

Rock 'n' roll reunion

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Danville

W E E K L Y

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'Flunk the budget, not our children!'

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Our traveling readers help us celebrate our third year anniversary

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Q: What's the perfect age to be?



22—because it's one year after you turn 21 so you can be stupid and do what you want and you're still young enough for your parents not to kick you out for being a bum.

Evan Halsey
student



40—because it's right in the middle. You're not too old and you're not too young. It's the best of both worlds.

Kelly Robinson
hostess, Piatti's



19—because you're considered an adult so there's more of a reason not to do anything stupid. But you can still do a lot and stay safe and if you don't ... well, you're still on your parents' insurance so it's OK!

Rachel Castro
student



Oh, geez, there's so many. I loved being 23; that's when life opens up and you realize you didn't know as much before then. I also loved my 30s, they were great, and my 40s were fun because my children were young and it's so amazing to have that youthful spirit around you and watch them grow. Now at 53, I'm really happy and am enjoying my life a lot.

Rose Gaubert
thrill seeker



26—because that's the age I picked and I'm sticking to it! Plus, that was a really good age for me. You're just stepping your foot into the world and have financial responsibilities for the first time. I had a lot of fun when I was 26, it was a fun time.

Camille Harrison
Realtor, Golden Hills Brokers

COMPILED BY KRISTEN LANG

ABOUT THE COVER

Three Danville families brought the Danville Weekly on their Caribbean cruise in July, as shown by (l-r) Cole Bennett, Tyler Chace, Christina Chace, Brooke Bennett, John Fischer, Courtney Fischer, Jaime Fischer and Morgan Chace at the Grand Cayman Island in the West Indies. Photo by Bob Chace. Cover design by Manuel Valenzuela.

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5/22- Emergency Preparedness	7/17-Water Conservation
5/29- Senior Citizens' Night	7/24- Shop Local
6/5- Kid's Night-"Street Smarts"	7/31- Kid's Night-"Street Smarts"
6/12- Shop Local - Doggie Night	8/7- Shop Local 511 Contra Costa Transportation
6/19- Health Fair-Mosquito Abatement	8/14 - Family Night
6/26- Kid's Night-"Street Smarts"	8/21- Farmer Appreciation Night 511 Contra Costa Transportation Thursday Farmers' Market Closing Night

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NEWS DIGEST

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ The trees came over
the road and touched—
a wonderful tree bridge. ”

—Alicia Watson, Alamo Beautification Advisory
Committee. See story, page 7.

Market kicks off evening season

The Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association begins its summer evening Thursday Farmers Market in Danville on May 8. The market offers fresh fruit and vegetables direct from local farmers, fresh bread, olive oil, fresh cut flowers and other specialty foods to eat there or take home.

The evening market is held 4-8 p.m. at the Railroad Avenue parking lot adjacent to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Saturday markets will continue as usual.

Live! Livery offering wine tasting

Danville Livery Shopping Center will host a wine tasting event featuring live bands and entertainment every Thursday this month, starting May 8. Participants can purchase a \$5 souvenir wine glass and enjoy tastings from numerous wineries. Proceeds will be donated to the Discover Danville Association.

The event, which takes place throughout the Livery, will be held 5-8 p.m., May 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Conference on surviving cancer

A free conference for cancer survivors and their loved ones will be held Saturday, May 17, in Walnut Creek. The conference will provide information about the future of cancer survivorship and the unique challenges faced by survivors and their loved ones. It will also provide tools to help survivors regain control.

The event is being presented by the Wellness Community San Francisco East Bay. It takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Ball Auditorium, John Muir Medical Center. For information or a reservation, call 933-0107 on or before May 14. Space is limited.

Farmer's daughters come to museum

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley tomorrow will host the Kamp sisters—Lois Kamp Compertz, Doris Kamp Morgan and Shirley Kamp Gelreth—whose father farmed in Sycamore Valley and owned the Kamp Dairy on Blackhawk Road. Their Grandfather Thourp was the Valley's long-time boot maker.

The Museum's current exhibit, "Agriculture for a Century: The Business of the Valley," highlights the period of 1850 through 1950 when agriculture was the cornerstone of the economy. It runs through May 10.

Business Expo on Tuesday

The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce invites the public to its Business to Business Expo 2008 being held at Blackhawk Country Club on Tuesday, May 6. There will be exhibitors who will help with increased name recognition, building a mailing list and generating leads, consumer education and networking. The Expo takes place from 4-7 p.m. The entrance fee is \$10. To register in advance, call Charlotte Mills at 837-4400. Registration will also be available at the door.

Challenger Jamboree needs sponsors

The Challenger Baseball Program, established in 1989 for children ages 5-18 with physical or mental disabilities, needs sponsors for its jamboree taking place May 23-25. The event will be hosted by California District 57, which has 14 Little Leagues in the Tri-Valley area including Alamo and Danville. The volunteers are expecting 20 teams from throughout the Western states for a weekend of baseball, barbecues, day trips, clowns and magicians.

To support the Challenger Jamboree, call Bob Eckel at 943-6846; e-mail reckel@alamofinancialpartners.com.



Rally protests state budget cuts

Parents, legislators, educators gather to dispute governor's proposal

by Meghan Neal

"Flunk the budget, not our children!" read picket signs held high during last Friday's rally at Sycamore Valley Elementary School in Danville.

Concerned parents gathered outside in the hot afternoon sun to protest Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's \$4.8 billion in proposed cuts to education funding statewide—cuts they say will devastate school systems.

"The proposed California state budget flunks the basic test of good government: It hurts our children," said Denise Jennison, president of the San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs.

"Events such as this one today send a strong message to our legislators," she said.

State Assemblyman Guy Houston (R., 15th) and State Sen.

Tom Torlakson (D., 7th) attended the rally to listen to concerns and speak their piece, along with Danville Mayor Candace Andersen, Superintendent Rob Kessler and other speakers.

"Our fear is that the parents in general don't realize the magnitude of what these cuts mean," said the organizer of the rally, Patty Hoyt, who also serves on the PTA council.

The governor's proposal would mean \$7 million to \$8 million in cuts to the San Ramon Valley Unified School District. This would result in larger class sizes, cuts in vital programs like special education, reduced library hours and layoffs at all levels, PTA members say.

School district spokesman Terry

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Concerned parents rally last Friday to protest the governor's proposed cuts to education funding statewide, which they say will devastate local schools.

Teachers to get retroactive pay increases

State budget sends San Ramon Valley school board members back to the bargaining board for next year's salaries

by Geoff Gillette

Teachers in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District will be seeing a pay increase this year although it may not be as much as they were looking for. At their April 22 meeting, members of the school board gave unanimous approval to a plan that will provide a 2.3 percent salary increase for the 2007-08 school

year, retroactive to July 1, 2007.

District spokesman Terry Koehne said the 2.3 percent figure will be broken down slightly, as 0.3 percent of those funds will be put toward retirement benefits.

Board members also approved a contract with support staff represented by the Service Employees Union. Those employees will see a 2 percent increase, of which 0.4 percent will go toward retirement ben-

efits. In addition, management staff will be given a 2 percent increase.

Koehne said the figures approved at the meeting were not what the school board had originally intended for the teachers this year.

"We originally had a 3 percent increase on the table in January. Literally, the day in which we were going to approve it, the governor came out with his January budget proposal, which was a very dire time," said

Koehne. "The announcement sort of put people on their heels."

That announcement from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger called for serious reductions in education funding, which prompted the Contra Costa County Office of Education to ask the district to resubmit its budget projections. This forced the school board to go back to the negotiating table and work out a new agreement with the

bargaining groups.

"We're pleased with the compromise and proud of the positive relationship we have with our bargaining units and their willingness to compromise," Koehne said.

"It's tough to make cuts in a budget year," he added.

With the pay raise, a starting salary for a teacher is \$44,376, accord-

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Go Giants, says Pack 815

The Cub Scouts of Pack 815 from Greenbrook Elementary School walk in the pre-game parade on the Giants' field during Scout Day at AT&T Park on Sunday, April 13. The Cub Scouts assembled in their blue and gold uniforms, walked in the parade, and participated in the color guard ceremony during the national anthem. The Giants presented the Scouts with a commemorative SF Giants Scouts patch and a flash light. Ninety-two Pack 815 Scouts and their families were in attendance.

Mountain lion sighted in Danville

Workers see cougar in creek near Charlotte Wood Middle School

by Meghan Neal

A mountain lion was spotted in a creek behind Charlotte Wood Middle school, near Osage Station Park, at about 8 a.m. Tuesday morning.

Two members of the Town of Danville Maintenance Department reported seeing the animal, which they said weighed about 90-100 pounds. Administrators at the school alerted Danville police and the two neighboring elementary schools, Greenbrook and John Baldwin.

"As soon as we got wind of this we had all of our students who were outside come in to the confined area of campus," said Terry Koehne, San Ramon Valley Unified School District spokesman.

When police arrived at the school they searched the area but couldn't

find the mountain lion. They did, however, find a few opossum carcasses, leading them to confirm that the animal had been there.

The mountain lion didn't display any type of aggressive behavior, police said. In general the species is quiet, solitary and elusive. Mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare. The mountain lion is also known as a cougar or a puma.

There is a 6-foot-high fence separating the creek and the school. Koehne said it's highly unlikely the animal could get over the fence.

"Did we think it posed an immediate threat? No. But we always err on the side of caution," he said.

Police provided increased supervision at all three schools throughout the rest of the day. Teachers

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MICHAEL BARNAUD

Parking lot in transition

This collage shows Day 3 of construction on the new parking lot south of Lunardi's and behind Rakestraw Books and Peet's. The lot is being redone to make room for 20 new spaces, and the new configuration will have diagonal parking. First, crews are tackling the north half of the lot, which began April 8 and was scheduled for completion by the end of April. Then they will do the south side. The project also includes closing the entire lot for one day. Meanwhile patrons have found parking on the street and in the town lot north of Lunardi's.

Rally

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Koehne said the cuts will mainly affect department budgets, and some non-teaching positions will be eliminated. He said teachers are not being laid off at this time.

"I have to tell you it's really depressing," trustee Rachel Hurd told the group at the rally. "As I look through this list of cuts I can't help but feel that if we do them, we're moving backwards."

Faced with a \$3.3 billion state deficit, Schwarzenegger proposed cutting 10 percent from every state agency for fiscal year 2008-09. He cited the budget system as being broken and in need of reform.

But education advocates throughout the state are up in arms, saying students didn't create the budget crisis and shouldn't be the ones paying for it.

The California State PTA says the budget can't be balanced with cuts alone; the state needs to increase revenue, too. Torlakson spoke to this point at the rally. The senator didn't advocate raising taxes per se, but he did point out that California residents are paying less today than they did 10 years ago.

With a different take, Houston said he stands behind the governor and remains firm in the belief that raising taxes would hurt Californians. But he does

support enhancing revenue at the local level, for example, through Measure D funds.

Measure D, also called the Excellence in Education Act or parcel tax, would raise money for the school district by increasing assessment fees from \$90 to \$166 per year. The parcel tax will be on the June 3 ballot and needs a two-thirds vote to pass.

Houston pointed out that only 30 cents of each tax dollar at the state level would go toward education whereas 100 percent of the Measure D funds would go directly into schools.

"I think the math of 100 cents vs. 30 cents makes a lot of sense," he said.

Andersen also encouraged residents to vote "yes" on Measure D this summer. She said the outstanding quality of life in Danville is in large part due to the excellent schools in the area.

A junior at San Ramon Valley High School who spoke representing the student voice told the crowd, "We have benefited from skilled teachers and great academic programs."

She asked legislators not to deny her younger peers that same opportunity.

Parents and education advocates are also calling for legislators to uphold Proposition 98, the minimum school funding guarantee.

Prop 98 guarantees that funds



MICHAEL NEAL

Superintendent Rob Kessler addresses the rally while Assemblyman Guy Houston listens.

allocated to K-14 education cannot go below a certain minimum, approximately 40 percent of the state budget.

Schwarzenegger has proposed suspending Prop 98 in order to carry out the education cuts. A two-thirds vote in the California Legislature and the governor's approval are needed to suspend the law.

"I'm here to say we won't suspend Prop 98!" Torlakson boomed at the rally.

The promise inspired cheers throughout the audience. However, the senator pointed out they still need the votes to make it happen.

The Flunk the Budget Fridays campaign was spearheaded by the California State PTA as a way to engage local PTAs and communities. Fridays are the day legislators are typically back home in their districts.

