

The Wild Girls

Young writers come of age in 1970s Danville > **page 18**

Vol. IV, Number 11 • July 18, 2008

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Tale of the mighty oak

Town symbol stands tall—
with a little help

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Danville

W E E K L Y

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

Drought drawing mountain lions?

Police say sighting last week is unconfirmed

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Hamming it up

Campers learn to love the spotlight—
in the theater or in real life

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Streetwise

ASKED AT A DANVILLE FOURTH OF JULY BARBECUE

Q: What is your favorite thing about the Danville farmers market?



I go for the fresh peaches. Once you have peaches from the farmers market you'll never buy from the grocery store again.

Paula Balcezak

sales rep/peach enthusiast



I loved the scones from Bakesale Betty with the blue hair but she's not there anymore. I also like the pepperchelle jam, we marinate shrimp with it, and the fresh fish is really good, too. I love feeling like you're part of a community when you go there.

Bettina West

corporate mystery shopper/bartender



I've never been there, I don't want to lie. But I've heard very good things about it and I'd like to go. I'll go next weekend! I support our local growers.

Carlos Rodriguez

insurance power agent



I don't go to the farmers market, but if I did I would go for the tomatoes and avocados to make fresh salsa for upcoming events like the Super Bowl or for when I'm just sitting on the couch with my dad and brother. I'd expect them to have high quality fruits and vegetables there, considering it is the farmers market.

Justin Harrison

student



I go to buy the balloons every weekend with my mom because they have the best balloon animals to buy. I love getting the donuts because they make them right in front of me and they taste better than good. Last of all, I like playing on the train because it's fun.

Avery Briggs

second-grader

COMPILED BY KRISTEN LANG

ABOUT THE COVER

At Danville's KAOS camp—Kids Acting on Stage—kids have a blast and learn about themselves through the process of putting on a play and a short movie. Erin Morrissey and Jordan Klein are filmed riding a seesaw for a scene in the movie. Photo by Meghan Neal. Cover design by Lili Cao.

Vol. IV, Number 11

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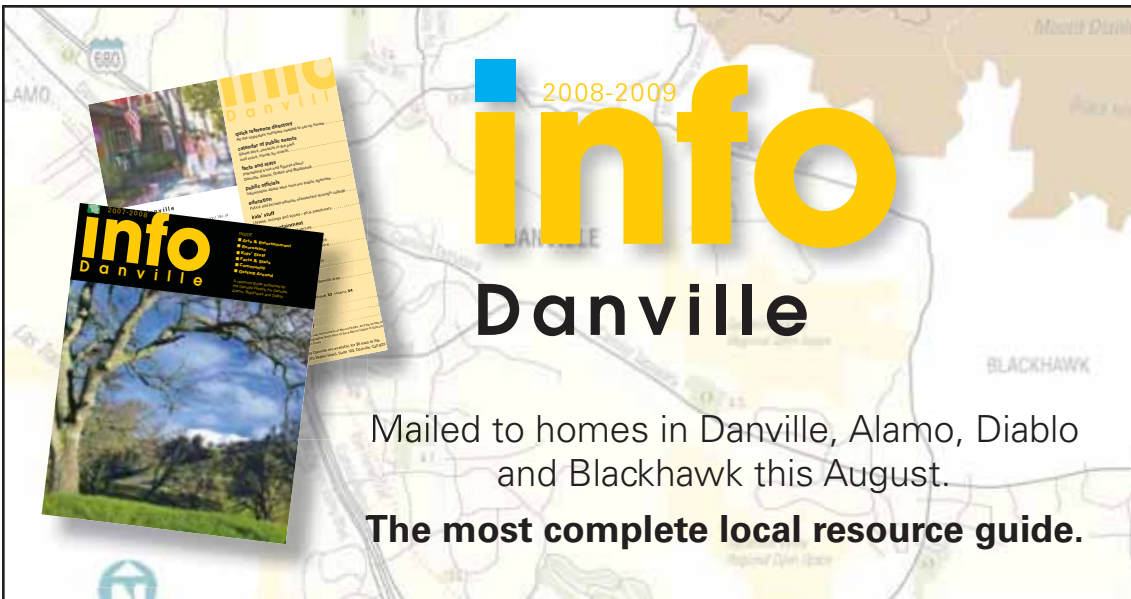
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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

It was like watching the same 'Godfather' movie over and over ... it's a great movie, but you've seen it before.”

—Organizer David Miller about changing Hot Summer Nights to include cars from the 1960s and offer something new. See story, page 5.

Meet the cops on National Night Out

The 25th annual National Night Out, a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of the Town Watch, invites everyone to be part of its Night Out 2008 team on Tuesday, Aug. 5, by organizing a neighborhood block party.

Danville police officers will visit registered block parties that night to answer questions, distribute crime prevention information, and hand out goodies to the kids.

To register a neighborhood for a block party and have officers stop by, go to the Danville Police Department's Web site at www.ci.danville.ca.us. Residents can also print out invitations at the site.

For more information, call Community Service Officer Shawn Desmond at 314-3705.

Absentee ballots prevail

A record 58.7 percent of Californians cast their ballots by mail in the June 3 Statewide Direct Primary Election, according to results certified by Secretary of State Debra Bowen on Monday. This topped the previous record of 46.9 percent in June 2006. In the February presidential primary, nearly 41.7 percent of voters cast their ballots by mail.

In June, more than half the votes cast by mail were in 48 of California's 58 counties. The exceptions were Colusa, Glenn, Imperial, Kings, Los Angeles, Mendocino, Mono, Napa, Sutter and Trinity counties.

Overall, only 28.2 percent of registered voters cast ballots in the June election, marking the lowest turnout on a percentage basis for a regularly scheduled election. The lowest percentage turnout previously for a primary election was 33.6 percent set in June 2006; the lowest turnout percentage for a general election was 50.6 percent in November 2002.

District 3 openings on county boards

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors is seeking applicants for a District 3 seat on the Steering Committee for Alamo Beautification, Zone 36, County Landscaping and Lighting District. Its function is to advise the supervisors on community priorities for lighting and landscaping improvements within the Alamo community.

Applicants must be residents of Alamo. Visit the county's Web site for application procedures or call the County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 335-1900 for an application. Applications are due by 5 p.m. July 28.

District 3 also has openings on the county Alamo/Lafayette Cemetery District Board; the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board; the County Library Commission; the Juvenile Systems Planning Advisory Committee; the Mobile Home Advisory Committee; and the San Ramon Valley Planning Commission.

Correction

The photo of the Danville Weekly Marching Band in last week's issue was taken by Gary Hernbroth.

History comes alive tonight

Museum curator presenting 150 years of Danville

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

The Living Treasures series continues tonight with a tribute to Museum of the San Ramon Valley curator Beverly Lane. The museum program highlights people that contribute to the betterment of the community.

"I'm going to do a historical narrative and introduce historic characters," said Lane. "They each have three to five minutes and will talk about what life was like."

The famous settlers will be portrayed by residents who also took their roles for the recent Hay Days celebration. They include Charles and Charlotte Wood (Don and Joan Kurtz), Dan and Josephine Inman (Geoff and Dureen Bishop), Numa Boone (Nathan Greene), Mary Cox Baldwin (Sonya Seyler) and Rose Peters (Betty Casey) among others.

Visit 1858 Danville

What: Living Treasures features Beverly Lane
Who: Museum of the San Ramon Valley and Leshner Foundation
When: 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, July 18
Where: Community Center, 420 Front St.
Cost: Free. Reservations requested at 837-3750.

"Geoff as Dan Inman brought his tools and his half-sized pioneer wagon to Hay Days and just mesmerized people," said Lane.

Lane is the fourth person dubbed a Living Treasure by the program, which started last year. Others were Norm Kittler and Joan and Don Kurtz.

"Bev has a lot to share," said Betty Joyce, one of the organizers.

She noted that Lane was mayor of Danville

three times, is an elected director of the East Bay Regional Park District, and is an author of local history books.

"When Bev was elected Citizen of the Year (by the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce) and wrote 'Vintage Danville' ... we thought this would be a good time for her," said Joyce.

"Vintage Danville: 150 Years of Memories" was written by Lane and Laura Grinstead for the town's sesquicentennial celebration, and it will be on sale at the program. There will also be refreshments.

Living Treasures honors Contra Costa County residents for their accomplishments in any area, including art, literature, music, sports, government, education or charity.

It is funded by a \$10,000 grant from the Leshner Foundation. ■



Geoff Bishop as Danville founder Dan Inman explains his cooper's tools at the recent Hay Days celebration. Bishop will resume his role tonight at the Living Treasures program at the community center.

DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Car lovers: Start your engines

Hot Summer Nights adds 'muscle cars' to classics

by Meghan Neal

Thursday is the first Danville Hot Summer Nights car show of the year. And this time, expect to see some things old and some things new.

After the initial disappointment of having the number of shows cut from four to two, the event's organizers are making changes to step up the two remaining shows.

"We're going to pack four shows into a two-night event," said David Miller, one of the organizers.

For the first time since the event's debut 13 years ago, classic cars from the 1960s will be shown alongside vintage hot rods from the '50s and earlier.

"(It) opens up an entirely new, gigantic category of car lover and car owner, because there are now cars that are a whole different classification—what we call the 'muscle cars,'" Miller said.

The term muscle car refers to high-speed, high-horse-power automobiles that became popular in the 1960s. American carmakers put large and powerful V8 engines in mid-sized vehicles to create a "supercar" for street driving and racing.

"These cars were very, very powerful. Street legal. It was a whole different technology (and) engine power than what was available in the 1950s," Miller said. "You know, the kids loved to have the souped up cars."

A lot of baby boomer generation car buffs are eager to show off their nostalgic treasures, said Miller. "These people have been begging us for years to please allow us to let

their cars be displayed."

The organizers finally complied, just to switch it up a bit.

"Year after year you saw the same owner, the same car. It was like watching the same 'Godfather' movie over and over again," he said. "I mean how many times can you watch it? You love looking at it, it's a great movie, but you've seen it before."

They expect the change to bring in a record number of exhibitors and spectators this summer. The affair typically attracts tens of thousands of people to town.

"If my prediction is right, the two new Danville Hot Summer Nights car shows will be bigger and better than ever before," said Miller.

In some ways it's already bigger. The area of town devoted to the car show is being expanded about four extra blocks. The show runs along Hartz Avenue, which closes for the evening. This year it will go all the way up to San Ramon Valley High School and also spill into a portion of some of the side streets off Hartz.

"It's going to give us more space for more cars," said show organizer Tony Carnemolla.

The number of cars displayed next week will depend on how many can fit in the space, Carnemolla said, predicting around 350 cars. It's on a strictly first come, first served basis. Those interested in exhibiting register the day of the show at the SRVHS parking lot.

