

## Derby bound

Danville team entering 'extreme' soapbox race this weekend > **page 17**

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# Danville

## W E E K L Y

## School days, school days

Montair Elementary celebrating 50th birthday

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# Run, Baby, Run

Runners taking to the streets to raise money for schools **PAGE 14**



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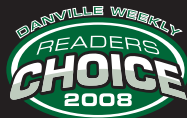
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# Streetwise

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## Q: Are you handy?



I am a contractor. I do general work. I even work around the house off hours except for landscaping. That's where I draw the line. I do get a "honey-do" list.

**Justin Orman**  
contractor and Jack's dad



Absolutely! I can answer your questions about anything. I have been working at Yardbirds for nine years now. My specialty is lighting and electrical.

**Sharon Terry**  
sales associate



No. I think people that are handy learned it from their fathers. My dad had a deli. Now, I can make you a mean pastrami sandwich. I even cure my own meat.

**Elliot Lowen**  
banker



I'm a real handy kind of guy. I am also a handyman. I do home remodels. Right now I'm building arched columns for a pathway in Alamo. So far the economy has not affected me. I think it's because I put great attention into the detail.

**Fred Van Nostrand**  
handyman



I am very handy. I can do anything. Gardening, repairs, you name it. I don't hire someone, I do it myself. I even changed my car fuel filter. I just look it up in a book or on the Internet and it tells me how to do it. It's easy.

**Jenifer Noble**  
preschool teacher  
and handywoman extraordinaire

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### ABOUT THE COVER

The half marathon part of the annual Primo's Run for Education begins at Primo's Pizza in downtown Danville then heads south on Front Street. It is in its 25th year and has become a fall tradition for community members. Photo by Chris Scott/www.calsportphoto.com.

Vol. IV, Number 24

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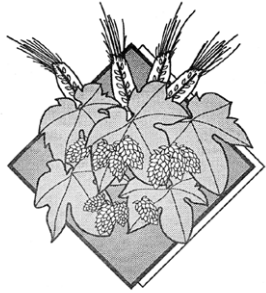
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### Veteran's building committee named

The Danville Town Council, at its Oct. 7 meeting, named the eight members of the new Veteran's Building Steering Committee from the groups designated previously. They are as follows:

- Candace Andersen and Newell Arnerich—Town of Danville
- Scott Perkins and John Estes—Veterans
- Robert Storer and Robert Combs—Planning Commission/Design Review Board
- Lee Halverson and Patty Dobbin—Danville Heritage Resource Commission
- Kevin Donovan and Kent Rezowalli—Senior Subcommittee of Parks and Leisure

Town Manager Joe Calabrigo said the group will be announcing its first meeting in the near future.

### Folks from history to haunt Alamo Cemetery

You won't find any real ghosts but you will meet some historic characters, played by museum docents, when you visit the Alamo Cemetery the weekend before Halloween. The Museum of the San Ramon Valley is hosting its annual Autumn Tour of the historic cemetery at 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, and these Valley pioneers will be hovering near their final resting places.

To take the special tour, meet at the front gate located at the end of El Portal near La Gonda Way in Danville. The tour is free but donations are always welcome. The Alamo Cemetery is part of the Alamo/Lafayette Cemetery District, which was established in 1937. To schedule tours for other dates, contact the Museum at 837-3750.

### Pink Ribbon Day in Danville

In celebration of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Hospice Thrift Shoppe at 444 Diablo Road in Danville will sponsor a special Pink Ribbon Day from 10

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Real men don't use brakes.”

—James Martin, driver of a Danville entry into the Red Bull soapbox derby this weekend. See story, page 17.

a.m.-3:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24. The occasion will include refreshments, drawings, discounts on all items in the store and a pink ribbon for each customer as well as breast cancer awareness information.

Also, Hospice announced that it is looking for volunteers at its Thrift Shoppes in Alamo, Danville, Walnut Creek, Concord and Antioch.

“Volunteers that contribute their time are extremely important to the operation of our stores,” said Tom Harris, director of retail operations. “It's a way to make a difference in a meaningful way.”

Volunteers help customers, stock shelves and prepare merchandise for sale. Call Harris at 260-1282.

### Interfaith celebration to feature transgender choir

More than 30 open and affirming faith communities will welcome all of God's children—gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and straight—to celebrate and feel God's inclusive love at the seventh annual Witness Our Welcome (W.O.W.) Interfaith Worship Celebration on Sunday. This year the celebration is being held around National Coming Out Week and the transgender choir of San Francisco will perform.

The celebration begins at 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 19, at Beth Chaim Congregation, 1800 Holbrook Drive in Danville. Refreshments will be served. More information is at [www.witnessourwelcome.net](http://www.witnessourwelcome.net).



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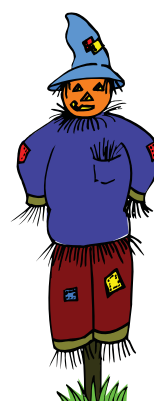
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## Danville wants to beautify north Hartz

Town has ideas but needs to meet with property owners

by Geoff Gillette

The Danville Town Council gave a thumbs up to extending downtown's distinctive look to the businesses at the north end of town, but the momentum has slowed while discussions continue with property owners.

At its Oct. 7 meeting, the council approved a resolution awarding a design contract to Nolte Associates for work along north Hartz Avenue between Diablo Road and Railroad Avenue. The project includes curb and gutter improvements, adding paving bricks to the sidewalks, installing new street lights and trees.

The design budget has been set at \$173,250.

In approving the measure, council members requested a study session with staff to make sure they were all on the same page prior to giving Nolte instructions on the design process.

The session was held Oct. 14 with council members, Town Manager Joe Calabrigo and members of the planning staff.

Calabrigo outlined several scenarios that could be followed. Those included:

- Narrow Hartz Avenue, removing the center turn lane to allow parallel parking on both sides of the street.
- Replace existing curb, gutter and sidewalks. Would result in longer driveways and no additional parallel spaces.
- Acquire right of way and consolidate driveways to allow for diagonal parking on both sides of the street.

Concerns were expressed regarding the removal of the center turn lane, but Calabrigo said that there would still be "turn pockets" at the intersection although the lane would not run the entire length of the block.

Currently cars that park in front of the stores along the west side of Hartz are backing out into traffic. Design plans would allow for additional space off the road where customers could turn around on the owner's property before reentering traffic.

Town officials are not ready to commit to any of the options until they have reached an agreement with the five owners whose property along Hartz would be affected by the work.

"The real next step before they start doing designs is to meet with the property owners," said Councilman Newell Arnerich. He suggested that meeting as a group with the full weight of the council and staff is not working. And meeting one on one would allow the council to get a sense of what the property owners' goals are.

"Their goals are simple," responded Town Engineer Steve Lake. "They don't want to lose parking and they don't want to lose control of their parking."

Council members discussed the issue and decided to seek counsel from the property owners before offering any direction to Nolte Associates. ■



CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM

## Action at the LPGA

Paula Creamer, who hails from Pleasanton, is all smiles at the Longs Drugs Challenge at Blackhawk Country Club on Sunday after making a birdie on the sixth hole. Creamer, 22, won the Samsung World Championship last week at Half Moon Bay, her biggest LPGA Tour title yet and her fourth of the year. At Blackhawk local golf enthusiasts were thrilled to see Creamer in person. The winner of the Longs Drugs Challenge was (top, right) In-Kyung Kim, 20, a Korean who first played in the United States three years ago. Angela Stanford placed second, followed by Yani Tseng and Lorena Ochoa. For more photos, visit [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com).

## LAFCO to reconsider Alamo incorporation vote

New hearing set for Tuesday in Martinez

by Geoff Gillette

The ongoing debate over whether Alamo should become a town is going back before the Local Agency Formation Commission.

LAFCO Executive Officer Lou Ann Texeira said the commission has received a formal request for reconsideration of its Sept. 18 decision to put the Alamo incorporation question on the ballot.

Under county code, residents have the right to submit a request for consideration within 30 days of a vote. The request can only be made if new information, not available at the time of the hearing, can be presented. A fee of \$2,500 must also be paid with the request. Texeira confirmed that the request for consideration came from incorporation opponent Jean Taylor.

In her request for reconsideration,

Taylor listed 10 points on which the commission should grant the request. Many of the points reiterate what has been said by the opposition all along but Taylor also questioned the process and said that the commission voted arbitrarily to approve it due to an inflated sense of urgency.

As explained at the hearing, timing was a critical element in the original vote Sept. 18. The commission needed to make a decision at the hearing due to concerns about the loss of vehicle licensing fees if Gov. Schwarzenegger denied Senate Bill 301. If the governor did not sign the legislation, it would have put a sunset on any licensing fees for towns that incorporated after June 30, 2009.

However on Sept. 30 the governor did sign SB 301, extending the licensing fees and eliminating the

► Continued on page 7

## Montair celebrates 50th year

Alumni invited to carnival as part of anniversary celebration

by Geoff Gillette

The world was a different place in 1958. Gas was 24 cents a gallon, houses cost \$30,000, and the 680 freeway didn't exist. October of that year marked a new beginning of sorts in the Danville School District with the opening of the brand new \$600,000 Montair Elementary.

Montair is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month. It opened Oct. 5, 1958, replacing the former Danville Elementary School, which closed down when the student population outgrew the facility. Around 400 students going to Danville were bused from throughout the district to attend the new school.

Alamo resident Bruce Marhenke was a teacher at Montair when it

first opened and said the school today is a little different than it was back then.

"Well, we didn't have the big building there where the library is," he recalled. "And there were walnut trees everywhere. The whole grounds were loaded with walnut trees."

Marhenke, who had been living in Berkeley at the time of his hiring, had to make some adjustments to the slightly more rural lifestyle of Danville.

