

# Danville Weekly

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Vol. V, Number 8 • June 19, 2009

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

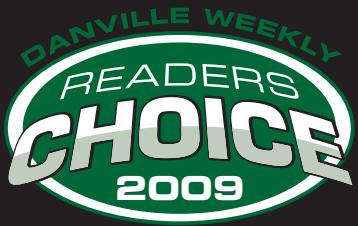
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**READERS CHOICE SECTION, PAGE 11**



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# Streetwise

ASKED AT CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB

## What do you remember most about your father?



**Richard Procnier, Ph.D.**  
*retired scientist*

He was a television pioneer from Chicago. He traveled west to California with a TV exhibit in 1936, and I was born in Texas on the way. He spent his life around amateur radio, collecting parts and building ham radios. He had me build my 26-tube radio and get a ham license at age 15. He inspired me to become an engineer/physicist.

**Anne Wullenwaber**  
*homemaker*

He was a great father to me and my four sisters in a small town in Louisiana. He was loving and considerate and raised us to be mature, responsible people. If we had a problem, we could go to him and he would show compassion while giving wonderful advice. He moved us to Southern California to give us better opportunities for success. I adored him.



**Bill Barrington**  
*retired building contractor*

He was the hardest working man I ever knew. As a building contractor in St. Helena, he helped build the Louis M. Martini winery and home. I helped him in the summers and learned a lot for my future vocation. He didn't pamper us. He showed you one time and you better pay attention so you could do it or he'd be angry.

**Howard Sumerlin**  
*retired real estate broker*

He was a very happy-go-lucky guy who grew up with eight siblings outside Spokane, and he also had nine children. He was proud of the fact his cousin, Mr. John Bruce Dodd, started the first Father's Day in Spokane around 1918. He was a hard-working farmer all his life.



**Rita Lucas**  
*homemaker*

He was a great inspirational guy. He came from Poland at age 13 by himself and put himself through high school, college and law school by working as a pressman for the Chicago Tribune. He practiced law in Evanston until age 90. His attitude was, "If you can't do it in the United States, you can't do it anywhere."

— Compiled by Stan Wharton

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail editor@DanvilleWeekly.com

## About the Cover

Grace Nelson, 3, and Jenna Reed, 5, sit on the steps outside the Yogurt Shack in downtown Danville and enjoy their frozen yogurt. The Yogurt Shack received this year's Reader's Choice award for Best Yogurt/Ice Cream Shop. Thousands of votes were cast by Danville Weekly readers to determine the Readers Choice awards, which celebrated services from the best tire store to the yummiest Italian cuisine. Photo by Geoff Gillette.

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The danger heightens outside of the Golden Gate, with waves breaking 15-20 feet."

Ocean racer **Mike Mahoney**, who is sailing in the Coastal Cup. See story, PAGE 22.

### Fine Arts Faire in downtown Danville this weekend

Danville will once again welcome 200 artists from around the country to exhibit at the Danville Fine Arts Fair from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday on Hartz Avenue, hosted by the town and the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce.

"There will be free activities to enjoy and it is also a great opportunity to show our support to local merchants as well as artists from near and far," said Chamber CEO Melony Newman.

The town's two-hour parking limit will not be enforced this weekend, and there will be free shuttle service from the Sycamore Valley Road park and ride.

### DBMG hosting panel on entrepreneurship

The Diablo Black Men's Group breakfast meeting tomorrow morning will be hosted by its Business and Marketing Team and will include a panel discussion on "Entrepreneurship in a Challenging Economy." Panelists will include Lola Robinson of the U.S. Small Business Administration, Peter Goodman of Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), and Jeffrey Hall of the Contra Costa Small Business Development Center.

The panel discussion will be free, a community service project that is part of DBMG's continued efforts to provide best-in-class presentations. The breakfast meeting will take place at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 20, at the San Ramon Marriott. For more information, call Daniel Newson at (408) 421-7824 or e-mail Daniel.Newson@ktvu.com.

### Calling all children to march in Fourth of July Parade

The theme of the 2009 Kiwanis/Danville Fourth of July Parade, presented by Heller Jewelers, will be "Celebrating Our Youth." In honor of the theme, the Grand Marshal for 2009 will be 1,000 children walking and riding their bikes decorated in red, white and blue at the beginning of the parade and Kiwanis is looking for more entrants. Register at [www.kiwanis-srv.org](http://www.kiwanis-srv.org).

The parade starts at 9 a.m. Kiwanis expects about 125 entries in 24 different categories, which will be judged. Winners will receive a Best of Parade award at the Kiwanis luncheon meeting July 9.

The Town of Danville will remove any chairs or items placed out before 6 p.m. July 3 to reserve places to view the parade. Also residents are requested not to use chalk or tape on the sidewalks for this purpose, due to cleanup costs, especially since the sidewalks cannot be washed after the parade due to water restrictions.

### Where there's smoke there may be fire training

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District will be training from Tuesday, June 23, through Thursday, June 25, so residents should not be alarmed if they see or smell smoke in the air. This training exercise is designed to prepare firefighters for wildfire season and will include extinguishing grass fires in the controlled environment at Army Reserve base, Camp Parks, in Dublin.

For more information go to [www.firedepartment.org](http://www.firedepartment.org).

### Danville firm gives \$550,000 to John Muir Health

John Muir Health Foundation, the charitable fundraising organization for all John Muir Health programs and services, has received a pledge of more than \$550,000 from the HEDCO Foundation in Danville. The gift will help fund state-of-the-art neonatal intensive care equipment for highest acuity patients in the Joseph M. Long Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery at the Thomas J. and Muriel T. Long Patient Care tower in Walnut Creek, scheduled to open in early 2011.

The John Muir Health Foundation's Capital Campaign is seeking to raise \$56 million by 2011 for the approximately \$800 million building expansion projects at John Muir Health's Concord and Walnut Creek campuses, currently in progress.

Founded in Oakland in 1972, HEDCO is a private foundation funded by numerous sources, including corporations and individuals. It supports a variety of philanthropic projects.

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## Alamo MAC discussion continues

*Participation and representation are two big issues*

By GEOFF GILLETTE

Talks concerning the establishment of a Municipal Advisory Committee (MAC) were the main focus of the June 4 meeting of the Alamo Community Council. Over 40 residents attended the meeting to find out more about MACs and to learn the overall plan of District 3 Supervisor Mary N. Piepho.

A MAC is an advisory committee that reports to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. Under county statutes, the MAC would be made up of seven members and would have the ability to create subcommittees to address specific issues.

Piepho's Chief of Staff Tomi Van de Brooke led the discussion at the ACC meeting. Residents were given a draft copy of the board motion to create the MAC. The resolution explained the basics behind the formation of the advisory body. Those included:

- Boundaries for the MAC
- Membership is set at seven
- Term of office is the same as the District 3 Supervisor
- Duties and Powers
- Staff support will be provided by Piepho's office

Unlike the recent attempt at incorporation in Alamo, there is no vote on the creation of a MAC at the public level. If Piepho decides a MAC would be beneficial to the area, she presents a board motion and the county Board of Supervisors votes on whether to approve it. If approved, Piepho would then name the MAC members.

This led to the first questions from residents. One resident asked why the county can simply declare a MAC, instead of allowing for a vote.

Van de Brooke said they had decided not to seek an election on the issue as it is not mandatory. California state code does allow for elections, but Van de Brooke said the county had chosen to opt

out at least in part due to monetary considerations.

"It cost around \$100,000 to put the incorporation question on the ballot. I'm not sure there's \$100,000 around to put another question on the ballot," she stated.

Conversation on the proposed MAC became more animated as residents brought up two main concerns. The first is that while the MAC can create subcommittees, they must be comprised of current members of the MAC, not other residents. The second is that the MAC is limited in how it can interact with other agencies. County codes prohibit MAC members from representing Alamo to non-county agencies or groups.

ACC member Steve Mick, a supporter of the MAC, said that second proviso is one he can't stand by.

"That's a stopper. That's a big stopper for me," he said. "California code allows that for MACs, but it's up to the counties to set up the rules for their MACs. And the county's rules are stricter than the state's."

Community advocate Grace Schmidt said she does not think that the MAC should be going to other agencies in a representative capacity, but she did question whether the rules against communicating with other entities would preclude them from getting information they need to discuss issues and come up with opinions.

"Information needs to come as directly as possible. The MAC has got to have full access to the information because you can't give advice if you don't know the score," she said.

Van de Brooke disagreed with the assertion that information would be unavailable to MAC members.

"I don't understand the concern because anybody can ask for information. The concern I heard was that by becoming a MAC

See **MAC** on Page 9



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

### A dandy Doggie Night in Danville

From Chihuahuas to Pyrenees, the dogs were in downtown Danville on June 4, as were those services that support them. Doggie Night was sponsored by Discover Danville and held next to Molly's Pup-purr-eee. "This is the most crowded one so far," noted Chuck Jakub, a Danville resident who was in attendance with his terrier mix Daisy. He said he recently moved from Alamo to downtown Danville just to be near such events. Above, Chewy is alert to canine action as he attends Doggie Night with Connor and Keaton and their dad Anthony Schultz. Below right, relaxing and watching the world—and many dogs—go by are Jericho, a terrier poodle, and Ketia, a shepherd mix, with their owner Stephanie Roberts.



## Danville Town Council approves lean spending plan

By GEOFF GILLETTE

Members of the Danville Town Council gave their approval to a \$25.3 million operating budget Tuesday, reflecting large scale losses of revenue from previous years and forecasting few gains in the next five years.

At their June 16 meeting, council members were given an overview of the spending plan by Town Manager Joe Calabrigo.

"As everyone knows, what we've been going through in the current recession and current economic cycle is not typical," he stated.

Calabrigo said their assessment

of the situation is that the town is facing two major fiscal impacts. The first being the global economic situation and its subsidiary effect on home sales, property taxes and sales taxes. The second being the unknown of what the state of California may do in its quest to achieve a balanced budget.

As a result, the budget put before the council showed a 6.4 percent decrease over last year's budget and would require significant financial reductions across the board. Calabrigo said that the budget would show reductions in 33 of the 42 program

*Balanced budget shows 6.4% decrease from 2008-09*

areas in the town. Only six program areas are targeted for increases.

Areas receiving increases include town-wide special events, Animal Control, Building Services, Parks Maintenance, Roadside Maintenance and Youth Services.

Calabrigo said that there are five major programming areas in the town and all of them are being cut back.

- General Government: 14.0 percent
- Police Service: 2.1 percent

- Development/Transportation: 15.6 percent
- Maintenance Services: 0.1 percent
- Recreation Services: 1.7 percent

Staffing levels in the town are down by 5 percent, a figure Calabrigo said will remain steady as positions will not be filled. Besides the hiring freeze, town employees will not be seeing salary increases.

"Our system is entirely merit-based but there is no merit increase in the financial plan," he said.

Despite the glum economic news, Calabrigo said the spending plan they proposed is a solid one with the

majority of the reductions designed to have as little impact on the public as possible. And despite the downturn and its effects, the town's budget will manage to keep an operating reserve of \$10.3 million, or roughly 41 percent of the budget.

In discussing the budget process, Calabrigo said that the recession has created a new fiscal paradigm in local government, which will require constant attention.

"This is something we will have to manage and operate in for the next few years. Contingency plans will

See **BUDGET** on Page 9



PHOTO CREDIT 6/7

San Ramon Valley High School families look over the collages of their graduating seniors in the memory room for Grad Nite, an all-night party that this year had a jungle theme to provide safe fun for the class of 2009 SRVivors.



### Graduation scenes

Monte Vista High School graduated 654 seniors this year, including Summer Dashe, who will major in broadcast journalism at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Last summer she worked as an intern at the Danville Weekly, and this past year she was news editor of the Monte Vista Stampede.



Brendan Lynch is headed for the University of Wisconsin, Madison, while Kristin Lynch will attend Diablo Valley College then transfer to UC Davis.



Sasha Hay (left) will attend Johnson & Wales University in Denver, Colo., a culinary school; Danny Kaminsky is headed for University of Redlands.

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# Drought is over but water rates increase

By Geoff Gillette

When the drought surcharge levied on water users throughout the area ends July 1, homeowners won't see a big change in their bills because at the same time a new rate increase will begin.

At their June 9 meeting, members of the East Bay Municipal Utility District Board of Directors adopted a two-year budget that will show a 15 percent rate increase, broken up over the next two years.

The increase means that on July 1, homeowners will see a jump of about \$2.88 per month on an average water bill. In the second year, it is estimated that the increase will be \$2.71 per month, bringing the average water bill up to \$38.66 per month.

EBMUD spokesman Charles Hardy said the directors approved the budget with an eye on maintaining good water conservation

while at the same time dealing with a revenue shortfall that has grown over time.

"The shortfall is primarily due to the slowing of the housing market economically and the lack of water sales, which is one of our key ways of raising money," Hardy explained.

The utility has seen a decrease of \$30 million due to the stagnant housing market and the declining water sales. At the same time EBMUD is dealing with more than \$16 million in added costs in areas like debt service for capital projects, self insurance and employee salaries and benefits.

Hardy said that while there are ongoing projects that they will continue to fund, the utility is continuing to cut back on spending as a means of dealing with the slowed economy and its effects.

