



CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING CASTRO VALLEY SINCE 1989

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INSIDE YOUR FORUM

NEWS



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PHONE: (510) 614-1560

FIGHTING THE FIRES

By Ned MacKay
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

East Bay Regional Park District firefighters and operations staff have had their hands full dealing with the unprecedented series of lightning-caused fires that are burning in the regional parks, East Bay counties and throughout the state.

During a 90-minute period in the early morning of Sunday, Aug. 16, 12,000 lightning strikes statewide caused 560 fires, according to Park District Fire Chief Aileen Theile. As part of a multi-agency firefighting team under the overall direction of Cal Fire, park district firefighters fought fires on park district land and other open space, wherever needed, from Round Valley and Morgan Territory near Brentwood to Sunol and Ohlone Regional Wilderness in southern Alameda County. Fires started within 5 regional parks.

To give an idea of the area involved, the Calaveras and Canyon complex fire, encompassing about seven counties, has burned more than 366,000 acres as of this writing.

The firefighting effort has required mobilization of the district's entire firefighting team including 23 fulltime firefighters and some 34 on-call district employees with other primary occupations, but who are also fully trained firefighters available when needed.

The on-call firefighters were released from their regular jobs to reinforce the full-timers. And, in Castro Valley, the park district lifeguard staff set up a camp at the district's public safety headquarters for firefighters coming off the line.

Another asset is the district's Eagle 7 helicopter unit, which was one of the only early air resources available.

Labor Day Tips for Regional Park Visitors

Labor Day is typically one of the busiest days of the year in Regional Parks. Some of our more popular parks and swim areas expected to reach capacity by mid-morning. Visitors are encouraged to arrive early and carpool. Check www.ebparks.org to know if the Regional Park you are heading to is affected.



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT PHOTO

Some 12,000 lightning strikes on an early Sunday morning in mid-August touched off 560 fires statewide, including in five East Bay Regional Parks. Throughout the Bay Area, more than 800,000 acres had burned by this past weekend.

Using the copters' Bambi bucket capability, the Eagle pilots worked every day, assisting Cal Fire by dropping more than 4,000 gallons of water on the fires.

A final assessment of damage

will have to await post-fire inspection, but it appears that the Sunol Regional Wilderness visitor center was spared. Park residents were evacuated from Round Valley and Mission Peak.

Because of the fire emergency, the district closed all regional parks on Aug. 21, except for some shoreline parks and paved inter-park regional trails.

see FIRES on page 7

- Stay cool and hydrated and bring plenty of water. Alcohol is only allowed at certain parks. Check: ebparks.org before you go.
- Follow water safety rules if swimming. There are free loaner life-jackets available at all East Bay Regional Park District swim facilities as an extra safeguard for anyone concerned about their swimming abilities or those of their children.

- Understand fire dangers. Do not build, light, or maintain any open outdoor fire on park property except in facilities or areas provided and designated for that purpose. Never leave a fire unattended.
- Smoking is prohibited in Regional Parks, including inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, marijuana, plant, or other combustible organic or chemical substance.

Wildfire Safety Informational Meeting

There are things that everyone can do to help make our community more resistant to a fire. The Castro Valley Rotary Club and Alameda County Fire Department will sponsor an informational meeting via Zoom on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m. For more information, visit www.castrovalleyrotary.org.

COVID-19

Blueprint For Safer Economy

By Michael Singer
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

Alameda County is sporting shades of purple under a new color-coded identification system to let people know what activities and businesses they can participate in while reducing COVID-19 infections in the state.

Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled his "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" last Friday. The guidance clarifies what had been a confusing hodgepodge of lists that allowed some businesses to open one week, only to be forced to close a week later.

For example, The Doolittle Pub on Castro Valley Boulevard was given the green light to serve beverages outdoors in coordination with dining from nearby Dino's restaurant on and off since late June only to be told in July and August that they must cease and desist operations as it did not officially have a permit to sell food.

"Serving food is a big deal now. You gotta be able to make it work," said Doolittle fan Michelle Whitney whose mother also works at a local bar.

This week, the Alameda County Public Health Department authorized personal salon services like barbershops and nail salons if they operate outside. Wineries and tasting rooms are also able to serve outdoors.

All indoor retail must limit capacity to a maximum of 25 percent of capacity, except for grocery stores, which must limit capacity to a maximum of 50 percent.

see COVID-19 on page 7

Castro Valley
Confirmed Cases = 470

Alameda County
Confirmed Cases = 18,187
Deaths = 257

California
Confirmed Cases = 712,105
Deaths = 13,018

as of September 1, 2020

Castro Valley Weather Sep 2 - 6, 2020



Wednesday
Sunny & Smoky
High 75° Low 58°



Thursday
Mostly Sunny
High 74° Low 59°



Friday
Mostly Sunny
High 75° Low 58°



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
High 83° Low 57°



Sunday
Sunny & Hot
High 93° Low 66°

Almanac



Past Week's Rain: 00.00
Season To Date: 08.54
Normal To Date: 21.22
Season Average: 21.22

Sun sets at 7:37 p.m. today, rises at 6:41 a.m. Thursday.

Moon Phases



CV Singer Bounces Back After Accident

By Linda Sandmark
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

Young Anjali Asha is living proof that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

After surviving a horrendous car accident in 2018, the aspiring 21-year-old Castro Valley singer is re-launching her career with a new album.

"They told me I would never sing again," says Anjali. "It was an insane car accident involving a drunk driver. My nose was smashed, I had multiple skull fractures, a concussion, shattered cheekbones, severe lacerations to my face, and stitches in my lip, forehead and leg. I couldn't breathe properly."

She remembers sitting on concrete after the accident, somewhere along Lake Chabot Road between Castro Valley and San Leandro, thinking she was going to die without getting to share her music with the world. She survived, but doctors said her recovery would take years.

"I decided I didn't care what the doctors said, I was making my album. With my attitude and my dedication to music, I recovered



Anjali Asha

As a 2017 graduate of Castro Valley High School, Anjali received the prestigious Cliff Burton Memorial music scholarship, awarded by the family of the late Metallica bass player (Burton was also a CVHS graduate).

Since childhood she had been a singer, songwriter and performer, so she used that scholarship seed money to propel her career forward after high school. She shot several music videos and performed in venues around the state. Just a few days after a summer 2018 trip to Los Angeles for an album photo shoot, she was involved in the accident that put her career and life on hold.

