

Gee Wiz

Monte Vista theater group offering 'Wizard of Oz'

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Vol. II, Number 40 • February 2, 2007

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Danville man arraigned

Man charged
on suspicion
of stabbing brother

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Danville

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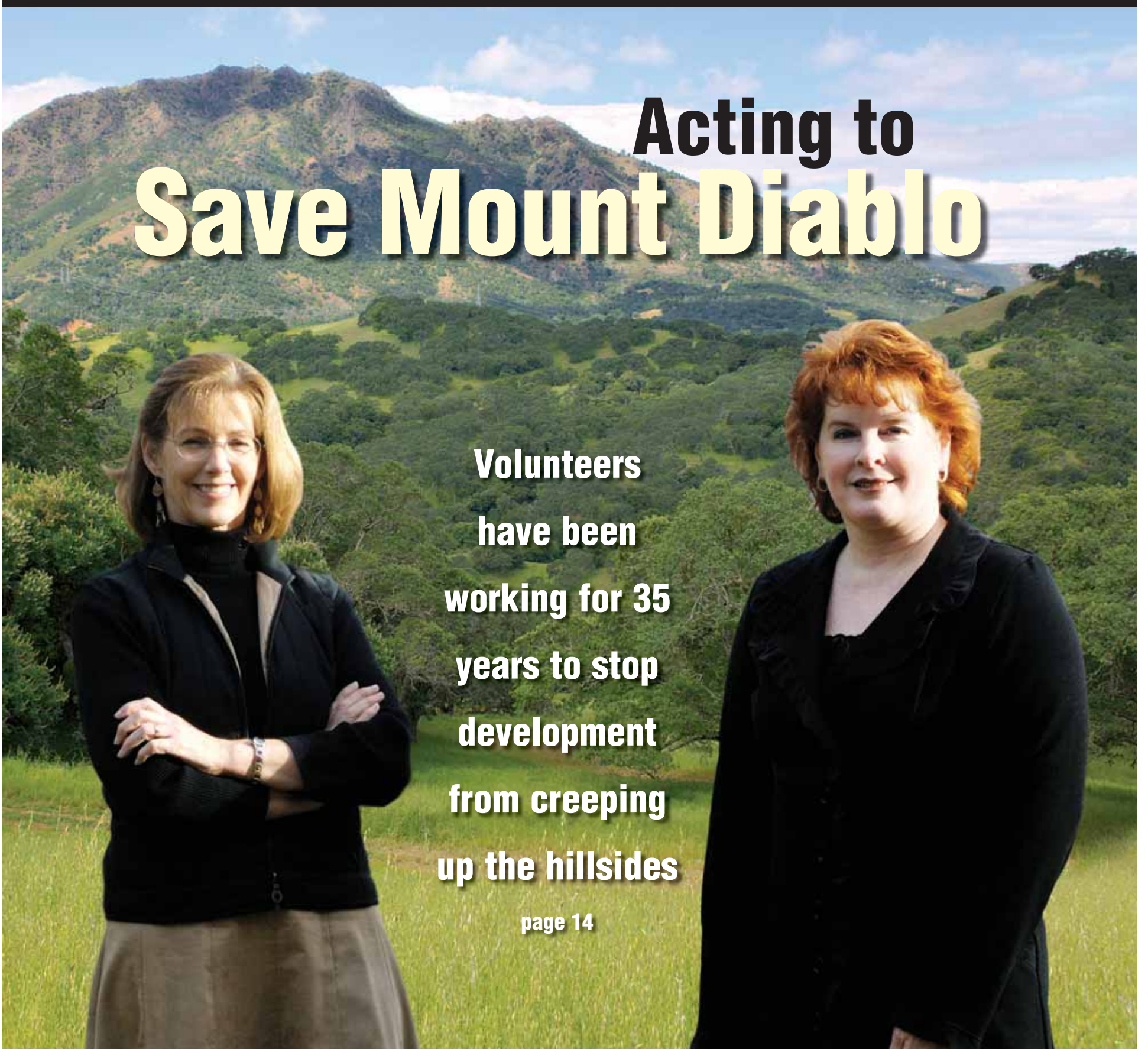
Hap Magee Ranch
Park gets gazebo

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page 14



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Streetwise

ASKED AT YELLOW WOOD COFFEE AND TEA IN ALAMO

Q: Would you vote for Hillary?



Yes, I would. She's a woman. I agree with her politics. I like how liberal they are. I thought President Clinton was a great president. For me, as a woman, I agree with her stance on pro-choice. I like (her) focus on healthcare.

Jane Robinson
UC Berkeley graduate



Probably not. I am a Republican generally. She seems like out of the candidates the most possible woman to run for office. I don't have many opinions about her.

Kasian Klute
UC Davis graduate



No. I don't really like her political stances. I don't agree with her husband. I don't agree with her. I don't agree with her philosophy of more government. I don't think that's the right direction. I don't like people who pretend to be one thing but then be another thing.

Pam Sheppel
homemaker



I would disagree with her liberal stance. I haven't been following her lately. I probably associate her with her husband. I disagree with her stance on healthcare. I'm not sure where she's coming from regarding health-care.

Katie Kelso
teacher



It's too simple to say yes or no. Politically, I'm in line with her beliefs. A lot is going to happen in the next 18 months. Who's her running mate? I'm not opposed to her. But it doesn't mean I would vote for her. I have a hard time saying no or yes.

Russ Silverstein
semi-retired doctor

COMPILED BY JORDAN M. DORONILA

ABOUT THE COVER

Danville residents Sharon Walters and Dana Dornsife are dedicated to the goals of Save Mount Diablo and serve as board members. Photos by Don Hein. Cover design by Ben Ho.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ Maybe if you were in my shoes, you would see it differently. ”

—District 3 County Supervisor Mary N. Piepho about why she wants the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council to be appointed, rather than elected as it has been.
See story, page 5.

And the winners are...

The free tickets to see the Role Players Ensemble Theatre production of “Incorruptible” were won by Russ Bernard and Gayliene Omary, who were chosen in a drawing from those submissions with the correct answers to the quiz run in the Jan. 19 issue of the Danville Weekly.

The answers to the quiz identifying the famous lines from plays and musicals are:

1. “We’ve surely got trouble, right here in River City.”—“The Music Man”
 2. “I have always depended on the kindness of strangers.”—“A Streetcar Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams
 3. “For a second there is meaning! Then the hand lets the veil fall and you are alone, lost in the fog again...”—“A Long Day’s Journey Into Night” by Eugene O’Neill
- Thank you to everyone who entered the contest.

Local fair gets recognition

The 2006 Alameda County Fair brought home 43 awards from the West Fairs Association’s 84th annual awards convention in January recently. The fair had submitted 50 entries for consideration.

“The (Alameda County Fair) excels in developing training materials and programs that improve the fair industry,” noted TJ Thomas, achievement award coordinator, in her congratulatory letter.

Among the areas recognized was the fair’s Radio and Television Advertising Campaigns. The commercials were so popular that fairs across the country requested a copy in order to inspire their ad agencies. Four of the awards were for its 2006 fair agricultural and marketing programs.

The 2007 Alameda County Fair, which will be its 95th anniversary, will run this year from June 22 through July 8.

Sign up for Alamo classes

People can still sign up for winter classes given by Alamo Parks and Recreation, announced Recreation Provider Valerie Matlock earlier this week.

“There are lots of fun, healthy and educational classes for students, as well as little ones, adults and seniors,” she said.

The class guide is available at www.alamore.org. Alamo residents of the R-7A tax district receive a 50 percent discount. For more information, call 451-9176 or e-mail alamorec@sbcglobal.net.

Congressman holding open house

Newly elected U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D., 11th District) will be holding an open house in his new Pleasanton office from 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10.

McNerney will be at the open house along with all of the staff members who work out of the Pleasanton office. It’s an opportunity for members of the community to meet the congressman and the staff and hear what types of services are offered out of the local office at 5776 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 175, in Pleasanton. RSVPs are requested, to Vicki at 737-0733.

The Pleasanton office opened Jan. 11 to serve constituents in the Tri-Valley and Santa Clara County portions of the district. McNerney will also be opening an office in Stockton to serve the residents of San Joaquin County.

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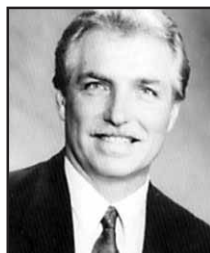
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Talking turkey in Blackhawk

Supervisor reiterates Diablo MAC should be appointed, not elected

by **Natalie O'Neill**

Blackhawk and Diablo residents met with County Supervisor Mary N. Piepho last week at the Blackhawk Museum to get updates on the unincorporated areas and give feedback to county staff.

After county updates, residents told Public Works representatives that the high wild turkey population in the area is presenting a safety issue. And some questioned the new structure of the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council.

Howard Adler, vice chairman of the Blackhawk Police Advisory Committee told the Public Works staff that turkeys in the hills of Blackhawk and Diablo are likely to cause car wrecks if they are not relocated. Mount Diablo and surrounding areas have a large wild turkey population, he said.

"They're all over our roads and they are presenting a traffic safety problem. They are small but they could cause a serious accident," he said.

Adult wild turkeys usually range from 20-30 pounds and are protected by California State Department of Fish and Wildlife. A permit can be obtained to hunt and relocate birds



Supervisor Mary N. Piepho talks with a Diablo resident about why she believes the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council should be appointed.

that are causing health or safety issues, even if it is not hunting season.

Blackhawk Community Manager Mark Goldberg recognized the need for wild turkey relocation and said efforts are in the works to move many of the birds. An estimated 200,000 wild turkeys inhabit California, with Northern California having the highest population.

Aside from safety issues, another resident asked about the recent decision on the part of the Board of Supervisors to change the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council to be an appointed body, as opposed to continuing elected. Supervisors will now choose who will be on the MACs in the county.

"What was the rationale behind that?" one resident inquired.

Piepho responded, saying that when an advisory body is elected it causes conflict. These bodies have

no decision-making authority, their job is to advise the county supervisors, and being elected gives the groups a false sense of power, Piepho said.

"It creates confusion because of the power that comes with being elected," she said.

She added that the MACs are a vital bridge between the community and the Board of Supervisors and that appointed MACs are more efficient.

"Maybe if you were in my shoes, you would see it differently," she said.

In September, Diablo MAC members spoke out against the effort to standardize all MACs, stating that the community is capable of deciding who should represent the area. And some members of the previ-

► Continued on page 9

Stirring arraignment for Danville man

Stabbing of brother one of several family tragedies

by **Jordan M. Doronila**

Jeremiah Palmer cried upon seeing his younger brother in Superior Court on charges of suspicion of killing one of their kin.

Danville resident Justin Lemke, 28, was arraigned in court in Martinez on Tuesday afternoon on a charge of homicide. He had been arrested at his home a little after midnight, Friday, Jan. 26, on suspicion of fatally stabbing his 26-year-old brother Jonathan Lemke.

At the arraignment, Judge Nancy Davis Stark advised Joshua Lemke on the charge of murder against him, and he said he would seek a public defender. Danville Police Chief Chris Wenzel said the court system would determine if Joshua was indigent and therefore qualifies to receive services from a public lawyer.

Joshua's brothers Jeremiah, 30, and Justin Lemke, 24, attended his arraignment. Justin Lemke held Jeremiah tightly after seeing Joshua Lemke, who was unshaven, his dark brown hair haggard, and wearing a yellow jail jumpsuit.

"We love him very much," Justin Lemke said after the arraignment. "We're all still very much a family."

He added that his family would do whatever they could to help him.

Joshua Lemke allegedly stabbed his brother at their home on St. David's Drive in Danville. Joshua Lemke called the police and said his brother had been stabbed.

"He reported that his brother had been stabbed to death," said Danville Sgt. Troy Craig.

Danville police and fire personnel responded to the incident, and Jonathan Lemke was pronounced dead at the scene. After an investigation, police determined that Joshua Lemke was connected with the death of his brother.

He was booked into the Contra Costa County Main Detention Facility in Martinez on a homicide charge. The police have not established a motive for the killing, and the investigation is still continuing. More information may be revealed when the case moves forward, said Wenzel.

An autopsy of Jonathan Lemke revealed that his death was caused by a stabbing on the chest. Deputy District Attorney Hal Jewett is prosecuting the case.

The two brothers lived alone together on St. David's Drive. Their mother Carol Palmer Lemke, 56, died from breast cancer in 2003. And father Gary Lemke, 60, committed suicide in August after being diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.

There have also been reports that Joshua had had emotional problems, and neighbors said the brothers were overwhelmed by the loss of their parents.

