

THURSDAY,  
APRIL 22

# EARTH DAY 2021

# CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

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YEAR 33

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## INSIDE YOUR FORUM

### NEWS



#### New Milestone

Nearly a third of the state has been fully vaccinated against the coronavirus

Page 2

### LIVING



#### Beer Essentials

Discover the versatility, ease and (best of all) the taste of cooking with beer

Page 4

### NEWS



#### Spring Blooms

The beautiful weather means it's time to plant those dahlia tubers

Page 7

## INDEX

Classified Ads .....	8
Crosswords .....	9
East Bay Living .....	4
Homes .....	6
Horoscope .....	2
Obituaries .....	11
Opinions .....	11
Our Town .....	3
Seniors .....	5
Weather .....	2

PHONE: (510) 614-1560

BETTY ANN BRUNO

## From Munchkin in 'Wizard of Oz' To Award-Winning TV Reporter

By Rita Williams  
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

For decades, she told other people's stories on KTVU Channel 2's "Ten O'Clock News." Now, she's telling her own... and it's a story chock full of insightful experiences of a long and extraordinary life well lived.

"She" is Betty Ann Bruno, an Emmy award-winning reporter who just published her memoir, *The Munchkin Diary, My Personal Yellow Brick Road*. If you only know Betty Ann from her hard-hitting TV investigations, you'll be delightfully surprised from beginning to end.

"It's true. I'm a Munchkin. Or I was for three weeks when I was seven years old," Betty Ann begins. Yes, she played a Munchkin in what was one of Hollywood's most beloved film classics, "The Wizard of Oz" starring Judy Garland!

But her film debut actually came two years earlier...at five years old, her one and only (and reluctant) nude scene directed by the legendary John Ford in the movie "Hurricane." see **BRUNO** on page 7



PHOTOS BY CRAIG SCHEINER

Retired KTVU reporter Betty Ann Bruno with her just-released book, "The Munchkin Diary: My personal yellow brick road"

CV SCHOOLS

## What to Expect Ahead

By Michael Singer  
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

With vaccinations on the rise and the spread of COVID-19 dropping by the day, Castro Valley schools can expect to end the year celebrating outside and socially distanced, but more together than last year's mostly-virtual events.

In a presentation last Friday and in a letter to parents, Castro Valley Unified School District Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi discussed what's on tap for the remainder of the school year – just five and a half weeks of instruction – as well as how the District is planning for the future.

"The expectation for next year is that we will be back to full in-person instruction five days a week starting in August," Ahmadi told the Forum adding that she is thrilled to have nearly 80 percent of Castro Valley's 10,000 students currently returning to class, even if it is for part of the week.

"When you walk through the school grounds, everyone is thrilled to see each other, the students, the teachers, the staff are all grateful to be back, I am personally grateful for the support we've gotten from the families since it was an extremely tough year for all of them," she said.

Earlier this month, Castro Valley Schools opened to hybrid instruction. All grades returned in two groups, or cohorts, at least two days per week with regular classroom cleanings at all levels.

All teachers and staff have been given access to vaccinations, and Covid testing is see **SCHOOLS** on back page

## Alameda County Fair Moved to October

The Alameda County Fairgrounds, known for hosting the annual Fair every June, will reschedule its traditional celebration to October.

The Fairgrounds are continuing to serve as a host site for Covid vaccines and County food distribution. Both operations are expected to run through the end of June.

Up to 4,000 vaccinations are administered each day, based on the availability of vaccines to the region.

The rescheduled 2021 Alameda County Fair will run from Oct. 22 through Oct. 31 and will comply with all State and local health requirements. It is anticipated that guests will be required to pre-purchase tickets online for specific dates and attendance will be limited.

The Fair will utilize touchless, cashless systems for ticketing, parking, carnival, food and beverage purchases whenever feasible within see **FAIR** on page 7



FILE PHOTO

The Alameda County Fair is set to begin a 10-run in Pleasanton on October 31.



## Castro Valley Weather Apr 21-25, 2021



Wednesday  
Partly Cloudy  
High 69° Low 48°



Thursday  
Partly Cloudy  
High 71° Low 49°



Friday  
Partly Sunny  
High 65° Low 48°



Saturday  
Partly Sunny  
High 62° Low 50°



Sunday  
Poss Showers  
High 58° Low 70°

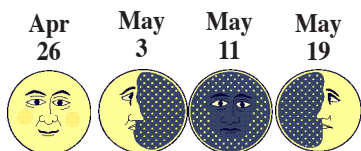
### Almanac



Sun sets at 7:51 p.m. today, rises at 6:26 a.m. Thursday.

Past Week's Rain: 00.00  
Season To Date: 10.09  
Normal To Date: 18.76  
Season Average: 21.22

### Moon Phases



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## CUB SCOUTING MEANS ADVENTURE



Scout Pack 765 of Castro Valley invites you to join them for adventures that go above and beyond. Cub Scouting is fun for the whole family. In Scouting, boys and girls grow into their very best future selves. It's fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life. Cub Scouting provides a foundation to embrace opportunity, overcome obstacles and make new discoveries while participating in such events as hiking, camping, campfires, community service and learning survival skills. For more information, please contact Cubmaster Daniel Pak at cubpack765@gmail.com or by calling 510-207-0709.

## County Seeks 'Youth Poet Laureate'

Alameda County is looking for its first Youth Poet Laureate. The Laureate program celebrates poetry and connects young writers to opportunities for performances, community collaborations, and representing youth voices from all parts of the county.

"Up until now the Youth Poet Laureate competition was exclusively for teens residing in Oakland through the Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Chapter. Now we're opening up this opportunity to teens who reside in the other cities and unincorporated areas of Alameda County," said Cindy Chadwick, County Librarian.

To Be Eligible You Must:

- Be an Alameda County resident, but *not* live in Oakland. (Oakland residents should visit the Oakland YPL Chapter.
- Be between the ages of 13-18 as of May 1, 2021.
- Be available to serve as Laureate for the program year, Aug. 6, 2021 to Aug. 5, 2022 by living locally and not being enrolled in college full time during the tenure.

The winner of the competition will receive a grant of \$500 to do some good at a community organization of their choice, a MacBook and computer accessories. Poetry

featured in a chapbook, community project support from the Alameda County Library and the REACH Ashland Youth Center, and an opportunity to compete in the Regional Youth Poet Laureate Competition.

A Youth Poet Laureate duties include inspiring civic engagement, social justice, cultural awareness, and literary excellence, and writing a poem for the library website.

For more about the program and application process, visit [aclibrary.org/youth-poet](http://aclibrary.org/youth-poet). Applications for the program are being accepted now through April 30. Finalists will be announced at the end of July.

## 10 Million Californians Vaccinated

Nearly a third of Californians had been fully vaccinated and more than half of the state's adults have received at least one dose of the coronavirus vaccination as of the start of this week.

The California Department of Public Health's most recent data shows 10.1 million people, 31.4% of the adult population, are fully vaccinated. Another 6.5 million have received one

shot of the two-dose vaccines.

Among those 65 and older, more than 62% are fully vaccinated and 85% have received at least one dose. Some 372,000 doses of vaccine are being administered in the state each day.

All Alameda County residents, ages 16 and over are currently eligible for the free vaccinations. To sign up, visit <https://www.primarybio.com/r/alco-vax-signup>.

### Johnson & Johnson

The pause in the use of the Johnson & Johnson's vaccine is likely to be lifted by this Friday, according to Anthony S. Fauci, the nation's top infectious-disease expert. On Sunday, Fauci said he expected federal health officials would decide the vaccine's future in the U.S. by the end of the week and that he did not anticipate its use would be canceled outright.