She says she's hoping to keep her career moving now, since women in the music business can age out quickly. Almost nobody is performing live because of COVID, but Anjali wants to build her following and get the music in front of people. She hasn't seen a bad review yet. A deluxe "Chingona Reloaded" version of the album will also be released, along with CD copies.

"Chingona is an endearing term my mother calls me, which means *see SINGER on page 4*

in about six months," she says. "I had four surgeries and still have migraines to this day, but decided I was just going to do it. I learned that I had to take charge. And now my music sounds so much better than anything I did before."

One of the more trying periods after the accident was when Anjali realized that heavy narcotics for pain kept her in an unwelcome fog. She decided to power through withdrawal, shutting herself up in her room for a week and writing songs to help her cope.

The resulting pop album, "Chingona," can be heard now on all major music platforms including iTunes, Spotify and Apple Music.

**GOT A NEWS TIP? CALL (510) 537-1792
OR EMAIL: fredz@ebpublishing.com**

CVSan FILTER EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Do you change your own oil and live in a single-family home in CVSan? If so, participate in CVSan's Filter Exchange Program to receive a coupon for a new filter!

Program Dates:

- October 11, 2020 - November 19, 2020

How It Works:

During the program dates, contact Alameda County Industries (ACI) at least 24 hours before setting out used filter(s) curbside. A coupon* will be mailed to you from ACI for a new filter.

- Contact ACI's Customer Service Department:
By phone: Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at (510) 483-1400.
By email: info@alamedacountyindustries.com.

Filters must be set out by 6:00 a.m. on your collection day. Visit cvsan.org/UsedOil for more information.

*Coupon is for a limited time only and expires on November 27, 2020. Full details on the coupon. CVSan reserves the right to alter or cancel the program at any time for any reason.

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Employees of 4R Star Businesses are eligible to be nominated for CVSan awards.

Nominations Open for CVSan 4R Awards

Each year, Castro Valley Sanitary District honors employees of 4R Star Businesses with awards for outstanding work implementing the 4R's – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot – in the workplace.

The hard work of these employees assists CVSan's 4R Star Businesses on their path to zero waste and supports the district's zero waste goal.

This year, CVSan is asking for your help to nominate CVSan's 4R Star Businesses or their employees who you think deserve to be recognized for practicing the 4Rs.

Go online and share your stories about stellar employees (or businesses), practicing the 4Rs.

CVSan will read your stories to award several 4R Star Employees and recognize them with awards!

Submit your nomination through Friday, Sept. 25, in any of the following ways:

- Comment on our social media posts about the 4R Star Employee Recognition @cvsan on Facebook or Twitter

- Fill out the nomination form at cvsan.org/4RStar

- Send an email to contact@cvsan.org

Each week, participants who submit a nomination will be entered into a raffle for a prize from CVSan. Give CVSan a "Like" on Facebook and follow @CVSan on Twitter to see prompts for submitting your nomination.

CVSan will announce the selected 4R Star Employees next month. Winners will be recognized with an award and certificate from CVSan and will be featured in Castro Valley/Eden Area Chamber of Commerce's newsletter.

Winners must be an employee of a currently certified 4R Star Business. Businesses may certify as a 4R Star Business before the award distribution to maintain employee eligibility.

Join CVSan in applauding the outstanding efforts of 4R Star Businesses and their employees. Share stories about a business you think deserves praise @cvsan on Facebook or Twitter, or at cvsan.org/4RStar, or at contact@cvsan.org.

School Board Virtual Debate This Friday

The Sunshine America Youth Organization will host a debate this Friday evening with candidates who are vying for three seats on the Castro Valley Board of Education.

The event will be live-streamed on YouTube from 7 to 8:30 p.m. this Friday, Sept. 4, at the link: tinyurl.com/BOEdebate2, accord-

ing to Marissa Chan, president of the organization.

To submit questions to the candidates, go to tinyurl.com/BOEQuestions.

The Sunshine America Youth Organization, based in Palomares Hills, was founded in 2012 to raise awareness about pressing social issues and to advocate for

a stronger and more diverse community.

In a previous school board candidates debate earlier this year, Chan said more than 3,000 people tuned in to watch the event and flooded the organization with thoughtful questions. To watch highlights from that debate, visit tinyurl.com/CVhighlights1

SHERIFF'S REPORTS

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SINGER • CASTRO VALLEY FORUM



Assault and Battery Arrest After Aggressive Argument
Sunday, August 30: at 8:32 p.m., a 911 call about a loud and aggressive-sounding argument sent deputies to a home on Glass Brook Court near Crestfield Drive. There, they arrested a 28-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of assault and battery. Deputies handcuffed the man and took him into custody. The victim was treated at the scene.

Fight, Child Endangerment
Thursday, August 27: at 12:06 p.m., deputies arrested a 33-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of assault on a family member and child endangerment. The man was at a mobile home on Castro Valley Boulevard near Marshall Street when deputies responded to a call about an argument at the site. Deputies took the man into custody. The victims were treated at the scene.

Wanted Man in Contempt of Court
Thursday, August 27: at 9:12 a.m., a 50-year-old man from Castro Valley was arrested as part of a warrant issued for his capture related to a pending court case. Deputies delivered the warrant at a home on Somerset Avenue near Selby Drive as the man was in contempt of a court order. The man was taken to Santa Rita Jail pending bail.

Grand Theft
Saturday, August 29: at 7:47 a.m., a 66-year-old man from Castro Valley was arrested on suspicion of grand theft outside a grocery store on Somerset Avenue near Parsons Avenue. Deputies responded to a call about a suspicious person at the address and stopped the man for questioning. The man was taken into custody.

Methamphetamine Drugs and Paraphernalia
Saturday, August 29: at 12:41 p.m., deputies arrested a 52-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of possession of methamphetamine drugs and related drug paraphernalia. The man was hanging out near a home on Grove Way near Vergil Street when deputies stopped him for questioning and discovered his stash. Deputies took the man into custody.

Narcotics and Related Drug Paraphernalia
Friday, August 28: at 1:43 p.m., a 35-year-old man with no permanent address was arrested on suspicion of possession of illegal narcotics, methamphetamine drugs, and related drug paraphernalia. Deputies stopped the man for questioning in the parking lot of the Bay Trees Park on Cull Canyon Road. The man was taken into custody.

