

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020

NO. 13

INSIDE YOUR **FORUM**

OUR TOWN

YEAR 32



Increased Need

COVID-19 pandemic places extreme demands on local program

Page 3

NEWS



RCS Online

RCS students have transitioned to Online Distance Learning

Page 5

NEWS



Flush Protocol

Flushing anything other than toilet paper can cause big problems

Page 12

INDEX

Adopt-a-Pet 12
Classified Ads8
Crosswords 9
Home Improvement 11
Homes 6
Horoscope 10
Obituaries 10
Opinions 10
Our Town 3
Weather 2

PHONE: (510) 614-1560

DATA-BASED DECISION: With ridership dropping by 90%, BART is shutting down service at 9 p.m. nightly and delaying opening on weekends until 8 a.m.

BART Taking Action to Reduce Operating Costs

BART took swift action this week to reduce operating costs as ridership levels have declined by 90% as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and shelter-in-place orders.

After an exhaustive review of ridership and train car loads, the transit agency is making the following changes until further notice:

- Beginning this past Monday, BART began providing weekday service from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., instead of ending service at midnight, but the frequency of trains will remain the same.
- Starting this Saturday, March 28, weekend service will be from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

All riders must be in the system by 8:45 p.m. to have a guaranteed ride to their destination. BART will monitor ridership data each day to determine how long these service hours will be in effect.

Data-based decision

Ridership after 9 p.m. has dropped substantially and now represents only 3% of total daily riders.

BART officials say closing early is a better option than running less frequently or running shorter trains after 9 p.m. because the system will be able to save money by reassigning some of its staff to other projects.

"We are taking a data-driven approach to these decisions to ensure as few people as possible are impacted," BART General Manager Bob Powers stated. "Our system operates using public dollars and we have an obligation to make financially sound decisions about service levels.'

BART has initiated a hiring freeze except for its police department and has canceled all overtime except for critical functions. It is also seeking emergency funds from all levels of government during this crisis.

PG&E: Beware of COVID-19 Scams

PG&E is alerting customers to

began, the company's security department has received reports on tunately, that's the reality with a moratorium on service disconscammers requesting payment on scammers," said James Murphy, nections for non-payment, which past-due utility bills immediately PG&E Corporate Security Direc- applies to both residential and with a debit card.

be aware of potential scam phone in "spoofing," which is when the reminding customers that PG&E calls or emails threatening to shut incoming call appears to come will never ask for personal inforoff power if a payment is not from a PG&E telephone number. mation or a credit card number

"It's alarming that people are over the phone." Since the COVID-19 outbreak trying to capitalize on the pandemic and people's fears. Unforthat it has voluntarily implemented tor. "We've seen a steady stream

PG&E has also seen an increase of scam calls recently and are

PG&E has already announced see PG&E on page 4

COVID-19 Infections Double, One Dead In Alameda County

By Michael Singer CASTRO VALLEY FÖRUM

people are confirmed infected with the coronavirus in Alameda County, health officials reported currently stands at 10 people in-Monday as more efforts are being fected. Last week, Alameda Countaken to screen those at risk.

The Alameda County Pub- cases. lic Health Department's website (http://www.acphd.org/) notes the the public to follow the everyday person, who had been hospitalized, was elderly and had underlying conditions that placed them at

greater risk of serious illness. The person likely contracted the virus through community-acquired One person has died, and 112 transmission, a health official said.

The number of reported cases does not include Berkeley, which ty reported 45 confirmed positive

Health officials continue to urge preventive actions to help prevent the spread of viruses by staying see COVID-19 on page 4

Sutter Health Accepting Donations in Preparation For Coronavirus Surge

Health System Enterprises:

systems during this unprecedented per masks (with ties or elastic), health emergency, Sutter Health Paper protective gowns, Protecanticipates a shortage of medical tive glasses/goggles, Industrial supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE).

We are pursuing additional avenues to bolster and conserve our supplies, so we can meet critical community need while main- 1-844-987-6099. A Sutter Health taining patient and frontline staff representative will provide spesafety. We are asking for business cific guidance on how to make a and community donations of the delivery. For large local donations, following new items in original a courier service can be arranged.

The following statement is from packaging: N95 masks, Powered, Dr. Rishi Sikka, president of Sutter air-purifying respirator (PAPR) Hoods, Surgical masks, Proce-Like all hospitals and health dure masks, Isolation gowns, Paface shields (e.g., industrial face shields), Painters smocks (impermeable).

To make a donation, please contact local Sutter affiliates or call

Publisher's Statement:

The Castro Valley Forum is operating under reduced circumseveral years, EastBay Publishing Corporation has made no profit from the Forum or its sister publication, the San Leandro Times. We are going to do our best to continue publishing both newspapers weekly with a smaller staff. Any financial donations, no matter the size, will help keep us going, but keep in mind that they are not tax-deductible.

Because of the cutbacks, you might not receive a copy of the Forum by home delivery, but you will be able to find a PDF version at castrovalleyforum.com. In addition, print copies of both newspapers will be available from the rack at the Times' office at 2060 Washington Ave. in San Leandro while supplies last.

—Fred Zehnder, Publisher

OR EMAIL: fredz@ebpublishing.com

Experience counts!



We are Open and Real Estate is great! Call us for your private appointment.

925-251-2536



CV SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Poole's Love of Sports Leads to Career in Newspapers and TV

Last in a series profiling the 16 new members of the Castro Valley Sports Hall of Fame. The induction banquet will take place Sunday, September 20, at Redwood Canyon Event Center. More details at castrovalleysportsfounda-

> By Monte Poole SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

very so often I'll run into someone offering me a giftwrapped compliment with the cheer of Santa Claus on his first day at the mall.

reading you since, like, forever.

I thank them and express appreciation for their support. But such statements make me feel old.

And then I do the math and realize I'm indeed a veteran of the craft. I've been writing sports since 1983, full-time since March of 1985, two months before graduating from San Jose State – and nine years before I moved to Castro Valley, which I have proudly called home for the past 25 years.

With age comes wisdom (or so I've been told), but also an ever-lengthening list of memories that bring a smile to the face.

I love what I do, loved it before realizing writing about sports is how I wanted to make a living. The love of sports goes back to childhood, a second-grade boy who never got into comic books or the comic pages but always reached for the sports page of the Oakland Tribune.

But the journey from reading the Tribune to writing for it was filled with labor, advice and support. Having completed three unfocused semesters at Merritt College in Oakland, I zeroed in

Continental & TOYOTIRES

Cannot be combined with any other offers.

One time use only. Limited time only.



Monte Poole

Great to meet you. I've been on sports. I wasn't good enough to play professional sports, but I'd always gotten decent grades in language/English classes and I didn't mind addressing crowds. Maybe I could talk about sports, like the people on TV.

> It was time to transfer to Chabot College in Hayward.

Chabot had a solid mass communications program and an on-campus TV studio. A few weeks into my first quarter, one of my professors, a buoyantly avuncular man named Tom Driscoll, pulled me aside and floated an idea that I'd only briefly considered.

"You're a pretty good writer," working on the school newspa-

a campus tabloid published each week. He sold me on it, and our conversation launched me into journalism. I joined the staff and before long they were letting me write columns on any sports topic of my choosing.

I transferred to San Jose State, totaled, but I was resting at home where I spent five semesters, the

pre-graduation highlight being the spring semester of my junior year (1984) when I covered men's basketball for the Spartan Daily.

