Equifax might owe you $125

By Manny Otiko

On June 22, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) announced the outcome of a settlement with Equifax, one of the three major credit monitoring firms in the United States. The settlement requires Equifax to pay somewhere between $500 and $700 million in restitution for a 2017 data breach that affected about 147 million people across the United States, according to Jacqueline Connor, a privacy attorney with the FTC. The amount of the settlement is the highest in U.S. history for a data breach and the number of people impacted represents almost half the United States’ population. That’s nearly every adult in the country who has credit. In California alone, Hackers were able to access and expose the personal information of 10.2 million Californians in the breach.

Capturing the completion of a dream

The opening of the Pedestrian /Bicycle bridge in East Palo Alto on May 18, 2019 marked the completion of a dream. It had been years in the making. There are other projects in East Palo Alto that are in process and others that were completed. See page 3 of this issue to read about the tour of a major one that was completed, continued on page 7.

SMCOE serves nutritious meals every school day

By Patricia Love

Effective July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, children in San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) programs are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the student's household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines. If any household members receive benefits from CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR, households do not need to turn in an application after receiving a notification letter saying that their children automatically qualify for free meals. Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant or runaway or who are enrolled in their school's Head Start program are also eligible for free meals.

Applications will be sent to each eligible household with a letter about the free and reduced price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits should fill out one application for all children in the household and return it to the school office. The school will let households know if an application is approved or denied. If any child in the household is not on the notification letter, or if the household does not want to receive free or reduced-price meals, a member of the household must contact school officials. Households may turn in an application at any time during the school year by school officials. The last four digits of the Social Security number from any adult in the household or indicating that you do not have a Social Security number is required if you include income on the application.

Households that receive Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefits, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals by completing an application. Foster children are eligible for free meals and may be included as a household member if the foster family chooses to also apply for the continued on page 7
California now has one of the strongest police use-of-force laws in the country

By Tanu Henry

Thanks to the “moral strength” of Black Legislative Caucus Chair Shirley Weber who led the effort.

Today Gov. Gavin Newsom signed into law one of the strongest measures in the country intended to deter police officers from killing civilians while pursuing criminal suspects.

After a grueling yearlong process that survived bitter fights, tense negotiations and impassioned speeches, on July 8 the Senate voted 29-1 to pass AB 392, the California Act to Save Lives.

In May, law enforcement organizations, once staunch opponents of the bill, held a private meeting with the governor and members of the legislature and reached common ground on some of the language in the legislation. Advocates of the bill said those amendments helped the bill pass.

“The bill,” said Melina Abdullah, co-founder of the Los Angeles chapter of Black Lives Matter, “is a big win for us as a community. It’s a mark that this is a victory for Black lives.

In April, the “Act to Save Lives” cleared its first hurdle when the Assembly Public Safety Committee voted 5-2 in favor of the legislation.

Shortly after, state law enforcement groups – including the California Highway Patrol, the Peace Officers Research Association of California and the California State Sheriffs’ Association – announced that they had taken a neutral position and would no longer oppose the proposal after meeting with Gov. Newsom to smooth out differences.

When Weber presented the revised version of AB 392 with the input of the police groups, Black Lives Matter dropped its sponsorship.

“We knew that it would be an uphill battle, especially with police associations opposing the bill,” said Melina Abdullah, co-founder of the Los Angeles chapter of Black Lives Matter.

“In its original form, AB 392 explicitly redefined the state’s legal standard for police officers’ use of lethal force, replacing the description ‘reasonable’ with ‘necessary’,” continued on page 14.
Tour of RV Safe Parking site

On a breezy California evening, officials from neighboring cities gathered in East Palo Alto to hear about and tour East Palo Alto’s new RV Safe Parking program. The program, run by Project We-Hope is a pilot program that is one of the first in the country of its kind. It not only offers a safe overnight parking space for RV dwellers, but it also offers access to toilets, showers, laundry services, meals, security and case management to assist program participants in securing permanent housing. The RV Safe Parking program officially opened on May 1 of this year at 1798 Bay Road, the original site of the Ravenswood Family Health Center. The program was funded by a $300,000 grant of which 2/3rds came from the city and 1/3rd came from foundation funding.

Those who came for the tour, held on Wednesday, August 28, included council members from Menlo Park, Los Altos, Redwood City and Sunnyvale.

Nicole Taylor, the president and CEO of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and the foundation’s Senior Vice President, was impressed by the nonprofit’s ability to work with the residents and the community to provide a safe, legal place to park RVs.