LABOR DAY SCHEDULES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2020

Government Operations

All Federal, State, County and City offices will be closed on Monday, except for emergency services.

Business Offices

Financial institutions and stock exchanges will be closed. Most business offices, including The Forum, will be closed.

Stores & Outdoor/Take-Out Restaurants

Some will be open but may be operating on reduced schedules.

Public Transportation

BART and AC Transit buses will operate on a Sunday schedule on Monday. BART trains will run from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Garbage Collection & Sanitary District

Recycling, organics, and garbage collection services will occur as scheduled by Alameda County Industries (ACI). Please call ACI at 510-483-1400 with billing and customer service questions or visit ACI's website www.alamedacountyindustries.com.

CVSan offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7. Call 510-506-5821 for sewer emergencies. For more info, visit www.cvsan.org.

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Tel: 510-614-1560 • Fax: 510-814-9691

Fred Zehnder, Editor & Publisher
fredz@ebpublishing.com

Howard Morrison, Assoc. Publisher
howardm@ebpublishing.com

Helen Burkett, Advertising Design Mgr.
helenb@ebpublishing.com

Moxie Morrison, Layout Design
moxmore@yahoo.com

Claudette E. Morrison, Business Mgr.
cm@ebpublishing.com

Patrick Vadnais, Classified Ads / Obituaries
patrickv@ebpublishing.com

Mary Florence, Advertising Sales
861-3270 mpominville4582@aol.com

Linda Nakhai, Advertising Sales
lnakhai@comcast.net

Contributors:

Linda Sandsmark
Michael Singer
Amy Sylvestri
Jim Knowles
Gene Osofsky
Carl Medford
Terry Liebowitz
Debbie Tee
Linette Escobar
Thomas Lorentzen
Buzz Bertolero
Bruce Roberts



PHOTO BY LARRY ROSA

A volunteer hands out a senior lunch for the Spectrum Community Services drive-through meal program.

Spectrum Seeks Volunteers For Senior Lunch Program

The senior lunch program at the Senior Center is looking for volunteers.

Spectrum Community Services, founded in 1971, has been feeding seniors at the San Leandro Senior Center since its opening in 2011.

In March, when shelter-in-place orders were instituted throughout the county, senior clients were no longer able to eat together at the Senior Center. Instead a drive-through, pick-up meal service began.

During the last 6 months, requests for assistance from local seniors has increased dramatically, and more meals are being handed out every day.

Currently, Spectrum is seeking volunteers to assist with meal distribution weekdays at the San Leandro Senior Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Email: sitesup@SpectrumCS.org if you are interested in learning more and how you can help serve your community. Food handling and safety awareness training will be provided.

Singer: CV's Anjali Asha

continued from page 2

'badass woman' in Spanish," says Anjali, who is of Mexican and Indian descent. "I never was great at following rules. A light bulb went off in my head, and I realized Chingona fit my personality. The album was supposed to be released in 2018, but after recovering from the accident I redid a lot of it."

Her parents have supported her all the way.

"My wife and I both went to the ER after the accident, and it was horrible," says her father, Raj Prasad. "It was the week before she was about to release her initial album. With the severity of her injuries as well as being told she might never sing again, it seemed she put her recovery into overdrive. I honestly feel her intensity and fight actually helped my wife and I deal with everything a bit easier."

He adds, "Once people listen to her music, they're hooked."

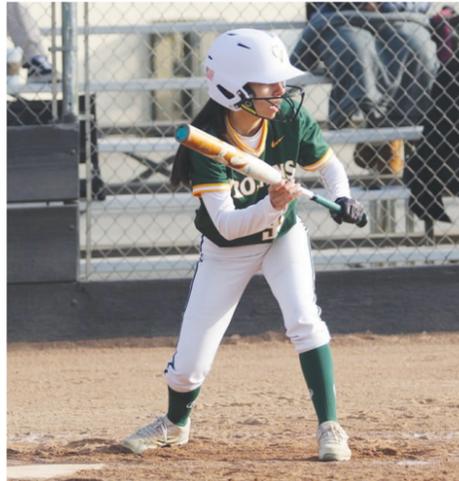
Anjali says that her one regret is never meeting Cliff Burton's family. The scholarship had been presented to her at school during an awards night ceremony.

"I read that Mr. Burton passed away earlier this year, and I never actually got to meet him and thank him personally. The scholarship seed money definitely motivated me," she says.

Anjali Asha's music videos, songs, and pictures are available at <https://anjaliasha.com/>

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Erika Yoos



Our Athlete of the Week is Erika Yoos. The Castro Valley High School graduate (2020) played softball on the Castro Valley High School Softball team for 4 years as well as for the traveling team for ten years. She started her softball career playing for the Castro Valley Girls Softball League and Castro Valley Synergy. She started traveling at a very young age and completed a total of 21 seasons. Erika managed to earn scholar awards all four years of high school while keeping up with her sports, friends, and family demands. Erika plans to attend the University of Hawaii Manoa this fall. She plans to study animal science.

CASTRO VALLEY INDEPENDENT SPORTS LEAGUE

Youth Baseball and Flag Football Programs
www.CVSPORTSLEAGUE.org

Scholarships For Three CV Students

The Castro Valley Women's Club, in its continuing commitment to education, has present thousand-dollar scholarships to these Castro Valley High School students:

- Weiwei Liang, who will be studying to be a doctor at U.C. San Diego, majoring in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience. Her journey as an immigrant from China to the U.S. was challenging.

"It inspired me to work hard to achieve my goals. It taught me that with effort came results and brought me to be intellectually curious about every new situation that comes my way," Liang said.

- Marin Ruiz, who will be studying Neuroscience with the goal of becoming a professor. In her application Ruiz said she faced difficult challenges early in life and has come through stronger for it.

"The independence, grit and appreciation I acquired to overcome this as I continued to thrive in school, is something I hope to carry through into my years in education and life," Ruiz said.

- Lindsey Shack, who plans on majoring in Aerospace Engineering, hopes to inspire other young minority women to pursue careers in the STEM fields.

"As an engineer, I hope to inspire and mentor young girls and Pacific Islanders to join the STEM field to answer humanity's unsolved questions and to dive deeper into uncharted territories ahead," Shack said.

This year's scholarship committee included Michelle Asplund (chair), Carolyn Darcey, Linda Perotti, Arehta Fortune, René Belsold and Leila Chair.

