

## Reaching for the stars

Danville man uses colors and birth dates to help folks find the perfect mate > **page 16**

Vol. 1, Number 41 • February 10, 2006

www.DanvilleWeekly.com

### Alamo election

Residents to vote on roundabout for Danville Boulevard

> **page 5**

# Danville

## W E E K L Y

### Student choice

Alternative Ed at Vista Grande holding open house

> **page 7**

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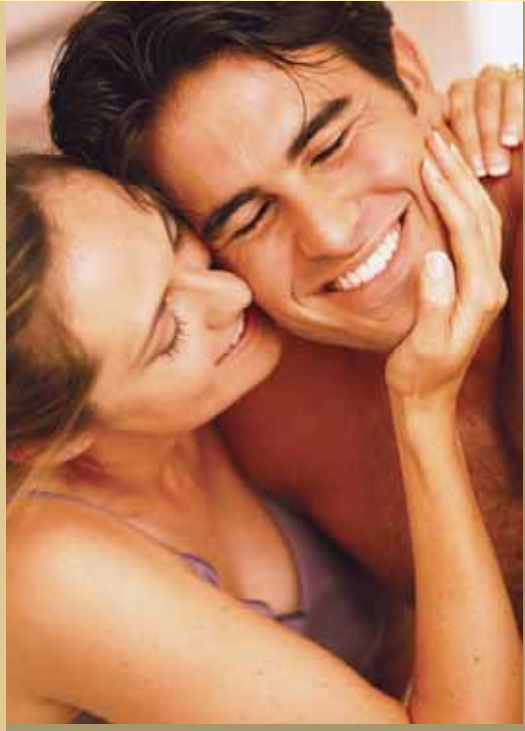
# One year later

**Supervisor Mary N. Piepho talks about her past and present challenges** page 14



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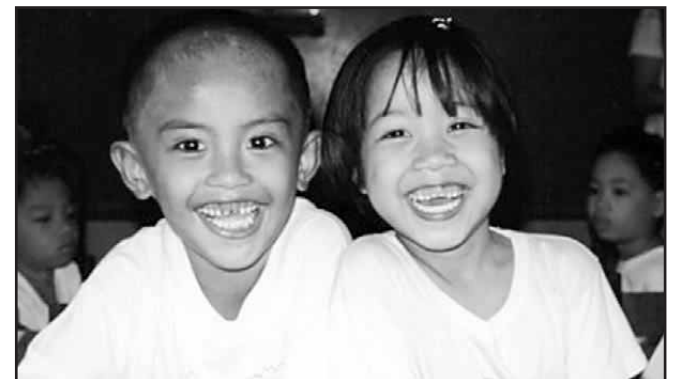
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## Q: What is the best or worst pickup line you've ever heard or said?



I worked at Domenico's and there's this drink there called a Nantucket. Once, this guy says, "I'll buy you a Nantucket if you go out with me." I said, "Sorry, I don't mix relationships with work." He takes the Nantucket, puts it back in the refrigerator, and walks out.

**Michelle Souza**  
college student



I don't really use pickup lines. The best I've used, and this one believe it or not actually worked, was, "Hey ladies, can I buy you guys a tasty beverage or a snack?" They were, like, what are you talking about?

**Dean Alves**  
college student



I've heard so many bad ones. One time, I was wearing a pair of knee-high socks, and this guy said, "I've never wanted to be a pair of beige socks before I met you."

**Chiara Parco**  
high school student



The worst I've ever heard was something about stardust. It was really cheesy.

**Brian DeAngelis**  
high school student



I know some good ones, like, "Do you have a band-aid? I scraped my knee when I fell for you."

**Kevin Swain**  
high school student

COMPILED BY KEVIN ZHOU

### ABOUT THE COVER

County Supervisor Mary N. Piepho of District 3 talks about her first year in the office and some of the issues she faces. Photo by Jordan M. Doronila.

Vol. I, Number 41

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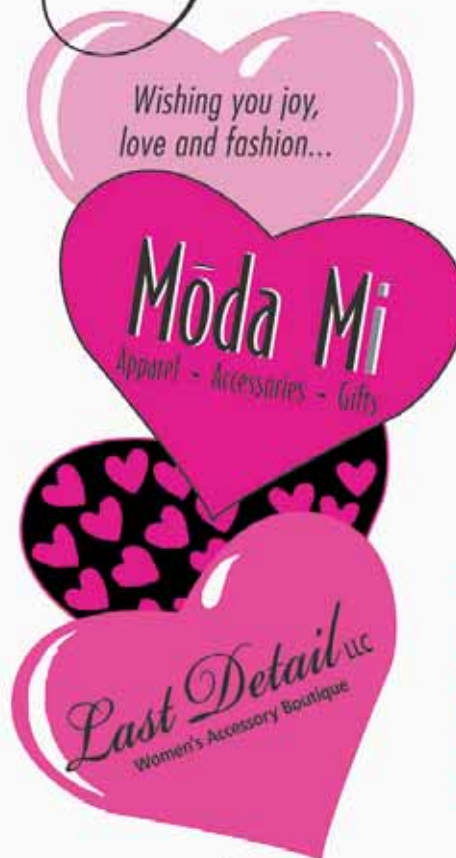
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### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ I always told them I made sleep optional. ”

—Chi Nguyen, now a freshman at Stanford University, when asked by the Danville Sycamore Rotary Club how she managed at age 15 to attend school, participate in extracurricular activities and organize fundraisers for Vietnamese orphans. See story, page 6.

### Plane crash ruled mechanic's error

A report released last week by the National Transportation Safety Board determined that a Concord mechanic's inability to install the correct piston led to an April 2004 plane crash on I-680 that severed the left leg of Arianna Jimenez, 11, a Danville resident.

The NTSB report officially lists the probable cause of the accident as "a loss of engine power due to improper maintenance repair procedures and use of improper parts." While the mechanic was supposed to install a low compression piston in the Piper single-engine plane, he instead installed a high compression piston in only three hours, according to the report. The airplane was able to fly approximately 200 feet above the ground before the pilot reported engine failure and made an emergency landing on the highway.

After the plane careened onto the highway, it burst into flames. Although the pilot and his passenger survived the crash, the plane crashed into a minivan and seriously injured Jimenez. Her family has a lawsuit pending.

### Chamber presents awards

The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce has named Danville builder and planning commissioner Robert Storer as Business Person of the Year; former school board member Marianne Gagen, Citizen of the Year; and San Ramon Valley High music instructor Ken Abrams, Educator of the Year. The winners were presented plaques at the installation and awards dinner last week, with runners up receiving certificates. There were 55 nominations in the three categories. More than 200 people attended the event, which was held at Diablo Country Club.

### County advisory positions open

Contra Costa County has openings for the following commissions and councils, with applications due by 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15: Contra Costa Commission for Women; Advisory Council Against Domestic Violence; Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Commission; P-2B Citizens Advisory Committee, which considers needs of the Alamo/Danville community for extended police services; Alamo Beautification Steering Committee for Zone 36, County Landscaping and Lighting District; Aviation Advisory Committee; Mobile Home Advisory Committee; Juvenile Systems Planning Advisory Committee; Family and Children's Trust Committee; and Family and Children's Services Advisory Committee.

Descriptions and applications can be found at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/maddybook/](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/maddybook/) or call the County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 335-1900.

### Teen musicians take the stage

Teens from Danville, Antioch, Tracy, Pleasanton and Livermore have been accepted to entertain at the fourth annual Pleasanton Youth Music Festival, which takes place at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24, in the Amador Theater.

"The response to this year's Youth Music Festival has been almost overwhelming," said co-director Mark Duncanson. "The number of acts auditioning grew from 34 last year to 61 this year."

Tickets are \$7 in advance and may be purchased at [www.civcartstickets.org](http://www.civcartstickets.org) or telephone 931-3444. They cost \$10 at the door, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.



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## Town manager gives project updates

Presenting the latest on Clocktower parking, Danville Hotel, Navlets site

by Geoff Gillette

Development continues in and around Danville, and town officials are keeping abreast of it. Town Manager Joe Calabrigo provided an update on a number of projects around town at the Chamber of Commerce Government Relations Committee meeting last Thursday.

“One of my favorite questions these days is, ‘What’s going on with the Clocktower parking lot? And when is the parking lot going to be finished?’” he said, explaining the project has hit a number of snafus. “You have literally every single thing that can go wrong on a project going wrong.”

Just getting the lot ready for parking during the Thanksgiving holiday proved to be a fairly large task, he said.

“We ended up having maintenance do the striping because the contractor wasn’t able to do it,” he explained. He added that the project continues to have issues, as PG&E is still not turning on the lights for the lot, but that everything will be straightened out by late spring.

Calabrigo also addressed redevelopment around the Danville Hotel.

“With some of the changes that were made to the downtown business district zoning ordinance last year, that site was consolidated

into a single land use category,” he said. There has been no formal application yet, but one is expected in the next few months.

Calabrigo said the tentative plan

“You have literally every single thing that can go wrong on a project going wrong.”

—Town Manager Joe Calabrigo

at this point is to save the historic Danville Hotel, which now houses Lisa B’s restaurant, but to do extensive renovations to the rest of the site. The buildings north of the hotel would most likely be left untouched, with the western two-thirds of the property affected. He said the plan might call for subterranean parking, which would require a great deal of work.

Calabrigo was quick to point out, however, that none of this is set in stone.

“There’s a partnership that owns the property. So they’re going to be redeveloping the site,” he said. “They’ve talked to us in conceptual terms as to how they see this redevelopment going.”

Another update at the meeting

► Continued on page 8

## Children’s film fest looking for sponsors

Organizers hope to keep ticket prices low and bring in celebrities

by Kevin Zhou

The California Independent Film Festival Association and the Town of Danville are looking for sponsors to help fund the third annual Danville International Children’s Film Festival, which is scheduled to take place from May 19-21.

“We’re looking for about 10 to 15 corporate sponsors that would range in their contributions,” said Michelle Lacy, recreation services manager for Danville.

The bulk of the funding for the festival comes from the town and from ticket sales, she said. But the event also relies on the support of local businesses and people in the community. Sponsors help defray some of the expenses and keep the ticket prices low.

“There are a number of expenses, such as bringing out the filmmakers and celebrities,” said Lacy. “Sponsors aren’t the only way, but they’re an important way.”

In the past, sponsors have ranged from Realtors and restaurants in the valley to Comcast. But they all share one thing in common: their enthusiasm for the festival.

“They were very excited, and we’ve had almost all of our sponsors from last year signing onto this year,” said Lacy. “Each year, we get a little more momentum.”

The benefits of being a sponsor include passes to screenings, reserved seating at the opening night reception, and acknowledgment in advertising and on the festival’s Web site. Sponsorship packages are available to corporations of all sizes.

An Oscar Party starting at 5 p.m. March 5 will also benefit the festival. For \$25, people can attend a gala at the Village Theatre with food and drink plus enjoy the Academy

► Continued on page 9



JORDAN M. DORONILLA

## Dragon time

Megan Okazaki and her kindergarten classmates parade through the Vista Grande Elementary School campus last week with the red dragon they created to celebrate the start of the Chinese Year of the Dog. The Chinese New Year starts with the new moon on the first day of the New Year, Jan. 29 this year, and ends on the full moon 15 days later.

## Roundabout vs. signal

Alamo residents will vote on best way to slow down vehicles

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Expect to hear a lot in the upcoming months about a roundabout vs. a traffic signal to slow down traffic on Danville Boulevard at Orchard Court. The

issue has already been discussed at four public Town Hall meetings, where the majority of those in attendance voiced their support for the roundabout alternative.

The matter will be voted on in November, said Ryan Klobas, chief

of staff for Supervisor Mary N. Piepho.

Committee members of Zone 36 landscaping district heard from civil engineer Chris Lau of the county

► Continued on page 9

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## Teen raising funds for Vietnamese street children

*Danville-Sycamore Rotary  
joins Chi Nguyen's  
fundraising efforts*

by **Kevin Zhou**

Two years ago, Chi Nguyen came to the Danville-Sycamore Rotary with a proposal. She wanted to know if they would help her raise money for impoverished children living in Vietnam.

Nguyen first approached the Rotary Club when she was just a junior in high school. Because she knew Rotary was involved in many local and international projects, she asked if she could give a talk to the members about her passion for helping Vietnamese children. Nguyen ended up showing a short video clip with pictures of the places she had visited, and she said the reaction she received was incredible.

"They were wonderfully receptive and supportive," said Nguyen, now a freshman at Stanford University. "I found them extremely warm and inviting, and eager to learn more about my projects."

Chuck Cobery, a six-year member of the club, was most impressed by her passion.

"She's very inspiring and has a large amount of energy," he said. "She's very talented and very smart, and she's determined to continue supporting her goal. We're committed to helping her do that also."

However, as much as the Rotary Club wanted to help, some members still met Nguyen's proposal with skepticism. They weren't sure how a 15-year-old high school student, who already had her hands full with school and extracurricular

"I'm a Vietnam era veteran, and those kinds of things tend to get my attention. We hope this will be more of a long-term relationship than just a one-time show."

—*Chuck Cobery,  
Danville-Sycamore Rotary*

activities, would be able to organize all of the fundraisers.

"I told them I always made sleep optional," said Nguyen.

Over the past few years, the Danville-Sycamore Rotary has played a large role in Nguyen's efforts. They have allowed her to speak at meetings to update members on her progress and to educate them about the dire conditions in Vietnam, and have helped her raise money for shelters for street children. During a fundraiser last year, Nguyen made more than \$500 in candy sales alone.

"In these two years I've built a very warm relationship with the club as a whole and with many of the members," said Nguyen. "They have supported these three past (benefit) concerts, buying tickets, allowing me to continue making appearances at their Rotary meetings, buying almond toffee, and of course showing up at the concert."

"The club treats her like a daughter," said Kim Nguyen, Chi's mother.

Nguyen's seventh annual Benefit Concert for Vietnam Youth, will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Amador Theater in Pleasanton. She organized the earlier ones with her older sister Truc.

The Danville-Sycamore Rotary plans on lending an even bigger hand soon. They would like to make a \$5,000 donation to Nguyen, which can also be matched by the Rotary Foundation.

"We've been kicking it around for the last six to eight months," said Cobery, who is on the club's international committee. "Within our committee, we are given dollars to play with. I'm a Vietnam era veteran, and those kinds of things tend to get my attention. We hope this will be more of a long-term relationship than just a one-time show."

"I think we owe more than a little bit to Vietnam, and I thought this could be a good way to do something," he added. ■

#### Music to help

**What:** Seventh annual Children's Benefit Concert to raise money for the street children of Can Tho, Vietnam

**Program:** Traditional Vietnamese musician Van Anh Vo and the Viet Spring Folk Ensemble; Canh Chim Bach Viet dance and Hung Vuong martial arts troupe; clarinetist Bill Wohlmacher; and pianist Ellen Wassermann

**Who:** Sponsored by Chi and Truc Nguyen and the Viet Nam Health Education and Literature Projects, a nonprofit organization helping children and communities in Vietnam

**When:** 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 12

**Where:** Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton

**Admission:** \$10 presale; \$12 at the door

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# Alternative education holding open house at Vista Grande

School welcomes parents to learn about program

by Jordan M. Doronila

Parents who want their children to learn and grow to new heights may want to find out more about Vista Grande Elementary School's alternative program next week.

The school will have an open house and will provide information about its Continuous Progress Alternative Program at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15. All students from the district may apply and are invited to attend the event in the

school's multi-purpose room.

The idea is to provide more individualized learning, said Terry Koehne, San Ramon Valley Unified School District community relations director.

An alternative program typically involves teachers and parents working together while spending more class time instructing students in subjects such as math, English, history and art. A child takes basic courses as well as additional classes in any subject that is desired and offered by an instructor, with a longer school day.

"We're so lucky in this area," said Stevie Sturla, a Danville parent who has children in the pro-

gram. "They get more."

Also, parents largely fund the program and are heavily involved.

Parents pay \$900 for each student in grades K-3 in the Vista Grande program, and there are 20 students in the alternative class. The cost for grades 4 and 5, which have 30 students, is \$740, said Sturla.

Next week's orientation will include an overview, highlights, history and individual experiences from people involved in the program. Vista Grande Principal Pat Hansen; Robert Alpert, district director of curriculum and instruction; and teachers and parents will be available for questions.

School officials will also discuss additional time in each classroom for aides, now called para-educators, plus longer school hours, Spanish instruction in all grades, and classes staying together

► Continued on page 8



JORDAN M. DORONILA



First-graders Gwyn Watkin and Olivia Loetz watch while teacher Kathy Ransdell waves her starry wand, hoping her students understand the math lesson, in the alternative program at Vista Grande Elementary School

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## Alternative

► Continued from page 7

throughout the program.