"You'll see cars coming into Danville probably about 2:30, 3



A steel structure was built around the Danville Oak in 2001 to support the tree, which is showing signs of decay in its old age.

Tale of the mighty oak

Town symbol stands tall—with a little help

by Meghan Neal

Nothing says "Danville" like the Old Oak Tree on Diablo Road.

Often-adorned with brightly colored signs wishing residents "Happy Birthday" or "Congratulations," the landmark tree holds a lot of significance in town.

"Ever since the '70s, people have kind of watched the tree, and in a lot of ways it became the symbol of Danville," said Beverly Lane, curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley and a member of the original Danville Town Council.

People estimate the old oak is around 350

years old.

Its location off I-680 makes it something of a gateway into town, said Assistant Town Manager Marcia Somers.

"If you're going to come from downtown, you're going to go by that tree," agreed Lane.

When Danville incorporated in 1982, the shape of the towering oak was used to create the town logo. Over time it became known for the signs people post on it, usually to give shout-outs to friends and family. Residents have hung yellow ribbons to honor the service of veterans during both Iraq wars.

► Continued on page 8

► Continued on page 8

Drought may be drawing mountain lions to urban areas

Police say sighting in Danville last week is unconfirmed

by Meghan Neal

Just before midnight last Wednesday, an 18-year-old Danville resident told police she had spotted a mountain lion about four or five feet away from where she was standing, on the Greenbelt trail off Zamora Place.

She described the animal as the size of a golden retriever dog, "with a long tail and cat-like agility," said Lt. Mark Williams of the Danville police.

Police searched the area but didn't see any tracks, dead game or other evidence of a cougar. Williams pointed out that mountain lions are usually larger than a golden retriever. Police are calling it an unconfirmed sighting.

"We do the best we can to confirm these things, but if we can't, we still want to notify the public," said Police Chief Chris Wenzel at the Mayor's Morning on July 11.

The California Department of Fish and Game said it's not unusual for wild cats to venture down to the urban fringe looking for water in times of drought.

"The essentials for them are food, water and shelter. So certainly, potentially, if a water source dries up for a mountain lion, certainly it's going to seek another

"Attacks on people are very rare in California. Since 1890, there have only been 14 verified attacks on humans in California."

—Kyle Orr,
California Department
of Fish and Game

er water source," said Fish and Game's Kyle Orr.

The species primarily preys on deer; if deer herds are moving to seek water then mountain lions could also be on the move, Orr continued, clarifying that he was speaking in general terms and is not an expert on the environment in Danville.

He said sightings, either confirmed or unconfirmed, are more frequent this time of year because people spend more time outdoors doing summer activities.

Also, once one sighting is publicized it's common to see a rise in reported sightings afterward,

he said. "When people read about it, it tends to heighten their sensitivity."

In late April a mountain lion was spotted at Osage Park, less than a mile away from Zamora Place. Since the animal was seen close to Greenbrook Elementary School and police found physical evidence to confirm its presence, security was heightened.

Last Wednesday, police went door to door informing residents in the immediate area of the sighting. Contra Costa County Animal Control was also notified.

"Mountain lion is a top-of-the-line predator and definitely people need to be cautious around them," said Orr. "That said, attacks on people are very rare in California. Since 1890, there have only been 14 verified attacks on humans in California."

"Seeing a mountain lion does not necessarily constitute a threat. Virtually, in most cases, that's just a mountain lion being a mountain lion."

People who see mountain lions should not approach the animal but also should not run. Face the animal, make noise and throw rocks or other objects. For more tips, go to www.dfg.ca.gov/keepmewild/lion.html. ■

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SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Oh, say, can you see Danville?

Grace Leer, 16, of Danville, belts out the Star-Spangled Banner as she tries out Saturday, July 12, to sing the national anthem at a San Francisco 49er football home game this season. Grace is a Radio Disney performance artist and was a junior finalist for American Idol, which provided two judges for the 49ers. Grace was one of the top 15 selected out of 300 participants but did not make the final eight.

Library hosts Peace Corps, Asian art and more

by Michelle Olson

The Danville Library is reaching out to the community with speakers and workshops. From the end of July through August it will hold four events. The library chooses its programs based on past popularity and current demand.

“We pick speakers and topics that will be helpful to the community,” said Seng Lovan, Danville branch librarian. “We try to target programs for all audiences.” The events will be held at the Danville Library in the Mt. Diablo Room as follows:

• 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 29—A panel

of Peace Corps workers will take the audience to Africa. Volunteers will share stories and experiences of their two-year stays.

• 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 5—A speaker from the Princeton Review will discuss college admissions. The seminar will give tips on how to get into some of the best colleges and help both students and parents understand the admissions process.

• 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 7—The San Francisco Asian Art Museum will look into China during the rule of the Ming Dynasty. It will include paintings, textiles and other art from the period that is featured in its current exhibit.

• 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 19—There will be a Princeton Review SAT Strategy Session. This workshop is designed to help high school students who plan to take the test get the best score possible.

“We hold these workshops especially for teens because they have so many challenges,” said Lovan. “We want to give them a little bit more direction.”

The library also has children’s programs at least once a month.

“We promote encouraging literacy. It makes the kids excited about reading,” Lovan said. “All of the presentations we do are extremely valuable.” ■

Governor signs Houston bill

Law mandates treatment program for repeat drunken driver offenders

State Assemblyman Guy Houston (R., San Ramon) announced Monday that Gov. Schwarzenegger signed his Assembly Bill 2802, which requires a person convicted of a “wet and reckless” offense, who has a prior drunken driving conviction in the past 10 years, to participate in a nine-month treatment program at their own expense. The treatment program includes education, group counseling and individual counseling.

Current law permits many people who are arrested of drunken driving to plead to a wet and reckless conviction, which carries far fewer

penalties than a DUI conviction, even though they are both the result of driving under the influence. Current law does not require those convicted of a wet and reckless to take any alcohol treatment classes.

“When someone shows a pattern of driving after drinking alcohol, it’s clear that they need treatment,”



Guy Houston

said Houston. “My bill closes a loophole and requires that any person convicted of driving while intoxicated more than once must get treatment—no matter what the judge calls the crime.”

Every year in California, 200,000 people are arrested for driving under the influence. Seven percent of these people will re-offend within the year and more than 30 percent of those convicted will re-offend within seven to 10 years. There are nearly 2,000 deaths, and more than 31,000 people injured in DUI-related collisions each year.

—Staff reports

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Classic cars are shined up and ready for Hot Summer Nights, being held only two nights this year, Thursdays July 24 and Aug. 21.

CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM

Car shows

► Continued from page 5

o'clock," said Carnemolla. The event starts at 4 p.m. and runs until 9 p.m.

The area was expanded to help make up for the two missing shows. In early April, the Town Council voted 3-2 to scale back the event to free up two nights for the Shop Local campaign, which was created to promote local retailers.

The vote followed complaints from many downtown shop owners who say it's impossible to do business during the car shows. They say the huge throngs that gather in the area seldom visit the shops and deter regular customers.

There is also a growing concern among residents that rowdy crowds can get out of control and are

Vintage autos

What: Hot Summer Nights car show
When: 4-9 p.m., Thursdays, July 24 and Aug. 21

Where: Hartz Avenue in Danville
Cost: Free to public; \$10 registration fee for exhibitors

To volunteer: Call David Miller at 437-3649

unsafe. Fifteen to 18 police officers typically staff the shows, significantly more than any other town event.

But others say the annual car show is one of the most fun and well-loved occasions in Danville, and brings worldwide recognition to the community.

Out-of-towners come to admire the classic cars and also enjoy the festive scene, which includes live music and booths selling food and drinks.

Three local bands will be stationed along Hartz Avenue this year, playing music that fits with the '50s and '60s theme, said Carnemolla.

"Next year I'm going to shoot for four shows again," he said. "Otherwise, I don't know if we're going to go to a new location, or if we'll go with two shows—if they'll allow two shows again. But we're definitely going to shoot for four."

Miller said he's not going to think about next summer until this one is over.

"Right now my only focus is to appreciate what we have and not to focus on what we don't have. I'm just focusing on making these a great show for people to have a great night," he said. "It's going to have a little new look to it, but it's still a car show for the public to come down and enjoy." ■

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Mighty oak

► Continued from page 5

"People have loved writing messages on the tree. Because of its location and its age, if you want to do a 'congrats,' people would notice it there," said Lane.

The town welcomes the postings, but with a few rules: Signs are supposed to be up for no more than 48 hours, and no soliciting or advertising is allowed. They must be hung on the steel frame, not the tree itself.

"It's a fairly informal process," said Somers.

Residents are expected to date the signs and be responsible for taking them down. If they're not taken down in time, the town will step in, and the maintenance department or code enforcement officers will remove the signs.

When inappropriate signs go up, residents often notice right away and take their complaints to the town. But usually the community is respectful about following the guidelines, Somers said.

The oak is also the site of Danville's annual tree lighting ceremony. Each year in November, hundreds of people gather near the tree to celebrate the popular tradition, which includes choral music and a visit from Father Christmas.

The ceremony began in 1976,



A sign posted on the steel frame around the oak tree outlines the Town of Danville's rules that residents must follow when hanging messages.

for the public, because the roots were rotting.

"They do quite extensive readings of the health of the tree and what they found is there had been some decay at the root crown," said Somers.

That's when the steel structure was built to surround the oak. The 16-foot-high frame, mounted on six columns, circles the tree's trunk and branches to support it in its old age. The structure was erected in early 2001 and cost \$70,000.

"We were concerned there might be some safety hazards potentially and so a number of options were looked at," Somers said.

The Town Council at the time also considered an alternative steel framework that would span all four lanes of Diablo Road to catch the tree if it fell. That solution was estimated to cost \$150,000.

One council member even suggested taking the tree down, but residents banded together to preserve it. They formed the Support the Oak foundation and raised money toward the cost of the steel frame.

Today the tree still stands and still holds special significance for the community.

"It's really a gateway, you know, the main entrance into town," Somers said. "I think it holds a lot of positive memories as well as symbolism for people here in Danville." ■

Diablo Views

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



Wine, ravioli and tennis

The four of us hadn't been together since Christmas 2006 but we didn't miss a beat. Our family reunions are rare because son Pepe lives in Berlin. Last week he was in town and daughter Zoe coordinated a visit here from San Diego to hunt for an apartment in San Jose, where she starts a teaching job next month.

We decided to take a short family trip to a winery outside Healdsburg owned by two of my husband Jim's cousins since we'd been meaning to visit them for years—plus we all like wine. Also it would be a convenient hop from there to one of our favorite restaurants in the whole world.