The more ways people can get the message to their representatives the better, said Hoyt.

Just last week PTA member Chris Hopkins rode his unicycle from Montair Elementary School in Danville to the State Capitol in Sacramento, where he delivered a "working" calculator to lawmakers, implying theirs must be broken.

Janet Abelson, Legislation Director for the 32nd District PTA, encouraged people to get involved by contacting their representatives, or visiting www.srvcouncilpta.org.

"We can't balance the budget on the backs of our children," she said. ■

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Alamo trees get tagged for posterity

Metal tags mean trees were planted by someone, for someone

by Meghan Neal

Not unlike “tree huggers” who make headlines when trees are endangered, “tree taggers” in Alamo are making sure the oaks, hollies, evergreens and others along Danville Boulevard are appreciated and safe.

Many of the trees lining the street were planted during the Boulevard of Trees Project, which added 800 trees between 1987 and 2005 in order to revitalize the once-lush road. Locals could purchase a tree for \$100 and dedicate it to a family member or in memory of a loved one.

Over the next few weeks, members of the Alamo Beautification Advisory Committee (Zone 36) will be tagging the special trees to remind people of their significance.

“Hopefully those tags will give people pause, so they don’t take those trees down,” said Alicia Watson, chairwoman of the committee.

The small metal tags give each tree an ID number that can be used to look up who purchased it and in honor of whom. The records are kept in a book compiled by Lillian Burns, an original member of the Boulevard of Trees Project who is helping with the tagging.

Danville Boulevard used to be a stagecoach road; it was State Highway 21 until the freeway was built in 1964. In the early 1920s residents lined it with trees as a memorial to soldiers who fought in World War I. The trees grew into an arching canopy that attracted visitors to Alamo just to drive the country road.

“It used to be when you would drive down the street the trees came over the road and touched,” Watson said. “A wonderful tree bridge.”

But by the 1970s most of the trees were gone, mainly from disease. Twelve years later the Boulevard of Trees Project was created to restore the beautiful canopy.

“It adds to the ambiance of Alamo,” said Watson. “And trees are so very important, not just for our health, for our mental health. I



DOLores FOX CHARDRELL



Alicia Watson nails a tag on tree No. 4B-19—the Burke Family Tree purchased by Sharon and Robert Burke—with the help of her husband Steve Mick in front of an insurance office building in Alamo.

think they have a calming effect on people. When you see something beautiful, you don’t race by it.”

Burns recalled being there when the first tree was planted at the intersection of Sycamore Valley Road and Danville Boulevard, 20 years ago. She still knows each tree from the project by heart, she said.

The idea to tag the trees came about in 2006 when a property manager at Las Trampas Center cut down two dedicated trees that were pushing up the sidewalk, after the county complained they were a “tripping hazard” and a potential liability.

County staff at the time said they didn’t realize the trees were part of

the project or held special meaning to the community. The Zone 36 committee hopes the tags will help avoid this kind of misunderstanding in the future.

“We want to preserve what we have and make sure trees continue to survive and grow,” said Steve Mick, a member of the committee. “Alamo’s a wonderful place to live and our trees are important to all of us.”

The book documenting each tree and its dedication is being kept at the Bank of America in Alamo, as well as a plaque commemorating the dedications. The list can also be viewed online at www.alamore.org. ■

Mountain Lion

► Continued from page 5

called the parents of any students who had walked or biked to school that day and offered to keep the students on campus until an adult arrived to pick them up.

Police also communicated with nearby residents, contacted homeowners associations, and distributed informational fliers. The California Department of Fish and Game will be monitoring the area to try to locate the animal.

“Our main concern was trying to make sure that students felt safe and secure,” Koehne said.

There was to be increased supervision for the remainder of the week. Parents were asked to encourage children who typically walk or bike to school along or near the creek to take an alternate route.

Koehne said to the best of his knowledge there have been no animal sightings of this kind before.

“It’s very, very rare,” he said.

As a result of this sighting, Osage Station Park will be closed 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. until further notice. ■

Safety tips:

- Do not approach a mountain lion.
- Call 911.
- Do not hike, bike or jog alone.
- Avoid walking or jogging when mountain lions are most active, at dawn, dusk and night.
- Keep a close watch on small children.
- If you encounter a mountain lion, do not run; instead face the animal, make noise and try to look bigger by waving your arms; throw rocks or other objects.
- If attacked, fight back.

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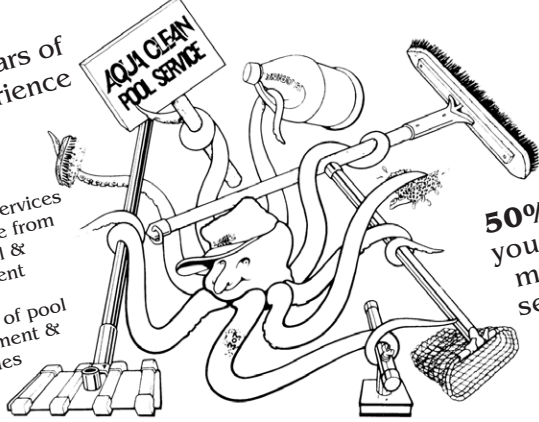
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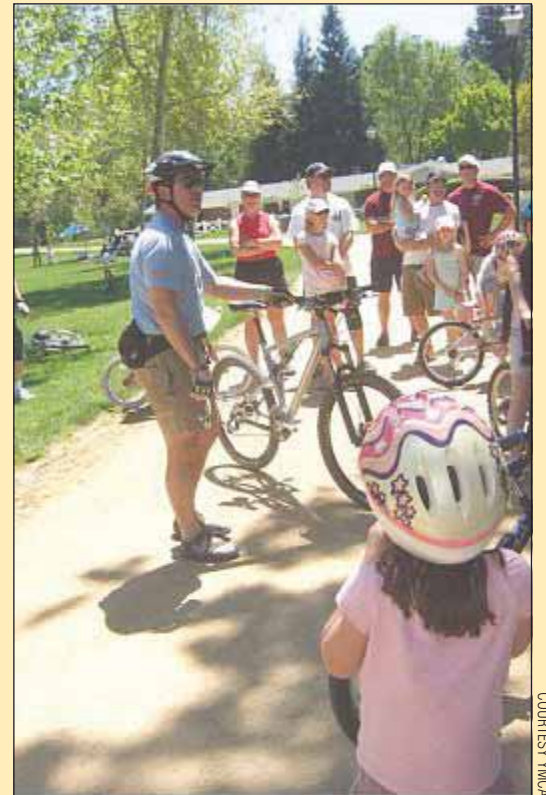
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Y biking is a blast

Families listen to bike safety tips. More than 100 children and adults participated in the first ever YMCA Family Fun Bike Ride on Sunday. The San Ramon Valley YMCA partnered with Leadership San Ramon Valley Class of 2007 for the event. Before the afternoon bike ride, the Adventure Guides' Glowing Cougars presented the YMCA with a check for \$1,001 which the children had saved over the course of the year to go toward the capital campaign to build the new Y.

Sunset Development provided a backpack for each rider, and Danville's Street Smarts campaign supplied bike bells and flashers. Bikers and walkers proceeded to the Iron Horse Trail where East Bay Regional Park District had designated four miles of the trail from Camille Avenue in Alamo to Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek for the ride. Stations along the route were manned by volunteers who handed out water supplied by ENGEO.

When participants returned to the park, they were served snacks prepared and donated by Now We're Cooking, then lingered in the park to listen to the music of Sheen, courtesy of the Leadership Class.



COURTESY YMCA

Salaries

► Continued from page 5

ing to a schedule posted on the district's Web site. After 25 years and with continuing education, the salary could be as high as \$83,949.

Koehne said the district is still working on a spending plan for next year. Board members are holding special budget meetings to go through line items to look for areas where they can cut.

He said they will try not to cut programs offered to students in the district.

"Once you get rid of a program, it's tough to bring it back," he noted. "Some districts have already made those decisions, but we want to be as thoughtful as possible, make

sure our numbers are accurate, and stay true to that philosophy. At that same time, it's important to our board that our employees have comparable compensation. Not just for the purpose of attracting employees but retaining them."

Despite the cutbacks, the district will not be laying off teachers this year.

"There is some reduction in staff but that's happening mainly through attrition," Koehne said. "We didn't give out any layoff notices; you could hear a sigh of relief through the district. We are going to have to go into reserves a little bit but attrition is helping us there."

Reserves are expected to help keep the district afloat amid the budget turmoil, but officials are hopeful that voters will send them

some help in June. The Measure D parcel tax will be on the ballot June 3. If passed, the measure would replace the current \$90 per parcel property tax with \$166 per parcel.

Koehne said the parcel tax has been instrumental in providing the district with a number of programs. Some of those include high school and middle school librarians and counselors, the fifth-grade instrumental music program, and class-size reductions for K-3 and high school. If approved, the new parcel tax would raise around \$7 million per year, up from the \$4 million a year currently raised.

"If it doesn't pass, it's going to hurt," said Koehne. "We'll have to go back to the drawing board and bring something else in, as we can't afford to let those programs go." ■



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Perspective

EDITORIALS • LETTERS • OPINIONS

EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

**Let us know
you want us**

Some of our readers who have the Danville Weekly delivered at home will be getting a card in the next few weeks asking them to fill it out to formally request us. Please don't ignore this card—it means lower postage for us to pay.

We are celebrating our third anniversary this week. Our first issue came out Friday, May 6, 2005, and we mailed the newspaper free to every home in Danville, Alamo, Diablo and Blackhawk using standard postage rates. Then, after about a year, we ran a campaign for readers to specifically ask for the paper—still for free—so we could get our postage at the periodical rate.

When we sent out cards at that time, many thousands came flooding back so we qualified for the periodical rate and have been mailing the paper to those requestors, paying the lower postage price. But we would like to mail the paper to everyone at this rate, so if you get a card, please fill out the requestor form on our Web site—www.DanvilleWeekly.com. Postal auditors require that we have on file the full name, address and telephone number of each requestor in case they want to verify the names. Needless to say, we do not share the information with anyone else.

You can also request the paper by calling our office at 837-8300. And of course you can always come in person to visit us at 315 Diablo Road, Suite 100, right by the Danville Oak Tree. Also, each newspaper we mail out is accompanied by an address card. If you receive the Danville Weekly address card but no paper, definitely call and tell us so our circulation department can inform your post office.

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Dr. Robert Dees, DC of Canyon Chiropractic Family Health and Wellness Center which is located at 2570 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite A-106, San Ramon, has helped countless patients over the past two decades regain health and vitality. Assisted by his associates, Debbie Dominguez and Sue Perry, Dr. Robert Dees, DC has created a well respected family practice whose purpose is to help as many people as they can live healthy, drug free lives.

What makes their office so unique is the fact that they have been successfully helping patients not only with excellent chiropractic care, but are also helping their patients look good, lose weight and change their lives.

In the past, Dr. Dees' patients have lost a cumulative of over 100 pounds and over 100 inches on this scientifically designed nutritional cleanse program. "This is not a diet but a cleanse," explained Dr. Dees.

The program not only peels off the fat, it increases a person's energy, lean muscle mass and improves mood and focus. This is why famous author John Gray (Men are from Mars women are from Venus) highly recommends this program.

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"What we have seen in our patients is nothing short of miraculous" explained Dr. Dees. "One of my patients, who is currently on the cleanse, reported that he has lost 40 pounds in four weeks, another lost 7 pounds and 12 inches in just four days. Results may vary. In a recent study participants averaged a weight loss of 7 lbs at the completion of the first 9 Day program. This is not a starvation diet or a fast, but a fully nutritionally balanced program." The program is doctor monitored, safe and effective.

"Everyone needs to cleanse to avoid the effects of impurities from food and the environment," said Dr. Dees. "Especially thin people who store them in the liver, kidneys and vital organs."

To find out more about this program, contact Canyon Chiropractic at 925-867-1414 for our next workshop on this amazing program or go to www.GoCleanse.com/docdees.



Transitions

OBITUARIES • BIRTHS • WEDDINGS

Dorothy Kruzick

Dorothy Kruzick, a resident of Danville, passed away April 12 at the age of 79.

She was born Sept. 27, 1928, in Winnipeg, Canada, and grew up in Des Moines, Iowa, where she attended St. Joseph's Academy and graduated from North High School. She then attended Stevens College in Columbia, Mo.