For more info, visit: castrovalleywomensclub.weebly.com



Nestor Castillo speaks to Paul Keim of Smalltown Society tonight

What's Up at Smalltown

- **Tonight! Wednesday, September 2:** Nestor Castillo, a lecturer at SF State's College of Ethnic Studies, is founder of the Eden Community Land Trust and serves as vice chair of the Alameda County Public Health Commission. He's a candidate for Hayward City Council. Nestor will be in conversation with Paul Keim of Smalltown Society regarding community organizing, activism, and more! Join the conversation live at 9 p.m. on the Smalltown's Instagram page: @smalltownsociety

- **Friday, September 4:** Smalltown Takeover: Kadija Kadijah, a young, local poet expertly translates everyday feelings and observations into words that seem like they only come around once in a blue moon. Join her at 9 p.m. on Smalltown's Instagram page: @smalltownsociety

- **Saturday, September 5:** Live Riff-Along on "Assignment: Outer Space" – The Chabot hosts its weekly Riff-along where you can watch a free movie, and also make fun of it in the comments! This week's film is the 1960 Italian Sci-Fi film "Assignment: Outer Space," which takes place in the 22nd Century. A journalist, assigned to write a story aboard a space station, ends up having to save the earth! Head to thechabot.com or to The Chabot's Facebook page Saturday at 8 p.m. to join the fun!

Support The Chabot Theater: Online Gift Cards and Merch available at TheChabot.com. Donations to The Chabot can be made via PayPal/Venmo: @thechabot. Donations to Smalltown Society can be made via PayPal/Venmo: @smalltownsociety

Rotary Recognizes Community Leaders

Castro Valley Rotary has named Carol Bigelow as "Rotarian of the Month" for August, according to Club President Gary Howard, who called Bigelow "an amazing asset to our club, whose efforts and spirit have been the keys to so many of our activities."

Bigelow is active in multiple Rotary events throughout the year, including the Club's Christmas Party for children living in battered women's shelters and the homeless, and the Thanksgiving Lunch for Seniors.

President Howard also recognized another outstanding community organization, Mothers Against Poverty (MAP).

"The Club is happy to recognize the quiet but highly effective work of Moms Against Poverty, work-



PHOTO BY JIM NEGRI

Rotarian of the Month Carol Bigelow



COURTESY OF PARVIN AHMADI

Mothers Against Poverty Parent Liaison Nancy Nodal

ing with the Castro Valley School District to feed families in our community," said Howard. "They have provided freezers to the District, and they fill them with meat and poultry as well as vegetables, which are not easily accessible through food pantries."

Parent Liaison Nancy Nodal and social workers at the District ensure that the food is distributed to families in need.

For more information on MAP or to make a donation, visit www.momsagainstopoverty.org/.

Next Rotary Meeting:

San Ramon Mayor Bill Clarkson will describe developments in his city at the next Zoom meeting of the Rotary Club of Castro Valley from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8. More information is available at castrovalleyrotary.org.

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STOP THE SPREAD WEAR YOUR MASK



REAL ESTATE GALLERY



The most common reasons peonies fail to bloom are planting them in too much shade and or too deeply.

Peony Problems? Common Reasons

Q: My peonies haven't bloomed. They are about three years old, and I think I might have planted them too deep. When is the best time to transplant or divide them?

By Buzz Bertolero
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

A: The most common reasons peonies fail to bloom are planting them in too much shade and or too deeply. The Peony tubers' "eyes" should be just below the soil level about one or two inches. Peonies like a sunny location, and you transplant in late September and October to solve the problems.

Peonies need the sun to produce blooms. It could be that the plant got enough sun in early spring to generate the buds, but a nearby tree grew back its leaves, and the sun is now blocked. The buds die because the plants no longer get enough sun to support the blossoms.

You divide Peonies every few years as the flower production declines. Since yours are blooming, this would be the time to divide. This is best done in late October or early November.

First, cut off all the foliage at the ground, dig around the clump to loosen the roots. Using your shovel, lift the plants out of the ground and cut off those still attached to the clump cluster. With a sharp knife, split the clumps, leaving three to five eyes on each division.

Next, amend the new holes with organic matter and firmly tamp it down. Replant so that eyes are about an inch deep and allow 3 feet between each plant.

Q: My daughter planted some zucchini seeds a couple of months ago, and I bought four regular zucchini plants and one "eight ball" zucchini from our local hardware store.

While the store-purchased plants flowered over a month ago, there have been no zucchini produced. The seeded plants have been flowering the past fortnight, but also have produced no zucchini. A few small bees are buzzing around the lawn clover, and none seem to be interested in the vegetables. For the past six weeks or so, I have fastidiously been trying to fertilize them using a small paintbrush but no luck. What else should I be doing?

A: This is a head-scratcher. It sure sounds like a pollination problem.

There could be other reasons no fruit set like water stress, blossom end rot, mildew, and nutrient deficiencies. But, I'm assuming that the plants are growing and having no other issues.

Zucchini and other squash plants are monoecious, meaning they produce separate male and female flowers on the same plant. Be sure you are moving the pollen from a male flower to a female flower. Earlier, the plants produce an abundance of male flowers. Now it's more females. Only, the female plants bare fruit. The best time of the day to pollinate is in the morning. I try to be more selective with the flowers you pollinate.

The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com.



Buildup Around Faucets

By Samantha Mazzotta
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Mineral buildup around faucets, also known as "scale," is common in areas that have hard water -- water containing high levels of minerals, particularly those containing calcium or magnesium.

Hard water makes it difficult for soaps to lather up, but more serious is the potential for scale buildup inside water heaters.

The most effective way to reduce the prevalence of scale is to install a water softener where the water enters the house. The size and type of water softener unit depends on how much water you use per day on average and the hardness of the water.

You can bring in a professional to test the water, assess your needs and estimate the cost of the installation, or, if you're experienced with plumbing, you can install the softener yourself. Get more than one estimate if possible, and don't allow work to begin until you've approved it in writing.

Make sure the installer locates the water softener unit at least 10 feet from the water heater, and that a remote bypass also is installed (this allows you to bypass the water-softener unit if it shuts down for any reason so that the house still gets water).

Water softeners last for many years and operate with few problems, making them a good value for the amount of money you'll spend on parts and installation.