"This one day there was an airplane coming low and this stuff started coming out ... I made the kids get down because I thought something was happening and one of the kids said, 'Mr. Marhenke, that's just a crop duster.'"

The first principal of Montair was Maevis Wood. She, along

with her sister Charlotte, carved out names for themselves in education here in Danville.

"Maevis Wood is someone I would genuinely call an educator," Marhenke said. "A lot of times in this day and age when we're teaching for tests and things like that, a lot of principals have become administrators instead of educators."

Current Montair Principal Matt Hermann said that while education has changed over the years, Maevis Wood's guiding principles remain.

"It's different now. We're trying to understand the needs of all our learners," he noted. "We use a lot of different forms of instruction—audio, video, kinesthetic. But we are dedicated to seeing all our

► Continued on page 6

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Left, top: Montair students look on as workmen install tiles with their artwork around the drinking fountains in 1958. Teacher Bruce Marhenke said he liked the tile idea so much he used it when he became principal at Vista Grande Elementary. Above: Tiles created decades earlier and decorating the drinking fountains were removed and installed as part of a "memory garden" dedicated Oct. 19, 2007. Left, bottom: Members of Team Pink Panther point to their final clue at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley during a downtown scavenger hunt. Members of the team include (l-r) Avery Huver, Megan Ravin, Kacie Donaldson, Brooke George, Anvitu Sharma, Makena Shilich, Cathy Sigamony and Alexis DiPaola, all second-graders at Montair.



**Montair**

► Continued from page 5

students succeed.”  
When Montair opened, classes would have 30-35 students, compared to now when kindergarten to second grade classes have 20 students and third to fifth grade classes are at 30.

Another difference is in how schools are funded. Changes in the property tax funding formula over the years have affected how much money schools receive. In 1958, fundraising was not an issue widely

discussed, whereas in 2008 many programs wouldn't exist without the benefit of funds raised through a variety of means.

During a day off school in early October, students at Montair scoured the streets of Danville on an information treasure hunt. Given clues by Principal Hermann, the students, accompanied by 70 parent chaperones, went to locations around town to find the answers to questions. Those answers would speed them on to the next clue.

“This was a fundraiser for our PTA,” Hermann said. “Kids either got a flat donation or pledges based

on the number of clues found.” He added that the idea of the treasure hunt is based on a similar annual event held in San Francisco's Chinatown each year.

Kelly McKenna and Kerry Morone are sisters living in Danville and alumni of Montair. Now their children go to school there. McKenna said there are some big differences between when she attended the school 30 years ago and now.

“The main difference is things like technology, the kids all go to computer classes,” she said. “It seemed so much simpler. You had one teacher in one classroom. And now as early as kindergarten they go to computer class.”

Morone said her memory of the school is one of happiness. “It's still a happy, friendly environment. Kids walking to school, riding their bikes. That's still happening. It hasn't changed much and it has a nice feel to it.”

McKenna agreed. “I think it's really the comforting feeling. The down-home feeling. Not a lot of bells and whistles, everything's still pretty much the same. It's that home feeling.”

Hermann said that while they are excited to be marking their 50th year as a school, their celebration will be fairly low key.

“We thought it would be fun to incorporate the anniversary with something else school related so what we decided to do is get the word out and invite the alumni to our carnival,” he said. “We thought it would be nice to invite the community and see if we can get as many of our former students as we can to come for a visit.”

The carnival is set for noon to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 19. It will have games, food, prizes, an obstacle course, cake walk and other activities—plus a chance for alumni to reminisce about school days 50 years ago. ■

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## Meeting Sarah Palin

Two Danville residents were among the greeters when Republican vice presidential nominee Gov. Sarah Palin descended the airplane steps at SFO on Oct. 5.

"She is strikingly beautiful and charming," said Judy Lloyd, who is active in the Republican Party in both Contra Costa County, where she lives, and in Alameda County, where her office, Altamont Solutions Inc., is located.

"She is a striking individual to me from the questions she asked and how much time she spent with us," said Lloyd. "She seemed happy to learn about us, thanked us for our support, and made sure we had a chance to meet the others—Meg Whitman of eBay and Jon Huntsman, the governor of Utah."

Lloyd's son Michael, 11, a student at Valley Christian who plays CYO basketball for St. Isidore and All-Star Little League, was also invited to greet Palin upon her arrival in the Bay Area.

"She asked him what grade he was in, how old he was, and what sports did he play," recalled Lloyd.

The mother and son were chosen for the greeting committee because Altamont Solutions offered its facilities to house the Republican's



Vice Presidential Candidate Gov. Sarah Palin is welcomed to the San Francisco Bay Area by Danville residents Michael Lloyd, 11, and Judy Lloyd to his left.

Victory '08 operations. Volunteers gather there to campaign for party candidates, assemble signs and make phone calls.

Lloyd ran for the 15th Assembly seat in the Republican primary, and ran her campaign out of the office. Michael would help with simple tasks in the beginning but one day was put to work making phone calls on her behalf.

"He did about 80 calls and was very persuasive," Lloyd said. "He's a people person."

Nathan Conrad, who runs the headquarters, picked the two of them for the airport welcoming committee, saying, "This kid's got a great attitude." Michael was the first child to act as a greeter for a major candidate.

"They had a special place where we all had to congregate," Lloyd said. "There were several checks we went through, with nice Secret Service people." She said Michael was impressed by this part as well.

"They put us all in line so we walked over to the airplane," she said. "There was quite a bit of anticipation."

The staff and press departed the airplane from the back door, then the front door opened and Gov. Sarah Palin led the way.

"She's a very down-to-earth individual who makes you feel very comfortable," Lloyd said.

And Michael's impression? "He said to me afterward, 'She's a mom, just like you,'" said Lloyd.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

## Alamo

► Continued from page 5

time crunch.

Taylor also pointed to the decision by commission member Martin McNair to change his vote to a Yes after the incorporation request failed by a 3-2 margin. Taylor's letter reads, "If the Commissioner had been unable to change his vote, the proposal for voting on an incorporation of Alamo would have failed. This would be a widely different result than what actually transpired."

Taylor said that she could find no mention in LAFCO policies that dealt with a commissioner changing his or her vote after a result was announced.

Alamo Incorporation Movement (AIM) member Vicki Koc said she feels the issues brought up by those against incorporation have been answered many times.

"We think that the hearings that

have taken place have gone a long way to answering those questions," she said, adding that many of the answers to questions regarding the fiscal analysis and other areas called into question can be found on AIM's Web Site, [www.alamo-inc.org](http://www.alamo-inc.org).

Koc said she is hopeful that the commission will uphold its decision and allow the voters of Alamo to decide whether or not they should be a town. "I just think it would be unfortunate if a small group would keep this off the ballot," she said.

Teixeira said the commission has not determined that the additional concerns raised in the request for reconsideration have merit but said a hearing has been scheduled at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 21, at the Board of Supervisors' building in Martinez.

Teixeira said LAFCO will be examining the request to see if there is any information that was not presented at the September hearing.

She said that first and foremost the commission must decide whether Taylor's request is valid. If it does indeed carry new, as yet unseen, information then the commission has a number of options.

"If the commission finds the request for consideration valid then they would have to decide what action they want to take," she said. "Whether they want to reverse their decision or continue the matter and require more analysis. Or retain their approval but amend the LAFCO resolution."

Another factor to be considered is the number of special elections on the annual calendar. In order for the issue to be on the March 3 ballot, the County Board of Supervisors must approve the Incorporation request by Oct. 28. The next special election available on the calendar after that would be June 2, 2009.

Both sides in the incorporation debate have said they are planning to attend the Oct. 21 hearing. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



## Traveling bicyclette

Tracy Achelis and Vinnie Sciortino take a break to catch up on their hometown news while cycling the Castles of the Loire Valley in France last fall.

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## Danville going green, says mayor

by Geoff Gillette

Environmental awareness keeps growing in the U.S., and the Danville Town Council is no exception. Members of the council have begun looking into ways to make the town more "green" and reduce the amount of carbon emissions they put into the air.

Danville Mayor Candace Andersen addressed this issue at the recent Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit. She said that all cities in California are working on their emission levels, following the strictures put into place in Assembly Bill 32.

"AB32 is a statewide reduction

in greenhouse emissions. We're supposed to be at 1990 levels by 2020. That's why we're talking about measuring our carbon footprint," she explained.

Andersen said there are some things they are already working on in town and others that remain on the drawing board for the moment. "We have taken steps on water conservation. We've implemented more drought tolerant plants."

Danville Town Council members are looking at the possibility of putting solar panels on the roofs of town buildings as well as the availability of the new technology for residents. "We are looking at how we can incorporate solar. Can we do anything to make it more feasible for our residents?"

A feasibility study is under way on the topic of solar energy. Andersen and Councilman Mike Shimansky are also working on a pilot program for the town that would reduce the amount of waste going into area landfills. "The whole concept is aimed at reducing food waste

through this new program," said Andersen. "If it works we'll be able to implement it through central Contra Costa County."

The council will also examine its building practices with an eye toward environmental protection.

Transportation is another area to come under review.

"We're trying to find more fuel efficient vehicles that pollute less for the fleet," Andersen said. "Hybrids are more expensive. That's what you have to balance ... the benefit to the environment vs. the cost."

Andersen said even without AB32, she feels confident that Danville would be examining this issue and working to reduce the town's emissions.

She said that ultimately it comes down to being good caretakers of the town. "I don't think it matters what you think about global warming. We are the stewards of our community and we need to manage our resources effectively, do our part to make sure those resources are there for future generations." ■

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**What is the cost of Alamo incorporation?**

Dear Editor:

In reference to Smitty Schmidt's letter Oct. 3: At the LAFCO meeting Sept. 18 I saw all of the percentages from various taxes that would revert to Alamo if it incorporates. I have yet to see dollar figures, actual costs of all the services and buildings, police cars, city hall, etc., etc. I feel she should perhaps let me know what the costs of incorporation will be. I am going to list all my concerns and perhaps she will let me know. I am not interested in percentages; I'm interested in what incorporation is going to actually cost.