Upon returning to Iowa she followed her passion for dance and taught ballroom dancing at Arthur Murray's Dance Studio. In 1950 she married Louis Kruzick. They lived in Iowa, Missouri and Michigan before settling in Danville in 1984.

During those years she pursued a real estate career, raised a family and remained married to her devoted husband for over 57 years.

She had a courageous spirit and was an inspiration to everyone in the way she handled her many health challenges throughout her life. She had a fun-loving nature and infused laughter into almost any situation.



She is survived by her husband Louis and her daughter Kelly; and her brother Pat O'Callaghan, his wife Julie and their family. She was predeceased by her parents Robert and Claire O'Callaghan and her son Brad.

A Celebration of her Life will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, May 2, at St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon. A reception lunch will follow at Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville.

Mae F. Dong

Danville resident Mae F. Dong passed away March 20 at the age of 69.

She was born Nov. 21, 1938, and had lived in Danville since 1970. She was a graduate of UCSF School of Pharmacy. Her wide range of talents includes being a pharmacist, preschool teacher, Chinese painting artist and versatile seamstress. She and husband also designed the house they lived in for 38 years. She enjoyed hiking, cooking, baking and gardening, and exchanging greetings with her neighbors during her daily walks.

She was the wife of Richard G. Dong and mother of Michael K. Dong and Catherine E. Meyer. She has a son-in-law Jon Meyer and two grandsons. She is also survived by

her father Johnnie G. Fong, sister Suzanne Fong and brothers Donald Fong and David Fong. She also has many siblings-in-law, nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers she had expressed the desire for donations to be made to the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, 633 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017, or to the American Cancer Society by calling (800) 227-2345.

James Ellis Temple Sr.

James Ellis Temple Sr., a former resident of Danville, died March 11 at the age of 76, due to complications of Parkinson's disease.

He was born March 11, 1932, and raised in Arkansas. He served in the U.S. Navy after high school and settled in the Bay Area after being discharged.

He had a successful career selling Buick automobiles. He served as president of San Ramon Valley Little League in 1976 when the team played in the championship game in Williamsport, Pa.

His love of life and sharp wit endeared him to many. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend who will be sorely missed.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years Barbara Jean, his daughter Laura Minto and son-in-law Kevin Minto of Nevada City, his son James Temple and daughter-in-law Marci Temple of Clayton, and four grandchildren.

of joy-filled adventures and a courageous three-year journey with ALS. He was 57.

He was born and raised in Slayton, Minn., the son of LaVerne and Franklin "Speed" Scully. At age 5, he saved a young neighbor girl from drowning; many years later he again saved a young child from drowning in a friend's swimming pool.

He graduated from Slayton High School in 1968 and from Mankato State University in 1973. He married his wife Bonnie in 1978 and they enjoyed an extremely happy marriage for 30 years. Both pursued successful careers in telecommunications, each retiring in 2000.

Throughout his life he loved to travel, was an avid golfer and enjoyed playing cards with his poker friends. With their help he was able to play poker until shortly before his death, pleased to win the last hand they played together. With a relaxed, wonderful sense of humor and a positive, loving approach to life, he chose to see the good in everything.

He is survived by his wife Bonnie, his mother LaVerne, sisters Kay and Gail and their husbands Owen and Jerry, brothers Mark and Mike and their wives Debbie and Carolyn, mother-in-law Gerry, and extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life was held April 5 at the Creekside Community Church in Alamo. In lieu of flowers, if desired, donations may be made to Creekside Community Church of Contra Costa Community Inc. or Hospice of the East Bay.

fully March 17 at the age of 80.

Born Dec. 2, 1927, in Madera, Calif., he was an only son and his parents Jim and Ruth were farmers. He married his high school sweetheart and they lovingly argued politics until the day he died.

He served in World War II aboard the USS Mississippi and received his education from Fresno State University where he was president of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. He worked for Chevron U.S.A. for 36 years and received an honorary doctorate degree from the Colorado School of Mines.

Active in his community, he volunteered, served on many boards and councils and believed in the gift of donation. He loved his family and friends, his religion, playing golf, Tony Bennett, dinner at San Francisco's North Beach Restaurant, poker with the SIRS, traveling, fish and chips, watching and performing magic, the Three Stooges, "Blazing Saddles," being a frequent guest of San Francisco's Italian Athletic Club, Bob Newhart, Dean Martin, a good martini, Lena Horne, making napkin rabbits, Sinatra, and telling great jokes and stories.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years Catherine "Babe" Gibbs; daughters Leslie Kalmes of Houston, Texas, Lisa DuRán of Denver, Colo., and Liz Marquez of Modesto; son Parker Timothy Gibbs of San Francisco; sons-in-law Xavier DuRán and Mike Kalmes; daughter-in-law Amy Morris Gibbs; five grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Memorial services were held April 5 at St. Isidore's Catholic Church in Danville. Donations are suggested to a charity of your choice.

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POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

POLICE BULLETIN

Water spray leads to 'assault with deadly weapon'

A spar between two employees of Big O Tires in Danville got out of hand last Friday when a man ended up shot and wounded by a pellet gun.

It started when one employee accidentally squirted another with a water hose, around 4:30 p.m.

"That employee took offense to being squirted with water and consequently sprayed brake cleaning fluid on the guy with the water hose," said Danville police Lt. Mark Williams.

The first employee, at that point thoroughly miffed, squirted back with the water hose on purpose.

The second employee retrieved a fully automatic airsoft gun and shot the man with the water hose multiple times in the torso.

The shooter, Timothy Hofmann, 47, of San Ramon, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

The victim received several puncture-type welts on his upper torso and was treated at the scene.

"It just was a spontaneous kind of incident," said Williams. "One thing led to another, things escalated real quickly. And in this case got out of control."

—Meghan Neal

Student cited for knife at Los Cerros

A 13-year-old boy was found with a 3-1/2 inch knife at Los Cerros Middle School in Danville.

The student claimed he forgot the knife was in his pants pocket when he got dressed that morning, Monday, April 21.

"He didn't think it was in his pocket when he brought it to school, didn't think about it," said Lt. Mark Williams of the Danville Police.

The teen didn't threaten anyone, Williams noted. The boy's parents were notified and the boy was cited to the Danville Police Department's in-house juvenile diversion program.

"Something that seems so innocent could turn into a crime, especially when you involve an educational institution such as a school," Williams said.

It's not illegal for a youth to have a knife; that's left up to parents' discretion, he said. However as soon as he or she sets foot on school property with the weapon it becomes a criminal offense.

Williams said it's important for parents to understand the distinction, but he's confident schools do a good job of educating students and parents about the law.

—Meghan Neal

POLICE LOG

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

Monday, April 21

- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Fostoria Way at 2:07 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Cameo Dr. at 2:26 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Diablo Rd. and Fairway Dr. at 2:39 p.m.
- Vandalism on Railroad Ave. at 8:29 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Shady Creek Dr. at 10:54 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22

- Auto burglary on Ynez Cir. at 8:39 a.m.
- Petty theft on Danville Blvd. at 12:32 p.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Pulido Rd. at 2 p.m.
- Petty theft on Laurel Dr. at 3:07 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on 3000 block of Stone Valley Rd. at 3:21 p.m.

Wednesday, April 23

- Vandalism on Greenbrook Dr. and Summerside Cir. at 1:28 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Cir. at 7:45 a.m.
- Auto burglary on northbound I-680 on ramp and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 8:49 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run and accident, property damage, on Hartz Ave. and W. Prospect Ave. at 11 a.m.
- Trespassing, arrest, on Danville Blvd. at 11:50 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Railroad Ave. at 11:57 a.m.
- Vandalism on Fostoria Way at 1:35 p.m.
- Petty theft on Blackhawk Rd. and Magee Ranch Rd. at 3:47 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Diablo Rd. and southbound I-680 at 8:16 p.m.

- Accident, property damage, on 3400 block of Camino Tassajara at 9:29 p.m.

Thursday, April 24

- Residential burglary on Fostoria Cir. at 5:50 a.m.
- Vandalism on Parrot Pl. at 6:13 a.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Diablo Rd. at 7:48 a.m.
- Vandalism on 3000 block of Stone Valley Rd. at 7:50 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and La Gonda Way at 8:02 a.m.
- Petty theft on Greenbrook Dr. and Paraiso Dr. at 11:41 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Diablo Rd. at 11:50 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on El Cerro Blvd. at 2:40 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on northbound I-680 on ramp and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 5:11 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Old Orchard Dr. at 6:32 p.m.

Friday, April 25

- Defrauding innkeeper on Willow Dr. at 12:12 a.m.
- Vandalism on 3000 block of Stone Valley Rd. at 8:06 a.m.
- Vandalism on St. George Rd. at 9:15 a.m.
- Battery on Camino Tassajara and Sherburne Hills Rd. at 3:11 p.m.
- Vandalism on Diablo Rd. at 3:18 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on San Ramon Valley Blvd. and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 4:13 p.m.
- Assault with a deadly weapon, arrest, on E. Linda Mesa Ave. at 4:37 p.m.
- Vandalism on Everett Pl. at 5:10 p.m.
- Battery, arrest, on La Gonda Way at 6:29 p.m.
- Misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), arrest, on W. Prospect Ave. and Railroad Ave. at 9:03 p.m.

Saturday, April 26

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on La

- Gonda Way at 2:01 a.m.
- Commercial burglary on Railroad Ave. at 12:16 p.m.
- Petty theft on Mockingbird Pl. at 1:49 p.m.
- Battery on Boone Ct. at 10:20 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Bobbie Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 10:34 p.m.
- Vandalism on Linda Mesa Ave. and Railroad Ave. at 11:13 p.m.
- Unwanted guest disturbance, arrest, on 100 block of Hartz Ave. at 11:18 p.m.

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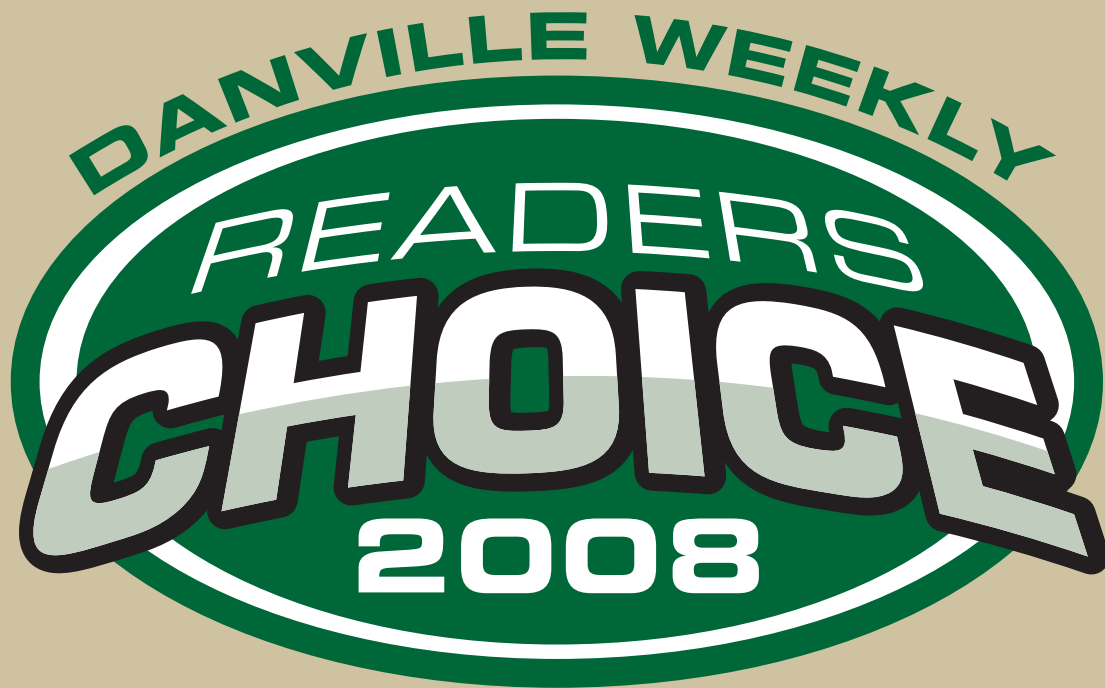
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- Best landscaper/designer
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- Best place for dancing
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takeUSalong

Our traveling readers help us celebrate our third year anniversary

Folks take vacations to get away from their everyday life—but don't forget to take along your hometown newspaper. Be sure to pack the Danville Weekly when you travel—whether to Tahoe or to Turkey—and snap a photo of yourself or friends or family reading the paper to share with us.

