shot—not perfect, but he did address some of the problems.

Betty Overhoff

East Bay chairwoman for World Affairs Council



I don't think it matters what the outcome of the election is. There have been so many negative media ad campaigns against him that of course his approval rating is going to be low. I think what matters is what people think in the months prior to the next gubernatorial election. Anything is possible.

Jeff Hendrick

electrical engineer



I hope he'll win, but I think he will have a difficult time if his propositions don't pass.

Tony Carnemolla

locksmith



This is coming from a Democrat, but I like Arnold. I think he does have a good chance of being re-elected. I listened to his debate and I support all his propositions. He doesn't need the fame or the power or the money. He is a governor of the people, for the people, and by the people.

David Miller

home security



Yes, I think he can be re-elected because there are other issues to consider. He has done some good things for the state. It also will depend on who the Democrats run. I believe because of his wife, Maria, he appeals to both sides of the political spectrum.

Bob Burch

investment advisor

COMPILED BY JUDY STEINER

ABOUT THE COVER

Bob Fish, a Danville resident and head of the USS Hornet Museum, proudly touts all that the aircraft carrier has done in our country's history—from the battles of World War II to recovering the astronauts from Apollo 11 and Apollo 12. Cover by Jason Lind.

Vol. 1, Number 27

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ Even though in our termination letters, we were encouraged to reapply, I knew in my heart that they weren't going to reappoint us. ”

—Nancy Dommies, who was appointed to Zone 36 by Supervisor Mary N. Peipho, then terminated along with the rest of the committee, then not reappointed. See story, page 6.

Police report quiet Halloween

Costumed kids were out in force filling their buckets and bags with candy Monday night, but the mischief-makers seem to have given Danville a pass this year.

“No vandalism took place or was reported to our officers,” said Claudia Ray, Danville Police Community Services Coordinator, on Tuesday. “It was relatively quiet last night ... for Halloween.”

Ray said the Police Department generally does not put any extra staff on duty for the holiday evening, but the patrols are adjusted so that officers remain visible to the public and are available in case of an emergency.

Officers usually have some sort of Halloween-related calls to keep them busy, such as smashed pumpkins, decorations stolen or vandalized, she said, but not this year.

Support troops, 1 protein bar at a time

The Blue Star Moms are asking the public to donate items to troops serving overseas for the Holiday Care Package Mailing. They will be accepting donations at the Danville Veterans Hall at Hartz Avenue and Prospect from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., tomorrow, Nov. 5. Suggested items include protein bars, hot chocolate mix, microwave popcorn, board games, playing cards and Nerf footballs. Since mailing the packages costs thousands of dollars, monetary donations are welcomed. Each \$5 donor will receive a yellow ribbon car magnet.

Blue Star Moms ask those dropping off donations to stop at their postcard booth to write a message to a soldier. These notes give the troops a taste of home as well as some much-needed comfort.

Swapping skis and snowboards

Looking for new ski and snowboard equipment? The San Ramon Valley High School PTSA will be holding its 27th annual Ski and Snowboard Swap this weekend, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday at the high school. Admission is \$5. The swap is a great way to keep up with a growing family. Merchandise, which is usually 20-50 percent off its retail value, includes gear and clothing, and will accommodate the needs of all levels of expertise.

Retailers at this year's swap will include Nor-Ski, the Shop, Demo Sport, Sports Cove and Outback Adventures. Community members will be allowed to sell their own used equipment as well. In addition, representatives from ski resorts will be present to answer questions. For more information, go to <http://danville.com/skiwap> or call Jackie Lawrence, PTSA events chairwoman, at 876-1948.

Speech on Saving Mount Diablo

Seth Adams, director of land programs for Save Mount Diablo, will be the guest speaker at the Daughters of the American Revolution's luncheon Saturday, Nov. 12. The event will take place at the Hillside Clubhouse in Rossmore at 11:45 a.m. The cost is \$25.

Adams will speak on the work of Save Mount Diablo. The group is currently trying to purchase 207 acres of land to preserve as open space. After the talk, there will be a question-and-answer session.

The meeting is open to the public. For reservations, contact Barbara Berrata at 837-8551.

Duffields changing plans for home in Bryan Ranch

New plans expected within a month

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Plans for the Duffield megamansion went back to the drawing board, according to a press release from Save Bryan Ranch.

The group was formed to fight the "monster mansion" being planned by Cheryl and David Duffield, the founder of PeopleSoft, for their 22 acres at 7

Country Oak Lane in Bryan Ranch in the east hills of Alamo. The home was to be 72,000 square feet, and another 25,000 square feet would house the 20-car garage, stables, tennis courts, swimming pool and guardhouse.

The Duffields first sent a representative to the neighbors on Country Oak Lane and then met personally with Bryan Ranch residents to tell about plans for their home, which would be bigger than the White House, Hearst Castle or the Taj Mahal. Although everyone reported that the Duffields were

quite personable, people continued to complain about the extent of the development planned for the end of Country Oak Lane and the construction traffic it would entail.

The home plans were before the Bryan Ranch Homeowner Association's Architectural Review Committee when last week the committee received a request from the Duffields to temporarily suspend the process.

Through their representative, the Duffields indicated that they and their Lake Tahoe Land Co. expected to submit revised plans within

one month, according to the press release. They said they were revisiting their plans in light of the neighbors' concerns. More than 70 percent of the Bryan Ranch homeowners signed a petition opposing the huge development, saying it would have a negative impact on the community both during construction and afterward.

On Oct. 20, the Duffields sent the neighbors a letter to address their concerns. "First, we'd like to emphasize that we are strongly committed to working with you to resolve any issues you may have,"

wrote Cheryl and David Duffield. "Our whole family (especially our six kids) is very excited to become part of your community, and we want to do whatever it takes to correct any misconceptions about our home and its construction."

Attached to the letter were drawings of the proposed home, which they noted had been designed to take advantage of the view and natural slopes of the property. Plans for the exterior called for stone with a tile roof for a "classic, old-

► Continued on page 6

Seminar to address cancer crisis caused by chemicals

by B. Lynn Goodwin

Pesticides, fertilizers and other toxic chemicals lurk on our playing fields, in our dry cleaning and in our soil and water, says breast cancer survivor Sherry Padgett, and daily exposure to them can cause cancer.

"The most obvious scenarios go unnoticed by most of us," said Padgett, a Danville resident, speaking about the ways that chemicals pollute our environment.

Padgett, who learned through experience that the environment can cause cancer, will speak at a seminar, "Telling the Truth About Breast and Other Cancers," being held from 1-4 p.m. tomorrow, Nov. 5, at the San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd.

Two years ago Padgett was diag-

nosed with chondroma/chondrosarcoma, which she described as "an unusual profuse cartilage growth." It turned into an extremely rare cancer. She underwent surgery to remove four ribs and part of her sternum. More problems followed and today she struggles with recurring troubles though she remains "focused on staying healthy to tell the story about the insidious and deadly poisons that are pervasive in our environment."

It turned out that the chemicals causing her illness were near her employer, Kray Cabling Inc., a small electrical contractor east of the Richmond Marina Bay. Across the street a plant had made pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers for over 100 years, and the pollutants still

► Continued on page 7



Wall of Hope Breast Cancer Survivors' Project coordinator Marilyn Axelrod Burch shows the photos of breast cancer survivors to post office patron Joan Rose. The project is sponsoring a seminar tomorrow on "Telling the Truth About Breast and Other Cancers."

Honoring our veterans

Annual ceremony will salute those who served

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

The Veterans of the San Ramon Valley invite the public to attend their annual Veterans Day ceremony Friday, Nov. 11, which begins at 10:45 a.m. at Community Presbyterian Church, 222 W. El Pintado Road in Danville.

Danville Mayor Mike Doyle will make the opening remarks, and other speakers will be a Marine captain, an Army captain and a Blue Star Mom. Trumpeter Becky Stein from San Ramon Valley High School will play "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Taps." The Golden Gate Young Marines will be color guard; the Diablo Sea Cadets, Diablo Squadron and Training Ship, will perform a flag ceremony.

Jodi Aldridge, associate pastor of worship and arts at the church, will sing "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful." Chuck Aldridge will sing "I'm Proud to be an American." Also three Blue Star Moms will lead the audience

in "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

"The church has been very gracious to let us use their facilities the last three or four years," said organizer Dick Seavey of the American Legion. "And they assist us with sound and video backups."

The Veterans Day coordinating committee included the VFW Post 75, American Legion Mt. Diablo Post 246, Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley, Pearl Harbor Survivors, Marine Corps League Detachment 942 and the Blue Star Moms Bay Area Chapter.

In conjunction with Veterans Day, VFW Post 75 is displaying a collection of military memorabilia and history at the Veterans Hall, 300 Hartz Ave. Veterans are welcome to loan their items to the three-day exhibit, which will be open to the public 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Nov. 11-13. This will also be a chance for people to talk to veterans about their military experiences. For information, call Tony Carnemolla at 820-5750. ■

Thursday farmers markets' future still up in the air

Trial run showed traffic problems, fewer customers

by Geoff Gillette

A mixed bag of feedback concerning the addition of a second farmers market on Thursday nights in September has members of the Danville Town Council debating over whether it should be brought back in 2006. At their meeting Tuesday, council members heard from Economic Development Coordinator Bonnie Guttman, who outlined some of the problem areas that cropped up during the events held in September.

Based on discussions with officials of Discover Danville and the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association, Guttman said some of the issues included: waning support from the local merchants along Hartz Avenue; ill will caused by traffic problems generated by the

street closure; insufficient lead time for organizers to prepare; and not enough evening farmers markets to develop a consistent customer base.

Statistics provided by the association show that, on average, each of the September events brought in around 450 customers, compared to the year-round Saturday morning markets, which bring in an average of 1,500-2,000.

Exacerbating the situation was the fact that the number of vendors attending the night markets dropped over the course of the month. On Sept. 1, there were 27 vendors spread out between Church and Prospect on Hartz. By the Sept. 29 event, that number had dropped to 18. Additionally, some downtown merchants who kept their doors open to accommodate the additional traffic brought in complained that the street closure and vendors impeded customer access.

Guttman's report generated a lively discussion among council mem-

bers on whether or not to give the evening market another chance. Councilman Mike Shimansky was the first to weigh in with an opinion.

"I think we should move on. Farmers markets on Thursday nights just wasn't a good fit," he said. "I think we've wasted enough staff time on this."

Councilwoman Candace Andersen was quick to disagree

"I think we did it at the wrong time," she said. Andersen pointed out that in September, school was back in session, soccer season was starting, and the community was very busy which would have precluded coming to a new market.

"I'd like to try it again, but for a full season," she added. "We should have staff explore small street closings."

Andersen elicited groans and chuckles of protest when she suggested the town consider sticking to

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Piepho appoints new R7A and Zone 36 committees for Alamo

Supervisor turns down all terminated members who reapplied

by Casey Reivich

Alamo's R7A and Zone 36 committees are back and they're made up of all new committee members.

Contra Costa County Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, District 3, recently appointed new members to R7A, the parks and recreation county service district, and Zone 36, the lighting and landscaping committee in Alamo.

Piepho terminated all of the existing committee members in August and asked residents to apply for the new openings. She also encouraged terminated members to reapply.

Committee members, some who were even appointed by Piepho originally, were shocked by the sudden termination. Piepho cited non-compliance with county rules and guidelines as one of the reasons for the action and said she believed a clean house would encourage more Alamo residents to get involved.

"This will open up the membership to the entire community of Alamo due to the increased interest that many residents have had in serving on these committees," she wrote in her termination letters to committee members.

All but one of the former R7A and Zone 36 members reapplied for their positions. None of the for-

mer members was even interviewed for the positions, and not one of the former members was reapointed to R7A or Zone 36.

The new members of R7A are Marianne Sasso, Steve Mick, John De Maio, Tom Matthews and Gene Campbell, with Alicia Watson serving as an alternate. Terminated members of R7A are John Montgomery, Claudia Waldron, Randy Nahas, Vicki Koc, Craig Elliott and Nancy Kaplan.

The new members of Zone 36 are Valerie Schooley, Keith Wilson, Jon De Maio, Alicia Watson, and Margie Sparkman, with Steve Mick serving as an alternate. Terminated members of Zone 36 are Nancy Dommès, Vicki Koc, Victoria Lucido, John Moeller, Brad Waite, Steve Goodman and Claudia Waldron.

Craig Elliott had been on R7A for eight months before he was terminated. One of his main duties was disseminating budget information to committee members. When Elliott began on the committee, he said, he had to attend a county seminar about the Brown Act, the law that requires public access to meetings.

Elliott has worked with the Roundhill Swim Team, the San Ramon Valley Little League, Mustang Soccer, and the Monte Vista Athletic Boosters. He said he

thought he was well suited for R7A because of his experience on various committees and his interest in the issues R7A addressed. He was appointed by Millie Greenberg, the former District 3 supervisor.

He reapplied to be on R7A and received a rejection notice.

"I thought it was a slap in my face simply because I hadn't been there that long," said Elliott. "If she (Piepho) had an axe to grind I didn't feel like I was part of that group."