Let's start with the police department—cars, police station—salaries for mayor and council members, medical insurance, city hall, maintenance yard, vehicles for maintenance personnel, wages for 12 maintenance workers, planning commission, bonuses and pension plans, meeting hall, and you say by 2018-2019 the Town of Alamo would have a healthier than average nest egg. I don't even buy green bananas any more, let alone wait for 2018-2019.

I'm just asking for the figures.

*Tony Carnemolla, Alamo*

**Lost and found**

Dear Editor:

Lost: Obama-Biden posters from front yard of Livorna Heights Road properties (didn't know it had legs—had staked it to the ground).

Please return to owners—no questions asked! (No charges will be pressed for stealing/trespassing/censorship.)

And, by the way, Joan Buchanan for Assembly signs were also removed—though at least one was left on the street.

*Jenny Caulfield, Alamo*

**Prop 8 does discriminate**

Dear Editor:

Mayor Candace Andersen's letter (Oct. 3) stating "Under California state law the rights and privileges are essentially the same" between "marriage" and "civil unions" is wrong. When you're married and your spouse is sick or hurt, you get into the ambulance or hospital room with no questions asked. In everyday life, and especially in emergency situations, domestic partnerships are simply not enough. Only marriage provides the certainty and the security that people can count on in times of greatest need.

Also marriage conveys immediate tax benefits that domestic partnerships do not. As domestic partners (which we were) if I died tomorrow my partner of 21 years would have to pay inheritance tax on the home we bought together six years ago. However, as a legally married couple (which we now are) he will automatically be granted full title without having to pay a cent.

David and I got married at San Francisco City Hall on June 25, then celebrated the blessing of our vows July 24 in a deeply moving religious ceremony at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church where I both worship and work. This ceremony was attended by 200 friends and members of our parish, many of whom said it was one of the most wonderful expressions of love they had seen in years. I find it ironic that the cover of the issue with Andersen's letter had a bold red headline, "Love of a Life."

If the mayor believes her statement, "I do not believe that anyone in our community should be discriminated against based upon his or her sexual orientation," then she should VOTE NO on Proposition 8.

*Pat Parr, Associate for Music Ministry, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church*

**McNerney good candidate—for Berkeley**

Dear Editor:

While I question the propriety of the Danville Weekly printing what is obviously a thinly veiled campaign advertisement for U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (Howard T. Goodman's letter, Oct. 10), I feel obligated to respond in kind. Goodman would have us believe that McNerney's actions in the House of Representatives reflects the majority of the 11th District. I have found otherwise.

Notwithstanding Goodman's kind words for McNerney, there can be no question that the 11th District has different values than the liberal Democratic areas such as San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley. Furthermore, McNerney has met with and received support from such left wing groups as Code Pink and MoveOn.org. Code Pink is a notorious, extreme left wing group that has engaged in such despicable acts as parading coffins outside of Walter Reed military hospital while calling wounded US soldiers "terrorists."

The liberal Democratic advocacy group "Americans for Democratic Action" gave McNerney a "Liberal Quotient" (the percentage of votes for liberal causes) of 95 percent. That is higher than notoriously liberal House members such as Barbara Lee, Maxine Waters and Lynn Woolsey (and even Ted Kennedy!). McNerney would be a fine Representative for Berkeley but he's out of touch with the 11th District.

It's no secret that McNerney came to office riding a wave of liberal money and influence from outside of the 11th District. He's done an admirable job of paying back that constituency, but he's so far out of step with the typical 11th District resident that even a disappointing candidate like Dean Andal is a better choice than McNerney.

*Marc Greendorfer, Danville*

**EDITORIAL • THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY**

**Re-elect McNerney to Congress**

Jerry McNerney came onto the political scene in 2004 when his son urged him to challenge 11th District incumbent U.S. Rep. Richard Pombo when no other Democrat would. McNerney lost that race but came back strong in 2006 to win the Democratic Party nomination and in November the Congressional election.

In just two years, this freshman congressman, who lives in Pleasanton, has made his mark in Washington, especially in areas of energy, transportation, education and veterans' affairs. He voted for the \$700 billion bailout bill but not before insisting on heavy oversight by Congress and the inclusion of specific help for financially distressed homeowners, including thousands here in the 11th District. During the Washington deliberations, McNerney fielded hundreds of calls from his constituents and kept everyone advised on what was happening.

One of his strong suits is constituent communications. He comes home almost every weekend, and most Saturdays—and often on Sundays—he meets with folks throughout his sizeable district. On one weekend, he's with Congressman Pete Stark at a health forum; another time he's talking to seniors. Since his election 23 months ago, he has held his unique "Congress at Your Corner" at 45 places, giving everyone a chance to talk with him directly. He also started a call-in telephone program where up to 3,000 people at a time join in one telephone call to discuss their interests and concerns.

A professional energy scientist, McNerney went to Washington vowing to support alternative energy measures to reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil. He's an expert on wind energy, although the recent energy bill that Congress approved provided only one-time and one-year incentives to wind energy investors. McNerney hopes next year's bill will be better. He did score a major victory, however, in winning congressional support for incentives to help solar energy developers. He also supports offshore drilling 50 to 100 miles off the coastlines where states agree and increased drilling in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to make continued use of drilling rigs and pipelines already in place. He's even willing to stray from a stand by Democrats and say he favors nuclear power—if we meet safety and disposal concerns with spent fuel, which he believes is a matter of cost.

McNerney also gets high marks for his efforts to keep the Livermore Veterans Hospital open, probably not as a major clinic which has been moved to Palo Alto, but certainly as an administrative facility with a plan to turn the peaceful site into a center for nurturing soldiers suffering from post traumatic stress. Just two years ago, the VA center was scheduled to close; McNerney brought the House Veterans Committee to the bucolic setting and they agreed that the Livermore center is too valuable a resource for veterans to be shut down.

In our view, McNerney is also a valuable resource—for the 11th Congressional District and the country. We urge our readers to re-elect Congressman Jerry McNerney.

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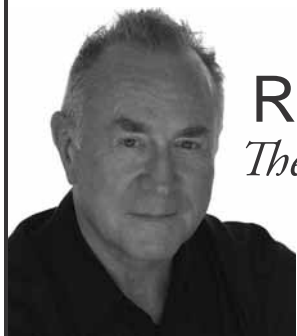
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### Upcoming in the Series:

**Dr. Morton Grosser**, *Flight of Imagination*  
Thursday, January 15 at 7:30pm

**Bob Borchers**, *Innovation: The Search for New Ideas*  
Thursday, March 5 at 7:30pm

**David M. Kennedy**, *A Tale of Three Cities:  
How the United States Won World War II*  
Thursday, April 2 at 7:30pm

**Amory Lovins**, *Oil Solutions*  
Thursday, April 30 at 7:30pm

Tickets 925.373.6800 [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org)  
2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Men rob Chevron at gunpoint

Danville police are seeking two men in connection with an armed robbery early Monday morning. Police Lt. Mark Williams said the incident occurred at 1:53 a.m. Oct. 6 at the Chevron station on the 8000 block of Crow Canyon Road.

Williams said two white males in their late teens or early 20s entered the gas station with

T-shirts covering their faces and displayed handguns. One suspect took packs of cigarettes out of display case while the other ordered the female clerk to open the register. The suspects took an undisclosed amount of cash from the register and fled the scene on foot. The clerk was not injured.

Any person with information on this incident is urged to contact Danville police at 314-3410.

—Geoff Gillette

## POLICE LOG

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

### Sunday, Oct. 5

- Vandalism on 100 block of Windover Dr. at 7:43 a.m.
- Vehicle accident with fire and ambulance en route on Diablo Rd./Green Valley Rd. at 11:31 a.m.
- Drunk in public on W. Prospect Ave./Railroad Ave. at 6:47 p.m.

### Monday, Oct. 6

- Identity theft on 100 block of Parkhaven Dr. at 9:20 p.m.
- Drugs violation on 6000 block of Condor St. at 3:54 p.m.
- Hit-and-run misdemeanor on 200 block of Boone Ct. at 9:49 p.m.

- Promiscuous shooting on 100 block of El Dorado Ave. at 10:31 p.m.

### Tuesday, Oct. 7

- Reckless driving on 1400 block of Harlan Dr. at 11:30 a.m.
- Music disturbance on 200 block of Remington Loop at 8:04 p.m.

### Wednesday, Oct. 8

- Vehicle accident with property damage on Diablo Rd. and northbound I-680 at 9:01 a.m.
- Vehicle accident with property damage on 3400 block of Camino Tassajara at 5:14 p.m.
- Hit-and-run misdemeanor, arrest, on 1500 block of Green Valley Rd.

### Thursday, Oct. 9

- Commercial burglary on 100 block of Boone Ct. at 9:32 a.m.

- Trespassing on 1500 block of Mission Dr. at 10:25 a.m.
- Battery on 1500 block of Mission Dr. at 12:43 p.m.

### Friday, Oct. 10

- Vehicle accident with property damage on Diablo Rd./W. El Pintado Rd. at 11:34 a.m.
- Threats disturbance on 800 block of Camino Ramon at 1:20 p.m.
- Auto burglary on 800 block of Brookside Dr. at 5:44 p.m.

### Saturday, Oct. 11

- Public nuisance on 300 block of Everett Pl. at 1:17 p.m.
- Shoplifting on 100 block of Hartz Ave. at 3:43 p.m.
- Party disturbance on 100 block of Ramona Rd. at 8:13 p.m.

