

The Forum's
Loyal Reader
Campaign

Our campaign for Loyal Reader subscriptions through the month of March was successful beyond our imagination. We were overwhelmed by the number of responses and touched by a number of supportive notes that were included with the subscriptions. Next week we will publish

the names of all the subscribers, but we wanted to say this early "thank you" to all of you who participated.

—Fred Zehnder
Publisher, The Forum



CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING CASTRO VALLEY SINCE 1989

YEAR 30 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018 NO. 14

INSIDE YOUR
FORUM

NEWS



Sky High

Visit the world's highest peaks Tuesday at the Castro Valley Library

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LIVING



The Top Pop

Bacon and cheese popcorn? We have the recipe for that

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SENIORS



Senior Strong

Strength, balance and fall-prevention exercises for older adults

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PHONE: (510) 537-1792



PHOTO BY AMY SYLVESTRI

MASSIVE UPGRADE: A new 9 million gallon tank is replacing a reservoir in the Castro Valley/ Hayward hills as part of a seismic upgrade being done by EBMUD.

New Steel Reservoir Being Built

April 18 marks the 112th anniversary of the great San Francisco earthquake. So yesterday, Bay Area water agencies held a tour of various sites around the East Bay to demonstrate just how they are preparing in the inevitable event of another massive quake.

One stop was on the Castro Valley/ Hayward border where the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is building a new \$15-million steel tank reservoir.

The 9-million-gallon tank will re-

place a 50-million-gallon reservoir which was originally made of cement poured over earth. While the new tank will hold far less water, it is also not as vulnerable to being destroyed in a quake.

In Hayward, EBMUD showed off one of their "interties," which connect the pipes of different water districts. The four districts that are interconnected in the Bay Area are EBMUD, the Contra Costa Water District, the Santa Carla Water District, and the San Francisco Water Power Sewer.

It's that type of regional cooperation that's going to be key in the event of an earthquake or even just a drought, according to Alison Katsama, EBMUD's manager of public affairs.

To have the ability to connect one regional water system to another will allow a more vulnerable water district to get help from one that hasn't suffered as much damage.

"If something major were to happen to our major lines, we'd have that back up," said Katsama.

—Amy Sylvestri

BUON TEMPO

Sixty Years of 'Good Times' For CV Club

By Michael Singer
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

What do you get when you mix food, family, and fundraising? Just ask the members of the Buon Tempo Club, an Italian-American organization celebrating its Diamond Anniversary this Saturday.

The anniversary dinner is expected to include a five-course meal prepared by chef Joseph Sotello and a desert crafted by chef Jessica Pacheco. An 18-piece band is expected to perform courtesy of the Castro Valley Adult Orchestra, including Village Barber shop stylist, Al Proietti.

Jim Murphy, who serves on the Buon Tempo Board of Directors, says the dinner dance is an opportunity to celebrate the heritage of the club but to also attract new members to its current roster of 250.

"People find a group because they like the membership, they like the food, or they like the amenities," Murphy says. "It just so happens that I like all three at Buon Tempo."

The food is a big draw and Buon Tempo does not disappoint. Cooking is shared among members who want to prepare classic and contemporary Italian fare.

see BUON on page 5

JUNE PRIMARY

Swallwell to Face Two Challengers

Rudy L. Peters, a Republican who lives in Livermore, announced his candidacy for Congressional District 15 last week.

The district includes Castro Valley, Dublin, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Pleasanton, Union City, and parts of Contra Costa County, including San Ramon.

It is currently represented by Democrat Eric Swallwell who has become nationally prominent because of his frequent guest appearances on TV network and cable news broadcasts.

The 55-year-old Peters is co-owner and CEO of AARD Solutions, a disabled veteran-owned small business that provides professional engineering services primarily to U.S. Government agencies.

In a press statement, Peters said his goal is to bring his depth of experience to the public sector to promote individual freedom and enable economic success for all California citizens.

"I'm interested in leadership that's more concerned
see SWALLWELL on page 3



Swallwell



Peters



St. John

DAWN ON EASTER SUNDAY



The largest number of worshipers in years assembled at the old missile site above Lake Chabot on Sunday morning for the traditional Easter Sunday Service. Story on page 3.

Castro Valley Weather April 4 - 8, 2018



Wednesday
Mostly Cloudy
High 75° Low 49°



Thursday
Mostly Cloudy
High 76° Low 50°



Friday
Rain
High 74° Low 50°



Saturday
Rain Tapering Off
High 71° Low 49°



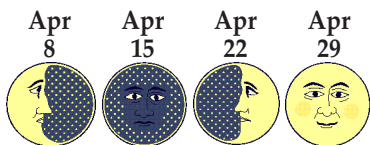
Sunday
Partly Sunny
High 68° Low 48°

Almanac



Past Week's Rain: 00.00
Season To Date: 13.47
Normal To Date: 20.05
Season Average: 21.22

Moon Phases



Sun sets at 7:36 p.m. today, rises at 6:47 a.m. Thursday.

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Repaired Redwood Road Reopens

The Alameda County Public Works Agency completed extensive repairs on Redwood Road at mile marker 7.38 last week. The roadway connecting Castro Valley with Oakland had been closed for more than a year after the onslaught of heavy 2017 winter rains caused a large section to slip away. Work performed included building a retaining wall, slope grading, installing subbase for a new section of roadway, embankment erosion repairs, a drainage system, and resurfacing and striping the travel lanes.

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He is Risen: Baptist Pastor Matt Blevins Brings Message of Hope

Miguel Perez of Redwood Chapel started his Easter shortly after 5:30 a.m. with a flashlight on Lake Chabot Road, directing more than 200 adults and children up the side road to the Nike Missile Site above Lake Chabot in Castro Valley for the annual Easter Sunrise Service.

Hosted by Redwood Chapel Community Church and First Baptist Church of Castro Valley, the service was opened by Redwood Chapel's Pastor Doug Tegner, with singing led by Tori Gomez, Ben Stirling and Josiah Harper.

Tyler Simpson shared his salvation testimony.

Pastor Matt Blevins of First Baptist Church of Castro Valley brought a powerful message of Hope from Mark 16:1-11, stressing that "you can't out sin God's grace."



SUNDAY DAWNS CLEAR AND BRISK: Tori Gomez, Ben Stirling and Josiah Harper lead singing during worship at this year's Sunrise Service at the old Nike Missile site above Lake Chabot.

CVSan Town Hall on Sewer Line Inspections Scheduled for April 24

Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSan) will host a town hall on its proposed Private Sewer Lateral Program on Tuesday, April 24th from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Castro Valley Library.

The meeting will begin with an overview of the program's details from CVSan's General Manager, Roland Williams. Afterwards, attendees will have the opportunity to provide their comments on the proposed program.

The Private Sewer Lateral Program would require all properties

built more than 20 years ago within CVSan's boundaries to have their sewer laterals inspected – and repaired or replaced when necessary – when the property changes hands.

CVSan is considering implementing this program to reduce the amount of flow its treatment plant receives during wet weather. Currently, there is a large number of cracked and damaged sewer laterals connected to CVSan's wastewater collection system.

These damaged pipes allow

rainwater to enter the wastewater collection system, causing more flow during rainy weather than the system was designed to handle.

Residents unable to attend the townhall meeting may submit their comments on this program via email to Public Outreach Specialist, Natalie Croak, at natalie@cvsan.org or by mail to Attn: Natalie Croak, 21040 Marshall Street, Castro Valley CA 94546.

Visit www.cvsan.org/PSL for more information on the proposed Private Sewer Lateral Program.

Swallwell: Challengers

continued from front page
with doing the right thing – for our district, for our state, for our nation than in continuing the current standard in Washington, doing absolutely nothing except engaging in polarizing partisan politics," Peters stated.

He and his wife Cindy have three children. They have resided in Livermore since 1991.

Swalwell, who will be running for his fourth straight term, is also facing a challenge from Brendan St. John, a 20-year Pleasanton resident who does not state a party preference.

St. John, 49, is a medical marketing executive and a married father of three teenagers who has had no political or government experience.

When he announced last fall, St. John said he was "fed up with the divisive rhetoric from both major political parties, and the ineffectiveness of our government."

The top two finishers in the June Primary will face each other in a runoff election in November.

SHERIFF'S REPORTS

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SINGER • CASTRO VALLEY FORUM



Robbery Suspect Caught
Monday, April 2: at 4:45 a.m., Sheriff's deputies arrested a 32-year-old man with no permanent address as part of a court-issued warrant for his arrest. The man was previously charged with armed robbery. Deputies approached the man at an apartment complex on Center Street near Grove Way. The man surrendered without incident and was taken to Santa Rita Jail pending \$150,000 in bail.