Hooked, I was. Even lucked into a part-time job covering prep sports for ... the Tribune. I was on the same team as Ron Bergman, Dave Newhouse and Nick Peters, working in the same newsroom as the esteemed and influential Ralph Wiley had vacated only a few months earlier.

From preps to colleges to pros to sports columnist, they tolerated me for 28 years, under four different ownerships. The career allowed me in 1994 to become a home owner, in Castro Valley, where my daughters attended school, ran track and played soccer.

Dozens of legends are among those I've interviewed and written about, including Rickey Henderson, Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, Al Davis, Carl Lewis, Don Nelson and the Warriors' Run TMC trio of Tim Hardaway, Mitch Richmond and Chris Mullin. Had dinner at the same table as the greatest of them all, Muhammad Ali.

With the newspaper business shrinking, I had the good fortune in October of 2013 to receive an offer from Comcast SportsNet he said. "Have you thought about Bay Area, now NBC Sports Bay Area, to become their Warriors Insider. Nearly seven years, six play-Mr. Driscoll was the advisor off appearances, five NBA Finals for the Chabot College Spectator, appearances and three championships later, I'm still there.

Another stroke of luck came my way in January of 2015. I'd left for a trip to Lowe's when my SUV was broadsided by a car running a red light at Castro Valley Boulevard and Crow Canyon, a stone's After four quarters at Chabot, throw from home. The SUV was see FAME on page 4

Tire Inspections

WITH ALL TIRE PURCHASES







With the onset of the Coronavirus, Meals on Wheels workers are working harder than ever to meet the increasing needs of homebound seniors in Alameda County.

COVID-19 Puts Strain on Local Program

the daily knock on the door and and poverty. the friendly smile of a Meals on Wheels volunteer, as a reason to are the only people who are goget up in the morning.

many essential services, are still day. Because these seniors reoperating under Alameda County's shelter-in-place orders due safe when their environment and to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) schedule are the same every day.

cally needed nutritious meal deliv-grams have experienced a mass eries to 2,400 homebound seniors of urgent calls from vulnerable at-

More often than not, volunteers ing to drop by to check in on their Meals on Wheels programs, like wellbeing at the same time every spond well to continuity, they feel

With the onset of the pandemic, These programs provide criti- three local Meals on Wheels probecause of a variety of reasons not being able to shop for food Oakland, CA 94612.

Many local seniors rely on including poor health, immobility because of a combination of their living situations, lack of a support system and inability to compete an was taken into custody. with panic buying at stores.

> This means local programs are working harder than ever to limit Friday, March 20: at 1:55 p.m., service interruptions.

Due to this increase in demand for Meals on Wheels, Alameda County's programs need the community's financial support. Gifts can be made online at www.feed-

SHERIFF'S REPORTS

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SINGER • CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

Violated a Court Order

Sheriff's deputies arrested a 22-year-old man with no permanent residence on suspicion of violating the terms of a court-issued restraining order and violating the terms of his probation. The man was stopped for questioning in front of a business on Redwood Road near Grove Way after the manager called to complain about a nuisance customer. Deputies took the man into custody.

Breaking and Entering

Sunday, March 22: at 6:54 p.m., a 23-year-old woman from CaV was arrested on suspicion of breaking and entering into a vacant lot on Grove Way near North 5th Street. Deputies also charged the woman with possession of burglar tools, destruction of private property, and possession of illegal narcotics and drug paraphernalia. The wom-

Wanted Man

deputies arrested a 56-year-old man from Castro Valley as part of a warrant issued for his capture. The man had been previously charged with failing to appear in court for a previous criminal charge. Depuingseniors.org or mailed to Meals ties served the warrant at a home on Wheels on Wheels of Alameda on Farley Street near Ada Street who cannot shop or prepare food risk seniors who fear hunger from County, 1721 Broadway, No. 201, and took the man to Santa Rita Jail pending bail.

Domestic Assault

Sunday, March 22: at 6:10 p.m., Sunday, March 22: at 7:28 a.m., a near Castro Valley Boulevard. the scene.

There, they arrested a 54-year-old woman from Castro Valley on sus-911 call about a loud and aggres- picion of assault on a family memsive-sounding argument sent dep- ber. Deputies took the woman into uties to a home on Chester Street custody. The victim was treated at

Message From Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Office says it will continue to en- portance of the shelter-in-place force California's shelter-in-place and everybody was super cool," order. This means that residents ACSO Sargent Ray Kelly says. are required to stay home and "We can all do better on practicing avoid non-essential travel. Depu- social distancing. People just need ties will continue patrols and issue warnings to individuals who are in overcrowding each other.' violation. The Department spent the last week following up with option for some, Sgt. Kelly added. business owners to discuss essential vs non-essential businesses.

"All the business owners we crisis hotline at 1-800-947-8301.

The Alameda County Sheriff's talked with understood the imto be mindful that they are not

Staying at home may not be an If at risk of domestic violence, call the County Family Justice Center

New Clients Special Rates



Schedule Your Appointment Today! Certified Registered Tax Preparer for Over 14 Years

Simply Taxes, LLC

Stacy Kinsella, owner 510-305-7505 www.simplytaxes101.com



Successful Financial Education Workshops

Tom Nohr CFP®

Comprehensive Financial Planning for Your Lifestyle in Retirement since 1986 20632 Redwood Road Ste. E, Castro Valley www.tomnohr.com 510-888-7171

FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services through Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Adviser, Cambridge and Successful Financial Education Workshops are not affiliated.



Alan D. West **Attorney at Law**

Specializing in Estate Planning

LIVING TRUSTS

...Avoid probate

...Eliminate or significantly

510-889-6692

19992 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley, CA 94546





San Leandro 182 Pelton Center (510) 483-3630

Since

Castro Valley 3446 Village Dr. (510) 581-0220

We Are

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Our Appreciation For Your Business & Support

Stay Safe & We Look Forward To Seeing You When We Reopen



Extra! Extra!



"Local Newspapers Remain a Dominant Source of News in Small Towns..."

according to the Reynolds Journalism Institute & the University of Missouri's School of Journalism.

The Castro Valley Forum... Your Best Source for Local News!

To Advertise Please Contact Mary Florence: 510-861-3270 Linda Nakhai: 510-915-1513

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

DELIVERED TO OVER 20,000 HOMES — TOTAL CIRCULATION 22,500 Office: 510-537-1792 • Fax: 510-483-4209 www.castrovalleyforum.com

Open For Take Out!

Buy One Lunch or Dinner and Get 2nd Meal 1/2 OFF, of equal or greater value, from Regular Priced Menu with this Ad. Not good with any other offer. Expires 04-07-20



Family Owned since 1957

Patio Dining Banquets "Have Your Party Here!"

"Bienvenidos Amigos" Celebrating 65 Years!

All Food Prepared Fresh Daily Cocktails and Catering

510.276.1793 VISA (1)

15508 E. 14th St., San Leandro (Across from Bayfair Center) I Open: Wed. - Sun. 11am - 10pm/Closed Monday + Tuesday I For Birthdays, Parties & Banquet Information Call Us Today!

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Alex Williams

Alex Williams (Class of 2018, Redwood Christian High School) is our Athlete of the Week. The Stanford sophomore is a right-hand pitcher who earned Pac-12 Pitcher of the Week honors.