Joshua Lemke is also charged with one count of assaulting a police officer, which allegedly happened when an officer was trying to take a blood sample from Lemke after his arrest. ■

Hap Magee improvements include gazebo

Parking lot to be expanded by 80 spaces in reaction to park's popularity

by **Natalie O'Neill**

Hap Magee Ranch Park will soon be better able to accommodate weddings, concerts and horseback riding.

The town is planning to expand the parking lot in the area behind the Cottage House to fit 80 more vehicles including large horse trailers, members of the Danville Parks and Leisure Services Commission said last week.

Improvements include a newly constructed gazebo that will primarily be used for weddings, said Assistant Town Manager Marcia Somers. The gazebo is expected to increase the amount of visitors the park gets, especially in the spring and summer months.

"(At weddings) people like the backdrop of the creek and being out there on the meadow," Somers said.

The structure was built and funded by the Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Club as part of its centennial project and cost more than \$45,000. Construction is complete but the gazebo will be painted a cream color in coming weeks.

"The gazebo fits the character of that park and it's a nice contribution to the community. The Rotary deserves recognition," Somers said.

Rotary President David Behring said the project was a "brainchild" of Danville Councilman Newell Americh and that it had been in the works for about three years.

"It's on a beautiful piece of land. We're open to anything people want to use it for," Behring said.

► Continued on page 8



The new gazebo that stands in Hap Magee Ranch Park is expected to bring more visitors, primarily for weddings.



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Rising above guns, gangs and a life of poverty

Inspirational teacher with L.A. students to perform Shakespeare in Danville

by Jordan M. Doronila

The power of Shakespeare gives youths in Los Angeles the strength to rise above guns, gangs and poverty, believes Rafe Esquith.

Esquith and eight of his students will share their insights by performing Shakespeare, sign language and rock 'n' roll for the community at the Athenian School theater in Danville at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 6.

"I think his work is extremely exciting," said Michael Barnard, owner of Rakestraw Books, which is sponsoring the event. "It should be a great evening."

Esquith is an internationally renowned teacher who conducts a public school class called the Hobart Shakespeareans for economically disadvantaged children in Los Angeles. He has worked together with school staff, parents and communities to establish a level playing field, which gives equal opportunity for every child. He is the winner of the Walt Disney American Teacher Award for National Teacher of the Year.

"(His work) opens up opportunities for kids who might otherwise not have them," Barnard said.

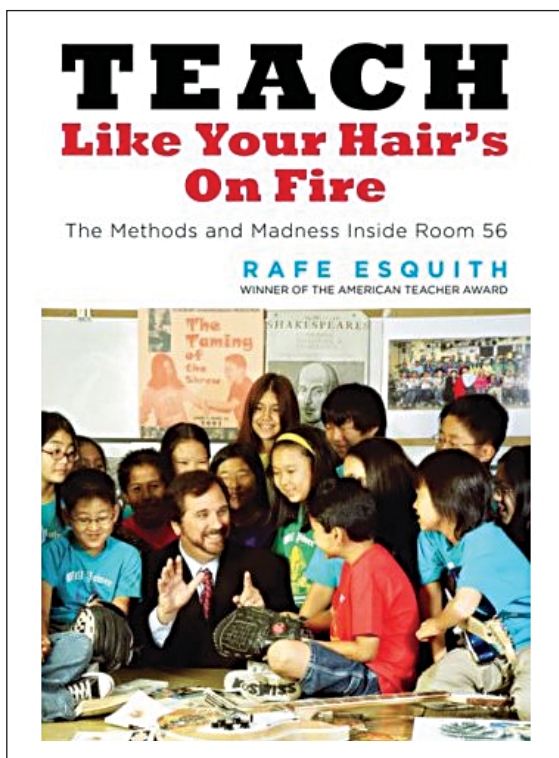
His students will perform a series of speeches and sketches mixed with music. His class also will do bits from "Henry V," "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet" and "The Tempest," which will demonstrate a chapter in a book called "Will Power."

Tickets are \$10 in advance; student tickets with a valid student ID are \$5. Proceeds will be given back to teachers in the audience in the form of grants. Teachers attending the event are invited to submit a grant application, and recipients of the money will be announced at the event.

"I just know that you are going to find Rafe Esquith and the Hobart Shakespeareans both moving and inspirational," Barnard wrote in a letter to Rakestraw customers.

Esquith's fifth-grade students have been wildly successful, said Barnard. They come from an L.A. neighborhood plagued by guns, gangs and drugs, and arrive voluntarily at school at 6:30 a.m. They study with Esquith until 5 p.m.

His classroom is known as Room 56, where students gather to play Vivaldi, score in the top 1 percent on standardized tests, and go on to attend Ivy League universities, in addition to learning



Shakespeare, Barnard said.

Esquith has written a book called "Be Nice, Work Hard," which expounds on his personal experiences teaching.

"It's great stuff," said Barnard. He's also the author of "Teach Like Your Hair's on Fire: The Methods and Madness Inside Room 56."

Esquith has received the U.S. President's National Medal of the Arts and he was named by Queen Elizabeth II as a member of the British Empire. Additionally, he has received the Oprah's Use Your Life Award. And he has received praise from actor Sir Ian McKellan.

"Rafe Esquith is my only hero," McKellan said, according to Barnard's letter.

For information about the event, contact Rakestraw Bookstore, 409 Railroad Ave. in Danville; telephone 837-7337. ■

Contact Jordan M. Doronila at jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com

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Trustees hear maintenance plans

Department receives 6,000 requests for repairs and upkeep each year

by Jordan M. Doronila

Administrators will evaluate and improve the maintenance program at the San Ramon Valley Unified School District this year, said school officials.

Craig Cesco, district maintenance supervisor, gave a presentation about the challenges, goals and overview of the maintenance department to the school board at

its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 16.

He talked about the program's challenges, which include managing the gap between available funds and projected needs, opening and maintaining new schools, nurturing staff development, and improving communication between all the district's departments.

"I felt the board was listening," Cesco said. "I felt good at the end of the meeting."

However, trustees said they wanted a clearer graph of how much money the district matches with the state regarding deferred maintenance spending. Additionally, they

want a report that compares past staffing and acres that have been maintained from about 10 years ago to now, Cesco said.

Deferred maintenance spending is special funding from the state separate from school money that is allocated on a yearly basis for larger projects, such as paving, painting schools and air-conditioning, Cesco said.

The maintenance budget for 2006-07 is \$5.5 million. Its funding for deferred maintenance is \$1.8 million. The district has spent

► Continued on page 9

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Gazebo

► Continued from page 5

Club members worked on the construction for about five full days, with 10-12 volunteers working at a time.

"It was a fun, hands-on project for the club," Behring said.

Hap Magee Ranch Park is already used for weddings, picnics, the playground, horseback riding, classes, community meetings and its dog parks. Maintenance cost for the park is divided evenly between the town of Danville and Alamo Parks and Recreation, with each paying about \$200,000 annually.

"(Parking lot expansion) has long been planned because we didn't anticipate having as many people coming to the park as we do now, with all of the different uses," Somers said.

She added that she was happy to see the increased use.

The parking lot is currently being designed and is expected to be completed this spring. Horseback riders use an "on your honor" system for parking in a designated area behind the Cottage House, she said.

In addition, the commission is in the process of adding wheelchair



This temporary sign hangs on the nearly completed gazebo at Hap Magee Ranch Park to credit the volunteers who built and funded the \$45,000 project.

access and reconstructing the worn reddish bricks on the patio by the Cottage House.

Years of use have caused wear and tear on the bricks and commissioners said they are working to level the bricks out, for safety purposes. The patio is expected to be fully reconstructed by the end of the month.

While discussing improvements for Hap Magee, commissioners have also recently brought up the idea of constructing a shade area for the park.

"We are looking at options for shade because the area doesn't naturally have trees and it can get very hot in the summer," Somers said.

The Danville Parks and Leisure Service Commission will further discuss improvements at its next meeting Feb. 14. Commissioners meet at 7 p.m. every second Wednesday of the month in the Town Meeting Hall on Front Street. ■

Contact Natalie O'Neill at noneill@danvilleweekly.com

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Supervisor

► Continued from page 5

ously elected MAC said that out of principal they would not apply to be on an appointed council.

This summer, Piepho told members of the Alamo community that it is important for the county's MAC structures to be consistent because it "is just good government."

And last week Piepho said she understands each unincorporated area is unique, but that the structure of the councils should be the same.

"I understand the sensitivities, believe me. (But) I have researched this—it's very important to me," she said.

At the meetings, updates from other Blackhawk and Diablo community organizations were given, including the Police Advisory Services, the Blackhawk Home Owners Association and the Diablo Community Services District.

Piepho also announced she will travel to Washington, D.C., this week to lobby for the quality of life in Contra Costa County. In addition, she said she and her staff are working with Caltrans in an effort to lay rubberized asphalt on I-680 to reduce freeway noise.

"We are putting pressure on Caltrans and they have been very responsive," Piepho said.

County staff members said they encourage input from unincorporated areas. South County staff can be contacted at 820-8683. ■

Contact Natalie O'Neill at noneill@danvilleweekly.com

Maintenance

► Continued from page 8

approximately \$976,000, with the state matching \$887,000 for the district's deferred maintenance program this school year so far.

Currently, there are 32 staff members who maintain 3 million square feet of structures at 32 sites in 400 acres of land, Cesco said. There is an average of 6,000 requests made each year to the maintenance department.

The average time to complete a request is two weeks, with a significant volume increase in August and September, when the average time to complete a request is four weeks.

"The San Ramon Valley Unified School District is in good shape," Cesco said.

However, he added that the principals and teachers have a wish list his department may not be able to fulfill.

"You could only do so much," he said.

Cesco said his department will examine if it needs to expand staff and plans to train workers so they are continuously up to date in their fields. Moreover, he wants to continue working with other departments in the district.

"We want to continue working as a team to work toward the same goals," he said.

He will submit a revised maintenance plan, adding the board's feedback, as soon as he can, he said. ■

Informational Meetings

Feb. 15 - Thu.
Mar. 21 - Wed.
4:45PM; RSVP

Feb. 1 - Thu.

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Gina DePalma - BaBBo	Richard Reddington - REDD
Wylie Dufresne - wd-50	Michel Richard - Citronelle
Clark Fraiser - Arrows Restaurant	Susan Spicer - HerbSaint/Bayona
Herve Fuch - Four Seasons Resort	Cal Stamenov - Marinus
Mark Gaier - Arrows Restaurant	Alex Stupak - wd-50
Michael Ginor - Hudson Valley Foie Gras	Keiko Takahashi - El Paseo
Daniel Humm - Eleven Madison Park	R. Kent Torrey - The Cheese Shop
Douglas Keane - Cyrus	Rick Tramonto - TRU

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Return to Finland

Ron and Karin Siemens pause to check out their Weekly in front of Helsinki Cathedral on their way to Karin's birthplace of Vasa, Finland.



Sharing the Weekly with friends

Stephen and Christopher Thompson share their Danville Weekly with Capt. Chris Gallup and Tahoe Tessie when taking a ride on their favorite boat, the Tahoe Queen in South Lake Tahoe.



Remote location

Nancy and Bill Lieber—and their Weekly—at the Stones of Callanish, Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides, Scotland in July.

Remembering 'Jaws'

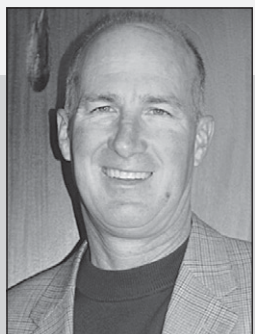
Danville residents (l-r) Steve, Evan, Norma and Amanda Swasey enjoy their Weekly on the ferry to Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts where the family spent a weekend in August. It was work and play as Steve's company, Netflix, showed "Jaws" on the beach where it was filmed. Even after the viewing, the family dared to swim in the warm Atlantic the next day.

Take Us Along on your travels and send photos to Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com or 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville 94596.

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Monte Vista girls basketball team remains unbeaten

Team nets 49-30 win over hometown rivals

by Rachel McMurdie

Monte Vista's senior guard Stephanie Cornell had 12 points, seven steals, to lead the Mustang girls basketball team to a 49-30 win over San Ramon Valley last Friday, Jan. 26. The win makes it 20 in a row for the undefeated team.

The Mustangs (20-0, 6-0 EBAL) built up a 21-10 lead in the second quarter after putting pressure on San Ramon Valley's lead scorer sophomore Carlie Bonderer. Bonderer finished the game with 10 points overall. Mustang sophomore guard Niveen Rasheed, who was

once again key to Monte Vista's defense, also contributed 12 points and had six steals.

Earlier in the week the Monte Vista girls beat Livermore High 57-18. San Ramon Valley (6-13, 0-6 EBAL) lost to Foothill High 32-42.

