

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

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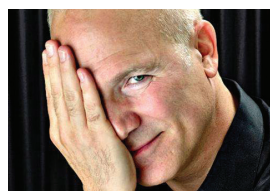
YEAR 30

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018

NO. 12

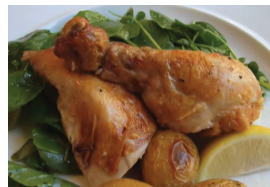
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PHONE: (510) 537-1792

WOMEN'S HUDDLE JOINS GUN PROTEST



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHY PADRO

Last Wednesday, members of the Castro Valley Women's March Huddle gathered at Castro Valley Blvd. and Redwood Road to support students' positions on gun control. Members included active and retired teachers, healthcare workers, mothers and grandmothers. The participants work together to promote equality, women's rights, voter participation, and environmental protections through political activism and community service. The group will be participating in the big March for Our Lives rally on Saturday at 1 p.m. in San Francisco's Civic Center. For information on joining Huddle members for the rally, email: cvmomensmarchhuddle@gmail.com

CVSan Proposes Inspection Upon The Sale of Private Sewer Laterals

By Ronald P. Williams, Jr.
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSan) is seeking public input into a proposed Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) Program designed to reduce the inflow and infiltration (I&I) of rainwater and groundwater into the public sewer system through PSLs serving single-family homes.

A PSL is a pipe that connects a building's plumbing system to the public sewer main, which is typically located in the middle of a street.

The proposed program would require homeowners to have an inspection of their PSL performed at the time of sale. Once inspected, CVSan would issue a "pass" certificate to homeowners whose PSL doesn't need to be repaired.

The "pass" certificates would be valid for 10 years. If the PSL is faulty, repair would be required. Homes that are 20 years old or

newer or have had a recent lateral replacement would be exempted from the inspection requirement.

The most environmentally responsible and safest sewer infrastructure is a "closed" system, or one which prevents outside water sources from entering the system and wastewater from leaving the system.

Rainwater and groundwater can enter sewer pipes through cracks and/or broken joints, which are primarily caused by root intrusion and deterioration of the pipes due to aging.

This is called inflow and infiltration, or I&I. As is the case in most jurisdictions in California, homeowners within CVSan boundaries own and are responsible for maintenance and repair of the PSL that transports wastewater from their home to the public sewer system, for which CVSan is responsible (Castro Valley Sanitary District Code § 4.110).

During rainy conditions, CVSan

experiences a greater than 10-fold increase in sewer flows that end up at the Castro Valley/Oro Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant.

As a result, CVSan is unnecessarily chemically treating infiltrated water. More importantly, this added burden on CVSan's sewer system creates the potential for sanitary sewer overflows. A sanitary sewer overflow is when untreated sewage flows out of a sewer system before it reaches the treatment plant, creating obvious health and environmental hazards.

Overflows may also result in significant fines levied against CVSan by regulatory authorities.

CVSan works aggressively to maintain its sewer system through regular inspection of its 160 miles of pipelines to identify and repair problems according to the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan which is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Regional Water Quality Control

see CVSAN on page 9

Residents Express Fears of Wildfires At MAC Meeting

By Amy Sylvestri
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

In the aftermath of the deadly fires in Sonoma County last October, some Castro Valley residents are worried that it could happen to them. At Monday night's Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) meeting, they asked what is being done to prevent it.

"Each dry season, my neighbors and I are really concerned about the possibility of fire," said John Sullivan, who lives near the Proctor Ridge. "That's frightening. Could this happen in Castro Valley? Of course it could. All of Castro Valley is vulnerable."

The Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) says that the most vulnerable portions of town are along the northern border which is a "fire severity" zone, particularly areas adjacent to Lake Chabot and Anthony Chabot Park. But all of Castro Valley is considered to be in at least "moderate" fire danger during the dry season.

To keep the area as safe as possible, the fire department works in conjunction with the East Bay Regional Parks Fire Department, and the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) which owns much of the parkland.

Sullivan suggested to the MAC and the fire officials in attendance that a fire break along the Ten Hills Trail be widened to create a buffer zone between the residential area and the parks. He added that trees and undergrowth have grown exponentially since he moved into his home 30 years ago and they should be cut back.

"Let's put everything on the table and together let's look for a solution," said Sullivan.

Some measures for preventing fires are enforcing smoking bans in parks, having strict campfire rules, and working with utility companies to make sure equipment is safe. PG&E power lines are thought to have sparked the Santa Rosa fire.

Fire Chief David Rocha said that "fuel management is key" in preventing wildfires — in other words, getting vegetation under control so there is less to burn.

To that end, the parks employ grazing goats to trim grasslands and this week they are bidding out a contract to remove eucalyptus trees from the ridgeline.

EBMUD board member Frank Mellon says that a frustrating thing sometimes occurs when people hear they are chopping trees; the same neighbors who want their homes protected from fire are critical of removing the highly-flammable eucalyptus trees.

"You wouldn't believe the heat we catch from people about cutting the trees," said Mellon.

MAC Chair Marc Crawford said the MAC may consider forming a subcommittee on fire safety in the future, but for now EBMUD and the fire department are working on "multi-faceted" plans to protect Castro Valley.

Other Business

Also at Monday night meeting, the MAC heard an update from the Alameda County Public Works Department on various projects they've been working on around town.

The department is still recovering from the 2017 storm season, according to public works director Daniel Woldesenbet.

During the rainy season, they received 380 calls for service and 28 roads were closed.

In Castro Valley, parts of the northern section of Redwood Road remain closed as the road as crumbled down the hillside. Woldesenbet said they hope to have the road open by mid-April but that can't be guaranteed.

"Every time we try to fix it, it keeps sliding," said Woldesenbet. "These latest rain events haven't helped."

Another big public works project in Castro Valley is the restoration of Cull Creek. The Public Works department is in the process of converting overgrown wetlands into a creek with grasslands surrounding it.

Woldesenbet said people have rightfully said it doesn't look great in its current state, but they still have to go through several rounds of seeding and growth and it will be competed in the summer of 2019.

'Phantom' Legend Franc D'Ambrosio to Bring His Show to CV Later This Month

By Terry Liebowitz
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

"Hamilton," "Rent," "Les Mis," "Phantom of the Opera" — these are the Blockbuster musicals of the last fifty years!

We have the masked Phantom, Franc D'Ambrosio, coming to the Castro Valley Center for the Arts, Saturday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. to reprise many of the songs from the show as well as other favorites from the Great White Way.

This is the last concert for the 2017-18 Series presented by the Castro Valley Arts Foundation.

Franc has lots of stories to share. He grew up in the Bronx, New York, and made his Broadway debut in Sweeney Todd.

His big break was when Paramount Pictures chose him to play Al Pacino's opera-singer son (Anthony Corelone) in the Academy Award nominated film Godfather III. Franc sang the theme song for the film.

From there, he was noticed by famed Luciano Pavarotti who invited the young tenor to study with him at his villa in Italy for the summer—truly, an experience of a lifetime!

More musicals followed and then he landed the iconic role of the tortured Phantom. For a decade Franc held the record for the longest run of the Phantom role—2,300 performances.

Today Franc's career includes singing with major orchestras and symphonies in their Pop Series as well as touring in the United States, Europe and South America with his critically acclaimed one man shows.

Visit: cvfa.com for tickets.

Terry Liebowitz is a founding member of the Castro Valley Arts Foundation.

Castro Valley Weather Mar. 21 - 25, 2018



Wednesday
Rain
High 65° Low 55°



Thursday
Rain
High 58° Low 43°



Friday
Partly Sunny
High 57° Low 44°



Saturday
Showers
High 56° Low 41°



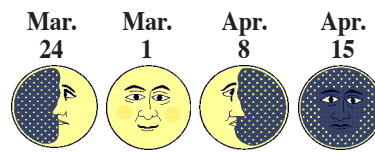
Sunday
Partly Cloudy
High 60° Low 41°

Almanac



Past Week's Rain: 01.27
Season To Date: 11.69
Normal To Date: 19.90
Season Average: 21.22

Moon Phases



Sun sets at 7:23 p.m. today, rises at 7:08 a.m. Thursday.

