

Danville Weekly

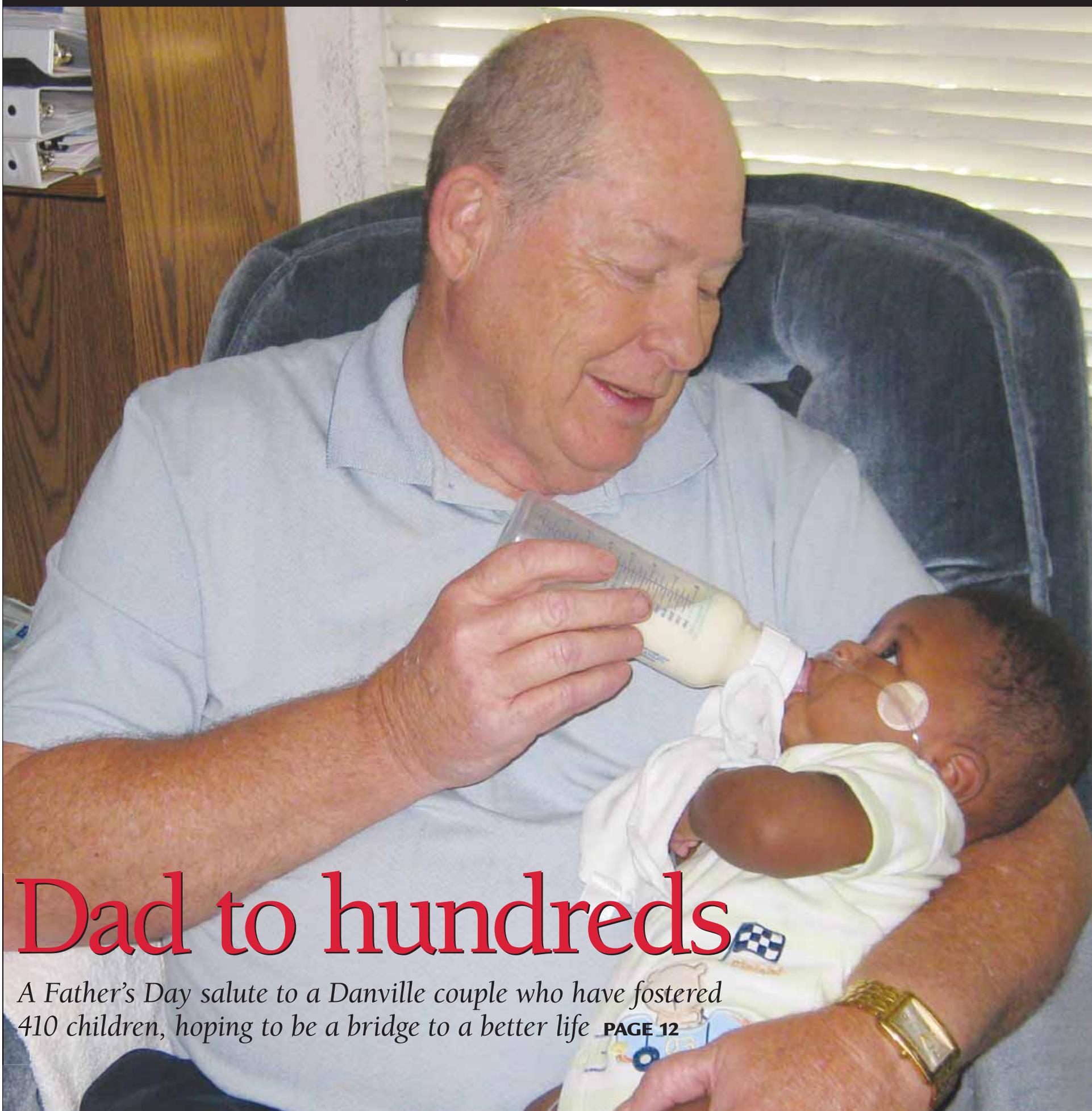
Vol. V, Number 7 • June 12, 2009

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



Congrats to grads: Caps will fly tonight as seniors say farewell **PAGE 15**

'New' Vets Hall plans: Architects ready to prepare cost estimate for remodel **PAGE 5**



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Streetwise

ASKED OF SENIORS AT SAN RAMON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

What are you going to miss about high school besides your friends?



Kellie McFarland

I am going to miss all the school spirit and events. I loved every homecoming week and school-wide dress up days. I am definitely going to miss that next year.

Nolan Theurer

The thing I'll miss most is the sense of fellowship. I'll miss being able to walk through the halls and smile at or high-five anyone I come across. I'll miss that love.



Megan O'Brien

I will miss the performing arts program as a whole and school spirit. Practically everyone at SR loves this school, and the high energy is so awesome to be involved in. I'm going to miss being a San Ramon Wolf once I'm an Azusa Pacific cougar.



Ian Charbonnet

The thing I'll miss most after high school is the opportunity to make a difference with the people I love. Music with the Chamber Singers, cleaning up with the environmental program, and playing benefit concerts with leadership have helped build my character as well as given me memories with people I'll never forget.



Megan Michaelis

I am going to miss everything about choir! The camaraderie and united focus makes coming into choir every day a blessing. Ken Abrams, our director, has made a truly unique and incredible choir program, and I cherish every moment.

— Compiled by Stan Wharton

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

About the Cover

Dave Mitchell, 70, feeds and cuddles little DW, one of hundreds of foster children cared for by him and his wife Deanna over the years. Photo by Susan Astbury.

Vol. V, Number 7

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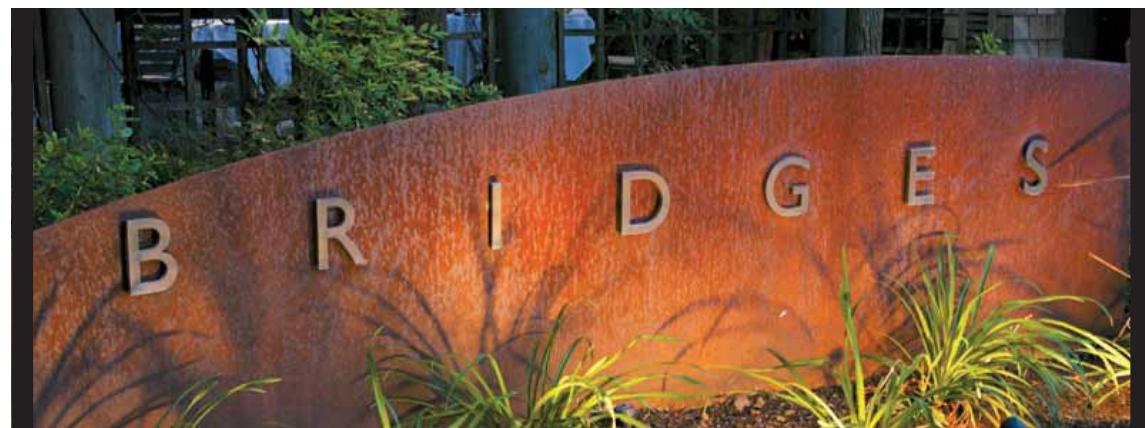
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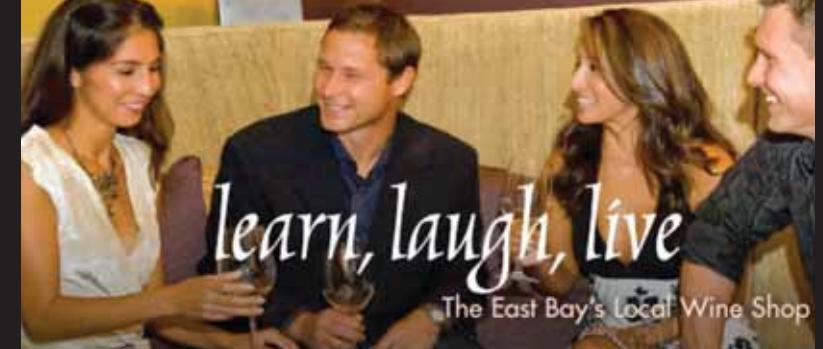


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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“I've driven architects crazy. There's been a whole roomful of them in a state hospital.”

Scott Perkins, member of the Veterans Building Steering Committee, while suggesting ways to improve the plans. See story, PAGE 5.

NEWS DIGEST

Tony La Russa sues Twitter

A fake Twitter page purporting to be that of St. Louis Cardinals manager Tony La Russa has raised the ire of the Alamo resident and prompted a lawsuit against the social networking application.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch is reporting that a lawsuit was filed in late May in Superior Court of California seeking unspecified damages. The suit claimed that someone created a false account under La Russa's name and posted tweets. Some of the tweets contained disparaging remarks regarding Cardinals pitchers who had passed away and La Russa's own drunk driving arrest. The venerable coach said his concern wasn't with the content, but with someone using his name.

“There is a law against improperly using a person's name without authorization and it wasn't authorized,” La Russa said. “You can't sue everybody for criticizing you, but it seemed like that was the perception. It was improper use of the name, but it's been settled.”

No word was given as to damages, but speculation is that it will be in the form of La Russa's legal fees and possibly a donation to the Animal Rescue Foundation, a charity created by La Russa.

3.5 earthquake jolts Danville

Danville residents felt a sharp jerk Monday afternoon as an earthquake measuring 3.5 on the Richter scale struck the northern portion of town. The U.S. Geological Survey reports the quake occurred at 3:15 p.m., with the epicenter located just northeast of the intersection of Sycamore Valley Road and Camino Tasajara. The depth was reported to be 5 miles.

Danville police said no damage was reported due to the quake. One resident did call in, they said, to request an officer investigate strange shaking. Officers explained to the new California resident that the town had just experienced an earthquake.

At 3:30 p.m. there was a 1.9 aftershock, according to U.S.G.S. Then at 4:52 p.m. there was another quake of 2.7 magnitude.

Tour historic old town for only \$3

A walking tour of historic downtown Danville will begin at 10 a.m., tomorrow, Saturday, June 13. Meet in front of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave. An experienced docent will lead an interesting and informative stroll through the downtown to numerous sites that played important roles in Danville's history.

Saturday morning tours take place on the second Saturday of each month through October. A Friday evening walking tour will take place on Friday, June 19, led by Museum docent and Danville Councilwoman Karen Stepper. Friday evening tours, held on the third Friday of each month, begin at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Village Theatre, 233 Front St.

The cost of the walking tours is \$3 per person. Call 837-3750 or go to www.museumsrv.org for additional information.

Hospital board names new members

The San Ramon Regional Hospital Foundation announced the appointment of Mark Curtis, Steven Enoch, and Hermann Wellem as new members of its Board of Directors.

Mark Curtis is well known in the San Ramon Valley as a long time journalist with KTVU in Oakland. He now runs Mark Curtis Media, a full service multi-media company specializing in freelance news reporting, public relations and political analysis. Curtis earned a master's degree in journalism from the University of Florida.

Steven Enoch has served as the Superintendent of Schools for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District since July 2008 and has more than 30 years of experience in public education. Enoch earned his master's degree in school administration from California State University, Fullerton.

Hermann Wellem recently retired from his company Industrial/Commercial Land Consulting. His background includes many years deciding land use issues in San Ramon as a planning commissioner, City Council member and mayor. Wellem earned his master's degree in Economics from the University of Notre Dame.

For more information contact Gregg Schneppe at 275-6038.

Head of Athenian School retiring

Eleanor Dase, who is retiring as the head of Athenian School after 35 years, has steered the school away from financial crisis, fended off feral pig invasions, hosted the Prince of Wales, and overseen two capital campaigns.

More than 650 people will gather tomorrow on the East Lawn of the Athenian School to pay tribute to Dase. Unassuming, compassionate and caring, Dase embodies the ideals of the school, said officials, which was founded in 1965 on the six pillars of Round Square schools.

“Eleanor's capable guidance over the past several years has equipped the school to prepare its students for



Eleanor Dase

the challenges of a global society,” said Ted Urban, chairman of the Board of Trustees. “Because of Eleanor, Athenian has the financial and physical resources necessary to provide exceptional learning and growing experience for today's and tomorrow's students.”

Dase first taught as a math teacher at the Athenian, and in the ensuing years, served as director of College Counseling, Academic Dean, Assistant Head, and in 1992 became Head of School. The current Pillar Campaign, which ends June 30 along with Dase's role as head, is funding the new music/multipurpose building, named the Eleanor Dase Center in her honor. ■

Correction

The story in the May 29 issue on the school district budget should have quoted Trustee Paul Gardner as saying that the cost to employees of two furlough days would be less than 1 percent of an average employee's compensation, as he compared that to companies across America where employees are being asked to take permanent pay cuts of 10-20 percent. The total cost for compensation in the district is approximately 88 percent of its budget.

Vets building plan nears completion

Senior advocate blasts proposal as not doing enough

By GEOFF GILLETTE

After 10 meetings and countless hours of discussion, members of the Veterans Building Steering Committee have agreed on a basic plan and are now beginning the process of determining cost estimates.

At their June 8 meeting, members of the committee examined the latest plans drawn up by consultants ARG. The group had been scrambling to incorporate thoughts and concerns raised by the committee members at their last meeting and work them into the design.

One of the areas of greatest concern was the main hall area, which is expected to host crab feeds and other events. ARG Principal Naomi Miroglio said they shaved space out of the Prospect Avenue promenade entrance in order to gain more square footage in the hall.

The senior space, located toward the rear of the structure, was also expanded to allow a second bathroom.

Veterans asked whether there would be a way for them to have a private office in the second floor of the building. The area, designated for veterans' use, has desks for the various organizations but no room for private discourse.

Committee member Scott Perkins said the veterans will need to have an office up there where they can have frank discussions about veterans' benefits and other issues in private. He suggested several possible changes to the plan that would allow them to include the office.

"I've driven architects crazy," he joked. "There's been a whole roomful of them in a state hospital."

While the veterans were largely satisfied with the layout, some members of the senior community were less enthused.

"I don't feel the seniors have been very well represented. I think the veterans' needs have been well met but not the seniors'," said Linda Stolow.

Stolow pointed to the contemporary look of the Prospect Avenue side and reminded the committee that the Veterans Hall is a historic structure. She also stated that the look of the building does not match the overall look of the downtown.

"I don't think we're preserving downtown," she said, "too much glass. Our downtown is quaint. I don't get 'quaint' out of this."