Boys basketball

Monte Vista boys also claimed a win against hometown rival San Ramon Valley High (13-7, 3-3 EBAL). Mustang Ryan Whalen had 22 points, in the boy's basketball team's 72-46 win at San Ramon Valley High last Friday.

Mustangs (18-1, 5-0 EBAL), who lead by 12 going into the second half, effectively shut down the Wolves' offense, allowing just two points in the final quarter. The

Wolves were hot from behind the arch. Whalen, who lead Mustangs' scoring, earned three 3-pointers, as did his teammate, Brian Barbour, who chipped in for a total of 15 points. Dan Daviess and Vai Scheirholtz led the Wolves' scoring, with 13 points each.

Girls soccer

Wolves' soccer players Gabby Parisella, Hillary Harvey and Ashley Edwards scored in San Ramon Valley girls' second win of the week Saturday against Fremont's Washington High School. Both wins were shutout games.

Earlier in the week, San Ramon Valley (11-4-3, 2-3-3 EBAL) earned a 2-0 win in a league match against Granada High. According to the team's Web site, it is in the lead

for the race to the EBAL title with 11 points. Monte Vista, according to the site, is tied with Foothill for second place with nine points. The Web site had not factored in last week's games.

Monte Vista girls fought through a scoreless first half only to end their soccer game in a 1-1 tie against Foothill on Tuesday of last week. Thursday, however, the girls found redemption in a 2-1 win against California High. With the victory, the Mustangs improved to 7-3-4, 2-1-3 EBAL.

Boys soccer

Monte Vista's Andre Cuadra kicked a first quarter goal to give the Mustangs (13-0-6, 4-0-4 EBAL) the lead going into the half in their Friday game against California

High. Cal (11-4-1, 4-4-1 EBAL) answered in the second half to end the game with a 1-1 tie.

Earlier in the week, the Mustangs had a 3-0 shutout at Foothill High. Cuadra, Cole White and Vincent Butera scored for Monte Vista. Cuadra leads the Mustangs in scoring with 16 goals so far this season.

San Ramon Valley boys soccer team earned two shutout wins last week. Wednesday the Wolves defeated Granada 3-0, then on Saturday beat Fremont's Washington High, 3-0 in a non-league match.

The Wolves improve their record to 11-4-3, 2-3-3 EBAL. ■

E-mail photos to Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com.

SPORTS DIGEST

Sycamore Stingrays are back

Registration for the Sycamore Stingrays 2007 swim season starts for residents Feb. 12; returning families on Feb. 15; and open registration Feb. 21. Go to sycamorestingrays.com for more information about the Stingrays Swim Team.

For additional registration information, call Andrea Calamoneri at 855-8272. The Sycamore Stingrays clubhouse and pool are located at 657 Old Orchard Drive, Danville.

Register for Sea Devils

The Danville Sea Devils Swim Team will be holding new swimmer registration from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Danville Station clubhouse. The clubhouse is located at the end of Zephyr Circle in Danville Station.

All abilities between ages 5 and 18 years are accepted. For more information, visit www.sea-devils.org. Contact Donna Grier at 831-8689 with questions.

Spring co-ed sports season opens

Sports-minded men and women can register for a variety of recreational leagues offered by the Town of Danville. The softball, kickball and bocce ball programs are a fun way to get exercise and make friends in a relaxed, supportive environment.

The Town of Danville will accept complete team rosters only beginning Feb. 1. Following are the spring leagues:

- Kickball: No experience is

necessary. Teams must have a minimum of eight players, with a minimum of four women. Two leagues are offered: a competitive league, which plays Monday nights from April 2 to June 4; and a recreational league, which plays Wednesday nights from April 4 to May 30. Both leagues play on the synthetic turf field at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive. Fees are \$250 resident teams; \$300 non-resident teams.

- Bocce Ball: This popular program features leagues on Monday through Friday evenings. Bocce Ball is an easy, social game that is popular with both men and women of all ages. Each team must have a minimum of four players, with a 10-person maximum. At least four players must be present for each game. The spring season will begin in mid-April and last seven weeks, followed by a week of playoffs. Games are played on the bocce courts at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive. Fees are \$145 residents; \$175 non-residents.

- Softball: The adult softball program features leagues on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The season runs from April 2 to June 4. Space is limited, so sign up early. Spring season starts the week of April 2 and will last eight weeks, followed by a week of playoffs. Games will be played at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive. Fees: \$370 resident teams; \$445 non-resident teams.

For more information about spring leagues, visit www.ci.danville.ca.us or call Amy Perenon at 314-3386.

PREP SCHEDULE

Friday, Feb. 2

Boys Basketball: Monte Vista at Cal High, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Monte Vista vs. Cal High, 7 p.m.

Boys Soccer: Monte Vista vs. Granada, 5:45 p.m.; San Ramon Valley at Amador, 5:45 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, Feb. 2-3

Wrestling: MSJ Tournament, Fremont

Monday, Feb. 5

Girls Soccer: Monte Vista vs. Livermore, 5:45 p.m.; San Ramon Valley at Cal High, 5:45 p.m.

Boys Soccer: Monte Vista at

Livermore, 5:45 p.m.; San Ramon Valley vs. Cal High, 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Boys Basketball: Monte Vista vs. Amador, 7 p.m.; San Ramon Valley vs. Livermore, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Monte Vista at Amador, 7 p.m.

The Danville Weekly and The Pleasanton Weekly are sponsoring

“Publicity 101”

A seminar for non-profits that want to know how to publicize their organization. Attendees will learn: how to write a press release; what constitutes “news”; when to send information; how to take a photo for the newspaper; who to contact when you have a story idea. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions.

The free 90-minute seminar will be held on two dates in two locations to accommodate most schedules:

Thursday, Feb. 22

5:30 to 7 p.m.

**Danville Weekly office,
315 Diablo, Ste.100, Danville**

Saturday, March 3

10 to 11:30 a.m.

**Pleasanton Weekly office,
5506 Sunol Blvd., Ste. 100, Pleasanton**

Up to two representatives from the non-profit can attend. Register by calling 600-0840 and giving the representative's name, daytime phone number, and which location is preferred. Seating is limited.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

WEDDING

Heather Anne Halseth and Kellen Christopher Smalley

Heather Anne Halseth and Kellen Christopher Smalley were married Sept. 22 in the garden of the Palm Event Center at Mitchell Katz Winery in Pleasanton, with the reception following. The couple had become engaged at the top of the Eiffel Tower.

Heather is the daughter of Dave and Nancy Halseth of Pleasanton. She graduated from Foothill High School in Pleasanton in 1993 and from UC Davis in 2001 with a degree in technical business management. She is employed by Mervyn's in Hayward as its men's distribution manager.

Kellen is the son of Ty and Ann Smalley of Davis. He graduated from Davis High and from UC Davis in Davis in 2003 with a degree in managerial economics. He also spent a year in South Africa as an exchange student. He now works as a licensing and content relations manager at FunMobility Inc. in Pleasanton.

The couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico, and make their home in Danville.



OBITUARIES

Robert R. Powell

Robert R. Powell, a former resident of Danville, died in Pioneer, Calif., on Jan. 13 after battling cancer for 16 years.

He was born to Read and Connie Powell in Liberal, Kan. His father was a very mobile engineer, so he attended 25 schools before graduating in 1946 from South High School in Denver, Colo. Immediately after high school, he entered the U.S. Navy and was stationed aboard the aircraft carriers USS Kearsarge and the USS Midway.

He attended the University of Colorado in Boulder and the University of Denver, which led him to eight years in the motion picture and advertising business. While with an advertising agency, he met and married Nancy Elizabeth Anderson.

His career was in municipal finance and investment while they raised their three children in the Danville area. During the last several years before his retirement, he built a family home in Mace Meadow in Pioneer, and in 1984, it

became their full-time residence.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years Nancy; daughter Keely Rochon of Kona, Hawaii; daughter and son-in-law Jennifer and Dave Brining of Bermuda; and son and daughter-in-law, Read & Carolyn Powell of Walnut Creek; and six grandchildren. He is also missed by his canine companion, Scooter.

In accordance with Bob's wishes, there will be a small family Celebration of Life. Contributions may be made to the angels of Hospice of Amador County or your favorite charity.

Laura Jean Loftin

Danville resident Laura Jean Loftin, 81, passed away Jan. 5 after a long illness.

She was born Jan. 30, 1925, in Indiana and graduated in 1948 with a degree in business from Indiana University in Bloomington. She and her husband, Clay Loftin, came west to New Mexico and then California, and she worked as a teacher for many local schools including Chabot Junior College. She also worked as an administrative assistant for Sandia Labs, Lawrence Radiation Lab, Lockheed International, Alameda County and Chevron International Oil Co., from which she retired in 1994.

She is survived by her two daughters, Penny Culley and Lynne Everhart; son-in-law Terry Culley; and four grandchildren. A service

to celebrate her life was held Jan. 10 at Memory Gardens Memorial Park Chapel in Livermore.

Heather Ross

Alamo resident Heather Ross, 41, died at her home Jan. 14 after a long illness.

She was born Sept. 5, 1964, in Edinburgh, Scotland. She went to the University of Edinburgh in 1983 where she met her future husband, Ken Ross, and went on to graduate with a degree in psychology. Following graduation, she married Ken and moved to London where she joined KPMG and passed examinations to become a chartered accountant.

They moved back to Scotland in 1991 and had two children, Duncan and Eleanor.

Heather focused her career on nonprofit causes, first with a housing association in Edinburgh, and later, when the family moved to California in January 2000, with the National Center for Youth Law in Oakland.

She is survived by her husband; 15-year-old son Duncan and 12-year-old daughter Eleanor; parents Anne and Craig Ramsay; and brothers Craig and Alan.

A service celebrating her life was held at Hull's Walnut Creek Chapel. At her wish, her ashes will be taken to Scotland where a service will be held in April. Memorial donations may be made to the National Center for Youth Law, on-line at youthlaw.org.

POLICE BULLETIN

Resident finds youth drunk in back yard

Danville police cited a 17-year-old teenager from San Ramon Valley High School for being drunk in public on Garrigan Court early Sunday morning.

Officer Dean Soltis issued a ticket to the youth for being drunk in a resident's back yard at 3:05 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 21, after the resident called police.

"The reports said he was disoriented and he was unable to stand on his own," said Danville Sgt. Troy Craig. "He just wandered back there."

The homeowners saw him and called the police, Craig said. After Soltis cited the youth, his parents came to pick him up. He had a blood alcohol content of .206, Craig said.

—Jordan M. Doronila

POLICE LOG

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

Sunday, Jan. 21

- Party disturbance on Camino Tassajara and Shady Creek Dr. at 12:46 a.m.
- Verbal disturbance on Green Valley Rd. at 2:25 p.m.
- Verbal disturbance on Sunhaven Rd. at 7:48 p.m.
- Loiter disturbance Diablo Rd. at 10:28 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 22

- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Camino Tassajara at 7:53 a.m.
- Vandalism on Canfield Ct. at 8:18 a.m.
- Theft of access card on Ocho Rios Rd. at 9:57 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Sycamore Valley Rd. W. at 10:34 a.m.
- Court order violation on Homestead Ct. at 3:49 p.m.
- Assault with deadly weapon on La Gonda Way at 8:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

- Noise disturbance on Turrini Dr. at 2:12 a.m.
- Drugs violation on Stone Valley Rd. at 1:08 p.m.
- Battery on Contada Cir. at 9:22 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

- Trespassing on Front St. at 10:01 a.m.
- Residential burglary on Lily Ct. at 12:01 p.m.
- Suspicious circumstances on Love Ln. at 2:18 p.m.
- Harass disturbance on Glen Valley Cir. at 3:21 p.m.
- Trespassing on Highland Dr. at 3:43 p.m.
- Harass disturbance on Glen Valley Cir. at 6:25 p.m.
- Prowler heard on Promenade Ln. at 9:41 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25

- Petty theft from vehicle on San

- Ramon Valley Blvd. at 5:31 a.m.
- Drugs violation on W. El Pintado Rd. at 1:44 p.m.
- Petty theft on Montego Pl. at 3:05 p.m.
- Fight disturbance on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 3:24 p.m.
- Auto burglary on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 4:55 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Midland at 5:11 p.m.
- Petty theft on Valley Creek Ln. at 10:44 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 26

- Accident, property damage, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 12:44 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Stone Valley Rd. at 3:45 p.m.
- Grand theft from vehicle on Sycamore Cir. at 3:59 p.m.
- Identity theft on Indian Home Rd. at 4:48 p.m.
- Party disturbance on Camino Tassajara and Parkhaven Dr. at 10:20 p.m.
- Party disturbance on St. David Dr. and St. Mark Ct. at 10:37 p.m.
- Petty theft on Parkhaven Dr. at 11:28 p.m.
- Party disturbance on Camino Ramon Pl. at 11:34 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 27

- Party disturbance on Diablo Rd. at 12:43 a.m.
- Vandalism on Valle Vista Dr. at 7:36 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Ramon and Greenbrook Dr. at 9:04 a.m.
- Malicious telephone calls on Kimberly Pl. at 12:41 p.m.
- Identity theft on Laurel Dr. at 5:44 p.m.
- Warrant on Willow Dr. at 7:48 p.m.
- Noise disturbance on Diablo Rd. at 10:29 p.m.
- Party disturbance on Podva Rd. at 11:09 p.m.
- Threats disturbance on Boone Ct. at 11:37 a.m.

