



THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

DIABLO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



HELLO SUMMER!

DPOA volunteers raised the flags to honor Memorial Day and will raise them again Wednesday to celebrate the 4th of July. We are refreshing plants at our entrances, planning a celebration of our Diablo Post Office and a history walk, maintaining our lending library, cleaning up the post office, welcoming lots of new residents, and of course, publishing this issue of the Devil's Advocate.

If you would like a patriotic flag for your house, please let us know! The flags are a custom labor of love and produced in limited quantities as a fundraiser for the DPOA. If you have recently moved into Diablo, please e-mail membership@diablopaa.org. We would like to help you connect with the community! Residents can also find updates and photos at diablopaa.org and @diablo_community on Instagram.

Happy Summer!

Leslie Keane and your DPOA Volunteers



SUMMER 2024

SOCIAL NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Drew Arney, son of **Elena and Matt Arney**, and a San Ramon Valley High School graduate, will be heading to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Older brother **Aidan Arney** is transferring from Santa Barbara City College to the University of California at Berkeley. Go Bears!

Benjamin Bauer, son of **Wendy and Dave Bauer**, and a graduate of Monte Vista High School, is looking forward to joining the Trojans at USC.

Aria Capelli, daughter of **Vanessa and Steve Capelli**, and a graduate of The Athenian School, will be studying at Cornell University and competing with their women's swim team.

Tyler Cotton, son of **Katie and Tim Cotton**, and a graduate of San Ramon Valley High School, is going to the South to join the University of Arkansas Razorbacks in Fayetteville.

Cody Hersch, son of **Jen and Jeff Hersch**, and a graduate of Monte Vista High School, will be joining the Wildcats in Tucson at the University of Arizona.

Morgan Hoffman, daughter of **Kristen and Justin Hoffman**, and a graduate of San Ramon Valley High School, will be competing with the Women's Water Polo team at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Chad Jones, son of **Shannon and Mark Jones**, and a graduate of Monte Vista High School, will be attending the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Luke Liniger, son of **Natasha and Lionel Liniger**, and a graduate of Monte Vista High School, will be leaving the Mustangs of MVHS and joining the Mustangs of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Lauren Rich, daughter of **Rochelle and Gary Rich**, and a graduate of Fusion Academy, will be attending the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Bella Ryan, daughter of **Kyle and Jennifer Ryan**, and a graduate of San Ramon Valley High School, is headed to the University of Arizona to study communications.

Kirby Tingley, son of **Kim and Clay Tingley**, and a graduate of Monte Vista High School, will be joining the Buffalos at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Elena Vitzhum, daughter of **Gina and Todd Vitzhum**, and a graduate of Carondelet High School, will be attending the University of San Diego.

Gigi Yewell, daughter of **Catherine and Peter Yewell**, and a graduate of The Athenian School, will attend Southern Methodist University in the fall.

SOCIAL NEWS

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Mannat Dhaliwal, daughter of **Ruby and Bhagdeep Dahliwal**, has graduated summa cum laude from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Management and Policy.

Kismat Dhaliwal, son of **Ruby and Bhagdeep Dhaliwal**, has received his Master's degree from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

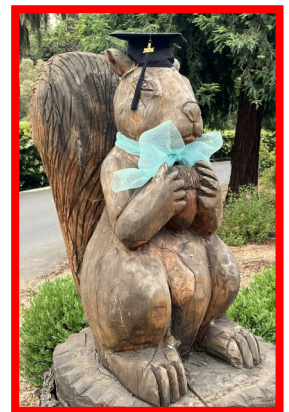
Katherine Harney, daughter of **Christopher and Christina Harney**, has graduated from Tulane University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Biology.

Natalie Huete, daughter of **Amber and David Huete**, is a graduate of the University of California at Irvine with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. She is taking a gap year and preparing to take the LSAT this fall.

Nicole Prosser, daughter of **Barb and Scott Prosser**, earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the accelerated program at University of Tennessee in Knoxville. She will start work at Vanderbilt University Medical Center's oncology/hematology unit in July.

Natalie Wasko, daughter of **Jeff and Lisa Wasko**, is a graduate of the University of San Francisco with a degree in marketing.

