

## Go, Mustangs

New soccer complex ready to open next month > **page 5**

Vol. III, Number 21 • September 21, 2007

www.DanvilleWeekly.com

### Summer evening cruisin'

Beach bike enthusiasts hold weekly rides

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# Danville

## W E E K L Y

*Mailed free to homes in Danville, Blackhawk, Diablo and Alamo*

### One giant book club

CityRead places books throughout town for a community read

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# Muslims in the Valley

page 12

Knowing 'our neighbors, our friends'



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# Streetwise

ASKED AT DOWNTOWN DANVILLE

## Q: How do you feel about office romances?



It seems that it's more trouble than it's worth. There's plenty of fish in the sea. Why date people in your own office?

**Charles Meng**  
wardrobe consultant



I'm married to someone I had an office romance with. We met at work, and we were both single at the same time. We became friends, then fell in love and got married.

**Holly Rios**  
real estate sales



I think they're big no no's. I stay away from them. I know people who have had them, they never turn out well, and then they have to go to work with this person and see them every day.

**Kelly Bitzer**  
mom



It's the most dangerous romance you can have. The truth always comes out and then you're in trouble. I have seen it. Never, never in the same ZIP code. Even single people, they split up and then they're in trouble.

**Juergen Coste**  
retired businessman



I think it's a bad, bad idea. First of all, I don't think it sets anyone up for anything good. Maybe 1 percent end well, with marriage, but the others are just lust. Not to mention the whole sexual harassment thing. Someone is going to get nabbed on that.

**Lisa Kallen**  
client representative

compiled by Danville Weekly staff

### ABOUT THE COVER

Muslims gather together and pray at the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center. Photo by Jordan M. Daronila. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ We know it's not the right nickname unless the person really hates it. ”

—Cindy Toomey, about assigning names to new members of Norm's Place Cruiser club. See story, page 16.

## ‘Secrets of O’Neill’

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley is offering a special walking tour of historic downtown Danville in conjunction with this weekend's Eugene O'Neill Festival. The tour is called “The Secrets of O'Neill in Danville,” and will be led by museum docent and O'Neill expert Carolyn Thiessen.

The free tour begins at 3:15 p.m., tomorrow, Sept. 22, at the Town Meeting Hall, 201 Front St., after the 1:30 p.m. seminar, “O'Neill: Young and Restless.” The tour will include the O'Neill Commemorative in Front Street Park and will focus on Danville in the O'Neill years, 1937-1944.

## Spelling champ meets the president

Danville spelling champ Evan O'Dorney, 14, winner of the 2007 Scripps Spelling Bee Championship, met with President Bush in the Oval Office in Washington, D.C., on Monday, Sept. 17. He was accompanied by his mom Jennifer, who is also his homeschool teacher, and his dad Mike. Evan won the national competition in May by correctly spelling the word “serrefine.”

## Wine fest raises \$25,000

The 25th annual Alamo Music and Wine Festival, sponsored by Alamo Rotary, raked in \$25,000, which will be used for college scholarships and service projects, said club president Al Makely. Around 3,000 people attended the event on Sept. 8.

“We made record profits,” Makely said. “The music was well-received. We got tremendous compliments. We considered it a block party. We got great publicity.”

The majority of the money will be used for scholarships. Some funds will be donated to student service clubs, as well as used for local projects, Makely said, such as the benches throughout Alamo.

## Grand opening in Alamo

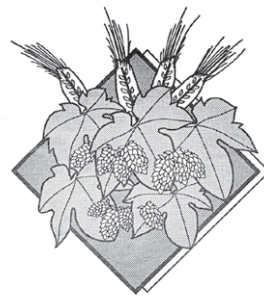
The IM=X Pilates Studio is holding a grand opening tomorrow, Sept. 22, at its new location in Alamo Plaza. The studio will offer the attention of a personal trainer to provide clients with specific program prescriptions and goals, according to owner Steven J. Smith. It also will offer unlimited sessions.

IM=X stands for Integrated Movement Xercise. The program combines the best of Pilates with strength training and cardiovascular conditioning, according to the press release.

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Mustang Under-6 soccer players charge onto the field to begin their new season last weekend. The new 10-acre Mustang Soccer Complex will open in the Tassajara Valley next month, with two all-weather fields and a two-story field house.

## Mustang complex ready for play

Facility sports two playing fields, new headquarters for soccer league

by **Jordan M. Doronila**

**F**ive thousand young players donned in red and white will take over their new 10-acre soccer complex in full force next month in the Tassajara Valley.

The Mustang Soccer League is putting the finishing touches on its long-awaited Mustang Soccer Complex on Camino Tassajara, next to Alamo Creek homes and across from Tassajara Hills Elementary School in Danville. The entire complex is scheduled to be completed by mid October.

"It's a great facility," said John Warnlof, a former Mustang board director. "The soccer complex is really something special. There is nothing else like it in Northern California."

The complex contains two lighted artificial turf fields, a warm-up area and a 4,200-square-foot field

house, which will be headquarters for the league starting next month. The Mustang Soccer League, a nonprofit group that provides soccer for children from ages 5 to 18 in the San Ramon Valley, currently has its offices in the Town and Country Shopping Center.

The artificial turf is 60 percent ground rubber and 40 percent sand, which makes it softer for players, said Mustang officials.

"We don't have to worry about sprinkling systems," said Dwight Maloney, soccer coach and secretary of Tassajara Soccer Complex Inc., which is in charge of the center's development.

The galvanized steel fences in vinyl surround the fields, with young shade trees and grass planted between the two turfs. The complex also has plants that

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## Fire bill kills after campaign against it

Torlakson supports law to ban toxic retardants

by **Jordan M. Doronila**

**A** blitzkrieg of ads saying: "A DEADLY MISTAKE" and "EVERY SECOND COUNTS WHEN ESCAPING A FIRE" roared throughout Contra Costa County and across California.

They were referring to recent state Assembly Bill 706, sponsored by Assemblyman Mark Leno (D, San Francisco), that bans brominated and chlorinated fire chemi-

cals, fire retardants, on furniture and clothing.

Although the chemicals slow the process when fire ignites, they create dioxins when they are burned; and in effect, they can cause cancer when firefighters inhale them, Leno said. The bill passed the Assembly but faced a slight majority of negative votes in the state Senate, killing it Sept 12, on a vote of 20-19.

Residents in the San Ramon Valley received dramatic mailers,

with pictures of flames torching a home, frightened children and helpless elderly, urging them to call their representatives and vote against the bill.

"I think they are deceptive," said state Sen. Tom Torlakson (D, District 7), who represents Danville. "People behind the ads (should) let us know who they are and how much they funded (the campaign)."

"It's misleading information," he added.

Californians for Fire Safety was the group responsible for paying for the ads against the bill. Flame retardants play a critical role in making homes, apartments, hospitals and other facilities safe from fire, its Web site said.

The group said retardants help prevent fires from starting and slow the growth rate of fires that do start, and they are widely used in furniture, fabrics, electronics, electrical appliances, and all forms of public transportation.

But Leno said when firefighters are exposed to burning retardants, they have an elevated risk of four types of cancers, including multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, prostate cancer and testicular cancer, according to the November 2006 Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. The dioxins that may cause cancer are found in soot and smoke and are the likely source of elevated cancer risk, Leno said.

"The measure was a logical safety improvement," said Torlakson. "Why put residents in houses, offices and firefighters in danger with hazardous chemicals?"

Torlakson, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said there are alternatives to protect furniture and items without using brominated and chlorinated retardants. Also, the standards of flammability can still be maintained. There are manufacturers that make furniture resistant to fire, his legal aides said.

He noted the bill may be revived in the next session.

Gene Gantt, a firefighter and legislative director for the California Fire Chiefs Association, which

► Continued on page 6

## Free books kick off CityRead

Join the crowd—read 'Locked Rooms'

by **Dolores Fox Ciardelli**

**R**eading is a solitary activity. Unless everyone in town is reading the same book.

For the last four years, residents of Danville and San Ramon have joined together for a big community read of the same novel, which is chosen by the librarians who read reviews and consider suggestions from the public.

This year's read is the mys-

tery "Locked Rooms" by Laurie R. King, with characters that include Mary Russell, her husband Sherlock Holmes and sleuthing partner Dashiell Hammett.

"What we look for every year is a California connection," said Danville Senior Branch Librarian Seng Lovan. "We picked this year's book because it is set in San Francisco, about 1920 San Francisco, then it flashes back to the 1906 earthquake."

The first year, they chose "Cannery Row," then "The Maltese Falcon," and last year, "The Samurai's Garden." Now they are back to mysteries.

"We look for cross-over appeal to men as well as women, teens as well as adults," said Lovan.

Copies of "Locked Rooms" were distributed Monday morning to Cherubini's in Alamo; Peets and Starbucks, and Rakestraw books in Danville, as well as at the school district offices; Bay Books in San Ramon; and of course, it's at all three libraries. San Ramon now has a second library called Dougherty Station, which is a joint operation with the Diablo Valley College campus.

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Duane and Lanya Gates deliver copies of "Locked Rooms" to Peet's Coffee in Danville first thing Monday morning. They had 14 destinations—coffee shops and books stores all over Danville and Alamo. Once the books are delivered, they will keep refreshing the supplies.



Lucky again offers shopping in Danville on San Ramon Valley Boulevard after it was converted from Albertson's last week.

## Lucky again

Supermarkets go back to beloved old name

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

What's in a name? Plenty, say executives at Save Mart, which purchased Albertson's grocery stores in February and is changing 72 locations back to Lucky.

In 1999, small airplanes hired by Albertson's flew overhead dragging banners asking, "Will you marry me, Lucky?"

Not only did the supermarkets marry, Lucky took Albertson's name, and its identity. Albertson's was pur-

chased by Cerberus in January 2006, which was, in turn, bought by Save Mart Supermarkets Inc.

The Danville store on San Ramon Valley Boulevard next to Longs Drugs became Lucky again last week. It was closed on Wednesday and Thursday, and reopened Friday with a new sign, a spiffed up interior, lowered prices and new uniforms for the staff.

"It's easier to find things, said David Kerr, pointing to the new overhead signs in the aisles on Tuesday morning.

Kerr, a Danville resident for 45 years, said he lives a mile and a half from the store so he has shopped there no matter who owned it.

"I think it's wonderful now," he said.

The purchase finalized in February included 130 grocery stores in Northern California and Nevada.

"We elected to only change 72 of them back to the Lucky banner," said Save Mart spokeswoman Alicia Rockwell. "We did research of the consumer base and the name kept coming back. Some of those shoppers never really stopped calling them 'Lucky.'"

The remainder of the stores will fly the Save Mart banner, she

said, and two of the Albertson's closed locations, on Monument Boulevard in Concord and in Brentwood, will be reopened as FoodMaxx. The closed location on Diablo Road near I-680 was not part of the purchase.

"A lot of the employees originally worked for Lucky when it was independently owned," Rockwell noted. "If they said it once, they said it a million times—they would love to see the name change."

Prices have been lowered on thousands of items, with notations telling the current and the former price, said Rockwell. Lucky will not have the card program used by Albertson's and these savings will be shared across the board, she added.