Drugs, Gun Found at Traffic Stop
Monday, April 2: at 3:17 a.m., two men from Oakland were arrested following a traffic stop on Lessley Avenue near Redwood Road. Deputies pulled the men over after they noticed the vehicle had a bad headlamp. During questioning, deputies reported finding a 1-ounce bag of cocaine and a loaded gun underneath the driver's seat. Because the drugs sat between the two men, both men were charged with possession. The driver a 40-year-old man, was charged with the gun possession. The passenger, a 34-year-old man, was additionally charged with violating the terms of his parole. Both men were taken into custody.

Spousal Battery, No Joke
Sunday, April 1: at 1:33 a.m., a 911 call about a loud and aggressive-sounding argument sent deputies to a home on Lodi Way near Judy Street. There, they arrested a 59-year-old woman from Castro

Valley on suspicion of spousal battery. Deputies handcuffed the woman and took her into custody. The victim was treated at the scene.

Easter Arrest for Assault
Sunday, April 1: at 7:38 a.m., deputies served a warrant and arrested a 29-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of spousal assault. The man was contacted at a home on Crow Canyon Road just south of the Norris Canyon intersection. Deputies handcuffed the man and took him to Santa Rita Jail pending \$75,000 in bail.

Drivers Arrested for Drugs
Saturday, March 31: at 1:33 a.m., two people were pulled over and

arrested outside a business on Castro Valley Boulevard near Redwood Road. Deputies reported the vehicle's registration was expired. The driver, a 29-year-old woman from San Jose, was charged with suspicion of driving with an expired registration, driving a vehicle without an interlock device for her previous drunk driving conviction, and possession of methamphetamine drugs. The passenger, a 31-year-old man from Castro Valley was arrested on suspicion of possession of methamphetamine drugs, illegal narcotics, and illegal drug paraphernalia. Deputies took the pair to Santa Rita Jail pending \$8,000 in bail.

see **REPORTS** on back page

Amanda Korbass Dies In Mexico Car Crash

By Linda Sandmark
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

Many in the Castro Valley community are in mourning this week, after learning of the sudden passing of Amanda Nicole Korbass on March 29, following a tragic car accident in Puerto Penasco, Mexico. She would have turned 21 this Friday.

Amanda and her friend Anna Wilson both lost their lives in the accident. The two were students at U.C. San Diego and were set to graduate in June, completing their

degrees in just three years. They were on Spring Break when the accident occurred. A candlelight vigil was held Monday night in San Diego in their honor.

"She was an angel on earth," said Amanda's cousin Lauren Korbass. "Full of kindness, grace, thoughtfulness, love, and life. She was the kind of person who impacted everyone she met. She loved spending time with the people she loved, singing, crafting, building, playing games, learning, traveling, flying, Disney, princess- see **KORBASS** on page 15

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11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your Castro Valley Home for Sale

Castro Valley - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away alto-

gether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-844-767-8796 and enter 4003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

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The Week Ahead

● Thursday, April 5: *Parkinson's Support Group*

The San Leandro Parkinson's Support Group will hear from a speaker about the Parkinson Institute at the next meeting at 10:30 a.m. on April 5 at the San Lorenzo Community Church, 945 Paseo Grande in San Lorenzo. For information, call Lona White at 510-276-3119.

● Friday, April 6: *Eden Area Village Outreach Meeting*

Join us at Hayward City Hall (777 B St.) at 2 p.m. on April 6th to hear about how we are working together to help seniors remain in their homes, engaged in our community. Visit edenareavillage.org for more information.

● Friday, April 6: *Documentary: "Seed: The Untold Story"*

Come view and discuss this stimulating documentary on how indigenous seed keepers, farmers, scientists, and lawyers are standing up to giant chemical companies to defend the future of our food, at 7 p.m. this Friday in the church hall behind Our Lady of Grace Church, 3433 Somers-et Ave. in Castro Valley. Free admission and ample parking. Bring a favorite snack or savory treat to share (optional). For more info., email Dennise at dcburgess1@juno.com

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

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● 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 comes with a souvenir wine glass commemorating the event. For reservations (\$25 members and family, \$30 for guests), call 510-483-6929. Happy hour at 5 p.m.

● Saturday, April 7: *Flute Fantasia & Chabot Guitar Ensemble*

Enjoy live music as a professional flute ensemble and the Chabot College Guitar Ensemble present an eclectic program of musical styles from medieval to modern from 2 to 4 p.m. on April 7 at the Castro Valley Library. The groups have performed throughout the Bay Area, including at the 44th annual National Flute Association convention. No reservations required. For more info, visit www.aclibrary.org

● Saturday, April 7: *Free New SAT Practice Test*

Teens are invited to partake in a free New SAT practice test administered by Kaplan Test & Prep at the Castro Valley Library from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on April 7. In preparation for what might be the most important test of your life, this 4.5-hour workshop will offer you the opportunity to practice and find out how you would score on the new test. Get realistic practice and try your hand at the types of questions you'll face on the actual exam. You will also receive a personalized score report pinpointing your strengths and weaknesses. Registration is requested. Sign up by phone 510-745-1401 or in person.

● Sunday, April 8: *Free Poetry & Music*

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon concert of poetry and music from 2 to 3 p.m. on April 8 at the Castro Valley Library. Chris Lee and Colleen O'Brien blend vibes, cello and voice to perform poetry that has been set to music in celebration of National Poetry Month. No advance registration required. For more info, call 510-667-7900.

● Sunday, April 8: *CV Mothers Club Painting*

The Castro Valley Mothers Club invites all CV moms to enjoy a day of painting in Hayward. Join us Sunday April 8th for a few hours together creating a beautiful painting. Cost is \$27. RSVP to Leslie at cvmcmno@gmail.com. See www.castrovalleymothersclub.com for more info about the club.

● Sunday, April 8: *Redwood 4H Meet and Greet*

Mikes' Feed at 710 East 14th Street in San Leandro will host a meet and greet with Redwood 4H this Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come pet some bunnies and learn about Redwood 4 H. (We're about more than animals!) For more info, call Karen 510-566-3672.

● Monday, April 9: *Spring Luncheon & Bingo*

Eagles Auxiliary No. 1139 will serve a spring luncheon (soup, sandwich, dessert) for a donation of \$8 which includes 1 bingo card, at noon on April 9 at 21406 Foothill Blvd, Hayward. Proceeds will benefit a local charity. For more info, call 510-584-1568

● Monday, April 9 & 16: *Free 2-Part Class on Diabetes*

Eden Medical Center is hosting a 2-part class "Keys to Living Well with Diabetes" focusing on how diabetes affects the body, how to control diabetes through healthful eating, how to maintain appropriate blood sugar levels, and avoid complications, from 7 to 9 p.m. on April 9 and 16 at 20101 Lake Chabot Road in Castro Valley. Anyone with diabetes is welcome to attend – regardless if their diagnosis is new or long established. Please RSVP by calling 510-727-3032.

● Tuesday, April 10: *Become a Castro Valley Booklegger*

If you love kids and books and you're looking for a flexible volunteer opportunity, consider becoming a Booklegger, a volunteer dedicated to promoting independent reading by children by visiting K to 5 classrooms to share great books – adventures, mysteries, comedies and eye-popping nonfiction. An Orientation Meeting will take place from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on April 10 to meet library staff, get a demonstration of Booklegging and understand the commitment necessary. During the training, which starts on April 17, you'll learn booktalking and storytelling skills. RSVP for the Orientation by emailing cselig@aclibrary.org.

● Tuesday, April 10: *Rotary Topic: Immigrant Youth*

Katherine Krassilnikoff, pro bono attorney for the nonprofit "Kids in Need of Defense" (KIND) will speak on Unaccompanied Immigrant Youth at the buffet lunch meeting of The Rotary Club of Castro Valley from noon to 1:30 p.m. on April 10 at Redwood Canyon Golf Course, 17007 Redwood Road. KIND mentors pro bono attorneys to represent children who have arrived in the U.S. seeking safety from abuse, gang violence and persecution and who now face the possibility of deportation. The cost of lunch is \$20 and reservations must be made by 9 a.m. on April 9 by contacting Rotary President Jim Negri at 650.996.9173 or ciaojim_cvrotary.org. More info is available at castrovalleyrotary.org.

● Thursday, April 12: *Redwood 4H Open House*

Redwood 4H will hold an Open House at 7 p.m. on April 12 at the Canyon Middle School Cafeteria, 19600 Cull Canyon Road in CV.

● Friday, April 13: *Tip-A-Cop*

Support the Northern California Special Olympics East Bay Region by tipping Alameda County Sheriff's Office volunteers who will be celebrity waiters from 6 to 9 p.m. on April 13 at the Elephant Bar Restaurant, 24177 Southland Drive in Hayward. For more information about the Special Olympics, visit www.sonc.org or call 925-944-8801 x224.

