

Learning to help others

Mom and daughters work together in National Charity League > **page 14**

Hungry?

Dining guide inside
this issue



Vol. III, Number 50 • April 18, 2008

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Yes, child abuse happens here

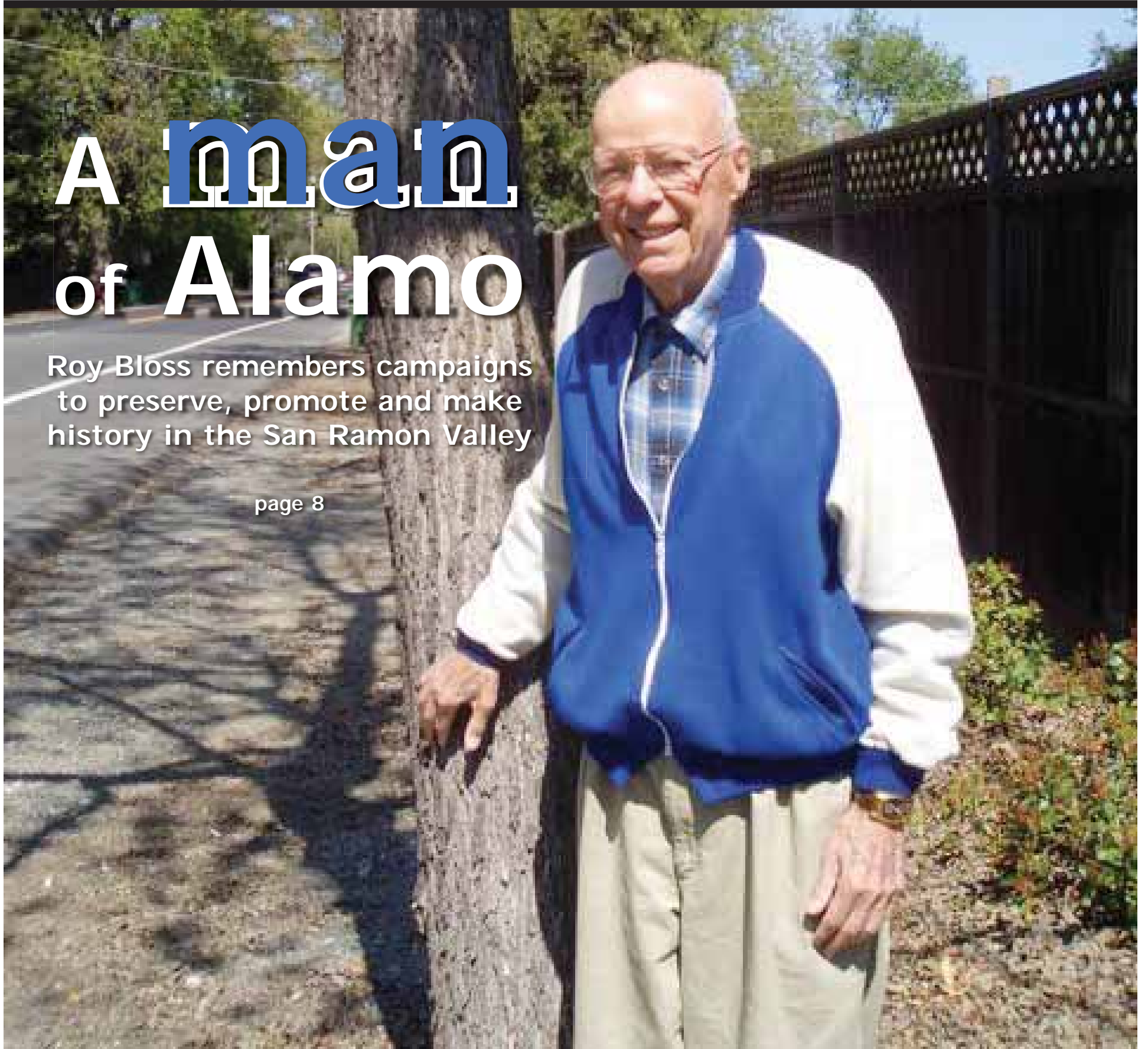
Gala raising
funds to prevent
family problems

> **page 5**

A **man** of Alamo

Roy Bloss remembers campaigns
to preserve, promote and make
history in the San Ramon Valley

page 8





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Q: Who was your favorite cartoon character when you were a child?



The first that comes to mind is Wiley Coyote because he was relentless. Not that I would have used that word as a kid. I thought he was hilarious and even though you knew he'd never win you couldn't stop watching it.

Heather Johnston
manager/buyer, Sage



Scooby Doo because they had so much fun while solving mysteries and because of the Scooby snacks, that's what's up!

Cecilie Euser
barista



Donald Duck because he quacks like a duck. And sometimes, I just like ducks.

Kent Albright
barbeque cook



I liked Speed Racer, it was a Japanese cartoon and he was cool, had a cute little girlfriend, and drove fast cars. That's why I drive fast, I learned a lot from him!

Ruby Juric
travel agent



I don't remember watching very many cartoons but I think I watched Rugrats and liked Angelica. I guess that's why I am the way I am. I liked how she was a boss and I am a boss!

Shannon Steelman
food manager

COMPILED BY KRISTEN LANG

ABOUT THE COVER

Alamo resident Roy Bloss—historian, author and community activist—bought three oak trees to beautify Danville Boulevard near his street as part of the Boulevard of Trees project. Photo by Kathy Cordova. Cover design by Lili Cao.

Vol. III, Number 50

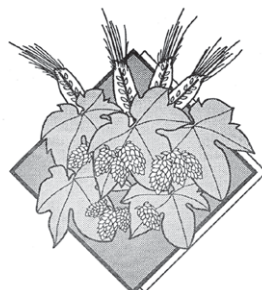
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Pictured: A Mystery-Set emerald and diamond maple leaf brooch, 1951, Van Cleef & Arpels
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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ There may be ...
bruises or marks
that are unexplained. ”

—Carol Garrillo, executive director of the Child Abuse
Prevention Council of Contra Costa County.
See story, page 5.

Senior care directory now available

The “Born To Age” 2008 Contra Costa Senior Care Directory is now available at the Danville Public Library. It lists resources, businesses and agencies that provide support for seniors, family members and caregivers. It also compares costs and services of home care agencies, and offers articles on long term care and considerations of caring for aging parents.

The directory is also on hand at the Danville Community Center and the Social Services Department of the San Ramon Regional Medical Center. And it is online at www.bornতোage.com.

Memories of Valley before freeways and business parks

Tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Leo and Barbara Lynch will be at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley to share their experiences growing up in the San Ramon Valley before there were freeways or business parks.

Leo graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 1952 and was the Morgan Dairy's milk route driver. Barbara's father and grandfather were managers of the Bishop Ranch, back when it was actually a ranch and not the headquarters for international corporations.

The Museum is hosting a special guest each Saturday to coincide with its current exhibit, “Agriculture, For a Century, the Business of the Valley,” which highlights the period of 1850 through 1950.

The Museum is located at 205 Railroad Ave., Danville. Call 837-3750.

Youths collecting donations for food pantries

The sixth annual Tri-Valley Youth Food Drive will take place beginning at 9 a.m., Saturday, April 26, rain or shine. About 800 youth volunteers will be collecting non-perishable items from single-family residences in the Tri-Valley area.

Homeowners should place donations where they can be seen from the street or bring them to collection sites at Greenbrook Elementary School in Danville or the San Ramon United Methodist Church in Alamo. People are asked to use their own recycled bags this year to reduce waste.

The donations will go to the following food pantries: Tri-Valley Haven, Vincent De Paul, Church of Christ, Marilyn Avenue School, Interfaith Sharing, Valley Bible Church, Open Heart Kitchen and Showers of Blessings Ministries.

This year's food drive is run by the Youth Service Council, a nonprofit group of high school students. For more information visit www.youthservicecouncil.com. For questions about the food drive leave a message at 998-513 or e-mail youthfooddrive@comcast.net.

Museum hosts spring cemetery tour

Docents will guide visitors on a tour of the Alamo Cemetery, while sharing stories of the area's earliest pioneers. Members of the Baldwin, Bollinger, Boone, Jones, Stone and Wood families, among others, are buried in the rustic, park-like cemetery.

The tour begins at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 26, and is hosted by the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Participants should meet at the front gate of the cemetery, located at the end of El Portal near La Gonda Way in Danville.

The tour is free but donations are always welcome. For more information or to schedule adult or third-grade tours for other dates call 837-3750.

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COURTESY THOMAS ZHANG

Gotcha! Victim records doorstep theft

Danville man uses web camera and 'bait' to catch a thief who was stealing his packages

by Meghan Neal

After two packages were stolen two days in a row off the doorstep of his Sycamore Circle home, Thomas Zhang said enough is enough.

On the third day, March 17, he put a faux package out and hid a web camera in the front window, aimed at the front door.

Sure enough the thief came back for round three and took off

with the phony package, which was full of newspaper, garbage and bottles of water to give it a realistic weight. Zhang caught the act on video.

"I'm sick of this," said the Danville resident. "I've been here for one year and my packages were never lost before. It's surprising. It's surprising to me when I see two packages lost in two days."

Zhang hid the tiny camera, just

bigger than a pen, at 8:30 a.m. when he left for work and took it down when he got back around 5 p.m. The thief showed up at noon-time.

"I think this guy just has nothing to do in the daytime and he just walks around our community," Zhang said.

He reported the incident to police and gave them a copy of the video. The stolen UPS and DHL packages contained about \$130 worth of

technology supplies between them, according to the report.

Lt. Mark Williams said catching a thief on video can be helpful to police. They can reference the picture when future thefts are reported, or look at suspect descriptions from past crimes to see if there's a match.

"It's another brick in the wall," Williams said. "It's a piece of the puzzle we can use to bring some of these cases together."

Zhang said he doesn't necessarily think the crimes reflect on the safety of the community. But, the frequent online shopper did tell police he's had at least 1,000 packages delivered since moving to Danville a year ago and has never had one stolen until now.

Just to be safe, he asked that one of the stolen packages ordered from Staples be redelivered directly to the local store instead of to his home. ■

'It shouldn't hurt to be a child'

Families need support so children don't become at risk

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Think child abuse doesn't happen here? In 2007, there were 77 reports of suspected child abuse in Danville that required action. In Alamo, there were 19; in Blackhawk, 41. This year, just in February, there were 16 cases in Danville.