Nina Yewell, daughter of **Catherine and Peter Yewell**, earned her Bachelor's degree in psychology and neuropsychology from Chapman University.



BIRTHS

Julie and Don Nejedly are elated to announce the birth of their grandson Chandler Paul, born on March 16th to son Sam, daughter-in-law Emily and big sister Izzy in Houston, Texas.

NUPTIALS

Monica and Craig Bindi are thrilled to announce the marriage of daughter **Megan Bindi** to Matthew Requet in La Quinta. The couple will reside in Chicago.

Kelly and Tom McQueen are delighted to share the news of their daughter **Madison**'s marriage to Brayden Zwetsloot on May 5th at *The Garden* in Walnut Creek. The newlyweds reside in Danville with their sweet 19-month-old daughter, Harper.



DIABLO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT (DCSD) UPDATE



Wildfire Season is Upon Us

Establishing a Defensible Space Around Your Home

Diablo residents are reminded that wildfire season is here again. It is critical to prepare and establish a defensible space around your property. Ensure all weed abatement is completed with a buffer around your home, trees are trimmed away from roofs, and emergency kits and evacuation plans are made with your families and neighbors.

Keeping Diablo's Streets Clear

In the unlikely event of a wildfire, it is crucial that Diablo's streets remain clear for quick evacuation. Residents need to cut back vegetation to a height clearance of 13.5 feet and a width clearance of 3 feet from the street's edge. Additionally, dead grasses and duff along the street need to be removed to maintain this 3-foot clearance, as they are combustible and can hinder evacuation efforts.

Preparing Your Family for an Evacuation

Take time to research and prepare for a potential evacuation. Identify 2-3 different evacuation routes from your home in case your primary route is impassible. Numerous websites offer plans for efficient preparation. For example, creating a Go Bag is essential. [Here](#) is an excellent resource complete with pictures showing "how to."

An evacuation map for Diablo is available through the San Ramon Valley Fire Department [here](#). Do your homework and be ready to leave if necessary.

Diablo's Creeks and Open Space Stability

All land within Diablo is privately owned, including properties with creeks or open spaces. Property owners are responsible for maintenance of these areas.

While the District has no legal authority to maintain these areas, the DCSD Board of Directors recognizes the community impact of a creek or open space failure. At its June 10th meeting, the Board authorized ENGEO Inc. to perform a one-time assessment of Diablo's creeks and open spaces for erosion, slope instability, and general condition. ENGEO's work will involve visual observations only, and any identified vulnerabilities will be communicated to property owners for necessary repairs.

ENGEO's assessments will occur in July or August, conducted by employees wearing ENGEO vests. For questions or concerns, contact District General Manager Kathy Torru at generalmanager@diablocsd.org.

Golf Cart and E-Scooter Age Requirement

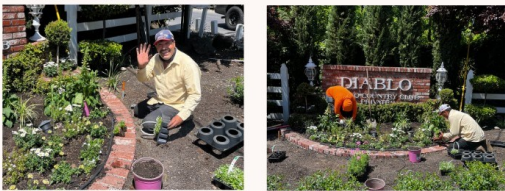
As summer begins, remember that only licensed drivers may operate golf carts and E-scooters. Deputy Stoffels will monitor and stop any unlicensed individuals driving golf carts or E-scooters. We appreciate your cooperation to ensure the safety of all residents.

DCSD Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget

At the June 10th Board meeting, the DCSD Directors adopted the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. A copy of the budget can be viewed and downloaded from the DCSD website [here](#). For questions, contact General Manager Kathy Torru at generalmanager@diablocsd.org.

BEHIND THE SCENES

meet Nestor



Part of your annual contribution to the DPOA goes toward our entrance landscaping at Alameda Diablo and Avenida Nueva. Nestor is our "man behind the green" doing the hard work to create a beautiful welcome into Diablo for residents and guests. Nestor and his crew do weekly maintenance, seasonal planting, irrigation repair and more. He's been working in Diablo for over 20 years and his business, Toy's Landscaping, is a family affair. He takes so much pride in his work, he's incredibly kind to his staff, and he is committed to providing for his extended family whenever needed. He is eagerly awaiting the arrival of grandbaby #2 very soon. Next time you see Nestor and his crew, please say hello!