● Friday & Saturday, April, 13-14: *Café Disco*

The Hayward High School Music Program presents the free Café Disco, with over 100 music students performing solo or in ensemble settings, starting at 7 p.m. on April 13 and 14 in the Hayward High Cafeteria, 1633 East Ave. The Hayward High Band Boosters will be selling burgers, pork sliders, chili dogs, hot dogs, snacks, desserts, drinks and raffle tickets. This fundraiser helps supports the growth of the music program at Hayward High.

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.

● **"Guys and Dolls,"** the Tony Award-winning musical, will be presented by Castro Valley High School's award-winning drama and music departments at 7 p.m. on April 20, 21, 27, 28 and at 2 p.m. on the Sundays of April 22 and 29, at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts. *For tickets (\$15, \$20), see above.*

OTHER THEATRICAL & MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

● **"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.

● **"Death by Design,"** a comedy-mystery with surprising twists, will be presented by the San Leandro Players, opening this Friday, April 7, and running through May 6 at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. Show times are Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus two Friday shows at 8 p.m. on April 27 and May 4. For tickets (\$20, \$15), visit www.slplayers.org

● **"Legally Blond, The Musical,"** the story of a sorority girl who enrolls at Harvard Law School to win back her ex-boyfriend., will be presented by San Leandro High School Dramatic Arts at 7:30 p.m. on April 13, 14, 15, 20, and at 2 p.m. on the Sundays of April 15 and 22, at the San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2200 Bancroft Avenue. For tickets (\$8, \$15) visit www.sanleandropac.com

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.

● **"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. Exhibition ends 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.

● **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, showcasing the way they see with their unique perspective, is on view at the Adobe Art Gallery in Castro Valley, a variety of two- and three-dimensional media including acrylic, watercolor, clay and photography. 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.

● **#Climate Change: An Unfolding Emergency** featuring the works of more than 20 artists is being presented by Sun Gallery, 1015 E St. in Hayward. An artists' reception with free appetizers and beverages will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 14, including a dance performance by Andrea Spearman on the gallery's stage in the courtyard. For more info on the exhibit, call the Sun Gallery at 581-4050 or visit www.SunGallery.org

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Resist a confrontation with that irksome person. The matter will soon blow over anyway. Meanwhile, channel your high Arian energy into areas with more positive potential.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): The innovative Bovine finds a creative way to resolve a sensitive domestic problem by midweek. A former colleague returns with an intriguing business suggestion.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): An unexpected critical statement from someone you trust could catch you momentarily off guard. But you soon recover your equilibrium and rise to the challenge.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): You might feel you can handle a new project on your own. But advice from someone with experience could help you avoid possibly costly as well as time-consuming obstacles.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): Waiting for others to make decisions is difficult for the take-charge Lion. But by week's end, you should hear news that will help you regain control of the situation.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Your superjudgmental side could dominate the week unless you try to keep it in check. Otherwise you risk offending people, including some who are very close to you.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Expect more information to come out about that possible career shift. Meanwhile, your loving concern helps someone close to you get through a worrisome period.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Despite an occasional setback, workplace pressures should continue to ease through most of the week. This would be a good time to plan that long-delayed trip.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): The sage Sagittarian quickly recognizes an opportunity when she or he sees it, especially if it's one you've been planning for. Take aim and go for it.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): The Sea Goat's unique insight guides you as you check out a questionable situation. Your efforts should prove rewarding for you and your many supporters.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): You might want to pace yourself a bit more. Rushing could lead to serious slip-ups. Take more time to check out details you might otherwise overlook.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): The best way to resolve those remaining problems is to ask others for help. They'll be happy to do so, especially when you agree to share the credit for a job well done.

PEAK PERFORMANCE

World-class Climber Brings Mountain Adventures to CV Library on Tuesday

Tales of Mount Everest, the world's highest summit, and Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest point in Africa, are coming to Castro Valley Library on April 10 at 6:30 p.m.

World-class climber and guide Wilfred Moshi will share his experiences, insights and pictures from both adventures.

Moshi became the first Tanzanian and the third African to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 2012. He's also the founder, owner and chief guide of Kili Treks Tanzania, which leads multiple groups to the 19,341-foot top of Africa each year.

Wilfred will discuss the beautiful sights of the region as well as efforts to conserve it for future generations.

The event is free, and those who want to learn more about the mountains and maybe even climb them are invited to attend this rare opportunity. For more information, visit www.kilitrekstanzania.com.



SKY HIGH: Wilfred Moshi, the first Tanzanian to reach the summit of Mount Everest (Elev. 29,029 feet) in 2012, shown at Kilimanjaro National Park in Tanzania.

Buon: Has a Long History of Philanthropy

continued from front page

Recent meals included Italian Roast Beef, Cannelloni, and Fettucine.

Murphy notes that chefs typically start out during the members-only "Boy's Night Out" meals before sharing with the broader Family nights. Chefs also come from various other restaurants.

"We always have member chefs," Murphy says. "If someone said they were willing to cook for 200 people, we would give them a shot. But we do have our favorites."

We have one chef that cooks at the Colombo Club in Oakland and one other restaurant and he's in his 80s. When people hear he's cooking, the members get excited and more people come out for those meals."

The club has a long history of philanthropy including an annual open bocce tournament and a separate dinner fundraiser to support the George Mark House, a children's hospice in San Leandro.

The club also sponsors several different athletic, academic, and vocational scholarships for high

school seniors. To date, the Club has awarded more than \$170,000 in scholarships.

Other fundraisers supported remodeling the San Leandro Main Branch Library and a donation of \$3,000 presented to the mayor of the hard-hit Italian city of L'Aquila, which suffered a massive earthquake in 2009.

Buon Tempo is also a major sponsor of the "Relay for Life" cancer walk and car show as well as a float in the Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade.

Founded by a handful of guys from San Leandro in 1958, the premise was simple: gather together men from the community; cook traditional meals along with great conversation; and support local charitable organizations.

The group initially bounced around various members' homes until a long-term property near San Leandro Boulevard was purchased in the late 1960s. The groundbreaking was put on indefinite hold, however, after the city declared eminent domain on the majority of the land for construction of part of the San Leandro BART station.

After a few temporary relocations, the Club has been working out of Transfiguration Church in east Castro Valley.

This Saturday's dinner will include a souvenir wine glass, commemorating the evening. The doors open at 5 p.m. for happy hour with dinner starting at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for members and family, and \$30 for guests.

'CV Street Eats' Returns

"Castro Valley Street Eats" and the Food Truck Mafia return for the 2018 season next week at the Adobe Art Center at 20395 San Miguel Avenue. They will be here every Tuesday evening from 5 to 9 p.m. through the summer.

The event is sponsored by the Castro Valley/Eden Area Chamber of Commerce, Hayward Area Recreation District, Waste Management and the Food Truck Mafia. For more information, call 510-537-5300.



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Strength Training for Seniors

By Jim Miller

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Weak leg muscles and poor balance are two of the biggest factors that cause seniors to fall.

Most people, after age 40 lose about one percent of their muscle mass each year, which really adds up over time. But study after study has shown that it's never too late to rebuild muscle through strength training.

Regular resistance or strength training can help build muscle strength, increase bone density, improve balance, coordination and stamina, and helps prevent falls.

It can also help reduce the signs and symptoms of many chronic conditions, too – like arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, back pain, depression and obesity. And some studies even show that it helps improve cognitive function too.

Here are some simple ways to help you get stronger.

Getting Started

After you get your doctor's okay, consider working with a professional trainer or physical therapist for a few sessions to help you develop a safe and effective routine you can continue on your own.

Or go to GrowingStronger.Nutrition.Tufts.edu for a free program from Tufts University in Boston and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Also see Go4Life.NIA.NIH.gov, a resource created by the National Institute on Aging that offers a free exercise guide that provides illustrated examples of exercises you can do at home to strengthen your body. You can order your free copies online or by calling 800-222-2225.

To improve your strength you have to keep stressing your muscles, so you'll need to exercise at **see TRAINING on page 8**

Using Father's POA to Make Gifts To Accelerate Medi-Cal Eligibility

Q My father suffers from advanced dementia and needs care in a nursing home. It costs about \$9,500 per month, and we are rapidly spending down his savings. I was told that he might qualify for a Medi-Cal subsidy to help with the cost once his savings are below \$2,000. Years ago he signed a power of attorney ("POA") naming me as his agent. Can I use that POA to gift his excess savings to myself and thereby accelerate his eligibility for a Medi-Cal subsidy?

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

A The question may seem straight forward, but the answer is somewhat complicated. To get to a possible "yes," there are a number of legal hurdles to overcome:

- 1) Is the POA "Durable"? The word "durable" means that the powers granted in the POA survive your father's incapacity. If it is not durable, then it's authorizations expired when your father lost capacity.

Fortunately, most of the POA's that I see these days have been drafted as durable powers, and so it is likely that yours is also a durable POA.