We pulled up at Armida Winery at 1 p.m. Tuesday, right in the middle of the heat wave. Steve and Bruce Cousins—Jim's cousins, still referred to by the family as Stevie and Brucie—came striding out in their wine country shorts to greet us. What a gorgeous setting. Armida has a view of the Russian River Valley, and a large deck with picnic tables shaded by a huge oak tree overlooks a pond and a vast lawn. A bocce ball court properly made of ground oyster shells sits at the far edge of the grass, harkening to their Italian heritage, shared with Jim through Grandma and Grandpa Ciardelli.

After a tour of the winery—including a taste of newly fermented zin, chilled and straight from the cask—we settled in the tasting room, admiring their awards and a fun assortment of clothes touting the skull and crossbones of their distinctive Poizin (zinfandel, get it?). While we tasted and learned about their chardonnays and zinfandels, the three cousins exchanged stories about Grandma and Grandpa—especially

Grandpa's winemaking endeavors at his home in Santa Clara.

After an hour or so, we contin-

What draws us to Occidental can be summed up in one word: ravioli. To elaborate a bit, it's the family style ravioli dinner at the Union Hotel.

ued on toward the Russian River, stopping at the large Korbel establishment to taste sparkling wine. Then we drove along the river through Guerneville and turned left onto the Bohemian Highway to wind our way toward the little town of Occidental. "California living!" Pepe exclaimed at each turn. "Bay Area back roads!"

What draws us to Occidental can be summed up in one word: ravioli. To elaborate a bit, it's the family style ravioli dinner at the Union Hotel. When we were first married we saw Alfred Hitchcock's masterpiece "The Birds" and planned a trip to Bodega Bay where it takes place. My parents suggested that while in the area we might want to go inland a bit to Occidental to have dinner at the Union Hotel. We've been returning ever since. This time we booked a room at the Occidental Lodge, a motel set in the hillside that always caught my eye and made me wish we were spending the night in the relaxing burg after our huge dinner.

Our overnight stay was all I'd hoped. We checked in, then took a walk to check out the town—restau-

rants and shops—and have a repast in the Union Hotel bar. Then back to the lodge for a swim and to freshen up for our leisurely meal—antipasto, garden salad, homemade minestrone soup, fresh ravioli, all with wonderful bread of course. How great it was to walk home in the moonlight in the mountain air instead of hitting the highway for home.

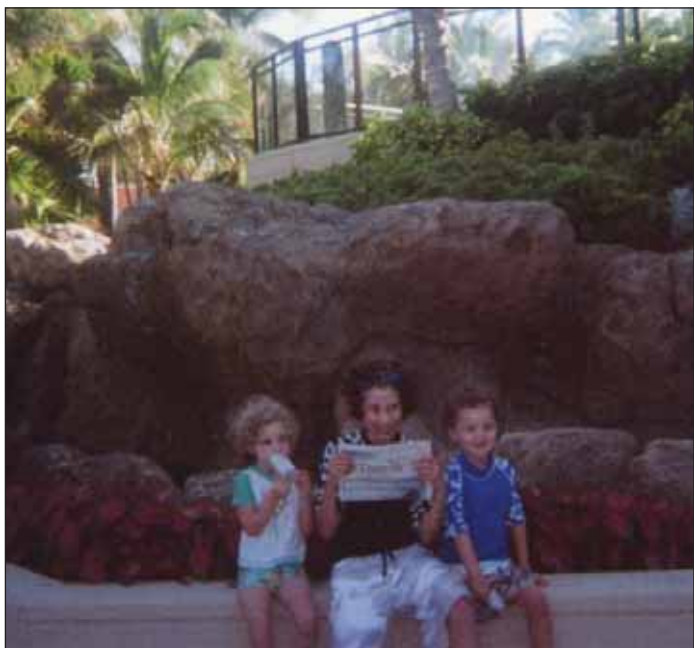
In the morning Pepe visited the bakery for fresh muffins, then the four of us headed to the tennis courts at the edge of town for the cutthroat play that is always part of our family gatherings. We divided into our usual teams—Jim and Zoe vs. Pepe and me. They beat us 6-2, 6-4 but the play was superb, especially in the second set, all of us inspired by our recent viewing of Wimbledon. I was enchanted by the perfection of the moment—playing doubles with my family in this idyllic setting, public tennis courts seemingly in the middle of nowhere—nice courts, with lights, no fees, no reservations, near a little YMCA building.

We drove home through Bodega Bay, which unfortunately replaced its funky old diner with a huge restaurant and gift shop to accommodate "The Birds" fans. Gone was the set where Tippi Hedren hid in horror as the gas station went up in flames. But there were fake blackbirds guarding the shop—and there was a framed movie poster signed by Tippi for \$300. Luckily, the town still has its old saltwater taffy shops.

Our mini-vacation was less than a day and a half but how fun and relaxing it was. Family, wine, ravioli and tennis. Life doesn't get much better than that.

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

TAKE US ALONG



Just part of the family

Danville residents Bella, Sammy and B.J. Levine include the Danville Weekly at their family reunion in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

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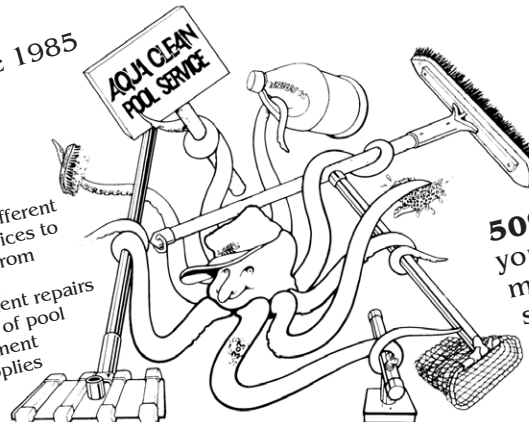
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EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Danville leaders

It was good news that Danville Mayor Candace Andersen and councilmen Newell Arnerich and Mike Doyle have decided to run again for Town Council in November. Their terms expire this year.

Doyle has been on the Town Council the longest, serving since 1991. Arnerich was first elected in 1995. Andersen was appointed in 2003 when Millie Greenberg left to become County Supervisor for District 3, and then she was elected the following year.

The three made the announcement together last week because they said they share a vision for the town, including fiscal responsibility, protection of open space and improving transportation. They are proud, as are all the Danville Town Council members, of being able to work with a tight budget and to keep Danville's small-town charm while the population continues to grow.

Also all three see the importance of monitoring growth in Tassajara Valley, having learned lessons from the building of Alamo Creek at the edge of Danville on Camino Tassajara. The developer had hoped the neighborhood would be annexed by Danville until it realized the town's strict rules about density and park space. Negotiations after a lawsuit saw the developer paying \$1 million for roads and giving additional land at Diablo Vista Middle School although Danville would have preferred to see Alamo Creek developed at a lower density.

The filing period for Town Council opened Monday and closes Aug. 8. The three incumbents saw fit to announce their candidacy early, they said, because they feared that in the excitement of the national race for president, the local contests might get lost in the shuffle. We don't think this will happen. Danville residents are proud of their community and know it didn't just happen. Future decisions will impact Danville's down-town greatly, for instance the remodeling/rebuilding of the Veterans Memorial Building and the property adjoining the historic Danville Hotel.

The town has been and continues to be well planned and maintained thanks to the dedicated efforts of people like Andersen, Arnerich and Doyle.

YOUR TURN

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

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

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

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Turn off cell phones

Dear Editor:

That was a nice article on the hands-free cell phone law (June 27). I've been following them all and yours was one of the most detailed.

I'm a Danville resident and CEO of Headsets.com, the largest online retailer of headsets in the world, and we're giving away free headsets for people that get ticketed under the new law. The one we're giving away is a top of the line Plantronics Discovery 925 (the one I use myself), which retails at \$149.95. We've set aside 730 of them.

We're hoping to help draw attention to the law, and also hope that people that get ticketed once and can't afford another one will get the little bit of help. But the offer is open to anyone that gets ticketed, there's no "means" test!

Frankly, as strange as it may seem from someone in the headset business, the best thing to do is not to talk on the phone and to focus on your driving. If we sold no headsets and people left their cell phones switched off, I'd be even happier. But being realistic, that isn't the way it is.

Mike Faith, Danville

Don't forget the Polka Dot Attic

Dear Editor:

I read with interest Meghan Neal's article regarding the proposed 3-story building for the Danville Hotel site in the June 27 issue. However I was disappointed that the article named Corks Wine Store in the McCauley House and Sideboard Cafe in the Danville Hotel itself but not the Polka Dot Attic. My store is between these two businesses and also in the historic Danville Hotel. It would have been nice to have the mention since many people assume I went out of business since my old storefront is now vacant.

You may think this is not that big of a deal, but any free mention in your paper can only help in this time of recession. As you may know, Now We're Cooking has closed its doors, and Green Body and Eclectic Home Antiques are no more. We little businesses need all the help we can get.

Please know that the Polka Dot Attic is still alive and currently housed in the historic Danville Hotel next to the Sideboard restaurant and Corks Wine Store.

Susan Elya, The Polka Dot Attic, Danville

Cyclists don't own streets

Dear Editor:

Nothing irritates me more than cyclists who think they own the streets. I trust that Ric Oberlink, who wrote a Letter to the Editor printed July 4, has been informed by Police Chief Chris Wenzel that there is no law that allows cyclists to ride two abreast. We are fortunate that Danville has bicycle lanes and most motorists are very aware of cyclists that ride single file, according to the law.

Nor is there a law that allows a group of cyclists to take the lane. Cyclists should put their safety first and obey simple safety rules of the road. Many do not stop at stop signs or red lights, but continue through if no cars are in sight.

We try to teach our children the rules of the road for cyclist and motorist. But when they see adult cyclists in the Town of Danville breaking the rules and crossing in front of traffic to get coffee at Peet's or Starbucks, what kind of poor example are they setting?

When you are pedaling fast trying to win an unscheduled race you are jeopardizing everyone around you. My fear is you will fall. Slow down when riding through town. Or ride up and down Mount Diablo for your exercise.

Betty Joyce, Danville

Sentinels say thanks

Thank you so much for the great article on Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation on July 4. I have received 50 or so calls and many more e-mails regarding your great article on the Sentinels and the value that the Danville Weekly provides our community. You captured the story of Sentinels perfectly.

This is truly a story of the collaborative effort of so many fine Valley citizens who have said in so many words, "We have room at our table to assist those who have sacrificed so much in the defense of our nation."

No matter what one feels about how we got here, who is to blame, when we'll leave, these young men and women are a national treasure we must continue to respect and support. All the resources are here at home in Danville.

Danville and the Valley can take great pride in saying this program started here. You have inspired communities across the nation to follow your lead.