In the meantime, clean scale buildup from faucets and show-
see FAUCETS on page 6



4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths

Wonderful home near the top of Brookdale in Lake Chabot neighborhood with views of the valley. Living room and dining room with vaulted ceilings, nicely updated kitchen with granite counters, and stainless steel appliances. Relax in the large family room with fireplace and sliding doors to the large backyard deck with a view. Large master bedroom suite has private updated bath and a view. This home has plantation shutters, air conditioning, and beautiful flooring throughout. Enjoy nearby Lake Chabot Regional Park and great Castro Valley Schools. See a video of this home here: <https://3872BrookdaleBlvd28942.f8re.com/>



3872 Brookdale Blvd., Castro Valley • \$1,050,000



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REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Forum

GUEST COMMENTARY



COVID-19 Inducing Urban Flight

With the continuing housing shortage not just locally, but across the nation, home prices are continuing to rise as buyers are throwing multiple offers at almost everything decent.

In spite of COVID-19, according to the Federal Housing Finance Authority (www.FHFA.gov), second quarter overall US home values increased 5.4% from the same period last year.

With the market looking rosy in most corners of the nation and every major city across the country seeing home values increase, there is one glaring exception. One city where prices have actually declined and where housing inventory is reaching record highs.

It is no secret our country is in a recession and the only two entities that have not apparently read the memo are the housing and stock markets.

It goes without saying that any hot market always has a cooler backside and, with high unemployment rates and continued effects from the pandemic, it is just a matter of time before reality comes home to roost in the housing market.

When local conditions deteriorate and consumer confidence dips, buyers, sensing the future may be less optimistic, are less
see FLIGHT on page 6

20025 Santa Maria Avenue · Move in Ready!

Castro Valley school district!! Walk to schools, Bart, Starbucks! This townhome has over \$75,000 in upgrades! Just move into this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home with an attached garage. Top of the line appliances, new white shaker cabinets with beautiful granite and tile in the kitchen. New engineered flooring, dual pane windows, and a high efficiency HVAC system. Lovely deck in the backyard for BBQ and entertaining. Asking \$789,500.



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RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

2500 Miramar Ave	94546: \$499,000	2 BD - 1,148 SF - 1982
20282 Forest Avenue	94546: \$530,000	2 BD - 1,014 SF - 1981
20960 Chester Street	94546: \$585,000	2 BD - 1,072 SF - 1920
2257 Reading Avenue	94546: \$690,000	2 BD - 1,018 SF - 1948
3718 September Court	94546: \$700,000	4 BD - 1,504 SF - 1958
3604 Christensen Ln	94546: \$735,000	3 BD - 1,459 SF - 1951
5476 Greenridge Rd	94552: \$850,000	4 BD - 1,842 SF - 1960
21296 Highland Drive	94552: \$917,000	4 BD - 1,900 SF - 2006
18217 Carmel Drive	94546: \$950,000	3 BD - 1,814 SF - 1962
5674 Shadow Ridge Dr	94552: \$1,115,000	3 BD - 1,723 SF - 1973
4596 Ewing Road	94546: \$1,315,000	4 BD - 2,229 SF - 1966
17627 Whisper Lane	94546:	\$1,430,000
TOTAL SALES:	12	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$469,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$792,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,430,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$859,666

San Leandro

16904 Los Reyes Ave	94578: \$478,000	3 BD - 984 SF - 1944
499 Estudillo Avenue	94577: \$500,000	2 BD - 1,263 SF - 1981
1063 Billings Blvd	94577: \$580,000	2 BD - 895 SF - 1941
1482 Jean Way	94577: \$677,000	3 BD - 1,131 SF - 1942
1897 Sundberg Ave	94577: \$705,000	3 BD - 1,092 SF - 1953
1436 Trojan Avenue	94579: \$740,000	3 BD - 1,241 SF - 1952
1958 Vining Drive	94579: \$750,000	3 BD - 1,100 SF - 1958
636 Maple Court	94577: \$830,000	3 BD - 1,411 SF - 1923
791 Victoria Avenue	94577: \$871,000	3 BD - 1,252 SF - 1926
552 Mitchell Avenue	94577: \$940,000	4 BD - 1,438 SF - 1924
1476 Scenicview Drive	94577: \$1,230,000	3 BD - 2,804 SF - 1972
TOTAL SALES:	11	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$478,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$740,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,230,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$754,636

Faucets: Fix

continued from page 5

erheads by shutting off the water supply to the affected faucets, and unscrewing the shower head and faucet aerators. Wash them in soapy water and rinse well. Then, place in a stainless steel or Teflon lined pan with a solution of half vinegar and half water. Simmer the hardware for five minutes, cool, then scrub with a nylon brush to remove the deposits.

To reduce buildup and lengthen the life of your water heater, drain it twice a year via the drain spigot.

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Interest Rates Fall Near Record Lows

Long-term mortgage interests rates fell back last week, remaining near record lows, according to Freddie Mac's weekly nationwide survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 2.91 percent for the week ending Aug. 27, 2020, down from the previous week when it averaged 2.99 percent. A year ago at this time, the 30-year mortgage averaged 3.58 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 2.46 percent, down from 2.54 percent the week before.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 2.91 percent, unchanged from the previous week.

Flight: COVID Prevalent in Urban Centers

continued from page 5

willing to buy. This subsequently causes a shift in market dynamics as we start to tilt from a seller's market to a buyer's market.

Realtors are constantly looking for signs of an impending shift, and the declining San Francisco and upper peninsula markets (Redwood City, San Mateo, Burlingame) are throwing off clues to which we must pay attention. What begins in one corner of the Bay Area will eventually encompass the entire region.

There are many factors con-

tributing to the shift. COVID-19 has made many employees aware (especially in the tech and related sectors) that they will be working from home for the foreseeable future. This means they no longer need expensive homes located close to their employers. Many are consequently looking to get out of the city and into more affordable locations. Cities like Boise, Idaho are beginning to see an influx.

Additionally, local city and county government's inability to handle surging homeless populations, talks of increasing state

taxes and pandemic-related closings of iconic restaurants, tourist venues, amenities such as theaters and numerous other services are compounding to make urban life dramatically less palatable.

Factor in the increased potential for COVID-19 infections prevalent in large urban centers and it is no wonder many are looking to get out of town as quickly as possible.

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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Fires: Regional Parks Allowed to Reopen

continued from front page

Chief Theile gave several reasons. For one, the air quality was really bad. Apart from health concerns, the thick haze made it impossible for firefighters to tell whether a fire was actually burning within a park.