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COMING SOON!

Saturday, April 28th CVSan's Earth Day Clean-Up & Recycle

RECYCLE at Canyon Middle School from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



E-Waste



Tires



Cooking Oil



Sensitive Documents for Shredding

Limits and instructions at www.cvsan.org/ED

VOLUNTEER from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Community Clean-Up Sites: Castro Valley Arts Center, Cull Canyon Recreation Area, Castro Valley Creek, Downtown Castro Valley, Lake Chabot & Rowell Ranch Rodeo Park.

Free continental breakfast provided and a \$5.00 donation to one of three local charities will be made on your behalf after volunteering.

Register by Monday April 16th at www.cvsan.org/ED.

FREE COMPOST AND C&D VOUCHERS:



This event is for CVSan residents and businesses only. Bring photo ID or WMAC/utility bill to event. Three 1-cubic foot bags per household or business. 600 Construction & Demolition (C&D) debris vouchers available. Supplies are limited — 1st come, 1st served. For complete details and instructions, visit www.cvsan.org/ED.

Presented by:



CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
510-537-0757 | www.cvsan.org

This ad was funded by WM Collection Events

Clean-Up sponsored by:



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SHERIFF'S REPORTS

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SINGER • CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

**Vandalism at Eden
By Wanted Woman**

Sunday, March 18: at 11:00 a.m., Sheriff's deputies arrested a 39-year-old woman from Oakland on suspicion of breaking into a secure location and vandalizing private property at Eden Medical Center on Lake Chabot Road. Hospital security alerted deputies to the scene after the woman made her way into a secure area and got into an altercation. The woman was also wanted as part of a warrant issued for her arrest. Deputies took the woman to a Santa Rita Jail pending \$5,000 in bail.

Grocery Store Robbery

Saturday, March 17: at 9:50 a.m., a 49-year-old man with no permanent address was arrested on suspicion of robbing a grocery store on Redwood Road near Castro Valley Boulevard. Deputies arrived on the scene following a silent alarm. The man was handcuffed and taken into custody.

Caught Trespassing

Saturday, March 17: at 7:30 a.m., deputies arrested a 60-year-old man with no permanent address on suspicion of trespassing in a restricted area of a grocery store on Redwood Road near Castro Valley Boulevard. The man was caught by store employees of sneaking into a secure area without permission. The man was detained until deputies arrived and later taken into custody.

**One Too Many Green Beers
On St. Patty's Day**

Saturday, March 17: at 2:31 a.m., a 26-year-old man from Manteca (San Joaquin County) was arrested on suspicion of public intoxication and violating the terms of his probation. Deputies caught up with the man at a gas station on the Boulevard near Wisteria Street. The man showed signs of intoxication when deputies questioned him. He failed his field sobriety test and was taken into custody.

Can't Stay Away

Friday, March 16: at 7:43 p.m., deputies arrested a 46-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of violating a protective restraining order against him. The man was spotted outside a home on Somerset Avenue near Stanton Avenue prompting a call to the Sheriff's department. Deputies made a positive identification on the man and took him into custody.

Disrupting of Business

Thursday, March 15: at 9:17 p.m., a 64-year-old man with no permanent address was arrested on suspicion of disrupting a business. Deputies were called to Eden Medical Center on Lake Chabot Road to help with the man who was interfering with nurses, doctors, and other hospital staff trying to do their jobs. The man was handcuffed and taken into custody. Deputies noted that the man was very likely to continue this behavior in the future.

Four Arrested After Attack on CV Woman

Four teenagers from Oakland — three boys and a girl — were arrested Thursday afternoon as suspects in the attack and purse snatch of a Castro Valley woman shortly after 3 p.m.

The attack took place in the 18900 block of Lake Chabot Road

where the 55-year-old woman was knocked to the ground and robbed.

Witnesses photographed the getaway car which was spotted by sheriff's deputies as it entered I-580 a short time later.

A high-speed chase ensued un-

til the car crashed in East Oakland where two of the suspects were arrested. The other two were taken into custody after deputies scoured the area. All four are being held at Alameda County Juvenile Hall.

The victim was treated for head injuries.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EDEN MEDICAL CENTER

Members of Castro Valley Girl Scout Troop No. 30839, from left, Shelby Vaughn, Cassie Vaughn and Laney Vaughn with new mom Zahra Akbarpour and baby Eliya of Castro Valley.

First Baby Girl of Girl Scout Week

In celebration of Girl Scout Birthday Week 2018 (March 11-17), Girl Scouts from the Chabot Service Unit in Castro Valley and Hayward honored the birth of Eliya born at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley on March 11 at 9:41

a.m. Baby Eliya weighed in at 7 pounds 10 ounces and she is 19 inches long.

The family received gifts including baby blankets, clothes, toys, diapers, and bath supplies and books that were donated by

various Girl Scout Troops.

This is the 13th year for honoring the first baby girl born during Girl Scout Week. For more info about Girl Scouts, call the council office at 510-562-8470 or e-mail info@girlscoutsnorcal.org.

An Important Message to Our Readers...

For nearly 30 years, the Castro Valley Forum has arrived at the doorstep of nearly every home in Castro Valley as well as parts of Oakland and Unincorporated Alameda County. And it hasn't cost a penny!

For those who weren't born when the first issue of the Forum rolled off the press in 1989 and who now have kids of their own, it must seem like the Forum has been around forever.

And, if all goes well, there will continue to be a home-owned local newspaper for you to enjoy with your Wednesday morning coffee.

But the time has come to ask for a little help from our friends, by buying a Loyal Reader Subscription to the Forum.

The cost of nearly every phase of publishing and delivering a newspaper has gone up dramatically in the past 30 years, while advertising revenue — our sole means of existence — has declined. That's a bad combination.

Here's our problem. Some ads aren't available to us unless we can demonstrate that a portion of the public is willing to subscribe to the paper. That's hard to prove when the Forum has always been delivered free.

So, if you value the Forum, we're asking that you make a small one-time-only investment of \$10 to help keep the presses rolling. It's the number of subscribers that's important.

We can't give you a free toaster or an umbrella with your subscription — just the satisfaction that you helped keep your hometown newspaper around for awhile.

You can subscribe online at castrovalleyforum.com or use the coupon below. Make checks payable to Castro Valley Forum.



Please enter my Loyal Reader Subscription to the Castro Valley Forum.
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Address: _____

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Mail to: Castro Valley Forum, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.



Come on in and check us out at our
OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, March 25
from 10am to 6pm
3762 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley
We will have fun games, coffee, and treats for all!
510-582-1136
www.redwoodanimalhospital.net

Goldwell Banker's Annual
Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 31, 10 am, Adobe Park
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The Week Ahead

● Thursday, March 22: School Board Meeting

The Castro Valley Board of Education will hold a regular open meeting beginning at 7 p.m. tomorrow in the Boardroom at School District Headquarters, 4400 Alma Avenue. The complete agenda and board packet are available at bit.ly/CVUSDBBoardMeetings

● Thursday, March 22: Creekside Boosters' Basketball

Creekside Middle School's Athletic Boosters would like you to join them tomorrow for some fun and exciting basketball games! CMS 8th Grade Girls team vs. the Staff at 6 p.m., CMS 8th Grade Boys team vs. the Staff at 7 p.m. at the Creekside Middle School Gym. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets \$6 per person at the door. Let's go Wildcats!!!

● Saturday, March 24: Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast

The Hayward/Castro Valley Kiwanis Club will hold its 19th Annual Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. this Saturday at the Kenneth Aitken Senior Center, 17899 Redwood Road in Castro Valley. Proceeds go to community projects and scholarships. Tickets are \$10, or \$30 for a family of four (\$5 for children ages 5-10). Enjoy breakfast, a cake walk, raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. For more info, call 510-886-1100.