Stolow questioned the legality of the narrow setbacks for the project, as the municipal code stipulates a minimum 10-foot setback on the street side and side yard. Her recommendation was to take the seniors out of the mix entirely.

"I don't think this is the right building for us. I don't think we're meeting

See VETS HALL on Page 7



GEOFF GILLETTE

Danville men join bristly brotherhood

Devon Gooch Blunden (left) and Max Zimmerman, both 22, show off their flowing facial locks as they head off to join their equally hirsute comrades on Beard Team USA, whose motto is "Growing Beards for America." The pair took a cruise from Vancouver to Anchorage, Alaska, to join the team in the World Beard and Mustache Championships. Contestants were feted in Anchorage with parades and parties before the May 23 championship. Blunden's Mutton Chops and Zimmerman's Alaska Whaler both placed fourth in the competition. Blunden and Zimmerman said going to Alaska for the championship was a great way to start off their summer vacation from UC Berkeley, where Zimmerman just graduated, and UC Santa Barbara. The pair has committed to joining Beard Team USA in representing their country in the next championship, set for 2011 in Trondheim, Norway.

Turnover at the Rose Garden

Shopping center loses spa, restaurant

By GEOFF GILLETTE

Residents arriving at the Burke Williams Day Spa in the Rose Garden Shopping Center last week were surprised to find locked doors, as the health care establishment shut down after less than a year in operation.

A sign taped to the door of the posh spa blamed the closing on the poor economic conditions and directed residents to seek out appointments at either of their locations in San Francisco or San Jose.

On Sunday, some clients grumbled over not having been informed of the closing.

"You'd think they could have called the people with reservations for treatments, rather than have us come down here and see that sign," admonished an unidentified resident.

The sign on the door also directed residents with gift cards to contact the corporate office at 1-866-239-6635 to learn how to get a refund.

The loss of the spa was not

the only blow to the relatively young shopping center. Last week also saw the closing of Amaranta, an upscale Mexican restaurant located prominently on the Rose Garden site.

Blake Hunt Ventures is the property manager for the Rose Garden. CEO Brad Blake said he was unable to comment on the closing of Burke Williams, as there may be some litigation involved in the closure. Blake stated that Blake Hunt Ventures was in negotiations

See ROSE GARDEN on Page 8

Road work to resurface soon

Federal funds benefiting Danville projects

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Danville will be a smoother ride after two major road resurfacing jobs, which are to begin this summer.

One project will repave parts of Green Valley and Diablo roads, paid for by the federal stimulus package passed earlier this year.

Danville will receive \$823,000 for the project from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17 to create jobs and help stimulate the economy. The bill is providing \$27.5 billion in federal funding for roadway projects that are ready to begin.

"We hope to start in early summer," Town Manager Joe Calabriga told those in attendance at last week's Mayor's Morning. "We put this together quickly."

Danville will use the funds to repair and resurface a 0.7-mile section of Green Valley Road from Stone Valley Road to Diablo Road. This section of Green Valley is heavily traveled during the school year due to the four schools in the area, noted Calabriga.

Approximately 13,000 vehicles travel on these streets each day. The project also will upgrade sidewalks, curb ramps and traffic signals on Green Valley Road used by school children.

The project includes a 1.4-mile segment of Diablo Road from Green Valley Road to Avenida Nueva with repairs to the multi-use trail along the north side of Diablo Road that is frequently used by bicyclists en route to Mount Diablo.

The second project will resurface Camino Tassajara from Sycamore Valley Road to the eastern town limit and resurface Crow Canyon Road from Camino Tassajara to the southern town limit of Danville.

"We can't do them simultaneously," said Calabriga, noting that the construction will be done in phases to lessen its impact on residents and businesses.

The \$6 million project is receiving federal transportation funds made available under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users signed into law by President Bush in 2005.

This project has been four years in the planning and the town will pay about 10 percent, said Calabriga. ■

Off to greener pastures

Kids say goodbye to beloved Icelandic horse

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Carrot cake was on the menu Saturday as Villi, an Icelandic horse, spent his last day with the SonRise Equestrian Foundation, which gives riding sessions to children with emotional or physical challenges.

"Villi is the perfect horse for our program because he is sure-footed and very loving," said SonRise CEO Melanie Buerke of Danville. "As an Icelandic he is sturdy, which enables us to put larger people on him and makes him very secure for children who may feel scared or need extra support."

One of Villi's final riders was Charlie Cleberg, 11, who despite having little use of his arms has learned to ride and has even learned to rope with his feet at SonRise. At the farewell party, he raced Emma McGregor, 13, who has also struggled with physical challenges.

Villi will be leaving for Oregon where he will live with the family who loaned him to SonRise in February 2008. He was one of four therapeutic riding horses participating in the SonRise Equestrian Foundation programs at Charles Wilhelm Training Stables in Castro Valley. The Foundation is looking for another horse to replace Villi.

"Villi's quiet, unflappable and loving demeanor helps to provide children with the confidence to ride," said executive director Alana Koski. ■

SonRise Equestrian Foundation is currently planning its third annual Wine & Equine Festival and would appreciate donations of premium bottles of wine for a drawing. Anyone who is interested in more information about SonRise can call 838-RIDE (838-7433) or visit www.sonrise-equestrianfoundation.org.



KERRY BORSTAD

Emma McGregor, 13, who has struggled with physical challenges, rides Villi for the last time with the SonRise Equestrian Foundation.

Danville man charged with \$80M Ponzi scheme

BY JANET PELLETIER

The San Francisco bureau of the Securities and Exchange Commission has filed a complaint against the operators of two Pleasanton companies with an \$80-million Ponzi scheme, including a man from Danville. The SEC said the men targeted Korean-American investors with false promises of extraordinarily high returns from foreign currency (forex) trading. It alleges that Peter C. Son of Danville and Jin K. Chung of Los Altos lured approximately 500 investors in the United States, South Korea and Taiwan into their investment scheme in which funds were not traded in the forex market as claimed but instead used to pay cash "returns" to certain investors in Ponzi-like fashion.

The agency further claims that the men "misappropriated investor

money for their own personal use, including mortgage payments on Son's multi-million dollar home."

"They placed ads in Korean-language newspapers and used sales agents to target Korean-Americans in typical affinity fraud fashion as they preyed on the trust within close-knit communities," said Marc Fagel, director of the SEC's San Francisco Regional Office.

The SEC complaint, filed in federal district court in San Francisco, alleged that Son, 37, and Chung, 46, operated their scheme through SNC Asset Management Inc. (SNCA) and SNC Investments Inc. (SNCI), which maintained offices in Pleasanton, and New York City.

The SEC alleges that Son and Chung faked SNCA's supposed forex trading profits, providing investors with monthly account state-

ments showing fictitious returns.

Son and Chung drained SNCA's and SNCI's bank accounts as their Ponzi scheme was collapsing and transferred investor funds to accounts they controlled overseas, the complaint said. Investor funds were used to provide capital infusions to SNCI and pay Son's wife a salary for which she did no work, according to the complaint.

The SEC is seeking court orders freezing their assets and compelling them to return overseas assets to the U.S.

Son appeared in federal court in Oakland on Tuesday on federal criminal charges. Separately on Wednesday, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission announced civil fraud charges against Son, Chung, SNCA and SNCI, according to the SEC. ■



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Alamo social worker fulfills 'mission impossible'

Association honors Chia-Chia Chien for helping Asian Americans

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

"One tiny seed can begin a garden." Following this belief, the National Association of Social Workers chose Alamo resident Chia-Chia Chien for its Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Award.

Chien, a social worker for 30 years, founded the Culture to Culture Foundation in 2001 to promote mental health in the Bay Area's Asian-American community.

"During my 28 years of clinical experience, I have seen that Asian Americans have the tendency to either wait until very late or to be in crisis before seeking help," said Chien when receiving her award May 19 in at the Santa Clara Marriott. "The Culture to Culture Foundation was established to serve the community as a bridge to help reduce the cultural stigma associated with mental illness." It also highlights the need for more bilingual and bicultural mental health professionals.

Chien was born in Taiwan and moved to the United States in 1970 as a young adult, where she earned a master's degree in social work from University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and a master's in public health from UC Berkeley.

"I remember at that time, I was experiencing a lot of challenges because of culture shocks and language barriers which often time made me feel that being a first generation immigrant with English as a second language background, to become a social worker was a mission impossible," she said.

Chien was the first bilingual psychiatric social worker hired by the city of Berkeley at its Mental Health Clinic



FILE PHOTO
Chia-Chia Chien of Alamo was given a Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Award by the National Association of Social Workers.

and the only clinician bilingual in Chinese at the Adult Outpatient Program.

"Looking back, I was so amazed that most of my community services in the last 36 years have all been provided to people with cultural and language difficulties," she reflected. "And that was the job that I thought was a mission impossible before but now, to me, it's not only a mission possible but a mission essential."

Chien also started activities for Asian seniors, originally held at the Alamo Women's Club but now part of the Danville seniors who meet at the Veterans Memorial Building. Last year she began the Senior Volunteer Awards in Contra Costa County to recognize older people who give their time generously to others and to encourage more volunteerism.

Also, through the Culture to Culture Foundation, Chien began a Mental Health Warrior Award and the first Chinese American Mental Health Scholarship.

Chien has been recognized many times for her accomplishments, including the 2005 UC Berkeley Peter E. Haas Public Service Award.

She, too, appreciates the importance of planting seeds. "The Chinese have a saying and that is: One generation plants the trees, and the next generation will enjoy the shade," she said.

The Senior Volunteer Awards, started last year by Chia-Chia Chien, are presented to several seniors in Contra Costa County each October with a prize of \$250 and a certificate of recognition. Entries are due Aug. 31. For more information, e-mail seniorawards@sbcglobal.net.

VETS HALL

Continued from Page 5

the needs of seniors, especially handicapped seniors," she claimed.

She called for the classes and events held at the Town Community Center near the library to be moved to the Veterans Hall and to move the senior events to the Community Center.

Other senior advocates spoke, including Chia-Chia Chien of the Chinese American Senior Center and Barbara Smith of Contra Costa for Every Generation. Both warned the committee that with the senior population about to be impacted by the aging baby boomer generation that senior facilities will need to be prepared for the influx.

"We applaud you for planning for a new senior center," Smith said. "We just hope it's going to be big enough."

Smith added that concerns about parking should be addressed. She pointed to the drop-off lane along Prospect Avenue, which would assist passengers being let out near the entrance, but asked about those who drive. "Put yourself in the shoes of someone who is 80 years old with limited mobility," she stated.

Perkins said that while he sympa-

thizes with the seniors' concerns he wanted to remind people that this is, after all, a veterans' building.

"The veterans welcome other users, we've been welcoming other users for a long time. But I want people to realize that the veterans are giving a 13,000-square-foot lot to this project and have committed to raising \$3 million to this project. It allows for dedicated veterans' space," he said.

Mayor Newell Arnerich wrapped up the comment period by saying, "I don't want anyone to walk away thinking the seniors are not represented." He commended Kevin Donavan and Kent Rezowalli for their work in bringing senior concerns to the committee and said he feels that while the building does not provide for everything the seniors requested, it is a vast improvement over the current facilities.

"I think we've hit a homerun on most of those things," he said. "Is it better than what they have now? Absolutely."

With the committee's agreement over the preliminary concept plan, ARG will begin the process of breaking down the cost of the work and will present an initial cost estimate at the June 22 meeting.



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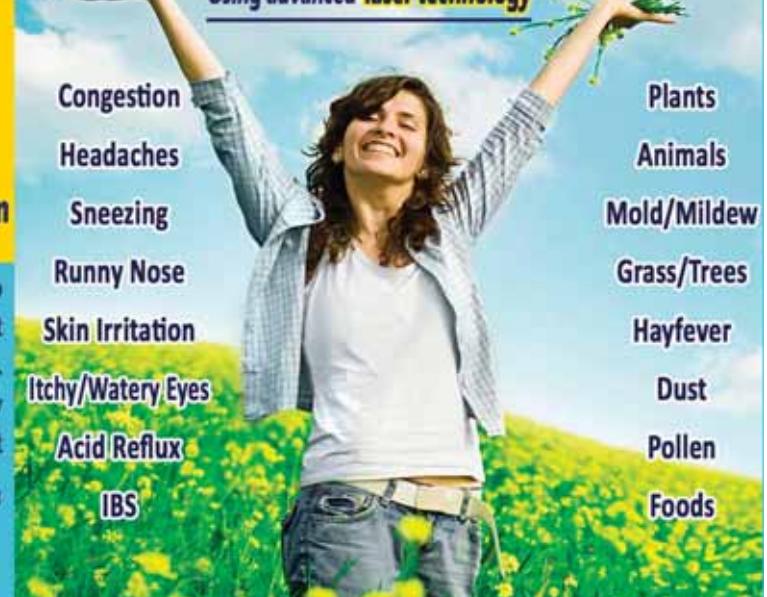
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Local bookstore honored in Assembly District 15

By GEOFF GILLETTE

In a time that is proving difficult for small business, one Danville company was the recipient of some good news recently. District 15 Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan named Michael Barnard, owner of Rakestraw Books, as the Small Business Owner of the Year. The awards ceremony took place May 26 in Sacramento.

At the event, members of the Assembly as well as the California Small Business Association gave out accolades to those businesses that best exemplify the entrepreneurial spirit necessary in small business while at the same time providing a strong service to their community.

"I am delighted to recognize Michael Barnard," said Buchanan. "Through his hard work, Rakestraw Books, The Bookstore in Danville, continues to be a community institution."

She added, "Small businesses make significant contributions to the California economy. They are the heart and soul of our communities."

Buchanan pointed to the many activities hosted by Rakestraw Books, including author appearances and events with local schools.

Barnard said he was thrilled to be selected as this year's recipient. "It's a terrific honor," he said, "and a nice validation of what we're doing in the community."

As the economy continues to stumble and people are spending less, Barnard said he thinks that seeing a small business thrive is a good sign.

"It must mean we're doing something right," he said. "People think local bookstores are in trouble. They're not," he added with a laugh. "The rumors of our deaths are slightly exaggerated." ■



Michael Barnard



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Gym class dismissed

The gymnasium next to the parking lot on Danville Boulevard at San Ramon Valley High School was torn down last week, leaving concrete stairs leading to a flattened ground. Known as the "small gym," and in previous years as the "girls gym," it was built in 1939 and was the oldest building in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District. A new main gymnasium will be built on this spot, part of the school modernization program paid for by Measure A funds. Behind the site is the auxiliary gym that was completed in March 2008.