## OBITUARIES

### Roger Elmo Mazzera

Danville resident Roger Elmo Mazzera died July 27 at the age of 72.

He was born Dec. 13, 1935. After retiring from Bank of America he pursued his love of golf. He also loved football and had a great sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife Joey; daughter Christine Mazzera; son Craig Mazzera; and two grandchildren. Donations can be made to the American Heart Association. Services were private.

### Everett B. Hyde

Everett B. Hyde, a resident of Danville, died Aug. 24 at the age of 94.

He was born Sept. 27, 1913, in Berkeley and was also a former longtime resident of San Leandro. He was a World War II veteran and retired in 1976 after 30 years as an Alameda County employee. He was a dedicated and active member of Danville Congregational Church.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Betty M. Hyde; daughters Kathy Hyde of Palo Alto, Barbara Hyde of Chicago, and Elizabeth (Richard) Samuels of Portland, Ore.; and five grandchildren. His inurnment was private.

### Ralph R. Jacobs

Ralph R. Jacobs, a Danville resident, died Aug. 29 at the age of 65.

He was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y., on New Year's Eve 1942. He was the second of two children and grew up in Buffalo. He attended New

York University on a full scholarship, where he met his wife and mother of his children, Leedia Gordeev. He was president of his college fraternity Kappa Sigma and graduated NYU with Honors, then entered Yale University for his post-graduate education, where he graduated with honors with a Ph.D. in physics.

They moved to Livermore where he was a scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. As a physicist, he recognized groundbreaking innovations in technology and their applications for daily life. He moved to Spectra Physics as a laser scientist, where he worked for nearly 10 years but returned to LLNL for the remainder of his career.

Ralph's wife Leedia died in 1999. Later he met Esther Ailor and asked her to be his wife on Aug. 27, just two days before he died. He is survived by his loving daughters Aleda Anne Jacobs and Liana Jacobs Boyarsky and by Liana's husband Jay Steven Boyarsky, and two grandchildren; his aunt Estelle Indyke; his brother and sister-in-law Edward and Mary Jacobs; and his fiancée Esther Ailor and her family. An educational fund will be established in his name by his daughters. Memorial Services were held Sept. 9 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton.

### Jerome V. Murphy

Jerome (Jerry) V. Murphy, a Danville resident, died Aug. 30 in Alamo at the age of 69.

He was born Nov. 2, 1938, to George B. Murphy and Claudia Mazzelle-Murphy in Louisville, Ky. He graduated from Bishop England High School and attended The

Citadel both in Charleston, S.C. He moved to California in 1969 and made his home in Danville for 34 years and enjoyed a 37-year career in banking, retiring in 2002. He spent his free time deep sea fishing, gardening and cooking for his family.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Diane; daughters Cindy Sweeney, Marlene Alfonso, Michelle Jacomo, Claudia Arneson, Erin Edberg, Rebecca Murphy and son Michael Murphy; sister Sue Ellen; mother-in-law Terri Morris; sister-in-law Carole Hayes; sons-in-law Gary Arneson and Brian Edberg; and many grandchildren and friends. Donations may be made to the Hospice of the East Bay.

### Nettie 'Mike' McCance

Nettie "Mike" McCance, an Alamo resident, died Aug. 30 peacefully in her sleep after a long illness, at the age of 93.

She was born July 16, 1915, in Manhattan to Katherine and Constantine Michail, one of five sisters. She married Paul McCance in 1944, and they had their daughter a year later. Mike taught elementary school, and worked tirelessly for the League of Women Voters. She valued family and friends above all else, and had a wonderful marriage filled with meals with friends, folk dancing and games, especially bridge.

She is survived by her daughter, Judith Folden, son-in-law Tom, and granddaughter Alyssa. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date, and those choosing to honor her memory, may do so with a donation to a charity of choice.

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| Dec. 22 & 23: | 6:00pm - 8:00pm  |

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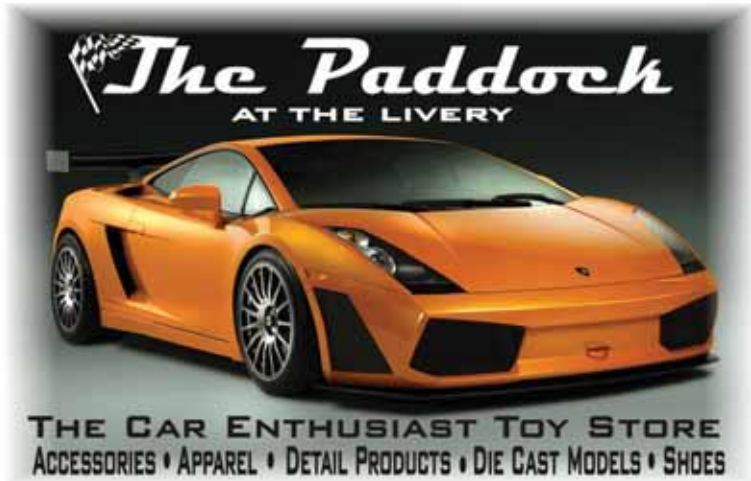
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Half marathon runners compete in last year's Primo's Run. The community event, which raises money for the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTPHOTO.COM

# Run, baby, run

## Runners taking to the streets to raise money for schools

by Julie Nostrand

**D**anville's peaceful Sunday morning will be shattered this weekend as 5,000 runners take to the streets for the 25th annual Primo's Run for Education.

The race, which is celebrating its silver anniversary of raising money for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, has become a fall tradition for community members. For a long time the owners of Primo's Pizza in downtown Danville were the driving force behind the race, but the event has grown beyond that.

"We are still the starting line for the half marathon," said John Rhodes, who along with his wife Sheri owns Primo's Pizza. "We get here early, set up a few water stations and some coffee. I like to keep the restaurant involved."

Two local businessmen, John's dad Jack Rhodes and Dennis Harvey, founded the race in 1983 in response to the cuts faced by schools after the passage of Proposition 13 a few years before. At the time Rhodes and Harvey were partners in Primo's Pizza, so they decided to host a run between their San Ramon and Danville locations.

Rhodes said his dad was an avid runner in the early '80s and worked as a probation officer prior to opening the restaurant.

"Both my mom and dad understood the impor-

### Race day tips

#### 5K participants

- Parking for 5K participants will be in the lots surrounding Bishop Ranch 1. Many surface streets will be closed due to the race, and the most efficient way to travel to the start line will be via I-680.
- Allow 15-30 minutes to walk to the start line after parking. Walk north along the Iron Horse Trail to get to Iron Horse Middle School. **IMPORTANT:** From the parking lot to the school is more than 1/2 mile.

#### Half marathon participants

- There's plenty of parking within three blocks of Primo's Pizza. Half marathon runners park on the street or in the Danville municipal lots on Railroad Avenue. Do NOT park in the BevMo lot on Diablo Road.
- There will be a shuttle to take runners from the finish line back to the race start. The half marathon shuttle begins at 9 a.m. and the last bus will leave at noon.
- There will be bags available for runners to store sweats/jackets. They will be marked with names and bib numbers, and brought to the finish area at Iron Horse Middle School for pickup. Do not store anything valuable in the bags.

tance of education and wanted to do something to raise money," he said. The run concept seemed a great fit.

Rhodes recalled that his dad ran the race for many years, and said he ran the race a couple of times himself. He has two kids in the school district and believes the race is still a good way for his business to give back to the community.

"Sometimes we take it for granted how good the schools are," said Rhodes, who is himself a product of the district. "It's just a good way to give back."

About the time Harvey and Jack Rhodes were holding meetings in their living rooms to plan the early races, a foundation to support the local schools was being formed. Local attorney Al Frumkin established the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation in 1982. When Rhodes and Harvey learned of this group through a Rotary connection, a partnership was formed.

Since its inception, the Education Foundation has poured more than \$2 million into district schools for a variety of enrichment activities not funded by the state.

Vanessa Chan, the foundation's executive director, said the race is the foundation's major fundraiser every year.

"We hope to raise over \$120,000 this year," said Chan.

Money from the run supplies grants at the classroom, school and district levels.

For the current school year, the foundation awarded more than \$70,000 in grants to teachers for use in their



Rancho Romero students (l-r) Danny Carpentier, Chris Bortolon, Justin Kim, Samantha Carmel, Greg Carmel and Matthew Kim complete last year's Primo's Run.

classrooms. These grants covered everything from robotics to Spanish, from physical education to author visits. Any aspect of educational enrichment can be funded through teacher grants.

Grants vary in size depending on the nature of the teacher's classroom need, and any teacher can apply for grant amounts up to \$1,500, said Chan.

School level grants in the amount of \$1,000 each were given to more than 20 schools for reading and writing programs.

"Schools had to complete an application and say how they would use \$1,000 for reading and writing programs at their schools," Chan explained. She said the only constraint on these grants was their area of focus.

The foundation also supports district grants in the area of science.

"The science initiative comes about because of a discussion with the district making science more of a priority," said Chan.

Support is in the form of a multi-year commitment to fund longer-term projects, but there is also a \$10,000 teacher grant available in the area of science as part of this initiative. These grants fund a wide range of classroom science-related activities, including the purchase of specialized equipment.

Despite the sagging economy and grim economic news, Chan is optimistic about this year's success. Registrations are tracking with past years, and the community has always dug deep for schools. This year Shapell Homes agreed to the role of title sponsor, a boon for the race.

"This community is very committed to education and we haven't seen a decrease in registration. We're really hoping to beat last year's number," said Chan.

Runners helping with that goal will be following a course through the San Ramon Valley. Beginning at Primo's Pizza on the corner of Hartz Avenue and Diablo Road in Danville, the approximately 600 runners competing in the half marathon will line up for a 7:15 a.m. start.