- 2) If a "Springing" POA, Have The Triggers Been Satisfied? Often POA's are drafted to only spring into life when the signer loses capacity, usually then requiring one or two doctors' letters so certifying. If this describes yours, make sure that you have secured the doctors' letters in order to make the POA operative.

- 3) Is Gifting Expressly Authorized? As your father's agent (or, Attorney-In-Fact), you are a fiduciary and cannot give away your father's assets, unless that power is expressly granted in the document; it cannot be implied. If not expressly stated, the making of gifts might be considered a breach of your fiduciary duty and/or financial elder abuse.

- 4) Does the POA Set Gifting Limits? Very often, we see POA's

that do permit some gifting, but limit it by reference to an Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") section, the import of which may not be immediately apparent.

Example: If the POA limits gifts to the maximum authorized under IRC§ 2503(b), then gifts would be limited to the amount of the Annual Exclusion Gift, currently \$15,000 per year per recipient.

- 5) Can You Gift To Yourself?: As your father's Agent you are his fiduciary, and cannot make gifts to yourself unless the POA expressly so authorizes, usually by permitting what we call "self-dealing."

Sample Language to look for: "In exercising the power to make gifts of my assets, I hereby authorize my Agent to include himself/herself as a gift recipient, i.e. I authorize my Agent to self-deal."

Also, sometimes, POA's impose the aforesaid § 2503(b) gifting limit only upon gifts to the Agent, but not upon gifts to others. If so, know that there may yet be "work-arounds" to design a more generous gifting plan to all recipients, which is still compliant with the limits in the POA.

- 6) Gifting Prohibition By Medi-Cal: If you get over all of the above hurdles, remember the following over-arching caution: Medi-Cal does not like it when applicant's give away their assets to qualify, and may disqualify an applicant for benefits based upon the value of the gifted assets.

Nevertheless, there are lawful techniques that can still be used to give away assets without a loss of Medi-Cal benefits, but they should be designed and carefully supervised by an Elder Law attorney experienced in Medi-Cal planning.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney in Hayward. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com

Income Tax Filing Requirements for Retirees

By Jim Miller

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Here's a rundown of this tax season's (2017) IRS tax filing requirement thresholds.

For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2017 gross income – which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits, unless you are married and filing separately – was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you probably won't have to file. But if it's over, you will.

- Single: \$10,400 (\$11,950 if you're 65 or older by Jan. 1, 2018).

- Married filing jointly: \$20,800 (\$22,050 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$23,300 if you're both over 65).

- Married filing separately:

\$4,050 at any age.

- Head of household: \$13,400 (\$14,950 if age 65 or older).

- Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child: \$16,750 (\$18,000 if age 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with info on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the "Tax Guide for Seniors" (publication 554), or see IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf.

Check Here Too

There are other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirement.

For example, if you had earnings from self-employment in 2017 of \$400 or more, or if you're

receiving Social Security benefits and half your benefits plus all other income, including tax-exempt interest, exceeds \$25,000 (or \$32,000 if you are married filing jointly), you'll probably need to file.

To figure this out, the IRS offers an interactive tax assistant tool on their website that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you're required to file, or if you should file because you're due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

You can access this tool at IRS.gov/filing – click on the "Do I Need to File?" button. Or, you can get assistance over the phone



SAVVY SENIOR

by calling the IRS helpline at 800-829-1040. You can also get face-to-face help at a Taxpayer Assistance Center. See IRS.gov/localcontacts or call 800-829-1040 to locate a center near you.

Tax Preparation Help

If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can get help through the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (or TCE) program. Sponsored by the IRS, TEC provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call 800-906-9887 or visit IRS.treasury.gov/freetaxprep to locate a service near you.

Also check with AARP, a participant in the TCE program that

provides free tax preparation at around 5,000 sites nationwide. To locate an AARP Tax-Aide site call 888-227-7669 or visit AARP.org/findtaxhelp. You don't have to be an AARP member to use this service.

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

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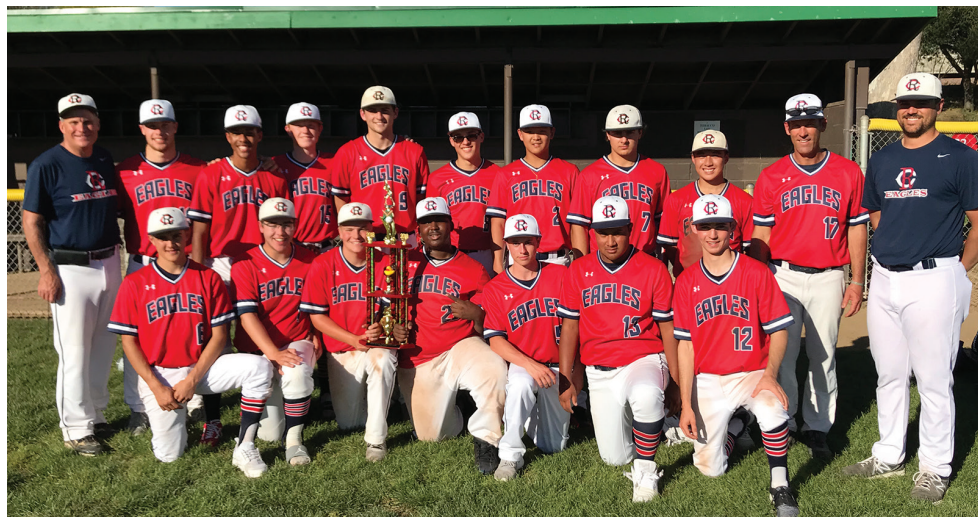
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TOURNAMENT WINNERS: (from left), top row, Coach Mark Saake, Luke Luebker, Joel Mitchell, Joseph Carlton, Alex Williams, Chaz Lack, Daniel Nam, Cruz Costa, Matt Dzoan, Head Coach Jim Cleveland, and Coach AJ Vanegas; front row, Noah Weatherbie, Lucas Vaughn, Andrew Saake, Myles McElroy, Alex Ortega, Christian Guzman and Ryan Glueckert.

RCCHS Wins Easter Tourney

Coach Jim Cleveland's Eagles went 3-1 in the 48th Annual Rancho Cordova Easter Baseball Tournament and won the championship game with a 9-1 victory over Bear River High School on March 28.

Coach Cleveland will be induct-

ed into the Castro Valley Sports Foundation Hall of Fame on April 21, 2018.

Bear River HS had defeated RCCHS on the first day of the tournament 9-7. The championship game was tight until RCCHS scored five runs in the third inning.

The winning pitcher was Alex Williams, who allowed 1 run through 6 innings with 10 strikeouts, allowing 1 walk and 5 hits. Williams was also 2-for-3 with a double. Matt Dzoan and Myles McElroy also tripled in the championship game.

Training: Strength Exercises for Seniors

continued from page 7

least two or three days a week for 30 to 45 minutes, and increase resistance and the number of repetitions over time.

But be sure you give your muscles a day off between workouts. It makes the muscle stronger and more able to resist future injury.

Equipment

If you work out at home you'll probably need to invest in some equipment. While some strength training can be done using your own body weight (like push-ups and leg squats), hand weights, ankle weights, medicine balls, resistance bands or rubber tubing, are all great tools for strength training.

Cans of soup, water bottles or plastic milk containers filled with water or sand can also be used (like hand weights) for resistance.

Senior Classes

If you don't like exercising alone consider joining a gym, or call your local senior center to see if they offer any strength training exercise classes.

You should also check out SilverSneakers (SilverSneakers.com, 888-423-4632) or Silver&Fit (SilverandFit.com, 877-427-4788), two fitness programs offered in thousands of fitness centers, gyms and YMCAs throughout the U.S. that offer special classes designed for older adults.

These programs are available for free to seniors that have certain Medicare supplemental policies or Medicare Advantage plans.

Aerobic & Balance Exercises

Some other good fall-prevention exercises that can help you get stronger include aerobic activities like walking, cycling or water aerobics. And to improve your balance there's Tai chi, along with a number of simple balance exercises like standing on one foot for 30 seconds then switching to the other foot, and walking heel-to-toe across the room.

Send senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, visit SavvySenior.org.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Jackson Morgan

This week's Athlete of the Week is Jackson Morgan, an eighth grader at Canyon Middle School, who recently won the East Bay Coastal League Championship, for the third time.

Morgan is a 4-time finalist and 3-time champion competing with Canyon Middle School in that tournament. In his 4 years wrestling at Canyon, Jackson put together an individual wins/loss record of 52-3 and he didn't lose any matches in the seventh or eighth grades.

Jackson will be attending CVHS in the Fall, but in the off-season he trains with the Tri-Valley Vipers Elite Wrestling Club out of Dublin.



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SPORTS NOTE

The Castro Valley Soccer Club will hold referee classes from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Soccer Club office on Thursday, April 26 and Friday, April 27, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 28 the Canyon Middle School's football field.