Williams recently went seven innings and allowed just one run to lead the Cardinals to a 2-1 win.



CASTRO VALLEY INDEPENDENT SPORTS



Youth Baseball and Flag Football Programs www.CVISPORTSLEAGUE.org



Important Announcements From The Davis Street Family Resource Center

ed strong emergency disaster and or call 510-561-9042 risk management protocols. The center is taking extreme measures are still in-need.

and are executing hygiene, and tributing to our clients. sanitization safety standards from of updates for each department.

cy Food Pantry will remain to 6 p.m. open Monday through Friday 10

DAVE'S TAVERN

TAXI SERVICE

0

In the midst of the COVID-19 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is offering vices will remain closed until furcrisis, Davis Street Family Re- the option for a drive-through grosource Center at 3081 Teagarden cery pick up. To schedule a drive-St. in San Leandro has implement- through food pick up, please text

• Davis Street's Clothing Program will be closed and we will to protect our staff and volunteers not be accepting any donations of to ultimately be suitable to serve clothing or household items until and provide services to those that further notice. The only donations that will be accepted during this All Davis Street Staff have been time are unexpired food items unteers, monetary donations, and/ trained to take extra precautions which will be sanitized before dis-

 Medical and Behaviorthe CDC. Here is an important list al Health Services will remain Davis Street Community Center open Monday through Thursday 8 at 3081 Teagarden St in San Lean- available to all Americans as soon continued from page 2 Davis Street's Emergen- a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays 9 a.m. dro 94577, or volunteer by calling as possible.

• Dental and Optometry Ser-

ther notice.

• Child Development Centers Garfield and Roosevelt Ele-April 6.

Lakeside Site will remain open weekdays 8 a.m. to 5pm Jefferson Site will remain open Monday – Friday 7am – 6 p.m.

• Davis Street is in need of volor unexpired food items.

kind, check or cash donation to

COVID-19:

Screening at Fire Station

continued from front page

home, not touching your face, practicing social distancing, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and objects, and covering a cough or sneeze with a tissue which should then be thrown in the trash.

This week, the Hayward Fire Department opened a screening station at the city's fire station at 28270 Huntwood Avenue. The free testing can handle up to 370 tests a day.

People were lined up in their cars and on foot in a nearby park as early as 6 a.m. Monday. The tests are set up for those displaying symptoms, first-responders, and health care workers with recent suspected exposures to the coronavirus. Results are expected anywhere between 6 to 24 hours. Hayward officials said they purchased the tests from Avelino Labs in Menlo Park.

Alameda County Public Health Department says it supports Hayward's screening site and "will be working with them to explore opportunities to build upon their mentary Sites will be closed until model to expand access to testing in other parts of the county."

Rep. Eric Swalwell said his office will be collecting N-95 masks from those in his district who have them in bulk - building contractors, etc. - for redistribution to local health care facilities. The congressman made the statement You may drop off or mail in in during a virtual town hall where he also underscored the importance of making coronavirus tests

see COVID-19 on page 10

PHOTO BY LINDA SANDSMARK

Empty Screen

Castro Valley's Chabot Cinema remains dark and facing an unknown future these days, along with about 90% of the other 5,548 movie houses in the U.S. But the chairman of Sony Pictures, Thomas Rothman, predicts that the appetite for moviegoing would be stronger than ever, once the pandemic has passed. "People will want to get out and share communal experiences," he told the New York Times. "We will remember how much we love to be all together."

Fame: Poole Recalls Those Who Have Supported Him

and treatment by the good people at Eden Medical Center.

pushed and advocated for me, be- dreamed of back in 1981. ginning with Mr. Driscoll back in

Among them: Gene Houck, hired an inexperienced young man me in September.

and allowed him to develop; Dave five hours later, released after tests Burgin, the former ANG Newspapers Managing Editor who offered critiques both withering and con-None of these memories, good structive; and CSN/NBC execuand bad, could be experienced tives Nancy Gay and Ted Griggs, without those who supported, who provided the opportunity I'd

> Write about sports, and also talk about it on TV.

I still call Castro Valley home who ran the TV studio at Chabot; and am delighted to soon be in-San Jose State professors Mack ducted into the Castro Valley Lundstrom and Dave Grey; Bob Sports Hall of Fame. Hope you'll Valli, the Tribune sports editor who come celebrate the ceremony with







continued from front page will remain in effect until further or visit www.pge.com/scams. notice.

Earlier in the year, PG&E started seeing a new scam trend with anyone claiming to be a PG&E the request becoming more detailed. Scammers include specific PG&E employees always carry names of customers, and in some cases, guessing general dollar amounts owed. They are also diswith a caller ID that says "PG&E" or "Pacific Gas & Electric."

Anyone who has received such bank and law enforcement.

a call can report it immediately by commercial customers and which calling PG&E at 1-800-743-5000

> Customers should always ask to see identification before allowing representative inside their home. their identification and are willing to show it to you.

Anyone who has provided credguising their true phone numbers it card or checking account information should report it immediately to the credit card company or

SPECTRUM SENIOR LUNCHES

Low-cost lunches are available at the following Castro Valley locations at noon on the listed days. For lunch reservations, please call 24 hours in advance. Suggested donation is \$3.75. No registered senior over 60 will be refused a meal due to lack of funds.

• United Methodist Church • Aitken Senior Center Tuesdays 510-581-3486

17800 Redwood Road Monday thru Wednesday 510-881-6738

MENU

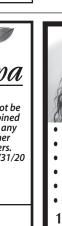
Monday, March 30

Moroccan Chicken with Greek Yogurt, Broccoli, Brown Rice, Fruit Mix

Tuesday, March 31: Holiday

Wednesday, April 1

Beef Burger on Wheat Bun with Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle and Onion, Lentil & Bean Soup, Banana



WE BELIEVE: "It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth... and the right of every child to be born."

A non-profit **CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER** helping women to identify life-affirming resources and receive guidance in planning for her and her baby's future.

• Free Pregnancy Tests Volunteer Opportunities

Medical Referrals Housing Referrals Free Maternity / Baby Clothes (as available) 24-HOUR HELPLINE

Friendship for Life 1-800-550-4900 1048 GRANT AVENUE • SAN LORENZO • 510-481-9677

Check us out at: www.birthrightofsanlorenzo.com Text and Email: info@birthrightofsanlorenzo.com

FACIAL\$50 Bring In Ad Get **\$5 Off HOT STONE** 60 minutes....\$55 offers. Exp. 3/31/20 **FOOT & BODY TREATMENT** 70 minutes....\$48 • 90 minutes....\$58 **510-889-0268** • 10am - 9:30pm Daily 20660 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley (Wells Fargo Plaza)

<u>Health</u> Day

RCS Classes Now Conducted Online

Redwood Christian Schools' keeping the school connected. students have transitioned to a systheir traditional classrooms.

from the RCS campuses on Mon- classroom setting. day, March 16 and two days later first in the schools' history.

ing busy at home, they are partici- continued. pating in a fully enriched academic program, including fine arts, utiliz- said he appreciated how everying Zoom video conferencing and one had stepped up to the new various online educational apps in challenge and the quick transition addition to the school's curricu- and launch of RCS online distance lum, school officials said.

Even athletic teams met virtucessful both in operations and in es," Hearne said.

