

Horses and kids help each other

Show will raise money for SonRise Equestrian

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Assembly race starts for 2008

Buchanan, Filson,
Thomas toss hats
in the ring

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Danville

W E E K L Y

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Goat crash hits home

Danville woman
questions how
accident was handled

> page 5

Helping to heal

Sports injury leads Danville man
into physical therapy profession

page 14



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Streetwise

ASKED AT PEET'S COFFEE & TEA ON RAILROAD AVENUE IN DANVILLE

Q: Do you agree with President Bush commuting Scooter Libby's 30-month prison sentence for perjury and obstruction of justice?



No, I don't because he should be treated like every other citizen. He should be subject to the laws like everyone. Our system is an oligarchy. It's by the rich and for the rich. That's what our nation is come to. We are lacking leadership.

Frank Courdisco
entrepreneur



He took the fall for (Vice President Richard) Cheney. That's my opinion. Take it or leave it.

Mary Orman
retired



Yes, there was no crime committed and Libby was a victim of an overzealous prosecutor. The prosecutor knew about the leaker before he prosecuted him.

Bill Hunter
retired employee from Johnson and Johnson



I disagree with it. It's just not fair. What happened to the old America: for the people and by the people. I don't see that anymore. It's all about big interests. Corporate interests and whoever has the most money. If people don't wake up, it's going to continuously get worse and worse.

David Miller
marketing



I think he did it in good conscience because he was his friend. However, legally, he is out to lunch.

Eunice Wilson
preschool teacher

compiled by Danville Weekly staff

ABOUT THE COVER

Eric Sargent, co-owner of Diablo Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine in Danville, helps patient Launa Parnas recover from an injury. Photo by Jordan M. Dronila. Cover design by Lili Cao.

Vol. III, Number 11

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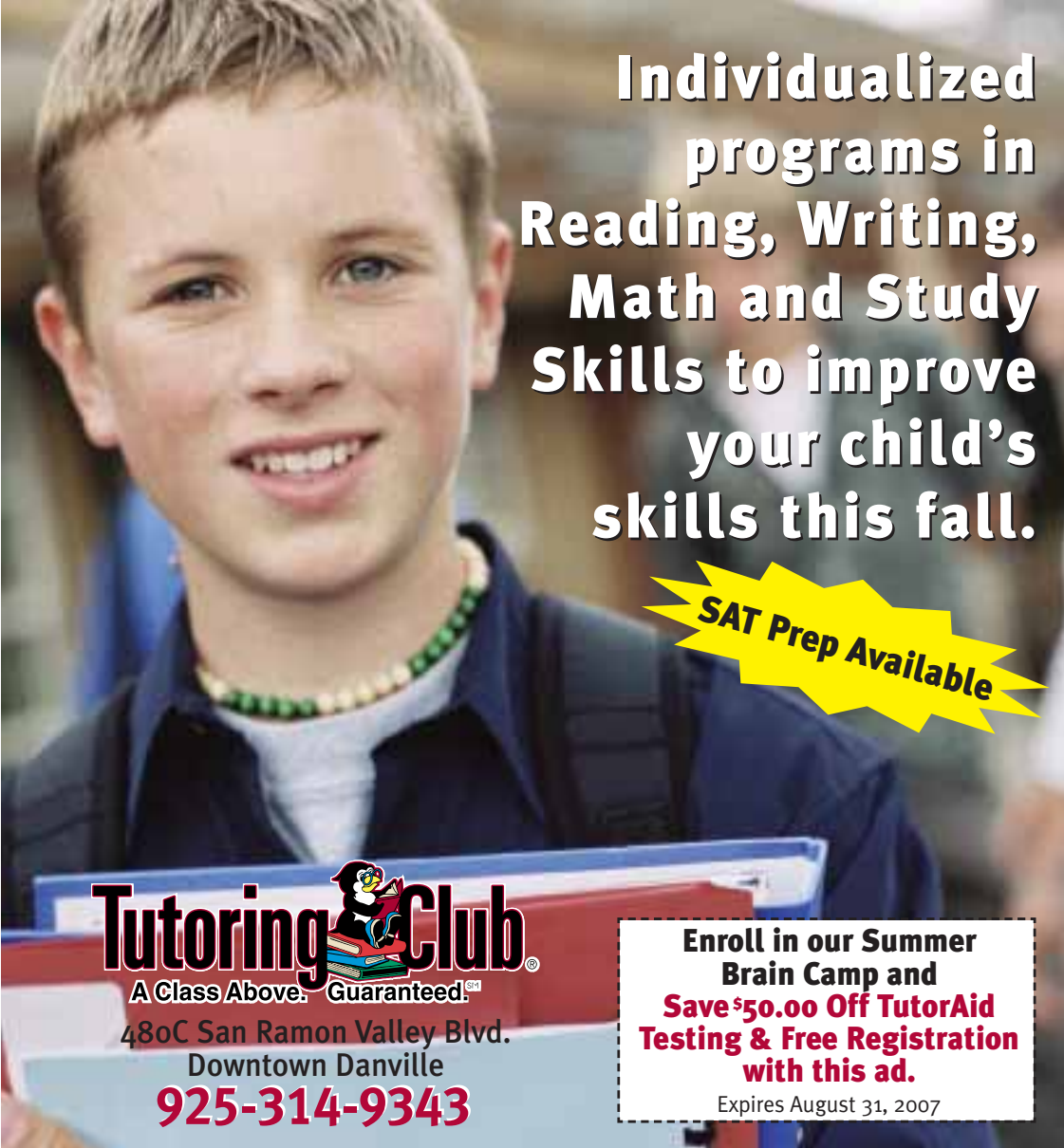
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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ She stuck by me
and kept me laughing. ”

—Stacey Hartmann about her comedian friend Charleen Earley when Stacey was diagnosed with ovarian cancer.
See story, page 7.

Iron Horse Trail closing for repairs

The East Bay Regional Park District is closing a 0.7-mile section of the Iron Horse Trail between Prospect Avenue and Del Amigo Road to remove the trail, treat the subsurface layer, and lay new asphalt. The rehabilitation project also includes a 750-foot section between Hartz Avenue and Sycamore Valley Road, and will hopefully prevent cracks in the future.

Fencing was to be erected Wednesday and the trail is scheduled to be closed until Aug. 7. All streets and parking lots will remain open. The work is being done by Grade Tech Inc. of Castro Valley.

Tell police when you vacation

The Danville Police Department urges residents to inform them when they leave their homes vacant while going on vacation so the police can do routine checks to make sure everything is all right. The town Web site has an online form to fill out, which should be submitted at least three days before departure.

The form asks questions such as departure and return dates, emergency contact information, rooms where lights will be left on, vehicles, alarms, dogs and any service vehicles expected. For more information, call the Police Department at 314-3410.

Cuddly companions for free

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation is waiving adoption fees on all adult cats until July 22. ARF is a no-kill shelter dedicated to bringing people and animals together. To see a list of cats available, visit www.arf.net, or go in person to the ARF facility at 2890 Mitchell Drive in Walnut Creek. For more information, call 296-3150.



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Buchanan declares she's running for state Assembly

School board member makes announcement at Fourth of July Parade

by Jordan M. Doronila

School Trustee Joan Buchanan declared her intention to run in the Democratic primary for California Assembly District 15 as she marched in the Danville Fourth of July Parade with followers who carried signs reading, "Joan for Assembly 2008." She walked behind the San Ramon Valley Democrats, at their invitation.

"I care very deeply about people," said Buchanan, 54, an Alamo resident. "I know government can make a difference."

The 15th District covers Danville, Alamo, Livermore, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Brentwood, Discovery Bay and part of Pleasanton.

Assemblyman Guy Houston, who represents District 15, will be termed out in 2008.

Buchanan has been on the San Ramon Valley Unified School Board of Education for more than 16 years. She has helped the school district recover from financial woes, expand its schools, and improve its academic curriculum.

Continuing to be a strong voice for children in schools, alleviating traffic, lessening global warming and improving healthcare are her main goals, said Buchanan. Her experience as a trustee will help her improve the quality of life for residents in Contra Costa County, she said.

"I can go and really do a good job and make a difference for all people in the 15th District," she said.

Former Danville airline pilot

► Continued on page 9



School Trustee Joan Buchanan (left) and supporters march in the Fourth of July Parade and declare her intention to run to represent state Assembly District 15.

Store to replace park

Planners OK project

by Jordan M. Doronila

The Danville Planning Commission gave its OK for a developer to build a small retail outlet on his property, which contains a popular mini park and restaurant on Hartz Avenue in Danville.

The commissioners unanimously approved Ryota Sugitani's proposal to build a 2,328-square-foot, one-story retail outlet on a flat .27-acre parcel on the northeast corner of Hartz Avenue and Church Street, adjacent to Bridges restaurant.

"I think it blends in with the environment," said Commissioner Robert Storer, at the commission meeting Tuesday evening.

Sugitani said he wanted to develop his property because he was paying high taxes on it. He noted that he wanted to be part of Danville's vision to have the downtown filled with small, local businesses.

"I'm a big supporter of small businesses," said Sugitani, who also owns the Amber Bistro property on Hartz. "You can call me anti-corporate."

Town staff said the proposal is visually compatible with its surroundings and maintains a pedestrian-friendly design, which includes ample landscaping and seating on



This private park in front of Bridges restaurant was OK'd for development.

the corner of Church and Hartz.

"I'm always impressed with the level of detail," said Commissioner Robert Combs, who also sits on Danville's Design Review Board.

However, not all were pleased to see the park sacrificed for development. Beverly Lane, a board member of the East Bay Regional Park District and former town councilwoman, said it is important to keep green space in urban areas and that she enjoys Sugitani's park.

"It's been a wonderful amenity for the town for at least 20 years," Lane said. "It provides something that no other community provides."

Seven pear trees on the north side of the site will be removed to erect the retail outlet. Town staff said there are no protected trees on the site and removing the pear trees would increase growing space for the trees on the street.

► Continued on page 6

Did goats need to die?

Family questions handling of goat crash in San Rafael

by Natalie O'Neill

A distraught Danville woman and her family are questioning the San Rafael Police Department's decision to keep hundreds of goats pent up in a semi-truck after it tipped over last week.

Two-hundred and forty-three goats died in the accident Friday, July 6. Most of them suffocated unnecessarily from being shut inside the vehicle after it overturned, said Laura Vaughn, a Danville resident.

"It's an unnecessary loss. It could have been prevented," said Vaughn, who helps out at her mother's Orinda-based family business, Goats R Us.

The big rig was transporting about 400 of the company's animals—including some herding dogs—to Mill Valley when it toppled over on Kerner Boulevard, a road removed from the freeway in San Rafael. Some of the goats were crushed on impact by a four-tier metal shelving unit and many were trampled and smothered by other goats.

"It was the most horrible thing I've ever seen," said owner Terri Oyarzun, Vaughn's mother. "They are all my babies—they each have their own personality."

Officers who arrived on the scene felt securing the vehicle and

not allowing goats to flee the truck was the best public safety decision, said Margo Rohrbacher, San Rafael Police Department spokeswoman.