She said that, being based in Modesto, Save Mart has a commitment to fresh locally grown produce, which is delivered six days a week from Central Valley and the coastal regions.

Customer Liz Johnson stopped to talk after loading her groceries, and her child, into her car. She said she lives in Danville and shops at the location periodically.

"I like it being Lucky," she said. "I remember it from being Lucky when I was little." ■

## Fire bill

► Continued from page 5

comprises fire districts across the state, including the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, said he is working with both sides to develop a compromise.

"Our concern is fire safety in homes," Gantt said. "We neither oppose nor advocate the bill."

He said supporters can say they have scientific studies that show the negative effects of fire retardants; and opponents can find data of how it's vital to safety.

"We are not in the middle of what science is," he said.

But his organization did send a letter of concern that if retardants are taken out of homes, there may be a missing gap of protection for residents in case a fire occurs.

Gantt said firefighters have to deal with many hazardous chemicals—not just brominated or chlorinated. He noted that dioxins also occur naturally in a forest fire.

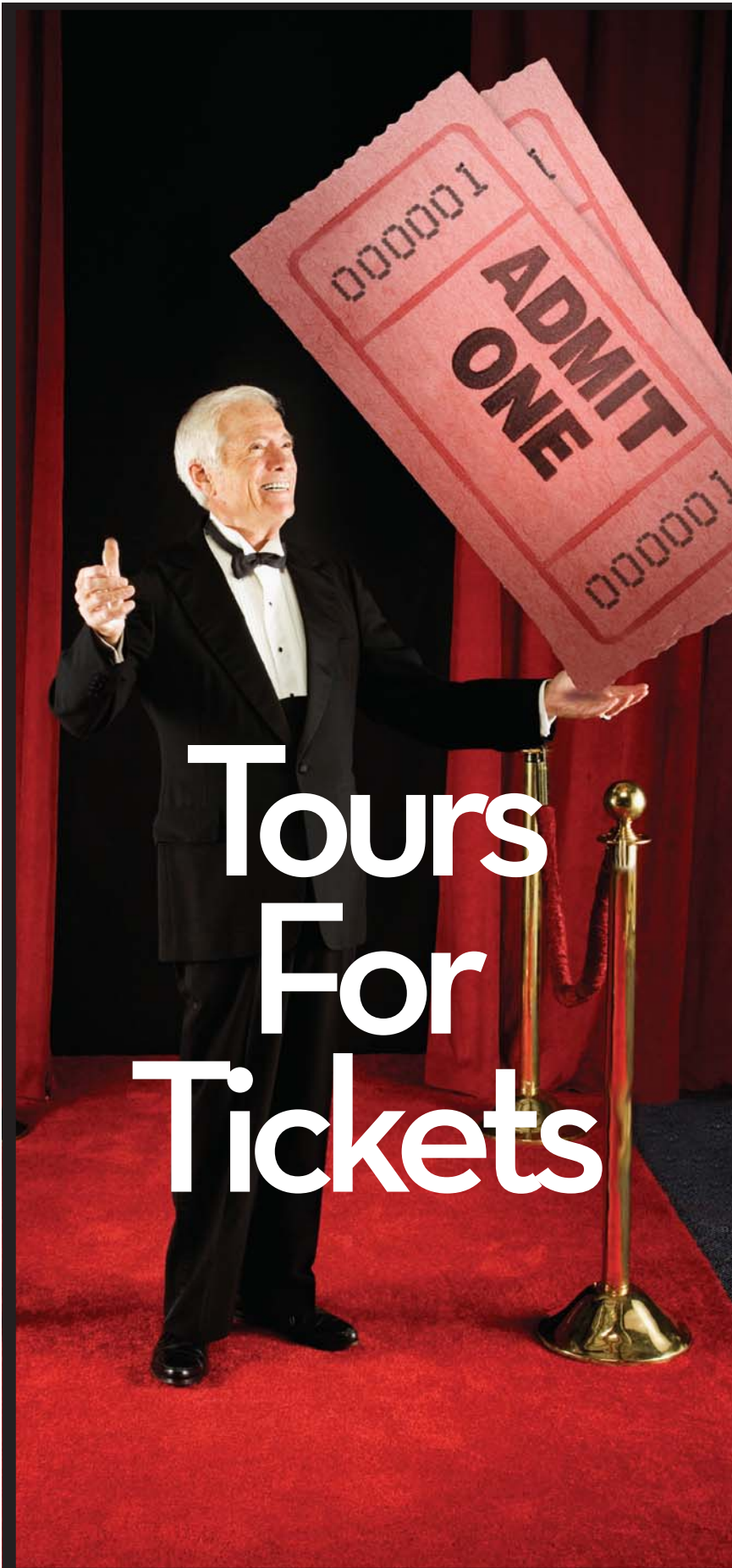
"There's a concern," he said.

"We get a lot of chemicals produced over the years," said Terry Koeper, professor of Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa, which has firefighter training. "We have to train new firefighters. We have to be aware of these things."

Gantt said the California State Firefighters Association and the California Fire Professionals support Leno's bill.

He added that the recent wave of marketing ads against it were from the chemical industry. Californians for Fire Safety was founded by Albemarle Corp., Chemtura Corp., and ICL Industrial and other groups to oppose Leno's bill.

Calls to Californians for Fire Safety asking for the cost of the advertising campaign against the bill were not returned by press time. ■



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## CityRead

► Continued from page 5

Books are free for the taking. "We want to eliminate barriers to reading," said Lovan, including financial. "We ask residents to pick up a copy and read it together, then pass it along to friends,

family or neighbors." The read began Monday, Sept. 17, and continues until Tuesday, Oct. 29. Meanwhile the libraries and book groups will plan events around it. The program culminates with author Laurie R. King appearing at the Village Theatre in Danville, with a presentation plus taking questions from the

audience. The free event begins at 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 8, and no reservations are necessary. Throughout the Contra Costa Library System there are five different city reads, say Lovan, some just for one library. The Danville and San Ramon CityRead is sponsored by their library foundations. ■

## Mustang

► Continued from page 5

are drought resistant, 180 parking spaces and areas for horse trailers. The two-story field house is made of wood-frame stucco and will have office spaces, meeting rooms, men's and women's rest-rooms, a patio and a concession area. The building will be used for coaching courses and referee training. The patio will be used for picnics.

Thousands of players from Danville, Alamo, Diablo, Blackhawk, San Ramon, Walnut Creek and Pleasanton participate in Mustang Soccer, which was formed in 1972.

"Mustang soccer is one of the best soccer leagues in Northern California if not the U.S.," Warnof said, noting that college coaches keep an eye on its players for scholarships.

Shapell Homes, Ponderosa Homes and Braddock & Logan Homes proposed building two all-weather soccer fields in the late 1990s when they were planning their developments in the Tassajara Valley, in the middle of Mustang territory. League officials jumped at the chance to relieve the continual shortage of fields for its teams. "Fields are such in short supply," Maloney said.

He said there are approximately 32 fields for soccer in the area but they are often occupied by other teams.

Shapell took the lead in building the fields and formed an agreement with Mustang Soccer League stating it would have exclusive rights over them.

Mustang officials worked with the county to get the project approved, he said, and they expected the complex to be finished by early summer 2007 but it had delays. Warnof recalled the permit and planning processes were lengthy, and the project had to install a fire hydrant in order go forward. Dealing with issues regarding public works and water cost more time.

"There are always delays," he said, adding that the complex was just one of several projects in the county planner's docket.

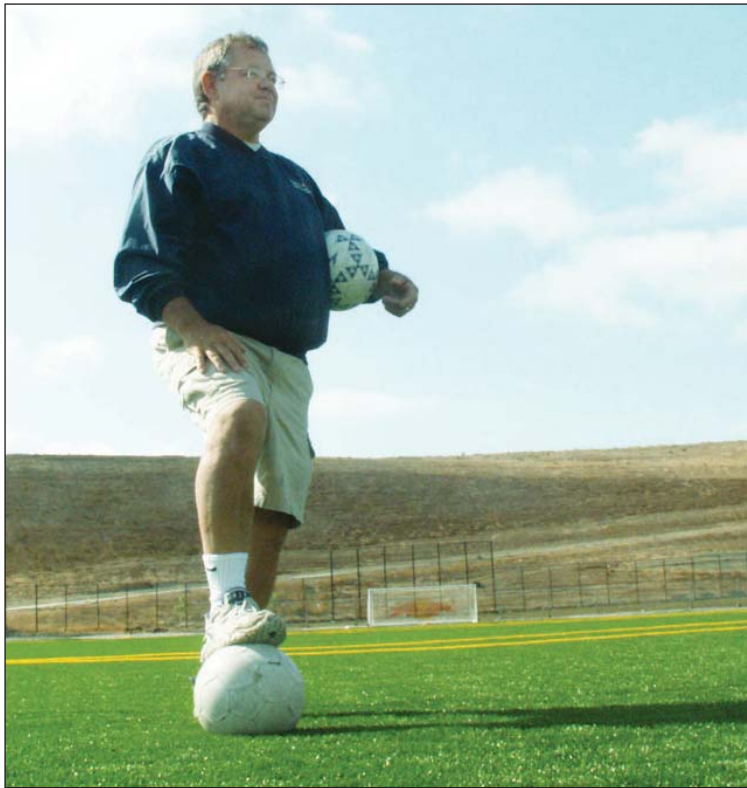
Mustang finally got its fields' conditional permit from the county, and construction began last year.

Shapell donated the land. The builder developed the turf fields and spent around \$100,000 to \$200,000 on drainage and paid \$800,000 to grade the area, which was on a ridgeline.

Additionally, each of the three developers contributed \$100,000 to give to Mustang for site improvements.

"It's been great working with them," said Warnof.

The fields were substantially completed by January 2007 and



JORDAN M. DONOHUE

Dwight Maloney, secretary of Tassajara Soccer Complex Inc., stands proud over the new Mustang facility, which is due to open next month.

players had limited use of them in April.

"I really like it," said Kelsey Chelsae, Mustang Soccer player and junior at San Ramon Valley High School. "It gives us more places to play."

Mustang Soccer used \$600,000 in savings and raised \$150,000 from the community to pay for parking, irrigation, landscaping and lighting. The donors' names will

be engraved on bricks on a 16-foot soccer ball outside the entrance or on plaques attached to the field house wall, Maloney said.

He noted that Holy Names University has used the complex already, and Mustang may share its fields with other sports teams if needed.

"I think this facility will give them many positive memories of their soccer experiences," Warnof said. ■

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BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



## A son in Iraq

Michelle Giannini wears her heart around her neck. An attractive gold medallion reads: Marine Mom. Her mission is to keep her son, 1st Lt. Jason Giannini, USMC, safe in Iraq, where he is heading up an incident response platoon in Al Asad, a military base in Anbar Province.

I met with Michelle last week after we ran a photo of Jason and President Bush taken on his Labor Day visit to Iraq. She watched the event on the news and was rewarded with a glimpse of her son, who was security liaison with the Secret Service.

"I recognized the way he walked," she said.