"Our new budget freezes 150

positions that won't be filled. It (the budget) made a number of cuts to things, from employee bonuses to delaying some projects," he said.

The news isn't all bad though. Hardy said the directors have concluded that the drought is ending, which means they were able to roll back the 10 percent drought rate surcharges that had been levied over the past two years. So residents who were paying the surcharges last year may not see any actual change to their bills next year and some may see a slight decrease.

Under normal circumstances, the district has a water supply of around 600,000 acre-feet in its reservoirs. When that number drops below 450,000, a water shortage emergency is declared and increased surcharges can be imposed.

Hardy said they are projecting the water supply to reach 540,000

acre-feet. In addition to ending the drought surcharge, the increased supply also means that mandatory water rationing has been scaled

back to voluntary only. He added that they are still asking consumers to cut down their water consumption. ■

## Vehicle crashes over I-680 guardrail near El Pintado

The California Highway Patrol responded to a crash in Danville on Friday morning, where a vehicle reportedly crashed over a highway guardrail and landed on the roadway below, a CHP officer said.

CHP and emergency crews responded to a report of a crash on

northbound I-680 near El Pintado Road at around 1:40 a.m., said CHP Officer Ralph Caggiano. A vehicle had apparently collided with the guardrail on the right side of 680 and crashed over it, falling on to El Pintado Road near an undercrossing.

Injuries have been reported, Caggiano said, though the extent of them has not yet been confirmed. Debris was scattered in the right lane of 680, Caggiano said, and more than 50 feet of highway guardrail has been damaged.

—Bay City News

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GEOFF GILLETTE

## Art through group effort

Fifth-graders at Sycamore Valley Elementary School learned about the art of masters such as Seurat, Monet and Van Gogh while at the same time learning about the value of teamwork and collaboration. It was all part of the school's 2009 Art project through the Art Docent program at Sycamore Valley. Parent Brigette Pryor, the mastermind behind the art project, said that 120 fifth-graders recreated 12 artworks, which have all been mounted for display in the school's multi-purpose room. The students were each assigned two squares of their respective painting, which they then reproduced on a larger scale. The students had to work together to be certain the images matched across the squares and meshed with the overall picture. The masterpieces mark the third year that the school has done a large scale project.

## Geyser shoots into air, office building flooded

*Fire department investigating control valve*

By GEOFF GILLETTE

Workers at a building in the 600 block of San Ramon Valley Boulevard got Wednesday afternoon off last week, after a simple maintenance job on a valve leading to the building's sprinkler system became a bit more complicated.

Fire Capt. David Atkin of the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District said crews were called to the building around 1:15 p.m. on reports of water gushing several feet up into the air.

Atkin said a work crew had utilized a fire department connection to shut down the water flow to the sprinkler system in order to perform some routine maintenance. But apparently the department's shutoff valve was not working and when the crew loosened the valve leading

into the building, the water pressure forced the top off and water shot up several feet. After only a few minutes water was six to eight inches deep outside the building and was slowly flooding the ground floor offices.

Atkin said crews attempted closing off the valve but it remained inoperative so they were forced to go to a secondary valve location on San Ramon Valley Boulevard in order to cut off the water feed.

Once the water was controlled, crews began taking out items that may have been damaged and cleaning up several inches of water still flowing in the offices.

No word on damages has been issued by the fire department, and investigators are working to determine why the sprinkler valve malfunctioned. ■

## Father's Day Buffet & BBQ

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# DIABLO VIEWS



By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## Do husbands count as fathers on Father's Day?

Sunday is Father's Day, sending sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters and even some wives shopping. I won't be shopping this year. My father passed away in 2000, and my husband is one of those who says to me on Mother's Day, "You aren't my mother. I don't need to buy you anything." So of course I can use this same logic on Father's Day and how could he complain?

Except. I like to buy presents and like to buy him things. Luckily his birthday is also in June so I can direct my present-buying instincts toward this date. This year I found the perfect gift. His birthday has passed so I won't ruin the surprise by telling you.

I bought him a little handheld vacuum cleaner, one of the series put out by Dirt Devil. Lest you think this gift was not very exciting, I must point out that a few years ago he purchased a dust buster. Since he works out of our home and I work long hours gathering news in Danville, he does his share of the housework. OK, maybe he does more than his share, if you count cooking. Anyway the dust buster came in handy for quick cleanups. When it broke a few months ago, he missed it.

This time I bought a hand vac that has a cord, guessing that perhaps the dust buster's demise could have had something to do with the recharging hootchie.

Good choice, he agreed. So much more powerful. And so much louder—just ask the cat, if you can catch him.

I didn't buy any ol' hand vac, mind you. I actually shopped around for the best. The first place I went only had red and my husband is not a red kind of guy so I kept looking until I found an evil empire black. It has attachments to get into corners and a floppy thing on the end to zero in on cookie crumbs.

My birthday is at the end of June so it will be interesting to see if my husband follows my lead in being over-the-top practical. If he gives me an iron I'll know he doesn't pay attention—I iron about twice a year. (Note: Chocolate covered cherries are a great fallback position.)

One difference between my husband and me regarding presents is that I keep in mind the entire year that there will be several gift-giving occasions. If I perceive that he would like something or see that he needs something I store this information in my brain (or my calendar) to trot it out at Christmastime or birthday time or Valentine's Day time, etc. He, on the other hand, generally waits until an occasion is upon us, then he begins to search his mind in alarm: What does she want? What does she need?

OK, I admit this is unfair. Many times he has given me generous and thoughtful presents that required planning and caught me completely by surprise. But he did used to do this last minute brainstorming for his own father on Father's Day.

I don't know what the fuss is over dads' presents. They are usually grateful for anything. I still

remember going shopping in high school with my best friend who was looking for a birthday present for her father; she bought him a Glenn Yarbrough album. Her dad did plumbing work on construction sites and came home each night to read the evening newspaper and enjoy a glass of wine in a water glass. He was a wonderful man but I'm not so sure he ever listened to folk music. But I seem to recall him receiving the album with a twinkle in his eye and a hearty thank you and hug for his 16-year-old daughter, who never failed to delight him.

Growing up, my sister always bested me in the present department. She was five years older and more in tune with my parents' interests. Decades later, I still remember being jealous of my father's complete delight when she surprised him with the book, "Comstock Commotion: The Story of the Territorial Enterprise and Virginia City News" by Lucius Beebe, which was just out. Our father was a huge Nevada enthusiast and a newspaper man. The Territorial Enterprise, one of the first newspapers in the West, was one of many that came to our home. Even then I knew that it was the perfect gift for him although I hadn't heard of the book until she surprised him with it.

Isn't it great when you know just what to give and the price is right and you're able to find it? Better yet is when it's a surprise. I think my husband expected the hand vac although he may have expected something else in addition—so the gift turned out to be a surprise after all.

Dolores Fox Ciardelli can be e-mailed at [editor@DanvilleWeekly.com](mailto:editor@DanvilleWeekly.com).

## 2.5 earthquake strikes Danville

The U.S. Geological Survey reported last Friday that an earthquake with a magnitude of 2.5 struck just northeast of the intersection of Sycamore Valley Road and Camino Tassajara in the Short Ridge in Danville at 10:20 a.m. Reports said it had a depth

of about 4.9 miles.

Several minor earthquakes also struck earlier last week near the same location. An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 3.5 hit near the area Monday afternoon at 3:15 p.m. with a depth of 5.5 miles, followed by two aftershocks. ■

## BUDGET

Continued from Page 5

need to be in place in case the economic situation changes," he said.

Only one person spoke about the budget during the public hearing. Resident Linda Stollow called on the council to allot more resources to the town's burgeoning senior population.

"I don't think we can ignore the tsunami that is called baby boomers," she stated. "When I look at other communities that are less solvent and less affluent and I see what they've done for them, I want to recommend that we consider some other alternatives besides putting the seniors in the Veterans Building."

Calabrigo responded by saying that so far they are not seeing any programmatic evidence of an increase.

"The enrollment we see in all of our programs from youth through teens through adults all the way up to seniors are not changing significantly. We continue to see strong demand in all those areas," he said.

Mayor Newell Arnerich agreed. "There are a number of programs in Recreation Services that are going to see some cuts in 2009-10. That includes adults, seniors and cultural arts."

Councilwoman Candace Andersen said that even with all the cuts, seniors are still seeing improvements in service. "Even today in our current economic crisis we're still spending \$55,000 more than we did in 2008," she said.

Council members decried the state's ongoing plans to take revenues away from the towns. Initial plans called for taking some property tax revenues in order to balance the budget but more recent plans are looking at gas tax funds.

"It's like robbing Peter to pay Paul," said Councilman Mike Doyle, "and nobody knows how much Paul actually has. It's a disgrace that we've let this go on as long as we have."

"It's caused by the state's misguided self inflicted budget issues," agreed Arnerich.

After a brief discussion, council members voted unanimously to adopt the budget plan. ■

## Alamo body questions funding

By GEOFF GILLETTE

Questions over whether Alamo's Zone 36 Lighting and Landscaping Committee will disband remain unanswered following the group's June 10 meeting.

In May, Committee Chairwoman Alicia Watson said the group may disband due to a lack of funds and the inability to get projects on the board for Alamo. However, after their most recent meeting, Watson said they are beginning to get answers from Contra Costa County as to where their annual funding goes and how to get some of it redirected to projects.

Tomi Van de Brooke, Chief of Staff to Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, attended the meeting and worked to answer questions from members as to the disposition of their funding.

"Tomi Van de Brooke gave a very good explanation of some of the things we have been questioning," said Watson.

At issue is an engineer's report done annually that takes up two-thirds of the committee's annual budget of \$45,000.

"There are different parts about

the costs of the engineer's report. Things we did not know we are paying for," Watson stated. The committee is drafting a letter to the county asking for a further explanation of the fees and services.

Another question raised during the discussion is the cost for county service charged back to the committee's budget.

"If the public calls the county and asks a question about Zone 36, they charge that back to the Zone 36 budget," said Watson.

Van de Brooke said that while calls are charged back, she doesn't think it occurs on an everyday basis.

"I hesitate to say that every call that comes in is charged to Zone 36," she claimed, "but if significant time is spent on an inquiry that type of activity would be charged to the zone."

Committee members were directed to discuss the engineer's report further with county staffers. Watson said if they are able to recoup some of that expenditure, it might free up some money for projects in Alamo. ■

## MAC

Continued from Page 5

member you're giving up certain rights as individuals. That's not the intent," she explained.

She added that there are ways for the members of a MAC to provide representation to other agencies. They can address the agency involved as an individual, or they can contact the supervisor and either request that the supervisor send a letter addressing a specific concern or request permission to allow the MAC members to address an entity on an issue.

Afterward, Van de Brooke said she was pleased with the turnout and by the level of discussion.

"I think those who attended asked a lot of good questions," she said.

Van de Brooke will be back before the ACC at its next meeting to continue the dialogue on establishing a MAC. She said that at this time there is no timeline as to when a MAC formation will take place, but she did say that it will occur before the end of 2009. ■

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# Perspective

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### Summer increases the risk of children drowning

It's not even officially summer and one child has already drowned in Contra Costa County, a 2-year-old girl in Concord last week who was discovered by her parents. Let's all be aware of the dangers of drowning as we head into the sunny season and swimming pools beckon to adventurous children.

The Drowning Prevention Foundation, which is located in Alamo, lists some alarming statistics:

- 50 percent of deaths by drowning occur in residential pools;
- 65 percent of the children were at their own home;
- 46 percent were last seen safe inside the house just before the drowning; and
- 72 percent had direct access to the pool once outside.

The foundation states that constant supervision is not enough to prevent drowning and recommends "layers" of protection, including a fence that cannot be climbed with a self-closing, self-latching gate, alarm systems, powered safety pool covers and self-closing, self-latching doors with automatic sliding door closers. Thirty-five percent of residential drownings are not at the home of the victim so even if there are no children in residence, layers are important. Studies also show that conscientious parents were almost always present when drownings occurred.

The Drowning Prevention Foundation was begun by Nadina Riggsbee, then an Alamo resident, who left her children, Samira, 2, and JJ, 1, with a babysitter while she and her husband went out to dinner in 1978. The babysitter felt sick and went to the bathroom, leaving the children in the family room. She returned 15 minutes later to find the sliding door open and the children floating face down in the pool. Samira was dead and JJ was severely brain injured.

Nadina brought JJ home to care for him, despite his quadriplegia, severe brain damage and tracheal tube that necessitated 24-hour care, and she began to advocate for him to be in school when he got older. In addition, drowning prevention became her passion after she realized drowning was the leading cause of death in California for children ages 1-4. Due to her efforts, Contra Costa County was the first to pass a residential swimming pool ordinance in 1983, and her foundation sponsored the state's 1996 Swimming Pool Act that requires home swimming pools built in or after 1998 to comply with safety standards. She also works to educate parents about other places where children drown, including spas, bathtubs, barrels and 5-gallon pails. She also knows of at least 85 drowning deaths with bathtub ring devices where the suction cups came loose, the children pushed up and fell forward and drowned.