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## HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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**ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** Impatience is still somewhat of a problem. But a sign of progress should soothe the anxious Aries heart. Meanwhile, invest some of that waiting time in preparing for the change ahead.



**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Bovines tend to excel at solving problems, not creating them. But you risk doing just that if you're slow to respond to a timely situation. If necessary, seek advice from someone you trust.



**GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** The Gemini Twin might need to do more than a routine check of both a job-linked and home-based situation. Dig deeper for more data on both fronts to avoid unwanted surprises later.



**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Moon Children facing an important workplace decision are encouraged to use their perceptiveness to see through any attempt to win them over with a supercharge of fawning and flattery.



**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Good news catapults Leos and Leonas into reconsidering a deferred decision. But time has moved on, and it's a good idea to recheck your plans and make adjustments where necessary.



**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** The week favors relationships, both personal and professional. Take the time to look for and immediately repair any vulnerable areas caused by unresolved misunderstandings.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** A friend's problems bring out your protective instincts. Be careful to keep a balance between meeting the obligations of friendship without being overwhelmed by them.



**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** The temptation to take an extreme position on an issue is strong, but moderation is favored both in personal and professional dealings. Move toward finding areas of agreement.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Getting another boss or teacher? Try to see the person behind the image. It will help you adjust more easily to the changes that new authority figures inevitably bring.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Much as you might dislike the idea, keep an open mind about using the assistance of a third party to help resolve problems that threaten to unravel an important agreement.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** Career choices that seem too confusing to deal with at this point probably are. More information would help unconfuse them. On the personal side, a friend might need your advice.



**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** A challenge that seems easy enough at first could take an unexpected turn that might test your resolve. Decide if you feel you should stay with it, or if it's better to move in another direction.

## Bob and Joyce Lavin

*Celebrated their 75th Wedding Anniversary on April 14, 2021.*

*They were married on April 14, 1946 in Oakland, California and are long time residents of Castro Valley. Their marriage has been filled with a deep love and friendship.*



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HARD PHOTO

**The Hayward Plunge swim center, built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), opened in 1936. It is located at 24176 Mission Blvd. in Hayward.**

## Hayward Plunge Reopens

The Hayward Plunge reopened on Monday for lap swim and water walking.

Visit [haywardrec.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Hayward-Plunge-106](http://haywardrec.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Hayward-Plunge-106) to read the Covid-19 modification and guidelines. Lane reservations must be reserved in advance and drop-ins are not available.

All lane reservations are for 45 minutes. Reservations will open each week and are made for the following week. These are the available time slots:

Monday – Friday - 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Monday - Thursday - 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Saturday - 7:00 a.m. & 8:00 a.m.

You can reserve a lane by visiting: [www.HaywardRec.org/register](http://www.HaywardRec.org/register) and searching for “Lap Swim” or “Water Walking”. Your login will be your email. If you have any problems, please call the District Office at 510-881-6700.

## World Immunization Week and Rotary

For more than 30 years, Rotary and its partners have driven the effort to eradicate polio worldwide. The Polio-Plus program was the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication by vaccinating children on a massive scale.

As a core partner in the initiative, Rotary focuses on advocacy, fundraising, volunteer recruitment, and awareness-building.

Over the years, the Rotary Club of Castro Valley has contributed \$50,000 to the Polio Plus campaign including \$9,000 this year.

“Several club members have traveled to other countries at their own expense to help with the immunizations,” said Dwight Perry, Chair of the local campaign. “It is an amazingly powerful experience to squeeze just two drops of

the vaccine in a young child’s mouth and know it will protect the child from this horrible disease.”

“Vaccines are one of the greatest breakthroughs in the history of medicine and the last months have again demonstrated just how important vaccines are,” said Gary Howard, Castro Valley Rotary President.

The last week of April is designated as World Immunization Week, which aims to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease.

Immunization saves millions of lives every year and is widely recognized as one of the world’s most successful health interventions. Yet, there are still nearly 20 million children in the world today who are not getting the vaccines they need.

Rotary members have contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2.5 billion children from this paralyzing disease. Rotary’s advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort.

For more info regarding the Rotary Club of Castro Valley and its work to eradicate polio, visit: [castrovalleyrotary.org](http://castrovalleyrotary.org).

## SHERIFF’S REPORTS

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SINGER • CASTRO VALLEY FORUM



### Wanted Man

Monday, April 19: at 12:26 a.m., Sheriff’s deputies arrested a 49-year-old man as part of a warrant issued for his capture. The man was hanging outside a business on Castro Valley Boulevard near Redwood Road when deputies stopped him for questioning. Deputies made a positive identification of the man and took him to Santa Rita Jail.

### Caught Selling Drugs

Sunday, April 18: at 11:55 p.m., a 31-year-old woman with no permanent residence was arrested on suspicion of selling illegal narcotics. Deputies responded to a suspicious person report at the intersection of Cull Canyon Road and Briar Ridge Drive. The woman was found with the drugs in her possession. Deputies took the woman into custody.

### Public Intoxication

Sunday, April 18: at 12:33 p.m., deputies arrested a 30-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of public intoxication. The man was hanging outside a business on Grove Way near Cape Eden Place when deputies stopped him for questioning and found the man unable to stand up or walk in a straight line. The man failed his field sobriety test and was taken into custody.

### Busted for Narcotics Outside of High School

Saturday, April 17: at 5:02 p.m., a 60-year-old man from Castro Valley was arrested on suspicion of possession of il-

legal narcotics and related drug paraphernalia. Deputies stopped the man for questioning outside Castro Valley High School on Redwood Road and discovered his stash. The man was taken into custody.

### Narcotics Possession

Thursday, April 15: at 3:45 p.m., deputies arrested a 37-year-old woman on suspicion of possession of illegal narcotics and related drug paraphernalia. The woman was hanging outside a business on Grove Way near Center Street when deputies stopped her for questioning and discovered her stash. Deputies took the woman into custody.

### Stolen Property

Wednesday, April 14: at 1:48 p.m., a 60-year-old man from

Castro Valley was arrested on suspicion of possession of stolen property and illegal drug paraphernalia. Deputies stopped the man for questioning outside a business on Redwood Road near Norbridge Avenue when they discovered his stash. The man was handcuffed and taken into custody.

### Elder Abuse

Wednesday, April 14: at 7:40 a.m., deputies arrested a 30-year-old man from Castro Valley on suspicion of elder abuse and assault with a deadly weapon. The man was found to be at a home on Jensen Road near East Castro Valley Boulevard when deputies arrived. Deputies took the man into custody. The victim was treated at the scene.

## Spectrum Virtual Food Event May 7

Spectrum Community Services will host a virtual cooking and wine-pairing event on Friday, May 7, to benefit its Senior Nutrition Programs for the ever-mounting number of seniors who rely on them to remain healthy and independent at home.

“In the last year, we have experienced a 155 percent increase in the demand for our services in Alameda County” said Spectrum Executive Director Lara Calvert.

Spectrum’s “Show Your Love” event will include instructions from a Michelin Star chef on how to make a decadent meal from the comfort of your own home.

Ticket holders will be sent all the ingredients needed to prepare a delicious pan-roasted chicken and lemon herb sauce for two people, plus two bottles of Benziger Family

*see SPECTRUM on back page*

## CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

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## Reservations Due Next Week For CVHS 50-Year Reunion

Make your reservation now for the Castro Valley High School 50-year Class Reunion on Thursday, Sept. 23, to be held at the Wedgwood Event Center, 9430 Fircrest Lane in San Ramon, with a social hour and no-host bar at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6.

RSVP by next Wednesday, April 28, with check (\$75 per person) and dinner preferences (fish, vegetables or beef/chicken combo) to: Ginger Rolf, 14564 P.G. Volcano Road, Pine Grove, CA 95665. Also, let the planners know what you want to see at the reunion by taking a brief survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PS78ML5>.