"The goats were running into traffic and could have caused a safety problem for traffic and themselves," she said.

But the accident occurred in an industrial area of San Rafael, with nearby parking lots and the goats were not a traffic threat, Vaughn and Oyarzun said.

The herding dogs could have easily kept the goats under control, she explained. When Oyarzun tried to tell this to the police, they were not receptive, she recalled.

"It's absurd. They should have been released immediately," she said.

The goats, which were used for weed abatement and sometimes nibbled on Danville hillsides, could be heard screaming in the minutes after the crash.

In an attempt to help remove the remaining goats from the trailer, a bystander suffered head injuries from being struck by a metal door. This was also a concern for the police, Rohrbacher said.

"This was all happening simultaneously," she explained.

Police arrived about five minutes after the crash, followed by the fire department, public works and the Humane Society. Humane Society workers backed their vehicle up

► Continued on page 7



Owner of Goats R Us, Terri Oyarzun, is emotionally attached to her goats, which has made last week's accident devastating for her.

When police arrived they noticed the vehicle was leaking fluid, that several goats were roaming free in nearby streets—and officers needed to first make sure the humans were OK, Rohrbacher said.

Park

► Continued from page 5

The development will have a smaller park space and a seating area available to the public when construction is finished.

"It's always a shame when we

lose a park. But the material they gave us that they are using is phenomenal," Storer said.

Sugitani hails from Osaka, Japan. He immigrated to Danville and studied at Athenian School in 1985. His father, Kazuo, bought the property in Danville and built the restaurant and the park. After fin-

ishing high school, Ryota Sugitani studied at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore. He currently lives in Eugene with his wife and son.

The Sugitanis ran the restaurant, with Ryota taking over his father's business in 1995. He sold Bridges to Randy Negi, the current owner, in 2004. ■

Mayor hosts congressman, super speller

Danville Mayor Mike Shimansky hosted U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D., 11th) at his monthly breakfast at Father Nature's last Friday so he could present him with a new Panama hat after he left his old one in Danville while having dinner here recently.

Another special guest was 2007 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion Evan O'Dorney. Evan's first love is mathematics, he has said, and since McNerney has a Ph.D. in differential geometry, the two discussed this interest.

McNerney noted that young people in America need to be inspired to create ways to make buildings more efficient to be able to face the challenges in climate change.

The informal breakfast is a chance for any resident to talk to the mayor and town staff. On this morning, Shimansky encouraged folks to talk to their congressman.

One man expressed his concern about medical care in the United States, stating his opinion that doctors should not be able to get rich at the expense of sick people.

"You'd be surprised to know how often I'm asked this question," McNerney responded. "I think in 2009 we will have a chance for a major overhaul."

When asked, McNerney said his

No. 1 priority, short-term, is to end the war in Iraq. His second priority is to improve education.

"The way America invests in education is part of my job," he said.

Someone else asked about the Veterans Affairs facility in Livermore, which has included a hospital, a clinic and a nursing home.

"Veterans need more services," said McNerney. He envisions the scenic 113-acre campus on Arroyo Road in Livermore serving as a place for veterans who have served in war zones to spend a month or so before transitioning back into the general population.

"Some are going to need care for the rest of their lives," he said. "We are going to need to provide that."

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D., 11th) and Danville Mayor Mike Shimansky talk to spelling bee champ Evan O'Dorney at the mayor's informal coffee last Friday morning.

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Goats

► Continued from page 5

against the big rig and managed to transfer and save 157 goats.

The Humane Society workers were the heroes of the day, Vaughn said.

Oyarzun has years of experience with livestock and knew far more about farm animals than the police on scene, Vaughn said.

Taking this into account, the family says the police department should have listened to her suggestion to free the goats. Instead, an emotional Oyarzun was restrained by police, after attempting to find her driver in the chaotic scene.

Vaughn speculated that over 200 of the goats that died could have been saved, had the doors been opened.

"Nowhere near 243 would have been killed," she said. "If they thought vehicles would hit them, they should have shut down the road."

San Rafael Police Department officials, however, said most of the goats died within the first five minutes—before they arrived.

The department, which largely patrols the urban and suburban area of Marin County, very rarely comes in contact with livestock cases, said Rohrbacher. When things like this do happen, officers have to make quick judgment calls on a case-by-case basis, she said.

Goats R Us still maintains 6,500 goats and it suffered about \$36,400 in losses from the goats who were

killed. Oyarzun, who bottle-fed some of the animals when they were babies and has even kept beloved older goats on oxygen tanks, said the loss was far more emotional than financial.

"It's not about the money," she said. "I would have paid five times as much not to have it happen."

The vehicle was operated by a 62-year-old driver with a valid commercial driver's license. The cause of the accident is now under investigation by the San Rafael Police Department and should be closed by next week. According to the police, speed was a likely factor.

Vaughn, on the other hand, says this particular driver was notorious for driving too slowly if anything. She suspects a blown tire and the shifting of the goats' weight played a role.

In moving vehicles, goats become fearful when their standing position is disturbed or their footing becomes unstable. When transporting livestock, it's recommended that drivers accelerate slowly and smoothly, plan for necessary braking, and drive cautiously around approaching road bumps.

In the days since the accident, Vaughn and her mother say they have received a warm outpouring of support from Danville residents and concerned animal lovers across the East Bay.

The family has received donations and plans to start a foundation called "243," in remembrance of the goats that died. ■

Laughter helps in more ways than one

Comedy show tomorrow to raise money to fight cancer

by Natalie O'Neill

Microphone in hand, in front of an audience of 300, writer and comedian Charleen Earley was poking fun at herself.

"I lost 37 pounds last year," she said in a tone that had her audience believing she was about to reveal a personal triumph. The crowd, made up largely of women, kindly applauded her.

"But I found them this year," she joked. "They were hiding at the Macaroni Grill."

Earley, who co-founded a comedy night to benefit the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition with Danville's Stacey Hartmann, will perform tomorrow night, July 14, at the Dean Leshner Center for the Arts.

Local celebrity comedian Brian Copeland, widely known for his act "Not a Genuine Black Man," the longest running one-man show at San Francisco's Marsh Theater, will keep the laughter rolling along with radio and television personality Chicago Steve Barkley, said Hartmann.

Cancer, of course, is the farthest thing from funny. But that doesn't mean fundraising for it can't be.

"Laughter's good for you," said Hartmann, a survivor of ovarian cancer. "A sense of humor is so



Comedians (l-r) Charlie B. Earley, Nora Lavelle, Grace White and Johnny Steele hang out backstage with event organizer Stacey Hartmann at their last show at Danville's Village Theatre.

vital to getting through life."

"Comedy is escapism; you get to leave your troubles behind for a night," Earley added.

The goal in rounding up the comedy was to get a variety of styles to cover a wide range of preferences, Hartmann said. Comedic subjects will range from race and class to parenthood and being single.

"We know everybody's taste in comedy is different," said Hartmann.

Hartmann and Earley have been putting together the comedy night for cancer for the last seven years to raise money for the San Francisco chapter of National Ovarian Cancer Coalition. Last year, the duo had to transfer the event from the Danville's Village Theatre to the larger Walnut Creek venue because of its growing popularity.

"We've been astonished at

the success of the show," said Hartmann, who is the Town of Danville's media specialist.

Earley will host the show and kick off the performance this year with a brief standup routine. Like so many comedians, she is hesitant to put a label on her style of comedy. But coming from a Latino background, working as a reporter, and living life as a single mother lends her a lot of material, she said.

"She's sweet and feminine and she pokes fun at her Mexican heritage," Hartmann explained.

While the event's popularity is expanding, the comedy night for cancer, now a smash hit in the East Bay, wasn't always such a success. The first show in 2001 was essentially a flop, Hartmann

► Continued on page 9

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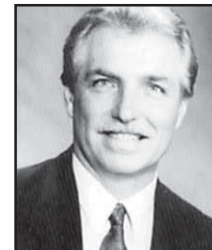
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Assembly

► Continued from page 5

Steve Filson, 60, also declared his desire to become Assemblyman at last week's parade. He ran in the Democratic primaries for the 11th Congressional seat for a chance to defeat Republican incumbent Richard Pombo in 2006, and was supported by U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher. However, Jerry McNerney won the Democratic primary and went on to win the Congressional seat in November 2006.

Filson has worked as a pilot, flight operations manager, health insurance consultant and a precinct volunteer. He said his managerial experience, negotiating expertise and insight in the health industry would make him an effective lawmaker in Sacramento.

"I feel I have very good management skills and background that makes me very effective," Filson said. "I'm a very good mediator and I can build consensus."

He said his goals include creating better healthcare, prison reform and efficient and safer transportation. He also said protecting the environment is one of his objectives.

Danville electrician Stevan Thomas, 54, will run in the Democratic primary for Assembly, too. He also ran in the primaries last year to unseat Pombo.

He said people need to be concerned about the state of the U.S. economy and its relation to California and water and the environment. He said he supports local farm growth to cut back on burning



Steve Filson

oil and other wasteful excesses.

"We face a lot of big issues," he said.

Thomas hails from Toledo, Ohio, and moved to California when he was 9. He lived in San Francisco, Alameda and Oakland before moving to Danville. He said his mother, Terry Pimsleur, started the Danville Arts Fair as well as the Art and Pumpkin Festival in Half Moon Bay. He decided to run because he was displeased with the current condition of the United States.

"The country was headed in absolutely the wrong direction," he said.

"(My concerns are) the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the middle class." ■

Contact Jordan M. Doronila at jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com

Comedy

► Continued from page 7

remembered.

The act was set up at Los Positas College, where construction kept ticket buyers from finding the theater. Only about 30 people showed up.

"People had a hard time getting there. The room wasn't big enough and the lighting was poor," Hartmann recalled.

Since then, the acts has gotten progressively better, Hartmann said. And last year the event raised \$5,000 to fund distributing information at fairs

and to pay for programs in the Bay Area.

"Every year I'm convinced I have the best year ever, then Charleen pulls in more talented comedians through her charming personality," Hartmann said.

Seven years ago, when Hartmann was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, she and Earley, a freelance writer, were just acquaintances working for the same magazine. They got closer after her diagnosis and Hartmann remembers that Earley helped keep her spirits up when she was going through rehabilitation.

"She stuck by me and kept me laughing," she said.

"Comedy cures," Earley said, noting studies that show laughter creates endorphins, a biochemical compound that produces a sense of well being.

To catch ovarian cancer in its early stages, women should be aware of bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, and urgent or frequent urination. Funds this year will go to distributing educational and preventative materials.

Tickets to the comedy event are \$35; call 943-SHOW (943-7469). ■

TAKE US ALONG



Danville Weekly at dinner

Longtime Danville residents Marcia and Bob Nichols brought the Danville Weekly aboard Holland America's newest ship, "Noordam," which included a stop at Valletta, Malta, on their vacation in September 2006.