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PUBLISHER
Gina Channell-Allen

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Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Staff Reporters
Jordan M. Doronila
Natalie O'Neill

Sports Writer
Rachel McMurdie

Contributors
Geoff Gillette
Beverly Lane
Jacqui Love Marshall
Katharine O'Hara
Heidi Strand
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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
Classifieds Sales e-mail:
Ads@DanvilleWeekly.com
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EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

The mountain over our shoulder

So many good causes—how does one choose? Donating to food banks, crisis lines, churches, schools are all a good use of our money. But a resident of this area also might want to consider donating to Save Mount Diablo. The mountain is a majestic backdrop to our daily lives, always there for us, no matter what else changes.

Save Mount Diablo was founded in 1971 and since then the protected land has gone from the 6,788 acres contained in Mt. Diablo State Park to 90,000 acres. It wasn't until 1988 that the organization hired its first staff member and even today, with five staff members, volunteers play a large part in its successes.

Volunteers are needed for everything from answering the telephone to leading hikes to being an advocate for Save Mount Diablo. But donations are also needed. The organization adds acreage to the protected areas in many ways, and often it comes down to either purchasing land on the mountain or helping developers buy land elsewhere. Funds are needed for this.

Save Mount Diablo supporter categories are broken into Friend for \$35; Trail Blazer, \$50; Diablo Donor, \$100; Mountain Saver, \$250; Peak Guardian, \$500; Summit Club, \$1,000. The group is also set up to receive tribute and memorial giving, as well as real estate. All members receive a newsletter listing hikes, volunteer opportunities and special events, so a donation is not only a good way to help protect Mount Diablo, it is a good way to learn more about becoming involved in the organization. And its programs are a good way to learn more about the mountain, up close and personal.

It is estimated that people have lived in the San Ramon Valley for 5,000 years, and the Native Americans considered the mountain a powerful and mysterious place; the Spaniards arrived in the late 1700s; the Gold Rush and fertile land brought more settlers. The Valley saw rapid expansion after the freeway opened in 1964. Through it all, Mount Diablo has been standing, a sentinel changing with the seasons. This surely is worth a donation to the organization that works so hard to save it along with the wildlife it nurtures.

A donation is not only a good way to help protect Mount Diablo, it is a good way to learn more about becoming involved in the organization.

YOUR TURN

The Danville Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest. The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday for that Friday's edition.

Submit Letters to the Editor of up to 250 words to editor@DanvilleWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Danville Weekly and Embarcadero Publishing Co. to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information, contact Dolores Ciardelli, editor, at 837-8300, ext. 29.

LETTERS

No need to duplicate emergency services

Dear Editor:

A recent newspaper article noted that both Danville and San Ramon had hired managers for disaster planning. The article pointed out that the agencies have a difficult time communicating with each other as one of the reasons to add people.

Knowing that a disaster will not stop at a city border, why would each government hire employees and maintain individual programs? We already have common ties and infrastructure in place to deal with disasters common to both groups. The police share common dispatch, and the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District not only serves Danville and San Ramon, but also includes Alamo, Tassajara Valley and parts of Morgan Territory. A recent exercise with Alameda County demonstrated the technology that the SRV Fire Protection District has to enhance communication between counties.

Our Valley citizens will be better served by having a single point person and program managed by the SRV Fire Protection District. These are the first responders who are going to be managing and providing the services. They are already equipped, trained and prepared for the task. In addition, without duplication of duties, a more effective program can be provided to more citizens with a smaller budget contribution from each government organization. We do not need duplication when the organization to serve all is already in place.

Matt Stamey, Danville

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Hikers discover the glory of Mount Diablo at Four Days Diablo, a feast of exploring the mountain by day and catered gourmet meals at night.

Acting to Save Mount Diablo

Volunteers have been working for 35 years to stop development from creeping up the hillsides

story by Dolores Fox Ciardelli • photos by Scott Hein



The nodding flowers of the Shooting Star are found on Mount Diablo from mid February through April, especially in Mitchell Canyon.

What people don't realize about Mount Diablo is that 50 percent of it is privately owned, says Danville resident Sharon Walters. That means only half is guaranteed to remain as it is—a pristine backdrop to our lives as well as a natural habitat for wildcats, lizards, hawks, ferns and wildflowers.

Not to mention a fantastic place to hike.

“Once you're on the mountain, you learn to love it by hiking it,” said Walters.

She is a board member of Save Mount Diablo, which was formed 35 years ago by people who loved the mountain and feared the development creeping up hillsides.

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Left, burrowing owls are curious about photographer Scott Hein. Above, a raccoon cools off on a tree limb.

From top: Hospital Canyon Larkspur blooms at Mangini Ranch, recently acquired by Save Mount Diablo; two-tailed swallowtail; Western bluebird.

Executive Director Ron Brown said the 50 percent figure was arrived at by figuring in the age of Mount Diablo and the rolling hills leading up to it.

Particularly on the eastern and southern sides of the mountain, when people look up, it looks like preserved park land," he said. "But it is owned by private landowners, in many cases grazing cattle."

"When we begin to have more and more development on the fringes of natural lands, we begin to see wildlife to reshape how they shape their lives," he explained. Even a single large house introduces new elements to the natural habitat, such as fencing and domesticated animals.

"We work with everything from large scale developments to home developments as well as individuals about design consideration and siting," he said. "We respect individuals' property rights; we recognize that people need places to

live. A huge home interrupts wildlife corridors," he noted. "It doesn't work to have an 'island habitat.' Wildlife need large areas of land in which to migrate or we're not going to have bobcat and mountain lions."

Mount Diablo is famous for its views, which stretch 200 miles on a clear day. Save Mount Diablo worries about the view from the Valley, leading up to the mountain.

When the organization was formed in 1971, 5,788 acres were preserved in the state park. Today, 90,000 acres are protected in 29 open spaces and preserves.

The group was started by Mary Bowerman and Bob Bonwell.

Bowerman was attending UC Berkeley in 1971 when she was assigned Mount Diablo as a subject for her master's thesis. She began hiking the mountain, becoming acquainted with its various facets, and photographing and cataloguing the plants she found. She had the vision and Bonwell was the organizer, Walters said.

"I had never been on the mountain, and when that project, she became a lifelong advocate," said Walters. "She hiked all over the mountain."

Walters was a botany student and she went to (her advisor) and said, "This is too big for a masters, I'm going to be a Ph.D.; and he agreed," said Walters.

Bowerman's resulting study, "The Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Diablo, California," is considered the definitive work, said Walters. Bowerman once quoted: "My dream is that the whole of Mount Diablo, including its foothills, will remain

open space ... that the visual and natural integrity will be sustained."

Bowerman died last year at the age of 97.

Co-founder Bonwell, who was an engineer with Dupont, grew up in Indiana and moved here in 1956.

"I was young enough then to ride a bicycle all around and I started a bicycle club," said Bonwell. "We got to be quite active, around Northern California and into Canada. We went over the Sierra Nevadas several times."

He became chairman of the local Sierra Club and the Contra Costa Park Council.

"Mary Bowerman came to our monthly meetings, of both groups, and told us of the wonders of Mount Diablo," recalled Bonwell. "Apparently neither of the groups were being successful in preserving Mount Diablo. I left the Sierra Club and decided we needed another interest group."

"We've been going for 35 years. We have a very popular cause, very much popular not only with the state park but East Bay Regional Park District and local politicians," he added.

Bonwell is still hiking the trails at age 79.

Another of the original founders was Bob Doyle, a pupil at Concord High School in 1971, who came to the early meetings as a student representing Save America's National Environment. He is still actively involved with Save Mount Diablo.

Mount Diablo provides habitat for more than 100 species of animals and 650 species of plants; 12 species of endangered animals and plants have been identified. Just last year, a species of buckwheat was discovered after last being seen in 1936 by Mary Bowerman. Fifteen plants were found on the mountain and more are being propagated at UC Berkeley Botanical Garden.

Seth Adams, director of Land Programs, was the first Save Mount Diablo staff member, hired in 1988. He moved to this area to attend UC Berkeley in 1981 when environmentalists were fighting the Peripheral Canal, proposed to deliver water from the Sacramento River to pumping plants in Southern California.

"There was always a pull between academia and environmentalism," Adams said. "I do have the perfect job—everything from restoring endangered birds to propagating endangered plants to the political stuff, like creating urban limit lines."

His favorite part of the mountain depends on the season: In the spring, he enjoys the waterfalls on the north side. He might go to the 3,849-foot summit on a day when the views are clear.

"The coldest winter day after a big storm is

best for the longest views," he said. He estimates that 95 percent of visitors begin by going to the top and enjoying the views.

He noted that 35 years ago none of the trails existed. In 1994, Save Mount Diablo was proud to complete the 30-mile Diablo Trail. Now it is publishing a map of its 60-mile Diablo Grand Loop, which only has two small gaps left to acquire.

Some El Pintado Road residents asked Save Mount Diablo to help last year when the Town of Danville was considering cutting down an oak tree close to the road and it sent a representative to a council meeting. But it did not get involved in maintaining the old Danville Oak on Diablo Road because, Adams said, enough people rallied for its preservation.

"Danville is pretty progressive compared to, say, Antioch," he said. "The big battle is in eastern Contra Costa County and Alameda."

"We're responding to more than two dozen development projects," he said. "We respond to every one of them, whether it's David Duffield's house or 1,800 units in Pittsburg. Lots of times we stop things. We come to compromises where we can preserve a significant amount of land. Blackhawk was the first one."

When Ken Behring purchased the 4,200 acres climbing up the southeast side of Mount Diablo in 1974, he proposed donating 100 acres to Mt. Diablo State Park and developing the remainder into Blackhawk. With the intervention of Save Mount Diablo, that 100 acres was negotiated to 2,100 acres, the largest single donation ever to a state park.

"We've preserved thousands of acres through developer dedications at no cost to the public, and thousands more through mitigation," Adams said. "If a development affects an endangered species, they have to buy land someplace else; we'll help with that."

"Now we go all the way out to Byron and Livermore," he said. "Mount Diablo is the head of the Diablo Range but we don't want to get cut off at the Altamont Pass."

The group is now focusing on the Tassajara Valley, including a proposal to build the 200-acre Creekside Memorial Park Cemetery one mile south of Finley Road.

"There is a scoping hearing on it Feb. 5," Adams said, noting the project would affect a variety of endangered species with its series of lawns and lakes.

He also said Save Mount Diablo is responding

► Continued on page 16

Types of membership

All members of Save Mount Diablo receive its newsletter with special events, hikes and volunteer opportunities, and the larger donors receive additional benefits.

- Friend - \$35
- Trail Blazer - \$50
- Diablo Donor - \$100
- Mountain Saver - \$250
- Peak Guardian - \$500
- Summit Club - \$1,000

Mail memberships to Save Mount Diablo; 1901 Olympic Blvd., Suite 220; Walnut Creek 94596. Donations can be made online at www.savemountdiablo.org or call 947-3535 to contribute with a credit card. For more information call or e-mail smdinfo@savemountdiablo.org.

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Mount Diablo

► Continued from page 15

to each proposal for a mansion in the Tassajara Valley, explaining that even generous divisions today—such as 1,000 acres into 10 sites—can later be divided again, which is referred to as “stacked subdivision.”

“Sometimes we propose to cluster things. We want to place a scenic easement so no further subdivision can take place,” he said. “We try to help landowners, when we can, to focus on what’s important.”

Save Mount Diablo works closely with East Bay Regional Park District and other organizations.

“Having a variety of agencies works very well,” said Adams. “We have a variety of managers to choose from so we can weather our funding problems better than some places. When the state is broke, the Regional Park District isn’t, necessarily.”

Save Mount Diablo needs volunteers for everything from monetary donations to fence building to helping plan and work at its events. The group jumps on new projects even before they are on the planning boards. It compromises in such a way that it gets results, juggling time, money and opportunity with various projects.

The year 2005 saw the culmination of working on the 39-unit Humphrey Ranch project on Stone Valley Road near Monte Vista High School. Save Mount Diablo was able to preserve 62 out of 100 acres, including the upper elevations and big oaks, as well as receive funding to preserve an additional 193 acres.