Mike Conklin, President Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation

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

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell-Allen

EDITORIAL

Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Staff Reporter

Meghan Neal

Intern

Michelle Olson

Contributors

Kathy Cordova

Geoff Gillette

B. Lynn Goodwin

Beverly Lane

Kristen Lang

Jacqui Love Marshall

Chris Scott

Maria Shen

Franklin Utchen

ART & PRODUCTION

Art Director/

Operations Manager

Rick Nobles

Designers

Trina Cannon

Lili Cao

Kristin Herman

Manuel Valenzuela

ADVERTISING

Advertising Manager

Mary Hantos

Advertising

Account Executives

Andrea Heggelund

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Steve Chapman

Inside Sales

Art Gordillo

BUSINESS

Office Manager

Amory Gutierrez

Ad Services

Sandy Lee

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein

Circulation Manager

Bob Lampkin

How to reach the Weekly

315 Diablo Road, Suite 100

Danville, CA 94526

Phone: (925) 837-8300

Fax: (925) 837-2278

Editorial e-mail:

Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com

Calendar: DanvilleWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

mhantos@DanvilleWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

Ads@DanvilleWeekly.com

Circulation e-mail:

circulation@DanvilleWeekly.com

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

POLICE BULLETIN

Man arrested for locking dog in car during heat wave

A Danville man was cited for animal cruelty after leaving his dog for 20 minutes in a parked car with the windows up, in near 100-degree heat on Tuesday last week.

The man parked the car at the Safeway on Camino Tassajara at 7 p.m., leaving the 12-year-old Maltese, named Fluffy, inside, police said. The air conditioner was not on.

A Danville woman in the parking lot saw the car and heard the dog barking. She called 911 and waited. About 10 to 15 minutes later the owner came out, police said. The dog was not harmed.

The high temperature that day was 107 degrees. By 7 p.m. it was most likely in the mid-

90s to 100 degrees, estimated Danville Police Sgt. Kevin Daley.

The temperature inside a car can easily get around 20 degrees warmer than it is outside.

"So if you leave a dog in a car when it's 90 degrees, it's gonna be darn hot in there," Daley said, noting that the Safeway parking lot doesn't get a lot of shade.

In hot summer weather pets can run the risk of suffering from heatstroke. Even if a car is parked in the shade with the windows rolled down, temperatures can get dangerously high inside the vehicle. (See Pet Vet, page 20.)

The man was arrested on charges of animal cruelty and cited to appear in court. Fluffy was released back to its owner with permission from Animal Control.

—Meghan Neal

OBITUARIES

Alexander Tierney

Alexander Tierney, a resident of Danville, died suddenly June 19 at the age of 23.

He was born April 26, 1985, and always lived life to its fullest. After graduation from San Ramon Valley High in 2003, he enlisted in the Marines, where he served from 2003 to 2007. He fought bravely in Iraq and after completing his service, started a new career as project engineer in construction management.

He was an inspiration to all who knew him, a brave young man who showed strength and confidence. This U.S. Marine never shied from showing his

love with a hug and kiss.

He was the son of Colin and Katrina Tierney; brother to Corinne; stepson of Gloria; stepbrother to Sarah and Megan; and cherished by his Nana, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

A visitation was held June 27 at Wilson & Kratzer in Danville followed by a memorial service and celebration of his life June 28 at the Rolling Hills Church in Danville. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Blue Star Moms, Chapter 101, P.O. Box 2537, San Ramon, 94583, in memory of Alex Tierney.

POLICE LOG

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

Sunday, July 6

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Danville Blvd. at 1:35 a.m.
- Vandalism on Sycamore Cir. at 9:37 a.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Camino Ramon at 11:45 a.m.
- Animal cruelty on the 400 block Hartz Ave. at 1:59 p.m. and 2:32 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Brookside Dr. at 7:02 p.m.

Monday, July 7

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 1:20 a.m.
- Investigation, arrest, on Sycamore Valley Rd. and the Park N Ride at 4:03 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Lawrence Rd. at 10:56 a.m.
- Petty theft on St. Francis Dr. at 3:10 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Tassajara and Ramona Rd. at 4:12 p.m.
- Trespassing on Danville Blvd. at 5:35 p.m.
- Shooting into occupied dwelling on Larkwood Cir. at 5:53 p.m.
- Fireworks disturbance on Esther Lane and Linda Mesa Ave. at 9:19 p.m.

Tuesday, July 8

- Miscellaneous burglary on Sycamore Cir. at 6:10 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Arroyo Dr. and Diablo Rd. at 8:10 a.m.
- Identity theft on Sheri Lane at 9:26 a.m.
- Grand theft on El Alamo at 3:05 p.m.
- Animal cruelty on 3400 block of Camino Tassajara at 6:53 p.m.
- Fireworks disturbance on St. Norbert Dr. at 9:40 p.m.
- Throwing objects at vehicles on El Capitan Dr. and St. Christopher Dr. at 10:24 p.m.

Wednesday, July 9

- Stolen vehicle, arrest, on Fostoria Way and Iron Horse Trail at 12:09 a.m.
- Vandalism on Laurel Dr. at 6:26 a.m.
- Grand theft on Mustang Dr. at 9:36 a.m.

- Accident, property damage, on El Cerro Blvd. and El Pintado Rd. at 9:38 a.m.
- Battery on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 5:21 p.m.
- Drugs violation on Parkhaven Dr. and Viewpoint Dr. at 9:12 p.m.
- Vandalism on Mountain Ridge Dr. at 10:04 p.m.

Thursday, July 10

- Grand theft on Linda Mesa Ave. at 6:48 a.m.
- Grand theft, bicycle, on Serene Ct. at 9:22 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Laurel Dr. at 1:19 p.m.
- Commercial burglary on the 200 block of Hartz Ave. at 9:18 p.m.
- Battery on Diablo Rd. at 9:21 p.m.
- Trespassing on Gold Creek Ct. and Parkhaven Dr. at 10:12 p.m.
- Vehicle stop, arrest, on Church St. and Hartz Ave. at 11:59 p.m.

Friday, July 11

- Battery, arrest, on Sycamore Valley Rd. W. at 12:49 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Fremerey Ct. at 7:50 a.m.
- Petty theft on El Capitan Dr. at 8:43 a.m.
- Forgery of fraudulent documents on 3400 block of Camino Tassajara at 1:51 p.m.
- Warrant, arrest, on Camino Ramon and Fostoria Way at 5:33 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Boone Ct. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 6:12 p.m.
- Suspicious subject stop, arrest, on Boone Ct. at 7:17 p.m.
- Investigation, arrest, on northbound I-680 on ramp and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 8:40 p.m.
- Fraud on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 9:12 p.m.

Saturday, July 12

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Contada Cir. at 1:08 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Ridgeland Cir. at 11:18 a.m.
- Unwanted guest disturbance, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 12:03 p.m.
- Trespassing on Peters Ranch Rd. at 4:19 p.m.
- Warrant on Lawrence Rd. at 6:50 p.m.



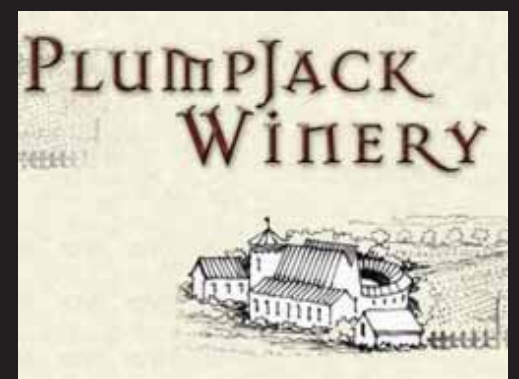
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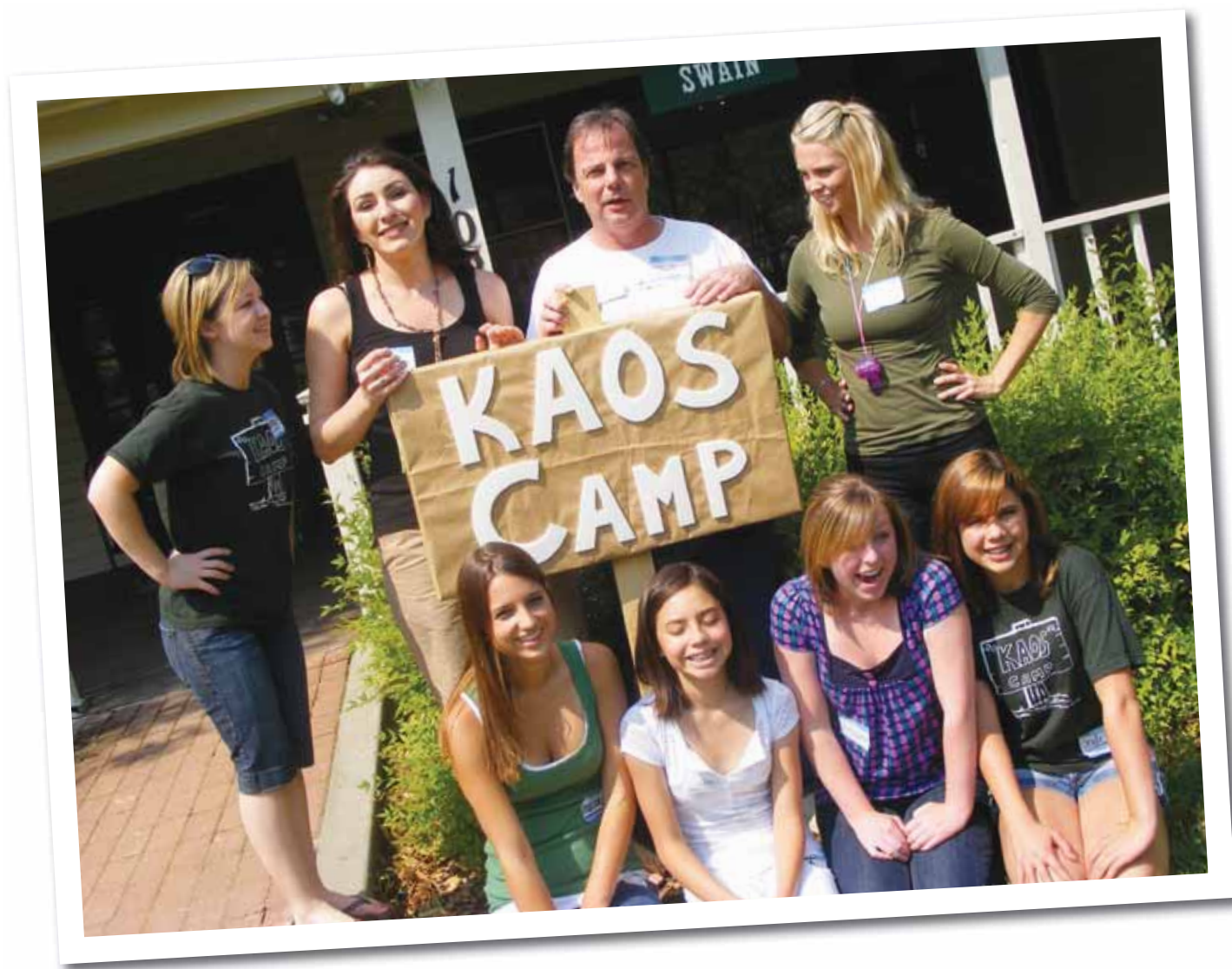
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Putting kids onstage

Campers learn to love the spotlight—in the theater or in real life

story and photos by Meghan Neal

At Danville's KAOS camp, which stands for Kids Acting on Stage, campers learn all the nuts and bolts of putting on a play. But they also learn confidence, social skills and self awareness. These talents go beyond drama, says camp director Jeff Seaberg.