Jason is normally close-mouthed about his duties, Michelle said, as Marine officers are instructed. But as a member of the Contra Costa County chapter of the Blue Star Moms, she hears stories. "Some will tell their Mom, 'I've been shot at today and I'm still alive,'" she said.

We always hear from the Blue Star Moms when they collect items for care packages to send to the troops. The package Jason enjoyed most was assembled right after his birthday, July 9, which Michelle celebrated with his pals at Crogan's in Walnut Creek. Pictures showed his girlfriend holding a birthday poster, and his friends raising mugs to toast Jason turning 25. Fourteen of them signed an American flag for him.

Michelle was not surprised when Jason joined the Marine Corps, she said. As little boys, he and his younger brother Doug, now at Arizona State University, were always adventurous.

"How do you think I got all these gray hairs?" Michelle asked with a laugh.

Jason graduated San Ramon Valley High School in 2000 and



when he continued his education at Diablo Valley College, he was a cadet with the Sheriff's Department. He went on to earn a degree in criminal justice at Sacramento State University, where he joined the Platoon Leadership Program. Michelle said she blesses those who guided him to become an officer.

Jason trained at the Marine Corps Base Quantico in Virginia for two summers, and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant on June 11, 2005, in a ceremony held at Hap Magee Ranch Park. He returned to Quantico for further training, and Michelle visited for parents' day. She got to play Marine—shoot an M-16 and a grenade launcher. Most importantly, she had a glimpse into the special world Jason had entered, of "the few, the brave."

"I know he is well-trained," she said. "I needed to know that."

Michelle has found the Blue Star Moms invaluable. They provide practical advice for parents, and help them to understand life in the military and the pressures of serving on dangerous missions, as well as the transition when returning to the States. They meet monthly at the Danville Veterans Memorial Building.

"This Valley is very supportive of us," she said. "People mail us donations for general use."

Michelle, who works at Re/Max Accord, is serving as first vice pres-

ident in charge of membership. She said the Contra Costa County chapter has about 170 members and, fortunately, only one has become a Gold Star Mom, when Army Pfc. Jimmy Coon of Walnut Creek was killed in April.

The Blue Star Moms take no political stands but their mission remains steadfast: Support Our Troops. The next care package drive, "Holiday Hugs from Home," will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, Nov. 3 and 17, at the Vets Hall. Donations should be individualized packets for easy packing in the small boxes with their distinctive big blue stars, which let the troops know people care. Michelle said what they like best are envelopes of tuna or chicken, and energy bars, apparently a great respite from the MRE (Meals, Ready to Eat). They also like to get dark 100 percent cotton socks, and protein shakes.

"Since Jason went, I've become more aware of what's going on in the world," Michelle said. People react in interesting ways when she tells them her son is serving in Iraq, she added. She is always surprised when they feel the need to unload their negative feelings about the war on her.

"I feel like saying, 'I don't need to hear that. Just make a donation,'" she said, with a wry laugh.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli  
can be e-mailed at  
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# PLEASANTON

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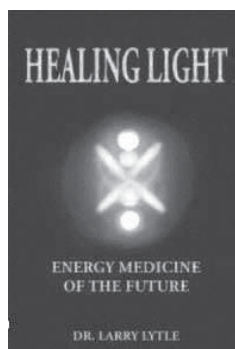
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### Weekly travels around the horn

Cold but happy, Danville residents enjoy their hometown reading on a cruise in February that included South America and Antarctica and around Cape Horn: (front, l-r) Diane Revetria, Bev Walsh, Pat Petrini, Kathleen McNulty, (back) O.J. Brubaker and Walt Petrini.

Take Us Along on your travels and send photos to travel@DanvilleWeekly.com or 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville 94526.

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Serving the communities  
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# Perspective

EDITORIALS • LETTERS • OPINIONS

## EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### What's new with waste

Ten years ago, the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District opened its Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility in Martinez to make sure such waste was recycled, reused or disposed of safely. We mention it now because today culminates National Pollution Prevention Week, Sept. 17-21.

The facility provides a safe place for residents and small businesses to dispose of leftover paint, pesticides, motor oil and batteries—stuff that would harm the environment if it was just dumped down the drain or thrown in the garbage to go to a landfill.

Danville has done its share—the 10-year total collected was 16.2 million pounds and Danville's contribution was 1.3 million pounds.

The first year, the facility collected 745,000 pounds of materials; last year it was up to 1.8 million pounds so obviously it's catching on. Danville has done its share—the 10-year total collected was 16.2 million pounds and Danville's contribution was 1.3 million pounds. Michael Scahill of the Sanitary District noted that 13.2 percent of Danville's population has been to the facility, and he estimated the participation rate of residents in Alamo, which is tracked with other unincorporated areas, to be as high as 10 percent.

At the other end of the waste spectrum is that which can be put back into the soil. Last year's pilot food scraps program, tried in Danville from March through October, raised a lot of complaints as the hot 2006 summer was not conducive to keeping food scraps around. But a survey sent out afterward received 2,000 responses and a large majority was happy with the program, said Bart Carr, program manager with the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority. About 400 households asked for more information on recycling and backyard composting.

After hearing about the Danville pilot program, Lamorinda requested the food scraps program without a test, said Carr, and it has been implemented there. It will still come to Danville and Alamo, but now the I-680 corridor must wait until a new compost site is completed in Alameda County in a year or two. Then residents will be able to put food scraps, including pizza boxes and other food-contaminated paper, into their green waste bins.

Pollution Prevention Week became a national event in 1995. But guess where it started, three years earlier? In California.


## 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.



# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Teen signals possession of drugs

Police arrested a 16-year-old boy from Monte Vista High School in Danville for allegedly carrying drugs last week, said police Sgt. Troy Craig.

Officer Mike Ireland stopped the boy, who was driving a 2007 gray Chrysler SUV, for making a turn onto Clydesdale Drive from Diablo Road without signaling, at 5:15 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13. Ireland saw the suspect had two friends in the car and he smelled cigarette smoke.

He gained consent from the suspect to search him and found the boy had marijuana in his front pocket. Also, after further inquiries, Ireland found hallucinogenic mushrooms in the car's consol. The boy was given a citation for possession of drugs and released to his father, Craig said.

"This is one of those situations it is upsetting to look at as a parent," Craig said. He added that teens being irresponsible can not only hurt themselves, but hurt others, too.

—Jordan M. Doronila

## POLICE LOG

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

### Monday, Sept. 10

- Commercial burglary on Front St. at 7:30 a.m.
- Vandalism on Hartz Way at 7:58 a.m.
- Vandalism on Greenbrook Dr. at 9:29 a.m.
- Grand theft on Loch Lomond Way at 10:56 a.m.
- Warrant, arrest, on Entrada Mesa at 12:23 p.m.
- Petty theft on 1100 block of Camino Tassajara at 1:11 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Glasgow Cir. at 1:43 p.m.
- Forgery of fraudulent documents on Fish Creek Pl. at 6:11 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Glasgow Cir. at 8:54 p.m.

### Tuesday, Sept. 11

- Grand theft on El Capitan Dr. at 7:53 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and northbound I-680 off-ramp at 8:45 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Crow Canyon Rd. at 8:54 a.m.
- Petty theft on Fostoria Cir. at 10:14 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Sycamore Valley Rd. W. at 10:16 a.m.
- Residential burglary on El Pintado Rd. at 11:20 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Piedmont Ln. at 2:56 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Stone Valley Rd. at 3:57 p.m. and 3:58 p.m.
- Vandalism on Green Valley Rd. at 4:10 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Fostoria Way at 4:09 p.m.
- Identity theft on Westfield Cir. at 8:40 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Center Way and Crow Canyon Rd. at 9:52 p.m.
- Misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), arrest, on Center Way and Crow Canyon Rd. at 9:56 p.m.

### Wednesday, Sept. 12

- Vandalism on Marian Ln. at 12:53 p.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Rainbow Cir. at 2:38 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. at 3:05 p.m.
- Suspicious subject stop, arrest, on Railroad Ave. at 4:41 p.m.
- \* Accident, property damage, on Danville Blvd. and El Cerro Blvd. at 5:19 p.m.
- Grand theft, all other, on W. Prospect Ave. at 5:21 p.m.
- Residential burglary on Love Ln. at 5:33 p.m.
- Grand theft on Veda Dr. at 5:48 p.m.

### Thursday, Sept. 13

- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and El Pintado Rd. at 8:03 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Messiah Pl. at 8:07 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Hill Meadow Dr. at 1:10 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Clydesdale Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 5:13 p.m.
- Residential burglary on La Tierra Buena at 5:14 p.m.
- DUI, arrest, on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 6:41 p.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Fostoria Way at 9:39 p.m.

### Friday, Sept. 14

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Town and Country at 12:36 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Montoya Way at 7:47 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Love Ln. at 8:14 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Railroad Ave. at 11:25 a.m.
- Credit card fraud on Diablo Rd. at 12:09 p.m.
- Burglary, miscellaneous, on Stone Valley Rd. at 12:17 p.m.
- Credit card fraud on Foxhall Ct. at 1:05 p.m.
- Identity theft on Cathy Ln. at 1:27 p.m.

- Commercial burglary on Town and Country Dr. at 2:44 p.m.
  - Vandalism on Blackstone Dr. at 5:25 p.m.
- ### Saturday, Sept. 15
- Accident, major injuries, on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 7:12 a.m.
  - Auto burglary on El Alamo Ct. at 9:15 a.m.
  - Defrauding innkeeper on Camino Ramon at 12:18 p.m.
  - Promiscuous shooting on Camino Tassajara and Crow Canyon Rd. at 9:28 p.m.
  - Fireworks disturbance on Alta Vista Way at 9:29 p.m.
  - Fireworks disturbance on Panorama Ct. at 9:34 p.m.
  - Promiscuous shooting on Plaza Ct. at 11:41 p.m.



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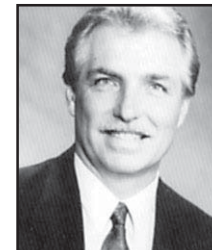
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## OBITUARIES

### Aida T. Morrissey

Aida T. Morrissey, 78, a resident of Alamo, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family Sept. 9.

She was born March 7, 1929, in San Francisco and raised in Menlo Park. She married Thomas Morrissey 53 years ago, and they moved to San Jose. They lived in

Alamo for the past 35 years.