This feature is popular with our readers and with the newspaper staff, too. We love to see where you go and how you choose to set up your photo. Whether readers pose on the beach—or in the jaws of a shark—we love them all. We especially appreciated the Cappiello family who encased the Danville Weekly in airtight plastic to bring along on their scuba diving adventure in Mexico.

So far we have traveled to 80 countries and 25 states and this issue marks the end of our third year of publication. As we begin year No. 4 next week, we look forward to many more countries and, hopefully, getting to the other 25 states.

Whether you travel on business or for pleasure, thanks for taking us along. Send photos to Travel@DanvilleWeekly.com

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli, editor

Je t'aime la Weekly

Hal and Marilyn Bailey, residents of Alamo, take a moment to read the Danville Weekly while taking in the glories of Paris.



European adventure

Danville residents Fitz Dunkelmann, Artemis F. Blunden and Neal Johnson traveled throughout Europe with their Weekly, sending us photos of their escapades. We've chosen this one for print, which shows them proud to have scaled Pizda Mountain in Slovenia.



Under Parisian skies

Danville residents Tam Truong and Vivian Wong enjoy their Weekly in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris.



Master of design

Danville resident Jasmine Donovan, 9, packed her Danville Weekly for her trip to Barcelona, Spain, where she visited Gaudi's Familia Sagrada.

Such fun reading

Seamus Aparicio catches up on his hometown news while sitting in the entrance of the Barcelona Zoo in late November 2007.

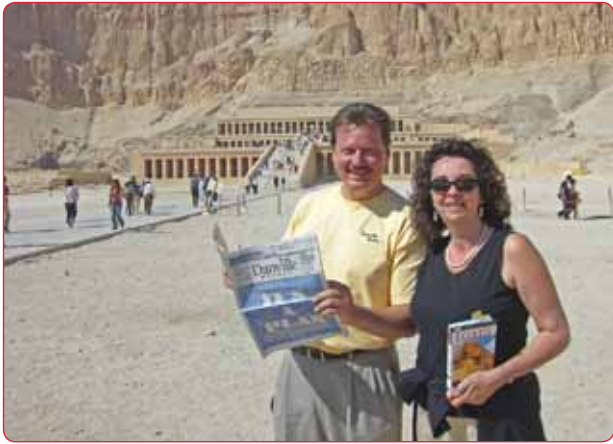


Wintering in the tropics

Lauren and Megan Edelman share the Danville Weekly with their cousin Hannah on the beach in Puerto Vallarta during winter break 2007.

Break in the action

Joey, Hailey and Brian Hickey read the Weekly (or look at the pictures) while taking a break from splashing in the ocean in Maui over Thanksgiving.



Soaking up the sun

Sidney Cooke, Jack Fryer, Shelby Cooke and Sarah Fryer enjoy their hometown newspaper while soaking up the sun in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico.



Along the Nile

Julie and Fred Turner visit the ancient Temple of Hatshepsut, a female pharaoh, in Egypt in November, bringing along their guidebook and their Danville Weekly.



Weekly on the wall

Joshua Cole of Alamo enjoys his familiar ol' Weekly while visiting China where he and his dad hiked to the top of the wall at Badaling.



Hot reading on the road

The U12 Mustang Hotspurs couldn't leave home without the Danville Weekly while on a road trip to Hanford to compete in the first round of State Cup. (They advanced to the next round.)

Bullish on the Weekly

Laurie Hugill, Kathy Turpin and Ken Abrams visit Pamplona for the running of the bulls at the Festival of San Fermin in July after the San Ramon Valley High School choir left for home.



Big Sky adventures

John, Karin, Tyler and Landon Shepanke read the Weekly with Long Peak in the distance while vacationing in Big Sky, Mont., at the Lone Mountain Ranch. Tyler had a bald eagle swoop down and grab his fish while he was fly fishing ... awesome!



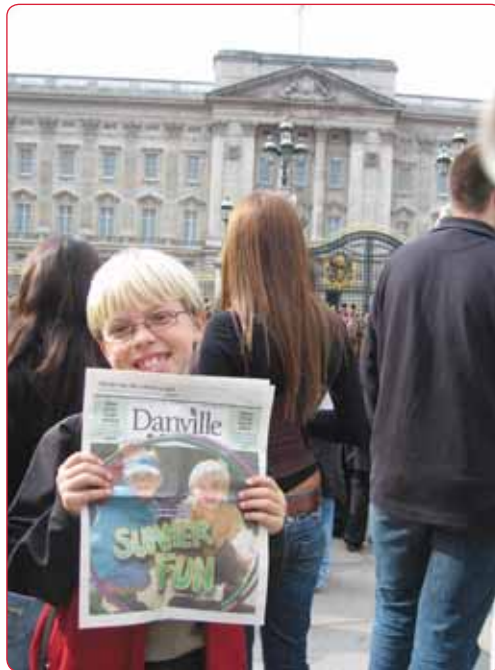
Weekly distracts from sightseeing

Debbie and Valerie Tseng of Danville study the Weekly as they stand outside the Hokkaido Gingu in Hokkaido, Japan, last summer.



Weekly goes underwater

The Cappiello family—Doug, Camille, Stephanie and Ally—decked out their Weekly as well as themselves for a scuba adventure in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico.



London times

Cover boy Ryan Christensen of Alamo poses with his favorite issue of the Danville Weekly in front of Buckingham Palace in London waiting for the changing of the guard.



Happy anniversary

Sara and Patrick Schmitz celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary at the Kona Village Resort on the Big Island in Hawaii—by Sara donning her “I Love Danville” shirt and by reading the Weekly.



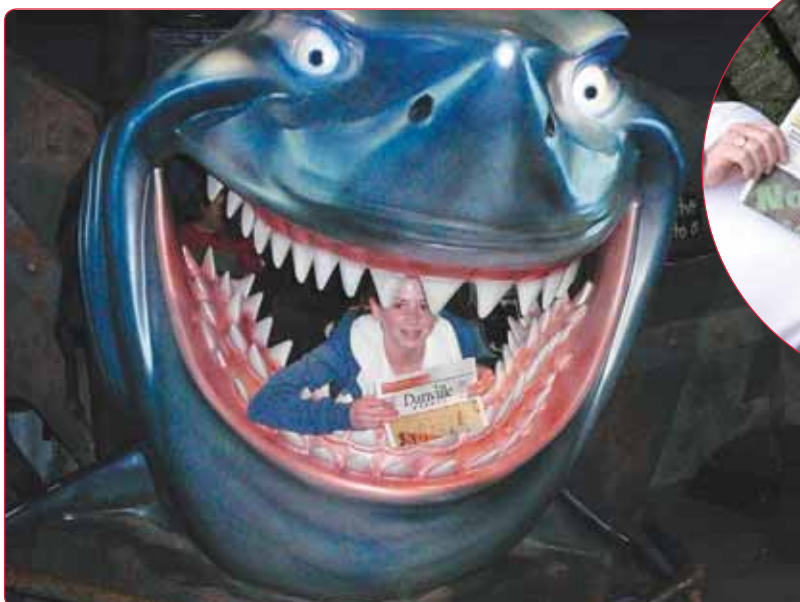
Vacationing in Venice

Rob Gomberg focuses on reading his Danville Weekly while Simone, Maureen and Santje enjoy feeding the pigeons in St. Mark's Square in Venice while on a cruise through the Greek Isles in June.



Turning 50 in Peru

Janyce Hoyt and Becky Blakey celebrate the end of their four-day Inca Trail hiking adventure at Machu Picchu last July by reading their Weekly. What a way to turn 50!



Is this safe?

Cassidy Reynolds of Alamo shares the Danville Weekly with a friend from “Finding Nemo” at Epcot, Walt Disney World in Florida.



Touch of the Blarney

Ronald and Sandra Kehoe traveled to Ireland to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary by kissing the Blarney Stone—they brought the Weekly along for the ride.

Weekly at Watertown

Danville residents Bob and Margie Basile and Louise and Terry Forsyth enjoy their Weekly in Zhujiajiao Ancient Watertown, a World Heritage Site in China.



All aboard for Alaska

Keith, Sally, Taylor, Kevin and Brent Rasted pause to read their Danville Weekly before getting on their train in Skagway while on a trip to Alaska.



Around the world with the Weekly

Ann and Mike McClosky catch up on their hometown news during a stop in Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, Russia, on the Trans Siberian Railroad segment of their trip around the world.

Well red

Danville residents Ann and Hank Schultzel, Barbara and Rick Mahan, and Barbara and Sam Beeler enjoy their Weekly in front of St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square in Moscow while on a river cruise that traveled from Moscow to St. Petersburg.



See the pyramids along the Nile

Al and Rose Balzowski of Alamo brought along their Danville Weekly when they traveled to Egypt to enjoy the pyramids and other ancient wonders.



Sea, sun and the Weekly

Don and Connie Heim included their Weekly as they celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary by going scuba diving in Bonaire, off the coast of Venezuela.

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Extra innings settle the score

Samantha Huggs gets a hit as San Ramon Valley High School faces Monte Vista last Tuesday at home. The Wolves edged the Mustangs in extra innings, for a final score of 3-2. See more photos at www.DanvilleWeekly.com

SAN RAMON VALLEY HIGH SPORTS WRAPUP

by **Kaity Ferretti**

Softball

Wolves fast pitch played rival Monte Vista at home on Tuesday. San Ramon defeated the Mustangs 3-2 in a game stretched out to 10 innings. Malori Comer was 2 for 4 and scored 2 runs. Senior Dominique Ortega pitched for 5 innings with 2 runs, 5 hits and 2 strikeouts; and junior Brittany baker bunted in the winning run. The women played Amador on Thursday in an away game. The Wolves won 10-8 in the 11th inning.

Track and Field

San Ramon's track team competed in a meet against Livermore High on Thursday. The men dominated over Livermore scoring 102-33, while the women won 77.5 to 53.5. Both women's and men's varsity 4/100 meter relays beat Livermore.

Senior Kelly Wiese showed great improvement and placed second in both the 100 meters and 200 meters. The varsity men swept the 1600 meters with Keir Forster placing first, Simon Graves in second, and Ryan Hammil in third.

Men's Golf

The Wolves played Livermore at home Tuesday. San Ramon was able to pull ahead in a close game with the Cowboys, beating them 183-191. Senior Mike Perchak was the medalist with an even-par 34. Junior Cole Pickavance shot a 1 over 35 alongside fellow junior Griffin Gering who shot a 37. The boys beat Monte Vista on Thursday at Round Hill, 198-206, in their final game of league play. San Ramon finished its season with the second-best record in the East Bay Athletic League at 10-4, 12-4 overall. The Wolves now move on to compete in the EBAL tournament Monday.

PREP SCHEDULE

Friday, May 2

Swimming

Monte Vista at San Ramon Valley

Women's Lacrosse

Monte Vista at Amador, 7 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse

Monte Vista vs. Amador, 7 p.m.

San Ramon Valley at De La Salle, 7 p.m.

Baseball

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

San Ramon Valley vs. Cal High, 4 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, May 2-3

Men's Tennis

NCS Singles and Doubles Championships

Saturday, May 3

Men's Volleyball

Foothill Tournament

Baseball

Foothill High Tournament

Tuesday, May 6

Women's Lacrosse

Monte Vista vs. Foothill, 7 p.m.

San Ramon Valley at Livermore, 7 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse

Monte Vista at Foothill, 7 p.m.

San Ramon Valley vs. Livermore, 7 p.m.

Men's Volleyball

Monte Vista at Livermore, 6 p.m.

Softball

San Ramon Valley vs. Foothill, 4 p.m.

Baseball

San Ramon Valley vs. Foothill, 6 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday, May 6-8

Men's Tennis

NCS Team Championships

Wednesday, May 7

Baseball

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

San Ramon Valley at Foothill, 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 8

Men's Volleyball

Monte Vista vs. San Ramon Valley, 6 p.m.

Baseball

San Ramon Valley at Monte Vista, 6 p.m.