"Overall, I think today was a tem of Online Distance Learning, success," said Daniel Barquero, a with computer screens replacing senior at RCS. "From a technical standpoint, I found no errors in In light of the ongoing spread Zoom, and the program was easy of the coronavirus and Alameda for me to figure out. Furthermore, County's shelter-in-place order, all I found it very easy to interact with students picked up their belongings my teachers as if we were still in a

"I think today set a strong founbegan at-home distance learning, a dation, and moving forward I feel that this system will be a great as-RCS students are not only keep- set for students to use," Barquero

Superintendent Al Hearne, II learning.

"It shows the entire RCS complans. The launch of RCS online to students and what is best for distance learning has proved suc- them no matter the circumstanc-



PHOTO COURTESY OF REDWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

ally to connect and share workout munity is collectively committed QUICK TRANSITION AND LAUNCH: Redwood Christian Schools' student made the transition from classroom to at-home Online Distance Learning last week in compliance with Alameda County's shelter-in-place orders.

Women's Hall of Fame Names 2020 Inductees

Thirteen local women representing the region's rich diversity as well as a remarkable range of achievement have been selected to be inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame.

The 2020 inductees are:

- Business and Professions: Reign Free
- Community Service: Candi Thornton-McCreary
- Culture & Arts: Judith Smith
- Education: Susan A. Cota, Ed.D.
- Emerging Leader: Nazineen Kandahari
- Environment: Fatemeh Shirazi, Ph.D.
- Health: Cynthia Carey-Grant
- Justice: Sonya L. Smallets
- Non-Traditional Careers: Jean Bjork
- Philanthropy: Nicole Kyauk
- Science, Technology, Engineering: Rashim Mogha
- Sports & Athletics: Teri McKeever
- Youth: Valeria Cruz

Due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, the 27th Annual Women's Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony has been postponed until this fall.

The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the County's Commission on the Status of Women and raises funds to support important local partners serving women and families in Alameda County.

For more information on the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame and the 2020 inductees, please visit whof acgov.org.

WASTE HANDLING TIPS



Wipes always go in the gray garbage cart/bin, never the toilet. Wipes clog pipes!



Collect tissues and other compostable paper items in a paper or compostable bag before placing in the green organics cart/bin.

As everyone focuses on keeping our homes, schools, and workplaces clean, here are some general reminders:

- Dispose of single-use/ anti-bacterial wipes in the gray garbage cart/bin. This includes "flushable" wipes which actually clog pipes. Certified "compostable" wipes are allowable in the green organics cart because they meet specific composting standards.
- Collect paper towels, tissues, food-soiled paper, and shredded paper in a paper or compostable bag. Place the bag in the green organics cart/bin.
- Dispose of all toilet paper in the toilet, not in any cart/bin.

Visit **www.cvsan.org** for proper waste disposal information.

CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT

Effective Environmental Services since 1939 510-537-0757 | www.cvsan.org This ad was funded by Measure D





EPIC CARE IS PLEASED TO

elcome

OUR NEW INTERNAL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN,



Deepak Dhawan, MD

As an internist, Dr. Dhawan works to help patients maintain optimal health, prevent disease, and treat the common cold or flu or other chronic illnesses like diabetes or heart disease.

For an appointment or new patient consultation, please call the practice location directly. We look forward to being your partner in health. Thank you!

CASTRO VALLEY

20400 Lake Chabot Road, Suite 102 T: (510) 247-9227

SAN LEANDRO

13851 East 14th Street, Suite 305 T: (510) 351-1193



Partners in Comprehensive Care

EAL ESTATE GALLERY





Ongoing Effects of the Coronavirus on Real Estate

t's been described as a train wreck in slow motion: you can see it coming but are powerless to do anything about it and have no idea just how bad it will be. Without question the coronavirus has dramatically affected all our lives and there is little doubt it will affect our futures as well. Amidst all the uncertainty, one thing is sure:

The world as we knew it has been permanently changed and we are now living in a new era.

With regard to real estate, the question on everyone's mind is, "How will the stock market crash affect home prices?" As of this moment, it is impossible to answer with certainty. First, we are too close to the crisis' beginning to measure long-term effects. Second, with real estate activities grinding to a temporary halt with the County's Shelter-in-Place edict, overall activities are down dramatically. It goes without saying, however, with stock prices diving, real estate is looking like a great investment.

As of this writing we are seeing existing escrows close, but

have no idea how long courthouses will continue recordings. Without immediate answers, title companies are scrambling to devise alternative solutions. Local realtors are forbidden to hold open houses or show properties, yet we are seeing offers being written; many of which are for homes visited prior to the lockin. There are still new homes coming on the market daily, and, seeking to keep the market going, some agents are writing offers contingent on their buyers being able to view the properties in person after the restrictions are lifted.

It is critical to realize one very important fact: even after the Shelter-in-Place proclamation is lifted, the virus will still be out there and will continue to affect the housing market. Some sellers have pulled back for fear of allowing unknown individuals into their homes. Some buyers are also exhibiting fear over the perceived risks of visiting homes.

It is interesting to note that, in a world that has substantially moved online for purchases, the real estate community is still

doing much of its business the old-fashioned way. Many are working feverously to develop alternative solutions, including utilizing 3D tours, video more to create more interactive and less intrusive virtual open

We are in a new world and, like those groping in the dark, carefully feeling our way one incident and one day at a time.

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.







Five Units. New Sewer Line and new Water Line. New Retaining Wall and New Roof. In-Unit Laundry and Back Yards.



\$999,000 - Monthly Income \$8,600

Serean Kimmel Realtor® 510.512.2145

serean@sereankimmel.com Remax Accord BRE# 01770629 www.sereankimmel.com



Oleander Toxic But Low Risk; Time to Prune the Evergreen Hedges

By Buzz Bertolero Special to the Forum

Should I be concerned about the oleander trees planted along a fence next to a sidewalk? Several of my gardening books make it very clear that all parts of the Oleander plant are poisonous. Last year, the flower petals were all over the sidewalk. Also, is there a method of preventing the sucker growth at the base?

Oleander plants are poisonous and can pose a threat, although I wouldn't be concerned about the ones planted in the landscape. They have been planted extensively throughout the Bay Area for over five decades, in gardens, public areas, and for a while used as a highway divider.

dling of the plant parts will not produce any adverse health issues. The Oleander toxin has to be ingested orally for problems to occur. Toddlers who like to put things in their mouths are at the greatest risk.



plants are poisonous when

rub or touch another edible

or non-edible plant, and the

Oleanders are a large

growing shrub that produces

new growth from the base as

well as from lateral branches.

Today, the single trunk form is

very popular as an evergreen,

small, flowering tree. It's de-

veloped from the bush form so

it naturally tries to reestablish

up suckers. You can't prevent

Garden. Sucker Stopper is a

growth regulator that is applied

to the base of the Oleanders,

its natural shape by sending

this growth, but you slow it

down with Sucker Stopper

from Monterey Lawn and

ingested. Also, the toxins are

not transmitted when the roots

flowers are safe unless ingested.

Many years ago, a second concern was from breathing the smoke from burning Oleander debris. This was before our garden trimmings, and recycling items were picked up.

Other examples of plants with similar health concerns characteristics like Oleanders are tomatoes, potatoes, and rhubarb. The leaves of these

where the growth has been pruned off. Applied right after pruning, it should prevent the regrowth for many months.