Also, in the event that a fire did occur, firefighters and police would have a serious problem finding and evacuating park visitors or dealing with other emergencies. Their jobs are already dangerous enough.

And finally, Cal Fire officials informed the district that 96 percent

of their available resources were committed to the fires in the Bay Area and elsewhere in the state. Resources were stretched so thin, Cal Fire said, that if a fire started in another regional park, the park district might have to fight it without assistance.

As of last Thursday, improving conditions allowed reopening of most of the regional parks that had been closed. Exceptions were parks directly impacted by the fire: Del Valle, Mission Peak, Morgan Territory, Ohlone Wilderness, Round Valley and Sunol.

If it becomes necessary to close regional parks again, the park district urges everyone to abide by the rules. Please do not enter a regional park that has been closed. By doing so, you can endanger yourself and others, and force already overworked firefighters and police to divert from emergencies in order to escort you out of the area.

For up-to-date information about the status of regional parks, visit the district website at www.ebparks.org. Fire and COVID-19 reports are right at the top of the home page.

COVID-19: State's Four-Color Guidance

continued from front page

State health officials say one of the goals of the new guidance is to aggressively reduce case transmission to as low a rate as possible across the state so the potential burden of flu and COVID-19 in the late fall and winter does not overburden hospitals and clinics.

"Also, with winter weather pushing more activities indoors, low levels of transmission in the community will make large outbreaks in these riskier settings less likely," said Erica Pan, Acting State Public Health Officer.

THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS EXAMINED THE ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES THAT MAY BE PERMITTED TO REOPEN BY THE STATE IN THE PURPLE TIER.

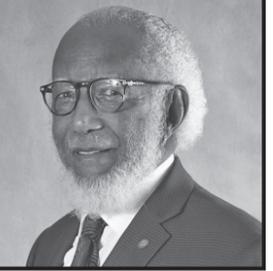
While the state has established its four-color guidance, a county may be more restrictive. The County Health Department said it has examined the additional activities that may be permitted to reopen by the State in the Purple

Tier. The department is expected to issue another update this week on how it plans to proceed.

"We are evaluating next steps and options for alignment with the state while ensuring a reopening plan that reflects the specific disease conditions and needs in Alameda County," said Neetu Balram, the department's public information manager. "In doing so, we are considering the risk, timing, and cadence of reopening activities, as well as their downstream impact on local disease conditions that could limit future activities."

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Miscellaneous Furniture: Lamps couches, tables, area rugs, etc. Also new (black) electric stove, Sony XBR 40" TV. Great prices! Call at 510-813-6550.

MISC. FOR SALE

1950's Pine hutch (restored) has glass doors, drawers, and shelving \$95, **Native American 14" tall collector dolls** (includes stands) \$25 each. 510-538-1765.

MISC. WANTED

\$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$ \$\$\$

!!!WANTED!!!

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RENTALS

LANDLORDS - Advertise your units! A vacancy day is money lost forever ... R. Bowman

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CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE:
Monday 5:00 p.m.

YOUR INFO

LANDLORDS - Advertise your units! - A vacancy day is money lost forever - R. Bowman

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For help or for more info call **510-614-1558.** E.B. Publishing

Coins 510-886-3195 ... **WANTED:** Toys (Vintage), Monsters, Records, Skateboards, Monster Movies, oddities email at: swarmmood@gmail.com ... **WANTED:** Tutor (Computer) 510-301-4200 ... **WANTED:** TV Roof Antennas (old) 510-522-2274 ... **WANTED:** Upholster to re-strap my vinyl lawn chairs 510-352-4744 ... **WANTED:** VW Bus to restore (any condition) 925-798-2001 ... **WANTED:** Yorkshire Terrier (female) puppy (teacup size) call/text 650-743-8957.

Misc. Wanted ads start at \$10/week & up (some restrictions may apply) **To Place a "MISC. WANTED" ad call Patrick at 510-614-1560**

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- ACROSS**
- Place for pampering
 - Bedouins
 - Gasoline stat
 - Samovar
 - Actress Zellweger
 - A billion years
 - Update
 - Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
 - Young fellow
 - Shun
 - Feast alternative
 - ___ land (spaced-out site)
 - Eggs
 - Attempt
 - Paul or Lloyd of baseball lore
 - Gear teeth
 - Collection
 - Go off the board
 - Central
 - Turf
 - Londoner's last letter
 - Reverberate
 - Hourglasses, e.g.
 - Common condiment (Var.)
 - Historic period
 - Boxing legend
 - Spellbind
 - Namely (Abbr.)
 - Cook with radiant heat
 - Cacophony
 - Chowed down
 - Impudent
 - Choose
- DOWN**
- Total
 - In favor of
 - Moreover
 - Extreme
 - Furnishes
 - Blackbird
 - Gem facet
 - Playground fixture
 - Replace personnel with robots
 - Pontiff
 - Chew like chipmunks
 - Inventor Whitney
 - Dressed
 - Central points
 - Shakespeare's river
 - Make attractive
 - Indeed
 - Always
 - Cincinnati team
 - Moments, for short
 - Re clan emblems
 - Compass points
 - In a catastrophic way
 - "The Phantom of the ___"
 - Scratch
 - Vena ___
 - Settled down
 - Old French coin
 - Altar affirmative
 - Energy
 - Med. specialty

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

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James Wheeler to Become GM Of Hayward Area Rec District

Directors of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District, more commonly known as HARD, have appointed James Wheeler as the district's next General Manager effective Oct. 1, 2020. He will replace Paul McCreary who will retire at the end of this month.

Wheeler, who currently serves as HARD's Recreation, Arts and Community Services Director, has focused on non-traditional recreation programming to under-served populations, and facilitating public input in the design of the district's capital projects.

He has more than 30 years experience in recreation services, arts, aquatics and parks, having dedicated his career for over 30 years to the field.

He has held management positions in San Francisco and Oakland, and has served on statewide professional boards.

HARD serves over 300,000 res-



James Wheeler

idents in the City of Hayward and the communities of Castro Valley, Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo and unincorporated San Leandro.

To learn more about the district's programs and events, visit www.HaywardRec.org.

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR
FREDZ@EBPUBLISHING.COM



Kindness of Our Deputies

Editor:

I want to thank and commend the kindness that Alameda County Sheriff's Deputies showed to my elderly mother. She was at home, and accidentally triggered her security alarm, but had forgotten the code to turn it off. Daniel Murphy, an Alameda County Deputy who is also a school resource officer, responded with others to the alarm call.