"We try to support families before child abuse occurs in their lives, before they become at risk," said Carol Carrillo, executive director of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Contra Costa County.

Child abuse crosses all cultural, socioeconomic and racial boundaries, she said. The council trains people who work with children on how to identify and report suspected child abuse because they are mandated to report their suspicions. This includes teachers, childcare providers, preschool teachers, law enforcement, social workers and parks and recreation employees.

"There may be a difference in a child's behavior, bruises or marks that are unexplained, or a story that changes or doesn't seem right," Carrillo said.

A person only has to suspect abuse to report it; Contra Costa County Children and Family Services will determine whether abuse is occurring. In 2007, CFS received 24,000 phone calls; of these, 5,290 cases required action, affecting 9,823 children.

	2007												Total	2008	
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		J	F
94507 Alamo	1	3	3	0	1	1	3	2	3	1	1	0	19	0	7
94526 Danville	8	9	8	3	5	6	1	4	5	10	11	7	77	3	16
94528 Blackhawk	2	2	6	5	6	5	2	1	1	3	3	5	41	2	4

Source: Child Abuse Prevention Council

Carrillo said abuse may go unreported because people think the child will be removed from the family.

"That's the last resort," she said. "We want the children to be protected, we want the families to be supported. If a report is made early on, it gives families a chance to get help. If they wait, the children may be too much at risk and have to be removed."

Reports often peak in October, after teachers have had the chance to observe and assess the children in their classroom. Teachers are the main reporters.

"There are lots of indicators that

things are happening in families," said Carrillo. "Substance abuse, stress in families' lives, isolation, a lack of resources, families feeling

► Continued on page 6



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

What a bargain

Pat Buls of Alamo examines a \$1 papier mache rooster at Friday's rummage sale at the Alamo Women's Club, which she attended with some neighbors. She passed on buying the rooster but did find other bargains. The annual "World Famous Upscale Rummage Sale" benefits charities served by Alamo Women's Club as well as its scholarship program for the local high schools and Diablo Valley College.

The club's annual fashion show takes place from noon to 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 24. The theme is "A Walk in the Garden," and will be presented and modeled by Hospice of Contra Costa. The models will be serenaded by Goldie Locks and the Three Bears. Cost is \$20 for non-members and includes a catered lunch. Call Helen at 820-2621.

Alamo Women's Club is located at 1401 Danville Blvd. in Alamo.

Collision with cop car knocks girl off bike

Police officer found not to be at fault in Danville accident—cyclist was illegally riding on sidewalk

by Meghan Neal

A 14-year-old girl was knocked off her bicycle after hitting a Danville police car Saturday, April 5. The teen scraped her elbow but had no major injuries.

The police officer, Scott Dickerson, was pulling out of the condos on Danville Oak Place at 11:30 a.m. As he went to turn right onto Danville Boulevard, he looked both ways and determined the intersection was clear, police said.

"As Officer Dickerson was pulling out to make a right turn, the girl clipped the corner of his patrol car and fell to the ground," said Lt. Mark Williams.

San Ramon police investigated the accident and found the girl to be at fault for biking on the side-

walk instead of the bike lane. She also wasn't wearing a helmet.

"Any driver pulling out of an intersection like that doesn't expect a bicycle to be driving on the sidewalk—given the circumstances that were involved here," Williams said.

"Kids sometimes just don't know," he added. "They don't go home and read the vehicle code."

Regardless of fault, in 95 percent of bike on vehicle collisions someone's going to get injured, he said. But it will happen less if people are educated about the rules of the road.

"We're already in the process—and we were before this incident occurred in Danville—of getting ahead of the game," he continued.

"It's a matter of getting our kids to understand bike safety, and what to

do and what not to do."

Police have been visiting elementary and middle school classrooms in town, hosting after-school bike safety "rodeos" that include hands-on activities, and sending out safety tips in the school district's newsletter for parents.

Saturday's accident was the third of its kind in the San Ramon Valley in under a month, and in all three cases the injured party was a teen or child.

A 10-year-old San Ramon boy was hit and killed by a bus March 21 while biking home from school. Three days later a teenage girl was hit and seriously injured by a minivan while crossing the street on her bike.

The accidents stirred up worries among residents in the area,

said Bob Pack, president of the Troy and Alana Pack Foundation, which sponsors the Street Smarts program.

"It's just kind of raised all the awareness of the continuation of the problem," he said. "When an accident happens, all of a sudden it's on everyone's radar."

Pack and his wife Carmen started the foundation after their children were killed in 2003 by a driver who was under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Throughout the school year Street Smarts promotes traffic safety at the elementary, middle and high school level for students in the district. It will also participate in community events throughout the summer.

"The whole program is just an ongoing effort for safety in the

community," Pack said. "It's a way to raise awareness of traffic safety and allow the kids to kind of get involved." ■

Bike Safety Tips

- Always wear a helmet and know how to wear it properly
- Use appropriate hand signals to show cars the direction you're headed
- Get off and walk your bike across crosswalks
- Ride on the right side of the street and in bike lanes
- Don't wear baggy clothing that can get caught in the spokes
- Bike in single file, especially on busy streets
- Learn and follow the rules of the road

Child abuse

► Continued from page 5

overwhelmed. Parents many times parent the way they were parented."

"Economically it's a tough time—that creates a lot of stress in families," she added.

Her group has a variety of support programs for families, including a Community Education Program, Newborn Connections Program and the Nurturing Parenting Programs.

"The majority of families find us through hospitals, public health nurses and social service agencies," she said. "They might need parenting classes, or they might ask us to do home visits."

Its Newborn Connection Program has volunteers visiting homes to provide the family with parenting skills and other resources. The council trains volunteers in community education, and also needs help with office work, as well as board members and committee members to help with fundraisers. In May, they will be training volunteers to provide workshops on child abuse prevention and mandated reporting as well as positive parenting techniques.

"I think all our programs make an impact," said Carrillo. "They're all very different and

meet families' needs at different times in different circumstances. That's what is unique and creative in what we do."

The Child Abuse Prevention Council is busy with educational programs this month since April is National Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. Its fundraiser, "When I Grow Up," is a gala dinner at the San Ramon Marriott to raise money so it can continue to offer its services for free.

"Parenting is the most difficult and most important work we do," said Carrillo. "Parents need supportive partners in their child-rearing efforts. The Child Abuse Prevention Council can be that important partner for families, neighborhoods and all communities of Contra Costa County." ■

Fun for a good cause

What: 'When I Grow Up' 2008 Gala: dinner, wine-tasting, auctions, music and dancing

Who: Child Abuse Council of Contra Costa County

Where: San Ramon Marriott

When: 6-11 p.m., Saturday, May 3

Cost: \$125

Dress: Black-tie optional

Tickets: www.cacp-coco.org or call 798-0546



MEGHAN NEAL

A Day of Beauty—and fun

Stylist Ester Gyrion gives a manicure during a Day of Beauty for women from Shepherd's Gate at the U Studio Salon. Danville resident Renee Moradkhani threw open the doors of her salon to 15 women from the shelter in Livermore, which provides a safe haven for battered and homeless women and children. The women from Shepherd's Gate—as well as those from the salon—had a great time as they styled their hair and did manicures. Everyone donated their time Monday, when the shop was closed to the public. Moradkhani said the director of Shepherd's Gate is a client of the salon and Monday's Day of Beauty was the third such event.

Mylar balloon hits wires, causes fire

Two fast-thinking neighbors doused flames engulfing a bed of Ivy on Lariat Lane north of Livorna Road shortly before 5 p.m. Saturday.

The ivy caught on fire after a Mylar balloon from a nearby party drifted up the street and hit the power lines.

"There was a big boom, a big explosion," said Ken Carter, who lives across the street from the house with the ivy, on the corner of Lariat Lane and Pinto Court.

His wife Maria Carter and daughter Jessica crossed the street to the home, whose owners were away, to make sure the dog in the back yard was all right. Two other neighbor men rushed to put out the fire with

their garden hoses.

"A metal balloon arced between the two wires," said Engineer Paul Jannisse from Station 32, San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District. "It shorted the wires and caused the transformer to pop. The short caused melted aluminum to drop into the ivy."

"The ivy was green but the aluminum was 1,100 degrees and caught the ivy on fire," Jannisse added. "The neighbors kept it in check until we got here, then we put it out."

"It was good to see those neighbors rallying," said Maria Carter. "They were there hosing off the flames—they contained the fire and kept it from leaping onto the pine trees."

The power in the neighborhood

was off for a short time, and a section of Lariat Lane was blocked off by yellow tape for several hours while PG&E crews worked on the lines.

The party, on the corner of Lariat Lane and Appaloosa Drive, was reportedly for a graduation. The front of the house was decorated with rubber helium balloons and crepe paper streamers.

Mylar balloons can be powerful electrical conductors and if they hit power lines can cause equipment damage or power outages. For this reason, they must have weights on them when they are used outdoors, said police at the scene.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District Station 32 makes sure the fire is completely extinguished on Lariat Lane as a PG&E crew assesses damage to the transformer.

TAKE US ALONG



Summer fun

Lucas, Ric, Will, Debbie and Katie Blumhardt, along with Tom Humphrey, enjoy the Danville Weekly on their trip to Whitefish, Mont., in July of last year.

Take Us Along on your travels and send photos to travel@DanvilleWeekly.com or 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, Danville 94526. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number.

Houston bill against Berkeley fails

Legislation authored by Assemblyman Guy Houston (R-San Ramon) to punish Berkeley for its anti-U.S. Marine Corps actions failed to pass the Assembly Transportation Committee in a hearing Monday.

Democrats Jose Solorio (D-Anaheim) and Cathleen Galgiani (D-Livingston) along with all of the Republicans on the committee voted for the measure, AB 2615.

"I am pleased that members from both parties, from across the state, recognize this effort is one worth supporting," said Houston.

"This measure is not about politics. It's about right and wrong. What the city of Berkeley has done is wrong and their actions must not go unpunished."

AB 2615 received seven Yes votes, five No votes, and two members of the committee abstained. The bill needed eight to pass.

The Transportation Committee chairman, Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord), is opposed to the bill, which would have suspended \$3.3 million in local road and street funding over the next two years.

"I appreciate Assembly Member

Houston's dedication to honoring our troops and their families," said DeSaulnier. "Having served decades in city and county government, I am troubled by a bill that usurps local control and turns a blind eye to the foundations of our government. It's a dangerous precedent that could be used by any political perspective."