Despite the educational work done by the Drowning Prevention Foundation in the last 25 years, drowning is still the leading cause of death for little children in California. Don't let it happen in your home or to your children.

## 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 or mail to 117 Town and Country Drive, Suite D, Danville, CA 94526. 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 Fox Ciardelli, editor, at 837-8300, ext. 229.

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Serving the communities of Alamo, Blackhawk, Diablo and Danville

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**Bringing out the red, white and blue:** The Danville Fourth of July Parade was voted the best public event.

CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM

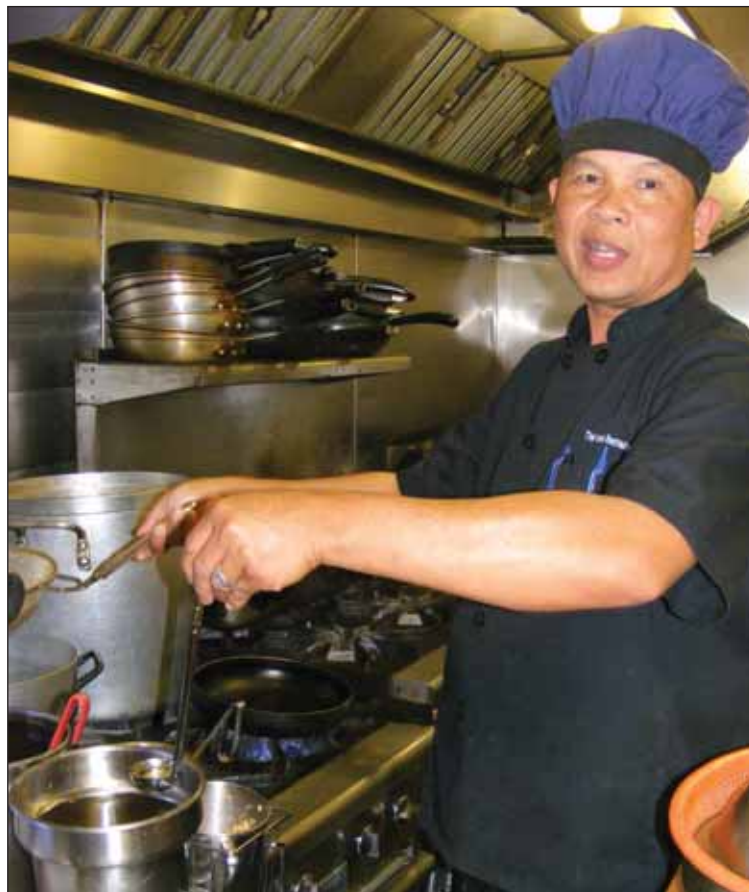
# Readers Choice

From car washes to romantic spots, you told us what's best



GEOFF GILLETTE

**Floral artistry:** Kristin Simpson of the East Bay Flower Company works on a floral arrangement for a customer.



GEOFF GILLETTE

**Cooking with sizzle:** Thai House owner/chef Sam Sendee whips up a meal in the kitchen at his restaurant.

Here's the best! in the Danville area as voted on by the readers of the Danville Weekly. A lot of people also e-mailed in good suggestions on what should be added, such as boating shop, kid-friendly restaurant, toy store, best steak, automotive shop, music class, church, school, carpenter/handyman, health care providers: chiropractor, medical doctor, physical therapist, massage therapist, CPA, auctioneer and catering. But wasn't the ballot long enough?

The winners are:

## AROUND TOWN

**Best auto dealership: Concord BMW**—We expected a Mercedes dealership to win based on our unscientific observations but our Readers Choice poll responders chose Concord BMW. Around here they're just called Beemers but apparently they're called "bimmers" in Jamaica. In Germany where they're made—that's Bavarian Motor Works—BMW is pronounced "bay emm vay." None of us drive beemers; we're in the newspaper business.

**Best car repair: Danville Service Center**—What's all that cussing? Aha! Your car came to a rolling stop so who do ya call? Not the Ghostbusters, but Danville Service Center. At least that's what our readers say. Located on West Linda Mesa in Danville, it earned five stars by one person on Yelp! after charging half what the dealership quoted.

**Best car wash: Sponges and Chamois**—Can't stand those bird droppings another minute? Then head on down to Sponges (next to Costco) or Chamois (near Blackhawk Safeway), which tied for best car wash in the area. Yes, you can do those drive-throughs when you buy gas—but who wants to sit terrified while being attacked by monster rolling brushes, not to mention the cyclone that dries the car. Plus they don't really get the car that clean. For shiny rims and spotless windows, inside and out, trust these two favorites.

**Best computer repair: Tri-Valley PC Medic**—Medic! When your PC has problems, according to our readers, call out for Tri-Valley PC Medic. (When our PCs crash, we yell other things.) Computers are like cars; we love them until they don't work. It's a love-hate relationship. And the Medic can help you stay in love.

**Best Danville Area real estate office/Realtor: J. Rockcliff**—Looking to sell or buy a house? Most of us go through this scary adventure a few times in our lives and it helps to have a pro by our side. We're blessed with a lot of area experts so shop first for a Realtor you like. Location, location, location—we're already in the best.

**Best financial planner: Summit Financial Group**—Financial planning? What a concept. Summit Financial Group offers comprehensive financial planning and wealth management. Also the group is hosting its seventh annual Charity Golf Tournament on Oct. 12 at Crow Canyon Country Club, this year benefiting the Troy and Alana Pack Foundation.

See **READERS CHOICE** on Page 11



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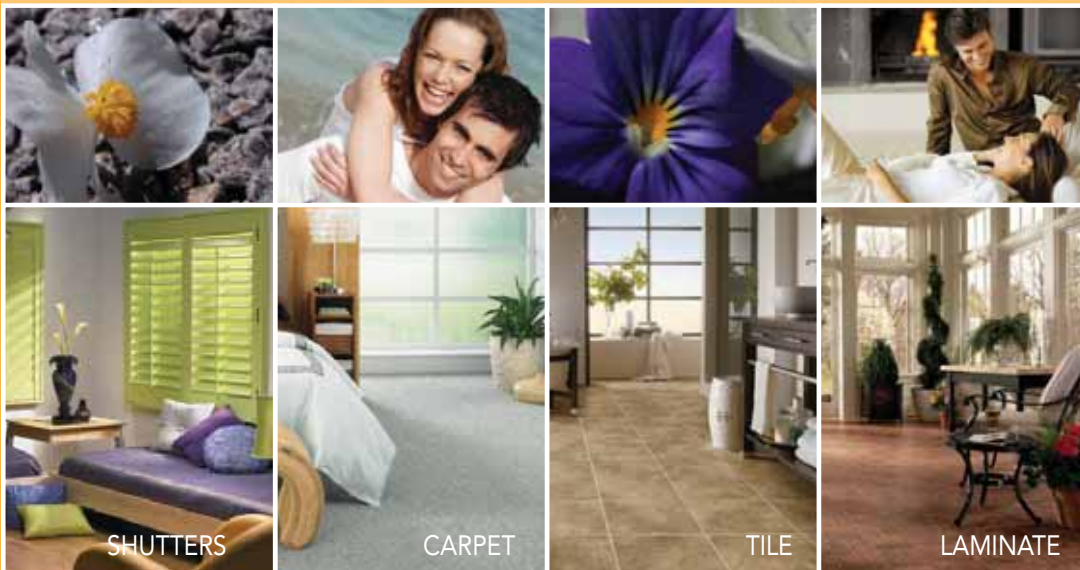


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## READERS CHOICE

Continued from Page 11

**Best golf course: Blackhawk Country Club**—This is a tough category in this golf course-blessed Valley. Blackhawk was originally a ranch raising prized thoroughbreds. The golf courses and luxury housing were developed in 1979, originally featuring opulent homes in the hinterlands. But the landscaping has matured and grown lush, and Danville and San Ramon have grown out to meet it. Blackhawk has come into its own as golf nirvana.

**Best mortgage broker/brokerage: Jim Black, Countrywide**—What's a house without a mortgage? Old. Jim Black of Countrywide Mortgage received the most votes from our readers so he must be doing something right. It's important that your mortgage broker knows his stuff and our readers trust Mr. Black.

**Best pet groomer: Shampoooches**—Aw, come on, you guys just like the name. This San Ramon establishment opened in 1993 and provides professional grooming services for all breeds of dogs and cats. It also has a self-bathing tub—no, not to bathe yourself, to bathe your animal yourself. That's for those customers who enjoy washing their pets but don't want the mess in their homes. Shampoooches motto is: "Tails are Waggin, Pets are Braggin." Let your pooch walk proud!

**Best pet sitter: Pets Plus**—No one looks as sad as a pet watching his owners pack their bags. But maybe Pets Plus can turn this around. PP's goal is to make sure the owners feel totally comfortable leaving their loved ones in their care. They also point out that a pet sitter offers home security and yard care as well as pet care as they bring in the mail and newspaper, water plants, etc. But most importantly pets can stay in their own environment, and all the pets can stay together.

**Best place to get a traffic ticket: Camino Tassajara**—Come on, folks, the speed limit on Camino Tassajara is 45 mph and no one needs to go faster than that. Plus those helpful signs give drivers an electronic reading on their speeds midway between the freeway and Blackhawk. Maybe people like to

see just how high they can make that number go.

**Best place to have a first date, best place for a picnic: Mount Diablo**—Whether it be at Rock City, the top of the mountain or just out on one of the many miles of trails crisscrossing its massive expanse, Mount Diablo is the perfect place for a picnic—and a first date. Nearly unlimited views all the way to the ocean, coupled with narrow valleys and hidden waterfalls make this a beautiful area to hike, explore and enjoy. But on a first date, be sure to keep your eyes on the winding road en route—nothing puts the kibosh on romance like being carsick.

**Best place to people watch: Starbucks on Hartz Avenue**—Need a dog fix or a kid fix without getting one of your own? Settle yourself at a table at Starbucks on Hartz Avenue and you'll see it all as people go about their business in downtown Danville. The show includes hot chicks and hunks, too. Obviously warm weather and summer fashions are the best so get on down.

**Best senior living facility: Villa San Ramon**—Have you always wanted a home with white columns? This grand entrance can be yours at Villa San Ramon, voted No. 1 by our readers. The outdoors is important here, with lush landscaping, courtyards and a one-mile walking path. Residents can exercise their green thumbs in their personal gardens set in raised planter boxes. Villa San Ramon offers independent living as well as assisted living, Alzheimer's and respite care.

**Best swim school: Sue's Swim School**—Yes, there really is a Sue, Sue Pantos, who has been teaching and coaching since 1971. Sue taught swimming in Indiana, then moved to California in 1979 and taught in home pools. Since 1985, she has been owner and head instructor at Sue's Swim School in Alamo. To those who drive up and down Stone Valley Road the school is a landmark. To those who want to learn how to swim, it's a godsend.

**Best tire store/service center: Big O Tires**—Roll 'em out, those big O's that hold up our vehicles. Apparently there's more to this

See **READERS CHOICE** on Page 14



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## READERS CHOICE

Continued from Page 12

shop than a clever name because our readers chose Big O Tires as the best store and service center. It's also conveniently located in downtown Danville next to the Iron Horse Trail.

**Best travel planner: Danville Travel**—"See the pyramids along the Nile..." or any of the other wonders of the world. And our readers say they go to Danville Travel on San Ramon Valley Boulevard to help them plan their adventures—by land, by air or by sea—by yourself, in a group, or with a tour.

**Best tutoring school: On Track Learning**—On Track Learning was started a few years ago by Dan Harrington, a teacher in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District who found he liked to teach one on one. At first he went to students in their homes but as his business grew he opened his tutoring center in Alamo, behind Cherubini's coffee shop. Our readers say this business helps them stay on track.

**Best veterinarian: Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center**—Our readers chose Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center as their favorite place for health care and services for their pets. It offers the convenience of a large facility—lots of good doctors, open seven days a week, a pet store right next door—and is well planned, from the doggie relief area in front to the grassy expanse in the back to the spacious, well-planned waiting room.



GEOFF GILLETTE

**Lookin' good!** Charlie Phan, of Charlie's Barber Shop, puts the finishing touches on customer Bradd Statley's haircut. Readers picked Charlie's for the second year in a row as best hair salon for men.

### SPECIALTY RETAIL

**Best athletic apparel store: Forward Motion**—Our readers again chose Forward Motion in downtown Danville, which carries running shoes galore and the latest in running apparel with comfortable "performance" fabrics. Of course many of the clothes are perfect, too, for yoga, working out at the gym, and walking around town as well as running. From shorts and tops to warmer gear, it's all stylish and high quality.

**Best bicycle shop: Danville Bike**—With the sunny weather come the cyclists, up and down the major thoroughfares, with the hardest heading up Mount Diablo. For more than 20 years, Danville Bike has been in downtown Dan-

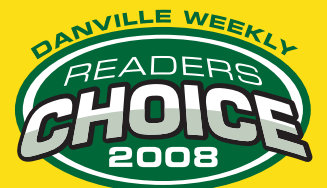
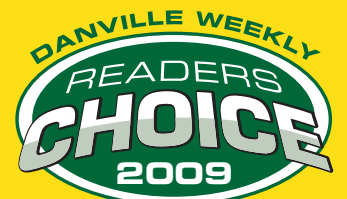
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ville although it recently moved next to Lotsa Pasta on Hartz Avenue. It is owned and operated by Joe Gutierrez, a rider himself as are all of his staff members so they know the importance of good equipment.