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EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

A shrinking garden

Danville has been fortunate to have a lovely garden to enjoy on Hartz Avenue at Church Street, right in front of Bridges restaurant. In 1989, when Kazuo Sugitani brought his 16-year-old son, Ryota, from Kobe, Japan, to attend Athenian School, he fell in love with Danville, so the story goes. He opened Bridges, a restaurant that fuses Japanese food and atmosphere with that of Northern California, which Ryota Sugitani ran until a few years ago. And, to give something more to the residents, Kazuo Sugitani also created an island of serenity for everyone to enjoy, a peaceful garden on Hartz Avenue next to the sign for Bridges.

This tranquil spot has a path with trees, two benches and an arbor to provide shade on warm Danville days, plus a post in the back that reads: "May peace prevail on earth." Those who have not had the opportunity to stop and relax under the arbor still have been able to enjoy the lovely little park as they pass by or use the path as a shortcut between Front Street and Hartz.

Now this mini-park will probably be undergoing a change. The Planning Commission this week approved an application to build a 2,300-square-foot retail building on the .27-acre parcel, which goes along with the town's idea to encourage retail businesses on Hartz Avenue. The new plans include a landscaped area on Church Avenue, which serves as the entrance to Bridges, and the plans designate a spot that could be used for seating in the smaller garden area.

We are sorry to see an end to this island of serenity on Hartz Avenue but we are grateful for the years of enjoyment it has provided. And we hope if the plan goes through to transform the private park to a business, that seating indeed will be included in the landscaping so it can remain a place to sit and rest in the shade.

Kazuo Sugitani created an island of serenity for everyone to enjoy. ... Now we hear this mini-park will be undergoing a change.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

School busing essential

Dear Editor:

My family and I moved here from the East Coast five months ago and I was surprised I needed to buy a school bus pass for my oldest son who attends Monte Vista High. In Maine, the bus was provided by the school district but I understand California has some school funding issues and the population is much larger, so I said "OK." Now, it is to be taken away completely. That I do not understand.

You mentioned that many students did not take advantage of the bus service, but you neglected to mention that quite often there was no room on the bus. This happened mostly on the return trip so I began to pick up my son, which was a whole new experience in traffic control or lack of it. The parking lot had a lot of teens anxious to leave and a lot of anxious parents sitting in a backed up parking lot. I was yelled at by a parent and a student at the same time both telling me to move my car in different directions. The student told me to move my car or he would just hit me. Not a pleasant experience.

Also, traffic trying to leave the schools creates a moving parking lot along Green Valley road. By ending school busing, the district is creating more traffic issues, parking problems as more students drive themselves to school, safety issues particularly with the younger kids, and a bigger pollution problem with the added cars on the road.

I do not claim to have an answer to this, but maybe there is funding somewhere to keep school busing

alive in the district. I do believe it should be viewed as an essential part of the school district's budget.

Kathy Hepner, Danville

All spots reserved early for parade

Dear Editor:

Regarding the 4th of July parade: According to the rules posted by the Danville Police Department, no one is allowed to leave chairs out in their spots until 6 p.m. July 3. Last year, arriving around 5:30 p.m. with chairs in hand, I quickly saw that the way around that rule was to stake your spot at any convenient time in the afternoon and to just cop a squat and stay with your stuff until 6 p.m. Last year my mom, my husband and my son and baby were squeezed into a spot in the hot sunshine because of this.

This year I was determined not to have a repeat of that. So, armed with my stuff I met my mom in town around 4 p.m., prepared with a cold drink and a book to read while we waited. Imagine our surprise and dismay to find that all along the entirety of Hartz Avenue there was chalk and tape marking spots that people had decided to save early that morning. Almost everyone I spoke to was upset about this, but no one did anything because no one wants to be the one to plop their stuff on top of someone else's name only to have a confrontation.

This is a celebration of our great country, and on a smaller scale, our great town of Danville. Let's show what good friends and neighbors we can be next year!

Mickie Ford, Danville

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.

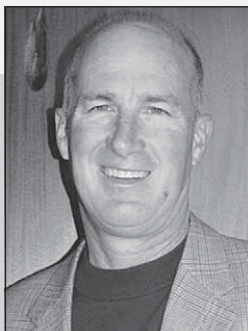
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Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

On the FasTrak



I've never considered myself to be on the fast track anywhere—slow and easy does it for me. But FasTrak, the system that collects tolls electronically to cross the Bay Area bridges? I'm a convert.

We have wonderful restaurants here, and entertainment, but occasionally San Francisco calls to us. Perhaps it's the ocean. Or the Bay, and the sight of the Golden Gate Bridge. We like to drive up to Benicia occasionally, too, or the wine country. But any of these short trips can turn into a headache if there is bridge backup. I don't recall having this problem when we lived in Albuquerque. It's a Bay Area phenomenon.

A few months ago we drove into the city with some friends on a beautiful late Sunday morning, leaving their Walnut Creek home at the same time their daughter did, who was returning to her apartment in the Marina district. She arrived more than an hour before us—because she had FasTrak. We had been stalled at the bridge approach forever waiting to pay our toll. I'd vaguely been noticing the FasTrak lanes for awhile, but that day the light bulb finally went on: Go FasTrak.

We looked up the information on the Internet and the next day my husband went to Safeway to sign up. You prepay the tolls and in return receive a transponder to put inside your car. Then when you drive through the FasTrak toll plaza, an overhead antenna reads your transponder and collects the toll. I was very excited to have my own transponder; I've wanted one ever since I saw "Star Trek." A toll fare display tells FasTrak users whether

their account is OK or running low.

A camera is also there to record drivers who have not prepaid their

I'd vaguely been noticing the FasTrak lanes for awhile, but that day the light bulb finally went on: Go FasTrak.

tolls. Within 21 days, a violation notice is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle—so be careful who you loan your car to. The owner is asked for the toll amount plus a \$25 penalty fee. You can ignore the notice but the second notice adds a \$45 late fee to equal \$70. Then it gets serious. The matter is referred to a collections agency and/or the DMV won't let you register your vehicle. But I'm sure all of us would pay the fee long before it gets to this point, right?

When our son lived in San Francisco for a few years after he graduated from college, we would go in about once a month to have dinner with him. After an enjoyable few hours, we would come home to go to bed and he would begin his real social life. The worst part—besides finding a place to park near his apartment—was the long wait at the bridge toll booth but FasTrak

was still in the planning stages.

For FasTrak's first few years of operation, officials tried to make it equally convenient for drivers who still chose to hand money to an actual toll-taking person. But this is changing. FasTrak is converting cash lanes to FasTrak lanes, clustering them together for easier access, and extending the approaches to make it easier for FasTrakers to zoom past those who aren't taking advantage of the system. When the Bay Bridge closes over Labor Day weekend, a fifth FasTrak-only lane will be added, and the approach will be increased from 600 feet to 2,600—that's almost a mile. Also better signage and pavement markings will help drivers get into the FasTrak lanes more easily. It's estimated that FasTrak lanes move vehicles through three times as quickly as cash lanes.

The Bay Area Toll Authority reports that 25 percent of drivers on the seven state-owned Bay Area bridges used FasTrak during the first quarter of 2002 after it began in 2001; now users are up to 48 percent but the goal is 70 percent. The Golden Gate Bridge's electronic tolls are run by another agency.

I've known people who have performed a random act of kindness by paying the toll for the car behind them when they pay their own toll. This may be a thing of the past. But there are other ways to be kind—and only a few ways to get into San Francisco.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli
can be e-mailed at
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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

POLICE BULLETIN

Danville man, 18, charged with battering ex-girlfriend

Police arrested an 18-year-old man last week on charges of battery for allegedly striking his ex-girlfriend multiple times, in a neighborhood east of I-680 in Danville, said Police Sgt. Troy Craig.

The suspect smacked his 17-year-old ex-girlfriend with a closed fist and knocked her to the ground at 2:30 a.m., Thursday, July 5, according to police reports. He also took her cell phone away and blocked the doorway so she could not get help.

Craig said she managed to calm down her ex-boyfriend and convinced him to let her leave and her father picked her up. She reported the incident

to the police between 9:30 and 10 a.m.

"It was a cold incident once we received the information," Craig said.

The police contacted and arrested the suspect on charges of battery and took him to the Martinez Detention Facility. Craig said the victim told police he was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident.

Craig noted the ex-couple has a history of problems.

"People are always hopeful in relationships like this that they can get back together again," he said. "But they have to listen to themselves and people who know the situations and stay away from them."

"It's only likely to get worse," he added.

—Jordan M. Doronila

OBITUARIES

Marianna Ruth Pierson



Marianna (Marney) Ruth Pierson passed away June 20 to be reunited with her husband of 69 years, Charles.

She was born in 1919 in Dayton, Ohio. Her love for animals started with training horses to be trotters. In 1930, she began training Dogs for the Blind as well as Military Rescue Dogs. She married Charles Pierson in 1938, and they moved to San Diego in 1939. She started the "Palomares Collie Club" where she bred and showed collies.

In 1974, the family moved to Danville, where they started board-

ing kennels for dogs, Charomalee Kennels, which has served the community for 33 years and will continue.

She was the mother of 11 children, nine of them adopted: Ronald Pierson, Judy, Shelley Keesling, Scott Langly, Marie Pierson, brother and sister Freddie and Liz, Kim Montano, Kevin Pierson, Tracy Pierson and Eric Pierson. She is also survived by her brother, Walt Shelley; and 17 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

POLICE LOG

The Danville Police Department made the following information available from its incident summary report:

Tuesday, July 3

- Unwanted guest disturbance, arrest, on Serene Ct. at 6:04 p.m.
- Drugs violation on Contada Cir. and Ynez Cir. at 9:14 p.m.

Wednesday, July 4

- Accident, major injuries, on Brookside Dr. and Zephyr Cir. at 1:37 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Sheri Ln. at 6:20 a.m.

- Petty theft from vehicle on Lasata Ct. at 7:44 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Danville Blvd. and Del Amigo Rd. at 1:17 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on 3400 block of Camino Tassajara at 2:29 p.m.
- Trespassing on Brush Creek Pl. at 3:28 p.m.

- Petty theft on Danville Blvd. and Hartz Ave. at 3:47 p.m.
- Vandalism on Lawrence Rd. at 3:57 p.m.
- Police answered 30 calls about fire-works disturbances from 4:43

p.m. until 2:07 a.m. July 5 at various locations

- Auto burglary on Westfield Cir. at 7:01 p.m.
- Trespassing on Long View Ct. at 8:27 p.m.
- Hailed by citizen, arrest, on La Gonda Way at 10:19 p.m.

Thursday, July 5

- Defrauding innkeeper on Camino Ramon at 7:54 a.m.
- Vandalism on Railroad Ave. at 9:04 a.m.
- Battery, arrest, on El Sobrante Dr. at 9:27 a.m.

- Petty theft on Esther Ln. at 10:05 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Crow Canyon Rd. at 12:51 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Danville Blvd. and El Cerro Blvd. at 1:11 p.m.
- Court order violation on Diablo Rd. and Hartz Ave. at 8:15 p.m.

Friday, July 6

- Auto burglary on Camino Amigo at 6:47 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 7:33 a.m.

- Vandalism on Ridgeland Cir. at 7:54 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Hill Meadow Dr. at 8:13 a.m.
- Vandalism on Ridgeland Cir. at 8:32 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Dunhill Dr. at 11:40 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and northbound I-680 at 11:50 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Del Amigo Rd. and Marian Ln. at 3:54 p.m.