"You don't have to be theater-savvy to gain from it or to learn from it," he says. "If they choose theater, great. But if not, and they find themselves, that's the job I'm doing."

Beyond the theater

Over a two-week session, the group of 50 kids ages 7 to 14 audition, memorize lines, rehearse, learn a choreographed dance, act in a short movie, and eventually perform a play at Danville's Village Theatre.

They also make new friends, reconnect with old ones, and have a blast.

While some of the KAOS campers hope to become professional actors, for the most part this drama camp isn't about discovering the next big star.

"It doesn't necessarily mean that I want them to go on to be a theater person. I want them to go on to be an effective human being," Seaberg says. "I tell the kids, you know, these are skills that work in other places, too."

Erin Morrissey, 12, a student at Charlotte Wood Middle School, recalls there was a time when she wasn't doing too well in speech competitions at school.

"After I did my first session here I was picked to go to the final round," she says. "You really learn confidence—and just speaking to people in front of a crowd."

"I'll tell you one thing, it makes you get better grades in school," agrees Maddi Silverman, 12, who also attends Charlotte Wood. "It helps you solve problems and get along with other people."

By observing the preteens and teens over the two weeks of camp, Seaberg says he can see changes in the way they carry themselves. The shy kids become more relaxed and open up.

"I think that you discover your inner self at this camp," says 12-year-old Bryce Manix.

Acting requires you have to understand yourself and be willing to put yourself "out there," even when it feels vulnerable. It can be scary, but like a lot of scary things, that's part of what makes it fun.

The show must go on

It's no small feat to build a play from scratch but the kids are always up to the challenge, says Seaberg. The first week of camp is spent at Hap Magee Ranch Park auditioning, rehearsing and filming the movie. During the second week the troupe moves into the Village Theatre where costumes, props, sets, lighting and music are added.

"It's intense," says Seaberg. Luckily, there are plenty of people to lend a hand. A group of directors and full-time counselors, plus a few counselors-in-training, help him manage the gregarious bunch of kids.

He also has plenty of experience. He earned his degree in theater with a minor in education and went on to teach drama, speech and

English at a public high school. He's also been in theater for 15 years.

"I'm still keeping my feet wet as a performer. I walk and I talk the talk." He's been in several plays, including "Wigged Out," which recently ended its 15th season.

This summer, KAOS campers will perform "Stumpy Magee and the Legend of the L" and "The Legend of the L" by Seaberg. He makes sure to write enough characters for everyone to have a role. The older and more experienced actors will play more serious roles while the younger kids will play less serious roles.

Part of what makes the camp education so valuable is the personal attention that comes with it, says Seaberg. "It's about shining as an individual."

Theater vs. sports

Another thing that makes the camp special is the teamwork aspect. It creates for the kids, says the director.

"The thing that I find that I like about theater is that it's a competition. There's a winner and a loser. In theater it's not about winning or losing. It's about the experience," he explains.

In a show, the teamwork aspect is still important. It's about working toward the common goal of putting on a performance. It's about given all the opportunity to succeed without fear.

"It's a really positive environment. You



Left: KAOS counselors and campers pose in front of the Swain House at Hap Magee Ranch Park on the first day of camp: (l-r) Amanda Frumentti, Stephanie Lauck, Jeff Seaberg, Robin Lindner, Mallory Martinez, Amanda DeJesus, Hannah Sylwanowicz and Angie Motter. Above: Seaberg carries Celia Fong through the air while being filmed by videographer Mark Schwartz as part of Kids Acting on Stage camp.

been running drama camps
former,” he adds. “I walk the
al local shows and produced
year run in Danville.

perform “Club Groovy” and
most Gold,” both written by
characters so every kid has a
are usually cast in the leads,
parts like dogs or cats.
al and fun is the hands-on
a role in the show, and the
Seaberg. “It allows them to

ts
al is the supportive environ-
r.
reater over sports ... in sports
ser, and that can be disheart-
osing, it’s about doing well,”

there; everyone is working
performance. But the kids are
t the fear of losing, he says.
feel like you belong here.

Everybody has a place,” says Morrissey. “If someone sits alone at lunch,
in a minute like five people will be over there to sit with them.”

The more outgoing kids will help make the shier kids feel welcome.
The counselors create team games, inclusive exercises and confidence-
building activities.

It’s that support system that makes kids able to take risks while
performing in front of their peers and an audience, and overcome the
inevitable stage fright.

“I always think, before the show, that I’m gonna be fine. But then I
go onstage and it feels like my heart’s in my throat,” says Manix. “But I
just shove it back down.”

“When I first went onstage and did it I was so proud of myself,” says
10-year-old Jordan Klein, recalling one of her favorite roles. “Now I just
love to go up there and show off.”

Seaberg said there’s something about performing onstage that’s such
a rush kids become hooked and come back to camp year after year.

“I caught the theater bug when I was 15 years old,” he recalls.

“When you put performers on one end and an audience on the other end,
there’s a chemical connection,” he adds. “There’s electricity—this pal-
pable feeling of something that wasn’t there when it was an empty space.
And that is the rush that people who perform theater are addicted to.”

That’s why people love live shows, he says. “That’s why no matter
how cool movies get, theater will never die.”

KAOS camp is a win-win situation, he says.

“The audience wins when the kids do well, and when the kids do well,
they feel good about themselves. And that’s what we try to do.” ■

Acting camp signups

To sign up for KAOS camp’s remaining summer
session or fall afterschool classes, contact Jeff
Seaberg at 362-4053 or e-mail [jeffswiggedout@
sbcglobal.com](mailto:jeffswiggedout@sbcglobal.com)

Camp runs 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at Hap
Magee Ranch Park and the Village Theatre. Cost is
\$475 for a two-week session.



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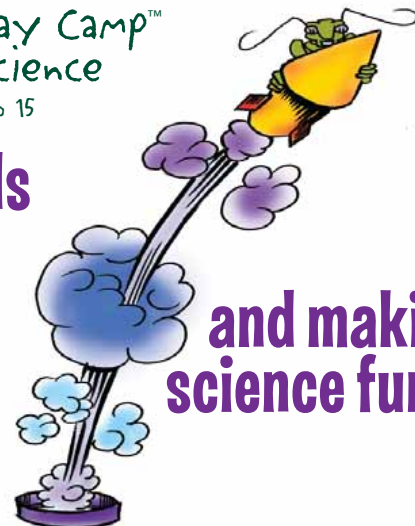
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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Art

Artist's Day at Forest Home Farms
Enjoy a day of painting, photography, drawing or other media among the historic structures, tall redwoods and sheep pastures from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, July 26, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Bring your art supplies, a chair and lunch. Cost is \$5 for residents; \$6 for non-residents. Call 973-3282.

Auditions

'Honour' by Joanna Murray-Smith
Role Players Ensemble Theatre Black Box is hosting auditions for "Honour" from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, July 19, at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Roles that are available are two females (one in her early 20s; the other between 27-29 years old). Cold reading from script. Call (510) 499-4000.

Author Visit

Rakestraw Books Rakestraw Books will host numerous authors during the month of July. Ethan Canin author of "America America" will appear at 7 p.m., Monday, July 21; and Georgeanna Brennan author of "A Pig in Provence" at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 31 (cost is \$20, including dinner), at the bookstore, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. Reservations are recommended. Call 837-7337.

Camps

San Ramon Valley Volleyball Camps
San Ramon Valley High School will host girls volleyball camps for youth and high school ages. Youth camps are from July 21-24 and July 28-31; Upper level camps are from Aug. 4-7 and Aug. 11-14. All camps 6-8:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday. Cost is \$130. E-mail srvball@sbcglobal.net.

SRV Youth Football Camp YMCA will host a Youth Football Camp for ages 7-13 from 5:45-8 p.m., July 21-25, at San Ramon Valley High School Football Stadium, 140 Love Lane, Danville. Cost is \$150. Call 640-8941 or e-mail srvfbcamp@aol.com.

Clubs

'Witness to a Crime' Tri Valley Democratic Club will host Dr. Richard Hayes Phillips, author of "Witness to a Crime," from 7-9 p.m., Monday, July 21, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. There will be a Q&A session. This event is free and refreshments will be served. Call 451-4303.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network
Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network will host Dr. Ward Eccles for a discussion on holistic dentistry from 7-9 p.m., Monday, July 21, at In My Nature, 4725 First St., Pleasanton. There is no charge for first time visitors or for chapter members. Call 922-7615 or visit www.holisticmoms.org.

Events

'Sing for Your Supper' TV's "Growing Pains" star, Alan Thicke, will be featured at the "Sing for Your Supper" benefit concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, July 19, at Leshar Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$25, \$23 for seniors and youths. Proceeds benefit America's Second Harvest Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. Call 943-7469 or visit www.lesherartscenter.org.

'Yappy Hour' at Wags and Whiskers Pet owners and lovers alike are invited to attend "Yappy Hour"

WEEKEND PREVIEW



FILE PHOTO

Rev up those engines

Come and enjoy the Hot Summer Nights Car Show from 4-9 p.m., this Thursday, July 24, on Hartz Avenue in downtown Danville. The next Hot Summer Nights Car Show will be on Thursday, Aug. 21. For more information, call Tony at 820-5750.

from 6-8 p.m., Friday, July 25, at Wags and Whiskers, 1528 Locust St., Walnut Creek. There will be "human treats" and wine from Quercus Winery. Bring your dogs. This event is free. Call 925-2275.

Family Campout Town of Danville will host a Family Campout from Saturday-Sunday, July 26-27, at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. Enjoy swimming, youth crafts, family games and a movie under the stars. Check-in begins at 1 p.m., Saturday and check-out is at noon, Sunday. Call 314-3400.

Living Treasures Program Museum of the San Ramon Valley will host a Living Treasures program featuring former Danville Mayor Beverly Lane from 6:30-9 p.m., Friday, July 18, at the Danville Community Center, Valley Oak

Room, 420 Front St. Reservations are required; call 837-3750.

Moonlight Movies on the Town Green Town of Danville will host a Moonlight Movie from 8:15-10 p.m., Friday, July 25 ("The Three Amigos"), on The Town Green, 400 Front St., Danville. The event is free; bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Call 314-3400.