● Saturday, March 24: Free Family Caregiver Class

To help family caregivers of individuals with dementia, Hope Hos-

pice presents a class, "Caregiver Burnout and Family Dynamics," from 9:45 a.m. to noon this Saturday, focusing on strategies that will help families develop caregiving solutions to minimize stress and strengthen relationships. Classes are held at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Suite 100, Dublin (2nd floor). Register online at HopeHospice.com

● Monday, March 26: Municipal Advisory Council Meeting

The Castro Valley MAC will hold a land-use meeting at 6 p.m. Monday at the Castro Valley Library. Items include store front sign and details for Castro Valley Marketplace (Daughtrey's Bldg.), application for an alcohol outlet at 22085 Center St., and an application to continue a pre-school at 20121 Santa Maria Ave. For the complete agenda, visit acgov.org/bc/cvmac

● Monday, March 26: Eden Garden Club

Art designer Linda Beatham from Santa Cruz, who's worked in the nursery business for 14 years, will discuss succulents and demonstrate how to design them in containers, at the next meeting at 9:30 a.m. on March 26 at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. Items will be available for purchase. Meetings are free, guests are welcome. Phone 510-397-1268 for further information.

● Tuesday, March 27: CV School District's Education Day

The public is invited to the Castro Valley School District's first annual Education Day to hear about the state of the district and to tour its college- and career-prep programs, from 7:30 to 10 a.m. on March 27 at 4400 Alma Avenue.

● Tuesday, March 27: Meet Your District Attorney Candidates

The Castro Valley Democratic Club is hosting a candidates' night with both candidates for Alameda County District Attorney – Nancy O'Malley and Pamela Price – from 7-9 p.m. in the Graydon Room at Faith Lutheran Church, 20800 Redwood Road, Castro Valley. Candidates to speak starting at 7:30 p.m.

● Wednesday, March 28: Learn Healthier Eating

Celebrate National Nutrition Month by learning how to lower your risk for heart disease with a plant-based diet, at a program presented by Eden Health District, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on March 28 at the Castro Valley Library. Live demonstrations and tastings included. Limited seating, call 510-538-2035 to register. More info at www.ethd.org

● Saturday, March 31: Flea Market

Eagles Auxiliary No. 1139 will be holding a "My Sister's Closet" Flea Market from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 31 with clothes, knick-knacks, tools and etc. at 21406 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. Tables are available at \$24, paid in advance by this Saturday, March 24. For info, or to reserve a space, call 510-584-1568.

● Saturday, March 31: Bunco Luncheon Fundraiser

The Castro Valley Women's Club invites you to a "Bunco Luncheon" fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 31 at the Clubhouse, 18330 Redwood Road. Guaranteed fun and prizes for a \$20 donation. All proceeds benefit SOS Meals on Wheels. Call 510-461-7692 for tickets.

● Saturday, March 31: Free Fall Plant Exchange

The Fall Plant Exchange is a free, one-day event where gardeners, landscapers, urban farmers, educators, and enthusiasts all come together to exchange plants, equipment, tools, and information about ways to make our urban environment more sustainable, aesthetic, and healthy, taking place from noon to 4 p.m. on March 31 at 4500 Lincoln Ave. in Oakland. For more information, visit theplantexchange.org

● Saturday, March 31: Meet a Scientist – Dr. Deborah Yager

As part of the Castro Valley Library's *Community Reads Lab Girl* program, please join us for the final session in our Meet a Scientist series from 2 to 3 p.m. on March 31. You're invited to learn about the life experiences of scientist and local Castro Valley High School teacher Dr. Deborah Yager who will discuss her 25-plus years as a research scientist in the field of bioengineering, and her transition to the head of the classroom. For more information, call 510-667-7900.

● Saturday, April 7: Buon Tempo Celebrates 60 Years

Everyone is invited to celebrate Buon Tempo Club's 60th anniversary at 6 p.m. on April 7 at Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd., with a 6-course dinner prepared by Chef Joseph Sotello as the Castro Valley Adult Orchestra and Band play tunes from the Big Band era, jazz and pop favorites. The dinner-dance includes a free beverage – red and white wine, coffee, soda, and comes with a souvenir wine glass commemorating the event. For reservations (\$25 members and family, \$30 for guests), call 510-483-6929. Doors open at 5 for happy hour.

Arts & Entertainment

CASTRO VALLEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Tickets for Center for the Arts events listed below are available online at www.cvcfa.com; or at the Center Box Office, 19501 Redwood Road, Thursdays and Fridays 3-5 p.m. (phone 889-8961), or at the Castro Valley Adult School, 4430 Alma Avenue.

● **Castro Valley Adult School Band**, will present a *free* concert on Wednesday, March 28.

● **"Franc D'Ambrosio Broadway,"** a critically acclaimed one-man show, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. Ambrosio is best known for his long running role of the masked Phantom in Phantom of the Opera. For a decade he held the record for the longest run of the Phantom - 2,300 performances. Today he tours extensively in the United States, Europe and South America. *For tickets (\$29-\$35), see above.*

OTHER THEATRICAL & MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

● **Standup Comedy Show**, will be presented by Plethos Productions at 7 p.m. this Saturday, March 24, in the Smalltown Society Space at 22222 Redwood Road in Castro Valley. Check us out on Instagram @PlethosProductions & Facebook @PlethosProductions

● **Spring Concert**, will be presented by the Morrisson Theatre Chorus under the direction of César Cancino, featuring a selection of works from the stage and the movies, at 8 p.m. this Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, at the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., in Hayward. For tickets (\$18-\$15-\$12) call 510-881-6777 or visit www.dmtonline.org

● **"Little Women, The Musical,"** an all-new Broadway high-energy musical adaptation, will be presented by Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and at 2 p.m. on Sundays (no show on April 8) from April 6 to May 6. Opening night on April 6 features the traditional complimentary hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverages. On Bargain Night, April 7, all tickets are \$18. For tickets (\$25, \$20), visit chanticleers.org or call 510-733-5483.

AT THE GALLERIES

● **"Art IS Education Exhibition,"** featuring the works of 100 students of the Hayward School District in a variety of media including ceramics, photography, pastels, oils, graphite, sculpture, metal, acrylics, and mixed media will be on display from March 23 through May 25. An artists' reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. this Friday, March 23, in the City Hall Rotunda will include a performance by Hayward High School band, recognitions, tour of the gallery, and refreshments. For more exhibits and events, visit www.haywardartscouncil.org

● **"For the Love of Trees"** – Matthew Plexman presents uncomfortably beautiful, large format, panoramas of clear-cuts in Northern Ontario, Canada. Glenn Hemanes works with found wood to create small vessels inspired by provenance. John Dotta, photographs each tree as an individual, approaching them as a portrait photographer would. See their exhibition through April 9 at PhotoCentral Gallery, 1099 E St. in Hayward.

● **Hayward Art Council Members' Works**, is now on display at the Community Gallery of the Museum of History and Culture, 22380 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward, highlighting 60 artists in a dynamic collection of media.

● **29th Annual Children's Book Illustrator Show**, a local favorite of young and old alike, is currently at the Sun Gallery, 1015 E St. in Hayward, featuring a wide variety of artists and their books. Normal gallery hours are Friday through Sunday from 11-5.

● **"Asian Inspired Art Exhibition,"** featuring 21 local artists and a variety of techniques including calligraphy, brush painting, ink, sculpture, poetry, mixed-media, quilts and acrylics, will be on display through March 22 at the John O'Lague Galleria at Hayward City Hall.

● **Hayward Arts Council Member Show** will be on display through May 27 in the Community Gallery at the HAHS Museum of History & Culture, 22380 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. For more information, visit www.haywardartscouncil.org

● **"The View From Here,"** featuring Bay Area artists, showcases the way artists see and gift us a with their unique perspective, opens at the Adobe Art Gallery this Saturday, March 24, with a free public reception for the artists from 1 to 3 p.m. A variety of two- and three-dimensional media including acrylic, watercolor, clay and photography will be on view. Gallery hours (during exhibits) are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment, at 20395 San Miguel Ave., Castro Valley.