ROSE GARDEN

Continued from Page 5

with the company when it suddenly decided to pull up stakes and close down its operation.

As for Amaranta, Blake said that his company is actively seeking a replacement for the restaurant and has already lined up potential prospects.

Businesses in the Rose Garden are seeing some difficulties due to the lack of traffic coming through

the facility, a factor which led Blake Hunt to recently seek a parking variance from the Town of Danville that will allow more "personal service" oriented businesses into the shopping center.

Personal service businesses include tutoring, physical fitness, hair stylists and nail salons. Conceptually, businesses of this sort will bring in a stable base of clientele that would come for the service, then stay to eat or shop at one of the Rose Garden retailers. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Something fishy:

Barbara and Jerry Buck share the Danville Weekly with a live lobster at Peggy's Cove in Nova Scotia in October.

Take Us Along on your travels and send photos to travel@DanvilleWeekly.com or 117 Town and Country Drive, Suite D, Danville 94526. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number.

See more Take Us Along, PAGE 23.

DIABLO VIEWS

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Graduates I have known and loved

Happy graduation time, whether it's your turn to celebrate or not. I've only been to one graduation in Danville—when my daughter Zoe walked the lawn at Monte Vista High School, class of '97. But when the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" air around this time—usually on radio commercials—it's this graduation I picture, and Zoe in her black gown trimmed in red, one hand holding down her cap, hair blowing in the breeze, hurrying across the football field. Of course it was extra emotional since she is my youngest. The nest was about to empty.

I barely remember my own graduation from Notre Dame High School in San Jose—not because it wasn't memorable but because it was so darned long ago. I vaguely recall that we girls all wore white caps and gowns and carried candles as we solemnly marched up the center aisle at St. Joseph's Church, which has since been promoted to a cathedral.

My next commencement was four years later when my husband Jim graduated from Santa Clara University. This was in the late '60s and it was becoming uncool to attend one's graduation ceremony so the university mandated attendance. Morris West, author of "The Devil's Advocate" who'd received his doctorate of literature from Santa Clara, was the speaker; he rallied against the Vietnam War, an incredibly pessimistic speech at a normally optimistic occasion, ending with the words, "God help us all."

Even before his graduation Jim had been drafted but I still needed five units to graduate from San Jose State. I followed Jim to his postings and took my last two classes via correspondence courses with UC Berkeley so as much as I value my degree in journalism I never even knew when my graduation ceremony took place.

Years later when Jim received his MBA from Santa Clara, our son Pepe was 8 years old. That was a lovely ceremony in the university garden, which we attended mainly to impress upon Pepe the importance of higher education. We left our 10-month-old baby Zoe with my parents and it was a nice chance for Pepe to be alone with mom and dad for an evening, too, and a nice dinner on the peninsula.

Onto the next generation! Pepe graduated from International School Bangkok. It was about 30 percent Americans, which meant that there was no unanimity on what constitutes a graduation. To the Asians, it

was a non-event, merely the step to higher education. But the Americans wanted something special and prevailed. It was held in the ballroom of a hotel with a reception afterward. My main memory is frustration that Pepe had been one vote away from giving the student speech for the class of about 150. His would have been so much better than the mundane, "We now go forward" words of the chosen kid. Of course that's just my humble opinion. But prolific writer Stirling Silliphant, best known for "In the Heat of the Night," who lived in Bangkok addressed us all with memorable words, which unfortunately I've forgotten.

Four years later Pepe graduated from Stanford on a sunny Saturday morning. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, also a Stanford grad, spoke to the assemblage in the football stadium for the commencement. Afterward families and graduating seniors went to smaller venues for the diploma ceremony, with Pepe getting his degree in international relations in the Dohrmann Grove, a lovely outdoor spot. My main memory is that a Rockefeller girl was one of the grads and I thought how nice it would have been if Pepe had hooked up with her—then our investment in his education truly would have paid off.

Next was Zoe's Monte Vista graduation, then a few years later we were all in San Diego to see her receive her bachelor's degree from SDSU in liberal arts, education—altogether a fun weekend at a beachside hotel. The commencement itself was held in the new basketball stadium, where we had a clear view of Zoe on the JumboTron as she received her diploma. A congresswoman from Southern California spoke movingly on the importance of educators, and the ceremony was impressive for the number of advanced degrees being bestowed in so many areas of education. A few years later when Zoe earned her teaching credential she wasn't interested in the ceremony, just in moving back up north to relocate for her teaching job in San Jose.

I always get excited at this time of year for the graduations and baccalaureates, squeezed in between Mother's Day and Father's Day. Or maybe it's the kid in me that was conditioned during my childhood to get excited at the end of the school year. Graduations are exciting and poignant, marking as they do the end of high school and the beginning of something altogether different with a lot of congratulations thrown in between. Is it your turn to attend a graduation? If so, enjoy!

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

Perspective

Danville Weekly

Serving the communities of Alamo, Blackhawk, Diablo and Danville

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Traffix will help traffic and pollution

Any time a group or entity makes an effort to reduce our carbon footprint or eliminate traffic congestion, it is to be applauded. So kudos go out to the entities responsible for Traffix, a school transportation program aimed at doing both.

Busing students to local schools has been a quandary for a decade or so as fleets were recognized to be polluting the environment more than they helped the air by taking individual cars off the road. In addition, in the older diesel vehicles, fumes sometimes entered the buses through the floorboards as well as every time the door opened. Not a good way for children to begin or end their school days.

School buses were ditched due to their pollution and the expense of providing transportation to the students. As budgets continued to be cut, parents had to make other arrangements to get their children to school. More students began to ride bikes, and families formed carpools for their children. Nonetheless, traffic jams became the norm around schools, resulting in idling cars and—more pollution. Not to mention the inconvenience to the parents.

Now Traffix is launching in August, a partnership of Danville, San Ramon, Contra Costa County and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District. The bus program is slated to receive \$40 million in Measure J funding in order to get the program off the ground but rider fees will help to cover ongoing costs once the program is started.

Seven schools, both middle and elementary, will initially be served by the buses. In order to work out a schedule to fully utilize the vehicles, times had to be changed for beginning and ending the school day at some campuses. Cost will be \$200 per year for students who sign up this summer; after school begins, the cost goes up to \$250. Before when the district provided busing, it cost \$400.

Traffix is expecting about 2,000 students to ride the buses. This should alleviate traffic, save wear and tear on the roads and “spare the air.” The 19 new buses have features such as full lap and shoulder seatbelts, a GPS system and air conditioning. But best of all, the brand new vehicles are state-of-the-art, with non-polluting diesel engines that are 60 times cleaner than the previous generation of buses.

LETTERS

Refining Democracy: The Budget Crisis

Dear Editor:

It is most troubling for the taxpayers to see the growing budget deficit in the State and the Federal Government.

In California, Gov. Davis was replaced by the current governor to eliminate the budget deficit. And now the deficit of \$24.3 billion is greater than ever before. At the national level the deficit is now running in the trillions. The situation is not self-correcting; it is self-degenerating.

Some causes and corrective measures are:

The elected officials lack knowledge in math, accounting and sound principles of economics. We need to adopt prerequisites for eligibility for election to maintain the required standard of knowledge in

the elected body.

In the absence of any restriction on expenditure, elected officials consider taxpayers money as free money for appeasing their voters. Each year, 10 percent of the revenue may be set aside as reserve fund, and after 10 years, expenditure may be limited to 90 percent of the reserve fund on hand.

In the absence of sufficient accountability, the officials act irresponsibly. For those responsible for causing the deficit, there may be a reduction in their salary and perks by the same percentage as the deficit. Further, they may be blacklisted disallowing contest in any future election.

Individually, the elected officials possess average intelligence, but their collective IQ is usually subzero in Congress or State Assemblies. Establish strict procedural guidelines that they add to one another, not subtract from each other.

We need propositions for voters to cover the above points.

T.S. Khanna, Alamo



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POLICE BULLETIN

Danville police break up bar fight

An altercation that started at one Danville bar and ended up outside a second drinking establishment ended with one man in the hospital and another in police custody.

Danville Police Sgt. Dan Hoffman said shortly after midnight on Sunday officers were called to the 300 block of Hartz Avenue on a report of a fight. Sgt. K.C. Wen arrived on the scene and found witnesses providing assistance to a man lying on the ground.

Witnesses told Wen and other officers the incident began at the Meenar Music Club when two men began fighting with a third. Employees of the club ejected the trio to the street where they continued their argument while walking up Hartz Avenue to Elliot's Bar.

At that point, witnesses contend, one of the pair knocked the victim, a 48-year-old San Ramon resident, to the ground. The other man, identified as Nathaniel Foster, 32, of Antioch, reportedly began stomping on the victim's head.

Hoffman said a witness reported trying to pull Foster off the victim, but retreated when Foster threatened him. The two attackers backed off the victim when the man lost consciousness.

Foster was taken into custody on a charge of felony battery. The second attacker, a Pleasanton resident, was not charged. The victim was transported by ambulance to San Ramon Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Hoffman said Foster has since been released from custody as the victim refused to cooperate with investigators in pursuing the case.

—Geoff Gillette

POLICE REPORT

The following information is provided by the Danville Police Department.

Sunday, May 31

- Unknown problem, arrest, on 300 block of Hartz Ave. at 12:06 a.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Camino Ramon and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 8:22 a.m.
- Residential burglary on Camino Amigo at 9:52 a.m.
- Animal cruelty on Fostoria Way at 2:40 p.m.
- Battery on Lawnview Cir. at 11:50 p.m.

Monday, June 1

- Grand theft on W. El Pintado Rd. at 6:45 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. at 12:09 p.m.
- Identity theft on Marques Ct. at 1 p.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Diablo Rd. and Front St. at 3:10 p.m.

Tuesday, June 2

- Grand theft from vehicle on Country Hill Ct. at 4:47 a.m.
- Vandalism on Danville Blvd. at 6:48 a.m. and 8:38 a.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. at 10:08 a.m.
- Accident, major injuries, on Camino Tassajara and Creekside Ave. at 11:29 a.m.
- Misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), arrest, on San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 1:31 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. at 3:42 p.m.
- Vandalism on Plumeria Ct. at 5:02 p.m.
- Accident, property damage, on Fostoria Way at 7:28 p.m.
- Misdemeanor hit-and-run on Diablo Rd. and El Cerro Blvd. at 7:38 p.m.

■ Vandalism on Lawnview Cir. at 8:08 p.m.

Wednesday, June 3

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Jewel Ter. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. at 12:20 a.m.
- Investigation, arrest, on Iron Horse Trail and Laurel Dr. at 9:35 p.m.
- Petty theft from vehicle on Morninghome Rd. at 10:47 p.m.

Thursday, June 4

- Accident, property damage, on Diablo Rd. at 11:54 a.m.
- Vandalism on Del Amigo Rd. at 1:18 p.m.
- Drunk in public, arrest, on Front St. at 1:28 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Diablo Rd. at 8 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Danville Blvd. at 8:20 p.m. and 8:32 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Camino Tassajara and Sherburne Hills at 10:23 p.m.

Friday, June 5

- Accident, major injuries, on Camino Tassajara and Sycamore Valley Rd. at 1:27 a.m.
- Vandalism on Joaquin Dr. at 7:14 a.m.
- Warrant arrest on La Gonda Way at 2:48 p.m.

Saturday, June 6

- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on Diablo Rd. and Via Hermosa at 2:53 a.m.
- Vandalism on Alta Vista Way at 8:33 a.m.
- Grand theft in lobby of Danville P.D. at 1:45 p.m.
- Auto burglary on Cameo Dr. at 2:30 p.m.
- Vehicle traffic stop, arrest, on W. Prospect Ave. and Railroad Ave. at 8:08 p.m.

OBITUARIES

Gerald A. Focha

Gerald A. Focha, a resident of Danville, died May 27 at the age of 76.

He was born Jan. 10, 1933, in Sebastopol. He attended Analy High School and went on to San Jose State. He served in the Navy during the Korean conflict, returned safely and completed his bachelor's degree in economics and finance at University of San Francisco. He sold Mack Trucks in the Bay Area for many years. He had a life-long fascination with all things mechanical, especially antique trucks, tractors, motorcycles and engines. When retired he traveled the world.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Juanita; his brother Lloyd; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister Jean Menini and brother-in-law George Rodgers.

A celebration of his life was scheduled for 2:30 p.m., Friday, June 12, at Wilson & Kratzer Chapel of San Ramon Valley, 825 Hartz Way, Danville. Donations may be made in his name to the American Diabetes Association Memorial Honor Program, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312.

Glen Arthur Gierke

Glen Arthur Gierke, a resident of Alamo, died May 25 at the age of 89.

He was born Jan. 11, 1920, in Chicago where he lived his early years before moving to northern Indiana. Awarded a basketball scholarship to Valparaiso University, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1948 with a double major in English and physical education and a minor in biology. After teaching in Indiana for nine years, he moved to California in 1965, where he taught biology, math and English for 23 years at Alhambra High School in Martinez, and was a mentor teacher for the science curriculum. He also coached varsity baseball for 18 years, leading the Alhambra Bulldogs to six League Championships and was named Coach of the Year in 1977.

Upon retirement in 1988, he became active in SIRs Branch 128, serving as lay chaplain for 15 years. He also served as volunteer chaplain at Kaiser Permanente in Walnut Creek for four years. He was an avid golfer, and a life deacon of Danville Congregational Church. He was the family storyteller as well as a clever poet.

He is survived by his wife Peggy; sons Jonathan (Helen), David, Christopher (Annette); daughter Gina Hidahl; stepson Greg Comstock; stepdaughter Cynthia Haselman (Bob); four grandchildren; brothers Leon "Bud" (Trudy) and Duane (Jackie); five step-grandchildren; eight step-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and

nephews. His brother Owen predeceased him in 2004.

A memorial service was held June 7 at Danville Congregational Church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville, where donations can be made in his name.

Jeffrey Rowe Soulages

Jeffrey Rowe Soulages, a resident of Alamo, died May 21 at the age of 51.