Film

'Occupation 101' Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center will host a viewing of "Occupation 101" from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, July 23, at Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. This event is free, but donations are accepted. Call 933-7850 or visit www.mtdpc.org.

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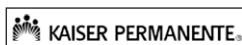
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Fundraisers

Danville Library Book Sale Friends of the Danville Library will host a book sale from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, July 18; 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, July 19; and from noon-4 p.m., Sunday, July 20 (\$5 a bag sale), at the Danville Library, Mt. Diablo Room, 400 Front St. Call 837-6737.

Relay for Life American Cancer Society will host Relay for Life on Saturday-Sunday, July 19-20, at Monte Vista High School, 3131 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. Participants will walk or run relay-style around the track and take part in fun activities on the track. A luminaria ceremony will start at sundown to honor cancer survivors and those lost to the disease; luminaries can be purchased for \$5. Call (800) 227-2345 or visit www.events.cancer.org/rfldanville.ca.

Health

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

Kids and Teens

'The Rubber Hits the Road' Blackhawk Museum will host "The Rubber Hits the Road: History of Rubber and Tires" from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, July 20, at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Design a hub cap, play a ring toss game, make a toy ball

or a band of rubber and have fun. This event is free with paid museum admission. Call 736-2777.

Children's Story Book Hour Rakestraw Books will host a Children's Story Book Hour series for children 4-7 years old from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, July 23-Aug. 20, at Rakestraw Books, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. Cost is \$5 per class, plus the cost of the books; if you order all five books in a session, the classes are free. Call 837-7337.

Storytime with the Farmer Calling all little farmers! It's time to gather 'round and hear some stories about farm animals from 10-11 a.m., Tuesday, July 22, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. There will also be a craft activity and a snack. This event is for children ages 3-5 who must be accompanied by an adult, but only children need to register. Cost is \$3 for residents; \$4 for non-residents. Call 973-3282.

Lectures/Workshops

Creative Expressions This workshop is for cancer patients, their family and friends and gives them an opportunity to express yourself including use of collage, foil tooling and watercolor on Saturday, July 19, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Patterns, ideas and suggestions are available; bring black and white copies of a few photos to use if you choose. Call 933-0107.

Discover Africa Danville Library will host Peace Corps volunteers who will share stories of life in Africa at 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, at the Danville Library, Mt. Diablo Room, 400 Front St. The volunteers have spent two years in Africa and will share their stories in an African community. Call 837-4889.

Internet Essentials Danville Library will host a workshop on Internet essentials at 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 22, at the Danville Library, 400 Front

St. Learn about the different search engines and how to perform searches on the library catalog and research databases. This event is free, but registration is required; call 837-4889.

Live Music

Alamo Summer Concert Series Alamo Parks and Recreation presents its annual Summer Concert Series, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Fridays, July 25 ("Boothill") and Aug. 8 ("Pan Extasy"). Call 876-0147.

Blackhawk Summer Concert Series Blackhawk Plaza will host its annual Summer Concert Series at 7 p.m., every Friday, until Aug. 15, at Blackhawk Plaza, 3454 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Music will include R&B, Motown and more from Pride & Joy, The Best Intentions, The Fundamentals, East Bay Mudd, Super Diamond and Tainted Love. These concerts are free. Call (415) 380-8390.

Music in the Park Town of Danville will host Music in the Park from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays, July 19, Aug. 2 and 16, in Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. These concerts are free. Call 314-3400.

San Ramon Summer Concert Series Bring the family to San Ramon's Summer Concert Series from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Sundays, until Aug. 10, at Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. Bring a picnic, blanket and lawn chairs. These concerts are free. Visit www.sanramon.ca.gov.

Lost/Found Pets

Female Australian Shepherd Found A black and white female Australian Shepherd, about 5 years old, was found on July 8 on St. Beatrice Court in Danville in the Greenbrook addition. She was found

with a collar, but no tags. For information, call J.F. Pope at 837-4980.

Political Notes

Tri-Valley United Democratic Campaign Annual BBQ Join the Tri-Valley United Democratic Club for its 14th annual BBQ from noon-3 p.m., Sunday, July 20, at Pleasanton Sports Park, 5800 Parkside Dr. Cost is \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door; \$5 off for seniors and students. Visit www.trivalleydemocrats.com for ticket information.

Seniors

Danville Senior Citizens Club The club meets from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., every Monday at the Danville Veterans' Memorial Hall, 400 Hartz Ave., for line dancing exercise, bingo, mah jong and more. New members are welcome. Membership is \$12 a year. Call Patricia Graber at 443-0268.

Senior Volunteer Awards Culture to Culture Foundation presents its first Senior Volunteer Awards honoring seniors that provide voluntary service to the community. The competition is open to all seniors (55 and older). Applicants must describe their volunteer activities in 500 words or less and supply at least three references with their phone numbers; deadline is July 31. Four winners will receive a \$250 cash prize and a plaque. Call 938-9988.

Seniors Program Danville Veterans' Memorial Hall Lounge hosts a senior drop-in program from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, at Veterans' Memorial Hall, 400 Front St., Danville. Activities include playing cards and board games, visiting with friends and meeting new people. Call 314-3400.

Spiritual

Scripture Day San Damiano will host Scripture Day with guest speaker Dr. Bill Creasy, Ph.D., who will share his vast knowledge of the New Testament, from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, July 26, at San Damiano, 710 Highland Dr., Danville. Cost is \$70, including lunch. Call 837-9141, ext. 315.

Silent Contemplative Retreat Cyprian Consiglio will host a weekend retreat on a "Call to Contemplation" which will look at the techniques from the East, (Hinduism, Buddhism) and Western Christianity from Aug. 1-3, at San Damiano, 710 Highland Dr., Danville. Cost is \$210 for a private room; \$175 for a shared room. Call 837-9141, ext. 315.

Support Groups

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.

Twin Valley Mothers of Twins Club This club provides support, information and friendship for mothers of any number of multiples meeting every second Tuesday of every month, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. R/T discussion begins at 6:30 p.m.; roundtable discussion is open to all current and prospective members from 7:30-9 p.m., hosted by a twin mom member. Dads and babies welcome! Call 484-5886 or visit www.tvmotc.com.

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Parent photographers

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MICHAEL DEJESUS

An all-star swing

Luke Garratt, 9, of the Tassajara Valley Little League National League 9-year-old All Stars, swings at the ball while facing the San Ramon American All-Star Team during the Joey Moore Field of Dreams Memorial Baseball Tournament for 9-year-old all-stars on June 29 held at Osage Park. TVLL won the game, 13-2.

This was the first time the Danville Little League hosted the tournament, which Danville won. The Moore family was on hand to throw out the ceremonial first pitch and stayed to cheer the boys to victory.



Eagles soar through championship

The Danville Eagles, MVP Flight League Basketball Champions, are fifth-graders handpicked from five public and private schools by Coach Bill Ribera: (l-r) coaches Michael Rom, Bill Ribera, Wes Clark; (back) Cyrus Clark, Nick Ribera, Cameron Bothwell, Matt Schumann, Drew Kunde, Ben Harmon; (front) Mitchell Rom, David Klopps and Jung Kim.



Cubs are major champs

San Ramon Valley Little League's 50th Anniversary 2008 Majors Champions are the Chicago Cubs with (back, l-r) Erik Johnson, Matt McGrath, Alex Liu, Thomas Desmond, Justin Hill, John Kaiser, Coach Vin Rover; (front) Stephen Waterson, Coach Tim Ramos, Chase Redd, Marcus Rover, Manager Bill Liu, Jack Ramos and Scott Larson. Not pictured are Brian Joyce, Coach Tim Joyce and Coach Matt Waterson



Velocity excels in So Cal

Mustang Velocity, a girls U10 Division 1 Silver A Soccer Team, traveled to Southern California over the July Fourth weekend to play in a tournament, SC Bayern Cup, where they took second place. The championship game was against a Southern California team called the Speed Demons, and the final score was 2-1. Velocity only allowed six goals the entire two-day tournament.

Velocity members are (back, l-r) Allyson Vella, Jennifer Cima, Melissa Hookey, Riley Moore, Rachel Murphy, Brianna Bybee, Kendall Bean, Coach Jaime Maldonado; (front) Kenzie Stubbs, Nicole Rivas, Mikayla Rosaia and Shanna Keil.



Giant win for the Giants

In Tassajara Valley Little League play, the Braves defeated the Giants last month, 9-2, to force a second championship game, in which the Giants scored two runs in the top half of the first, and the Braves responded with two runs of their own in the bottom of the first.

The Giants scored single runs in the top of the second and top of the third innings to take a 4-2 lead. The Braves rallied with three runs in the bottom of the third to take a 5-4 lead, highlighted by Nathan Landman's two run homerun. The Giants scored three runs in the top of the fifth inning to take a 7-5 lead, then the Braves scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth to tie the game at 7-7. The Giants then scored two runs in the top of the sixth, highlighted by Marc Heller's go-ahead RBI infield single.

The Braves had runners on base in the bottom of the sixth, but the Giants pitcher "Steven" pitched out of it to earn the save and the Giants prevailed 9-7 in an outstanding game.

Giants are (front row, l-r) Blake Dougherty, Adam Wooten, Sean McGowan, Brandon Bol, Jack Milne, Marc Heller; (middle row) Boston Hubbard, Mitchell Yep, Brendan Cindric, Steven Anderson, Bailey Hubbard, Austin McFarlane; (back row) Brian Cindric, Steve Milne and Dirk Dougherty.

The Wild Girls

Young writers come of age
in 1970s Danville

by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

When Joan and Sarah, 12-year-olds from Danville, have to go onstage to read their prize-winning fantasy about two girls who live in a forest, they feel unhappy and out of place all dressed up. When someone leaves her lipstick on a chair, they know the solution: Cover their faces with fierce-looking stripes to declare they are the wild girls, not conventional young misses. War paint in place, they step onto the stage and begin to recite: "We are the wild girls who live in the woods."

"The Wild Girls" is a young adult novel set in 1972 by author Pat Murphy, who lived in Danville at that time. The book explores Joan's move to Danville at the age of 12 and her friendship with Sarah, who spends her free time in a woodsy lair going by the name Fox as she communes with nature, which she prefers to her peers. Joan adopts the name Newt. They become the wild girls in their secret life and imagine even more fanciful wild girls for the writing contest.



Author Pat Murphy

"What was fun for me was writing a book for the kid I used to be," said Murphy. "I was conscious that I was writing a book that would have meant a lot to me at 12, 13. There's something very powerful about that."

Both Joan and Sarah have challenging relationships with their families: Sarah's mother left her and her motorcyclist/writer father when she was a toddler; Joan's overbearing father cruelly dominates his wife and teenage son.

Joan and Sarah's tribal face paint as well as their short story attract the attention of the flamboyant Verla Volante who teaches a summer writing course at UC Berkeley for gifted adolescents. When both girls join, they learn from Verla how to question everything, and their interviews with each other's parents start them on the path to finding their own answers about life.