The three Bay Area cities of Mountain View, Redwood City and East Palo Alto convened late into their summer recess before the evening to discuss possible solutions to the traffic problem. Commuter traffic in East Palo Alto continues to worsen. During the last Public Works & Transportation Commission meeting on July 17, before their summer recess, the commissioners convened late into the night to discuss possible solutions to the traffic problems.

The meeting specifically addressed the traffic flow through East Palo Alto. The commissioners heard from Susan Barnes, a Fuse Corps Fellow, who is working with the city to improve the current traffic and parking conditions. In addition to Barnes, the city engaged Hexagon Transportation Consultants to perform a Mobility Study.

This study included a voluntary survey among East Palo Alto residents regarding traffic and parking issues. Michelle Hunt of Hexagon Transportation Consultants presented the survey findings and possible solutions.

One of the short-term traffic solutions is signal synchronization along University Ave, Donahoe, and East Bayshore. In addition, the city can also modify signal timing to meter the traffic at gateway intersections. These options do not cost anything and have an expected completion of this Fall. The most expensive option is the installation of curb extensions at intersection corners. The anticipated cost is $160K and would take until Summer 2020 to complete.

Mid-term options include closing the median on University Ave, enhancing transit service, and local tolls and congestion pricing.

Some of the more feasible long-term actions are to construct a loop road from University Ave to Demeter St and to create a reversible lane on University Ave.

Aside from cut-through traffic, parked vehicles are also congesting East Palo Alto streets. There are vehicles parked on sidewalks and illegal parking in front of driveways.

Solving the parking issue has proposed challenges since it is difficult to satisfy all of the current needs. According to Hunt, each possible solution will present a disadvantage.

By Monica Guzman

Tackling East Palo Alto’s traffic and mobility issues

continued on page 6
O n August 19, 2019, the Business Roundtable, which includes 200 major U.S. corporations held its an-
nual meeting and issued a statement that many hope
will have enormous impact on the way U.S. cor-
porations conduct business.
During their meet-
ing, one hundred eight-
y of one the Business
Roundtable’s members is-
sued a new statement to define
“the purpose of a corpo-
ration.” As bland as this
act might seem on the
surface, the new definition that the
group agreed upon prominently acknowledges that
corporations now have an underlying responsibility not just to their shareholders who were paramount in the
past, but also to their cus-
tomers, employees, suppli-
ers and the communities in which they work. (Read their complete statement at
https://www.businessround-
table.org/business-round-
table-redefines-the-purpose-
of-a-corporation-to-promo-
te-an-economy-that-serves-all-
Americans.)
This is a radical change! In the past, the definition
given by Milton Friedman, who won the Nobel prize in
Economics in 1976, was the one that dominated the busi-
ness landscape for 40 years, was widely accepted and
even taught in leading col-
leges and universities.
According to the business
news organization Quartz, “In the 1970s....Friedman
‘argued that business leaders who talked about corporate social responsibility, ending
discrimination, or curbing pol-
lution were ‘preaching pure and unadulterated socialism.’
His advocacy of shareholder primacy the rule for
generations of executives,
held that businesses only
needed to fulfill their duty to provide profit to sharehold-
ers. Free markets would look
after everything else.”

Letters in East Palo Alto Today

Dear Editor:

Don't stand there with the re-
frigerator door open!*" But Mom,
I'm trying to cool off!" That's
ridiculous! It is even more
ridiculous than your mother
knew. When you study a little
physics, you learn that the
dish doesn't create cold air: It
is a heat extractor, sending the
warmth away from the box and
into the room. This is counterin-
tuitive. In almost every field I
studied in higher education, I
encountered “counterintuitive,”
and it made learning fun. Un-
fortunately, many voters never
get this far, and it is so very hard
to convince them to back public
polices that seem counterintu-
itive to them.

Related to this are actions
that are counterproductive, like
sparking children for being
mean. We see this in public pol-
icy: Since birds ate grain grow-
ing in the fields, Chairman Mao
decreed that peasants should
kill all the birds. The next year,
insects devastated the crops.
Our vindictive instinct toward

Are we at the dawn of a new day?

EPA Today’s Policies & Principles

In order to better serve
the communities of East Palo Alto
and Belle Haven, East Palo Alto
Today has made the commitment
to operate with high professional
standards and to adhere to a strict
code of ethical conduct.
The principles and policies
stated herein serve as an agree-
ment with our readers, advertisers
and all others within our service
area.
East Palo Alto Today is dedi-
cated to conscientious journalism.
We maintain this commitment by
seeking and reporting the truth,
acting with integrity, and serving
the public interest. We will report
the news thoroughly and accu-
rately and include multiple per-
spectives without favoring one
over the other.