This is a grade 8 class and upon successful completion, the student will receive a soccer referee license good throughout the USA. There is online studying and testing which must be completed before the above class times, and all student are required to attend all of the above sessions to receive their badge (license).

The class is open to all persons age 12 (by August, 2018) and above. Referees are generally paid for their services, so this is both an excellent opportunity to be involved in soccer, serve the community and make some money.

If you are a parent or a coach, you might really enjoy learning about this side of the game. It'll help you coach more effectively, and bring you closer to what/why your kids are doing on the pitch.

Castro Valley Soccer Club is sponsoring this class. Please note there is a class fee of \$15 for club members or \$20 for non members.

For sign-up information, or if you have questions, please send an email to: referees@castrovalleysoccer.com.

CVHS BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

Piedmont at CV on Wednesday, March 28 Piedmont 5, CV 2

Singles

1. Rohan Srivastava (P) - Edward Wang 1-6, 7-5, 10-6
2. Micheal Chu (CV) - Carson Breber 1-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4
3. Nathan Auyoung (P) - Spenser Lin-Jones 6-3, 6-1
4. Jack McKeen (P) - Leon Chen 6-2, 6-0

Doubles

1. M. Chan / E. Ten Grotenhuis (P) - Dustin Fong / Alex Low 6-1, 5-7, 6-1
2. A. Pinkham / N. Lalci (P) - Colby Fong / Brendan Soo 7-5, 6-3
3. Scott Coleman / Ashir Gupta (CV) - L. Hawkins / I. Muhuideen 4-6, 6-2, 6-4

Mt. Eden at CV on Tuesday, March 27 CV 6, Mt. Eden 1

Singles

1. Dustin Fong (CV) - Allen Mercado 6-4, 6-3
2. Leon Chen (CV) - Christopher Panganiban 6-1, 6-1
3. Brendan Soo (CV) - Julian Sanderson 6-4, 6-0
4. Peter Maina (CV) - Yusef Samimi 6-1, 6-0

Doubles

1. Austin Ralleta / Ajay Ralleta (ME) - Gabe Priem / Alex Low 6-1, 6-2
2. Garvey Li / Kendall Law (CV) - Matthew Nguyen / Johnny Gian 6-3, 6-0
3. Mt.Eden defaults #3 doubles

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



No Price Relief In Sight

For Realtors struggling to land buyers a home in the current sizzling hot market, the same question surfaces daily: "How long will the current market last?"

It's a difficult question to answer, considering the fact a normal real estate cycle is 10 years, implying we should have seen a market correction more than two years ago.

Looking for answers, while checking my newsfeed last week, a headline by Marion McPherson, staff write for Inman.com, jumped off the screen.

"Home price growth is unstoppable, 'no weak spots' in housing markets," she touted.

Responding to January's S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price NSA Index, McPherson made the point that even with our current record-high home prices, the housing market across the country is showing no signs of slowing down.

She went on to state, "S&P

Dow Jones Indices managing director and chairman of the index committee David M. Blitzler says the increase in home prices is due to two factors — low inventory and a low vacancy rate among owner-occupied housing."

Good news for sellers. For buyers? Not so much.

As homes in the San Francisco Bay Area, along with Seattle and Las Vegas, continue leading the nation with year-over-year pricing increases, buyers attempting to get local homes into escrow are becoming increasingly frustrated.

Although some local buyers are being affected by increasing mortgage rates and stock market volatility, there are still thousands of buyers in the queue trying to grab their piece of the American dream.

Those seeking to buy have seen seller demands dramatically increase. Not only are homeowners looking for the highest prices possible, they are now de-

manding that offers arrive with all contingencies removed. To lift the loan contingency, buyers need assurance from their lender that their loan is fully approved. Removal of the appraisal contingency means they have enough extra cash to make up a shortfall in the event of a low appraisal.

To facilitate deletion of the Inspection Contingency, many listing agents are providing comprehensive informational packages, including seller disclosures, pre-sale inspection reports (property, termite and roof inspections, as applicable), a preliminary title report, CC&Rs, receipts for any repairs/upgrades, a natural hazard disclosure report, HOA package as required and more.

Our advice to buyers? To get the lowest price possible, do what you need to do to get into the market now. With no imminent relief in sight, prices will apparently not be stabilizing anytime soon.

Carl Medford is a licensed



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Faulty Faucet Causes Homeowner Headache

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

When we self-installed a kitchen faucet last year, an expensive single-lever unit with a faucet that curves up several inches high so that there's plenty of room for pots and pans underneath. For several weeks now, whenever I turn off the water, a thin stream of water continues trickling out of the faucet for several minutes. I make sure to push the lever all the way down when I turn it off, but that doesn't fix it. How do we repair this?

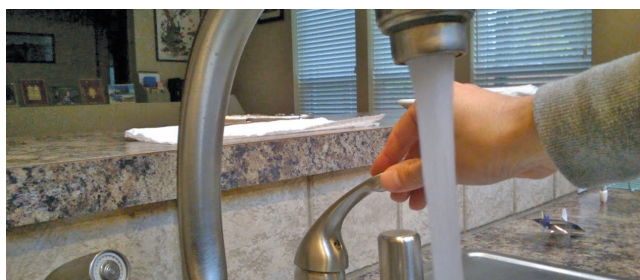
If you saved the manufacturer instructions or warranty card, dig that paper out and look for a customer service number.

The most likely problem with the faucet is a faulty cartridge, and in a unit that was only purchased about a year ago, that part should be covered in the

faucet's warranty.

Contacting the manufacturer through the number given on the manual or warranty card will connect you with a troubleshooting department that can walk you through additional steps to determine whether a replacement cartridge is needed.

continues on page 10



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D	1-4	1-4	4422 Fitzwilliam St.	\$749,000	3/3	Coldwell Banker	Judy Grubb	510-888-6388
C	—	1-4	4362 Shamrock Way	\$799,950	3/2.5	Coldwell Banker	Trish Radovich	510-367-7999
C	1-4	1-4	22335 W. Lyndon Loop	\$939,000	3/2.5	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Suzanna Chew	510-326-4125
A	—	12-3:30	113 Rantoul Circle	\$1,050,000	6/4	RE eBroker Group	Antonio Cardenas	510-326-4263
C	1-4	1-4	35600 Palomares Rd.	\$1,275,000	4/3	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Kristy Peixoto Team	925-251-2536
O	—	1-3	9001 McGurrian Rd.	\$1,333,888	4/4.5	Robert Jones & Assoc.	Matt Jones	510-357-0120

CITY GUIDE

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RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

Parsons Avenue, 19318	94546: \$1,170,000 4 BD - 3,311 SF - 1990
Parsons Avenue, 19606	94546: \$520,000 2 BD - 1,160 SF - 1928
Jamison Way, 3544	94546: \$6,075,000 3 BD - 1,611 SF - 1952
Greenridge Road, 5323	94552: \$750,000 2 BD - 2,042 SF - 1972
TOTAL SALES:	4
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$520,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$6,075,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$960,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$2,128,750

San Leandro

Pacific Avenue, 1471	94577: \$115,000 N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
Durant Avenue, 869	94577: \$620,000 2 BD - 836 SF - 1920
Victoria Court, 530	94577: \$808,000 3 BD - 1,158 SF - 1915
Tudor Road, 505	94577: \$585,000 2 BD - 985 SF - 1948
Cornwall Way, 48	94577: \$615,000 N/A BD - 1,371 SF - 1977
East 14th Street #116,	94578: \$315,000 1 BD - 659 SF - 1987
Caliente Circle, 381	94578: \$425,000 2 BD - 1,060 SF - 1980
Joan Drive, 1931	94578: \$610,000 3 BD - 1,028 SF - 1966
Figueroa Drive, 3617	94578: \$599,000 3 BD - 1,408 SF - 1954
Saratoga Street #204E	94578: \$325,000 2 BD - 1,022 SF - 1981
Lawndale Avenue, 1747	94579: \$670,000 3 BD - 1,392 SF - 1957
Pepperdine Street, 14724	94579: \$650,000 4 BD - 1,783 SF - 1951
TOTAL SALES:	12
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$115,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$808,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$604,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$528,084