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Red Sox prevail in majors

The Red Sox won the San Ramon Valley Little League majors championship, the first team in more than 10 years to be seeded first place entering the playoff game and then to go ahead and win. Team members are (back, l-r) Paul Chahin, Manager, David Riopelle, Jimmy Haberman, Spencer Chahin, Alex Riley, Jack Chabolla, Nic Ertz, Coach Mark Haberman; (front) Dominick Rettig, Jack Clayton, Ryan Wood, Steven Primasing, Sam Berg and Sam Scheffler. Not pictured: Coach Doug Ertz

Patriots are champs

The Patriots, placing second in the San Ramon Valley Girls Athletic League, won the Championship game, 3-1, on June 7 for 10 Red division against the 1st place team, Blaze, at Montair Elementary School. Patriots team members are (back, l-r) Coach Rick Strand, Alexis Baillie, Rachel Potter, Stephanie Aurelius, Coach Dave Potter; (front) Kelly Wright, Kelly Strand, Elizabeth Bardos, Alexander Wertz, Leah Fournier, Tiffani Chole and Sarah Noble. Not pictured: Mindee Marek and Marissa Stewart.



Something to hoot about

Danville team tops in Western baseball tournament

The Danville HOOTS Baseball Team won the 19th annual Josh Anderson Sierra Nevada Tournament held June 22-27 at the University of Nevada Reno.



The Danville HOOTS Baseball Team won the 19th annual Josh Anderson Sierra Nevada Tournament, with competition from 12 of the top teams in the Western United States.

The tournament is host to 12 of the top teams in the Western United States and is represented by teams from Oklahoma, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho and Nevada.

The HOOTS defeated Chaffey Baseball Club of Seattle, Wash., 3-2 in eighth innings in the championship game for the second year in a row and repeated as tournament champions from 2006.

The game saw outstanding HOOTS pitching by Kenny Arnerich and Robbie LeClair. The HOOTS trailed 2-1 in the bottom of the eighth inning, and the game was won by a line drive double from Ryan Lucas to score two runs for a walk off victory and the championship.

The team completed pool play with a record of 3-1 and went on to the medal round competition and won all three games to finish the tournament with an overall record of 6-1.

The HOOTS players comprise the top baseball talent from local high schools and are a who's who of All League Players from the EBAL and the DFAL. Several HOOTS players were selected to the ALL Tournament Team.

Nick Ousman of Campolindo High won Most Valuable Pitcher; Steve Cunha of Monte Vista was All Tournament Infield; Bryce Miller, Amador High, was All Tournament Offense; Brad Jones, De La Salle, and Ryan Lucas, San Ramon Valley, were All Tournament Outfield.

The team went on to Atlanta, Ga., to the National Wood Bat Championship held at East Cobb Baseball Complex where they competed as one of the top amateur teams in the nation. ■

E-mail photos to Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com.

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Helping to heal

Sports injury leads Danville man into physical therapy profession



Physical therapist Geoffrey Lew works on a patient's shoulder area at Diablo Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine.

story and photos by Jordan M. Doronila

Small and intimate works best for healing. This is how Eric Sargent likes to keep his sports injury business in Danville.

Sargent, 40, believes relationships and trust make his and John Barman's Diablo Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine on Diablo Road an oasis where injured patients can rejuvenate.

Knowing how an injury breaks down makes it easier "putting them back together," he said. "A lot of our patients are pretty happy."

In the clinic, patients rest against the wall reading magazines and joking with the staff while undergoing treatments. Around the airy room, therapists work with patients, leading them in strengthening exercises.

"We build trust and rapport," Sargent said. "We try to get them to drop their walls. Sometimes it feels like 'Cheers.'"

Diablo Physical Therapy opened in February 2000 and aims to provide care to patients with bio-mechanical injuries. Many of their clients are referred by physicians in the Bay Area, he said. Creating one-on-one relationships and tailoring personal healing programs with their clients are essential in their services, he noted.

"That doesn't happen anymore," Sargent said. "Everything is in a hurry. Listening is huge."

The clinic's healing philosophy involves understanding the biology of an injury, providing physical techniques so

an injured muscle can work again, and tailoring an individual program for each patient.

"It's cutting edge medicine," Sargent said.

Sargent grew up in Danville. He went to Vista Grande Elementary School and then to Los Cerros Middle School. Afterward, he attended San Ramon Valley High School.

"It's a small town," Sargent said. "Everybody knew everybody."

He was engaged in water polo, swimming and tennis. After graduating from San Ramon Valley, he enrolled at the University of Redlands in Southern California but didn't know what he wanted to study.

"It was awesome," he said. "It was small. I still have lifelong friendships from college."

Sargent said he enjoyed Los Angeles. He did a lot of activities, such as scuba diving. But when he tore his right arm playing water polo, his injury changed his perspective toward life.

"I may never play again," he said. "It was depressing. It's a gut check. You keep that in mind. It's very discouraging."

He said sports were a big part of his identity, and the activities he and his friends did together were possibly no longer going to be available to him.

"I had to mentally move on," he said.

When he went to physical therapy sessions, he enjoyed being surrounded by athletes and the sports environment. From this experience, he was inspired to study physical therapy.

He said physical therapy gave him the opportunity to combine athletics and human interaction together. And he foresaw opening his own business in the future.

"That was a huge deal for me," Sargent said. "I get to be the boss. I wasn't into corporate America." Diablo Physical Therapy also has branches in Brentwood and Atherton.

After graduating from University of Redlands, he went into the master's degree physical therapy program at University of Southern California.

"I had no idea it was hard to get into," he said. "I've been fortunate with schools."

He said he was focused in graduate school. When he finished, he did professional clinical work. Shortly afterward, he and Barman, who was a student of his, decided to open their own physical therapy business in Danville. Sargent said he wanted to move back to his old hometown and to live closer to his parents, and his sister and her family.

Starting the business was well within his reach, he said, and was soon a success.

Many people come in with injuries derived from different experiences, Sargent said. He recalled dealing with a patient who had nasty injuries with four damaged ligaments in his knee, and another with an injury from a car accident.

"We are good at what we do," he said. "We caught some breaks. We had a lot of support."

He credits his strong staff and his network of physicians for the success of his business.

"There are a lot of people rowing the oars," he said. "We've been lucky."



Therapist Eric Sargent works on her physical therapy patient's lower back.



Patients enjoy their physical therapy session at Diablo Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine.

He was coaxed into the profession and enjoyed it.

"It was a lot of fun," he said.

Barman graduated with a degree in kinesiology and worked in physical therapy for several years.

His research focused on kinesthetic therapy for sports-related injuries and chronic and functional disorders.

His research focused on kinesthetic therapy for sports-related injuries and chronic and functional disorders.

Prior to establishing his business, he held a position at a prominent physical therapy clinic.

"You don't need a lot of money to be a physical therapist, and friendly people are important," he said.

"I look for people who are motivated and have a strong work ethic," he said.

Cunningham, a physical therapist, said the environment is very supportive.

"The Diablo Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine family," he said.

"You don't need a lot of money to be a physical therapist, and friendly people are important," he said.

"I look for people who are motivated and have a strong work ethic," he said.

Cunningham, a physical therapist, said the environment is very supportive.



Sargent works with patient Launa Parnas by showing her exercises that will help her heal from an injury to her



The relaxed atmosphere at Diablo Physical Therapy and while they undergo treatment.

ach for the Del Amigo recreational swim team teaching kids and interacting with parents. "It's a lot of fun," Sargent said.

Graduated from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and also earned his masters degree in physical therapy from USC. He is a specialist in orthopedic and sports injuries, with particular expertise in biomechanical and functional anatomy.

Research topic while at USC was "The Effect of Training on Shoulder Angle Reproduction in Baseball Pitchers with Anterior Glenohumeral

Establishing Diablo Physical Therapy, Barman worked as a clinical specialist for five years at a physical therapy group in Los Angeles, which focused on spinal dysfunction. He is an avid marathon runner and has extensive knowledge of running-related injuries of the foot/ankle, knee, hip and spine. "All our therapists work at Diablo Therapy."

"Our team is very hands on, and they are like a family," says Mike Pawlawski, former professional quarterback with the now defunct XFL San Francisco Demons. "You normally get this kind of attentive, competent physical therapy at other PT shops."

Looking forward to coming to therapy," added Julie, a patient at the clinic. "There is a great group of therapists and patients at Diablo PT. The environment is nurturing." ■

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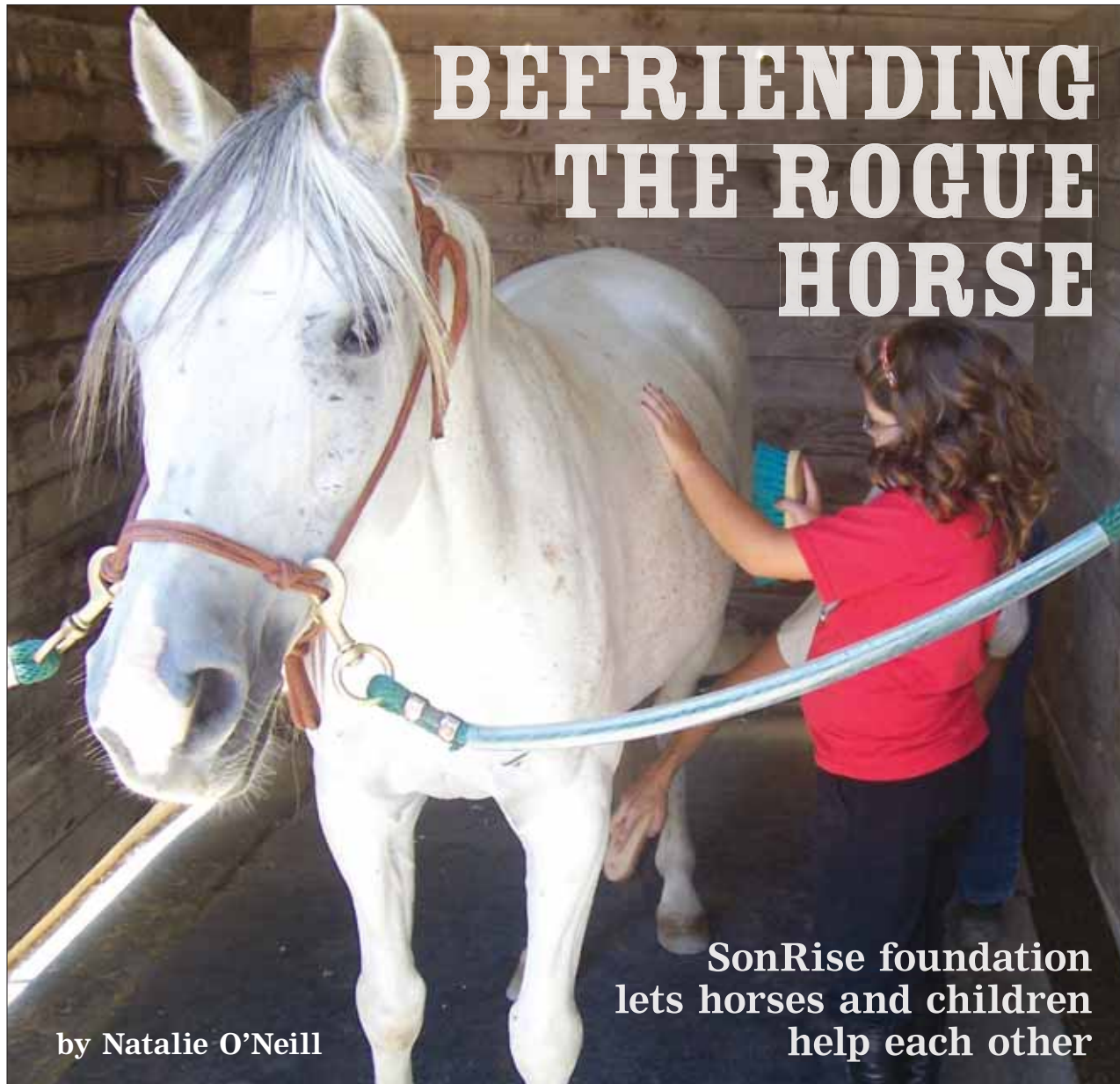


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BEFRIENDING THE ROGUE HORSE

SonRise foundation lets horses and children help each other

by Natalie O'Neill

Scherade, an Arabian breed, enjoys a brushing from SonRise participant Baylee Ferreira.