MONTE VISTA HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS WRAPUP

by **MV Leadership**

Men's Lacrosse

On Friday, April 11, the Monte Vista men's lacrosse team defeated Foothill with only a few seconds to spare. Junior Mitch Stein had the game winning goal, bringing the final score to 11-10. Other key offensive players included freshmen Jared Welker and Cody Sobranes. Key defensive players included junior Parker Doliber and senior Dylan Westfall. On Tuesday, April 14, the Monte Vista men's lacrosse team gave San Ramon a tough battle. Key players included Welker, John Solomon and Ryan Lieber (offensive) and Parker Doliber and Peyton Woodbury (defensive). The final score was 15-8, San Ramon.

Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team remains undefeated in league and successfully obtained the East Bay Athletic League title after defeating Amador Valley last week. The team faced San Ramon on April 22 for its last match of the season.

Track and Field

The Track and Field team has had a promising season. As of April 17, after Monte Vista's defeat over Amador Valley, the men's varsity squad had improved to 3-1 in the EBAL, and the women's varsity squad remains undefeated with a record of 4-0. The Mustang's distance medley relay performance at the Arcadia competition in Southern California has placed Monte Vista No. 3 in California and No. 6 nationally for its distance medley performance with a time of 10:16:36. Key athletes at Arcadia included seniors Drew McAllister, Donald Morgenson, Dustin Harris and Bhavik Kanzaria, and junior Mike Roderick.

Baseball

Last week Monte Vista baseball had two tough games against two difficult teams in the EBAL. On Wednesday, Monte Vista played rivals San Ramon Valley High School at San Ramon and came away with a win. The score was 2-1 and Monte Vista had four hits. On Friday Monte

Vista played Granada High School at home and won 8-6, finishing the week with two wins. Monte Vista has 13 wins and five losses overall, and four wins and three losses in EBAL.

Swimming

It's a competitive season for Monte Vista swimmers, who are in the final stretch of training for the EBAL championships on May 9-10 at Dougherty Valley High School. Coached by Dow Stewart, the team is in full force as they are tapering for the league championship title. Varsity boys have an undefeated EBAL record of 5-0. Varsity Girls have a 4-1 record, due to a one point loss to Foothill on April 25. Strong sophomores Spencer Peugh, Kelly Mendoza, Karley Troup and Sydney Saunders join juniors and seniors Paige Bradley, Ocean Trail, Mike Millstein, Brian Carpentier, Stacie Wong and Shannon Purcell in forming the backbone of the team.

Softball

The Mustang softball team has been working hard all season and

has shown improvement from last year. The recent game against San Ramon lasted 10 innings, though the Mustangs lost 3-2 in the end. In their most exciting game against Granada high school, the Mustangs controlled the entire game and defeated Granada with a 6-0 shutout. Their league record stands at 1-6, but the Mustangs feel optimistic about their season. Key players this season include Kellee Venturi, Maddie Webber, Kylie Day and Alex King.

Women's Lacrosse

Currently, the women's varsity lacrosse team has a record of 10 wins and five losses. The Mustangs began the season with a defeat against St. Ignatius High School, a huge win. Although the girls have had some unfortunate losses, they feel confident after their victory over California High. With two weeks left in the competitive season, the girls hope to win the next games for a chance to compete in NCS. The team is small this year, so everyone is a key player.

Scorpions continue to sting

For week nine, Danville Scorpions 8A lacrosse team traveled to Pleasanton's Bret Hart Middle School on Saturday to play the Pleasanton Thunder 8A team. The Scorpions defeated the Thunder 15-2, scoring 14 goals in the first half. Jack McCormick led the offense with three goals and one assist. Also scoring in a balanced attack were Kevin Kuptz, Sam Langon, Michael Tagliaferri, Travis Turley, Kevin Braunschweig, Jordan Weiss, Owen Euser and Ian Lawton. Joe Abajian lead the defense grabbing seven ground balls. Controlling face-offs with 11 wins was Ian Lawton.

The next day, the West Valley Red Hawks from Saratoga visited the Scorpions, who won the contest, 15-1. This extends their undefeated season to 10 wins and 0 losses. Notable scoring on Sunday came from Zack Kline, Travis Turley and Sean O'Dea. Leading the day in assists were Kevin Kuptz and Michael Tagliaferri. Picking up the most ground balls were Sean O'Dea, Blake Weitz, Owen Euser, Matt Corbin and Ian Lawton. ■



LISSA KLINE

Middle fielder Patrick Worstell is ready for action with the Danville Scorpions 8A lacrosse team.



Charging for the goal

Jake Putnam of the Scorpion Lacrosse second-grade team charges past the Lamorinda Lightning to score a goal. The Scorpions dominated the game Sunday, which was held at San Ramon Valley High School.



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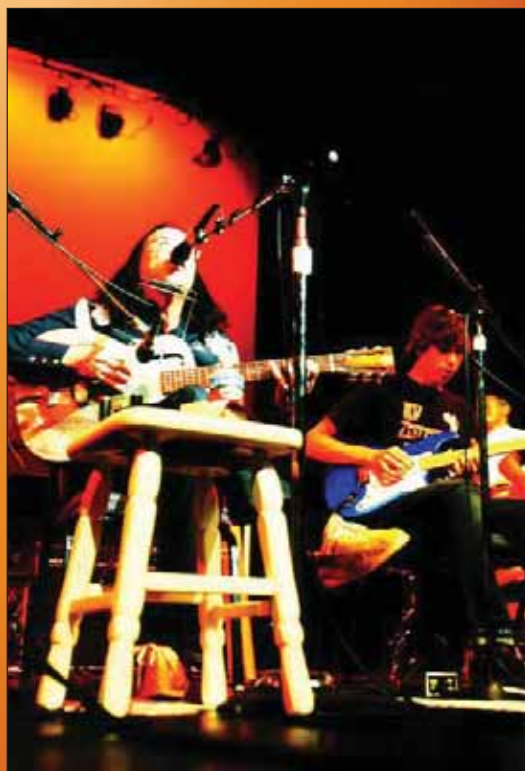
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Let's rock let's roll

**Guitarists to resurrect
renowned concerts in Danville**



Local music students showcase their work at the annual rock recital. Danville instructor Bruce Hock has also taught guitarists from the Counting Crows and Black Eyed Peas.



The recital was created by Chester Farrow, who promoted popular rock concerts in the 1970s that made Monte Vista High known as "rock 'n' roll high school."

by Meghan Neal

Most if not all of the 55 local guitar students performing in this month's Rock 'n' Roll Recital X have never met the legendary man behind it.

But if you were a teenager here in the '70s you probably know Chester Farrow, a retired Monte Vista High School electronics teacher who at the time some people called the most famous person in Danville.

The annual recital is returning to its birthplace in Danville this year. Students will showcase their work at the Village Theatre on May 14.

"It's like coming home," said Farrow, who attended high school locally and went on to teach at Monte Vista for 32 years. In '67 he began putting on monthly mini-concerts so his class could practice sound and video recording and editing.

The shows started out small, slapdash even. The classrooms at the school were separated by accordion-like moveable walls, and on show nights Farrow's class would turn the English department into a concert venue. Over time the audiences grew bigger and bigger and Farrow was able to attract better and better bands.

In 1972 the school built a theater that could hold 800 people and the shows grew enormously popular, attracting big names like Huey Lewis and the News, the Doobie Brothers and Journey.

"We became known as rock 'n' roll high school," said Farrow. "Monte Vista High School was known more than all around town—all around the Bay Area."

At that time teens didn't have easy access to Berkeley or San Francisco where the good clubs were, Farrow said. So bringing big names to suburban Danville was a unique opportunity, and people jumped at it.

"For a long time we had an exclusivity thing, in that we had the hottest shows around on this side of the Caldecutt Tunnel," he said.

"We kind of took that whole San Francisco Haight-Ashbury scene and brought it to Danville," said Michael Coats, a former student of Farrow's who credits the teacher with his successful career in music PR.

"At that time we were light years ahead of what was going on, getting a tremendous amount of recognition in the media," he continued. "To the point where Chester was constantly getting written up in the pop music column of the San Francisco Chronicle."

Any money the concerts raised went toward equipment for Farrow's electronics program. A believer in hands-on learning, he transformed his classroom into a recording studio.

It was called "Rainbow Studio" for the thousands of multicolored square carpet samples lining the walls to improve the acoustics in the room. Farrow hung all the shades of red together, then orange, yellow, green, blue and purple.

But nothing lasts forever, and by the early '90s the Rainbow Studio's glory days were fading. Farrow noticed turnout dwindling at the shows.

"I said, 'This is it,'" he recalled. "It's real easy for me to observe a trend. I get it. I see it."

Farrow stopped putting on the concerts, and not too long afterward announced his retirement.

The Rock 'n' Roll Recital started in '99, another brainchild of charismatic teacher. The idea came when Farrow was talking to a friend whose son was taking guitar lessons from Bruce Hock, a popular instructor with a studio on Hartz Avenue in Danville.

Farrow and Hock had become friends in the heyday of "rock 'n' roll high school." Hock was a struggling musician giving lessons on the side to pay the rent; now he has a long waitlist of prospective students and names like the Counting Crows and Black Eyed Peas on his resume.

The annual recital, which will be Webcast for the first time this year, gives students a chance to perform on a real stage with state-of-the-art equipment, and gives their friends and families a chance to hear them play.

Making the event even more nostalgic, the staff is made up almost entirely of Farrow's former students from Monte Vista High, many of whom went on to have successful careers in the industry.

"Chester allowed us all to blossom, he allowed us to create. Which was rare in that era to find," said Coats.

"We're very unique," remembered Farrow fondly. "I do believe it's a uniqueness, if I may say, worldwide." ■

Time again to Rock 'n' Roll

What: Rock 'n' Roll Recital X
Who: Guitar students of instructor Bruce Hock
Where: Village Theatre, 233 Front St. in Danville
When: 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 14; doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$30 (\$20 for seniors and children 18 and under); purchase at www.villagetheatreshows.com; call 314-3400; or from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday at Danville Community Center, 420 Front St.
Webcast: www.rockandrollrecital.com

Epicure



BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

Gluten-free cooking

More and more people are choosing to go gluten-free in their culinary regimens—either because of allergies and other sensitivities (e.g., the hereditary autoimmune condition called celiac disease) or because they believe eating without gluten is healthier for their digestive systems or the health of their autistic children.

However, if you've sampled a few gluten-free or wheat-alternative products, you know what goes missing. The gluten in wheat offers elasticity to baked goods that no other ingredient can totally replace. Without gluten, baked goods can be gummy, heavy or tasteless. Tasty gluten-free recipes use various grains and textured ingredients to mimic the lighter, chewier taste of products made with wheat-based flour.

While baking without gluten can be challenging, gluten-free cooking need not mean flavor-free. Rice flour—with its gritty texture and low nutritional value—used to be the primary ingredient for gluten-free cooking. Today, it has been augmented with a wide range of gluten-free legume and grain flours. (See the box insert.)

In addition to acquiring the freshest gluten-free products, cooking

without gluten will go easier by adopting a few essential tips:

- **Try blended recipes:** Recipes using a blend of gluten-free flours will offer more balance of flavors. Experiment with different flours to determine your preferred blends.
- **Apply sticky fingers:** When working with gluten-free ingredients, wet or oiled hands will help in handling gluten-free dough, which can be very sticky.
- **Put things under wraps:** If you cook both with gluten and gluten-free, maintain separate pans, tools and utensils. Be sure to keep work surfaces very clean.
- **Beat it well:** We've been taught to avoid over-beating wheat batters but hearty beating of gluten-free dough can help lighten the dough by adding air. Using a heavy-duty mixer is preferable to hand beating.
- **Crispy is good:** Avoid too much steam when cooking with gluten-free products, lest they get mushy. Try baking with pizza stones for added crispness. Baking smaller loaves and removing breads from their pans once they are firm and cooking them on open oven racks can also help enhance crispness.
- **Keep it fresh:** Gluten-free flours contain higher levels of fat and therefore can spoil easily. Freeze

flours to preserve freshness.

Eliminating gluten may be a major lifestyle change but shouldn't result in a boring, unappealing diet. With a little extra effort, you can find gluten-free recipes for tasty cakes, breads, muffins, pizza, appetizers, snacks and entrees. And gluten-free living means more than no-wheat breads. Vigilantly check labels on salad dressings, candy, medicines and other consumable products; ask specific questions when dining out. And for starters in experiencing new tastes in gluten-free cooking, try this delicious recipe for Gluten-free Coconut Layer Cake!

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 jlovemarshall@yahoo.com.

