

Going Out in a Blaze of Glory

By Lee Borrowman

If you don't have children, or the time to explore curiosities, you may never have walked through the door of Action & Adventure on Mt. Diablo Blvd. For ten happy years, Peter Grubbs and his faithful sidekick Ralph the Dog have, in Grubbs' words, "Made a small living but a big impression," from the little shop that's bursting with an eclectic assortment of comics

A self-described "compulsive shopper" and collector of tropical fish, Grubbs enjoys forays to the flea market in search of unusual items, and has been happy running his business. "I'd love to be able to stay here," says Grubbs. "The community has been very supportive, and several people have offered to help find a new location for the store." Business has picked



Peter Grubbs



and collectibles. Unfortunately, the end may be near for the dynamic duo.

Grubbs is finding it difficult to keep up with the cost of doing business, with lease payments on the property being a significant factor. His small business has provided something less than a modest income, and he faces strong competition from on-line vendors who now dominate this niche in the market. He has given notice to the property owner that he cannot "re-up for another five years."

up a bit since customers became aware that Grubbs will be leaving. He plans to keep the store open as long as possible, and has been negotiating accordingly with the property

owner.

There many kids, and kids-at-heart, in Lamorinda who hope that Peter Grubbs and Ralph the Dog can continue their adventure.

DEVENGENZO

since 1970
Lafayette

Call: (925) 930-7186

**Drainage Systems
French Drains**

Subterranean Water Problems
Retaining Walls / Excavation

P.O. Box 478; Lafayette 94549

www.devengenzo.com

Lic # 566986

Confused by the Stock Market? We can help.



- Providing 25 years of sound, trustworthy financial advice in your local community.
- One of the Largest, 100% Fee Only, Independent Advisory Firms in LaMorinda.*
- Experienced professionals - CFP®, MBA, CMFC on staff

* 3/2007 AUM \$264MM, independent of banks, brokers or investment products.

Call now to schedule your **Free Initial Meeting!**

Phone: 925 - 299 - 1500 \$500,000 Portfolio Minimum



Capital Advantage, Inc.

A Wealth Management Firm

Retirement Planning & Investment Management Specialists

3708 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Suite 200, • Lafayette, California 94549 • www.CapitalAdvantage.com