We will hold ourselves ac-
tountable to common standards of
decency, treating our col-
 leagues, news sources, and the
public with respect.
We are committed to main-
taining our independence by
avoiding partnerships, invest-
ments or business relationships
that would compromise the in-
tegrity of our news reports.
The ideas expressed on this page are solely the views of the individual authors who do not represent East Palo Alto Today’s board or staff

The people of East Palo Alto always rise like air

By Ofelia Bello

Did you know there is an Asian American Heritage Month?

By Michael Uhila

Examiing East Palo Alto’s mobility study

By Court Skinner

Did you know there is an Asian American Heritage Month?

By Michael Uhila

Opinion

The people of East Palo Alto always rise like air

By Ofelia Bello

My name is Ofelia Bello and I’m the new executive director of Youth United for Community Action. Before I start I’d like to take a moment to honor the sacred indigenous Ohlone lands on which we stand today and pay respect to the African people who involuntarily built this entire country, and to the people from various geographies who were pulled to the Bay Area and with their hands built one of the most powerful economies in the world only to not fully enjoy the fruits of their labor amidst the extreme wealth that exists here. Hear my acknowledgement that you are owed, far more than this country could ever repay with monetary compen-
sation or land dedication, but you are nonetheless deeply owed.

So much has happened on the land we stand on right now, from stewardship of the First Nations, to a wharf here on Cooley Landing, a brick factory. The economic operations, and how could we forget, San Mateo County’s once giant garbage dump.

Today we’re here not only to celebrate YUCA’s 25th Anniversary but we’re also here as living testimony to the fact that — regardless of where life has taken you — the people of East Palo Alto always rise like air.

Not too long ago, just a few hundred feet down the road, Romic Environmental Technologies Corporation was in business right. A business that boasted generating a lot of jobs, being an economic engine for the City, and a business that would brand itself as a “green” recycling facility but in reality was a delinquent, toxic operation that poisoned its workers and this community for years. I thank the Most High for the Ujima Security Council’s fierce opposition to all toxic uses of this land and for partnering with YUCA in an intergenerational struggle that culminated in a 2007 victory to Shut Romic Down. You’ll hear a little more about that history later on in the program but I’d be remiss to not mention that physical context from the jump.

Roughly five months ago, I was extremely humbled to be selected by a committee of young organizers who entrusted me to lead their organization during this critical time for our beloved City of East Palo Alto. I enjoyed my previous job as a long-range housing planner with the Association of Bay Area Governments but that job did not stand a chance against a job like this.

While I didn’t come up through the YUCA ranks like a few of the previous EDs, I am no less East Palo Alto born and bred.

I grew up in the Gardens neighborhood, having gotten my K-12 education at Edison Brentwood, Ronald McNair, and Eastside College Prep while consumed by academics, sports and extra-curricular, living a modest and happy life afforded to me by immigrant parents and 3 siblings who are all older than me. There’s this stereotype that the youngest child tends to be the spunky rebel, and I can confirm that stereotype holds true in my family.

I was drawn to YUCA in the fall of 2015. I had just gotten

The focus of this meeting was parking in the Gardens area of the city with its narrow windy streets with rolled curbs and increasing density of occupancy driven primarily by population increase and housing price increases.

Garages end up as housing units, larger occupancy means more cars per house. Turns out that 25% of homes in the Gardens have 4 or more cars compared to 15% citywide.

Hunt went into the specific ideas (and insisted that at this point they are ideas) that they would like to get feedback on. Things like speed humps, turn restrictions (to keep commuters out of neighborhoods), new traffic signs, bulb outs, all way stop signs, and timing of traffic signals.

Studies have shown that parking is most constrained at night. In the Gardens, however, more drastic measures may be required, including making some streets one way only, allowing parking only on one side of the street, permits provided to residents, temporary permits to guests, allowing parking in front of your own driveway and use of lots that are typically empty during prime parking hours.

Parking permits might be provided to local residents “by right” (1 per household)

The people of East Palo Alto always rise like air

By Ofelia Bello

Did you know there is an Asian American Heritage Month?

By Michael Uhila
StreetCode shows hack, hustle and design

By Ivan Temes

To some, the StreetCode Academy is an amazing training organization that provides opportunities for a diverse array of both young and older people outsid itself again at the annual Demo Day.

Over 400 people from throughout the area attended the event where they were treated to over 40 presentations from throughout the Hack, Hustle and Design Booth.

CEO Tunde Sobomehin and Frederick Alexander, who has assisted Tunde in building the organization for many years said they were again "amazed at the turnout and gratified by the outstanding community focus." Said Tunde, "We are demonstrating to the world what happens when youth are given an opportunity to excel."