Committee members Ginger Menges Rolf, Alisa Kim, Donna Roberts Rueter, Carol Belcher Mahar and Sue Lorge Holm hope to see you there.



then carefully add cayenne pepper. One teaspoon will be quite hot so you may want to try just a little. Stir it in slowly and cook another 5 minutes.

This chili tastes even better the next day and you can also try different kinds of beans.

### WELSH RAREBIT

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 tablespoon mustard powder, or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
- 3/4 cup strong dark beer, like Guinness
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce, or to taste
- 1 pound Cheddar cheese, 4 to 8 pieces lightly toasted bread

Put butter in a saucepan over medium heat and, as it melts, stir in flour. Continue to cook, stirring occasionally, until golden brown and very fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes. Stir in mustard and cayenne, then whisk in beer and Worcestershire sauce.

When mixture is uniform, turn heat to low and stir in cheese, again stirring until smooth. Remove from heat and pour into a broad container to set (you can refrigerate for up to a day at this point).

Spread mixture thickly on toast and put under broiler until bubbly and edges of toast are crisp. Serve immediately. Yields 4 servings.

### PASTA & EGGPLANT IN BEER

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1 medium eggplant, (about 1 pound, peeled and diced)
- Salt and pepper
- 6 ounces smoked ham, cubed
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 cup lager beer
- 1 cup fresh or frozen peas
- 1 pound large tubular pasta such as penne cooked according to directions
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese

In a large skillet heat the olive oil over medium heat. Put in the eggplant, and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring, for about 10 minutes, until it becomes soft.

Stir in the ham, and fry 2 minutes. Add the lager and rosemary, and bring to a boil. Reduce the liquid by half.

Put in the peas, reduce to a simmer, cover, and cook for 2 minutes.

Stir the cooked pasta into the sauce, and cook for 30 seconds to heat through.

Transfer to a serving bowl, sprinkle with plenty of Parmesan cheese, and serve. Yields 4 to 6 servings.

## Cooking with Beer

Beer is wonderful to cook with and besides being a lot cheaper than that other popular cooking beverage, it's subtler and

homier.

Because it is such a satisfying, cooling drink, many people forget that beer is also one of the world's greatest seasoning agents.

As a marinade for meat, fish or seafood, it tenderizes. In roasting, baking or broiling, beer is used to baste the foods or as an ingredient in the basting sauce to impart a rich, dark color and highlight the gravy.

As a baking liquid, beer is unsurpassed, adding lightness and buoyancy to biscuits, pancakes, cakes and a variety of homemade breads.

So move over wine and make way for a little of the brewer's art in the kitchen.

### BEER-BATTERED ONION RINGS

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 eggs, separated
- 1 cup beer
- 4 tablespoons melted butter
- Salt to taste
- 3 large onions, sliced into rings
- 2 quarts oil for frying

Sift flour into a large bowl. In another large bowl, whisk egg yolks. Mix in beer, butter and salt. Set aside 1 cup of flour for dipping the onion rings.

Slowly stir the egg yolk mixture into the remaining flour and mix well. Allow the mixture to stand 30 to 60 minutes.

Heat deep fryer to 375°F.

In a small bowl, stiffly beat the egg whites. Gently combine the egg whites with the batter. Coat each onion ring with flour and dip into batter.

Deep fry the battered rings, several at a time, until golden brown. Drain on paper towels and serve. Makes 5 servings.

### BEER CHEESE SOUP

- 2 tablespoons chopped

- onion
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 chicken bouillon cubes
- 6 cups milk
- 1-1/4 cups shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- Pinch dry mustard
- Salt, pepper and paprika
- 1-1/2 cups beer
- Chopped green bell pepper
- Crumbed crisp bacon

Cook onion in butter in top of double boiler directly over burner until golden brown. Stir in flour and bouillon cubes. Blend in milk.

Place over bottom of double boiler with 1 inch hot water and cook until slightly thickened. Add cheese and mustard and cook until cheese melts, stirring occasionally. Season to taste with salt, pepper and paprika.

Add 1/4 cup beer to each serving and accompany with green pepper and bacon. Makes 6 servings.

### TEXAS BEER CHILI

- 2 tablespoons lean ground beef
- 2 (8-oz) cans tomato sauce
- 1 (16-ounce) can pinto beans
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- 1 teaspoon salt, to taste
- 1 teaspoon cayenne or less
- 1 (16-ounce) can tomatoes
- 1 (12-ounce) can beer
- 1 small onion, chopped

Cook ground beef in frying pan and drain liquid. Mix beef in large pot with tomato sauce, pinto beans and chopped up can of peeled tomatoes. Add chili powder, oregano and your favorite beer (or water, if preferred). Salt lightly to taste and add 1 small onion.

Simmer for 10 minutes and

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# Raymond Fernandes Celebrates 100 Years

By Linda Sandsmark  
CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

One-hundred-year-old Raymond L. Fernandes of Castro Valley celebrated his birthday at a socially-distanced lawn party Sunday.

"We wanted to make sure he at least had some cake and champagne. There's not much else you can do in a pandemic," said his daughter, Claudia Fernandes.

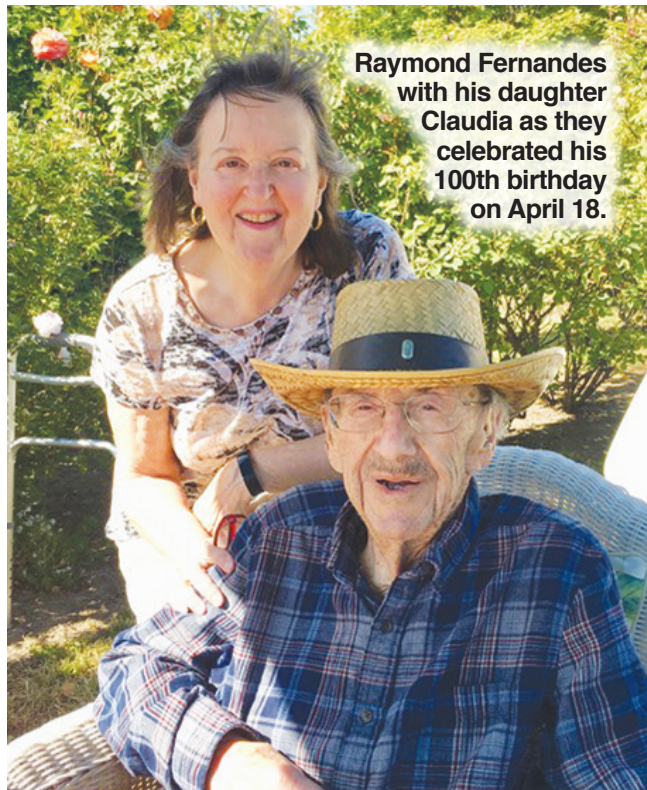
At the party, Raymond received a commendation from Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley and a congratulatory certificate from Assemblyman Bill Quirk.

"You have to get old to get one of these," Raymond joked.

Raymond Fernandes has lived in Castro Valley for 57 years. He was born in Oakland in 1921 at the Salvation Army. During his childhood he rode his bike everywhere, including his paper route for the Post Enquirer. As a child he also made his own shoe-shine kit, which he brought into bars to shine shoes — for 15 cents a shine.

Raymond enlisted in the Navy, and says it was the first time he ever saw his father cry. While on shore leave in Los Angeles, he first met June, the girl he would later marry.

"She was in high school,



Raymond Fernandes with his daughter Claudia as they celebrated his 100th birthday on April 18.

talking with friends," says Claudia. "She saw him strutting down the street and thought he was the cutest thing. Her friends dared June to whistle at him so she did. He made a quick turn to cross the street towards them — and she took off."