Nancy Dommès, a terminated member of Zone 36, also reapplied for her position but was rejected. She said she was not surprised when she received the rejection letter.

"Even though in our termination letters, we were encouraged to reapply, I knew in my heart that they weren't going to reappoint us," said Dommès. She had been on Zone 36 for three months, appointed by Piepho.

"It was certainly her right to do whatever she wanted to do. She wanted to see who else was out there," said Dommès. "But not reappoint one person?"

The newly appointed Zone 36 had its first meeting Oct. 25 at Hap Magee Ranch Park, and R7A had its first meeting on Oct. 26. Both committees have completed their first training workshop. ■

Duffield

► Continued from page 5

world look."

News of the temporary withdrawal of the Duffields' plans met with reserved optimism in the Bryan Ranch community.

"The fact that the Duffields indi-

cated they would be re-submitting plans within just one month left many neighbors skeptical that any proposed revision would be significant enough to win their support," said the press release.

If the architectural committee were to deny the Duffields application and the homeowners association board agreed, Duffield could

seek a review in court, said John Warnlof, legal counsel to the committee. If the plans are given the OK, the Duffields will still have to submit them to Contra Costa County, which has its own rules and regulations. It is also best to go before the county with the support of the homeowners association, Warnlof said. ■



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Alamo residents to decide on Measure S

Election includes vote to increase spending limit of parks and recreation committee

by Casey Reivich

Beyond Gov. Schwarzenegger's four propositions, Alamo residents have one local measure to vote on in Tuesday's statewide special election.

Measure S would increase the appropriations limit of R7A, the parks and recreation county service district, to \$990,000. R7A, under the Gann Appropriations limit, has a cap on what it can spend.

The committee, which works on recreational programs in Alamo and beautifying the parks, receives its budget from tax revenue. If the committee wants the spending limit to be increased it must go to the voters.

Measure S asks that the spending limit for R7A be increased to \$990,000, based on changes to the cost-of-living index and the population for 2006-07 through 2009-10.

In a written argument for the measure, Alamo resident David Bowlby, a community volunteer who was recently appointed to the San Ramon Valley Planning Commission, wrote: "By voting in favor of Measure S, additional revenues collected will provide for future improvements to such amenities as the Iron Horse Trail, Eastside Creek Trail, Alamo School Sports Park and Hap Magee Ranch. By not approving the limit increase our entire parks and recreation system will suffer greatly ultimately affecting our quality of life and our property values." The tax revenue collected during the past 24 years has been spent on building and improving facilities such as Livorna Park, Hap Magee Ranch park and Andrew Young Park, he noted.

Opponents to the measure cite

dissatisfaction with how the county, particularly District 3 Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, has handled R7A. In light of the recent termination of all members of R7A and Zone 36, the committee on lighting and roadways in Alamo, opponents believe R7A and the money it spends do not reflect the best interests of Alamo.

John Montgomery, one of the terminated members of R7A, does not support Measure S because he believes an increased spending limit would be pointless until the county completes parks and recreation projects that are already on its plate.

"My main issue is the county is not getting the job done that they were slotted to do four to five years ago," said Montgomery. "Frankly, we don't need any more money right now. We feel the county has squandered a lot of time." ■

Cancer

► Continued from page 5

lingered in the soil and the water despite the company's departure.

When Padgett learned how contaminated the property was, she alerted the Richmond Planning Commission and helped stop a housing development that was to be erected on the site. Her efforts earned her the prestigious Jefferson Award for Local Community Service. Kray Cabling Inc., which still employs her as its chief financial officer, has been totally supportive, she said.

At tomorrow's seminar Padgett will speak about chemicals that contaminate the environment and explain that the problems can be solved through citizens' actions. Padgett invites everyone to attend. "Consider it an investment in yourself and the people you love and care about," she said.

The seminar is being presented by the Wall of Hope Breast Cancer Survivors' Project, a local organization spearheaded by Danville resident and 15-year breast cancer survivor Marilyn Axelrod Burch. It is co-sponsored by Union Bank of California and the Diablo Funding Group.

The Wall of Hope project displays more than 37,000 portraits of breast cancer survivors from all over the United States and can be seen at the San Ramon Community Center tomorrow. More than 50 photo events were held between 1994 and 2004 to bring the wall to life.

"Ours is a grassroots movement of survivors, their families and friends wanting far more attention paid to the causes of cancer," said Axelrod Burch, who created the project in 1994. "Our dream is the Mile of Survival, a mile of survivors' pictures, stretching across

Washington, D.C., calling out in one voice for the elimination of the myriad of toxins polluting our food, water, air and earth."

The Wall of Hope honors breast cancer survivors by acknowledging that they are part of a much wider human rights problem and a global environmental crisis, said Axelrod Burch.

The seminar will include excerpts from "Exposure: The Environmental Links to Breast Cancer," narrated by Olivia Newton John, as well as other speakers. It is also a chance for concerned residents to network with each other. ■

The truth about cancer

What: Seminar on "Telling the Truth About Breast and Other Cancers"
When: 1-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 5
Location: San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd.
Tickets: Cost \$30; call 736-7100 or pay at the door

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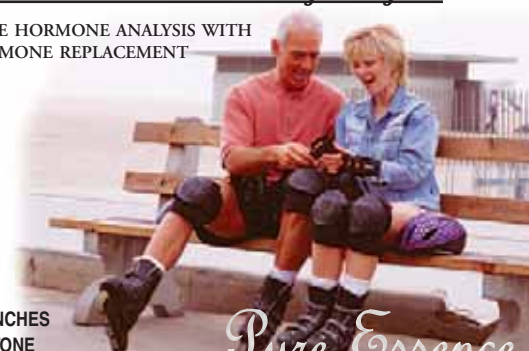
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Blackhawk Museum getting in gear

New docent training is beginning

The Blackhawk Museum will begin training new docents in early November, with recruitment through the end of the year for the 2006 class.

The museum, located in Blackhawk Plaza Circle, has about 100 docents who provide tours of the automotive exhibition and the museum's changing exhibits. They also represent Blackhawk Museum at Bay Area car shows and educational outreach projects.

"We welcome your interest in finding out about the program and encourage you to tell your friends about it," said Nora E. Wagner, program director.

Call Wagner at 736-2277, ext. 238, or e-mail her at nwagner@BlackhawkMuseum.org. Leave a name, phone number and mailing address to receive an information packet.

The first orientation is Nov. 7, followed by a session on Nov. 28 on the new exhibition "Trains!" that opens the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The final session will take place Jan. 9, with the docent training class graduating in June. All graduates will join the ongoing Blackhawk Museum Docent group for lectures, field trips and outreach events.

The museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Docent-led tours are conducted at 2 p.m. every weekend. Admission is charged and memberships are available.

Wagner recently received the Western Museums Association's 2005 Director's Chair Award for her "sustained excellence in service to museums and the promotion of museums as a value to the public and community." She was also recognized for her "distinctive spirit and ability to build camaraderie."

In other Blackhawk Museum news, three mid-1950s Alfa Romeo concept cars were recently received for exhibition. They are B.A.T., or Berlina Aerodynamica Technica, and last appeared together in the United States at the 1989 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



Keeping the beat

The Monte Vista High School marching band and band director Chris Pearson catch up on hometown news during a break at Band Day held recently in San Jose. The marching band and color guard performed with six other high schools during halftime of the San Jose State football game against Nevada.

Take Us Along on your travels and send photos to editor@DanvilleWeekly.com or 315 Diablo Road, Danville 94596.

Farmers market

► Continued from page 5

a consistent schedule and holding farmers markets even during Danville Hot Summer Nights.

Councilman Newell Americh noted that having it behind the railroad museum would create consistency with the customers. "I think an easier way to create a higher level of participation is to keep it where it was, not during school, and not in conflict with another event," he said.

"What staff perceives is that four of you are willing to give it another shot," Town Manager Joseph Calabrigo summed up after several minutes of discussion. "There are some issues to be addressed."

Calabrigo said he agrees that for the markets to be successful they will need to be consistent. "I would express some reservation about any sort of schedule that is sporadic to the point where it only occurs with other special events," he said. He added that the town will need to work in concert with the mer-

chants to increase the level of participation by the stores.

No resolution regarding the issue was approved, but council members directed staff to begin looking into the possibility of holding the evening farmers markets again next year. Further discussion will be held at liaison meetings with the Chamber of Commerce as well as possible study sessions. Council members are hopeful that a plan can be formulated prior to Jan. 1 so the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association can begin lining up vendors. ■



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Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



What a buzz

Anchors aweigh! I sang to myself as I walked up the gangplank of the USS Hornet, the World War II aircraft carrier retired in 1970 that is berthed in Alameda. I was going to meet Bob Fish, a Danville man who serves as CEO of the USS Hornet Museum. Our appointment was for 10 a.m. and as Bob led me on an extensive tour for the next several hours I could not figure out if I was on a ship, in some deserted ancient city or at a museum.

The doorways were definitely those of a ship—the kind where you have to lift your foot way up to step into the rooms, which are each like a contained compartment. And the ladders! We went up ladders and down ladders, from Bob's office on the second deck up to the hangar deck back down to the second deck then up to the flight deck, seeing what went into a working ship that has housed up to 2,500 men and whose function was to load aircraft and send them off to attack the enemy. The "pilot ready room" was especially interesting, both because I've seen such rooms in many war movies and because it was heartrending to think of the young pilots receiving their last minute instructions right on this spot. From there we rounded a corner and were looking up a very long escalator, which went up two decks to the flight deck. "Oh, good," I thought. "Now he'll switch the escalator on." No such luck—it had been installed in the Hornet's later working years for the pilots that wore bulky gear but I with my little digital camera did not qualify. So up the escalator steps we climbed, step after step after step, chatting all the while and me trying hard not to sound like a rest might be in order.

On the flight deck Bob waved his arm in a circle, demonstrating how they'd signaled for takeoff, and I visualized the rickety little WWII propeller planes with their deadly cargo and their courageous crews. He also pointed out the spot where President Nixon stood to watch the Apollo 11 astronauts land in a helicopter returning from their visit to the moon. From there we climbed to the bridge, with the pilot house and its adjacent tiny cabin for the captain to catch a few hours sleep while at sea.

Everything was fascinating—from the torpedo activation room to the sick bay to the chapel to the laundry to the chart room—and much different from Norwegian Caribbean Lines, which had provided most of my previous shipboard experience. The hangar



Watch out, everyone! After just a few simple lessons, I'll be ready for takeoff. Trying out the pilot's seat in the F14 Tomcat was a highlight of my visit to the USS Hornet Museum in Alameda.

deck was vast, with the museum store, several aircraft, a space capsule and astronaut quarantine unit fitting in easily around the sides. It was easy to see how it could accommodate a 3,000-person gala or the extensive garden show that

My husband was stunned to hear that I toured the USS Hornet for four hours. 'We didn't even spend that long at the Louvre,' he observed.

had just been held. On this day Clorox was doing a team building exercise and several people approached Bob as part of their scavenger hunt to ask if he had been a pilot flying off the ship. He helpfully pointed them to the WWII volunteer in the gift shop.

A highlight of my personalized tour was the chance to climb up a big steel staircase and maneuver into the cockpit of the F14 Tomcat displayed on the hangar deck. Just like Tom Cruise in "Top Gun." So many little windows and dials and controls, and a

seat that was fine for five minutes, but for hours? There is a reason I am not a Navy fighter jet pilot. Actually, there are many reasons. For one, I prefer my navigator sitting next to me, not behind me. And the F14 looks way more complicated than drive, reverse and park—as a matter of fact, I'm not even sure what D1 and D2 mean in my Volvo. But it was thrilling to sit in that seat—I felt like a kid in a fire engine.

The space exhibits on the Hornet alone deserve several hours' exploration. The astronauts' quarantine unit has a cozy little table, bunks for sleeping and a compact kitchen. "It had the first microwave," Bob noted. He said Lytton developed the microwave oven in 1964-65 to cook huge quantities of Kentucky Fried Chicken, and someone had the idea to use one in the quarantine facility for the astronauts to heat their meals. Although they miniaturized the unit for the small kitchen, they forgot to adjust the wattage, said Fish. The first meal was overdone. Actually it exploded.