The route goes a block east to Front Street, south to Laurel and under the freeway, then winds through residential streets, eventually leading to the Iron Horse Trail and connecting with the shorter 5K course on Norris Canyon Road.

Five thousand people are expected to run or walk the more accessible 3.1-mile course, which starts at Iron Horse Middle School and loops through Bishop Ranch before ending back at the school. Kids of all ages—including groups forming "centipedes" to represent the different schools—families and community members turn out for the race every year.

While the bulk of money raised comes from runner registration fees, schools can score big in a number of ways, including providing volunteers for the event.

"We have a planning committee that meets for about six months prior to the race, but we need over 500 volunteers on race day," said Chan.

To motivate volunteers, the race planners reward schools with points for every volunteer position they fill. Jobs such as area captain earn schools five points,

while other positions, such as those at the start and end locations of the 5K course, earn a single point.

Race officials tally the points and each school group earns \$50 for every 10 points awarded its volunteers. An additional \$500 is awarded to the elementary, middle and high schools earning the most volunteer points.

Schools also earn money for participation. Schools with more than 40 percent of their enrollment participating in the race can earn \$1,000. But smaller percentages earn money, too.

Education has already won in the lead up to the race. Spirit Week, hosted by Primo's Pizza from Sept. 28 to Oct. 1, raised more than \$8,000, said Rhodes.

Throughout Spirit Week, people turned out by the hundreds to eat pizza and support the cause. Diners were entertained by a different school chorus each night and had the chance to win different prizes.

For community members who wanted to get behind the schools without loading up on carbohydrates or breaking a sweat, an online auction was open from Sept. 19 to Oct. 6. Items up for bidding included tickets to art museums, theaters, local attractions and stores with all proceeds going to the Education Foundation. The auction raised more than \$8,500.

Carolyn Degnan, executive director of the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce, is a race veteran. She served as race director in 1999 and 2000 and still volunteers on the course every year because it gives her a chance to get out with the community.

"It's a great community effort, coming together to raise money for the school district—and it's lots of fun, too," said Degnan.

Matt Waterson couldn't agree more. An Alamo resident since 1999 and a participant in the half marathon for many years, he said that he does the run for two simple reasons.

"One, I do it for the exercise," said Waterson. "And two, I do it for the school district. It's great to get out there and see all the familiar faces at the event."

This year Waterson's half marathon plans were canceled due to an injury suffered during a basketball game, but he still plans to run the 5K with his son, Steven, a sixth-grader at Stone Valley Middle School.

"In the past, I had to get up early and run the half marathon," said Waterson. "This time I'm staying with him (Steven) and running the 5K. Hopefully, I can keep up."

Those interested in joining Waterson, Degnan and the thousands of other community members who will be out pounding the pavement for schools can register late on Oct. 17-18 at Forward Motion Sports in Danville or on race day at either the Primo's or Iron Horse Middle School starting points.

After the runners make their morning sprint through Danville, the downtown will settle back into its peaceful Sunday routine. But the energy of the race will remain—and the schools will benefit from it all. ■



Matt Waterson

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## How Six Figure Income Families Get Thousands of Dollars in Free Money for College

Local man teaches free workshops to help parents save thousands in process

Pleasanton/Danville---Tri-Valley parents that are planning on sending a child to college in the next few years, but aren't quite sure how to pay for it can now rest a little easier.

Richard D. Patrick of California College Planners has been educating families in the community for over 15 years.

"It's really sad, but most parents that we talk to have done real well financially, but never found the time to save for college, and now they're facing a bill of \$18,000-\$45,000 a year, and they don't know who to turn to," he says. "Further, most of the time, all they hear is to not even bother applying for any aid because they make too much money. However, most of the time, that is simply not true...even if they make a six-figure income."

Richard would know, because his group has worked with over 1400 families in the last 10 years ranging from single moms to corporate CEO's, and they say they can help anyone get through the process and save a bundle...no matter how good of a student they have or how much money they make.

"I got started in this because I was a very good student, but no one told us *anything* about how to access money for college, or even how to pick a career...so I didn't go right away. But, I vowed that I would learn the process and devote my time to helping families not fall into the same trap that we did. 'Simply put, we show parents the truth that they aren't hearing anywhere else about how the college process really works and save *thousands* of dollars in the process.'"

Tri-Valley parents will have a couple opportunities to hear Richard speak. He is teaching his class 'How to Give Your Kid a 4-Year College Education Without Going Broke!' on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Pleasanton Library at 400 Old Bernal in Pleasanton, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Round Table Pizza located at 3203 Crow Canyon Place. All classes are 7:15pm - 8:45pm.

"We'll discuss everything from the greatest myths about the college process, to how to send your student to a fancy private school for less than the cost of a junior college...it'll be like learning how to get a brand new Lexus for the price of a used pick up truck," he grins.

Topics will also include why private scholarships and 529 plans are a waste of time, how to double or even triple the amount of free money you receive from each school, and how to avoid the one mistake that will kill your chances of getting any money at all that almost every other parent will make this coming January, and much, much more.

"They will learn a ton, and I do my best to make the class fun," he says. "It's like I'm giving them a super bright flash light to navigate a pitch black cave, while all the other parents continue to stumble around blindly!"

"Don't forget: the class is totally free, but seats are limited. Also, I'm not sure when I'll be teaching these classes in the Tri Valley again since my November calendar is already filling up, so come on out and see me." You can reserve a seat by calling our 24 hour reservation line at (800) 676-0496 ext. 502 or online at [www.cacollegeplanners.com/valley](http://www.cacollegeplanners.com/valley)

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# Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

## Author Visit

**'The Serpent and the Scorpion'**  
Bay Books San Ramon will host Clare Langley-Hawthorne, author of "The Serpent and the Scorpion; an Ursula Marlowe Mystery," for a reading and book-signing, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 2415 San Ramon Valley Blvd. This event is free and open to the public. Visit [www.baybooks.us](http://www.baybooks.us) or call 277-1252.

**Sweet & Simple Bake Sale** Come join Sandra Lee on her Semi-Homemade Sweet & Simple Book Tour at Rakestraw Books, noon-1:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24, 409 Railroad Ave., Danville. A portion of the proceeds from the tour will go to Share Our Strength, which is dedicated to feeding children in the U.S. Call 837-7337.

## Concerts

**Four-Hand and Solo Piano** Reeder Music Academy presents Dr. Steven and Yukiko Moellering in a recital featuring the works of Mozart, Debussy, Chopin, Liszt and others, 7-8:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. For tickets call 964-0571; \$12 adults; \$8 children.

## Events

**Danville Fall Crafts Festival**  
Celebrate the 17th annual Danville Fall Crafts Festival, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 25-26, Hartz Ave., downtown Danville. Highlights are 200 art and craft exhibits, Glass Pumpkin Patch, entertainment, Halloween costume parade, kids activities and great food and beverages. Admission is free. Call 837-4400.

**Forest Home Farms Pumpkin Patch** Visit the Forest Home Farms Pumpkin Patch, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays from Oct. 4-31, at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Visit [www.forestHomeFarms.wordpress.com](http://www.forestHomeFarms.wordpress.com) for events and to schedule school field trips, or call 997-6575.

**Halloween Kick-off at Blackhawk Plaza** Families are invited to enjoy free festive Halloween fun at Blackhawk

Plaza with a pumpkin hunt, pumpkin carving and music/comedy from the Cotton Candy Music Express, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Blackhawk Plaza-Children's Playground. Call 736-2751 or visit [www.shopblackhawkplaza.com](http://www.shopblackhawkplaza.com).

**Harvest Festival Craft Fair** Come to the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church Harvest Festival Craft Fair, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, at 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Have lunch in the Harvest Cafe offering home-baked desserts and Mary's soup. Call 837-5243.

**Pumpkin Jubilee and Harvest Festival** Children and their families are invited to celebrate Halloween and Fall Harvest at the Danville Livery's Annual Pumpkin Jubilee, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, at 440B Sycamore Valley Blvd., Danville. Enjoy trick-or-treating at participating stores, pumpkin carving, balloonist, live music, free pumpkins (while supplies last) and more! Visit [www.danvillelivery.com](http://www.danvillelivery.com).

## Fundraisers

**Antique Appraisal Show** The San Ramon Senior Center Foundation will sponsor its third annual Antique Appraisal Show, from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, at the San Ramon Senior Center, 9300 Alcosta Blvd. Professional antique appraiser will evaluate family antiques and collectibles. Cost for entry and \$10 per item appraised. Call 973-3250.

**Bay Area Crisis Nursery Gala** A Fall Gala Fundraiser will benefit Bay Area Crisis Nursery, which provides a safe place for children whose parents temporarily can't cope, from 6-10 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 15, at Diablo Country Club, 1700 Clubhouse Dr. Silent and live auctions including David Yurman jewelry, Hawaiian Pro Bowl package, get-aways and more. Cost is \$95. Smooth jazz by Antonia Venezia, gourmet dinner and valet parking included. Visit [events@bacn.info](mailto:events@bacn.info) or call 685-6633.

**Biletnikoff Foundation Celebrity Crab Fest** The ninth annual Biletnikoff Foundation Celebrity Crab Fest and Sports Auction will take place 6-11:45 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7, at the San Ramon Marriott. It includes dinner with celebrities, live entertainment, a diamond

drawing, Raiderettes performance, original art by Armando Delgado, a tribute to Gene Upshaw and live and silent auctions. Cost is \$120 per person. Call 556-2525 or visit [www.biletnikoff.net](http://www.biletnikoff.net)

## Lectures/ Workshops

**Journey Through Hunger** Shoshana Kobrin presents alternative ways of dealing with life's challenges, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, Oct. 31, San Damiano Retreat, 710 Highland Blvd., Danville. Cost is \$95 for CEU's, \$70 without. Six CE units offered. Call 837-9141, ext. 315.