"I hope kids who read it will experiment and find how writing can help them explore their relationships," Murphy said.

She moved to Danville from Connecticut with her parents and three brothers in the late 1960s when she was in the seventh grade. Her home was on Wildwood Court off Sycamore Valley Road, near the railroad tracks and surrounded by walnut orchards.

"I thought it was a very friendly place to move," she said. "I remember Charlotte Wood school (on Front Street at the time) and walking there."

She graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 1972 and went to UC Santa Cruz where she majored in biology.

"I went to college knowing I wanted to write but figuring I needed something to write about," she said.

She inherited her love of science from her father, a chemist, and her love of the outdoors, which is reflected in "The Wild Girls," from her mother, who often took her children hiking.

Murphy has made her living writing non-fiction. She started out at the Crucible in Oakland, a nonprofit educational facility that trains people in fine arts and industrial arts. Then she worked at the San Francisco Exploratorium for 20 years, doing any writing that was needed, from exhibit explanations to editing the quarterly newsletter.

"In the last 10 years I ran the book publishing company for the museum, science books for kids," she said.

► Continued on page 20



ILLUSTRATION BY LILI CAO

Epicure

BY JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL



Honey, help us!

Bees ... they're those little rascals that threaten to spoil a picnic and that attack our steaks on the outdoor grill, right? True, but they're much more than that. They are our heroes on another level.

We rely on honey bees for one-third of our food supply. Honey bees, the only insects that make human food, are responsible for the pollination of over 100 crops including fruit, vegetables, nuts and seeds and provide 80 percent of the world's pollination services. Without honey bees, for example, we'd have no almonds, cherries, cucumbers, strawberries, raspberries or peaches.

So when honey bees are in danger, we're all in danger. And, as you've probably heard, they are in serious danger. According to Häagen-Dazs, which has launched a national campaign to save the bees:

"Over the last few years, one-fourth of bee colonies have disappeared. A phenomenon called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) seems to be the cause of the disappearing colonies. So far, no one seems to understand CCD but theories include pesticide contamination, fungus, bee malnutrition related to weather and drought, mite infestation and hive transportation issues. To solve the mystery so it can be addressed, CCD is being studied by UC Davis and other research groups. Häagen-Dazs is helping to fund the research."

How can you help? Häagen-Dazs suggests at least two ways

everyone can help. One, you can download "The Bee Book" from its Web site: www.helpthehoneybees.com and use it to teach others about the current plight of the honey bees. It features easy-to-understand and fun facts, paper crafts, puzzles, etc., about honey bees and their threatened survival. Perhaps you can use it as a fun summer activity for your kids, Sunday School class, kid's birthday party or summer school, followed, of course, by an ice cream fest. Two, every time you purchase one of its designed bee-dependent ice creams, it will donate a portion of the purchase to the bee-saving campaign. A list of "bee-dependent" ice creams are also listed on the Web site but, without looking, you can assume any Häagen-Dazs ice cream made with fresh fruit, nuts or honey qualifies.

What a wonderful summer time opportunity—save the honey bees while enjoying some bee-licious ice cream. That's community service worth licking your lips about. To add to your honey delights, here's one of my favorite summer dishes with honey—it can be made with yogurt as a healthy breakfast or with ice cream as a refreshing dessert—for one or a dozen eaters. Be a honey and support the bees any way you can!

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 jllovermarshall@yahoo.com.

RECIPES

Honey Hush! (serves one)

2 cups of your favorite yogurt or ice cream

(Epicure Note: For yogurt, I love Trader Joe's "Vanana." For ice cream, I love Häagen-Dazs' Butter Pecan or Mango Sorbet.)

1-2 cups of whole or sliced fruits e.g. mango, strawberries, blueberries,

peaches, raspberries, grapes, melon

2-4 Tbsp natural honey

¼ cup chopped nuts or sunflower seeds, optional

Start by placing the yogurt or ice cream in an individual bowl. Top with the fruit; squeeze or drizzle the honey on top of everything. Add nuts if desired.

Presenting the Past

BY BEVERLY LANE



MUSEUM OF THE SAN RAMON VALLEY

Beginning of the business park

During the 1970s, Bishop Ranch was still an agricultural enterprise. Then Sunset Development Co. purchased 585 acres of the ranch and developed light industry and modern offices at the new Bishop Ranch Business Park. Above is the business park in 1985 with, from left to right east of I-680: Toyota, Pacific Bell, open land, the Bollinger Interchange and Chevron.



AMERICAN

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The Pet Vet says...



BY DR. FRANKLIN UTCHEN

Never, ever leave your dog in a parked car

A dog with heatstroke? Sounds like all you need to do is let them cool down for a while. Actually, it's a lot more serious than that and can be fatal. And by the time it's detected it could be too late. Every summer we see dogs in different stages of heatstroke. The sooner it is detected and corrective efforts are begun, the better chance a dog has of recovering.

Heatstroke is the decline in mental status and damage to internal organs that happens when the body temperature rises too high. A dog suffering from heatstroke will often pant rapidly, drool, vomit and become weak or mentally unresponsive. Body temperatures of 105-106, if sustained, have been reported to cause permanent organ damage; if body temperature rises to 109, direct thermal damage to internal organs occurs quickly. This can begin a cascade of organ malfunctions that is fatal.

When humans' body temperature rises a mere 1/10 of a degree, we begin to perspire to cool ourselves. Our canine friends only perspire minimally from the pads of their feet and from the tip of their nose. The only meaningful way they actively cool themselves is by evaporating water from the inside of their noses and mouths by panting. While this is adequate under most circumstances, it is not as efficient as perspiring, and therefore puts dogs at risk during prolonged exposure to hot weather.

Dogs with shorter noses and mouths (pugs, bulldogs, etc.) are at the greatest risk because, in part, of the smaller surface area inside their noses and mouths to evaporate water when panting. One of the tragic aspects of this condition is that dogs that are active and healthy, and even acclimated to exercising in hot

weather, can still become stricken unexpectedly when exposed to hot temperatures.

Veterinarians can only speculate the reason this occurs unpredictably is due to a dangerous combination of high ambient temperature, sufficient humidity, and a dog's state of hydration, which can vary from day to day. It may be that the active, healthy dog that succumbs one day to heatstroke while on a routine hike has simply been the victim of a "perfect storm" of temperature, humidity and dehydration.

Please do not be lulled into a sense of security about your dog's ability to handle hot weather based on past successful outings. There is no precise outdoor temperature above which heatstroke can be predicted to occur. Your best guide is common sense: If it's a hot day for you, it's an even hotter day for your furry friend who can't sweat.

The most tragic example of heatstroke is when a dog is inadvertently left outdoors on a hot day without adequate shade and water or is left in an enclosed area (a garage or car) without adequate ventilation. Temperatures inside a parked car rise quickly to over 100 degrees in the sun, even with the windows partly down. And a car that is parked in the shade right now may not be in the shade soon. Never, ever, ever, leave your dog in a parked car.

What can happen to a dog suffering from heatstroke? Just for starters: liver failure, kidney failure, brain damage, muscle damage, damage to blood vessels throughout the body, massive intestinal hemorrhaging, blood clotting crises and death. It is complicated and difficult to treat if severe.

I don't want to scare everyone into locking their dogs indoors all summer, but on the other hand I really DO want to scare people

enough to be conscious of this serious, sometimes fatal condition any time you take your dog outdoors for an extended period of time in the next few months. If you must take your dog out during the heat of the day, be sure they are well hydrated before hand. Be sure they have had plenty of opportunity to drink before going out, and have water supplies for them while you are out. I also recommend carrying a spray bottle so you can "mist" them in the face frequently.

If you think your dog may be suffering from heatstroke, immediately get them out of the sun and to a veterinary office adept at emergencies. Douse them with cool (not cold) water. Place a fan in front of them. Applying cold packs in a dog's groin area and under the arms will help cool the blood that is returning from the limbs on its way back to the interior of a dog's body.

However, soaking them COMPLETELY in very cold water is not recommended for fear that this would cause the blood vessels throughout a dog's skin to constrict (in a natural reaction to try to prevent further loss of heat through the skin) and thereby trap the heat inside the body's core—exactly what we don't want to have happen.

This summer, walk your dog in the early morning or evening, and be sure they have plenty of shade, water and ventilation if they are outside. Heatstroke is an unpredictable occurrence, and one that can have tragic consequences.

—Dr. Franklin Utchen, shown with his dog Tory, has been practicing veterinary medicine in the San Ramon Valley since 1989 and currently co-owns Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center & Urgent Care. For questions or comments e-mail bishopranchvets@yahoo.com.

OF NOTE



Brownies open council meeting

Fifth-grade Girl Scout Troop 10377 from Green Valley Elementary performed the opening flag ceremony for a Danville Town Council meeting in May. Pictured with Mayor Candace Andersen are (l-r) Jenelle Doolittle, Delaney Inamine, Chelsea Rodgers, Julianna Ceccarelli, Samantha Teshima and Caroline Carey.



Morgan McCleve in D.C.

Morgan McCleve, a Danville resident who attends Valley Christian in Dublin, is headed for the U.S. Naval Academy. Here she meets with U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D., 11th) at a reception in Washington, D.C., for all those accepted into the nation's service academies.

Wild Girls

▶ Continued from page 18

She has written science fiction novels and received both the Nebula Award and the World Fantasy Award. She taught science fiction writing in the 1990s as part of Stanford University's Creative Writing Program.

"I've had to lean on nonfiction writing to earn a living but I can still write the books that call to me," said Murphy.

She now commutes from her home in San Francisco to Palo Alto on Caltrain to her job with Klutz Books ("Juggling for the Complete Klutz") in Palo Alto.

"I get on the train, open my laptop and spend 40 minutes writing," she said. "Writing on the train is great. It's a time when nobody bothers you. You're being productive—and you're going somewhere."

"The Wild Girls" is her first young adult novel.

"I was really conscious of writing a book I would have really needed and liked at that age, which made me start thinking about where I grew up," she said. "Knowing the orchard where I used to play and knowing my way

around 1970s Danville made it a lot easier."

The Booksellers Association named "The Wild Girls" as 2007 Book of the Year in Children's Literature, among other honors. A review in the New York Times said Murphy "render(s) the knotty friendships of girls with gravity, whimsy, intimacy and melodrama." Murphy said many readers have written to her, which she enjoys.

"The Wild Girls" started as a long short story, said Murphy, and appeared in an anthology.

"Often what happens with me is when I write a story I realize there's more I want to say about these characters," she explained. "I often think I'm done but then the characters don't go away."