My husband was stunned to hear that I toured the USS Hornet for four hours. "We didn't even spend that long at the Louvre," he observed. Well, maybe that's because we didn't have the right tour guide. I keep thinking back to the ship and its young sailors—now among the aging WWII veterans who are dying by the thousands every day—and I recommend to everyone that they visit the USS Hornet. At the very least, I got a good workout. And if I ever run into Tom Cruise, we'll have something to talk about. ■

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EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

The power to vote is yours—use it

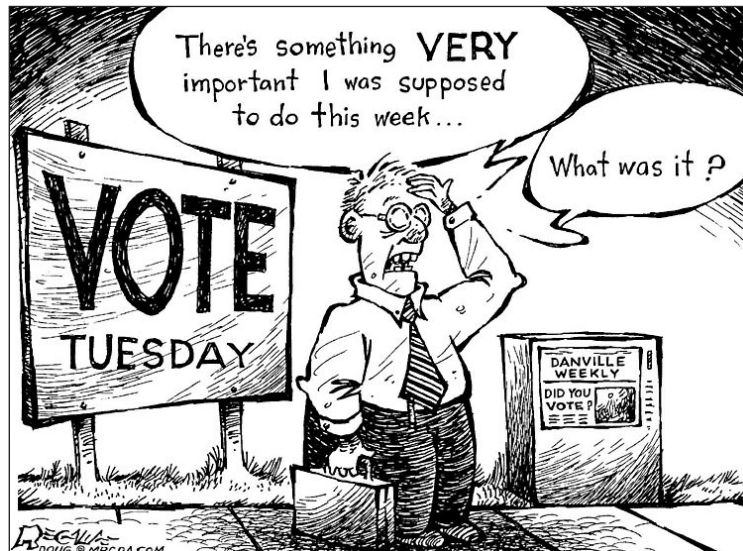
On Tuesday, a special election is being held that could change the way our state and some of our public employees do business. Regardless of your politics or how you personally feel about the governor, we urge you to vote in this election.

Until recently, this special election was going unnoticed as many did not care or want a special election to be held. In the last few weeks, however, it would be impossible not to know that this election is occurring as we have been bombarded over the airwaves, with the majority of ads opposed to the propositions. The use of outrageously biased advertising has been the norm with each ad topping the last with unbelievably outlandish statements to convince us to vote. Most of the ads have been focused on propositions 74, 75, 76 and 77. With these propositions, the governor is attempting to make changes in how the state's finances are managed; how teachers receive and keep tenure; how public employee unions finance their activities; and how districts for our elected representatives are divided in this state.

Here's some food for thought: It is clear that our state finances and the process to manage the state's money needs a serious overhaul. It seems to be too difficult for our elected representatives to balance the budget and to cut expenditures without our help. The ability to make unpopular decisions may be hindered by our existing electoral districts that tend to be drawn to support incumbents and to favor individual political parties rather than being based on logical geographic boundaries. Finally, some of the most expensive and complex issues the state manages involve our public employee unions. If you have not already voted, take the time to educate yourself and form your own opinions. If you have ever complained about state government you cannot miss the opportunity to weigh in on these measures. The propositions may appear complex but there is enough material easily available to translate the rhetoric into logical conclusions. You and only you have the ultimate power to determine the fate of our state. We urge you to vote.

If you have ever complained about state government you cannot miss the opportunity to weigh in on these measures.

THE POINT OF THE PEN



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dedicate Andy's park while friends are alive

Dear Editor:

I was an extremely close friend of Andrew Young's for over 20 years. With his passing and renaming an Alamo park on Danville Boulevard and Jackson Way in his honor, I began working with the R7A committee to plan a commemoration while all of his friends were still living. The committee worked hard in trying to accommodate us but every time we made some headway for Andy the county bureaucrats would shove us 10 steps back. Our local leaders understood our mortality ... R7A tried. With their lifetime jobs, the county staff people either don't care at all or they couldn't care less whether or not they are productive or efficient!

Why are you, Supervisor Piepho, letting the county get away with inefficiency when the R7A Committee brought this information to you? Why did you appoint new R7A people who didn't even know Andy?

As I understand, Andy's brass plaque was purchased well over two years ago, and Andy has been gone for three-and-a-half years. We, his many longtime friends, think it's high time the dedication is done! Come on, Supervisor, quit choosing the Public Works Special Districts bureaucrats in Martinez over the leaders on the ground—please don't keep us waiting any longer!

*Jeannine Kikkert
Lafayette*

Project harms tranquility

Dear Editor:

This is to express my concerns over the possible construction of the Duffield project. Having lived in Bryan Ranch now for the past 22 years and wanting to stay here forever, this community is very dear to my family and me. This neighborhood is known for its understated elegance and unpretentious atmosphere. Up to this point, every homeowner who has made changes to their property has worked diligently in maintaining this consistency. Should one person be able to take that away from all of us?

As a family that has raised our kids here I am very concerned about what will happen to quality of life and property values. We all have

seen the tremendous increase in values recently. That comes from the desire of people wanting to live and raise their families here because of its understatedness and tranquility. I believe this project would hinder values of the surrounding homes significantly. There will be no "tranquility" for many years to come, if ever, if this project gets approved.

I really don't want to see our community compromised for a project that clearly, just based on its size, does not belong here or in any other subdivision in Alamo or the I-680 corridor.

*Jim & Renie Pope
Alamo*

Duffields should scale down their project

Dear Editor:

We would just like to voice our opinion of the Duffield construction project. My husband and I moved to Bryan Ranch over 13 years ago. We fell in love with the area due mainly to the safety and peace and quiet it offered. The open space around us was protected from any further development and with the exception of minor additions or remodels there has been very little construction activity.

Bryan Ranch has been a quiet and, more importantly, safe area to raise children. We have four children who ride bikes, skateboard, jog and drive up and down Stone Valley Road, and we have never worried about them. The number of trucks and construction vehicles needed to build such a project will dramatically increase the traffic on Stone Valley and Emmons Canyon Road. No longer will we feel safe allowing our children to ride their bikes to school or to their friend's houses.

We appreciate the Duffield's commitment to work with the members of the Bryan Ranch Community and to respect the CC&Rs. We just don't believe that the impact their project will have on the traffic and therefore safety of our neighborhood justifies approval.

We hope Mr. and Mrs. Duffield will listen to their neighbor's concerns and reconsider the scope of their project. For the safety of our children and the peace and quiet of our neighborhood, please do the right thing.

*John and Nancy Van Siclen
Alamo*

YOUR TURN

The Danville Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest. No anonymous letters or "open letters" to other organizations or individuals will be printed. Please provide your name, street address and daytime telephone number. Please keep length to 250 words or less. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length and style and for factual errors known to us.

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Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Art

Oil Painting Demonstration

The Alamo-Danville Artists' Society will host an artist's demonstration and lecture by nationally known artist Charles White, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 8, at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. The session is free to artists and art lovers. For information, call Ginger at 837-6414 or visit www.adas4art.org.

Author Visits

The New American Cooking

The Blackhawk Museum Guild is sponsoring a presentation and book signing by author Joan Nathan for her book titled, "The New American Cooking," at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle. Every recipe has a story and Joan Nathan provides a portrait of the new national culinary character. Admission is free. For information, call Anita at 964-9999.

Classes

New Computer Classes for Fall

The town of Danville presents computer classes for everyone. There's a Hands-on Microsoft Word for Windows class from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16, at Hap Magee Ranch Park, 1029 La Gonda Way, Swain House. The cost is \$25 for Danville residents and \$30 non-residents. There's a \$20 lab fee, payable to the instructor at class. To register, contact the Danville Community Center, 420 Front St., call 314-3400, or visit www.ci-danville.ca.us.

Clubs

California Writers Club, Mt. Diablo Branch

Join the California Writers Club, Mt. Diablo Branch, for a special roundtable conference, the Facts about Fiction, from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Wade Center, Christ

the King Church, 199 Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill. The cost is \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members. Call (510) 881-8929 or e-mail camille@minichino.com for required reservations, no later than Wednesday, Nov. 9.

Country Western Dance Club

When do the Country Hustlers dance in Danville? From 7-11 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11, and Saturday, Nov. 26, at the Danville Grange Hall at 743 Diablo Blvd.; and Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Danville Veteran's Hall. Admission is \$9 for guests, \$7 for members, and \$5 for senior members. For information, visit the Web site at www.countryhustlers.com/whenwedance.htm

Danville-Alamo Garden Club

The Danville-Alamo Garden Club's monthly meeting will be at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Alamo Women's Club. Kate Frey from Fetzer Vineyards will be the speaker, presenting a program on sustainable gardening. For information, call Maureen at 560-9574.

Pre-Dating Single Professionals

ACE-Club.com presents, Pre-Dating Single Professionals in Walnut Creek, ages 21-35; 34-46, from 6:20-10 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7, at 850 S. Broadway, Walnut Creek. ACE members get a 45 percent discount at \$18.70. Non-members, \$34. Pre-Dating is a fun and easy way for busy singles to meet. You'll meet others in your age and interest group through a series of six-minute "pre-dates." The whole thing is facilitated. For information, call (408) 828-2855 or visit www.ace-club.com.

Events

'Autobubbling' family program

"Autobubbling You and I: What Automobiles Tell Us About America" is a family program with music clips, lecture and a sing-a-long. It showcases composers and performers' contributions to popular music with the automobile as the theme, at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 6, at the Blackhawk Museum. Event is free with paid admission (museum members free). For information and confirmation, visit [\[seum.org\]\(http://seum.org\) or call 736-2280.](http://www.blackhawkmu-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Dispelling Adoption Myths

Join the Las Madres Adoptive Families Group for "The Adoption Option," from noon-3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13, at the Good Samaritan Hospital Auditorium (basement level), at 2425 Samaritan Drive, San Jose. The event is free. The speaker event addresses international and domestic adoption, costs, time lines, open adoption and much more. There will be a panel of Las Madres adoptive parents to share their personal experiences. For information, call Cynthia at (408) 850-3045.

New American Cooking

The Blackhawk Museum's Guild presents, in affiliation with the Smithsonian, author Joan Nathan, who will conduct a presentation on our current wildly diverse national culinary character, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Blackhawk Museum. There will also be a book signing and reception. Admission is free.

Red T-shirt 10K Run

Hats Off America, a nonprofit foundation raising money for the families of soldiers who died in Afghanistan and Iraq, is sponsoring a 10K red T-shirt run at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19, at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive. The cost to participate is \$35 per person, which includes a T-shirt and BBQ at Sycamore Park after the run. Volunteers are needed. For information, contact Sparky at 855-1950 or e-mail thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com.

Exhibits

Museum of the San Ramon Valley - Indian Life

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley is currently a hub of activity involving our valley's Indian life, both past and present. There is an excellent exhibit, Indian Life, which features the achievements and successes of our local Indians. For detailed information on class field trips and video showings, call 837-3750 or visit www.museumsv.org. There is no charge for admission to the Museum but donations are encouraged.

WEEKEND PREVIEW



Do you have a plant that's under the weather?

If you're not sure what ails your plant, UC plant pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe, UC entomologist Dr. Nick Mills and their team of experts are available to diagnose and advise. Take your plant to the UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley, from 9 a.m.-noon the first Saturday of every month. The service is free and no appointment is necessary.

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Fundraisers

Biletnikoff Foundation Crab Fest

The Biletnikoff Foundation and Commonwealth Title Co. will present the sixth annual Biletnikoff Foundation Crab Fest 2005 from 6 p.m.-midnight, Friday, Nov. 11, at the Marriott at Bishop Ranch, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon. Tickets are \$85 per person and attire is casual. The evening will include dining, dancing, and live and silent auctions. KTVU sports director Mark Ibanez will be the master of ceremonies. For tickets and information, call 556-2525 or visit www.traceybiletnikoff.org.

Jewelry Extravaganza Benefiting Parkinson's

Luna Designs will host a jewelry extravaganza benefiting the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, from 4:30 p.m.-7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 14, at Scott's Seafood

Grill and Bar, 1333 N. California Boulevard, Walnut Creek. The event is free, although donations are accepted. For information, call 648-3942 or visit www.beadsbagsbowsbelts.com.

Mt. Diablo Trail Adventure: Get Dirty on Diablo

This trail adventure features four challenging trail events: a half marathon, 10K run, 10K speed hike, and an interpretive hike. The event starts at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 6, and proceeds benefit Save Mount Diablo. The \$35 entry fee includes lunch and a T-shirt. To register, visit www.savemountdiablo.org.

Health

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Blood donors are needed to help local hospital patients by donating from 11:45 a.m.-5:45 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11,

at the Danville Grange, 743 Diablo Road. To make an appointment, call (800) 448-3543 or visit www.BeADonor.com.

Scoliosis and Spinal Screening

Jess M. Pontious, D.C., is sponsoring a free children's Scoliosis and Spinal Screening Day to benefit the American Red Cross Hurricane Victims, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 5, at 9500 Crow Canyon Road, Suite C. A donation of \$18.87 per child is requested, and all proceeds will be sent to the Red Cross. For information, call 648-4550.

Treatment Options for Male Incontinence

The San Ramon Regional Medical Center presents a free seminar on "Life After Prostate Cancer: Treatment Options for Male Incontinence," from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, in South Conference Room in the South Building, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon.

Holiday

Annual Staff and Friends Boutique

The Quilter's Inn is hosting its first annual Staff and Friends Boutique, from noon-8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11, at 125 Railroad Ave. Don't miss this opportunity to support local artists. For more information, call 837-8458.

Lectures/Workshops

Eliminate Credit Card Debt

Build your financial future by eliminating credit card debt. Meridian Financial is hosting a free seminar, discussing a step by step plan on how to pay off credit card debt, from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, at the San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. Space is limited; RSVP by calling 328-4903 or e-mail info@meridianf.com.

Moving to E-Business Workshop

Take your business to the next level by learning new techniques to quickly grow and manage your business. The Northern California WSI Internet Consultants are conducting a Moving to E-Business Workshop, from 8:30 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Nov. 10, at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon. The cost is \$49, \$59 after Nov. 4. For information, call (866) 638-7367 or visit www.swiba-yarea.com.