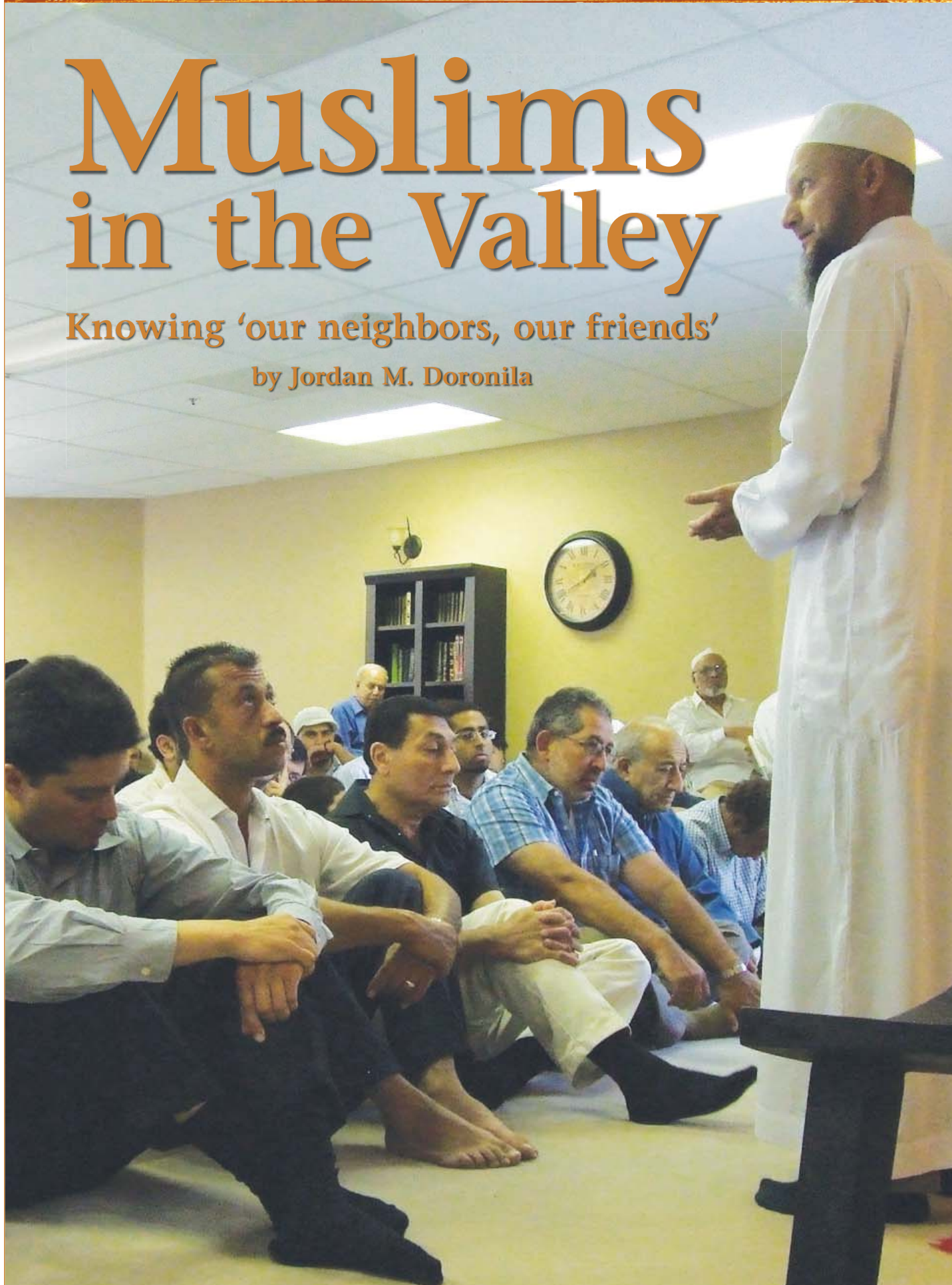
She is survived by her husband Thomas; daughters Theresa Morrissey and Patricia Morrissey; sister Anna Gubatayao and brothers Xavier Rodriguez (Gerry) and Robert Rodriguez (Martha); and two grandchildren.

A Mass was celebrated in her honor on Sept. 14 at St. Isidore's Catholic Church in Danville.

# Muslims in the Valley

Knowing 'our neighbors, our friends'

by Jordan M. Doronila



**B**loodshed persists among Muslims and Jews of all lands, religion and creed, killing and displacing thousands for decades in the Middle East.

But here in the San Ramon Valley, Jewish and Muslim families and other faith groups invite each other to their homes, share stories and forge close bonds that dissolve the veils of ignorance and illusion.

"When I came to America, I don't think I'd ever met a Jewish person," said Dr. Moby Rana, 50, a Blackhawk resident from Pakistan and the outreach coordinator at the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center. "People develop a certain kind of image of people of other faith groups and there is no basis."

"Once you get to know people, you realize there is no difference," he added. "We get the opportunity to interact with different faiths and get to know them. It's person to person. That's tremendous. My better friends are Jews."

Rabbi Dan Goldblatt, of Beth Chaim Congregation in Danville, said the relationships take effort.

"We have worked at it," Goldblatt said. "It is a priority for us. We have taken the time to get to know one another and to do things together as communities. We build a level of trust that is the key to our ability to cooperate."

"There is a lot of energy in the Valley to find places of healing on these wounded issues," he continued. "We have done a lot of important work."

Around 250 Muslim families of the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center are celebrating Ramadan this month, a holy observance involving fasting, charity and self-accountability.

Muslims believe the Prophet Mohammed revealed his central spiritual book, the Quran, during Ramadan. At a group prayer service earlier this month, a Muslim scholar talked about the importance of detachment from material things, cleanliness, helping others and piety.

"This is a month of patience," the Imam said. "Patience is paradise."

Rana said other faith groups have prayed with Muslims during Ramadan.

"We feel blessed that people are celebrating with us," he said.

The center in San Ramon, created 15 years ago, offers children's classes, an open carpeted space for prayer, community events and senior nights. It also has youth classes, where Rana's 18-year-old son Saad participates. Rana said the youths gather together, read the Quran and then eat pizza.

"There is a fairly large community here," said Abdul Farooq, a center trustee and Danville resident. "Most of us have been here since 1977."

Members of the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center, Beth Chaim Congregation and other faith groups, such as Peace Lutheran Church, have been doing numerous activities together for several years.

"They've been very helpful," Rana said. "They came to us and said, 'What can we do? Please don't hesitate (to call us).' We know we have very good support from them."

Goldblatt mentioned that he and other faith leaders spoke in support of Muslims who wanted a permit to broaden their usage at their center in 2002, a year after Sept. 11. They all spoke in front of the zoning board where residents made comments questioning their patriotism and wondering if they were associated with terrorism.

The Islamic Center was seeking zoning approval to expand its 1,200-square-foot building to 4,500 square feet in November 2002, said Patricia Edwards, San Ramon city clerk.

Muslims celebrate Ramadan at the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center.

JORDAN M. DORONILA



“We felt compelled to stand up for them,” Goldblatt said.

He recalled hearing people say, “I don’t trust these people” and “This is a breeding ground for Al Qaeda.” He added that the comments are public record.

“Their response was horrific,” Goldblatt said. “It was ugly. It was really quite hurtful. There was a lot of pervasive fear. It was after 9/11. People were deeply upset. It was paranoia.”

In addition to speaking at the zoning board meeting in San Ramon, the spiritual leaders in the area drafted a letter of support.

“We know these folks,” Goldblatt added. “We worked with them. They are our neighbors and friends.”

Board members approved the Islamic Center’s request. “They were appalled by the racist nature of the response they got,” Goldblatt said.

Rana said the Muslim community appreciates the interfaith groups’ support, especially after Sept. 11. The groups also supported the Muslims whose mosque was burned by arsonists in Antioch. The mosque also has suffered break-ins, hate crimes, according to media reports.

“How much do they know about Islam?” Rana asked. “Some people think Islam is radical and teaches fanaticism and violence.”

“It’s more out of ignorance,” he added.

He noted he heard racial remarks about Muslims on this year’s Sept. 11, but overall, the center and the Islamic community have been well-received.

“We have been fortunate to not have any hate crimes or such incidents in our center,” Rana said. “We always gather and say our prayers in peace without any problems.”

Rana said the interfaith community used to hold a “Sulha,” which is an Islamic gathering for reconciliation. They held services at different locations each month and talked about peace in their religions.

Traditionally, Sulha mediators step in between two families who are tearing themselves or a village apart and strive to resolve the conflict. They remind them of their humanity, avoid talking about politics, and encourage them to break bread with each other, Goldblatt said.

At the Sulha in the Valley, each faith group shared one personal story that would touch others.

“I thought it was wonderful,” Rana said. “We talked about religion. I learned that there are more similarities than differences. We highlighted the similarities. There is not that big of a difference.”

He noted the annual Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County held its meeting at the Islamic Center and elected Rabbi Dan Asher as its president last September.

Rana said Muslims participated at Peace Lutheran Church’s Holy Convergence, a meeting of different faiths groups, including Buddhist, Hindu, Baha’i and the Korean Church. This year’s Holy Convergence will be Sunday, Sept. 30.

Also, Rana mentioned he invited families from religious groups to his home to get to know one another. Goldblatt and his wife, as well as Peace Lutheran Rev. Steve Harms, attended the event, he said. They talked about their families and how they were doing.

Additionally, all the faith groups participate in Thanksgiving activities in November.

Globally, the countries in conflict need to get together, Rana said.

“We are people of faith even though we are from different faiths,” Goldblatt said. “We have chosen to gather to

enter and pray together after listening to an Imam, a Muslim scholar, speak.

respond to the insanity in parts of the world where there are serious issues of not knowing and not trusting.”

Warring nations need to form relationships and find a common ground, Rana said.

“That’s going to make a difference,” he said.

Rana was born and raised in Pakistan.

“It was very nice,” he said. “My mother is still there.”

He said 98 percent of Pakistanis are moderate Muslims.

“They don’t believe in violence,” he said.

But he said there are small areas that contain extremists.

“There are very few pockets that are radical,” he said, noting the percentage has slightly gone up for a multitude of reasons.

He said Pakistan has a poor education system, and some children are not taught in regular schools and grow up with skewed perceptions. Additionally, there have always been religious zealots, he said, and because of the turmoil in the 1990s and after Sept. 11, they felt “America is trying to invade us and take our Islam.”

“They are still in a minority,” he said. “It’s a group of people we need to do something about. This cannot go on happening. We need education or containment.”

The extremists often live away from the cosmopolitan areas and dwell in rural and remote areas in Pakistan, he said. They had developed a following before Sept. 11 and gained political influence by getting elected to Pakistan’s National Assembly.

Gen. Pervez Musharraf, president of Pakistan, has worked to control the radicals.

“To his credit, he is against all of this and trying to suppress it,” Rana said. “It’s worrisome.”

“It’s not good to be an extremist because it impedes progress,” he said. “You can’t be a throwback to 1,000 years ago and be able to compete.”

Aside from his concerns about radicalism, he said he cherishes Pakistan and loves his family there. He recalled a Pakistani tradition that before a bride and groom married, the groom’s entire family would go to his future wife’s home and ask her hand in marriage.

“We want your whole family to be part of our family,” he said, about the ritual. “It’s such a nice feeling. You’re all one. It’s the most memorable.”

He said his dad died when he was young, leaving behind his mother, sister, him and 25 first cousins.

“My mother raised us,” he said. “She never married again and devoted her life to raising us. It’s something that I greatly cherish.”

He attended Christian elementary school and college and received his medical degree from King Edward Medical School, which was formed by the British.

