

## Readers! Choose your favorites

Danville Weekly holding

'Best of 2007' contest > **page 16**

Vol. III, Number 16 • August 17, 2007

www.DanvilleWeekly.com

### Good news for seniors

Danville starting  
drop-in program  
at Vets Hall

> **page 5**

# Danville

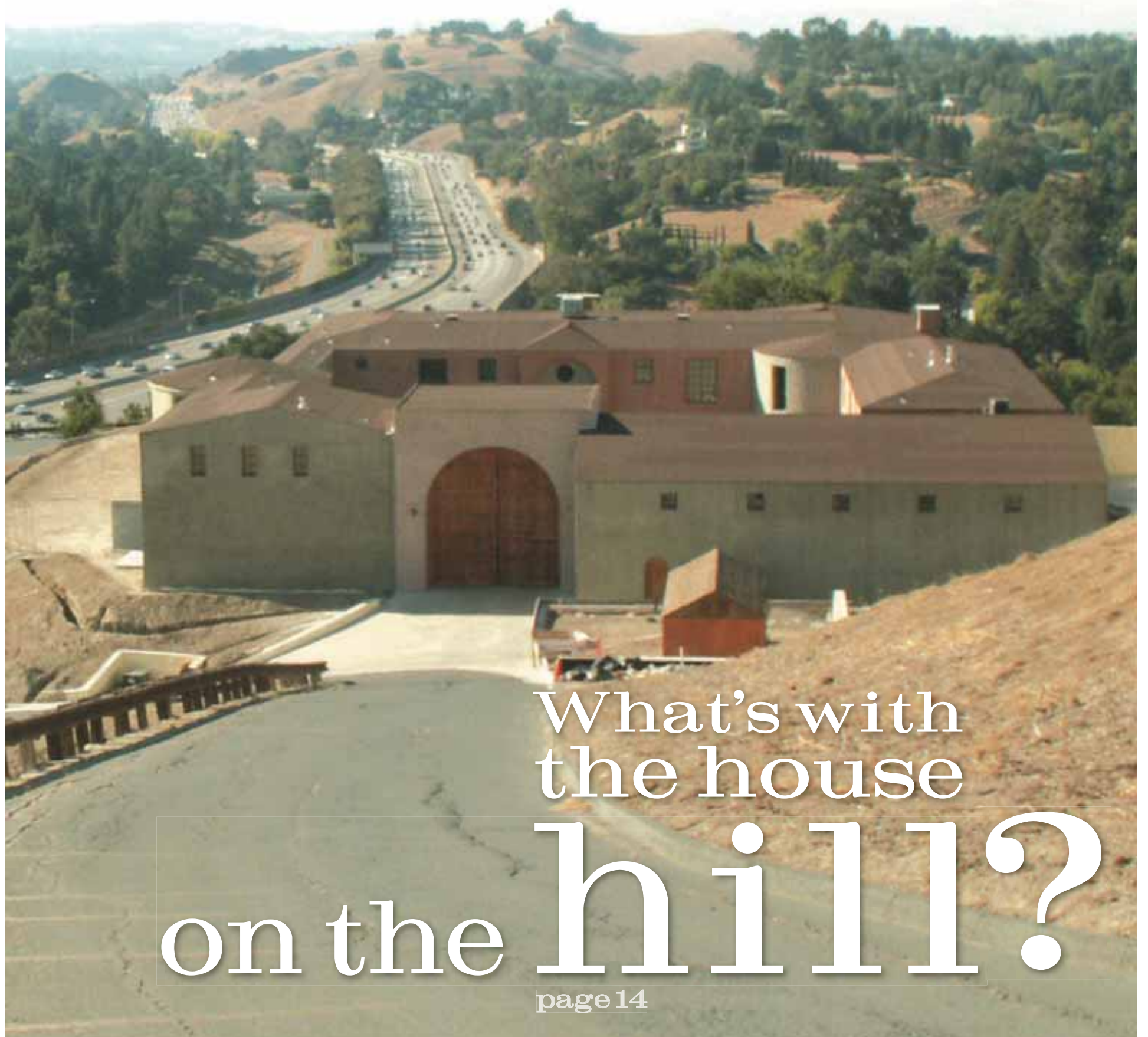
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What's with  
the house  
on the **hill?**

page 14

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## Q: Why are we so obsessed with Barry Bonds and his homerun?



We have partial tickets—they were for the next night. But I'm not obsessed with Barry Bonds. I think people like to see special things in their life. That record wasn't broken for 30 years so people feel happy for Barry Bonds. Some people might feel it was tainted because of the steroids.

**Robert Caporusso**  
insurance agent



I guess we need to hear something good that's going on, besides the war, the bridge collapsing, all the other things. We need to hear about happy moments. It was a day to smile about something.

**Sandy Zachary**  
manager of dry cleaners



A lot of people are big fans of baseball and he just broke the homerun record so it's really big for baseball fans. I saw it on TV live. I watched four games to see it happen.

**Grant Croley, 12**  
student at San Ramon Valley Christian Academy



Because there's not any other thing going on this summer. I watched the record broken in 1976. I like baseball. I love the A's even though they're not going anywhere. Whether Barry Bonds was on steroids or not, he broke the record after 30 years.

**Susan Clarkson**  
real estate



Because the media doesn't have anything else to talk about. Barry Bonds is only getting all the attention because he broke the record. Otherwise no one would care about his steroid use.

**Dennis Heltzel**  
building maintenance

COMPILED BY DANVILLE WEEKLY STAFF

### ABOUT THE COVER

Kelly Adamic's eccentric Alamo home on the hill has been bashed left and right. Now, the owner of one of Alamo's most notorious houses tells his story. Photo by Natalie O'Neill. Cover Design by Lili Cao.

Vol. III, Number 16

The Danville Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville, CA 94526; (925) 837-8300. Mailed at Standard Postage Rate. The Danville Weekly is mailed free to homes and apartments in Danville, Blackhawk, Diablo and Alamo. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year (\$50 for two years) are welcome from local residents. Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50 per year. © 2007 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

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## NEWS DIGEST

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ We thought they might get teased  
for not having a backpack. ”

—Madison Mascali, 10, who worked with her younger  
sister Mackinsey to provide 240 backpacks for students in  
Richmond. See story, page 6.

### Looking for help to run the Run

Organizers for Primo's Run for Education taking place Oct. 14 are looking for committee heads. The half-marathon race takes off from Iron Horse Middle School in San Ramon, and has 4,200 participants and more than 500 volunteers.

The following chairman positions are available:

- Logistics—Main contact for vendors and Iron Horse custodian; coordinate pickup of supplies, rental trucks, vendors for delivery and overall set-up; in charge of blocking off parking lot.
  - Auction—Coordinate printing and mailing of donation letters; manage solicitation list; track donations; upload auction item information onto Web site; assist with promotion of the auction; contact winning bidders; report funds raised to committee.
  - School Site Rep Liaison—Serve as contact and support to all Primo's Run school site reps; update/create school site information for e-mail distribution and online access; be “cheerleader” to school site reps.
- Primo's Run has been the primary fundraising activity for 24 years for the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports education in partnership with the school district. Since 1982, it has given more than \$2.3 million to the schools.

To learn more, call Executive Director Vanessa Chan at 242-0600 or visit [www.primosrun.com](http://www.primosrun.com). Its online auction begins Sept. 14.

### Town to repair San Ramon Creek banks

Danville is planning to repair two areas of the western bank of the San Ramon Creek where it abuts Front Street just north of Diablo Road. The slope problems began after a winter storm in late 2005; the bank became saturated with water, which caused the soil to soften and slide, leaving the bank bare and too steep.

A retaining wall will be built to support the road, and erosion control fabric and native planting will be used to stabilize the creek bank. The town was eligible for a grant administered by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency since the governor and the president had declared a state of emergency in Contra Costa County.

### County Arts Commission has vacancies

A vacancy currently exists on the Arts & Culture Commission of Contra Costa County for one of two at-large seats on the commission. Candidates for the seat will be interviewed by the Arts Commission, which will then recommend a candidate to the Board of Supervisors for appointment. Vacancies also exist for District 4 and 5 commissioners; Joan Trezek represents District 3, which covers Danville and Alamo.

The Arts Commission meets monthly in open session. Applications are available on the county Web site, [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/)

### Fun way to cool off

The Town of Danville has water features at Hap Magee Ranch Park and Diablo Vista Park running from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during these hot summer months. The water feature at Oak Hill Park may work intermittently due to the current construction.

The feature at Osage Station Park is closed indefinitely while the town awaits a permit to operate from Contra Costa County.



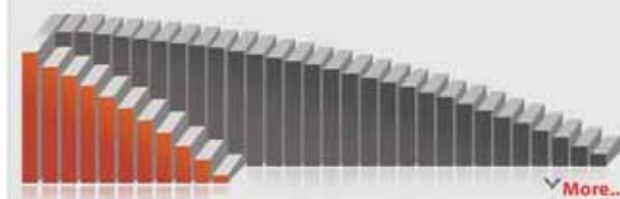
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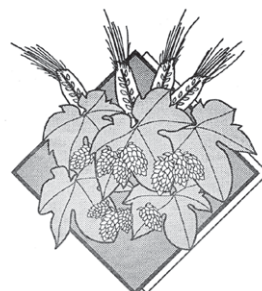
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## State Supreme Court overrules in Danville divorce case

Judgment regarding the right to give oral testimony will change family legal proceedings in Contra Costa County

by Jordan M. Doronila

A Danville resident emerged victorious after winning a civil lawsuit, which forces Contra Costa County Superior Court to change its family legal proceedings.

The California Supreme Court ruled last week on Monday, Aug. 6, that the Superior Court broke state law by not giving Jeffrey Elkins of Danville his right to give oral testi-

mony and to submit evidence in his divorce suit two years ago against his wife Marilyn.

"I never got to speak at my trial," said Elkins.

In September 2005, the Superior Court only looked at two out of 36 pieces of evidence in Martinez when he and his wife were first involved in divorce procedures because he didn't submit them by the required date, which was set to make court proceedings expedi-

ent. And Elkins could only give written—not oral—testimonies, according to court requirements.

Jon Eisenberg, the attorney representing the Superior Court, said family court judges made these legal requirements to deal with their increasing caseload and to create an efficient process.

"The Contra Costa Superior Court has a large number of cases these days," Eisenberg said. "The parties don't have lawyers, and it's

a challenge for the court to handle these cases when the parties don't know the procedural rules."

"The court, over the past few years, had to deal with self-represented litigation," he added.

However, Supreme Court Justices said even though the family court is submerged in heavy caseloads, it must provide fair opportunities for all people involved.

"Trial courts certainly require resources adequate to enable them

to perform their function," wrote Justice C.J. George in his court opinion. "If sufficient resources are lacking in the superior court or have not been allocated to the family courts, courts should not obscure the source of their difficulties by adopting procedures that exalt efficiency over fairness, but instead should devote their efforts to allocating or securing the necessary resources."

► Continued on page 6

## 'Senior center' to open in September

Vets Hall will be new drop-in spot each weekday

by Natalie O'Neill

Swing by for a card game and some conversation.

That's the message the town is sending seniors starting Sept. 4, when the \$180,000 approved to create a better senior recreation program this year will be put into action.

One of the first improvements older adults might notice is that the Veterans Memorial Building will be a social center on weekdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

"Seniors have an opportunity to drop in, socialize, play games and hang out," said Michelle Lacy, recreation services manager for the town.

Previously seniors could only officially use the center when classes and activities were in session. But now, the center will be the go-to spot for seniors to do as much or as little as they please.

In addition, the money will go to a full time town staff member for seniors, greatly increasing the distribution of the "Silver Streak" newsletter, and new classes and

programs that emphasize fitness and healthy lifestyles.

Nearly all of the activities will be held at the Vets Hall, in order to give seniors the feeling they have a spot of their own—a meeting grounds.

"One important thing we have now is a centralized location," Lacy said.

New activities will include current events discussions, cooking classes, weekly silver screen movies, a book club, a walking club, yoga and more. Classes and programs will be offered at little or no cost.

Activities were decided upon by getting feedback from current program users, along with taking results from a senior needs assessment conducted by BW Research Co.

"We are recognizing the fact that we're all getting older and people are living longer. There's a large population that's age 55 and older," said Joe Calabrigo, town manager.

This spring, BW Research estimated that at least 10,300 seniors live in Danville, a number that was taken from the senior residents registered to vote.

► Continued on page 9



Vintage cars draw crowds to Hartz Avenue during last week's Hot Summer Nights. The final show for 2007 is next week, Aug. 23.

## Oh, those Hot Summer Nights

Next Thursday is final classic car show for 2007

Last week was a blast for car buffs and music fans as Hot Summer Nights spread along Hartz Avenue and into the Livery for the third time this summer. The last event for 2007 takes place on Thursday, Aug. 23. That's traditionally a big one because it's the weekend of the Good Guys Show

at the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton from Aug. 24-26.

Hot Summer Nights was conceived 13 years ago by three friends and car enthusiasts who got together and thought out loud: "Wouldn't it be nice to have a car show in Danville?" Tony Carnemolla, David Allen and Jim Wadsworth decided

to make their vision a reality by working with the city and downtown merchants to create the popular show. Allen later dropped out and was replaced by David Miller.

"We decided on Thursday night because Thursday nights used to

► Continued on page 9

## Duke gets his bill paid

Danville donor steps forward to pay entire \$2,089 veterinarian surgery tab

by Natalie O'Neill

Thirty-seven-year-old quadriplegic Ken Quilici and his chocolate lab Duke breathed a sigh of relief Monday.

A generous Danville resident stopped by Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center over the weekend to write a \$2,089 check covering the entire cost of the dog's rare and expensive surgery after reading about it in the Danville Weekly last week.

The donor was a former Bishop Ranch client and asked to remain

anonymous.

"All she cared about was relieving Ken's worries," said Tracey Quartaroli, spokeswoman for the Vet Center.

Quilici, who was laid off from his job selling medical supplies three weeks ago, could not afford to correct the dog's Laryngeal Paralysis, which made breathing feel like sucking air through a small straw.

Without corrective surgery for Duke, the two could not go on daily outings together, as getting excited meant risking getting overheated

for the dog.

As of Tuesday, about \$2,500 had been donated for Duke by 15 contributors. The leftover money will be credited to Duke's account for additional veterinary services.

"Duke is doing awesome," said a grateful Quilici, adding that he plans to send thank you notes to people who helped him financially.

"I'm so impressed with the generosity of this community," Quartaroli said. ■

To read the original story, visit [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com)



Duke, soon after surgery, huddles close by the feet of his companion Ken Quilici.

# Kids help kids by providing backpacks

Back-to-school time wraps up project for Danville girls

by Natalie O'Neill

Showing up with no backpack or pencils on the first day of class can get an underprivileged grade-schooler off on the wrong foot.

That's why Madison and Mackinsey Mascali, who are 10 and 7 years old, started Packs With Love, a volunteer organization created for kids by kids. Its purpose is to get school supplies to homeless or needy students in time for the first day of class.

"We wanted them to feel 'normal' on the first day," Madison said. "We thought they might get teased for not having a backpack."

Packs With Love, a name the Danville sisters came up with themselves, will donate more than 240 backpacks to elementary students in the Richmond public school district this week.

The girls spent much of their summer collecting used backpacks and cleaning them and earlier this week filled them with notebooks, paints, colored pencils and more.

A few months ago they started spreading the word that used backpacks and supplies were needed, using mass e-mailing and even giving a presentation over the sound system at Golden View Elementary

School, urging other kids to help out.

"It really caught on," said their mother Carol Mascali.

Carol, who used to take the girls to help serve food at a homeless shelter in San Jose, gives her daughters total credit for the idea. In the spring the girls said they wanted to volunteer closer to home and Carol said it was up to them to come up with a project.

"I said, 'Sure—but you have to figure it out,'" she said.

Left to their own devices, Madison and Mackinsey decided they wanted to help other children.

"At the homeless shelter, all the kids looked really sad," Mackinsey said.

So they talked to a Richmond outreach coordinator to find out how they could aid less fortunate students.

The outreach coordinator gave them a list of what they needed and their hunt for donations began. It was Carol's job to cart them around town from "one porch to another," collecting packs they would later clean and fill with supplies. They tossed backpacks that were too worn out or had kid's names on them and hung onto the ones that were still in good shape.



After organizing school supplies into piles in the driveway, Madison and Mackinsey Mascali begin filling the backpacks to donate to students in Richmond.

"Some of them looked like they were in the attic 20 years," Mackinsey said.

"Cleaning the packs was probably the hardest part," Madison agreed.

Initially, working at the shelter helped the girls understand that not everybody lives the way they do and that people struggle, Carol said.

"It's wonderful for them—seeing beyond their own back yard," she said.

Madison echoed a similar sentiment. "We live in a privileged area," she said.

With this year's project already a success, the creators of Packs With Love are thinking about more projects. Gathering warm clothes for next

year's back-to-school project will be their next mission, Madison said.