**Best bookstore: Rakestraw Books**—Read anything good lately? Ask that question at Rakestraw Books and you may be there a few hours. Check out its spacious new store on Hartz Avenue with the cool floor, vividly painted walls and oriental carpets. Now there's lots of room for each section of books plus a separate space for Julie's Book Club.

**Best children's clothing store: Snickerdoodles**—Cute as a sugar cookie—that's what the clothes are in Snickerdoodles on Hartz Avenue, which must be why our readers voted it the best children's clothing store. It's a children clothing consignment shop and lots of new items are available here at good prices.

**Best discount store: Tuesday Morning**—Any morning is a good time to shop at Tuesday Morning, voted best discount store by our readers. It's a large venue, located on Camino Ramon around the corner from Costco, and inventory at this chain store changes often.

**Best florist: East Bay Flower Company**—When it comes to flowers, it's the little personal touches that do it. That's why our readers picked East Bay Flower Company. During its 22-year history in the Livery, co-owners Kristin Simpson and Vicki Low have built up a reputation of putting that "something extra" into everything they do.

**Best grocery story: Trader Joe's**—To hear Trader Joe tell it, he scours the world on the back of camels and mules to search out bargains to sell at his homey little shops to his best friends. We know that's but an illusion but nonetheless our readers like the goods at this convenient downtown grocery store where the "crew" is helpful and the prices are good.

**Best hobby/craft store, framing shop: Richard's Arts and Crafts**—Whether you're a crafty oldtimer or a newcomer to arts and crafts, Richard's Arts and Crafts in Alamo will keep you in supplies, plus offer you advice. This roomy store is well organized and pleasant to browse for holiday fare—you may be surprised at how easy it is to decorate with the right supplies.

**Best home accessory store, best place to buy a gift and best home furnishings: Elegant Clutter**—Looking for that special something for your coffee table—or looking for an accent piece? For home accessories, our readers say Elegant Clutter in the Livery is tops, as well as finding the perfect gift for a friend's home. This shop is fun to wander through at any time but during the holidays the large rooms, each decorated differently, are absolutely elegant.

**Best jewelry store: Christe James Fine Jewelry Works**—Our readers chose Christe James Fine Jewelry Works as their favorite jewelry store and how hard to choose from so many. Owners Christine and Jim Edlund offer an array of jewelry from renowned

designers or will work with customers to design something just for them at their Hartz Avenue store.

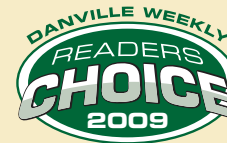
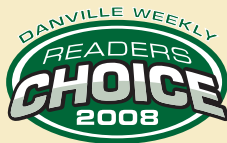
**Best maternity store: Bellies N' Babies**—Our readers head for Bellies N' Babies for maternity wear. This cute shop on East Prospect Avenue in Danville opened in September 2005, the brainstorm of a young mother who couldn't find anything stylish to wear when she was pregnant. It also offers diaper bags and clothes for babies and toddlers.

**Best men's clothing store: Patrick James**—Patrick James, voted best men's clothing store, is located in Blackhawk, one of 17 locations for this Purveyor to Gentlemen. It carries everything from dress wear to casual clothing to swim attire. No wonder the men around here are so well dressed.

**Best pet store: Molly's Pup-Purr-ee**—From collars to pet fashions to treats, Molly's has it all, which must be why our readers voted it best pet store. It opened in 1996 as an act of love for the owner's dog Molly, whom she described as "a perfect Welsh Terrier." She knew other people must have the same great bond with their pets and want to buy them items that are fun, functional and safe.

**Best shoe store: Tootsies**—When it comes to pampering one's feet, Tootsies ranks right up at the top. Not content to offer shoes to compliment a woman's foot, Tootsies also provides in-store pedicures and will even schedule after-

See **READERS CHOICE** on Page 16



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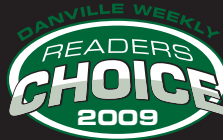
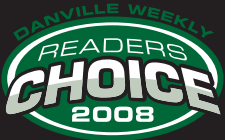
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for voting us **Best Home Accessory Store**  
and **Best Place to Buy a Gift**  
and **Best Home Furnishings**  
for Readers Choice 2009



# ELEGANT CLUTTER

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## READERS CHOICE

Continued from Page 15

hours pedicure parties for you and your friends.

**Best wine store: Beverages & More**—Our readers chose BevMo as the best place to buy their wine. The chain store, located on Diablo Road, has a good moderately priced wine selection plus all the other alcoholic beverages and tasty snacks to go with them.

**Best women's clothing store: Chico's**—Chico's, at the southern tip of Railroad Avenue, was named the best women's clothing store by our readers. This tells us something about our readers because while Chico's aims to provide style it also emphasizes comfort. For basic sweaters, T's or jackets with a striking print, there's no place like Chico's.

### PERSONAL CARE AND PAMPERING

**Best day spa and best medical spa: Professional Skin Aesthetics**—Our readers named Professional Skin Aesthetics as the best in two categories, as day spa and medical spa. They do cross over when services include chemical peels, hydrating eye treatments, Botox and treatments for spider leg veins, all in a soothing environment. Customers come out relaxed and rejuvenated—sounds like a spa to us.

**Best hair salon for women: Jero'l Salon & Spa**—Jero'l Salon & Spa, located in the Clocktower in downtown Danville, is a favorite for

all ages, for stylish cuts and coloring. Customers rave about the talent of the stylists and the fact that they are fun, which is important for a coloring job that may take hours.

**Best hair salon for men: Charlie's Barber Shop**—Charlie's has the feel of an old time barber shop. When you stop in, Charlie greets you at the door and makes you feel right at home. And when it's your turn in the chair, he demonstrates his tonsorial skills, all while chatting a mile a minute. As customer Bradd Statley said it, "There's always a smile at Charlie's."

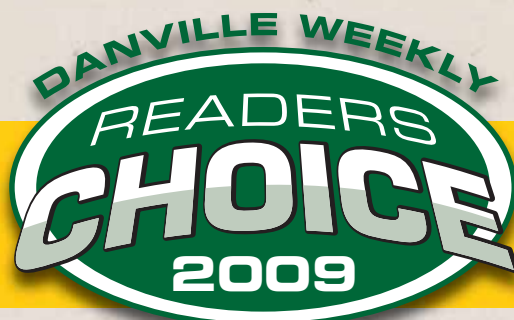
**Best manicure/pedicure: Pinkies**—Slip your feet and hands into that soothing warm water while relaxing in the wide open space of Pinkies in the Livery. Manis and pedis are offered throughout Danville, Alamo and Blackhawk but our readers chose Pinkies as their favorite.

### EPICURE

**Best American food restaurant; best dessert: Esin Restaurant & Bar**—One of the jewels found in the new Rose Garden Shopping Center on Camino Ramon, Esin Restaurant & Bar boasts a wide assortment of cuisines, including its scrumptious pot roast, which comes with garlic mashed potatoes and baby root vegetables. And Chef Esin DeCarion provides a delightful assortment of desserts to tempt even the fullest diner. The dessert menu comes with suggestions for wine pairings to go with the sweet confections.

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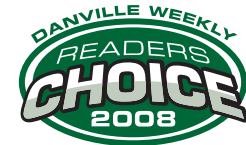


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**Best bakery: Katrina Rozelle Pastries and Desserts**—Readers once again chose Katrina Rozelle's beautiful cakes and desserts as the best in the area. In her Alamo Square location, Katrina spins the ingredients in her kitchen into culinary wonders. Besides fantastic desserts, she designs magnificent wedding cakes to fit any bride's vision of her wedding day.

**Best breakfast: Katy's Korner**—Katy's Corner doesn't just provide breakfast. It provides a homey atmosphere that lets you sit and enjoy your breakfast in comfort. From pancakes to eggs benedict, the menu doesn't disappoint and the portions are of a size that after you finish you might just need a short nap.

**Best burger, best place for a business lunch, best takeout, best happy hour: Tower Grille**—Right in downtown Danville, next to the Clock Tower, you will find the place our readers voted for over and over again. Tower Grille Owner Tony Beville gets big kudos for his juicy 1/3-pound house ground certified Angus burgers; the patties are made fresh daily using a variety of herbs and spices. That may be why readers also chose the Grille for best takeout, although Beville said it could be due to their pizza. Food would be a reason for having a business lunch here, but so would the side room where diners can get a bit of quiet to talk over work-related matters—when their mouths aren't full. And at Tower Grille, Happy Hour runs from 11

a.m.-6 p.m. with \$1 off all drinks. **Best California cuisine/innovative dining, best Mediterranean/Middle Eastern, best romantic restaurant; best salad: The Peasant and the Pear**—Combining breezy openness with a sense of intimacy, the Peasant and the Pear on Hartz Avenue serves up an amazingly deep menu that hits all the right notes. From its Bishop Ranch salad (with an incredible balsamic vinaigrette dressing) to the Sonoma lamb shank served osso buco style, you can't go wrong. For those seeking that romantic evening out, what better way than by starting off with a cheese fondue for two?

**Best Chinese restaurant: Uncle Yu's**—A little bit of Chinatown in San Ramon, this area gem is nestled into a strip mall on Camino Ramon. Uncle Yu's has a gentle ambiance that lures you through the door, its well dressed maitre d' taking you to your table. The food is excellent, from the crab puffs to the general's chicken. The menu accommodates the more discerning fan of Chinese food, while also dishing out tasty versions of the more "Americanized" dishes.

**Best deli: Domenico's**—With more than 40 meats and 30 cheeses to choose from, it's easy to see why readers flock to Domenico's as their favorite deli. On top of that, add 60 different house salads, pizza and other hot entrees and you have a place you may never want to leave.

**Best French restaurant: Pascal**



GEOFF GILLETTE

**Bring your appetite:** Tower Grille's Ashlee Fox shows off why readers picked the downtown eatery for the best burger.

**French Oven**—Pascal, on Railroad Avenue, is not a secret so make sure you give yourself plenty of time to savor your visit and enjoy the delightful ambiance. Delicious pastries and croissants, along with fabulous eggs benedict and French toast. Oui! Oui!

**Best fresh produce: Danville Farmer's Market**—Easily one of the best things about living in Danville is riding your bike or driving downtown on a Saturday morning to enjoy the weekly farmers market. Wonderful food everywhere you look, brought in fresh by area farmers. Strawberries, carrots, okra, you name it, it's there. There's always

a musician playing away, a crepe shop and the chance to stock up on some yummy kettle corn.

**Best ice cream/yogurt shop: Yogurt Shack**—You can't go wrong with a good cup of ice cream or iced yogurt. Almost any day of the year when school is out you'll find teens from nearby San Ramon Valley High School or children with parents stopping by the Yogurt Shack for a cup of creamy goodness. On warm evenings, it's a great "hot" spot.

**Best independent coffee house: Peet's**—Coffee is competitive these days and Peet's is holding its own here in Danville. Readers chose the younger upstart for its atmosphere and its love of the bean. Located on Railroad Avenue, Peet's is a favorite stop for bikers, joggers, strollers and just plain old walkers out and about on the Iron Horse trail.

**Best Italian restaurant: Piatti Ristorante and Bar**—It's a little bit of Tuscany right here in Danville. Readers chose Piatti for a number of things: the tablecloths, fresh flowers, the lighting and of course the menu. Gnocchi to die for in a parmesan sauce with peas and spicy pork meatballs. If you haven't tried the Maiale, do so. It's a house-cured pork tenderloin with a vegetable ragu. Molto Bene!

**Best Mexican restaurant: Luna Loca**—Our readers chose this fun Mexican restaurant in the Livery and with good reason. From the minute you walk in the door, you're taken care of. Copious bas-

kets of chips and salsa are brought to the table while you peruse the full menu. Adults may enjoy a refreshing margarita before digging into some delightful shrimp tacos or the Camarones California.

**Best outdoor dining: Faz**—Faz on Hartz Avenue offers an outdoor dining experience while still allowing a sense of privacy. Sit out among the trees on the patio and enjoy fire roasted Pasilla Peppers or some of the Free Range Pomegranate Chicken prepared in the restaurant's wood burning oven.

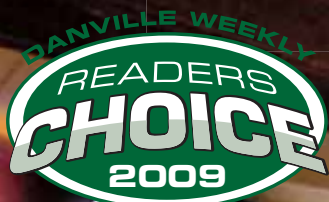
**Best personal chef: Niel Ruggiero, Chef for Hire**—Having a dinner party and want to put out your best Italian cuisine? Bring in Niel Ruggiero to get the job done. Niel will come to your home, prepare and cook a full Italian meal that will leave you loosening your belt a few notches.

**Best pizza: Zachary's**—Readers loved Zachary's Chicago-style pizza, dripping with cheese and sauces, both the thin variety and the deep dish. Since it opened at its location in San Ramon just off Crow Canyon there is always a crowd waiting for the next pie out of the oven.