Gluten-Free Products

- **Flours:** almond, amaranth, buckwheat, brown rice, chick pea, coconut, corn, millet, potato, quinoa, sorghum, soy, tapioca, white rice
- **Meals:** corn, flaxseed
- **Arrowroot powder**
- **Gelatin**
- **Xanthum gum**

RECIPES

Gluten-Free Coconut Layer Cake

For white-chocolate whipped cream frosting:

- 3 cups heavy cream, chilled
- 9 oz. white chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 2 tsp coconut or golden rum
- 1/8 tsp fine sea salt

For coconut layer cake:

- 1-3/4 cup almond flour
- 2 Tbsp coconut flour
- 10 large eggs, at room temperature, separated
- 1 Tbsp coconut or golden rum
- 2 cups confectioner's sugar, sifted
- 1/4 tsp cream of tartar
- 1/4 tsp fine sea salt

To assemble cake:

- 2 cups (3 oz.) unsweetened coconut flakes, for coating

Make frosting:

1. Chill bowl of stand mixer and whisk attachment or large metal bowl and beaters for at least 15 minutes.
2. In small saucepan over moderate heat, bring 1 cup cream to simmer. Transfer white chocolate to medium heatproof bowl, pour hot cream over, and whisk until smooth. Whisk in rum and salt. Let cool at room temperature until thickened slightly, about 1 hour.
3. In chilled bowl of electric mixer fitted with whisk attachment, beat remaining 2 cups cream at moderately high speed until whisk leaves marks but

cream does not quite hold soft peaks, 6-8 minutes. Turn mixer off, then add white chocolate mixture and beat just until stiff peaks begin to form, about 5 minutes. (Do not beat too long or cream will curdle.) Refrigerate until firm, about 3 hours. Frosting can be made ahead and refrigerated, covered, up to 8 hours.

While frosting is chilling, make cake:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees; line bottoms of three 9-inch round cake pans with parchment paper.
2. In large bowl, whisk together almond and coconut flours.
3. In electric mixer bowl, fitted with whisk attachment, beat egg yolks at high speed until pale yellow and fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes. Reduce speed to moderately low and beat in rum and all but 1 Tbsp confectioner's sugar. Scrape down bowl, then increase speed to high and beat until pale and thick, about 1 minute. Reduce speed to low and gradually add almond and coconut flour mixture, scraping down bowl and folding in last of flour by hand. Set aside.
4. In clean dry bowl of electric mixer fitted with whisk attachment, beat egg whites on moderate speed until very foamy, about 1 minute. Beat in cream of tartar, salt, and remaining 1 Tbsp confectioner's sugar. Increase speed to moderately high and beat until whites hold stiff peaks, about 2 minutes. Fold 1 cup beaten egg whites into yolk mixture to lighten; gently fold in the remaining whites.

5. Divide batter between pans, smoothing tops, and bake until layers are golden brown and toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 20 to 25 minutes. Invert pans onto wire racks and cool completely, at least 1 hour. Run knife around cake layers to loosen, invert onto rack, and peel off the parchment.

Assemble cake:

1. Layer cake, using 1 cup frosting between each layer, then frost top and sides with remaining frosting. Press coconut flakes onto the frosting. Refrigerate until frosting is firm, at least 3 hours or overnight. Tip: To keep the plate clean while frosting the cake, tuck four (3-inch-wide) strips of parchment paper under the edge of the cake. Pull the parchment off just before serving.

Notes:

1. Plan to make the cake at least several hours or up to a day ahead so the frosting firms up and the flavors meld. The frosting needs to chill for several hours, so make that first and bake the cake while frosting is in the refrigerator. When making the frosting, be sure the heavy cream is cold and the bowl and whisk attachment chill for at least 15 minutes.
2. Consider substituting lightly sweetened whipped cream, sliced strawberries and chocolate shavings instead of white-chocolate whipped cream and coconut flakes. Or fill the cake with a half recipe of lemon curd and only using two-thirds of frosting to cover the top and sides of the cake.

Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE



"SAN RAMON VALLEY: ALAMO, DANVILLE, SAN RAMON" BY BEVERLY LANE AND RALPH COZINE

School days in Alamo

This well-loved school, the second Alamo Grammar School, was remodeled several times over the years. The original bell tower was removed and the bell was placed in the outside yard, presumably because of earthquake safety concerns. In 1904, 61 children were enrolled. Today's Alamo Elementary School at 100 Wilson Road near Livorna Road has the original Alamo School bell in its courtyard.

OF NOTE

Monte Vista wins first place at state Odyssey



Monte Vista Odyssey of the Mind team members Pamela Peters, Eric Bergquist, Tavish Nanda, Taylor Smart, Carrie Napolitano, Dani Lichliter and Tori Simmons were coached by Kal Peters.

Seven Monte Vista High School juniors competed in the regional Odyssey of the Mind tournament in March and won first place. Then April 5, they went to the State Tournament and placed first again, solving the problem of "The Eccentrics." This problem required the team to create and present a humorous performance about three Eccentric Characters that demonstrated odd behavior, peculiar mannerisms, and unconventional dress. The characters, who seemed to be misfits, solved the problem

and as a reward, a celebration was held in their honor where they ended up launching a new fad. The students will represent California at the World Competition at the University of Maryland from May 31-June 3.

SRVHS team on an Odyssey



The San Ramon Valley High School Odyssey of the Mind team (l-r) Natalie Fong, Emily Neary, Andrew Raymond, Trevor Okamoto and Nathan Polanco.

The San Ramon Valley High School Odyssey of the Mind team will be going on to the World Tournament after it successfully competed in the state competition. The team chose the "Road Rally" problem, which challenged it to design and build a vehicle that was battery powered and could transport a team member and perform certain functions along the way. The team has been working on this problem since last fall and successfully competed at the Regional Tournament in March.

The 411



BY KATHARINE O'HARA

Teen party culture must change

The San Ramon Valley High School PTSA Healthy Choices and Parent Ed teams hosted a revealing presentation on the party culture at SRVHS last week. The presentation, aimed at SRVHS parents, featured two student speakers, Sheriff's Chaplain Ken Walter, and a showing of "Graduation Day," a film narrated by Dan Rather and created by the Pack Foundation to highlight the hazardous consequences of teen drinking and driving.

The reality-based film, which opened the presentation, chronicles four high school friends through their graduation day and the festivities that followed. After a night of heavy drinking, viewers see (footage shot by one of the students) the four friends pile into a car to drive home, all with blood alcohol levels estimated to be around .24—a level three times the legal limit for someone over 21. Within minutes, amid drunken laughter, the driver carelessly runs a red light and crashes, killing himself and one passenger.

Upon reflecting on the incident in the film, a surviving passenger claimed that that night—the partying, the shocking amount of alcohol consumed, and even driving under the influence—was not much different than the way she spent most weekends. At times difficult to watch, the film acts as a frightening wakeup call for parents and students alike—an accurate portrayal of the shocking reality of a significant portion of high school students across the country, and the tragedy that can come of that reality.

Following the film, Chaplain Walter recounted a recent experience with a drunken driving accident that killed a Danville teen two summers ago. Though the exact circumstances that preceded the accident are still fairly vague, it is clear that the teen was at a party beforehand, and that alcohol was the accident's primary cause. Unbelievably, Walter revealed that just one month following the tragedy, the same group of kids who presumably partied with the teen were present at another party and just as drunk as (if not drunker than) at the time of the accident.

That students ritually participate in heavy drinking and partying, and are under the impression that "it will never happen to them," is appalling and only makes it clear-

er that something has to change. At school it is not uncommon to hear students recounting weekend party experiences involving alcohol, marijuana and other drugs that occurred while parents were home, or even while parents were supervising. Shockingly enough, a significant portion of parents in the community condone drinking and drug use within the "safety" of their own homes, because they figure their kids will experiment anyway and would rather they be at home than somewhere else. But, as Walter remarks, this simply sets a precedent that says it is OK to participate in dangerous and unhealthy activities as long as you are "safe" while doing it. This philosophy is sorely misguided as, in many cases, the "experimentation" does not stop once outside the walls of the home; it simply becomes easier, and less guilt-ridden.

"If we allow our kids to make decisions, they'll make the wrong ones. That's why we're parents and they're kids. We have the responsibility as parents to be, well, parents," remarked Walter.

Walter also explained that because this is the first generation where families with two working parents are commonplace, parents feel they have to compensate for not spending enough time with their teens.

"Too often parents want to do more for their kids than their neighbors. We want to be their friends."

SRVHS student athlete Kevin Grant opened parents up to a world many were unaware existed, describing a typical weekend night for a partying SRVHS student. According to Grant, the "pre-party" usually starts small (about five to 10 students), and initiates drug and alcohol use, often void of parental supervision. With the help of MySpace, Facebook, cell phones and other means of communication, the party quickly grows to 30 or more, and moves to another location.

"It gets scary because they've already started using and they're relying on someone else, who may or may not be under the influence, to get them to the next party spot," said Grant.

Alcohol is typically purchased using a fake ID, by someone's older sibling, or even parents. Grant explains that upon walking into a party one might see drinking games, fighting, crying, trash, pipes, vari-

ous levels of sexual contact, vomit and sometimes police. SRVHS student body president and speaker Jen Nordine claims that seeing her peers under the influence of alcohol is often "hard to witness."

"Kids get belligerent and are so sick I wonder why alcohol is allowed to be sold at all."

Grant explains that the most intense part of the night is leaving the party.

"You really realize how fragile the connections are between people who have made plans to get home. Most of the time, people don't plan. I have tried my best over the years to give people rides, but in the back of my mind I always know there is someone still looking for a way to get home," he said.

Grant, despite having attended parties, has chosen to remain sober during his high school years.

"Sports have helped me to keep focused during high school. It is when people are bored and have nothing to do that they usually get into trouble," he said.

It is important for students to remember that there are ways to have an active and fun social life without the dangers and complications of using alcohol and drugs. Involvement in team-related organizations provides a social outlet and helps to build a sense of community; when one knows someone else is depending on them to uphold standards, they may be less inclined to participate in destructive behaviors.

Parents should engage in a dialogue with their kids about the choice to party or not and the risks involved, and should make it clear that the negative consequences of driving under the influence are far greater than those of making a call home for a ride. When their teens ask to attend a party, parents should not hesitate to speak to the host's parents before making a decision, and they certainly should not offer to provide the alcohol or party location themselves. Most importantly, should they choose to participate, students should recognize the danger of their actions, and plan accordingly.

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.



Erin Leeds, Rex Lueth, Kaitlin Ross, Rachel Smith, Jackson Wightman, Brandon Wise and Alex Tsuruda of Sycamore Valley Elementary placed first in their division in Odyssey of the Mind.

Students on an Odyssey

The Odyssey of the Mind Team from Sycamore Valley Elementary School, called "The Extreme Babies," took their supped up, motorized, baby buggy on an Odyssey Road Rally in March. The team had to design, build and operate an original vehicle to compete in four different sports related

events. This team of fourth- and fifth-grade students placed first in their division and moved on to the Odyssey State Competition in Brentwood on April 5.

Other teams to move on from this area were from John Baldwin, Rancho Romero and Alamo elementary schools, Charlotte Wood Middle School, and San Ramon, Monte Vista and California high schools.

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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 numerous authors during the month of May including: Louise Erdrich, author of "The Plague of Doves," at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 6; Simon Winchester, author of "The Man Who Loved China," at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 13; Taras Grescoe, author of "Bottomfeeder," at 7 p.m., Thursday, May 15; Henry Winkler, author of "Hank Zipser," Friday, May 16; and Barbara Walters, author of "Audition," at 6 p.m., Friday, May 16; all at Rakestraw Books, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. Reservations are recommended. Call 837-7337.

Classes

Summer Rose Pruning and Orchids Basics Navlet's Garden Center hosts free gardening classes to the public. May classes include Summer Rose Pruning at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 17 and Orchids Basics with Brian Petraska at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 31, at Navlet's Garden Center, 800 Camino Ramon, Danville. Call 837-9144.

Clubs

Alamo Cribbage Club The club plays cribbage for fun. It meets at 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday at the Safeway conference room, 200 Alamo Plaza, Alamo. Call 284-7044 or e-mail alamo1@prodigy.net.

Alamo Rotary The Alamo Rotary meets at noon every Wednesday at Roundhill Country Club, 3169 Roundhill Road. Call Mark Kahn at 837-3262.