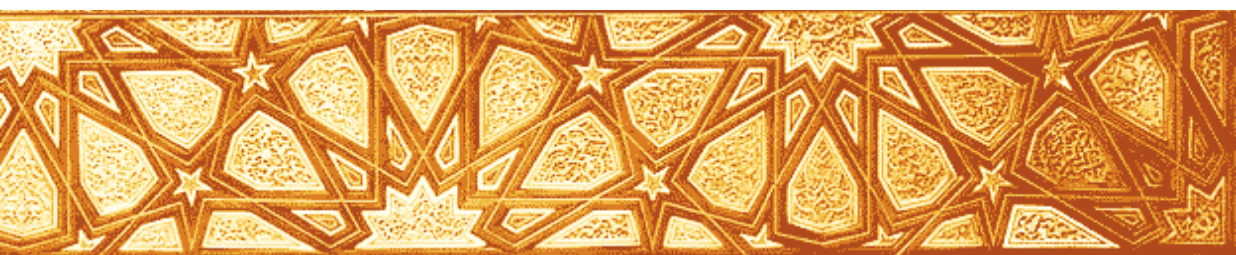
“Isn’t that something?” he asked.

He joined his sister and moved to the United States in the early 1980s for more opportunities. He did his residency at the University of Chicago Medical Center and UCSF Medical Center. He has been working at Kaiser Permanente in Walnut Creek since 1990. He, his wife and two children live in Blackhawk.

Rana personally has experienced and seen acceptance six years after Sept. 11. When he interacts with his patients, they feel there must be something good about his faith, he said.

His fellow Muslims sometimes feel that people may still have misperceptions about their religion.

“The media after 9/11 associated (Islam) with terrorism,” Farooq said. “It is a religion of peace.” ■




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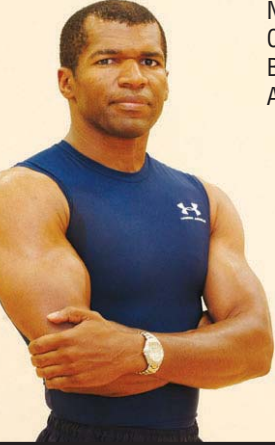

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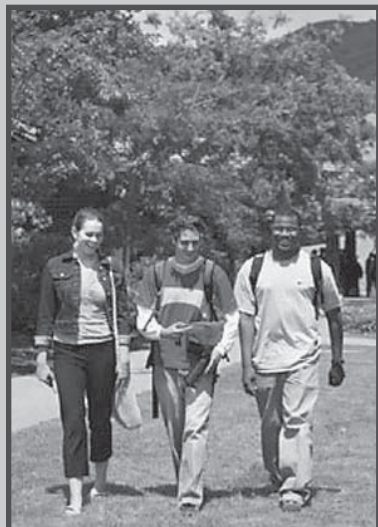
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# Calendar

POST ITEMS AT [DANVILLEWEEKLY.COM](http://DANVILLEWEEKLY.COM)

## Art

**Ninth Annual Art in the Park** Alamo Danville Artists' Society and the Town of Danville will host the ninth annual Art in the Park from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 6-7, at the Town Green, 400 Front St., Danville. Over 60 artists exhibiting in their booths in the park including watercolor, oil, acrylic, clay work, photography, jewelry and glass. Admission is free. Call 828-9170 or visit [www.adas4art.org](http://www.adas4art.org).

## Auditions

**Aladdin and His Lamp of Life** Role Players Ensemble Theatre will hold auditions for "Aladdin and His Lamp of Life" at 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 6. Roles that are available are 4 males ages 18-50 (one role in drag), 6 females ages 14-25 and 4 boys and girls ages 5-8. Prepare 24 bars from an up tempo song, and be dressed to move. Accompanist provided. Call 820-1278 for location.

## Author Visit

**Local Authors at Rakestraw Books** Rakestraw Books presents the Wednesday Writers of Oakland, a group of local women who meet to write about their lives, loves and unexpected adventures. They will meet to discuss "Something That Matters" at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25, at Rakestraw Books, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. This event is free. Call 736-8399.

## Clubs

**Alamo Women's Club** Alamo Women's Club will host a new member "Open House" with a buffet luncheon from noon-2 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Alamo Women's Club, 1401 Danville Blvd. This event is free. Call 837-6548.

**San Ramon Valley Republican Women** Dr. Abraham D. Sofaer will address the San Ramon Valley Republican Women from 6-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25, at Crow Canyon Country Club, on "The Impact of International Terrorism on the 2008 Presidential Campaign." Cost is \$30. This is the annual Barbara Olson Memorial Meeting. Call Roxanne Lindsay at 837-6253. Visit [srvrwf.org](http://srvrwf.org) for more information.

## Events

**Eugene O'Neill Festival** Eugene O'Neill Foundation and the Park Service will host the Eugene O'Neill Festival Friday-Sunday, Sept. 21-23. The three-day celebration will include a gourmet dinner, dramatic interpretations of O'Neill's works and music. The dinner starts at 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22. Cost is \$100 per person and reservations are required, call 820-1818. Other events are free. Visit [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org).

**Hadassah Shalom Chapter Kick-Off Meeting** Meet dynamic women from all over the Tri-Valley and Contra Costa area while learning about Hadassah, from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25, at Beth Chaim Congregation, 1800 Holbrook Dr., Danville. Refreshments, dessert and raffle prizes.

**Pleasanton Heritage Festival** Pleasanton Downtown Association will host the 24th Pleasanton Heritage Festival from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 22-23, in downtown Pleasanton on Main Street. The day will include 200 high quality art and crafts, historical displays, vintage craft

demonstrations, entertainment, kids activities, great food and beverages. Call 484-2199.

## Exhibits

**Quilts** Museum of the San Ramon Valley has an exhibition of Ethel Selberg's scrap quilts, at the museum, on Railroad and Prospect avenues. Summer hours are 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 19-Sept. 23. 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.

## Film

**'War Made Easy'** Videos for Peace presents "War Made Easy: How Presidents & Pundits Keep Spinning Us to Death" from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. This event is free, but donations are accepted. Call 933-7850.

## Fundraisers

**Barry Foon Legacy Golf Tournament** Asian American Donor Program will host the first annual Barry Foon Legacy Golf Tournament on Monday, Sept. 24, at Blackhawk Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Dr., Danville. Proceeds will benefit AADP and will honor Barry Foon, Danville father of two, who passed away earlier this year, before he could benefit from the perfect match AADP found for him. Call (510) 568-3700 or visit [www.aadp.org](http://www.aadp.org).

**First Annual Wine and Chocolate Pairing** White Kitty Foundation presents the first annual Wine and Chocolate Pairing event from 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, at Lindsay Wildlife Museum, 1931 First Ave., Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$45. Proceeds will benefit the Lindsay Wildlife Museum. Call 935-1978 or visit [www.wildlife-museum.org](http://www.wildlife-museum.org).

## Holiday

**Yom Kippur** Tri-Valley Cultural Jews (TV CJ) holds Secular Humanistic Jewish observance of Yom Kippur at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22. Program of music, poetry and readings. TV CJ is welcoming to non-traditional and intermarried families. E-mail [CulturalJews@aol.com](mailto:CulturalJews@aol.com).

## Kids and Teens

**Hipwaders at Kidsfaire** Come and see the Lollapalooza performers, The Hipwaders, who will perform throughout the weekend at Kidsfaire from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 2-12. Visit <http://www.hipwaders.net/> for more info.

## Lectures/Workshops

**Risk-Taking and the Teen Brain** Danville Library will host Dr. S. Alex Stalcup who will discuss the teen brain in regards to judgement, impulse control and sensitivity to social influences from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, Danville Community Center, Valley Oak Room, 420 Front St. Call 837-4889.



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## Literary Events

**Two Cities, One Tale** Residents of Danville and San Ramon are coming together to read "Locked Rooms," by Laurie R. King until 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.

## On Stage

'**Oliver**' St. Timothy's presents "Oliver" from 7-9 p.m., Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 20-23, at St. Timothy's Church, 1550 Diablo Rd., Danville. Tickets are \$18; \$12 for students and seniors. Call 837-4993 or visit [www.sainttimothysdanville.org](http://www.sainttimothysdanville.org).

**Complete Works of Shakespeare** Monty Python, Marx Brothers and Mad Magazine all rolled into one comedy sensation at 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 28, at Ohlone College Smith Center, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for students and seniors. \$15 for children under 12. Call (510) 659-6031 or visit [www.smithcenterpresents.com](http://www.smithcenterpresents.com).

## Seniors

**Buzz Sessions** Town of Danville presents Buzz Sessions for seniors from 1-2:30 p.m., each fourth Tuesday of the month, at Danville Library, Mt. Diablo Room, 400 Front St. These events are free, but register to reserve your place by calling 314-3400.

**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., 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.

## 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.-1 p.m. every second and fourth Monday at the Community Presbyterian Church Library at 222 W. El Pintado Rd., Danville.

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

**Blue Star Moms California** Blue Star Moms is a support group for families of members of the U.S. Armed Forces. It meets at 7 p.m., the

second Wednesday of the month, at the Danville Veterans Hall, 400 Hartz Ave. Call Peggy at 866-7035 or Patty at 838-9096 or visit [www.bluestarmoms.org](http://www.bluestarmoms.org).

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

**Celebrate Recovery** Celebrate Recovery is a forward-looking and balanced Christ-centered recovery program for people with hurts, habits and hang-ups. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and the program starts at 7 p.m., every Friday, at East Bay Fellowship, 2615 Camino Tassajara, Danville. Childcare available for ages 5-11. Call 736-5100 or visit [www.eastbayfellowship.org](http://www.eastbayfellowship.org).

## 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 reassurance phone calls to homebound elderly and handicapped clients, and staffing the chapter's Lafayette thrift shop. Call 934-0901 or visit <http://diablovalley.assistance-league.org>.

**Bedford Gallery Guild** Bedford Gallery is a program which offers many enriching volunteer opportunities and behind-the-scenes activities of the gallery. Join them for a Volunteer Recruitment Day from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 24, at Bedford Gallery Guild, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Call 295-1418.

**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.

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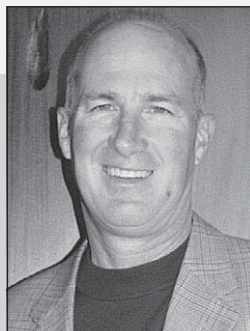


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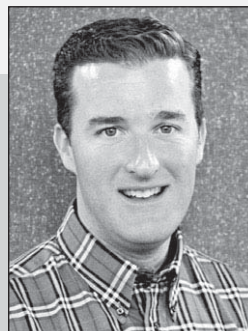
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## Cruisin' Danville

It's exercise, it's a hobby, but mainly it's fun

JORDAN M. DORONILVA

Members of Norm's Place Cruiser Club gather for a leisurely ride through the downtown on a recent Tuesday evening, with Norm's place owner Justin Walsh toward the right in the vest.

by Geoff Gillette

Drive down Hartz Boulevard on any given night and you'll see an amazing variety of vehicles, from Porsches to classic cars to motorcycles. But every Tuesday for the last few months, you also might have seen a line of Beach Cruiser Bicycles lined up in front of Norm's Place. Each Tuesday night, members of Norm's Place Cruiser Club gathered for a leisurely ride through the downtown.