He was born March 29, 1958. He was a loving and devoted husband, a caring and nurturing father, a loyal partner, and a blessing to all who were in his life. In his youth, he was active in baseball, sailing and tennis. He later went on to play tennis at Washington High School in Fremont and at San Jose State University. After graduation, he joined the accounting firm Armanino McKenna LLP in 1979, and was named a partner in 1988. He was known for his personal commitment to his clients and was an advocate for fairness and decency. He coached baseball for his son, soccer for his daughter, and never missed a Cal State Fullerton baseball game, where his oldest son pitched.

He was preceded in death by his mother Jan, and son Christopher. He is survived by his wife Kristie; his children Jeffrey, Nicole and Bret; grandson Ryan; and all of his family and friends, including the Armanino Firm family.

A memorial service was held May 29 at Community Presbyterian Church in Danville.

Barbara Lord Felt

Barbara Lord Felt, a former resident of Danville, died May 26 at the age of 83.

She was born and raised in New Hampshire and came to California after World War II. She was in the Aviation Repair Business for more than 55 years and ran the business for 10 years after her husband passed away until she retired in 2002. She was a life member of Bridge Marina and Driftwood Yacht Clubs. She was a devoted wife and mother and a friend to everyone.

She is survived by three children, Gerald Golden, Judy Felt and Lewis Felt; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a brother, Gerald Lord. A memorial service was held June 7 at the Driftwood Yacht Club in Oakley.

David Battaglini

David Battaglini, a resident of Danville, died May 27 at the age of 69.

He was born March 25, 1940. His life was full of family, friends and his companion, Cash. He grew up in Danville from the first grade and lived on the Bryan Ranch with his sisters, Joyce and Sandy Ralph. He learned all phases of ranching, animal husbandry, equipment repair and carpentry. He was well-versed in his trade as a landscape contractor, trained at Cal Poly San

Luis Obispo. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and had fun riding his snowmobile and camping in the mountains. He loved to share his "bounty" of fruit, vegetables and his famous pomegranate jelly.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Susan, and children Julie (Dave Petroni) and Bryan (Kelly); his five grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and cousins. A memorial Mass was held June 2 at St. Isidore Church in Danville. Memorial donations can be made to Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa or St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Zaida Teresa Rodriguez

Zaida Teresa Rodriguez, a Danville resident, died May 29 at the age of 56.

She was born June 22, 1952, in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. She was a teacher and administrator for SFUSD for 32 years and received the Principal of the Year Award for 2008-09, and was a board member of the Western Region Puerto Rican Council, which provides scholarships for Latino youth. She truly loved working with children and was dedicated to creating a program and a world that respects the beauty and importance of children and families.



She leaves behind her mother, Zaida Diaz-Nieves; husband of 33 years, Nestor Rodriguez; daughters Vianca (Bill) Flint and Debra (Jonathan) Kendler; and four grandchildren. A memorial service was held June 3 at Hull's Walnut Creek Chapel in Walnut Creek. Memorial donations may be made to Mission or Bryant Child Development Parent Fund or the SF Kidney Foundation in her memory.

Francis Joseph McGonigle

Francis Joseph McGonigle, a resident of Danville, died May 29 at the age of 83.

He was born May 9, 1926, and grew up in Belvidere, Ill., with his parents, John and Marguerite, and his brother Jack. After graduating from Notre Dame University in 1949, he moved to the Bay Area. A defining moment in his life came in 1952, when a tragic auto accident killed his beloved wife Martha, and put him in a coma for two months. He never re-married. He was known to many county residents as the tall, thin, good-humored maitre d' at Emil Villa's in Walnut Creek for nearly 30 years.

He was an accomplished golfer, and trophies from several member tournaments at Diablo Country Club adorned his bookshelf.

He is survived and missed by his four nephews, John, Tom, Tim and Jim McGonigle. A funeral Mass was celebrated June 5 at St. Isidore Catholic Church in Danville.

See **OBITUARIES** on Page 11

OBITUARIES

Continued from Page 10

Robert Herman Rantz

Robert Herman Rantz, a resident of Danville, died May 27 at the age of 87.

He was born Aug. 3, 1921, in Chicago, Ill., and met Marie during WWII. They were married 63 years, which took them from Chicago to Arcadia and, for the past 21 years, to Danville. He enrolled in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1940, then enlisted in the Navy in 1942. He served in the Navy from 1943-46 in the LST amphibious ships, participating in 27 landings, including D-Day in the Pacific theater. After the war, he returned to complete his degree in international law and foreign trade in 1947. After spending the post war years in Chicago, his family moved to Southern California in 1953. Five years later, he started his own business, M&H Products, to serve the material handling industry with innovative products. After 23 years, he sold the business and retired. In 1986, they moved to Danville, following their daughter and son-in-law's move to Northern California. Although "retired," Mr.

Rantz used his motorhome to serve meals to the workers at Miracle Ranch in Mexico; served in Sons of Retirement (SIRs Branch #128) editing the bulletin and serving as travel chairman; and providing entertainment at senior residences, convalescent homes and hospitals. He also served at Community Presbyterian Church as an usher and was involved with Prime Time. His volunteerism attracted the attention of the Town of Danville, which presented him with an Award of Merit in 2000. He would not go out anywhere without a sport coat and tie, which his father had ingrained in him at an early age.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife Marie Ruth Rantz, who died March 24. He is survived by his daughters Kathie Rantz and Elizabeth Rantz Stine; and two grandchildren. A celebration of his life was held June 9 at Community Presbyterian Church in Danville.

Mary Marinkovich

Mary Marinkovich, a resident of Danville, died peacefully May 21 at the age of 88.

She was born May 31, 1920. She is survived by daughters Luci (John) Lussing and Toni (Tim) Renault; grandchildren Krista (Marc) Braden, Mark Lussing, Cera Renault; and great-grandchildren Carter and Chase Braden. Services will be held at a later date.

Ruby Morris

Ruby Morris, a resident of Danville, died May 28 at the age of 90.

She was born Sept. 12, 1918, in Oak Grove, Miss., and resided in Danville for more than 56 years. She attended the University of Missouri and graduated from San Mateo Junior College. She met Robert (Bob) Morris Sr. while working in San Francisco and they were married in 1943. In

addition to being a loving wife and mother, she was also the secretary/treasurer of Royal Jersey Inc., the business she and her husband started in 1958. She loved cooking, gardening, reading, sewing, traveling and spending time with her family. She was an active member of the Diablo Women's Garden Club for 48 years, a member and Sunday school teacher at Danville Community Presbyterian Church, a Girl Scout and Cub Scout leader and was active in the PTA.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 59 years, Bob, and her six brothers and a sister. She is survived by her children Caryl Barclay, Robert Morris Jr. (Debby), Patricia Simmons, Dede Gilliam (Richard); 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Private services were held June 6 in Farmington. Donations in her name can be made to a favorite charity or to Hospice of the East Bay for the Bruns House, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill 94523.

Lilian Smith

Lilian Smith, a resident of Danville, died peacefully May 30 at the age of 91.

She was born in Kansas, where she met and married her husband Merle. They moved to California and settled in the East Bay. She was a longtime member of St. Phillip's in Dublin. She leaves behind her four children, Jackie Slatten, Ken Smith (Joanne), Patty Smith and Jim Smith (Melody); and five grandchildren. The family would like to thank the staffs at the San Ramon Regional Medical Center and Villa San Ramon for the excellent care shown to their mother.

Ernest W. Alverson

Ernest W. Alverson, a resident of Alamo, died June 2 at the age of 92.

He was born Jan. 28, 1917, a native of Birmingham, Ala. He and his wife Jane Alverson migrated to Oakland from Northern Ohio in 1939 with a small baby Judy and soon-to-be-born daughter Janice. He remained stateside during the war years to build ships in the Oakland shipyards where his father William Alverson was the superintendent. At the end of WWII, they ventured into multiple restaurant and other businesses. Jane continued in the food service industry while he moved on to be a proud member of Teamster's Local 70 as a driver of heavy trucks, and they both retired in 1977. They moved to Middletown in 1983 to enjoy sun and golf, and he became a 3rd degree Mason, as well as a director on the water board. He returned to the Bay Area in 2002 to be close to his family.

He was predeceased by his wife in 1988 and his daughter Judy in 1999. He is survived by his daughter Jan; son Bill and his wife Jani; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Services were private. Donations can be made to Children's Hospital Foundation, 747 52nd St., Oakland 94609.



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Dad to hundreds

A Father's Day salute to a Danville couple who have fostered 410 children, hoping to be a bridge to a better life

By SUSAN ASTBURY

The term "empty nesters" will never apply to Danville couple Deanna and Dave Mitchell. Not only have they raised two children of their own, but they have been parents to 410 foster children.

"You understand that your world is very small if you let it be," said Dave. "The perspective that you get from having all these children and interacting with them makes you a far better understanding person as to what the real world is like."

Dave and Deanna began fostering in 1970 while they were living in Georgia.

"One of the elders at the church convinced us that we would be good foster parents and we should try," said Dave. "We thought that we were going to get one child. The social worker showed up with six kids, all siblings, and asked how many we wanted. So we took three."

The Mitchells prepared their children, who were 6 and 8 years old at the time, for the adjustment.

"We had lots of conversations with our kids before we did this," recalled Dave. "In fact we postponed it several months. At first our son wasn't too keen on it. Then he came back and said yes, he thought he'd like to do it."

"Because we were very inexperienced, we felt sorry for these children and didn't make them go by the house rules," said Deanne. "Our own kids wanted a family conference to know why they had to follow the rules and the other kids didn't. And we said, 'You are right.' After that, truthfully, we've never had any complaints from our kids. Except for one girl, who our daughter said used to try to sneak out of the bedroom window."

Dave and Deanna decided not to take a boy older than their son or a girl older than their daughter.

"Because you're learning as you go," Dave noted. "In real living terms, in a lot of ways the foster children were older than our children because they're always older than their years."

The Mitchells moved from Georgia to Michigan and decided to give up foster care since they had been doing it for five years. Then one day their son, David, came to them and asked how to put an ad in the paper. When they asked why, he said he wanted someone to share his room. "So we called up the county in Michigan and became foster parents again," said Deanna.

The family moved to California in 1980.

Son David is 45, has a girl and a boy, and lives in Chapin, S.C.

Their daughter, Teresa Sumiyoshi, is now 47, lives in Moraga and has three daughters of her own.

She said sometimes the foster children told her stories about their lives that made her sad but mainly she enjoyed having them around.

"We never had to explain the dangers of alcohol and drugs to our children," said Deanna. "They saw living proof. It was bad in a way but it was good. ... They got life lessons that you could never probably give anyone—they wouldn't believe you."

"It didn't seem unusual to have so many foster kids because that's the way it always was," Teresa said. "It was fun to have new playmates. There were always kids around."

Teresa said that she has had to explain to her three daughters why grandma and grandpa always have different kids living with them. They have become friends with some of the children. "My kids, too, accepted that to be the norm," Teresa said.

"One of our neighbors in Georgia was having a baby and explaining to her children how you have a baby," recalled Deanna. "They looked at her and said, 'Why don't you do like the Mitchells and call up and have them delivered?'"

Another time, Deanna said, Teresa came home from school laughing.

"The teacher wanted to know how many brothers and sisters I had and I wrote down that I had to count them when I get up in the morning," said Teresa. "The teacher got really worried."

"Obviously kids come on a temporary basis," said Dave.



"Somehow people need to know the magnitude of the need for foster parents. There will always be more need than we have supply of foster parents."

Dave Mitchell, father to 410 foster children

"The hope is that these children will end up in a permanent home, whether it's returning to their parents or being adopted. But 'temporary' can mean anything from 24 hours to three years. For us, we've had children for one day to three years."

The Mitchells have learned from their foster children over the years what it means to live in poverty.

"The children are so happy to get something still in the plastic," Dave said. "Some of them have never had anything new in their lives."

The Mitchells are currently fostering a baby named DW, who was born prematurely.

"Of his 7-1/2 months, he's spent a total of five months in Children's Hospital," said Deanna. He's been with Dave and Deanna for five weeks.

"They are a wonderful team," said Nancy DeWeese, a friend, foster parent and neo-natal intensive care nurse at Children's Hospital Oakland. "They have a strong marriage. If you have a strong base, you can deal with the ups and downs. With them, nothing is too much. They are unique. They'll always take a little one, the medically fragile and infants."

Dave and Deanna are both 70. "People can be foster parents for a long time and they just have to find the right niche. Right now we can handle babies," Dave explained.

He said he wonders if everyone knows how badly foster parents are needed.

"Somehow people need to know the magnitude of the need for foster parents," said Dave. "There will always be more need than we have supply of foster parents."

"One thing is that it's not easy to be a foster parent and it's not something for everyone," said Dave. "But age is not a restriction."

"We've quit so many times. We're getting smarter now because we take time out every year for ourselves," said Deanna. "Although our last trip to Hawaii we took a child with us. We've taken children on vacation who are on feeding tubes and oxygen. It's amazing how nice people can be."

Foster parents provide a special service to children and to the community by providing ongoing care and love to those

who cannot live with their birth families, according to Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services. Foster care benefits provide cash aid to foster parents on behalf of children who meet the eligibility requirements.

In 2008 there were 66,496 children in foster care in California and approximately 1,600 in Contra Costa County, said Human Services Division Manager Lois Rutten. The children range in ages from newborns to 18 years.

"The Mitchells, who have been married over 50 years, exemplify dual parenting," said Rutten. "They are calm and have a great sense of humor. They work well with the birth parents. They're just a genuinely nice couple."

"We called Deanna and Dave three years ago with a very difficult placement for a 7 year old," she recalled. "They took him on vacation with them for two weeks to Hawaii and he came back a new kid."

"I've known the Mitchells for 17 or 18 years," she added. "I kiss Dave whenever I see him. He truly has the heart of a father."

The Mitchells, in turn, speak well of the county agency.

"Contra Costa County Human Services is probably the Cadillac in the nation. We've seen all sides," said Dave.

"In Contra Costa the other foster parents are such a great support system," added Deanna. "There's a foster family network organization that you can call any time and while they might not know the answer, they can direct you where to go."

The Mitchells have seen all types of children and problems.

"One child came back to us after a number of years," said Deanna. "He had lived with us and went back to his parents, lived with us, and went back to his parents. He came back and said, 'You know, when things got bad at home, I would walk out on the street and know that there was a different way of living, and you showed me that.'"