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HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): With your practical side dominant this week, it's a good time to reassess your finances to see what expenses you can cut. Aspects also favor mending fraying relationships.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Your Bovine-inspired determination to follow matters through from beginning to end pays off in a big way. Enjoy a well-earned weekend of fun with a special someone.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): Aspects favor re-establishing business relationships you might have neglected. A family member's request needs to be given more thought before you make a decision.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): While you might appreciate the avalanche of advice coming from others, keep in mind that the intuitive Moon Child is best served by listening to her or his own inner voice.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): The Lion's social life whirls at centrifugal speed this week as you go from function to function. Things slow by week's end, giving you a chance to catch up on your chores.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Don't let your stand on an issue cause a rift with a colleague. Insist on both of you taking time to reassess your positions while there's still room for compromise.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): An opportunity you'd been hoping for finally opens up. But read the fine print before you make a commitment, especially where a time factor might be involved.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Your need to know what's going on behind the scenes leads you to make some bold moves. Be prepared with a full explanation of your actions if necessary.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): A lot of details need tending to during the early part of the week. The pressure eases midweek, allowing you to get back to your major undertaking.



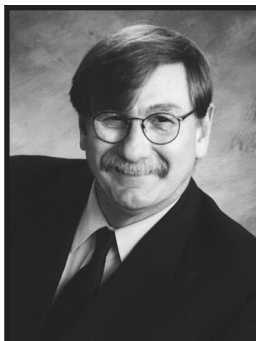
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): A friend asks you to act on their behalf in a dispute. Be careful. You might not have all the facts you need in order to make a fair assessment of the situation.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): A new development might require you to cancel some of your plans. But you adapt easily, and by week's end, you could receive welcome "cheering-up" news.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Your recent workplace accomplishments boost your self-confidence just as you're about to consider a potentially rewarding, although possibly risky, career move.



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LIN FOUNDATION A Safety Related Project

The Jenny Lin Foundation in collaboration with the Castro Valley Library recently embarked on a safety book project, which has been extended to benefit the San Lorenzo and Union City branches as well.

Titles that cover a wide range of safety-related topics are now being added to these three Alameda County Library locations. Interested readers may search in the library catalog for these materials using the community tag "Jenny Lin Collection."

The foundation continues to share online resources to help everyone stay safe anytime—from fire, home hazard, boating and water safety to cyberbullying.

Established in Castro Valley following the brutal murder of 14-year-old Jennifer Han-chi Lin, Jenny Lin Foundation has for over 20 years organized fairs, workshops, and contests to educate the public about safety precautions for members of all ages.

Visit: jennylinfoundation.org/jennys-safety-links/ to learn more.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CVSAN

CVSan Hosts Free Tour for CV Residents and Business Owners

On Friday, March 9, Castro Valley Sanitary District and Waste Management of Alameda County hosted a free tour of the Davis Street Transfer Station for Castro Valley residents and business owners. The dozen attendees got a firsthand look at the transfer facilities for organics and garbage, the construction and demolition material recovery unit, and the Waste Management Earth Care Center, where locally produced compost and mulch are made available to the public.

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Interest on Home Equity Loans May Still be Deductible

Q My wife and I have a home equity loan. In the past, we have been able to deduct the interest we paid on our taxes. However, under the new tax law, I hear conflicting opinions as to whether those interest payments are still deductible. Do you have any word on that?

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

A Thanks to a recent IRS guidance on topic, I believe I do.

Responding to many questions received from taxpayers and tax advisors, the IRS recently released a statement to help clarify the issue.

The guidance statement advises that, despite the new restrictions on home mortgage interest contained in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, taxpayers can often still deduct interest on a home equity loan, provided that the loan proceeds were used to "buy, build or substantially improve the taxpayer's home that secures the loan."

However, if the equity loan proceeds have been used to pay credit card debt or other personal expenses, the interest is no longer deductible.

Further, if the equity line was taken out after December 15, 2017, there is also a dollar limitation: the sum of the loans to purchase the home, plus the new

home equity loan, may not exceed a total of \$750,000 in order for all of the interest on both loans to be deductible.

If the combined loans exceed \$750,000, only a percentage of the interest payments will be deductible.

A bit of further good news for taxpayers with two homes: the new dollar limit applies to the combined amount of loans used to buy, build or substantially improve the taxpayer's main home and a second, vacation home.

Also, for the interest to be deductible, the home equity loan must be secured by the individual property which receives the benefit of the loan proceeds.

Thus, if the home equity line is to be used to buy or improve the vacation home, it must be secured by that particular property.

All of these changes sunset at the end of year 2025. What the rule will be thereafter is presently unclear.

The recent IRS Guidance [identified as IR-2018-32, Feb. 21, 2018] contains three examples which help illustrate the effect of the new law, and can be viewed on the IRS website, by an Internet search as follows: Start at www.irs.gov, then go to "Tax Reform", then go to "IRS News Releases & Statements", and scroll down to this topic.

Gene L. Osofsky is an Elder Law and Estate Planning attorney in Hayward. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com.



Tips for Older Job Seekers

By Jim Miller
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

While the U.S. job market has improved dramatically over the past few years, challenges still persist for many older workers. To help you find employment, there are job resource centers and a wide variety of online tools specifically created for older job seekers. Here's where you can find help.

Job Centers

Depending on where you live, there are career service centers located throughout the U.S. that can help you find a job. One of the best is the American Job Center (AJC) that has around 2,500 centers nationwide.

Funded by the U.S. Government, AJCs are free-to-use resource centers that can help you explore your career options, search for jobs, find training, write a resume, prepare for an interview and more.

To find a center near you, call 877-872-5627 or go to CareerOneStop.org.

Some other good programs for older workers include the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), and AARP's Back To Work 50+ program.

The SCSEP – sponsored by the Department of Labor – helps place income-eligible workers over age 55 in part-time, temporary community service positions where they can learn job skills.

To learn more or locate a program in your area visit DOLETA.gov/seniors or call 877-872-5627.

AARP's Back To Work 50+ program currently offers workshops in 19 locations around the U.S. that provide career counseling, job coaching and skills development for 50-plus job seekers. Or, if you can't attend their workshop, they also offer an excellent guide called "7 Smart Strategies for 50+ Jobseekers."

see **JOB** on back page

Medicare Updating Its Cards

By Greg Dill
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Starting next month, Medicare will mail new Medicare cards to all people with Medicare, to help protect you from identity fraud.

Fraudsters are always looking for ways to get your Social Security number, so we're removing those numbers from Medicare cards to make them safer.

Your new card will have a new number that's unique to you. It will help protect your identity and keep your personal info more secure.

You can start using your new card as soon as you get it. Your Medicare coverage and benefits won't change at all. Medicare will mail your new card – at no cost – to the address you have on file with Social Security. So make sure your mailing address is up to date.

If your address needs to be corrected, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.

see **MEDICARE** on page 15

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ACROSS

- 1 "Grey's Anatomy" network
- 4 Facebook contribution
- 8 Undergoes recession
- 12 Carnival city
- 13 Arthur of tennis
- 14 Portrayal
- 15 Place to find a rake
- 17 Cheer
- 18 Bart's sis
- 19 Keep tabs on
- 20 Tureen accessory
- 22 Authoritative order
- 24 Oodles
- 25 Diamondback, e.g.
- 29 Present
- 30 Stinky
- 31 Praise in verse
- 32 False teeth
- 34 Unaccompanied
- 35 Make one's way
- 36 "Annie Hall" director
- 37 Yuletide rendition
- 40 "Buenos —"
- 41 On
- 42 Annoy for one's own amusement
- 46 Young horse
- 47 Initial chip
- 48 Conk out
- 49 TV trophy
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- 3 Lose warmth
- 4 Old hat
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- 9 Galosh
- 10 United nations
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- 33 Doubly thick
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- 39 Wander
- 40 Be overly fond of
- 42 Enthusiast
- 43 Individual
- 44 "— the season ..."
- 45 With it, once

ANSWERS ON PAGE 5

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Bay Area Artists Exhibit Opening This Saturday

By Leah Virsik
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Adobe Art Gallery presents the upcoming exhibit, "The View From Here" on view this Saturday, March 24, through May 5, with a reception for the artists from 1 to 3 p.m. this Saturday. The public is invited and admittance is free.