When June came to a stop, she felt a tap on her shoulder and there stood Raymond. He asked if she had whistled at him, and she admitted she had.

The couple wrote letters for three years during WW II and married in 1945 in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Raymond had been an electrician on a Navy destroyer escort in the Atlantic. He was in Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, running a landing craft to the beach. He says he will never forget the sounds and smells of that day.

After the war, Raymond

returned to Oakland to work at the Post Enquirer, and then later at the Oakland Tribune, where he retired as circulation manager after 40 years.

He and June moved to Castro Valley 57 years ago. The couple had two children, Claudia and Tom. Always very involved parents, they told their kids that it was important to keep up on current events, both locally and nationally.

Some of the big changes Raymond said he's seen in his life include automation, going into space, and cars. Early on he had a Ford Roadster Model A, then a Chevy. He said he remembers when old Model Ts were so cheap they were used in demolition derbies. On the downside, he says now there's too much traffic to drive anywhere quickly.

Raymond says that working hard is the secret to his long life. His daughter adds that his longevity was also attributable to her mother, who doted on him and kept him happy and healthy. The couple tended a one-acre garden in Castro Valley for years. Sadly, June passed away in 2018.

"We're holding the party in front of the roses that my mom tended in the yard, so in a way, she'll be there too," said Claudia.

# How to Help Elderly Parent with Finances

*Q: What tips can you offer on helping an elderly parent with their finances? My 84-year-old father is having trouble keeping up with his bills and insurance, and I just found out that he's been making contributions to a suspicious charity.*

By Jim Miller

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

*A:* Many adult children serve as financial helpers to their elderly or ill parents. They provide services like paying bills, handling deposits and investments, filing insurance claims, preparing taxes and more. Here are some tips and resources that can help you help your dad.

- **Start with a Conversation** Taking on the task of helping an elderly parent with their finances can be a sensitive and difficult topic. The first step in helping your dad is to have a respectful talk with him expressing your concerns, as you stated in your question, and offering to help him.

If you have siblings, it can be a good idea to get them involved too. This can help you head off any possible hard feelings and will let your dad know everyone is concerned.

- **Get Organized**

If your dad is willing to let you help manage, monitor or take over his financial affairs your first order of business is to get organized by making a list of his financial accounts and other important information.

Your list should include his:

**Contact list:** Names and numbers of key contacts like insurance agents, financial advisor, tax preparer, family attorney, etc.

**Monthly bills:** Phone, cable, water and trash, gas, electric, credit card accounts, etc.

**Financial accounts:** Including bank accounts, brokerage and mutual fund accounts, safe-deposit boxes and any other financial assets he has. Also get usernames and passwords for financial accounts that are set up online.

**Company benefits:** Any retirement plans, pensions or health benefits from his current or former employer.

**Insurance policies:** Life, home, auto, long-term care, Medicare, etc.

**Taxes:** Copies of your dad's income tax returns over the past few years.

- **Locate Important Documents**

This is also the ideal time to find out if your dad has the following essential legal documents: A will; an advance directive that includes a living will and health-care proxy, which allows you or another family member or friend to make medical decisions on his behalf if he becomes incapacitated; and a durable power of attorney, which gives you or a designated person similar legal authority for financial decisions, if needed.

If he doesn't have these important documents prepared, **see FINANCES on page 10**

# Hang Up!: Scammers Try New Ways to Trick You

By Matilda Charles  
SENIOR NEWS LINE

The latest scammer craze is something called tele-transformer. This is step one in the scammer bag of tricks before handing you off to the closers who will pull you into a deal.

Sometimes the message will leave a call-back number. Or they'll claim they're returning your call, or calling because you recently bought one of their products.

If you answer, a typical message will say, "This is Kristen with benefits advisers calling

on a recorded line. How are you today?"

No matter what you say, they launch into their spiel, sometimes about Medicare, sometimes about Social Security, or your mortgage or your student loan, or car insurance, your disability or senior-living home improvement. The range of topics is long. Just hang up.

With other types of calls, however, what they're looking for is "yes." With that simple word, they can steal your identity and your money.

Here's how it works: The first question they usually ask is

"Can you hear me?" What they want is for you to say "yes."

Sometimes the question is "Are you having a good day?" or "Is this X?" if they have your real name. Do not say "Yes!"

Once they have a recording of that one word from you, they're free to do all kinds

of things. They can sign you up for a service or send items to you in the mail. They have proof, they claim, that you agreed to those ... because they have your "yes" recorded in your own voice!

Just hang up!

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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY

## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Forum

GUEST COMMENTARY



## Housing Shortage Continues to Plague the Market

Heading into the primary residential selling season, all indicators suggest 2021 will be a year to remember.

With a large pool of well-qualified buyers, continued low interest rates and a strong economy, it would seem we have everything we need for a successful spring market. Problem is, we are missing one key ingredient: Houses to buy.

A drive through almost any neighborhood reveals a startling fact: the number of yards brandishing "For Sale" signs is almost zero. Back during the foreclosure crisis, real estate signs dotted neighborhoods like weeds after a summer rain. Currently you can drive for blocks before spotting a solitary sign.

It is true that the coronavirus has changed the market in some ways. Some potential sellers, forced to stay at home for the past year, have concluded that it might be

better to fix up their existing home than try to sell and find a replacement in the current ultra-competitive arena.

Many are afraid that if they sell their current property, they will not be able to find a replacement. Older sellers, who historically might have relocated to smaller homes, are choosing to sit tight in their existing homes as long as possible.

Building enough new homes continues to be an issue as a combination of skyrocketing building material costs, shortage of skilled labor and tightening building regulations has dramatically slowed new home construction. Conversely, the residential remodeling sector is running flat out trying to keep up with the ever-increasing demand for renovations by those homeowners who have decided to sit tight and fix up their current digs.

On the flip side of the equation, the pool of available buyers continues to

grow as a new generation of homebuyers are flooding to the market.

With interest rates incredibly low, their buying power is the best it has been in years. Coupled with a continuing strong economy, long-term prospects have never been better.

In contrast to the boomer generation, younger generations, many with young children, have been forced by COVID-19 to reexamine their current living conditions. Small homes that might have worked pre-pandemic have revealed themselves to be too small, forcing relocation to larger properties where family members can spread out.

In the meantime, it is a frustrating time for potential buyers as limited inventory is causing multiple offers and pushing prices higher. The bad news? It does not appear it will be slowing down anytime soon.

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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## Mortgage Rates Drop Again

Long-term mortgage rates fell for the second straight, according to Freddie Mac's nationwide survey issued last Thursday.

Thirty-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 3.04 percent, down from the previous week when they averaged 3.13 percent. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 3.31 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 2.35 percent, down from 2.42 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs)

averaged 2.80 percent, down from 2.92 percent.

"Mortgage rates took another dip last week as the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage decreased by almost ten basis points, week over week," said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's Chief Economist. "The economy is improving on

the demand side and on the supply side, a variety of goods and materials remain scarce. As a result of this imbalance, pricing pressures are building and causing inflation to rise. Despite the pause in mortgage rates recently, we expect them to increase modestly for the remainder of this year."

## Online Homeowners Expo Next Wednesday

The 2021 Alameda County Homeowners Expo is coming up on Wednesday, April 28, from noon to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom, a can't-miss event for homeowners and first-time homebuyers.

Hear experts share valuable resources and information about refinancing, securing funds for home upgrades, preparing to make homeownership a

reality and so much more.

Learn about lowering property taxes, how to keep the family home without being reassessed, resources for the first-time homebuyer, loans available for home updating

For details and to register, visit atd.tinyurl.com/homeowners-expo. Simultaneous translation available in Spanish, Cantonese and ASL.