"If you see a little child who has not smiled and you've had them for a month and they start smiling at you, it washes away everything else," she added.

"If you're an emergency home, which we are, you can get a call at any time, day or night and they say, 'We have a placement,'" Dave said. "Sometimes you get a call that says we have a baby in the hospital who is going to get released and we need a home. Sometimes you get a call that we have a child at a police station and we need to place that child. It varies by the need."

Why did the Mitchells foster so many children? "Dave really didn't have a choice," joked Deanna.

"Deanna is absolutely great with children," said Dave. "She loves children and is like the old lady in the shoe, she never wants to be without children. It's plain and simple. She worked with developmentally delayed children as a preschool teacher and she's good at it."

"We always refer to being foster parents as being a bridge," he continued. "A bridge from where the children have been, to where they will go. And you provide a bridge in between. It's a bridge to hopefully give them enough foundation under them to survive the tough hits later on."

Dave is retired from the food manufacturing business.

"Dave's work kept him busy and he traveled some when the children were young," said Deanna. "Since he's retired, he's done more child care than he did with our own children. But I think he also saw what he missed with our own children."

"You usually only hear the bad things about foster care," she added. "People don't realize the good that can be done, too. It's not perfect, far from it. But I don't know what other alternative there is. These children need a safe place. They don't have any expectations for the future at all. We just tell them that we will keep them safe. That's all we can do."

For information about being a foster parent, contact the Contra Costa Employment and Human Services at www.ehsd.org; click on Children and Family Services. Or telephone 355-7040.



SUSAN ASTBURY

Dave Mitchell says his wife Deanna is like the old woman who lived in the shoe. "She never wants to be without children," he said.



Parent photographers

Send a jpeg to Editor@DanvilleWeekly.com of the best action shot from your child's game for consideration for our Sports page. Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.



CHRIS SCOTT/WWW.CALSPORTSPHOTO.COM



Championship play

Yankees pitcher Sam Mink, No. 9, tags the Giants player on his way to second base as the Yankees head for a 7-4 win in this game and the San Ramon Valley Little League AA Championship, played at Los Cerros Middle School.

Team members and coaches are (back row, l-r) John Stame, Kevin Rantz, Geoff Mink, Dave Holt, (second row) Robbie Chambers, Jack Holt, Daniel Medley, Danny Carpenter, Erik Karlsekind, Ben Stame, (front row) Volney Spaulding, Sam Mink, Ryan Rantz, Grant Fautt, Matthew Trinkus and Ben Morales.

New football coach named for SRV Wolves

Mark Kessler to replace Dave Kravitz

BY GEOFF GILLETTE

Ending after a solid season of Wolves football, Head Coach Dave Kravitz announced in mid-May that he will not be returning to the gridiron at San Ramon Valley High School next year.

Kravitz coached the Wolves for 17 seasons, including two North Coast Section titles, one East Bay Athletic League championship and several NCS playoff visits.

On June 8, officials with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District announced that Assistant Varsity Coach Mark Kessler will be moving up to fill Kravitz' role at the helm.

"Mark Kessler has a wealth of experience, passion and commitment to San Ramon Valley High School football," said Principal Joe Ianora. "We are looking forward to Mark building

on the rich tradition that Dave Kravitz established before him."

Kessler, a health and P.E. teacher at SRVHS, has been in education for 16 years. He has 17 years of coaching experience including head coaching at both Las Lomas High School and Benicia High School. In addition he spent time at the collegiate level, as the quarterbacks and running backs coach at Solano College.

Ianora said he is banking on that experience as Kessler takes over command of the Wolves. "Mark's background and community involvement make him the natural choice to take this program to new heights," Ianora stated.

Kessler will be stepping in as Varsity Head Football Coach/Program Coordinator starting with the 2009-10 season. ■



Cyclones spin way to the top

The Danville Alamo Cyclones won the MVP Flight Spring League for third-grade boys, after a 6-2 regular season record. Then at the championships held May 30-31, the Cyclones beat Sportstrong Blue, 31-28 in the semifinals and the Warriors Basketball Club, 31-25, in the Championship Game. Team members are (front, l-r) Chris Koenig, Hunter Perkins, Dominic Armanino, Jackson Pearce, AJ Tammen, Jordan Gutierrez, Cole Peterson, (kneeling) Coach Dale Pearce, Coach Greg Johnson, (back) Coach Mark Isola, Joe Isola, Dominic Freitas, Spencer Dettlinger, Daniel Medley, Matthew Johnson, Nate Jelavich and Coach John Perkins.



Undefeated Yankees are Danville Little League champs

The Danville Little League, Single A Division, Yankees were undefeated in both the regular season and the post season, perhaps for the first time. The final game was played Saturday, June 6, at Osage Park against the Giants. Team members are Mason Evans, Cole French, Max Gersho, Blake McDonald, Copper Page, Luke Psomas, Devon Shah, Brian Spears, Ben Weinberg, Grant Westbrook, Jake Wilson and Zach Wilson. Manager is Brian Wilson; coaches are Kraig Evans, John Spears and Steve Psomas.

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The following students were scheduled to graduate.

Monte Vista High School

Shahryar Shahid Abbasi
 Alaina Ann Abbott
 Tania Yassamin Abdollahi
 Jessica Danielle Acton
 Daniel James Aitchison
 Emad Kevin Alazzeh
 Paulina Katarina Alexander
 Nigina Ali
 Trevor James Allain
 Christian Alexander Allinson
 Amil Madina Amin
 Erik Michael Anciaux
 Colton Pierce Anderson
 Neelgopal Anderson
 Kailani Kay Andrade
 Marcus Alexander Andrews
 Desiree Ansari
 Mark Stewart Appel
 Mina Arbabarghi
 Sameera Arbabarghi
 Jordyn Elizabeth Armstrong
 Suzanne Marie Arnott
 Gregory Michael Ashton
 Freshta Atiqi
 Alex Oliver Attard
 Alexander Taylor Atwood
 Umber Afzal Aulakh
 Ryan Donald Aveni
 Daniel Robert Kazuo Awai
 Sofia Azizi
 Kendyl Elise Bachelor
 Christopher Back
 Grace Jeehyun Baek
 David Nasser Bafaiz
 Travis Carter Bailey
 Sara Elizabeth Banke
 Madeline Jane Banneck
 Brian Nicholas Barbour
 Julia Christine Bareiss
 Brent Michael Barenberg
 Skyler Ryan Barnes
 Caesar Joseph Taloma Basa III
 Natasha Elaine Batalha
 Elizabeth Ann Battles
 Chelsea Danielle Bautista
 Michael Tyler Bealmeir
 Christine Suzanne Beeman
 Drew Tyler Bell
 Katherine Helen Bennett
 Alysia Cecile Bensen
 Eric Kenneth Loughry Bergquist
 Nipun Bhandari
 Shaiela Islam Bhuiyan
 Zehui Brad Bi
 Amanda Blair
 Daniel Clark Blakey
 Shelby Mariah Blanco
 Andrew Keith Bonner
 Katherine Grace Boomer
 Christopher Michael Borges
 Cian Connolly Bouma
 Taysa Marie Bowers
 Paige Kathleen Bradley
 Andrew Paul Bradshaw
 Eric Andrew Brandt
 Rachael V. Brandt
 Taylor Andrew Brewster
 Kaitlin M. Brown
 Kelsey Ayn Brown
 Rachel Kathleen Brown
 Melanie Nicole Buich
 Jennifer Hong Burton
 Jillian Sarah Bush
 Jared Michael Butler
 Olivia Marie Butler
 Elena Marie Cadet
 Lori Campbell
 Barissa Cappelletti
 Alexa Kristin Carbajal
 Nicole Theresa Carey
 Andrew Douglas Carlson
 Christopher Casey
 Caroline Constance Helen Cella
 Andrew Robert Cesca
 Katherine Burke Chabolla
 Rohan Niranjana Chakicherla
 Evan J. Chan
 Amiel David Chanowitz
 Sheena Chaudhuri
 Jeffrey Robert Chavez
 Phillip Christian Chavez

Congratulations, class of 2009

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

It's that time of year again, for caps and gowns, Pomp and Circumstance, and graduation parties. Proud parents and grandparents, and thrilled graduating seniors—although some may be feeling sadness, too, at the ending of their high school days. The comprehensive high schools graduate this evening, June 12, while Del Amigo holds its graduation ceremony June 16.

This year's count of graduates in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District is:

- Monte Vista High School: 654
- San Ramon Valley High: 498
- California High: 598
- Del Amigo High School: 32
- Venture Independent Study: 152

To honor the graduates, the Danville Weekly will devote space next week to photos that people send in of their graduates in their caps and gowns. So bring your cameras to the graduations (as if you weren't already!), and e-mail jpeg to editor@DanvilleWeekly.com by noon Monday, June 15. Be sure to include the name of the graduate, the school and his or her plans for next year.

Thanks, and congratulations!



Ryan Michael Chavez
 Joshua Harrison Chazin
 Jeffrey Huey-Jay Chen
 Kevin Chen
 Calvin George Chin
 Megan Choe
 Anson Choi
 Coral Siemyee Chou
 Lauren Nicole Chouinard
 Christi Minjung Chung
 Jane Crystal Chung
 NÓcholas J. Chung
 Samuel T. Clark
 Hannah Christine Clay
 Elizabeth Porter Clayton
 Talia Celine Clayton
 Jacob Tyler Conery
 Jennifer June Connor
 Trevor MacKenzie Cooper
 Brittany Cordova
 Alexandra Marie Corvino
 Elyse Christine Coutermash
 Gabrielle Huntoon Cowden
 Dylan James Croft
 Victoria Grace Cruz
 Alexandria Mia Cruz-Gibson
 Lindsay Chuang Cui
 Trevor James Cuneo

Jesse Tyler Cunha
 Ryan Robert Curtis
 Esther Cynn
 Sasha Samir Daing
 Sebastian T. Darby
 Summer Leigh Dashe
 Brandon Alexander Davis
 Caitlin Leigh Davison
 Kristofer Bruce de Porcel
 Nicole Christina Dear
 Anna Rebecca DeChant
 Joseph Shawn Delaney
 Eric Daniel DeLorme
 Aimee Elizabeth Dewan
 Manraj Singh Dhami
 Troy Austin Dillingham
 Andrea Justine Dimayuga
 William Patrick DiMichele
 Alexis Gabrielle Dinsbach
 Christopher Dittmore
 Robert Allen Dodge
 Parker James Doliber
 Michael Jakub Domalewski
 Kelsey Marie Dondero
 Connor Patrick Donley
 Ali Doroudchi
 Clare Catherine Dowling
 Nicholas Robert Dreyer

Alexandria Noelle D'Souza
 Chelsea Ann DuHaime
 Alexa Siobhan Duncan
 Tony Minh Duong
 Alexander John Duran
 Taylor Christopher Durand
 Lauren Elizabeth Edborg
 Katharine Weaver Edson
 David Aaron Eliahu
 Katherine Louise Elmer
 Mikaela Crescencia Evora
 Encarnacion-Warque
 Alexandra Kelsey Engle
 Julia Nikitina Engstrom
 William Lee Engstrom
 Michael Russel Erb
 Zachary Adam Ertz
 Matthew Gerick Espineli
 Danielle Corinne Evert
 Madison Valdez Fairbrother
 Yiwen Fang
 Jamie Lynne Falkenhainer
 Shauna Kealoha Falvey
 Jonathan Fernandez
 Kaela Elizabeth Fonzi
 Lauren Nicole Foos
 Alexandra Franceschi
 Kelly Noel Francis

Kenneth J. Frazier
 Brieanne Elizabeth Freitas
 Courtney Elizabeth Fuhrman
 Michael-Joseph Atienza Fulgencio
 Michael John Fullem
 Joshua Arden Fuller
 Beverly Christina Fung
 Michael Scott Gailey
 Xin Gao
 Brendon James Garcia
 Zachary D. Gardner
 Chelsea Tate Garecht
 Nicholas Kay Garitano
 Patrick Michael Garvin
 Emily Grace Gary
 Anthony Gedeon
 Carly Anne Geiger
 Chelsea L. Gerber
 David C. Ginther
 Francesca Giovacchini
 Amy Marie Gluchowski
 Kirsten Boysen Golden
 Albert William L. Gonzales
 Nicholas Hilario Gonzalez
 Taylor Anne Gonzalez
 Audrey Michele Gordon
 Moran Goren
 Kranthi Kumar Gouravaram
 Caroline Marie Gape
 Victoria Helene Gape
 Haniyan Ashaanti Gray
 Adam Nathaniel Green
 Abigail Anne Greenberg
 Govinda Parashar Gupta
 Natasha S. Gupta
 Neena Rani Gupta
 Olivia Xochitl Gutiérrez
 Blake Charles Haisley
 Bahar Hajian
 Meghan Hammitt
 Jennifer Han
 Blake Wayne Hansen
 Ryan Andrè Hansen-Maffet
 Anum Sehar Haque
 Alyssa M. Harkins
 Kevin Harnyoot
 Alicia Jade Harrell
 Clare Harrington
 Nicholas Andrew Hart
 Christine A. Hatzikokolakis
 Kristiana Ashley Hausman
 Alexandra Hay
 David He
 Mark Robert Heavey
 Alexander Hebels
 Justin Hebels
 Danielle Lauren Heller
 Thomas Pierce Hemmingsen
 Yvonne Ailsa Henderson
 Michelle Marie Henneman
 Karl Stefan Hepner
 Anthony Rey Hernandez
 Erin Leigh Higgins
 Jared Allen Hill
 Evelyn Yi Lin Ho
 Stephanie Kuni Ho
 Alex Jason Hofmann
 Ashton Paul Holland
 Zoe Caprice Holmes-Higgin
 Shannon Marie Hooke
 Gregory Paul Hoover
 Zachary Thomas Hosney
 Tyler Lawrence House
 Megan Rae Hovander
 Leanne Marie Howes
 Leslie Eleanor Howes
 Stacey Y. Hsi
 Kevin David Hsue
 Kyle Joseph Hughes
 Matthew Bryan Hyland
 Abdul Azziz S. Ikharo
 Nicole Marie Isbell
 Lorie Ellen Ivory
 Sandra Brianna Jacob
 Collin William Jacobs
 Joseph George Jaffe
 Kelsey Cynthia James
 Taylor Cole Jandegan
 Alexander Pierce Jansen
 Jordan Alexandra Jeha
 Alexandra Elizabeth Jensen
 Eric Oh Jensen
 David Timothy Jew
 Xiaoqi Jiang
 Anna Jennae Linsangan Jiz de Ortega
 See **GRADUATES** on Page 16