In 2006, the group protected 473 acres, including seven miles of new trails, and responded to 21 development proposals. It has just completed fundraising for the Mangini Ranch project, which went into escrow Jan. 8. The 207-acre ranch, adjacent to Lime Ridge Open Space, cost \$1.47 million.

Save Mount Diablo also works to preserve cherished family property and insure descendants receive fair value in any transaction. For example, the 17 acres remaining of the Young family ranch drops from 1,420 feet with beautiful views, to a mossy, fern-filled canyon. From its founding, Save Mount Diablo had its eye on this prime property but the owners did not want to sell.

When the four offspring inherited it, two of the sisters wanted to see the property preserved but another sister and their brother wanted to sell. The terrain was such that only a few houses could be built, but it was the nightmare of Save Mount Diablo—those homes would have been built halfway up the mountain and right on top of meadow and rare plants. In the end, two of the sisters donated their land, and Save Mount Diablo purchased the remaining portion from the other two. This is why the group needs donations, for when it must make outright purchases.



SCOTT HEIN

Save Mount Diablo hikers on the 30-mile multi-use Diablo Trail, which stretches through six different open spaces: Shell Ridge Open Space, Diablo Foothills Regional Park, Mt. Diablo State Park, Morgan Territory Regional Preserve, the Los Vaqueros watershed and Round Valley Regional Preserve.

Save Mount Diablo educates people about the mountain; works to save it, piece by piece; and celebrates it.

A few years ago, after enjoying a one-day hike in Castle Rock Park, Sharon Walters signed up for Four Days Diablo, a feast of hikes led by Seth Adams. Participants became intimately acquainted with the mountain by hiking all day, then enjoying catered gourmet dinners each evening.

“It was absolutely a transformative experience,” said Walters, who said each day they hiked about seven miles. “Seth is talking the whole time, walking backwards.”

Walters, who has been a librarian at St. Mary’s College for 22 years, is earning her master’s degree at the college; her thesis is an oral history project on the founding of Save Mount Diablo for which she interviewed Bowerman, Bonwell, Doyle and others.

“The most important thing I learned from them is what a difference just a few committed individuals can make,” she said.

She noted that many people who have lived here for years have not hiked on Mount Diablo, perhaps because it can look too forbidding.

“When you get on the mountain and hike it—the single trails and the waterfalls—it is such an amazing mountain,” she said. Her first glimpse of it when she’s been away, whether from the north or west, always gives her the sense of coming home, she added.

When Walters works at events at the Save Mount Diablo booth, lots of people will stop to talk.

“It’s such a great name, Save Mount Diablo,” she said. “People will say, ‘What’s wrong with the mountain?’ Because they assume it’s all protected.”

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by Jordan M. Doronila

Follow the yellow brick road

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Who: Monte Vista High School Theater Arts
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Where: Al Gentile Theater, Monte Vista High School,
3131 Stone Valley Road, Danville
Cost: \$10
For tickets: Call 552-2878

Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Monte Vista for an evening filled with singing, dancing and drama.

The Monte Vista High School Theater Arts and Music Department will revive the magic of "The Wizard of Oz" in a musical production next week. The classic story follows teenage heroine Dorothy as she finds her way home to Kansas after a tornado sweeps her away to the magical Land of Oz.

"It is the most loved movie and musical in the United States," said Vicki Stadelhofer, Monte Vista Theater Arts director. "Dorothy is lost from home."

"It's a hero's journey," she added. "They feel sorry for her. They feel sorry for her dog. If you continue to have faith, and strive for what you believe, you will succeed in life."

The high school production is at 7 p.m., Wednesday-Friday, Feb. 7-9, at Monte Vista's Al Gentile Theater. Seniors are playing the roles of the musical's main characters. Alex Darby plays Dorothy, Kevin Bradley, Oz; Will Skrip, Scarecrow; and Andrew Bonin, the Tin Man.

And Kelsey Ritter plays the Wicked Witch of the West.

"I happen to have some talented students that can sing," Stadelhofer said. "Students can handle the roles so we are trying the 'Wizard of Oz' this year."

She said many of her student actors plan to

pursue the performance arts as a profession. She noted that Ritter is applying to New York University's Tisch School for the Arts and Skrip wants to attain a masters of fine arts degree in musical theater.

"Their ambition is to become performers as adults," said Stadelhofer.

The "Wizard of Oz" production comes fresh after the success of last year's musical, "Bye Bye Birdie." This year's musical marks Stadelhofer's 19th production.

Orchestra Director Chris Person, who was involved in "Bye Bye Birdie," will once again collaborate with Stadelhofer. Moreover, the current actors and actresses who are working in "The Wizard of Oz" also worked in "Bye Bye Birdie."

"These students are so talented that they transform themselves in every show," Stadelhofer said.

Stadelhofer spent 12 years teaching drama at Livermore High School before coming to Monte Vista 17 years ago. She got her start in theater as a singer and an actress; she was in all the plays and musicals in high school and college, and she majored in drama.

Though she does consider herself a musical director, she helps actors find the right note and sometimes sings along as they warm up.

She began her work at Monte Vista by directing "The Nerd," which was

rehearsed after school.

It had a cast of nine. Then she put on "Happy Days." Because more and more students wanted to get involved, there was a demand for a class in drama. As interest rose, so did her enrollment. She now teaches fulltime and "starts" all her plays in class, casting them and beginning rehearsals.

Monte Vista's Theatre Arts Program has joined the International Thespian Society, and new members are inducted into the organization every spring in a ceremony held at Round Hill Country Club. The group presents 18 awards at the ceremony in its version of the Academy Awards.

Stadelhofer has a wall behind her desk of headshot photos of students who are working professionally.

But for now, her students are following the yellow brick road. ■

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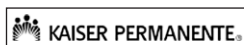
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BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

A well-stocked pantry

A good cook is only as good as the basic ingredients s/he has at his/her regular disposal. That means a well stocked pantry—with essential non-perishable staples—that can be tapped at any time and complemented with fresh produce, meats and other perishables to produce a wholesome meal. What's in your pantry? Have you looked lately?

The natural dangers of a well-stocked pantry are to take certain products for granted or forget what's hiding in the back rows. That is, until you need them. Then you find out gnats have taken up residence in the oatmeal or "someone" left the lid off the corn syrup. And what cook hasn't discovered in the middle of their fanciest meal preparation that the bottle of cooking sherry or vanilla is more "fumes" than liquid?

The beginning months of the year are ideal for taking stock of your pantry, then replenishing missing components or refreshing outdated products. The good news is that most staple items have long shelf lives and, when well cared for in a cool, dry space, can usually outlive your need for them. To avoid overstocking and clutter, purchase specialty items—saffron, oyster sauce, wild rice—only as needed and in the smallest quantity possible; then consider disposing of them after making that once-in-a-blue-moon recipe.

I'm offering tips for keeping your pantry in tip-top shape and a suggested list of what every good cook should have in a well stocked pantry. Conduct a restocking assessment of your pantry to see what's there, what's missing, what needs to be replaced in fresh supply. Then set a date—e.g., your birthday, your busiest cooking holiday, when you change your clocks back—for an annual pantry check. A well stocked pantry will make your kitchen hum like a well-oiled machine.

Pantry tips

- At least once a year, wipe down your pantry containers with a clean, hot cloth to remove dust, oils, etc.
- Whenever returning bottled containers to their pantry spot, clean off built-up ingredients from the lid and bottle top and screw top back tightly.
- When you replenish a pantry item, mark the date of purchase on the container with a waterproof marker.
- To counter the "out of sight, out of mind" habit, rearrange your pantry items occasionally to rotate items to the front.
- If you don't cook regularly, minimize your pantry supplies only with items you use frequently.

Pantry checklist

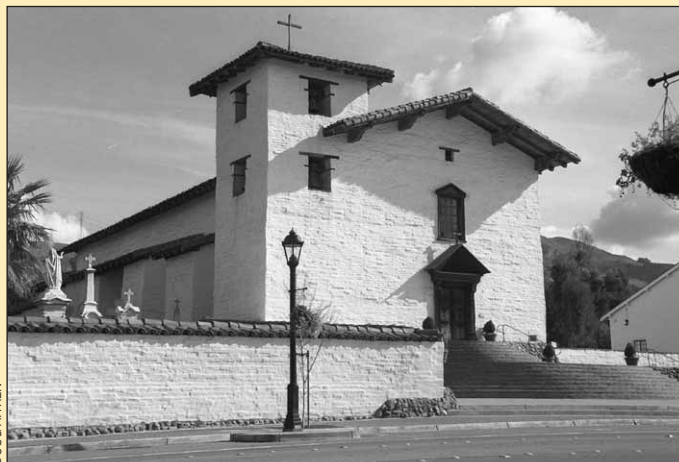
- ☑ Oils: Rachel Ray's favorite mantra is EVOO! Extra-Virgin Olive Oil is a must-have staple. (Note: Olive oil is a fruit juice that can go bad. If yours has a musty odor or none at all, replace it.) Also consider: non-fat cooking spray for general use; veg-

- etable, peanut and/or sesame oil for other recipes.
- ☑ **Vinegars:** Balsamic, red wine or rice wine (lighter than regular) is essential; others are extra.
- ☑ **Cooking Wines:** Sherry, sake, marsala, etc.—you know what you use most.
- ☑ **Sauces:** Soy sauce (low-sodium or "lite"), Tabasco or another hot pepper sauce, Worcestershire sauce, mustard and honey are basics; all else is extra.
- ☑ **Seasonings:** My basics: allspice, basil, cilantro, rosemary, cinnamon, nutmeg, curry, cumin, bay leaves, cayenne and crushed peppers. Determine the 8-10 spices you use most and refresh them regularly; purchase/replace others as needed.
- ☑ **Salts & Peppers:** Sea salt for cooking, finer versions for accent; Whole peppercorns and ground peppers.
- ☑ **Flour & Powders:** White/whole wheat flour; baking soda, baking powder, cornstarch; consider cake flour if you bake a lot.
- ☑ **Sugars:** Cane and brown sugars are minimal; consider confectioner's and fine sugars if you bake a lot.
- ☑ **Grains:** Your preferred brown or white rice is minimal; oats, polenta and couscous, depending on your cooking preferences.
- ☑ **Pasta & Noodles:** Your favorite spaghetti and other pastas; Asian noodles if you use them regularly.
- ☑ **Soups & Broths:** Chicken and beef broth (preferably low-sodium) is a must; bouillon cubes are a good backup. A couple cans of your favorite soup for comfort food and flu days.
- ☑ **Canned Beans & Vegetables:** My favs (to perk up soups, casseroles and salads): Baby corn-on-the-cob, cannelloni or chickpeas, kidney beans, artichoke hearts. Stock your favorites.
- ☑ **Tomatoes & Tomato Paste:** My basics: Whole, peeled tomatoes with Italian seasoning, small cans of tomato paste. Both can be used in almost any recipe or to spice up any dish. Stock your favorites.
- ☑ **Frozen Vegetables:** Frozen corn, beans and peas are good additions to most casseroles or as side dishes. Buy re-sealable family bags and remove portions as needed.
- ☑ **Garlic, Ginger, Onions:** Can't cook without them! Purchase in pre-cut jars or store them fresh in cool, dry spots.
- ☑ **Nice-to-have Extras:** Peanut butter/jelly (who doesn't crave the occasional sandwich?), parmesan cheese (whole or grated), baking chocolate, bread crumbs, frequently-used ethnic ingredients, canned tuna, lemon juice.

—Jacqui Love Marshall lives in Danville with her vintage-car-loving husband, two pugs and binders of recipes. Her column runs every other week. E-mail her at jlovetmar@pachell.net.

Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE



Restored Mission San Jose

The large Mission San Jose church was rebuilt and restored in 1985 as shown in a modern photograph. The mission's grazing land extended throughout the East Bay's inner valleys. An Indian named Ramon tended cattle and sheep in the San Ramon Valley during winter months. His name was given to the creek and the valley, with "San" added to conform to the Spanish usage of the day.



BY KATHARINE O'HARA

Don't close your mind too soon

I attended the Walk for Life anti-abortion rally last week in San Francisco. More than anything, the experience gave me insight into the fascinating world of partisan politics that defines American life as we know it. I found that many of the pro-choice protesters lining the street where the walk took place held signs reading "No War," "Destroy the Bush Regime," etc. These signs didn't make sense to me, seeing as though I was at an anti-abortion rally rather than a war protest, and I wondered why they assumed that those who were pro-life automatically supported the war in Iraq and the Bush administration.

At this point in my life, I am attempting to sort out my own religious, political and moral beliefs, and find that it is virtually impossible for each belief that I hold to perfectly—or even closely—match a specific political party or religious group. I find it incredibly frustrating that the minute one hears of my standing on a specific issue, they immediately jump to conclusions and place me in a specific group, decide I am of one political standing or another, and assume they know my opinions regarding other issues.