The muscle-bound brown mare twists her head violently to the side, kicking and bucking herself onto her hind legs. Her owner narrowly misses a hoof in the stomach and, frustrated with training an unreceptive horse, decides to send her away.

To most equestrians, rogue horses—ones with behavioral problems—are potentially dangerous, useless at best. But to nationally renowned horse trainer and author Charles Wilhelm, there's no such thing as a bad horse—just an uneducated one.

"A lot of it is getting into its mind. Horses have seven different personalities, just like humans," he said.

Wilhelm, who will be performing a horse demonstration at a fundraiser for SonRise Equestrian Foundation on July 28, works with "problem" horses until they are obedient, gentle and can even compete in elite horse training competitions. He succeeds at it by "understanding their nature," he said.

SonRise, a nonprofit group that Danville and other Tri-Valley children ages 8-18 attend, pairs abused horses with kids who are going through physical, emotional and social crises for mutual rehabilitation. The equestrian group understands that both horses and children deserve a second chance at a happy life, volunteers say.

Having written "Building Your Dream Horse: Charles Wilhelm's Ultimate Foundation Training" and appearing on RFD-TV, "rural America's most important network," Wilhelm is a celebrity in the equestrian community.

He will perform western dressage, also known as "horse ballet," along with presentation with no bridle, the piece normally used to control the animal by leading it through the mouth. In bridleless competitions, the horse obeys its trainer by responding to verbal commands—a stunt that

shows strong discipline on the part of both the horse and the trainer.

At SonRise, the horses, some of which have a history of being abused or neglected, have been softened gradually over time and are particularly sensitive to kids, volunteers said.

"When they see a child they become a whole different horse. They become a caretaker," said Alana Koski, program manager.

Working with the horses teaches kids leadership, responsibility and confidence and encourages compassion, Koski said.

"A child going through crisis feels like they have no control, but they get to control this huge animal," she said.

The 30 kids and teens in the program have been in foster care, had recent deaths in the family, muscle disorders and psychological or social disorders. Some have had behavioral issues and are "social outcasts." There is currently a waiting list of more children to attend, but SonRise doesn't have the funds to expand the program.

As prey animals, horses are strongly intuitive, travel in packs in the wild and have a strong flight, versus fight, instinct. Horses have the natural desire to be lead, even in nature, Wilhelm said.

It's empowering for kids to be their leaders, volunteers say. Many of these children have to learn to trust again and so do the horses.

"This is a therapy program not just for the children, but for the horses," said Wilhelm, who has offered space at CW Training in Castro Valley to help the nonprofit SonRise.

Mentors, which are chosen very selectively, help kids learn ranch chores, how to brush, clean and ride the horses. While SonRise centers on helping kids care for the animals, Koski said the children open up emotionally over time.



Kimberly Wash nuzzles into her horse in between riding and caring for it.



Riding is a therapeutic blast for kids going through crisis and SonRise volunteers say the horses help participants build strong self esteem.

"We're not counselors, but we try to love them and give them positive reinforcement," she said.

Having mentors around them, structure in their lives and a sense of community is integral to building self esteem, Koski said. Working with SonRise for over a year, she has watched the children's confidence improve immensely.

"They're around a group of volunteers who love them, want to be around them, and aren't down on them," she said.

Along with a performance from Wilhelm, the SonRise fundraiser will feature an auction, wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and demonstration on horse massage, chiropractic and dental work.

Koski expects the chiropractic demonstrations to be a highlight of the night. Watching a horse get its back cracked, along with learning about equine dental work and the benefits of massage will be both educational and entertaining, she said.

The chiropractor—a big, boisterous Australian man—picks up the horses legs and pulls them into compromising positions, she said. The horses love it, too, she said, explaining that she's seen horses lift their legs to make it easier for the doctor. It's like nothing you've ever seen before, she said.

The auction will also include Southwest Airlines tickets to anywhere in the world, a party for 30 at El Balazo, a stay at a classy bed and breakfast, and a BMW convertible rental.

Tickets are \$75 and can be ordered at sonriseequestrianfoundation.org or by calling 838-RIDE (838-7433). The event will take place at CW Training, 6496 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley.

At SonRise Equestrian Foundation there's no such thing as a bad horse, just like there's no such thing as a bad kid. Coupling the two together does wonders for them both, Koski said. ■

Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE

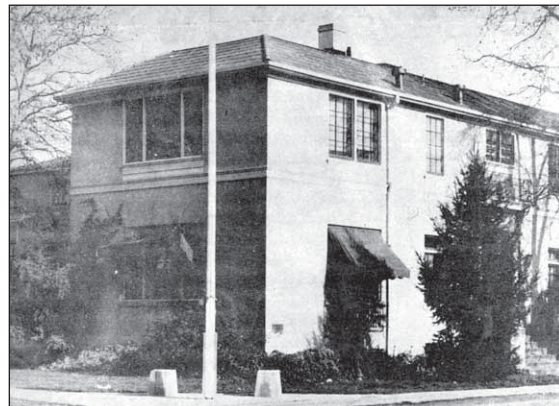
The historical Veterans Memorial Hall

The Veterans Memorial Hall—or Legion Hall as oldtimers call it—is one of the Valley's most important historical buildings. It has served veterans and the entire community for over 80 years.

After the trauma of what was called The Great War, veterans wanted to join together to honor their lost compatriots and support one another. The American Legion Charter for Danville Post 246 was dated January 1921 and included these charter members: Noel D. Norris, P. E. Wing, Robert L. Becker, William E. Tarplay, Ferdinand Noia, Alfred M. Podva, James P. Root, Tony Noia, Perry A. Wing, Paul Noia, Joseph Bispo, Jerome Thorpe, A.B. Cabral, George Smith, and D. Van Gordon

At the county level, the Board of Supervisors committed to build a Veterans Hall in each town with an American Legion Post. An editorial in the San Francisco Chronicle in the early 1920s recognized the efforts of the County Board:

"Contra Costa county is notable among the counties of the State in its memorials to World War veterans. When the doughboys started over seas they were promised that when they returned they could have 'anything they wanted.' Making good this promise, the board of supervisors has built a veterans' memorial hall in each town in the county where there is an American Legion Post. These are now being finished and dedicated. Walnut Creek dedicated its hall last Sunday. Danville



This photo of the Danville Veterans Hall was taken in 1943 by Davies; the Hall had a flag pole on the corner and two bases where cannons were once mounted.

hopes to open its hall on Washington's Birthday.

"The buildings were paid for by a small direct tax, all of which has already been raised. On the threshold of each one is a brass plate reading 'Dedicated to those who served.' While the halls are nominally in the custody of the American Legion, they are open to all veterans' organizations. The Legion men have gone further and offered their use free to any and all patriotic, civic and welfare associations, such as the Boy Scouts, Red Cross, farm bureau, chamber of commerce and improvement clubs. They will be, in a manner, community halls.

► Continued on page 18

The Pet Vet says...

BY DR. HEIDI STRAND

Come to the Animal Planet Expo on Sunday

This weekend the East Bay SPCA is proud to be a part of the Animal Planet Expo, coming to San Ramon courtesy of Animal Planet and Comcast. This free event, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, features animal exhibitions, games and hands-on activities for the whole family, including four-legged family members. Dr. Strand will be featured at the Ask the Vet session on Sunday, July 15, from 10 a.m. to noon. It is all happening at 6200 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, next to Central Park. For more information, click on the events link at www.animalplanet.com

Q. We adopted a pair of mini dachshund puppies, a brother and sister, in April. Until recently they have been well behaved playmates who snuggle together to sleep. Recently their rough play has turned into real brawling, with ears being bitten and lots of snarling and teeth. We are very concerned about this and want to make sure it stops. So far we are separating them when this happens and giving them a timeout.

A. You are correct in thinking that this aggressive behavior between your puppies is something you need to address immediately. When normal puppy play behavior (growling, teasing, wrestling) escalates to aggression (snarling, inflicting wounds), you have a problem. Unfortunately this occurs frequently when siblings are raised together, although it is more common in siblings of the same sex. For this reason many breeders do not allow siblings to go to the same home.

You have recognized that it is important to separate the puppies when they fight. Each time a serious fight occurs, it damages their relationship. Now you need to focus on preventing the fighting. There may be triggers which you can avoid, for example by feeding the dogs separately, providing duplicate toys, and having one person pay attention to each dog at the same time. Some triggers you cannot avoid, for example fighting over status (dominance). For this reason the puppies should not be allowed to interact without supervision. Crate training is an excellent idea so that the puppies are not left unsupervised together at any time. When they interact, they should be given lots of rewards (treats, kind words) for calm behavior. In a more controlled environment they should be able to work out their dominance order without resorting to full-blown fighting.

These are only basic suggestions—there are lots of tools you can use that are specific to your own situation. An excellent reference for these tools is Ian Dunbar's "Before & After Getting your Puppy." You should also consider puppy training class (separately, if at all possible). And of course, I would have your puppies spayed and neutered as soon as possible, to remove the hormonal influences on their behavior. If you feel the problem is overwhelming, I would not hesitate to contact a behavior specialist. Ask your veterinarian for a recommendation—there are lots in the Bay Area. It could make the difference between keeping both your puppies or having to find a new home for one of them.

—Dr. Heidi Strand is a veterinarian for the East Bay SPCA in Dublin. She has lived in the Tri-Valley for 10 years with her family and an assortment of four-legged friends. Questions can be mailed to 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville 94526; or e-mailed to hstrand@eastbayspca.org. Her column runs every other week.

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A movie review of what's **NOW SHOWING**

Sicko ★★★★★

Rating: PG-13 for brief strong language.
1 hours, 56 minutes.