GRADUATES

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Ayesha Kaur Johal

Evan Page Johanson

William Bradford Johns

Ellen Hepplewhite Jokerst

Christian Robert Jones

Kelsey Renon Jones

Daniel Jordan

Michael Kajioka

Danielle Raquel Kaminsky

Taylor L. Kane

Sonam Kapoor

Anna Kathleen Karleskind

Yara Kenzie Karmalawy

Janelle Diane Kaufer

Daniel James Kawashima

Sean J. Kellejian

Erica Noelle Keller

Amanda Leigh Kelley

Samantha Rose Kelley

Taylor Michele Kelley

Kaitlin Ann Kelly

Aakash Keswani

Mohammed Owais Khan

Dana Lee Kilian

Brian Kim

Jessica Ahyoung Kim

Kwang Rae Kim

Myung Hyun Kim

Crystal Gem Ong King

Zachary Aaron King

Elliot Wing Ho Ko

Lauren Michelle Kong

Natsuko Konishi

Elizabeth Jain Koo

Dema J. Kordahi

Kristen Alyssa Kortschak

Grant Michael Kourey

Lisa Kramer

Lauren Marie Kuemmeler

Claudia Kung

Morgan Nicole Landes

Chloe Alexandra Langon

Jennifer Liu Larsen

Andrew Timothy Lau

Shirley Lee Lau

Blake Charles Lawlor

Jessica Le

Kaitlyn Sierra Leadabrand

Andrea Corine Lee

Christine Alicia Lee

Ian Jinho Lee

Sandy Arim Lee

Elizabeth Conover LeMay

Lauren A. Lemma

Francesca Elyse Leonard

Alyssa Carmella Leone

Angelina Jamie Leong

Jennifer Ying Lependorf

Chenise Lauren Leveriza

Emily Rose Lewis

Stephanie Evelyn Lewis

Jordan Li

Linda Li

Oscar Man Hin Li

Isaac K. Liang

Danielle Rose Lichliter

Jacob Andrew Liebert

Jolene Nichole Liljeberg

Jack Lin

Clara Marie Lindberg

Alexandra Elizabeth Lodwig

Thomas Darrell Logan

Justin William Lee Lollar

Aaron Alan Long

Michael Martin Loretz

Meredith Rae Louden

Christopher Michael Louie

Lauren Aleyna Loveless

Broderick John Luebckeman

Andrew Joseph Luhrs

Kenneth Glenn Edward Luke

Sabina Marie Lundgren

Ashley Catherine Marie Lynch

Brendan Chaney Lynch

Brittany Elizabeth Leigh Lynch

Kristin Michele Lynch

Troy Emerson Lyon

Emma Kristine MacDonald

Russell Coleman Maginn

Tanuj Mahmood

Neil Kanth Malani

David Andre Malloy

Madisyn Claire Maloney

Felix Yohanes Manan

Shazia Salima Manji

Lynda Micaela Mantle

Tiffany Feng Mao

Joseph Bernard Marcinkowski

Natasha Marks

Jessica Willow Marquoit

Jake Martinovich

Emily Marie Mason

Julia Grace Mason

Imran Ross Masood

Max Oliver Massengill

Krispal Singh Matharu

Christopher Hughes Mathis

Kaitlyn Frances Flaton McCann

Nicholas Armando McCracken

Jennifer Lynn McCullough

Cori Alexis McGovern

Olivia Anne McHugh

Kelly Frances McKenna

Chelsea Jade McKenzie

Michael John McNamara

Ryan Joseph McNutt

Reginald W. Meigs, Jr.

Maxwell Luis Mendes

Keshia Anne Mercado

Christian Douglas Meyer

Savannah Anna Meyer

Becky Jean Miller

Garrett Anthony Miller

Evan Scott Millitello

Michael Carl Millstein

Amardeep Singh Monga

Courtney Susanne Monheit

Christian Sean Montecarlo

Je-n-Nathan Montecarlo

Ryan Joseph Montes

Jessica Belinda Montegavo

Christopher Martin Moon

Elliot Christopher Moore

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Trevor Jennings Moriarty

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Kevin Daniel Po

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Kiley Jacqueline Powell

Yamina Pressler

Trevor Linville Proctor

Kristopher Michael Profit

Aurora Corinne Pujol

Mariam Imran Qureshi

Anastasia Andreyevna Radchenko

Alexandra Elizabeth Radford

Peter Andrew Radich

Caitlin Elizabeth Rahn

Sukhdeep Singh Rai

Mark Joseph Rajeski

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Swetna Ramireddy

Gerika Isela Ramirez

Carolyn Janette Randolph

Amanda Kay Ransdell

Lauren Anne Raponi

Niveen R. Rasheed

Anubhav Rastogi

Cathryn Maria Ratazak

Kirsten Helene Ratliff

Vincent Daniel Shih

Jacqueline Rose Shochet

Arash Shushtarian

Nickolas Ryan Zaballos Simmons

Victoria Jean Simmons

Benjamin Thomas Simoneau

Ashley Elizabeth Slomowitz

Jennifer Danielle Slomowitz

Taylor Kent Smart

Jonathan Mackenzie Smith

Melanie Ann Smith

Steven Andrew Sokol

John David Solomon

Courtney Jeanette Somers

Suzanne Keeley Sorenson

Justin Singh Sra

Kayla Marlene Stahl

Emily Jeanne Stanton

Alex Starr

Amanda Nicole Steele

Teresa Alexandra Steffens

Cassandra Colleen Steffensen

Mitchell Joseph Stein

Ashwin Pattabiraman Subramanian

Shaterica Capri Sullivan

Elisabeth Elaine Sum

Venkat Prasad Sundaram

Kimberly Anne Susic

Steven Daniel Swift

Mehreen Zainab Syed

Mira Onsy Tadros

Christopher Andrew Tam

Irisa Natalie Tam

Elyse Kendall Tang

Michael Tapia

Ashley Christina Taslim

Paula Whitney Taylor

Tory Nicholas Teasley

Tara Nicole Templin

Benjamin R. TenElshof

Ryan Michael Terada

Nicholas David Terzolo

James Andrew Thai

Kaitlyn Anne Thomas

Kelsey Ann Thompson

Max Andrew Thorwald

Lauren Anne Thurston

Christian Daniel Ting

Tiffany Elaine Ting

Nathan H. Tong

Jeffrey Martin Topor

Mariah Grace Torres

Denise Sumako Toyofuku

Ocean Mandy Trail

Hinh Doan Tran

Melissa Rae Trisko

Jeffrey Tsai

Matthew Eric Tuckness

Elena Sophia Turanin

Gabrielle Turcotte

Matthew Dominic Valeriote

Kevin Charles Vaughan

Elliott Joseph Velson

Arvind Murari Vepa

Nichole Arlene Vigar

Luz Adriana Villegas

Grant Gerard Vujovich

Kimberly Anne Chavarria
 Cortney Erin Chen
 Peter Hanwei Cheng
 Brianna Marie Chevez
 Joseph Hanson Christianson
 Kelsey Marie Clancy
 Spencer Thomas Clancy
 Brennan Houston Clark
 Alexander Emory Clayden
 Sean Richard Cleveland
 Hillary Ann Clowdsley
 Jennifer Ann Coccimiglio
 Matthew Warren Colburn
 Allison Janelle Cole
 Brianna Marie Collis
 Malori Claire Comer
 Katherine Teresa Conneely
 Hannah Rose Cooke
 David Michael Coplans
 Zachary Joseph Corral
 Haley Nicole Crawford
 John Thor Crockett
 Melanie Rebecca Croll
 Amanda Leigh Cross
 Jeremy Bryant Crowe
 Michael James Curley
 Christopher George Dagger
 Kaitlyn Michelle Billeci Daubenmire
 Emily Catherine Davies
 Julia Elizabeth de Moor
 Aaron Phillip Dear
 Nickolas Joseph De La Cruz
 Cathrine R. Delos Santos
 Christopher George DePaoli
 Brittni Mary DeRita
 Matthew Ryan Deveny
 Justin Joseph De Young
 Jessica Anne Dickens
 Maarten Christopher Dijkstra
 Zachary Joseph Dillow
 Olga Vasilyevna Dobrynina
 Alexis Carmen Dougherty
 Jamieson Gregory Downes
 Jennie Ann Drummond
 Mayra Alejandra Duarte-Jiménez
 Gloria Frances Dubinsky
 Zachary Victor Dullea
 Matthew Allen Dvorak
 Charles John Egan
 Jackson Richard Egan
 Molly Rebecca Ehlers
 Matthew Ryan Elkins
 Maxwell Philip Erwin
 Charles Curtis Evans III
 Melissa Neda Fahim
 Fatimah Z. Fahimuddin
 Carolyn Michelle Fall
 Jenna Marie Famular
 Michelle Alysse Farrell
 Nicholas Michael Feeney
 Joseph Benjamin Ferrell
 Kaitlyn Nicole Ferretti
 Jaime Lynn Fischer
 Jocelyn Lorraine Fiset
 Melissa Marie Fisher
 Alexandra Jeanne Fitzpatrick
 Brittany Marie Fleming
 Melanie Renae Flores
 Trevor McComber Flynn
 Lawrence Guy Folsom
 Leah Priscilla Foltz
 Danielle Renee Fong
 Brittany Lauren Foreman
 Keeley Brianna Fornaci
 Lindsay Richards Forrest
 Nicholas Alexander Forsberg
 Nolan Fortney
 Joseph Scott Foster
 Kevin John Fraser
 Alicia Marie Frumenti
 Eric Dean Futak
 Ashvin Dhiren Gandhi
 Rebecca Elizabeth Garetz
 Joseph Paul Garlington, Jr.
 Daniel Everett Gee
 Garrett Henry Gemmel
 Keri Ann George
 Griffin Craig Gering
 Benjamin Scott Gershen
 Julia Catherine Gettle
 Katherine Elizabeth Gilbrech
 Jenna Ashlie Giusti
 Amanda Megan Glass
 Kyle Rae Gluskin
 Kira Glynn
 Madalena Ariana Gomes
 Dylan Paul Gonsalves
 Garrison Gregory Goodman
 Ryan Jayce Gordon
 Vikram Gosain

Conor James Goulding
 Joseph Erich Grabenstein
 Alexander Jahan Graham
 Scott F. Greenlaw
 Justin Daniel Gribble
 Scott Bradley Griggs
 Deborah Ann Gruber
 Byron Anthony Gruendl
 Nico Michael Pierre Guilford
 Max Coleman Gunari
 Wendy M. Guzman Amado
 Douglas Jacob Ha
 Brandon Douglas Haffner
 Katelyn Hagen
 Brian Philip Hagerty
 Lauren Mae Haggard
 Danae Joy Hall
 Garrison Maxwell Halpenny
 Andrew Michel Halverson
 Christopher Hambelton
 Christopher Michael Hamburger
 Jeffrey Robert Hanna
 Andrew McCastline Harless
 Kayla N. Harnedy
 Holly Lark Harrigan
 Hillary Renee Harvey
 Erin Elizabeth Hathaway
 Andrew Patrick Hawkins
 Brandon Tadasu Hayashi
 Kevin Scott Haydon
 Skyla Blaze Hayes
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 Tressa Elizabeth Herley
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 Cameron Russell Hutchins
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 Michael Thomas Jacob
 Matthew Jordan Jaime
 Nicholas Trevor Johnson
 Patrick Michael Joseph
 Gregory Mitchell Kabel
 Arman Farhang Kalyani
 Connor Gerard Kaminski
 Alexandra Elise Kanat
 Sarah Pearl Kanellis
 Kevin J. Kapanka
 Amy Kaplan
 Christopher Thomas Karsz



Camron Kyle Kazerounian
 Julia Kazimi
 Stephanie Anne Keeshen
 Robyn Rose Kehoe
 Kayla Dee Keller
 Aaron Frederick Kelley
 Virginia Jane Kenyon
 Michelle Nguyen Keyser
 Rana Khatibi
 Taryn Louise Kirkwood
 Jeffrey Bridges Koopp
 Tamlyn Kimiko Koga
 Lauren Grace Kopp
 Korbin Scott Kumnick
 Casey Spencer La Honta
 Chad Webster LaBerge
 Andrew Joseph LaBombarda
 Kylie Danielle Labowitz
 Chelsea Morgan Lakis
 John Brandon Lam
 Jack Tannehill Lancaster
 Joseph Yourett Landers
 Alyssa Marie Langelier
 Kyle Churchill Lappin
 Christina Alicia Lawrence