Vista Grande's alternative program began in the spring of 1984, after it was approved by the district school board. The governing board of any school district may establish and maintain one or more alternative schools within the district, according to state law.

The law says it was passed to encourage programs for students that instilled values such as self-reliance, initiative, kindness, courage and joy. Alternative programs are also seen as a way for teachers and parents to interact in children's education.

Students in grades one to five can apply at any time during the year for the Vista Grande program, but kindergarteners must register in March. The grades do not intermingle. Admission into the program is based on availability of space, and students are chosen through a lottery.

But siblings in the program get priority, Sturla said.

Neil Armstrong Elementary School in San Ramon also has an alternative program. Focus was established in 1983, a partnership in education between students, teachers and parents. All students receive the district's core curriculum, and Focus teachers provide an enhanced learning experience for students, officials said. And like at Vista Grande, donations from parents at Focus provide teachers with the means for enrichment materials and the extra para-educators and volunteer hours they need to accomplish their goals. Parent donations and fundraising supplement standard school resources. Students work together in a cooperative setting that supports a lower student-to-adult ratio, officials said.

## TAKE US ALONG



## Weekly travels to Japan

The Sharrock family, (l-r) Christine, Katherine, Christopher and Michael, with dad Nick taking the photo, visits the Senso-ji Temple in Asakusa, Tokyo, while the children were on Thanksgiving vacation from Vista Grande Elementary and Los Cerros Middle schools. The family moved to Danville from Japan in the summer of 2005 so they enjoyed seeing old friends and familiar places.

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

Sturla said she urges parents to attend Wednesday's open house. Parents need to know if the program is a good fit for their child, she said.

"Is this a good thing?" Sturla said prospective parents must ask. "Am I willing to pay for the program?"

She and other parents said their

children perform better academically and score higher on statewide standardized testing as a result of the alternative program.

For more information about alternative programs in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, visit [www.srvusd.k12.ca.us/DISTRICT/Other\\_Programs/](http://www.srvusd.k12.ca.us/DISTRICT/Other_Programs/). ■

## Project updates

► Continued from page 5

dealt with the Rose Garden Shopping Center, to be located at the Navlets site on Sycamore Valley Road and Camino Ramon.

"They got approved last March, but the issue is that they are required to make some offsite improvements off of Camino Ramon which fronts the project site," Calabrigo said.

The issue is that Caltrans owns some of the right of way, said

Calabrigo, noting that the developers have retained a consultant to help walk their plans through Caltrans.

"Right now that's holding up their project. They're going to do it in two to three phases, but until they hear from Caltrans they don't have a start date." ■

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# Bird flu doesn't pose danger—yet

Officials developing plans to cope with nationwide pandemic

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Avian flu is not currently a danger because birds don't easily spread it to humans. Nor do people easily spread it to each other, said Wendel Brunner, director of Contra Costa Public Health, at a Town Hall meeting in Danville last Saturday.

The danger, said Brunner, is if avian flu mutates into a strain that is just as deadly plus easily transmittable.

"The thing about the flu virus is that it is highly variable," Brunner explained. He said every year doctors try to make the best guess about what strains of the flu virus will prevail in the upcoming season so they can develop a vaccine.

He said although traditionally the elderly have been immunized against the flu, the latest discussion is over whether to target children instead.

"They don't get terribly sick but they spread it," he said. They often catch a flu virus at school then spread it to the rest of their family members. Japan is already focusing on immunizing its younger population, he noted.

Planning is different for a pandemic than for an earthquake, the other emergency most expected in this area, Brunner said. "A flu pandemic will be nationwide," he said. "We will not have massive resources coming in from the rest of the country."

Each year in the United States, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets the flu and about 200,000 are hospitalized. There are 36,000 deaths, with 90 percent of them being people over the age of 65.

"We have 1,500 hospital beds in the county and they are mostly always full," Brunner said. "What if 10,000 need hospitalization?"

The Spanish flu pandemic of 1918 killed 20 million worldwide, 550,000 in the United States. The Asian flu of 1957-58 killed 70,000 in this country, and the Hong Kong flu of 1968-69 killed 34,000, according to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control.

**"We have 1,500 hospital beds in the county and they are mostly always full. What if 10,000 need hospitalization?"**

—Wendel Brunner, director of Contra Costa Public Health

"There have been 161 cases of bird flu worldwide, and 86 have died," said Brunner. "This is a 50 percent mortality rate."

He said there was one bird flu scare in the county when a man returning from visiting Vietnam showed all the symptoms, but a blood test, which takes several days for results, proved false. Influenza is more prevalent in Asia, he noted, where strains begin in pigs and birds living in close proximity to humans.

Calls about this case prompted the Town Hall meeting. In Contra Costa County, Brunner said, they could immunize the entire population of 1 million in a matter of days if necessary although it is normally done over a few weeks. He said the federal government is currently developing a plan to be able to gear up the country to produce and distribute vaccine.

"It (the plan) should be ready in three to four years," he said. "It's essential to be able to develop a

vaccine rapidly."

He said the oft-noted Tamiflu may not be effective in preventing H5N1 Avian flu, plus the supply is limited and expensive.

Someone in the audience asked whether terrorists might spread an epidemic.

"Probably not," Brunner replied. "If it becomes easily transmittable, it won't need terrorists." The flu is spread by infected people coughing and spreading their germs, and by touching doorknobs or other common surfaces plus by shaking hands. It is important to wash hands frequently, he said, and to avoid crowds.

Another person asked why the government is focusing on the avian flu.

"I think it has to do with Katrina," said Brunner. Everyone became aware of the importance of emergency preparedness and realized that terrorism is not the only threat; natural disasters can be devastating also.

The Town Hall meeting, presented by District 3 Supervisor Mary N. Piepho in the library at San Ramon Valley High School, also covered disaster preparedness.

Capt. Kevin Ryan of the Sheriff's Department Emergency Services Division spoke on the importance of being self-sufficient for five days, with water and food for people and pets, prescription medicines, warm clothing and bedding, a flashlight with extra batteries and a portable radio to tune to KCBS 740 AM for instructions.

"A lot of us are halfway there without even trying," Ryan said.

He stressed the importance of each family having a disaster plan, and an out-of-state contact for everyone to call. It is also essential to know how to turn off the electricity, gas and water lines, he said. ■

## Estimated improvement costs on Danville Boulevard at Orchard Court

	Engineering costs	Right of way	TOTAL
Signal	\$1.6 million	\$2.5 million	\$4.1 million
Roundabout	\$2.5 million	\$2.8 million	\$5.3 million

## Alamo

► Continued from page 5

Public Works Department about the pros and cons of each choice at their last meeting. Alicia Watson and alternative Steve Mick said they preferred a June election because they hoped this would cause the roundabout to be defeated.

"I want the roundabout to fail," said Mick.

Work is scheduled to begin in late summer on dual turning lanes from southbound Danville Boulevard turning east onto Stone Valley Road. The project will include adding flashing pedestrian lights along the crosswalk on Danville Boulevard at Jackson Way and building a small median at St. Alphonsus Way. The project will total \$374,000, Lau said.

The next phase to help traffic in the commercial section of Alamo calls for either a roundabout or a traffic signal at Orchard Court.

"We're going to put it to a vote of the people," said David Edmonds, county planner for special districts. "Registered voters need to pass it by a two-thirds majority."

A roundabout would require a special 1 percent property tax to be collected for about five years or as long as needed. Edmonds indicated to the Zone 36 committee that the county already has the \$4.1 million needed to pay for a signal. The cost for a roundabout is estimated at \$5.3 million. But

Lau said Monday that only \$1.7 is available and meetings are continuing with Piepho.

"The costs are high due to the need for driveway consolidation," Lau said. The roundabout is also more expensive because it would be physically larger, plus include pavement costs and landscaping.

Edmonds said another election, probably in the late spring, will ask Zone 36 property owners for an assessment increase, meaning an increase in the amount of available funds that can be spent. It would require a simple majority.

"This will be a mail-in ballot to property owners," said Edmonds. The cost of a mail-in ballot is \$15,000-\$20,000, he said, which would come out of the Zone 36 budget of \$50,000.

In other business, the four Zone 36 members discussed their master plan, which calls for enhancing median landscaping along the four main roads of Alamo: Danville Boulevard, Miranda Avenue and Livorna and Stone Valley roads.

"Round Hill agreed tentatively they would do the underground work (for the median on Stone Valley Road near Roundhill Road) to get water and maybe power and pay the water in perpetuity if we landscape it," Edmonds said.

Committee members also discussed the "general feeling" they want for Alamo.

"I think it is a rural community," said chairwoman Valerie Schooley. "Not 'gold country' rural, but 'sophisticated rural.'" ■

## Films

► Continued from page 5

Awards projected on a 15-foot screen. Order tickets at 314-3463.

Last year, the Children's Film Festival, which aims to inspire adults and children through the work of film, enjoyed a large amount of success. Thousands of filmmakers and fans came to screen over 65 films from around the world.

Some of celebrities on hand included Jonathan Lipnicki, who appeared in "Jerry Maguire," Darryl Sabara, who was in "Spy Kids," and Tom Kenny, the voice of Spongebob Squarepants.

"It was very positive," said Lacy. "Everyone who came to the festival was very supportive. They were surprised by the caliber of films, especially those produced by teens."

This year, the Town of Danville plans on an even larger celebration. It will have a new meet-the-celebrity session that will be hosted at a local restaurant. The organizers would also like to draw audiences from an even younger group of kids.

To be a sponsor, contact Amy Peron at 314-3482, or Tim Neely, festival director, at 552-7335. ■

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# Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



## Saving the mountain

The little western bluebird caught my eye as I walked into the room. So did the red-legged frog. They had been caught by a camera lens and now lived, larger than life, in vivid photographs on the wall leading to the offices of Save Mount Diablo.

"They help to show us what's at stake," noted executive director Ron Brown, who was greeting guests as they arrived for the open house last week. The gathering was to let everyone see their spacious new digs in Walnut Creek and to say thank you to the volunteers who had contributed to the group since its founding in 1971.

Thirty-five years ago, Art Bonwell, now 78, was chairman of the local Sierra Club but was concerned because of housing tracks popping up left and right around the foothills of Mount Diablo. He decided someone else could do the Sierra Club job, he recalled, and he and the late Mary Bowerman formed Save Mount Diablo to focus on this threat in their own back yard.

"The value of the land has increased several-fold," pointed out Brown at his presentation. "We all need houses and jobs. But we all need space for habitat and for recreation." He looked around the room as he addressed the gathering and said he could almost point to each one of them and say how they had contributed

to Mount Diablo's preservation.

The fledgling group worked with the state to preserve the mountain's northern canyons in the early 1970s, and the Mount Diablo Interpretive Association was founded to work with the state park on programs. In 1974, Ken Behring acquired 4,200 acres of the Blackhawk Ranch to the south of the mountain, and Save Mount Diablo negotiated for 2,052 acres to be dedicated to the state park as a condition of development. These acquisitions have continued with one of the latest being the Humphrey Ranch in Alamo, whose developer donated 62 acres to become open space. About half of the land on and around the landmark mountain is now protected, having gone from 7,000 acres when Save Mount Diablo was founded to some 50,000 preserved acres today.

I remember when we moved to our house off Livorna Road in 1981 and the Realtor indicated the natural area toward Mount Diablo and assured us it could never be developed. "Well, I hope not," I recall thinking, naively not realizing the incredible amount of work that had gone into this preservation.

"Now we are poised to gear up for the future," Brown told the supporters last week. He said the group has its work cut out for them not only in acquisition but also in land use planning, and making sure the Legislature supports the "green infrastructure" of the state. He also issued an invitation to join the organization's "Four Days on Diablo" from May 3-6, four days of hiking and camping as a way to see what the group does and the challenges it faces. At the end of each day, the 20 hikers enjoy gourmet feasts and wines on tables set under the trees. The cost is \$750,

which benefits the programs, and it's not too soon to make reservations. Call 947-3535.

Volunteer Sharon Walters of Danville told me she did the "Four Days on Diablo" as an introduction to the group, and commented, "Once you do it, you are committed to helping the organization." She said the hiking is not difficult—leader Seth Adams, director of land programs, walks the whole way backwards, about seven miles each day, while educating the hikers on the glories of Mount Diablo.

About half of the land on and around the landmark mountain is now protected, having gone from 7,000 acres ... to some 50,000 preserved acres today.

But back to the photographs. The other office walls highlight panoramas of the mountain, taken by photographer Stephen Joseph, as well as more close-ups, by Scott Hein. Hein recalled when he took the photo of the little bluebird, which he explained is a cavity nester, using holes in oak trees created by woodpeckers.

"The bluebird is really iconic of the oak woodland," he said. "Some of the oaks lose their leaves in the winter and it can look like a gray dreary place. Then suddenly one of them hits you in the eye."

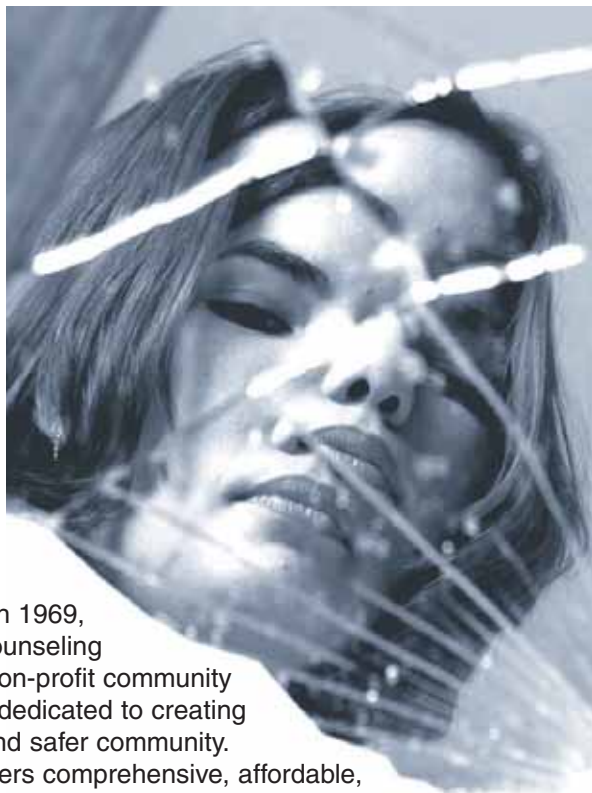
Just as the little bluebird hit me in the eye as I entered the office last week. Thank you, Save Mount Diablo. ■

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**Editorial Intern**

Kevin Zhou

**Sports Writer**

Mike L. Mc Colgan

**Contributors**

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Geoff Gillette

B. Lynn Goodwin

Cathy Jetter

Jacqui Love Marshall

Julie Nostrand

Doug Regalia

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**Circulation Manager**

Bob Lampkin, ext. 32

**How to reach the Weekly**

315 Diablo Road, Suite 100

Danville, CA 94526

Phone: (925) 837-8300

Fax: (925) 837-2278

Editorial e-mail:

Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com

Calendar@DanvilleWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

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# Perspective

EDITORIALS • LETTERS • OPINIONS

**EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY**

## Playing by the rules

Sometimes it is important to do everything in sequence when you want to succeed in a project. When planning to build a new house in Danville, it saves a lot of time and trouble—and money—to learn the rules at the outset and then to follow them.

A home is planned for the end of Lawrence Road off Camino Tassajara, beyond Blackhawk Road. The developer owns a 10-acre parcel and wants to build a 7,000-square-foot house. He has had to go before the Danville Planning Commission three times and it keeps sending him back to the drawing board. Why? Because his plans call for building on a “major ridge-line.” While the town defines a ridgeline as the top of a range of hills or mountains, it defines a major ridge-line as one that can be seen from a lengthy distance.

The developer says the best option is building on the major ridge-line, and adds that the new home will be nestled on a knoll, making it somewhat less visible. He says he has spent \$1 million total on geological studies and architectural plans for his appearances before the Planning Commission. The commissioners remain firm, saying their job is to follow the town’s development guidelines for the ridgelines. They have expressed frustration that the developer did not make the same effort in exploring development on the lower ridgeline.

It is understandable that a homebuilder would want to use the highest elevation possible, with the best views of our lovely valley. But rather than hoping to bend the rules, or work around them, it would save everyone’s time and money if developers abided by the regulations in the first place. A home on the lower ridgeline would still have panoramic views, and might have been approved more quickly without all the costly studies and delays. Most important of all, the public profits when the town keeps the major ridgelines free of development.

Rather than hoping to bend the rules, it would save everyone’s time and money if developers abided by the regulations in the first place.