Ryan Hammill, a freshman at San Ramon Valley High School, said he finds the same thing. "A friend once told me never to identify myself as a liberal or conservative because once you do, people will make assumptions about you and never listen to what you say if they oppose your views," he said.

I think many people address politics in too much of an aggressive and hostile manner, fighting vehemently for their cause and refusing to see the other side. But if they truly look, they might find that issues cannot simply be divided into black and white arenas. There are far too many situations, circumstances and exceptions to make it that simple. One of the first lines in "The Great Gatsby" reads, "Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone ... just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had"; I could not agree more.

We cannot simply assume that each individual is coming from the same place, as every face has a different story to tell and an equally valuable opinion to offer. Rather than automatically dismissing one's ideas and making assumptions based around nothing but that sole opinion, we all need to face controversial issues with an open mind and heart. We may never agree with the other side, but it is important to at least try to understand another opinion, and view the same issue from a different angle.

"When discussing any controversial subject ... it seems (many people) are looking for a petty fight instead of a real, intellectual discussion of prevalent issues facing the world," said Hannah Gustafson, an SRVHS junior. "What's frustrating is that many are unable to see both sides of an argument and refuse to recognize the merit of what others have to say. Although I consider myself liberal on many issues, I try to appreciate where many of my more conservative friends are coming from so we can rationally and intelligently debate our opinions."

It awes me how sure some are about their political views. As I am one who is completely unsure of what to make of the world I live in, I can't help but wonder if these kids simply listen to their parents and come to school with a ready-made pitch.

"People will throw out completely outrageous statements with no evidence to back them up. It's obvious that many of them have no idea what they're talking about but are just broadcasting the beliefs of their parents with only the most basic level of understanding of the issue," said Gustafson.

I, too, find that on a regular basis teens will make blanket statements about an issue—perhaps something they have picked up from a parent or friend—but underneath really don't know much about the issue at hand. It is refreshing to meet those who are actually passionate about controversy in the world, have a substantial knowledge of the issue at hand, and are willing to hear the opposing side—but it seems these people are few and far between.

However, in the opinion of Monte Vista High School junior Jibrán Khan, "Teens are pretty apathetic when it comes to politics and don't really judge others on it. Monte Vista is pretty liberal and most people hate Bush, but conservatives don't necessarily feel out of place. I mean Danville is full of conservative adults and many kids rub off their parents."

I guess when it comes down to it, we are all just simple people trying to make our way in this bizarre and interesting existence; in the end, it is not our political standings or arguments won that will matter, but only our determination to find peace and love, and to make an impact in this truly awesome world.

The 411 offers information and insight on the teen scene by Katharine O'Hara, a junior at San Ramon Valley High School who spends her free time going to concerts, enjoying her friends, and playing the piano. E-mail her at o'hara5@comcast.net.

NOW SHOWING

The Queen ★★★★★

Rating: PG-13 for language and adult situations.
1 hours, 43 minutes.

The most marvelous performance of the year meshes with one of the best films of 2006. Hallelujah.

Helen Mirren is perfection as Queen Elizabeth, not the be-wigged and Tudored version but the contemporary royal for whom a stiff upper lip is the order of the day.

That credo is put to the test when Princess Diana is killed in a dramatic car crash inside a dark tunnel in Paris while being pursued by paparazzi. Newly elected British Prime Minister Tony Blair (Michael Sheen) is between a rock and a hard spot, anxious to spit-polish his image with a face of public concern yet clashing mightily with the tightly contained, ritual-bound world of his Queen.

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown, indeed. Blair and Her Royal Highness do emotional battle with all the diplomatic and procedural forces they can bring to bear while a staid Prince Philip (James Cromwell) staves off reality by stalking an elk that's furtively roaming his summer estate.

What ensues is a captivating fictional account of real events that transpired in August of 1997. What went on behind closed doors at Buckingham Palace and Balmoral Castle? The film depicts a

ludicrous cocoon of privilege and wealth surrounding the delusional royals as they seek to uphold the cobwebbed cloisters of duty first, self second—and prevent the British monarchy from permanent damage.

Mirren deserves every year-end award available for her spot-on portrayal of a reigning royal caught between the crosshairs, forced by a country in mourning to put protocol and personal judgment aside and break with long-standing tradition. Director Stephen Frears coaxes thespian gold from his gifted leading lady: the mannerisms, the walk and the unyielding conviction of a born-and-bred monarch.

Sheen's Cheshire-cat grin is the perfect foil for his burgeoning conflict and moral desire to placate a nation. Alex Jennings plays Prince Charles with all the vulnerability of a man inexorably tied to mom's apron strings.

Real news footage of Diana's dramatic departure—the breaking bulletins, the funeral, etc.—peppers the action and lends fresh perspective on a society that took the People's Princess to its heart.

Peter Morgan's incisive screenplay was drawn from dedicated research and extensive interviews with discreet palace sources, lending "The Queen" both historical and voyeuristic panache. Darkly observed and deeply affecting.

—Jeanne Aufmuth

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Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • E-MAIL CALENDAR@DANVILLEWEEKLY.COM

Art

Alamo-Danville Artists' Society

This society will present a group showing of paintings from now until March 20, at the Danville Town offices, 510 La Gonda Way. The offices are open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Art in the Park

Town of Danville and Alamo-Danville Artists' Society are looking for applicants for booth space for Art in the Park, being held Oct. 6. The different categories are: painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics and fine jewelry. Cost is \$70 for members, \$85 for non-members. For an application, contact Norma Webb at normawebb@comcast.net. Applications are due April 1.

Entries Needed for Youth Art Exhibition

Bedford Gallery is looking for entries for the Contra Costa Youth Art Exhibition which will run June 10-July 22, at the Bedford Gallery. Admission is open to all high school-aged youth in Contra Costa County. Entry forms can be found at www.bedfordgallery.org. Deadline is Monday, May 21.

Eugene O'Neill Arts Program

Students are invited to apply for participation in "Student Days," which will take place March 7-8, 14-15, at O'Neill's Tao House estate, Danville. Applications are available by calling 820-1818 or visiting www.eugeneoneill.org. Deadline is Feb. 3.

Stephen Sanfilippo

Brentwood Arts Commission presents an art exhibit the work of Alamo resident, Stephen Sanfilippo, from Feb. 7-April 20, at Brentwood Business & Education Center, 101 Sand Creek Road. Exhibit hours are 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. Meet him at an opening reception from 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7. Call 516-5376.

Teacher Rafe Esquith

Rakestraw Books presents an evening with award-winning teacher Rafe Esquith and the Hobart Shakespeareans at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 6, at Athenian School, 2100 Mt. Diablo Scenic Blvd., Danville. Tickets are \$10. Proceeds will benefit the teachers in the audience in the form of grants. Call 837-7337.

Auditions

Ruthless! the Musical, Bus Stop and School for Scandal

Role Players Ensemble Theatre will hold auditions for "Ruthless!," "Bus Stop" and "School Scandal" by appointment only, at Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Actors should prepare a two-minute monologue, and singers should bring 16 bars of an up tempo number. Call (510) 865-4740.

Author Visits

Rakestraw Books

Rakestraw Books will host the following authors: Eoin McNamee, author of "The Navigator" at 9:15 a.m., Monday, Feb. 12; Ayelet Waldman, author of "Love and Other Impossible Pursuits" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15; Peggy Orenstein, author of "Waiting for Daisy" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22; Nora Gallagher, at Rakestraw Books, 409 Railroad Avenue, Danville. Reservations are essential. Call 837-7337.

Civic Meetings

State of the Town Address

Town of Danville, Danville Area Chamber of Commerce and mayor Mike Shimansky will host the State of the Town Address luncheon starting at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 1, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Cost is \$25 by Feb. 20 or \$30 afterward. Call 837-4400 or visit www.danvilleca-chamber.com.

Classes

Financial Planning for Special Needs Children

Town of Danville will offer a free class for parents with special needs children to help them gain a better understanding of government benefits and legal and financial plans from 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Registration is required, call 314-3392 or visit www.ci.danville.ca.us.

Clubs

AAUW

Danville-Alamo American Association of University Women will host a luncheon with guest speaker Lois Davidson Gottlieb at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 24, at Diablo West Clubhouse, 750 Ynez Circle, Danville. Cost is \$20. Call 944-5173.

Amador Valley Quilt Guild

Amador Valley Quilt Guild will meet at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave., Pleasanton. Guest speaker will be Melody Crust. Call 454-1971.

Bay Area Single Christians

BASC club is a free, large, online group with event listings for Christian single adults around the S.F. Bay Area. See information at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/basc-singles/>.

Blackhawk Republican Women

This club will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 12, at Blackhawk

WEEKEND PREVIEW



'Not in Kansas anymore'

Come and see Dorothy and Toto when Monte Vista Theater Arts presents "The Wizard of Oz" at 7 p.m., Wednesday-Friday, Feb. 7-9, at Monte Vista High School Theater, 3131 Stone Valley Road, Danville. Tickets are \$10. Call 552-2878.

Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Drive, Danville. All are welcome. Guest speaker will be Lynne C. Leach. Cost is \$18.50; reservations are due by noon, Feb. 9 to Ms. Lyons at 820-6452.

Business Development Network

BDN is a group of professionals that share resources and develops business through relationships. It meets 7:45-9 a.m., the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Denny's, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville. Call Bonnie at 648-0222.

Business Network International

The Danville Chapter of Business Network International, a world-wide networking organization that focuses on helping local businesses grow through building strong networking relationships, meets at 7 a.m. every Friday at Denny's Restaurant on Camino Ramon. For information, call Glenn Polanco at 831-3372.

California Writers Club

This club will host a luncheon with guest speaker Simon Wood at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Hungry Hunter Restaurant, 3201 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Reservations are due to Betty by Wednesday, Feb. 7, call 376-3631.

Danville AM Toastmasters Club

The club meets from 7-8:30 a.m., every Tuesday, at Father Nature's, 178 E. Prospect Ave. Guests are welcome.

For more information, contact Dave Miklasevich at 899-1543 or dmik210@yahoo.com or www.danvilleamtoastmasters.org.

Danville Lions Club

The Danville Lions Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Brass Door Restaurant, 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Join us as our guest to learn the contribution you can make as a Lion. For information, call President Ted Fichter at 227-6617.

Danville Mid-day Referral Group, BNI

Danville Mid-day Referral Group, a chapter of Business Network International, meets from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., every Wednesday, at Louka's, 267 Hartz Ave., Danville. Call Fran Bates at 363-4327 or e-mail franbates@marykay.com.

Danville PM Toastmaster 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

Danville Rotary

The Danville Rotary meets at noon every Monday at the Brass Door, 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. For information, visit www.danvillero-tary.org.

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Danville-Alamo Garden Club
This club will meet at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Alamo Women's Club, 1401 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Internationally acclaimed camellia expert, Robert Ehrhart, will be speaking. Call Louise at 837-4904.

Danville-Sycamore Valley Rotary
The Danville-Sycamore Valley Rotary Club meets for breakfast at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Join them for great fellowship and make a difference in your community and the world. Call Scott at 743-8449.

Diablo Bonsai Club
This club will host a lecture and workshop on planting and raising Bonsai trees from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Heather Farm Garden Center, Upper Room, 1540 Marchbanks Drive, Walnut Creek. Participants may bring their trees. Call 736-9157.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews
Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will host a workshop from part of their series "You Call This Jewish Food?" at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Sugandh Indian Cuisine, 4515 Rosewood Dr., #700, Pleasanton. This workshop is a series of five monthly dining-out events. Cost is \$20, plus the cost of your dinner. Call 485-1049.

Concerts

A Garden of Delights
Pacific Chamber Symphony presents "A Garden of Delights" featuring Beethoven, Brahms and the U.S. debut of Russian pianists at 3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 11, at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive. Tickets range in price; call 931-3444.

A Musical Journey Around the World
Danville Community Band presents "A Musical Journey Around the World" at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 4, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. The event is free with admission to the museum. Call 736-2277.

Early Music Series
Las Positas College will host its second annual Early Music Series with three performances at 7:30 p.m. including: Mahan Esfahani on Saturday, Feb. 10; Alla Rustica on Saturday, March 24; and the Farallon Quartet on Saturday, April 21, at Las Positas Library, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore. Call 424-1554 or visit www.laspositascollege.edu.

Gilbert and Sullivan a la Carte
Six highly energized and talented entertainers will perform "Gilbert and Sullivan a la Carte" at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at LeFevre Theatre, Saint Mary's College, 1928 Saint Mary's Road, Moraga. Tickets for general admission are \$25, \$24 for seniors and \$12 for students. Call 631-4670.