"Kids dream big," Carol said.

To donate supplies, backpacks or funds for this year contact the Mascali family at packswithlove@yahoo.com by the end of the week. To contribute lightly worn clothes and school supplies to next year's project, use the same contact. ■



## Ready to roll

Timmy Etherington, 7, a first-grader at Rancho Romero Elementary School, assembles the best Lego pieces for his toy vehicle at Alamo Elementary School on Monday. He participated in the San Ramon Valley YMCA's Lego Engineering Camp, which started Monday and ended today. Forty children participated in the camp's morning sessions, and 60 in the afternoon workshops. Project engineering fundamentals, introduction to motors, designing bridges, and friction and slippage are some samples of the camp's curriculum, said Kathy Chiverton, executive director of the San Ramon Valley YMCA.

## Overrules

► Continued from page 5

As a result of the Supreme Court's decision last week, the judgment on Jeffrey and Marilyn Elkins in 2005 has been nullified and the Superior Court must rewrite family legal procedures to be equitable.

Marilyn and Jeffrey Elkins married on April 20, 1980. They had one child, who was born in 1991. Jeffrey had been living in Danville since 1990. He worked as chief executive officer of MCI and is now a consultant.

The couple filed for divorce Sept. 2, 2005. At stake in the suit were their family home; Jeffrey's right to reimbursement for home improvements after separation; the multimillion dollar litigation settlement awarded to his business; his assets; parts of Marilyn's retirement account; contents of a joint safe deposit box; and Marilyn's attorney fees.

The issue of child support was not part of the stakes, and the couple waived spousal support.

Jeffrey Elkins did not submit his evidence until one court day prior to the date set for trial. This was beyond the date the court had set. When the couple went to trial, the court only accepted two of the 36 "exhibits" he made. He lost the case, and he said afterward that court procedures violated his due process.

"My concern is that I came into the trial with the intent of presenting my position, and I'm being cut out of that completely with only reliance on two exhibits which are—no way can defend my position," he told the judge two years

ago, according to the court records. "So I might as well give up my position and leave it to the best well-being of my family."

"Your Honor, if you take a spreadsheet and you add up and deduct everything that (counsel for Marilyn) is asking for, I am left with nothing," he added. "Zero dollars. Zero house. Zero car. Nothing."

He took the case to the state Appellate Court, which rejected it. Eventually, it went to the state Supreme Court, which argued in favor of Jeffrey Elkins.

"The Supreme Court is telling the Superior Court that you're going to have to rewrite your local rules accordingly," Eisenberg said.

Moreover, the Supreme Court Justices said people in family court must be given their right to share their oral testimonies.

"We are most disturbed by the possible effect the rule and order have had in diminishing litigants' respect for and trust in the legal system," wrote the justices. "The Contra Costa survey confirmed that litigants believed the rule and order deprived them of the essential opportunity to 'tell their story' and 'have their day in court,' and felt the rule and order caused the lawyers who drafted the declarations to be the persons testifying, not themselves."

The Elkins divorce case will now go back to family court. Retrial has not been set yet, said Elkins.

"Any divorce is gut-wrenching," Elkin said this week. "You're talking about lives and families being ripped apart and (trying to be) least offensive." ■

Contact Jordan M. Doronila at [jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com)

TAKE US ALONG



### Taking stock of the situation

Donna Lenz took this photo of Ron Lenz and his Weekly enjoying a historical experience while visiting colonial Williamsburg in Virginia in March.



### Retreating with the Weekly

The Class of 2007 National Charity League, Diablo Valley Chapter, remembered to bring their Weekly on their mother/daughter retreat at Seascap in Aptos in April: Kelly Ralyea, Alexandra Noonan, Meghan Brown, Allison Samson, Lindsay Haworth, Alison Barker, Ashley Aitchison, Tara Meyer, Brittany Solomon, Kaitlin Crocker and Amanda Devere.



### Last Easter Sunday

Joanna and Brandon Chin and Nicole, 4-1/2, and their Weekly visit the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi on Easter Sunday during their trip from Venice south to the Amalfi Coast where they saw friends.



### Disney in the rain

The Yang family (Steve, Dawn, Kaileigh and Kyle) and the Chern family (Carey, Juliana, Sabrina and Ryan) visit Epcot Center and Disneyworld in Florida last April—with their Weekly.



### Beautiful Bujagali Falls

Danville residents and their friends and hometown newspaper visit the Bujagali Falls on the Nile River while in Uganda in March where they worked at a camp with Children of Grace, an AIDS orphan sponsorship organization. Local residents are Karen Jones, David Boersma, Jenny Allen Brooks, Jen DeVries, Velda Wardley-Boersma and Valerie Nagel.

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# Oak Hill Community Center to open on schedule

Lakeside facility will host County Mayors' Conference in early September

by Jordan M. Doronila

The Oak Hill Community Center in Danville is almost finished and will be ready to host 19 mayors next month.

"It's coming right along," said Town Manager Joe Calabrigo. "It's going to be done on schedule. What I'm being told is that it will be ready by the end of month."

The new center at Oak Hill Park

on Stone Valley Road will host the Contra Costa County Mayors' Conference on Thursday, Sept. 6. Mayors from 19 cities in the county meet monthly, and September is Danville's turn to host the event.

Mayor Mike Shimansky said earlier this month that he thought the conference would have to be held somewhere else in Danville because they were not sure of a completion date for the Oak Hill

Community Center.

Calabrigo said Tuesday that it will be completed, as scheduled, by the end of August. He mentioned that the original schedule listed completion for the middle to the end of the month.

"That's good news," he said. "We are looking forward to that."

He noted that some areas of the building still need finishing, and permits will have to be signed off

in the next few weeks. Town staff plans to hold an open house for the public in the future, Calabrigo said.

"I'm pretty sure once people see it there will be a lot of interest in using it," he said. "The facility, we would expect, would be in fairly heavy demand with classes and programs and rentals. It's in an ideal location."

The center, which was approved in February 2006, was designed to blend in with Oak Hill Park. A 36-inch oak tree rises through the building's octagon terrace. The center will have a main lobby, a reception area, a staff office and a 1,200-square-foot combined meeting room, which can accommodate up to 200 people.

The 6,200-square-foot facility cost the town approximately \$4 million. The center's parking lot will have 46 stalls, with handicap and compact slots at the front. This more than doubles parking at Oak Hill Park.

To create more parking space, the town had to cut down several sycamore

and redwood trees, Calabrigo said. Five redwood trees remain, and they had a history of pressing against another row of redwood trees, which are now gone.

"We are monitoring their health," Calabrigo said. "They are adjusting."

"It's going to take a little time," he added.

At the September mayors' conference, emergency preparedness and security will be discussed, Calabrigo said. Mayors will address issues in their cities and the County Board of Supervisors may also partake. The business portion of the event at 6:30 p.m. is open to the public.

Calabrigo said he was going to see the updates at the Oak Hill Community Center soon.

"I'm going to walk through the building," he said. "The excitement that we feel with the pending completion is somewhat mitigated by all the last minute stuff that needs to be done."

"It's going to be a real thrill," he added. ■

## BART SERVICE ALERT! Dublin/Pleasanton Station



Due to construction of a new BART station and parking in West Dublin,

**BART's Dublin/Pleasanton Station will be closed temporarily on two weekends in August.**

**Saturday, August 11 from 6 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

**Sunday, August 12 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

**AND**

**Saturday, August 18 from 6 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

**Sunday, August 19 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

### FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

A shuttle bus will be available to transport passengers from the Dublin/Pleasanton Station to our Castro Valley Station. The Dublin/Pleasanton Station will be closed until 12:15 p.m. when train service should resume. Buses will be available until 1 p.m.



We appreciate your patience with these service changes. The construction will result in a highly anticipated new station that will include development with 1,200 new parking spaces, 210 housing units, office space and a hotel. The station will be located in the median of I-580 between the Castro Valley and Dublin/Pleasanton stations where there is currently a 10-mile gap.

**Thank you for riding BART.**



VALERIE RODGERS

### Heralding a new century of Scouting

George Fosselius, chairman of the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council International Committee, blows the kudu horn at 8 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 1, at the summit of Mount Diablo to celebrate the dawn of a new century of Scouting.

About 200 youths and adults were present at the sunrise ceremony exactly 100 years after Gen. Robert Baden-Powell ran his experimental Scout camp on Brownsea Island off the southern coast of England.

The ceremony started at 8 a.m. in the United Kingdom and rotated around the world through each of the 24 time zones.

# Medical center hosts Koreans to practice on surgical system

Three-dimensional da Vinci system uses computerized robotics for surgery

by Emily Atwood

Medical students from South Korea visited San Ramon Regional Medical Center recently to work with Dr. Barry Gardiner on the da Vinci Surgical System. The system is a surgical instrument that uses computerized robotics, said Sandra Ryan, marketing manager for the medical center.

The medical center has owned the da Vinci system since 2000 and was the first hospital on the West Coast to have one, Ryan said.

"The doctor sits in a console," Ryan explained. "It looks like a video game and it has controls on it. The amazing thing is that the viewer screen allows the surgeon to look at the surgery site 10 times magnified, and another thing that's unusual is that it's three-dimensional."

Laparoscopic surgery is two-dimensional.

The system comes equipped with a station that can be operated by hand and foot controls, which command a separate machine with three robotic arms that can stitch, cauterize and make incisions.

"The great thing about it is that because the computer is helping to operate it, two things: It's very precise. If a surgeon gets tired, sometimes their hand shakes a bit. Well,

this corrects for that," Ryan said. "The other thing that's better than a scope, a regular laparoscope, is that the end of the instrument rotates in all directions like your hand would

on your arm."

Ryan said the da Vinci system is especially helpful for urologists performing prostate surgeries. ■



CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM

The Livery also celebrated Hot Summer Nights with activities and music that inspired these women to try their feet at line dancing

## Summer Nights

► Continued from page 5

be the quietest nights in Danville," said Carnemolla, the owner of Dad's Locksmith, in an interview in 2005.

The event draws thousands of people and hundreds of cars to Danville for four alternating Thursday summer evenings. The momentum builds throughout the summer and the last event usually draws 12,000-15,000 people and up to 300 cars.

"The event is very well-known," said Carnemolla. "I've been told many times it's probably one of the best shows outside of Reno's

Hot August Nights. I get phone calls as far away as Oregon, but the furthest call I ever got was from Switzerland. A lady called me and said she was at the show last year, but wouldn't be in the States this year, so she gave me her VISA number and ordered two T-shirts."

There is no fee for spectators to enjoy the cars, the ambience, and the live bands that play '50s and '60s music. Car owners pay a fee to display their beauties, which must be pre-'60 vintage automobiles. The event is nonprofit and completely organized and operated by volunteers. Sponsorships from new car dealerships and donations from local merchants support the show.



SAN RAMON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Barry Gardiner, M.D., (right) demonstrates the da Vinci Surgical System to three Korean medical students (l-r) Kang Seung Yun, Seo Min Chul and Kim Dae Geun.

## Looking for good Danville design

The Town of Danville is accepting nominations from the community to recognize outstanding design for both commercial and residential projects in Danville. Nominations may be made in seven categories:

1. Residential remodel, renovation or addition;
2. Second dwelling units (guest house/in-law units);
3. New commercial construction of landscape project;

4. Historic renovation or addition;
5. New home construction;
6. New residential landscape or outdoor living remodel; and
7. Green/environmentally-friendly design.

Summit nominations to Danville Planning Division, Attention: Catarina Kidd, 510 La Gonda Way, Danville 94526 by Friday, Sept. 7. Call Kidd at 314-3372 or e-mail ckidd@ci.Danville.ca.us

Members of the town's Design Review Board will review the nominations and recommend winners to the Town Council. Members are David Banducci, Bob Combs, Robert Storer, Sandy Varco, Jim Wood and Marsha Scott.

The awards will be presented at the Mayor's Installation and Community Service Awards at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 4. The community is invited to attend this event.

## Seniors

► Continued from page 5

Results from the senior assessment showed the majority involved in organized recreation left Danville for the services. This fact indicated improvements were needed, according to Parks and Leisure Services Commission members.

In October, a group of seniors approached the Town Council, citing high numbers of aging population in Danville. They noted they felt services for the demographic were poor.

Many seniors then voiced that they wanted an easily accessible, central facility where they could meet.

"We're making a good effort to address the issues raised," Calabrigo said. "We're filling a niche."

As a demographic, seniors are a difficult group to provide recreation for because there is a large age gap, Calabrigo said.

"When you look at seniors, that

encompasses a span of 30 years. It's a bit more of a challenge," he said.

Money for extended programs, facilities and staff draws from the town's general fund but doesn't

pull from existing programs.

To kick off the new program, the town is inviting seniors to the Vets Hall at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts on Tuesday, Sept. 4. ■

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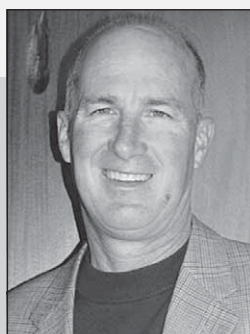
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# Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



## Eating ants in the hot tub

What a week it was! I took a vacation from work in late July to do absolutely nothing. No packing the suitcase and rushing off for the airport this time, or loading up the car. Just leave the office, go home and—sigh—relax. For an entire week.

My daughter Zoe, who lives in San Diego, also took a week out of her busy life to slow down and come up here to visit with us. Our mutual unwinding involved lots of laughing and talking, tennis and walking, and shopping and fine dining.

We surprised Zoe with an addition to our back yard—our new hot tub, a Softtub, which we actually bought at the Fair, just like the hot tub sellers hope people will do when they set up their elaborate displays. Actually, we went to the Fair with the intention of buying a Softtub after we saw how much some friends were enjoying theirs. We also had a perfect spot for it, a little round patio at the end of a curved walkway that we'd laid out when we redid our back yard a few years ago. We'd placed a loveseat glider on it but we rarely sat out there although it has a great view of Mount Diablo. Our tub for four fits on it perfectly.

When Zoe and I arrived home from the Oakland airport on Friday night, it was close to 10 p.m. She searched the house asking, "Where's Dad?" Finally, she checked out the back yard. There sat Jim, aka Dad, in the hot tub with a drink in his hand, flanked by tiki torches he'd dug

out of storage for the occasion. She was thrilled. For a young woman who leads a pretty exciting life—just this summer she's been to New York, Las Vegas, Cabo San Lucas and Les Deux in Los Angeles for a bachelorette party—she has a strong appreciation for home and hearth and being with her family.

I was stunned to see an army of black ants marching along the edge of the pizza, as though lining up at chow hall.

The three of us inaugurated the hot tub with champagne toasts, and after every outing we returned to soak in the soothing water, gaze out at Mount D and enjoy being together. Jim kept posing the question, "Why do we like sitting in a big tub of hot water? What's the attraction?" He understood why we liked it after strenuous exercise, but otherwise, why not just sit in the yard to enjoy the evening air and the view? Zoe and I made feeble attempts to answer him, but we didn't really care why we enjoyed it, we just did.

Every morning we would rise when it happened naturally, then contentedly ask each other, coffee cups in hand, what we

should do that day. On Thursday we went to Stanford for the Bank of the West Classic to enjoy seven hours of women's tennis. Another day, Zoe and I visited my mother in San Jose then went shopping at Santana Row. Our good friend's daughter was married Saturday night. On Sunday we went to a memorial service in the upper Haight, which is really a story for another day.

When we returned from San Francisco on Sunday evening, we were tired and hungry. We ordered a pizza, left a note on the front door to deliver it to the back yard, then went into our hot tub to soak out the tension that comes from searching for a parking place in the city. The pizza soon came, I placed it on the attached bench, and we each ate a piece, careful not to drop crumbs into the water. Awhile later, when we were ready for more, I turned and opened the box to work three more pieces free. I was stunned to see an army of black ants marching along the edge of the pizza, as though lining up at chow hall. After a careful review of the situation in the dim light, I ascertained that the ants were only along the southern rim of the pizza, leaving three out of the five remaining pieces ant-free. Probably. I passed them out and we munched away happily, determinedly ignoring the fact that our dinner might contain an ant or two.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli  
can be e-mailed at  
editor@DanvilleWeekly.com.