Houston said he will continue to support actions to hold Berkeley accountable for its resolution granting exclusive use of a public parking space adjacent to the Marine recruitment office to organizations for staging protests. ■

Reading Festival set for May

Tickets available Monday for Greg Mortenson, author of 'Three Cups of Tea'

"Relax, recharge, rethink—READ." That's the slogan of the Contra Costa County Library Reading Festival being held May 16-18.

"This is first year we've done it," said Danville Branch Librarian Seng Lovan. "We hope it will encourage reading and public libraries, and get people in touch with authors."

Reading Festival 2008 will bring 50 authors into the 25 community libraries for a weekend of free and fun programs.

The Danville Library will host Greg Mortenson, author of "Three Cups of Tea," at a Senior Citizens' Tea, at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17. Tickets will become available at 10 a.m., Monday, April 21, at the library for people 60 and up, two tickets per person. That evening, Mortenson is speaking to the public at the Danville Community Presbyterian Church in a cooperative effort between the church and the library. These tickets will become available at the same time and place, two per person.

The next day, Danville will welcome local children's author Ginger Wadsworth at 2 p.m. Children will have a chance to share cookies with her and ask questions about being a writer.

"Reading is an essential life-long skill. It can be an activity that recharges you, forces you to rethink an opinion or a subject, or provides a way to relax," said Anne Cain, Contra Costa County Librarian.

Best-selling and emerging authors taking part in the festival include novelists Anita Amirrezvani and

Elizabeth Rosner; mystery writer Cara Black; Catherine Coulter, author of bestselling FBI thrillers; and nonfiction author Peggy Orenstein.

"There will truly be something for everyone," said Cain. "We look forward to celebrating the joy of

reading throughout the county."

For a complete festival schedule and up-to-date information, visit the library's Web site at cclib.org/reads. The Contra Costa County Library Reading Festival is being presented by Target Corp.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Ship of Hope Gala 2008
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Cocktail Attire - Black Tie Optional

Enjoy Tahitian Island legend featuring Tahiti Nui's floor show of traditional dance and native dress. Swing to the romantic sounds of the CoolTones. Survey auction treasures high above the dance floor.

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A man of Alamo

Roy Bloss remembers campaigns to preserve, promote and make history in the San Ramon Valley



KATHY CORDOVA

Roy Bloss says he is most proud of his battle to keep Danville Boulevard two lanes when, in 1970, the county proposed making it four. He formed the Association to Preserve Danville Boulevard and served as its chairman.

by Kathy Cordova

Roy Bloss has always been fascinated by history. He has spent much of his life researching it, preserving it and writing about it. During his 90 years of living, 52 of them in Alamo, Bloss has made a little history, too.

"I admire him so much for his devotion to the valley and to its history," says Beverly Lane, curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. "Roy is always articulate, passionate and willing to stand up for the community good. He has been an inspiration to many of us for decades."



The U.S. Postal Service issued a 4 cent stamp to honor the centennial of the Pony Express in 1960. Alamo resident Roy Bloss authored the book, "Pony Express—the Great Gamble," in 1959 and also was chairman of the Contra Costa County Historical Society centennial committee. The group discovered that Pony Express riders traveled overland through Contra Costa County 19 times when they missed the river steamer in Sacramento that would take them to San Francisco, their destination.

Bloss's personal history began when he was born in Minneapolis on April 2, 1918. His family moved to Southern California in 1926, where he grew up and lived during his early adult life.

Bloss served in the Navy Reserves during World War II, stationed in various posts around the United States. He met his wife, Roberta Madie Brock, while he was serving in Washington, D.C., and they had two children, a son, Wayne, and a daughter, Roberta Lenore. They were living in the suburbs of Los Angeles when Bloss' trucking company employer moved north; the family went along and settled in their house in Alamo in 1955.

It was the job at the trucking company that serendipitously spurred Bloss' involvement in local history.

"The sales manager at the time, used the term 'Pony Express' to describe the relay operations of the big truck line that ran west from Chicago," says Bloss. "That idea intrigued me, so I started writing my book."

By the time Bloss' book, "Pony Express—The Great Gamble," was finished several years later, he was working in sales for a commercial publishing and printing business, Howell-North Books. They published his book in 1959, the year before the centennial celebration of the Pony Express.

During his research, Bloss discovered that even though popular history recorded the Pony Express as ending its western route in Sacramento, that was not always the case.

"The riders who were coming across the country from St.

Joseph, Mo., where it started, sometimes missed the river steamer that would take them to San Francisco, where the mail was destined," says Bloss. "When that happened they had to run the mail from Sacramento to Oakland to catch the ferry. So they would come down the north side of the river, cross over from Benicia into Martinez, then go into what is now Walnut Creek and Lafayette and over the hills into Oakland."

At the time, Bloss was serving on the Contra Costa County Historical Society and was chairman of the committee to sponsor a centennial celebration in the county.

"With a great deal of research, the committee discovered that the steamer was missed 19 times while the Pony Express ran," says Bloss. "So, 19 times the riders had to run overland through Contra Costa County, and because the route changed from time to time, 19 times was more than the Pony Express had been through many of the other sections of the route."

Bloss' work with the Contra Costa Historical Society inspired him to join with a group of local residents to form the San Ramon Valley Historical Society in 1970. Alamo historian Virgie Jones remembers the early days of the society.

"Roy was the first president and I was the first secretary," Jones says. "He has a nice sense of humor and a nice style of writing. He likes to use long words and

interesting words that we all have to look up in the dictionary. It challenges us. People like that about him."

In all his years of preserving history, it's his work in changing the course of history of which Bloss is most proud.

In 1970 the county was proposing to make Danville Boulevard four lanes instead of two. Bloss formed and served as chairman of the Association to Preserve Danville Boulevard. Bloss is quoted in the May 13, 1970, Valley Pioneer newspaper giving an impassioned plea to protect "the beauty wrought by God, over the artificiality of man."

The efforts of Bloss and the association worked.

"We stopped the county," Bloss remembers. "I'm hap-

to support a city, I'm in favor of it. If it's a shaky question, I would be in favor of Danville's adoption of the city. To me, Danville is a very beautiful community and a successful community."

When Alamo residents launched the Boulevard of Trees project in 1987, Bloss purchased three oak trees for Danville Boulevard near his home. In his later years, he is still contributing to his community, volunteering at the museum and attending town meetings when he can. Last fall he wrote a guest opinion for the Danville Weekly about Alamo incorporation.

Bloss is an inspiration, especially to his daughter, Roberta, who has served as chairwoman of the planning commission in Redondo Beach, just as her father served as chairman on the local planning commission when she was a child.

"The apple doesn't fall too far from the tree," she says. "My dad has been very involved in the community for many, many years. He provides a great role model."

Roberta recently hosted a 90th birthday party for her dad at Piatti restaurant in Danville. At the celebration, she told the gathering of family and friends that her father has three traits that she admires and believes have contributed to his longevity:

"First, there's discipline. He walks every day. He is very disciplined about his diet, exercise and taking care of his health," she says.

Second, is his intellectual curiosity and self-education.

"I was the first in the family to go to college, but my dad is more educated than I am," she says.

"He is self-taught, a devoted reader, and he reads intelligent pieces. He can speak on any subject with anybody."

Third, is his character.

"He is a man of character who made good decisions—that has given him a good life," she says. "He was married to my mom for 62 years. He is a good father and a strong role model."

Bloss' wife, Roberta Madie, passed away in July 2005.

"Our love for one another was probably the greatest thing in my life, and I'm sure it was in hers," Bloss says.

Although his daughter worries about him living alone and has invited him to come and live with her in Southern California, she knows he is comfortable where he is and she wants him to stay there as long as he's able.

Bloss has no plans to leave Alamo—his home for over half a century. He has someone come in to help with cleaning the house, but he still does his own gardening and drives himself around town.

"I've lived here for so long and I know where everything is and what the troubles are and what the advantages are," Bloss says. "It's a very hard attachment to even think about separating. I've found that this house and me are the same thing." ■



Roy Bloss enjoys a celebration of his 90th birthday at Piatti restaurant earlier this month with his granddaughter Angie Hall and great-granddaughters Megan (left) and Alexa.



Roy Bloss and his wife Roberta Madie, shown at the World Pet Trade Show in Los Angeles in 1985, were married for 62 years. "My love for her was probably the greatest thing in my life," says Bloss.

piest about fighting the widening of Danville Boulevard because that would have changed the whole community. It would have put a major road smack through a very quiet community.

"It turned out to be a successful effort in stopping the county from continuing with their plans, and not everything else that I was involved with had that much success attached to it."

One memorable effort that ended with mixed success was Bloss' work as co-chairman of the 1973 Alamo cityhood campaign. Bloss and a group of civic leaders proposed incorporating the area from Walnut Creek to the Alameda County line into a city. When the election to decide whether or not to create the new city was held, it was narrowly defeated.

However, in the same election, voters chose five people to serve as city council members in case the proposition passed. Even though he lost his bid to make Alamo a city, Bloss won the prospective council seat.

"I was one of five elected city councilmen to the city that wasn't elected," Bloss jokes.

With the recent Alamo incorporation effort under way, Bloss is once again expressing his opinion.

"It's an emotional thing with me to have Alamo as its own community, providing it could pay the bills," he says. "If the numbers show that Alamo has the finances

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

POLICE BULLETIN

Danville man arrested for child porn

A Danville resident and former substitute teacher for the San Ramon Valley school district was arrested Tuesday, April 8, on drug and child pornography charges.

James Joseph Meyer, 48, was charged with possessing narcotics with the intent to distribute, and possessing drug paraphernalia and child pornography.

Police believe the same man exposed himself two years ago to several 9- to 11-year-old boys.

The 2006 crime occurred in the San Ramon Creek area near Paraiso Drive, according to the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department. The victims identified Meyer as the suspect from a photo lineup.

The investigation is still ongoing and was sent to the county District Attorney's Office on Wednesday. Contact Sgt. Dan Hoffman at 314-3703 with any pertinent information regarding this case.

—Meghan Neal



Nanny heads wrong way on off-ramp

A woman under the influence of alcohol attempted to enter the freeway by driving the wrong way down the off-ramp, at 2:15 p.m., Thursday, April 10. She was stopped and arrested by Danville police.

The driver was heading west on Sycamore Valley Road and turned south onto I-680's north-bound ramp.