## RECENT HOME SALES

### Castro Valley

4016 Berdina Road	94546: \$789,000 2 BD - 1,022 SF - 1940
20948 Ashfield Avenue	94546: \$820,000 3 BD - 1,314 SF - 1956
2250 Regent Way	94546: \$830,000 3 BD - 1,537 SF - 1954
21893 Betlen Way	94546: \$831,000 3 BD - 1,272 SF - 1954
21437 Justco Lane	94552: \$950,000 3 BD - 1,541 SF - 1990
4627 Mira Loma Street	94546: \$1,022,000 3 BD - 1,524 SF - 1956
18357 Carmel Drive	94546: \$1,050,000 4 BD - 1,973 SF - 1952
5815 Cold Water Drive	94552: \$1,185,000 4 BD - 2,356 SF - 1972
25760 Silver Canyon Ct	94552: \$1,255,000 4 BD - 2,092 SF - 1998
19798 Salem Road	94546: \$1,300,000 5 BD - 2,759 SF - 1949
18894 WestCavendishDr	94552: \$1,375,000 4 BD - 2,929 SF - 1988
4590 James Avenue	94546: \$1,410,000 3 BD - 2,409 SF - 1947
25701 Crestfield Drive	94552: \$1,425,000 4 BD - 2,605 SF - 2000
5973 Bellingham Drive	94552: \$1,500,000 5 BD - 2,830 SF - 1986
5067 Seaview Avenue	94546: \$1,688,000 5 BD - 3,406 SF - 1950
TOTAL SALES:	15

LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$789,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$1,185,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,688,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$1,162,000

### San Leandro

733 Douglas Drive	94577: \$317,000 3 BD - 1,706 SF - 1942
14421 Juniper Street	94579: \$450,000 3 BD - 1,076 SF - 1952
15386 Hesperian Blvd	94578: \$517,500 3 BD - 1,376 SF - 1979
2313 Spinnaker Court	94579: \$525,000 3 BD - 2,225 SF - 2000
3757 Avansino Street	94578: \$560,000 3 BD - 1,356 SF - 1978
15208 Vera Avenue	94578: \$675,000 2 BD - 874 SF - 1947
2178 Bradhoff Avenue	94577: \$700,000 2 BD - 1,484 SF - 1947
478 Olive Street	94578: \$703,000 2 BD - 856 SF - 1947
1209 View Drive	94577: \$720,000 4 BD - 3,212 SF - 1956
1192 Billings Blvd	94577: \$720,000 2 BD - 1,189 SF - 1942
1252 Pierce Avenue	94577: \$733,000 3 BD - 1,128 SF - 1942
1064 Billings Blvd	94577: \$745,000 2 BD - 895 SF - 1942
14105 Corvallis Street	94579: \$783,000 3 BD - 1,081 SF - 1951
15300 Laverne Drive	94579: \$820,000 3 BD - 1,107 SF - 1957
15372 Ruggles Street	94579: \$890,000 3 BD - 1,761 SF - 1955
TOTAL SALES:	15

LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$317,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$703,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$890,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$657,233

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The beautiful weather means it's time to plant your dahlia tubers or cuttings (small plants). Dahlias— which come in so many sizes, forms and colors — are a great stress reliever in these troubled times.

In keeping with CDC guidelines, the San Leandro Dahlia Society will be holding its annual tuber/cutting sale on line. Orders can be placed starting tomorrow, April 22, and will

close on April 28, with pick up in Oakland, near the zoo, on May 1.

Order through <https://slds-dahlia-sale.sg-creations.com/>. (It may be easier to go to SLDS.club and find the link on the home page.)

When you pick up your purchase, remain in your car and a society member will place your purchase in your trunk. Purchases will go through PayPal.

## Bruno: Life As a Child

*continued from front page*

Betty Ann's vivid recounting transports you right there, feeling as she did then, a good little girl taught modesty and obedience, bouncing between feelings of embarrassment and exploitation.

Her family back then lived across the street from the old 20th Century Fox studios. But 1930's Hollywood was not a life of glamour for regular folks. For a young Betty Ann Cain, it was a life full of characters...her Hawaiian-born Auntie Berdie, who capitalized on the popularity of all things Polynesian to cater fantasy luaus for the rich and famous, and Uncle Ace and his popular, "slightly racy nightclub with a down home atmosphere."

Needless to say, the family's move to a farm 100 miles away was life-changing for the 8 year old Betty Ann.

An outhouse and no running water didn't matter, she says. She had a horse and a pet pig named Tiny!

At the age of 12 she got a paying job as a church organist and loved all things Catholic, but was sexually exploited by a cousin who introduced her to the Church. The way little girls and families dealt with... or didn't deal with...such abuse then...resonates with many women from that era today.

The same can be said about racism and racial identity. Betty Ann was graduating from Stanford University. Her college sweetheart had proposed. Then she met his parents. They told him he couldn't marry her. Betty Ann's brown skin wasn't white like theirs.

About the same time, she applied for a passport. She knew her dad was white, born in Texas and while in the military stationed in Hawaii, married her mom, who claimed to be 100% Hawaiian.

But Betty Ann's birth certificate listed her mother's race as half Hawaiian and half Chinese. Betty Ann was stunned. She remembers while growing up that her mother would denigrate Chinese, telling her never to trust a Chinese man. And now, she's learning her mother's dad was Chinese.

Betty Ann writes: "We grew up in California at a time when it was not cool to be ethnic."

Betty Ann started to struggle with who she was. After years "of shame and self-loathing," she eventually embraced her racial identity. That took years and you'll have to read how she did it. Suffice to say that

see **BRUNO** on page 10



CVSAN PHOTO

Although the work is sometimes dangerous, safety of the employee is a priority.

## CVSan's 15-Year Safety Record

Castro Valley Sanitary District has achieved another milestone in its ongoing commitment to a safe work environment. April 10th marked 15 years without lost time due to accidents.

That is 131,400 hours of continuous labor without an employee missing work due to a work-related accident.

CVSan has regular staff safety trainings, an active

safety committee, and ensures equipment is inspected and certified at mandated intervals. The district performs construction-related activities and maintenance of sanitary sewer lines in both public roadways and steep easements. CVSan also conducts solid waste audits and performs other dangerous work with safety and protection of employees and the public always given the highest priority.

"This is a tribute to CVSan's commitment and focus to high quality work with safety as a priority in everything we do," says Roland Williams, General Manager. The chair of CVSan's Safety Committee, Senior Collection System Maintenance Worker Gilbert Espinoza, added that, "CVSan hopes to continue this record by always adhering to the CVSan motto of, 'Safety is no Accident.'"



Smalltown artist "Chano" will perform at this week's Street Eats

## What's Up at Smalltown

### ● Friday, April 23: Castro Valley Street Eats

Smalltown Society and The Chabot present: Castro Valley's Weekly Street Eats. Come grab some food, support The Chabot Theater reopening (10% of food goes to support the Chabot's grand reopening) and listen to live music from singer/songwriter Chano. Food Truck line-up includes Cousin's Maine Lobster Truck, Rosie's Mexican, Golden Gate Gyro, and Marley's Treats. Castro Valley Street Eats is a weekly event sponsored by Food Truck Mafia and First Pres of Hayward. from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 2490 Grove Way Castro Valley (behind Trader Joe's).



Live horse racing will run its traditional schedule at the Fairgrounds on Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday June 18 through July 11, including the 4th of July.

## Fair: Continues to Host Horse Racing

*continued from front page* the recommendations of the State reopening guidelines. In addition to enhanced cleaning and sanitization, it is believed that guests will be required to wear face masks while on the Fairgrounds and have their temperature checked prior to entering the Fair.