Literary Events

Library Book Discussions

The Book Discussion Group has chosen books for December and 2006. In October the selection is "Housekeeping" by Marilynne Robinson; in November it is "Will in the World," by Stephen Greenbelt, a non-fiction book that explores 16th Century England and what enabled Shakespeare to become Shakespeare. The discussion group meets at 11 a.m. the second Thursday of every month from September through May at the Mt. Diablo room of the library. Everyone is welcome.

Live Music

Jazz at Peace Series continues

Gerry Grosz Duo brings fine jazz to Peace Lutheran Church to continue its "Jazz at Peace" series at 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13, at 3201 Camino Tassajara. Jazz at Peace is based upon the Jazz Vespers series founded in New York City in 1961 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. For the six-month lineup, or for more information, e-mail peace@peacejourney.org; phone 648-7000; or visit www.peacejourney.org.

The Fabulous Limelitters

Folk legend from the early 1960s, the Limelitters will be appearing at 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 5, at the El Campanil Theatre, 602 W. Second St., Antioch.

Cost is \$30, \$28, \$25, \$22 (seniors/children 10 percent discount). For tickets and information, call 757-9500 or visit www.elcampalltheatre.com.

Miscellaneous

Annual 'One Warm Coat' Drive

The San Ramon Valley Rotary club is holding its 10th annual One Warm Coat drive from Oct. 10-Dec. 10. The drive this year will help Katrina victims as well as local charities. Donations are being accepted for warm coats, sweaters and blankets for men, women and children. Infant clothing is very much needed. To find the most convenient drop-off location, call Rotary members Larry Blair, 200-7640; Mark Murphy, 552-9900; or Dany Gregory, 899-6771 or 838-9110.

Autumn in Asia

UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley presents Autumn in Asia, from 10 a.m.-noon, Sunday, Nov. 13, at 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. Experience a guided tour of the UC Botanical Garden and the many hues of fall. Elaine Sedlack, horticulturist and Asian plant expert, will lead the tour. Cost is \$12 (\$8 for members). Registration required. Register early, class space is limited.

Get Dirty on Diablo

Save Mount Diablo is hosting a Mount Diablo Trail Adventure: Get Dirty on Diablo at 9 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 6. This trail adventure features four challenging trail events: a half marathon, 10K run, 10K Speed hike and an interactive hike. The event includes entertainment by a live band with lunch and T-shirt for all participants. The registration fee is \$35. Register online at www.active.com or see the Trail Adventure page on www.savemountdiablo.org.

Super Soup and Shopping

Jobs Daughters Bethel 247 Danville presents a soup dinner and shopping extravaganza, from 6-8:30 p.m.,

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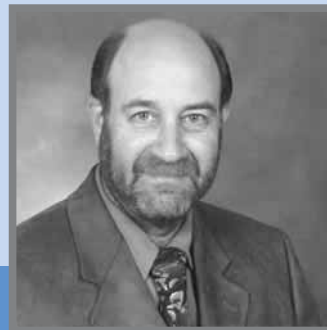
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On Stage

Disney's Aladdin Jr.

The Danville Children's Musical Theater, co-sponsored by the Town of Danville, presents Disney's "Aladdin Jr.," at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 11-12, Nov. 16-19, and 2 p.m., Nov. 12 and Nov. 19, at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St. There aren't any shows Nov. 13-15. Tickets are \$7.50 for children to age 18 and seniors. Adults are \$9.50. Box office opens one hour before shows, or order advance tickets by calling 314-3463 or visit www.village-theatre.com.

'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers' Join in on the hootin' and hollerin' when local youths present the musical comedy, "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, Nov. 2-5, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 655 Old Orchard Drive. Admission is free, space is limited. For tickets, call 838-1768.

Seniors

Prime Time

Prime Time, a non-denominational gathering of "seasoned citizens," meets from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Tuesday at the Community Presbyterian Church, 222 W. El Pintado. Various activities are offered in addition to educational speakers and day trips. A home-cooked meal is served at noon for \$3. Feel free to drop in or call Ruth Ann at 820-6387 for information or to be added to the mailing list. Need transportation? Call Gloria at 837-5229. "There are no strangers, just friends you've yet to meet."

Spiritual

Possibilities for Interfaith Dialogue

The Danville Congregational Church and Beth Chaim Congregation will co-host a talk and discussion by Dr. James A. Donahue, president of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. His talk, "Putting Boats Back in the Water: The Possibilities for Interfaith Dialogue," will be at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 14, at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. For information, call 968-1237.

Straight Talk about Medicine and Faith

Straight Talk presents Dr. John Patrick sharing his insight and experience on how faith can and is being integrated into the medical profession, at 7 a.m., Friday, Nov. 4, in the Danville Community Center. Sign up online at www.acteva.com/go/valleystraighttalk.

Sports

Adult Open Gym Basketball

Danville Parks and Recreation Department holds drop-in basketball year-round at the Los Cerros Middle School, 968 Blemer Road, for ages 18 and over. Drop-in times are 7:30-9 a.m., Saturdays. Bring your own ball. Cost is \$3 for residents, \$5 for non-residents. Call 314-3400.

Learn Tennis, Get Free Racquet

Learn to play tennis in six hours and receive a free Dunlop Tennis Racquet. Sponsored by the United States Tennis Association, new classes start the first Monday of each month, from 6:30-8 p.m., at San Ramon Valley High School. The cost of six hours of group lessons is \$100 per player. Lessons taught by former world ranked tennis professional/30-year coach. To register, call Brett, USPTA P-1 at 683-2460.

San Ramon Valley YMCA Sports The San Ramon Valley YMCA is registering students for Flag Football (2-

3 grades and 4-5 grades), starting Saturday, Nov. 6, for seven weeks; Floor Hockey (pre-school-5th grade), starting Sunday, Nov. 5, for seven weeks; and Basketball (Pre-K, K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-8 grades), starting Saturday, Jan. 21, for eight weeks. For reservations and information, call 831-1100 or visit www.mdrymca.org.

Support Groups

American Chronic Pain Association

The ACPA group meets from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. every second and fourth Monday at the Community Presbyterian Church Library at 222 W. El Pintado Road.

Bipolar Support Group

The Tri-Valley Support Group provides free peer support for people with mood disorders. It meets from 7:15-8:45 p.m., every Wednesday at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Call 560-0842.

Breast Cancer Support Group

This is a staff-facilitated support group for women with breast cancer. It meets at 6:30 p.m., the first Wednesday of each month at the San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, in the West Day Room of the South Building. Call Lisa Peguese at 275-8414.

Volunteering

Red Cross Volunteer Orientations

American Red Cross Blood Services is holding a volunteer orientation from 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 9, and 6-7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 6230 Claremont Ave., Oakland. Volunteers are needed in many capacities. For information, call (510) 594-5165.

Regional Medical Center

The Contra Costa Regional Medical Center needs volunteers to work in patient services, gift shop or at the information desk. For an application or information, call Julie Kelley, Volunteer Coordinator, at 370-5441.

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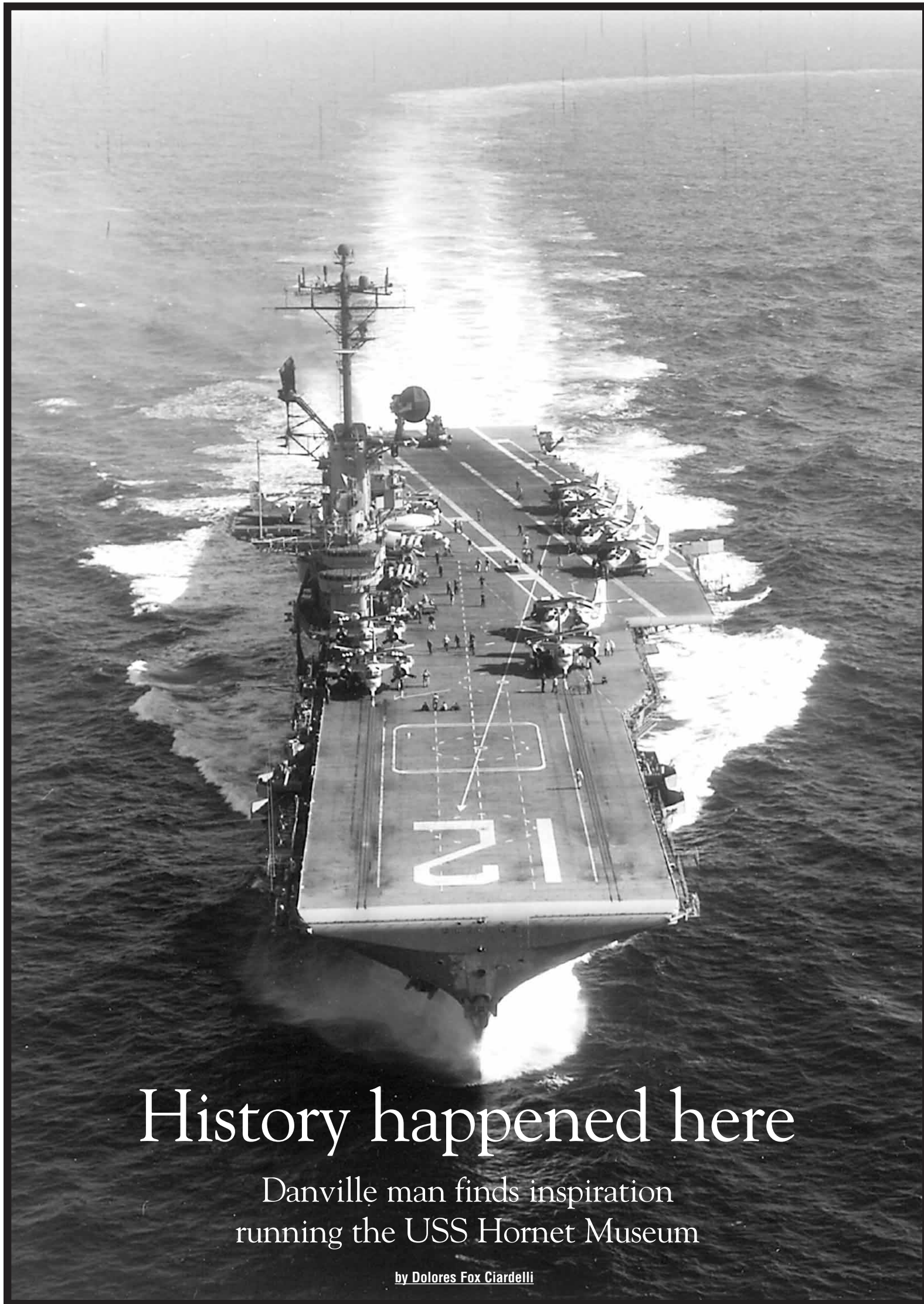
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The USS Hornet was commissioned Nov. 29, 1943; she was never tied up at a pier for the remainder of World War II and participated in nearly every major battle in the Pacific.

Photos show (l-r) the USS Hornet in the 1960s, when she completed several tours of combat duty off the coast of Vietnam; the USS Hornet Museum on Pier 3 in Alameda; and Bob Fish, head of the museum, with the command module that flew an unmanned flight in August 1966 and was recovered by the Hornet off Okinawa. It is on a 10-year loan from the Smithsonian.

History happened here

Danville man finds inspiration
running the USS Hornet Museum

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Danville resident Bob Fish feels inspiration each time he walks up the gangplank to work. He's the chief executive officer on the USS Hornet, now a museum berthed at the former Alameda Air Station, and he has unlimited appreciation for those who lived and worked onboard the 42,000-ton aircraft carrier through its service from 1943 to 1970.

"Imagine the dive bombers maneuvering, pulling out, letting go of the bombs, day in, day out for 15 months," he said. "It's hard to understand the valor. The only time they could sleep was at night because the kamikasis didn't bomb at night."

The vessel was being assembled in the shipyards under another name in October 1942 when word came that the USS Hornet had been sunk in an enemy air and surface attack. This Hornet had launched the famous Doolittle Raid on Japan in April 1942 and fought in the Battle of Midway. President Roosevelt commanded that the new aircraft carrier be christened with the historic name USS Hornet, to continue a line dating back to the Revolutionary War. When the new Hornet continued service in World War II, she participated in nearly every major action in the Pacific theater; she was attacked 59 times but never suffered a major hit.

As Fish walked through the ship's passages, he spoke about those shipyards and the women who built the vessels. "They were housewives one minute, and the next minute they had

world watched on July 24, 1969, and President Nixon watched from the bridge, when a helicopter returned to its flight deck after recovering Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins from the command module after the first walk on the moon. Armstrong's footsteps on the hangar bay of the Hornet are outlined, where he walked from the helicopter to the Mobile Quarantine Facility, which had been designed, built and brought to the Hornet just for this purpose. These were his first footsteps back on planet earth after walking on the moon. The USS Hornet brought the astronauts to Hawaii, 825 miles away, where the unit was offloaded and transported to Houston.