Hayward

Meekland Avenue, 18857	94541: \$450,000 3 BD - 1,610 SF - 1943
Wright Drive, 23626	94541: \$683,500 3 BD - 1,070 SF - 1951
B Street #209, 1318	94541: \$390,000 1 BD - 944 SF - 1984
A Street #307, 1315	94541: \$400,000 2 BD - 1,056 SF - 1984
Lori Way, 23224	94541: \$775,000 4 BD - 1,920 SF - 1978
Tribune Avenue, 2830	94542: \$1,200,000 N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
Hayward Boulevard, 26	94542: \$705,000 3 BD - 1,606 SF - 2007
Arundel Drive, 90	94542: \$1,330,000 6 BD - 4,655 SF - 2007
Arundel Drive, 91	94542: \$1,490,000 4 BD - 4,315 SF - 2009
Lancaster Road, 2554	94542: \$773,000 4 BD - 2,007 SF - 1956
Huntwood Avenue, 25425	94544: \$650,000 4 BD - 1,705 SF - 2007
Thackeray Avenue, 28363	94544: \$600,000 4 BD - 1,999 SF - 1956
Avocado Court, 24982	94544: \$762,000 4 BD - 1,821 SF - 1996
Overhill Drive, 797	94544: \$685,000 2 BD - 1,300 SF - 1956
Vista Grande D, 28836	94544: \$989,000 N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
Dixon Street #312, 29300	94544: \$315,000 1 BD - 598 SF - 1984
Gushue Street, 25867	94544: \$730,000 4 BD - 1,741 SF - 1992
Northern Cross Road #60,	94545: \$730,000 3 BD - 1,777 SF - 2009



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Faucet

Continued from page 9

If you can't find those documents, go to the manufacturer's website and look up the faucet model – a manual may be available online along with a contact number. Or, if it's out of warranty but you have the receipt, contact the store where you bought the faucet; some home-improvement stores have return or parts replacement policies in place for many of their items, particularly pricier ones.

If the manufacturer (or the store) agrees that it's a cartridge issue and is covered, it will send you a replacement cartridge. A new set of O-rings also should be included; if not, you'll want to purchase the correct-size rings for your faucet model at the home-improvement store.

The beauty of a cartridge faucet is that compared to older valve-type faucets, replacement is almost a breeze. You don't have to struggle with re-seating the valve stem – praying that you haven't ground the re-seating tool around too far. Instead, you just pop in

the new cartridge and replace the faucet seals. You shouldn't have to worry about servicing that faucet again for several years.

There are a number of online videos that detail the replacement of a kitchen faucet cartridge, which should help you with the

repair.

Home Tip: Purchase a set of O-rings or seals for each type of faucet in your home, and tape the bag of replacements to the side or back of each sink cabinet so you have them on hand.

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Realtors Pack Tons of Produce For Alameda County Food Bank

The Bay East Association of Realtors Young Professional Network teamed up with the Alameda County Food Bank to sort and pack almost 21,000 pounds of fruit and vegetables to support their mission of pursuing a hunger-free community.

Their effort will enable the Food Bank to distribute 17,000 meals.

"At Bay East, we like to create a positive change in our industry, and one of the main facets of our Young Professionals Network is getting involved with the communities we serve," said Elisa Chao, 2018 Chair of the Young Profes-

sionals Network.

"Working with the Food Bank allows us to help out those in need and also get a great team building experience out of it," Chao said.

"Pursuing a hunger-free community is a huge movement that is possible with the help of a supportive community and group of volunteers coming together to help make a difference," said Alex Kim, Chair of the YPN event.

The Food Bank works with more than 18,000 volunteers every year to ensure that all children, adults and seniors in the county always have access to a free meal.



Irrigation Systems

Although the rainy season isn't probably over, more warm weather is headed our way. Check drip irrigation systems and sprinklers to see that they are working properly and watering where and when they are supposed to. Replace broken or damaged parts.

Vegetables

When planting radishes, corn carrots and lettuce, do so in successive plantings to lengthen the harvesting period. Remember that corns should be planted in blocks, not single rows, since they are wind-pollinated. If you started vegetable seeds already, thin them to prevent overcrowding when the plants are two or three inches tall.

Lawns

Your lawn needs attention this spring if you want it to reach its full potential in the months ahead. Aerate, if needed, but definitely fertilize on a regular basis.

Mortgage Rates Little Changed

Fixed mortgage rates held largely steady last week, according to Freddie Mac's weekly survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.44 percent last week, down from 4.45 percent a week earlier. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged

4.14 percent.

Fifteen-year home loans averaged 3.90 percent, down from 3.91 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.66 percent last week, down from 3.68.



Indian shot

is another name for *canna indica*, a wildflower of the Caribbean and tropical Americas.



Its spherical black seeds are hard and perfectly round, resembling oversized BBs or buckshot from a shotgun shell. They are often used as beads.

- Brenda Weaver

Sources: usf.edu, waynesword.palomar.edu

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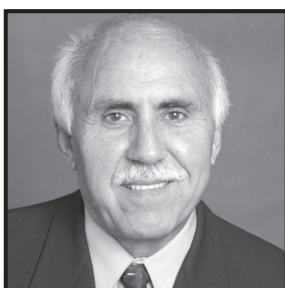
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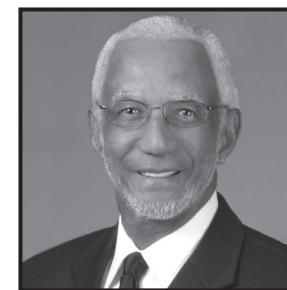
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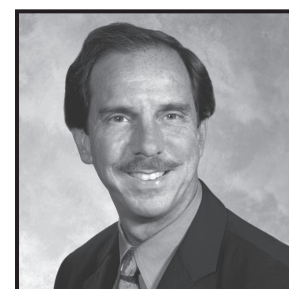
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Where: Holiday Inn Express & Suites located at 66 Airport Access Road, Oakland, CA, 94603

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Thank You to All the Dedicated Coaches Who've Given the Kids of Castro Valley the Opportunities They Now Have

Editor:

The purpose of this letter is to recognize all of the coaches of the youth teams at all levels from beginners through high school, including soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, track and field and the other sports our kids have the opportunity to play.

If not for the dedicated coaches who make their personal schedules work so that they can coach, Castro Valley kids would not have the opportunities that they now have. A *big thank you* to all of you!

A direct result of the programs offered in Castro Valley is the upcoming Castro Valley Sports Foundation Hall of Fame Dinner on April 21 at the Redwood Canyon Event Center, the fifth time since 2010 where individuals who have made significant contributions to athletics in Castro Valley will be recognized.

This year, 18 individuals will be inducted joining the 72 previous inductees.

Simply "google" Castro Valley Sports Foundation Hall of Fame or visit CastroValleyForum.com for stories on each inductee as published in the CV Forum. Tickets are still available by calling Ted Riche at 510-537-2048.

Coaches, each one of you have had a part in the successes we will celebrate April 21, and will have in the future.

—Bruce D. Johnson, Castro Valley

the first letter on this subject, I looked up a couple versions of flag etiquette and discovered that it is now OK to display an "all weather" flag in the rain.

I still hate to see a limp wet flag and figure someone then has to find a place to dry it at night, but I thought perhaps instead of criticizing, this could be a learning situation for the post office staff.

Or perhaps there is an old USPS protocol that needs to be changed. If they could illuminate their flag, it could be displayed 24 hours and they wouldn't have to think about whether to leave it out or bring it in every day; someone would just have to replace it when worn and remember the half-staff days.

—Ginger Russell, Castro Valley

Calls Feinstein and Swalwell 'Elected National Heroes'

Editor:

As the sedition, corruption and crimes of the Trump Administration in the Russian interference scandal are exposed, we should pause to recognize a couple of elected national heroes.

Our own Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Democratic Rep. Eric Swalwell decided to release the now infamous Steele Dossier that helped expose criminal activities of the Trump Administration.

While we now know the criminal investigations began years before the release of The Dossier, there are undoubtedly very good reasons the Republicans didn't want the intelligence information released.

We therefore want to deeply thank Sen. Feinstein and Rep. Swalwell for their work to make critical and important information on the government public for us. The information released has assisted Special Counsel Robert Mueller in his investigations.

The Castro Valley Democratic Club is proud to have written a Resolution of Recognition to thank our representatives for their patriotism and bravery in the face of the majority party. Earlier in March, the Castro Valley Resolution was approved and adopted as an official resolution of the Alameda County Democratic Committee.

—David Siegel, Castro Valley

Too Tired After at Castro Valley Bicycle Ride? Try Out His Electric Bike

Editor:

At the MAC meeting after the presentation of the BikeWalkCV, a member stated how bad traffic is now and traffic will only get worse with housing infill.

There are no plans that I have heard for building moratoriums nor to add more lanes for cars. Therefore, we need to use what we have more efficiently. Bicycles are the most efficient means of transportation available, in both terms of fuel and their road space requirements. Getting just a few cars off the road can really improve traffic for cyclists and drivers alike.

There is so much that can be done to improve CV's cycling infrastructure but those are topics for other letters and plans.

We are prisoners of our own geography. Castro Valley could easily be called Castro Heights. The hills in our community have limited our transportation corridors; forcing pedestrians, cyclists, and cars to the same crowded roads.

The same hills of our community that give us great views and clean air, also make riding bikes for errands a full blown workout. Even the most athletic people I know get winded climbing our hills which can discourage people from casual bike rides.