This open exhibit, featuring Bay Area artists, showcases the way artists see and gift us a with their unique perspective.

A variety of two- and three-dimensional media including acrylic, watercolor, clay and photography will be on exhibit.

Additionally, the A.B. Morris room will feature "The Portrait," recent acrylic paintings by artist Philip Denst. These snapshots of life were painted from his photographs in the Adobe Art Gallery's inaugural Artist-in-Residence Program.

The Adobe Art Gallery, at 20395 San Miguel Ave. in Castro Valley is a program and facility of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. It is a public fine art gallery, committed to promoting and encouraging visual arts within the District.

Gallery hours during exhibits are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment.

Leah Virsik is the Director of the Adobe Art Gallery.

DINING FOR WOMEN CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



PHOTO BY CV CHAPTER DINING FOR WOMEN

The Castro Valley Chapter of Dining for Women hosted the "biggest chapter meeting ever" on March 8, joining 400 other chapters with a live webcast that included a panel discussion on the importance of foreign aid for women and girls in the developing world while celebrating International Women's Day at the Hayward Arts Council. In addition, guests enjoyed a photographic display by members Susan Negrin, Winda Shimizu, and Becky Wong at Foothill Gallery, and a solo exhibition by Arts Council board member Winnie Thompson at Realty World Neighbors. These exhibits will be on display until the end of April at Foothill Gallery. Learn more by visiting www.diningforwomen.org.

CVSan: Town Hall Meeting for the Community Will be Held Within the Next 60 Days

continued from front page

Board.

As part of CVSan's long-term plan, the sewer system is fully inspected and maintained in a repeating seven-year cycle.

There is no current inspection program in place for PSLs. While an inspection can be done at any time, homeowners usually learn of problems with their PSL when they experience a backup or failure, which means that infiltration has been seeping into that PSL for some time.

In the U.S., EPA's State of Technology for Rehabilitation Wastewater Collection Systems (July 2010) EPA/600/R-10/078, PSLs are estimated to contribute about 40 percent of a system's I&I.

Unfortunately, voluntary compliance with maintenance obligations has been insufficient to

maintain CVSan's closed system. CVSan's Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP) was implemented in 1998 to encourage inspection and repair of PSLs.

While successful, the LRGF only assists in repairing about 25 PSLs each year.

CVSan has been discussing the I&I problem and possible solutions for many years. Since 2014, CVSan has hosted 15 publicly-noticed meetings that included items related to the I&I problem or the proposed PSL program, including 11 meetings in the past year.

Additionally, CVSan has received input on the program from CVSan's Community Advisory Committee and local real estate agents. The draft ordinance is now at a stage for public comment.

CVSan will hold a town hall meeting for the community within

in the next 60 days; the schedule will be posted and published in the Forum.

To learn more about this program, visit www.cvsan.org/PSL.

Public comments can be submitted to Public Outreach Specialist Natalie Croak through email at natalie@cvsan.org or mailed to ATTN: Natalie Croak, 21040 Marshall Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

CVSan remains committed to long-term planning to maintain and continuously improve its sewer system to reduce the risk of sanitary sewer overflows, while keeping rates affordable.

CVSan's current sewer service charges are 20% lower than the average in Alameda County.

Roland P. Williams, Jr. is General Manager of the Castro Valley Sanitary District.

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Tianne Rinetti-Vittoria
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Born and reared in San Leandro, I was exposed to Real Estate my entire life, as my father, Al Rinetti, opened the doors to Rinetti & Co in 1970! I joined the family business in 1999 and now, 20 years later, I find myself appreciating everything that I have been taught, learned and loved doing on a daily basis is still very much alive within me. We have a fantastic team of professional associates, both family and friends that have made the success of my father's business survive and thrive for many years beyond his mentoring. We continue to make a difference in our community by helping sellers with the difficulties in selling their homes and buyers navigate through the stresses of entering into the market. This career is much more than a business to me, it is a life I chose to dedicate my time, love, patience and professionalism to.

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Terry Martinez
Broker / Owner / Notary

So much of Real Estate is relationships. San Leandro has been my home for 20 years. Being local gives me more than just a competitive edge... it also means I have a vested interest in our community. I have worked hard at establishing my career as a Broker and business owner in the same community where I live, shop and am raising my five children! I get great pleasure from seeing past clients at community events, and knowing that business can evolve into friendship.

It has been said that it is not work if you love what you do. That is exactly how I feel! As always, see you in the neighborhood!

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



This week's Athletes of the Week are the members of the Creekside Middle School Wildcats' wrestling team who competed in the 2018 Bulldog Classic Wrestling Tournament at Livermore High School on March 3 and walked away with 26 medalists, including 8 Champions.

Fourth place medalists: Teofani Navarez, Collin Rasmussen, Brandon Twarowski, Julian Valadez-Garcia, Lucas Taylor, David Sandoval,

Shawn Smith; *Third place medalists:* Noah Serano, Kaitlynn Dork and-Clements, Samantha Garcia, Zean Ylaya, Travis Orem, Alex Uman-sky, Sam D'Antonio; *Second place medalists:* Cooper Matthews, Jacob Oh, Aicha Meite, Skyler Lum; **CHAMPIONS:** Mariah Montano, Bibiana Lazarez, Carlia Ott, Courtney Michalowski, Natalia Perez, Justin Santos-Duncan, Jack Clarke, Jason Oh.

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Crossover Basketball Celebration

Crossover Basketball recently completed its 13th season with an anniversary celebration, highlighting past and present leadership, and team members. The event included pizza for the crowd of about 1,200 people including players, families and friends, on Feb. 10, at Canyon Middle School.

Speakers for the evening were Ruthie Bolton, former professional basketball player (WNBA's Sacramento Monarchs (1997-2004) / 2-time Olympic Gold Medal winner (1996, 2000) and Dean Johnson-motivational speaker and founder of Victory 4 Youth.

Both speakers shared their stories of sports and faith. Nearly 600 players (coed grades 2-12) and about 100 volunteer coaches/support team members dedicate their time and effort in this four-month season which began in November.

Crossover Basketball is a sports ministry of Castro Valley First Baptist Church and First Presbyterian Church of Hayward and partners with the Golden State Junior Warriors Program.

Visit: cvfirst.org/basketball, or
e-mail crossover@cvfirst.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF COACH ARMANDO LAROSA

DAKINE HOOPS DOES IT AGAIN: Dakine Hoops played in the United Classic Tournament at Alameda Point and Jamtown on March 11-12 and beat the Oakland Soldiers 48-44, then defeated the San Ramon Wildcats 47-37. In their last game, they won 53-47 over Team United. Pictured front row from left, Curtis Nguyen, Jalen Tran, Porter Tien and Riley La Rosa; back row, Michael Li, Jai Robinson, Aadi Malali, Ekam Sandhu, Travis Simmons and Head coach Armando, Coach John. Not pictured, James Ren, Shriyans Vittal, Joshua Racimora and Avi Rajbhandary.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Forum

GUEST COMMENTARY



Boomer Exits Could Spark Housing Crisis

In a less-than-flattering analogy, the Baby Boomer generation has been described as a large indigestible object moving through a python (the American population) causing a visible bulge moving slowly from one end to the other. While everyone knows how the Boomer generation began (entry into the python), there are countless questions as to what happens at the other end.