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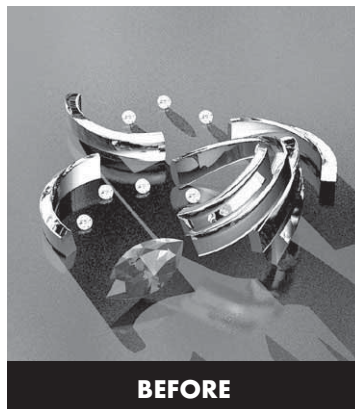
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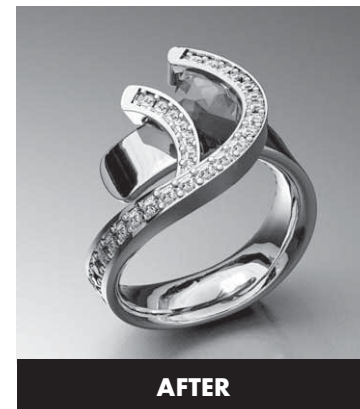
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**PUBLISHER**

Gina Channell-Allen

**EDITORIAL**

**Editor**

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

**Staff Reporters**

Jordan M. Doronila

Natalie O'Neill

**Sports Writer**

Rachel McMurdie

**Contributors**

Geoff Gillette

Beverly Lane

Jacqui Love Marshall

Katharine O'Hara

Heidi Strand

Christina Straw

**ART & PRODUCTION**

**Art Director/**

**Operations Manager**

Shannon Corey

**Designers**

Trina Cannon

Lilli Cao

Kristin Herman

Manuel Valenzuela

**ADVERTISING**

**Advertising Manager**

Mary Hantos

**Advertising**

**Account Executive**

Leslie Mooldyk

**General and Real Estate**

**Account Executive**

Terry Bertolini

**Classified Advertising**

Susan Thomas

**BUSINESS**

**Office Manager**

Amory Foreman

**Ad Services**

Sandy Lee

Susan Thomas

**Business Associate**

Lisa Oefelein

**Circulation Manager**

Bob Lampkin

**How to reach the Weekly**

315 Diablo Road, Suite 100

Danville, CA 94526

Phone: (925) 837-8300

Fax: (925) 837-2278

Editorial e-mail:

Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com

Calendar@DanvilleWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

Ads@DanvilleWeekly.com

Circulation e-mail:

circulation@DanvilleWeekly.com

The Danville Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville, CA 94526; (925) 837-8300.

Mailed at Standard Postage Rate. The Danville Weekly is mailed free to homes and apartments in Danville, Blackhawk, Diablo and Alamo. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year (\$50 for two years) are welcome from local residents.

Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50/year.

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**Perspective**

EDITORIALS • LETTERS • OPINIONS

**MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER**

**Loss of public  
'watchdogs'**

Monday, Aug. 13, marked a day that will change the landscape of media in the East Bay.

The sale of the Contra Costa Times by the McClatchy Co. in April 2006 gave MediaNews Group of Denver unprecedented concentration of ownership of newspapers in the Bay Area. Then it was announced that on Monday, the Contra Costa Times and ANG newspapers, the Bay Area division of MediaNews, will consolidate their newsrooms into one entity. They will reduce staff accordingly. Locally this will affect the San Ramon Valley Times and the Tri-Valley Herald, but it will also involve the Oakland Tribune and several other Northern California MediaNews-owned publications.

John Armstrong, vice president of MediaNews' California Newspapers Partnership, wrote in a memo to the staffs at the publications: "As we eliminate duplication of effort in our newsrooms, we will reduce the size of the editorial staff. It is our hope attrition will cover this reduction, but there is no guarantee that layoffs can be avoided."

"Streamlining" is not bad in and of itself. Reducing redundancy is a good business practice. It is also good when the result of streamlining is more time and resources to produce more and better products or services. But this is not the concept of this consolidation; this is to reduce costs and increase profits for the shareholders. And this cost reduction strategy is costly for the public. Fewer news gatherers means fewer local stories, less depth in coverage and lower quality.

Consolidating newsrooms is not a new concept, nor is it unique to California. Bigger newspaper companies have been swallowing up smaller ones for decades. The shareholders and owners benefit, but the demise of these smaller newspaper companies is detrimental to the health of a society because we lose a significant cog in the democratic process.

The success of democracy is in part dependent upon having a number of diverse, local, independent news organizations to be the "watchdogs" for the public. Media consolidation stifles independent voices and limits public access, leaving increased censorship of divergent views and less coverage of politics and local issues.

Newspapers are not just a business—they are a public trust and an integral part of the American democracy. While everyone understands the need to make a profit to cover expenses and employ the news gatherers, we must also take into consideration the importance of keeping local media strong. Owners and shareholders might need to give up the 20 percent profit margins, which they are keeping through reduction in staffing, to keep the newsrooms strong.

When we consolidate two, three, four newsrooms into one and eliminate the journalists, we silence a number of the "watchdogs," leaving only one voice to be heard. And if that one voice becomes weak, hindered or compromised in some way, well, it's the only one we have.

This reminds me of a John Mayer song lyric: "When they own the information they can bend it all they want."

Your thoughts and comments are encouraged.

—Gina Channell-Allen, a 20-year journalism veteran, is publisher of the Danville Weekly and the president of the East Bay division of Embarcadero Publishing Co. Send questions to gallen@danvilleweekly.com.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teens miss chance

Dear Editor:

I participated in a two-week Town of Danville camp called "Summer of Service" after moving to Danville from Lake Bluff, Ill., recently. I believe community service is important, and I was hoping to meet like-minded people.

On the first day I discovered I was one of nine people to sign up, surprising for a town of over 40,000 people. I discovered, to my disappointment, that I was the only person to have signed up purely of my own volition. Others were there because their parents wanted them to do something worthwhile over the summer or because a court had sentenced them to community service. Comments I heard included, "Danville's so rich, why can't we just pay someone to do this?" I'm sure this isn't the attitude of all Danville teens, but it made me wonder.

I was impressed by the services we performed, and by the planning and leadership. We spread bark in a Danville playground, and in other areas we sorted fruit at a food pantry, helped plant and clean up the Bay in Oakland, removed

barbed wire and fence posts from Mount Diablo, fed the homeless at a San Francisco shelter, created kits of donated supplies for teachers, and painted the Los Cerros Middle School teen center. Fridays were designated as fun days, so we enjoyed rock climbing and a trip to Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. All in all, it was a very fun two weeks.

I was disappointed to hear the second run of the camp was canceled because just one person had signed up. Community service is important to me and also a lot of fun. If the sense of satisfaction isn't enough, teens ought to consider that service hours are either required or smiled upon in applying for colleges. Camps like this are fantastic opportunities to lend a helping hand, and it's a shame to see such valuable opportunities go to waste.

Mark Warwick, Danville

Alamo speed limit should be 25 mph

This letter was sent to District 3 Supervisor Mary N. Piepho:  
Dear Supervisor Piepho,

We the undersigned residents in the neighborhood of Jackson Way and Orchard Court would like to thank the county for getting the first phase of the improvement to Danville Boulevard in place with the recent installation of flashing lights in the pavement of the crosswalk at Jackson Way.

It is our understanding that the Public Works Department plans to study the results of the flashing lights in the pavement for pedestrian crossing at Jackson Way. In the short time that the lights have been in place, we find very little improvement in the behavior of drivers on the boulevard.

While we wait for another study and future work to be done, we ask that the county immediately change the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph in the downtown area of Danville Boulevard. We also ask that law enforcement make a serious effort to ticket the speeders, especially those going in the northbound directions.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

93 residents in the neighborhood of Jackson Way and Orchard Court

YOUR TURN

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

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

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

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



ONLINE READER POLL

Give your opinion at

[www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com)

Is Guy Houston a good candidate for District 3 supervisor?

Results from last week:

Were you surprised to read that there are homeless people in Danville and Alamo?

- ✓ No: 52.17%
- Yes: 47.83%
- Total votes: 23

**Code of ethics** The Danville Weekly seeks to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards in journalism, including the Code of Ethics adopted Sept. 21, 1996, by the Society of Professional Journalists. To review the text of the Code, please visit our web site at [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com)

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# Everyone's asking:



SHANNON COREY

Travelers going north on I-680 may take note of this view of the unusual sprawling home under construction on the hill before the Stone Valley Road turnoff.

by **Natalie O'Neill**

**K**elly Adamic is pointing to his five-foot-long cement kitchen sink. “Guess where that came from,” he says with a sly grin.

The weathered trough-like sink looks like it's been plucked from an obscure antique shop on a side street in Florence, then shipped overseas for thousands of dollars.

But no.

“I molded it myself in the garage,” says the good natured, but press-wary owner of one of Alamo's notorious “houses on the hill.”

Adamic is not a developer or a construction expert, but he's built more than just his kitchen sink. The 52-year-old father of three designed and erected the 14,300-square-foot Tuscan-style mansion—complete with bright white roman columns and concrete walls—essentially by himself.

Perched high on the hillside near Stone Valley Road, the flat-roofed home is in plain view of I-680. It's in the spotlight for all to see.

Because of its prominent location and unconventional look, the home has been called unsightly, out of character, a scenic hillside blemish—you name it. Since building began four years ago, the hillside homes have attracted a flood of criticism from neighbors, passers-by and planners.

“It is a lightning rod for comment. You can't ignore it,” says Roger Smith, who is on the planning board for Alamo Improvement Association.

On a sweltering August afternoon in Alamo, Adamic is talking about his dream home, the one he's poured his blood sweat and tears into.

“This is my passion. I was out there digging the ditches,” he says, on a porch overlooking Alamo's rolling golden hills.

Adamic is acutely aware his dream house is closer to a nightmare for some people. But he says, the way he sees it,

everybody should be allowed to build their fantasy house. And anyway, he's followed every rule.

“Why does every house have to look the same? This is about expression and personality,” he says.

To many Alamo folks, the home and its neighboring house—that cascades down the northwest side of the hill—are one big, blaring symbol for why county planning isn't cutting it anymore. When it comes to planning in the unincorporated area, the county planning commission calls the shots.

“There needs to be a better set of rules,” said Gibson, who serves on the San Ramon Valley Planning Commission, which is at risk of being disbanded this October.

The lot and its neighboring parcel were approved for building in the early 1990s. But according to Smith, they were OK'd in a “convoluted” way.

Back then, the previous property owner got the go-ahead for the two hillside homes by finding what was essentially a loophole in county building regulations. The owner drew unusual bowtie-shaped property boundaries to be able to fit two houses, as opposed to one, on the property. He even tried for three, but was rejected.

This has contributed to much of the community's frustration, as residents began to notice and comment that the houses are too close together to fit the character of the semi-rural area. Plus they are on a ridge, smack dab in everyone's sight.

But the land met the county's five-acre limit and developers were good to go. From that point, the hilltop builders only had to comply with a few height and width regulations to meet what Gibson calls the county's “permissive” regulations.

“It's a cookbook,” he says. If you follow the numerical measurements, you can build a florescent pink cave on the hillside if that's your style.

With no town planning or city council and no required review from AIA or the San Ramon Valley Planning Commission—the houses were not given a thorough review, Smith says.

For weeks, Adamic's house was left white and partially

completed—exactly what local planners hoped would not happen. Their desire was that the home would blend into the hillside, using paint and landscaping.

“What exacerbated it is you have a person who is not really a developer building pieces in slow steps and stages. It's been an eyesore, left without months of work at a time,” Smith explains.

From inside his nearly-completed house on the hill, Adamic says he never expected it would take so long to build or that it would end up so large. The private but friendly homeowner says his house is his business. But he also explains he has apologized to his neighbors for the delay.

“You think you are doing the right thing—and it takes time,” he says. “I appreciate people putting up with what I've done up here.”

When he started grading back in 2003, he figured he could get it all done in a couple years, with the help of a small building team. But while putting up what he calls a gigantic “hollowed out Lego set,” he's hit one bump in the road after another.

He's experienced several break-ins from thieves who target homes under construction. He threw his elbow out using a gunite gun. And cracked concrete walls have blown out.

“It was the dirtiest, nastiest, meanest thing ever,” he says, describing just one among dozens of walls he's put up.

So why put yourself through five years of tedious construction? Why not just hire someone?

“It's wanting it done right. This is just my personality. I want to know how things work,” he says.

In his estimate, the home should be done by next July and in the end, he hopes the rest of Alamo will see it as something that adds to the area's character as opposed to diminishing it.

“I can see why everybody would question what it was at first, but it's gonna be gorgeous when it's done. I know it's not perceived that way now,” he says.

Dong Lee, who owns the multi-level tan house next door, was not available for comment.



From the second floor of Kelly Adamic's Tuscan-style mansion is an extraordinary view of the Alamo hills along I-680.



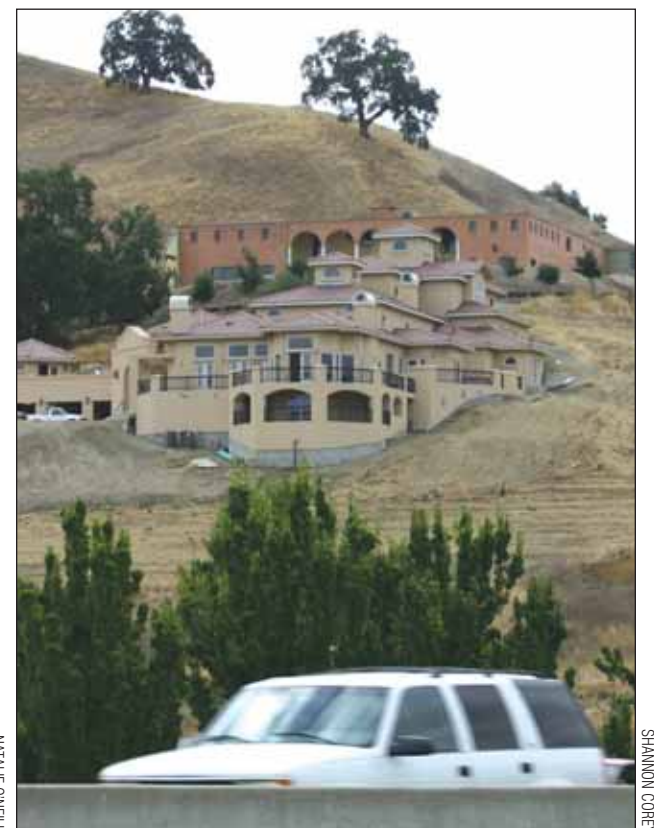
NATALIE ONEILL

NATALIE ONEILL

The 400-pound cauldron in the foreground will be filled with floodlights and steam to create the illusion of fire, then hung from a chain.



The center courtyard would have been used as a market place if the structure actually had stood in the fifth century.



NATALIE ONEILL

SHANNON COREY

A view of the home from the freeway shows the adjacent multi-leveled tan home belonging to Dong Lee.

As you enter Adamic's Italian-inspired home, you're greeted by 20-foot-tall, 2,500-pound gates he's burned himself to give them a rustic look. If all goes as planned, he will be able to hang a 400-pound, 300-year old steel cauldron from a worn chain in the entry of the courtyard, then add floodlights and steam to give the illusion of a crackling fire.

Inside, impeccable attention to detail has been given, with some styrofoam-layered concrete and walls taking months to stain, in order to look authentically worn. Imported tiles have been brought from Italy, and several units are designed to look like they have been put up over a period of a few hundred years.

"I've built my castle, now I'm looking for my queen," he says.

The structure was entered into Cemex's national contest for greenness and sustainability and took second to the De Young Museum in San Francisco.

The 25-foot house has an 80,000-pound steel roof, a movie theater, sports court, au pair suite and a guest tower for his parents. It's built around a large rectangular courtyard that would have been used for a market place, if the structure were actually from fifth century Italy.

The idea behind using cement is that it's so sturdy, it will still be around in 500 years, he says.

"My vision is that my daughter walks through those doors

and gets married," he says, standing in the courtyard, sporting a baseball cap, cargo shorts and a short gray goatee.

In the future, Adamic's plans for landscaping include strips of lavender and orange mum flowers on the hill.

"Just imagine streams of lavender radiating down the hillside," he says, adding he wants to work with AIA on his idea.

The plan is hardly what AIA planners are pushing for, considering they have declared a preference for landscape that makes the house less visible—not more.

But Adamic says he feels like no matter what he chooses; there will always be people who are unhappy with it. So he has to stay true to his vision.

"What I see will be stunning," he says.

He has already ushered hundreds of people through his house on impromptu tours. And he encourages Alamo people to take a closer look before they vent their criticisms.

At his location, on stage for commuters to see, his home will always be in the public light.

"People see a big house and it can become a target," he says. Don't get him wrong, it's not that he sees himself as a victim. It's more of an observation about human nature, he says.

Deep down, even longtime AIA planners acknowledge everyone should have the right to build the home of their dreams.

Finding the perfect place to live aligns with a general view of "the American dream." To many people, however, the line is crossed when your dream starts to negatively affect others.

The debate over whether the hillside homes cross any such lines has faded over the years. Residents of the semi-rural area, however, can only expect to see more and more controversy over development projects in the future.

As California's population grows exponentially and the amount of available land stays the same, these issues won't be disappearing anytime soon.

At this point, the way county regulations stand, Alamo residents who hope to preserve the area's semi-rural character can only cross their fingers that future planning will go easy on the area. Advisory groups only have so much say.

This idea has been the basis for many supporters of cityhood, which would likely call for a more in-depth review of development plans, especially those on scenic hillsides.

For now, Adamic wants to set the record straight about one of the houses Alamo folks love to hate. He knows his taste isn't the norm. And he knows when it comes to his castle, things haven't been perfect. But stop by and have a look up close, before deciding you hate it, he says.