Our new home has a large hedge that has not been pruned in 20 years. It needs to be shaped and height needs to be lower. Any suggestions about how best to prune this hedge? My neighbor suggested cutting it back with a chain saw.

This is an excellent time to prune evergreens as the spring flush of growth is beginning. This also reduces the unattractive period as you wait for the new growth to appear.

There are three approaches you could employ. (1) over several growing seasons, you systemically reduce the height and reshape the trees. This would eliminate that the plants looked unappealing at any time. (2) The extreme option would be the 'chain saw' method and cut it back to the desired size. They'll recover in time, but they'll be annoying to look at. Option (3) is a hybrid of one and two; take down that portiand be patient with the rest. Ultimately, this is a judgment call on your part.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www. dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@ dirtgardener.com



Esmeyer Team

Whether you are moving out of town, want to keep relatives informed, or would just like to support the Times with a Loyal Reader subscription, mail in this coupon and receive all your local news every week — quaranteed!

Yes, I would like a 52-week subscription to the San Leandro Times. Enclosed is my check for \$90. Please mail my subscription to:

Yes, I would like to support the San Leandro Times with a one-year Loyal Reader subscription (San Leandro residents only). Enclosed is my check for \$30. (Guaranteed Delivery — Call 614-1555 for more info.)

Make checks payable to San Leandro Times, and mail this coupon to 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.
Name

1 Address _____

Ready To Buy Or Sell?

I'll Make Your Real Estate Needs My Top Priority.



Kremer & Company

REALTORS® Ken Kremer, CRS, GRI, e-Pro, ABR, SRES 510-301-1957

Ken@KremerCompany.com

PLEASE RECYCLE

Top Ways to Lighten Up Your Home Workspace

Many people have found themselves working from home. Whether setting up shop at the kitchen table or creating a complete home office, here are simple hacks to make your new work environment comfortable and productive.

"No matter which room becomes your workspace, proper lighting plays a key role in avoiding fatigue, eye strain and other discomforts," said Jennifer Kis, director of marketing communications, Progress Lighting.

Begin by defining your workspace. Setting up on the kitchen or dining table can work -- temporarily. The upside is that it's quick and easy. But these rooms are typically high-traffic areas, leading to distractions. Plus, you might have to pack up work at mealtimes. Instead, re-purpose a small table and chair and place it in an out-ofthe-way spot, such as a stairwell or bedroom corner.

Next, think about lighting. Layering light is a basic

technique that should be used in the primary source of lighting. every room, but especially home offices.

"Balance the lighting for different times of day. Natural light for day, layered light for afternoon and task lighting at night," recommends Piper Stromatt, lead designer and partner for Curate Custom Homes. 'There are three layers of light to consider: ambient or general light, task lighting and decorative or accent lighting."

Select a location with a good source of ambient light. Natural light is ideal: it diffuses throughout the space, bouncing off walls and ceilings to cut down on glare that can reflect on the computer monitor and the shiny desk surface.

"When selecting ambient

light sources, the goal is to illuminate the entire space without creating undue glare and contrast, which can lead to headaches and eye strain," says Kis. "If possible, avoid using

overhead ceiling fixtures as

If that's the only option, use a dimmer switch to vary light levels as needed."

Positioning your workspace correctly also helps. For rooms with natural light, place your desk perpendicular to the window, ideally facing north or south so that sunlight doesn't cast shadows at certain times of the day. If an overhead fixture is the only light source, situate your workstation so that the light shines from behind it.

"Make sure your home office suits your performance under particular lighting conditions," says Stromatt, who recommends the following tips:

- Don't set your monitor in front of the window; the bright background light shining behind the screen causes eye strain.
- Place your chair at least arm's length from the screen so that it can be seen without reading glasses or squinting.
- Add LED tape lighting behind your monitor or under a

desk for diffused light.

• Use solar shades to soften lighting and lessen heat.

After setting up a glare-free workstation, add task lighting. Use dedicated light sources such as desk lamps for tasks like paperwork and filing. Place direct task lights on the opposite side of the hand you write with to avoid casting shadows onto your work.

Finally, add accent lighting for visual appeal. Frame your workspace with desk lamps or install a permanent fixture on a dimmer switch, such as a pendant hung directly over the desk. Wall sconces can throw light on decorative objects in the room.

For more home tips and lighting inspiration, visit Progress Lighting at www. progressltg.com/shop.

Lighting can make or break a home office. Be sure to set yourself up for maximum productivity and comfort.

- StatePoint



Jon&<mark>Leslie</mark> J&L Real Estate Group

Castro Valley is our business, life and our passion.

Our dynamic marketing is promoting your property. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, throughout the US.

Our team offers complete real estate services including:

- Dynamic, multi-platform, high visibility marketing.
- Unrivaled knowledge of Castro Valley, our entire team works, lives, shops and volunteers in Castro Valley. From schools to local businesses we have you covered.
- Castro Valley Relocation Discount Program (ask us about it).
- Senior Discount (55 and over). You can save money selling or buying your home.
- Staging Services.



Contact us to be on our VIP buyer list, to learn about all our off-market / coming soon listings in Castro Valley.

Coming Soon!

BEDROOMS I 3 BATH I 2,363 SQ. FT

3270 Hertlein Pl. CASTRO VALLEY **Coming Soon!**

18587 Stanton Ave. CASTRO VALLEY 3 BEDROOMS | 1 BATH | 1,680 SQ. FT.



24/7 Live Virtual Showing Program

Giving buyers the ability to live tour your home virtually from anywhere.



In the interest of health and well-being of both our community and people, J&L Real Estate Group would like to encourage the use of Virtual Open Houses. If a buyer is interested in seeing a J&L Real Estate Group listing, we will happily provide a link that includes the following: *A live video tour of the entire property and surrounding area

*A 2D & 3D, self directed tour of the home *A comprehensive list of the home's features and upgrades. In addition, this link will also provide access to photography, a detailed description of the property, property disclosures and reports. As always, every J&L Real Estate Group listing can be sent directly to via email or text message. We are working hard to innovate and adapt during these challenging times. Hope you are all doing well, and staying safe!

LETTERS to the EDITOR

CVSan Service During the Shelter-in-Place Period

In order to keep our customers informed, I would like to communicate the following service advisories.

Your garbage, recycling, and organics curbside pickups will continue. Please set your carts out on your scheduled day for pickup as normal.

While our office staff is largely working from home, and our office on Marshall Street is closed to walk-in visitors, our sewer maintenance workers remain on the job – this is essential, critical work to maintain our main sewer lines to keep them running smoothly. So, you may see our crews in your neighborhood, protecting our infrastructure and preventing adverse impact to our environment.

I also have a request. Please follow the essential rule of what to flush and not flush. Please do not flush paper towels, wipes, coffee filters, etc. - these items clog pipes, which can lead to releases of wastewater to the environment, and can cause issues at our wastewater treatment plant. Please put those items in your garbage cart.

As the impact of COVID-19 to our community continues to develop, CVSan will provide further service updates as needed.

Customers can reach CVSan with questions at 510-537-0757 or contact@cvsan.org. You may also reach us at www.facebook.com/ cvsan or www.twitter.com/cvsan.

I hope you, your family, and your friends stay healthy,

-Dave Sadoff President, CVSan Board of Director

Acts of Kindness

During these distressing times, I think it's important to acknowledge acts of kindness and courtesy that lift us all up.