Boomers (born between 1946-1964) have dramatically reshaped the American landscape in every conceivable way. Unlike their post-depression WW2-era parents who were happy with small starter homes, the Boomers were born into the booming post-war economy and experienced levels of income and prosperity previ-

ously unknown. They wanted the big houses and lots required to live large and, therefore, demand for smaller starter homes virtually disappeared as Boomers headed for the suburbs in record numbers, super-sized everything imaginable.

As Boomers begin entering their golden years and seek to downsize their lives, Arthur C. Nelson, director of the Metropolitan Research Center at the University of Utah has predicted they may trigger a housing crisis. No longer needing their McMansions, Nelson predicts they will begin flooding the market with homes as early as 2020.

The burning question is, "Who will be there to buy them?" In many parts of America, the answer may be, "Nobody." Millennials,

now emerging as the dominant buyer pool, want something other than their parent's suburban digs. No longer anticipating the unending financial prosperity of previous generations, they seek smaller homes in revitalized urban cores. Resistant to the idea of driving to shop and dine, high walk scores have become paramount.

Additionally, this new generation boasts a multi-ethnic diversity previously unimagined. Unfortunately, our educational system has failed to effectively educate significant portions of the emerging millennial population resulting in unparalleled income inequities. Bottom line: many Millennials do not have the education required to produce the income levels needed to enter the homeownership domain.

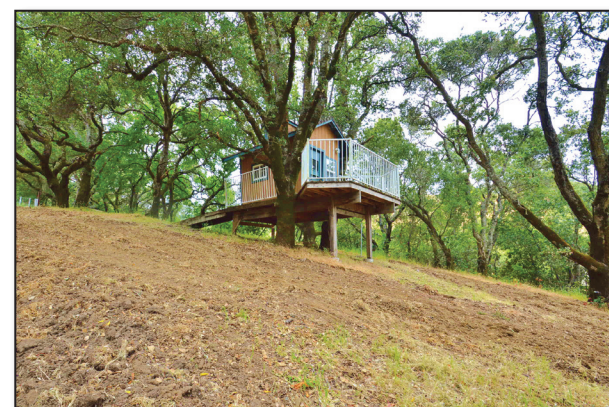
The transition will not be easy for Boomers, either. The recent economic collapse destroyed countless plans for early retirement, pushing home sales out indefinitely. Unable to move, aging-in-place will be the new norm, creating an entirely new level of issues.

As the bulge moves towards the end of the python, Boomers are discovering their emergence at the back end looks different than imagined. And if thousands of homes hit the 2020 market as predicted, the ensuing glut could reverse the current hot market, further complicating Boomer exit strategies.

Carl Medford is a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams Realty and a licensed general contractor. This article is sponsored by the Central County Marketing Association.



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| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 3797 Almond Court | 94546: \$775,000 | 3 BD - 1,198 SF - 1957 |
| 19213 Almond Road | 94546: \$740,000 | 3 BD - 1,422 SF - 1949 |
| 4221 Beverly Place | 94546: \$840,000 | 3 BD - 1,650 SF - 1986 |
| 19052 Center Street | 94546: \$919,000 | 4 BD - 2,348 SF - 1955 |
| 4431 James Avenue | 94546: \$920,000 | 6 BD - 2,730 SF - 1977 |
| 18124 Judy Street | 94546: \$800,000 | 3 BD - 1,396 SF - 1953 |
| 19559 Parsons Avenue | 94546: \$765,000 | 3 BD - 1,220 SF - 1946 |
| 5214 Reedley Way | 94546: \$930,000 | 3 BD - 1,618 SF - 1965 |
| 21452 Rizzo Avenue | 94546: \$685,000 | 3 BD - 1,104 SF - 1941 |
| 17054 Rolando Avenue | 94546: \$740,000 | 3 BD - 1,875 SF - 1942 |
| 3591 Somerset Avenue | 94546: \$480,000 | 3 BD - 1,370 SF - 1949 |
| 22792 Princeton Place | 94552: \$1,125,000 | 3 BD - 2,082 SF - 1999 |

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$617,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$768,500**
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$855,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$752,250**

San Leandro

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1744 Astor Court | 94577: \$968,000 | 4 BD - 2,964 SF - 1987 |
| 255 Best Avenue | 94577: \$750,000 | 2 BD - 1,154 SF - 1924 |
| 840 Billings Boulevard | 94577: \$565,000 | 2 BD - 1,193 SF - 1943 |
| 359 Bristol Boulevard | 94577: \$563,000 | 3 BD - 1,451 SF - 1944 |
| 225 Castro Street | 94577: \$402,000 | 2 BD - 1,283 SF - 1967 |
| 227 Castro Street | 94577: \$420,000 | 2 BD - 1,236 SF - 1967 |
| 357 Castro Street | 94577: \$600,000 | 2 BD - 990 SF - 1880 |

TOTAL SALES: 18
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$402,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$564,000**
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$968,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$618,912**

Electrical Outlets Don't Sit Straight

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

When cover plates on electric outlets don't sit flush with the wall, it is likely that the receptacles themselves, or their housing, are misaligned. This can be caused by the screws holding the receptacle in place being loose, or the housing (the junction box) not being properly secured.

Because the receptacle or junction box doesn't sit straight, the cover plate doesn't sit straight. Hence, the gap between the cover plates and the wall.

Turn off power to the crooked outlets, at the circuit panel. To make sure power is no longer reaching an outlet, plug a radio or a lamp into each of the two outlets of the receptacle. If they stay off, power is most likely off. However, always treat electrical hardware and wiring as if it is live.

Remove the cover plate and take a look at the small screws on either side of the receptacle. If they're loose, tighten them so that the receptacle sits straight within the metal junction box.

Straightening the receptacle should fix the cover-plate alignment problem. However, if it

doesn't, check to see if the junction box itself is straight. It may have been installed at a bad angle.

If this is the case, adjusting the box is more complicated. You'll have to remove the receptacle, disconnecting its wires and labeling them so that you are able to reconnect them correctly. Then you'll have to unscrew the junction box from the stud, use a level to find the correct angle, drill a new hole or holes in the stud, then attach the junction box via the new holes, rewire the receptacle and put it back in place.

This can be time consuming and frustrating, because you are working in a tiny space. If you've never wired up a receptacle or light switch before, there are sev-

eral risks involved, from damaging the receptacle to injuring yourself.

In many cases, the first fix -- tightening the receptacle screws -- generally does the trick. However, if the second issue arises, consider the amount of work involved and whether you're confident in doing it. If you're not sure you can do it, consider having a licensed electrician come in to straighten the junction boxes and give the house's entire electrical system a look over for any other issues.

Home Tip: Use a small appliance, like a radio, lamp or a fan, to test whether power is reaching an outlet, by plugging the appliance into it.

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|------|--------|--------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| C | 1-4 | 1-4 | 20204 San Miguel Ave. | \$479,000 | 2/1.5 | Berkshire Hathaway | Cathy Brent | 510-381-1065 |
| A | — | 1-4 | 14696 Bethany St. | \$599,000 | 3/1 | Re/Max Accord | The Lovewell Team | 510-351-5555 |
| S | 2-4:30 | 2-4:30 | 3139 Middleton St. | \$838,000 | 3/2.5 | Marvin Gardens RE | Greg Novak | 510-472-4770 |
| C | 1-4 | — | 33803 Palomares Rd. | \$1,280,000 | 3/2 | J. Rockcliff Realtors | Kristy Peixoto | 925-251-2536 |

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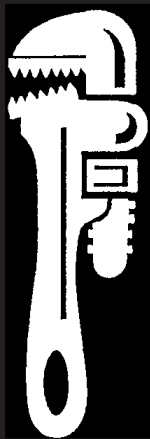
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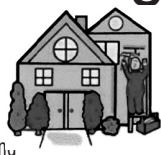
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Born
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March 18, 2018
Funeral Mass
Friday, March 23, 11a.m.
Transfiguration Church
Castro Valley



FD 1168 CR49

CAHILL, Graig ROBERTSON, William "Bill"

■ **ROBERTSON, William "Bill"**, entered into rest on March 16, 2018 at age 92. Bill was a proud Veteran of the U.S. Navy. He had a wonderful 30 year career as a fireman with the City of San Leandro. Bill is survived by his 3 children and their families. Visitation will be held on Mon., March 26, from noon to 8 p.m. at Santos-Robinson Mortuary 160 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro. The Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, March 27 beginning at 11 a.m. at the mortuary, burial to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward. Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Woodburning Fireplaces are Nice to Look at, but a Danger To Those with Asthma and Lung Disease

Editor:

This topic is dear to my heart, and to others with asthma, but may be unknown to most people who don't have to deal with breathing issues or lung diseases.