"This is my legacy. If I do nothing else in my life, then at least I've built something," he says. ■

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Winners will be  
announced on Sept. 28 edition  
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### Around town

- Best auto dealership
- Best auto detail
- Best car repair
- Best car wash
- Best golf course
- Best pet groomer
- Best pet sitter
- Best photographer
- Best place for dance lessons
- Best place to get a traffic ticket
- Best place to have a first date
- Best place to people watch
- Best Danville area real estate office
- Best tire store/service center
- Best tutoring school
- Best veterinarian
- Best financial planner
- Best mortgage broker/brokerage

### Specialty retail

- Best art gallery
- Best bicycle shop
- Best bookstore
- Best children's clothing store
- Best florist
- Best framing store
- Best grocery store
- Best hobby/craft store
- Best health food store
- Best jewelry
- Best lingerie store
- Best shoe store
- Best maternity store
- Best men's clothing store
- Best pet store
- Best women's clothing store

### Personal care and pampering

- Best acupuncture
- Best dry cleaner
- Best hair salon for women
- Best hair salon for men
- Best manicure/pedicure
- Best massage
- Best medical spa
- Best day spa

### Epicure

- Best "assemble your own" meal store
- Best bakery
- Best barbecue
- Best burger
- Best breakfast
- Best Chinese restaurant
- Best dessert
- Best French restaurant
- Best ice cream/yogurt shop
- Best independent coffee house
- Best Indian restaurant
- Best Italian restaurant
- Best Japanese/Sushi restaurant
- Best margarita
- Best Mediterranean/Middle Eastern restaurant
- Best Mexican restaurant
- Best outdoor dining
- Best pizza
- Best place for a business lunch
- Best romantic restaurant
- Best seafood restaurant
- Best steakhouse
- Best takeout
- Best Thai restaurant
- Best vegetarian cuisine

### Let's Get Physical

- Best bike or walking trail
- Best fitness club
- Best martial arts studio
- Best place to jog
- Best place to walk a dog
- Best yoga/pilates studio
- Best personal trainer

### At home

- Best antiques store
- Best carpet cleaners
- Best consignment shop
- Best flooring store
- Best hardware store
- Best home consignment store
- Best home furnishings
- Best kitchen/bath remodeler
- Best kitchen/bath designer
- Best landscaper/designer
- Best interior designer
- Best remodeling/contractor
- Best nursery

### Stepping Out

- Best place for a picnic
- Best place for an after-work drink
- Best place for dancing
- Best place for live music
- Best place to get together with friends
- Best place to meet new people
- Best theater company

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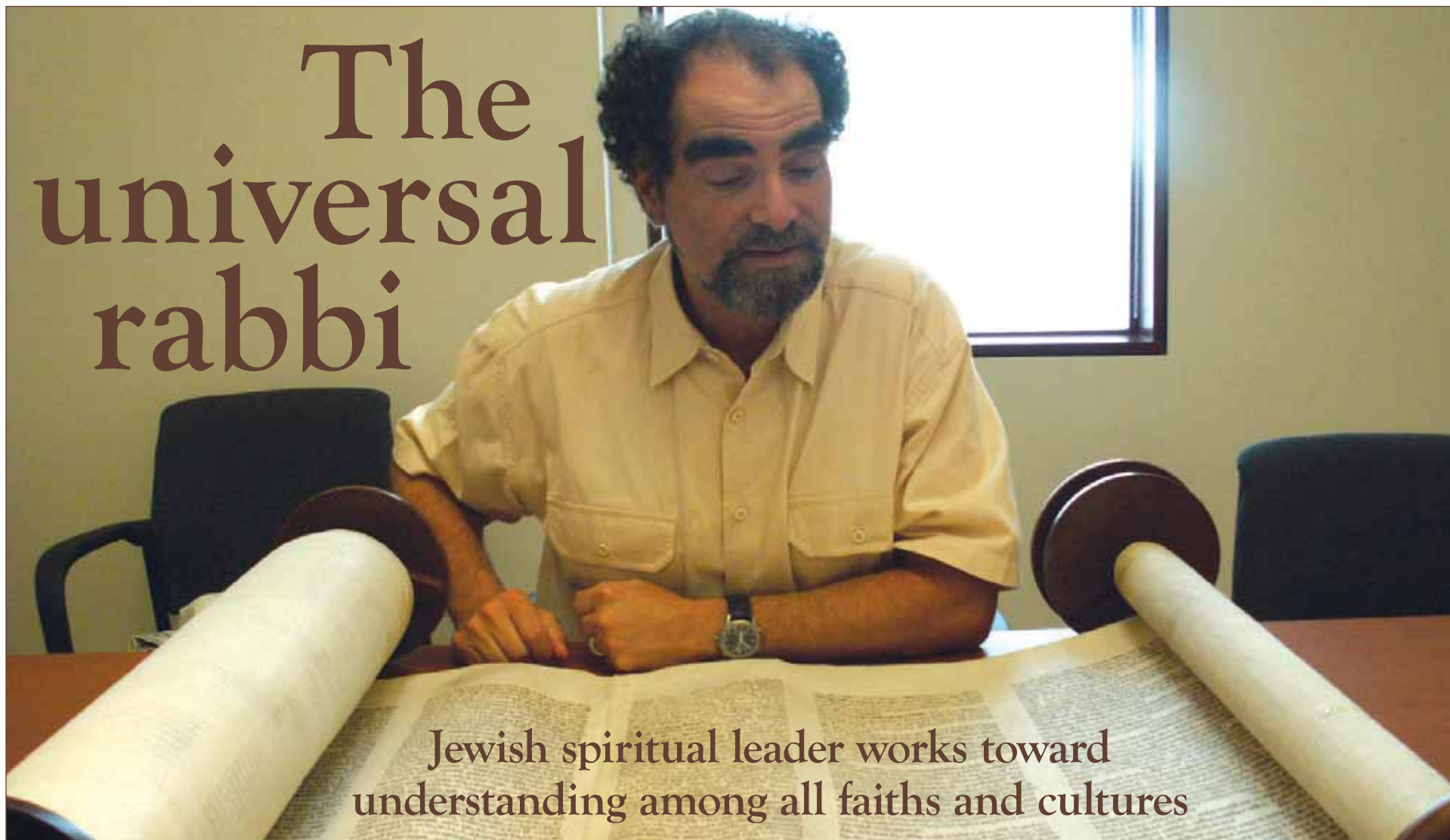
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## The universal rabbi

Jewish spiritual leader works toward understanding among all faiths and cultures

JORDAN M. DORONILA

Danville Rabbi Dan Goldblatt and the Torah, the Jewish Sacred Scriptures, at Beth Chaim Congregation's new Synagogue on Holbrook Drive, off Camino Tassajara.

by **Jordan M. Doronila**

Danville Rabbi Dan Goldblatt recalled being told he was damned to eternal hell for not recognizing Jesus Christ as his lord and savior. His voice jittered as he talked about people imposing their views on him.

"I respect your right to believe what you want to believe but I also demand my right," Goldblatt said. "I believe we all have the ability to practice freedom of religion. I don't get to impose my faith on you or my beliefs on you, and I think that's very important."

"It's something that some of us struggle with. I think people have done this throughout human history," he added. "I believe we have so much to learn from one another."

As the spiritual leader of Beth Chaim Congregation, which recently opened a new synagogue on Holbrook and Camino Tassajara, Goldblatt, 52, has been sharing his poignant perspectives in Danville for eight years. And he has much to say about fundamentalism and its destructive effects on people.

Fundamentalism posits that there is one truth, one true set of ideas, beliefs or principles that must be strictly followed, he said; it is deeply rooted in the idea that the truth has been set down ages ago and it is immutable, infallible, and literally correct in all of its aspects. Goldblatt noted that fundamentalists have a propensity to impose their beliefs on others.

"It leads to extremism and radicalization and conflict," he said. "It's a certainly a struggle. It's one of the essential struggles that we have."

"It's disrespectful," he added. "It's very problematic. It makes things very challenging."

Fundamentalism has been the cause of religious strife and hatred throughout history, including the attacks on Sept. 11, he said. It invokes a feeling in people that their beliefs are wrong and they are in danger, he said.

"I think people have done this throughout human history," he said.

Goldblatt believes people adopting a pluralistic view and treating each other with respect will help stop conflict.

Pluralism, he said, is a philosophy that there is more than one basic substance or principle. It describes a world in which minority groups participate fully in the dominant society, yet maintain their cultural differences.

"We are all needed," he said. "We need to appreciate each other. We work as part of a whole and make space for each other and honor each other."

"That's where hope is, amidst a world where there are many that are willing to impose (their beliefs)," he added. "Once you can dialogue, then there's a possibility."

One of the great qualities of being in the United States is that the nation was formed to resist religious oppression and to embrace diversity, he reflected.

"We are all vital organs in our ability in terms of what we have to bring into this world," Goldblatt said.

His home upbringing in Cleveland, Ohio, shaped his views. When his parents celebrated Passover, they invited guests from different cultures to their home. The non-Jewish guests would also share their culture and insights.

"It was a very common experience in my home," Goldblatt said. "There were going to be some fascinating guests who weren't familiar with the holiday. It was a very conscious part of my parents to expose us."

He recollected how his parents took his family to third world countries.

"It's both great to appreciate the blessing as Americans and to see what the world is like out there. Danville is an anomaly. It's not what the world is like. The Bay Area is not what the world is like."

He lived in Israel for five years, where he did graduate work in Jewish Studies and worked as a journalist and in the theater and film. He studied to be a rabbi upon his return to the States, and was ordained in 1995.

Another major factor that influenced Goldblatt's perspectives is his Jewish ancestral experience of what it felt like being marginalized. In addition to the Holocaust, he recalled Jews being expelled from Europe during the Spanish Inquisition and Europeans blaming the Jews for the black plague.

When his grandfather lived in what was then the Austrian-

Hungarian Empire, Christians used to beat up Jews during Easter, he said.

"It was horror," he said. "You hide. That's the reality of these stories. They were the reality of my grandparents and my immediate ancestors. It's not ancient history."

His appreciation for differences is second nature to him. "It has a lot do with growing up as a Jew in this time," Goldblatt said. "There is a profound sense of identifying with the other. It's one of the reasons why so many Jews are involved in social justice because it's such a vital part of our spiritual heritage. We know what it means to be different."

"We are challenged to think about what and how to care and consider the other, whoever that may be," he added.

When his wife Yael and his two sons moved to Danville from Berkeley several years ago, Goldblatt continued showing his compassion toward marginalized groups. He remembered when he and his sons attending the San Ramon Valley Unified School District Board meeting a couple of years ago where gay and lesbian students were voicing how they were being harassed in school. He said one gay youth told the board he suffered so much bullying that he contemplated committing suicide but chose not to due to a counselor's support.

After hearing the youth's testimony, Goldblatt heard one elderly woman say to another, "Too bad he wasn't successful."

"They (my sons) couldn't imagine how anyone could think like that," he said. "They were just shaken."

Goldblatt said he cares deeply about the Danville community and has found profound satisfaction being the spiritual leader of Beth Chaim. He is also co-chairman of the San Ramon Valley Religious Leaders Association, an interfaith clergy group, and is a founding member of the Bay Area chapter of the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life. He has lectured and taught at synagogues, churches and seminaries around the Bay Area.

He noted the numerous interfaith activities.

"It's an extraordinary celebration of interfaith of a different vision of the world," he said. "I'm proud that we are part of doing this work." ■

Contact Jordan M. Doronila at [jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:jdoronila@DanvilleWeekly.com)



## Mouth-watering melons

### Buying and storing

No matter how you slice it, a hot summer day screams for ice-cold, refreshing melon. There are two main groupings of melons—watermelons and muskmelons. Not surprisingly, melons belong to the gourd family, along with pumpkins, zucchini and cucumber. This family of fruits and vegetables all contain more water than pulp and, in the case of melons, the result is lots of sweet juices.

Cantaloupe and watermelon are worth their weight in benefits. One cup of cantaloupe can provide over half your vitamin C daily requirements, one-third of vitamin A needs, and a notable amount of potassium. Watermelon doesn't yield quite the same value but one cup of it contains almost one-quarter of the daily recommended intake of lycopene, the antioxidant that reportedly reduces risks of certain cancers and heart disease. (see chart)

### Selecting

For best flavor and texture, buy melons in late summer during their peak season—mid-June to late August for watermelons; late summer to early fall for melons. Watermelons come in varying sizes: those 15-35 pounds, called picnic melons, and smaller icebox melons, 6-15 pounds. You'll find watermelons with red, pink, yellow or orange flesh, and newer hybrids include "seedless" watermelons, with soft white edible seeds.

Muskmelons include the popular cantaloupes, honeydews, cranshaw, canary, casaba and Santa Claus. They can be split into two groups—those with smooth skins like the honeydew and those with a netted skin like the cantaloupe. They can be a bit larger than a softball to 15-pounders. Skins range from a grayish white to dark green; flesh ranges from the pale yellow to bright oranges. Unlike watermelons with seeds imbedded throughout the flesh, muskmelons have hollow centers of seeds.

Tap the melon. If it's ripe, you'll hear a hollow thump sound. With watermelons, look for a symmetrical melon with no holes, scars, cracks, soft areas or large spots (although a yellow, not white, spot where the melon sat on the ground is normal). The green-striped rind should be dull rather than shiny and have an evenly balanced color. In general, with muskmelons, they should be heavy for their size and should always be fragrant when ripe. Most ripe melons in the muskmelon family are slightly soft at the blossom end and should be stored in the refrigerator until use. Precut melon wedges (of any type) should have firm, bright flesh. Keep whole melons in a cool spot; and cut pieces should be covered and refrigerated.

### Slicing and dicing

Unless you're a melon lover like me, who can devour a quarter of any melon in no time, the best way to eat melons are to cut whole melons into quarters or eighths and slice them into two to three bite-sized wedges (about 1/2-inch thick), then serve them on a platter as a colorful complement to a summer meal. Let your family or friends grab as many wedges as they wish, holding them by the rind as they munch! (Cleanup of the mini-wedges is also easier.)

Although melons are rarely cooked, they convert well into refreshing drinks, salads, soups and appetizers. Try one or two of these recipes this summer, then include them as invigorating complements to outdoor meals and picnic baskets.

*Jacqui lives in Danville with her pug, Nina Simone, and volumes of cookbooks and recipes. Her column runs every other week. E-mail her at jlovemarshall@yahoo.com.*

### Nutrition in watermelon and cantaloupe

	Calories	Vitamin C	Potassium	Vitamin A	Lycopene	Other
Watermelon (1 cup)	40	8 mg	115 mg	25 micro gr	7.4 mg	4 mg Vitamin B6
Cantaloupe (1 cup)	54	59 mg	427 mg	270 micro gr	0 mg	7.6 mg Calcium

### RECIPES

#### Watermelon Ginger Coolers (serves 6)

4 pounds red or yellow watermelon, plus extra wedges for garnish  
1 cup freshly squeezed lime juice (about 10 limes) plus extra wedges for garnish  
1 cup Ginger Syrup

Ginger Syrup (makes 2 cups): Place 2 cups sugar and one 6-inch piece fresh ginger (finely diced) in a medium saucepan with 2 cups water. Bring mixture to a boil; reduce to a simmer, and cook about 1 hour, until the flavor is quite strong. Let cool; strain before using. Store in an airtight container, refrigerated, up to a week.

- Remove rind and any seeds from watermelon. Place the flesh in a juice extractor, and process, producing 3 cups watermelon juice.
- Transfer juice to a large pitcher. Add remaining ingredients and stir. Fill pitcher with ice. When serving, garnish glasses with watermelon and lime wedges.

#### Melon, Mint and Boccocini Salad (serves 4)

1-1/2 cups each, cantaloupe and watermelon (scooped into 1-inch balls with melon baller)  
8 oz. bocconcini (or substitute 2 cups fresh mozzarella cut into 1-inch cubes)  
2 to 3 thin slices ham or prosciutto  
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
1/4 cup torn mint leaves  
Salt and pepper, to taste

- Combine 1 ripe cantaloupe, scooped into 1-inch balls with a melon baller (about 3 cups), 8 ounces bocconcini (small fresh-mozzarella balls) or fresh mozzarella cut into 1-inch cubes (about 2 cups), 2 to 3 thin slices ham or prosciutto, cut into strips, and 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice in a large bowl. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- Toss with 1/4 cup torn mint leaves. Serve immediately.

#### Avocado and Cantaloupe Salad with Honey-Lime Dressing (serves 4)

3 Tbsp fresh lime juice  
4 tsp honey  
1 Tbsp plus 2 tsp olive oil  
1/2 tsp coarse salt  
1 avocado, halved, pitted and skinned  
1 cantaloupe (3 pounds), quartered and seeded  
1 cup grape tomatoes, halved

- Whisk together the lime juice, honey, oil and salt in a bowl; set aside.
- Cut avocado halves again length-wise and then into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Cut each cantaloupe quarter in half lengthwise. Slice away melon skin and discard. Slice each wedge lengthwise into 1/2-inch pieces.
- Add cantaloupe, avocado, and grape tomatoes to bowl with dressing and toss to coat. Divide among 4 plates.