I was delighted to see my neighborhood, led by Kate Hardwig, step up by e-mail to offer help to one another. I've always depended on the friendship and support of my closest neighbors, but it was very reassuring to hear from so many on the block!

I was also impressed with the staff and customers at the Castro Valley Lucky's this week just before the "Shelter in Place" order went into effect. Despite long lines, ransacked shelves, and a lot of anxiety, everyone I encountered remained calm and courteous.

But the checkers were the ones who really knocked my socks off! After hours of non-stop checking and bagging, they were still smiling

Thank you all for confirming my faith in humanity!

—Pat Blackwell-Marchant Castro Valley

Obituaries

Deer Creek CREMATION SERVICES

- Top Rated
- Caring
- Professional
- Reasonable

Castro Valley 510-317-7890 FD 1505 FDK 651

SARA L. ENNOR **LAWYER**

- Wills & Trusts
- Benefits, ERISA
- QDROs

510-633-9985

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM OBITUARIES may be emailed to:

obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Include a phone number.
For help, call Patrick Vadnais at 510-614-1558

Since 1965 Jess C. Spencer

Mortuary & Crematory 21228 Redwood Rd., **Castro Valley**

581-9133

Offering Personalized Memorial and Gremation Services.



FROM THE BOULEVARD

The Coronavirus: Health & History in Castro Valley

By Thomas E. Lorentzen SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

> A historian is a prophet in reverse. -Schlegel

The coronavirus is on most everyone's mind. As this is true in Castro Valley, it is also true throughout our country and the world. There are many unknowns, concerns and fears.

How bad is it and how bad can it get? What can we do to protect ourselves? We seek answers to these questions. Some can be given. Some can't, as there is still much to be determined.

It also has many ramifications, including on the ways we live and work. It also puts our future in doubt.

Although I am not a medical professional, I spent many years in the world of public policy as it pertains to public health. This included service locally as a former board member to the Eden Health District and as Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health & Human

Services in the far western states, including California and the Pacific Rim.

In the development and implementation of public policy it is important to have a grasp of diverse subjects, including the history of public health. This includes the role that medical care provides, along with individuals, families and communities. Knowledge is pivotal to increase chances of efficacy.

My lifelong interest in history has always provided a valued perspective on public policy issues. Before becoming Regional Director for

the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, I was fully aware of the deadliest public health issue of the 20th Century – the flu pandemic of

Tom Lorentzen

A friend of my family in New York often told me stories about it from his personal experiences. Both his parents died from the flu. He was placed in an orphanage in Brooklyn as a little boy.

Horse-pulled carts passed with frequency in front of the orphanage. They were taking the dead to be buried. It was not only tragic. It was horrific. It was a holocaust.

With that knowledge, I was pleased that a well-written book was published about 15 years ago that brought this tragedy back before our minds. As the senior federal health official in the western states I was pleased that the Secretary of HHS placed it as a top priority on his agenda.

Hundreds of educational and training events were hosted around the country with state and local health officials, as well as with the private sector. They were also held in distant locations in the Pacific, including Hawaii, Guam, Saipan, etc.

The message was consistent – be prepared! It has come before and will come again. For those who lacked this historical knowledge, it was a wake-up call. History is important to the present and future.

Now, with the coronavirus upon the world stage it contains many reasons for uncertainty and even fear. Yet, as FDR once said with infamy, "We have nothing to fear, but fear itself."

Knowing that hundreds of educational and training sessions were held throughout the country a dozen or so years ago is important to know, for being prepared and trained for what to do with a flu pandemic is pivotal to containing and mitigating its minatory capabilities. Even though there are lots of unknowns that need identification and actions that need to be taken, I remain grateful that our public health officials at the federal, state and local levels took steps a dozen years ago to be prepared for this moment.

Governor Newsom referenced this in his remarks on Thursday night as he issued a statewide "stay-in-place" order. It doesn't guarantee that we will overcome the threat, yet it does greatly increase our chances to deal with this difficult and dangerous issue at this moment in time.

If overcome, which I am confident that it will be, having a knowledge of the past helped us prepare for the present and future as well.

Tom Lorentzen lives in Castro Valley. He formerly served on the board of the Institute of Museum & Library Services and the Advisory Board to Southern Oregon University, and has served three Presidential

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 publish unsigned or anonymous letters. Email Letters to: fredz@ebpublishing.com or mail to: The Forum, P.O. Box 2897, Alameda, CA 94501.

COVID-19: CV Businesses Evaluate What is 'Essential'

continued from page 4 **Businesses Evaluate** Meaning of "Essential"

As part of the state's shelter-inplace order, businesses have been adjusting how they interact with

Castro Valley and Eden Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ashley Strasburg recently praised businesses that are complying with the "Essential Services" directive which allows companies that provide health care, food, shelter, and social services to continue to remain open.

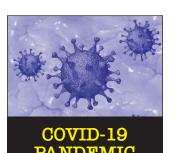
Restaurants have had the hardest time adjusting as in-house or discrimination, please speak dining is not an option. Strasburg up and reinforce facts," a Health encouraged people to check with Department spokesperson said in local eateries to see if online order- a statement. ing or delivery is available.

Some Castro Valley businesses are taking more controlled measures. Pete's ACE Hardware reports that their staff will shop for items you need, but all transactions will be done at the front door. ery department available through Jiffy Lube is requiring customers tele-health, online and on the to remain in their vehicles to prevent the person-to-person spread of the virus.

ty Sheriff's Sgt. Ray Kelly told the Ahmadi issued in a statement. Forum that deputies spent time this past week checking on business owners and reminding them of the county order.

"We had to explain to one nail salon that their shop did not officially qualify as an 'essential busithe time being."

cials are asking all residents and ton and Castro Valley Elementary.



businesses to reject racist rhetoric that may stem from the pandemic.

"There is no racial, ethnic or cultural basis for COVID-19. If you witness racism, xenophobia

Schools Provide Online Support

In addition to holding classes by computer, the Castro Valley School District says it is making counselors and support staff in evphone to address student needs.

"Please let us know if your child needs any support. We have While some business designa- created and shared a list of tools tions are clear, the notion of "so- accessible on our website that we cial services" has not applied to all hope you have the opportunity to types of business. Alameda Coun- check out," Superintendent Parvin

> School District officials say custodians have now deep-cleaned all sites and office staff are working online to respond to questions and register new students.

The Child Nutrition staff continues to provide so-called "grabness,' and they were good natured and-go" meals for hundreds of stuabout it and closed their doors for dents. The meals are being offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and In the meantime, county offi- Fridays at Creekside Middle, Stan-

HOROSCOPE by Salomé © 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.



ARIES (March 21 - April 19): An unexpected problem should be handled as quickly as possible so that it doesn't cause too much of a delay. Someone who knows what you're facing could provide needed advice.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): An unsettling situation seems to be taking forever to be resolved. Fortunately, your Bovine aptitude for patience is strong this week, so you'll be more than able to wait it out.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): Taking a stand against an uncalled-for situation involving a friend or co-worker isn't easy, but somehow you'll rise to the challenge and do it. Rely on advice from someone you trust. CANCER (June 21 - July 22): There are still some questions on all



sides that need to be dealt with in order to allow hurt feelings to heal. Get your workplace tasks done early so that you can devote more time to loved ones. LEO (July 23 - August 22): Consider a new spring makeover that will show all you Leos and Leonas in your best light. A new hairdo and some



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Some stormy, emotional weather can blow up in the workplace when an irate co-worker has strong words for you. But if you believe right is on your side, you'll be able to ride it out.

fashionable new clothes can help put a fresh glow on your image



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Creating more balance in your life is especially important now so that you're not distracted when you get into projects that will make demands on both your physical and mental energies.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): As much as you enjoy being right when others are not, show your generous side by offering to use what you know to everyone's benefit. This way, you gain admirers and avoid resentment.