Since Fish joined the USS Hornet Museum five years ago, he has worked on memorializing that part of its history. He was able to obtain the 10-year loan of a command module from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. He also obtained a Mobile Quarantine Facility.

"I spent three years researching the MQF," Fish said, noting that the units were designed to temporarily house the astronauts after their return from the moon as a precaution against "moon germs." Fish traced one of the units to the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson and went in person to investigate. He was told there was some old trailer covered with a tarp tucked away on the grounds that fit

out the bunks and visualized all that they had only heard about through their men.

But it was after the wedding, when Fish returned the tablecloths to the Hornet office, that he began to chat with Alan McKean, who was then the museum curator. "He was looking for someone with a 'space' background to create the Apollo exhibit and train the docents on the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 recoveries," recalled Fish. He agreed to come onboard as CEO.

"I've focused on restoring the ship," said Fish. "We have hundreds of volunteers. It's a labor of love, the scraping, painting and polishing. We thrive on volunteers." Indeed volunteers give the tours and man the gift shop, many of them World War II veterans who are happy to share their stories. The USS Hornet Museum also has 20 fulltime paid staff members. The ship was home to as many as 2,500 people at once during WWII, with all the facilities of a town. Fish said there are parts of the Hornet they have not had a chance to explore yet.

On Halloween the "Gray Ghost" was the site of a Monster Bash, capitalizing on its reputation for "haunted happenings." Although Fish has never seen a ghost onboard, he told of several incidents that are hard to dispute. One time a group of Boy Scouts was resting in the fos'c'sle by the massive anchor chain anchor—each link weighs 120 pounds. When the guide mentioned ghosts, the boys scoffed. "Then a 50-pound



The ship has been home to as many as 2,500 people at once during WWII, with all the facilities of a town.



welding torches and masks," he said, shaking his head in admiration. He said the ship showed signs of being built with loving care, where the workers could have done a quick spot-weld but instead took the trouble to make a joint weld. "It speaks to the American spirit," he said. "The war pulled everyone together."

The USS Hornet teaches about teamwork, he explained, and about devotion to duty, and tremendous courage. Its "Live Aboard Youth Overnight Program" lets Scout troops and school groups experience the ship firsthand.

Fish said he loves standing on the forward bow when groups of Scouts arrive. They usually come in SUVs, each youth with a backpack and wired to hear his own music. "The kids get out of their vans and start to look up," said Fish, and their jaws drop in awe at the majestic size of the ship before them. "They look up and they pull their earplugs out, and I know at that point we will have an opportunity to help them grow in this life."

Many of the sailors onboard during World War II were only 16 years old, noted Fish, and by the time the Scouts leave they have an appreciation for their dedication and sacrifices. The Hornet was modernized in the 1950s and did combat duty off the coast of Vietnam in the '60s. During this conflict, she suffered her last fatalities when a reconnaissance aircraft did not return Jan. 22, 1966.

But Fish is quick to point out that the Hornet is also special for its peacetime contributions, most notably for its part in space exploration. Some 15 million people around the

description and, sure enough, what looked like an Airstream trailer was in fact one of only four such units built. It is now owned by the USS Hornet Museum, is in the original position on the hangar deck, and is open to visitors.

Fish spent two years in the U.S. Marine Corps on active duty during the Vietnam War and helped build and run Marine Corps WestPac resupply data center on Okinawa from 1969-71. After his discharge, he remained in the high-tech career field and was involved in founding five startup companies, most of them in Silicon Valley.

In 1986, his company helped upgrade the White House communications system during President Reagan's administration with Fish as program manager. "During this time, the space shuttle Challenger was destroyed in its launch explosion," he said, "and I spent the next several years helping to rebuild America's national space reconnaissance system."

Fish has lived in the Danville area since 1971. In 1998, one of his high-tech companies was bought by Cisco Systems and he semi-retired. When he and his fiancée Jennifer began to plan their wedding in 2000 he saw something in a newspaper about the Hornet as an events venue and, despite the skepticism of friends, booked it, along with a three-piece band and caterers.

"It has a magnificent view of San Francisco," he said, "and I hired two docents to give tours." He said the women spent longer on their tour than the men and had to be repeatedly called to dinner. "They saw everything," he said. They tried

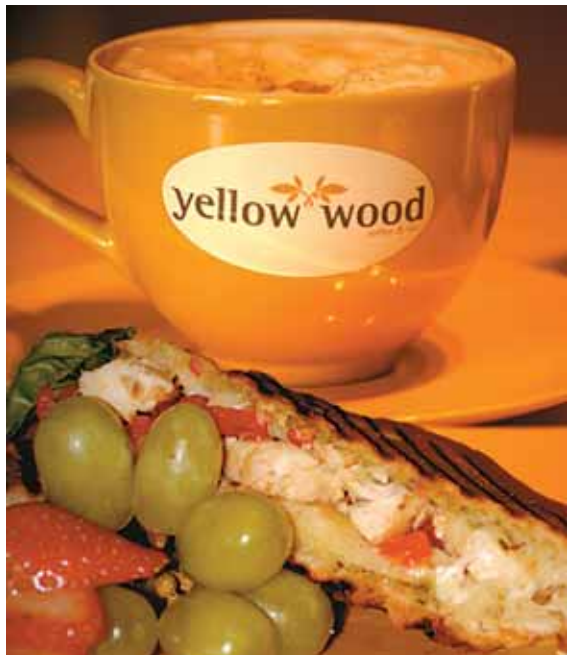
wrench behind them lifted—and dropped," Fish said. The Scouts—and leaders—raced out of the fos'c'sle double-time.

The USS Hornet was featured on Fox Family's "Scariest Places," and once when KRON was filming in the sick bay, suddenly a mattress had an indentation in the middle, as though a ghost had cooperatively claimed his deathbed for the newscasters. "The spirits are very friendly, they've never hurt anybody," said Fish. He conjectured that with all the American pilots killed during the war, it makes sense that their spirits would still be in residence.

During WWII, the USS Hornet also had quarters for Marines, who were kept separate from the Navy personnel. "The Hornet played a central role in several invasion forces, providing air cover for the USMC assault troops on shore," said Fish. Both his father and his mother served in the Marine Corps during World War II. Fish said his father spoke very little about his wartime duty and it was only after he passed away in 2001 that Fish did some research.

"All I had were his discharge, a v-mail letter, his shell-back card and three photos," said Fish. Using a magnifying glass he noticed four tiny numbers in the generic postmaster return address—1230—that he e-mailed to a stamp collector. He received an e-mail in return: "Your Dad was with the Marine Fighter Unit VMF-124 and on that date they had just landed in Espiritu Santo having crossed the Pacific Ocean aboard the SS Lurline."

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USS Hornet

► Continued from page 15

From there Fish said it was easy to uncover information; he found other members of the squadron and learned they had been in Guadalcanal from February to October 1943. In April he and his wife flew to Australia and took a small ship that steamed through the Solomon Islands, with the first port of call Guadalcanal.

"We were joined by just over 100 other tourists, about 20 of whom were WWII veterans returning to the area for the first time since they fought there 60 years ago," reported Fish. "We landed on the invasion beach just after sunrise." The tour guide was a former Marine who related details about the hand-to-hand combat that took place.

The group experienced the heat, the humidity, the swarms of black flies by day and mosquitoes by night, and cutting kunai grass, and tried to imagine the experience of the young Marines carrying rifles, packs and hand grenades. Their tour had to be cautious due to rusted barbed wire and old foxholes but they knew it was nothing compared to the fear of having the enemy lying in wait.

"Keep in mind, the average age of these Marines was only 18, although my father was 25," said Fish. "Yet they turned back every attack and endured almost unbearable conditions. I have gained an overwhelming respect—bordering on awe—for what these teenage soldiers accomplished under such horrid conditions and against such a fanatical foe."

The USS Hornet was retired from service in 1970. Newer aircraft carriers were designed longer and wider to launch and land jet aircraft whereas those for WWII were for much slower and lighter propeller aircraft. The Hornet was part of a mothball fleet in Bremerton, Wash., until she was towed to Alameda Naval Air Station for a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the end of WWII. In May 1995, the Aircraft Carrier Hornet Foundation was formed to save her from the scrap pile, and since then volunteers and staff members have worked to make her the living museum she is today, serving to educate

the public about the country's ventures into space, as well as its wartime battles at sea and in the air.

When Bob Fish walks down the gangplank and heads back to Danville, he bears the pride of the Hornet's history in his head and in his heart. "It's my way to give back to the community," he said. "My goal is to see it preserved as a monument to peace." ■

Remember the veterans

The USS Hornet Museum is offering free admission to veterans during the week prior to Veterans Day, Nov. 11. It will celebrate Veterans Day on Saturday, Nov. 12, with a ceremony beginning at 1 p.m. to include patriotic music, a benediction, speakers and a wreath-laying ceremony. The museum doors open at 10 a.m., and veterans are free that day. Also, the USS Hornet Museum is teaming up with the East Bay Blue Star Moms to provide morale-boosting "care packages" for troops deployed in the Middle East during the 2005 holiday period, so people who attend the ceremony have this chance to donate something to be shipped to the troops.

Visiting the USS Hornet Museum

The USS Hornet Museum is located at Pier 3, Alameda Point, in Alameda. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week. General admission is \$14; youths 5-17 are \$6. It also offers group tours, as well as community outreach through its youth live-aboard program. A service in the chapel is open to the public at 11 a.m. every Sunday. The Hornet also hosts big band dances, which draw as many as 1,250 people, many of whom dress in 1940s clothes to dance to music by Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey and County Basie, as well as events for patriotic holidays. It is also available as a venue for corporate promotions, graduation proms, weddings and public events. For more information, call (510) 521-8448 or visit www.uss-hornet.org.

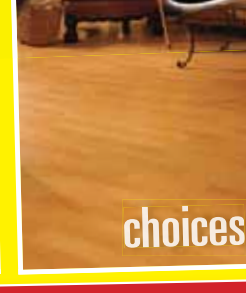
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Teens crave



It's fun, it's social, it's addictive

by Kevin Zhou

It is eight o'clock in the morning, and Jyoti Narayan, 16, is sitting at a computer station in the Monte Vista High School library. No, she is not cramming for a test, and she is not scrambling to finish up her homework either. She is surfing on MySpace.

Launched in 2003, MySpace has already developed a cultlike following among high school students. Teenagers who had once failed their basic computer classes are transformed into technology wizards as they spend hours designing elaborate Web pages with epilepsy-inducing colors in the background, a Britney Spears music video playing on the right, and their rants about school, life and relationships neatly laid out across the top.

And that's just the beginning. Users can then go to other people's Web sites and request to add them as friends, upload pictures, and leave messages on each others' sites.

"Whenever I'm logged on, I usually leave comments on my friends' Web sites, or I check for new messages," said Narayan. "You can talk to your friends pretty much whenever you want."

Sound addictive? Oh, yeah.

In a study conducted by Nielsen/NetRatings, the average time users spent each month on MySpace is one hour and 43 minutes. Just go into the Monte Vista library during any lunch time and five or six people will be logged on to MySpace.

"Sometimes I click on links to see the Web sites for my friends' friends, so that takes up a lot of time," said Narayan. "I also probably upload new pictures every other month."

MySpace has proven to be especially useful for teenagers living in Danville. With many high schoolers dealing with heavy course loads, SAT tests, and after-school sports, they can still keep in touch with those friends that they just don't have the time to see anymore in real life.

"MySpace is a great way to connect with the people who I don't get to come into contact with on a regular basis," said Jessica Kim, 17, a senior at Monte Vista.

"Plus, my best friend from first grade found me through MySpace."

Roy Mathew, 17, whose MySpace alias is now "Skins," agreed. "It provides me with unique perspectives on different individuals, and it promotes diversity."

High Schoolers caught up in several extracurricular activities use the Web site to meet new people as well.

"It is a helpful tool to break the ice," said Jonathan Hogan, 17, a senior at Monte Vista.

Interestingly, MySpace has managed to bring the student-teacher relationship to a whole new level. Just recently, Nick Nassab, a senior at Monte Vista, added Gavin Kwong, his introduction-to-business teacher, as a friend.

Local musicians have also used MySpace to promote their songs. Artists in the area who do not have the funds to launch promo CDs or to get their tunes onto the airwaves have the ability to get their work into the open through this free online service.

Nassab, who is also the guitarist and lead singer for his band, Smart Control, joined Myspace primarily for music purposes. On his Web site, he lets viewers sample some of the songs that he has recorded, and he maintains a network of musicians in the area.

"Anything on the Internet like MySpace puts your stuff out there," he said. "After looking at my page, I've been contacted by some studio producers, and I've gotten feedback from other musicians, producers and bands in the area."

"I also found my new bassist through MySpace," Nassab added.

Despite its overwhelming popularity, there are many teenagers who do not plan to log on anytime soon.

Amber Yan, 17, a senior at Monte Vista, never joined MySpace because she viewed it as merely a popularity contest. Yan said that teenagers often try too hard to impress viewers by creating false images of themselves, and are preoccupied with mindlessly adding as many friends as possible.

"I think it's a place where people place



KEVIN ZHOU

pictures of themselves that aren't really them," she said.