"That's a busy off-ramp," said Lt. Mark Williams. Traffic was coming toward her, but there were no collisions.

About 200 feet down the ramp the woman realized her mistake and made a U-turn, at which point police pulled her over and gave her a sobriety test. Her blood alcohol level was found to be more than twice the legal limit.

The San Ramon woman, Donna Parker, 43, was the nanny of two 5-year-olds who were in the car with her at the time. The children's mother came and picked them up at the scene.

Parker was arrested and charged with a DUI as well as endangering children, a felony charge.

—Meghan Neal

POLICE LOG

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

Sunday, April 6

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 3:48 p.m.
- Welfare check, arrest, on Fostoria Way at 5:11 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Camino Tassajara and Hill Meadow Dr. at 5:32 p.m.
- Warrant, arrest, on Valley Creek Lane at 9:40 p.m.
- Verbal disturbance, arrest, on 300 block of Hartz Ave. at 10:17 p.m.

Monday, April 7

- Petty theft on Bolero Ct. at 10:54 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Fostoria Way at 2:10 p.m.
- Court order violation on Old Orchard Dr. at 3:39 p.m.
- Credit card fraud on La Gonda Way at 4:22 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Danville Blvd. and Hartz Ave. at 6:38 p.m.
- Identity theft on Swan St. at 8:23 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8

- Warrant, arrest, on Rubicon Cir. at 8:43 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on La Gonda Way at 9:42 a.m.
- Auto burglary on El Pintado Rd. at 10 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on El Pintado Heights Dr. at 10:53 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on El Pintado Dr. at 11:32 a.m.

- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Hartz Ave. and E. Prospect Ave. at 11:51 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on El Pintado Rd. at 12:11 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Hartz Ave. and W. Prospect Ave. at 12:48 p.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Logan Lane at 1:35 p.m.
- Identity theft at Blackhawk Plaza and Camino Tassajara at 3:01 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Crow Canyon Rd. at 6:44 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9

- Vandalism on 3000 block of Stone Valley Rd. at 8:15 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Old Blackhawk Rd. at 8:30 a.m.
- Residential burglary on Old Orchard Ct. at 10:06 a.m.
- Grand theft from vehicle on Zagora Dr. at 11:10 a.m.
- Petty theft, all other, on Danville Blvd. at 4:11 p.m.
- Vandalism on Diablo View Ct. at 4:34 p.m.
- Vandalism on Diablo View Ct. at 5:58 p.m.
- Battery on Brookside Dr. at 6:37 p.m.

Thursday, April 10

- Accident, property damage, on Railroad Ave. at 10:06 a.m.
- Littering on Diablo Rd. and Green Valley Rd. at 10:24 a.m.
- Forgery of fraudulent documents on 400 block of Hartz Ave. at 10:55 a.m.

- Identity theft on Richard Lane at 11:30 a.m.
- Drunk in public on Front St. at 12:55 p.m.
- Fraud on El Pinto at 1:20 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Ramon and Paraiso Dr. at 1:57 p.m.
- Robbery on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 2:21 p.m.
- Suspicious subject stop, arrest, on Railroad Ave. at 6:26 p.m.
- Drugs violation on Railroad Ave. at 7:41 p.m.

Friday, April 11

- Vandalism on Mikado Pl. at 7:59 a.m.
- Identity theft on St. George Rd. at 8:53 a.m. and 10:07 a.m.
- Vandalism on Timberline Ct. at 1:19 p.m.
- Suspicious subject stop, arrest, on 3100 block of Stone Valley Rd. at 1:50 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Sonora Ave. at 6:31 p.m.
- Battery on Diablo Rd. at 10:39 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Hartz Ave. at 11:26 p.m.

Saturday, April 12

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Green Valley Rd. and Stone Valley Rd. at 2:51 a.m.
- Defrauding innkeeper on Hartz Ave. at 2:52 p.m.
- Trespassing on Brookside Dr. and Mikado Pl. at 8:30 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Blemer Rd. and Green Valley Rd. at 10:56 p.m.

OBITUARIES

Mary Pepperman (Novik)

Mary Pepperman (Novik), a resident of Danville, passed away March 9 after a brief illness. She was 92.

She had lived in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Westhampton Beach, New York and Danville.

She is survived by her daughter, Judith Pepperman Miller and son-in-law David Miller, and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Phillip "Peppy" Miller.

Graveside services were held in New York. Shiva was observed at the Miller residence. Donations in her memory may be made to Bruns

House, c/o Hospice of the East Bay, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill 94523.

Colleen June (Flynn) Rumph

Danville resident Colleen June (Flynn) Rumph died March 9 in

Danville at the age of 83.

A native of Knights Landing, she was born in 1924 to Maurice and Thelma (Quint) Flynn, and had lived in Danville for the past 47 years. She was married to the late Samuel Conrad Rumph, Jr., of Marshville, Ga., for 56 years.

She is survived by her daugh-

ter Sheryl; sons Larry and Scott; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A Memorial Service as held March 27 at St. Paul's Episcopal Chapel in Walnut Creek. Donations may be made in her name to Shepherd's Gate, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore, or the American Cancer Society.

Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



A neighborly kind of brunch

Anyone hungry for pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and a chance to meet the neighbors? Alamo Women's Club sponsors a Family Brunch the third Sunday of each month, partnering with nonprofit groups in the community, and the next one will be Sunday, April 20.

I'd heard about these brunches and when I was at the club's rummage sale last Friday I finally met organizer Nancy Combs and had the chance to talk to her about them. She said they are a great success and a lot of fun. And lucrative for the good causes—the last one made almost \$1,000. Alamo Women's Club splits the profits with the group, 50-50, as well as the efforts.

"We provide the venue and the shopping list, they do the cooking," said Nancy.

She has it down to a science and knows exactly what is needed to cook a brunch for 100, including a timetable to prepare the food. She also noted that the kitchen has been renovated to use for public events, a very important fact.

The club supplies the tables, chairs and tablecloths. Then the community groups are in charge of cooking and decorations. They also provide information about their activities. Combs said last month the co-sponsor was Tassajara 4-H and its members displayed their animals in the parking lot. It got pretty noisy, she told me with a laugh.

Alamo Women's Club and the community group also share the cost of the food. The menu includes pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee, tea, hot cocoa and orange juice, served buffet style. Some groups have also served other things, including berries and quiches, Nancy said. They charge \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

So far the club also has partnered with the San Ramon Valley YMCA, Job's Daughters and the Alamo Merchant and Professional Association. This Sunday it will be the Monte Vista Keynotes raising money for the instrumental music programs at the high school.

Nancy said she and her husband (and real estate partner) Joe help

out every month as do Marcelle and Joe Roice, and club president Lauren Hash and her husband Jamie. Club member Pat Burke brought three generations of her family one time, including her son who was visiting from Italy.

"The object of the brunches is twofold," said Combs. "One, it is community spirit for Alamo; two, it's a chance for the organization to dip into a different pond, so to speak."

Or a different stack of pancakes?

The Alamo Women's Club—and its clubhouse at 1401 Danville Blvd.—holds a special place in my heart. Soon after we moved here 25 years ago from San Jose, we went to the clubhouse for an art auction fundraiser for Alamo Elementary School. We met lots of nice people and saw my son's fifth-grade teacher, Sally Schultz, in a whole new, social light, laughing and having fun along with her husband. We knew we'd moved to a great community! We even bought two pieces of art—one a modern lithograph called "In the Beginning," which still hangs in our family room.

I also went to the club to hear a speaker one morning, Marianne Alireza, author of "At the Drop of a Veil," who told about her years living in Saudi Arabia in the late 1940s and 1950s and finally leaving and abducting her children from a school in Switzerland. What a wonderful club, I thought, that offers such interesting speakers to the public.

Then my life got busier, especially when my youngest started kindergarten and I went back to work. I rarely entered the clubhouse, although passing by it always made me smile, whether I was driving on Danville Boulevard or walking the Iron Horse Trail. And now, more than 20 years later, I work for the Danville Weekly, and since we cover many activities that take place there, I often find myself inside the clubhouse.

Next I'll have to check out one of those Family Brunches. The hours are 8:30-11:30 a.m. It would be the neighborly thing to do.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli
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EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Preventing accidents

Last week, just as a funeral was taking place for a 10-year-old boy who was hit by a school shuttle bus in San Ramon while riding his bike home from school, a police officer pulled out onto Danville Boulevard from a side street in Danville and collided with a 14-year-old girl on a bike. At the same time, bicycle safety materials were being distributed in the schools as a result of the San Ramon fatality.

The ironies are not lost on us but the more important lesson is this: If it could happen to a police officer, it could happen to anyone. The officer was cleared of any fault; the girl had been illegally riding her bicycle on the sidewalk. As he pulled out of a condominium neighborhood after checking the street, she clipped the front of the police car. But the incident is a wakeup call. Now we know to check the sidewalk for bicyclists (as well as skateboarders and roller-bladers) before we drive forward. It's not a matter of being right, it's a matter of avoiding accidents.

The Danville accident was one of three that have taken place locally in the last month between vehicles and bikes. Also in San Ramon, a 14-year-old California High School student was crossing San Ramon Valley Boulevard on her bicycle when she was hit by a minivan and seriously injured.

The San Ramon Valley has an extensive Street Smarts program aimed at children, teens and adults to make everyone super aware of the dangers of vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists sharing the streets and sidewalks. The plan is to distribute bike safety information to every student in the district before school lets out. But adults must remember that dangers are real and accidents happen—even to police officers and trained bus drivers. No matter who is at fault, of course, the bike rider is most at risk.

The ironies are not lost on us but the more important lesson is this: If it could happen to a police officer, it could happen to anyone.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wave a red flag

Dear Editor:

Lowering the speed limit on Danville Boulevard in Alamo does not guarantee the safety of people using the crosswalk to get from one side of the street to the other.

The best, although primitive, solution is the idea of Mr. Jim Peterson of Alamo Florist. Jim made red flags and positioned them on both sides of the street on Danville Boulevard in two flag holders. Now people crossing the street can pick up a red flag and walk across the intersection waving it back and forth, like it's the Fourth of July, to get motorists' attention to stop for

pedestrians and allow them to cross safely. When the pedestrian is on the other side of the street there is a flag holder to deposit the flag into so that the next person crossing the street has access to the flag.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to see that a controlled signal light, perhaps one or two, would allow vehicles to enter and exit the shopping center and allow pedestrians to cross Danville Boulevard without the fear of being hit by a car.