## Literary Events

**'Two Cities, One Tale'** Danville and San Ramon residents are joining in a six week, book-sharing event to read one book together from Sept. 22-Oct. 27. Pick up a free copy of "Kabul Beauty School" by Deborah Rodriguez, to read, discuss and then pass along to friends. CityRead concludes with a special presentation featuring the author at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 29, at Danville Village Theatre, 233 Front St. Call 837-4889.

**Great Books Poetry Weekend** The Great Books Council of San Francisco will host its 23rd annual weekend of poetry discussions Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 15-16, at Westminster Retreat in Alamo. To register call (650) 854-3980 or e-mail [oscarf1@earthlink.net](mailto:oscarf1@earthlink.net).

## On Stage

**'The Best Man,' by Gore Vidal** Sue Trigg directs Role Players' production of a startlingly timely political play, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, from Oct. 10-Nov. 1, Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Preview Thursday, Oct. 9 (donation optional). Cost is \$22-\$25, \$15 for students with ID, and groups of 10 or more. Tickets available at Danville Community Center, at [www.village-theatreshows.com](http://www.village-theatreshows.com), or call 314-3400.

**Best Of Momix** Enjoy a performance by Momix, a company of dancer illusionists, 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 2, Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. Visit [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) or call 973-ARTS. Single tickets are \$34, packages available.

## Political Notes

**Town Hall Meeting with U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison** A Town Hall Meeting with U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN 5) will take place from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. Ellison will talk about war and peace around the world and social and economic injustice in the U.S. The cost is \$10-\$15/\$5 for students. Visit [www.mtdpc.org](http://www.mtdpc.org) or call 933-7850.

## Support Groups

**Coping with the Holidays** Hospice of the East Bay offers an adult grief class, Coping with the Holidays, 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 5, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. For information and to register call 887-5678.

## Volunteering

**Hats Off America Volunteer Opportunities** Hats Off America is looking for volunteers for a Red T-Shirt 10K Runs/5K Walk on Nov. 8. Proceeds benefit Hats Off America, which provides support to families of American soldiers. Call 855-1950 or visit [www.hatsoffamerica.us](http://www.hatsoffamerica.us).



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# Derby bound

Danville team seeks Red Bull Soapbox Derby Crown

by Geoff Gillette

It's an image straight out of Norman Rockwell. A group of neighborhood kids throwing together a car out of scrap wood and metal. The car takes shape and the kids drag it to the top of the nearest hill. The driver grins widely, climbs in and the rest throw their weight into the back and push the rickety contraption down the incline and into the waiting jaws of fate.

In this case, the neighborhood is Danville/Blackhawk, the kids are all in their late 20s to early 30s, and the car is made out of fiberglass and aluminum and cost thousands of dollars to make. And the hill isn't some Midwestern bump in the road but one of those steep slopes in San Francisco that make you sweat just looking at them.

This isn't your father's soapbox derby.

In an era where nearly every sport has been taken to its extreme, leave it to energy drink manufacturer Red Bull to appeal to the child in all of us to create a soapbox derby challenge that combines a classic derby with the speed and thrills sought by adrenaline junkies the world over and the goofiness of today's Reality TV shows.

That's exactly what drew the members of Team Honor Roller of Danville to be one of 36 competitors in the race being held tomorrow in San Francisco, on Dolores Street in the Mission District.

"I was commuting into the city and heard the commercial," said Team Captain Bryan Montalvo. "I thought it would be pretty cool and decided I wanted to try it."

Montalvo mentioned the race and his thoughts on entering it to good friend James Martin and the team had its beginning. "Bryan told me about it and I was in," Martin said. He added, "It all came together in a few days over a couple of beers."

The pair recruited two more members to round out their team: Scott Blake and Andy "Big Ginger" Littig.

"Scott works at Alamo Bicycles so we knew he'd be able to help us with the wheels and brakes," Montalvo said. "As far as Andy, we were down at Meenars and Andy was working and we said we needed some muscle and Andy is the biggest guy we know."

Thus the crew was formed. Martin, a self-professed adrenaline junkie, would be the driver; Montalvo, a product designer, would act as vehicle design lead and Team Captain; Blake took on the role of mechanic; and Littig would be an additional mechanic/pit crew.

Montalvo said to join the race they had to fill out an application and provide a design sketch of their concept to race officials. Once approved, they would have around six weeks to build their prototype racer.

The Honor Roller is named for a soapbox derby car created by a character on an episode of the Simpson's TV show. Montalvo said that he was happy they got approval of the Simpson's design plan but that was actually their second entry into the race.

"Our first design idea was a big donkey,



Honor Roller Team Driver Martin James sits back in the bucket seat he'll be riding in for tomorrow's race in San Francisco. In his left hand he's holding the brake controls.

We'd push it down the street and then James would jump in the rear," Montalvo laughed, "They didn't approve that one, so they must have liked the Simpson's better."

The team has spent dozens of hours and more than \$3,000 designing and building its car. Martin said they want the Honor Roller to not only look good but to run the course in record time. "A lot of the cars are papier mache and aluminum. They're going to fall apart. Ours is built for speed."

The process has been a difficult and expensive one for the crew but they were glad to get some community support.

"We've gotten some of it donated," Blake said. "Mike Wells at Alamo Bicycles donated the wheels and the brakes. Track Magic is providing the steering assembly."

Blake said the sponsorships and donations have really made the car a community project. "The best part of building the car is all the people we know. It's been effortless, getting help." He added, "It's been a lot of fun for us too. A lot of good late nights putting this together."

The body of the car will be fiberglass. The foursome took blue foam and cut it into the basic body style of the car. They spent most of a weekend applying a clay compound to the outside. The fiberglass will be applied next and once it is done the shell will be removed from the foam and the whole thing smoothed out and painted.

Montalvo said once all of the work is done,



Team Captain Bryan Montalvo models the Homer Simpson mask he will wear during the team's 30-second skit. Red Bull officials will be judging based on creativity and "outrageousness."

they will start working to get it all together and ready to run. Martin added, "Once all the pieces are here it will come together pretty fast."

Test runs on the actual race course on Dolores Street in San Francisco are not allowed, but the Honor Rollers plan to at least get it out on the street to make sure it rolls well and the steering and braking assemblies work properly.

Blake said with a laugh: "Let's just take it down from Mount Diablo. That would be a good test."

The race course is relatively short, only two blocks. It starts on a ramp at 21st and Dolores, and the Judges Platform is at 19th and Dolores. Hay bales are placed along the street so the course is not a straight shot downhill but includes two turns and a jump.

Martin joked that if he makes the jump just right he could actually bypass one of the turns. This led to a discussion of putting a skid plate under the nose of the vehicle so on impact it wouldn't be damaged.

With the steepness of the hill, the crew is expecting the Honor Roller to get up to between 20-30 mph. Montalvo assumes that the driver will be braking at times on the track. Martin, on the other hand, said he's happy to have the brake, but doesn't plan on using it. "Real men don't use brakes," he said.

As the car continues to come together, Montalvo said they have ideas for additions

to make it function better but they have to be conscious of how much the vehicle weighs. "Our biggest challenge will be coming in at or under the weight restriction. The weight limit is 176 pounds, so we need to be aware of how much everything will weigh when we're putting it together."

On Oct. 17 the finished racer will be loaded onto a trailer and taken to "Pit Row," an area set aside for the racers on 20th Street between Dolores Street and Church Street. On Saturday, crews will be examined by judges prior to the start of the race to make sure the cars are within weight limits and can be part of the race. Then at 1 p.m. the competition begins.

"The race is only part of it," Montalvo said. "Before we run the car we have to do a 30-second skit. At the end of it James jumps in the car and the rest of us push him down the hill."

The Honor Rollers will be putting on a Simpsonsque performance with Montalvo as Homer, Blake as Moe the Bartender, Martin as Martin, and Littig as Red Bull man. The original concept called for Littig to be the Duff Beer man from the cartoon, but the rules say there can be no alcohol or alcohol-related activities in the skits.

Red Bull regional communications director Scott Houston said the vehicles, the race and the crew's showmanship all play a factor in determining a winner.

"It's split evenly between the three categories. There are 10 points that can be awarded for each category, and there are five judges for a total of 50 possible points per category," he explained.

In addition to working on their own car, crew members keep an eye on the competition. Sketches of all the competitors are posted on the Red Bull Site [www.redbull-soapboxusa.com](http://www.redbull-soapboxusa.com). Many also post build videos and information on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). There you can see a soapbox crash reel and videos of past winners.

Martin said there were a couple of cars in the race that just seemed destined to fail. "There's one with a huge hamster wheel on top. It's made out of pvc pipe." Chuckling he added, "There's going to be some spectacular crashes."

On the other hand, the team has seen one car that looks to be their nemesis. "One car called the Testosta-rod actually has a suspension," Montalvo said.

Martin chimed in, "It looks fast. Other than that car, I'm not too concerned."

The Honor Roller team members said they are hoping to see solid support from the town out on the race course. "We've invited half of Danville," Blake said.

The winner of the derby will receive a Nascar Package that will get the winning team into the pits, let them meet Red Bull drivers and get to see a real Nascar race up close.

Blake shrugged off the potential prize. "We're in it to have fun, for the bragging rights."

James Martin disagreed, "We're in it to win. We're going to win."

A laughing Blake responded, "If we don't get first or second, James isn't coming out of San Francisco." ■



BY MARIA SHEN

## SAT ruins a Saturday

As a 17-year-old, I love Saturdays for the leisurely pace of them. I'm free to procrastinate and just float in the middle of things. Whatever was done on Friday was just a prelude to more fun, and whatever I needed to do over the weekend could be taken care of on Sunday. Saturday is sacred in that way. It's like a cup of chamomile tea—perfectly relaxing.