Obviously, until arriving they did not know what they were going to encounter. Once they arrived and became aware of the situation, they stayed with my mother, helping her contact me and the alarm company. It took some time, but we were eventually able to shut the alarm off. This was so stressful to my mother that the sheriffs had to request medical help as my mother was feeling faint and they were concerned for her health.

I will never forget the caring and kindness shown by all these officers. They stayed with her until they knew she was OK. This is just one more reason why I strongly support the officers who put their lives on the line every day to protect all of us, while at the same time having the heart to make sure that my mother was safe and taken care of.

—Mark Wagner, Castro Valley

Understanding 'Defunding'

Editor:

Many people seemed to be uninformed on what "Defund the Police" means; it's not a call for taking all police officers' resources while they struggle with their duties.

A quote that comes to mind is from former Dallas Police Chief David Brown: "We're asking cops to do too much in this country ... Every societal failure, we put it off on the cops to solve. When there is not enough mental health funding, we put it on cops. When there is not enough drug rehab funding, we put it on cops. What defunding the police actually means, is relocating funds going to police officers to instead build a thriving community. Put funds towards education and after-school activities, drug rehab centers, social workers, and mental health facilities. Police carry a heavy burden and many are not well-equipped to handle certain situations which can have deadly results. Defunding the police is "a gradual process of strategically reallocating resources, funding, and responsibility away from police and toward community-based models of safety, support, and prevention."

It's important for people from all sides of the aisle to look into Black activists' work, like Angela Davis for example, rather than orchestrate ad hominem attacks against a point of view you do not understand.

According to the Washington Post (which relies on police reports and news accounts), fatal police shootings in the United States have increased, with a total 558 civilians having been shot as of July 29, 2020. That number includes both white and black civilian victims.

Although, Black Lives Matter focuses on the disproportionately affected Black population, they want to hold police accountable (that includes white civilians too).

—Alejandro Schimmels, Castro Valley

Obituaries

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM OBITUARIES may be emailed to: obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Include a phone number. For help, please call Patrick Vadnais at 510-614-1558

- Carolyn Jean Cady
- Michael Desanto
- William F. Kenny
- Dennis Roszell

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William F. Kenny

August 28, 2020

William F. Kenny passed peacefully, at home, surrounded by family at age 98. A regular at the Hayward Area Park and Recreation District senior center, he most enjoyed everyone's companionship and the dance group. There will be no services. Donations in his name can be made to H.A.R.D., 1099 E St, Hayward CA, 94541. Specify your donation to Senior Programs, Hayward Area Senior Center.

DEERCREEK

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Michael Desanto

Michael Desanto, age 66, was put to rest at Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward. Michael passed at home in Castro Valley on May 5, 2020.

He was preceded in death by his wife Roxanne and son Michael. He leaves behind his son Matthew, girlfriend Pam, mother Barbara, four brothers, a large family, and many friends.

A celebration of life will be planned when possible.

Dennis Roszell

Dennis Roszell passed away on August 5, 2020 in Maplewood, NJ. He was a loving husband, father and friend — and was nearly 81 years old.

He was a long-time Castro Valley, Calif. resident and recent transplant to Maplewood. While he missed his friends (and the Calif. sun), he enjoyed the small-town feel of Maplewood and its residents — along with the close proximity of his family.

Dennis was a lot of things throughout his life. A veteran; London resident; photographer; and an accomplished, award-winning businessman. But next to his family, what Dennis loved more than anything were books. He read nearly five a week. This insatiable appetite for knowledge meant he knew a little bit about everything. And that made him one of the best conversationalists you'd ever come across.

A dedicated family-man and friend, he always had wisdom at the ready (although only when asked) and was never judgemental. He let people live their lives, and loved them no matter what.

He is preceded by his wife of nearly 60 years, Sandie; mother, Eva; father, Lawrence; nephew, Rick; and brother-in-law, Doug. He is survived by his children, Jennifer and Matt; four grandchildren; a brother; son-in-law; daughter-in-law; two sister-in-laws; three nieces and countless friends-who-are-like-family.

Due to COVID-19, a ceremony is not currently planned. Please share your memories and condolences at <https://tinyurl.com/dennisroszell>. To remember Dennis, the family asks that you donate to the National Alzheimer's Association or to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

The Jacob A Holle Funeral Home, 2122 Millburn Avenue, Maplewood, NJ 07040. Phone: (973) 762-2200 Fax: (973) 762-2201.

Carolyn Jean Cady

December 28, 1935 ~ August 18, 2020

Age 84 years. Born to Carl and Ruth Wessel in Moline Illinois. Graduate of Rock Island High School class of 1952. Attended Iowa State University where she met and married Patrick Cady, her loving husband of 33 years. Loyal employee of Wells Fargo Bank for 28 years. Faithful volunteer with the Eden Hospital Auxiliary and past treasurer with an accumulated 20,000+ hours of service. A resident of Castro Valley for 54 years, the last 2 years at Baywood Court. She will be remembered as a loving mother, a strong woman of faith, and a founding member of St. Stephens Lutheran Church of the East Bay for more than 50 years. She will be deeply missed by her family and many friends.

Carolyn is predeceased by her husband Patrick, sister Barbara Weiner, her brother John Wessel, and her companion of 28 years, Jay Alderson.

Survived by her daughters Karen Cady-Holtz (Rick), Christine Viviani (Rene), and son, David Cady (Connie). Sister-in-law Barbara Wessel of Texas, and cousin Nancy Michalski of Minnesota. Grandchildren Michael Siordia IV, Joseph Viviani (Tanya), Michelle Dragalin (Matthew), Tara and Danielle Viviani, Ryan and Erin Cady. Great grandson Thomas Dragalin, two step great-grandchildren, and two on the way.

A private family burial will be held at Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward late September. A memorial and life celebration service is pending at a later date due to the current pandemic.

A memorial fund at Carolyn's request has been established by her church and can donations can be made to St. Stephens East Bay, 300 Moorpark Way, Mountain View, CA 94041.

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

Wear Your Mask Stop the Spread

Dealing With Visitation Ban in Nursing Homes Due to COVID

Q: My wife has been in nursing home for about 6 months, and I haven't been allowed to see her since March due to COVID-19. The facility has been in "Lock-down" and won't permit visitors. I really miss her. Is there any way to get around this?