See more recipes at [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com)

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BY KATHARINE O'HARA

## Army recruiters target high schools

As the United States finds itself increasingly involved in the war overseas, the U.S. military is facing a serious dilemma of failing to meet enlistment quotas, prompting further efforts to recruit an increasing number of new soldiers to aid in the war effort. Thus (as revealed by the 2003 Government Accounting Office Report), the military recruiting budget doubled from \$300 million to approximately \$600 million between 1998 and 2003, and hit a record \$4 billion by the end of the 2003 fiscal year. Its main recruiting pool: American high schools.

This has understandably sparked controversy across the nation, many parents outraged that military recruiters are allowed to enter their children's schools, sometimes presenting misleading information in an attempt to entice students to enlist (discovered in various undercover investigations). However, as asserted by section 9528 of the 2001 instated No Child Left Behind Act, all schools receiving funds from the federal government are required to grant the military the same amount of access to their students' personal information (addresses, telephone numbers, etc.) as college and career counselors, or face the risk of forfeiting federal funds.

As disclosed in a recent re-airing of a 2004 PBS broadcast of the John Merrow Report, the army has increased financial incentives, lowered entrance requirements, and now offers more waivers, allowing criminal offenders, past drug or alcohol abusers, and individuals with medical issues to join the Army. Military recruiters have become so desperate to meet their yearly recruitment goals (somewhere between 72,500 and 77,000 enlistees), they present deceiving information, many not even making mention of the Iraq War, or the possibility of deportation to Iraq should an impressionable student choose to enlist.

The broadcast further depicted a military recruiter in a San Diego High School attempting to entice a class of young high school students to enlist, presenting a warped, glorified image of the Army.

"Where else can you get paid to jump out of airplanes, shoot cool guns, blow stuff up, and travel, seeing all kinds of different countries?"

Controversy has also sprung up over the fact that many feel recruiters target minority students or those from low-income families who may have narrow future career opportunities. These kids need encouragement and motivation, not a military recruiter offering them a misleading chance at "a better life." High school students are being targeted for enlistment at a time in their life when they are only beginning to figure out what they want for their future. While the perks of being in the military (both fact and fiction) may be appealing at first glance to an impressionable high school student, those who jump to conclusions may be rudely awakened by the harsh reality of war.

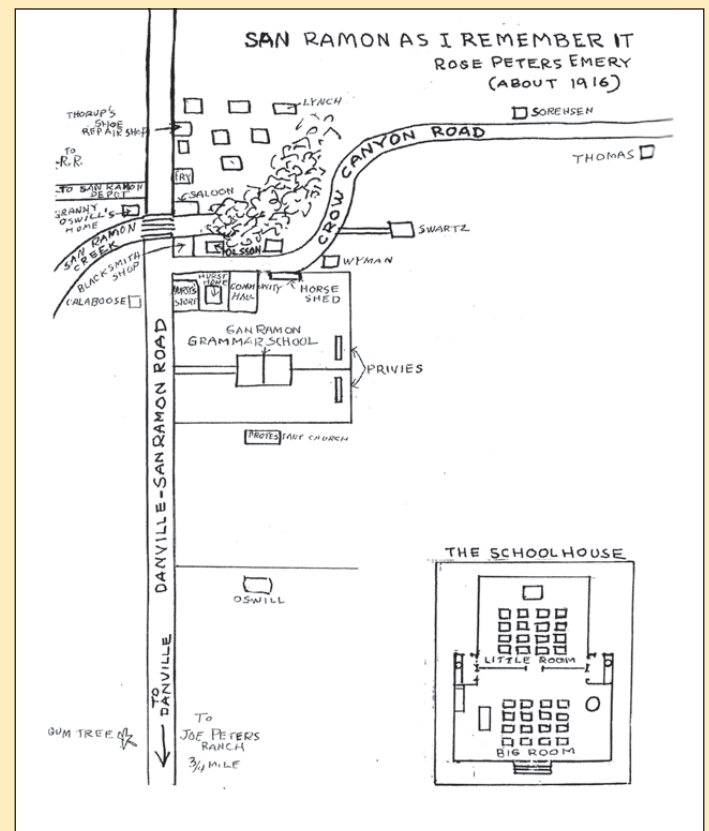
While all this holds true, the United States still needs a military, and after careful consideration, this path may be right for a significant number of men and women who honorably choose to serve our country. After all, according to the U.S. Army Web site (goarmy.com), the Army offers health care, retirement pay, money for education, vacation time, family services and other incentives to military recruits.

As school registration approaches, families with high school students will receive a form in their registration packet with the option to withhold their student's personal information from the military for recruiting purposes. It is with close consideration that parents and students should decide how they feel about this relevant and timely issue when it comes to making this important decision.

*The 411 offers information and insight on the teen scene by Katharine O'Hara, a junior at San Ramon Valley High School who spends her free time going to concerts, enjoying her friends, and playing the piano. E-mail her at ohara5@comcast.net.*

## Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE



### Remembering San Ramon in 1916

This drawing was done by Rose Peters Emery and shows San Ramon in 1916. Notice the school house which had a partition so that meetings and dances could fill the space.

### OF NOTE

### Alamo Rotary recognizes Marine for service in Iraq



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Joshua Lawlor is recognized for his service in Iraq at a Alamo Rotary luncheon with President John Hansen (right) and Jim Brandt, who coordinated care packages to him with Dick Olsen.

During the months of April, May and June the Rotary Club of Alamo sent an estimated 12 care packages, close to 300 pounds, to Lance Cpl. Joshua Lawlor, 2nd Battalion 4th Marines Mobile Assault Unit in Barwanah, Iraq. Lawlor's mother, Lydia, is the waitress where the Alamo Rotary hosts its weekly luncheons. Upon Lawlor's return home, Alamo Rotarians invited him to share his experiences with them.

Lawlor spent five months out of a nine-month deployment in Barwanah, a mix of urban and desert terrain. There was no power or running water in the city.

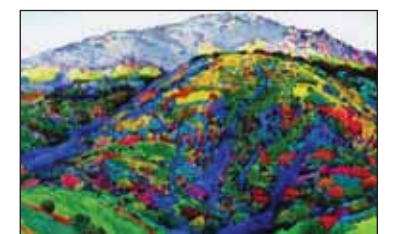
"All the baby wipes, all the books, socks, beef jerky and other supplies were used by everyone in my company," Lawlor told the

Rotarians. He said he and his company learned to ration their supplies and "the care packages made it so much easier on us in terms of comfort and morale."

The experience in Iraq made this young soldier very "wise and humble," he also noted. Lawlor intends to complete his education at CSU-Stanislaus with degrees in criminal law and communications.

"No one likes war. And after being there no one wants to go back. But if I had to do it again I would request to stay with Mobile Assault Company 2/4," Lawlor said in his closing remarks. "These were the men I saw 24 hours a day, worked side by side with, laughed and cried with. I know I'm in good hands and we'll get the job done."

### Honors for local artist



"Day of Emeralds," by Robin Purcell, a member of the Danville Alamo Artists Society, has been juried into the 2007 California Watercolor Association National Exhibition that will run from Oct. 6-Dec. 2 at the Presidio in San Francisco. The exhibition is in its 39th year.

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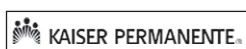
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**The Bourne Ultimatum**

★★★

**Rated: PG-13 for intense action and violence**

1 hour, 53 minutes

Matt Damon has found his winning formula and he's sticking to it. As amnesiac super-agent Jason Bourne, Damon successfully fronts a full-throttle action thriller that's the culmination of a smashing trilogy.

As always Bourne is on the run, intent on avenging the loss of his victims and trying in his own immutable way to apologize for his past. Seems Bourne's brainwashing is backfiring: In snatches of memory he's re-living his past, those murky days when his average Joe was on the cusp of enduring high-profile CIA assassination training.

Those recollections kick-start a mission as Bourne seeks to reclaim himself from himself. "Someone started all of this and I'm going to find him," he says. Believe it.

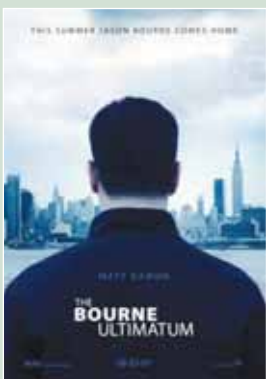
Paranoia runs rampant; scene after scene is fraught with kinetic hyper-tension. Umbrella programs, black ops, top-secret clearances and covert operations all serve to undermine a trained killing machine in desperate need of a home.

Each face in the crowd is suspect and the hills have eyes. As Bourne closes in on his reality he butts up against the powers that be, project co-conspirator Noah Vosen (David Strathairn) and CIA investigator Pamela Landy (Joan Allen), and continually and satisfyingly beats them at their own game.

Paul Greengrass ("United 93") is a smart directorial choice, his snappy docu-style perfectly in keeping with the manic energy Damon brings to his never-say-die rogue agent. His more than nine lives are genuinely implausible: Who deliberately drives off a rooftop and lives to tell the tale? But credibility isn't an issue as each sequence outdoes the next for sheer bravado and extravagant entertainment.

There are more than a few nods to the current administration's cover-ups, lending a fresh, contemporary feel to the proceedings. Damon proves once and for all that Bourne is his signature role—what's not to love?

—Jeanne Aufmuth



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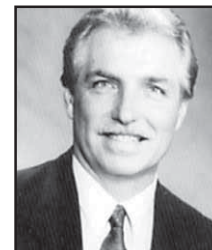
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# Calendar

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

## Art

**Bay Area Landscapes Exhibit** A collection of Bay Area landscape paintings by the California Watercolor Association featuring Danville resident Robin Purcell's "September in Sunol." The art will be on display from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday, until Sept. 2, at Filoli, 86 Canada Rd., Woodside. Call 648-0971.

**Calypso Twist Anniversary Party** Come and join the anniversary celebration of Calypso Twist at 6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 14 and from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 15, at Calypso Twist, 1357 N. Main St., Walnut Creek. Visitors will receive 20% off. Call 944-4860.

## Author Visit

**Rob Rittenhouse** Danville Interior Design Gallery will host a book signing with Rob Rittenhouse and his new book "Slain in San Ramon" from

5-8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 24, at Danville Interior Design Gallery, 9000 Crow Canyon Rd., Danville. Books can be purchased by visiting J. Rockcliff Realtors, 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

## Clubs

**AAUW Membership Brunch** Danville-Alamo American Association of University Women (AAUW) Membership Brunch will be held from 9:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 15, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Cost is \$30. Prospective members are welcome. Call 736-9798 or visit [www.aauw-da.org](http://www.aauw-da.org).

**Alamo Cribbage Club** The club plays cribbage for fun. It meets at 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday at the Safeway conference room, 200 Alamo Plaza, Alamo. Call 284-7044 or e-mail [almoy1@prodigy.net](mailto:almoy1@prodigy.net).

**Alamo Rotary** The Alamo Rotary meets at noon every Wednesday at Roundhill Country Club, 3169

Roundhill Road. Call Mark Kahn at 837-3262.

**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.alamodanvillenewcomers.com](http://www.alamodanvillenewcomers.com).

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

**Bay Books Book Club** San Ramon Bay Books hosts two book clubs reviewing different books. The first club meets at 7 p.m., the second Tuesday of every month; the second book club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month, both meeting at the San Ramon store, 2415 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Call 855-1524.

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

**Chinese American Senior Center** This is club for seniors and meets from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., every Monday and Tuesday, at the Alamo Women's Clubhouse, 1401 Danville Blvd. Activities include cultural diversity classes and activities. Anyone who would benefit from the classes and activities is invited. Call 831-9988.

**Danville AM Toastmasters Club** The club meets from 7-8:30 a.m., every Tuesday, at Father Nature's, 178 E. Prospect Ave. Guests are welcome. For more information, contact Dave Miklasevich at 899-1543 or [dmik210@yahoo.com](mailto:dmik210@yahoo.com) or [www.danvilleamtoastmasters.org](http://www.danvilleamtoastmasters.org).

**Danville Job's Daughters** Job's Daughters is an international organization for girls between the ages of 10-20 with Masonic heritage who like to have fun and make friends. The group meets at 7 p.m., the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at the Danville Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Rd. Call 829-8505.

**Danville Lions Club** The Danville Lions Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., at the Brass Door Restaurant, 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Join as their guest to learn the contribution you can make as a Lion. For information, call 984-1541.

**Danville Mid-day Referral Group, BNI** Danville Mid-day Referral Group, a chapter of Business Network International, meets from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., every Wednesday, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Call Eric Samuels at 946-1400.

**Danville PM Toastmaster Club #1785** The club meets from 7:30-9 p.m., every Wednesday, at DVC, San Ramon Campus, 1690 Watermill Rd., San Ramon. Guests are welcome. For information call Debra Elmore at 934-3113 or visit [www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com](http://www.danvilletoastmasters1785.com).

**Danville Rotary** The Danville Rotary meets at noon every Monday at the Brass Door, 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. For information, visit [www.danvillerotary.org](http://www.danvillerotary.org).

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

## WEEKEND PREVIEW



BLACKHAWK MUSEUM

## Tractors and Trailers

Blackhawk Museum hosts "Construction: Tractors and Trailers" from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, for ages 3 to 10 at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. This funshop is free with museum admission. Call 736-2277.

### Diablo View Toastmasters AM

Afraid of public speaking? Loose 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](mailto:marie@mmwi.com).

**eWomen Network Accelerated Networking Luncheon** The eWomen Network holds its monthly accelerated networking luncheon from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., the second Thursday of each month, at the Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Call 984-9658.

**Exchange Club of San Ramon Valley** This club meets at noon, monthly on the second Wednesday, at Faz Restaurant, 600 Hartz Ave., Danville. The program features guest speakers and business networking. Guests are welcome with reservations. Call 275-2412 or visit [www.srvexchangeclub.org](http://www.srvexchangeclub.org).

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

**Homeowner/Homebuyer Book Club** The Homeowner/Homebuyer Book Club is a place to learn, share and discuss. It meets at 6 p.m. the first Monday of each month, at 3223 Crow Canyon Road, second floor Conference room, San Ramon. Call 397-2093.

**Kiwanis San Ramon Valley** The San Ramon Valley Kiwanis meets from noon-1:30 p.m. every Thursday, at Round Hill Country Club, 3169 Roundhill Road, Alamo. Meeting includes a guest speaker and lunch. For information, visit its Web site at [www.kiwanis-srv.org](http://www.kiwanis-srv.org).

**Model RC Boaters Association** The Danville Model RC Boaters Association seeks new members. To learn more, call president Rich Mahan at 785-0421.

**Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society** The society meets from 1:15-3 p.m., the third Thursday of every month except August, at the California Savings Building, Rossmoor Shopping

Center, Tice Valley Blvd. and Rossmoor Parkway, Walnut Creek. Guest speakers are at each meeting.

**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.

**Porsche Club of America, Diablo Region** This club is for owners and enthusiasts of all Porsches. It meets at 8 a.m., every Saturday for breakfast at Marie Calendar's, 1101 S. Calif. Blvd., Walnut Creek and at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Strizzi's, 3456 Camino Tassajara, Danville. Visit [www.pca.org/dia](http://www.pca.org/dia).

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

**San Ramon Valley Rotary Club** This club meets for dinner at 7 p.m., every Wednesday, at the Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Guests are welcome. The club offers a great way to make new friends while making a difference in your community. Call Bill at 838-9110.

## Concerts

**22nd Annual Music in the Park** Town of Danville will host the 22nd annual Music in the Park Concert Series featuring Zydeco Flames from 6-8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 18, at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. This concert is free. Call 314-3400.

## Events

**9-11 Remembrance Service** Remember those that were lost on 9-11 at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 11, at San Ramon Memorial Park, at Bollinger Canyon Rd. at San Ramon Valley Blvd. San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson will give a welcome speech and there will be speakers, scouts, bagpipers and an essay contest with cash prizes for students. Call 275-2412.

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**Alamo Block Party** Alamo Rotary Club will host the 25th annual Alamo Block Party and Alamo Music and Wine Festival from 2-11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8, at Alamo Plaza in Alamo. Activities will include fun for the kids in the afternoon, youth bands all day and fun for all in the evening. Proceeds will benefit Alamo schools music programs. Visit [www.alamore.org](http://www.alamore.org).

**Business Showcase Food and Wine Event** Danville Area Chamber of Commerce will host the Business Showcase Food and Wine Event from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 19, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Cost is \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Call 837-4400 or visit [www.danvillecchamber.com](http://www.danvillecchamber.com).

**CCC Master Gardener Garden Walk** Six unique gardens will be included in the CCC Master Gardener Garden Walk from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8, in Lafayette, Orinda, Walnut Creek and Martinez. Early registration is \$15; \$20 after Aug. 31. Call 672-2315.