After accidentally sawing off the tips of two fingers, Rick had to choose between restoring his middle one for \$60,000 or his ring finger for \$12,000. Laura was involved in a head-on car collision, and her insurance company refused to pay her ambulance bill because she failed to obtain pre-approval. Cancer survivor Donna and her cardiac-patient husband could no longer keep their home after insurance costs wiped them out financially.



These are only three of the health care horror stories in Oscar-winning director Michael Moore's most recent attempt to kick-start a movement through a movie. The populist agitator asked his Web site visitors to send their insurance-company experiences to him. More than 25,000 e-mails arrived in the first week alone.

"Sicko" looks at the lucky Americans, the 250 million who have private health care insurance. Applying the Moore method of documentary filmmaking, the director of "Bowling for Columbine" and "Fahrenheit 9/11" combines humor with tales of personal tragedy—and then veers into audacious, unexpected territory. The folksy firebrand again puts himself in front of the camera, making his position clear: His nonfiction film functions as a personal essay that includes pointed commentary, offers a politically charged vision and raises big questions. He's not interested in providing a forum for opposing viewpoints.

As Moore's most brilliantly structured work, "Sicko" starts off with ordinary Americans whose claims and coverage have been denied for ridiculous reasons. Close-ups capture their emotional testimonies, appealing to our hearts more than our minds. Then doctors and industry insiders testify about how insurance companies maximize profits by keeping benefits from the premium-paying patients who need them.

How did this start? In an Oval Office audiotape predating Richard Nixon's National Health Strategy of 1971—a program that promoted private-sector HMOs—John Ehrlichman assures the President that "all the incentives are towards less medical care." The Democrats, including Hillary Clinton, don't escape Moore's accusatory finger of being bought off by health care lobbyists. Politics and profit enter the picture.

Making a plea for universal health care, Moore-at-his-comic-best ventures to Canada, England and France before leading a delegation of sick 9/11 rescue workers to the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. Shouldn't these heroes, who have been denied U.S. medical attention, get the same top-notch health care as the Al Qaeda evildoers? The filmmaker's unexpected and confrontational antics elicit laughter while providing some surprisingly poignant moments.

Eventually the rumpled rabble-rouser throws his questioning back at us: "Who are we? A nation that dumps its own citizens like garbage on the curb because they can't pay their medical bills?"

Like Al Gore's documentary hit, Moore cleverly prods us to consider and act upon some inconvenient truths.

—Susan Tavernetti

For more movie reviews or local show times, go to www.DanvilleWeekly.com



DOLores FOX CIARDULLI

Landon Santos, almost 3, enjoys the Kiwanis Danville Fourth of July Parade with his parents Barbara and Jackson. For more parade photos go to DanvilleWeekly.com.

Kiwanis announces parade winners

The annual Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley Fourth of July parade winners in 25 separate categories were to be awarded trophies at the Kiwanis regular weekly noon luncheon Thursday, July 12, at Round Hill Country Club. The parade had 125 registrants stretching over a mile from the corner of Hartz and Railroad avenues to Sycamore Valley Road. The Danville Police Department estimated the crowd to be approximately 40,000.

This year's parade theme was "A Salute to Our Veterans, Thank You for Your Service to Our Country." The entry honored for best following the theme was the Blue Star Moms, and the San Ramon Symphonic Band won for best band. The top marching unit was the SRVUSD Combined High School and a perennial crowd favorite, the Sycamore Lawnmower Brigade, walked away with the majorette award. Dryer's Grand Ice Cream was selected as the top antique automotive entrant, and Danville D'elegance was awarded the top special interest auto. NBC11 received the media award.

The best float was awarded to Norms Place and the top scout unit was Pack 805 Boy Scout Troop. For non-motorized transportation, the award went to the East Bay Regional Park District and the Red Hot Flashers of Danville won best novelty-comic group. The top horse entry was Healing Place Church and the top non-horse entry was the Tassajara 4-H Club. The sports team award went to the Tassajara Valley National Little League.

The Alamo Bunkettes received the neighborhood/homeowners association award. Role Players Ensemble Theatre was recognized as the best dance/theatrical entry and SRVHS Cheerleaders were awarded the best school spirit. John's Place was the best family entry and the Alain Pinel Realtors won in that category. San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church won in the church category, and the country club award was given to the Blackhawk Country Club.

The awards in the business categories included Safeway in the retail business; Butterfly Life Fitness Club in the service business; and the YMCA, The Glowing Cougars in the community service/Special Interest. Countrywide Home Loans was awarded the best bank/financial office. ■

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OF NOTE



Dr. Howard P. Taekman (left) and Helene K. Schwartz both received the John Muir Health Foundation Award of Distinction, presented by Dr. Paul H. Chodroff (center).

John Muir Foundation honors two from Danville

A current and a former Danville resident have received the John Muir Foundation's highest honor—the Award of Distinction. The award is given to individuals whose remarkable leadership and/or philanthropic support of John Muir Health deserve community recognition.

The two winners are Howard Taekman, M.D, who was instrumental in establishing the region's first trauma center. He became the Medical Director of Trauma Services at John Muir Medical Center-Walnut Creek and served as its chief of staff from 2002-04. He lived in Danville until 2000 and now lives with his wife at La Selva Beach.

The other winner was Helene Schwartz, whose vision helped establish the John Muir Foundation and whose philanthropic leadership and support spans decades at John Muir Health. She served as president of the Auxiliary from 1972-73, was on the board of trustees and the executive committee from 1972-79 and headed or served on numerous committees. She assisted in creating the Docent Program, which later became a model for such programs nationwide. She served as a director on the board from 1980 to 1988.

Cooper Johnson recognized for SAT score

Cooper Johnson, a student at Charlotte Wood Middle School, was honored at a nationwide awards ceremony for gifted children held by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY) for scoring in the top range nationally in the 12-year-old age group. Cooper was also recognized June 2 at Cal State University East Bay as one of the top scorers in the state of California. His performance in the math section was especially strong as his score was above 700 of a possible 800, which won him special recognition in the June 2 awards ceremony where he was presented with two awards and a partial scholarship to Cal State University East Bay.



Presenting the Past

► Continued from page 17

"The building in Danville is to house the public library and the chamber of commerce. In Martinez there is to be a public swimming pool. The structures are designed to serve as substantial memorials to the men of Contra Costa County who served their country at the time of its need, and mark the towns containing them as having a full quota of patriotic citizens."

The contract was given to Dinnie Construction in late 1924 for \$18,000 and it was designed by architect James T. Narbett in a classical style. The building was frame and stucco construction, two stories, 60 by 21 feet, with a ground floor auditorium 40 by 70 feet, exclusive of stage. E.A. Root of Danville was named as inspector of the Memorial Hall construction work at a salary of \$8 per day.

After temporary officers were elected at a January meeting in 1925, resolutions were adopted restricting the use of the new Veterans Memorial to patriotic, civic and improvement associations.

According to the Courier & Journal of Jan. 23, 1925: "The hall will not be rented to fraternal orders or leased to any individual or society for entertainments at which an admission fee is charged. It is the purpose of the post not to have the memorial hall com-

Cooper was awarded a medal for academic achievement on a national level by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth in a ceremony held on the university campus in Baltimore on June 11.

The awards are based on an exceptional performance on a rigorous, above-grade-level test given to second through eighth grade Talent Search participants.

Sustainable landscape recognized

Sustainable Land Development Today presented Alamo Creek, a new residential community in Danville by Shapell Homes, with its "Visionary Project Award." The 600-acre community was honored for its progressive sustainable landscape architecture designed to conserve water normally used for lawns, boulevards and parks. Alamo Creek is near Blackhawk and Danville and opened for home sale in October 2006.



Shapell Homes won an award for its sustainable landscaping at Alamo Creek.

The honor was presented at an awards ceremony in New Orleans last month to recognize the creativity, vision and implementation of best practices in land development in the United States. The award selection was based not only on the planning and design of projects, but on the complete development process as it applies to sustainability and conservation of natural resources.

Alamo Creek's landscape plan features an innovative water conservation pact with the East Bay Municipal Utility District. To gain entitlement for the new community, Shapell was required by EBMUD to significantly reduce water usage from levels that would normally be required by a community of Alamo Creek's size, composition and density.

Foundation honors five Danville teachers

Five Danville teachers were among 100 honored by the Prudential California Realty Education Foundation, which awarded \$50,000 in grants. Families, peers, community leaders and Prudential California agents honored the teachers at an event in May.

The Danville teachers are Richard Ault from San Ramon Valley High; Paul Cosca, Monte Vista High; and Judy Kerns, Steve Knapp and Brooke Vermeer from Charlotte Wood Middle School.

"The grantees are teachers who made an exceptional contribution to their students during the past year," said David Cobo, chairman of the board and a former educator who started the foundation. "This is our opportunity to acknowledge their effort with grants that will help them continue their good work."

pete in any manner with Danville Community hall. The only 'pay' affairs to be given in the memorial hall will be sponsored by the legion. Such organizations as the farm bureau, welfare club, Red Cross, Boy Scouts, chamber of commerce, fire department and patriotic societies will be allowed to hold their meetings there free of charge."

The Danville Community Hall referred to the Social and Fraternal Hall on Front Street, which had been built in 1913 by the IOOF and Danville Grange No. 85 (today's Village Theatre). In the coming years, these two locations hosted gatherings of any size in the village, including meetings, dances, plays and graduation recitals.

When the Veterans Hall was dedicated on April 2, 1925, the Danville Improvement Club donated a piano, and the China Club provided a large American flag. Both the library and the local chamber of commerce soon had offices in the new building. From the start the veterans created a place that welcomed the whole community.

Sources: *S. F. Chronicle, Courier and Journal (Jan. 23, 1925), News Notes of California Libraries (April 1926), Valley Pioneer (June 7, 1961), Museum of the San Ramon Valley archives.*

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

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Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY
POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT WWW.DANVILLEWEEKLY.COM

Art

Alamo Danville Artists' Society This club will display their paintings at local businesses and 10% of all sales will be donated to the local schools. The Danville and Alamo businesses include: Danville Town Offices, 510 La Gonda Way; Marcello's, 515 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville; Bagel St. Cafe, 316 Sycamore Valley Rd. W., Danville and in Alamo Plaza. Call 939-1278.

Clubs

Alamo-Danville Newcomers' Club This club is open to new and long-time women residents of Alamo and Danville interested in making new friends in the area. Their Prospective Member Coffee is held the fourth Thursday of the month, and a monthly luncheon on the second Tuesday. Call 775-3233 or visit www.alamodanvilnewcomers.com.

Amador Valley Quilters Lemonade Social Amador Valley Quilters will host a Lemonade Social from 1:30-3:30 p.m., Saturday, July 14, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Bring lunch; lemonade and cookies will be served. Guest speaker is Nora McMeeking, who will also hold a workshop the following day. Visit www.amadorvalleyquilters.org.

B2B Power Exchange B2B Power Exchange, a leads group for people who sell to corporate decision makers, will host a breakfast meeting from 8-10:30 a.m., Tuesday, July 17, at Marie Callender's, 1101 S California Blvd., Walnut Creek. Cost is \$30 for non-members, including the cost of breakfast. Prepay by the Friday prior to the event. Call 201-3410.