Archer to aim at healing relationships. Whether it's at home, at work or among your friends, get everyone to set things straight and make a fresh start.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): This is a good week for the



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Although you like things done your way, this is a good time to listen to ideas from others. You might even find yourself agreeing with one or more of their suggestions. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Aspects favor positive action to

any of the work. Expect to find many people rallying to support you.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): You might feel uneasy about taking that step forward at work or in your private life. But who knows better than you that while treading water keeps you afloat, it doesn't get you anywhere.



Four Spring Home Improvement Tips That Could Help You Save Thousands

By Christopher O'Rourke **ŠPECIAL TO THE FORUM**

Longer daylight hours, and budding trees and flowers are early signs that warmer weather and spring are here. That means more time outside to enjoy nature, but it's also a sign it might be time for a little spring cleaning.

It isn't just about getting rid of belongings you no longer want or need — it's also a time to get your home in tip-top shape so you can enjoy it throughout the rest of the

Here are four tips to welcome money down the road.

Clean your Gutters

Gutters collect debris over time, especially when wind and rain cause twigs, pine needles and leaves to settle on your roof and in your rain gutters.

Accumulated debris can create blockages that direct water into round, so it's best to get a jump on the home or, in drought season, tree maintenance in early spring. can act as kindling in the event of Regularly trimming tree branches a fire. Buildup also allows mildew reduces their chance of breaking and mold to develop, which can during a storm, which could cause slowly decay a home's exterior power outages or property damand roof.

Preventable damage like mold building up eventually.



the new season and save some An hour or two spent cleaning or checking gutters is time well spent compared to the alternative.

An hour or two spent cleaning or checking gutters is time well spent compared to the alternative.

Trim Branches and Remove Dangerous Trees

High winds can occur year

Properly trimmed branches a home's exterior isn't covered your home, power lines or posby homeowners insurance. It's sibly injuring someone on your important to routinely clean out property. In areas that are prone gutters — even if you have gut- to wildfires, trimmed trees create

Consider having trees on your property inspected by an arborist to determine their health and have diseased trees removed before they topple over unexpectedly.

Watch Out For **Service Lines**

Homeowners who want to plant gardens, trees or install additional landscape features to enhance their outdoor living space should be aware of potential underground utility lines.

Most service lines — a network or mildew that develops and rots present a lower risk of falling onto of exterior, underground utility lines or pipes that supply a home with electricity, gas, water and sewer functions — are only buried a few inches beneath the ground. ter guards installed, they don't a buffer zone to help lower the Accidentally hitting one when dig- president of property claims for completely protect against debris chances of flames easily jumping ging can result in loss of service, Mercury Insurance. expensive repairs or serious injury.

If a break to a service line happens on a homeowner's property, special machinery may be needed to excavate pipes from beneath the ground, which may require digging under your home, garden or driveway.

To be safe, homeowners should call 811 before any digging so the utility companies can send a locator to mark the approximate locations of underground service

Service Your Air Conditioning Unit

Regular maintenance of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems is essential to ensure the equipment is in proper working order, which can save money on energy bills, as well as protect against expensive repair and replacement costs.

You should also change your air filter to make sure it's operating at its highest efficiency, so when that heat wave hits you'll be nice and cool inside your home.

Have a professional inspect your HVAC unit to make sure its exterior condenser coil and compressor are clean and free from blockages — the average cost for an inspection is about \$300.

Your home will bring you security and joy for many years to come. Taking the time to maintain it is well worth the investment.

Christopher O'Rourke is vice

-BrandPoint

GOT 10 MINUTES?

Clues to Detect, Fix **Leaks in Your Home**

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average American household has leaks that waste more than 10,000 gallons of water every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.

But if you have 10 minutes, these clues can help you detect and fix leaks throughout your home:



- Check your utility bill. During the winter, if a family of four is using more than 12,000 gallons of water per month, it could be the clue to a leak.
- Read your water meter. Check your water meter often near the curb in front of your home - during a period when no water is being used. If the reading is not exactly the same after several hours, you could have a leak.
- Put a few drops of food coloring into the tank at the back of your toilet and let it sit for 10 minutes. If color shows up in the bowl, you have a leak. Make sure to flush after to avoid staining. Replace your old toilet flapper if it is torn or worn.
- Tighten showerhead connections with a wrench or use a little pipe tape to stop those stray sprays and drips that are draining your water bill. To save even more, twist WaterSense labeled faucet aerators on your bathroom sink faucets, which can save the average family 700 gallons of water per year and enough energy to run a hair dryer 10 minutes per day.
- In the kitchen, check beneath the sink for puddles under pipes. Don't forget the laundry or utility room!
- Outside, check that your hose connections are tight and your sprinkler system is in good working order. An irrigation system that has a leak 1/32 of an inch in diameter (about the thickness of a dime) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month!

-North American Precis Synd., Inc.



R&S Overhead Garage Door Inc. www.rsdoors.com

WE CAN FIX IT TODAY!

 Noisy Garage Door?
 Dented Steel Sections? • Rotten Wood Panels? • Broken Springs?

Tune-Up Special

Operator Adjustment

 Complete Lubrication | • Tighten All Fasteners

• Adjust Springs Exp. 5/31/20 • Safety Check

With coupon. Not valid with any other offers.

Painting a Room? Tips on Choosing Paint Colors

you need. Check the sample color your walls! in various lighting conditions on the surface you want to paint.

Choosing Colors

Light colors reflect light, and make a room appear bigger Blues and Greens are cool colors, and are ideal for a relaxing, calming atmosphere

Reds and oranges are stimulating, and ideal for dining rooms or anywhere food is eaten

Whites (of which there are hundreds!) are popular at the moment because minimalism is in fashion. They accentuate everything else in the room, which may include art or pieces of furniture.

Don't use pure white unless you are painting a medical clinic or a laboratory. Choose an off-white and the subtle tones will help you achieve what you want without being extreme.

Darker colors or feature walls can be dramatic, and can make a room feel cozy and warm. Use them sparingly

Consider the furniture or artwork you already have in the room. Choose complimentary or contrasting shades to highlight

Always buy a sample can to their colours. Its easier to pick a them that you can carry through

features, so try to pick a color for and materials.

make sure you're happy with the color that matches your furniture the building and tie all the rooms ceilings, don't be afraid to be bold color before purchasing the amount than to buy new furniture to match together with a common theme. If you don't, you risk making your Trims such as doors, windows interior look too busy,and it will and architraves should not be cost you a lot more in extra labor

If you have a large room or high and use color creatively. If the interior is small be careful about how many colors you use. Three is enough for any room, and yes, ceiling white is a color!

FENCE Replace... Repair & Save!

Reinforcement of existing fences is my only business, Rotted posts are my specialty!