**Create New Works at Danville Estate of Playwright O'Neill** Bay Area artists are invited to create new works 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Oct. 3-6, at the Tao House. Cost is \$5 per day. Reservations are required, call Bill Carmel at 820-1818 or visit [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org).

**Diablo Region Porsche Concours d'Elegance** Come and participate by showing or viewing exquisite Porsches of all years and styles from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 16, at Heather Farm, 301 N San Carlos, Walnut Creek. Registration opens at 8 a.m. and judging begins at 10 a.m. Cost is \$20 per car for judgment; \$5 for display only. Call 371-2258.

**Farmers Market** The Danville Farmers Market is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., every Saturday at the Railroad Avenue Municipal Parking Lot, at the corner of Railroad and Prospect avenues. Call 825-9090 or visit [www.pcfma.com](http://www.pcfma.com).

**Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Walk** San Ramon Mayor H. Abram Wilson will start the Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Walk from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8, at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Dr., Danville. Cost is \$35, including a red t-shirt and a barbecue lunch after the run. Call 855-1950 or visit [www.hatsoffamerica.us](http://www.hatsoffamerica.us).

**Hot Summer Nights** Danville Merchants' Association will host the last Hot Summer Nights car show of the season from 4-9 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 23, on Hartz Ave., Danville. Staging is at San Ramon Valley High School, 140 Love Lane, Danville. Call Tony at 820-5750 or David at 437-3649.

**SRV Emergency Preparedness Fair** Come to the San Ramon Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 15, at 566 Old Orchard Rd., Danville. View displays from SRV Fire, Danville Police Department, Search & Rescue, Animal Services and more. Free 72-hour Emergency Kits to the first 300 guests. Call 314-3368.

**Synergy Research Institute Essay Contest** Synergy Research Intitute will host an essay contest for students ages 8-18 in regard to the items that are wrong in the "Inconvenient Truth" (book or movie) from Aug. 17-Sept. 5. Entries should be not longer than one page and should be sent to: Synergy Institute, P.O. Box 561, San Ramon 94583 or [ako9@yahoo.com](mailto:ako9@yahoo.com). Winners will be announced on Sept. 5.

## Exhibits

**America's Love of the Automobile** Worthington Gallery West will host "Pin-ups and Pinstripes" exhibit with the 25th anniversary of the Goodguys Rod and Custom Association's hot rod and custom car event from 6-8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 24, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. Call 485-1183 or visit [www.worthington-gallerywest.com](http://www.worthington-gallerywest.com).

**Quilts** Museum of the San Ramon Valley will host an exhibition of Ethel Selberg's scrap quilts which will be on display until Sept. 23, at the museum, on Railroad and Prospect avenues.

Quilting demonstrations are from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 25 and Sept. 8. Summer hours are 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 19-Sept. 23; regular hours are from 1-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday; extended hours are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22 and from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23. Call 837-3750.

**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. Call (415) 931-8131.

## Film

**'Private Life of Sherlock Homes'** San Ramon Library will host a viewing of the 1970's "Private Life of Sherlock Homes" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 20, at the San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St. Refreshments will be provided. Call 973-2850.

**'When I Came Home'** Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center will host a screening of "When I Came Home" from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 22, at Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. This event is free, but donation are accepted. Call 933-7850.

## Fundraisers

**Garage, Garden and Boutique Sale** Helping sick or injured animals during the "Just Like New" garage, garden and boutique sale from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 25, at 4510 Entrada Court, Pleasanton. Proceeds will benefit Valley Humane Society and the Just Like New Fund. Call 846-2512.

**Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Series** Coldwater Creek, Inc. will host a fundraising event for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Series from 4-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9, at Coldwater Creek, Stoneridge Mall, Pleasanton and from 5-7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 16, at Coldwater Creek, Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek. Shoppers will receive a 10% discount off of all merchandise which will be donated to the Komen Foundation. Visit [www.coldwatercreek.com](http://www.coldwatercreek.com) or [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org).

## Health

**Open Gym** Town of Danville is offering Adult Open Gym from 7:30-9:15 a.m., Saturdays, and High School Open Gym, 6-8 p.m., Sundays, both at Los Cerros Middle School Community Gym, 968 Blemer Road, Danville. Discounted pass cards are \$4 for residents, \$5 for non-residents. Call 314-3386.

## Kids and Teens

**Construction: Tractors and Trailers** Blackhawk Museum hosts "Construction: Tractors and Trailers" from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. This funshop is for children ages three and 10 years old. This event is free with museum admission. Call 736-2277.

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

**Library Storytimes** Danville Library will host drop-in summer storytimes until Aug. 20. Mother Goose Time is for children ages 0-2 and is at 10:15 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays; Preschool Storytime is for ages 3-5 at 11:15 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, both at the Danville Library, Children's Reading Room, 400 Front St. Call 837-4889.

**Masks and Mime** Danville Library and Eliot Fintushel presents "Masks and Mime" at 4 p.m., Tuesday, Sept.

11, at the Danville Library, Children's Reading Room, 400 Front St. Program is suited for children ages 5 and up. Call 837-4889.

**Making College Affordable** Danville Library will host a workshop on "Making College Affordable" at 6:15 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 30, at the Danville Library, Mt. Diablo Room, 400 Front St. Seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Call 837-4889.

**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](http://www.mdrymca.org).

## Lectures/ Workshops

**Hope Hospice End-of-Life Workshop** Hope Hospice will host a 8-week End-of-Life workshop from 6:30-9 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 10-Oct. 29, at Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite C, Dublin. Cost is \$75 general; \$120 with CEU's. Call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com).

**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, Aug. 25, at The Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. This event is free for cancer patients and their family and friends. Call 933-0107.

**Making the Most of your Money** Danville Library will host Ken Aslanian-Williams in a seminar on "Making the Most of your Money" from 7-9 p.m., Monday, Sept. 17, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Call 837-4889.

**What's New in Breast Cancer Treatment** The Wellness Community will host a seminar on the latest breast cancer research including advances in treatment from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 30, at Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite A and B, Pleasanton. This event is free. Call 933-0107.

## Literary Events

**Two Cities, One Tale** Residents of Danville and San Ramon are coming together to read "Locked Rooms," by Laurie R. King from Sept. 17-Oct. 29. A free copy of the book is available at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. or at the San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St. Call 837-4889.

## Miscellaneous

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

**Free Computer Instruction** The Danville Library is offering free computer instruction on Word, Excel, Powerpoint or the Internet by appointment only. To make an appointment, visit the Danville Library Information Desk or call 837-4889

**Recycle for Breast Cancer** Recycle for Breast Cancer is open seven days a week accepting free dropoffs for computers, monitors, cell phones, laptops, servers and TVs, at 31 Beta Ct., Suite C, San Ramon. Call 735-7203 or visit [www.recycleforbreastcancer.org](http://www.recycleforbreastcancer.org).

**The Energy Primer for Kids** The Energy Primer for Kids is a 25-page booklet of simple facts pertaining to current energy issues and is useful for adults that are evaluating energy related claims of politicians. For a free copy, write to Synergy Institute, P.O.

Box 561, San Ramon, CA 94583. A speaker is available for groups wishing to hear about the global warming propaganda. Call 837-7612.

Saturday, Aug. 18, at Kolb Park, on Brighton Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$25. Call 831-8355 or visit [www.trivalleydems.com](http://www.trivalleydems.com).

## On Stage

**'Peter Pan'** Diablo Light Opera Company presents "Peter Pan" from Aug. 31-Sept. 29, at Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$17-38. Call 943-7469 or visit [www.dlrca.org](http://www.dlrca.org).

**Hank Williams: Lost Highway** Center Repertory Company presents a musical story of the legendary Hank Williams, "Lost Highway" from Sept. 6-Oct. 6, at Center Repertory Company, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$14-38. Call 943-7469 or visit [www.dlrca.org](http://www.dlrca.org).

**The Golden Follies** A sparkling high energy song and dance revue featuring senior performers ages 57-83 will strut their stuff at 1 and 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, at Victoria's Hair on Stage, 520 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. Tickets are \$25. Call 829-1666 or 803-9020.

## Political Notes

**Tri-Valley Democrats Barbeque** Tri-Valley Democrats will host Congressman Jerry McNerney at its annual barbeque from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.,

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

**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](http://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., on 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 until August, beverage, fruit and dessert are provided. Nonprofit bingo follows. This event is free, but reservations are appreciated by calling 820-4447.

**Valley Oak Respite Center Activities for Seniors** Valley Oak Respite provides an interactive program for frail seniors and those afflicted with Alzheimer's or related dementias and physical disabilities, from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. The cost is \$30 per session, which

includes a morning snack and beverage; participants should bring a bag lunch. For information or an application, call Carmen McCarthy at 945-8040, ext. 53.

## Sports

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

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

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

## Support Groups

**Alamo Women's CODA Meeting** Co-Dependents Anonymous (CODA) is a fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. The group meets from 1-2 p.m., Mondays, at United Methodist Church, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Visit [www.sfbaycoda.org](http://www.sfbaycoda.org) or [www.coda.org](http://www.coda.org).

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

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

**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](http://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.

**Find Help For Addiction** Problems with drug or alcohol addiction in a loved one? Don't know whom to turn to for help? Contact Drug Rehab Resource for a free confidential consultation to find the help you need. Call (866) 649-1594 or visit [www.drugrehabresource.net](http://www.drugrehabresource.net).

**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous** Are you having trouble controlling the way you eat? There is a solution to weight and diet obsession. This effective 12-step program has proven results. There are no dues, fees or weigh-ins. This group meets from 7-8:30 p.m., every Wednesday, at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2100 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek. For a complete listing of East Bay meetings, call 838-1837 or visit [www.foodaddicts.org](http://www.foodaddicts.org).

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

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

**Newly Formed Proactive Group for Women** Support Group for FIBRO, CFF and Chronic Pain meets 12:30-2:30 p.m., every other Wednesday. Call 234-5621 or e-mail [dsashby@msn.com](mailto:dsashby@msn.com).

**Overeaters Anonymous** The group offers a 12-step approach to issues around food, overeating, anorexia and bulimia. There are many different groups that meet at different times and places, visit [www.dvig.org](http://www.dvig.org).

**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.

**SRV Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous** Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free

12-step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, undereating and bulimia. This group meets from 7-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St. Call Gordon at 899-3117 or visit [www.foodaddicts.org](http://www.foodaddicts.org).

**Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group** This group provides peer support for those affected by Parkinson's Disease and for their caregivers, families and friends. The group meets from 10 a.m.-noon, the second Saturday of each month, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call Norman at 831-9940 or Jackie at 244-1231.

## Volunteering

**Animal Fosters Urgently Needed** Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) is looking for short-term fosters for dogs, puppies, cats and kittens. ARF will provide the food, supplies and vet care; all you need to do is provide the love. Call 296-3173 or visit [www.arf.net](http://www.arf.net).

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

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

**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](http://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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:volunteers@hospicecc.org).

**Lindsay Wildlife Museum** Docents are needed to lead class tours, teaching children and others about our

important connection with wildlife and the world we share. No experience needed. Call 627-2444 or visit [www.wildlife-museum.org](http://www.wildlife-museum.org).

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

**Museum of the San Ramon Valley** The Museum of the San Ramon Valley welcomes volunteers and has a current need for greeters who give three hours one day a month to welcome visitors to the museum, register their attendance, and give them an introductory tour of the Waiting Room and the Museum Store. Call Carmen Curtis at 837-9781 or the museum at 837-3750.

**Nike Club Run SF** The Nike Club Run SF training series is a fifteen-week program designed to prepare runners for the Nike Womens Marathon or Half Marathon from 7-11:30 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 21. Volunteers are needed for aid stations to set up tables with water and Gatorade. Call (415) 331-4139 or e-mail [nikeclubrunsf@gmail.com](mailto:nikeclubrunsf@gmail.com).

**Rides for Seniors in Lafayette** Rides for Seniors, based in Lafayette, is looking for volunteers (25 years and older) to allow seniors "to age in place" in their homes and be safe when transported to a doctor appointment or grocery shopping. If you are available for a couple of hours periodically, call 284-6699. Fingerprinting and DMV background check required.

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

**Sheriff Seeks Senior Volunteers** The Sheriff's Valley Station Office in Alamo is seeking people interested in assisting law enforcement in the community. Citizens should have a clean criminal history and would be responsible for one shift a week for four-and-a-half hours. Interested applicants should call James Hogan or Elmer Glasser at 837-2902.

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

**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue** Do you love animals? Become a volunteer or a Foster with Tri-Valley Animal Rescue. Orientations are held from 1-2:30 p.m., the second Saturday and fourth Sunday of each month, at East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Registration is not required to attend the orientation; cost is a \$10 optional donation. Call 803-7043 or visit [www.tvlar.org](http://www.tvlar.org).

**Valley Children's Museum Needs Volunteers** If you are interested in working with kids, Valley Children's Museum is looking for you! For information about volunteer opportunities, call 461-6574, 3 # or e-mail [Linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org](mailto:Linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org).

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

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# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Loud music leads to stabbed thumb and arrest

A 47-year-old man stabbed his roommate with a steak knife at their home in Danville last week, said police Sgt. Troy Craig.

Douglass Rowell, 47, allegedly stabbed his 42-year-old roommate's left thumb at the home the two men share on Valle Vista, east of I-680, on Saturday, Aug. 11, at 7:15 p.m., police said. The stabbing came after an emotional argument over music being too loud, Craig said, noting it was Rowell's tunes that were boisterous.

Rowell, who already had the knife in his hand because he was making dinner, got into a heated verbal fight with the victim. Afterward, the two men engaged in a wrestling match, where

Rowell stabbed his roommate's left thumb. The fight soon stopped.

"It was over as soon as it started," Craig said.

The victim left the home and reported the incident to the Danville Police Department at 8 p.m. that same day, Craig said. As a result, police arrested Rowell on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and took him to Martinez Detention Facility.

"These parties could've put down the music, just walked away or vented in another way," Craig said. "It's an unfortunate incident."

"Just like anything in life, you have to think before you act," he added. "That will save you 90 percent of the grief you face in your lives."

—Jordan M. Daronila

## POLICE LOG

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

### Wednesday, Aug. 8

- \* Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and Turrini Dr. at 11:05 a.m.
- \* Auto burglary on Farragut Pl. at 1:08 p.m.
- \* Auto burglary on Baldwin Dr. and Camino Ramon at 2:03 p.m.
- \* Credit card fraud on El Cerro Blvd. at 3:45 p.m.
- \* Vandalism on Harlan Dr. at 5:36 p.m.
- \* Petty theft on Feliz Ct. at 5:53 p.m.
- \* Vandalism on Brookside Dr. and Zephyr Cir. at 6:20 p.m.

### Thursday, Aug. 9

- \* Forgery of fraudulent documents on Vista Grande St. at 9:17 a.m.
- \* Drugs violation on La Gonda Way at 9:48 a.m.
- \* Felony embezzlement on 300 block of Hartz Ave. at 11:49 a.m.
- \* Petty theft on Vista Grande St. at 12:389 p.m.
- \* Battery on Boone Ct. at 1:34 p.m.
- \* Accident, major injuries, on Ackerman Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 4:02 p.m.

- \* Drugs violation on Railroad Ave. at 7:07 p.m.

- \* Drunk in public on Remington Dr. and Sheri Ln. at 8:26 p.m.

- \* Misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Crow Canyon Rd. at 9:14 p.m.

- \* Promiscuous shooting on Glen Arms Dr. at 9:37 p.m.

### Friday, Aug. 10

- \* Auto burglary on Rubicon Cir. at 7:41 a.m.

- \* Auto burglary on Rubicon Cir. at 12:54 p.m.

- \* Accident, property damage, on Arroyo Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 2:12 p.m.

- \* Petty theft, bicycle, on Contada Cir. and Old Farm Rd. at 5:11 p.m.

- \* Drunk in public on Iron Horse Trail and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 9:36 p.m.

- \* DUI, arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Crow Canyon Rd. at 9:47 p.m.

- \* Trespassing on Sutton Cir. at 11:31 p.m.

### Saturday, Aug. 11

- \* Trespassing on Boone Ct. at 12:45 a.m.

- \* Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Danville Blvd. and El Portal at 1:11 a.m.

- \* Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Ct. at 10:08 a.m.

- \* Warrant arrest on Lawrence Rd. at 1:39 p.m.

- \* Petty theft on Brightwood Cir. at 3:40 p.m.

- \* Vandalism on Santiago Ln. at 5:34 p.m.

- \* Grand theft on Silverwood Ct. at 7:29 p.m.

- \* Assault with a deadly weapon, arrest, on Valle Vista Dr. at 7:43 p.m.

- \* Petty theft on Kuss Rd. at 8:53 p.m.

- \* Drunk in public on Camino Tassajara and Messiah Pl. at 11:16 p.m.

- \* Accident, major injuries, on Squirrel Ridge Way at 11:51 p.m.

- \* Accident, major injuries, on Camino Tassajara and Jasmine Way at 11:52 p.m.