Every time someone burns wood in their fireplaces, the neighbors have to breathe in the particulate waste that comes from the wood smoke. This causes asthma attacks in those of us who are susceptible to it.

There were nearly 6,000 asthma deaths across the US last year, from a variety of pollutants, with wood smoke one of the worst, as the lungs cannot filter the small particles created by it.

Please convert your fireplaces to gas or electric, as it is much safer for our health and produces less air pollution.

I know it is a lovely experience to watch wood burn, we all agree on that, but know that you are causing harm to others every time you do that, adding to our air pollution and worsening diseases like asthma.

Please stop burning wood, and be kinder to your local neighbors, children and adults alike.

—Cris Frick, Castro Valley

Page One Article on Japanese Internment Exhibition Called 'Somewhat Disengenuous'

Editor:

I found your description of the circumstances regarding the internment of the Japanese during WWII ("Remembering Internment of Local Japanese Americans," Page 1, The Forum, March 7) somewhat disengenuous, and not all the pertinent facts were presented.

There was no information presented as to the number of these internees who were in fact American citizens, and the internment had nothing to do with race, discrimination, or country of origin, rather the fact that our nation was now at war.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a sneak attack as we all know, but this took place while the Japanese were pretending to seek peace through negotiations in Washington DC. That very fact proved that the Japanese were not to be trusted.

Not all Japanese living in United States territories were loyal to the United States, I suggest the author of the published article and all interested readers do a little research on "the Niihau Incident." Where upon the very opening of hostilities between the United States and Japan, some so called "Loyal Americans" choose to side with a Japanese pilot who crash landed on their Hawaiian Island following the Pearl Harbor air raid.

We were in a war that at that time the outcome was in doubt, the Niihau Incident was instrumental in President Roosevelt decision to order the internment.

Lest we forget, the world had been watching the brutal aggression Japan had perpetrated upon her neighbors since the early 1930s. The world saw what happened during the "Rape of Nanking", the Japanese lust for brutality and cruelty was on full display to the world.

Our POW's were starved, beheaded, subjected to torture for the sheer enjoyment of the perpetrators, and died from a simple lack of basic needs.

While the internees may have had their lives disrupted, I don't believe any were tortured, starved, or beheaded.

And let's put an end to the fact X amount of people died as a result of either atomic bomb, let it be know far more Japanese died during the first massive air raid on Tokyo in which 15 square miles of the city was leveled, the death toll surpassing either atomic attack.

How else do you defeat a nation ready to send school children armed with bamboo spears to the beaches to oppose our Marines?

—Lawrence Reindl, Castro Valley

'Deeply Disappointed' by HARD's Action on Rodeo Policy

Editor:

We, along with supporters of our 26 year-old non-profit organization, Center for Animal Protection & Education (CAPE), were deeply disappointed by the recent vote of the Hayward Recreation District Board of Directors to not only keep the existing rodeo policy, but to also add "mutton busting" as part of the so-called entertainment.

Considering that 'mutton busting' was illegally included in recent years at this rodeo, and that the Board has now sanctioned an action that was improperly executed by Mr. Fields, president of Rowell Ranch Rodeo Committee, it would appear that the Board has been derelict of its duties.

Mutton busting is an event held at rodeos in which children between the ages of 4 - 7 ride the backs of unwilling sheep who are so traumatized by this abuse that they buck until the riders are tossed to the ground.

Because there is no national oversight organization for this particular event in which thousands of children participate each year, it is impossible to know how many broken bones and other injuries are sustained by these small children.

Swalwell's New Chief of Staff

Alex Evans will join Rep. Eric Swalwell's office as Chief of Staff, overseeing all operations at the Congressman's Washington and Castro Valley offices effective April 2. He will be based in the Washington office.

Evans previously was founder and president of EMC Research, a full-service public opinion and market research company that conducts research for corporations, political campaigns, and public agencies. He has more than 30 years of experience and frequently guest-lectures at universities across the nation.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in political science from the U.C. Berkeley, and a Master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan.



Alex Evans

A parent who would intentionally have their 4-7-year-old risk life and limb for a few seconds of entertainment should be held accountable by Child Protective Services should their child need medical care afterwards.

Allowing 'mutton busting' to take place at the Rowell Rodeo is beyond reckless. We are shocked and dismayed that the Hayward Recreation District Board of Directors chose to vote for "fun" and laughs over the welfare of children and animals.

—J.P. Novic, Executive Director, CAPE

—Shelley Frost, Director, CAPE

A Safe Place Where Men Can Share and Build Trust

Editor:

My name is Walt Gresham and I have been a letter carrier for 30 years.

Being a carrier is a job that allows me to interact with many individuals who come from a wide variety of backgrounds. I have met many wonderful people and made close friends throughout the years as I came to realize that beyond just delivering the mail, I could provide the valuable service of simply listening to what people have to say.

In June of 2016, I had an idea of forming a men's group and received encouragement from many friends to move forward with the plan. The observation throughout my life that men have a tendency to keep their feelings bottled up gave me the motivation to create a place where these feelings could be shared.

Over a six month period the pieces fell into place and I received confirmation through the kindness of Nate Miley that we could use his office at 20980 Redwood Rd Suite 250 for our meetings.

In November of 2016 we had our first meeting of the men's group and I titled it "Seeking Change." My intention was to provide a safe place where men can share and build trust.

We discuss all topics and always focus on helping each other no matter the difficulty of the topic that is being shared. The members of our group have built a strong level of trust with each other which is in itself a healing power.

As the group surpassed one year running, we all want to see it grow so that it can reach out to help any individual who may be seeking change.

The group is fully secular but is by no means opposed to exploring spirituality. If anything, it is encouraged based on each person's definition of the word.

We meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and the dress code is, of course, completely informal; come as you are.

—Walt Gresham, Castro Valley

Making Dangerous Choices While Driving

Editor:

Prom and graduation plans can easily derail if dangerous choices are made.

When I was 16 in 1992, my eventful life as a Junior at Tracy High ended when a drunken driver hit me.

I was unable to study at the College of Alameda independently. My hearing, talking and walking are damaged, and I cannot drive. I never imagined living like this.

I am thankful people are slowly learning to not drive drunk.

We are in the age of technology. A new driving threat comes: cell-phones. Driving drunk and cellphones both cause distraction and impair driving. Each can cause drivers to follow too closely, not brake on time or weave into traffic.

Texting is common. If your phone rings when driving, do not check the message. Taking one look may be your last.

People kill people, phones do not. Drivers must police themselves and avoid the cellphone and drinking when driving.

—Lori Martin, Tracy

Graig Cahill

December 2, 1946 — March 9, 2018

Graig Cahill, real estate broker and resident of Castro Valley since 1974, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2018, following a long struggle with respiratory issues resulting from chemical exposure during his service to our country in Vietnam.

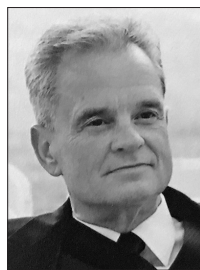
Born December 2, 1946 to Evelyn and George Cahill, Graig was the youngest of four children and grew up in Oakland during the sixties, attending Oakland High School.