The good news for fans of Joan and Sarah is that Murphy is working on another book about them. The wild girls apparently have continued to have adventures—and Murphy is chronicling them for her readers. ■



Author Pat Murphy at 12

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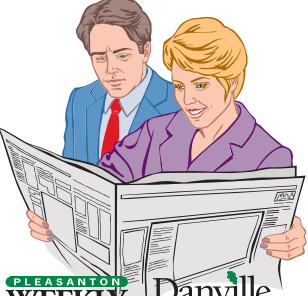
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Livermore, 3 BR/2 BA - \$385,000

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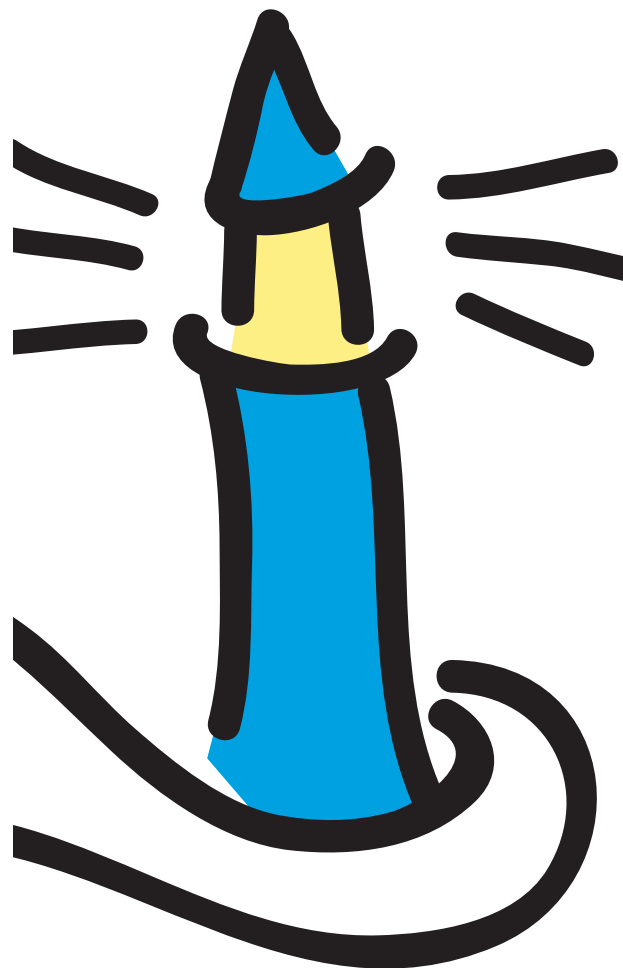
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Commercial U.S. real estate easing in economic slowdown

Investment drops sharply in wake of credit crunch

by Jeb Bing

Commercial real estate vacancies are trending up modestly, while investment has dropped sharply in the wake of the credit crunch, according to preliminary information for the latest Commercial Real Estate Outlook of the National Association of Realtors.

NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun said economic weakness is impacting commercial real estate.

"Although the supply-demand fundamentals are broadly favorable in most commercial real estate markets, vacancy rates are rising modestly and rent gains are slowing," he said. "Slow economic growth is lowering demand for commercial space, mostly in the office and industrial sectors. Despite the slowdown, the commercial real estate market is in much better shape compared to conditions during the 2001 recession."

Patricia Nooney of St. Louis, chairwoman of the Realtors Commercial Alliance Committee, said credit has been a problem.

"Tight credit availability has significantly slowed the volume of commercial real estate transactions," she said. "Even so, institutional

investors, along with foreign investors who are encouraged by the drop in the dollar, remain active in the current market. Because conditions are so varied across the country, we recommend investors or businesses looking for space consult with Realtors in their area who specialize in commercial real estate."

Investment in commercial real estate during the first four months of 2008 was \$48.2 billion, down 69.5 percent from \$157.8 billion during the same period in 2007 when the credit markets were functioning normally. Those totals do not include transactions valued at less than \$5 million or investments in the hospitality sector.

With a growth in inventory, office vacancy rates are projected to increase to 13.7 percent in the fourth quarter of this year from 12.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2007. As a result, annual rent growth in the office sector is expected to be 3.0 percent this year, following an 8.0 percent jump in 2007.

Net absorption of office space in 57 markets tracked, which includes the leasing of new space coming on the market as well as space in existing properties, is likely to total 31.3 million square feet this year for the country

as a whole, about half of the 60.0 million absorbed in 2007.

"Part of the slowdown in office absorption results from new space coming online and the challenge of back-filling older class B and class C buildings," Yun said.

Office building transaction volume has dropped significantly. In the first four months of 2008, a total of only \$18.5 billion in office buildings traded hands, compared with \$95.0 billion during the same timeframe in 2007. The greatest decline was in suburban markets.

Warehouse demand has fallen because of the economic slowdown, although the demand for light manufacturing space has risen slightly. "The drop in the dollar is favoring American goods, stimulating some manufacturing with a solid pickup in exports," Yun said.

Even so, overall vacancy rates in the industrial sector are forecast to rise to 9.9 percent in the fourth quarter of this year, up from 9.4 percent in the same period of 2007. Annual rent growth should be 1.2 percent by the end of the year, down from 3.6 percent in the fourth quarter of 2007.

HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

This week's data represents homes sold during June 2008

Alamo

2891 Danville Boulevard Cieri Trust to T. Crouse for \$1,075,000

112 Megan Court Walsh Trust to D. & T. Haller for \$1,550,000

1448 Sunnybrook Road Michael Trust to T. & E. Fendyan for \$675,000

60 Via Robles B. & B. Cook to R. & D. Villa for \$1,100,000

Danville

5045 Blackhawk Drive W. & N. McNabb to Lentine Trust for \$2,000,000

249 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to M. Siau for \$465,500

295 Channi Loop Shapell Industries to J. Wang for \$456,000

624 Colmar Court KB Homes to J. Yue for \$1,055,500

305 Cottswald Court KB Homes to I. Karim for \$1,041,500

2763 Deer Meadow Drive S. & C. Spiva to McNabb Trust for \$1,549,000

681 Dunhill Drive M. & M. Ospeck to R. Ford for \$1,175,000

1 Elizabeth Lane Hanson Trust to K. & S. Breeding for \$1,395,000

164 Lawnview Circle Bay Holdings to R. Corning for \$449,000

119 Provence Road Prudential Relocation to A. & J. Carges for \$1,215,000

1204 Robyn Drive J. & M. Mathews to P. & J. Gibson for \$1,195,000

409 Skycrest Drive C. & J. Smith to B. & H. Reid for \$909,000

54 St. Luke Court J. & C. Anvari to R. Williams for \$870,000

146 Tivoli Lane D. & J. Harlander to M. Loth for \$730,000

Walnut Creek

713 Appaloosa Drive Moore Trust to P. & P. Fischer for \$770,000

16 Blade Way Lee Trust to W. & J. Knapp for \$985,000

417 Candleberry Road L. Russell to D. & H. Brown for \$770,000

1820 Cannon Drive M. Morrissey to R. Martin-Blouin for \$425,000

42 Carlos Court S. Brobeck to S. & M. Doty for \$607,000

664 Charleston Court M. Collis to S. Ditmyer for \$560,000

902 Cortina Court Green Trust to Mehta Trust for \$850,000

360 North Civic Drive #403 Medallion Limited to M. & G. Graham for \$220,000

1461 Piedra Drive C. Portoni to D. Cohen for \$686,000

582 Pimlico Court J. Grober to M. Teeter for \$368,500

151 Pimlico Drive R. & V. Saunders to T. & S. Gant for \$475,000

2833 Ptarmigan Drive #2 Harlow Trust to J. DeBenedictis for \$320,000

40 Santa Rita Drive N. Shepard to C. Gohd for \$780,000

3108 Stinson Circle H. Qian to A. Liang for \$745,000

3632 Sugarberry Lane S. & V. Mitchell to K. & K. Dunwoodie for \$881,500

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during June 2008

Alamo

Total sales reported: 4
Lowest sale reported: \$675,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,550,000
Average sales reported: \$1,100,000

Danville

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$449,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,000,000
Average sales reported: \$1,036,107

Walnut Creek

Total sales reported: 15
Lowest sale reported: \$220,000
Highest sale reported: \$985,000
Average sales reported: \$629,533

DANVILLE WEEKLY OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

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

ALAMO

4 Bedrooms

70 Zand Ln. **\$1,325,000**
Sun 1-4 Re/Max Accord 895-2804

5 Bedrooms

83 Stephanie Ln. **\$1,675,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 437-2785

DANVILLE

3 Bedrooms

1948 St. George **\$709,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 260-8883

4 Bedrooms

176 Estates Dr. **\$1,199,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 998-9747

553 El Pintado Rd. **\$2,195,000**
Sun 1-4 Pacific Union 209-9583

213 Aptos Pl. **\$998,500**
Sun 1-4 Harper-Mees Team/Keller Williams 699-3328

1111 Country Ln. **\$1,489,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 260-8883

2651 Finley Rd. **\$3,500,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 260-8883

SAN RAMON

2 Bedrooms

9024 Craydon Cir. **\$318,000**
Sat 12-3 UCB 580-4524

4 Bedrooms

200 Gaucho Ct. **\$675,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 998-9747

5 Bedrooms

506 Estancia Ct. **\$1,299,000**
Sun 1-4 Pinecrest Properties Inc. 963-4657

DUBLIN

4 Bedrooms

4945 Sequoia Ave. **\$775,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 200-0004

PLEASANTON

3 Bedrooms

5768 Belleza Dr. **\$575,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 600-0006

246 Trenton Cir. **\$639,000**
Sat 1-4 Keller Williams 596-1918

2965 Moreno Ave. **\$724,900**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 766-8031

3436 Park Pl. **\$789,950**
Sun 1-4 UCB 580-4524

6322 Alisal St. **\$999,850**
Sun 1-4 ReMax / Accord 997-8001

4 Bedrooms

4839 Merganser Ct. **\$1,045,000**
Sun 1-4 Realty World Town & Country 683-6729

7341 Joshua Cir. **\$725,000**
Sat 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 398-6706

7678 Driftwood Wy. **\$749,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 463-2000

5211 Caparelli Ct. **\$775,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 337-2989

1053 Riesling Dr. **\$820,000**
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755

4850 Ganner Ct. **\$829,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 462-7653

787 Sylvaner Dr. **\$839,950**
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755

5 Bedrooms

2202 Kamp Ct. **\$1,269,000**
Sat 1-4 Prudential Ca 734-5000

2527 Corte Bella **\$1,349,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 519-3534

LIVERMORE

3 Bedrooms

465 Humboldt Wy. **\$465,000**
Sun 1-4 Prudential Ca 734-5000

5 Bedrooms

1316 Carlton Pl. **\$1,000,000**
Sun 2-5 Keller Williams 292-7653

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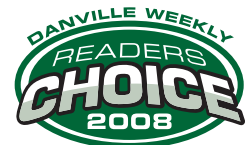
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