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## POLICE BULLETIN

### Awareness can curb vandals

Danville police are investigating a pair of spray-painting incidents that occurred within minutes of each other, as well as other vandalisms that happened over the past few days. Police Chief Chris Wenzel said the spray-paintings occurred Feb. 2 when two vehicles were painted with graffiti in the area of Ambleside Court and Indian Home Road.

Other incidents were reported throughout the week on Camino Tassajara, Summerfield Court, Love Lane and near Monte Vista High School.

Wenzel said when the weather warms up, it sometimes brings an increase in such incidents and the culprits are primarily children or teenagers. "It's disappointing that with so many opportunities in the Tri-Valley area that these people choose to do this sort of thing," he said.

Wenzel said that while his department is looking into the perpetrators of these crimes, members of

the community can play a part in stopping this trouble. "It's going to take a total community effort if we're going to keep our town as nice as it is," he said. "We can't be everywhere."

A good start is just to keep an eye on your own block. "If you see a group of people in a car or standing around at 1 or 2 in the morning, you should probably do something," Wenzel said. Take down a license plate number and vehicle model and call the police with the information. "If you see something like that, let us know. We'll make the decision on whether or not it's suspicious."

Wenzel said if people were aware of what is happening in their neighborhood and communicate that with the police, the criminals could be arrested. Another deterrent is light. "Keep your driveway well lit," said Wenzel. "Vandals like to work under cover of darkness. Take that away and it lessens the chance of something happening."

—Geoff Gillette

## POLICE LOG

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

### Jan. 30

- Driving under the influence (DUI)-misdemeanor: Arrest on Jewel Terrace and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 1:06 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle: on Joaquin Cir. at 10:06 a.m.
- Accident-injury: on Starmont Ct. and Starview Dr. at 12:10 p.m.
- Forgery-fraudulent documents: on Hartz Wy. E. at 1:16 p.m.
- Suspicious circumstances: on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Sonora Ave. at 4:34 p.m.
- Burglary-residential: on Belgian Dr. at 8:01 p.m.

### Jan. 31

- Petty theft from building: on Stone Valley Rd. at 3:21 p.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Clydesdale Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 3:42 p.m.
- Armed robbery: on Diablo Rd. at 6:06 p.m.

### Feb. 1

- DUI: Arrest on Front St. and Prospect Ave. at 1:09 a.m.
- Vandalism-schools: on Stone Valley Rd. at 7:21 a.m.
- Suspicious circumstances: on Fairview St. at 10:33 a.m.
- Warrant arrest: on Kenwood Ln. and La Gonda Wy. at 12:20 p.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Camino Tassajara and Diablo Rd. at 2:38 p.m.

- Accident-injury: Accident investigation on Greenbrook Dr. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 5:50 p.m.
- Burglary-residential: on Sycamore Cir. at 7:42 p.m.

### Feb. 2

- DUI: Arrest on Diablo Rd. and Via Hermosa at 12:26 a.m.
- Malicious mischief: on Brookside Dr. at 8:58 a.m.
- Hit and run-misdemeanor: on W. El Pintado Rd. at 2:22 p.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Love Ln. at 2:32 p.m.
- Warrant arrest: on Camino Tassajara and Rassani Dr. at 2:52 p.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Ambleside Ct. and Indian Home Rd. at 3:43 p.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Ambleside Ct. at 4:31 p.m.
- Malicious mischief: on Camino Tassajara at 4:29 p.m.

### Feb. 3

- Suspicious circumstances: on Roan Dr. at 12:54 a.m.
- Burglary-auto: on El Cerro Blvd. at 7:45 a.m.
- Suspicious circumstances: on Del Amigo Rd. and Iron Horse Trail at 8:58 a.m.
- Accident-property damage: Accident investigation on Sherburne Hills Rd. at 10:22 a.m.
- Burglary-auto: on Holbrook Dr. at 8:51 p.m.

### Feb. 4

- Hit and run-misdemeanor: on El Capitan Dr. at 1:13 a.m.
- Suspicious circumstances: on Dunhill Dr. at 12:27 p.m.

- Possession of drugs-less than 1 oz. marijuana: on Railroad Ave. at 2:35 p.m.
- Vandalism-felony: on Summerfield Ct. at 5:13 p.m.

### Feb. 5

- DUI: Arrest on Hartz Ave. W. and Prospect Ave. at 1:14 a.m.
- DUI: Arrest on Hartz Ave. W. and Prospect Ave. at 1:27 a.m.
- Burglary-commercial: on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 8:35 a.m.
- Drunk in public: Arrest on Hartz Ave. at 7:24 p.m.
- DUI: Arrest on Brooktree Dr. at 11:44 p.m.

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

### ALAMO

- Feb. 1
  - Theft-identity: on Livorna Rd.
- Feb. 2
  - Grand theft from vehicle: on S. Via Lucia Ln.
- Feb. 5
  - Grand theft from vehicle: on Lahoma Ct.
  - Grand theft from vehicle: on Roundhill Rd.

### BLACKHAWK

- Feb. 4
  - Burglary-residential: on Blackhawk Meadow Ct.

### DANVILLE

- Feb. 5
  - Malicious mischief: on Bourne Ct.

## OBITUARIES

### Charles 'Chip' Boysen Evans

Charles "Chip" Boysen Evans, 43, passed away Jan. 12.

He was a volunteer for many years in the nursery at Community Presbyterian Church in Danville. He participated in the Special Olympics for swimming, basket-

ball and bowling. He also enjoyed his involvement in Capernaum Young Life, and he worked for several years at Club Sport and the Martinez Court House. He touched the lives of many with his compassion, love and gentle spirit.

He was the beloved son of Charles and Barbara Evans; brother of Katie Golden, Andy Evans and Mary Hundertmark; cherished

uncle of John, Matt and Kristen Golden, Heather and Colleen Evans, and Chase, Anna and Ethan Hundertmark.

A memorial service was held Jan. 16 at the Community Presbyterian Church. Memorial contributions are suggested to Capernaum Young Life, 2326 Boulevard Circle, #102, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

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## Passing the baton

Luke Hagton of Monte Vista continues the pace after receiving the baton from Jonathan Lee to win the 4X400 relay in the annual Cal Berkeley All-Corner Meet last Saturday. The Tri-Valley Track Club relay team finished with a time of 3:38.26. Hagton also ran the 300-meter hurdles, finishing third. The Tri-Valley Track Club is the AAU Pacific District representative for track and field. Visit [www.trivalley-track.com](http://www.trivalley-track.com) or call coach Rik Richardson at 518-9356.

## High school hoops get hot

*After a tough loss against Monte Vista, San Ramon bounces back with big win over Foothill*

by Mike L. Mc Colgan

Defending league basketball champion San Ramon Valley High lost a thrilling game Feb. 1 to Monte Vista 50-47 on a last second three-point shot by Corey Higgins. The Wolves had had a 14-game league winning streak before losing to the Mustangs.

The passionate fans from both teams taunted each other, with the Wolves fans cheering "undefeated" and the Mustang fans answering "49-7" referring to last season's football score. The Wolves Brandon Adams led all scorers with 18 points.

The Wolves rebounded from this tough loss with a crucial victory over Foothill 59-53 on Feb. 3 to maintain a first-place tie with Monte Vista in the EBAL. With a few seconds left in the game, Joey Fuca made two key free throws to seal the victory for the Wolves. The team is now 6-1 in the EBAL and 16-5 overall. Coming into this game, Foothill was tied with the Wolves and Mustangs for first place. Its record is now 18-3 overall and 5-2 in the EBAL.

Monte Vista rolled to another victory over California 55-48 to remain in a first-place tie with San Ramon in the EBAL. Corey Higgins led the Mustangs with 12 points. Monte Vista is now 15-6 overall and 6-1 in the EBAL.

### Girls basketball

The Lady Wolves basketball team cruised to another victory winning 57-41 over cross-town rival Monte Vista on Jan. 31, putting them two games ahead of Monte Vista and Granada in the EBAL with a perfect 6-0 league record and 15-5 overall. Meghan Yetman led all scorers with 22 points.

On Feb. 3, the lady Wolves lost their first EBAL game against Foothill 53-47. Meghan Yetman led the Wolves with 16 points. The

Wolves are now 6-1 in the EBAL and 16-3 overall. They remain in first place, one game ahead of Monte Vista. Foothill moves into a three-way tie for third with Amador Valley and Granada.

The Lady Mustangs beat California 42-31 on Feb. 3 to go 15-6 overall and 5-2 in the EBAL. They are now in second place in the EBAL, one game behind San Ramon. Naveen Rasheed led the Mustangs with 11 points.

### Boys soccer

San Ramon boys beat California 4-2 on the soccer field Feb. 1 to go 15-4-2 overall and 7-1-2 in the EBAL. Philip Tan, Cameron Walters and Chris Leer each scored goals for the Wolves.

Monte Vista remained in second place behind the Wolves in the League standings with a 3-0 victory over Amador Valley. The Mustangs now have an overall record of 15-4-1 and are 6-2-1 in the EBAL.

### Girls soccer

Monte Vista girls soccer team beat Amador Valley 5-0 on Jan. 31. Melissa Buich and Lauren Anderson each scored goals for the Mustangs. The Mustangs moved into a tie for first with the idle Wolves with a 2-2 tie against Foothill two days later. Their record is now 16-3-3 overall and 8-0-2 in the EBAL.

The Lady Wolves extended their record to 19-2-1 overall and 9-1-0 in the league with a win over California 4-0 on Jan. 31. Aubrey Southwick had four goals for the Wolves. The Wolves tied with Monte Vista for first place in the EBAL.

The teams were to meet in a crucial game Thursday, Feb. 9. Even though the teams were tied in points for first place, Monte Vista had the edge because of a 1-0 victory over San Ramon earlier in the season. The Wolves had to beat the Mustangs to claim the league title and automatic berth into the North Coast Section playoffs, which begin Feb. 15. ■

E-mail your results to [sports@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:sports@DanvilleWeekly.com) or fax 837-8454.

## Parent photographers

Send a jpeg to [Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto: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.



## Mustangs advance in State Cup

Four boys Mustang Soccer Club teams are advancing to the State Cup competition round of 16 being held this weekend in Morgan Hill. At the last round, the Mustang Xplosion U-11, coached by Dan Uriz, outscored their three opponents 10-0 to advance. The Mustang Reds U-12 shut down their three opponents 6-0. The U-11 Blast and U-13 Fire also advanced.

Mustang Xplosion: (back row, l-r) Cole Bennett, Nate Uriz, Stevie Van Siclen, Anders Turner, Carter Zetterquist, Josh Eusebio, Thomas Sperbeck, Austin Lonestar, Mason Melin, Chris Miller, (front) Tommy Nelson, Matt Anderson, Tommy Lisiak, Alex Maestre and Mitchell Peterson

Mustang Reds: (back row, l-r) Sam "The General" Engs, Connor "The Con Man" VanMeter, Ryan "Thompy" Thompson, Greg "G-Money" Ledford, Jimmy "Give em the rock" Roth, (center): Evan "Evano" Molineux, David "Eddie" Ehlers, Wyatt "Y-Man" McCall, Chrissy "Ribs" Mullin, Max "Brick House" Dutto, Tyler "Smoles" Smolen, (front) Parker "Parks" Johnson, David "Makin Bacon" Edson, Alex "Frenchie" Chaussy and Jack "Shaggy" Peterson.

## PREP SCHEDULE

<p><b>Friday</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> San Ramon vs. Livermore, 7 p.m.  <b>Boys Basketball:</b> San Ramon at Livermore, 7 p.m.  <b>Boys Soccer</b> San Ramon vs. Monte Vista, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> Monte Vista vs. Amador Valley, TBA</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> San Ramon at Amador Valley, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Monte Vista vs. Granada, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b>  <b>Boys Basketball:</b> San Ramon vs. Amador Valley, 7 p.m.                  Monte Vista at Granada, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Friday, Feb. 17</b>  <b>Boys Basketball:</b> Monte Vista vs. Foothill, 7 p.m.  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> Monte Vista at Foothill, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Saturday, Feb. 18</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> Monte Vista vs. San Ramon, TBA</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, Feb. 21</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> San Ramon at Cal High, 7 p.m.                  Monte Vista vs. Amador Valley, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wednesday, Feb. 22</b>  <b>Boys Basketball:</b> San Ramon vs. Cal High, 7 p.m.                  Monte Vista at Amador Valley, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Friday, Feb. 24</b>  <b>Girls Basketball:</b> San Ramon at Monte Vista, 7 p.m.  <b>Boys Basketball:</b> San Ramon vs. Monte Vista, 7 p.m.</p>
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## San Ramon Parks & Community Services ~ February Cooking Classes

### Food For Romance

Want to learn about foods with aphrodisiac properties. Great recipes demonstrated and generous tasting. Chef Lisa Williams; Ages 21+; Mon., Feb. 6, 7-9pm; Dougherty Station Kitchen; Fee \$25 for San Ramon Residents \$31 for all others and an \$8 food fee!

### Eating for Two

Eating right during pregnancy. Learn to prepare easy meals to boost your intake of iron, calcium, vitamins and other important nutrients. Chef Rosemary Mark; Ages 18+; Tue., Feb. 7, 6-8pm; Dougherty Station Kitchen; Fee \$30 for San Ramon Residents \$38 for all others and a \$10 food fee!

### Hawaiian Luau

Join Chef Suzanne Antone for a culinary voyage to the Hawaiian Islands. Ages 18+; Wed., Feb. 22, 6-8:30pm; Dougherty Station Kitchen; Fee \$20 for San Ramon Residents; \$25 for all others and a \$10 food fee!

### Vegetarian Cooking for Non-Vegetarians

You can make delicious and nutritious vegetarian treats that are fun and not labor intensive. Chef Lisa Williams; Ages 21+; Mon., Feb. 27 - 7-9pm; Dougherty Station Kitchen; Fee \$25 for San Ramon Residents \$31 for all others and a \$7 food fee!

### Chicken Simple

Tired of making the same chicken recipes every week? Satisfy your worldliest of tastes in this demonstration and hands-on class. Chef Rosemary Mark; Ages 18+; Tue., Feb. 28 - 6-8pm; Dougherty Station Kitchen; Fee \$30 for San Ramon Residents \$38 for all others and a \$10 food fee!

### How To Register

All classes will be held in the NEW Dougherty Station Community Center Instructional Kitchen at 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road San Ramon. Call 973-3350 for directions. **Pre-registration is required.**

Download a registration form online at [www.SanRamon.ca.gov](http://www.SanRamon.ca.gov)

Mail in or drop off your registration form: City of San Ramon, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. San Ramon, CA 94583 or FAX 925-830-5162

If you are a San Ramon Resident, you can register online at [www.sanramon.ca.gov/econnect4](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/econnect4); call 925-973-3200 for more info.



**“I hadn’t groomed myself (for politics) but there was a naturalness to it. I had the opportunity to project myself into leadership.”**

# One year later

## Supervisor Mary N. Piepho talks

Supervisor Mary N. Piepho says her basic philosophy has helped during her first year in office.

“There is only so much we have control over,” she said. She finds that accepting this fact, which she learned in her childhood, helps her to focus on her demanding job as District 3 county supervisor.

Piepho, 44, has detractors who dismiss her as a “Republican princess” because she is the daughter of John Nejedly, a Republican, who represented the area as a state senator from 1969 to 1980. Her supporters, the conservative Republicans who helped get her elected, now expect a lot of her.

She is one of five supervisors in Contra Costa County who meet each Tuesday in Martinez, the county seat, to deal with issues from county employee compensation to appointing members for 186 special districts to settling zoning issues.

Piepho also must contend with a geographically split district, the largest in the county, which reaches from Discovery Bay in the east to Alamo in the west. She has offices in both Danville and in Brentwood. The current district lines were drawn after the 2000 census was reviewed in 2002.

Piepho lives in Discovery Bay with her husband David, a firefighter, and their 8-year-old daughter Mariah. But she was raised in Walnut Creek so she said the district, although physically challenging, all feels like home to her.

Another challenge is the unincorporated community of Alamo, with its many factions, including the Alamo Improvement Association, an organization formed in 1955 to preserve the semi-rural character of Alamo.

One of Piepho’s first actions has been to explore forming a Municipal Advisory Council to govern Alamo. She held a Town Hall meeting in July to explore the option, telling the audience that a MAC would provide unity and one voice for the community.

But AIA members barely suppressed their anger as they responded. One said it sounded like a way to reduce the minority’s voice, and another said he would not like to see the AIA diluted. They also asked why a MAC would be more effective than the current form of government.

Piepho noted that the AIA is a membership-based group that only serves a small percentage of Alamo.

“I want a MAC in Alamo to make the county more accountable,” Piepho said last week. She had met that morning with the Alamo Area Council, which is working on how best to form a MAC.

She also said she thinks incorporation would be good for Alamo. “Absolutely. I said that a year ago,” she noted. “It’s the size of a junior city.”