"We are excited to welcome Fair guests back in October and our team is working diligently to ensure we continue to put on a "safety first" event for the community," said

CEO, Jerome Hoban. "The Fair may look a little different in 2021, but we assure you it's the same good time where you can build memories that last a lifetime."

Although the Fair has been rescheduled to October, the Alameda County Fair continues to work to host live horse racing, the Junior Livestock Competition and Auction, and make contests available this summer.

Live horse racing will run its traditional schedule in Pleas-

anton on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays each week, June 18 through July 11, including the Fourth of July. Advance purchase is required. For more information visit: [www.alamedacountyfair.com](http://www.alamedacountyfair.com)

Competitive exhibits and contests will continue virtually. The Livestock and Small Animal Shows will be held from July 7 through July 11, with limited spectators. The Junior Livestock Auction will be held in-person and virtually on July 11, 2021.



## Bruno: Twists and Turns on her Yellow Brick Road

*continued from page 7*

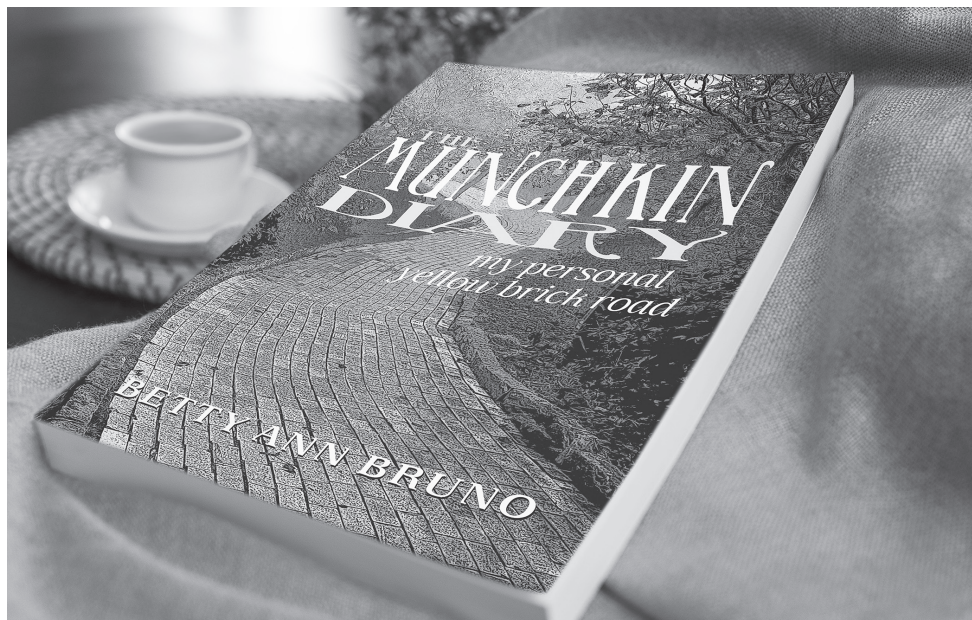
she kept being drawn to hula and studied off and on for years.

In 2009, after moving to Sonoma, Betty Ann offered what was supposed to be a one-time hula workshop for seniors. The 15 women and 3 men loved it so much they, and others, wanted more. Today, she still teaches traditional and modern hula to what she calls an extended family of dancers...nourished and enriched by hula but also by Betty Ann. The group is called Hula Mai, Hawaiian for 'come and dance.'

"The hula was the way I found out who I was. Now, the hula is who I am." She's so valued and cherished, the town of Sonoma named Betty Ann Ka' ihilani Bruno its "Treasure Artist for 2020-21."

After Stanford, Betty Ann experienced sexual discrimination. She went to Washington, D.C. to work for the CIA. She was recruited for the Junior Officer Training program. Once there, however, she worked as a secretary, waiting for an opening that never came.

There's so much more. Marriage. Three children. Divorce. Marriage again to KTVU cameraman Craig Scheiner (still happily married). President of the Oakland League of Women Voters. Political



and civil activism. A run as the first multi-racial woman against an old boy network for an Oakland City Council seat. Getting her on-air job at KTVU. Working for legendary and revered TV news director Fred Zehnder (now publisher of this newspaper). Thrilling and sometimes dangerous experiences as a reporter digging for the truth.

Tragically, one of Betty Ann's biggest news stories was not an "assignment." She lived it.

It was gut-wrenching to watch her live on TV that day, October 20, 1991, when a raging wildfire killed 25 people and destroyed almost 3,000 homes, including hers. She

was standing on a roof telling friend and KTVU colleague Faith Fancher about barely escaping with her life minutes earlier, losing her home of three decades, still seeing the smoke and flames as a lifetime of possessions burned.

Over the next months and years, she told her story (to rebuild or not, the emotional toll, battling insurance companies, trying to change state insurance laws) and that of the thousands of others whose lives were changed by the horrific East Bay Firestorm. That's one reason for the book...a way to tell her sons that the fire took their mother's mementos, but it didn't take her memories. And we're all the richer for it.

I was Betty Ann's news colleague, admirer and friend at KTVU. She's still a dear friend. Reading this book is like chatting with her over a glass of wine. Her youthful exuberance, her lack of blame or bitterness, her wisdom and embrace of all aspects of her life comes through each page. Her life, all 89 amazing years of it (yes, 89!) told through this book, will enrich your own lives. Don't miss it.

Contact Betty Ann Bruno at: [TheMunchkin@themunchkin-diary.org](mailto:TheMunchkin@themunchkin-diary.org)

Rita Williams is an award-winning TV reporter who was the San Francisco Bureau Chief for KTVU Channel 2 News for many years.

## Finances: Set Up Automatic Payments, Protection

*continued from page 5*

now is the time to do it. And if they are prepared, make sure they're updated, and you know where they're located.

### • Simplify Financial Tasks

The quickest way to help your dad simplify his monthly financial chores is to set up automatic payments for his utilities and other routine bills and arrange for direct deposit of his income sources.

If your dad has savings and investments in many different accounts, you should consider consolidating them. You can also set up your dad's accounts online, so you can pay bills and monitor his accounts anytime.

### • Set Up Protections

To guard against scams and risky financial behaviors, consider getting your dad a True Link Visa Prepaid Card ([TruLinkFinancial.com/card](http://TruLinkFinancial.com/card)).

Designed for older adults with cognitive issues this card would provide your dad access to his money but with restrictions that you set on how funds can be spent.

Or check out EverSafe.com, a web-based service that will automatically monitor your dad's accounts, track suspicious activity and alert you when a problem is detected.

### • Seek Help

If you need help or live far away, consider hiring a daily money manager (see AAD-MM.com) who can come in once or twice a month to pay bills, make deposits, decipher health insurance statements and balance checkbook. Fees range between \$60 - \$150 per hour.

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### ● Today, April 21: Women's Club: "Fall Prevention"

Stacey Blackard of Spectrum Community Services will be guest speaker during the Zoom meeting of the Castro Valley Women's Club from 1 to 3 p.m. today. Blackard brings over a decade of experience to this training session. Join in and get great tips and advice that will help keep you safe, independent and fall free. Call 510-461-7692 or email [castrovalleywomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:castrovalleywomensclub@gmail.com) for the zoom link.

### ● Today, April 21: Vaccine Information Forum

If you have questions or concerns about Covid vaccines, join an online Vaccine Information Forum from 4 to 5 p.m. today, hosted by the Alameda County Library. A panel of medical professionals will address the questions and misinformation surrounding the virus, the vaccine, and the effects on families and children. Register at [bit.ly/ACLVaccineForum](http://bit.ly/ACLVaccineForum).