Diablo Bonsai Club This group meets for a lecture and workshop on planting and raising bonsai trees from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 18, at Heather Farm Garden Center, Upper Room, 1540 Marchbanks Dr., Walnut Creek. Call 736-9157.

Diablo Valley Quilters' Guild The Diablo Valley Quilters' Guild meets at 7 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Guests are welcome (\$2 donation). Annual membership fee is \$30 (\$20 for seniors 65+). For information, call Dianne at 837-1863.

Diablo View Toastmasters AM Afraid of public speaking? Lose your fears and develop communication and leadership skills by meeting with the Diablo View Toastmaster from 7:55-8 a.m., every Tuesday. Call 838-9163 or e-mail marie@mmwi.com.

Mt. Diablo Macintosh Users Group

Get questions answered, solutions for problems, share experiences and explore new Mac developments. Club meets at 7:30 p.m., the third Monday of every month, at the Alamo Safeway Community Room. For information, call 837-1111 or 829-5501.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Luncheon This club invites new and established residents of San Ramon, Dublin and Pleasanton to a luncheon at noon, Thursday, July 19, at Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville. Cost is \$25-30. Call 361-6121 or visit www.srvnc.com.

SIR Branch 128 Luncheon Sons in Retirement will host a luncheon at 10:45 a.m., Wednesday, July 18, at San Ramon Golf Club, 9450 Fircrest Lane. Cost is \$20. Luncheon will include social hour, buffet lunch and a guest speaker. There are no dues or fees to join.

Concerts

22nd Annual Music in the Park Town of Danville will host the 22nd annual Music in the Park Concert Series from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays, at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. The Best Intentions (Motown) July 21, Mic Gillette/Jon Smith Project (Blues/R&B) Aug. 4 and Zydeco Flames (Cajun) Aug. 18. These concerts are free. Call 314-3400.

Alamo Parks and Recreation Summer Concert Series Alamo Parks and Recreation will host its Summer Concert Series from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Fridays, at Livorna Park, 801 Livorna Rd., Alamo. Silicon Valley Houserockers (Get Ready to Boogie) July 13; 256 (Classic Rock and Party Tunes) July 27; and Pan Exstasy (Reggae and Caribbean Sounds) Aug. 10.

Blackhawk Plaza Summer Concert Series The Blackhawk Plaza Summer Concert series returns to Danville every Friday, from July-August. The concert is from 7-8:30 p.m., starting Friday, July 20, at Blackhawk Plaza, 3480 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Families are invited to enjoy an evening of shopping, dining and exciting live music. This event is free. Call (415) 380-8390 or visit www.shopblackhawkplaza.com.

Concert in the Hills Series Come and enjoy a free concert during the Concert in the Hills Series with the opening act at 7 p.m. and the main act at 8 p.m. Saturdays until September at CSUEB, Concord campus. Aja Vu on July 14, Joni Morris on Aug. 11 and Native Elements on Sept. 8. Bring a picnic and short lawnchairs or blankets. No dogs or glass. Call 602-8654 or visit www.concertinthehills.com.

Events

Comedy Night for Ovarian Cancer Come and laugh at the seventh annual Comedy Night from 8-11 p.m., Saturday, July 14, at Leshar Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Cost is \$35. Proceeds benefit the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition. Call 974-8189 or visit www.comedy-benefit.org.

Walking Tours of Historic Danville Museum of the San Ramon Valley hosts walking tours of historic downtown Danville at 6:15 p.m., every third Friday through October with Karen Stepper and at 10 a.m., every second Saturday, through October with a museum docent, meeting in the front of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville. Call 837-3750.

Exhibits

Paved Paradise Bedford Gallery has received a grant for a Contra Costa Youth Exhibition entitled "Paved Paradise" which will run until July 22. Call 295-1417 or visit www.bedford-gallery.com.

Solo Exhibition of Stephen Sanfilippo View Stephen Sanfilippo's landscape oil paintings from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., until Aug. 22, at Thos. Moser Gallery Showroom, 3395 Sacramento St., San Francisco. You can meet this Alamo resident from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, July 14, at the opening reception. Call (415) 931-8131.

Fundraisers

Broadway Revue Acc'sentials' and Coldwell Banker will host Broadway Revue from 8-10 p.m., Saturday, July 14, at Acc'sentials' garden courtyard, 520 Main St., Pleasanton. Cost is \$25. Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity East Bay. Call 931-9130.

Giant Book Sale Friends of the Danville Library will host a Giant Book Sale from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday-Sunday, July 27-29, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Members only sale is from 9-10 a.m., Friday, July 27 and noon-4 p.m., Sunday, July 29. Most books are \$1; Sunday is bag sale day. Proceeds will benefit the Danville Library. Call 837-4889.

Kids and Teens

On The Go! Blackhawk Museum will host "On The Go!" from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, July 29, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. The funshop is for children between the ages of 3 and 10 years old. This event is free with museum admission. Call 736-2277.

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

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Thursday, July 26, at the Wellness Community 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. No rhythmic or musical ability is required. Call 933-0107.

Entering the Entrepreneurial World Learn about "Entering the Entrepreneurial World" from 8:30 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, July 18, at CarrAmerica Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr., Pleasanton. This event is free. Call 960-1600.

Laughter Playshop Laughter has numerous health benefits, especially for the immune system. Share the benefits of laughter and participate in simple improvisation exercises to make you laugh from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, July 21, at Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suites 240, Pleasanton. This event is free for cancer patients their families and friends. Call 933-0107.

Miscellaneous

Adoption Faire East County Animal Shelter will host an Adoption Fair from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, July 14, at East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Adopt a dog and receive three free in-home professional dog training classes, dog bed, leash, collar and a bag of dog food. Adopt a cat and receive goodie bags with toys and more. Low cost spay/neuter certificates are available. Free hot dogs and drinks from 1-2 p.m. Call (408) 202-6708 or visit www.tvar.org.

Seniors

Bridge Seniors meet to play bridge from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. every Friday at the Danville Veteran's Memorial Hall, 400 Hartz Ave. Cost is \$1. Reservations are required. Call Jerri Kaldem at 837-6283.

Danville Senior Citizens Club The club meets from 9:45 a.m.-2 p.m., every Monday at the Danville Veterans' Memorial Hall, 400 Hartz Ave., for line dancing exercise, bingo, mah jong and more. Membership is just \$12 a year. Call Fran Britt at 743-4026.

Prime Time Join this club for a non-denominational 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.

St. Isidore's 'Young at Heart' Join this group for a meeting from 11:15 a.m.-2 p.m., the third Tuesday of every month at St. Isidore's Ministries Center, 440 La Gonda Way, Danville. Optional Mass starts at 11:15 a.m.; lunch starts at 11:45 a.m.; bring brown bag lunch from June-August, beverage, fruit and dessert are provided. Nonprofit bingo follows. This event is free, but reservations are appreciated by calling 820-4447.

Sports

14U Sun Devil Baseball Club Try-Outs Sun Devil 14U Baseball Club will host July and August try-outs for the Fall 2007 Season from 9 a.m.-noon, every Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday, July-August. Roster spots will fill up quickly. Call (831) 710-0507 or visit <http://eteamz.active.com/AlamoSunDevils14Utravclub>.

Support Groups

ClutterLess Self Help Group Is clutter stressing you out? Cluttering is a psychological issue, not just an organizing issue. Join the group at their meeting from 7-8:30 p.m., Mondays, at Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, 4300 Mirador Dr. Optional \$2-5 donation. Call 297-9246 or visit www.clutterless.org.

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

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.

Volunteering

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 (572-2275) 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.

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

Friends of Discovery Discovery Counseling Center has received more than \$5 million, thanks to Friends of Discovery. The organization is looking for volunteers who can commit eight hours per month in the Thrift Station, 486 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. Call Le Anne, 837-7998.

Help Your Senior Neighbors A lot of Danville seniors need rides to their appointments, stores or to special events. The Seniors' Club at Veterans Memorial Hall is looking for volunteers to provide rides on an "as-needed basis" on one or more Mondays a month. Call Jenn Overmoe at 314-3476 for more information.

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. Call 887-5678 or e-mail volunteers@hospicecc.org.

Hospice and Palliative Work at Bruns House Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa Bruns House In-Patient Hospice is looking for volunteers to fill two- to four-hour shifts during the weekdays and weekends. For an application, call 887-5678 or e-mail volunteers@hospicecc.org.

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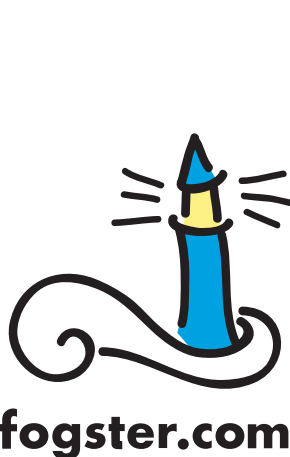
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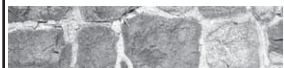
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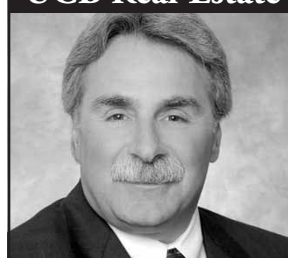
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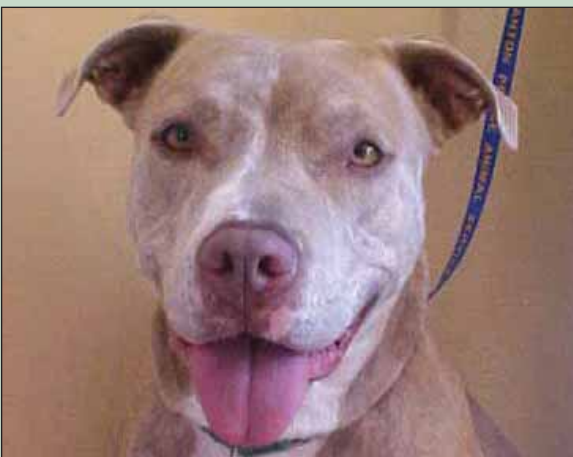
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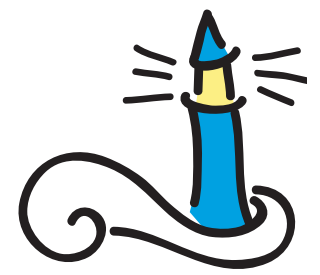


Pet Of The Week

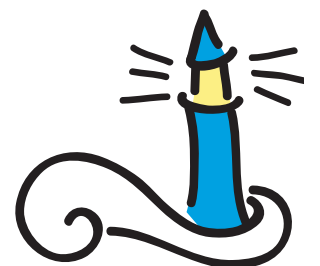


Laffy Taffy

Taffy is a 2-year-old, spayed female American Pit Bull who loves people and needs a home with an experienced dog owner. Taffy does not like cats and she may need to be in a one-dog household. Taffy is smart and playful. The SPCA wants her to find the perfect home so her adoption will require an application and a home visit. For more information about Taffy, visit her at the Tri-Valley SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive, Dublin, open from 1 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Call 479-9670. Visit www.eastbayspca.org for more information about Taffy and to learn about Pit Bull Hall, an adoption and education effort jointly operated by the East Bay SPCA and BAD RAP (Bay Area Dog-lovers Responsible About Pit Bulls).