Jennifer Christina Lee
 Alexandra Sunny Lekov
 Braden Patrick Leong
 Natalie Marie Lescure
 Sasha Noel Levine
 Lisa Leighla Anne Leweke
 Erin Anne Saltonstall Lewis
 John Dayton Lierley
 Timothy K. Lin
 Zhiliang Liu
 Kyle Edward Looney
 Carissa Adrianna Lopez
 Jennifer Nicole Louis
 Theoharis Themis Loukos
 Kevin Joseph Low
 Jennifer Elizabeth Lowry
 Stephanie Elizabeth Lowry
 Michael Thomas Luneburg
 Scott William Mack
 Brian Thomas MacMillan
 Joshua Aaron Madonick
 Jenna Frances Maestre
 Ryan James Kealoha Makaiwi
 Gino Maxwell Mancuso
 Monica Alyssa Manrique
 Nicholas C. Markavage
 Tyler J. Marston
 Amber Mariah Martin
 Carina Marie Martin
 Nicholas Everett Martin
 Matthew Daniel Martinez
 Heather Elisabeth Mason
 Aparna Mathur
 Golzar Arvin Matthew
 Midori Ann McAndrews
 Julia Lauren McBee
 Ryan Denman McCabe
 Mallory Marie McCarron
 Charles Daniel McCormack
 Nicole Lynn McCrory
 Coty Allen McDowell
 Kellie Faith McFarland
 Daniel Matthew McGrath
 Benjamin Wright McKay
 Andrew Patrick Mason McLaughlin
 Caitlin Eleanor McPherson
 Rachel Elizabeth Medina
 Alissa Andrea Mercado
 Matthew David Mercado
 Braedon David Merlo
 Shawn Andrew Meyer
 Megan Stacy Michaelis
 Gwen Sophia Michalczyk
 Rachel Marie Miller
 Scott Michael Miller
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 Kelsey Alexandra Moss
 Emil Gabe Moufarrej
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 Emil Robert Murad
 Marissa Jill Murphy
 Shelby Barry Myers
 Max Kushel Nagelmann
 Blaire Elise Nasstrom
 Susannah Jane Neal
 Elizabeth Danielle Nelson
 Erica Louise Nelson
 Carlie Jeanne Nevels
 Natalie Jean Newell
 Michael Thomas Newlin
 Ashley Elizabeth Newsom
 Nicole Elaine Newsom
 Benjamin Kaiwen Ng
 Nicholas Jason Ng
 Gregory Alan Nipper
 Anthony George Niznik
 Sally Hunter Noble
 Taylor Ashley Noonan
 Jasmine Marie Norris
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 Kathryn Sheena Norton
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 Brett Michael Oliveira
 Matthew Nicholas Oliver
 Jordan William Olling
 Allison Lynn Opsahl
 Marina Rose Orrey
 Gina Marie Ortega
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 Olivia Aileen Pallavicini
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 Kelsey Rebecca Parker
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 Kyle Steven Prochnow
 Dillon John Pulos
 Amy Michelle Pulpaneck
 Daniella Teresa Quiroz
 Sebastian Jahanshah Raafat
 Andres Antonio Ramirez
 Brent Thomas Rasted
 Theodore Angelo Ratto
 Alexandra Nicole Rawlinson
 Ryan Michael-Joseph Rebello
 Joshua Daggett Redhair
 Russell James Reeve
 William Stuart Rei
 Shaun Oliver Reynolds
 Arian Rezazadeh
 Ryan Richard Rhodes
 Tyler James Rhodes
 Sarah Margaret Richards
 Paul Michael Rider
 Katherine Elizabeth Riemer
 Elyse McKay Rigolfi



Julia Katherina Sterling
 Trevor Matthew Stratton
 Reed Michael Summers Pirkle
 Shelby Taylor Sutton
 Kelly Inae Suzuki
 Amanda Grace Swenson
 Nickolas Szumowski
 Glenhall James Taylor
 Aurezu K. Tehrani
 Maxine Amelia Teichman

Melissa Anne Thayer
 Nolan Richard Theurer
 Miles William Thomas
 Jaime Michael Tonge
 Calvin Patrick Toohey
 Spencer Michael Toohey
 Kirsten Ann Torkildson
 Dallas Charlie Towns
 Patrick Vincent Trapani
 Katherine O'Brien Travis
 Brett Andrew Trimble
 Adam Kam Chung Tse
 Alexander Nicolaas Van Camp
 Seth Daniel Van Horn
 Brianna Joy Vandersloot
 Grant Robert Vandevanter
 Utkarsh Vasa
 Darin Christopher Vergara
 Henry Harrison Vest II
 Natalie Dominique Villalon
 Lauren Amanda Von Dett
 Christine Elizabeth Walden
 Jessica Danielle Walsh
 David Andrew Warneke
 Bailey Alexandra Weaver
 Molly Elizabeth Weber
 Patrick John Weiss
 Ryan Clayton Wheeler
 Kathryn Marie Whisler
 Amanda Nicole White
 Drew Richard White
 Chelsea Leng Wilkinson
 Veronica Lyn Witbeck
 Courtney Ann Wollan
 Courtney Michelle Wong
 Sarah Michelle Wong
 Brittney Mari Wood
 Kevin Christopher Wood
 Chelsea Anne Wright
 Delisha J. Yang
 Kelly Marie Young
 Chelsie Lynn Zimmerman

Del Amigo High School

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 Ryan Alberts
 Neelish Charka
 Isaac Navarro De Souza
 Tony Doran
 Alexander Eifel
 Zachary Evangelista
 Christina Figueiroa
 Nicholas Fuller
 Brandon Gay
 Sergio Gomez
 Jasmine Hampton
 Tyler Heathorn
 Kayla Henderson
 Jordan Hiscox
 Dustin Hodges
 Sarraj Javid
 Lindsey Maher
 Noah Malowitz
 Sache McAlister
 James McCrory
 Aroun Nangeyali
 Ongley Ocon
 Ryan Ohlson
 Marlene Preclaro
 Ian Rittmaster
 Monique Schneider
 Derek Spilker
 Aldo Alvarez Vazquez
 Kaitlin Virta
 Julian Vitaglione
 John Zamora

See **GRADUATES** on Page 18

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT WWW.DANVILLEWEEKLY.COM

Art

ART GALLERY RECEPTION Kevin Milligan Gallery will host a reception from 5-8 p.m., Saturday, June 13, at the gallery, 408 Hartz Ave., Danville. The show will feature American landscape photography, porcelain pieces and oil paintings. This event is free and wine will be served. Call 309-4648.

Author Visit

RAKESTRAW BOOKS The bookstore will host Chandler Burr at 7 p.m., Friday, June 26, at the bookstore, 522 Hartz Ave., Danville. Call 837-7337.

Camps

CAMP EDGE VACATION BIBLE CAMP Children ages 3 through 6th grade are invited to participate in Danville Congregational Church's Camp Edge from 9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, June 15-19, at the church, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. Cost is \$50; fee assistance is available. Call 837-6944 or visit www.danvillechurch.com.

SAN RAMON VALLEY VOLLEYBALL CAMP Learn to play volleyball and have fun. The youth camp will be held July 20-23, skills camp from Aug. 3-6 and tune-up camp from Aug. 10-13. The camps will be held at San Ramon Valley High School. Cost is \$130. For information, e-mail srvball@sbcglobal.net or call 838-7595.

SHAKESPEARE FOR KIDS Role Players and the YMCA will host a new camp where students will use their individual creativity as writers, artists and actors to learn about Shakespeare from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday, July 13-24, at Alamo Elementary School, 100 Wilson Rd. Cost is \$295. Call 831-1100.

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.

Clubs

DANVILLE JOB'S DAUGHTERS Job's Daughters International is an organization for young ladies (minimum age 10 for full membership) who enjoy dances, sleepovers, parties, social events, snow trips and more. The group meets at 7 p.m., the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at the Danville Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Rd. Call 829-8505 or email IOJD247@yahoo.com.

DELTA NU PSI Delta Nu Psi provides packages to troops in the War Zone. The group collects donations before the third Friday of every month in front of Longs Drug Store in Alamo and before the third Saturday at Lunardi's in Danville. It puts together the packages on the third Wednesday of every month. For information, e-mail Alicia at deltanupsi@comcast.net.

SAN RAMON VALLEY NEWCOMERS CLUB This club will host a luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, June 18, at Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville. Spencer Christian from "View From the Bay" will be the guest speaker. For information, call Paula at 735-6483.

Concerts

MUSIC IN THE PARK Town of Danville will host Music in the Park from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays, July-August, at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Rd., Danville. Lavay Smith and the Red Hot Skillet Ladies will perform July 11; The Boys of Summer on July 25; Ron Thompson on Aug. 8; and Take Two on Aug. 22. These concerts are free. Visit www.ci.danville.ca.us.

PAUL SCHEFFERT TRIO Pianist, composer and arranger Paul Scheffert, will present a unique brand of trio jazz as a part of the Jazz at Peace concert series at 5 p.m., Sunday, June 14, at Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. This concert is free, but donations

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will be accepted. Call 648-7000 or visit www.peacejourney.org.

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.

Events

15TH ANNUAL BANCROFT SCULPTURE EXHIBIT

A juried art exhibit will be displayed in the Ruth Bancroft Garden 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.

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.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY MEETING

Learn how to earn an immediate and residual income by starting your own business from 7-8 p.m., every Thursday, at Hotel Sierra, 2323 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Strike up the band: The Danville Community Band will present its final concert of the season, "Total Request: LIVE," at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 14, at Dougherty Valley Performing Art Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. Tickets are \$12 and \$15. Call 973-2787 or visit www.sanramonperformingarts.com.

Ramon. These meetings are free. Call Roy at 548-3511.

DANVILLE FINE ARTS FAIRE Come out and stroll beautiful tree-lined Hartz Avenue while enjoying one-of-a-kind fine art pieces from 200 talented artisans from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, June 20-21, in downtown Danville. Admission is free. Call 837-4400.

FOOD SHOWCASE Experience the tastes of the world—from Romania to India to Brazil, all handmade by local chefs and bakers, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday, June 25, at Ensembles, 2550-B2 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Admission is free with the recommended donation of a canned goods for the Alameda County Food Bank. Call 855-8355.

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.

WALKING TOURS OF DANVILLE Karen Stepper will host walking tours of historic downtown Danville at 6:15 p.m., every third Friday of every month, meeting at Village Theater, 233 Front St. Patty Dobbins will host walking tours starting at 10 a.m., on the second Saturday

of every month, meeting at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, corner of Railroad and Prospect avenues, Danville. Tours are from April through October. Cost is \$3 per person. Call 837-3750.

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

CHARITY BOWL San Ramon Valley Firefighters will host a fundraising charity bowl from 2-6 p.m., Saturday, June 13, at Danville Bowl, 200 Boone Court. Families will be able to bowl and a team tournament will follow afterward. Proceeds will benefit the families of Oakland PD fallen officers. Cost is \$20 for adults; \$5 for kids; \$250 for a team with five players. For information, call Jonas at 989-6348 or visit www.srvff.org.

PROUD FATHERS BOWL-A-RAMA Family Stress Center will host a bowling extravaganza from 1:30-3:30 p.m., Sunday, June 14, at Danville

Bowl, 200 Boone Court. Cost is \$25. Proceeds benefit the Proud Fathers Program. Call 827-0212, ext. 107 or visit www.familystresscenter.org.

SECOND ANNUAL ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND

As a part of the National Lemonade Days, the second annual Alex's Lemonade Stand will be held from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, June 13, at Safeway, 2505 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Proceeds benefit cancer research for children.

Kids and Teens

EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY Danville Library will host numerous children's programs including "The River Otter Circus" with Swizzle Puppets at 4 p.m., Tuesday, June 16; "Hard Day's Knight" at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, July 18; cowboy storyteller Lariat Larry at 4 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 18; and Timothy James, a comedy magician, at 4 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15; all at the Danville Library, 400 Front St. Call 837-4889.

STORYTIME WITH THE FARMER

Preschoolers are invited to spend an hour of storytime, songs, crafts, games and a snack from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, June 17, at Forest Home Farms, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Cost is \$5 for residents; \$6 for non-residents. Children must be accompanied by an adult, but only children need to register. Pre-registration is required; call 973-3284.

WHEN MOM OR DAD HAS CANCER

School-age children participate in fun, creative activities to help them express themselves while teens have a group where they can discuss concerns and will meet on Saturday, June 13, at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Parents meet concurrently. This event is free. Call 933-0107.

Miscellaneous

BOOKS FOR THE HOMEBOUND SERVICE

If you are a homebound individual living in the area and are unable to visit the Danville Library for materials, volunteers are able to deliver books to you. For more information, call Sandra Paiva at 837-4889.

FREE COMPUTER INSTRUCTION The Danville Library is offering free computer instruction on Word, Excel, Powerpoint or the Internet by appointment only. To make an appointment, visit the Danville Library Information Desk or call 837-4889.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED Edu-Culture International is bringing French and Spanish students to Danville from July 7-19 and host families are needed. The students attend daily planned activities, speak English, are fully insured and bring their own spending money. Call 552-8017.

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.

TRI-VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

This club will host guest speaker Mary Lia Kelley of Tri Valley Cares at 7 p.m., Monday, June 15, at the Livermore Library, 1188 S Livermore Ave. Ellen Augustine & Barry Hermanson will also speak about the "Not My Priorities Campaign." This event is free and everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be served. Call 451-4303.

Recreation

TRAIL MIXERS Town of Danville will host a Trail Mixer from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 13, at Eagle Peak Loop Trail at the Bollinger Staging Area. For information, call 314-3400.

Support Groups

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

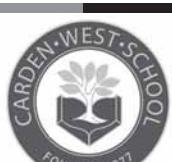
If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer or are a breast cancer survivor, join this group from 6:30-8:30 p.m., on the first and third Wednesday of every month, at St. Isidore Catholic Church, 440 La Gonda Way, Danville. Call 831-2475.

HEART SUPPORT GROUP

This group provides support for people with heart disease, who have undergone a heart procedure and their families and caregivers and meets from 1:30-3 p.m., on the fourth Saturday of every month, at Kaiser Hospital Medical Office Building, 3rd Floor, Walnut Creek. Hear and learn from healthcare professionals speak on a variety of heart-related topics. Call 708-4151 or visit www.mendedhearts254.org.

HOSPICE OFFERS SUPPORT Hospice of the East Bay (formerly Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa) offers a variety of support groups and workshops for people experiencing grief and loss after the death of a loved one. All groups and classes are offered for a fee and require pre-registration. Fees are waived for those who cannot afford them. Call 887-5678, ext. 1068.

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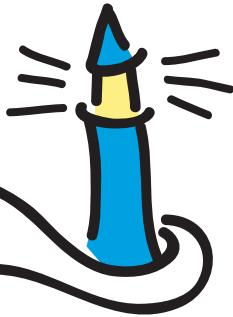
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Danville Band Concert-JUN14



Danville Community Band Concert The Danville Community Band announces its season finale concert "Total Request: LIVE", Sunday, June 14 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Dougherty Valley Performing Art Center in San Ramon. The Concert features pieces requested by band members, including works by Shostakovich, Sousa, Ticheli, Holst, and more.

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: 925/973ARTS or online at: www.sanramonperformingarts.com.