“The county has not done a good job in Alamo,” she added. “There are a lot of big issues that need a local government leader.”

Piepho noted the problems on Danville Boulevard in the heart of Alamo where vehicles pull out every which way from the myriad driveways of several shopping centers.

“There have been discussions for 20 years on the Alamo signals,” she said, “and things were allowed to continue for whatever reason. We need to move forward.”

Phase I of improvements will add a left-

turn lane from Boulevard onto

will include either about at Orchard entering Alamo’s

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## s about her past and present challenges

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

from southbound Danville Stone Valley Road. Phase II for another signal or a roundabout Court to slow down traffic in the commercial area.

community as a whole needs to be addressed," Piepho said. "Let's focus on the functions."

roundabout (discussions) created. She added, "Both sides of the street have deep voices."

also spoke out in protest when she learned of the membership of two county advisory committees last summer: one for parks and recreation, and Zone 36 for transportation.

It took what was necessary for the committees and the overall community to be heard in Alamo," Piepho said.

On many projects had been completed by the prior committees. A number of members have tried to get their ideas in print... They know that accountability lies, and I want to see that in public."

She decided it would be best to let the entire committees, although the members were responsible for the projects.

She had engaged the Public Works Committee at a higher level of accountability, and asked committee members to engage with the community.

"They did not. So, in an effort to make the committees more effective and professional, it was necessary to restructure their responsibilities."

Her responsibility is to the betterment of the community as a whole, and I will continue to work for that."

She was elected to office in November 2004, receiving 60 percent of the vote against the incumbent, Greenberg, former Danville Mayor, who was appointed to the position by Gov. Gray Davis.

She had been elected to serve on the Union School District board, the Board of the Los Medanos College Foundation, and the Board of the Highway Authority.

She had also worked as a community development field representative for the Contra Costa County Office of Guy Houston, both representing the 15th district.

As a young adult she had not been involved in politics, despite her father's involvement in Sacramento throughout his childhood and teen years.

She has a history of political involvement in her life—my father, working in the Chamber of Commerce, and me in the Chamber, you are meeting and they are encouraging you to do more for the college board and community."

She had become a board member of the Chamber of Commerce. Involved in that community," she said.

She had become active in her community as a general manager of the Clipper and became a board member of the Chamber of Commerce.

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month seemed like a handful, something that brought a wry smile last week.

"There are still challenges," she said, noting her husband's schedule as a firefighter, working days at a time.

"I hadn't groomed myself but there was a naturalness to it," she said. "I had the opportunity to project myself into leadership."

During her run for supervisor, the Republican Party endorsed her, although the position is non-partisan.

"We do have inherent philosophies that drive our actions," Piepho said. "My father voted on issues rather than the party platform. Social issues were important to him. He fought for the underdog." Nejedly is also known for his environmental legislation when he was chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife.

"The Republicans were instrumental in supporting me but I was supported by a diverse group of folks," Piepho said. "We are a diverse county. I see myself needing to be open... We need to work on common ground. If we are too rigid in our political philosophy, it won't happen."

"That's a challenge," she added. "The conservative Republicans expect a lot out of me."

She compared politics to marriage, saying that she and her husband don't agree all the time but they have to work together. "If we don't, we will doom ourselves," she said. "We can disagree but we don't have to be disrespectful."

During the election, detractors said Piepho was "born with a silver spoon in her mouth."

"Certain assumptions were made about me that were not true," she said. Her formal education ended with her graduation from Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek. And her childhood was difficult, she said, with her parents divorcing when she was very young and her father leading the busy life of a state senator.

The struggle taught her that she was not in control of every aspect of her life, and this is the lesson she brings to her District 3 office: "We are only in control so much."

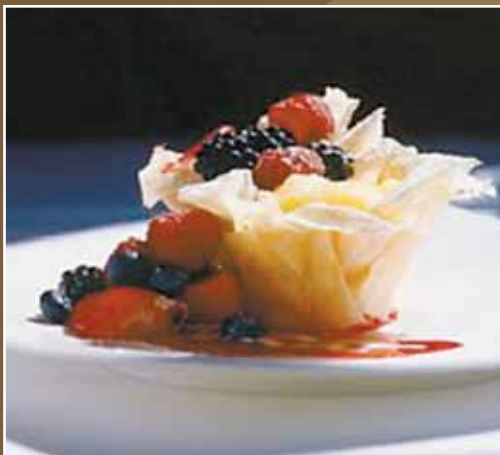
Piepho's stated priorities during the election were stopping unmanaged development and easing traffic congestion by improving Highway 4 and Interstate 680; extending BART into East County; and fast-tracking the fourth bore of the Caldecott Tunnel.

She is a member of the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee. "I have created the 'Three-County Task Force,' involving Supervisors (Scott) Haggerty, (Leroy) Ornellas and myself representing Alameda, San Joaquin and Contra Costa counties in supporting regional issues of concern," she said.

"I have made headway with Supervisor Haggerty on the Caldecott Tunnel effort and have his support in it benefiting Alameda County. To date, the Alameda County folks have not seen it as a priority to them, or a benefit to them, so a change in that mentality to recognize the Caldecott as a regional route with regional significance is vital to its ultimate design and development."

She had pledged, too, that she would target waste and inefficiency in county government, and she has become chairwoman of the Finance Committee.

"I will continue working hard to move projects forward," she said. "I can't be afraid to make decisions to move forward." ■



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# Star man

by Jordan M. Dornila



## Danville man has big ideas on helping folks find their soul mates

**B**ig ideas often start small. But that didn't stop a popular Danville personality from reaching for the stars. When Phil Hellsten, aka the "Starman," devised a dating system based on the heavenly bodies above the earth, he hoped to "find himself" and his other half.

"I am looking for myself," Hellsten said about his new idea.

"I wanted to put on a billboard: 'Help me find my soul mate!'" he added.

Hellsten, 53, has spent 15 years developing a revolutionary service for people who wish to find their soul mate. In his mating system, prospective lovers connect with each other by seeing if their colors match.

"I have discovered something that is going to change world culture," he said.

The colors come from elementary astrology, based on four elements: fire, water, air and earth. Red is associated with fire; red signifies powerful. Blue is correlated with water; blue conveys peace. Yellow is associated with air; yellow expresses playfulness. And green is connected with earth; green is associated with practicality.

He said people could figure out their color through their birth date or taking a word test.

Hellsten said he created a stack of colors in a bull's eye pattern and hopes Faz Restaurant places them on its beer bottles. He added that he offered to sell his system to Mark Cuban, owner of the

Dallas Mavericks, for \$10 million.

Cuban rejected the proposition through e-mail.

Subsequently, Hellsten offered his system to Chris Mullin, Golden State Warriors general manager and local resident who makes frequent trips to Starbucks near Trader Joe's.

"I don't actually consider myself a matchmaker," Hellsten said. "I'm really just a people watcher. I've spent years in coffee shops observing people and noticing how some people just seemed to be drawn to come up and talk to me."

"Being an amateur astrologer, I tried out what the true connection was astrologically," he added.

"I just let him be," said Hellsten's mother, Jean. "He's taken over my living room."

Hellsten was born in Long Island, N.Y., and moved to California when he was 18. He said he was offered a scholarship to play soccer at UC Berkeley but that fell through because he was not attending class as a full-time student. He was already studying at Diablo Valley College.

He said he took architecture classes at Diablo Valley College, where he majored in architecture. Afterward, he did art and showcased some of his work in local art galleries.

He also has built homes in Berkeley.

But mostly Hellsten spends his time in coffee shops, reading and studying. Strangers are always coming up to him, guessing what he does for a living. Some people think he is a college professor or

a writer. One woman said to him, "I know, you write those Cliff Notes."

Now, Starman, who has been in four long-term relationships, is continuing to get ready to launch his ideas and hopes to start the largest, fastest-growing community on the Internet. He has written several letters and e-mails to Google, eBay and Apple with no response. He is also trying to sell his idea to Chinese or Japanese entrepreneurs.

Any buyers? he asks.

Even though there are a lot of dating services out there online, Hellsten believes his mating system is much more accurate in connecting people with relationships that last longer.

"From what I've heard what you have out there is people who don't know who they are, looking for what they don't know what they want, and then complaining when they don't get it," he said. "They don't know themselves or for that matter don't even like themselves."

"If you don't know yourself, how are you going to know what you want," he said. "I'm talking about a mating site, not a dating site. There you just have people coming back looking for the next victim, or to be the victim."

"Hopefully, my site will continually turn over customers as they get married and leave the dating scene behind," he added.

For any questions about Phil Hellsten, contact him at [starman1111@hotmail.com](mailto:starman1111@hotmail.com). ■

## AT THE MOVIES

**CinéArts @ Pleasant Hill:** 2314 Monument Blvd., Pleasant Hill (687-1100)  
**Century 14 Walnut Creek:** 1201 Locust St., Walnut Creek (937-7025)  
**Blackhawk Movie 7:** 4175 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville (736-0368)  
**Crow Canyon 6:** 2525 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon (820-4831)  
**Hacienda Crossings 20/ Regal Imax Theater:** 5000 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin (560-9600)  
**Internet address:** For show times, visit the Danville Weekly Online Edition at <http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com/>

**Note:** Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

<b>Annapolis (PG-13)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tues 10:30 a.m., 4:20, 10:20 p.m.
<b>Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tues 11:30 am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05 p.m., Open Captioned Fri 11:30 am, Sat 2:10 pm, Sun 11:30 am, 10:05 pm, Mon 11:30 am, 7:25 pm
<b>Brokeback Mountain (R)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 11:55 a.m., 3:20, 7:25, 10:30 pm <b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tues 12:50, 3:45, 7, 9:55 p.m. <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 12:10, 3:10, 6:40, 9:45 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:45 p.m. <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tues 1, 4:05, 7:15, 10:40 p.m.
<b>Capote (R)</b>	<b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tues 3, 7:20 p.m. <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 12:20, 3:30, 6:45, 9:20 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:20 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 1:45, 10:25 p.m.
<b>Chronicles of Narnia (PG)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tues 12:20, 3:35, 6:50, 10:05 p.m.
<b>Curious George (G)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2L40, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:55 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40 pm <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:10 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:10 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 10:40, 11:15 a.m., 12:50, 1:35, 3:10, 4:55, 5:30, 7:05, 9:25, 10 p.m.
<b>Final Destination 3 (R)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:45 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:45 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu noon, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:45 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 7:35, 8:05, 10:10, 10:35 p.m.
<b>Firewall (PG-13)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 11:45 am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05 pm <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:40 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 11:10, 11:40 a.m., 1:50, 2:20, 4:35, 5:05, 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:25 p.m.
<b>Glory Road (PG)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 4:20, 9:25 p.m, Sun-Tues no show 9:25 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 9:30 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 1:20, 7:20 p.m.
<b>Good Night, and Good Luck (PG)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2, 7:05 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 12:25, 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55 pm <b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tues 1, 5:20, 9:40 p.m.
<b>Hoodwinked (PG)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 11:30 am, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30 pm <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 10:45 am, 1, 3:25, 5:50, 8:10 pm
<b>Last Holiday (PG-13)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 10:40 am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 pm
<b>Match Point (R)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30 p.m.
<b>Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13)</b>	<b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 3:20, 9:50 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:50 p.m.
<b>Mrs. Henderson Presents (R)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tu 12:05, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25 pm
<b>Munich (R)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 1:15, 7:05 p.m. <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 11:50 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
<b>Nanny McPhee (PG)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:35 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tue 11:20, 1:45, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50 p.m. <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 11:05 am, 1:40, 4:25, 7, 9:40 pm
<b>New World (PG-13)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 10:35 am, 4:40, 7:45, 10:50 pm
<b>Pink Panther (PG)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:40 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 12:30, 2, 3, 4:30, 5:30, 6:55, 8, 9:25, 10:20 p.m. <b>Crow Canyon 6:</b> Fri-Tues 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:30 p.m. <b>Hacienda Crossing 20:</b> Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:25, 5:15, 7:05, 7:50, 9:35, 10:20 p.m.
<b>Roving Mars (G)</b>	<b>Regal Imax Theaters:</b> Fri-Tues 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:30, 3, 4:30, 6 p.m.
<b>Something New (PG-13)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 2:10, 4:35, 7, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:30 p.m. <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 11:40 am, 2:20, 5, 7:40, 10:20 pm
<b>Syriana (R)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 4:25, 10:15 p.m.
<b>The Matador (R)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 12:05, 2:45, 5:20, 8, 10:35 p.m.
<b>Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada (R)</b>	<b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tues 12:40, 3:35, 7:10, 10 p.m.
<b>Transamerica (R)</b>	<b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tu 11:35 a.m, 2, 4:25, 6:50, 9:25 p.m.
<b>Underworld: Evolution (R)</b>	<b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10 p.m.
<b>Walk the Line (PG-13)</b>	<b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 12:10, 3:35, 6:50, 10 p.m. <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tues 12:25, 3:35, 6:45, 9:55 p.m.
<b>When a Stranger Calls (PG-13)</b>	<b>Blackhawk Movies 7:</b> Fri-Tues 3, 5:10, 7:25, 9:50 p.m., Sun-Tues no show 9:50 p.m. <b>Century 14:</b> Fri-Tues 11:25 a.m., 1:35, 3:45, 5:55, 8:05, 10:10 p.m. <b>Hacienda 20:</b> Fri-Tu 11:55 am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 pm
<b>Why We Fight (PG-13)</b>	<b>CinéArts:</b> Fri-Tu 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50 p.m.

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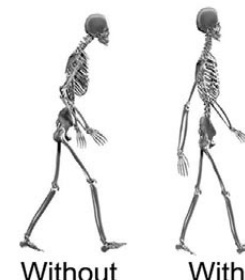
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# Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE

## The Young Bret Harte lived in Tassajara Valley

The name of one of the West's most famous writers, Bret Harte, appears in several local histories of the San Ramon Valley. A small triangle in Danville at the intersection of Diablo Road and Camino Tassajara is even called Bret Harte Corners.

Just what did Bret Harte have to do with the valley?

The story begins in March 1854 when a young Bret Harte arrived in California to stay with his parents in Oakland. At age 18 he was already writing and his experiences as a young man in the new state provided grist for his articles and poetry for years to come.

One part of that experience was set south of Mount Diablo where, in September of 1856, he became a tutor for Abner Bryant's four sons—Tom, Wise, George and Jonathan. Bryant had a ranch near Alamo Creek in the Tassajara Valley. The 1855 County Assessor's book states that he had 83 Spanish mares and horses, 238 head of cattle, 652 Spanish sheep, two wagons and one buggy.

According to a letter Harte wrote to his sister dated Oct. 8, 1856, Bryant "had four young sons, and not caring to have them grow up like range-cattle, he decided to have a tutor ... There is nothing of the rural character of a farm, saving the corral at the bottom of the field and the haystack at the top, and whole place is as wild as the God of nature made it."

Bryant was "not a farmer, but a drover" and lived in "a mere shanty that might be a hunter's cabin in

the wilderness."

Also in this letter, Harte commented that "Mr. Bryan(t) is a very religious man." That autumn the young writer joined the Bryants at an evangelical camp meeting in the Valley; later he wrote an article called "An Apostle of the Tules," which described the meeting's revival atmosphere and begins with the date Oct. 10, 1856.

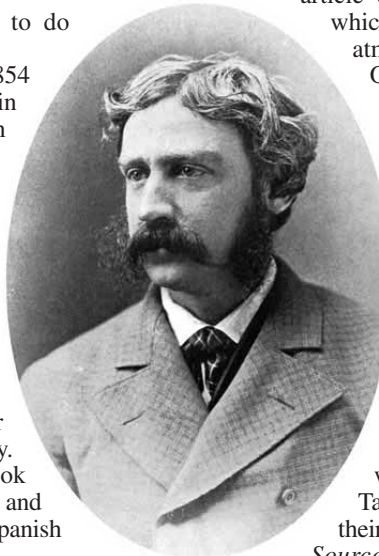
Other works by Bret Harte that probably drew upon his life here include the famous "A Legend of Monte Diablo" from the Atlantic Monthly (October 1863); "Cressy, The Convalescence of Jack Hamlin" and "A First Family of Tassajara... The Queen of the Pirate Isle."

Although Harte is credited with romanticizing the gold rush period in California, many of his works also recount the era's harshness and isolation. Surely his stint with the Bryant boys in the wilds of Tassajara helped to give those writings their veracity.

Sources: *Oakland Tribune*, March 30, 1931; *Ida Hall*, "Bret Harte in Contra Costa," c. 1925; *George Stewart*, "Bret Harte, Argonaut and Exile," 1931.

—Beverly Lane, a longtime Danville resident, is curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley and co-author of "San Ramon Valley: Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon."