Victoria Chiang, 17, a senior at Monte Vista, said that the main reason she did not join MySpace was that it did not give her the same feeling as chatting on the phone.

"It's not as personal since you just leave messages," said Chiang. "It's a lot worse than just talking with someone else."

Jon Wu, 16, a junior at Monte Vista, originally created a homepage over the summer to communicate with friends living across the country. However, he grew tired of MySpace at the end of summer and stopped using it since it was too much of a hassle.

But perhaps the biggest grievance many have with MySpace is that it simply wastes too much time. Writing blogs, reading other peoples' profiles, looking for quotes to insert in their own profiles, and constantly uploading pictures may just be the perfect recipe for procrastination.

"If I start using MySpace now, I will get addicted, and that's something that I definitely do not want to happen," said Chiang. ■

Roy Mathew, 17, checks out his MySpace friends at the library. Some Danville teens are finding the Web site the only way they have time to keep in touch with friends.

AT THE MOVIES

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

A History of Violence (R)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:10, 2:40, 4:55, 7:30, 9:50 p.m.
Capote (R)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:40 a.m., 2:15, 4:50, 7:45, 10:25 p.m. CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:15, 3:45, 7:20, 9:55 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 1:55, 4:35, 7:45, 10:40 p.m.
Chicken Little (G)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 1:30, 1:45, 3:35, 3:50, 5:40, 5:55, 7:45, 8, 9:50, 10:05 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:50, 10:05 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:15 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 10:30 a.m., 11, 12:15, 12:45, 1:15, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 7, 7:30, 8, 9:15, 9:45, 10:15 p.m. Vine Cinema: Fri-Sun 11 a.m., 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:15 p.m., Mon-Tues 1:30, 3:20, 5:10, 7, 8:45 p.m.
Doom (R)	Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 2:05, 7:10, 9:40 p.m.
Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story (PG)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 10 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 1:55, 4:35, 7:05, 9:45 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55 p.m.
Elizabethtown (PG-13)	Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:05 a.m., 4:55, 7:50 p.m.
Flightplan (PG-13)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 5, 10:05 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:10 a.m., 4:15, 6:50, 9:30 p.m.
Good Night, and Good Luck (PG)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 8, 10:15 p.m. CinéArts: Fri-Tues 11:55 a.m., 2:15, 4:40, 7, 9:25 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 p.m.
History of Violence (R)	Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 2:20, 10:35 p.m.
In Her Shoes (PG-13)	Century 14: Fri-Tues noon, 6:45 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 4:45 p.m.
Jarhead (R)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 12:20, 1:45, 3:15, 4:30, 6:20, 7:15, 9:05, 10 p.m., Sat-Sun no show 9:05 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11 a.m., 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10 p.m., Sun-Tues 10 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11 a.m., 11:30, 1:50, 2:20, 4:40, 5:15, 7:30, 8, 10:20, 10:50 p.m.
Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang (R)	Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:35, 10:25 p.m.
Nine Lives (R)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:25, 5:05, 9:45 p.m.
North Country (R)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:25 a.m., 2:20, 7:25 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 1:10, 4, 6:50, 9:50 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:50 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 2, 7:35 p.m.
Prime (PG-13)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:30 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:30, 7, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:30 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:10 a.m., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45 p.m.
Saw II (R)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 2:10, 7:05, 9:20 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:20 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:45 a.m., 1:50, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 1:45, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:40 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 12:45 p.m., 1:55, 3:15, 5:45, 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:45 p.m.
Shopgirl (R)	Century 14: Fri-Tues 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 p.m.
The Constant Gardener (R)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 2:30, 7:10 p.m.
The Fog (PG-13)	Hacienda 20: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 5, 10:35 p.m.
The Legend of Zorro (PG)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 10:10 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 1, 3, 4:10, 7, 9:50, 10:30 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 1, 3:50, 6:40, 9:45 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:45 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11 a.m., 1, 1:55, 4, 4:50, 7, 7:45, 10, 10:50 p.m. Vine Cinema: Fri-Sun 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:35 p.m., Mon-Tues 2:15, 5, 7:45 p.m.
The Squid & the Whale (R)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:05, 2:25, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40 p.m.
The Weather Man (R)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:40 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 11:50 a.m., 2:25, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45 p.m.
Wallace & Grommit (G)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 4:40 p.m. Century 14: Fri-Tues 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:15 p.m. Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:05 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 6:55, 9:30 p.m. Vine Cinema: Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 4:30 p.m., Fri no show 11:30 a.m., Sun 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 6:45, 8:45 p.m., Mon-Tues 2:30, 4:45, 6:45, 8:45 p.m.



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Youth in the news

Alissa Anderegg

Danville resident Alissa Anderegg, 11, has been cast in the West Coast production of "The American Girl Revue" in Los Angeles, which is based on the characters and stories of "The American Girls Collection." More than 300,000 patrons enjoyed the musical at theaters in Chicago and New York City, and it will play in the American Girl Place Theatre at the Grove in Los Angeles. A store catering to American Girl dolls, books and other playthings is expected to open in April.

Alissa will portray Becky, who sings and tap dances as the doll Molly. She competed against hundreds of others and took part in three auditions as well as separate tap dance auditions before being chosen for her favorite part.

She has performed in more than 15 community theater productions and has won awards for her singing. She is currently playing "Little Mary" in "the Women" at the Dean Leshner Center for the Performing Arts. She has also starred in "Annie" and "Sound of Music." She sings a solo in the upcoming movie "Little Miss Sunshine" and is also in the soon-to-be-released film "Bee Season" starring Richard Gere. She is currently filming "Pursuit of



Happiness" starring Will Smith.

Alissa studied voice for six years with former Danville resident Lynda Kalb, and is an honor student at the Dorris-Eaton School in Walnut Creek. She lives in Blackhawk with her parents Jim and Leisha Anderegg.

Randie Allyse Schoenberg

Randie Alyse Schoenberg of Danville is participating in the 2005 Miss Junior Teen San Francisco pageant taking place Sunday. She was chosen after submitting an application and taking part in an interview session.



Randie, 13, is a student at Diablo Vista Middle School. She will be competing for more than \$20,000 in scholarships. The competition includes modeling casual and formal wear. But the most important part of the competition is the personality and interviewing skills displayed before a panel of judges. Randie received sponsorships to be in the competition, which supported her training and rehearsals.

The winner of the competition will represent the San Francisco Bay Area at the Cities of America National Competition that will take place in Orlando, Fla. ■

Eat, drink, be merry—and shop

Junior League event to benefit children at risk

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Get ready, get set, shop. The Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, which counts many residents of Danville, Diablo and Alamo among its members, is holding its second annual "Crate and Barrel Shopping Night" in Walnut Creek from 7-9 p.m. this Sunday to benefit children at risk.

"It was so much fun last year. I have several friends going with my husband and me," said spokeswoman Dana Young. "I'm not a big shopper but if I know the proceeds are going to a good cause, if there's a reason, then I'm all about it."

She also noted that it is possible to pre-shop. "You can get the catalog at home and set up your registry ahead of time," she said. "Then you can eat, drink and be merry." The Web site to create a registry is

www.crateandbarrel.com. The store will have staff at the event to gather the items for you.

The entry fee is \$25 ahead of time and \$30 at the door and includes wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert. That money plus 15 percent of the evening's sales will go toward the League's programs.

"All the programs are designed to help kids in the East Bay who are underserved in the areas of education and health and family services," said Young.

"We raised more than \$17,000 last year so we're aiming to do even more this year," she added.

Purchases may also be made over the telephone during the event and 15 percent of the money will also go to the cause.

For more information or for tickets, call 284-3740 or visit www.jloeb.org. ■



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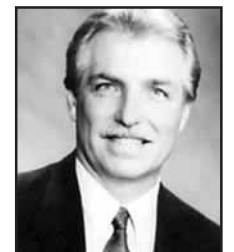
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BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

Hey ... soup's on!

With chilly weather close at hand, I love making hot, hearty soups as a dinner alternative. A stockpot simmering for hours in the kitchen fills the house with warm undercurrents as well as appetizing fragrances. A few sips from the taster spoon to check the pot along the way only adds to the anticipation. Ah, sweet bliss! And since most soups are even more flavorful after the ingredients have "married" over a few days, I always make enough to be enjoyed once or twice more ... as bowls "naked" on-the-go or for an easy weekend lunch. Like the last cup of eggnog at Christmas or the leftover turkey sandwiches after Thanksgiving, the soup gets better and better with each re-heating. Your gang will be sorry when it's all gone but eager for the next great pot.

Growing up, my mom seemed to reserve her soup-making for comfort food when we got sick or when she had good bones around which to build a broth - a chicken carcass from a Sunday after-church dinner, turkey bones from Thanksgiving, or a wonderful ham bone from a large Easter gathering. She hardly served soups until Campbell started regularly marketing its canned soup products on our tiny black-and-white television. Most days I can't remember my own cell phone number but I can still recall those Campbell kids singing: "Uh Mmm good, Uh Mmm good, that's why Campbell Soups are Uh Mmm good!"

Soups evoke a casual family-style ambiance so they're great for family get-togethers, sleepovers, entertaining neighbors, card games and scrap-booking. Soups are great for filling thermoses to take along on cool weather road adventures, school trips, tailgate parties and outings of all kinds - biking, football games, mountain climbing, snowboarding, etc. Increasingly,

Aunt Geneva's Quick Naw'leans Gumbo: 8-10 servings

My aunt served this gumbo during the Christmas holidays. I find it a joyful soup to serve in cups as a first course of a holiday meal or as a great Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve meal, for out-of-town guests to enjoy casually as they get hungry from tree decorating or arriving from the airport with an appetite. It's a great party soup. The "quick" in the name refers to skipping the roux and using prepared ingredients.

- 1 can (14.5 oz.) chicken broth
- 1 can (14.5 oz.) tomatoes
- 3 cups water
- 1 small bay leaf
- 2 Tbsp. dried thyme
- 2 Tbsp. butter or margarine
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 3/4 cup chopped green pepper (I use both red and green for color)
- 1 Tbsp. minced parsley
- 3 Tbsp. file powder (or more to taste)
- 1 lb. sliced chicken breasts (I use thighs)
- 3 hot links, sliced
- 2 cups frozen sliced okra
- 3 cups cooked rice
- 2 cups frozen shrimp (for special occasions, I use 3 cups of the large size)
- Salt, pepper, garlic powder to taste
- Hot sauce (optional)

Combine chicken broth, tomatoes, water, bay leaf, thyme, butter, onion, green pepper, parsley, file powder, chicken, sausage, salt, pepper and garlic powder in a stockpot or large Dutch

oven. Cook 30 minutes. Add okra. Cook according to time on package (8-10 min.) Add rice and shrimp. Let stand 5 minutes. Remove bay leaf before serving. (Note: If you prefer, you can cook rice separately and put in bottom of bowl before serving the gumbo over it.) Serve and season with hot sauce, if desired.

Mushroom Barley Soup: 6-8 servings

As vegetarians, this was our favorite soup for years. It continues to be one of my winter favorites, served with grilled cheese sandwiches.

- 1/2 cup raw pearled barley
- 6 1/2 cups stock or water (I use vegetable broth)
- 1/2 - 1 tsp. salt
- 3-4 Tbsp. tamari
- 3-4 Tbsp. dry sherry
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1 heaping cup chopped onion
- 1 lb. fresh mushrooms, sliced (any kind)
- freshly ground black pepper

Cook the barley in 1-1/2 cups of the stock or water until tender. (Cook it right in the soup pot.) Add the remaining stock or water, tamari and sherry. Saute the onions and garlic in butter until soft; add the mushrooms and 1/2 tsp. salt. When all is tender, add to barley, being sure to include the liquid the vegetables expressed while cooking. Give it a generous grinding of pepper and simmer 20 minutes, covered, over very low heat. Season to taste.

people are serving a couple of different soups at informal parties because they are easy to make and serve for a large group, surprisingly fun for guests and offer minimal cleanup, especially when you serve the hot liquid in deep, disposable cups or mugs. And you don't have to be Martha Stewart to throw together a hearty soup that will delight and please your guests.

With soups, most of the cook's

work is on the front end - starting with compiling the freshest of seasonal ingredients, followed by lots of slicing and dicing. However, the true magic of soup making is in the slow simmering of the pot to bring out the best of the individual ingredients and blend them into a flavorful union. And, based on what they say about "watched pots," all that simmering affords you some quality time to read, knit or nap in between.

My favorite soups are those that provide full meals in a bowl or are accompanied by equally hearty sandwiches. Above are some of my personal favorites, mostly passed on from family and friends, and I have more recipes on the Danville Weekly Web site: www.DanvilleWeekly.com. See issue of Nov. 4, Living, Epicure.

So, think of soup as a form of homemade love to warm the heart and satisfy the tummy. Mix up a batch of love for your hungry bunch or a parcel of friends on a chilly day. You just may find them singing "Uh Mmm, good!"

Jacqui Love Marshall lives in Danville with her vintage-car-loving husband, two pugs and binders of recipes.