Norm's Place owner Justin Walsh, his fiancée Cindy Toomey and his brother Brandon were the architects of the club. Justin said the club started in early July as a means of sharing their love of Beach Cruisers and having fun at the same time.

"We've been riding beach cruisers since college," he said. "Cindy and Brandon already had cruisers so I went out and got one and we started riding."

"We thought it would be fun and a nice way to get the community involved," added Brandon.

The way the cruiser club works is people would ride their bikes down to Norm's Place around 7 p.m. Tuesday. The bike has to be a Beach Cruiser and the rider has to be wearing the club vest.

"They're just jean jackets with the sleeves cut off," Justin said. "You have to wear your

vest, though, or you can't get a patch."

Each week, the cruisers ride a different route around town and at the end of the ride they are given a patch to put onto their vests. In addition, each cruiser is given a nickname by Brandon, which is then written on the vest.

"We know its not the right nickname unless the person really hates it," said Cindy with a laugh.

Many of the rides have themes, such as the Poker Ride, where riders were given a clue to a location around town. Once they arrived, they drew a card from a deck and were given the next clue. After solving all five clues they would go back to Norm's and show their cards. The person with the best poker hand won a prize.

Another rides was a hill climb, up Starview Drive.

"Not many people liked that one," Brandon said.

"Beach cruisers really aren't the best bikes for a hill climb," added Justin.

The length of the rides is only a few miles.

"We usually ride out for about 15 minutes to a secret location where I've left a treasure chest of cold beverages. Then we socialize and hang out for about 15 minutes and then we ride back," said Justin.

"It's pretty mellow, we mostly talk and

ride. We don't get too crazy," Cindy added.

Brandon said the best part has been seeing the club grow and seeing new and different people on each ride.

"We get guys in our 50s, all the way down to 7 and 8-year-old kids," he said.

Their longest ride to date had around 45 participants and the bikes were lined up along half the block.

"That was cool to see, all those bikes riding out together," Brandon added.

The weekly event has started attracting groups who come each week. Cindy said there is a group of eighth-grade girls they call "The Sherberts," due to their colorful bikes, who ride every week. And there's a large group of moms from Greenbrook Elementary School—over time, the moms have become known as the "Cruzin' Cougars" and even made up shirts with their own logo, which reads, "We collect toys not boys."

One of the Cougars, Michelle Lynch, said this is their weekly girls night out.

"We come to Norm's and wear our shirts and vests and go for a ride," she said. "We have a great time."

The Cougars ride a variety of cruisers, including a tandem beach cruiser.

Youngsters come along for the ride as well. Eight-year-old Ryan Toomey, Cindy's daughter, has gone on most of the rides this summer.

"My favorite ride was the Poker Run," she said. "I had fun going to the different places and I won the prize for the little kids."

Another rider, 12-year-old Julia Anderson, rides with her mom Amy, one of the Cruzin' Cougars. On Julia's second ride, she was looking forward to more.

"It's really fun. I get to meet new people," she said. "We talk to each other and get to know each other. And it's a fun workout."

But as darkness begins to come earlier and earlier, what will that mean for the Cruise Club? Justin Walsh said he thinks their time may be limited.

"It's getting harder and harder for people to come out, due to school, work and other commitments," he said. "Plus it's getting darker. I think we can go through September, but October is going to be dicey."

Justin said just because the Cruise Club won't be getting out on the roads doesn't mean the members won't still be active.

"Danville Parks and Recreation has a dodgeball league. We're thinking about joining up for that so our riders can keep getting exercise during the off season," he said.

And the cruisers will be back next year. Cindy thinks they will start up again late in the spring and start collecting more patches.

"Oh, we'll definitely be back next year," she said. "This is too much fun not to keep doing it." ■

# The Wine Guy

BY GREGORY PEEBLES



## 2005 d'Arenberg

**"The Custodian" Grenache (McLaren Vale, Australia) (Wine Thieves - Lafayette, \$14.99 and Prima Vini - Walnut Creek, \$16.97)**

by Gregory Peebles

Is it "The Custodian" as in "the janitor"? No way. "The Custodian" as in "the caretaker"? Spot on, mate! D'Arenberg's refusal back in the 1980s to uproot beautiful old bush vines, acres of which still produce today and are living antiquities having been planted 120 years ago, earns this venerable producer "guardian" title for old plot McLaren Vale Grenache.

Polish your favorite red wine glass and let the fun begin. Gaze into the seemingly bottomless—nearly hypnotic—depths of red, purple and black. Impressive.

The aromas are quintessential Grenache: white pepper, cherry, strawberry, red raspberry, pencil shavings and geranium. Be patient, this wine requires contemplation to be fully appreciated.

Chief winemaker Chester d'Arenberg Osborn's aging regimen of 12 months in both new and seasoned American and French cooperage contributes to the well constructed bouquet. Take note of the smoke, spice and dried herb aspects. A thin

ribbon of sweet, toasty oak pulls everything together.

An explosive medley of fresh summer berries, cherries and cranberries awaits you. The flavors ebb and surge between fully mature, "sweet" fruit tones and palate elevating tanginess. The mouth feel and mile long finish are as satiny as Hugh Hefner's smoking jacket.

Due in large part to the wine's youth, your palate will definitely experience heat because of the healthy alcohol level, 14.5 percent. My suggestion to combat the assertive alcohol: Decant at least 30 to 45 minutes before serving with an oven roasted rack of lamb or cassoulet.

Red wine with dessert? No surprise to you, I'm sure. A platter of hard and soft cheeses, dried apricots, Mission figs, candied pecans and toasted walnut bread is a classy alternative to the traditional sweet options after the main course. Be sure to save a bit of this young, yet graceful, Grenache in your decanter to accompany the grand finale.

Have fun and let your palate be the ultimate judge.

*Have comments or questions about wine? Gregory Peebles, wine industry professional and East Bay resident, can be contacted at caledoniawine@sbcglobal.net.*

# The Pet Vet says...

BY DR. HEIDI STRAND



## Vets confident microchips are safe

**Q.** I recently saw on the news that microchips may cause tumors in animals. Is this true?

**A.** Veterinarians have been aware of this purported connection since the late 1990s, when several studies were published claiming to demonstrate a correlation between microchips and tumors in mice. While the studies got lots of attention in the veterinary field, the connection was not proven and veterinarians moved on, confident in the thousands of microchips we have implanted. Now these studies are being dredged up again because of the recent decision by the FDA to approve microchips for use in humans. Once again, the connection will be shown to be unfounded. In a nutshell, the mice used in these studies were mice specifically bred to study cancer, and there were no control mice—mice that did not receive microchips—to see whether or not they developed tumors without a microchip. Microchip manufacturers have conducted numerous studies in dogs and cats and have

not duplicated any microchip/cancer connection.

There have also been anecdotal reports of individual animals developing tumors after having a microchip. Hmmm, do animals develop tumors if they're not microchipped? Yes, they do. The bottom line is that millions of dogs, cats, horses and other animals have been microchipped—some for over a decade—with few if any problems. The news media are just looking for an interesting story.

**Q.** Our cat had kittens about six weeks ago and all of a sudden her behavior has really changed. She is being very aggressive and swatting and hissing at the four kittens and us, too. We tried separating them and the mom doesn't seem to be eating. She has very smelly, loose stools. We're not sure what to do for her at this point.

**A.** It sounds as if your cat is exhibiting normal weaning behavior. The hormonal drive to get away from her kittens is a

strong one, and is designed so she can stop lactating, come into heat, and, yes, get pregnant again. Often aggression toward the kittens turns into aggression toward other cats and other people in the household. As long as the kittens are eating well on their own, there is no need for them to continue nursing. You can separate the mom and definitely have her spayed after a couple weeks. The loose stools may be caused by the stress of weaning. Also, if you are feeding the kittens something new, the mom may be affected by the diet change. If the loose stools persist after separating the mom, you should have her examined by your veterinarian.

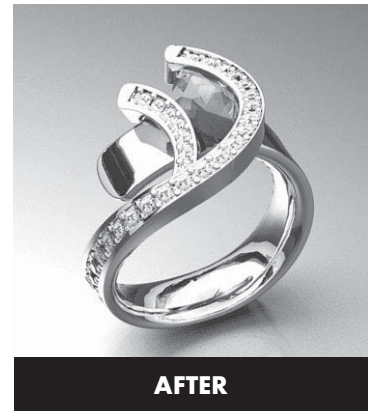
*—Dr. Heidi Strand is a veterinarian for the East Bay SPCA in Dublin. She has lived in the Tri-Valley for 10 years with her family and an assortment of four-legged friends. Questions can be mailed to 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville 94526; or e-mailed to hstrand@eastbayspca.org. Her column runs every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

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# Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE

## The Danville Grange, Patrons of Husbandry (Part 2):

# Grange Halls in the Valley

by Beverly Lane

### The First Grange Hall

After the Danville Grange was founded in 1873, members and families first met in the Danville School House on Front Street. There was such enthusiasm for the new organization that they came into town every Saturday for meetings in the morning and afternoon, with a potluck for lunch.

Soon the number of members and their families swelled beyond the school house space and they discussed building a hall. From 1859-1868, the three-story Union Academy sat on the border between Alamo and Danville and served as a boarding high school and a place to meet. But after it burned down,

there were no large meeting spaces in the Valley.

So a Grange Hall was built, just west of Danville's Front Street. C.E. Howard built the hall with \$1,383.70, which was collected for the land and building.

The Pacific Rural Press of July 11, 1874, noted: "The frame of the new hall for the Danville Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, 30 by 60 feet upon the ground, is already up."

Grange Halls were constructed all over the country and became the hubs of community life. According to Grange historian Inez Butz:

"It is hard for us today to realize the dreariness of farm life a century ago. Visits to the market were few and neighbors were often miles apart...Into this dull life of the

farmer and his family the Grange brought social contacts, news of the outside world, and the pleasure of laughing, talking and eating with new and old friends and neighbors. Programs were an established item in the order of business and people who had never spoken, sung, or debated before an audience could now have that opportunity and experience."

For 40 years, the Grange Hall was the largest meeting room in the Valley and served as a community center. All kinds of meetings, speeches, plays, parties, church services and graduations were held there. The Grange park near the hall was the site for many outdoor parties.

The Harvest Feast in 1887 in Danville was one huge event. As reported in the Pacific Rural Press, "four to five hundred teams and vehicles from all parts of the country strung along the highway. It was estimated that at least 1500 people were in attendance" at the picnic grounds, enclosed by the Grange Hall, Presbyterian Church and school house.

### 1913: A Fraternal and Social Hall

The need for a larger meeting space was recognized by the turn of the century. In 1911, spearheaded by Minnie Coxhead Lynch and the San Ramon Ladies Association, the San Ramon Community Hall was built near the San Ramon school house and general store. It became the center of social life in San Ramon and served as a meeting, party, dance and graduation location.

Several Danville organizations also wanted a bigger hall. The International Order of Odd Fellows had been meeting for some time in an upstairs room in a two-story building on Front Street. So in 1913, the Odd Fellows and Grangers jointly built the Fraternal and Social Hall. The Grange building was turned and became the second story and a large auditorium was created to the west. A Dedication Ball on Nov. 28, 1913, celebrated its opening. The large room was used for various purposes, including high school basketball games, graduations and movies.