Luckily things have changed, not our topography but our technology. Recent developments in battery and microprocessor technology have allowed electric bikes to come of age and they are a pure joy to ride. I have never been an athlete but in my middle age, wearing denim, I can carry 90 pounds of kids up the steepest of our streets with a reasonable increase in cardio output and no joint pain. It's literally no sweat!

You should hear the happy squeals of my children as I take two of them up and down the hills on the way to school! No, they are not motorcycles. Depending on classification if you don't pedal, it doesn't move. E-bikes flatten our hills so that anyone can ride through our town as easily as Davis or Amsterdam, minus the infrastructure of course.

I am so impressed with this technology that I want to share this with our community. Send me a message on Facebook and I will let you take my bike for a test ride. I would be especially pleased if MAC board members would take me up on my offer so that they could see the future possibilities of bike riding in Castro Valley.

—Joseph Lamberti, Castro Valley

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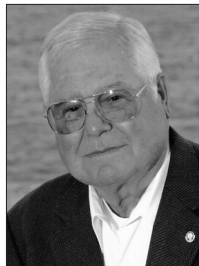
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James W. Barthman

October 4, 1934 – March 23, 2018
Resident of Castro Valley



James W. Barthman, 83, of Castro Valley passed away at his home with his devoted family by his side. Jim was born October 4, 1934 on a farm in Barron County Wisconsin, beloved son of Harry and Marie Barthman. His parents moved to California when Jim was two years old and settled in Oakland, California.

Jim and wife Phyllis were happily married for over 59 years and had four children and seven grandchildren.

Jim's career in government included the Building Official and Manager of Inspectional Services for 25 years with the City of Oakland. After retiring from the City Jim accepted a position with Underwriters Laboratories as a Senior Staff Engineer and Regional Supervisor for Codes and Technical Services covering the Western United States, Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii. In 2001, Jim was appointed to the California Building Standards Commission by Governor Davis, reappointed by Governor Schwarzenegger twice, and then by Governor Brown, serving 17 years until his passing. Jim also taught classes at Laney College as well as Chabot College for almost 30 years.

Jim coached his son Philip in Little League and his daughters Laurie, Chris, and Colleen, in Castro Valley Girls softball league which he co-founded in the early 70's.

Jim's hobbies were golf, fishing, working on his property in Northern California and spending time with his family.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Phyllis, son: Philip Barthman, daughters: Laurie Barthman, Christine Quinn and Colleen Marino. Grandsons: Brian Quinn, Nicholas Thompson and James Marino. Granddaughters: Maia Barthman, Samantha Quinn, Catherine Thompson, Rebecca Marino, and his sister Patricia Sullivan. His Sons in law Peter Marino and Casey Quinn and daughter in law Susan Bolt-Barthman. Jim is also survived by a large extended family and many dear friends.

Services will be held at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley on Wednesday, April 11 at 11 a.m.

Calls CVSan's Lateral Inspection Plan Too Stringent And Too Costly

Editor:

While I agree that the problem of "Inflow and Infiltration" ("I and I") needs to be better addressed, I believe the proposed air or water pressure test is too stringent and will result in needless, significant expense for many homeowners in Castro Valley when we sell our homes.

The way things typically work is that ~80% to 90% of the "I and I" is caused by only 10% to 20% of the sewer laterals. However, the slightest air or water leak during a pressure test may require homeowners to pay for a new sewer lateral when we seek to sell our homes. For example, what if there is a sewer lateral pipe fitting under the street that works pretty well, but isn't airtight?

I'd like to see a test that goes after the biggest contributors to "I and I" without costing many of the rest of us tens of thousands of dollars for little to no impact upon "I and I".

I probably will not be able to attend the public meeting on Tuesday April 24th, but I hope CVSAN will address this concern.

Please see www.cvsan.org/PSL for details of the plan.

—Russ Fochler, Castro Valley

Says CVSan Should Handle Sewer Repairs The Way Oro Loma Does

Editor:

Have they plum gone crazy? Marc Crawford nailed it!

The highest rates in the area, now you want more money, by being part of every real estate transaction. When does it stop?

Who and what would give you the right to be part of our property sales and purchases.

Lateral sewer lines are the responsibility of the home owner. So let's do it the way Oro Loma does it: pull a permit, get competitively priced licensed contractor of your choice to do the repairs.

Don't turn over your rights as a property owner to CV Sanitary District. They are deeper and deeper in our pockets already. Thanks MAC board, you are the only ones watching.

—Trish Deslover, Castro Valley

Maybe the Post Office Was Right About Not Flying the Flag in the Rain

Editor:

In respectful response to Thomas Fentress' letter ("Flag at Post Office Missing Again on Another Rainy Day," *Letters*, March 28), the U.S. Code section addressing the display of the US flag in the rain states, "(c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is displayed."

If the flag at the post office is not rated for "all weather," USPS would be acting in accordance with the Code to keep the flag protected indoors on rainy days.

—Adrienne Osborne, Castro Valley

Time to Check the Label on that Post Office Flag!

Editor:

Regarding Thomas Fentress' letter, March 28, regarding the post office not displaying the flag in the rain:

"The U.S. Flag Code addresses the rules for flying flags, rain or shine. It is specific on what to do in the case of rain. The United States Code, Title 36, Chapter 10, states: "The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed."

Now, I don't know if this is the reason the flag was not displayed, but if so, then we should applaud the post office for their knowledge of proper flag etiquette.

—Peggy LaCunha, Castro Valley
Wife of a Vietnam Veteran, 1971

Where Would You Put a Wet Flag at Night?

Editor:

After reading a second letter regarding the flag at the Castro Valley Post Office, I thought I'd put my 2 cents in.

When I was growing up, I was taught by my WWII veteran father that a flag should not be displayed in the rain. After reading

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include writer's first and last names, phone number, city of residence, and must be under 300 words. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. We do not withhold names or print unsigned letters. Email letters to: fredz@ebpublishing.com or mail to: The Forum, P.O. Box 2897, Alameda, CA 94501.

OPINION

Count Me In

By Amy D. Ramos
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

I volunteer as a Co-Vice President of our school's Parent Association and in doing so I heard about news of budget cuts.

Many of the parents wondered what could be done to fix this. So I began to ask questions.

Nervous about what is and isn't my business, I quickly learned that just about 100% of the people I spoke with were more than happy to meet. Quickly I am brought up to speed on the PLC, LCAP, LCFF, board meetings, SELPA, donations, line items, grants, unfunded mandates, pay, and the list goes on and on. It's actually a bit overwhelming.

But what can I do to help? I'm just a parent. How can I help create change or help move the needle?

I'm a single mom with 2 kids (only one still in school) that works full time. I also sit on 3 boards and coach. I feel like I don't have extra time as it is.

A few weeks passed by and while looking into statistics from the district website, I read there are 9,361 students in the Castro Valley School District. Let that sink in. *Nine thousand three hundred and sixty-one!* Only *one* of those is mine, but I care about them all.

At the next PLC (Parent Leadership Council) meeting I took note of the 12 or so parents in the room. That's a fraction of one percent of the kids represented. Most

certainly other parents care but are in a similar position. Just busy...

Deciding to write this column wasn't easy. I'm not a writer. I do however feel it's important to share what I am learning, what can be done, what is happening and what we can do about it.

We all get newsletters from the district, school, classroom, PTAs and *Peachjar*, and while those are all necessary and informative there is a community movement that needs to happen.

Working towards common goals will provide our district a competitive edge and create a community our students can grow in.

Passionate about the arts? Sports? Music? Science? There is a need and a space for you. Empty nest? Young children? Teens in the house? There is a need and a space for you, too.

In this bi-monthly column I will present action items of all commitment levels so we, the parents, can help the students in our entire district across all grade levels. We can make a big difference, together.

Please check back in two weeks when we discuss unfunded mandates and how we can help in just 5 minutes.

Let's talk about what we can do, not what we can't.

Amy Ramos is a resident of Castro Valley, Co-Vice President of Stanton Parent Club and a School District parent. You can contact her at adramos@mac.com



PHOTO BY LINDA SANDSMARK

Rose Motorcars on Castro Valley Boulevard specializes in electric cars. Operations Manager Leo Beas, above, is a Castro Valley resident.

CV Shop Sells Dozens of Electric Vehicles a Month

By Linda Sandsmark
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

A unique auto sales store has opened on Castro Valley Boulevard, on the leading edge of what is likely the future of car-shopping.

Not only does Rose Motorcars specialize in electric vehicles, they source cars online and ship them all over the U.S., Europe and Asia.

"The car business has changed," says Rose's operations manager Leo Beas. "It used to be that dealers needed a huge lot in front so people could see all that was available."

"Now everybody does their research online to decide what car they want. We have a strong online presence, although almost no one from Castro Valley really knows we're here."