Coming up: On Feb. 24, look for accounts of the 1850s Alamo religious camp meetings.



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### Tooting their own horns

Three Danville trumpet students, (l-r) Jared Keil, Sean Callahan and Tommy Poppa, shown with teacher Scott Miller, have been accepted to the All Northern Junior High Honor Band, the most elite honor band in California. They will be traveling to Fresno State University at the end of February to have a weekend of rehearsals and performances with other young musicians. Callahan and Poppa, both 14, attend Diablo Vista Middle School; Keil, 12, attends Charlotte Wood Middle School. All three study at Danville Music with Miller who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in trumpet performance. "I couldn't be more proud of my three guys," said Scott. "This was the first year they all auditioned, and all three were invited to be a part of this wonderful honor band. I am very proud of their hard work and dedication."



BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

## Sending valentines with food

February—the month of love—the month to woo your loved ones with sweet “somethings” and perhaps soothe your own sweet tooth. Or, to indulge them with the nicest of foods and wines, guaranteed to create loving responses and acts of appreciation.

The legend of Valentine’s Day is unclear. The most enduring story is that Valentine was a priest in ancient Rome. When the emperor outlawed marriage to keep single soldiers free of wife/children ties, Valentine supposedly performed marriages for young lovers secretly. Once discovered and sentenced to death, it is said that he sent a love letter to his own love, signing it “from your Valentine.” The legend lives on because we want it to ... we love romance and love ... and this holiday gives us a chance to tell the people we love, those who love us, and those who are close to our hearts. Over the years, love letters

and paper valentines have increasingly been augmented (or replaced) with offerings of flowers, candy, food and wine.

Why we want to cook or bake something good for our loved ones is not a mystery. For example, it’s a proven fact that chocolate releases endorphins into our bloodstream that produces a similar sensation to “feeling loved.” Sweet tastes—ice cream, cake, candies, etc.—are long associated with feelings of comfort and contentment, although for some, the same feelings are generated by a good meatloaf or great fried chicken.

What rocks our individual boat is probably based on the food-love experiences we had early in life or maybe the love-food concoctions of our favorite cooks. My mother made her red velvet cake for dad every Valentine’s Day and my first culinary valentines

were cupcakes with pink icing for my girlfriends (and a special one with red icing for Charlie, my fourth-grade “boyfriend”). But deep, dark chocolate is the thing that makes me go all dreamy-eyed and cuddly. Find out what makes your loved ones feel “love” as they indulge. Then, be sure to cook, bake, buy or order it in time for Valentine’s Day!

Instead of giving a card this year, why not entice your loved one with a candlelight dinner for two, a special dessert or the simple elegance of strawberries and champagne. Here are some great “say-it-with-love” recipes, in case you’ve a mind to create your own “edible” valentines, and there are more at [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com).

—Jacqui Love Marshall lives in Danville with her vintage-car-loving husband, two pugs and binders of recipes. E-mail her at [Epicure@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:Epicure@DanvilleWeekly.com).



## ‘Say-it-with-love’ recipes

### Blondie Bites (makes 12-15)

4 Tbs. (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature  
2/3 cups firmly packed light brown sugar  
1 tsp. instant espresso powder  
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract  
1 egg  
1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1/2 cup macadamia nuts, coarsely chopped  
1.5 to 2 oz. white chocolate, coarsely chopped

- Preheat an oven to 350 degrees. Butter a mini-muffin tin.
- In a large bowl, combine the butter, brown sugar, espresso powder and vanilla. Using an electric mixer set on high speed, beat until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, then continue beating until very fluffy, about 2 minutes.
- Reduce the speed to low, add in the flour. Continuing to mix on low speed, fold in the nuts and white chocolate just until blended. Spread the batter in the mini-muffin tin.
- Bake until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 30-35 minutes. Transfer the pan to a wire rack and let cool.
- Wrap individually in plastic wrap and store at room temperature for up to 3 days

### Cheesecake Cupcakes with Raspberry Swirls (makes 12)

1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs  
1 Tbs. unsalted butter, melted  
1 cup sugar  
3/4 cup raspberries  
1 pound cream cheese, room temperature  
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract  
Pinch of salt  
2 large eggs

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with paper liners.
- Mix graham crackers, butter and 1 Tbs. sugar. Press 1 Tbs. mixture into each liner cup. Bake until golden brown, 3-5 minutes and cool. Leave oven on.
- Puree raspberries; strain and discard seeds. Whisk in 3/4 Tbs. sugar and set aside.
- Mix cream cheese in an electric mixing bowl with a paddle attachment (or hand mixer) until light, 2-3 minutes. Add remaining sugar, vanilla and salt. Reduce speed to low and add eggs, one at a time. Spoon 3 Tbs. filling into each liner cup.
- Drop 1/2 tsp. of raspberry sauce into each cup and, using a toothpick or skewer, swirl sauce into filling being careful not to go into crust area.
- Bake until set, 10-12 minutes. Let cool completely in tin on wire rack.
- Refrigerate, uncovered, 1 hour or overnight. If not serving immediately, transfer to airtight container up to 2 days.

More recipes are available online at [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com).

And, if you need a helping hand in preparing that edible “love,” here are a few good sources:

[www.cherrymoonfarms.com](http://www.cherrymoonfarms.com) or 1.888.378.2758:

Chocolate-covered strawberries, \$54.99/dozen

[www.homebistro.com](http://www.homebistro.com): Romantic Dinner for Two, \$79.95 or Lobster Sampler for Two, \$94.95; order before 3PM ET Monday, 2/13

[www.bakerscatalogue.com](http://www.bakerscatalogue.com): Mini Heart Cheesecake Pan, 10 1/2-inch x 14-inch makes a dozen 2-inch cheesecakes, \$22.95; Heart Muffin and Scone Pan, 8 1/2-inch x 1-inch makes 5 oversized scones, \$14.95

[www.wrapables.com](http://www.wrapables.com): “Love” Espresso Cups/Saucers (2), \$20.95; “Red Links” Espresso Cups/Saucers (4), \$24.95



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# Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

## Art

### Alamo/Danville Artists Society

Four local artists have paintings on display from 9-5 p.m., at the Danville Town Offices, 510 La Gonda Way. This event will continue through mid-March. For more information, call 939-1278.

### Secrets of Plein Air Painting

The Alamo-Danville Artists' Society will host plein air artist Mark Farina at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Mark paints in both watercolor and oil with a loose impressionistic flair. The session is free to artists and art lovers. For information, call Ginger at 837-6414 or visit [www.adas4art.org](http://www.adas4art.org).

## Classes

### Clay Character Modeling for Kids

Danville Fine Arts Gallery, 233 Front St., offers a Clay Character Modeling

for Kids class from 10-11:30 a.m., Saturdays, for ages 6-13. Michael Yen is the instructor. Classes are ongoing. Fee is \$86 for four weeks plus \$15 for materials. For information, call 838-1959.

### Pencil Sketching

Danville Fine Arts Gallery, 233 Front St., offers a Pencil Sketching class from 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays, for beginners-intermediates. Michael Yen is the instructor. Classes are ongoing. Fee is \$84 for four weeks. For information, call 838-1959.

## Clubs

### Alamo Merchants and Professional Association

AMPA meets the second Tuesday of each month for its business luncheon, at 11:30 a.m. for networking, and noon for lunch, including a guest speaker, at Round Hill Country Club, 3169 Round Hill Road, Alamo. AMPA also holds a mixer the fourth Wednesday of each month. For information regarding the luncheons and mixers, call Barbara

Malan at 831-3329 or visit [www.alamobusiness.com](http://www.alamobusiness.com).

### Alamo Women's Club Federated

The club meets on most Wednesdays at its clubhouse, 1401 Danville Blvd. It holds a business meeting and tea the second Wednesday at noon; meets for Mah Jong at 10:30 a.m. the third Wednesday; and holds a luncheon with program at noon the fourth Wednesday. For information, call Jean Stringfellow at 552-9733.

### Blackhawk Republican Women's Luncheon

The Blackhawk Republican Women's Club is hosting a luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 13, at the Blackhawk Country Club. The guest speaker is Michael de Leon, a member of the Minuteman Project. The cost is \$16, and reservations are required by Feb. 10. Call Barbara Duffy at 837-7679 or e-mail [baduffy@juno.com](mailto:baduffy@juno.com).

### Danville PM Toastmasters Club #1785

The club meets from 7:30-9 p.m., every Wednesday, at DVC, San Ramon Campus, Room 217, 3150 Crow Canyon Place, San Ramon. Guests are welcome. For information call Debra Elmore at 934-3113 or visit [www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com](http://www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com)

### Danville Women's Club

The Danville Women's Club meets for lunch and a program at noon the third Thursday of each month from September to June at the Clubhouse, 242 Linda Mesa. The cost for lunch is \$15 per person. To reserve a place or table, call Helen at 820-2621. For information, call 837-7528.

### Diablo Singles Dance Club

Diablo Singles Dance Club dances regularly the last Wednesday of the month from 7:30-10:30 p.m., at the Arts Education Building, corner of Ygnacio Valley Road and Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek. The cost is \$7 for members and \$9 for non-members. All are welcome.

### Interested in Toastmasters?

"Around the World in 80 Minutes" is a chance for people interested in what Toastmasters is all about to come see the value of public speaking. The Danville Toastmasters club will have speakers from South Africa, India, Vietnam, China, Japan, Canada, Mexico, and Latin America at this special event. It will begin at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the DVC Campus at the Crow Canyon Place, room 217, in San Ramon. For more information, visit [www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com](http://www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com).

## Concerts

### Benefit Concert for Vietnam Youth

Traditional Vietnamese music performer Van Anh Vo, the Viet Spring

## WEEKEND PREVIEW



## Last weekend for 'Lungfish'

Tonight and tomorrow night area the last chance to see the Role Players Ensemble Theatre's production of "Wrong Turn at Lungfish," the story of a blind and bitter college professor and his encounter with a saucy, streetwise young woman who volunteers to read to him in the hospital. This engrossing adult play delivers some meaningful messages in a very funny way. The final performances are at 8 p.m., tonight and Saturday, Feb. 10-11. For tickets, call 314-3463 or visit [www.villageheatreshows.com](http://www.villageheatreshows.com). Cost varies from \$13-\$22.

Folk Ensemble, clarinetist Bill Wohlmacher and pianist Ellen Wassermann, along with the Canh Chim Bach Viet dance and Hung Vuong martial arts troupe will perform at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton. All proceeds will be donated to Viet Nam Health Education and Literature Projects, a nonprofit organization helping children and communities in Vietnam. Tickets are \$12 at the door. For more information, call 275-9250 or visit [www.vnyouthprojects.net](http://www.vnyouthprojects.net).

### Jazz at Peace Series

The Anton Schwartz Quartet will perform at 5 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. This event is free. For more information, call 648-7000 or visit [www.peacejourney.org](http://www.peacejourney.org).

### Father/Child Valentine Party

Celebrate Valentines Day through songs and dance and create a special "Daddy and Me" photo from 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Danville Community Center. Fees are \$45 for residents and \$54 for non-residents. For registration or information, call 314-3400.

### Gala Dinner/Dance

The East Bay Cancer Support Group will hold its eighth annual Gala, a black-tie (optional) dinner-dance, at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Blackhawk Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Drive in Danville. The cost is \$125 per person. The deadline for reservations is Feb. 14. Send reservations to, East Bay Cancer Support Group, 20080 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley, 94546. For more information, call 510-889-8766.

### Old Town Danville Walking Tour

Celebrate Valentine's Day early with a docent-led walking tour of Old Town Danville at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, starting at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave. This event is free and no reservations are needed. For more information, call 837-3750.

### Outdoor Adventure Faire Crab Feed

A crab feed will be held at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Veteran's Hall, 400 Hartz Ave., Danville to benefit the "Outdoor Adventure Faire," a free children's fishing and sporting expo for ages 5-12, especially at-risk children. Music will be by Tom Lucia's band and there will be a drawing. The cost is \$40, which includes salad, crab, pasta and bread. Call Jim at 820-3874 or Pete at 719-1950.

### Tuskegee Airmen Onboard the USS Hornet

Commemorate "Black History Month" onboard the aircraft carrier USS Hornet with veterans of the legendary, first all-black fighter squadron, Tuskegee Airmen, at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Museum admission is \$14 for adults and \$6 for children (5-17). A special price of \$20 for a family (up to four people) is being offered on this day. The USS Hornet Museum is located at 707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3, Alameda. For more information call (51) 521-8448 or visit [www.hornetevents.com](http://www.hornetevents.com).

## Events

### Blankies for Grown-Ups

Community members are invited to attend a Quilting Bee from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Mt. Diablo Medical Center, 2540 East St. in Concord. Learn the art of "quilting" and help make comfort quilts and afghans for cancer patients, wounded veterans and other seriously ill adults. No experience is necessary. The event is free and all quilt-making supplies will be provided. If you have a portable sewing machine, please bring it along. Reservations are not required. For more information, call 943-7290.

### Blood Drive

Supervisor Mary N. Piepho's Contra Costa County District 3 Blood Drive will be from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24, in the Red Cross Bus parked in the lot at 309 Diablo Road in Danville. To make an appointment, call Karyn at 240-7260.

### Contra Costa Rose Society

Yuka Johnson of Hida Tools in Berkeley will demonstrate and talk about "Hand and Gardening Tools from Japan," at 7:15 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Drive, in Walnut Creek. This event is free. Call 681-1551 or visit [www.ccrose.org](http://www.ccrose.org).



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## Exhibits

### Beasts in Your Back Yard

The new exhibit at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley features fossils excavated from the Blackhawk Quarry in the late 1930s. The exhibit features a mastodon replica, the skull of a saber-toothed cat and other fascinating fossils. The exhibit is running through April 22 at the museum, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville. The hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. There is no admission fee but donations are encouraged. For more information, call 837-3750 or visit [www.museumsv.org](http://www.museumsv.org).

### The Art of the Poster

Blackhawk Museum is paying tribute to the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance with a special exhibition titled "The Art of the Poster." Museum hours are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday, now through August. For more information, contact Jon Hart at 736-2280 or [www.BlackhawkMuseum.org](http://www.BlackhawkMuseum.org).

## Fundraisers

### Climb Against the Odds-Mt. Shasta 2006

Breast Cancer Fund's seventh major mountaineering expedition, "Climb against the Odds-Mt. Shasta," will take place July 7-13 at Mount Shasta. The cost and registration is \$1,750, cost of week's climb. For information, visit [www.breastcancerfund.org](http://www.breastcancerfund.org), e-mail [connie@breastcancerfund.org](mailto:connie@breastcancerfund.org) or call (415) 346-8223, ext. 30.

### Wheelchair Foundation Charity Ball

The Wheelchair Foundation Charity Ball is a black-tie event featuring hors d'oeuvres, dinner by Scott's Seafood, silent and live auctions, and dancing to live music, from 5 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Blackhawk Museum. For more information, call 648-3829 or 280-9679 or visit [www.wheelchairfoundation.org](http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org).

## Health

### Free Heart Screening

Receive a free heart screening from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, at the San Ramon Regional Medical Center, South Conference Rm., South Bldg., 7777 Norris Canyon Rd. in San Ramon. Physicians will be available to discuss screening results. For more information, call 800-284-2878.

## Kids & Teens

### How to Write a Book Report Workshop

Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes will present its "Making the Grade: How to Write a Book Report" workshop at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15, at its Danville Learning Center, 645 San Ramon Valley Blvd. For more information, call 837-4532 or visit [www.lindamood-Bell.com](http://www.lindamood-Bell.com).

### Math & Science Conference for Girls

The "Expanding Your Horizons" girls career conference is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 25, at SBC Administrative Center in San Ramon. The annual event aims to increase the interest of middle and high school girls in math and science through hands-on interactive workshops, a career fair and positive role models. The organizing sponsors are the Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories. For more information or to register, go to [www.llnl.gov/eyh/tv\\_eyh.html](http://www.llnl.gov/eyh/tv_eyh.html).

### Professor I.M. Smart's Fun with Physics Show

Professor Smart shrinks his head, has toilet paper flying, juggles, and has his hair standing on end, all while demonstrating the principles of physics at 4 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 21, in the Children's Reading Room, Danville Library, 400 Front St. For information, call 837-4889 or visit [www.ccclib.org](http://www.ccclib.org).

## Lectures/ Workshops

### B2B Power Exchange Workshop

B2B Power Exchange presents "Leads Group for True B2B Business Developers," at 7:45-10 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Drive in Dublin. The cost for non-members is \$35, which includes the cost for breakfast. B2B focuses on helping entrepreneurs, consultants and business developers who sell to senior decision makers at companies with \$10M or more in annual revenues. To register, call 201-3410 or visit [www.b2bpowerexchange.com/dublin.htm](http://www.b2bpowerexchange.com/dublin.htm).