Today the building is owned by the Town of Danville and is called the Village Theatre. It was a movie theater after World War II and the Zion Fellowship Church for several years before its rehabilitation by the town beginning in 1988.

It is interesting to observe how residents recycled buildings and spaces in this period. Not only did

the 1874 hall become a second floor, but the old Odd Fellows rooms were used for high school classes. One newspaper article discussed the renovations which were done to these rooms so that the classes could move from the small house (on Church Street) to the Front Street site. The new SRV Union High School was finally completed in 1916.

### The New Grange Hall

The Grange membership gradually decreased in size, and they lost ownership in the Social Hall in the 1920s. They were left without a meeting place. But, in 1946, former Grange Worthy Master Will Stewart, at the humorous suggestion made by Grange brothers and sisters, agreed to donate .97 acre of his land to the Grange for a new hall. Fundraising began, donations were solicited, and the new Grange Hall on Diablo Road opened in 1952. This popular building near Vista Grande Elementary School is still used by many different groups and provides an ongoing presence for the Grange in the 21st century.

Next week: *Leaders of the Grange.* Sources: *Archives of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley.*

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

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This hall on Front Street, shown in 1943, has the former Grange building as its second story. It is now the Village Theatre, owned by the Town of Danville.



The Grange Hall on Diablo Road opened in 1952 and is still used by community groups.

# Sports

A LOOK AT THE LOCAL SPORTS SCENE



CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM



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## Athenian tennis starts strong

The Athenian women's tennis team, coached by Betty Lou Moglen and Christa Bakarich, scored three victories in a row: 6-2 over Redwood Christian; 6-2 over Fremont Christian; and 4-3 over Drew. Kathrina Mathews is team captain; Meleah Ragasa is co-captain. Players are (front, l-r) Allison Burkland, Jessica Dailo, Meleah Regasa, Julia Eiden, Meaghan Gates, (back) Karlana Lee, Coach Betty Lou Moglen, Danielle Goldsmith, Alyssa Goldsmith, Camille Barry, Kathrina Mathews, Kate Egan and Coach Christa Bakarich.

## High point of season

Stephen Waterson of Alamo kicks high with the U-12 Mustang Vipers but the San Ramon Blasters prevailed, 2-1, in the game Sept. 16.

## PREP SCHEDULE

### Friday, Sept. 21

**Football**  
San Ramon Valley at Washington, 7 p.m.  
Monte Vista vs. Castro Valley, 7 p.m.  
**Women's Tennis**  
San Ramon Valley at Miramonte, 3:45 p.m.

### Saturday, Sept. 22

**Women's Volleyball**  
Presentation Tournament at Presentation High School, San Jose

### Tuesday, Sept. 25

**Women's Golf**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Monte Vista, 3:30 p.m.

**Women's Tennis**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Foothill, 3:45 p.m.

Monte Vista at Dougherty, 3:45 p.m.  
**Women's Volleyball**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Amador, 6 p.m.  
Monte Vista at Granada, 6 p.m.

### Wednesday, Sept. 26

**Water Polo**  
San Ramon Valley at Livermore, 3:45 p.m.

### Thursday, Sept. 27

**Women's Golf**  
San Ramon Valley at Amador, 3:30 p.m.

Monte Vista vs. Granada, 3:30 p.m.  
**Women's Volleyball**  
San Ramon Valley at Granada, 6 p.m.

Monte Vista vs. Cal High, 6 p.m.  
**Water Polo**  
San Ramon Valley at Livermore, 3:45 p.m.

Monte Vista vs. Foothill, 3:45 p.m.

**Women's Tennis**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Dougherty, 3:45 p.m.

Monte Vista at Amador, 3:45 p.m.

### Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 27-29

**Water Polo**  
Villa Park Tournament

### Friday, Sept. 28

**Football**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Amador, 7 p.m.  
Monte Vista at Granada, 7 p.m.

**Women's Tennis**  
San Ramon Valley vs. Tamalpais High, 3:45 p.m.



JEFFREY S. WELLS

## 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.

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## Soccer season kicks off with new young players

Mustang soccer started the season last weekend with Under-6 girls in their new uniforms showing great enthusiasm as they learn the game. To view more great soccer shots—and read the latest local news—go to DanvilleWeekly.com.



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## Bulletin Board

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A home away from home.

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\$129,990. Incredible building sites, views, trees, wildlife, climate. Borders BLM. Electricity. Enjoy horses, hiking, hunting, retirement living. 100% financing. 1-866-365-4122. (Cal-SCAN)

## Real Estate

### 801 Apartments/Condos/Studios

Pleasanton, 3 BR/1.5 BA - \$500000 Fo

### 805 Homes for Rent

Danville, 3 BR/2 BA - \$1850

**Danville, 4 BR/2 BA**  
We are a wonderful family that is looking for a house to rent near Vista Grande Elementary. If you know of a property that is available or will be available soon, please contact Rick at 510-329-1417 or reply to email [esparks@pacific.edu](mailto:esparks@pacific.edu). Thanks.

Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA - \$1975/month  
Pleasanton, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$2395

### 815 Rentals Wanted

Retired couple seek home  
Room Needed 10/1 up to 3 Months

#### Wonderful Family Needs Housing

We are a professional couple with a wonderful 4 year old and a second on the way! We need a 4 BDRM in Danville (preferably near Vista Grande Elementary School). If you have a property available or know of one coming up in the next 3-6 months, please call Rick at 510-329-1417 or email [esparks@pacific.edu](mailto:esparks@pacific.edu). Thank you.

### 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

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Homes and Mobile Homes with warranty for \$18,900. Information, Floor Plans, and photos online at [www.FactoryExpoHomes.com](http://www.FactoryExpoHomes.com) (Cal-SCAN)

Stunning Single Story!, 4 BR/3 BA - \$1145000

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**Capitola, 3 BR/3 BA**  
Landmark Venetian Condo \$2,995,000

Here's your chance to be on the sand at Capitola-by-the-Sea. Beautiful, combined 2-unit condo with 3 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms. Awesome ocean and beach views. EZ walk to Wharf, Restaurants, Sand and Surf. Totally remodeled, first class unit!

Contact: Neal @ David Lyng Real Estate (831) 566-7468 Photos/streaming video: [www.teamwoods.com](http://www.teamwoods.com)



**Danville, 3 BR/2.5 BA**

Beautiful Home in downtown Danville. New carpeting, plantation shutters and Italian ceramic floors in this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 1492 sq ft home in charming Stonybrook. Walk 5 minutes from your cobblestone driveway to dining, shopping and the Iron Horse Trail. Large decked yard with fountain, backs to wildlife creek and walking path to the Danville library. Top rated schools and easy access to all Bay area commute corridors. The good life in Danville is waiting for you!

Danville, 5+ BR/3.5 BA - \$1289000

Gorgeous Home With Carriage House! - \$1,689,000

Great Duet!, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$459,950

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

**OPEN HOUSE - PLEASANTON**  
**6384 Alford Way, Sun 12-4**  
4 Bd/2 Ba - New Upgrades  
(925) 989-7962 for info

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

Walk To Downtown Pleasanton!, 1 BR/1 BA - \$310000

**830 Commercial/Income Property**

**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

**Retail Sublease**

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**850 Acreage/Lots/Storage**

**1st Time Offered**  
Colorado Mountain Ranch. 35 acres-\$49,900. 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.**  
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 - 20 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)

**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)

**Arizona's Best Bargain**  
36 acres - \$49,900. Nature calls! Eureka Springs Ranch, near AZ's wine country & charming Wilcox. Incredible views, rolling topography, abundant wildlife. EZ terms. Offered by AZLR. ADWR report avail. Call 1-877-301-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

**How big is 40 acres?**  
Come find out! 40 acres - \$39,900 Just outside Moses Lake, Washington. Beautiful land with captivating mix of rolling hills and occasional rock outcroppings - must see. Offered by a motivated seller. Excellent financing offered. Call WALR 1-866-585-5687. (Cal-SCAN)

**Montana Land & Cabin Sale**  
40 AC Country Road- \$69,900 40 AC with New Cabin- \$99,900 160 AC- \$99,900 640 AC- \$900/ACRE! Beautiful views, trophy elk and deer, lots of water, great bird hunting. Ideal location. Owner financing available. Call Western Skies Land Co. anytime 888-361-3006 or visit [www.WesternSkiesLand.com](http://www.WesternSkiesLand.com) (Cal-SCAN)

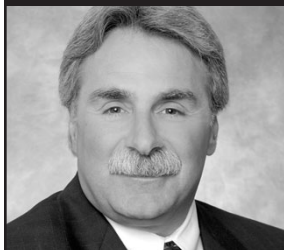
**New Mexico 20 acres \$49,990.**  
Incredible building sites, views, trees, wildlife, climate. Near BLM. Electricity. Enjoy horses, hiking, hunting, family/retirement living. 100% financing. 1-866-365-4122. (Cal-SCAN)

**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)

**Priced for Quick Sale!**  
Nevada 5 acres - \$19,900. Beautiful building site with electric & county maintained roads. 360 degree views. Great recreational opportunities. Financing available. Call now! 1-877-349-0822. (Cal-SCAN)

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**Pet of The Week**



**Picnic 4 Pets**

This 4-month-old male, tuxedo housecat named Sebastian eagerly awaits this Sunday's Picnic 4 Pets at Valley Humane Society to celebrate their 20th year serving the animals in our community. Picnic 4 Pets is a western style BBQ and fundraiser where you can enjoy music, carnival games, beer and wine, drawings, fire trucks, doggie contests, a giant slide and more! There will be fun for the whole family—including your pooch. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under. Purchase tickets at VHS or Three Dog Bakery in downtown Pleasanton. Sebastian is a friendly fellow and one of many housecats available for adoption at Valley Humane Society. Please join us for the Picnic 4 Pets fun from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St. For more information, call 426-8656 or see [www.valleyhumanesociety.org](http://www.valleyhumanesociety.org).