At the present time, the primitive flag-waving solution has been the best idea so far. Way to go, Mr. Peterson.

Tony Carnemolla, Alamo

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.

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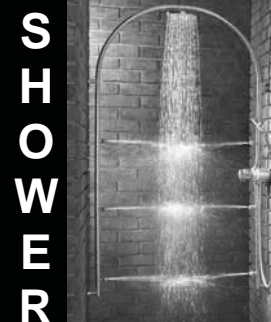
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- Best auto dealership
- Best car repair
- Best car wash
- Best Danville Area real estate office
- Best financial planner
- Best golf course
- Best mortgage broker/brokerage
- Best pet groomer
- Best pet sitter
- Best place to get a traffic ticket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

Specialty retail

- Best art gallery
- Best athletic apparel store
- Best bicycle shop
- Best bookstore
- Best children's clothing store
- Best discount store

- Best florist
- Best grocery store
- Best hobby/craft store
- Best home accessory store
- Best health food store
- Best jewelry store
- Best maternity store
- Best men's clothing store
- Best pet store
- Best place to buy a gift
- Best shoe store
- Best wine store
- Best women's clothing store

Personal care and pampering

- Best day spa
- Best hair salon for women
- Best hair salon for men
- Best manicure/pedicure
- Best medical spa

Epicure

- Best "assemble your own" meal store
- Best American food restaurant
- Best bakery

- Best breakfast
- Best burger
- Best burrito
- Best California cuisine/innovative dining
- Best Chinese restaurant
- Best deli
- Best dessert
- Best French restaurant
- Best fresh produce
- Best ice cream/yogurt Shop
- Best independent coffee house
- Best Italian restaurant
- Best Mediterranean/Middle Eastern restaurant
- Best Mexican restaurant
- Best outdoor dining
- Best personal chef
- Best pizza
- Best place for a business lunch
- Best romantic restaurant
- Best sushi/Japanese restaurant
- Best takeout
- Best Thai restaurant

Let's Get Physical

- Best bike or walking trail

- Best fitness club
- Best martial arts studio
- Best personal trainer
- Best place to jog
- Best place to walk a dog

At home

- Best antiques store
- Best home consignment shop
- Best flooring store
- Best framing shop
- Best hardware store
- Best home furnishings
- Best kitchen/bath remodeler
- Best landscaper/designer
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Stepping Out

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- Best place for dancing
- Best place to get together with friends
- Best public event

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Learning to give

National Charity League joins mothers and daughters in a common cause



All wrapped up in National Charity League are members of the Rolling Hills chapter, displaying the fleece blankets they made in their Pillow Pal project for Foster a Dream, which builds the self-worth and dreams of abused and neglected children growing up in foster care. This NCL project provides foster children with a pillow, blanket and stuffed animal of their own when they are removed from their homes to go into a foster care situation.

by Myla Wagner

Megan Patterson will always remember the smiles of the hungry at Loaves and Fishes. She volunteered at the food pantry in Concord as part of the philanthropy of the mother-daughter National Charity League.

"National Charity League has been an unforgettable pleasure," said Patterson, who is a graduating senior. "Loaves and Fishes has drawn me to their mission. The occasional smile from someone hungry will forever stay with me and motivate me to continue service work."

NCL is a nonprofit national organization of mothers and daughters who join together in community involvement within local chapters. The mothers and daughters join in social, cultural and leadership events as well as philanthropic.

Fourteen young women from the Rolling Hills Chapter of National Charity League Inc. were honored at Crow Canyon Country Club at the annual Senior Presents ceremony April 6 for their four years of participation and service to the community. They made their debut wearing black gowns and celebrated with fellow NCL members, family and friends at the formal dinner

to the theme "Stars of Our Future."

Together over the past four years since their chapter's inception, these girls volunteered nearly 1,300 philanthropic hours to their community. Nearly 1,000 of those hours were worked side-by-side with their mothers.

"My mother and I have developed a mutually rewarding understanding of each other through working with many philanthropies and attending NCL events," said Patterson.

This was the fourth graduating class for the Rolling Hills chapter.

"NCL is an outstanding program that I am proud to be a part of," said Irene Hodge, president of the Rolling Hills class of 2008. "I know that the friendships and bonds that I have made during this amazing program will last me a lifetime."

The National Charity League traces its roots to Los Angeles in 1925. A group of women was working with the Red Cross in making layettes and assembling food baskets during the holidays and sometimes included their daughters. By 1938, the daughters decided to form their own group, which united with the mothers' group in 1947 and took the present name, the National Charity League. Today the league has 144 chapters

in 15 states.

The Rolling Hills Chapter was organized in 2004 for mothers of Alamo, Danville and San Ramon with daughters in seventh through 12th grades. The chapter has grown to a current membership of approximately 140 mothers and 160 daughters. The Diablo Valley Chapter, formed in 1989, has members from Alamo, Diablo and Danville. Mothers and daughters who want to join are sponsored by active members.

Local NCL chapters support philanthropic organizations that include Bay Area Crisis Nursery, Blackhawk Museum, Blue Star Moms, Contra Costa County Food Bank, Discovery Counseling Center, Loaves and Fishes, Meals on Wheels, San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, Save Mount Diablo, Special Olympics of Northern California, STAND! Against Domestic Violence, Taylor Family Foundation, The Volunteer Center, Tri-Valley SPCA and Valley Children's Museum.

In addition to serving these and other philanthropies, the Rolling Hills graduating girls earned more than 775 league hours by holding their own meetings and enjoying a variety of social, cultural and educational activities.



National Charity League Rolling Hills volunteers (l-r) Samantha Weltz, Rachael Winkler and Alyssa DeMarinis offer desserts as part of the free meals served by Loaves and Fishes at the First Baptist Church in Martinez to people in need.

"NCL has shown me that I can make a difference in people's lives," said Sarah Goldman. "It makes me feel so much better to know that I personally have helped someone stay warm, or made sure their kids had Christmas presents during the holiday season."

Graduating members of the Rolling Hills senior class of 2008 are Taylor Denhart, Alyssa DeMarinis,

Stephanie Fennell, Sarah Goldman, Ann Hodge, Irene Hodge, Jordan Kragen, Whitney MacLeod, Megan Patterson, Shawnee Pohlson, Jamie Sy, Samantha Weltz, Briana Williams and Rachael Winkler.

"People wake up every day thinking about the future," said Goldman. "What sets us apart is that we wake up and think about the future of others." ■

Epicure



BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

Passover feasting

As the oldest continuously celebrated holiday in the world, Passover commemorates the exodus of Jews from Egypt, crossing the Sinai in search of the "Promised Land." Ultimately, that land included locations all over the world, throughout Europe to the United States and back to Africa. By the time the Jews returned to Israel, their cuisine had been influenced by many different cultures—Eastern Europe, France, the Middle East, North Africa and the Americas.

Passover is clearly a religious holiday but it has deep universal roots—the celebration of freedom from oppression and the honoring of ancient traditions. In the Seder—the traditional Passover meal—you can see traditional rites of spring:

cleaning rituals (discarding things that have been lying around all winter); the arrival of spring's gifts like fresh herbs and vegetables, new wine, young lamb; and, probably most evident, the scarcity of cupboard supplies and seasonings in late winter (e.g., matzoh meal).

Over the years, Seders have reflected Old Testament history and the diversity of Jewish cuisines. For example, one of the symbolic dishes is haroset—a fruit, nut and wine mixture to represent the mortar used by Hebrew slaves to build buildings for the pharaohs. And while many Jews report that the Seders they grew up with offered the familiar dishes—matzoh, gefilte fish, chicken soup, borscht, potato kugel—they also recall many bland,

non-noteworthy meals.

Today's Seders are becoming contemporary celebrations of food and the diversity of the Jewish cuisine as much as celebrations of freedom. Whether you celebrate Passover with a traditional Seder or an informal reading of the Haggadah followed by a party-til-you-drop evening, good food is always in order. And if these dishes find their way to your Seder table or are just part of an everyday meal, celebrate culture, food and freedom as you enjoy them. L'chei-*im!*

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

RECIPES

Smoked Fish with Fennel and Arugula salad (8 servings)

1-1/4 pounds thinly sliced smoked fish, e.g., trout or whitefish
2 Tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
1 fresh fennel bulb, trimmed and halved vertically, then sliced paper-thin
2 cups packed baby arugula leaves
3 Tbsp chopped fresh chives

Directions:

- Place fish on one side of platter.
- Whisk oil and lemon juice in bowl; season dressing with salt and pepper.
- Toss half with the fennel and half with the arugula; mound both alongside fish. Sprinkle with chives.

Chicken Soup with Matzoh Balls (6 servings)

3 eggs
6-9 cups good chicken stock
1/4 cup minced onion
1/4 cup melted rendered chicken fat (or substitute canola or extra-virgin olive oil)
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
About 1 cup matzoh meal
4 carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
Fresh parsley leaves, chopped, for garnish

Directions:

- Beat together the eggs and 1/2 cup of the stock. Stir in the onion, fat, salt,

and pepper. Add the matzoh meal; the dough should be quite moist, barely stiff enough to make into balls. If it is too moist, add a little more meal.

- Cover mixture and refrigerate for an hour or overnight. When ready to continue, place a large pot of salted water to boil. Using wet hands, shape the mixture into small balls, about 1 inch in diameter. Meanwhile, cook the carrots in the 5-1/2 cups stock.

- Turn the heat under the boiling water to medium low and cook the balls until expanded and set, about 30 minutes.

- Place the matzoh balls into soup bowls and ladle the stock and carrots over them; garnish with lots of parsley.

Find more recipes at www.danvilleweekly.com

The 411



BY KATHARINE O'HARA

Casual sex can have consequences

In March 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a study estimating that one in four American girls ages 14 to 19 (over 3 million teenagers) has at least one sexually transmitted disease.

The study, which is the first of its kind to explore this age group, was based on data from the 2003-2004 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, and comes as an alarming wakeup call. The study found that African-American young women are affected the worst: Nearly half are infected, compared to 20 percent of white and Mexican-American young women. Human papilloma virus (at 18 percent) and Chlamydia (at 4 percent) were the most common infections. Fifteen percent of the infected young women had more than one STD, and some were even unaware they had the disease(s).