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Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during June 2007

Alamo	Danville	Walnut Creek
Total sales reported: 4	Total sales reported: 30	Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$1,365,000	Lowest sale reported: \$595,000	Lowest sale reported: \$225,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,700,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,745,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,775,000
Average sales reported: \$1,884,750	Average sales reported: \$1,126,867	Average sales reported: \$760,605

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during May 2007

Alamo

- 24 Amber Place** J. & M. Feit to H. Yuan for \$1,365,000
- 255 Eagle Court** B. Crowder to J. & J. Lessman for \$2,700,000
- 152 Ironton Court** S. & D. Cohune to P. & E. Penn for \$1,699,000
- 1812 Piedras Circle** Guild Trust to C. & L. Veiga for \$1,775,000

Danville


- 307 Amelia Lane** Perry Trust to Flanagan Trust for \$1,420,000
- 516 Blackhawk Club Drive** M. Janatpour to A. & A. Zneimer for \$1,745,000
- 407 Bolero Drive** R. & P. Slattery to M. Pidel for \$1,368,500
- 3448 Cashmere Street** Shapell Industries to M. Phu for \$975,000

- 3456 Cashmere Street** Shapell Industries to A. & R. Siu for \$1,142,500
- 3461 Cashmere Street** Shapell Industries to M. & K. Bosman for \$1,323,500
- 1719 Cottswald Street** Kb Homes to G. & C. Leyva for \$875,500
- 5 Crown Valley Court** J. & G. Desroche to Hodge Trust for \$1,688,000
- 614 Crystal Springs Court** Flanagan Trust to J. Olson for \$915,000
- 3143 Deer Meadow Drive** J. & C. Gerbel to J. & L. Rhodes for \$1,100,000
- 2277 Deer Oak Way** A. & V. Edgcombe to V. & S. Acquistio for \$1,395,000
- 445 Eagle Valley Way** Sargent Trust to B. Tyre for \$900,000
- 520 Edinburgh Circle** Beigel

- Trust to S. & K. Casillas for \$1,440,000
- 1377 Fountain Springs Circle** Ishii Trust to A. & S. Paz for \$1,065,000
- 4250 Golden Oak Court** Marcon Trust to D. Ayers for \$1,604,000
- 69 Heather Garden Lane** K. & R. Vanvoorhis to B. Johnson for \$675,000
- 1054 Hill Meadow Place** D. & K. Benjamin to J. & M. Gutierrez for \$1,079,000
- 804 Maldon Court** Lennar Homes to P. Lam for \$1,126,000
- 22 Marques Court** S. Russell to E. & D. Ryan for \$679,000
- 3131 Martingale Drive** Ponderosa Homes to S. Lee for \$1,251,500

► Continued on page 26


Remodeled to Perfection!



Priced at \$399,000

This beautiful single story condo features hardwood floors throughout, new kitchen, updated light fixtures, updated baths, two bedrooms, two full baths, extra large closet in master could be office or nursery, private patio opens to pool. Close to downtown Walnut Creek.

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201 Sydney Drive, Alamo

Priced at \$2,350,000

West Side Alamo endless vistas day and night, city lights, Mt. Diablo and more with views from every room, stunning and spectacular home beyond immaculate, extensive updating shows almost like new, premium quality with attention to detail at every turn, spacious rooms, 4 bedrooms, (2 master suites), + library, 4 full baths, approx. 4,300 sqft. + 3 car garage, 4 custom fireplaces, spacious granite slab kitchen counters with two islands, beautiful hardwood floors, quality carpeting, marble, crown mouldings, custom draperies, recessed lighting, impressive double spiral staircase, many built-ins, eight-foot high IWP mahogany double doors, expansive view decks, and much, much more. All on 1.4 secluded acres at end of cul-de-sac, yet only a few short minutes to shopping and freeways. More photos & Virtual Tour www.paulward.com.

Spectacular 180 degree views of Bay



1391 View Drive, San Leandro

Priced at \$989,000

Located in prestigious "Bay-O-Vista" hills of San Leandro, extensive remodeling just completed, immaculate move-in condition, with views from every room. View city lights, Bay waters, San Francisco, Downtown Oakland, Bay Bridge, San Mateo Bridge and beyond, watch the airplanes land at Oakland International, Bart trains, & fireworks. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, approx 2,600 sqft. home on quarter acre lot has large rooms, original beautiful hardwood floors in five rooms & entry /hallway, spacious kitchen with granite slab counters, updated baths, 2 masonry brick fireplaces, large back yard with patio, 3 decks, lawn area and views, ideal for entertaining. More photos & Virtual Tour www.paulward.com.

DANVILLE WEEKLY OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

ALAMO

4 Bedrooms

46 Vista Ln. **\$1,465,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30J. Rockcliff Realtors 672-2499

4657 Lunada Ln. **\$1,625,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 285-1582

160 Camille Ct. **\$1,650,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 285-1582

3079 Stonegate Dr. **\$2,195,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors510-612-8008

6 Bedrooms

240 South Ave. **\$3,350,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 977-8965

BLACKHAWK

3 Bedrooms

3670 Silver Oak Pl. **\$790,000**
Sun 1-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 413-1068

4 Bedrooms

101 Oakridge Dr. **\$1,449,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 586-5456

34 Magnolia Pl. **\$1,749,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 648-5346

6 Bedrooms

5483 Blackhawk Dr. **\$3,495,000**
Sun 1-3 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-2239

DANVILLE

3 Bedrooms

306 Camino Arroyo E. **\$639,500**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 968-1452

4 Bedrooms

246 Abigail Cir. **\$1,019,900**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 451-7287

248 Abigail Cir. **\$1,046,850**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 451-7287

718 St. George Rd. **\$1,375,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 451-7287

1470 Lawrence Rd. **\$2,050,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30J. Rockcliff Realtors 997-5120

5 Bedrooms

881 El Pintado Rd. **\$2,595,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4115

6 Bedrooms

328 Montoya Wy. **\$2,149,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 837-7110

7 Bedrooms

1 Brooktree Dr. **\$3,475,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-5700

SAN RAMON

2 Bedrooms

610 Joree Ln. **\$567,900**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Pacific Union 314-4803

3 Bedrooms

3161 Wrangler Rd. **\$846,000**
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

1465 Allanmere Dr. **\$949,950**
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

4 Bedrooms

422 Devon Ct. **\$739,000**
Sun 1-4 Prudential 249-0301

7501 May Wy. **\$849,900**
Sun 1-4 Prudential 249-0301

5 Bedrooms

4021 N. Donovan Wy. **\$809,500**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 968-1452

DUBLIN

3 Bedrooms

7310 Croy Ln. **\$548,000**
Sat/Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

4 Bedrooms

10894 Inspiration Cir. **\$1,575,000**
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

5 Bedrooms

5012 Round Hill Dr. **\$1,379,000**
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

6036 Kingsmill Ter. **\$2,037,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 200-2917

Home sales

► Continued from page 25

1465 Menton Street Lennar Homes to Snyder Trust for \$1,015,000

212 Monte Carlo Way R. & C. Dempsey to M. & L. Mahoney for \$839,000

327 Pheasant Run Drive E. Anderson to J. Gonsalves for \$1,037,500

4359 Quail Run Lane Us Bank to P. Alexander for \$1,125,000

1807 Rioja Street Kb Homes to W. Feng for \$1,055,000

435 Shana Court D. & N. Hardy to J. & C. Hale for \$1,100,000

410 Snowdon Place D. Ayers to R. & G. Martinez for \$1,200,000

56 Summer Hill Court S. Fernandez to R. & A. Sharma for \$662,000

111 Tweed Drive G. & C. Raphael to J. & M. Gallo for \$595,000

30 Whitside Court D. & D. Price to M. Torres for \$1,410,000

Walnut Creek

900 Bronson Lane D. Fults to C. & S. Lee for \$1,775,000

2618 Buenos Aires Court G. Yaeger to J. Luengo for \$845,000

559 Candleberry Road W. & M. Hahn to J. & K. Campopiano for \$722,500

2657 Cherry Lane G. & M. Deruyte to R. & S. Johnstone for \$994,000

1329 Corte De Los Vecinos A. Gailas to R. Deleuze for \$600,000

36 Cottage Lane M. Bergamini to L. Blaj for \$599,000

556 Heather Grove Court Z. & I. Trajanovich to Wung-Lo Trust for \$777,500

16 Kingston Place M. & M. Gunnell to R. & K. Fields for \$842,500

260 Marshall Drive L. & A. Gonzales to J. Gray for \$880,000

2576 Oak Road #211 D. Young to K. Melamed for \$485,000

1245 Oakshire Court Y. Matzliach to D. Gangarapu for \$849,000

351 Pimlico Drive Sargent Trust to E. & L. Flodin for \$617,000

2037 Ptarmigan Drive #4 Anacker Trust to V. Theotoniou for \$413,500

1368 Rudgear Road S. & D. Duplessis to P. & V. Gryfakis for \$710,000

780 Silver Oaks Place J. & M. Desousa to C. & J. Canova for \$968,000

1925 South Glenhaven Avenue Weichert Relocation to Newsted Trust for \$1,243,500

1590 Sunnyvale Avenue #35 S. Kopel to M. Shea for \$305,000

1840 Tice Creek Drive #2314 D. & P. Vicario to L. Andersen for \$225,000

2442 Walnut Boulevard J. Luengo to L. Kirshon for \$600,000

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Read Joe and Nancy's Real Estate Column in Alive East Bay Magazine



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DANVILLE

Park-Like One+/-Acre Setting \$3,475,000

Exquisite creekside estate w/spectacular views of Mt. Diablo. This home boasts 7 bedrooms, 7.5 bathrooms, library, au pair/guest suite and more.

Mary Bonham & Chris Campbell

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DANVILLE

Reduced! Brand New Construction \$2,595,000

2.72+/-acre view lot w/fantastic views of Las Trampas and surrounding hills. Beautiful 5bd, 4ba, w/chef's kitchen opening to family room and pool site.

Mark Traikoff

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ALAMO

In The Beautiful Hills of Alamo \$2,195,000

Built in 1990, this almost 4700sf home w/beautiful views boasts 4bd, 4.5ba. Come see this rare gem. It just might be the answer to your dream home.

Michael K

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DANVILLE

Huge Price Reduction \$1,999,000

4bd, 4ba, 3-car garage w/large workshop, 6-stall barn w/good sized riding arena with covered hay storage on almost two acres. Pool and hot tub.

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DANVILLE

Reduced & Model Perfect \$1,539,000

Great floor plan with guest suite on separate level, master suite w/attached office/sitting area. 4bd, 3.5ba, 3-car garage. A real gem!

Carol Erbert

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ALAMO

Stunning & Sophisticated! \$1,299,000

Expanded and remodeled 3bd, 2.5ba on one-half+/- acre, beautifully landscaped. Excellent for entertaining. French doors & custom lighting throughout.

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Breathtaking Mt. Diablo Views \$1,149,000

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