**fogster.com**

## HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during August 2007

### Alamo

- 160 Daniel Drive** Perduk Trust to T. & J. Blanton for \$1,260,000
- 10 Eaton Court** R. & J. Darby to J. & N. Tucker for \$995,000
- 18 Kirk Court** T. & J. Blanton to R. & L. Cox for \$1,900,000
- 1536 Serafix Road** T. & G. Kavishi to J. & V. Griese for \$1,650,000
- 1458 Sunnybrook Road** Papa Trust to Vujovich Trust for \$850,000

### Danville

- 616 Ambience Way** D. & W. Long to C. & J. Turner for \$940,000
- 18 Danville Oak Place** Morris Trust to D. Reeve for \$539,000
- 1168 Delta Way** Y. & M. Mesa to J. & J. Garibaldi for \$850,000
- 2086 Fostoria Circle** M. Adler to L. Ross for \$479,000
- 702 Genoa Court** Lennar Homes to B. & A. Fogarty for \$1,266,000
- 807 Griffon Court** Shapell Industries to W. Liu for \$1,158,000
- 821 Griffon Court** Shapell Industries to Q. Wu for \$1,165,500

- 141 Heritage Park Drive** A. & N. Vongimbut to J. & J. Aitken for \$645,000
- 308 Jacaranda Drive** Klitten Trust to Miller Trust for \$997,500
- 380 Karelian Street** Shapell Industries to R. Dharmakrishnan for \$501,500
- 288 Love Lane** Love Lane Limited to M. Howl for \$2,166,000
- 2154 Lusitano Street** Shapell Industries to F. Sheikh for \$953,000
- 1920 Mantova Street** KB Homes to D. & M. Bafaiz for \$1,003,500
- 1936 Mantova Street** KB Homes to A. & K. Shelton for \$1,058,500
- 1951 Mantova Street** KB Homes to K. Winder for \$1,060,000
- 2403 Marsanne Street** Lennar Homes to L. Bulkeley for \$1,377,000
- 1441 Menton Street** Lennar Homes to Hsu Trust for \$1,004,500
- 371 Montair Drive** A. Clark to B. & D. Richardson for \$1,302,000
- 2155 Oneida Circle** A. Lencioni to B. Pelicas for \$655,000
- 209 Pembroke Street** Shapell Industries to M. Crudale for \$466,000

- 233 Pembroke Street** Shapell Industries to J. & N. Gomez for \$501,500
- 264 Pembroke Street** Shapell Industries to I. Avinashiappan for \$466,000
- 265 Pembroke Street** Shapell Industries to R. Chinn for \$501,500
- 4133 Quail Run Drive** C. Porter to N. & A. Kelble for \$1,360,000
- 1825 Rioja Street** KB Homes to R. & S. Bridge for \$997,500
- 1826 Rioja Street** KB Homes to J. Sermenio for \$875,000
- 669 Rock Island Circle** R. Kracke to G. Belfer for \$855,000
- 41 Savona Court** D. & V. Watson to Juhlin Trust for \$1,575,000
- 10 Stratford Court** B. & K. Trusko to D. & C. Colman for \$940,000
- 130 Summerside Circle** L. Bernou to J. Kushner for \$489,000

### Walnut Creek

- 600 Appaloosa Drive** G. Sabaduquia to S. Polyakov for \$805,000
- 610 Dapplegray Court** Huovinen Trust to Levin Trust for \$740,000
- 2563 Decca Lane** N. & T. Valencia to L. Perreras for \$700,000



Prudential



**Sara Schmitz**

Certified Relocation Specialist & Realtor

**(925) 858-4384**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

**P**rivacy & convenience! This immaculate end-unit townhome boasts an updated kitchen, casual and formal dining areas, a private courtyard with covered patio, living room with fireplace AND no rear neighbors. Perfect for entertaining! Large enough for a family with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and first floor laundry room. Within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, and open space trails. Call Sara at 858-4384 for more information.

**423 Sutton Circle, Danville**  
OPEN SUN 1-4



**Priced to Sell**  
**\$684,900**

Sara.Schmitz@PruRealty.com  
www.SaraSchmitz.com

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### ALAMO

- 2 Bedrooms**
- 172 Alamo Square** \$599,000  
Sun 1-4 RE/MAX Accord 209-1131
- 3 Bedrooms**
- 1445 Livorna Rd.** \$1,699,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-4300
- 4 Bedrooms**
- 46 Vista Ln.** \$1,385,000  
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

### BLACKHAWK

- 3 Bedrooms**
- 35 Sugar Pine Ln.** \$1,148,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 736-8411
- 937 Redwood Dr.** \$1,199,000  
Sun 2-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 325-9215
- 3661 Country Club Ter.** \$2,198,000  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818
- 4 Bedrooms**
- 7 Red Birch Ct.** \$1,895,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 577-4165
- 5 Bedrooms**
- 3357 Deer Hollow Dr.** \$2,499,000  
Sun 1:30-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 817-9079
- 6 Bedrooms**
- 5483 Blackhawk Dr.** \$3,495,000  
Sun 1:30-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-2239

### DANVILLE

- 3 Bedrooms**
- 114 Heritage Park Dr.** \$669,950  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 200-5026

- 206 Country Meadows Ln.** \$669,950  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 648-5352
- 344 Casablanca St.** \$825,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-7866
- 21 Martin Ct.** \$935,000  
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

- 4 Bedrooms**
- 441 Scout Pl.** \$1,099,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 457-4551
- 1143 Cheshire Cir.** \$1,189,000  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 998-1818
- 423 Sutton Cir.** \$684,900  
Sun 1-4 Prudential 858-4384

- 5 Bedrooms**
- 23 Campbell Pl.** \$1,499,900  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 736-8411
- 60 Casablanca St.** \$959,000  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 998-1818

### SAN RAMON

- 2 Bedrooms**
- 108A Norris Canyon Pl.** \$385,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-2508
- 3 Bedrooms**
- 2721 Moet Ln.** \$750,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653
- 4 Bedrooms**
- 8 Westside Pl.** \$1,499,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 785-5099
- 1712 Blakesley Dr.** \$845,000  
Sat/Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653
- 27 Rainbow Bridge Ct.** \$849,950  
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 735-7653

### DUBLIN

- 4 Bedrooms**
- 8333 Creekside Dr.** \$1,160,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

- 5 Bedrooms**
- 5336 Signal Hill Dr.** \$1,169,000  
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 858-5400
- 3120 Colebrook** \$1,195,000  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 785-1586
- 5017 Colebrook Ct.** \$1,299,000  
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 858-5400

### PLEASANTON

- 2 Bedrooms**
- 5128 Rappolla Ct.** \$679,000  
Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC 337-2989
- 3 Bedrooms**
- 3637 Touriga Dr.** \$724,950  
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755
- 4002 Moselle Ct.** \$779,000  
Sat 11-2/Sun 1:30-4 Hometown GMAC-Danielle Peel 426-3852
- 4355 2nd St.** \$995,000  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

- 4 Bedrooms**
- 2768 Camino Casa Buena** \$1,049,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 858-1984
- 1397 Whispering Oaks Wy.** \$1,079,000  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500
- 3411 Palmer Dr.** \$1,155,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential CA-Earl Rozran 876-6575

- 532 Rosso Ct.** \$1,259,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6298
- 307 Brienne Ct.** \$1,289,000  
Sun 1-4 Century 21 Mission-Bishop Real Estate 699-9508
- 1530 Ridgewood** \$819,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 UCB / Brian Wright 417-7138
- 3326 Hadsell Ct.** \$850,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

- 5 Bedrooms**
- 4742 Arlene Pl.** \$1,399,000  
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 963-8322

- 657 Varese Ct.** \$1,895,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6298
- 5725 Ohana Pl.** \$2,195,000  
Sat/Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel 846-6500
- 1290 Via Di Salerno** \$2,599,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6298

- 6 Bedrooms**
- 1739 Laguna Creek Ln.** \$1,795,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Investment RE 963-0569

### LIVERMORE

- 1 Bedrooms**
- 1087 Murrieta, # 337** \$279,950  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Assist 2 Sell 200-2602
- 2 Bedrooms**
- 1526 Portola Ave.** \$354,950  
Sat 12-3 Hometown GMAC 455-7014
- 3 Bedrooms**
- 116 Barber** \$499,950  
Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7008
- 5972 Ocean Hills Wy.** \$559,950  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 583-1121
- 1548 Calle Del Rey** \$629,950  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Assist 2 Sell 200-2602

- 4 Bedrooms**
- 2199 Calibria Ct.** \$1,425,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 200-6922
- 575 Brookfield Dr.** \$645,000  
Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7020
- 764 Leland Wy.** \$649,000  
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC / David Rios 518-5856
- 420 Jackson Ave.** \$727,272  
Sun 1-4 Century 21 Mission-Bishop Real Estate 699-9508

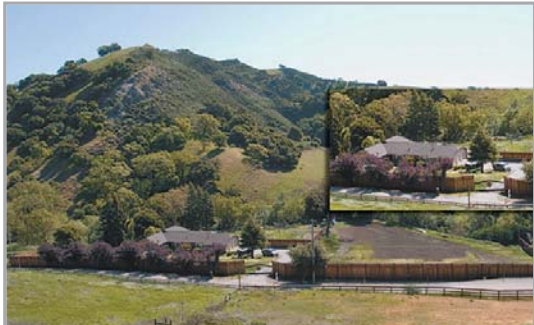
- 5 Bedrooms**
- 1316 Carlton Pl.** \$1,098,888  
Sun 1-5 Keller Williams 292-7653

# J. Rockcliff



REALTORS

THE EAST BAY'S PREMIER  
REAL ESTATE COMPANY.



### DANVILLE

**21+ Acre Estate \$2,700,000**  
Exceptional value for amount of acreage and quality of home. Fabulous remodel, gated entry, easy access to Regional Park.  
**Ralph Sessa & Julie Long 925.858.5233**



### BLACKHAWK

**Elegant Dream Home in Blackhawk \$2,499,000**  
Gourmet kitchen, butler's quarters, 5893+/-sf, 5bd, 3-full/2-half baths, 5-car garage. Private yard backs to open space. Stunning pool & spa.  
**J. McFall & K. Harris 925.786.3396/817.9079**



### DANVILLE

**French Mediterranean \$1,949,000**  
Nestled on end of quiet court, 4652+/-sf of total luxury, 4bd, 3.5ba, separate office, 3-car garage, backyard with pool & spa on 1.5+/-acres.  
**John Fischer 925.980.4816**



### DANVILLE

**East Coast Charm \$1,389,000**  
Incredible setting for this gorgeous custom 4bd on private lush greenbelt. One of a kind with exquisite upgrades. Don't miss this rare opportunity.  
**Lorraine Ward 925.855.4123**



### ALAMO

**Beautiful Westside Setting \$1,385,000**  
Remodeled 4bd, 3ba, master suite with new bathroom & balcony overlooking treed yard. Granite kitchen w/island, custom paint & molding.  
**McDougall Team 925.672.2499**



### DANVILLE

**Complete Westside Remodel \$1,349,950**  
Beautiful 4bd, 2.5ba with remodeled granite kitchen, baths laundry, molding, hardwood floors, all a "10!" Backyard w/pool & sport court.  
**Mark Traikoff 925.855.4115**



### DANVILLE

**Beautifully Appointed \$1,329,000**  
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**



### ALAMO

**Picturesque Lane on Westside \$1,150,000**  
Built in 1967, 1376+/-sf, spacious .41+/-acre lot. 2bd, 2ba featuring a fireplace, dining room, kitchen w/built-in breakfast nook.  
**Chris Campbell Team 925.838.5700**



### DANVILLE

**Immaculate! \$1,115,900**  
4bd, 2ba, 3-car garage, gorgeous hardwood floors, new double pane windows throughout, updated baths and kitchen. A must see!  
**Lisa and Greg Doyle 925.855.4046**

Walnut Creek  
1700 N. Main St.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925.280.8500

Orinda  
89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925.253.7000

Danville  
15 Railroad Ave.  
Danville, CA 94526  
925.855.4000

Blackhawk  
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.648.5300

Pleasanton  
5075 Hopyard Rd., #110  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925.251.2500



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