Alamo Women's Club Federated The club meets on most Wednesdays at its clubhouse, 1401 Danville Blvd. It holds a business meeting and tea the second Wednesday at noon; meets for Mah Jong at 10:30 a.m. the third Wednesday; and holds a luncheon with program at noon the fourth Wednesday. For information, call 552-9733.

Danville AM Toastmasters Club The club meets from 7-8:30 a.m., every

Tuesday, at Father Nature's, 178 E. Prospect Ave. Guests are welcome. For more information, contact Dave Miklasevich at 899-1543 or dmik210@yahoo.com or www.danvilleamtoastmasters.org.

Danville Job's Daughters Job's Daughters International is an organization for young ladies (minimum age 10 for full membership) who enjoy dances, sleepovers, parties, social events, snow trips and more. The girls develop confidence, good character, life-long friendships, moral and spiritual values, and leadership abilities. The group meets at 7 p.m., the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at the Danville Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Rd. Call 829-8505 or email IOJD247@yahoo.com.

Danville Lions Club This club meets at 7 p.m., on the first and third Wednesday of every month, at the Brass Door, San Ramon. For information, call Tom Jackson at 984-1541.

Diablo Bonsai Club This club will host a lecture and workshop on "Group Planting" from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 21, at Heather Farms Garden Center, upper room, 1540 Marchbanks Dr., Walnut Creek. Call 937-4216.

Exchange Club Luncheon Speaker Exchange Club of San Ramon Valley will host Dr. Blake Simmons from Sandia Lab Energy Systems who will speak on "Joint BioEnergy Institute BioFuels" from noon-1 p.m., Wednesday, May 14, at Faz Restaurant, 600 Hartz Ave., Danville. Cost is \$16 for members; \$20 for non-members. Call 275-2412.

Kiwanis San Ramon Valley San Ramon Valley Kiwanis meets from noon-1:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Round Hill Country Club, 3169 Roundhill Road, Alamo. Meetings include networking, lunch and a guest speaker. For information, visit its Web site at www.kiwanis-srv.org or call 244-1227.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 75 The organization meets at 7:30 p.m., every second Thursday of the month (except December), at Danville Veteran's Hall, 400 Hartz Ave., Danville. For information, call Post Commander Tony Carnemolla at 932-4042 or visit www.vfw.org.

Concerts

'A Tribute to Judy Garland' Blackhawk Chorus presents "A Tribute to Judy Garland" at 5:45 p.m., Saturday, May 17, at Blackhawk Country Club, Banquet Room, Danville. Tickets are \$45. Another performance is at 8 p.m., Friday, May 23, at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 7557 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Tickets are \$15. Call 828-1580.

'Broadway Baby!' Danville Girls Chorus presents "Broadway Baby!" from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, June 7, at Canyon Creek Presbyterian, 9015 S. Gale Ridge Rd., San Ramon. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$5 for children. Call 837-2624.

Events

2008 O'Neill International Conference Scholars and devotees of Eugene O'Neill will come together at the 2008 O'Neill International Conference held from June 11-15, at the Tao House, Danville. Registration is now open; contact Diane Schinnerer at 828-0659 or dmdds@aol.com.

Barn Dance Forest Home Farms will host a Barn Dance from 6-8:30 p.m., Saturday, May 17, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Come and check out the farm, learn a little history and participate in some good, old-fashioned barn stomping. Soft drinks and light finger food will be served. Admission is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 973-3284 or visit www.sanramonhistoricalfoundation.org.

Calling All Dalmatians Museum of the San Ramon Valley is having a "Blemie" look-a-like contest to honor Eugene O'Neill's dog at noon (registration begins at 11:30 a.m.), Sunday, May 18, at Museum of the San Ramon Valley, Railroad and Prospect avenues, Danville. This event is free. Picnic will follow the contest. Bring food; drinks and dog treats will be provided. E-mail stolow@juno.com.

Danville International Children's Film Festival Come and enjoy a film festival for children and by chil-

WEEKEND PREVIEW



ROSWITHA KRESS

Pastels at the Pioneer

Pastel paintings by Roswitha Kress will be featured from May 2-11 at the Pioneer Art Gallery, 524 Hartz Ave., Danville. Meet the artist at a special reception from 4-7 p.m., Saturday, May 3. Gallery hours are from 3-7 p.m. Fridays; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturdays; and 1-5 p.m. Sundays. Visit www.adas4art.org/pioneer.

dren Friday-Sunday, May 16-18. Film screenings will take place at Village Theatre, 433 Front St. and the Town Meeting Hall, Front St., Danville. Tickets and passes for the weekend's events range from \$5-\$25 and are available beginning May 1 by visiting www.villagetheatreshows.com or the Danville Community Center, 420 Front St., Danville or by calling 314-3400.

Live! at the Livery Danville Livery & Mercantile will host the second annual "Live! at the Livery" from 5-8 p.m., Thursdays, May 8-29, at the Livery & Mercantile, Danville. The nights will feature bands and entertainment. Cost is \$5 for a souvenir wine glass to enjoy tastings from numerous wineries. Proceeds benefit Discover Danville Association. Visit www.danvillelivery.com.

Fundraisers

'A Taste of 94507' Come and enjoy "A Taste of 94507" gala with wine and food tasting at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at a private residence in Alamo. Tickets are \$75. Proceeds benefit the Alamo Community Foundation for costs for the one-time State-required studies of feasibility for Alamo incorporation. For reservations, call 838-1277.

18th Annual Blackhawk Food, Wine and Film Festival Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Club will host the 18th annual Blackhawk Food, Wine and Film Festival at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. A donation of \$50 is requested. Proceeds benefit many of the Rotary's community projects. Call 648-2098.

Drive Fore A Cure Golf Tournament Driving Fore a Cure and PHA Golf Tournament will start at 11:30 a.m. with sign-in and a shotgun start at 1 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, at Blackhawk Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Dr., Danville. The day will include golf, a luncheon, banquet and awards. Cost is \$250 per player; \$900 for group of four. Proceeds will help save the lives of pulmonary hypertension patients. Call 736-8309 or visit www.drivingforeacure.org.

Kyle Furrer Memorial Golf Tournament and Dinner The 13th annual Kyle Furrer Memorial Golf Tournament and Dinner will be held on Friday, May 30, at Diablo Creek Golf Course, Concord. In a six-person scramble, the day will include a shotgun start, putting contest, lunch and dinner. Cost is \$160 per person, \$900 for a six-person team rate; for those

wishing to forego golf and enjoy dinner, cost is \$45. Proceeds benefit Comfort for Kids. For reservations, e-mail kylefurrermemorial@sbcglobal.net.

Mother's Day Breakfast Pleasanton DeMolay will host a Hawaiian Breakfast for Mother's Day from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 10, at the Pleasanton Masonic Center, 3370 Hopyard Rd. Cost is \$7. Proceeds benefit Pleasanton DeMolay. Call 858-1342.

Garden/Home Tours

8th Annual AAUW Garden Tour Come tour seven delightful gardens in Alamo, Blackhawk and Danville from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday-Saturday, May 9-10. Tickets are \$25 if postmarked by May 3; \$30 thereafter; tickets are available at Leku Eder, 178 E. Prospect Ave., Danville or by sending a business size self-addressed, stamped envelope to AAUW Garden Tour, P.O. Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507 before May 3. Checks should be made out to Danville-Alamo AAUW EF. Call 831-1784 or visit www.aauw-da.org.

Annual Kitchen and Garden Tour Baldwin and Greenbrook elementary schools are hosting their annual Kitchen and Garden Tour from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, May 18. Enjoy catered foods from local restaurants and a silent auction at the end of the tour. Cost is \$30 in advance, \$35 on the day of the event. Proceeds support both PTAs. For reservations, call 838-7722.

Holiday

Memorial Day Town of Danville and VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley will host Memorial Day services from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday, May 26, at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. Call 736-1500 or visit www.vnvdc.com.

Kids and Teens

'Insect Songs' Danville Library will host Sandi and Stevie who will present "Insect Songs" at 4 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, at the Danville Library, Children's Reading Room, 400 Front St. Join them for lots of singing and musical fun to kick-off the Contra Costa County Library Summer Reading Program. Call 837-4889.

Free Online Tutoring Available Contra Costa County Library is offer-

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

Reading Festival 2008 Reading Festival 2008 and Art Gruenberger's Puppet Art Theater will present "Jack and the Beanstalk" at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17 and will host author Ginger Wadsworth at 2 p.m., Sunday, May 18, both at the Danville Library, Children's Reading Room, 400 Front St. Call 837-4889.

When Mom or Dad Has Cancer A program for families with school-age children when a parent has cancer. Each workshop has an activity-based group for children where they identify feelings and learn coping skills, a support group for teens, and a group for parents from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Call 933-0107.

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

Lectures/ Workshops

Catholics@Work Breakfast Leo Severino, producer of "Bella," will speak the Catholics@Work Breakfast starting at 7 a.m. with breakfast, Tuesday, May 13, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Leo will talk about the tremendous challenges he faced from traditional Hollywood culture and the obstacles he had to overcome. Cost is \$20 for members; \$25 for non-members. Call 389-0704 or visit www.catholicsatwork.org.

Employment and Disability Rights for People with Cancer A discussion of the various laws that protect people with cancer in the workplace as well as disability benefits will be presented from 6-8:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at Valley Care Medical Plaza, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton. This event is free to cancer patients. Call 933-0107.

Open Your Heart Through Art By using art and movement, this series promotes self-awareness and connection of body, mind, and emotion. The group meets from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mondays, May 12-June 30, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. This workshop is free for cancer patients and their support persons. Call 933-0107.

Reading Festival 2008 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. That evening Mortenson is speaking to the public at the Danville Community Presbyterian Church. Tickets for both events, limited to two, are free, available at the library.

Update on the David Glass House Come hear about the plans for the David Glass House and what furnishings are needed to complete the house from 7-9 p.m., Monday, May 19, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Some Glass family history will also be shared. Cost is \$5. Visit www.srhf.org.

Miscellaneous

Free E-Waste Recycling Event Drop off unused or broken electronic equipment for free pickup by ASL Recycling from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, May 17, at the MA Center, 10200 Crow Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Acceptable items include computers and computer accessories, printers, DVD players, stereos, TVs, VCRs, microwaves and cell phones.

Host Families Needed Host families are needed for Spanish, French and Slovakian exchange students from July 7-27 in Danville. Host families provide a bed, meals and transportation to daily planned activities. The teens speak English, are fully insured and bring spending money. E-mail Dawn at garlieb@sbcglobal.net.

New Adoption Event Tri-Valley Animal Rescue has a new adoption

event from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., on the second, third and fourth Saturdays of every month, at Pet Food Express, 609 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. Call 803-7043 or visit www.tvr.org.

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, until May 10, at Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Tickets are \$25, \$22, or \$15. Call 314-3400 or 314-3463.

'Sylvia' Onstage Theatre presents "Sylvia" at 8:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays; 8 p.m., Thursdays; and 2:30 p.m., Sundays, until May 17, at the Schoolhouse Cultural Center, Pleasant Hill. Tickets are \$15 for general admission or \$12 for students and seniors.

'Wigged Out!' Hair on Stage presents "Wigged Out!" playing until June 21, at Hair on Stage, 520 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. The box office is open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday. Call 855-SHOW (855-7469) or visit www.wiggedout.org.

Scholarships

Exchange Club Annual Essay Scholarship Awards Exchange Club is presenting "Speaker Series" scholarship awards to three high school students at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, at the San Ramon Council Meeting, 2222 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. Prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 will be awarded to the winners. Essays were on "The 10th Amendment" and "Separation of Powers." Call 275-2412.

Spiritual

Community Shabbat Dinner Beth Chaim Congregation will host a Community Shabbat Dinner from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, May 16, at Beth Chaim, 1800 Holbrook Dr., Danville. Call 736-7146.

Support Groups

Addiction Counseling Narconon offers free counseling, assessments and referrals to centers nationwide to families in need of drug or alcohol addiction help. Call (800) 468-6933 or visit www.stopaddiction.com.

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

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

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

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

Heart Support Group Heart support group for heart disease patients, their families and caregivers meets from 1:30-3:30 p.m., on the fourth Saturday of every month (except November and December), at Kaiser Walnut Creek Medical Center, 3rd Floor Conference Center, Walnut Creek. Its mission is to "inspire hope in heart disease patients and their families." Call 708-4151 or visit www.mendedhearts254.org.