**Best sushi/Japanese restaurant: Kane Sushi Japanese Cuisine**—Kane, pronounced kah-nay, brings in sushi lovers from throughout the area to its Hartz Avenue location. The wide variety of rolls and the size of the portions keep customers coming back for

See **READERS CHOICE** on Page 18

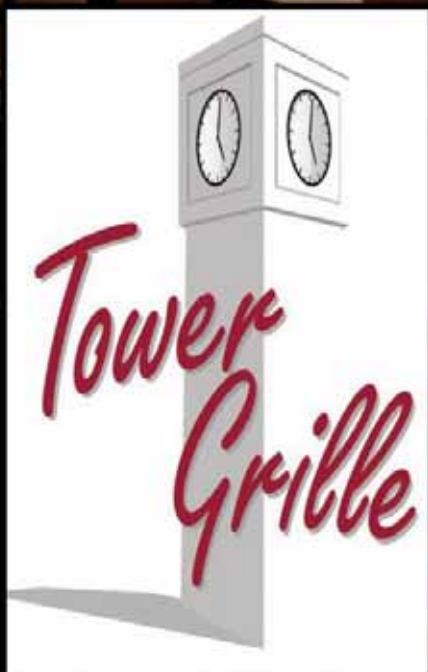
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## READERS CHOICE

Continued from Page 17

more. As one person said on Yelp.com, "Anything with unagi is the bomb here!"

**Best Thai restaurant: Thai House Restaurant**—Owner/Chef Sam Sendee is no stranger to restaurants or Thai cooking. While the Thai house has only been in Danville for six years, Sendee and his family have been running restaurants in the Bay Area for over 20 years. The restaurant has an intimate feel and the food makes each meal an experience. This food from the Land of Smiles will leave you smiling.

**Best wine bar: The Vine**—Whether you are one step from being a sommelier in your own right or if you're a neophyte unable to tell a Bordeaux from a Chardonnay, there is something for you at The Vine at Bridges. The establishment sports 300 different wines for purchase and 30 wines for tasting, by the glass or bottle. The relaxed atmosphere encourages customers to experiment with different tastes in search of the perfect vintage. Live music is performed Wednesday through Saturday nights, and wine education classes are held periodically.

## LET'S GET PHYSICAL

**Best bike or walking trail, best place to jog, best place to walk a dog: Iron Horse Trail**—The Iron Horse trail spreads from Concord to

Pleasanton, providing area residents with the opportunity to get out and walk/jog/bike without getting out onto the busy streets of Danville. Signal lights are installed at all major intersections, heightening the safety. In addition, there are open areas on either side of the paving to allow your canine companion a chance to sniff and explore and to protect the knees of runners not wanting to run on the asphalt.

**Best fitness club: ClubSport San Ramon**—Exercise is a major part of life around Danville, and many of our readers head up Bollinger Canyon Road to get their sweat on at ClubSport in San Ramon. Its 10,000-square-foot exercise area features some of the most advanced fitness machines on the market. Racquet enthusiasts can choose from tennis, squash or racquetball, and the heated lap and children's pools are available year round.

**Best martial arts studio: Tao Sports**—More and more children are learning martial arts both as a form of exercise and as a way of learning to be more disciplined. Tao Sports offers classes for both children and adults in Taekwondo. Instructors help children learn to control their bodies while building self esteem, confidence, focus and discipline.

**Best personal trainer: Michelle Adams**—In addition to her 10 years as a fitness/figure competitor, Michelle Adams is a certified strength and conditioning specialist, personal trainer and holds a



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

**The views have it:** Mount Diablo was chosen best place for a first date as well as best place for a picnic. Our readers must be saying the best first date is a picnic in a beautiful natural spot with sweeping vistas and hiking trails.

masters degree in public health. She will design a diet and workout plan designed to reach goals set by the customer.

**Best yoga/pilates: Danville Yoga Center**—You begin to unwind just walking from the parking lot along the verdant pathway to the Danville Yoga Center. The deck outside holds plants, statues and the shoes of those who enter the peaceful premises to practice yoga, developing an awareness of their body, mind and spirit. Beginners are welcome and classes and workshops are available for all levels. Namaste.

## AT HOME

**Best antiques store: Cottage Jewel**—Readers chose Cottage Jewel for best antiques store although it's more than that with its period jewelry and fanciful wares on Railroad Avenue. As the owner says, "We're more an artist's treasure trove of inspiration than a formal antique boutique." She also provides estate liquidation services.

**Best home consignment shop: Home Consignment Center**—Furniture is better the second time around. Or is that love? Home Consignment Center specializes in high quality furniture and accessories, and gets in new items everyday, including things from builders, model homes, rep's showrooms and the area's better homes. It provides

24-hour holds as well as 24-hour "test drives"—no wonder our readers named it the best!

**Best flooring store: First Choice Abbey Carpet of Danville**—Most people don't change the carpets, hardwood or tile on their floors very often so when they do, they need experts. First Choice Abbey Carpet says it offers fashion, not just flooring, and its experts guide customers every step of the way.

**Best hardware store: Ace Hardware**—Our readers chose Ace Hardware in Danville as the best hardware store. Its huge inventory offers a great selection on everything from hand vacs to plumbing joints, plus it carries seasonal supplies. Right now, check out the patio accessories.

**Best kitchen/bath remodeler: KDC Kitchen and Bath Gallery**—Remodeled kitchens and bathrooms are fabulous—when they're finished. It's the journey through renovations that can be arduous. KDC Kitchen and Bath Gallery has showrooms that demonstrate their capabilities and they will guide you through the process from design to product selection to installation.

**Best landscaper/designer: CK Landscaping**—Lawn looking a little shabby? Or does your entire yard need an overhaul? Our readers love CK Landscaping. It prides itself on attention to detail and that's

what makes the difference between a yard and a "yard."

**Best nursery: Navlet's Garden Centers**—Navlet's has several garden centers and the one in Danville is popular with its residents. It has everything for your gardening needs, from plants and flowers to sheers to cute little gnomes and gardening hats and gloves. Its pros help you select the best.

**Best remodeling contractor: Gaylor Construction**—Gaylor Construction reports that it's been 100 percent on time and on budget for 12 straight years—no wonder our readers like it. The design/build firm specializes in residential and commercial remodeling.

## STEPPING OUT

**Best place for dancing: Two Left Feet Dance Center**—Owned and operated by Randy and Stephanie Krul, the Two Left Feet Dance Center boasts the largest dance floor in Contra Costa County. Classes run the gamut from swing dancing to the Texas two-step. All the classes are available to drop-ins and you don't even need a partner. Brides wanting to make sure their feet stay unbruised on their wedding day can have the folks at Two Left Feet help choreograph their first dance.

**Best place to get together with friends: Pete's Brass Rail & Car Wash**—Don't bother looking for the brass rail, and your car will remain every bit as dirty as when you got there. What you will see though, is a great place to hang out with friends. Whether you are simply having a cold beverage and hitting the sumptuous appetizer menu or you're there for the long haul, Pete's has got you covered. Just don't ask them to wash your windows.

**Best public event: Danville annual Fourth of July Parade**—One of the most highly attended events of the year takes place during the hot first week of July. Dozens of area groups turn out for the parade, making floats, handing candy to the crowd and just generally having a great time. Beware though, seating goes fast. Diehards start staking out their seats the night before! ■



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# Community Pulse • Transitions

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Joyride leads to DUI arrest

A 25-year-old San Ramon man was arrested on charges of driving under the influence last week, following a car crash in the 800 block of Ackerman Drive in Danville.

Danville Police Department Sgt. Dan Hoffman said that around 9:20 p.m. Thursday night, officers were called to the area of Ackerman Drive after neighbors reported that a vehicle had hit a parked car along the side of the street.

On arrival, officers were told that the driver had been racing around the neighborhood when he apparently lost control and struck the parked auto. The officers made contact with the driver, identified as Brett Faulkner of San Ramon.

Hoffman said Faulkner exhibited symptoms of driving while intoxicated. Because he received minor injuries in the crash, an ambulance was summoned to the scene. Faulkner was transported to the San Ramon Regional Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries.

While at the hospital, Faulkner submitted to sobriety tests and was cited for DUI. He was later released.

—Geoff Gillette

## POLICE REPORT

The following information is provided by the Danville Police Department.

### Sunday, June 7

- Promiscuous shooting on Delta Way at 2:29 a.m.
- Residential burglary on Campbell Pl. at 3:15 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on W. El Pintado Rd. at 6:31 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Blackhawk Rd. and Camino Tassajara at 7:44 p.m.
- Burglary and possession of burglary tools on Cedar Lane Ct. at 9:17 p.m.

### Monday, June 8

- Vandalism on Condor Ct. at 9:55 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run, arrest, on Crow Canyon Rd. and Tassajara Ranch Dr. at 12:20 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Century Way and El Capitan Dr. at 6:38 p.m.
- Misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 9:34 p.m.

### Tuesday, June 9

- Auto burglary on Stuart Pl. at 7:53 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Camino Tassajara and Rassani Dr. at 8:36 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Garden Creek Pl. at 12:34 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Danville Blvd. and El Cerro Blvd. at 12:36 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Parish and southbound I-680 at 2:29 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Diablo Rd. and El Cerro Blvd. at 3:38 p.m.
- Suspicious subject stop, arrest, on Hartz Ave. and Linda Mesa Ave. at 4:49 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on northbound I-680 on ramp and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 8:20 p.m.
- Drunk in public on 300 block of Hartz Ave. at 11:38 p.m.

### Wednesday, June 10

- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. at 12:52 p.m.
- DUI, arrest, on Blackhawk Rd. and Camino Tassajara at 3:40 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Railroad Ave. at 8:32 p.m.
- Vandalism on Danville Blvd. at 9:10 p.m.

### Thursday, June 11

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Diablo Rd. at 1:40 a.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Brookside Dr. at 11:03 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 11:26 a.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 2:50 p.m.
- Investigation, arrest, on Lackland Dr. at 6:40 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, arrest, on Ackerman Dr. at 9:22 p.m.

### Friday, June 12

- Petty theft from vehicle on Pulido Rd. at 10:35 a.m.
- Vandalism on 400 block of Hartz Ave. at 11:39 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. and Green Valley Rd. at 4:11 p.m.
- Petty theft on Lawnview Cir. at 4:29 p.m.

### Saturday, June 13

- Suspicious vehicle stop, arrest, on Jewel Ter. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 2:33 a.m.
- Residential burglary on Remington Loop at 2:35 a.m.
- DUI, arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 3:07 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Railroad Ave. at 7:52 a.m.
- Auto burglary on Cameo Dr. at 1:53 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Greenbrook Dr. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 10:09 p.m.

## OBITUARIES

### Gino G. 'Fluffy' Cerruti

Gino G. 'Fluffy' Cerruti, a resident of Danville, died June 4 at the age of 79.

He was born Feb. 11, 1930, in Oakland to Guiseppe and Maria Cerruti and was the youngest of three children. He lived in Oakland for most of his life while raising his family, during which time he was a partner for 35 years in the Oakland Scavenger Co. He spent many years in Sugarpine and Sonora prior to moving back to Danville to be closer to his family. He loved deer hunting and trout fishing as well as tending to his vegetable garden. He was also a lifetime member of the Alpicella Club.

He was preceded in death by his sister Nicoletta. He is survived by his three sons, Steve, Gino and Mark and his daughter-in-law Janet; three grandchildren; his brother Baci of Moraga; and many nephews and nieces.

A memorial service was held June 11 at St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be sent to Special Olympics East Bay Region, c/o In Memory of Gino G. Cerruti, 3480 Buskirk Ave., #340, Pleasant Hill 94523.

### Frank Keith Boscaw

Frank Keith Boscaw, a resident of Alamo, died June 4 at the age of 79.

He was born Dec. 27, 1929. He was a firefighter for 30 years, as well as a land surveyor. He started with the Piedmont Fire Department, and ended his career as Battalion Fire Chief in San Leandro. He loved Lake Tahoe and owned a home in Kings Beach with his wife for more than 50 years. He was always willing to lend a helping hand and influenced his children, grandchildren and anyone who was part of his life.

He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Sue; his sister, Carmean Small of Placerville; sons Jerry Boscaw of Alameda and Tom Boscaw of Placerville; daughter Jane Gaube (Don) of Alamo; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Per his request, there will not be a service.

### Edna Joan Ward

Edna Joan Ward, a former resident of Danville, died June 6 at the age of 91.

She was born Aug. 10, 1917, in Brooklyn, N.Y., and graduated from Jamaica High School in Queens. After World War II, she and her husband settled in Uniondale, Long Island, to raise their family. She was a homemaker for

most of her married life and was an active member of the community and PTA. Upon retiring from 12 years at Bloomingdale's Department Store in 1978, she and her husband moved to Pinellas Park, Fla., to enjoy their retirement years.

She was predeceased by her husband Joseph Peter Ward. She is survived by her children Richard Michael Ward and Loraine Marie Ward of Danville, and Joseph William Ward of Charlotte, N.C.; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Roman Catholic services were held June 9 at the McEwen Funeral Home in North Carolina and interment was June 11 at St. Charles Cemetery in Pinelawn, N.Y.

### Edward 'Papa' Arnold Behrens

Edward "Papa" Arnold Behrens, a resident of Alamo, died surrounded by his family June 9 at the age of 89.