### Decline of American Catholicism

Catholicism@Work will host a breakfast at 6:45 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 14, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, which will feature Dr. Jerome P. Baggett, Associate Professor of Religion and Society at the Jesuit School of Theology, speaking on the Decline of American Catholicism. Cost is \$20 for members, \$27 for non-members. To register visit [www.catholicismatwork.org/EventDesc.aspx](http://www.catholicismatwork.org/EventDesc.aspx).

### French Opera from Berlioz to Faure

Visiting lecturer, Michael Downes, PhD, will examine some of the operas produced in this period, from 1-3 p.m., Monday, Feb. 13, in the

hosted by DVC Emeritus College. For information or to register, call 685-1230, ext. 2388.

### How to Make Yourself Irresistible to a Publisher

The California Writers Club, Mt. Diablo Branch, is hosting David Cole, owner and principal of Bay Tree Publishing, to explain how to make yourself irresistible to a publisher, at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Hungry Hunter restaurant, 3201 Mt. Diablo Blvd., in Lafayette. The cost is \$17 for CWC members and \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required by Wednesday, Feb. 8, and can be made by contacting Camille Minichino at (510) 881-8929 or [camille@minichino.com](mailto:camille@minichino.com).

### Internet Essentials

Find out how to conduct effective Internet searches, learn about the different search engines, and how to perform searches on the library catalog, from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Danville Library. Registration is required. Call 837-4889.

### Rose Pruning Workshop

Presented by the Town of Danville, a free rose-pruning workshop will cover seasonal pruning techniques, dead-head roses, and integrated pest management. Bring hand pruners or small hand loppers. The workshop will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Osage Station Park, 816 Brookside Drive, North parking lot.

## Literary Events Miscellaneous

### Ayelet Waldman Book Signing

Join Ayelet Waldman at a reading and signing of her new book, "Love and Other Impossible Pursuits," a portrayal of a modern New York family lost in a fog of grief, anger, jealousy and, of course, the love that put them all together, at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at Rakestraw Books. For reservations, call 837-7337.

### Cities in the Wilderness

The Commonwealth Club of California presents former Secretary of State and Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt discussing and signing his books, "Cities in the Wilderness: A New Version of Land Use in America" and "Building a Future We Can Live In: Planning for Smart Growth and Land Use," at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the new Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Hall, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Tickets are \$15 members, \$25 non-members. This fee does not include the book.

### The Da Vinci Hoax

Carl E. Olson, author of "The Da Vinci Hoax" will discuss his convincing expose of the popular novel at 7 a.m., Friday, Feb. 17, at the Danville Community Center. Doors open at 6:45 a.m. The cost is \$20 per person and includes a catered breakfast. For registration and information, call 944-4791 or visit [www.acteva.com/go/valleystraighttalk](http://www.acteva.com/go/valleystraighttalk).

### Hats Off America 10K Run/5K Walk

The Hats Off America (HOA) Red T-shirt 10K Run/5K Walk will be held beginning at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive in Danville, rain or shine. The entry fee is \$35 per person. All runners and volunteers will receive a red T-shirt and food after the run. HOA is a nonprofit organization that raises money for families of soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq. For information and to register, contact Sparky George at 855-1950 or e-mail [thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com](mailto:thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com).

## On Stage

### Around the World in 80 Days

Center REPeritory Company presents Mark Brown's adaptation of Jules Verne's classic, "Around the World in 80 Days." Show times are 7:30 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesdays; 8 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays; and 2:30 p.m., Sundays, now through Mar. 4, at the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. For more information, call 943-7469. Tickets can be purchased at the DLRC Ticket Office, 1601 Civic Drive or the Ticket Office Outlet at Barnes & Noble in Walnut Creek.



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**'My Fair Lady'**

The Diablo Light Opera Company presents the music and magic of Broadway in "My Fair Lady," at 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Feb. 17 through March 18 at the Hofmann Theatre, Dean Leshner Regional Center For The Arts, 1601 Civic Drive in Walnut Creek. Call 943-7469 for tickets or order online, www.dlrca.org.

**The Music Man Jr.**

Curtain Up! Productions presents "Music Man Jr.," a shortened version of the beloved classic "The Music Man," at 3 and 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Village Theater, 233 Front St. in Danville. Tickets are \$5. For information, call 314-3463.

**'Wrong Turn at Lungfish'**

The Role Players Ensemble Theatre presents a production of "Wrong Turn at Lungfish," a story of a blind and bitter college professor and his encounter with a saucy, street-wise young woman. Performances are at 8 p.m., Thursday, Friday, Saturday evenings, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 20 through Feb. 11, at the Danville Town Meeting Hall, 233 Front St., Danville. Ticket prices are \$13 - \$22 and can be purchased at www.village-theatre.com or call 314-3463.

**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 special presentation beginning at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 31 will feature "The Good Time Performers". Free tax help for taxpayers with middle and low income, with special attention to those age 60 and

older will be held Tuesdays, Feb. 7 - April 11. For an appointment, call Gloria at 837-5229. 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."

**Sports**

**Mustang Soccer League**

Online registration will be held for the Mustang Soccer League from Feb. 1 through March 31. Fees are \$175 per player, except for the U6 Mustang Pony Program which is \$100 per player. For more information, call 831-1323 or visit www.mustangsoccer.com.

**San Ramon Valley Tennis Club**

San Ramon Valley Tennis Club is looking for new members. We offer league play for women throughout the year for both A and B players. Games are played on weekdays, during the day, in the East Bay. Membership fee is \$30 per year. For information, call Laurie at 820-0695.

**Walnut Creek Tennis Club**

WCTC is a free, co-ed tennis group for single adults of all ages and levels (primarily 2.5-3.5). It plays drop-in tennis from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays and Sundays at Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek (S. Main). See information at <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/wctc/>.

**Support Groups**

**Adults Who Have Lost a Parent**

Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa will offer a workshop for adults

who have lost a parent from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday evenings, Feb. 21 through April 14, at its administrative offices, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. For more information or to register, call 887-5678 or visit [www.hospicecc.org](http://www.hospicecc.org).

**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.

**Cancer Support Groups**

Free support, education and stress management for cancer patients and their loved ones, including general support groups for all types of cancer patients as well as cancer specific groups for breast cancer, colorectal cancer, ovarian cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, brain tumor, support groups for caregivers and life after cancer. Groups meet at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. For times and days, call 933-0107.

**ClutterLess (CL) Self Help Group**

Is clutter stressing you out? Cluttering is a psychological issue, not just an organizing issue. Meetings are from 7-8:30 p.m., Mondays (except holidays), at the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive,

Pleasanton. For information, call 426-5311. Please note, no meeting Feb. 20.

**Danville TOPS**

The Danville chapter of Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meets at 9 a.m., every Tuesday at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 1550 Diablo Road. Call Bob Blendow at 935-9344 or Rosemarie at 838-7870

**Fibromyalgia/Pain**

The San Ramon Valley Fibromyalgia and Chronic Pain Support Group meets from 7-9 p.m., every other Monday in Danville. Call Denise for location and information at 837-0510.

**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous**

Are you having trouble controlling the way you eat? There is a solution to weight and diet obsession. This effective 12-step program has proven results. There are no dues, fees or weigh-ins. This group meets from 8-9:30 a.m. every Tuesday at the United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave. in Walnut Creek. For a complete listing of East Bay meetings, call 314-1832 or visit [www.foodaddicts.org](http://www.foodaddicts.org).

**Hospice Offers Support**

Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa offers a variety of support groups and workshops for people experiencing grief and loss after the death of a loved one. Individual grief counseling for Hospice families is also available. Groups are offered from 7-9 p.m., Friday evenings at the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church in Alamo. All groups and workshops are offered without fee and require preregistration. For a schedule of groups in the Pleasant Hill area, for additional information and/or to register, call 887-5678

**Overeaters Anonymous**

The group offers a 12-step approach to issues around food, overeating, anorexia and bulimia. It meets from 7-8 p.m., every Tuesday at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. No fees. Call Susie at 275-1391.

**PFLAG**

The Danville/San Ramon Valley Chapter of Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is a support group that meets at 7:30 p.m., every third Monday at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Call 831-8172.

**Widow and Widower's Support**

Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa is pleased to offer a support group for widows and widowers from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings from Jan. 25-March 15 at the Hospice's administrative office, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. For further information and/or to register, call 887-5678.

**Volunteering**

**Alzheimer's Association**

The Alzheimer's Association of Northern California, East Bay branch, seeks volunteers to facilitate support groups, staff the help line, and perform a variety of office support at its office in Lafayette. Call (800) 660-1993.

**Assistance League of Diablo Valley**

This chapter of the National Assistance League seeks new volunteer members to help with a wide range of philanthropic service projects in many Contra Costa communities. These include vision screening in elementary schools, distributing clothing to school children in need, daily reassurance phone calls to homebound elderly and handicapped clients, and staffing the chapter's Lafayette thrift shop. Call 934-0901 or visit <http://diablovalley.assistanceleague.org>.

**Blackhawk Museum Docent Training**

If you are interested in becoming a much appreciated part of the Blackhawk Museum family while contributing to your community, making new friends, learning new things, and having fun, become a docent! Training is from 10 a.m.-noon, Mondays, Nov. 7- mid-June 2006, at the Blackhawk Museum. For information, contact Norma at 736-2277 ext. 238.

**Child Abuse Prevention Council**

The Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Council needs volunteer speakers for the community education program. Volunteers must complete a mandatory 24-hour speaker's training course. For information, call 946-9961.

**Contra Costa Academy of Fine Art**

The academy seeks new volunteers and members to help with tasks ranging from bookkeeping to recruiting instructors. The group meets noon-1 p.m., the second Friday of the month at Richard's Art & Craft Store, 225 Alamo Plaza, Alamo. Call Beth Batchelor at 837-5654.

**Lindsay Wildlife Museum**

Docents are needed to lead class tours, teaching children and others about our important connection with wildlife and the world we share. Call 935-1978 or visit [www.wildlife-museum.org](http://www.wildlife-museum.org).

**Make a Difference**

Reutlinger Community for Jewish Living (RCJL) in Danville provides assisted living, Alzheimer's and skilled nursing care in a community our residents call home. Volunteers play a key role at RCJL and opportunities are available for students and adults. For information, call Volunteer Coordinator Irma at 964-2098.

**Museum of the San Ramon Valley**

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley welcomes volunteers and has a current need for greeters who give three hours one day a month to welcome visitors to the museum, register their attendance, and give them an introductory tour of the Waiting Room and the Museum Store. Call Carmen Curtis at 837-9781 or the museum at 837-3750 or stop by 205 Railroad Ave., Danville, from 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, or 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays if you are interested in donating your time to your community's heritage Museum.

**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.

**Search and Rescue**

The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team needs volunteer members to respond to missing person incidents, disasters and other critical incidents. Team members are on call 24/7 year round. The program provides required training including wilderness traveling, first aid, map and compass, tracking disaster response and search skills, and may additionally include special training for canine, equestrian, technical, mountain bike or other rescue skills. For information and applications, visit [www.contra-costasar.org](http://www.contra-costasar.org) or call 646-4461.

**Trails Maintenance**

East Bay Trail Dogs is an all-volunteer group that has built, repaired and helped maintain single-track trails in the East Bay Regional Park District, the Mt. Diablo State Park, and Walnut Creek open space. Volunteers meet the fourth Saturday and one weekday each month. To participate, call Harry at 443-3925.

**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue**

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR) offers volunteer orientations from 1-2:30 p.m., the second Saturday of each month at East County Animal Shelter (ECAS) in Dublin. Contact Noella Hartshorn at 846-0745 or e-mail [noellehartshorn@comcast.net](mailto:noellehartshorn@comcast.net) for information.

**TVAR Volunteer Orientation**

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is offering a volunteer/animal shelter orientation from 1-2:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin. For more information, call 426-2472.

**Volunteer Interpreters**

The California Medical Association seeks community volunteer interpreters for Contra Costa County to assist physicians when other interpretation resources are not an option. If you possess a proficiency in any foreign language and experience interpreting in a health care setting, you are encouraged to apply. Contact CMA at (866) 241-4262, or e-mail [communityvip@cmanet.org](mailto:communityvip@cmanet.org).



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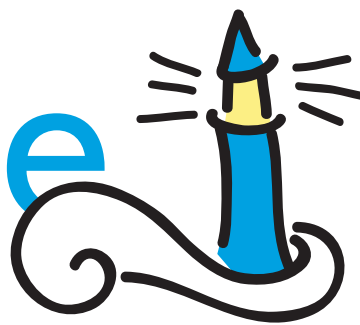
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## INDEX

- **BULLETIN BOARD**  
100-155
- **FOR SALE**  
200-270
- **KIDS STUFF**  
330-355
- **JOBS**  
510-585
- **BUSINESS SERVICES**  
600-690
- **HOME SERVICES**  
700-799
- **FOR RENT/  
FOR SALE  
REAL ESTATE**  
801-860

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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

#### \* DEADLINE \*

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Auditions 2/4 & 2/11

Chronic Pain Support Group

#### Construction2006

& Green Construction2006! Register for FREE EXPO PASS for the April 12-13 show held at the San Jose Convention Center at www.ConstructionEvents.com (925)218-2225 (Cal-SCAN)

#### Setting Limits and Gaining Cooperation Grace Manning-Orenstein, PhD

SRVUMC and the Methodist Preschool present renowned family therapist and parent educator Dr. Grace Manning-Orenstein

**Wednesday, February 15**  
9:15 to 10:45 a.m.  
**Wednesday, March 8**  
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

On discipline—specifically how to set limits for your child and gain his/her cooperation while fostering self-esteem, understanding your child's temperament, helping to manage feelings, and developing teamwork with your parenting partner.

Dr. Orenstein has years of experience helping parents learn principles of limit-setting and how to apply them. She is executive director and founder of "The Link to Children" (TLC), an Oakland-based child and family advocacy organization.

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#### Tri Valley Animal Rescue

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Saturday, Feb 11th, 6-10pm

Pleasanton Senior Center

5353 Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton

Tickets are \$40 per person, \$75 for two or \$350 for table of 10 and may be purchased through:

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email: [events@TVAR.org](mailto:events@TVAR.org)

Mail check to: TVAR Crab Feed

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Fibromyalgia Arthritis Support

### 140 Lost & Found

**LOST - DIAMOND NECKLACE**  
Between Pleasanton & Dublin  
- REWARD -  
**925-462-5700**

## For Sale

### 201 Autos/ Trucks/Parts

## Harry's Muffler & Brake

183 Wyoming St  
Pleasanton CA 94566

**925-462-3237**

Complete Exhaust Systems  
Catalytic Converters,  
Flowmaster Custom  
Exhaust Systems

**\$30 OFF  
LABOR**  
with coupon

**84 CADILLAC El Dorado**  
Good cond - 78K mi - \$2500  
(925) 846-7327

BMW 1997 328 I Convertible - \$14,500  
OB

**Dodge 1993 Ram 350 LE**

Ford 1987 Bronco II \$750 - \$750

Monaco 2003 Panther - 275,000.00

Nissan 1997 Maxima SE - \$6900

**OPEN  
6 DAYS  
A WEEK**

**BOSCH**

**ACDelco GM**

**Motorcraft**

**SHOCK ABSORBERS**

**Truck & Auto Parts**  
Domestic & Import  
(925)  
**846-1030**

32 California Ave (1 Blk Off Stanley)  
PLEASANTON

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 AM-6 PM  
SATURDAY 8 AM-5PM  
CLOSED SUNDAY

### 210 Garage/Estate Sales

PLSTN, 2228 Goldcrest Circle  
Fri 2/10 & 2/17 2-6, Sat 2/11 & 2/18  
10-3 and Sun 2/12 & 2/19 1-4 or by  
appt. Collectables, Red Hat Society  
items, all things Teddy Bear, furniture,  
plants, housewares & much more!

### 215 Collectibles & Antiques

ANTIQUÉ BEDFRAME-Full Size - \$500.00

ANTIQUÉ DINING SET - \$1950.00

Antique Dresser w/ mirror - \$600.00

Dining Set, Buffet, China Cabinet & more!

### 220 Computers/ Electronics

Dell latitude LS Laptop - Great - \$285.00

Nintendo Sale

Two DCM floor speakers - \$100

Vintage Remington Typewriter - \$30

### 230 Freebies

**ATTENTION!**

Don't throw your batteries, fluorescent or compact fluorescent lights in the trash!

It will be AGAINST THE LAW starting 2-8-06. See [www.ciwm.ca.gov/WPIE](http://www.ciwm.ca.gov/WPIE) for more information.