Another aspect of the study revealed the even more shocking statistic that, of the nearly half of teens that reported being sexually active (a statistic that reaches more than two-thirds after the first year of college), a whopping 40 percent are infected with one of the four diseases (HPV, Chlamydia, genital herpes and trichomoniasis) tested for. This number alarmingly indicates that "nearly half of the sexually experienced teens at any one time have evidence of an STD," according to Indiana University School of Medicine adolescent medicine specialist, Dr. Margaret Blythe.

The disturbing CDC figures deal a disturbing blow to parents, doctors and teens alike. Given the disastrous consequences STDs can deliver, including infertility and cervical cancer, and the ease with which they spread, Kevin Fenton, M.D., director of CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention, issued the statement that "STD screening, vaccination and other prevention strategies for sexually active women are among our highest public health priorities."

While the study is disturbing, it comes as little surprise. In my own experiences in middle and high school, I have repeatedly observed the casual and lighthearted tone in which teens talk about their own and others' sexual encounters and the flippancy with which they chose their sexual partners and choose to engage in sexual activity.

Upon visiting a college campus last month, I picked up a copy of the school's newspaper. Much to my surprise, the back page was a silly exposé that included a section of quotes describing students' "most memorable sexual experiences," and a graph comparing all the different places on campus in which students reported having sex—from the bike storage room, to the

wheat fields, to the health center, to a library study room. To be honest, I was somewhat taken aback by the nonchalant character of the page. I felt like an intruder on moments that were supposed to be intimate and private, and as cliché as the statement sounds, the page made it seem as though "everyone was doing it"—and void of any negative repercussions; where was the mention of STDs and unplanned pregnancies, or emotional attachment and heartbreak?

I suppose I just feel as if the concept of sex has been incredibly cheapened by the openness with which people discuss it, and the failure to discuss all parts of it—possible negative consequences and all. It is no wonder that girls are getting infected with sexually transmitted diseases at rates faster than ever, and that they are often under the misguided impression that that sort of thing will never happen to them.

Perhaps girls are too trusting of their sexual partners, or not discriminating enough in choosing them. It is also possible that there is greater concern (and thus greater precaution taken) with avoiding pregnancy, than with avoiding STDs.

Some point to abstinence-only sex education as the root of the issue, like the president of Planned Parenthood, Cecile Richards, who deems the promotion of such programs "a \$1.5 billion failure" for which "teenage girls are paying the real price." It is possible that without proper education, girls may be under the impression that contraceptives like the birth control pill or patch protect them against STDs as well as pregnancies, when this in fact is not the case.

It is easy to see that a combination of causes lies at the root of this problem—a problem that is certainly not going away any time soon. The most obvious solutions to reducing the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases in teens include regular screenings, vaccinations, and the practice of "safe sex"—and with the proper attention, awareness and education, these solutions can fairly easily be effectively implemented. However, I fear that on top of these medical precautions, it will take a generational paradigm shift to effectively reduce or eliminate the prevalence of STDs. Either that, or we must come to accept the realities that accompany a society of increased openness and casual comfort with experiences that are not only traditionally private and intimate, but consequence-laden.

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

Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE



SAN RAMON VALLEY ALAMO DANVILLE AND SAN RAMON BY BEVERLY LANE AND RALPH COZINE

School days in San Ramon

The first San Ramon school was located at the foot of Cox's Grove north of San Ramon village, in 1852. By 1866 San Ramon voters supported a \$2,000 bond issue for a new school house in town. This well-loved school house educated San Ramon children from 1867 to 1951. Sixty-eight students were enrolled in 1869 when teacher A. J. Young was in charge.



Little League action

San Ramon Valley Little League AA Red Sox player Ben Van Camp from Alamo slides into home but is tagged out by Giants catcher Nick Sylva. Right, Jordan Weil pitches while below, Max Pienkny connects with the ball. The Red Sox, coached by Alamo resident Kevin Cole, beat the Giants, coached by Mike Giosso and Joe Motta, 12-0.

JEFFREY WEIL



JEFFREY WEIL

JEFFREY WEIL

SAN RAMON VALLEY HIGH SPORTS WRAPUP

by Kaity Ferretti

Women's Lacrosse

The women's varsity lacrosse team had a bit of an easy week due to the Dougherty Valley game Tuesday where only JV competed. The Wolves played Friday night against Livermore. San Ramon won with a score of 14-3, making their record 2 wins and 5 losses. Jessica Esteban, Kaci Bowles, Amanda Cross and Tamlyn Koga were the top scorers throughout the game. At half-time, the Wolves were ahead 4-3.

Men's Lacrosse

The men's varsity team also had an easy week, taking Tuesday off with only JV playing Dougherty Valley. Nevertheless, the varsity team played Livermore on Friday night and won, boasting a score of 18-2. The men's league record is now 5-0-0.

Baseball

San Ramon Valley played an incredible away game against Cal High on Wednesday. The Wolves won with a score of 9-2. After this win, their record stands at 8 wins and 6 losses. Pitcher Ryan Palsha played extremely well, while pitching for six innings. Both Nick Fong and Brian MacMillan had exceptionally good hits. The boys played Foothill on Friday at home and lost with a score of 8-4.

Softball

Varsity girl's softball played Cal in an away game Tuesday. The Wolves won 3-1. San Ramon's record now boasts 2 wins and 2 losses in league play. Sophomore Devon Bridges scored a triple with two RBI's. Freshman Sara Pacioni scored a double. The Wolves played Foothill at home on Thursday and lost, 5-3.

Men's Tennis

San Ramon played Cal in an away match Tuesday. The Wolves beat Cal High 6-3. The boys played exceptionally, especially in their singles matches. Senior Bryan Cox won 6-2 and 6-1 in his matches. Senior Cooper Grossman won 6-3 and 6-0. Sophomore Kelson Quan won his matches 6-3 and 6-2. The Wolves played Foothill at home on Thursday and won with a score of 8-1. The boy's record now stands at 9 wins and 4 losses.

Men's Volleyball

San Ramon lost to a match against Monte Vista at home Tuesday. The Mustangs barely beat the Wolves, 25-23, 25-22 and 25-20. Although the Wolves lost, they played well. Sophomore Tommy Crow had 16 kills, while junior Will Rei had 9 kills. Likewise, junior Travis Selland boasts some kills, and junior Russel Reeve had a lot of assists. The Wolves' record now stands at 1

win and 5 losses in league play. San Ramon played Granada in an away match Thursday and lost all three games by a small point margin.

Swimming

Both the boys and the girls beat Foothill in their swim meet Wednesday. The boys won by a large point margin, and the girls were able to slip ahead by a 9-point lead. Freshman Taylor Nanfria won her heat of the 500 meter freestyle. Likewise, senior Kirstyn Colonias won her heat of the 100 meter breaststroke. Colonias is planning on attending the Olympic trials where she could qualify to compete in the Olympics. For the boys, junior Byron Gruendl won his heat in the 100 meter butterfly and the 50 meter freestyle. Also, junior Kevin Schirmer won his heat in the 100 meter breaststroke.

Track and Field

San Ramon girls and boys competed in a meet against Foothill on Thursday and won. Laura Chabonneau beat Foothill in the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 17.62. Lindsay Sherwood jumped 15 feet and 10 inches in the long jump, dominating over Foothill. Gordon Chow took first in the 100 meter with a time of 11.38, and David Nicholas took first in the 400 meter with a time of 43.18.

Men's Golf

The men's golf team won the Falcon Invitational on Monday, April 7, at Shadow Lakes Golf Course in Brentwood. The team shot a 384 to finish 11 strokes in front of second-place Monte Vista. Junior Cole Pickavance placed third overall with a 1-over round of 73, and junior Christian Ulmer placed fourth with a 74. Seniors Mike Perchak and Alex Calljea shot 78 and 79, respectively, while junior Dan McGrath added an 81.

The team went on to win both of its matches this week, beating Granada 183-202 on Tuesday at Crow Canyon and California 187-190 on Thursday at Crow Canyon. Pickavance and Calljea were the medalists against Granada by firing rounds of 1-over 35. Junior Griffin Gering led the team against Cal High with a 35. The team is tied for third in league with a 7-3 record in the East Bay Athletic League, 9-3 overall.

—Brian Barr

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Parent photographers

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Calendar

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

Author Visit

Rakestraw Books Rakestraw Books will host Jane Smiley, author of "Ten Days in the Hills," at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 23, at Rakestraw Books, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. Call 837-7337.

Clubs

Gold Star Mom Speaks Out TriValley Democratic Club will host Karen Meredith, a member of Gold Star Families Speak Out, from 7-9 p.m., Monday, April 21, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Refreshments will be served; wheelchair accessible. Call 831-8355 or visit www.trivalleydems.com.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network presents a "Reduce, Reuse & Recycle" discussion from 7-9 p.m., Monday, April 21, at In My Nature, 4725 First St., #270, Pleasanton. No charge for first time visitors or Chapter members. Visit www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail trivalleyhmn@hotmail.com.

Events

Child Abuse Prevention Day Exchange Club of San Ramon Valley is sponsoring its annual "Remember The Blue" Child Abuse Prevention Day from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 19, at Farmers' Market, Lunardi's, and Safeway in Danville, Alamo Plaza and San Ramon. Call 275-2412 or e-mail coachstepper@yahoo.com.

Earth Day Free E-Waste Recycling Event What are you doing for Earth Day? Get a head start on your Spring Cleaning and recycle that old, unwanted electronic equipment at a free e-waste recycling event from 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m., Friday-Sunday, April 18-20, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton. Visit www.noewaste.com.

Print-a-Thon Event KlassKids Foundation and Integrated Security Professionals, Inc. will host a Print-a-Thon event from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, April 26, at Integrated Security Professionals, Inc., 3470 Fostoria Way, Suite A, San Ramon. Every participant will receive a free DNA collection kit.

Sheep Shearing Day San Ramon Historic Foundation and Forest Home Farms will host Sheep Shearing Day from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 26, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Watch the sheep get their "haircut" and enjoy the entertainment, kids craft area, music, old fashioned games and tours of the farm. Admission is \$3 in advance, \$5 at the gate. Call 937-3284 or visit www.sanramonhistoricalfoundation.org.

Film

'The War on Democracy' Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center will host a screening of "The War on Democracy" from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, April 23, at Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. This event is free, but donations are accepted. Call 933-7850 or visit www.mtdpc.org.

Fundraisers

31st Annual Workday Devil Mountain Run Come and participate in the 31st annual Workday Devil Mountain Run beginning at 8 a.m., Sunday, May 4, in downtown Danville at Railroad and Prospect avenues. Registration is \$30 in advance (\$13 for children participating in Kids Run); \$35 on the day of the race (\$15 for Kids Run); visit www.devilmountainrun.org. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital and Research Center Foundation. Call Diane at (415) 759-2690.