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

A: Yes, there may well be a way to work around this blanket ban on visitation.

The California Department of Public Health (DPH) just released a new directive which provides for both indoor and outdoor visitation,

depending upon conditions.

That directive is addressed to "Long Term Care Facilities" and, on its face, would primarily apply to nursing homes. But its directives should also guide other facilities, such as Assisted Living Facilities. In part, that directive provides for "Exceptions" to the visitation ban, and mandates rules for both "inside facility visitation" and for "outside" visitation, which I summarize as follows:

Exceptions: The list of exceptions to the ban includes health care workers, the Ombudsman, visitation for end of life, and – most interesting to me and my colleagues – visitation to take care of

"legal matters that cannot be postponed, such as estate planning."

Inside Visitation: The directive requires the Nursing Home (more properly called a "Skilled Nursing Facility" or "SNF") to allow the resident to designate one visitor for inside visitation, but subject to conditions, among them: absence of new COVID-19 cases in the SNF for 14 days. The SNF "shall" also offer alternatives for other visitors, e.g. virtual visits by phone or video communication.

Outside Visitation: If the conditions for inside visitation are not met, then the SNF "shall" provide outdoor and other visitation options, including: allowing visits on the facility premises where there is 6 feet or more of physical distancing and with the wearing of masks.

The outdoor visits may also include visits through a resident's window.

In all cases, safety guidelines must be observed, such as visitor screening for fever and COVID-19 symptoms, physical distancing, and the need to disinfect visiting areas after each resident-visitor meeting.



The person to person visitation—whether inside or outside—should be arranged in advance with the facility. If you receive pushback, you might consider sending a written request. A sample letter, prepared by California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform ("CANHR") is

on its website, and a link to same is on our own website as part of our on-line version of this article.

Likewise, a copy of the most recent directive from the California Department of Public Health is available on our site, and you may wish to include a copy in your let-

ter. It is identified as AFL 20-22.4 (issued 8/25/2020) and is entitled "Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long Term Care Facilities".

For those readers whose loved ones are not in SNF's, but are in other senior care facilities such as Assisted Living Facilities ("ALF's"), I would suggest referring to CANHR's guidance on topic. Again, a link to same is in the on-line version of this article on our own website and is in the form of a summary checklist entitled "Visitation Rights in California Long Term Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Emergency": page 2 has a checklist for visitation rights in "Residential Care Facilities For The Elderly", which would include ALF's.

Visitation by loved ones is crucial to the well-being of residents, and I would encourage those visits, albeit with appropriate safety precautions.

Gene L. Osofsky is an estate planning and elder law attorney serving the East Bay. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com

Dementia Basics Webinar

Hope Hospice in Dublin is presenting its popular Family Caregiver Education Series in the form of interactive webinars that will be presented over Zoom for the duration of the pandemic.

The next program, "Living With Dementia: Dementia Basics," will be held on Thursday Sept. 10, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

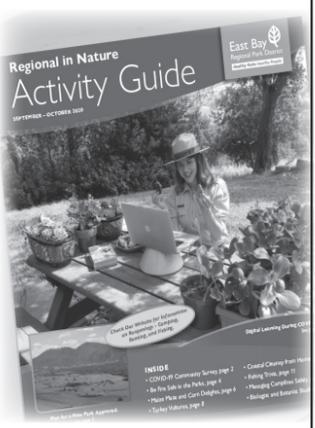
Since dementia dramatically changes the ways that individuals think, perceive, and communicate, caring for a loved one with dementia presents a unique set of challenges.

Hope Hospice's dementia specialists, Gia Barsell and Debbie Emerson, will discuss the nature and progression of dementia and the various diseases and conditions that can produce its symptoms. Participants will gain a basic understanding of the ways in which dementia can impact the brain and behavior.

The Series is a free public service; participants do not have to have a loved one on our hospice service. To register, visit HopeHospice.com/family. For more information, call 925-829-8770.

This issue of the Castro Valley Forum contains the East Bay Regional Park District Sept-October 2020 Activity Guide.

If your copy of the Forum does not include the EBRP Activity Guide, call 510-614-1555 or stop by the Forum office (2060 Washington Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to obtain one.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

S	P	A	A	R	A	B	S	M	P	G	
U	R	N	R	E	N	E	E	E	O	N	
M	O	D	E	R	N	I	Z	E	C	P	A
L	A	D	E	S	C	H	E	W			
F	A	M	I	N	E	L	A	L	A		
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HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Cupid is strong in the Aries aspect this week, with the cherub opening romantic possibilities for single Lambs, and strengthening ties 'twixt loving pairs already in a caring relationship.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Your dramatic flair might make things more interesting as you recount an event to your colleagues. But be careful not to exaggerate reality to the point that facts and fancy combine to form fiction.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): You love to talk, and this week you should get lots of chances to share your thoughts with people who will not only pay attention to what you have to say, but will want to hear more.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): The pattern of recent changes could begin to shift from mostly workplace-related events to more personal matters. Continue to keep an open mind as you prepare to deal with them.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): Reward yourself for what's sure to be a dynamic week with a getaway to someplace wonderful, hopefully with a wonderful someone. You'll return refreshed and ready for what's ahead.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): You might want to suggest resolving an old disagreement before it can affect a matter expected to come up for discussion. It's always best to start with a clean slate.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): The week favors combining dollops of creativity and practicality to work out both professional and personal problems. A longtime friend could have something of note to suggest.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Some surprising facts could come to light if you decide to probe deeper into an "opportunity" than you might usually do. What you'll learn could determine what you'll earn.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Someone close to you might seek your counsel. Hear him/her out, but hold the line at giving actual advice until you get credible answers to all your questions.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): What seems to be an overwhelming workplace project can be dealt with quite well if you handle one category at a time. Things will soon begin to fall into place.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): A personal matter might need more of your time than you had expected. Try to prioritize between your many outside commitments and your domestic responsibilities.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): A developing situation still needs more time to grow, and more time to study before you can plunge in and make some attention-getting waves. Patience is best for wise Pisceans.



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\$3 cash or \$5 ReStore store credit provided per mattress. Maximum 5 units per vehicle per day. Voucher provided upon drop-off and must be redeemed same day. Offer only valid at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Oakland, CA.



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A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®

Habitat for Humanity
ReStore

ByeByeMattress.com

BayAreaReStores.org