FREE ESTIMATES 510-706-6189 Randy McFarland BBB

On Any Budget Blinds Products



Great Selection of Attractive Styles to Handle Light, Privacy and Energy Issues.

We have the Best Warranties in the **Business!**

Shutters • Draperies • Wood Blinds Honeycomb Shades • Roller Shades Vertical Blinds • Silhouettes® Woven Woods

Professional Measurina and Installation. Quality, Convenience, Value!



925-216-4857 Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Oakland, Berkeley, Castro Valley & Hayward www.budgetblinds.com FREE In-Home Consultation & Estimates • Locally Owned & Operated



GUTTER JOB Can not be combined with any other offer.

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-827-8957

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS & OFFER SPECIAL FINANCING (O.A.C) LET US PUT A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD











PG&E Donates a Million Surgical Masks

PG&E has announced it is doshortage of personal protective "It's the right thing to do." equipment.

individuals and families facing earthquakes or fires. food insecurity, and small businesses facing uncertainty and the economic impacts of the public health emergency.

The donations come from to wildfires. shareholder funds, not customers.

nating 480,000 N95 masks and but we know that our path forward 470,000 surgical masks to the requires us working together and Services for distribution to Cal- first responders on the front lines ifornia hospitals and to first re- of the pandemic," said Andy Vesponders who are facing a critical sey, PG&E CEO and President.

The utility and its foundation the mutual aid that utility compaalso will contribute \$1 million to nies provide to each other during nonprofits focused on supporting emergency response for storms, are collecting masks and other

The company maintains a supply of several types of masks to protect utility crews working in construction zones or responding

Each year before wildfire sea- go to www.pge.com/covid19.

"This crisis is unprecedented, son the company replenishes its stock of masks.

PG&E is donating as many Governor's Office of Emergency helping medical professionals and masks as possible, while maintaining sufficient supplies to ensure the safety of its field workers performing essential and emergency services during the pandemic, and Vesey said the donations mirror to prepare for the upcoming fire

> The company's employees also equipment from their personal emergency kits to donate to hospitals and emergency services responders in their local areas.

> For more information on PG&E and the coronavirus crisis,

ADOPT-A-PET



TILLY the 2-year-old pit mix, **CORY** is a 10- years-young is quite the cuddler. She's well boy who loves head scratches behaved on walks, doesn't mind and exploring his new environbaths and loves to look out the ment. His previous guardian fell window. OK with teens. For on hard times and sadly, had more info, call Hayward Animal to rehome him. Call Hayward Shelter: 510-293-7200.



to go to a home with another Spayed, vaccinated, microyoung cat. Spayed, vaccinated, microchipped. Email: Loveallpawzrescue@gmail.com.



Animal Shelter: 510-293-7200.



CURLY is a sweet, active LINDA is a friendly, playful 7-month-old tuxedo who is 11-month-old brown tabby who friendly and active. She'd love does well with cat-friendly dogs. chipped, FIV/FeLV negative. Please email: Loveallpawzrescue@gmail.com.

Only Flush **Toilet Paper**

One of the impacts of COVID-19 is a decrease in the availability of toilet paper to the community. Castro Valley Sanitary District reminds customers that flushing anything other than toilet paper can cause unwanted sewer backups in your home, as well as backups in the sewer main.

Decrease the chances of having untreated sewage enter your home by not flushing the following in your toilet for any reason: flushable wipes, wipes, tissues, paper towels, napkins, newspaper, coffee filters, magazines, socks, towels, fabrics, cotton balls, cardboard, t-shirts, and corn husks.

If you are using something other than toilet paper to aid in the disposal of human feces, the following protocol should be fol-

Immediately after use, place the soiled toilet paper alternative in a bag. Tie off or roll closed the full bag and place it in the gray garbage cart or bin. Do not place the bag in blue recycling or green organics carts or bins.

Avoid sewage back-ups in your home and help CVSan maintain the main sewer line.

PRODUCE STORAGE **TIPS**

FRUIT AND VEGGIES NEED CARE

You may have stocked up on extra fruit and veggies. Did you know that how you store them impacts how long they are best for? The following helpful storage guide is from StopFoodWaste.org.

WHERE REFRIGERATOR



- Set your fridge to 40
- Store veggies separately from fruit.
- Use plastic bags and containers to prevent drying out.
- Wash berries and grapes when ready to eat.

COUNTER AND REFRIGERATOR



- Ripen on the counter.
- When ripe, store in
- Separate ripe from unripe fruit.

COUNTER



- · Store herbs like basil upright, with cut stems in a cup of water, like flowers.
- Separate bananas from the bunch and store.

PANTRY



- Store in a cold, dark place like a cupboard or pantry
- Store potatoes separately from onions to prevent sprouting.
- Store an apple with potatoes to prevent sprouting.

For more food waste prevention tips, visit cvsan.org/reduce.

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE ROT

CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT

Effective Environmental Services since 1939 510-537-0757 | www.cvsan.org This ad was funded by Measure D



LEGAL NOTICES

FEBRUARY 26, 2020 MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY -, Deputy FILE NO. 569023

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): TriMed Billing Associates at 3847 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Kathie Vandiver, 20022 Meadowlark Drive, Castro Valley, CA 94546, and (2) Denise Roberts, 3847 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by co-partners. This business com-

/s/ Kathie Vandiver, Denise Roberts This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated Expires MARCH 4, 2025 by file stamp above Expires FEBRUARY 26, 2025

MAR 11, 18, 25, APR 01, 2020

FILED MARCH 4, 2020 MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY -, Deputy FILE NO. 569260

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930 The name of the business(es):

Smoke Industries at 19379 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hernan Langarica Jr., 19379 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Hernan Langarica Jr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

> MAR 11, 18, 25, APR 01, 2020 0244-CVF

FEBRUARY 27, 2020 MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY , Deputy FILE NO. 569029

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): BODI'S JAVA at 3803 E. Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, CA 94552 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Ki Hoon Han and (2) Hyang Sook Han, 20147 Waterford Place, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a married couple. This business commenced

/s/ Ki Hoon Han, Hyang Sook Han This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires FEBRUARY 27, 2025

MAR 18, 25, APR 01, 08, 2020

FILED FEBRUARY 24, 2020 MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY -, Deputy FILE NO. 568830

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930 The name of the business(es):

Cal-Fed Construction Company at 16846 Daryl Ave., San Lorenzo, CA 94580 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Xueyong Mei Chen, 718 Roverton Ct., San Ramon, CA 94582 and (2) Yu Ming Chen, 16846 Daryl Ave., San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by a general partnership. This business commenced 10/01/2003.

/s/ Xueyong Mei Chen, Yu Ming Chen This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above

Expires FEBRUARY 24, 2025

MAR 04, 11, 18, 25, 2020 0239-CVF

FILED FEBRUARY 27, 2020 MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY --, Deputy FILE NO. 569041

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): DL International at 21550 Pheasant Woods

Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Qian Li and (2) Lang Deng, 21550 Pheasant Woods Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a married couple. This business commenced

/s/ Qian Li, Lang Deng This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires FEBRUARY 27, 2025

MAR 04, 11, 18, 25, 2020 0242-CVF

Starting a New **Business?**

The SL Times reaches 99% of homes in San Leandro

File your Fictitious **Business Name** Statement with us Today

Stop by or call Patrick V. at (510) 614-1558

2060 Washington Ave, San Leandro, CA 94577