To be sure, Rose Motorcars is in an unexpected location, in the former Marinello School of Beauty building near Wisteria Avenue.

The company moved to this spot in November 2016 after outgrowing its former office space in San Ramon. Now the store usually has several cars in its front parking spaces, about 10 indoors, and another dozen in its rear lot.

"This location is perfect for what we're doing," says Beas.

The store's owner, Lyle Dizon, worked in car sales since he graduated from James Logan High School in Union City in 2002. A few years ago he spotted an opportunity.

"We wanted to sell something different, to get ahead of the game. We're the green dealership, and if you don't want an electric car, you can get a Porsche," says Dizon.

Beas, who was Dizon's high school classmate, had been employed in his family's telecom business. But the friends always talked about going into business together. They began selling cars utilizing online sourcing.

"We just fell into this little niche by accident," says Beas. "We got one electric car and saw that it sold really quickly. So we started doing some research, and electric cars became our specialty."

Now the store employs Dizon and his wife Lisset, Beas, and their friends David Florence, Derek Dorotheo, and detailer Alvin Basco.

"I lived close to them growing up, and we've known each other a long time," says Fiat specialist Dorotheo. "It's a good group of guys."

Rose Motorcars was able to take over the space at 2806 Castro Valley Blvd., which was vacated in early 2016 when Marinello School of Beauty went out of business.

The cars that are sold there (mostly online, although walk-ins are welcome) are lease returns and used vehicles. Local mechanics are used for safety inspections

see ELECTRIC on back page

PLETHOS PRODUCTIONS

Local, Diverse Talent

By Linda Sandsmark
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

Five local comedians performed at a stand-up comedy night March 24 in Castro Valley's newest entertainment venue, the Smalltown Society space.

Plethos Productions sponsored the show, which was held next to Trader Joe's at 22222 Redwood Road.

Plethos Productions, led by founder Karin Richey of Castro Valley, is a community theater group whose goal is to create unique, diverse live performances, reflective of the community.

"We're all about unity," says Richey. "There is so much local talent here."

Performers in the stand-up comedy show were Geneva Rust-Orta, Dominique Gelin, Torio van Grol, Nicole Calasich, and Chris Riggins.

"We're a non-profit start-up and every dollar goes back into our live performances," says Richey.

Upcoming events sponsored by Plethos include an improv comedy show Saturday, May 5; the musical "In the Heights" by Lin-Manuel Miranda on weekends June 1-10; another stand-up comedy show on Aug. 11; and the world premiere of "4 Men in Paris" by Reg Clay, Oct. 5-7. (Some locations will be announced later.)

More information on Plethos Productions and tickets to its 2018 season is available on their website at: plethos.org.

The Smalltown Society space is operated by a community of artists, musicians and advocates for social justice. Additional info on the group is available at www.smalltownsociety.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KORBAS FAMILY

Amanda Korbass (left) of Castro Valley and her friend Anna Wilson were both killed in a car accident in Mexico last week.

Korbass: Celebration of Life

continued from page 3
es, flowers, and God."

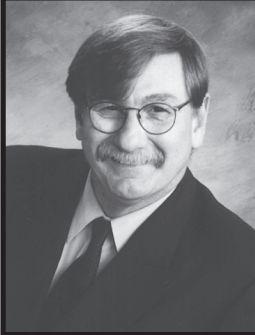
Amanda, a 2015 graduate of Castro Valley High School, was a gifted student who had lined up her dream position at the Disney College Program in Florida after graduation. She was also an accomplished pilot, having earned her pilot's license last year.

It appears that driver error, rather than impairment, led to the accident. The car was driven by an 18-year-old acquaintance, who

swerved into a palm tree on an unfamiliar roadway while escorting the girls to their hotel. The Korbass family said he is remorseful beyond belief.

Amanda is survived by her parents Anton (Tony) and Crystal Korbass, her brother Alex, and many relatives and friends.

A celebration of Amanda Korbass's life will be held on Saturday, April 14 at 1 p.m. in the main auditorium at 3Crosses Church, 20600 John Drive in Castro Valley.



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Reports: Stolen Property; Narcotics, Fraud, Identity Theft

continued from page 3

Wanted Man

Friday, March 30: at 4:00 p.m., Deputies arrested a 24-year-old man as part of a warrant issued for his arrest. The man was at a home on Sydney Way near Carlton Avenue when deputies arrived to serve the warrant. The man had been previously charged with two counts of possession of stolen property, vandalism in excess of \$400, and contempt of court. Deputies took the man to Santa Rita Jail pending \$550,000 in bail.

Stolen Property

Friday, March 30: at 2:51 p.m., a 55-year-old man with no permanent address was arrested on suspi-

cion of possession of stolen property. Deputies stopped the man for questioning as he was traveling on Castro Valley Boulevard near Forest Avenue. The man revealed his loot during questioning and was taken into custody.

Burglar Tools and Narcotics

Wednesday, March 28: at 2:01 a.m., deputies arrested a 46-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of possession of burglar tools, illegal narcotics, illegal drug paraphernalia, and violating the terms of his parole. The man was also wanted as part of a warrant issued for his capture. Deputies approached the man at a home on Baywood Avenue near Lake

Chabot Road. The man was taken to Santa Rita Jail and held without bail.

Arrested for Fraud

Tuesday, March 27: at 7:05 a.m., a 22-year-old woman from Castro Valley was arrested as part of a warrant issued for her capture. Deputies stopped the woman in a parking lot on Castro Valley Boulevard near San Miguel Avenue where she was charged with committing fraud. The woman was taken to Santa Rita Jail pending \$10,000 in bail.

Identity Theft at Eden Hospital

Monday, March 26: at 5:38 p.m., deputies arrested a 44-year-old

woman from Union City on suspicion of committing identity theft with the intent of getting medical information from Eden Hospital on Lake Chabot Road. Hospital security called for the Sheriff's department after staff found the woman trying to access a secure computer to try and get secure patient information. The woman was also wanted as part of a warrant issued for her capture. Deputies took the woman to Santa Rita Jail where she was held pending \$100,000 in bail.

Electric: CV's Green Dealership

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before a car is allowed to enter the showroom. Because the vehicles are electric, they don't leak oil or need spark plug or belt changes.

"Service the battery, rotate the tires, and that's basically it," says Dorotheo.

Other benefits for Smart cars include stickers permitting solo drivers to use the carpool lane, a steel cage, eight airbags, and a rating of four out of five stars from the National Highway Traffic Safety Association. Smart car is a Mercedes-Benz company.

Since most of their cars are electric, the Rose Motorcars showroom is clean, quiet and decidedly low-key.

"Nobody wants that car-lot pressure. If people just want to look at a car, we're that place," says Beas. "We get four and a half stars out of five on Yelp reviews."

In addition to selling electric vehicles, Rose Motorcars also helps individuals sell cars (including gas-powered ones) through their online platforms.

The company buys some vehicles outright, and also uses their wholesale network to help buyers search for specific cars. They of-

ADOPT-A-PET



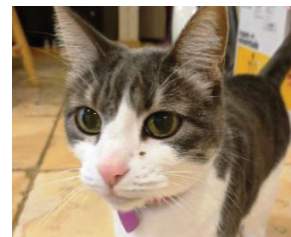
COCONUT is a quiet, reserved 3-years-young kitty. She's looking for a family who's patient and quiet, just like her. Info call: Hayward Animal Shelter: (510) 293-7200.



PENELOPE is a shy bunny who's still getting used to people. She enjoys flopping on a soft bed, and snacking on parsley. Info call: Hayward Animal Shelter: (510) 293-7200.



MISSY is a gentle, beautiful girl, 13 months old and about 50 lbs. She is spayed and micro-chipped and vet records are available. For more information, please visit: dustypawsrescue.org



MOLLY is an 11 year old, 11 lb. tabby and white cat in need of a new loving home. She enjoys being petted, but is not a cat that appreciates being picked up. Visit: dustypawsrescue.org



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:



Panoramic view in Palomares Hills



22335 West Lyndon Loop in Castro Valley • \$939,000
Open House Sat. & Sun. 1 to 4pm

It comes with 2328 sq. ft. of living space, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 2 car garage and large rooms filled with natural light. Built in 2000.



Suzanna Chew
Serving the East Bay since 2004
(510) 326-4125
schew@rockcliff.com
BRE#01440818

Welcome to beautiful 22335 West Lyndon Loop, Castro Valley. Nested in the east Castro Valley hills, this bright and spacious home boasts breathtaking view of the canyon during the day and beautiful neighborhood lights at night. Panoramic canyon view for everyone who comes through the door, same gorgeous view at the privacy of the master suite on the second floor. Very efficient 2 zone heating and cooling system, private courtyard, northwest facing sunset view, and highly ranked schools are things you'll adore. Come make this yours today!