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OBITUARY



William 'Bill' Hockins

Bill Hockins, 82, known in the area for his majestic photographs of rural San Ramon Valley, died last Thursday, Oct. 27, at his home in Alamo on the 13th hole of the Roundhill golf course. He and his son Russell had recently begun to market some of his popular photographs on wooden puzzles.

He was born in Alameda on Dec. 17, 1922, and raised in Piedmont where he became enamored of photography as a boy. He attended Santa Rosa Junior College on a basketball and baseball scholarship and enlisted in the Naval Air Corps in 1942. Upon his discharge in 1945, he attended UC Berkeley.

He married Hazel Williams of Hayward in 1951 and they moved to the San Ramon Valley, where he began running the insurance department of Geldermann Realtors. He meanwhile began to shoot more than 50,000 photographs of rural San Ramon Valley and in 1998 produced a coffee table book, "Diablo Shadows," with graphic artist Bob Pease. He also served as president of the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis.

Mr. Hockins was part of the move in the 1950s to change Danville into a picturesque Western town. He had his office redecorated in Victorian style, and his wife made him more than 50 vests to wear with his suits, earning him the nickname "Vesty." He also became beloved to Alamo children by playing the part of Santa Claus at Roundhill Christmas parties.

He is survived by his wife Hazel of Alamo; son Russell Hockins of Alamo; daughters Susan Anderson of Yuma, Ariz., and Sheri Gomez of Glendale, Ariz.; and one granddaughter. A Mass of Christian Burial was scheduled for this morning, Nov. 4, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Isidore's Church, 440 La Gonda Way in Danville. A reception will follow at the church reception room and burial will be at Oakmont Memorial Park in Lafayette.

The Danville Police Department made the following information available. Under the law, those charged with offenses are considered innocent until convicted.

Oct. 24

- Accident-property damage: on Danville Blvd. and Del Amigo Rd., at 5:14 a.m.
- Driving under the influence (DUI)-misdemeanor: Arrest on Danville Blvd. and Del Amigo Rd., at 4:41 a.m.
- Warrant arrest: Arrest on Love Ln., at 2:17 p.m.
- Checks-insufficient funds: on Camino Tassajara at 2:27 p.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on El Cerro Blvd. and El Pintado Rd., at 3:42 p.m.
- Grand theft-from building: on Railroad Ave., at 3:22 p.m.
- Petty theft-bicycle: on La Gonda Wy., at 5:30 p.m.
- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Tassajara Ranch Dr., at 9:45 p.m.

Oct. 25

- Vandalism-schools: on Brookside Dr., at 8:08 a.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Cr., at 9:14 a.m.
- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Center Wy. and Shadowhawk Cr., at 9:21 a.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Camino Tassajara and Sycamore Valley, at 9:39 a.m.
- Petty theft-bicycle: on Stone Valley Rd., at 1:58 p.m.

Oct. 26

- Malicious mischief: on Crow Canyon Rd. and Tassajara Ranch Dr., at 4:07 a.m.
- Petty theft-coin op machine: on Love Ln., at 8:14 a.m.
- Hit & run-misdemeanor: Accident investigation on La Gonda Wy., at 8:32 a.m.

- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Center Wy. and Crow Canyon Rd., at 3:45 p.m.
- Credit card fraud: on Brush Creek Pl., at 6:53 p.m.

Oct. 27

- Accident-property damage: Citation given on Diablo Rd. and McCauley Rd., at 9:36 a.m.
- Warrant arrest: Arrest on Podva Rd. and San Ramon Valley Blvd., at 11:05 p.m.

Oct. 28

- Accident-property damage: on Hartz Wy. and Railroad Ave., at 9:22 a.m.
- School-alcohol on grounds: on Stone Valley Rd., at 7:59 p.m.
- Unlicensed driver: Citation on Camino Ramon/El Capitan Dr., at 8:34 p.m.

Oct. 29

- Burglary-commercial: on Diablo Rd., at 7:15 a.m.
- Accident-injury: on Fostoria Wy., at 3:02 p.m.
- DUI-misdemeanor: on Fostoria Wy., at 3:25 p.m.
- Other infraction: Citation given on Center Wy. and Crow Canyon Rd., at 10:15 p.m.
- Misdemeanor-other: Citation given on Camino Tassajara and Old Blackhawk Rd., at 10:44 p.m.

Oct. 30

- DUI-misdemeanor: Arrest on Brookside Dr. and Sycamore Valley Rd., at 1:20 a.m.
- DUI-misdemeanor: Arrest on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Sycamore Valley at 1:15 a.m.
- DUI-misdemeanor: Arrest on Franciscan Dr., at 2:43 a.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Sycamore Valley Rd., West at 3:35 a.m.
- Malicious mischief: on Love Ln., at 9:22 a.m.
- Accident-property damage: on Railroad Ave., at 11:35 a.m.
- Burglary-commercial: on Hartz Ave., at 2:39 p.m.

POLICE LOG

- Malicious mischief: on La Gonda Wy., at 5:08 p.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Love Ln., at 9:04 p.m.
- Malicious mischief: on El Cerro Blvd., at 9:29 p.m.

The Office of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department's Valley Station in Alamo made the following information available.

ALAMO

Oct. 25

- Grand theft-from vehicle: on South Ave.
- Petty theft-from vehicle: on South Ave.

Oct. 26

- Burglary-auto: on Via Bonita
- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Lark Ct.

Oct. 27

- Malicious mischief: on Limestone Rd.

Oct. 28

- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Via Larga

Oct. 30

- Burglary-auto: on Danville Blvd.
- Burglary-auto: on Hillgrade Ave and Iron Horse Trail

BLACKHAWK

Oct. 24

- Recovered stolen vehicle: on Kingswood Dr. and Kingswood Cir.

- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Blackhawk Meadow Dr.

- Petty theft-from vehicle: on Deer Ridge Pl.

Oct. 25

- Grand theft-from vehicle: on Deer Ridge Rd.

Oct. 26

- Burglary-auto: on Blackhawk Plaza Cir.

Oct. 29

- Malicious mischief: on Silver Maple Dr.



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Parent photographers

Send a jpeg to Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com of the best action shot from your child's game for consideration for our Sports page. Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.

Sports

A LOOK AT THE LOCAL SPORTS SCENE

Lady Mustangs clinch EBAL tennis title

Monte Vista heads for NCS hoping for second championship

by Mike L. Mc Colgan

The Monte Vista Lady Mustangs beat Pleasanton rival Foothill High on the tennis courts Oct. 25 to go 10-0 and clinch the East Bay Athletic League title. Monte Vista had two matches left but the title was already theirs as a result of beating Foothill twice.

"We've battled back and forth between Foothill and us but we've dominated the last four years," said Patty Gross, who has coached the Mustangs for 13 years. "We've had a really good team."

The Mustangs went on to shut out Amador Valley, 9-0, last week, and beat San Ramon Valley, 7-2, on Tuesday.

This is the second straight EBAL title for Monte Vista. The lady Mustangs will now set their sights on winning the North Coast Section tournament, which begins Nov. 8.

"We won NCS last year against Foothill in the finals," said Gross. "We need to take advantage of our strength and depth right now and try to make history with a repeat of NCS championship."

Team members are Mia Giovanetti and Vanessa Lunardi in the No. 1 and No. 2 spots, respectively; Andrea Waitrovich, Joelle Luedeke, Allison Moulthrop, Krissy Luecht, Elena Cadet, Sheena Chaudhuri, Hayley Blake, Chelsea Chandler, Natalie Sarkisian, Paige Pier, Laura Guier and Courtney Monheit. The assistant coach is Leslie Blake.

Football

The Monte Vista Mustangs ran their record to a perfect 8-0 with a win over Pleasanton's Foothill High School, 35-28. Quarterback Drew McAllister threw for 170 yards and three touchdowns. Star running back Peter Geurts ran for 188 yards carrying the ball 31 times. Geurts has performed bril-

liantly with bruised ribs since week two. Monte Vista will try to extend its perfect record tonight against Amador Valley.

San Ramon lost a non-league game to San Leandro 34-14. The Wolves are now 4-4. San Leandro is undefeated and rated 10th in Northern California. The Wolves have lost three games to 4-A schools. They are also the defending 3-A champions and still eligible for a post-season berth having a record of 2-1 against 3-A schools. They will play tonight in an important EBAL game against California to keep their playoff hopes alive. The 3-A and 4-A divisions are based on size; Monte Vista is 4-A and San Ramon is 3-A.

The Mustangs and the Wolves face each other on the football field this Thursday, Nov. 10. The varsity game begins at 7 p.m. at San Ramon.

Water Polo

In a non-league match Wednesday, Oct. 26, De La Salle defeated Monte Vista 6-5 in water polo. The Mustangs were ahead 5-2 going into the last quarter. De La Salle's Robbie Hayes scored the winning goal with 10 seconds left in the match.

The next day, Monte Vista rebounded to defeat San Ramon 9-3 to win the EBAL with a 12-0 record. San Ramon is in second place with a 9-2 record. Charlie Steffens led the Mustangs with 3 goals.

The Lady Wolves defeated Monte Vista 7-4. The win also clinched the EBAL championship with a perfect 12-0 record and 21-3 overall. Monte Vista is in second place with a 10-2 record and 14-9 overall.

Volleyball

The Lady Wolves volleyball team defeated Livermore on Oct. 27. Its record is now 3-6 in the EBAL. ■



DENNIS RAMSDELL

T-Bird Junior Midgets Dan Molieri, right, tries for the ball as it is caught by West Pittsburg in last Saturday's 36-7 win. All of the T-Bird teams emerged victorious.

T-Birds celebrate homecoming with wins

All the squads beat West Pittsburg in clean sweep

The San Ramon Valley T-Birds squads faced those of West Pittsburg last Saturday at San Ramon Valley High and all of the T-Birds came out victorious.

Football action included:

- SRV Jr. Midgets vs. West Pittsburg Vikings, 36-7
- SRV Pee Wee's vs. West Pittsburg Spartans, 14-8
- T-Birds Jr. Pee Wees vs. West Pittsburg Titans, 18-0
- T-Birds Midgets vs. West Pittsburg Nomads, 16-0
- T-Bird Scouts vs. West Pittsburg Trojans

It was also homecoming for the T-Birds, with the game festivities starting with the parents meeting in the end zone and team members and cheerleaders presenting them with roses. The homecoming festivities continued during halftime with the cheerleaders entertaining the crowds with their competition dance. ■

PREP SCHEDULE

Today

Football: San Ramon at Cal High, 7 p.m.
Monte Vista at Amador Valley, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Cross Country: EBAL championships at Oak Hill Park, 1 p.m.
Boys Water Polo: NCS championship
Girls Water Polo: NCS varsity tournament

Monday

Girls Golf: Nor-cal championships, all day

Tuesday

Girls Tennis: Team NCS, Nov. 8-12

Girls Volleyball: San Ramon vs. Cal High, 6 p.m.

Monte Vista vs. Amador Valley, 6 p.m.

Boys Water Polo: NCS championship

Girls Water Polo: NCS varsity tournament

Thursday

Football: Monte Vista at San Ramon, 7 p.m.

Girls Water Polo: NCS varsity tournament

Boys Water Polo: NCS championship
Girls Volleyball: San Ramon at Monte Vista, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12

Girls Water Polo: NCS varsity tournament

Correction: The Oct. 28 issue should have read the Monte Vista-San Ramon football game is scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, at San Ramon.



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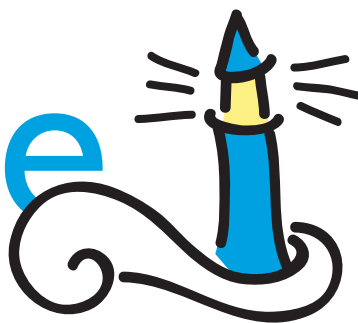
The Lafayette Academy in Danville Team of the Week

Mustang Mavericks- League Champions for U-9 Al Caffodio Gold Division Girls 1 soccer!

The Mustang Mavericks led by Coach Ed Bronsen cinched their league title with a 7-0 win on October 23rd against the Union City Diablos. The Mavericks have outscored their opponents 33 to 1 and have a record of 8 wins and 1 tie in league play. With only one game left in league play, their first place finish cannot be matched. Way to go Mavericks!



Back Row from Left: Hailey, Kathryn, Arianna, Marissa, Chelsea, Leah, Coach Ed
Front/Middle Row from Left: Chandra, Christina, Lauren, Lia, Mallory, Amanda



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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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Tuesday 11:59 PM
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140 Lost & Found

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 1680 Calle Santiago, 11/5, 8-3

Pleasanton, 1999 Harvest Rd., 11/4, 2:30-7 and 11/5, 9-1

Pleasanton, 2020 Martin Ave, Nov. 12, 8am - 1pm
(cross street Mohr) Garage Sale: Baby Furniture, Bedroom Furniture, misc. items.