He was born Nov. 29, 1919, in Kearny, N.J., and spent his youth in Neptune, N.J., with his parents Emil and Grace, brother Bill and sister Grace. At the age of 20, he joined the flying cadets and later became a flight instructor at Yuma Army Airfield during WWII. He was honorably discharged at the end of the war as a lieutenant colonel and returned to Berkeley to be with his wife Gladys and daughter Bonnie. He attended UC Berkeley and passed his CPA exam in 1948. He retired in 1979 as vice president and controller of Foremost McKesson Land Division, formerly known as Crocker Land Co. He purchased a new home in Alamo where he resided the remainder of his life. He enjoyed playing golf, tennis, handball, bridge and most

recently walking in the park with his dog friends who became like family.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 57 years, Gladys L. Behrens. He is survived by his daughter Bonnie Parker and her husband Richard of Pleasant Hill; grandson Michael Parker and his wife Lori of Clayton; granddaughter Michelle Copeland and her husband Charles of Aurora, Colo.; two great-grandchildren; and his beloved canine companion, Abigail.

A celebration of his life was held June 13 at Oakmont Mortuary. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations to a favorite animal charity.

### Zenaida 'Emma' Arcayena

Zenaida "Emma" Arcayena, a resident of Danville, died June 10 at the age of 54.

She was born Sept. 20, 1954, to Andres and Anselma Poquiz. Her caring ways, unique sense of humor, strong will, generosity and abundant love for her grandchildren will be dearly missed by all family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel Arcayena; children Victor and Lea; three grandchildren; and 11 siblings.

'Kids should learn what they need to learn and still have a life.'

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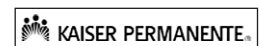
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# Calendar

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

## Camps

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church will host Camp Edge for children including two sessions: 6:15-8:15 p.m., Sunday-Thursday, June 21-June 25 (optional family-friendly dinner will begin at 5:45 p.m.), and 9:15 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, June 22-26, at San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Cost is \$50 for the morning session and \$45 for the evening session. Call 837-5243 or visit [www.srvumc.org](http://www.srvumc.org).

## Clubs

**CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB TRI-VALLEY BRANCH** This club will host guest speaker Mark Curtis who will discuss his new book from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St., Pleasanton. Cost is \$21 for members; \$27 for non-members. For reservations, call 462-7495

**DIABLO BLACK MEN'S GROUP** This club will hold a breakfast meeting at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 20, at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Dr. There will be a panel discussion on "Entrepreneurship in a Challenging Economy." Visit [www.dbmg.org](http://www.dbmg.org).

## Concerts

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN LIVORNA PARK** Alamo Parks and Recreation presents the 2009 Summer Concert Series in Livorna Park with four concerts from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Fridays. Future concerts will take place June 26; July 17, July 31 and Aug. 14. These concerts are free. Visit [www.alamore.org](http://www.alamore.org).

## Events

**15TH ANNUAL BANCROFT SCULPTURE EXHIBIT** A juried art exhibit will be displayed in the Ruth Bancroft Garden from June 19-July 19, located at 1552 Bancroft Rd., Walnut Creek. The garden is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday; and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday. A preview party with live music and organic food will be held from 5-8 p.m., Friday, June 19; cost is \$60. Call 944-9352 or visit [www.ruthbancroftgarden.org](http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org).

**BLUE STAR MOM CARE PACKAGE PACKING** Help the Blue Star Moms pack and mail 700 care packages for the troops from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at San Ramon Presbyterian Church, 12943 Alcosta Blvd. For information, call 648-1549 or visit [www.bluestarmoms.org](http://www.bluestarmoms.org).

**HOT SUMMER NIGHTS CAR SHOWS** Danville's Hot Summer Nights Car Shows combine classic cars and camaraderie to create an evening of summer celebration from 4-9 p.m., Thursdays, July 23 and Aug. 20, in downtown Danville. To learn more, contact David Miller at 437-3649 or [ezasugo@hotmail.com](mailto:ezasugo@hotmail.com).

**SUMMER BLOCK PARTY** The Rose Garden will host a Summer Block Party from 5-8 p.m., Thursday, June 25, in the shopping center, located at Camino Ramon and Sycamore Valley Road, Danville. There will be live music, skateboard ramps, a bounce house, balloon artist and more. Visit [www.rosegardenshops.com](http://www.rosegardenshops.com).

## Exhibits

**TRAILBLAZERS AND TRENDSETTERS** Blackhawk Museum will host the "Trailblazers and Trendsetters: Art of the Stamp" exhibit until June 21,

at the museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. The museum is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and children 6 and under are free. Call 736-2277.

## Film

**MOONLIGHT MOVIES ON TOWN GREEN** Town of Danville hosts Moonlight Movies on Town Green from 8:15-10:30 p.m., Fridays, June-August, on the Town Green in front of the Danville Library, 400 Front St. "The Spiderwick Chronicles" on June 19; "Neverending Story" on July 17; "Zathura" on July 31; and "Coraline" on Aug. 14. Call 314-3400.

## Fundraisers

**FOOD DRIVE AT ZACHARY'S PIZZA SWINGING TO CURE HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE** This charity golf tournament will take place at 11:30 a.m., Monday, June 29, at the Blackhawk Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Dr., Danville. Cost is \$225, including golf, cocktail reception, silent and live auctions and dinner. Proceeds benefit Huntington's Disease Society of America. Visit [www.swinging2cure-huntingtons.com](http://www.swinging2cure-huntingtons.com).

## Holiday

**FOURTH OF JULY PARADE** Celebrate the Fourth of July with the Town of Danville and the Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, July 4, in downtown Danville. The theme of this year's parade is "Celebrating Our Youth." Spectator chairs may not be put next to the parade route until 6 p.m., July 3. Visit [www.kiwanis-srv.org](http://www.kiwanis-srv.org).

## LADIES NIGHT AT TRIBEZ

Thursday, June 25th from 5:00 - 7:00pm

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## Lectures/ Workshops

**CULTIVATING FORGIVENESS** Explore the various aspects of forgiveness, its meaning, the myths surrounding it, the research regarding its health benefits and how to practice and cultivate it from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 20, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. This event is free. Call 933-0107.

**WATER CONSERVATION** CK Management Systems will host a workshop on water conservation at 10 a.m., Saturday, June 27, at Patrick David's Event Center, 2460 Old Crow Canyon Rd., San Ramon. A variety of topics will be covered. This event is free and is open to the public, but reservations are required by calling 943-7323.

## On Stage

**'HELLO, DOLLY!'** Diablo Theatre Company (formerly Diablo Light Opera Company) presents "Hello, Dolly!" at 8 p.m., June 18-20 and 25-27 and at 2 p.m., June 21 and 27-28, at the Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$29-\$41. Call 943-7469.

**ROMEO AND JULIET** Cal Shakes presents William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and 4 p.m. Sunday, through June 27 (additional 2

p.m. matinee June 20), at Cal Shakes Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Blvd., Orinda. Ticket prices start at \$20-\$65. Call (510) 548-9666 or visit [www.calshakes.org](http://www.calshakes.org).

## Political Notes

**DESAULNIER STAFF AT FARMERS MARKET** Sen. Mark DeSaulnier's staff will be at the Danville Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at the Railroad Avenue Municipal Parking Lot, at the corner of Railroad and Prospect avenues. They will answer questions about state services and provide informational materials. For information, call 942-6082.

## Support Groups

**HOSPICE OFFERS SUPPORT** Hospice of the East Bay offers support groups and workshops including Adults Who Have Lost a Parent from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday,

June 18-Aug. 6; LGBT Grief Support Group from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, July 16-Sept. 10; and Widow and Widower's Support from 6-8 p.m., Mondays, Aug. 10-Oct. 5; all at 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. Groups and classes are offered for a fee, but it can be waived; call 887-5678.

## Volunteering

**AMERICAN RED CROSS** Tour the Contra Costa Blood Donor Center and learn about the different ways to help the American Red Cross at 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 7, and 3 p.m., Friday, July 10, at 140 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. To learn more, call Mandy at (510) 594-5211.

**ANIMAL FOSTERS URGENTLY NEEDED** Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) is looking for short-term fosters for dogs, puppies, cats and kittens. ARF will provide the food, supplies and vet care; all you need to do is provide the love. Call 296-3173 or visit [www.arf.net](http://www.arf.net).

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



MLA PRODUCTIONS

**Danville Fine Arts Faire:** Barbara Davies from the Danville/Alamo area paints a one-of-a-kind art piece at the Danville Fine Arts Faire, which is from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, June 20-21, in downtown Danville. Come out and stroll beautiful tree-lined Hartz Avenue while enjoying one-of-a-kind fine art. Admission is free. Call 837-4400.



## Grad Night

Grad Night is an all-night, safe and sober party for graduates only, which follows the graduation ceremony. The event is filled with games, music, dancing, crafts, food, prizes, and lots of fun. The top-secret theme changes every year make Grad Night unique for each graduating class. Organized by the senior class parents, the school area is literally transformed to suit the theme of the night. Senior parents work hard for months to make this evening spectacular. Parents from other classes volunteer to work in

several shifts throughout the night and into the morning. Planning begins a year in advance and work continues right up until Grad Night...a positive send off culminating the student's year at SRVHS.

The class of 2009 would like to thank the following individuals, families, and businesses for their generous donations to Grad Night. With their support, grads can celebrate together in a safe, sober, and fun environment All Night Long!

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The Basil Leaf Cafe  
Nancy Rigolfi Benvenuto  
Dr. Sandy Bigman, Othodontist  
Bittersweet Cafe  
Blackhawk Museum in Danville  
Blackhawk Plaza  
The Bochenek Family  
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California's Great America  
California Pedaler  
The Carey Family  
Carl's Jr. San Ramon  
Cattails Florist  
The Charbonnet Family  
The Chase Family  
The Cheesecake Factory  
- Pleasanton  
China Paradise  
- Blackhawk and Danville  
Chipotle  
- San Ramon and Walnut Creek  
Cresco Xpress - Danville  
Christy's Donuts  
Classic Graphs

Club Sport of San Ramon  
Community Resources  
- Tom Newlin  
The Container Store  
Costco  
Country Waffles  
Crow Canyon Country Club  
Danville Old Town Bakery & Cafe  
Danville Paint and Decorating  
Diablo Country Club  
The Dog  
Domenico's  
Dreyer's  
The Egan Family  
El Balazzo  
El Nido  
Emilio's  
Erik's Deli  
The Fahim Family  
Faz  
Dave and Amy Ferretti  
Forli  
Foster Farms Dairy  
Frankie, Johnnie, & Luigi Too!  
Free People  
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- Cheryl and John Horton  
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Guiseppes Pasta and Grill  
Janet and James Hanna  
Ha Ru Sushi  
Heller Jewelers  
High Tech Burrito

The Home Depot - San Ramon  
The Hutchins Family  
iFly  
In-N-Out Burger  
Joseph Schmidt Chocolates  
The Kabel Family  
Katy's Restaurants  
Kelly-Moore Paints  
Kinder's - Danville  
Kinkos of Danville  
Koji's Japanese Cuisine  
Karen La Bombarda  
Lark Creek  
Lescure Mechanical Contractors  
The Lierley Family  
Logitech  
Marisa and John Looney  
Los Panchos Restaurant  
Losta Pasta  
Lucky's - Danville  
Lunardi's Markets  
Ma Jolie Salon and Spa  
John Macmillan and Geri Kaye  
Mangia Mi  
Marie Callendars  
Rene and Peter McCabe  
Sharan and Bruce Meyer  
Christine and Scott Moruza  
Mountain Mike's Pizza  
Nicole Gee Photography  
Panda Express  
Papa Murphy's Take 'n' Bake Pizza  
- Alamo  
Pasta Gondola  
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## Sailing the ocean, remembering their Dad

*Twins go for the Coastal Cup 20 years after sailing it with their father*

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI  
AND MIKE MAHONEY

Ocean racer Mike Mahoney said he enjoys the sport most when riding down a 15-foot wave as though his 42-foot sailboat were a surfboard. Although he and his twin brother Pat grew up sailing and racing on the Bay, the ocean is another game altogether.

"In the ocean you have to step up your game," said Mike, a Danville resident. "The danger heightens outside of the Golden Gate, with waves breaking 15-20 feet."

The brothers were scheduled to leave at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning on their 42-foot sloop sailboat named the Irish Lady to sail in the Coastal Cup. This is the West Coast's premiere coastal ocean race and goes from the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco to Santa Catalina; they are competing against 25 other boats.

This race brings the brothers full circle, as it was 20 years ago at the age of 19 that they joined their father, Denis, on the 1989 contest, their first multi-day ocean race that included 35 knots of wind and 20-foot seas. It was that race, where they placed third, which set in motion their love for ocean racing.

"Ocean racing is truly a test of not just skill, but endurance," said Mike. "It is like the Baja 1000, except on water. You just never know what she is going to throw at you."

This year's race has special meaning to Pat and Mike as it will be the first multi-day ocean race they've ever done without the security of their father, a national champion sailor who was well trained in navigation while serving his time in the Coast Guard. Just 14 months after Pat, Mike and Denis Mahoney lived out their sailing dream of racing in the 2006 Pacific Cup to Hawaii and finishing third, Denis suddenly passed away.