Instrumental Music Benefit Concert
San Ramon Valley High School will host its Instrumental Music Benefit Concert featuring San Jose Taiko at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at SRVHS Performing Arts Center, 140 Love Lane, Danville. Visit www.community-concerts.com.

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir
Community Concerts presents the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 24, at the Wesley Center, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Tickets are \$40, \$25, \$22. Call 229-2710 or visit www.community-concerts.com.

Three Tableaus of Faure
Valley Concert Chorale presents "Three Tableaus of Faure" at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 17, at First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore and at 3 p.m., Sunday, March 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Advance tickets are \$17 for adults and \$14 for seniors; tickets are the door are \$20 for adults and \$17 for seniors. Call 866-4003.

World Class Four Hand Piano
Pleasanton Civic Arts will host Mark Anderson and Tamriko Siphashvili in World Class Four Hand Piano at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Events

A Visit With John Muir
Museum on Main will host a family event "A Visit With John Muir" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, at Museum on Main, 603 Main St., Pleasanton. Admission is \$5 for museum members, \$10 for non-members. Reservations are required. Call 462-2766.

All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feed
San Ramon Historic Foundation will host an all-you-can-eat Crab Feed including crab, salad, bread and dessert at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3, at Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon. Cost is \$35. Call 828-0586 or 828-9329.

Black History Month
Celebrate Black History Month onboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Hornet Museum with activities all day, Saturday, Feb. 17, at the museum, 707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3, Alameda. Admission is \$14 for adults, \$6 for children; special price of \$20 for a

family of four is being offered this day. Call (510) 521-8448 or visit www.uss-hornet.org.

Black History Program
Diablo Black Men's Group will host a Poetry and Music Black History Program from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 25, at San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. There will be performances, poetry readings, displays, music and refreshments. This event is free. Call Spencer Tyrus at (510) 714-7387.

Complimentary Wine Tasting
AWM Financial Partners will host a complimentary wine tasting of La Rochelle's Pinot Noir from 6-9 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9, at Bella Vino Wine Bar, 3450 Camino Tassajara, Danville. A drawing will be held to benefit the Cardiac Unit in Children's Hospital Oakland. Call 648-1300.

Fifth Annual Youth Music Festival
Pleasanton Civic Arts presents the fifth annual Youth Music Festival at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Newt Walk
Lindsay Wildlife Museum will host a Newt Walk by searching for newts, frogs, lizards and more with a naturalist from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 17, at the museum, 1931 First Ave., Walnut Creek. Cost is \$15 or \$10 for museum members. Call 935-1978.

PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Noelle

Noelle was found wandering in Livermore in January and she is a special needs kitty because she is blind. Noelle is an adult female, gray and white shorthair housecat who needs a quiet, indoor-only home because, in addition to being blind, Noelle is also de-clawed. Noelle enjoys being petted and she has fur as soft as velvet. For more information about Noelle (pet #F67284), visit the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin, open daily 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

Peace Center Membership Meeting
Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center will host a membership meeting with guest speaker Nadia McCaffrey from noon-3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. Please bring food to share. Call 933-7850.

Pleasanton Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival
Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council presents the sixth annual Pleasanton Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, March 31, at Carr America Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton. Cost before March 3 is \$80 for adults, \$25 for teens (13-19), and \$15 for

► Continued on page 22



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youths (4-12); cost after March 3 is \$95 for adults, \$35 for teens and \$20 for youths. Call 931-5350 or visit www.pleasantonarts.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross will host a blood drive from 11:45 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2, at Danville Grange Hall, 745 Diablo Road. Call (800) 448-3543 or visit www.beadonor.com to make an appointment.

Spyro Gyra

Pleasanton Civic Arts presents Spyro Grya - Jazz for all Ages from 8-10:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 16, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Cost is \$25, \$30 or \$35. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civicart-stickets.org.

Exhibits

Anatomy of a Hot Rod

Bedford Gallery presents Anatomy of a Hot Rod, which will run until Feb. 11, at the gallery, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Gallery hours are noon-5 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. Call 295-1417.

Lindsay Wildlife Art Exhibits

Lindsay Wildlife Museum will host a collection of art exhibits including: "Utopian Sunset" created by students at Northgate High School from now until Feb. 11; The Art of Andrew Denman "A Natural Inclination" will be displayed until March 18; Origami Animals by Robert Lang will be dis-

played from Jan. 31-April 29; Birds in Art from Feb. 24-May 5, all at Lindsay Wildlife Museum, 1931 First Ave., Walnut Creek. Call 935-1978 or visit www.wildlife-museum.org.

The Motor Car in Art

Blackhawk Museum presents "The Motor Car in Art" opening Wednesday, Feb. 14, at Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. The museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday. Call 736-2280.

Fundraisers

All You Can Eat Dungenous Crab Feed

San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church will host an All You Can Eat Dungenous Crab Feed at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Wesley Center, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$12 for youth adults (12-18) and children 12 and under are free. Proceeds will benefit local church programs. Call 837-5243.

Crab Feed

Outdoor Adventure Faire will host a Crab Feed at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17, at Charlotte Wood Middle School, 600 El Capitan Drive, Danville. The night will include dinner and silent and live auctions. Music and dancing will be provided by Tom Lucia's band. Cost is \$40. Proceeds will benefit Outdoor Adventure Faire. Call Jim at 820-3874 or Pete at 719-1950.

Hats Off America 10K Red T-Shirt Run

Come run with the Bear Flag Runner at the 10K Red T-Shirt Run at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville. Cost is \$35. Proceeds will benefit Hats Off America. Call 855-1950.

Heart's Desire Luncheon and Fashion Show

California Symphony will host "Heart's Desire Luncheon and Fashion Show" at 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Tickets are \$65. Proceeds will benefit California Symphony's Music-in-the-Schools program. Call 280-2490.

Holidays

Valentine's Day Comedy Show

Johnny Steele and Pals will host a Valentine's Day Comedy Show at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 14, at Village Theater, 233 Front St., Danville. Tickets are \$18. Call 314-3463 or visit www.johnnysteele.com.

Kids & Teens

Art and the Automobile

Blackhawk Museum will host "Art and the Automobile" from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 25, at the museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. This event is free with admission to the museum. Call 736-2277.

Footsteps Support Group

Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa is offering "Footsteps," a support group for children ages 7-18 who have experienced the death of a parent, grandparents, sibling or friend, on Tuesdays from Feb. 27-April 3, at Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. Cost is \$99, but no one is turned away. Call Lee Ann at 887-5678, ext. 1036.

Free Online Tutoring Available

Contra Costa County Library is offering free homework help from expert online tutors to students grade 4-12 and beginning college from 1-10 p.m., Monday-Friday, at <http://ccclib.org>.

She's All That

A seminar called "She's All That" for girls ages 12-14 will be held from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, at Iron Horse Middle School, San Ramon. Cost is \$20, including lunch and materials. To register, visit www.soroptimist-sr.org.

VIP Volleyball Clinics

Town of Danville will host VIP Volleyball Clinics for children ages 8-14 at 5:30 p.m., Saturdays, at Los Cerros Middle School Community Gym, 968 Blemer Road, Danville. Cost is \$55 for residents, \$66 for non-residents. Call 314-3481 or visit www.ci.danville.ca.us.

YMCA Activities

The San Ramon Valley YMCA hosts a number of activities including Adventure Guides/Princesses, Adventure Trailblazers, Youth Basketball, Youth Lacrosse and Youth Soccer for children of all ages. For information, call 831-1100 or visit www.mdrymca.org.

Lectures/ Workshops

Content is King: Writing for the Web

East Bay I.T. Group will host "Content is King: Writing for the Web" from 6:30-9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7, at San Ramon Dublin Water Services Board Room, 7051 Dublin Blvd. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Visit www.ebig.org/events.

Employment and Disability Rights

The Wellness Community will host "Employment and Disability Rights for People With Cancer" from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, at Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton. This event is free, but reservations are required. Call 933-0107.

Historic Lecture Series

San Ramon Historic Foundation and San Ramon Valley Library Foundation will host a Historic Lecture Series of six programs. Each program will start at 7 p.m., Thursdays, at various different locations. The next lecture will be on Early Pioneers on March 16. All programs are free, but donations are accepted. Call 973-3281.

Market Research and the Marketing Plan

Technology Ventures Corp. presents "Market Research and the Marketing Plan" from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 14, at Carr America Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton. This event is free, but reservations are required by calling 960-1600.

Target Your Market

Melinda Solomon, Marketing Manager for Diablo Publications, will present "Target Your Market" at 7:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 9, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silverlake Drive, Danville. Call 866-0100.

Literary Events

First Wednesday Programs

The Friends of the Danville Library and the Kiwanis Club of the San Ramon Valley sponsor First Wednesday programs in the Mt. Diablo Room of the Danville Library, 400 Front St., at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month, October through May, with the exception of January. The next program will be about "Glorious Cotswold Villages" on Feb. 7. The program is free and everyone is welcome to attend. Call 938-7323.

Library Book Discussions

The Book Discussion Group has chosen books for 2007. The discussion group meets at 11 a.m. the second Thursday of every month from September through May at the Mt. Diablo room of the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Everyone is welcome.

Miscellaneous

Adopt a New Best Friend

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR) offers wonderful animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., dogs and cats are available. For dates and times and other information, call TVAR at 803-7043 or visit its Web site at www.tvvar.org.

Blood Drive

Hats Off America will host their second annual American Red Cross Blood Drive from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3, at Toyota Motor Sales, 2451 Bishop Drive, San Ramon. Donor identification is required. For an appointment, call 855-1950 or email thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com.

Host Families Needed

Host families are needed for French Students that will be visiting from Beziers, South of France from Feb. 9-23. Students will have daily activities. For information, contact Kevin at 984-7691 or k.dimler@sbcglobal.net.

Meditation for World Peace

There will be a nondenominational, nonpolitical meditation for world peace at 1:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9, at Diablo Yoga Center, 125 Town And Country Drive, # A, Danville. All are welcome. Call 837-8698.

On Stage

'Incorruptible'

Role Players Ensemble will host the production of "Incorruptible" at 8 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays and at 2 p.m., Sundays, through Feb. 10, at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Tickets are \$18-24. Call 314-3463.

Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.

Civic Arts Education Junior Theatre presents "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23 and at 2 and 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24, at Del Valle Theatre, 1963 Tice Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$11 for seniors and children, \$13 for adults. Call 943-7469.

The Pajama Game

The Belasco Theatre Company is presenting the Pajama Game until Feb. 11 starring many children from Danville and Alamo. The play will start at 8 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays and at 2 p.m., Saturdays-Sundays. Tickets are \$16. All performances are at the Del Valle Theatre, 1963 Tice Valley Road in Walnut Creek, next to Rossmoor.

The Reduced Shakespeare Company

Center REPeratory Company presents The Reduced Shakespeare Company performing "The Complete History of America-Abridged" and "All The Great Books-Abridged" running until March 3, at The Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Call 943-7469.

'The Tale of Cinderella'

Diablo Ballet presents "The Tale of Cinderella" at 8 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 18, at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, 2430

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'The Wizard of Oz'

Monte Vista Theater Arts presents "The Wizard of Oz" at 7 p.m., Wednesday-Friday, Feb. 7-9, at Monte Vista High School Theater, 3131 Stone Valley Road, Danville. Tickets are \$10. Call 552-2878.

Seniors

Laugh Club

Research has shown increased levels of endorphins, neurotransmitters, immune system cells, and decreased levels of stress hormones. This club meets at 10:30 a.m., every Tuesday, at San Ramon Senior Center, 9300 Alcosta Blvd. Cost is \$1 facility use fee and is open to the public. Call Fred Turner at 216-4590.

Prime Time

Join this club for a nondenominational gathering of "seasoned citizens" from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesdays, at the Community Presbyterian Church, 222 W. El Pintado, Danville. A home-cooked lunch is served at noon for \$3. Call Ruth Ann at 820-6387.

Senior Sneaker Trips

Town of Danville will host Senior Sneaker Trips to different attractions throughout the area. For a list of dates, go to the Danville Community Center at 420 Front St., call 314-3400 or visit www.ci.danville.ca.us.

Senior Softball

Town of Danville will start sign-ups for the spring/summer season of Senior Softball beginning Feb. 12. The games will be played Tuesday and Thursday mornings, April 1-Aug. 23, at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville. Cost is \$30 for one day a week, \$40 for two days a week. There will be an all-players meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 22, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Call 413-9757.

Spiritual

Catholics@Work Breakfast Meeting

Catholics@Work will be hosting Chris Lowney at their next breakfast meeting from 6:45-8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 13, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Guest speaker will be Chris Lowney. Cost is \$25 for members, \$32 for non-members. Call 389-0704 or visit www.catholicsatwork.org.