In his teens, Graig organized friends in the garage to make music, forming Graig Cahill and the Off Beats, and later The Shillings. His career grew as a singer, songwriter, and lead guitarist, and he recorded music for Fantasy Records before being drafted into the U.S. Army and deployed to Vietnam, where he served for two years. After his discharge, Graig attended college on the V.A. Bill, and studied for his real estate license. He found a long and fulfilling career as an entrepreneur and real estate broker, helping hundreds of clients, many of whom remained clients throughout his career. He was also an active member of the Castro Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the National and CA Associations of Realtors. Graig continued to write and play music during his life, a passion he shared with all who knew and loved him.

As co-founder of Cahill and Company Real Estate, established in 1974 with his partner Ben Cohen, Graig turned his business into an outlet for a strong lifelong desire to help other people, no matter what their challenge, no matter what their dream. Graig's philosophy on life was simple: do what you can for others, be kind to animals, and take care of the planet.

Graig is survived by his partner and soul mate Sue Fredrickson, his beloved children Julie (and Patrick) Barnard and Ben Cahill, his grandchildren Christina, Kira, Jakob, Addison, and Lincoln, his brother Mike Cahill, and numerous lifelong friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Nora Willis and Patricia Holmes, and stepdaughter Robin Hutto.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 24, at 3 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene in Castro Valley.



Man Dies of Gunshot in Cherryland

By Amy Sylvestri
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

A man was found shot to death in his vehicle early Sunday morning in the 2100 block of Mission Blvd. in Cherryland.

Alameda County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the area at around 3 a.m. after a friend of the victim reported the shooting, according to Sheriff's Sgt. Ray Kelly.

When deputies arrived, they found a man suffering from a gunshot wound. Paramedics attempted to revive him, but he was pronounced dead at the scene. Kelly said he believes the man had been at a local hookah lounge just down the street and was able to drive a short distance before succumbing.

The victim's identity has not yet been released, pending notification of his family. Other people in the car with the victim were not injured. No motive has yet been identified.

Motorists were prohibited from using Mission Blvd. between Mattox Road and Blossom Way for several hours Sunday morning during the investigation.



MURDER SCENE: Sheriff's deputies investigated a shooting death in the 2100 block of Mission Blvd. in Cherryland Sunday morning. The victim was found in his car (center).

Medicare: New Cards are Coming Soon

continued from page 7

If Social Security has your current mailing address, there's nothing else you need to do to receive your new card.

Mailing everyone a new card will take time. Your card might arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's.

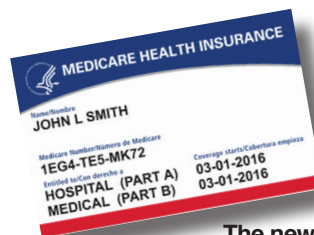
Once you get your new Medicare card, take these three steps to make it harder for someone to steal your information and identity:

1. Destroy your old Medicare card right away.

2. Doctors, other health care providers, and health plans approved by Medicare know Medicare is replacing the old cards. They are ready to accept your new card when you need care.

3. Beware of anyone who contacts you and asks for your new Medicare number, personal information, or to pay a fee for your new card. There are no charges whatsoever for the new cards.

Guard your card. Treat your new Medicare number like you treat your credit card numbers. Give your new Medicare number only to doctors, phar-



The new Medicare card

cists, insurers, or other people you trust to work with Medicare on your behalf. Medicare will never call you and ask for personal or private information.

Scammers may try to get personal info (like your current Medicare number) by contacting you about your new card. If someone asks you for your information, or for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share personal information, hang up and call us at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Your new Medicare card will be paper. Paper cards are easier for many providers to use and copy, and they save taxpayers a lot of money. Plus, you can print your own replacement card if you need one.

Carry your new card and show it to your health care providers. Doctors, other providers, and health care facilities will ask for your new Medicare card when you need care.

If you forget your new card, you, your doctor, or other health care provider may be able to look up your new Medicare number online.

If you're in a Medicare Advantage plan (like an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage plan ID card is your main card for Medicare – you should still keep and use it whenever you need care.

However, you also may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so you should carry this card with you, too.

If you don't get your new Medicare card by April 2019, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

Greg Dill is Medicare's regional administrator for California and other states and territories. You can always get answers to your Medicare questions by calling 1-800-633-4227.

Looking for senior care close to home?

Center for Elders' Independence is now open in San Leandro!



Located at 1850 Fairway Drive, the innovative facility serves seniors with multiple health challenges who prefer living at home instead of a nursing home.

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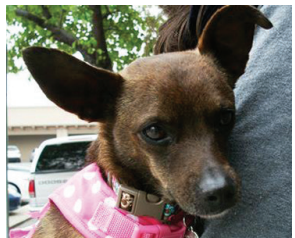
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KING & ZOEY NEED A LOVING HOME: King, a handsome Chocolate Point Siamese, and Zoey, a gorgeous Calico, are a young-at-heart bonded pair. After 12 yrs, they suddenly found themselves at a shelter through no fault of their own. It's a scary place for them but they are slowly adapting. They'd much prefer a loving family to give them pets, cuddles and treats, a lap to warm and a forever home to call their own. Please consider opening your home to this gentle pair. Both are neutered. For more information, call: Hayward Animal Shelter at: (510) 293-7200.



PEPSI is a 12 lb., approximately 2-year-old terrier mix. She may be part Chihuahua and part Italian Greyhound too, considering her long legs and slender body. She was named Pepsi by her foster mom because of her sable coloring and bouncy antics. Visit: dustypawsrescue.org



BOB is a lovely, fluffy young bunny who needs a home! This handsome fellow was rescued from a hoarding situation. He was in very neglected condition - underweight, and so matted that his front paws were sticking to his body. For more info, please visit: dustypawsrescue.org

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*Parade Theme:
Celebrate bringing diversity together through community

Job: Seniors

continued from page 7

To get a free copy, or see if there's a workshop in your area call 855-850-2525.

Job Search Sites

There are also a number of online job search sites that can help you connect with companies that are looking for mature, experienced workers. Some good sites for 50+ job seekers include:

- **WhatsNext.com**, which offers a job search site and has online assessment tools, calculators, career guides and career coaches;
- **RetiredBrains.com** that provides information on finding temporary or seasonal jobs, as well as starting your own business, working from home, writing your resume, finding full-time work, and continuing your education;
- **RetirementJobs.com** lets you post your resume and search for full-time or part-time jobs online; and **Workforce50.com**, which has job search functions and a list of favorite age-friendly employers by industry. It also gives you the ability to sign up for job alerts.

Work at Home

If you're interested in working at home, there are many opportunities depending on your skills, but be careful of work-at-home scams that offer big paydays without much effort.

A good place to start is FlexJobs.com, which filters out the job scams and lists thousands of legitimate work-at-home jobs in dozens of categories.

Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



CVHS student intern Johnathan Huang visits Baywood Court residents. It's apparent many of the 300 residents have managed to influence Huang's career direction.

A New Direction: CVHS Junior Sets Sights on Geriatric Nursing

Jonathan Huang, a 16-year-old junior at Castro Valley High School, was leaning toward a medical career in pediatrics before he started his three-day-a-week internship at Baywood Court Retirement Center two months ago.

"But now I've found a purpose... a passion," says Huang. "It's heart-warming to be working with the residents here. It makes my day!"

Whether it's participating with seniors in their therapeutic art classes, a game of Bocci Ball, brain

fitness exercises, or "sometimes just listening," it's apparent many of the 300 Baywood residents have managed to influence Huang's career direction.

If you ask Huang now what medical field he might pursue, the answer is without hesitation, "Geriatric Nursing."

Baywood's Executive Director Bruce Uldelf called the internship "our opportunity to mentor bright young people who are already focused on their roles in society."

"Retirement communities are

the wave of the future, with the aging of 'boomers,' we're probably looking at more retirement communities than Starbucks' coffee shops," Uldelf says.

The internship program is a joint effort of Eden Health District, Castro Valley Eden Area Chamber of Commerce, the Eden Area Regional Occupational Program and Castro Valley High School.

Contact Kim Hudson at Castro Valley/ Eden Area Chamber of Commerce, 510-537-5300, or Jannie Banks at 510-861-7613.

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