### 240 Furnishings/ Household items

**Amana Refrigerator**  
Bottom freezer, 21 cu ft, white.  
\$425 (925)425-0576

Anniversary Clock - \$20

**Bdrm furn, couch, chair**

Beautiful kingsized bedspread - \$35

Ca. King Bedroom Set by Stanley - \$3,000

Delta Faucet and Bath bar - \$15

Drop Leaf Table - \$800

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER - \$1500.00

Large Table & 8 Chairs - \$275.00 or

Like New COUCH and CHAIR - \$800.00

**OFFICE DESK - 1950's**

Walnut - Exc. quality - \$300

925-820-0432

Small Microwave - \$20

Solar Pool Heater - \$1497

### 245 Miscellaneous

1851 Seaswirl Striper W/A - \$24000.00

#### Building Sale!

"Beat Next Increase!" 20x26 Now \$3340. 25x30 \$4790. 30x44 \$7340. 40x66 \$11,490. Factory Direct...26 Years. Many others. Ends/accessories optional. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Hunt Elk, Red Stag

Whitetail, Buffalo, Wild Boar. Our season: 3/31/06. Guaranteed License, \$5.00-trophy in two days. No Game/ No Pay Policy. Days: 314-209-9800, Evenings: 314-293-0610. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Ladies Skiwear - \$50

**Spanish Roof Tile**  
Authentic spanish clay s-type tile for 1800 Sqft home. Call 925 323 5626 - \$2K

**Steel Buildings.**  
FACTORY Deals. Save \$\$\$ 40x60' to 100x200'. Example: 50x100x12' = \$3.60/sq ft. 1-800-658-2885 [www.RigidBuilding.com](http://www.RigidBuilding.com) (Cal-SCAN)

#### VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE

1967 Yamaha 100-YL-1  
2391 kilometers - includes owners manual & title. \$500/obo  
925-820-5317

### 260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Ab Swing - Like New! - \$25

**Kid's  
Stuff**

### 330 Child Care Offered

Childcare After School P/T

Hacienda HeadsUp! CDC

Nessa's House 925-314-3001 - Call for \$

Tanis Daycare 426-5025

**fogster.com**

**A Nanny Connection, Inc.**  [www.nannyconnection.com](http://www.nannyconnection.com)  
**925-743-0587**

**Dedicated to finding you a perfect nanny!**

**Placing full and part-time nannies, serving all over the East Bay!**

**No fee until nanny is placed!**

**Angelic Faces**  **"Placing Nannies and Families Together"**

Angelic Faces provides you with pre-screened qualified Nanny candidates matched to your family's needs. We provide Full-Time, Part-Time, Live-In or Live-Out Nannies. Tailored to fit your budget. Nanny Trustline Registration and Drug testing are included in our fees.

We welcome both Nanny & Parent applications.  
**M-F 9am to 5pm (925) 242-2550**  
Please visit our website for additional information.  
[www.angelicfaces.com](http://www.angelicfaces.com)

2603 Camino Ramon, Suite 200 San Ramon, CA 94583



**340 Child Care  
Wanted**

**Nanny Needed**  
Looking for a nanny to care for a 3 month old baby Fri 9am-3pm. More hours may be available. Call Emily at (925)621-4097.

Temporary-FullTime Nanny - Snegotiabl

**345  
Tutoring/Lessons**

**A+ PRIVATE TUTORING**  
Math, Science, English, Reading, SAT, in the privacy of your home. Grades 5 through high school. Retired Teacher ~ Reasonable Rates  
**925-846-5247**

Piano Lessons in Pleasanton

SPANISH TUTORING

**TUTORING K-8**  
by licensed Elementary teacher and professional tutor, in my Danville home.  
\$15/hr MF.  
**925-648-3295**

Violin Lessons

**350 Preschools/  
Schools/Camps**

Summer Writing Camp (Ages 6-14)

**355 Items for Sale**

2 bouncers, each one is - \$5  
A toy motorcycle for girl - \$10  
Counterfeit Det. Kids Mystery - \$7.95  
infant bathtub & bath aid pad - \$7  
NEW MEDELA ADVANCED BREAST PUMPS - \$265.00  
Nintendo sale

**390 Kids for Summer  
Jobs**

Hacienda HeadsUp! CDC

**Mind  
& Body**

**405 Beauty**

**SPECIAL OFFER!**  
50% OFF any professional haircut and hair color with Jessica Lopez at **Adora Bella Salon** in Danville any Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday in February.  
**Call 510-467-4448**

**440 Massage  
Therapy**

**A HEALING MESSAGE**  
Enjoy intuitive hands by experienced massage teacher in the privacy of your home.  
**Martina 510-336-9636**

**Jobs**

**500 Help Wanted**

**100% free medical**  
Dental, Vision Insurance. Avg. \$45-55,000/yr! Off Weekends. Now Adding Flatbed Drivers 1-866-394-1944 www.cotruck.net(Cal-SCAN)

**Cool Jobs!**  
National Marketing Group now hiring 15-20 people. Must be money driven & available to travel. Paid training. Transportation accommodated. No Experience Necessary. Call 760-954-8158. (Cal-SCAN)

**ESCAPE THE HIGH COST RENTAL MARKET!**

Non-profit seeks live-in support persons. Live-in staff provide asleap support on Sun night-Thurs night & Mon - Fri AM direct support. All training paid. Send cover letter and resume to: **(510) 618-1570 fax or email: ebi-roommates@yahoo.com** attn: supported living

**FT/PT FLORAL DESIGNER**  
In-shop Experience Required  
**Call 925-484-1149**

**GET PAID WHILE DOING SOMETHING IMPORTANT!**  
Non-profit agency seeks open-minded, positive, responsible & energetic persons for direct support positions in Alameda County. Support adults w/dis with in-home tasks and community activities. All training paid. Flex hrs. \$11-11.55/hr w/excel benefits. Send resume & cover letter to: (510) 618-1570 fax or email: eastbayinnovationsjobs@yahoo.com

**Growing New Holland**  
Dealership Needs Experienced Parts Manager & Service Technician. Hunting, Fishing, Outdoor Recreational Activities, Competitive Salary, Commission and Benefits. Vernal, UT. Call Dave 435-789-3472, email: creuer@tri-stateequip.com (Cal-SCAN)

**HAIR STYLIST and MANICURIST**  
Full service salon & spa in San Ramon has stations available to rent for a Hair Stylist and Manicurist. Great location!  
**925-890-4520**

**HOUSECLEANERS NEEDED**  
Good Wages ~ Weekly Pay  
Ideal Hours ~ Paid Mileage  
Car, CDL & insurance are necessary.  
**Call Merry Maids / Pleasanton (925) 462-0991**

**Interior Designer**  
Experienced designer for Danville firm.FAX resume to 925-837-0273.

**NANNIES NEEDED!!!**  
Awesome Positions! No Fee!  
\$13-18/hr  
**A Nanny Connection**  
**925-743-0587**  
**www.nannyconnection.com**

**NANNY POSITIONS - see our display ad for Angelic Faces**

**Office Assistant**  
Local Contractor is seeking a part time Office Assistant to answer phones, file and assist the Office Manager. We are starting with 4 hours a day, three days a week. Fax resume to Cheri at 925-249-0009 or email: judys@pac-infra.com

**P/T JANITOR**  
2-3 Hours ~ 3 Nights a week  
Experience w/buffing floors  
- Must have transportation -  
**Call 925-462-8300**

**P/T PRESCHOOL INSTRUCTOR**  
San Ramon Parks & Community Services has an opening for a Part-time Temporary Preschool Instructor. A combination of one year of volunteer or work-related experience with preschool children ages 3-5 is required. Hours are M-F 8:30am to 12:30pm. For further information contact: **Louise Weber 925- 973-3219**

**SOCIAL SERVICE**  
1) 40-hour Overnite Staff for shelter, will work independently. BA & computer exp req. \$15-\$16/hr.  
2) Case Mgr. for shelter. Homeless & DV exp req. BA, 1 yr exp. \$14-16/hr. EOE. Spanish helpful. Resume to TVH, 3663 Pacific Ave, Livermore, CA. 94550 or FAX (925) 449-2684

**550 Business Opportunities**

**Advertise your home**  
Property or Business for sale in 125 community newspapers in California. Reach over 3 million readers for only \$1,500. Call this participating newspaper and ask about the Statewide Display ad program, or visit www.cal-scan.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Advertise your job opening**  
in 200+ newspapers in California. Reach over 6 million readers for only \$500. Call this participating newspaper and ask about the Statewide Classified Ad program or visit www.cal-scan.com (Cal-SCAN)

**All cash candy route.**  
Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and candy. All for \$9,995. MultiVend, LLC 880 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729. 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

**Are you making \$1,710 per week?** All cash vending routes with prime locations available now! Under \$9,000 investment required. Call Toll Free (24-7) 800-963-2654. (Cal-SCAN)

**Earn \$3,500 weekly!**  
Data Entry Workers Needed Online Immediately! Work from Home! Guaranteed Income! No Experience Necessary. Register Online Today! www.DataEntryCash.com (AAN CAN)

**Mattress Cleaning & Sanitizing Business.** Over 4000 European Dealers. New in U.S. Removes dust mites/harmful allergens. Big profits, small investment. Complete training/support. Hygienitech. 1-888-999-9030. (Cal-SCAN)

**Scented candle lover's**  
Dream Business! Listen to a 10 minute recorded message at 732-463-6326, extension 0001. To be sent an information package, call 1-888-533-9220. (Cal-SCAN)

**Work At Home**  
Busy Mailing Co. needs 50 people to stuff envelopes at home. No stamps needed. Great Pay!  
**Call Now! 1-800-573-8495**

**560 Employment Information**

**Attention Class-A**  
Truck Drivers and Owner Operators: Southwest Dedicated Lanes in AZ, CA & NV. Make the move to McKelvey. Call 1-800-410-6255. (Cal-SCAN)

**Driver: Check Out**  
the good life! Go online and visit www.HotDDJ.com to find a Dedicated Driving Job and enter to win a Polar ATV and other prizes. Or call 1-888-423-8446 to enter by phone and hear about jobs in your area. (Cal-SCAN)

**Driver: Great New**  
Pay Package for Recent Driving School Graduates. No Experience, No Problem: An industry leader in miles and pay. Call CRST Van Expedited. 1-800-781-2778. (Cal-SCAN)

**Driver: Sign On Bonuses**  
\$2,000- Regional Solos. \$5,000- OTR Teams. \$1,000- Contractors. Health insurance & 401k. Class-A CDL required. 800-251-6291, ext.4865, ask for Oscar. (Cal-SCAN)

**Driver: Take better care**  
Of Your Family. Join ours. Swift offers excellent miles, compensation, CDL training. OTR, regional, dedicated runs. www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com 1-866-333-8801. Ref#163. EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

**Business Services**

**601 Accounting/ Bookkeeping**  
**Bookkeeping & QuickBooks Service**  
Do you need assistance? Parttime. Call Kathy 510-821-8221

**604 Adult Care Offered**

**Sylvie (RN) and Rebecca**  
will find the professional caregiver who matches your needs.  
*We will help YOU stay in YOUR home with maximum independence.*  
❖ R-S PROCARE ❖  
**HOME HEALTH SERVICES**  
Rebecca (925) 788-2503  
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**605 Antiques & Art Restoration**

**"A Labor of Love"**  
**Antique Furniture Restoration & Repair**  
**925-462-0383**  
Impeccable Quality & Integrity of Workmanship

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**APPLE - MAC SPECIALIST**  
Repair | Upgrade | Network  
Cable/DSL Internet Setup  
Digital Audio/Video/Photography  
**Call Justin (925) 487-8933**

Computer Help  
**Tri-Valley PC MEDIC**  
**Ken Cook**  
*"I Make House Calls!"*  
M-F 8am-8pm / Wknds & Hols 9am-6pm  
Tune-up/Repair/Upgrade/Training  
More info/rates: http://come.to/pc-medic  
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Member: PCC, PDA & BBB  
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**Art Works for You**  
*A full service graphic art and marketing studio.*  
Logo and brochure design, print ads, direct mail, corporate branding, & SIGNS.  
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**Melissa 925-580-2810**  
Pleasanton

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Move ~ Pack ~ Ship  
We pack & ship anything anywhere!

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advertise your business/website online  
buy pixels for a dollar per pixel

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Alterations, Draperies, Bedding, Pillows, Cushions, Embroidery and More! References available.  
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**703 Architecture/ Design**

**Building design, planning & permits** for all types of new construction and renovation.  
**1-888-771-2286 (toll free)**  
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**Andrea's Cleaning Service**  
*Personalized Cleaning Home & Office*  
Quality Work, Dependable & Affordable  
Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly-as you need!  
*\*Serving Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin\**  
Refs Avail / Free Estimates / 10 Yrs Exp  
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"Professional Service with the Personal Touch"  
**COMPLETE CLEANING**  
Weekly \* Bi-Weekly \* Monthly  
\$10 off w/first cleaning  
**(925) 785-1967**

**E.C. House Cleaning Service**

Honest / Dependable / Thorough  
Move In/Out, Weekly/Bi-Weekly  
*Licensed ~ Insured ~ Exc. references*  
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**You Can Find It Here!**

**Furry Friends**  
**Pet Sitting Services**  
Trained professional, daily visits, basic home care, reliable & caring.  
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Registered Veterinary Nurse

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Coast Capital Mortgage CA DRE #0293501

**Pet of the Week**



**Good morning, Sunshine.**  
Rascal is a 6-year-old combination tabby and white short-hair Manx with a mellow personality. Rascal likes to be close to people but he doesn't demand a lot of attention. His ideal home would be one in which he provides companionship as an "only cat." For more information about Rascal (pet #6335) visit the Valley Humane Society. The society is open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and noon-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, located at 273 Spring St. in downtown Pleasanton. For more information, call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumanesociety.org.

Catherine Hansen Rush



**Isabel's Housecleaning**  
Local business since 1980  
Residential is our specialty  
925-846-9603

**MARTHA'S CLEANING SERVICE**  
- All Types of Cleaning -  
Move In/Out Our Specialty!  
10 Yrs Exp ~ Dependable, Quality Service  
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**Merry Maids**  
"One Less Thing To Worry About"  
We are insured, bonded &  
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**Natalie's Housecleaning**  
\$15/hr - 3 hr. minimum  
MOVE-OUTS (\$20/hr - 3 hr. min)  
\* Pleasanton area only ! \*  
12 Yrs Exp ~ References  
M-F Call btwn 9:30am-6:30pm only  
925-371-6842

**Sara's Cleaning Service**  
Residential & Commercial  
Quality Work ~ Dependable ~ Affordable  
Weekly/Biweekly/Monthly/Move In-Out  
Refs Avail / Free Estimates / Supplies  
\* \$25 Off 1st & 2nd Cleaning \*  
Call (925) 339-2193

**719 Remodeling/  
Additions**

**KITCHENS & BATHROOMS**  
NATURAL & CULTURED STONE  
QUALITY WORKMANSHIP  
FREE ESTIMATES  
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Visit Our Showroom  
7 DAYS A WEEK BY APPT  
~ NEW LOOK ~  
Cultured Marble & Onyx  
(925) 463-BATH (2284) #654587

**Remodeling Contractor**  
Additions, bathrooms, windows,  
doors, interior trim, whole house.  
A+ References ~ Insured ~ Lic# 503716  
Dan (925) 575-1892

**726 Decor/Drapes**

**DO YOU RENOVATE OR  
REDECORATE?**  
Advertise your home services business  
in the Pleasanton Weekly for as  
little as \$7.25 per week.  
For details call 925-600-0084

**748 Gardening/  
Landscaping**

**DIRT CHEAP!**  
Reaching 71,000 potential customers  
costs as little as \$7.25 per week. To  
advertise call 925-600-0840 today!

**MARTIN'S  
GARDEN MAINTENANCE**  
Yard Clean-Up & Maintenance  
Good References Avail-10 yrs Exp  
Reasonable rates / Free estimates  
\$70 mo-2x mo. \$95 mo-4x mo.  
925-768-4528

**Mike's Environmental**  
Pet, Plant & Yard Care, Etc.  
Household Hazardous Waste Removal  
(esp. batteries & fluorescent lights)  
Exc Refs 925-362-0837 Trustworthy

**THOR LANDSCAPING**  
Cement, Brickwork, Sod & Sprinkler  
Installation, Fence & Deck Repair,  
Waterfalls and Fountains  
Licensed Call 510-329-5091 Bonded  
www.thorlandscaping.com

❖ **New Leaf** ❖  
**Landscape  
Maintenance**  
Weekly / Biweekly  
Call for a  
prompt competitive bid  
925-846-4485

**751 General  
Contracting**

NOTICE TO READERS: California law  
requires that contractors taking jobs that total  
\$500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed  
by the Contractors State License Board. State  
law also requires that contractors include their  
license number on all advertising. You can  
check the status of your licensed contractor at  
www.cslb.ca.gov or call 800-321-CSLB.