Church Open House

Pathway Community Church will host an Open House starting at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 11, at the church, 3470 Fostoria Way, Danville. Call 830-4722 or visit www.pathwaycommunity-church.org.

Roots of Secular Humanistic Judaism

Tri-Valley Cultral Jews present "The Roots of Secular Humanistic Judaism" at 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23, at Home of Rabbi Judith Seid, 1817 Sinclair Drive, Pleasanton. Bring a dish for eight people to share. Call 485-1049.

Sports

Adult Open Gym Basketball

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

Adult Softball

Adult Softball plays pickup softball at 9:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays year-round. New members welcome. Call Bob Randall at 855-4646 for more information.

Danville Sea Devils Swim Team Registration

Danville Sea Devils Swim Team will be holding new swimmer registration from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, at Danville Station clubhouse, located at the end of Zephyr Circle in Danville Station. Participants should be between 5 and 18 years old. Call 831-8689 or visit www.sea-devils.org.

Danville Tennis Club

The Danville Tennis Club meets 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; and 9-11 a.m., Saturdays for drop-in tennis at San Ramon Valley High School. This free co-ed club provides play for 4.0 to 5.0 and very strong 3.5 level players. See information at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/danvilletennisclub>.

San Ramon Valley Tennis Club

This women's league is year round for both A and B players meeting for practice weekday mornings. Membership is \$30 annually. For information, call Patty at 820-8131 or Laurie at 820-0695.

Spring Co-Ed Sports Season

Town of Danville will start registration for its Spring Co-Ed Sports Season including kickball, softball and bocce ball. Kickball competitive league on Monday nights, April 2-June 4 and recreational league will play Wednesday nights April 4-May 30; bocce ball features leagues Monday-Friday beginning mid-April; Softball will play Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, April 2-June 4. Applications are at www.ci.danville.ca.us. Call Amy at 314-3386.

Sycamore Stingrays Swim Team

The Sycamore Stingrays Swim Team are back for the 2007 season with registration for residents on Monday, Feb. 12; returning families on Thursday, Feb. 15; and open registration on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Call 855-8272 or visit www.sycamorestingrays.com.

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

American Chronic Pain Association

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

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.

Blue Star Moms California

Blue Star Moms is a support group for families of members of the U.S. Armed Forces. It meets at 7 p.m., the second Wednesday of the month, at the Danville Veterans Hall, 400 Hartz Ave. Call Peggy at 866-7035 or Patty at 838-9096 or visit www.bluestarmoms.org.

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.

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.

Man to Man Prostate Cancer

San Ramon Regional Medical Center offers "Man to Man Prostate Cancer Support Group" from 7:30-9 p.m., the second Tuesday of every month, at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, South Building, West Day Room, 7777 Norris Canyon Road. Call 933-0107.

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.

Parkinson's Support Group

The Tri-Valley Parkinson's Network of Mount Diablo provides peer support from 10a.m.-noon, the second Saturday of every month, at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Call Norman at 831-9940 or Jackie at 244-1231.

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 838-8632.

San Ramon Valley Fibromyalgia, Chronic Fatigue and Chronic Pain Support

A new and proactive group for FIBRO, CFS, CFIDS and Chronic Pain meets from 7-9 p.m. every other Monday in Danville. This group is positive, informative that meets to help each other to be better advocates. Call for location and information at 234-5621.

Volunteering

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>.

Bedford Gallery Guild

The Bedford Gallery Guild is looking for volunteers to donate time at the art gallery in the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts. No prior art knowledge required. Contact Susan Helms at 837-0716 or sjhelms1@prodigy.net.

Behind the Ropes and Under the Hoods

Blackhawk Museum is offering a community service opportunity for students in grades 9-11 from mid-February-June. There will be three training sessions to learn about the museum's 80-plus car exhibition, from

3:30-5 p.m., Thursdays, Feb. 15, 22 and March 1 and monthly discussions and update sessions from 3:30-5 p.m., Thursdays, March 15, April 19, May 17 and June 21. For an application, call 736-2277, ext. 238.

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! Call 736-2280, ext. 238.

CCI Volunteer Puppy Raising Program

Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) are looking for special volunteers interested in raising a CCI puppy for 15-18 months and are now accepting applications. For information, call 1-800-572-BARK (2275) or visit www.cci.org.

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.

Diablo Valley Literacy Council

Diablo Valley Literacy Council (DVLC) is looking for volunteers to help non-English speaking adults learn to read, write and speak English. Tutor-training workshops will be held Friday, Feb. 24; Monday, Feb. 27; and Friday, March 3, at DVLC, 4000 Clayton Road, Concord. Cost is \$15 for registration. Call 685-3881.

Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa

This organization is looking for volunteers to help serve in East Contra Costa County. Positions open are: men and women to provide companionship and practical support for terminally ill patients and families, licensed hair stylists and certified massage therapists. Free annual training will begin Jan. 17. Call 887-5678 or e-mail volunteers@hospicecc.org.

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Livermore, 2 BR/2 BA - \$460,000

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Livermore, 3 BR/2 BA - \$250,000

Livermore, 3 BR/2 BA - \$595,000

Livermore, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$615,000

Livermore, 4 BR/2 BA - \$650,000

Livermore, 4 BR/3 BA - \$630,000

Livermore, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$1,257,500

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SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during January 2007

Danville	Alamo	Walnut Creek
Total sales reported: 18	Total sales reported: 2	Total sales reported: 26
Lowest sale reported: \$522,000	Lowest sale reported: \$860,000	Lowest sale reported: \$216,500
Highest sale reported: \$1,355,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,350,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,325,000
Average sales reported: \$955,833	Average sales reported: \$1,150,000	Average sales reported: \$658,288

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

Danville	Alamo	Walnut Creek
2 Anthurium Court Primacy Closing Corporation to R. Roos for \$849,000	1849 Rioja Street Lennar Homes to J. Landa for \$1,043,500	1891 Castle Hill Road Lang Trust to W. & G. Stoll for \$685,000
104 Burton Court G. & M. Richardson to A. & P. Williams for \$850,000	1102 River Rock Lane D. & S. Vandenaeker to F. Bousson for \$812,000	112 Firestone Drive C. Mo to J. & M. Tafur for \$1,065,000
221 Conifer Terrace R. & F. Mitchell to D. Richards for \$1,050,000	2133 Shoshone Circle M. & S. Schwitay to Quattro Trust for \$635,000	5920 Horsemans Canyon Drive #4B Young Trust to Ballock Trust for \$420,000
133 Conway Court Crane Trust to J. Bruno for \$820,000	4032 Skylark Lane Cartus Relocation to B. Kwong for \$522,000	1487 Marchbanks Drive #3 L. & J. Longmire to P. Nunn for \$375,000
1767 Cottswald Street Lennar Homes to J. & C. Erickson for \$1,164,000	445 Winfield Lane C. & K. Chen to R. Wells for \$875,000	41 Miramonte Road P. & L. Morris to A. Hosseini for \$975,000
1783 Cottswald Street Lennar Homes to J. Peng for \$997,500	2031 Danville Boulevard Dicortasso Trust to J. Williams for \$860,000	615 Montezuma Court FPB Holdings to Durkin Trust for \$750,000
191 Cross Bridge Drive Castle Principles to D. & D. Hawksley for \$1,100,000	139 Virginia Court J. & P. Deahl to R. & L. Taylor for \$1,350,000	440 North Civic Drive #306 M. Fields-Kasuba to F. Inaki for \$216,500
340 Durham Court G. & J. Spanuth to A. Meyer for \$1,205,000	1851 2nd Avenue L. Tate to J. Hawk for \$695,000	2530 Oak Road #201 Bridgeport Commons to C. Merendino for \$471,500
367 Glen Arms Drive Group Integrity to T. & B. Scott for \$1,042,000	1850 3rd Avenue R. & K. Wampler to R. & D. Mijango for \$730,000	66 Orchard Estates Drive Spent Trust to Frances Way Partners for \$605,000
153 Lawnview Circle T. Markovitz to J. Carrico for \$585,000	3976 Arbolado Drive T. & M. Oday to J. & L. Marcotte for \$1,325,000	360 Pimlico Drive T. Fu to J. Soltani for \$627,000
2450 Marsanne Street Lennar Homes to J. Zhong for \$1,216,000	3410 Bayberry Drive D. & C. Reed to K. & H. Giannoutsos for \$822,500	2733 Ptarmigan Drive #2 Mcdowell Trust to R. Woodlief for \$635,000
2466 Marsanne Street Lennar Homes to D. & S. White for \$1,355,000	2527 Buena Vista Avenue Schirato Trust to H. & J. Zilkic for \$599,000	1621 Ptarmigan Drive #6C G. Sherman to B. Carlson for \$250,000
1429 Menton Street Lennar Homes to A. Hovsepyan for \$1,084,000	2145 Cactus Court #3 Rock Trust to Lembke Trust for \$380,000	2874 San Antonio Drive M. Swanson to J. & J. Corral for \$745,000
		1533 South Villa Way S. See to M. Derickson for \$410,000

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Danville
WEEKLY

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

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Alamo

4 Bedrooms

3024 Oakraider Dr. \$1,399,000
Sun 1-4 Intero 672-2499
46 Vista Ln. \$1,545,000
Sun 1:30-4 Intero 672-2499

5 Bedrooms

160 Tracy Ln. \$1,499,000
Sun 1-4 Intero 838-5700

Blackhawk

5 Bedrooms

3139 Fox Creek Dr. \$1,449,000
Sun 1-5 Intero 451-7287

Danville

2 Bedrooms

1946 St. George Rd. \$699,000
Sun 1-4 Intero 648-5345

Danville

4 Bedrooms

558 Morninghome Rd. \$1,099,500
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 968-1452
408 Coventry Pl. \$1,099,950
Sun 1-4 Intero 899-9651
11 Jillian Wy. \$1,599,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 648-5342
518 Mission Pl. \$729,500
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel 819-2747

5 Bedrooms

26 Bormio Ct. \$1,250,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 984-1945
124 Victoria Pl. \$2,159,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Intero 785-1386

San Ramon

3 Bedrooms

100 Amaryllis Cir. \$649,900
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 819-2747
168 Valdivia Cir. \$690,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 457-4551

San Ramon

3 Bedrooms

1107 Vista Pointe Cir. \$695,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Intero 855-4128
43 Elmwood Dr. \$724,500
Sat 1:30-4 Alain Pinel 998-9747

4 Bedrooms

4112 Terra Alta Dr. \$1,059,000
Sun 1-4 Intero 681-5165
2332 Millstream Ln. \$699,900
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 209-7498
3375 Camarones Pl. \$749,000
Sun 12-3 Intero 586-5456
64 Foster Dr. \$919,999
Sun 12-2:30 Intero 997-0806
501 Deldrin Ct. \$949,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 838-5700

5 Bedrooms

106 Rodriguez Ct. \$1,355,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 707-333-6640
16 Pine Valley Pl. \$1,399,000
Sat 1:30-4 Intero 487-6211

Dublin

2 Bedrooms

7623 Arbor Creek Cir. \$385,000
Sun 1-4 Intero 683-7709
7787 Chantilly Dr. \$524,500
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 968-1452

5 Bedrooms

6133 Ledgewood Ter. \$1,319,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 997-0842

Livermore

2 Bedrooms

266 Wood St., #405 \$509,000
Sat 1-4 Intero 785-7364

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Westside Alamo Estate! **\$2,699,000**
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Hilltop estate with all the conveniences & charms of downtown Danville! 5bd, 3.5ba, bonus, new carpet & paint, views, expansive parking and storage galore.
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ALAMO

Park-Like Setting on Westside **\$1,649,000**
3bd, 3.5ba, over 3700sf custom with library off master and a very private separate studio and great RV parking and elevator.
Julie Whitmer **925.997.5120**



ALAMO

Private Setting **\$1,499,000**
Roundhill estate with 5bd, 3ba, 3621+/-sf, new carpet/paint throughout. Cozy kitchen, inviting family room w/French door entry. Multi-level deck..
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Gorgeous Pool & Spa-Just Listed **\$1,449,000**
Sunshine fills this spacious & highly upgraded estate. 3500+/-sf of luxurious living space. 5bd, 3.5ba, gourmet kitchen, soaring ceilings, wood floors.
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Feels Like Tahoe! **\$1,286,000**
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DANVILLE

Upgraded To Perfection! **\$1,189,000**
5bd, 3ba, marble flooring, granite/stainless kitchen. Backs to open space w/spectacular views. Tour@www.JulieLongTeam.com
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SIX Bedrooms! **\$1,099,000**
6bd, 3ba, gorgeous remodeled kitchen and baths. Gleaming hardwood floors, Tuscan touches. Newer roof, dual pane windows. Huge back yard.
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