## OBITUARIES

### J.B. Hanning

J.B. Hanning, 89, a resident of Danville, passed away peacefully Friday, July 27 in Walnut Creek surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Dec. 12, 1917, in the Red River Valley of North Texas, and spent most of his life in Fresno and in the Bay Area. His only hobby was, quite simply, meeting and helping other people. After 20 years of faithful service, he retired in 1982 from Stanford University.

He was married for 50 years to Virginia, who preceded him in death. Survivors include his daughter Ronda Garrido and her husband, Roland Garrido, both of Danville; his son Ron Hanning and his wife, Yrene Hanning, both of Dublin; three grandchildren; and two nieces.

A memorial service will be held at noon, Saturday, Aug. 25, at Community Presbyterian Church in Danville. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Caring Hands Volunteer Caregivers Program at John Muir Health Foundation in Walnut Creek and to Prime Time, a senior outreach program at Community Presbyterian Church. J.B. was a grateful recipient from both organizations and enjoyed many friendships, activities and support from these groups.

### Margery Elizabeth Hogan

Margery Elizabeth Hogan, a resident of Danville, passed away July 31 at age 79.

She was born Sept. 23, 1927, in Ukiah to the late Evan and Lucille Jones and she graduated from St. Luke's Hospital's nursing program in San Francisco. She and her husband lived in Orinda, where they raised their three children, and moved in 1974 to their ranch in Danville. She successfully bred and showed Arabian horses for over

20 years. She also volunteered at John Muir Hospital for 21 years to continue with her love of nursing and caring for people, and she was active in the Danville community.

She is survived by her children Michael Hogan (Kathy) of La Quinta, Calif., Patti Sterling (Dana) of Hailey, Idaho, and Deborah Nicolosi (Patrick) of Danville; her sister Marilyn Toler (Hayward) of Vancouver, Wash.; her brother Kenneth Jones of Santa Maria; and her former husband, Ralph Hogan of Orinda; and five grandchildren. A private service will be held at Community Presbyterian Church in Danville at 2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 7. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, or your favorite charity.

### Leonard 'Len' Gallagher

Alamo resident Leonard "Len" Gallagher, 91, died at home the evening of Saturday, Aug. 5, surrounded by his wife and family.

He was born March 1, 1916, in Oakland to Cedric and Marie Hoffman Gallagher. He owned and operated Len's Auto Sales in Oakland for approximately 60 years. He was a longtime member of the Diamond Lion's Club in Oakland.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Helen Nickle Gallagher; daughter Sharon McCarthy Gallagher; four grandchildren; one great-grandson; as well as many nieces and nephews. His son Randy Gallagher preceded him in death. His siblings Helen Clifford, Cedric "Cedie" Gallagher and William Gallagher also preceded him in death.

He requested no funeral or memorial, but instead a good, old-fashioned "Irish wake" with family and friends. The family has requested donations be sent to Kaiser Hospice, 200 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553, in lieu of flowers.



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## Winners of the Mustang Stampede

The U13 Girls Mustang United emerged Champions of the Gold Division of the 2007 Mustang Stampede held recently. The United girls fought hard against Modesto United, with Mackie Johnson scoring the winning goal in a 1-0 shut-out match. Team members are

(back, l-r) Lexie Burton, Megan Gandsey, Samantha Zarling, Megan Turner, Gianna Tubbs, Elaina Keegan, Coach Tim Lewis; (seated) Hannah Clark, Gillian Colburn, Jordann Sherwood, Hailey Mamazuka, Alison Turner and Angela Johnson. Holding the trophy are Madaline Renzi and Mackenzie Johnson. Not Shown: Ashlynn Goerz.



## Eagles soar in Gold Country

The U12 Mustang Eagles were undefeated at the 49er Gold Classic Soccer Tournament in Auburn last weekend and placed third after the points were totaled. Team members are (front, l-r) Phoebe Ritter, Amanda

Saunders, Jessica Schwartz, Olivia Schikora, Stephanie Aurelius, Mariah Kitchin, Taylor Partin; (back row) MGreg Schwartz, Kate Berry, Melissa Freeman, Gabby Franklin, Madison Laird, Alina Kitchin, Emma Sol, Brit Geary, and Head Coach Lee Geary. Not pictured: Sarah Luther and Assistant Coach Paul Freeman.



## Tournament of Champions champs

The Mustang Flash boys U13 D1 team won the championship game at the 2007 Juventus Tournament of Champions in Redwood city. Team members are Matt Anderson,

Jordan Dascalo, Michael Friedler, Lucas Hasselfeld, Grant Hawkins, Austen Kangail, Joe LaCommare, Jackson Meyer, Nick Nesis, Benjamin Panconi, Christian Pesqueira, Nicolas Quero, Kyle Schumann, Christopher Swenson, Sean Tanaka, Matthew Turner and Coach Dave Smith.

## Parent photographers

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



## Colts are best of the Silver

The East Bay Colt 45s baseball team in the 13 and under Silver Division won the Baseball Players Association's Western World Series championship in San Diego on Aug. 8. In the semifinal, the Colt 45s scored nine runs in the home half of the last inning to complete a dramatic come from behind 11-10 win over the Western Nevada Wildcats. In

the championship game, the Colt 45s jumped out to an early lead and held it for an 8-3 win over Bel Passi of Modesto.

Team members are (back, l-r) Pictured: Coach Kyle Gross, Adam Diaz, Mitch Fowler, Andrew Reckers, Ryan Myers, Kevin Wexler, Manager Jason Brosnan, Will Sheifer; (front) Sean Peters, Evan Mason, Dylan Petraglia, Brian Brown, Ryan Horewitz, Collin Nelson and Sam Sarver.

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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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Call Courtney (925)600-1573

**135 Group Activities**  
Stress/Pain Management Strategy

**140 Lost & Found**  
**Bike Found**  
Older woman's Schwinn bike near downtown Pleasanton. 462-6561

**155 Pets**  
**Free to a Good Home!**  
Buddy is a wonderful one-year-old male rescue cat. His is litter trained, very friendly, affectionate and playful and gets along with all ages. He is up-to-date on all his vaccinations and has been combo tested (negative). If interested, please contact (925) 997-1046.

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Max IRS Tax Deductions. United Breat Cancer Foundation. Free Mammograms, breast cancer info, and services <http://www.ubcf.info> FREE towing, Fast, Any Condition Acceptable, 24/7 1-888-468-5964 (AAN CAN)

Acura 2006 MDX- Touring and Navigation - \$34,499

**BMW 1997 740I**  
1997 BMW 740I. Excellent condition inside and out. New tires. 165K miles. \$7,800. 925-866-0460

Mercedes-Benz 2003 E Class E500 - \$29,900

Pace Arrow 1989 Motor Home - \$15,000 OB

### 203 Bicycles

Men's & Women's 15 Speed Peugeot - \$300.00 Bo

### 210 Garage/Estate Sales

Dublin, 8480 Rhoda Ave., Aug. 18, 10-3PM

Pleasanton, 4235 Hayford Ct, Sat 8/18 9-2

### 215 Collectibles & Antiques

Beatles Record - \$2000 OBO  
Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill & Spice - \$89

Coke Machine 846-3306

Football posters - \$9

Garantied Forged Grinder - \$39

Hood's Sarsaparilla bottle - \$28

Olympic Pins - \$3

**Pocket knife collection 50+**  
(60's - 90's)at Space #16, Olde Towne Antiques Mall, 3440 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton. No phone calls.

Radio Flyer pumpercar - \$100 OBO

### 230 Freebies

To Good Home - Guinea Pig - FREE

### 240 Furnishings/Household items

**Bostik's Hardwood Products**  
1 - 5 gallon barrel of Bostik's Best Glue  
6 - 5 gallon barrels of Bostik MVP4 Moisture Protection  
Each barrel \$100.00!

Candles - \$15

Desk/file/shelves - \$800

### LG gas dryer

lg gas dryer front loader less than a year old hardly used

Signed Print - \$7

washer / dryer - 300.00

### 245 Miscellaneous

#### \$8 Prescriptions Eyeglasses

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HOME STAGING CAREER TRAINING - \$249.95

### 250 Musical Instruments

Hammond Spinnet Piano, free deliv - \$550

### 260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Giant Dual Fit Cycle - \$225.00

### 270 Tickets

49ers/Raiders, 8/18, 820-2047

## Kid's Stuff

### 330 Child Care Offered

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After school child care offered for one family by Pediatric Healthcare Worker/Pleasanton Mom with 4 year old. Your home or mine, available to pick up/drop off and accompany children to sports/lessons etc. Excellent driving record, CPR Certified, Excellent references. Before school care also possible. Please call 925-462-2922 or email Mferrill46@yahoo.com

### 340 Child Care Wanted

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### 345 Tutoring/Lessons

Piano Lessons

### 350 Preschools/Schools/Camps

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### 355 Items for Sale

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**C B TILE**  
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**748 Gardening/Landscaping**

**NATIVE GREEN Complete Yard Services**  
Reliable Yard Maintenance, Clean-Up & Sprinkler Repair  
(925) 417-2579

No phone number in the ad?  
GO TO **fogster.com** for contact information

No phone number in the ad?  
GO TO **fogster.com** for contact information

**Pet of The Week**



**The cat whisperer**  
"Whispers" is a beautiful Dilute Tortie housecat with silky long fur that resists matting, but she still likes to be brushed and petted. Whispers is looking for an indoor-only home where she will be pampered. For more information, visit Whispers (pet #70931) at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive, Dublin, open daily 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040. The shelter currently has a large selection of housecats and kittens seeking homes.

**Doggie Daycare & Cageless Boarding**

A place for dogs to play and socialize!  
• Over 9000sf of indoor & outdoor play areas  
24 Hrs attendants • Webcam viewing  
• 15 mins from Pleasanton on I-680  
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**Pet Sitting Services**  
Trained professional, daily visits, basic home care, reliable & caring.  
—Serving Pleasanton / Livermore Only—  
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Registered Veterinary Nurse



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Exceptional Service Guaranteed!  
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**Pleasanton Home Repair**  
Full Service Residential Repairs and Maintenance Dependable ~ 30 Yrs Exp  
Call 925-577-0542  
\* Pleasanton Area Only \*  
Local Ref.-City Lic#040421  
email: ss1177@comcast.net

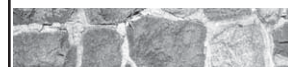
**759 Hauling**

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Dirt Removal / Bobcat Service  
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**ATTENTION HOME OWNERS!**

\* Are you 100% waterproof?  
\* Do you have dry rot?  
\* Need repairs?  
You may have rodents, birds or debris that will damage your roof & gutters.  
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**BIG MONEY - don't delay!**

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
36 Years Expert Roofing  
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**Real Estate**

**805 Homes for Rent**

**PLEASANTON 3 BD/2 BA**  
2-car garage, no pets, non-smoking. \$2000/mo.  
Call Roy, Wayside Realty  
925-600-9351

Pleasanton, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$3150/month

**825 Homes/Condos for Sale**

www.williamsteam.net/ Gorgeous Home W/ Carriage House!, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$1,689,000

www.williamsteam.net/ Great Duet W/ Loft!, 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$499,000

www.williamsteam.net/ Great Home & Huge Rv/boat Parking, 3 BR/2 BA - \$525,000

www.williamsteam.net/ Great Home! Must See!, 3 BR/2 BA - \$535,000

www.williamsteam.net/ New On The Market & Beautiful!, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$1,165,000



**Danville, 5+ BR/3.5 BA**  
BRING ALL OFFERS! 3427sqft, Pool/ Spa, Tri Level, virtual tour at www.northstatefinancial.com

Dublin, 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$525,000

**OPEN HOUSE - PLEASANTON**  
6384 Alvord Way, Sun 1-4  
4 Bd/2 Ba - New Upgrades  
(925) 989-7962 for info

Pleasanton, 2 BR/1.5 BA - \$399,960

**Pleasanton, 4 BR/4+ BA**  
PRICE REDUCED OVER \$200,000 for this custom estate home on "resort-like" half-acre lot in Pleasanton's quiet, secluded Foxbrough Estates. Go to www.871grayfox.com to see & hear a 49-photo slide tour and obtain a detailed features list and open house schedule. One of the best fine-home values on the market today!

San Ramon, 4 BR/3 BA - \$1,098,000



**Santa Cruz, 5+ BR/4+ BA**  
3 Private Homes and a Storybook Cottage on Gorgeous 23 acre Estate. Meadow, forest, creek, green house, pool, shop... \$2,750,000.  
Call Rob 831 469 0551, or Tom Brezney Realtor 831 464 5231  
www.389robson.com

**SONORA - Creekside 3 Bd/2 Ba**  
1700 sq ft, A/C, appliances, 400 sq ft storage area.  
Great location! \$465,000.  
925-462-3485

www.williamsteam.net/ Walk To Downtown Pleasanton!, 1 BR/1 BA - \$310000

**830 Commercial/ Income Property**

**DANVILLE OFFICE FOR RENT**  
1150-1700 sf. ~ \$2.65 per sf.  
(925)743-8500, Ext 102

**OFFICE SPACE/PLEASANTON**

Office space available in Pleasanton professional office building. Great location with plenty of parking! Approximately 500 sq. feet, with central air/heating, alarm system, and like new with recent new painting and carpeting. Rent is \$825.00/mo. All outside maintenance, garbage, and water included. Utilities paid by renter. For further information or to see space, please e-mail request with phone number for return contact or call: 925-462-2600

**840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares**

**East, Sta, Fill'er Up**  
at Boomtown Casino Hotel Reno. 3 days, 2 nights, two lunch buffets and \$50 in gas! Starting at \$99. Call 1-877-726-6686. (Cal-SCAN)

**Timeshare!!**  
PAYING TOO MUCH 4 maintenance fees and taxes? Sell/rent your timeshare for cash. No Commissions/Broker Fees. 1-877-868-1931. www.VPResales.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Kauai, HI Golf Resort Condo**  
Beautiful Cliffs Golf Resort Condo in Kauai, Hawaii Ocean Views + Office & DSL connection 2BD,2BA located in Princeville Resort.Rate: \$850 per week, Please email us at "cliffs5307@yahoo.com"

**MENDOCINO COAST (Gualala)**  
Lovely pvt. ocean home on spectacular point, 3bedroom, 2baths, all amenities, hot tub, fireplace, pvt beach access, whales, pelicans-week or weekends, 925-837-7864



**The Village At Northstar**  
Enjoy a World Class Summer Vacation in the "2006 built" 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath,(sleeps 6) condominium at the Village at Northstar. Mid-week rates are \$269/night. Rates increase seasonally. 925 484 2045

**845 Out of Area**

**1st Time Offered**  
40 acres - \$39,900; 80 acres - \$69,900. Near Moses Lake, WA. 300 days of sunshine. Mix of rolling hills and rock outcroppings. Excellent views, private gravel roads, ground water and easy access! Financing available. Call WALR 1-866-585-5687. (Cal-SCAN)

**1st time offered**  
Colorado Mountain Ranch. 35 acres - \$39,900. Priced for Quick Sale. Overlooking a majestic lake, beautifully treed, 360 degree mountain views, adjacent to national forest. EZ terms. 1-888-640-9023. (Cal-SCAN)

**1st time offered - Arizona.**  
Show Low area. 6 acres - \$39,900. Cool climate, spectacular views of White Mountains, trees, horse privileges, nearby lakes, priced well below comparables, offered by AZLR. ADWR report available. 1-866-551-5687. (Cal-SCAN)

**1st time offered.**  
New Mexico Ranch Dispersal. 140 acres - \$99,900. River Access. Northern New Mexico. Cool 6,500' elevation with stunning views. Great tree cover including Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great hunting. EZ Terms. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-866-354-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

**A Rare Find New Mexico.**  
Lake Access Retreat - 10 acres - \$29,900. Priced For Quick Sale. Incredible setting, including frequently running Pecos River, views and diverse topography. Limited availability. Excellent financing. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-204-9760. (Cal-SCAN)

**Absolute Steal - Arizona Ranch**  
Liquidation. 36 AC - \$59,900. Perfect for private retreat. Endless views. Beautiful setting with fresh mountain air. Abundant wildlife. Secluded with good access. Financing available. Offered by AZLR 1-877-301-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

**Arizona Land Liquidation!**  
Near Tucson, Football Field Sized Lots. \$0 Down/ \$0 Interest, \$159/mo. (\$18,995 total). Free Information. Money Back Guarantee! 1-800-682-6103 Op #10. (Cal-SCAN)

**Beautiful Montana Ranch**  
Land Everyone can afford! 160 Acres & up - Under \$900/acre with financing available! Pines, hills, coulees, grassy parks, BLM and state land, elk, whitetails, muleys & gamebirds. Call Western Skies Land Co. anytime @ 1-888-361-3006 or check out www.MontanaLandAndCamps.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Drastically reduced!**  
36 acres - \$89,900. Arizona - Wickenburg area. Motivated seller wants a quick sale. Ideal climate, spectacular views, wildlife, privacy. EZ terms. ADWR report available. Saddle Creek Ranch is offered by AZLR 1-888-246-1914. (Cal-SCAN)