Family Brunch Alamo Women's Club will host a Family Brunch from 8:30-11:30 a.m., Sunday, April 20, and on May 18, at the Clubhouse, 1401 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Brunch

includes french toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee, tea, hot cocoa and orange juice, served buffet style. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children. Proceeds benefit local organizations.

Fourth Annual Hats Off America Casino Night Enjoy an evening of gaming, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, auctions, a raffle and no-host bar from 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, April 19, at the Sycamore Clubhouse, 635 Old Orchard Dr., Danville. Tickets are \$40; must be 21. Proceeds benefit Hats Off America. Call 855-1950 or visit www.hatsoffamerica.us.

Giant Book Sale Friends of the Danville Library will host a book sale from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, April 18; 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, April 19; and noon-4 p.m., Sunday, April 20, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Proceeds benefit the Danville Library. Call 837-4889.

Vanity for Charity III Jerome R. Potozkin, M.D., will host "Vanity for Charity III" on Tuesday, May 6, at his office, 110 Tampico, Suite 200, Walnut Creek. All proceeds from Botox, Restylane and Juvederm injections, and cosmetic laser procedures will be donated to STAND! Against Domestic Violence. For an appointment, call 838-4900.

Health

Mindful Chi Kung and Healthy Being Chi Kung means energy cultivation. It is a moving meditation that integrates mind, body, and spirit to enhance and strengthen the immune system. Come and enjoy Chi Kung from 2-4 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. It is free for cancer patients and their support. Call 933-0107.

Spring Fest Town of Danville will host "Spring Fest: A Safety and Wellness Community Event" from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at the Danville Community Center, 420 Front St. Call 314-3400 or visit www.ci.danville.ca.us.

Holiday

Community Second Seder Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' Passover seder celebrates the heroism and courage of the human participants in the original freedom struggle of the Jewish people. A potluck dinner will be hosted from 5-8 p.m., Sunday, April 20, at the Bothwell Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Cost is \$10. Call 485-1049.

Kids and Teens

Children's Storytimes Danville Library will host Mother Goose Time for babies at 10:15 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays, April 21-May 27; Toddler Storytime at 11:15 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays, April 21-May 27; and Preschool Storytime from 10:15-10:45 a.m., Wednesdays, April 23-May 28, all at the Danville Library, Children's Reading Room, 400 Front St. Parents and caregivers must attend with children. Call 837-4889.

My Good Friend Young Writers Challenge Danville, San Ramon and Dougherty Station Libraries are challenging elementary school writers to write about a friend. Entries will be displayed in the library and some children will be chosen to share their writing on Saturday, May 3, during a visit from author Elisa Kleven. Everyone who turns in a submission will receive a prize. Entries will be accepted until Friday, April 25; pick up an entry form

at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Call 837-4889.

Lectures

Caregiver's Need Love Too Are you the caregiver of a cancer patient? Focusing on the person with cancer, caregivers tend to forget about their own physical and emotional needs. Share some of the challenges of caregivers while also learning some tools to keep ourselves healthy from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 19, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Call 933-0107.

Earth Day: Science and Religion Symposium What do we understand about the earth's mystery and what are our human responsibilities? See a portion of the Planet Earth movie, hear geophysicist Jim Strawn respond and share in a reflective conversation from 4-5:30 p.m., Sunday, April 20, at Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. This event is free. Call 648-7000.

Everything You Want to Know About Computer Games Friends of the Danville Library will host a workshop on the history of computer games, a demonstration of current computer games and a discussion of games of the future at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. This workshop is free. Call 837-4889.

San Ramon Valley in the 1960s During the '60s, the San Ramon Valley was experiencing progress with the creation of the freeway, housing developments and industry. Find out what life was like in the 1960s from a panel who lived and worked in the Valley from 7-9 p.m., Monday, April 21, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley

Blvd., San Ramon. Cost is \$5. Call 973-3282 or visit www.srhf.org.

Live Music

Dance to Dixieland Devil Mountain Jazz Band will provide wonderful Dixieland music for dancing and listening from 2-5 p.m., Saturday, April 19, at the Diablo Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Rd., Danville. Cost is \$12; parking is free. Visit www.jazznut.com.

On Stage

'School for Scandal' Role Players Ensemble Theatre presents "School for Scandal" at 8 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays and at 2 p.m., Sundays, April 18-May 10, at Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Tickets are \$25, \$22, or \$15. Call 314-3400 or 314-3463.

Seniors

Elder Financial Abuse Forum Seniors are invited to an Elder Financial Abuse Forum from 9:30 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, April 23, at the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 651 Pine St., Martinez. Call 335-8818.

Spiritual

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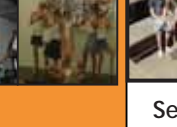
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115 Announcements

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133 Music Lessons

Piano Lessons

Piano Lessons

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135 Group Activities

Scrapbooking Group in Dublin are

140 Lost & Found

Lost/For Sale



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210 Garage/Estate Sales

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215 Collectibles & Antiques

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230 Freebies

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235 Wanted to Buy

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240 Furnishings/Household items

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245 Miscellaneous

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Real Estate

801 Apartments/Condos/Studios

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$719.00
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$719.00/\$1

805 Homes for Rent

Danville, 4 BR/3 BA
Great schools, 4 bdr/3 ba house (3300 Sq.Ft, 3 Car Garage), in Shadow Creek (2 clubhouses/pools, many walking trails) by Blackhawk Plaza
Call:(925)337-3692

Dublin, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2195
East Dublin, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$2700/ mont

Pleasanton, 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$1800.00 /

809 Shared Housing/Rooms

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - 600
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$600/month
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$600/Month
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$600/Month

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Danville, 3 BR/2 BA - \$775000
Danville, 3 BR/2 BA - \$775000
Danville, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$1069000
Dublin, 3 BR/2 BA - \$589,999
Dublin, 3 BR/3.5 BA - \$749000

Dublin, 3 BR/3.5 BA - \$749000

Livermore, 3 BR/2 BA - \$439,950

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

Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA - \$820,000.

Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA - \$820,000.

830 Commercial/Income Property

10 Apartments in San Carlos
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840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

BEAUTIFUL Northstar Village
FOR RENT: New condo centrally located in new Northstar Village, 2 bed, 2 bath, beautifully appointed, fully furnished, ski in/ski out thru gondola. For more info and pictures, please view our website at www.bighornnorthstar.com; sbj@sbj-law.com

CABIN RENTAL
Pinecrest cabin by lake. Lrg deck, sleeps 11. \$1000 per wk.
Call 925-837-2870

Hawaii Waikiki Beach



Yes! BEACHFRONT condo on Maui
Aloha! This beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 bath townhome is on Maui's west side and is walking distance to Lahaina. Located in the private 30 acre gated community known as Puamana, this is one of only a few homes right on the beach! Enjoy the sunsets as you BBQ from the lanai. This spacious vacation rental includes a fully equipped kitchen and all the privileges of Puamana: exercise room, 3 swimming pools, tennis courts and historic clubhouse great for private parties. This home sleeps 8 and offers private parking. Golf is as close as a ten minute drive to some world class courses. Please visit www.puamana136-1.com for more info., rates, and pics. Or call 510-414-0870. Mahalo!

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5+ Acre Homesite
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Arizona Land Bargain

36 Acres - \$29,900. Beautiful mountain property in Arizona's Wine Country. Price reduced in buyers market. Won't last! Good access & views. Eureka Springs Ranch offered by AZLR. ADWR report & financing available. 1-877-301-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

Homes for \$30,000
Buy foreclosures! Must sell now! 1-4 bedrooms. For listings, call 1-800-903-7136. (AAN CAN)

New Arizona Land Rush
1 or 2-1/2 "Football Field" Sized Lots! \$0 Down. \$0 Interest. \$159-\$208 per month! Money Back Guarantee! 1-888-806-2831 or www.SunSitesLandRush.com (Cal-SCAN)

New Mexico Ranch Dispersal
New to Market. 140 acres - \$89,900. River Access. Northern New Mexico. Cool 6,000' elevation with stunning views. Great tree cover including Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great hunting. EZ terms. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-866-360-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

New Mexico Sacrifice
140 acres was \$149,900, Now Only \$69,900. Amazing 6000 ft. elevation. Incredible mountain views. Mature tree cover. Power and year round roads. Excellent financing. Priced for quick sale. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-204-9760. (Cal-SCAN)

Rainbow Trout Stream
10 Acres - \$69,900. Gorgeous Nevada land abuts National Forest and BLM in the foothills of the White Mountains east of the California Sierras. Endless recreational opportunities. Close up views of snow capped peaks. Cool, clear, year round Rainbow Trout creek. Call 1-877-349-0822. (Cal-SCAN)

Southern Colorado Ranch
Sale 35 Acres- \$29,900. Spectacular Rocky Mountain Views Year round access, elec/ tele included. Excellent Financing available w/ low down payment. Call Red Creek Land Co. Today! 1-866-696-5263 x3469. (Cal-SCAN)

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20-acres, Near Booming El Paso. Good Road Access. Only \$14,900. \$200/ down, \$145/month. Money Back Guarantee! No Credit Checks. 1-800-616-4515 www.SunsetRanches.com (Cal-SCAN)

Utah Ranch Dispersal
Experience the fun and relaxation of having your own 40 acres in the great outdoor recreational area of the Uintah Basin. Starting at only \$29,900. Call UTLR 1-888-693-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

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As Danville grays, home buyers may be increasingly young minorities

Banks Association study finds 'boomers' are staying put in places they like

by Jeb Bing

The most significant factors impacting housing in Danville, Alamo and other similar cities in major urban centers are whether aging baby boomers decide to grow old where they are and where young immigrants decide to settle, according to a new study released by the Mortgage Bankers Association.

The study, "America's Regional Demographics in the '00s Decade: The Role of Seniors, Boomers and New Minorities," conducted by William H. Frey of the Brookings Institution and sponsored by the MBA's Research Institute for Housing America (RIHA), analyzes two components driving the changes that will transform the U.S. population over the next several decades—aging boomers, and immigration of Hispanics and Asians.