"We didn't just lose our father, we lost our captain," said Pat.

Losing their father has forced the brothers to fill some big shoes, they say. With the lessons their father has taught them during the last 20 years and some very good advisors, they are ready to be the skippers of the Irish Lady. Skippers take on the ultimate responsibility of ensuring that their crew and boat make it to the finish line safely.

"Although it's not the way they wanted to take over the helm, I know that they are both ready for this responsibility. That's why the five other crew members have stuck with

them," said their mother, Anita Mahoney, who has helped them plan for this race.

"She puts together the food and makes sure it's well prepared," Mike said.

Preparations for this Category 2 ocean race are stringent, including emergency steering devices, and life rafts equipped with an emergency locator beacon. The Irish Lady is equipped with the latest computer equipment, even an AIS (Automatic Identification System), which allows them to track all commercial shipping traffic on their computer. They will use this when navigating the shipping channels at night in Southern California as they approach Catalina Island.

"There's a lot of fog in Southern California right now," Mike said. "This allows us to feel safe out in the fog."

The race will take from two-and-a-half to three days.

"We literally sail all the way through the night," Mike explained, which are the hardest times. They will sleep three hours at the most.

"Then the anxiety levels are high," he said. "Clearly at these times there could be an obstruction in the water you don't see. Even though there could be a full moon you could be under a marine layer and driving by instruments."

He remembers vividly the rocky voyage they had down the coast in '89 with their dad. They were at the notorious Point Conception, just north of Santa Barbara, about 1 a.m., flying by the oil derricks in the ocean.

"Then the spinnaker blew up when we were coming down off a 15-foot wave," he recalled. "Two guys were sleeping and three were on deck—suddenly it was all hands on deck."

Mike and Pat grew up in Lafayette but much of their time was spent on their grandfather's lagoon in Alameda, where their father was raised. They are Acalanes High School alumni and Pat lives nearby in Walnut Creek. Each summer they go with their families to the Delta for a month at the St. Francis Yacht Club island.

Mike's wife Laura is the land operations crew. They were planning to transmit updates for her to post at [www.irishladyracing.com](http://www.irishladyracing.com), two to four times a day.

Mike and Pat make their living in high tech. The sailing they do is, as their dad always said, "for the shirts and the glory." ■



PHOTOS COURTESY MIKE MAHONEY

**Above:** Mike (left) and Pat Mahoney with their father Denis (center) competing in the Pacific Cup in 2006, sailing from San Francisco to Hawaii. Just 14 months later, Denis suddenly passed away.

**Below:** Twin brothers Mike and Pat Mahoney are sailing the Irish Lady from San Francisco to Santa Catalina this week in the Coastal Cup. They first did the race with their dad 20 years ago, when they were 19.



# EPICURE



By JACQUI LOVE MARSHALL

## Keeping cool with homemade summer treats

Hot summer days cry out for cool, refreshing options. When the temperature starts to rise, ice-cold treats can help you and your family chill out. Besides being fun food, frozen delights can help hydrate bodies on a hot day, while providing healthy fruit, juices and low-fat dairy servings.

The ice-cream-in-bag recipe is a great activity to do with your children or fun-oriented adults

on a hot summer afternoon. Have lots of toppings available to add to the fun. For the popsicle recipes, molds and wooden sticks can be found at local party or craft stores. However, small plastic or paper cups, e.g., empty yogurt containers, work wonderfully as a more economical option.

Keep a supply of frozen treats on hand throughout the summer, especially with the kids perpetually announcing: "I'm hungry (or thirsty)! What can I have now???"

*Jacqui Love Marshall lives in San Ramon with her pug, Nina Simone, and volumes of cookbooks and recipes. Her column runs every other week. Email her at jlovemarshall@yahoo.com*

## Recipe

### Ice-Cream-in-a-Bag (makes 8 half-cup servings)

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 2 cups half & half
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 4 cups rock salt
- 2 pint-size plastic food storage bag
- 1 gallon-size plastic food storage bag
- Crushed ice or ice cubes
- Optional: Add 2 tsp cocoa powder for chocolate flavor.

1. Put milk, vanilla and sugar into the small bag; seal tightly, squeezing out extra air. Add first small to second small bag for extra protection; seal tightly.
2. Fill the larger bag half full of ice and add half of the rock salt. Seal the bag.
3. Place the small bags inside the larger one, sealing it again tightly. Shake bag until the mixture is ice cream, which takes about 10 minutes. (If necessary, use gloves or wrap the bag in a towel to protect your hands.) Add more ice or salt to the large bag as needed.
4. Wipe off the top of the small bag and open it carefully. Serve immediately in cups or cones, with toppings as desired.

### Easy Breezy Ice Pops (serves 8-12)

Try these flavor variations: In a blender, mix all ingredients well; pour into molds and freeze until firm. For slushies, blend and serve in small glasses.

- Strawberry Lemonade: One 12 oz. can frozen lemonade concentrate, 3 cups cold water, one 16 oz. package frozen sliced strawberries, pureed in blender
- Exotic Citrus: One cup pineapple tidbits, 1 small can mandarin oranges, 2 cups white grape juice
- Creamsicles: One 6 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate (or peach juice), one 6 oz. can water, one pint vanilla ice cream, softened, or plain yogurt
- Watermelon: One cup seedless watermelon chunks, one cup orange juice, one cup water

### Ginger Snap Ice Cream Sandwiches (makes 30)

- 1 - 9 oz box ginger snap cookies
- 1 quart of your favorite ice cream, softened
- 1 - 12 oz package chopped nuts

1. On a cookie sheet place 15 cookies flat side up. Working quickly, top each wafer with a small scoop of ice cream. Top each sandwich with another cookie, flat side down. Gently push the top cookie down until the ice cream comes to the edge of both cookies.
2. Freeze for one hour, or until firm. Roll each ice cream sandwich in chopped nuts so that all the exposed ice cream is covered. Cover and freeze until ready to serve. Note: For variety, substitute other cookies and side garnishments.

See more recipes at [www.DanvilleWeekly.com](http://www.DanvilleWeekly.com).

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# PRESENTING THE PAST

By FRIEDERICHE HUMBURG

## A Historical Sketch of San Ramon Valley, Part II

*Editor's note: Miss Humburg wrote this history based on research and conversations with her aunt Flora May Stone Jones, for "The Valley kernel," which was the first San Ramon Valley Union High School annual in 1914.*

In those days all were neighbors in the fullest sense of the word; helping one another by an exchange of work; all joining together in their few social affairs; and ready to aid when sickness or death entered a home. Doctors were far away, and trained nurses were unknown, but it was nothing unusual for a pioneer mother

to ride miles on horse back, often with a baby in her arms, to care for a sick neighbor.

The first post office in San Ramon Valley was established in 1853, and named "Alamo"—a Spanish word meaning poplar tree. The post office was given quarters at the home of John M. Jones, who lived in an adobe house that crowned the knoll of the J.O. Reis home site just north of Alamo. Mr. Jones was the first post master, and his wife, Mrs. Mary A. Jones was his deputy. For many years Alamo was the only post office between Martinez and Mission San Jose. The mail was carried between those two points by a man with a horse and cart, who made a round trip twice each week.

Alamo is the second oldest town in the county, Martinez being the oldest. The first house in the town of Alamo was built by a man named George Engelmeyer. He at first had a shoe shop, but soon enlarged

his shop to a general merchandise store, and did such a thriving business that in a short time he had to employ a clerk. Other shops soon followed—blacksmith, harness and butcher shops, and a hotel.

In 1858 the frame building still standing under the maples and walnuts on the west side of the street, was built. The lower floor of this building was used as the general merchandise store of Lomax and Smart, while the upper floor was the Masonic lodge room. Alamo Lodge No. 122 F. & A. M. which now holds its meetings at Walnut Creek, was organized at Alamo in 1858, and this old building was its first home. In 1860 a two story brick structure was erected on the west side of the street, on the property now owned by Mrs. George Smith. Wolfe and Cohen were the owners of the general merchandise store which occupied the lower story, while the Masonic lodge moved from its first location into the more commodious quarters of the upper story of the new brick building.

The bricks of which this build-



COURTESY BETTY DUNLAP

Flora May Stone Jones, at 37 in 1900, who provided much of the information to her niece for this historical sketch.

ing was constructed, were made by G. W. Webster, who lived on what is now the Van Gorden place. The brick kiln was situated on the Rancho El Rio, just across the creek from the Van Gorden pear orchard. In the great earthquake of 1868, the building mentioned,

was badly damaged, and was soon afterward torn down.

The ruin known as the Foster house is of historic interest. It was erected in 1857 by James Foster of Maine, and the staunch timbers of which it is constructed, were made from trees which grew in the Main woods. The lumber for the house, was sawed, shaped and fitted, all ready to put together, then shipped around the Horn to its destined home.

Mr. Foster was a wheelwright, and wagons, carriages, furniture and even coffins, when occasion required, were turned out from his shop with a neatness and finish that would do credit to the present day.

In 1854 the first school in San Ramon Valley, opened its doors in a little house which stood in the northern part of what is now the Kendall property, near the cemetery. Richard Webster was the first teacher. Soon after, a church (Cumberland Presbyterian) was built near the school house, on the lot which is now a drive way leading to the cemetery.

For awhile, a school was conducted in a little house that stood on a bedrock knoll, a short distance north of the point where the Southern Pacific Railroad crosses the county road between Alamo and Walnut Creek. This was known as the "Wall" schoolhouse, being near the home of Captain Wall, at that time the owner of the Foulds ranch.

*Provided by Beverly Lane, curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley and co-author of "San Ramon Valley: Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon" and "Vintage Danville: 150 Years of Memories."*

## Going to camp at Annapolis

Anna Vojvoda, a sixth-grader at Charlotte Wood Middle School in Danville, has been invited to participate in the U.S. Naval Academy's Summer STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Program. It is an overnight academic camp designed for students entering seventh-ninth grades who are in good academic standing and have an interest in math and science. Approximately 200 students were invited to participate.

The program gives students the opportunity to experience real-life applications of math and science principles through hands-on practical learning. Students will learn from distinguished Naval Academy professors in world-class lab facilities that provide a unique learning environment outside the traditional classroom. The Academy's current students, known as midshipmen, help run the Summer STEM Program and act as camp counselors and tutors to students.

The camp and travel to Annapolis is covered by the U.S. Naval Academy.



Anna Vojvoda

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# Sports



## Athletics Undefeated

The Danville Little League AA Athletics went undefeated in both regular and post-season play. They beat the Tigers 8-3 in the championship game on June 10. Team members are (back row, l-r) Coach Chris Hannan, Nicholas Combs, Sam Englert, Manager Dave Harrison, Will Spalding, Kevin Salo, Grant Pisenti, Coach Kevin Combs, (front) Darren Hannan, Nolan Bonnie, Deo Suradji, Daniel Dzenitis, Blake Harrison, Cameron Boyd and Jake Burton.



## Firecrackers are the champions

The San Ramon Valley Girls Athletic League (SRVGAL) North Division Firecrackers won the championship in the 3rd/4th Grade White Division with a thrilling 13-12 victory in eight innings over Team Dynamite from the South Division. The Firecrackers fell behind 11-4, but tied the game at 12 on a grand slam home run by Sarah Mondloch in the bottom of the sixth inning. Team members are (l-r) Brooke Cox, Bailey Newlin, Grace Gallagher, Madilyn Reder, Jenny Stark, Sarah Mondloch, Emily Greenhouse, Caroline Mendel, Jacquelyn Buckley-Jones, Amanda Johnson, Alana Krull, Ashley Ng and Alyssa Loar (not pictured). Coaches are Tom Newlin and Liz Buckley.



## Dodgers win AAA championship

The Tassajara Valley Little League Dodgers powered their way to a 13-1 victory, with back-to-back home runs and three triples in the Little League AAA Championship game at Sycamore Valley Park on June 7, completing the first known TVLL AAA undefeated/untied season. The team will represent TVLL National League in the Tournament of Champions. Their final stats of the season were 22-0-0. Team members are coaches Mike McFarlane, Keith Vanhole, Mike Maloon, players Erik Krommenhoek, CJ Worley, Jack Maloon, Mitchell Yep, Connor Lynch, Zach Frew, Spencer Lohr, Austin McFarlane, Kasem Bajwa, Jack Drake, Tyler Vanhole and Ethan Gallagher.



## Scorpions take championship

The Diablo Scorpion U13 Stingers won the 2009 Northern California Junior Lacrosse B1 Championship with players (front row) Jack Sauer, Tyler Maddalon, Chris Francis, (second row) Joe Sawires, Alex ReVeal, Jordan Smith, Nick Ericsson, Kevin Dille, Ben Elisha, (third row) Kristian Durazzo, Taylor Roper, Michael Schwarz, Conor Reiland, Christian Connolly, Mason Roth, Chris Scatterday, Hunter Welsh, Sean Berg, Freddy Habelka, Brian Scott, Alex Eidler, (back row) Coach Scott Francis, Coach Phil Connolly, Cameron Toy, Coach Scott Berg and Coach Ken Durazzo.