**Fish Lake Valley, NV.**  
10 ac Trout Stream \$59,900. Endless Recreational Opportunities. Spectacular views of Eastern slope of snowcapped White Mountains. Within looming presence of Nevada's highest peak and range. Cool, clear year round Rainbow Trout Creek. Call today! Won't last! Call 1-877-349-0822. (Cal-SCAN)

**Land for Sale:**  
Affordable Tennessee Mountain Property. 5 Acres and Up from \$29,900. Borders a 12,000 acre equestrian center. Call 1-800-708-8157. www.RockCastleFarms.com (Cal-SCAN)

**New to Market.**  
3.5 ac Ranch Homesites, starting at \$39,900 outside Ruidoso, New Mexico. Located 30 minutes outside Ruidoso. Affordable living with no compromises. Stunning land, hard surfaced roads, municipal water, adjacent to golf, convenient to all Ruidoso has, but more affordable, bigger & prettier. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-417-2624. (Cal-SCAN)

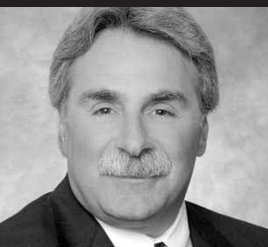
**So. Colorado Ranch Sale.**  
35 Acres - \$39,900 Spectacular Rocky Mountain Views. Year round access, elec/ tele included. Come for the weekend, stay for a lifetime. Excellent financing available w/ low down payment. Call Red Creek Land Co. today! 1-866-696-5263 x2679. (Cal-SCAN)

**Southern Oregon Coast.**  
Unique executive home, w/private lake. Come enjoy our cool summers. Beautifully remodeled home. Pictures available on ebay #110147885884. \$599,000. (541)404-2871. (Cal-SCAN)

**Wyoming Ranch Liquidation.**  
35 acres - \$59,900. Recreational paradise perfect getaway. Great climate, wildlife, easy access. Title insurance, surveyed. Financing. Call UTLR 1-888-703-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

**855 Real Estate Services**

**UCB Real Estate**



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owner/broker

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**Bank Foreclosures**

Homes from \$10,000! 1-3 bedroom available! HUD, Repos, REOs, etc. These homes must sell! For Listings Call 1-800-425-1620 ext. 3241. (AAN CAN)

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We can Help your pre-foreclosure situations- Call for help today 925-600-8076

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# www. The Combs Team .com



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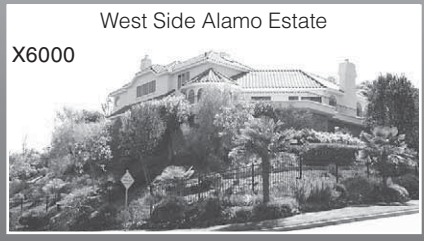
Call Joe and Nancy  
**925-989-6086**

Visit [www.thecombsteam.com](http://www.thecombsteam.com)



Joe Combs

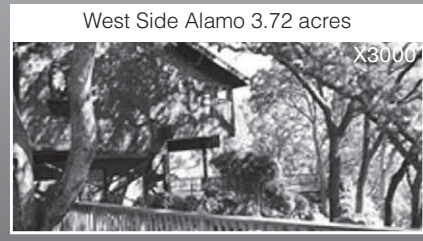
**24 Hour Free Audio Tour (866) 374-0607**



West Side Alamo Estate

X6000

Gated Estate Property in West Side Alamo Updated \$2,239,000



West Side Alamo 3.72 acres

X3000

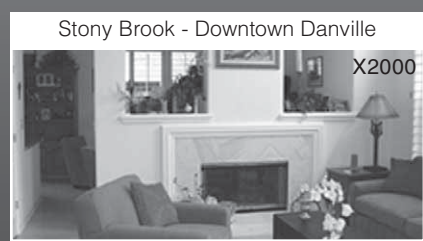
Four bedroom with Guest Home, pool and incredible views \$2,179,000



Diablo West Cul De Sac

X1000

Completely updated 4 bedroom 1/3 of an acre \$1,340,000



Stony Brook - Downtown Danville

X2000

Absolutely Stunning Model 5 Completely Updated Call for details

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



# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during July 2007

### Danville

**34 Bottlebrush Court**

Heidelberg Trust to J. Edy for \$998,500

**360 BridgeSide Circle L.**

Mortensen to K. Mortensen for \$570,000

**819 Buckingham Place W. & D.** Homer to J. & M. Coleman for \$1,165,000

**3479 Cashmere Street** Shapell Industries to J. & E. Tran for \$925,000

**417 Corte Dorado P. & E.** Penn to W. & A. Cummings for \$999,000

**3358 Deer Hollow Drive J.** Gray to C. & S. Lawson for \$1,530,000

**67 Deer Meadow Lane C.** Doue to V. Cuoco for \$990,000

**650 Dunhill Drive J. & L.** Kalajian to Staab Trust for \$1,165,000

**200 El Dorado Avenue #17** J. Messana to J. Noble for \$415,000

**112 Garden Creek Place** L. Hoffman to J. Couch for \$565,000

**629 Hartley Drive J.** Sturges to R. & E. Botsford for \$507,000

**10 Homestead Court** C. Bjorkman to P. & M. Wirganowicz for \$1,945,000

**609 Las Barrancas Drive** L. Hickson to L. Hoffman for \$1,080,000

**1021 Lehigh Valley Circle S. & C.** Hedstrom to A. & C. Lowe for \$865,000

**1141 Mustang Drive Z.** Gurson to A. Hessler for \$815,000

**2223 Oneida Circle C.** McLaughlin to M. Kessinger for \$652,000

**75 Princeton Court** Platt Trust to A. & M. Mahler for \$1,340,000

**933 Redwood Drive** Bellow Trust to L. Marver for \$1,100,000

**917 Saddlehorn Court** Shapell Homes to S. Madineni for \$1,250,000

**3698 Silver Oak Place C. & T.** West to J. & L. Atta for \$717,500

**206 St. Christopher Drive** Mortensen Trust to P. & S. Seybold for \$895,000

**462 Veda Drive G.** Mitchell to M. Traikoff for \$912,500

### Alamo

**320 Cross Road F.** Kaiser to Robson Trust for \$1,456,000

### San Ramon

**1401 Allanmere Drive J.** Pugay to J. & M. Cocagne for \$1,025,000

**2150 Arlington Way** Brookfield Saville to K. Venkataramana for \$800,500

**2159 Arlington Way** Brookfield Saville to V. & V. Pulapa for \$801,000

**3867 Ayers Way S.** Kang to T. Mckercher for \$927,500

**7235 Balmoral Way** Lennar Homes to A. Patel for \$1,154,500

**2010 Bent Creek Drive** Casale Trust to Bumanlag Trust for \$889,000

**1769 Blakesley Drive R. & J.** Cornelia to J. Johnson for \$865,000

**6233 Byron Lane** Centex Homes to L. & L. Jethani for \$575,000

**1314 Cedarwood Loop** Shapell Industries to A. & A. Maqsood for \$640,000

**3144 Cedarwood Loop** Shapell Industries to C. & N. Chestnut for \$737,500

**3332 Chartwell Street** Richmond American Homes to D. Chew for \$750,000

**42 Chaucer Court** Veach-Wood Trust to F. & D. Carney for \$1,000,000

**194 Copper Ridge Road #64** Legacy Copper Ridge to H. Cominiello for \$420,000

**101 Copper Ridge Road** Legacy Copper Ridge to E. Hoffman for \$529,000

**235 Copper Ridge Road** Legacy Copper Ridge to J. & S. Aguilar for \$435,000

**247 Copper Ridge Road** Legacy Copper Ridge to G. & A. Smith for \$485,000

**248 Copper Ridge Road** Legacy Copper Ridge to L. Beeler for \$405,000

## 4055 Stone Valley Oaks Dr., Alamo

OPEN SUN 1-4



Gorgeous Stone Valley Oaks Home on Private 1/2 acre lot backing to Open Space! Elegant newer 4530 sq ft (+/-) home featuring 5 bedrooms, each with its own private bathroom, plus an office and powder bath, fabulous gourmet cherry/granite/stainless kitchen with island and built-in refrigerator, stunning foyer and living room with 2 story ceiling, spacious family room with built-in entertainment center, luxurious master suite with retreat and inviting marble bath with dual walk-in closets, and private pool-sized lot with patio and gazebo, with captivating views of the hills! \$2,499,900.



Go to [680Homes.com](http://680Homes.com) for a virtual tour and more information on this home.



Doug Buenz  
925.463.2000

Real Estate. Real Professional. Real Results.



## 1023 Sycamore Valley Way Pleasanton



Luxury showcase home! 5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms, bright, expansive living space. Gourmet kitchen, private master retreat, French doors, hardwood floors, granite and marble throughout, guest suite on main floor. Enjoy peaceful and relaxing professionally landscaped yard. Minutes to downtown, Castlewood, Callippe Ridge golf courses, views and more! Open Sunday 1-4.

Offered at \$1,950,000



Donna Marino

925-963-7428

[www.donnamarino.com](http://www.donnamarino.com)



# DANVILLE WEEKLY OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

For an online version with mapping or to list your open home go to: [www.DanvilleWeekly.com/real\\_estate](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com/real_estate)

## ALAMO

**3 Bedrooms**  
**1374 Danville Blvd.** **\$699,900**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 989-8920

**4 Bedrooms**  
**46 Vista Ln.** **\$1,445,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 672-2499

**5 Bedrooms**  
**2618 Danville Blvd.** **\$1,550,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 RE/MAX Accord 209-1131

**4055 Stone Valley Oaks Dr.** **\$2,499,900**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 463-2000

**430 Livorna Rd.** **\$2,899,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Empire 963-8294

## BLACKHAWK

**3 Bedrooms**  
**3661 Country Club Ter.** **\$2,198,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818

**3670 Silver Oak Pl.** **\$749,999**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 413-1068

**106 Kingswood Cir.** **\$889,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 577-4004

**4 Bedrooms**  
**311 Live Oak Dr.** **\$1,149,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 577-4004

**5 Bedrooms**  
**3357 Deer Hollow Dr.** **\$2,499,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 817-9079

**3401 Deer Ridge Dr.** **\$2,549,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818

**6 Bedrooms**  
**5483 Blackhawk Dr.** **\$3,495,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-2239

## DANVILLE

**2 Bedrooms**  
**1081 San Ramon Valley Blvd.** **\$462,500**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 837-7110

**581 Old Farm Rd.** **\$614,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818

**152 Westfield Cir.** **\$619,900**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 791-2600

**3 Bedrooms**  
**114 Heritage Park Dr.** **\$699,950**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 200-5026

**4 Bedrooms**  
**20 Cannes Ct.** **\$1,049,900**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 791-2600

**18 Ambleside Ct.** **\$1,099,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818

**663 Bourne Ct.** **\$1,299,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4035

**553 Verona Ave.** **\$1,385,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4115

**668 Park Hill Rd.** **\$1,389,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4123

**317 Ranger Pl.** **\$849,850**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4049

**5 Bedrooms**  
**60 Casablanca St.** **\$1,050,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 998-1818

**405 Skycrest Dr.** **\$1,070,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-8883

**24 Campbell Pl.** **\$1,499,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-9799

**105 Estates Dr.** **\$1,750,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-8883

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

## SAN RAMON

**2 Bedrooms**  
**108A Norris Canyon Pl.** **\$385,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-2508

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

**3 Bedrooms**  
**1465 Allanmere Dr.** **\$949,950**  
 Sun 2-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

## DUBLIN

**2 Bedrooms**  
**7406 Oxford Cir.** **\$518,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 510-304-3730

**3 Bedrooms**  
**3676 Whitworth** **\$565,000**  
 Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4134

**11750 Silvergate Dr.** **\$639,500**  
 Sun 2-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 202-5508

**4513 Peacock Ct.** **\$829,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-8883

**4 Bedrooms**  
**8333 Creekside Dr.** **\$1,190,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

**4340 Foxworth Wy.** **\$895,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 337-2989

**5 Bedrooms**  
**5627 Applegate Wy.** **\$914,990**  
 Sun 1-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

## PLEASANTON

**2 Bedrooms**  
**4121 Amberwood Cir.** **\$495,950**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 417-8611

**7425 Stonedale Dr.** **\$569,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7000

**5128 Rappolla Ct.** **\$679,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3817

**3 Bedrooms**  
**4355 2nd St.** **\$1,069,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

**4641 Jefferson Ct.** **\$749,950**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

**503 Saint John St.** **\$784,950**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

**4 Bedrooms**  
**1147 Mataro Ct.** **\$1,025,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755

**812 Genevieve Pl.** **\$1,099,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

**1397 Whispering Oaks Wy.** **\$1,132,888**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

**5972 Via Del Cielo** **\$1,150,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 577-4663

**668 Abbie St.** **\$1,649,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 413-1912

**6390 Calle Altamira** **\$759,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 417-8627

**3884 Stone Pointe Wy.** **\$764,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tri-Valley Realtors 270-9000

**3171 Chardonnay Dr.** **\$809,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755

**5 Bedrooms**  
**5725 Ohana Pl.** **\$2,195,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

## LIVERMORE

**3 Bedrooms**  
**116 Barber St.** **\$499,950**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7008

**1045 Madrone** **\$529,000**  
 Sat/Sun 11-5 UCB 351-8686

**4 Bedrooms**  
**6608 Tiffany Cmn.** **\$589,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown Gmac 548-2137

**575 Brookfield Dr.** **\$655,000**  
 Sat 1:30-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7020

**4052 Emerson Dr.** **\$839,950**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tri-Valley Realtors 270-9000



**Mary Robbins**  
 Partner  
 925.217.5048  
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### 430 Livorna Road | Alamo

Offered for \$2,899,000

**GATED ALAMO COUNTRY ESTATE.** This stately Georgian style home located at the foot of majestic Mt. Diablo offers the ultimate in sophistication and elegance. 5 bedrooms plus office/media room, 4 full baths, powder room, gourmet cooks dream kitchen and lavish master retreat. Backyard is the perfect setting for gracious entertaining and comfortable living...California Style!



# J. Rockcliff



REALTORS

THE EAST BAY'S PREMIER  
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### ALAMO

**Gated Neighborhood \$6,500,000**  
New estate with 9500+/-sf on over 1.5 level acres! Extensive use of crown moldings & wainscoting, triple edged granite, water-cut marble & more. 6-car garage.

**Pamela Schmidt & Sharon Dare**

**925.855.4018**



### ALAMO

**Stunning in Stonegate \$1,988,000**  
Price enhanced on this lovely 4bd, 4.5ba home. Built in 1990 with almost 4700sf and beautiful views. 3-car garage.

**Michael Kwiatkowski**

**510.612.8008**



### ALAMO

**Entertainer's Delight! \$1,550,000**  
Executive home with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, extensive hardwood floors, attention to detail. Private yard with patios, lawn, pool & spa.

**EJ Simpson & Nancy Benvenuto**

**925.360.8300**



### DANVILLE

**Absolutely Stunning \$1,499,950**  
5bd, 5ba, numerous upgrades throughout: custom paint, crown moulding & woodwork, plantation shutters, marble flooring, gourmet kitchen & more.

**The Khrista Jarvis Team**

**925.855.4065**



### ALAMO

**Totally Remodeled-Price Reduced \$1,445,000**  
Located down a peaceful lane on Westside, 4bd, 3ba, slab granite in kitchen with wood & travertine floors. Many French doors & new windows.

**McDougall Team**

**925.672.2499**



### DANVILLE

**Beautifully Remodeled and Expanded \$1,399,000**  
And reduced! 4bd, 3ba with loft. Open floor plan, master on first floor. Spacious landscaped yard backing to open space. Situated on .35+/- acre lot.

**Catherine Kaufer**

**925.586.5456**



### DANVILLE

**Beautiful Westside Danville \$1,385,000**  
Completely remodeled throughout. 4bd, 2.5ba, fantastic granite kitchen, baths, laundry, molding are all a 10! Hardwood floors. Backyard w/pool & sport court.

**Mark Traikoff**

**925.855.4115**



### ALAMO

**Breathtaking Mt. Diablo Views \$1,149,000**  
Quality gourmet slab granite kitchen, hardwood floors, new carpet, cedar planked vaulted ceilings, wall of glass. 3bd, 3ba. Truly dramatic.

**Bonnie King**

**925.736.8411**



### DANVILLE

**Shadow Creek Beauty \$1,189,900**  
Beautifully remodeled granite/cherry kitchen, new flooring, remodeled baths, Brazilian cherry flooring, soaring ceilings, quiet court location. 4bd, 3ba.

**Lisa & Greg Doyle**

**925.855.4046**

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Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925.280.8500

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925.253.7000

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15 Railroad Ave.  
Danville, CA 94526  
925.855.4000

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4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle  
Danville, CA 94506  
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