Man to Man Prostate Cancer San Ramon Regional Medical Center offers "Man to Man Prostate Cancer

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

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

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

PFLAG The Danville/San Ramon Valley Chapter of Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is a support group that meets at 7 p.m., every third Monday at the Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Call 838-8632.

Volunteering

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

Anna's Program The specialized program of Hospice of the East Bay, Anna's Program, is looking for dedicated and caring volunteers to provide companionship and practical support for women with recurrent breast cancer. To apply for free training, contact Vicki Smith at 887-5675 or e-mail vickis@hospiceeastbay.org.

California Independent Film Festival Association Support the Arts in the Tri-Valley by joining the California Independent Film Festival Association. The donation of the membership will support independent film events. For information, visit www.caindiefest.com.

CCI Volunteer Puppy Raising Program Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) are looking for

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

Child Abuse Prevention Council The Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Council needs volunteer speakers for the community education program. Volunteers must complete a mandatory 24-hour speaker's training course. For information, call 946-9961.

Hats Off America Volunteer Opportunities Hats Off America is looking for volunteers for Casino Night on April 19; Muscle Car, Hot Rod, and Art Fair on May 16-18; Red T-Shirt 10K Runs/5K Walks on June 7, Sept. 13 and Nov. 8. Proceeds benefit Hats Off America which provides support to families of the brave American soldiers. Call 855-1950 or visit www.hatsoffamerica.us.

Ivan Dickson Volunteer Trail Project with REI East Bay Parks is seeking volunteers to perform maintenance on trails from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Saturday, May 10, at Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, 18012 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Preregistration is required; call (510) 544-2631.

Lindsay Wildlife Museum Docents are needed to lead class tours, teaching children and others about our important connection with wildlife and the world we share. No experience needed. Call 627-2444 or visit www.wildlife-museum.org.

Mt. Diablo State Park Mt. Diablo State Park offers many interesting ways to volunteer by helping with trail mainte-

nance, serving as a docent at one of the Visitors Centers, helping with the new native plants garden or working on the trash removal program. Training provided for all areas. Call 837-6129 or visit www.parks.ca.gov.

San Damiano Retreat Opportunities abound for people of all ages and abilities at San Damiano. Sit and socialize while helping with mailings, enjoy solitude and meditation while cultivating the flower, vegetable and fruit gardens or lend your support to the front desk and gift shop. Call 837-9141, ext. 307 or visit www.sandamiano.org.

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

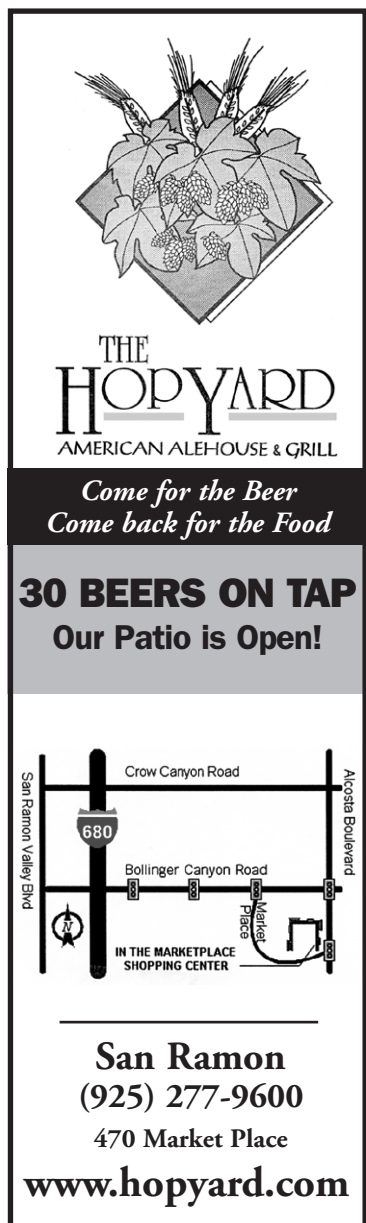
Sheriff Seeks Senior Volunteers The Sheriff's Valley Station Office in Alamo is seeking people interested in assisting law enforcement in the community. Citizens should have a clean criminal history and would be responsible for one shift a week for four-and-a-half hours. Interested applicants should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



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MACKENZIE THORPE

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Color is currency

When it comes to your home's exterior, color is currency. With millions of homes across the country currently on the market, smart homeowners are differentiating their houses and wowing potential buyers with color—from the roof all the way down to the landscaping.

"Fortunately, you don't have to resort to beige siding and basic black shingles to play it safe when it comes to exterior color," says Leslie Segrete, co-host of the Money Pit home improvement radio show. "Contrast can be tastefully done with the home's enduring architectural elements, while bold or trendy can be reserved for elements that are more easily changed, like landscaping."

Whether you're planning to sell your home in this highly competitive market, or just create a classic look you'll enjoy for years to come, here are some things to keep in mind when adding color to create curb appeal.

From the top down

Homeowners might not think of their roof as a part of the overall aesthetic of their home, but it is one of the first things a prospective buyer sees. A roof can account for as much as half of your home's exterior, yet is an often-overlooked design opportunity.

"A new roof is certainly a selling point for a house, but an interesting new roof—one that makes a statement with color or design—can really help pump up curb appeal and enjoyment," Segrete says.

Color choices in asphalt shingles have been expanding in recent years, and it's no longer necessary to resort to costly exotic materials—like tile or slate—to create a character-filled look. You can add elegance or whimsy by creating patterns with splashes of color outlined in a contrasting color against a conservative background.

Color cues

Color can help sell a house, real estate experts agree, and a poor color choice can alienate your neighbors; not only will it be an eyesore but it can devalue your home and others around it.

Classic white, which is clean and elegant, consistently shows up on the top of the list in surveys of Americans' most popular color choices for homes, says Segrete. Earth tones of beige, green, brown or tan usually follow closely in terms of preference. While, historically, the more conservative colors have been popular to Americans, times are changing and homeowners are becoming more adventurous with color. Blues and grays are slightly less popular but still considered within the range of what's acceptable. Reds and pinks are the least popular, unless, of course, your home has a brick facade or is in a tropical or historic neighborhood.

Whatever color you choose, don't forget that complementary colors and shades can be used to highlight the architectural style of your home. Darker color blends provide contrast while lighter colors simplify a home's lines and angles and can make the home appear larger. For example, you may be able to get away with lavender on a gingerbread-style Victorian, but the color would be far less appropriate on many of today's modern homes.

Liberty to landscape

Landscaping is the area where homeowners can have the most versatility—and fun—with color. Because plants are not permanent, it's possible to take risks or make bold statements with color choices. If you don't care for something or your real estate agent advises you to tone down the color scheme, it's relatively easy to redo small landscaping elements.

While you have more wiggle room choosing plant and floral colors, do keep in mind positioning and location, especially for large elements like trees or shrubs. Generally, you want colors near the home that will contrast or complement the color of the house itself, and remember to avoid one of the worst landscaping faux pas—obscuring windows or the front door with large trees or shrubs.

With a little know how, homeowners can easily differentiate their home from the neighbors, and in a down market that can make other sellers green with envy.

—Courtesy ARA Content

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2008

Alamo

Total sales reported: 3
Lowest sale reported: \$1,350,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,330,500
Average sales reported: \$1,746,833

Danville

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$465,500
Highest sale reported: \$1,650,000
Average sales reported: \$881,750

Walnut Creek

Total sales reported: 10
Lowest sale reported: \$249,000
Highest sale reported: \$869,000
Average sales reported: \$559,900

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2008

Alamo

159 Canyon Vista Place D. & S. Green to Engberg Trust for \$1,350,000
165 Emmons Canyon Lane D. & M. Caruth to C. & R. Prudhomme for \$1,560,000
2900 Stone Valley Road Davidon Homes to A. Reid for \$2,330,500

Danville

150 Belmar Drive Dew Trust to C. Smith for \$870,000
25 Blackstone Hollow Court Fryer Trust to W. & S. Langbein for \$898,000
222 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to R. Guo for \$501,500
226 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to P. & J. Quinto for \$465,500
617 Colmar Court KB Homes to E. Guard for \$925,000
105 Dana Highlands Court Young Trust to C. & K. Fryer for \$1,231,500
338 Deepcreek Court Greenwich Investors Xxvi to L. & T. McFarlan for \$900,000
611 Derbyshire Place E. & L. Mooldyk to R. & J. Johnson for \$850,000
1441 Harlan Drive S. Cabacungan to J. Wang for \$820,000
10 Hidden Crest Court D. & E. Palsson to Field Trust for \$1,260,000
174 Larkwood Circle B. Omullan to L. Frydenlund for \$592,000
8 Maplelegn Court Fabiano Trust to T. Tomei for \$1,650,000
137 Montana Drive Templeton Trust to J. & J. Bernard for \$710,000
634 Morninghome Road Sarment Trust to M. & S. Slight for \$1,019,000
751 Pagosa Court Lazarus Trust to V. Chan for \$557,500
123 Parkhaven Drive Nearon Trust to R. & M. Grishaber for \$876,000
954 Richard Lane Lapp Trust to Haldezos Trust for \$1,133,000
681 Silver Lake Drive Hibdon Trust to J. Newell for \$612,500

Walnut Creek

3217 Eccleston Avenue Kobrin Trust to E. Jolie for \$569,000
1635 Geary Road #17 R. Wellon to J. Dixon for \$500,000
17 Marlo Court Robinson Trust to R. & J. Heng for \$869,000
2712 Oak Road #62 A. Magdalen to M. Miner for \$249,000
265 Pickering Place Cooke Trust to A. Bird for \$661,000
1928 Ptarmigan Drive #1 Macondray Trust to G. & P. Orlik for \$428,000
952 Reddington Court D. Sperry to S. Blythe for \$800,000
3800 Terra Granada Drive #1B Worl Trust to R. Leone for \$498,000
4021 Terra Granada Drive #1B Fiaccadori Trust to Blake Trust for \$440,000
4424 Terra Granada Drive #1B T. & P. Toupin to D. Sperry for \$585,000

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

For an online version with mapping or to list your open home go to: www.DanvilleWeekly.com/real_estate

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

842 Matadera Cir. \$1,050,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-2508
112 Club Terrace \$1,100,000
Sun 1-4 Prudential CA-Lois Cox 734-5273

5 Bedrooms

104 Parkhaven Dr. \$1,189,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-8883
100 David Ln. \$1,895,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel 791-2600

SAN RAMON

4 Bedrooms

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

2421 Talavera Dr. \$709,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-2508

DUBLIN

3 Bedrooms

7257 Newcastle Ln. \$649,950
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 200-4130

PLEASANTON

2 Bedrooms

8160 Ensenada Dr. \$325,000
Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 998-4311
5750 Belleza Dr. \$537,500
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 577-4663

3 Bedrooms

1509 Calle Santa Ana \$530,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Hometown GMAC-Danielle Peel 426-3852
3973 Kern Ct. \$609,950
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436
3658 Reflections Dr. \$670,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 200-3165

6380 Dana Ct. \$679,950
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

5202 Crestline Wy. \$775,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 251-1111

4 Bedrooms

844 Division St. \$1,189,000
Sun 1-4 Investment RE 963-0569
2977 Amoroso Ct. \$1,649,000
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500
964 Piemonte Dr. \$2,099,950
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel-Andy Poryes 963-8871
2076 Valley Oak Ct. \$2,350,000
Sat/Sun 1-4:30 Prudential CA 519-1455
4630 Herrin Ct. \$717,750
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436
5051 Woodthrus Rd. \$799,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 251-1111
3460 Park Pl. \$829,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 484-5200
885 Concord St. \$849,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 484-5200

5 Bedrooms

964 Mingoa St. \$1,649,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 963-8800

205 Heritage Ln. \$1,595,000
Sun 1-4

Henderson Properties-Judy Winter 699-7900

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

LIVERMORE

3 Bedrooms

657 South M St. \$830,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2300

4 Bedrooms

2604 Kellogg Pl. \$1,050,000
Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 398-6706
2359 Wood Hollow Dr. \$1,200,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams-Kathleen Waelde 216-5108
3090 Hansend Rd. \$1,599,000
Sat 12-3 Alain Pinel - Scott Mendes 768-6116
6608 Tiffany Cmn. \$529,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 963-8322

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



251 Montair Dr., Danville

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acre lot. Resort style master bath with sauna, 2
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cascading waterfall into a sparkling pool.

\$1,699,000

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Detached Garage: 594 sf

Covered Outdoor: 1,396 sf

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Map is not to scale.