That's why I was bitter, you see, when I had to be woken up by my flashing/vibrating/screaming alarm clock at 5:45 a.m. and drive for 40 minutes to a testing site in near darkness for the recent October SAT. By the time I got there, my head was pounding, my eyes refused to stay open, and my skin felt clammy because I was about to pass out from lack of sleep.

I'm not a morning person. I am not happy before noon and even less happy when I have to face three hours and 45 minutes of testing. There were two five-minute breaks, during which I was allowed to use the bathroom. And, for some reason, the person I stood next to in the bathroom line was humming a very catchy tune, "What is Love," which I ended up bobbing my head to through the Critical Reading section, and over some lovely Geometry problems in the math portion of the test.

The bottom line is this: It's hard to stay awake during the SAT, and even harder to concentrate. To sharpen our minds before the test, high school students take large doses of vitamins, drink tea, or

guzzle caffeine. I can definitely claim I drank a large amount of black coffee last Saturday—my test proctor practically had to pry the coffee cup out of my unwilling fingers. Caffeine's probably bad for me, but I figured that propping my eyelids up with little wooden sticks wouldn't end well, either.

However, in order to really gain a competitive edge over their peers, some teens will take prescription medication. And, believe it or not, it happens in Danville, too. Using stimulants for Attention Deficit Disorder, in particular, is widespread.

"Ritalin—I think that's the best focus drug out there," said a student, who asked not to be identified. He told me he hadn't ever taken the drug but claimed, "Yeah, I definitely know people who took it." He did admit to a few protein shakes before the SAT.

A quick search online yields instant results. TopUniversities.com led me to an article titled "Pressed to Do Well On Admissions Tests, Students Take Drugs." The article describes a 17-year-old senior who took Adderall, another ADHD medication, two hours before the test.

This anonymous student reports, "It just felt like I was on top of my game. I knew I was going to get the questions right."

These drugs aren't deadly, but they aren't exactly candy capsules either. Adderall is a mixture of amphetamines and definitely not intended for people without ADHD. Amphetamines mimic the

neurochemical dopamine, which is known to increase alertness, but they also cause dangerous side effects and dependency.

Similarly, Ritalin is a medication for Attention Deficit Disorder, approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Here's the scary part: It's normally prescribed to children. Medication like Ritalin isn't difficult to get. Students can easily get a pill from a sibling or a friend.

This is what I think: It's bad. Don't do it.

On pain of sounding like a cheesy D.A.R.E slogan or anti-drug crusader, I really must say that taking anything that messes with the chemicals in your brain probably isn't the safest-sounding idea. And, that, frankly, includes caffeine.

On Saturday, after an hour of feeling jittery from the coffee, I started to slog through the remaining test sections, feeling more tired than when I started out.

Take a leaf from my anonymous friend who drank protein shakes, or Shazia Manji, a senior at Monte Vista, who drank black tea for breakfast.

Oh, and I heard sleeping helps, too.

*Maria Shen, reporting on Generation Y, is a senior at Monte Vista High School. She founded Contra Costa County's Young Bohemians creative writing club and is editor of Voicebox, a literary magazine. E-mail her at youngbohemians@gmail.com.*

## 'Best Man' kicks off season

Role Players starts 25th year with politics

by Geoff Gillette

With the national political landscape about to be altered forever and local theater entering a historic 25th year, Gore Vidal's "The Best Man" is a natural fit for Role Players Ensemble Theatre.

Role Players started its 25th season with Vidal's somewhat jaundiced view of the political system and the lengths that candidates will go to become president.

Director Sue Trigg starts the show off with a clever use of multi-media, broadcasting a "press conference" featuring candidate William Russell (Richard Aiello) on a pair of screens to either side of the darkened stage.

Once the conference is over the screens go dark, and the lights come up on a hotel room. In comes the candidate, along with campaign manager Dick Jensen (Daniel Brown) and the show is off and running.

The main plot centers on Russell's campaign for president against Joe Cantwell (Jim Janisch). The men have contradictory styles, mirroring to some degree the current state of our presidential campaign. Both candidates are at their party's national convention and awaiting their nomination.

Adding to the tension is lame duck President Arthur Hockstader (Dean Creighton). Hockstader is courting both candidates for his endorsement but plays coy as to whom he would select to be the next president.

"The Best Man" is a fascinating portrayal of what happens behind the scenes in a presidential campaign and the deals and tricks that candidates play to get to the White House.



Despite some minor pacing issues and a few incidents of unfortunate blocking, the show carried off very well on opening night last Friday, with the characters meshing together with energy. Creighton in particular does a fine job of playing the aging President, a man who sees the end of his political life coming and does what he can to safeguard his country's future.

The scenes with Janisch and Aiello show solid acting, with each man playing off the other with grace and aplomb. The pair does a fine job of ratcheting up the tension between them without ever giving rise to anger or shouting. Daniel Brown worked perfectly in these scenes as well, his character of Dick Jensen supporting his sometimes overly noble candidate, but never taking his eye off the prize.

In supporting roles, both Beth Chastain and Kristie Maloney worked well on the stage as Alice Russell and Mabel Cantwell. One of the best scenes in the show mirrored the animosity and tension between the two candidates as reflected by their mates.

As Mrs. Gamadge, Janice Fuller lit up the scenes she shared with the other actors. Fuller played Gamadge as the Elder Stateswoman of the convention, a sort of dowager aunt who tells both the candidates how they should be running their campaigns if they want "the women" voting their way.

Kudos to Tom Leone in the role of Cantwell campaign manager Don Blades and Doug Guyon as Sheldon Marcus. Both men showed an excellent sense of timing and delivery during two key scenes in the show.

As mentioned before, Director Sue Trigg utilized multi-media to highlight aspects of the show. In addition, the audience was treated to audio clips from past presidential campaigns as a means of transitioning from one scene to the next. Rather than the traditional "black-out," Trigg provided the distraction while sets were being changed and actors took their places.

"The Best Man" provides a witty yet uncompromising view of the life of a politician and what it takes to make it to the top. Picking this show as the premiere show of the new season was a risky move on the part of Role Players, but with the performances turned in by the actors it certainly seems to have paid off. ■



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## SAN RAMON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS WRAPUP

by Kaity Ferretti

### Women's Tennis

San Ramon varsity women's tennis team was defeated by Carondelet High School on Oct. 7, which ended San Ramon's 5-0 winning streak in the East Bay Athletic League. The girls played a total of nine matches. San Ramon and Carondelet were tied 4-4 and went into a sudden death ninth match. SRVHS won in the No. 3 doubles position when sophomores Wendy Mrdja and Marissa Collins came through with a 7-6, 6-0 victory. Despite their loss to Carondelet, San Ramon (11-2) has been extremely successful, winning the Union City Invitational Tournament and placing second in the Palo Alto Tournament. In league, San Ramon has beaten Livermore, Granada, Amador, Cal and Foothill.

### Women's Water Polo

San Ramon Valley's women's varsity water polo team went undefeated (8-0) into the game against Monte Vista on Oct. 7, but the Wolves were unable to secure a win against the Mustangs. MVHS, who won North Coast

Section last year, is San Ramon's only threat to water polo this year. The Wolves fought hard but were not successful at getting any good shots and were held back by multiple kick-outs. However, junior Kayla Wagner scored three goals for the Wolves, while senior Grace Hochstatter and sophomore Danielle Ferraro each scored one. San Ramon is ranked second in EBAL and fourth in NCS. "We are playing very well as a team this year, compared to last season," said senior Melissa Fisher.

### Football

The San Ramon varsity football team adds another win under its belt after defeating Amador on Oct. 10. The Wolves (5-0, 2-0 EBAL) demolished the Dons (2-3, 0-2 EBAL) 41-13. San Ramon started off strong defensively, preventing Amador from gaining little if any yardage. Coach Dave Kravitz commented that the San Ramon defense on Friday was the best he had ever seen against Amador. On offense, Wolves running back Brett Trimble took advantage of wide lanes produced by San Ramon's O-Line. Trimble ran for 179 yards on 14 carries and scored on

a 57-yard scamper. The Wolves had a total of three interceptions, supplied by Bryce Peterson, Ryan Gordon and Byron Gruendl, in the first half alone. Quarterback Joe Southwick completed 13 of 33 passes for 236 yards and two touchdowns. San Ramon's place kicker Grant Vandevanter performed exceptionally well as he booted consistent kickoffs in the end zone for 40 yards and 36 yards.

## PREP SCHEDULE

### Friday, Oct. 17

#### Football

SRVHS vs. Granada (JV, 4:30 p.m.; V, 7 p.m.)

MVHS at Cal High (JV, 4:30 p.m.; V, 7 p.m.)

#### Men's Water Polo

SRVHS at Acalanes, Varsity only

#### Women's Water Polo

MVHS at Campo, 5 p.m.

### Saturday, Oct. 18

#### Women's Water Polo

SRVHS vs. Marin Catholic (JV, 10 a.m.; V, 11 a.m.)

#### Women's Volleyball

MVHS- Newark Tournament

## Drivers headed for Speedo Cup

The 680 Drivers 7th-8th Grade Boys Water Polo Team qualified Oct. 5 for the 2008 National Speedo Cup Championships in Ann Arbor, Mich., by beating Lamorinda WP, 9-4, and Stanford WP, 11-4, to win the Pacific Zone Qualifier. This is the second year in a row that the 680 Drivers will be representing the Pacific Zone at the Speedo Cup. Last year they placed fourth. The 08 Speedo Cup, being played Nov. 7-9, is one of most prized events in the U.S. Water Polo Organization.

The 680 Drivers team members are (front, l-r) Grant Garcia, Andrew Shutt, Connor Thompson, Ryan Aufer, Andrew Parese, Samuel Yorke; (back) Brian Roudnev, Spencer Creed, Alex O'Laughlin, Nick Pasichuke, Tyler Martin, Tucker Angelo, Colin Chiapello and Coach Mundy (Matthew Mundelius).