It finds that the overall U.S. population will experience a rapid aging as boomers grow older, while absorbing large numbers of young recent immigrants. Different regions of the country will have different demands for housing driven by the relative impacts of aging in place vs. migration within the country and immigration from abroad. For example, suburban areas such as Danville and Alamo will gray faster than more densely populated centers such as San Francisco and Oakland due to the boomers aging in place.

"It has been said that demographics are the future that has already happened, and demographic changes are one of the most powerful forces impacting the residential and commercial real estate and real estate finance markets," said Doug Duncan, MBA's Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of Research and Business Development. "Therefore the real estate industry needs to appreciate these important trends."

"This study provides insightful analyses of current statistics and valuable projections regarding how these trends will likely play out nationally and regionally in the years ahead," he added. "We expect that this study will help our members develop business plans to meet the ever changing American marketplace."

The Bankers Association study shows the number of seniors in a community can increase because more older people move there or because seniors like where they live and choose to stay there. Even in Arizona, which shows the highest rates of overall population growth, the migration effect is dwarfed by the effect of the existing population simply getting older and not moving.

According to the study, the most dramatic impact of aging in place will be in parts of the country which are not now associated with aging populations, such as Nevada, Colorado and Georgia. These are states that will have the fastest senior growth but are not now states that have a

high percentage of seniors.

States with high senior percentages, including the so-called "rust belt" states in the Midwest and East, have already seen significant drops in their younger populations. This leaves behind seniors who are far less likely to move than people in their 20s and 30s, either because they cannot afford higher priced housing elsewhere or because their families are nearby and they want to stay put.

The study also shows that communities in the Tri-Valley could become the fastest graying part of the Bay Area landscape compared to San Francisco, where new condos and townhouses are appealing to those under 40.

While close to 30 percent of young households move each year to a new residence, that slides down to 4-5 percent for people in older age groups. Therefore, household mobility that has been a major driver of home sales here could fall off as boomers age.

The Bankers Association study shows that less than 2 percent of residents ages 55-64 move across state lines in any one year and the percentage is even less for those over 65. The aggregate number of interstate moves among those ages 55 and over is dwarfed by the number of moves undertaken by the younger population, meaning fewer moves as a larger portion of the population is over 55. Well-off young senior populations will emerge in areas such as Las Vegas, Denver, Dallas and Atlanta.

Also noteworthy according to the MBA analysts is that while it is popular to think of the U.S. as a melting pot, Hispanic, Asian and other minority groups are disproportionately clustered in selected areas.

What has changed is the "hold" that the traditional immigrant gateways have on the Hispanic population, according to the MBA economists. In 1990, for example, the top 10 metropolitan areas were home to fully 55 percent of all U.S. Hispanics, and the top two, Los Angeles and New York, housed nearly three in 10 Hispanics nationwide. In 2005, however, less than half of all Hispanics lived in those top 10 areas, and Los Angeles and New York are home to only 22 percent. Today, nearly one-third of all counties in the U.S. have at least 5 percent of their populations that are Hispanic, compared with one out of six in 1990.

Because the vast majority of Hispanics and Asians are also relatively young compared with the rest of the population, they are also more mobile as they look for improved and expanded housing to meet their growing income and family-growth needs. Analysts cite California as one of the states where Asians and Hispanics account for nearly one-third of the population with increasing needs for housing outside of densely crowded residential areas. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2008

Alamo	Danville	Walnut Creek
Total sales reported: 4	Total sales reported: 18	Total sales reported: 17
Lowest sale reported: \$435,000	Lowest sale reported: \$332,000	Lowest sale reported: \$237,500
Highest sale reported: \$1,860,000	Highest sale reported: \$2,225,000	Highest sale reported: \$995,000
Average sales reported: \$1,215,625	Average sales reported: \$803,695	Average sales reported: \$554,882

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2008

Alamo	Danville	Walnut Creek
2491 Alamo Country Circle Forrest Trust to K. & R. Clark for \$1,860,000	3036 East Griffon Street Shapell Industries to S. & A. Won for \$908,500	1352 Las Juntas Way #D Wachovia Mortgage to E. Fung for \$320,000
1396 Danville Boulevard #109 US Bank to N. Timina for \$435,000	3081 East Griffon Street Shapell Industries to R. Parel for \$891,000	420 North Civic Drive #202 J. Cheung to Z. Salour for \$250,000
1495 Paseo Nogales M. & S. Pickett to R. & N. Brown for \$1,267,500	3047 Fostoria Circle Saxon Mortgage to J. & S. Kocourek for \$385,000	430 North Civic Drive #204 B. Sadur to Z. Salour for \$237,500
2348 Stone Valley Road Ferreira Trust to G. & L. Frederick for \$1,300,000	394 Ilo Lane #703 J. Grenier to J. Wang for \$332,000	2734 Oak Road #88 M. & M. Smith to R. Johnson for \$246,000
Danville	366 Karelian Street P. & S. Sullivan to M. Wilson for \$465,500	2801 Ptarmigan Drive #3 Spatz Trust to G. & J. Moon for \$315,000
630 Ambience Way National Residential to R. Sessa for \$990,000	2186 Lusitano Street Shapell Industries to C. & S. Burns for \$899,500	3120 Ptarmigan Drive #3 Yao Trust to B. & M. Harper for \$300,000
2015 Chadbourne Court M. & K. Kindy to V. Berjis for \$863,000	74 Milano Court Flanagan Trust to J. & K. Byrns for \$1,070,000	225 Santa Fe Drive Chambers Trust to D. Lundstrom for \$625,000
212 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to V. Mitlin for \$502,000	2533 Montreux Street Lennar Homes to R. Morse for \$1,050,500	665 Savoy Court Stricker Trust to J. Talbott for \$569,000
219 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to Z. Zeng for \$492,000	4057 Skylark Lane K. Lai to T. Thomas for \$435,000	1820 Stratton Circle Bell Trust to J. & L. Terril for \$725,000
223 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to S. Ekren for \$465,500	603 Stevens Court Stevens Trust to G. & J. Sabo for \$1,525,000	3663 Terra Granada Drive #1A Forbes Trust to J. Johnson for \$599,000
227 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to W. Sun for \$465,500	Walnut Creek	3874 Terra Granada Drive #2B Grunbaum Trust to Garnjost Trust for \$628,500
231 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to P. Hsu for \$501,500	2812 Acacia Road J. Gonsalves to S. & L. Salazar for \$948,000	1860 Tice Creek Drive #1241 K. Stephens to Wu Trust for \$320,000
3450 Deer Ridge Drive Michiels Trust to G. & A. Agens for \$2,225,000	5951 Autumnwood Drive #5A Collins Trust to R. Kenneally for \$695,000	939 Wiget Lane Spalding Trust to F. & M. Lorincz for \$700,000
	711 Buckingham Court M. & K. Allen to B. & K. Stientjes for \$995,000	
	382 Caroni Street Ornelas Trust to J. Brown for \$960,000	

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

BLACKHAWK

3 Bedrooms		
3319 Quail Walk Ln.	\$1,145,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	984-9658

DANVILLE

3 Bedrooms		
421 Garden Creek Pl.	\$490,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	260-8883
1948 St. George Rd.	\$742,950	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	260-8883

4 Bedrooms		
18 Rio Del Ct.	\$1,039,000	
Sun 1-4	Pacific Union	997-3966
1895 St. Norbert	\$1,069,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	855-6410

213 Aptos Pl.	\$1,099,000	
Sat/Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	855-6410

5 Bedrooms		
308 Sunset Dr.	\$1,199,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	260-8883

104 Parkhaven Dr.	\$1,200,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	260-8883

149 Sunhaven Rd.	\$1,580,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	260-8883

SAN RAMON

1 Bedrooms		
805 Watson Canyon Ct., #259	\$300,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	855-6410

3 Bedrooms		
2601 Fountainhead Dr.	\$425,000	
Sun 1-4	Hometown GMAC	858-5400

► Continued on page 23

Open Homes

► Continued from page 22

4 Bedrooms

9696 Thunderbird Dr. \$1,325,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Empire 217-3108

DUBLIN

3 Bedrooms

7463 Oxford Cir. \$500,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams-Lydonna Walker 997-8267

6943 Darian Ct. \$549,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 847-8880

7257 Newcastle Ln. \$685,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 200-4130

5 Bedrooms

4939 Sequoia Ave. \$810,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 417-8603

PLEASANTON

3 Bedrooms

4159 Jensen St. \$699,000
Sun 1-4 Empire Realty 963-8294

1037 Hometown Wy. \$729,950
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel 447-2723

4 Bedrooms

2977 Amoroso Ct. \$1,649,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

3730 Crofters Ct. \$775,000
Sun 1-4 Re/Max Accord 200-7210

5 Bedrooms

7914 Paragon Cir. \$1,849,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

1098 Laguna Creek Ln. \$2,350,000
Sat/Sun 1-4:30 Sotheby's 484-2045

LIVERMORE

3 Bedrooms

356 Rincon Ave. \$565,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 487-1427

4 Bedrooms

2604 Kellogg Pl. \$1,050,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 398-6706

6608 Tiffany Cmn. \$549,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 963-8322

575 Brookfield Dr. \$599,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7020

Danville
W E E K L Y . C O M

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updated 4 bed 2.5 bath in gated
community. On .7 on an acre. \$1,699,000

Danville Sycamore



Beautifully updated single story on large
lot on cul de sac Street. 4 bedroom,
3 car garage, and pool. Price \$875,000

Alamo Springs Custom



Stunning 6 bedroom 6 bath Custom
Luxury Home on .73 Acre.
\$2,875,000

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



Open Sat/Sun 1-4



213 Aptos Place, Danville
Offered at **\$1,099,000**

Gorgeous Remodeled Shadow Hills Rancher!
This beautiful one story 4 bedroom 2 bath home
has 1982 sq. ft. on a large flat 10,350 sq. ft. lot. The
home has a beautiful kitchen family great room with
a gourmet kitchen, butcher block island, wood floors,
and loads of upgrades!!! Don't miss this one!

Sale Pending



1895 St. Norbert, Danville
Offered at **\$1,069,000**

**Park-like Yard on Quiet Court in Crow Canyon
Estates!**
Updated one story home with 4 bed 2-1/2 bath on
a huge flat park-like yard. Offers a 3 car garage,
spa, side-yard access, updated kitchen with maple
cabinets...many upgrades—come and see!

Open Sunday 1-4



805 Watson Canyon Ct. #259, San Ramon
Only **\$300,000**

**Spectacular Panoramic View of Golf Course
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Anil Chowdhury
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