### ● Sundays April 25, May 2, 9, 16: Free Garden Tours

Join the free, online Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour on any of the next 4 Sundays to tour 25 lush East Bay native plant gardens, hear inspiring Doug Tallamy explain why natives in our gardens are key to supporting local wildlife, and ask garden hosts and experts all your questions! Plus, session on plant selection, garden design, and more, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.: April 25 and May 2, 9, and 16. For the schedule and to register, visit [www.bringingbackthenatives.net](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net)

### ● Tues., April 27: Rotary Topic: Bay Area Air

Juan Romero of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will discuss Bay Area air quality and how the District is trying to improve it, during the next meeting of the Rotary Club of Castro Valley from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday via Zoom. More information is available at [castrovalleyrotary.org](http://castrovalleyrotary.org).

### ● Fri., May 7: Virtual Food & Wine Event

Spectrum Community Services will host a virtual cooking and wine-pairing fundraiser on Friday, May 7, when ticket holders can join a Michelin Star Chef online to prepare a decadent meal from ingredients that have been sent to them. The "Show Your Love" event will help feed the ever-increasing number of seniors who depend on Spectrum's services. For more information, visit [www.SpectrumCS.org](http://www.SpectrumCS.org).

### ● Sat., May 29: Hike for Hope

Register now for the 2021 Hope Hospice Hike for Hope Fundraiser for \$39 per hiker through April 30 (fee increases to \$45 on May 1), Registration fee includes an event T-shirt. Child hikers 12 and under participate for free, but must be registered. Then follow the regular style of a single-day excursion on Saturday, June 5, or accept the weeklong Champion Challenge by setting a mileage goal for the week of May 29-June 5 and log progress on your participant page at [TheHikeForHope.com.Hope](http://TheHikeForHope.com.Hope).

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
MARCH 18, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577328

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Jennifer's Pizza located at 5651 Gold Creek Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Keenan, 5651 Gold Creek Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 2/24/2021.

/s/ Jennifer Keenan  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires MARCH 18, 2026

APR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021  
333-CVF

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
MARCH 19, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577416

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Dave's Doors & Interior Construction Specialist, 3525 Seven Hills Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Mercurio, 3525 Seven Hills Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ David Mercurio  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires MARCH 19, 2026

APR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021  
335-CVF

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
MARCH 17, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577277

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Nasatir School of Percussion, 17872 Kingston Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cary Nasatir, 17872 Kingston Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 7/1/1999.

/s/ Cary Nasatir  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires MARCH 17, 2026

APR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021  
336-CVF

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
APRIL 2, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577878

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): C.V. Pizza Express located at 19573 Center Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bikram Jit Singh, 5596 Jensen Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced March 1985.

/s/ Bikram Jit Singh  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires APRIL 2, 2026

APR 14, 21, 28, MAY 5, 2021  
338-SLT

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
MARCH 15, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577169

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Boutique Seven81 located at 132 Callan Ave, Apt #E, San Leandro, CA 94577, mailing address 8495 Pardee Drive, #6472, Oakland, CA 94603, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shatoya McCall, 132 Callan Ave, Apt #E, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 02/17/21.

/s/ Shatoya McCall  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires MARCH 15, 2026

APR 14, 21, 28, MAY 5, 2021  
339-SLT

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
MARCH 23, 2021  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 577488

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): (1) Dre Jams and Jellies LLC (2) Gomma's Baked Goods located at 511 Simon Street, Hayward, CA 94541, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dre Jams and Jellies LLC, 511 Simon Street, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. This business commenced 2-1-2021.

/s/ Dre Jams and Jellies LLC  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires MARCH 23, 2026

APR 21, 28, MAY 5, 12, 2021  
341-SLT



## Low-Flying PG&E Helicopters to Check East Bay Gas Lines

PG&E will conduct aerial patrols of gas transmission pipelines in Alameda County from April 22 to 25.

East Bay residents may notice the helicopter flying as low as 300 feet and which at times may hover.

Flights will occur between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., including over the weekend.

The helicopter crews will use a GPS-enabled tablet with mapping data to navigate the pipelines right-of-ways, and document excavation and construction activity that warrant follow-up inspections.

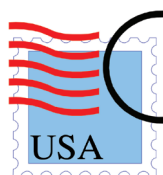
The inspection uses helicopters equipped with LIDAR (light detection and ranging) technology to visually inspect gas transmission pipelines.



**PG&E ON PATROL:** A low-flying PG&E helicopter conducts a patrol of gas pipelines in the East Bay.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FREDZ@EBPUBLISHING.COM



### CV Infrastructure and New Building Project

Editor:

Over the past 20 years, CVSan has invested over \$45 million in infrastructure. For the next budget cycle, CVSan has \$6.2 million budgeted for further infrastructure repairs and improvements.

In addition, we will be able to break ground on the new Operations and Engineering Building due to our long-term planning. This new building will decrease operating costs by consolidating operations into one location, ensuring that customer rates are put to best use.

For the past ten years, we have been planning and saving for this project. Paying for this project by incurring debt could more than double the project's total cost to ratepayers over time. Paying for the project with reserves and not taking on new debt will save ratepayers money.

CVSan shares the community's concerns about the environmental impact of this project. We completed an environmental review required by Alameda County, and there is no evidence of "chemical fluids in groundwater or aquifers" from this project. This report is available at [cvsan.org/CenterStreet](http://cvsan.org/CenterStreet). CVSan has had multiple meetings with the neighbors that live around the project site to hear and address their concerns, and we will continue to do so in the future.

CVSan has one of the lowest sewer service charges in Alameda County and is well below the average for California. We strive to provide superior wastewater services to protect the environment and health of our community.

We believe that transparency is paramount in all that we do. All interested community members may attend our Board and Committee meetings to provide feedback on CVSan operations.

Meeting dates and times can be found at [cvsan.org](http://cvsan.org). We also encourage you to contact us directly with any questions or concerns you may have at 510-537-0757.

—Roland P. Williams, CVSan General Manager

### Says Letter Defending Rodeos 'Missing the Point'

Editor:

I fear that Mr. Houts is missing the point. In his letter ('False, Incomplete Information' from Rodeo Critic) of April 14 he seems to focus on the words rather than the sentiments. I believe Mr. Mills is trying to highlight the myriad ways that we humans tend to forget our "Humanity," whether it is how we treat marginalized portions of the population, or in our interactions with other species.

As for calling rodeos "equal sporting events," the equality he alleges seems to be limited to the human contestants. The animals are certainly not being considered equal. No one is asking

them for their voluntary participation.

Finally, comparing rodeo animals to inanimate tools makes for convenient but spurious argument. Not the least of which is that a hammer doesn't feel pain or fear when you use it to strike a nail, I can guarantee a calf running at full speed only to be yanked to the ground by a rope around its neck certainly feels both.

His letter has an interesting title for an opinion piece, —"False, Incomplete Information"—, and contains an equally weak criticism where he claims that everyone involved in rodeo "ensures that all their animals are 100% safe and well cared for".

One could understand why he might make this claim. In a taped interview on ABC News, none other than Russ Fields, a long time major organizer of the Rowell Rodeo here in Castro Valley openly stated that animals don't feel fear.

This unfounded and uninformed (False and Incomplete) opinion is in direct contradiction to many published veterinary studies that demonstrate that animals do, in fact, feel (and react) to fear. This doesn't sound like 100% safe and well cared for to me.

In a study from School of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis, rodeo bucking bulls were 13.37 times more likely to have injury to the spine than the (nonbucking) controls. Does that sound 100% safe to you? No, I think the source of False and Incomplete Information is not coming from Mr. Mills. Perhaps sending a mirror to Mr. Houts would be more appropriate.