PLEASANTON, Wells St, 11/5, 8-4

215 Collectibles & Antiques

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830

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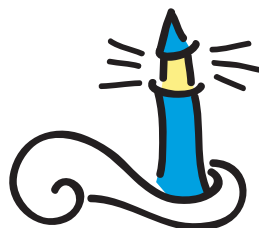
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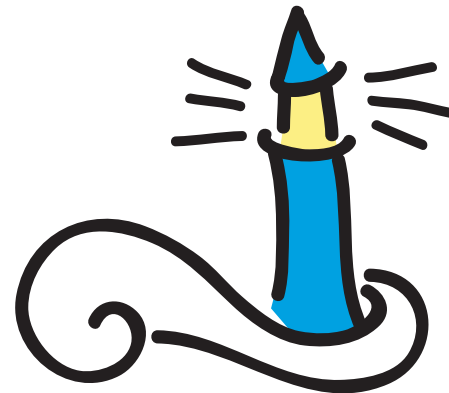
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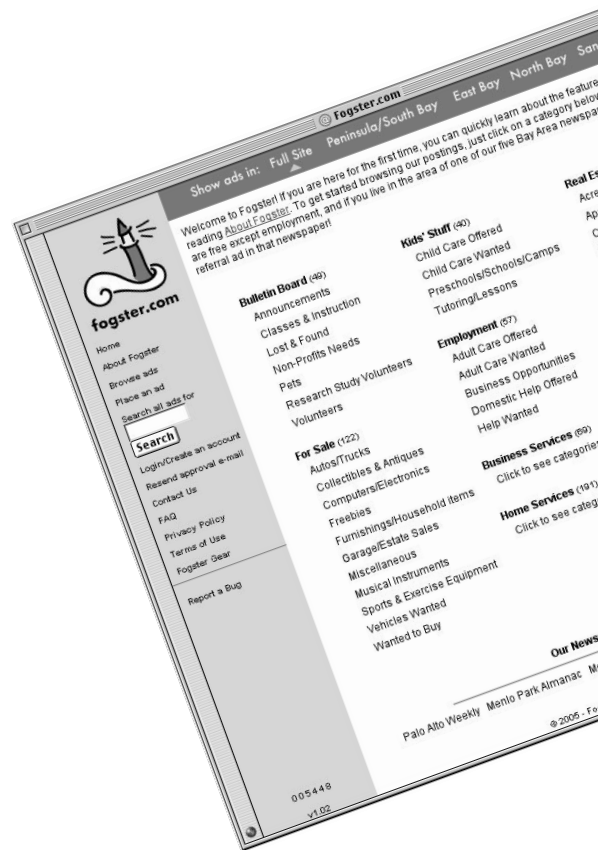
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Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK DANVILLE



22 Maplewood Dr, Danville

Backs to Open Space! On over one-quarter acre, 4bd, 3.5ba, nearly 3000sf of living space. Spa cascading into the sparkling pool, views of the hills.

Sold for \$1,489,000
by Dave Bauer

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during October 2005

Danville	Alamo	Diablo	Walnut Creek
Total sales reported: 22	Total sales reported: 7	Total sales reported: 1	Total sales reported: 30
Lowest sale reported: \$615,000	Lowest sale reported: \$765,000	Lowest sale reported: \$2,662,500	Lowest sale reported: \$245,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,900,000	Highest sale reported: \$2,125,000	Highest sale reported: \$2,662,500	Highest sale reported: \$2,000
Average sales reported: \$1,069,272	Average sales reported: \$1,445,500	Average sales reported: \$2,662,500	Average sales reported: \$655,417

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

Danville	2227 Creekview Place	325 Gil Blas Road
24 Barcelona Court D. Zehnder to M. Ross for \$925,000	Shapell Industries to R. & T. Archibald for \$1,154,000	L. Laperle to R. & A. Frisk for \$780,000
1381 Camino Tassajara J. Mitzel to Tenir Limited for \$912,000	122 Deer Meadow Terrace V. & D. Koliczew to N. & B. Dacosta for \$1,859,000	377 Inman Court L. Weinschelbaum to L. Anderson for \$755,000
22 Celine Court Demain Trust to D. Zehnder for \$1,170,000	363 Del Amigo Road M. & E. Pilcher to J. & L. Barsi for \$1,617,000	514 Knollwood Court D. & I. Lee to J. & D. Kane for \$1,150,000
311 Cliffside Drive Silva Relocation to B. & K. Decker for \$1,350,000	1036 El Capitan Drive B. Atwood to R. & L. White for \$1,049,000	202 La Questa Drive Longden Trust to G. Cisneros for \$1,250,000
		165 Lawnview Circle X. Meng to K. Noon for \$650,000

Danville

2 Bedrooms

3875 Crow Canyon Rd. \$474,950
Sun 1-4 pm Jacqueline Langerock, Empire Realty 925-788-5827

113 Midland Way \$514,950
Sun 1-4 pm Denise Pappas-Intero Real Estate 925-648-5336

409 Sycamore Hill Dr. \$590,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5045

409 Sycamore Hill Dr. \$590,000
Sun 1-4 pm Jim Peterson, Empire Realty 925-217-5045

3 Bedrooms

99 Serene Court \$699,000
Sun 1-4 pm Jennifer Vujovich, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4152

99 Serene Ct. \$699,000
Sun 1-4 pm Jennifer Vujovich, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4152

2186 Shoshone Cir. \$705,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 984-1787

1188 River Rock Lane \$789,000
Sat 1-4 pm Pam Gaya, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4049

3 Bedrooms

701 Senca Court \$799,000
Sun 1-4 pm Bonnie Freitas, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4047

114 Blackstone Dr. \$879,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 pm 925-786-8731

109 Bountiful Ct. \$924,900
Sun 1-4 pm Assist 2 Sell 925-339-3500

1160 Sunshine Circle \$Request
Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 pm Alain Pinel - Robert Combs 925-736-3736

4 Bedrooms

1739 St Helena Dr. \$1,079,000
Sat/Sun Suzanne Cassity, Intero Real Estate 925-648-5317

302 Sun Stream Ct. \$1,135,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 pm Lynn La Rue, Coldwell Banker 925-980-7252

400 Corte Dorado \$1,165,000
Sun 1-4 pm Blackhawk Real Estate - Toni A. Lane 925-556-1613

23 Shadow Tree Court \$1,299,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 pm Bob Gibbs, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4176

106 Windover Dr. \$1,599,000
Sun 1-4 pm Carol Erbert-Intero Real Estate 925-736-1666

2100 Hidden Oak Dr. \$1,725,000
Sun 1-4 pm Coldwell Banker Debi Zauner 925-831-3326

110 Sunhaven Rd. \$1,765,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5048

321 Sutton Cir. \$739,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Realty Executives 819-2837

1924 Alameda Diablo \$Request
Sun 1-4 pm Marilee Headen & MJ St. Jean, Re/Max Accord 925-743-1225

3813 Sheffield Circle \$Request
Sun 1:30 - 4:30 pm Alain Pinel - Robert Combs 925-736-3736

5 Bedrooms

30 Old Town Ln. \$1,059,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Century 21 Heritage 216-1259

154 Parkhaven Dr. \$1,298,000
Sun 1-4 pm Empire Realty, Dana Weiler 925-217-5050

Danville

5 Bedrooms

205 Morris Ranch Rd. \$1,548,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Alain Pinel 648-6500

Danville

1130 Lawrence Rd. \$1,549,000
Sun 1-4 pm Bob Mitchell, Coldwell Banker 925-984-3060

6 Hilfred Way \$1,698,000
Sun 1-4 pm Empire Realty - Frank Cookson 925-217-5029

411 Shirlee Dr. \$1,699,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Pacific Union 314-4871

2349 Mt. Diablo Scenic \$1,899,000
Sun 1-4 pm Marilee Headen & MJ St. Jean, Re/Max Accord 925-743-1225

6 Bedrooms

10 Creeklodge Court \$1,999,999
Sun 1-4 pm Julie Long-Intero Real Estate 925-683-9799

265 Montego Dr. \$4,900,000
Sun Coldwell Banker, Barbara Malan 925-831-3329

Diablo

4 Bedrooms

2065 Diablo Rd. \$1,499,000
Sun 1-4 pm Dale Schroeder, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4159

6 Bedrooms

2315 Caballo Ranchero \$2,295,000
Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5048

Alamo

4 Bedrooms

131 Valley Oaks \$1,574,950
Sat/Sun 1-4 pm Ju Dee Bell, Intero Real Estate 925-855-4022

100 Kirkcrest Court \$2,099,000
Sun 1-4 pm Intero Real Estate, Dennis Harvey 925-855-4059

5 Bedrooms

68 Mayfair Ct. \$1,349,900
Sun 1-4 p.m. Pacific Union 314-4854

101 Daniel Dr. \$1,870,000
Sun 1:30 - 4:30 pm Empire Realty - Sundry Brocco 925-217-5038

1537 Serafix Rd. \$2,350,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 pm Joan Marx 925-683-7696

31 Shandelin Lane \$2,995,000
Sun 1-4 pm Alain Pinel - Tina Hack 925-314-1111

6 Bedrooms

2132 Stone Valley Rd. \$2,450,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Pacific Union GMAC 487-1194

2132 Stone Valley Rd. \$2,450,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 pm Pacific Union GMAC-Serafino & Pat Bianchi 925-487-1194

Blackhawk

3 Bedrooms

293 Live Oak Dr. \$1,250,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Alain Pinel 648-6500

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2349 Mt. Diablo Scenic
5 bedroom ~ 3 baths
\$1,899,000
High above road. Large grassy areas, front and back. Very private with room to explore, play, add on or build a pool. Great family home. You must see this property! Fabulous oak trees.

Charming Spanish-Style Home.

1924 Alameda Diablo
4 bedroom ~ 3 baths
Price Reduced!
Acreage: 1.53 approx
Oak shaded corral is the landmark at Diablo crossroads. The home boasts dramatic architecture with exposed truss ceiling, curved hallway, beautiful covered patio, pool, park-like yard, and 3 stall barn w/tack/feed room.

Open Sunday 1-4



Five Private Acres in Diablo!

Acreage: 5.04 approx.
Views, oak trees, room for horses, located in exclusive neighborhood. Build your DREAM HOME! Schematic Plans by Gorney & Garcia for 7800 sq. ft. home included. Call for showing. \$2,075,000

2415 Diablo Lakes Ln



For More Information Call
Marilee Headen 925~743~1225
MJ St. Jean 925~984~6466

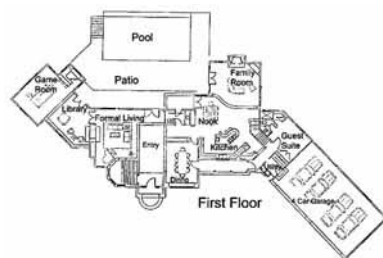
*Wonderful 1.1Acre Westside Danville View Lot
Next to 555 Del Amigo Road \$1,200,000*



- Underground utilities (PG&E, SBC, Comcast, SBC, sewer, EBMUD (water))
- Vintage brick BBQ and outdoor fireplace
- 300 ft irrigation well
- Flat engineered/compacted building pad
- Private gated enclave of 4 homeowners
- Preliminary Craig and Grant plans/ elevations for approx 7,000 sf 4 car garage home with pool -- compliant with San Ramon Fire Department development requirements
- **Owner may carry financing**



Preliminary plans for lot



Presented by Jeff & Terrie Hart
Alain Pinel Realtors 831-8827



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One Bedroom Condo in Walnut Creek

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Paula Knapp **925.648.5331**



BLACKHAWK

Large Lot with View **\$2,125,000**
Many designer upgrades in this 5bd, 4.5ba home with 3833+/-sf. Gourmet kitchen with breakfast nook, wine room and cellar and so much more.
Mike Conklin **925.648.5319**



DANVILLE

Elegant Victorian Masterpiece **\$1,999,999**
Lovely 6000+/-sf estate, gorgeous grand entrance, natural stone and hardwood flooring, slab granite gourmet kitchen. 5bd plus game room and office.
Julie Long **925.683.9799**



BLACKHAWK

Park-Like Setting **\$1,775,000**
Located within the prestigious gates of Blackhawk Country Club lies this stunning 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 4000+/-sf home.
Khrista Jarvis **925.855.4065**



SAN RAMON

Exceptional Value **\$1,274,000**
4bd, 3ba, soaring ceilings, granite kitchen with center island, designer staircase, shutters, large side patio with vegetable garden.
Paula Knapp **925.648.5331**



DANVILLE

Hidden Valley's Most Incredible Views **\$1,249,950**
One of Danville's most popular neighborhoods with community pool, tennis courts, open spaces and amazing sunsets. 4bd, 3ba, 2610+/-sf, 3-car garage.
Lisa and Greg Doyle **925.855.4046**



BLACKHAWK

No Backyard Neighbors **\$1,249,000**
Desirable location across from golf course with views of the hills. 4bd, 2.5ba. New interior paint, flooring, lighting and more! Level lot with patio and spa.
Sharon Dare **925.855.4041**



BLACKHAWK

Hidden Oaks Single Story **\$1,199,950**
4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2756+/-sf, totally updated with all white kitchen. One-half+/-acre flat yard with pool and spa.
JuDee, JuDee, JuDee **925.855.4022**



DANVILLE

One of Danville's Best Deals! **\$1,179,000**
Shadow Creek Estates! Only 6 years new! Beautiful views, private backyard, previously a model home. Two-tone custom paint, stainless steel appliances.
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