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Mazda 2003 Miata MX5 Shinsen - \$11,500

Pace Arrow 1989 MotorHome - \$11,000.00

PORSCHE 1987 911 TARGA - \$24,999

RoadTrek 2006 Adventurous - \$64,900

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Livermore, So. Vasco & Charlotte, 06/13/2009

Pleasanton, 300 Del Sol Ave., Sat, June 13, 8a-12noon

Pleasanton, 3457 Touriga Drive, June 10-11-12, Wed.Thur.Fri. 9-3

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Royal Doulton figurine - \$45

220 Computers/Electronics

GET A NEW COMPUTER

Brand Name laptops & desktops Bad or NO Credit - No Problem Smallest weekly payments available. It's yours NOW - Call 800-803-8819 (AAN CAN)

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Brand Name laptops & desktops Bad or NO Credit - No Problem Smallest weekly payments avail. CALL NOW 1-800-816-2232 (AAN CAN)

High Speed Satellite Internet

Wildblue High Speed Satellite Internet System-Monthly Service starts as Low as \$39.95/mo. \$99.95 Includes installation + S&H 800-221-3474 www.GotSky.com (Cal-SCAN)

HP Printer Ink (NEW) - \$35

230 Freebies

Free Electric Wheelchair - FREE

240 Furnishings/Household Items

3 piece kitchen carving set - \$10

MEDIA CABINET - \$375.00

245 Miscellaneous

Motorized Wheelchairs

New Feather-weight wheelchairs at NO COST to you if eligible! We come to you! ENK Mobile Medical. 1-800-693-8896. (Cal-SCAN)

ONLINE PHARMACY

Buy Soma, Ultram, Fioricet, Prozac, Buspar \$71.99/90 \$107/180 Quantities,

PRICE INCLUDES PRESCRIPTION! Over 200 meds. \$25 Coupon Mention Offer: #71A31. 1-888-661-4957. tripharmacy.net (AAN CAN)

HUGE Baby Sale by group of moms

Saturday, June 13, 8am-2pm @ 6256 Roslin Court, Pleasanton

Non-stick stove top grill - \$20

Outdoor patio Heaters

2 Outdoor Patio Heaters, 48,000btu, propane, ht. 89", verdigris finish; Costco priced \$249.299 each (online); Used twice: one lights, one doesn't: \$185 for both: (925) 837-5416.

pureology for sale - \$50.00/obo

RED WORMS FOR COMPOSTING - \$25.00

Scrapbooks

So Vasco Livermore Garage Sale

250 Musical Instruments

Fender Stratocaster Guitar - \$695.00

270 Tickets

Spamalot-This Saturday, 2 tix - \$125



KID STUFF

340 Child Care Wanted

Nanny needed urgently

Child Care position available immediately within the State. Pay rate = \$750/wk; car will be provided for work or personal use. Reply to suzanbeson@yahoo.com.

345 Tutoring/Lessons

Elementary School Tutor

FRENCH, SPANISH TUTORING

Math & Chemistry Tutoring

Retired Scientist now enjoying TUTORING High School & College STUDENTS in algebra, geometry, pre-calculus & chemistry. CALL DOUG @ 925-858-5842

Math Tutoring

High School math tutoring: Alg., Geo., Pre-Calc. Get ready for finals. Work on raising your grades. Ret. teacher, Cal. credential. 925-462-3807

EARN \$75 - \$200 HOUR
Media Makeup Artist Training. Ads, TV, Film, Fashion. One week class. Stable job in weak economy. Details at www.AwardMakeUpSchool.com 310-364-0665 (AAN CAN)



500 Help Wanted

Advertising Sales

We are a publishing company that markets a childrens literacy newspaper called Kid Scoop News. The paper is distributed in Alameda and Contra Costa County and is written to help engage kids in reading and address literacy rates throughout ca. It is the only publication available for distribution in the San Ramon Valley School's. We are looking for someone to sell family friendly ads in the Contra Costa and Alameda County areas as well as solicitate corporations for sponsor dollars to help underwrite the publication. We offer a very generous commission plan and a flexible schedule. This is a great opportunity for someone with ad sales experience who would like to get in on the ground floor of a publication. Must be comfortable with cold calling and being able to "close" the sale. We are working on our back to school issue and need you now. So send us a email as to why this would be a great job for you!

Restaurant staff

Be apart of history. Introducing the opening of the Farmer restaurant in the famous Pleasanton hotel. Now accepting applications for experienced staff in Bar, dining, banquet and kitchen.

Opening scheduled mid July, 2009 Applications accepted daily, or submit on line resumes to beth@pleasanton-hotel.com

All Cash Vending!

Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

Hong Kong Corporations

For Sale. Registered Agent Service, filing fees included. Kowloon virtual office, HSBC corporate account \$8K; bkwatson23@gmail.com (480)553-3265. (Cal-SCAN)

560 Employment Information

\$600 WEEKLY POTENTIAL\$

Helping the Government PT. No Experience, No Selling. Call: 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5. VOID in Maryland and South Dakota. (AAN CAN)

Attention Computer Work

Work from anywhere 24/7 processing nutritional supplement orders. Great pay. Will train. Bilingual a plus. Request info online: www.KTPGlobal.com or 1-800-330-8446. (Cal-SCAN)

Cable Line Installer

Job in growth industry. Paid training, great benefits, vacation. No experience needed. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

Drivers - Van Drivers

Regional Runs - Western Express. Run the Western 11 States. Great Pay. Late-Model Equipment. Reasonable Home Time. Onsite - Full Service Maintenance Shop. BCBS Insurance. 22 yrs. old. Good MVR, EOE, CDL-A, 1 yr. OTR. Call Edna Today! 1-866-863-4112. (Cal-SCAN)

EARN \$75 - \$200 HOUR
Media Makeup Artist Training. Ads, TV, Film, Fashion. One week class. Stable job in weak economy. Details at www.AwardMakeUpSchool.com 310-364-0665 (AAN CAN)

Firefighters Wanted

Paid training, good salary, \$ for school, regular raises, benefits, retirement. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

GOVERNMENT JOBS

Earn \$12 to \$48 Per Hour. Benefits, Paid Training. Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Administrative, Clerical, Office, Accounting, Finance, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x 2001 (AAN CAN)

Heavy Equipment Training

Job placement assistance. Call 888-210-4534. Northern California College of Construction. (Cal-SCAN)

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

California Army National Guard. No Experience. Paid training. High School Jr/ Sr & Grads/ GED. May qualify for \$15,000 BONUS. www.NationalGuard.com/Careers or 1-800-Go-Guard. (Cal-SCAN)

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING!

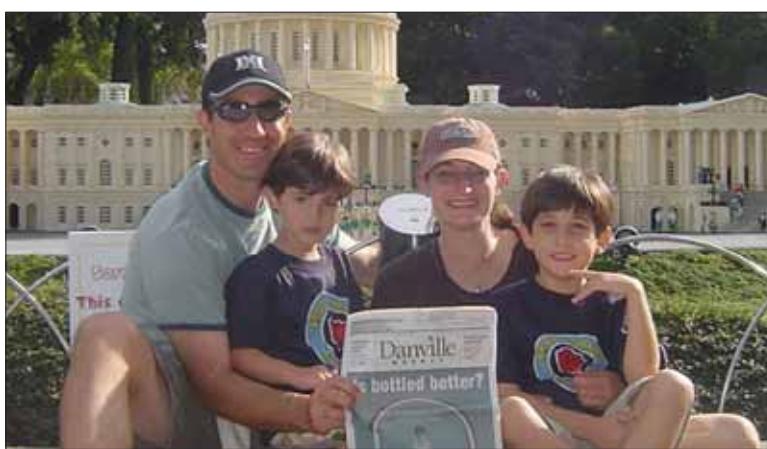
Avg. Pay \$21/hour or \$54K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacations. PT/FT. 1-866-945-0315 (AAN CAN)

POST OFF

TAKE US ALONG



Hey, mon, it's good reading: Shae, Tatum and Carly Vomund share the Weekly with a steel drum band in St. Maarten, the Caribbean Islands.



Capitol reading:
The Corritone family—Mike, Angie, Robert and Joey—sit in front of the capitol building in "Miniland" at Legoland in Southern California during their Thanksgiving trip last year.

PET OF THE WEEK



Ravishing Ramona

Meet a strikingly beautiful black and white tuxedo housecat named Ramona. Ramona is a playful young adult with a sweet disposition and a desire for a loving home of her own. Ramona is declawed so she needs to be an indoor-only pet. She is vaccinated, spayed, and FIV/Felv tested negative. Ramona has fur as soft as velvet, pretty green eyes, a cute pink nose and long white whiskers. Isn't she beautiful? Visit this friendly girl (pet # 85308) 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.

CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

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

Danville, 4 BR/2 BA - \$799,000
Danville, 4 BR/3 BA - \$979,000
Danville, 4 BR/3 BA - \$1,249,000

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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Princeville, Kauai, Hawaii
Vacation at our 2BR/2BA home. \$850/week. 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 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 (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 (Cal-SCAN)

New Mexico Buyer's Market 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)

Texas - 20 Acres Only \$13,500. -0 down \$135.00 monthly. 10% - 210 payments. No credit check. Roads/Roadway. Only 1.5A/AC/sq. ft. Free information. 1-800-887-3006 www.LoneStarInvestments.com (Cal-SCAN)

855 Real Estate Services

Foreclosed Home Auction Northern California. 250+ Homes Must Be Sold! REDC / Free Brochure. www.Auction.com RE Broker 01093886. (Cal-SCAN)

Marketplace

Danville Weekly

General Contracting

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35% Off
Save Money, Save Water
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925-735-1900

OVERHEAD STORAGE
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Holds 600 lbs., Over 115 cubic feet, White steel rack

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Trained professional, daily visits, basic home care, reliable & caring.

Call Monika Harris 417-0424
Registered Veterinary Nurse www.furryfriends.tv

PLEASANTON POOL CENTER

10% OFF

Next Purchase

Some restrictions apply. Exp 7-5-09.
5513 Sunol Blvd.
925.846.2789
PleasantonPoolCenter.com

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

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

SALES AT A GLANCE

Alamo

Total sales reported: 3
Lowest sale reported: \$650,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,129,000
Average sales reported: \$809,667

Danville

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$385,000

Highest sale reported: \$3,700,000
Average sales reported: \$1,228,750

Walnut Creek

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$150,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,600,000
Average sales reported: \$484,308

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during April 2009

Alamo

24 Crest Avenue Stevens Trust to M. Pryde for \$650,000
101 Easy Street Chavez Trust to J. Tenney for \$650,000

3138 Oakwood Lane Boies Trust to D. Towery for \$1,129,000

Danville

526 Farragut Place Combs Trust to C. & J. Gallo for \$1,812,000

317 La Spezia Court Lennar Homes to D. & A. Moyer for \$1,115,000

712 Lakeside Court Esposito Trust to T. Kane for \$518,000

1901 Peters Ranch Road Hounslow Trust to S. & S. Hirbod for \$3,700,000

247 Pulido Road Lawrence Trust to B. & P. Erlank for \$755,000

59 St. Timothy Court J. & K. McBane to G. & J. Mitchell for \$865,000

606 Sycamore Circle Tucker Trust to S. Davis for \$385,000

3908 Welshland Street Shapell Industries to J. & J. Goldberg for \$680,000

Walnut Creek

1925 2nd Avenue C. Chappel to M. Arrigoni for \$718,000

1882 Apollo Court M. Rider to J. Pirajon for \$480,000

415 Augustus Court Dersteanian Trust to A. & S. Mishra for \$470,000

1826 Castle Gate Road C. Ramsower-Pearlstei to M. & M. Behrens for \$1,600,000

688 Charleston Court B. Thomas to J. & J. Wong for \$455,000

2756 Larkey Lane Sager Trust to Sihner Trust for \$470,000

3171 Lippizaner Lane Reed Trust to M. Beard for \$490,000

300 North Civic Drive #303 A. Hohndorf to C. Lee for \$163,000

2738 Oak Road #154 M. Williams to S. Drackert for \$250,000

175 Sierra Drive #304 Nomura Home Equity to H. Emory for \$200,000

1552 Siskiyou Drive Mohrhoff Trust to F. Khabiri for \$578,000

1860 Tice Creek Drive #1246 Barclay Trust to Terzian Trust for \$272,000

1240 Walker Avenue #103 Bank of New York to C. Daley for \$150,000

Source: California REsource

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Alamo

5 BEDROOMS
70 Zand Lane \$1,075,000
Sun 1-4 Remax Accord 895-2804

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS
3038 Yuma Way \$339,000
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3844

5 BEDROOMS

4222 Remillard Ct \$1,779,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-3534

San Ramon

5 BEDROOMS

124 Marsh Place \$789,000
Sun 1-4 Prudential Ruby Hill 417-2250

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West Side Alamo Executive Luxury



5 bedroom 5.5 bath on flat 1/2 Acre. Bonus Room, Office, Pool, Spa, Cabana... more
1,899,000

West Side Alamo 5 Bedroom



Situated on a flat .49 acre lot, with 4297 sq.ft. Tuscan Beauty was built in 2003. All the bells and whistles. \$1,475,000



5 Bedroom Beauty on 1.8 Acres
1,899,000



Danville El Pintado Loop
1,499,000

Read Joe and Nancy's Real Estate Blog
<http://thecombsteam.blogspot.com>



New Price \$698,950

50 Sun Valley Drive, Walnut Creek



Newly constructed in 2006, 4 BR/2 BA home on .36 acres. 2411 sq. ft. Located on quiet street close to shopping & schools. Easy freeway access. www.50sunvalley.com

Danville
240 Alicante Place

Lovely court location on 1/3 acre premium lot, this 3 BR/2 1/2 BA home has been completely updated throughout. 3 car garage. View this listing at www.240Alicantepi.com

Offered at \$799,950



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Dear Danville Community,

It is with deep regret that I must announce the closing of our Burke Williams Spa facility here in Danville. These are challenging economic times and I am afraid that this facility has fallen victim to those circumstances.

In better times your community would have been the perfect location for the upscale and abundant spa environment that has been our signature. We were greeted warmly and graciously by all who visited our spa and hopefully we succeeded in returning that experience.

A decision of this magnitude is fraught with many critical considerations. Our valued clients and our valued employees are among the most important. As for our clients, we will honor any purchased gift card or membership at any of our other locations and either may be transferred to someone else if you choose to do so. We remain a successful and vibrant company with nine locations; San Francisco and San Jose in northern California and seven in southern California. As for our employees, we are making every attempt to find suitable positions in our other locations in order to keep them employed during these challenging times.

We were very excited to have had the opportunity to be a part of your community and we regret that after a few short months we are forced to say good-bye. Thank you for welcoming us and under better circumstances one day we would love to return.

Sincerely,

Bill Armour, President
Burke Williams, Inc.



For more information on using your gift cards and memberships at another location, please contact Guest Services at 1-800-Beyond5.