—René C. Gandolfi, Castro Valley

### Complains Newsom Kids Attending Private Schools

Editor:

I can understand what makes Ms. Lang's ("Ridiculous Reason for a Recall," Letters, April 14) "blood curdle." I, too, was very upset with President Trump. And, I felt exactly the same way when we all learned that N.Y. Governor Andrew Cuomo not only is facing sexual misconduct allegations and a nursing home scandal, but he too made sure all the Cuomo's, including CNN anchor Chris, received the vaccine before it became available to the common folk of New York.

Furthermore, Ms. Lang should be just as upset that our Governor, who is deep in debt to the teachers union as are all other Democrats in the state of California, doesn't think much of public education when it comes to the Newsom kids. Instead the Governor sends them to private schools.

As Ms. Lang so succinctly put it, "now that's something worth complaining about".

—Scott Thomasson, Castro Valley

**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 print unsigned or anonymous letters. Not all letters can be published. Email Letters to: [fredz@ebpublishing.com](mailto:fredz@ebpublishing.com), or mail to: The Forum, P.O. Box 2897, Alameda, CA 94501.

## Obituaries

### Richard Dennis Swanson

January 9th, 1962 ~ March 10th, 2021

On Wednesday, March 10th, 2021, Richard Dennis Swanson, loving son, brother, and father of two children, passed away at the age of 59. Richard was born on January 9th, 1962 in Seattle, Washington to Richard and Katherine Swanson. They raised him and his younger sister Andrea Swanson for the early years of his childhood. After moving to the SF Bay Area in 1974 with his sister and parents, he attended Castro Valley High School, where he varsity lettered in soccer all 4 years. He then went on to attend San Francisco State University where he became an initiated member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, thereby making lifelong brothers that would know him for the rest of his life. February 11th, 1989, he married Diane Carol DeYoung. They raised two children, Tyler James Swanson and Meghan Noel Swanson.



Friends who knew him best would say Richard was a guy you couldn't help but love, but also at the same time think 'what the hell dude!'. His love of playing softball, golf, and other outdoor games with friends was what he lived for. A true competitor in ever facet of life and loving a game for the game itself.

Rich had a passion for people. Anyone who had the pleasure of meeting him would undoubtedly agree he had the gift of gab. His addictive personality was much admired by his friends and family. He was known for his quick wit, friendly smile, and kind, compassionate spirit towards all he met. Richard was preceded in death by his mother Kathy. He is survived by his sister Andrea (Orcas Island, WA), his father Richard (Castro Valley, CA), and his two children, Tyler (Novato, CA) and Meghan (Walnut Creek, CA). He will be forever missed and remembered by his family and loved ones.

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### Lynee Sims

This past Saturday, the Trojans competed in the WACC Track Championship at Hayward High. The Trojans completed the season capturing two Titles. Both Boys and Girls.

Leading the way for the girls, sophomore Sprinter/Jumper, Lynee Sims. Lynee posted 3 first place finishes at the WACC Championship in winning the 100m in 12.52, 200m 25.58 and the Long Jump with a leap of 17'5".

She has a lifetime best in the Long Jump of 18'. Lynee also contributed leg on the Girls 4/100m relay team.

The team posted a seasonal best of 50.74 for second place overall.

Lynee is quickly becoming a household name on the Bay Area track scene. This young lady is just getting started.



## Spectrum: 'Show Your Love Event'

*continued from page 3*

Wines, a zoom log-in to join the live event and a "swag bag" with items to make the evening even more special.

To highlight the affair, Rick Negrón from the San Francisco production of "Hamilton" will perform and participate in a Q&A session with participants.

"The pandemic has introduced many of us to the newfound and harsh realities of food insecurity and social isolation – something that far too many seniors experience as their daily norm," said Ellie Hollander, CEO of Meals Wheels America.

For more information on the "Show Your Love event" or to find out how you can volunteer, contribute, visit [www.SpectrumCS.org](http://www.SpectrumCS.org).

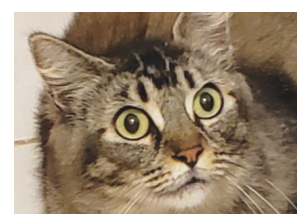
## ADOPT-A-PET



**Rieta** is a dainty female rabbit who enjoys timothy hay and a once weekly treat of a single banana slice. To adopt, call the Hayward Animal Shelter (510) 293-7200.



**Muffin** is a shy female bunny who enjoys a cool cup of water and a bowl of freshly cut herbs. To adopt, call the Hayward Animal Shelter (510) 293-7200.



**Olivia** is a gorgeous 2 year old Main Coon mix. She was rescued with her kittens and is ready for a home without dogs. More info, email [Love-allpawzrescue@gmail.com](mailto:Love-allpawzrescue@gmail.com).



**Poppy** is a sweet, playful 8-month-old Calico. She's looking for a loving family and a home with no dogs. For more info, email [Love-allpawzrescue@gmail.com](mailto:Love-allpawzrescue@gmail.com).

## SEWER PROBLEMS? CALL US FIRST



If you have problems with your sewer, and you are within Castro Valley Sanitary District's (CVSan) service area, **CALL US FIRST at (510) 537-0757 BEFORE you call a plumber.** We will inspect our sewer mains at no charge to you, and report our findings and recommendations, which could save you valuable time and money. **If you call a plumber before calling CVSan to check our sewer main, you will be responsible for all charges incurred.**

### What causes sewer blockages?

Some of the most common causes of sewer blockages are: the buildup of FOG (fats, oils, and grease), "flushable" wipes, cleaning products, pet and human hair, tree root intrusion into your sewer lateral and our sewer mains, or debris entering the sewer system from illegal connections.

CVSan Main Office: (510) 537-0757 (M-F 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

**Sewer Emergencies After Hours, please call (510) 506-5821.**

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to call the Main Office.

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## Schools: End of Year Celebrations

*continued from front page*

available to students and their families at the Center for the Arts theatre on campus.

"I just wanted to thank you all," said a Castro Valley parent during last Friday's school board meeting. "My daughter, after her first day of school looked at me and she said, 'Mama today was the best day ever,' and she's a fourth-grader. I'm glad that her schools are finally open."

In her letter to parents, Ahmadi commended teachers, staff, and parents for working hard over the past school year to follow safety protocols.

"The good news is that due to progress in vaccinations throughout the State, Alameda County's positive COVID cases are declining, hospitalizations are stabilizing, and vaccinations are now being available to anyone ages 16 years or older," she wrote.

The attention to following protocols has allowed for some

sports to fully compete such as football, baseball, softball, track and field, swimming, tennis, golf, cheer, and dance. Other sports – wrestling, badminton, and water polo are still conditioning. Basketball and soccer teams are not yet competing.

As for the typical end of the year celebrations such as advancements, graduation, prom, and annual awards ceremonies, Ahmadi has left those details up to each school to decide if the activities meet the state and county health guidelines.

High School graduation, for example, is scheduled to take place in the CVHS stadium with lots of restrictions. While details are still being worked out by the high school, county health guidelines might only allow about 1,400 people to attend in a stadium that can seat 4,500 spectators in its stands. Families will sit in designated areas with 6-feet of distancing between family pods.

End of year banquets, award ceremonies, and performances are also expected to take place outdoors or in a virtual format, Ahmadi told the Forum.

Academically, all Castro Valley schools will continue with their year-end assessment testing, Ahmadi said. She added that the District is expecting three times the typical number of attendees because of distancing. The district will open two more campuses in June and July to accommodate them.

**Castro Valley**  
Confirmed Cases = 2,499

**Alameda County**  
Vaccinations = 1,212,829  
Confirmed Cases = 85,357  
Deaths = 1,477

**California**  
Vaccinations = 25,790,401  
Confirmed Cases = 3,618,695  
Deaths = 59,772

as of April 19, 2021

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