Who is this?

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"Gateway to the Monticello Dam"

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Summer fun for kids
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Volume 124, Number 23 - Locally owned since 1884 | Winters, Yolo County, California, Thursday, June 5, 2007 | The hometown paper of Barbara Wolfe

Body found near Winters

By LAUREN KEENE
McNaughton Newspapers

The man whose body was found lying along Russell Boulevard near Winters on Tuesday, June 26, has been identified as a 21-year-old Sacramento resident whose friend now stands accused of killing him, Yolo County sheriff's officials said.

Ryan Joseph Pimentel died from a blow to the head with a hard object, according to results of an autopsy conducted Wednesday morning. Sheriff Lt. Jeff Monroe said it's believed the killing occurred elsewhere, and that Pimentel's body was later brought to Yolo County.

Sheriff's detectives arrested 21-year-old Christopher Allen Buchanan of Sacramento, a former Davis resident and friend of the victim who is alleged to have killed Pimentel during an argument, Monroe said.

No further details of the alleged crime, such as the nature of the argument, have been released.

A Yolo County agricultural worker discovered Pimentel's body at about 10:40 a.m. Tuesday while checking fly traps in the area of Russell Boulevard and County Road 92F, east of Winters. Monroe said the body was in plain view, lying on the side of the road.

Monroe said sheriff's detectives worked nonstop following the discovery, interviewing friends and other witnesses and serving numerous search warrants that led to Buchanan's arrest.

Pimentel was identified via a thumbprint that was hand-carried to the state Department of Justice offices in Sacramento for comparison, Monroe said.

In addition to the murder charge, Buchanan was arrested on Yolo County warrants charging him with assault with a deadly weapon and grand theft.

See BODY on page A-3

Photo by Debra Lo Guercio

John Siracusa displays the bocce ball set needed to participate in Winters' newest leisure activity. Siracusa is organizing bocce games on Friday nights and hopes more people will get involved. Siracusa is the owner of JDS Builders in Winters.

Bocce Is A Ball

By DEBRA LO GUERCIO
Express editor

First, let's get something straight. The game is called "bocce" (pronounced BAH-chee), not "bocce ball."

"Saying 'let's go play bocce ball' would be like saying 'let's go play hockey puck,'" says John Siracusa, who's trying to bring the classic Italian pastime to Winters.

He's already got the bocce court in place between the buildings at 7 and 9 East Main Street, as well as an informal little group of bocce enthusiasts, who meet there on Friday evenings to relax and have some fun, sometimes after eating tapas at Ficelle. Siracusa became interested in bocce after visiting the Nichelini winery a couple years ago with some fellow Rotary members in conjunction with the club's annual Wine & Food Jubilee. They sampled some wine and played a little Bocce there on the grounds.

Later on, as Siracusa was visiting the Main Street Gallery (formerly located next to the bocce court), he was chatting with local architect Eric Doud over a glass of wine. Doud noticed the bare spot between the buildings and suggested that it would make a great spot for a bocce court.

"There it was. I took it and I ran with it," says Siracusa, who adds that having a local bocce court has been a dream of his for some time. "I always wanted a bocce court at home, but I didn't have enough room."

Bocce is a popular part of Italian culture, and Siracusa likens it to a "white collar version of horseshoes." The goal of the game is to throw a small ball, called a pallino, onto the court, and roll a larger ball as close to it as possible. Games require two pairs of players, who get two large balls each. Depending on the distance from the pallino and how the balls end

See BOCCE on page A-3

Winters Highlands designs presented

By ELLIOT LANDES
Staff writer

Tyler Wade, development manager for Granite Bay Holdings, gave an update of the Winters Highlands project at the June 26 planning commission meeting. He said the landscape design had been finalized, and the grading plan was going through the second engineering review. He expected to apply for a grading permit "in the next 30 to 45 days."

"Environmental mitigation – we are moving forward with that," said Wade, "There are some things still to be worked out with staff, we are doing our best to work with staff."

Wade said a site plan for the commercial project on West Grant Avenue near Round Table Pizza would be submitted in the second week of July.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Joe Tramontana, Wade said the linear park in Winters Highlands will be phased in, with the northern third completed along with construction of Phase I. All three parts of the park are required to be done by completion of the Phase III homes, according to Wade.

The commission held a first design review public hearing for eight home designs for Phase I of the Winters Highlands development. The development is planned in five phases over a number of years, ul-

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This week's advertising inserts: Longs Drugs, Lorenzo's Market, University Honda, McMahan's, Hyundai of Fairfield, Capay Valley Farmers' Market, Grand Jury Report, Donaldson Flooring,

(Supplements are sent to Winters, Woodland, Davis, Capay Valley, Dixon, Vacaville and Fairfield.)

Weather

Weather readings are taken at 9 a.m. each day, covering the previous 24 hour period.

Date	Rain	Hi	Lo
June 27		98	55
June 28		97	66
June 29		94	66
June 30		92	55
July 1		92	54
July 2		95	56
July 3		95	66

Rain for week: 0

Season's total: 0

It's time to pull out star thistle

By ELLIOT LANDES
Staff writer

This is the time of year for yellow star thistle opponents to go on the attack, and local anti-star thistle activist Keith Cary would like the public to know about it.

"I feel like it makes any property I own unusable, because it's so pokey," says Cary, "I like to be able to walk around on my land, and if it's a field of star thistle, I have all the disadvantages and none of the advantages."

Cary, who credits what he has learned to UC Davis researcher Craig Thompson, says the simplest approach is to pull the plants out by hand over the course of a couple of years. Watering first may be

See WEEDS on page A-6

Photo by Elliot Landes

Keith Cary grabs a handful of star thistle on his property. He has been on a mission for years to eradicate the weed.

Future Subscribers

OLIVER DONALD NAVEN is the son of Jacob and Kristina Naven, of Lincoln. Born Saturday, June 23, 2007 at 11:21 a.m., he weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. Oliver joins a brother Elliott, 2 years old. Maternal grandparents are Don and Zale (Ritchson) Leigh of Roseville. Paternal grandparents are Ron Naven of Rocklin and Eloisa Naven of Phoenix, AZ. Maternal great-grandparents, formerly of Winters, were Billy Joe Ritchson, Ellameda and Robert Woodard.

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