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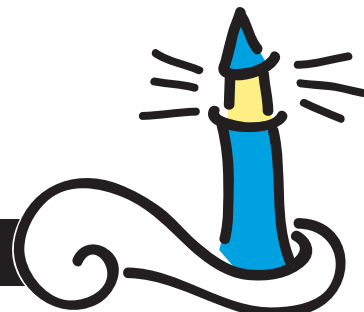
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Priced to sell! Newly Released 35 acres- \$39,900. Majestic lake & Mountain views, adjacent to national forest for camping or hiking, close to conveniences. EZ terms. 1-866-353-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

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"Hey, Max," I said, "Do you want a cookie?" Wag, wag, wag. "How about going for a walk?" Wag, wag, wag. "Do you want to take a nap?" Wag, wag, wag. That's Max for you. He's such a happy dog he wags his tail all the time! Max is a mature adult, neutered male Yellow Labrador who LOVES people. He walks nicely on a leash and he knows some basic obedience commands like "sit" and "down." Max loves treats and he sits nicely to earn one. Max is a good listener, until you tell him to stop wagging his tail! Oh well, Max is a happy-go-lucky kind of guy. Consider Max, if you are looking for a pet who will become a cherished member of your family. Visit Max (pet #81428) at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin, open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

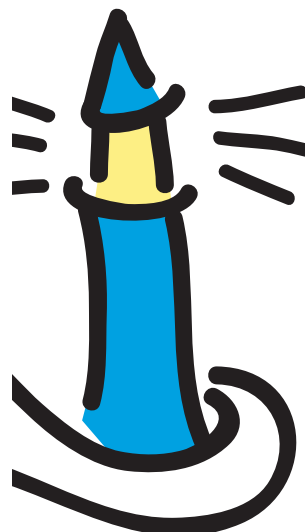
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# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### BLACKHAWK

| 3 Bedrooms                |                       |          |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>537 Silver Oak Ln.</b> | <b>\$680,888</b>      |          |
| Sun 2-5                   | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 583-2181 |
| <b>106 Kingswood Cir.</b> | <b>\$699,000</b>      |          |
| Sun 1:30-4:30             | Alain Pinel Realtors  | 577-0525 |

### DANVILLE

| 4 Bedrooms               |                      |          |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| <b>2651 Finley Rd.</b>   | <b>\$3,250,000</b>   |          |
| Sun 1:30-4:30            | Keller Williams      | 260-8883 |
| <b>262 Abigail Ci r.</b> | <b>\$779,500</b>     |          |
| Sun 1:30-4:30            | Alain Pinel Realtors | 577-4004 |

| 5 Bedrooms          |                    |          |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| <b>149 Sunhaven</b> | <b>\$1,439,950</b> |          |
| Sun 1-4             | Keller Williams    | 260-8883 |

### DUBLIN

| 4 Bedrooms                  |                       |          |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>11120 Bay Laurel St.</b> | <b>\$1,342,500</b>    |          |
| Sun 1-4                     | Keller Williams       | 260-8883 |
| <b>7157 Hansen Dr.</b>      | <b>\$649,000</b>      |          |
| Sun 1:30-4                  | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 570-0717 |
| <b>4096 Cermanho Ct.</b>    | <b>\$675,000</b>      |          |
| Sun 1-4                     | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 200-4130 |

### LIVERMORE

| 3 Bedrooms              |                       |          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>4290 Cornell Wy.</b> | <b>\$499,950</b>      |          |
| Sun 1-4                 | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 583-2177 |
| <b>1208 Melanie Wy.</b> | <b>\$690,000</b>      |          |
| Sun 2-5                 | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 580-4513 |

| 4 Bedrooms              |                            |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| <b>744 Olivina Ave.</b> | <b>\$435,000</b>           |          |
| Sun 1-4                 | Prudential CA-Tracy Esling | 366-8275 |
| <b>2801 Vine Ct.</b>    | <b>\$949,900</b>           |          |
| Sun 2-5                 | J. Rockcliff Realtors      | 784-0099 |

### PLEASANTON

| 3 Bedrooms              |                       |          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>6045 Acadia Ct.</b>  | <b>\$599,990</b>      |          |
| Sun 1-4                 | J. Rockcliff Realtors | 788-7788 |
| <b>447 Del Sol Ave.</b> | <b>\$849,900</b>      |          |
| Sat/Sun 10-1/1-4        | Hometown GMAC         | 487-1427 |

| 4 Bedrooms                |                    |              |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>3907 Arrowwood Ct.</b> | <b>\$1,399,999</b> |              |
| Sun 1-4                   | Hometown GMAC      | 800-362-6257 |
| <b>7341 Joshua Cir.</b>   | <b>\$699,000</b>   |              |
| Sat 1-3                   | Joyce Jones        | 398-6706     |
| <b>5281 Northway Rd.</b>  | <b>\$749,500</b>   |              |
| Sun 1-4                   | Hometown GMAC      | 426-3889     |

| 4 Bedrooms               |                  |          |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------|
| <b>2623 Starling Ct.</b> | <b>\$759,000</b> |          |
| Sun 1-4                  | Keller Williams  | 984-4910 |

| 5 Bedrooms                   |                      |          |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| <b>2784 Calle De La Loma</b> | <b>\$1,089,000</b>   |          |
| Sun 1-4                      | Alain Pinel Realtors | 998-4311 |
| <b>1368 Royal Creek Ct.</b>  | <b>\$1,328,888</b>   |          |
| Sun 1-4                      | Keller Williams      | 260-2508 |

### SAN RAMON

| 4 Bedrooms             |                  |          |
|------------------------|------------------|----------|
| <b>30 Pamplona Ct.</b> | <b>\$689,888</b> |          |
| Sat/Sun 1-4            | Keller Williams  | 260-2508 |

## SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during September 2008

| Alamo                               | Danville                           | Walnut Creek                      |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total sales reported: 2             | Total sales reported: 13           | Total sales reported: 14          |
| Lowest sale reported: \$1,100,000   | Lowest sale reported: \$165,000    | Lowest sale reported: \$252,000   |
| Highest sale reported: \$1,140,000  | Highest sale reported: \$1,549,000 | Highest sale reported: \$888,000  |
| Average sales reported: \$1,120,000 | Average sales reported: \$924,462  | Average sales reported: \$532,393 |

## HOME SALES

Source: California REsource

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| This week's data represents homes sold during September 2008                    | <b>1352 Fountain Springs Circle</b> Manos Trust to B. Manos for \$665,000             | <b>2724 Oak Road #119</b> D. Allyn to D. Ferguson for \$298,000                     |
| <b>Alamo</b>  | <b>1386 Monterosso Street</b> Lennar Homes to C. & T. Smith for \$1,054,500           | <b>2700 Oak Road #22 C. &amp; C.</b> Petrone to A. & C. Liebow for \$270,000        |
| <b>168 Patricia Lane</b> MaComber Trust to A. & S. Hansen for \$1,100,000       | <b>1110 Mustang Drive</b> M. Decorte to B. & N. McCaul for \$695,000                  | <b>2724 Oak Road #89</b> M. Murphy to C. Freimanis for \$252,000                    |
| <b>116 Post Road</b> Talbert Trust to A. Cavotta for \$1,140,000                | <b>2031 Pin Oak Place</b> T. Gentile to E. & M. Zuleger for \$1,549,000               | <b>2408 Ptarmigan Drive #2</b> Stewart Trust to Yamamoto Trust for \$537,000        |
| <b>Danville</b>   | <b>881 Richard Lane</b> K. & D. Stone to I. & S. Archbell for \$1,055,000             | <b>2608 Saklan Indian Drive #6</b> Wilson Trust to MaComber Trust for \$770,000     |
| <b>700 Blue Spruce Drive</b> F. & L. Carobolante to Quinn Trust for \$1,175,000 | <b>705 Ynez Circle</b> M. McGuire to C. & M. McGuire for \$165,000                    | <b>114 Sand Wedge Place</b> Primacy Closing Corporation to M. Nimon for \$525,000   |
| <b>2109 Carmenere Street</b> S. & A. Bauer to K. Oh for \$960,000               | <b>Walnut Creek</b>   | <b>130 Sequoia Avenue</b> Day Trust to D. & D. Chivers for \$525,000                |
| <b>302 Cliffside Drive</b> Faber Trust to R. & L. Faber for \$1,237,000         | <b>1315 Alma Avenue #313</b> Alpine Development to A. Ward for \$479,000              | <b>2267 Shannon Lane</b> Long Beach Mortgage to J. Mogadam for \$590,000            |
| <b>300 Cottswald Court</b> KB Homes to A. & M. Joshi for \$1,042,500            | <b>50 Frances Way</b> Neff Trust to C. Neff for \$835,000                             | <b>911 Springfield Drive</b> Prudential Relocation to D. & N. Swanson for \$888,000 |
| <b>324 Cottswald Court</b> KB One to M. Richards for \$925,000                  | <b>5920 Horsemans Canyon Drive #1C</b> Newman Trust to P. Kiesle for \$520,000        | <b>2120 Tice Creek Drive #2</b> Leveille Trust to Harper Trust for \$315,000        |
| <b>3069 East Griffon Street</b> Shapell Industries to A. Figueroa for \$725,000 | <b>5910 Horsemans Canyon Drive #2A</b> Buchman Trust to G. & L. Burnett for \$649,500 |   |
| <b>810 El Capitan Drive</b> Ace Securities to T. & R. Mulholland for \$770,000  |   |   |



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ESTATES

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**160 Camille Ave, Alamo—\$2,950,000**

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### *Napa Winery*

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**100 Muir Lane, Alamo—\$3,625,000**



### *Tuscan Villa*

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