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The Dougherty Valley Performing Art Center is located on the Dougherty Valley High School campus, at 10550 Albion Road, San Ramon, 94582. Tickets for the concert are \$12-\$15. Contact the San Ramon Performing Arts box office at: 925/973-ARTS or online at: www.sanramonperformingarts.com.



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CDL training. Up to \$15,000 bonus. Part-time driving job with fulltime benefits. Get paid to train. The California Army National Guard. 1-800-GO-GUARD. [com/truck](http://com/truck) (Cal-SCAN)



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**A LABOR OF LOVE**  
ANTIQUe Furniture Restoration & Repair  
Recycling the Past into the Future  
" All Inclusive"

Impeccable Quality  
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Integrity of Workmanship  
Conveniently located in Pleasanton  
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**\$\$ Need CASH Fast \$\$**  
\$500, \$1000, or \$1500  
direct to your acct  
No Credit History Required  
Get CASH now  
For complete details go to [www.BestTopCash.com](http://www.BestTopCash.com) (AAN CAN)

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\* Settle IRS Back Taxes \* Do You Owe Over \$15,000? If So... Call us Now! \* Free Consultation\*. For Less Than What You Owe! Stop Wage Garnishments! Remove Bank Levies Tax Levies & Property Seizures! Stop Payment Plans That Get you Nowhere! Settle State and Business Payroll Tax Problems Eliminate Penalties, Interest Charges & Tax Liens! \* Settle IRS Back Taxes \* No Obligation! Confidential! Call American Tax Relief 1-800-496-9891 \* Free Consultation \* (Cal-SCAN)

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Websites, E-mail Blast, Logos, Brochures, Business Cards, Postcards, Sales Sheets, etc. **DESIGNED & PRINTED**  
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## 715 Cleaning Services

**"EUROPE" housecleaning**  
Anybody can clean but how the job is done that's a different story.. Call Edyta for estimate 925 497 2267



**SPRING CLEANING SPECIAL \$80 (average house)**  
Excellent Local References  
Move-In-Outs or Regular Services  
Call Today at (925) 249-0399

## 719 Remodeling/Additions

Steve M Evans Construction

## 751 General Contracting

**MAHDevelopment.com**  
DIAMOND CERTIFIED! Remodels/Room Addns/CstmHms/BBQs/Sunrms/Solariums/Kitchens&Baths-CALic GC #913049-20+ yrs exp-BBB, NARI & NKBA-Free est! 925-580-1673

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**Hauling & Cleanup Service**  
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Free Est. / Reasonable Prices  
No Job Too Small!!!  
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## 805 Homes for Rent

**ALL AREAS - HOUSES FOR RENT**  
Browse thousands of rental listings with photos and maps. Advertise your rental home for FREE! Visit: <http://www.RealRentals.com> (AAN CAN)

**Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA**  
New granite ktch,FP/W/D,grndr incl,1car grg,Cat Ok. 650-855-9410

# TAKE US ALONG



**Swim trials with the Weekly:** Claire and Julia Fieldman enjoyed the Danville Weekly on a break from watching Natalie Coughlin and Aaron Pierson at the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials last July in Omaha, Neb.



**Down Mexico way:** Mary Gallagher takes the Weekly with her to Loreto, Baja, the historical capital of the Californians. It's also the site of the first mission Our Lady of Loreto.



**First place Kung Fu team:** The entire team from Richard Lee's East West Kung Fu School shared the Danville Weekly at the U.S. Kuoshu Federation's 2008 Championship Tournament held in Hunt Valley, Md., last July. The team placed first overall for the eighth straight year!

# PET OF THE WEEK



CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

## Adopt a Cat in June

June is Adopt-a-Cat month and this beautiful housecat named Lilly wants you to know that she is available for adoption. Lilly is a beautiful 4-year-old spayed female who has always been an indoor pet. Lilly has wonderful house manners and she likes to be the center of attention. She prefers to be in a home without dogs or other cats. Lilly has soft, medium-length white and brown fur and beautiful yellow-green eyes. Lilly has a mellow personality and she will be a loving companion. Visit Lilly (pet #84973) 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.

# Marketplace

## Danville Weekly

### Accounting/Bookkeeping

**NEED HELP WITH QUICKBOOKS?**  
No job too big or too small!!!  
Over 23 years experience in all aspects of bookkeeping.  
**Call Linda 925.918.2233**

### General Contracting

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**35% Off**  
Save Money, Save Water  
**\$150 Rebate**  
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Your reputable local contractor  
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LET OUR WORKER BEEZ DO IT FOR YOU!  
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LIC# 922264

### Help Wanted

**HELP WANTED**  
Sales Leader (Factory Automation Industrial Sensor & Machine Vision) for optical sensor supplier in Pleasanton, CA. Resume to Keyence Corp. of America, Attn: Hashimoto, 50 Tice Blvd, Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

### Pet Care/Grooming/Training

**Furry Friends**  
**Pet Sitting Services**  
Trained professional, daily visits, basic home care, reliable & caring.  
**Call Monika Harris 417-0424**  
Registered Veterinary Nurse [www.furryfriends.tv](http://www.furryfriends.tv)

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Windermere  
**John DeMarinis**  
Realtor  
925.984.1867  
510.681.3215 cell  
[jdemarinis@windermere.com](mailto:jdemarinis@windermere.com)  
[www.JohnDemarinis.com](http://www.JohnDemarinis.com)

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925.963.0569 Cell



**Joanna Jensen**  
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### WORRIED ABOUT YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?

We can negotiate with your lender to modify your loan.  
**Call me today for a FREE Consultation**

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### For Sale

These are bibs made for kids of all ages helping those with spilling issues look as though they don't have a bib on at all.

Please check out my website for additional info!

[www.oopscatcher.com](http://www.oopscatcher.com)

### Computers

Computer Help  
**Tri-Valley PC MEDIC**  
2007-08 Pleasanton Weekly "Best Computer Repair"  
2006 Diablo Magazine "Best of the East Bay"  
**Ken Cook**  
"I Make House Calls!"  
Tune-up/Repair/Upgrade/Training  
More info/rates: [www.trivalleypcmedic.com](http://www.trivalleypcmedic.com)  
M-F 8a-8p / Wknds & Hols 9a-6p  
Lic #011068 - PCC, PDA & BBB  
**Call 485-9040 or 989-7722**

### Personal Training

**CrossFit**  
"FORGING ELITE FITNESS"  
Are YOU ready to be a CrossFit hero?  
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FITNESS BOOT CAMP  
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### Research Study

**Study Participants Needed**  
**DO YOU HAVE CORONARY HEART DISEASE**  
• If your doctor has told you that you have coronary heart disease, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study.  
• Study participants will receive study drug, related medical care at no cost and compensation for time and travel.

### STABILITY

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[tdavis@harmonyclinical.com](mailto:tdavis@harmonyclinical.com)

## FOGSTER.COM THE TRI-VALLEY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

### 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

**ALL AREAS - RENTMATES.COM**  
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Rentmates.com>. (AAN CAN)

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$650.00

### 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

**\*\*\*FREE Foreclosure Listings\*\***  
Over 200,000 properties nationwide.  
LOW Down Payment.  
Call NOW! 1-800-446-1328  
(AAN CAN)

Danville, 4 BR/3 BA - \$979,000

### 840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

**Pine Crest Cabin Near Lake**  
Huge Deck, Sleeps 11  
Available 6/27 - 7/18  
\$1000. per week  
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Vacation at our 2BR/2BA home. \$850/week. [prudence.delamater@yahoo.com](mailto:prudence.delamater@yahoo.com)

**Tahoe Vacation rental**  
Rent from a local owner! Great summer dates still available. Tahoe West shore vacation Rental- [www.sunnypinecabin.com](http://www.sunnypinecabin.com) for rates and pictures.

### 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

**Bank Foreclosure - Colorado**  
Ranch. 40 acres \$29,900 Clean Title, Warranty Deed. Enjoy 300 days of sunshine. Rocky Mtn. views, utilities. Excellent Financing! Call Today! 1-866-696-5263 x4938. [www.ColoradoLandBargains.com](http://www.ColoradoLandBargains.com) (Cal-SCAN)

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

**El Paso, TX Ranches**  
20 acre ranches. \$0 down!! \$15,900, \$159 /month! (10%/209 months) Beautiful Views. Money Back Guarantee. Owner Financing. Free Maps/Pictures. 800-343-9444. (Cal-SCAN)

**Foreclosed Home Auction**  
Northern California. 400+ Homes Must Be Sold! REDC / Free Brochure. [www.Auction.com](http://www.Auction.com) RE Broker 01093886. (Cal-SCAN)

**Land Foreclosures - New Mexico**  
From as low as \$19,995 for 10+/- acre, phone, electric close, views. Guaranteed financing, low down! Going Fast! 888-812-5830. [www.SWProperties.com](http://www.SWProperties.com) (Cal-SCAN)

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## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during May 2009

### Alamo

**2316 Roundhill Drive** P. & P. Rammer to S. & I. Schwab for \$1,350,000

### Danville

**630 Ambience Way** Sessa Trust to C. & G. Munoz for \$887,500

**124 Benjamin Lane** Prudential Relocation to D. & J. Law for \$1,060,000

**1719 Cottswald Street** G. & C. Leyva to X. Chen for \$760,000

**321 Jacaranda Drive** Babcock Trust to M. Spackman for \$700,000

**391 Paraiso Drive** Aurora Loan Servicing to C. & L. Rink for \$720,000

**493 Silver Lake Drive** Octigan Trust to T. & L. Andreatta for \$625,000

**54 Summer Hill Court** D. & C. Wood to B. Fayyaz-Najafi for \$615,000

### Walnut Creek

**2574 Buena Vista Avenue** K. & D. Gelhaus to A. Nicola for \$370,000

**1061 Camino Verde Circle** A. Fleming to Davies Trust for \$495,000

**88 Countryside Court** Coker Trust to B. & M. Westcoat for \$1,020,000

**592 High Eagle Court** Forquer Trust to Kim Trust for \$750,000

**1283 Honey Trail** K. Henderson to J. Hawks for \$330,000

**1272 Lindell Drive** Gee Trust to S. & D. Padberg for \$510,000

**3023 Ludell Court** C. Ohara to A. Delaney for \$515,000

**311 Masters Court #2** S. Sam to Landon Heights for \$80,000

**1651 Mendota Court** Mills Trust to L. Maddoux for \$597,500

**2700 Oak Road #25** E. & I. Levsky to K. Koh for \$299,000

**3355 Rossmoor Parkway #1** R. Reid to Dearborn Trust for \$470,000

**3386 Rossmoor Parkway #4** K. Field to Witsil Trust for \$305,000

**1554 Sunnyvale Avenue** CCRD Limited to B. Hubert for \$485,000

**125 Sylvan Road** Peterson Trust to T. & N. Sekulich for \$621,000

**4033 Terra Granada Drive #6B** Ehrman Trust to Murphy Trust for \$167,500

**741 Thomas Lane** Harborview Mortgage to Schneider Trust for \$765,000

**1860 Tice Creek Drive #1140** Veirs Trust to Forquer Trust for \$270,000

**612 Timberleaf Court** Jacobsen Trust to Hajny Trust for \$1,275,000

**443 Via Royal** J. Engelstad to Engelstad Trust for \$290,000

**461 Westcliffe Place** Clopton Trust to Zann Trust for \$400,000

Source: California REsource

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Alamo

**Total sales reported:** 1

**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,350,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,350,000

**Average sales reported:** \$1,350,000

### Danville

**Total sales reported:** 7

**Lowest sale reported:** \$615,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,060,000

**Average sales reported:** \$766,786

### Walnut Creek

**Total sales reported:** 20

**Lowest sale reported:** \$80,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,275,000

**Average sales reported:** \$500,750

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Alamo

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**70 Zand Lane** **\$1,075,000**  
Sun 12-3 Remax Accord 925-895-2804

### San Ramon

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**5400 Canyon Crest Drive** **\$798,500**  
Sat/Sun 1-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 925-577-1944

**Danville Weekly**  
PRINT & ONLINE

To list your open home on this page please contact Tracey Fordahl at (925) 837-8300, ext. 130 or e-mail OpenHomes@DanvilleWeekly.com



## Independent Women Homeowners of Alamo, Danville & San Ramon

Present - Kelly Lise Murray, J.D.

## Divorce - Hidden Costs of Keeping the Family Home



DIVORCEthisHOUSE.com

What you must know NOW to prevent: extra tax liability, damaged credit, foreclosure, bankruptcy and more! Whether you are in the midst of a divorce, thinking of divorce, or already divorced - this lecture is for you!

Attorney Kelly Lise Murray graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford and cum laude from Harvard Law School. She's a Vanderbilt legal writing professor, a REALTOR® and a family mediator.

**FREE Lecture - June 30 - 7pm - 8:30pm**

Keller Williams Realty, 760 Camino Ramon #200, Danville, CA

Limited Space - Register at: [www.IndependentWomenHomeowners.com](http://www.IndependentWomenHomeowners.com)

More Info: Ginny Mees - [AskGinny@WomenHomeowners.com](mailto:AskGinny@WomenHomeowners.com) - (925) 699 - 3328