COMMUNITY PHOTOS



DEPUTY DISPATCHES: HANG UP ON PHONE SCAMS!



By Deputy Christon Stoffels

Phone scams are fraudulent, difficult to prevent and, unfortunately, costly to those who get caught in their trap. The article below provides some typical examples that people are faced with and includes some surprising data on age groups and how susceptible they are to fraud. These scams are not just targeted at the elderly; in fact, they are very good at entrapping young adults.

Imagine that you are at home drinking your morning coffee when the phone rings. The person on the other end of the line says he is Lieutenant Jackson with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Lieutenant Jackson states that your grandson William “Billy” was arrested last night after being involved in a brawl in a local casino and is currently in the Clark County Jail. Lieutenant Jackson goes on to inform you that Billy will spend another night in jail if someone does not post his bail in the amount of \$1,500.00. Lieutenant Jackson stated he had attempted to contact Billy’s parents but was unsuccessful.

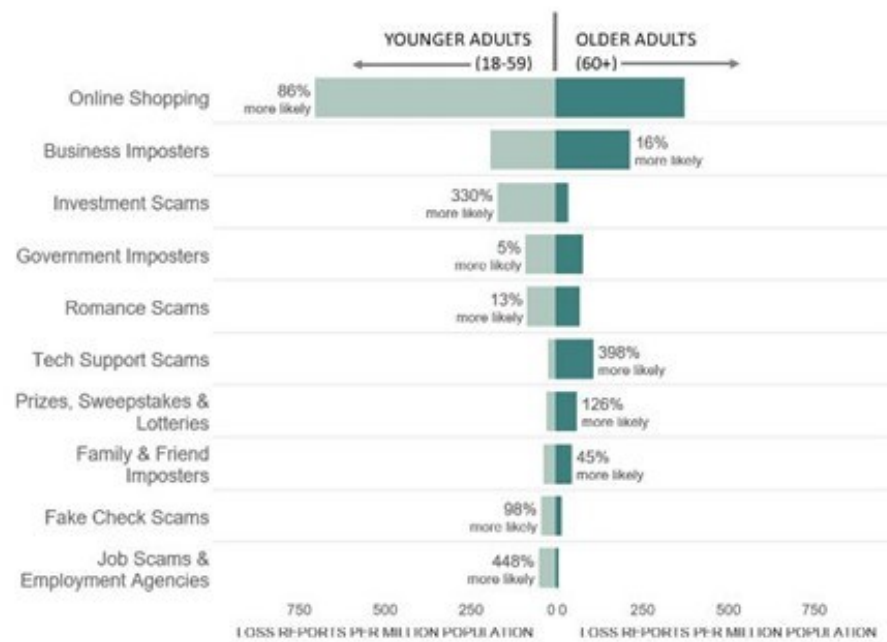
You remember Billy had mentioned going out of town with some college friends for the weekend. And the Lieutenant sounds so credible, even providing a badge number. So you provide your credit card number to bail Billy out.

I know you’re thinking you would never fall for such a scam. But according to the Federal Trade Commission in 2023 some 690,000 American adults lost in excess of \$10 billion dollars; the average loss was \$500.

While we tend to think that it is older adults who are the victims of these scams, the data does tell a different story.

2021 LOSS REPORTS BY AGE AND FRAUD TYPE

Losses to some types of fraud are more likely to be reported by younger adults, while others are more likely to be reported by older adults.



Figures are normalized using U.S. Census Bureau data for population by age. See U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Selected Age Groups by Sex for the United States (June 2020). Reports categorized as unspecified and reports provided by IC3 are excluded.

Phone scams are the number one way in which Americans are cheated out of large sums of money. Scammers have spent countless hours developing new and novel ways of cheating you out of your money. The scams come in many forms but tend to make similar promises.

- ♦ There is no prize: the caller says you were “selected” for a prize or won the lottery, but if you have to pay, it’s not a prize.