**757 Handyman/  
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**PLEASANTON HOME REPAIR  
and MAINTENANCE**  
Full Service Residential / Commercial  
Repairs and Maintenance  
Dependable \* 30 Yrs Experience  
Call 925-577-0542  
\* Pleasanton area only \*  
Local References ~ City Lic# 040421  
email: ss1177@comcast.net

**759 Hauling**

**HAULING & TREE SERVICE**  
Yard and Garage clean-up / Dump runs  
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Tree Experts! Low Rates/Free Estimates  
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Hauling and General Clean-ups  
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Excellent References upon request  
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Four Generations Handed Down  
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Dublin Bradywalsh.com, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$2450

Dublin Bradywalsh.com, 4 BR/3 BA - \$2800

Dublin, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$2450

Livermore Bradywalsh.com, 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$1495

Livermore, 3 BR/1 BA - \$1550.00 m

**Palo Alto, 2 BR/2 BA**  
Old PA 2 huge BR/2Ba w sep studio.  
Fresh paint, new carpet, fireplace.  
Avail Feb 15th. \$3000.

**PLEASANTON HOME**  
2Bd / 2 Ba in Shadow Cliffs No Pets  
\$1700 mo/obo  
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**Pleasanton, 4 BR/3 BA**  
\$2560/mo. A must see. rfr, basic cable,  
W/D & more included. No smoking.

**809 Shared  
Housing/Rooms**  
Pleasanton, 2 BR/1 BA  
Share cute 2 B/R cottage w/lg closets-  
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Visit:  
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Danville, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$4,600,000

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Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA - \$699,000

**Pleasanton, 3 BR/2.5 BA**  
COMING SOON!!!  
Open House Sun. 2/19- 1 PM Duet, 3  
bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 story, fire-  
place, 2 car garage. Excellent condition  
(built 1987). Backs to open space with  
trees.(off Vineyard...great, quiet, clean  
location, area includes single-family  
homes). Phil Quinton, Priority Realtors  
(209) 736-6942. Do not contact occu-  
pances, please. \$589,500

**West Point Ca., 3 BR/2 BA**  
CONTRACTOR/BUILDER? Unfinished  
3/2/2,1835sf,1Acre,30 min E.of  
Jackson CA.est 70K-80K to  
complete.Plans avail 510.581.6456

**830 Commercial/  
Income Property**  
DEALER SPACE AVAILABLE  
Sunol Whistlestop Antiques  
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**OFFICE FOR RENT Pleasanton**  
500 sq ft - \$700.  
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Call Jim Tomcik  
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fees. Call 1-800-640-6886 or go to  
[www.BuyATimeshare.com](http://www.BuyATimeshare.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**845 Out of Area**



**Fabulous Family Home**  
4/2.5, 2055 sqft. Landscaped w/spa,  
no rear neighbors. Walk to elementary,  
middle school, community ctr. Near  
labs, 580. Open 2/12,1-4pm. Holly  
Bruce RW Estates 925.487.8389  
\$779,900

**850 Acreage/  
Lots/Storage**

**1 Acre Pleasanton Lot**  
Land. 1 Acre mostly flat lot in Pleasanton  
- Vineyard cor. Ready to build. Principles  
or buyer's agents only. By owner - call  
925-417-0806. \$999,000

**Beautiful Utah!**  
LAND Sale - 41 Acres - \$39,900. Uinta  
Mountain area. Outdoor lover's dream!  
Dramatic mountain views, close to con-  
veniences. Surrounded by wilderness.  
Nearby lake and state parks. Excellent  
financing. Call UTLR 1-877-350-5263.  
(Cal-SCAN)

**Fish Lake Valley, NV.**  
New to Market. 5ac Trout Stream  
\$29,900; 11ac Trout Stream \$39,900  
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Mountains. Within looming presence of  
Nevada's highest peak and range. Snow  
covered year round. Providing cool,  
clean water that feeds the Rainbow Trout  
Creek which borders the entire back  
boundary. One of a kind! Inspiring, must  
see. Call 1-888-581-5263 or visit  
[www.NVLR.com](http://www.NVLR.com) (Cal-SCAN)


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from Reno. 1-775-772-1595 Many other  
building sites- all prices.  
[www.NevadaLandOnline.com](http://www.NevadaLandOnline.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**North Carolina gated**  
Lakefront Community 1.5 acres plus, 90  
miles of shoreline. Never before offered  
with 20% pre-development discounts,  
90% financing. Call 1-800-709-5253.  
(Cal-SCAN)

**TRUCKEE lot w/approved plans**  
Private lot in Truckee w/approved plans  
for 3 bdrm w/den or 4th bdrm, 3 ba.  
approx. 3,500+ sq ft home w/private  
bkyard, lot 15,451 sq ft;(925)837-2315  
\$425,000

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# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during January 2006

Danville	Alamo	Diablo	Walnut Creek
Total sales reported: 7	Total sales reported: 1	Total sales reported: 1	Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$620,000	Lowest sale reported: \$1,410,000	Lowest sale reported: \$1,360,000	Lowest sale reported: \$323,000
Highest sale reported: \$4,600,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,410,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,360,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,290,000
Average sales reported: \$1,677,285	Average sales reported: \$1,410,000	Average sales reported: \$1,360,000	Average sales reported: \$730,394

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

To list your home in the Danville Weekly Open Home Guide, please email: [OpenHomes@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:OpenHomes@DanvilleWeekly.com)

Danville	Alamo
<b>2 Bedrooms</b>	<b>2 BedroomsTownhouse</b>
<b>407 Oneida Ct.</b> \$665,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 984-1787	<b>140 Alamo Square Dr.</b> \$619,950 Sun 1-4 p.m. Executive Brokers 330-3878
<b>404 Camino Arroyo W.</b> \$669,900 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 314-2414	
<b>3 Bedrooms</b>	<b>Blackhawk</b>
<b>1107 San Ramon Valley Blvd.</b> \$549,999 Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams (510) 551-5195	<b>35 Sugar Pine Ln.</b> \$1,099,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 855-4072
<b>416 Oneida Ct.</b> \$725,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 984-1787	<b>4 Bedrooms</b>
<b>1344 Fountain Springs Cir.</b> \$825,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. ReMax Accord 895-2804	<b>664 Blue Spruce Dr.</b> \$1,399,000 Sun 1:30-4 p.m. Blackhawk Real Estate 858-1797
<b>213 Abigail Cir.</b> \$949,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Pacific Union GMAC 200-2244	<b>3765 Deer Trail Ct.</b> \$1,495,000 Sun 1:30-4 p.m. Blackhawk Real Estate 683-6058
<b>191 Blackstone Dr.</b> \$979,950 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5048	<b>520 Blackhawk Club Dr.</b> \$1,525,000 Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Blackhawk Real Estate 683-5689
<b>4 Bedrooms</b>	<b>520 Blackhawk Club Dr.</b> \$1,525,000 Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Blackhawk Real Estate 963-1451
<b>47 Stoddard Ct.</b> \$1,010,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. King Brothers Real Estate 736-7007	<b>3745 Deer Trail Ct.</b> \$1,575,000 Sun 1:30-4 p.m. Blackhawk Real Estate 858-1797
<b>106 Carole Meadows Ct.</b> \$1,379,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 831-3321	<b>5 Bedrooms</b>
<b>2 Hap Terr.</b> \$1,450,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 963-2588	<b>2328 Saddleback Dr.</b> \$2,200,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. King Brothers Real Estate 736-7007
<b>136 Windover Dr.</b> \$1,559,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Help-U-Sell Absolute Advantage 548-2919	<b>Walnut Creek</b>
<b>11 San Andreas Dr.</b> \$1,650,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5048	<b>1 Bedrooms</b>
<b>75 Chadbourne Dr.</b> \$909,900 Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 831-3321	<b>150 Sharene Ln. #310</b> \$359,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. ReMax Accord 735-7653
<b>20 Glasgow Cir.</b> \$910,000 Sun 1:30-4 p.m. Intero 648-5357	<b>4 Bedrooms</b>
<b>265 Stetson Dr.</b> \$949,990 Sun 1-4 p.m. ReMax Accord 735-7653	<b>1942 Highridge Ct.</b> \$849,990 Sun 1-4 p.m. Assist 2 Sell 339-3500
<b>14 Woodranch Cir.</b> \$999,000 Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Empire Realty 217-3112	<b>Pleasant Hill</b>
<b>5 Bedrooms</b>	<b>2 Bedrooms</b>
<b>30 Devonshire Ct.</b> \$1,225,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 984-3060	<b>400 Suntree Ln., Unit 414</b> \$440,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty Associates 217-5050
<b>742 Danville Blvd.</b> \$1,495,999 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 998-9747	<b>San Ramon</b>
<b>1130 Lawrence Rd.</b> \$1,500,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 791-2567	<b>2 Bedrooms</b>
<b>205 Morris Ranch Rd.</b> \$1,538,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 683-4900	<b>236-F Canyon Woods Wy.</b> \$529,000 Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 855-4072
<b>3 BedroomsTownhouse</b>	<b>3 Bedrooms</b>
<b>147 Heritage Park Dr.</b> \$750,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 381-3660	<b>313 Bellflower Dr.</b> \$729,950 Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 855-4072
<b>Diablo</b>	<b>2548 Rockhampton</b> \$761,500 Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 855-4020
<b>4 Bedrooms</b>	
<b>21 Calle Del Casarillo</b> \$1,950,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 984-3060	

► Continued on page 27

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

Danville

**559 Blackhawk Club Drive** M. & C. Gilman to K. Zand for \$2,100,000  
**424 Corte Dorado** Sirva Relocation Credit to W. Reeves for \$875,000  
**153 Gerald Drive** S. & M. Peglow to Fralick Trust for \$1,550,000  
**39 Hightree Court** Evans Trust to L. Hurst for \$936,000  
**10 Margaret Lane** Deboer Trust to J. Hewatt for \$4,600,000  
**45 Serene Court** Conti Trust to L. Burns for \$620,000  
**725 St. George Road** Stimpfig Trust to R. & P. Bringel for \$1,060,000

Alamo

**1538 Hillgrade Avenue** Commins Trust to J. & A. Utal for \$1,410,000

Diablo

**2065 Diablo Road** R. Elvidge to R. Heinrich for \$1,360,000

Walnut Creek

**1315 Alma Avenue #123** Alpine of Alma Development to D. Dennin for \$323,000  
**1315 Alma Avenue #213** Alpine of Alma Development to O. Luxemburg for \$523,000  
**3031 Citrus Circle** Citrus Walk Limited to V. & L. Hihi for \$856,500  
**3033 Citrus Circle** Citrus Walk Limited to Maglalang Trust for \$810,000

Trust for \$810,000

**3037 Citrus Circle** Citrus Walk Limited to P. & J. Young for \$779,000

**1904 Countrywood Court** L. Kapitulska to B. Brereton for \$537,000

**645 Encinal Court** G. Thomas to L. & L. Lesavoy for \$1,290,000

**196 Greenwood Circle** W. & L. Reeves to O. Mohammadi for \$740,000

**2880 Kinney Drive** Lafayette Hidden Oaks to Branagh Trust for \$400,000

**1240 North Gate Road** Bower Trust to W. Rogers for \$1,155,000

Open home guide

Continued from page 26

**670 Greylyn Dr.** \$810,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 397-4300  
**2745 Moet Ln.** \$849,990  
Sun 1-4 p.m. ReMax Accord 735-7653  
**1028 Vista Pointe** \$865,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. United California Brokers 831-6004  
**303 Chilense Ct.** \$884,950  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Henderson Properties 699-0604

4 Bedrooms

**57 Longwood Ct.** \$1,074,500  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 968-1452  
**1946 Hollyview Dr.** \$1,089,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Empire Realty Associates 217-5050  
**23 Gait Ct.** \$1,199,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA Realty 314-2428  
**16 Carson Ct.** \$1,299,999  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Remax Accord 998-5334

**2963 Cheyenne Ave.** \$715,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Better Homes Danville 791-4263

**73 Elmwood Dr.** \$809,990  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 p.m. Hometown GMAC 426-3815

**71 Molokai Ct.** \$899-500  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 968-1452

**413 Donner Wy.** \$984,500  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 968-1452

**164 Victory Cir.** \$992,000  
Sun 2-5 p.m. Empire Realty 217-5044

5 Bedrooms

**361 Adelaide Hills Ct.** \$1,249,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Interco 785-1386

**3059 Hastings Wy.** \$1,273,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Interco 855-4179

**2567 Craneford Wy.** \$1,494,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 831-3326

**818 Jadecrest Dr.** \$1,755,000  
Sun 1-4 p.m. ReMax Accord 735-7653

**314 Pearlgrass Ln.** \$949,900  
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA Realty 314-2428

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Clayton Oakhurst Country Club

**Clayton 4 Bedroom View Lot**  
Magnificent Oakhurst Country Club Home, Overlooking The Fairway With 4 Bed Plus Bonus Room and 3 Car Garage



Alamo Quiet Cul de Sac

**4 Bedroom 2.5 Bath in Alamo**  
Traditional West Side Alamo Rancher on Desirable Flat Cul de Sac Over 1/2 Acre Lot



Diablo West Single Story

**4 Bedroom In Danville**  
Fabulous Diablo West Property Spacious Single Story Single Level Home 4 Bed Room, Plus Office On Quiet Cul de Sac. Backs to Open Common Space



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520 Blackhawk Club Drive, Blackhawk

Open House Sun 2/12/06 1:30-4:30 pm



Classic lines...  
Top Quality throughout!

You will love this warm and inviting home situated on a spacious .82 acre lot in the Country Club area of Blackhawk. There is a gazebo with views and room for a pool. Recently updated, this home has spacious rooms, a custom kitchen with slab granite counters, stainless steel appliances, a large eating area, new paint, new carpet, new exterior paint, 3 year old tile roof, oversized 3 car garage with cabinets and custom coated floors. You must see this wonderfully maintained home with all of its amenities.  
Priced at \$1,525,000 520 Blackhawk Club Drive



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### DIABLO

**Historic Diablo!** **\$5,000,000**  
Overlooking the 18th fairway, this updated historical home is filled with custom features and old world charm. 5bd (3 suites), 4ba, spectacular yard.  
**Dave Bauer** **925.855.4040**



### ALAMO

**Top Of The Hill** **\$3,699,000**  
Roundhill North area. This 7400+/-sf estate is set on .6+/-acre with amazing views. Amenities include French limestone flooring.  
**Dale Schroeder** **925.785.6219**



### ALAMO

**Desirable Jones Ranch!** **\$Price upon request**  
Spectacular home situated on nearly 2 acres with breathtaking views of Mt. Diablo and the valley below. 6bd, 5full/2half baths, nearly 6700sf.  
**Dave Bauer** **925.855.4040**



### BLACKHAWK

**Gorgeous Remodeled Estate** **\$3,299,000**  
Kitchen with slab granite, stainless appliances. New carpet, paint and landscaping. Over 6400sf on over one-half acre lot. 4-car garage. Immaculate!  
**Bonnie King** **925.855.4072**



### ALAMO

**Bryan Meadow Beauty** **\$1,749,000**  
Stunning remodel on private .58+/-acre with 5bd (1 used as office with built-ins), 3ba, hardwood floors, slab granite, pool/spa, 2 fireplaces. Gorgeous!  
**Jim Sours** **925.855.4107**



### DANVILLE

**Turn-Key in Magee Ranch** **\$1,639,000**  
4bd plus office, 3ba, gorgeous granite kitchen, open floor plan, freshly painted. Park-like backyard with play structure and hot tub, backs to open space.  
**Julie Whitmer** **925.855.4033**



### DANVILLE

**Gorgeous Magee Ranch** **\$1,575,000**  
Lovely lot backing to open space. 4 bedrooms plus library, 3.5 baths, loaded with upgrades, granite kitchen and a sparkling pool.  
**Carol Erbert** **925.736.1666**



### ALAMO

**This Is A 10!!** **\$1,485,000**  
Stunning remodel, 3bd plus office, 3ba, cherry cabinets and floor, granite counters, extensive molding throughout. Large, level wooded lot.  
**Joyce Papas and Glen Landrum** **925.855.4075**



### ALAMO

**New Listing on One-Half Acre** **\$1,395,000**  
Charming 4bd, 3ba family home on fabulous half-acre+/-lot. Travertine marble entry, newer windows. Close to town and freeway.  
**Ralph Sessa** **925.858.5233**

**Danville**  
**Blackhawk**

15 Railroad Avenue  
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle

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