DEPUTY DISPATCHES (CONTINUED)

- ◆ You won't be arrested: scammers might pretend to be law enforcement. Actual law enforcement will not telephone you and demand money.
- ◆ You don't need to decide now. Take your time.
- ◆ Payment must be made a certain way: wire transfer, gift card, payment app, or cryptocurrency.
- ◆ Government agencies will not call to confirm sensitive information: social security number, taxpayer identification number. Most correspondence from the government will be in writing.

Remember: if it's too good to be true, it probably is.

How to protect yourself from scammers:

- ◆ Do not engage the caller...hang up. Answering robocalls may lead to further unsolicited calling.
- ◆ Utilize call blocking programs. Consider eliminating landline telephones.
- ◆ Put your number on the FTC's national **Do Not Call Registry**.
- ◆ Don't trust your caller ID. Scammers have sophisticated cloning or "spoofing" software which gives the appearance of the call originating from a legitimate number.



Summer Cleanup

The entrances at Alameda Diablo and Avenida Nueva got a much needed refresh. The DPOA spent 2 days fixing and repainting the wood posts. The lanterns also got a deep clean.

The rebar used for the flag display was also cleaned up and painted. We're ready for July 4th!

SLOW DOWN

KIDS AROUND!

PLEASE SLOW DOWN AND WATCH
FOR SCOOTERS, BIKES
AND WALKERS



IT'S SUMMER TIME

SAVE THE DATE
DIABLO POST OFFICE

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AT THE OLD PRO SHOP

★ ★ ★
AUGUST 18TH



SUMMER 2024



WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS!

If you have recently moved into our community, we have a gift for you! Please let us know you are here by emailing membership@diablopaa.org.

We do not have a typical HOA. Instead, all residents pitch in a nominal \$200+ each year to cover shared community costs: plants, water and maintenance at the entrances; raising the Diablo flags; holiday décor at the post office, the library and the entrances; maintaining our amazing community library; funding community activities and social events, as well as printing to deliver this newsletter to you. These things make Diablo the special place you have chosen to make your home.

Our mission is to enhance the community through beautification, social events, communication and historic preservation education. The DPOA is run by community volunteers and funded by annual contributions by residents. Formed in 1929, it is one of the oldest such organizations in California. Although our owners' association possesses no legal power, it acts as a sounding board and works with other organizations to facilitate community affairs and events. You can find more information at www.diablopaa.org and on Instagram@Diablo_Community.

Interested in contributing to the community?

We always need volunteers!

- Newsletter - Seasonal décor
- Welcome Committee - Social events
- Flags of Diablo - Community projects

The Devil's Advocate is our quarterly update to share the activities and events happening in our community and a method of keeping the communication lines open between neighbors.

**THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE IS A PUBLICATION OF
THE DIABLO PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 215, DIABLO, CA 94528**

CONTACT US

Website: www.diablopaa.org

Email: membership@diablopaa.org

Instagram: [@Diablo_Community](https://www.instagram.com/Diablo_Community)

Diablo Community Volunteers

Denise Aghazarian	Jan Novak
Elizabeth Birka-White	Shirley Osmer
Tony & Dee Geisler	Melissa Ovadia
Dana Gold	Alyssa Phillips
Amber Huete	Darcy Pierce
Maddy Johnson	Dana Pingatore
Leslie Keane	Lori Scallan
Greg & Anne Lorenz	Kathy Torru
Julie Nejedly	Julie Wallunas
Katie Nittler	

Meeting Schedule: 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. Email membership@dpoa.org for meeting location.

Diablo Community Services District Board

www.diablocsd.org

Kathy Urbelis, President

kurbelis@diablocsd.org

Matthew Cox, Vice President & Roads Commissioner

mcox@diablocsd.org

Christine Chartier, Community Liaison Commissioner

cchartier@diablocsd.org

Greg Lorenz, Finance Commissioner

glorenz@diablocsd.org

Jerry Slavonia, Security Commissioner

jslavonia@diablocsd.org

Kathy Torru, General Manager

generalmanager@diablocsd.org

Martin de los Angeles, Legal Counsel

Best, Best & Krieger, LLP

Meeting Schedule: 2nd Monday of every month at 6:00 pm. Visit diablocsd.org for meeting agendas, location, minutes, financials, history and info on the Diablo Municipal Advisory Council .

www.diablopaa.org