A variety of visitors made similar comments. These included Stanford’s Josh Childress, a NBA basketball lottery pick, Warriors assistant coach Aaron Miles and NFL Pro-Bowler Marcel Reese. They infused the event with their own inspiring messages.

A cadre of local East Palo Alto strongehers attended and one of them, ‘Joey’ felt this was a ‘community becoming family.’ Children danced enthusiastically to the tunes of a live dj. As always Onxy Village Connection was on hand to provide food to attendees. Jules Lyons and his mother Jennifer Lyons take food to homeless people throughout the community many times a week. Jules, a StreetCode student, has formed his own bakery business and his tasty treats were available at the event.

Interactive Play, a virtual reality company, showed off their wares and donated a variety of products. The Shoe Palace, a previous donor to StreetCode, gave away an extensive amount of school supplies and hats. Local educator Karen Stromheimer manned a table that donated books and backpacks.

There were demonstrations from the Bayside Christian Ministries robotics team. Other well-known attendees included the Andressen and Horowitz Culture Fund and venture capitalist Jesseca Salinas.

Demonstrations from students included on-stage presentations and tables where they demonstrated technology associated with technical applications and coding, introduction to web design, junior StreetCode for the younger participants, game design and engineering development.

Participants in the Hustle classes have built their own businesses and are out in the community with their products.

There are many ongoing successes emanating from StreetCode Academy. Tayo Sobomehin, at the age of 12, was invited by the Prince to show off his technical product at a conference in Saudi Arabia. Judge Cantrell produced a video locally at age 14 and it was shown in international competition at the Cannes Film Festival in France.

While Tunde and his wife Tamara, president of a local school board, are extremely busy with all their supportive work Tamara commented that, ‘It does not seem like a job when you do what you love so much,’

That’s what StreetCode is accomplishing—a next generation of youth who unleash their creativity while learning and doing what they love.

The volunteers at StreetCode are the ‘glue’ that holds everything together. Many come from Stanford and other academic institutions along with local technology companies. They represent the best in the industry.

Mentor Daniel Ramos spoke for many when he said, ‘When I teach here I feel like I am at home.’ Sergio Flores, a former student at StreetCode, assists the organization with his world-class photography, has been working for Facebook and has traveled throughout the world. He called the event ‘inspiring while bringing the community together and showing what can be accomplished.’

Tackling

Specifically for the parking congestion in the Gardens neighborhood, strategies include: restricting daytime parking to one side on narrow streets with rolled curbs, implementing a resident permit parking program, allowing residents to park on the street in front of their own driveway, and requesting local churches and businesses to share their parking lots with residents.

If a permit parking program is implemented, a maximum of two permits are allowed per household and only residents can purchase parking permits.

There will be an annual cost associated with the permits, however, the funds from the permit fees will go toward traffic and parking enforcement.

Another way to reduce vehicle congestion is to promote alternate forms of transportation. The city plans to resurface trails and install new sidewalks and bike paths as well as improving existing ones.

One of the presented suggestions, both community members and commissioners were in favor of installing more speed bumps.

The least favorable options were the implementation of parking permits and having residents park in retail and church parking lots.

Regardless of the chosen solutions, there was a shared concern in terms of the enforcement capacity required to implement new regulations.

The conversation will continue at the next City Council Meeting on September 3. At which the public may provide comments.

The complete mobility study update presentation is available on the Public Works website. http://www.cityofepa.org/Document/Center/View/4461

Anyone interested in participating in the citywide resident survey can do so by August 31. The survey is also available on the Public Works site. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EPAMobilityStudy

Monica Guzman is an East Palo Alto resident and a regular contributor to East Palo Alto Today.

See Fuse Fellow Susan Barnes discuss the mobility study on the August 8, 2019 Talking with Henrietta TV show.

Get more information about her interview at www.epatoday.org/tv.ht t#mobilityissues.

See more on page 15 of this issue of EPA Today.
Community News Briefs

President, Gina Dalma also attended the event. In addressing those who had gathered, East Palo Alto’s Mayor Lisa Gauthier said that people are doing what they can to not be on the streets. Many are one paycheck away from being homeless. She said, “You, too, could be on the streets.”

Pastor Paul Bains, Project WeHope’s co-founder and CEO, told the group that 34 of the city’s 52 RV dwellers have already found more permanent housing. “These are our brothers and sisters, they are not strangers,” Pastor Bains said. “You have to be intentional when you work with those who live in RVs.”

Dalma added just before the tour started, “This is a regional problem. We need a regional solution.”

After hearing the brief opening remarks that were given, the informal tour began and several of the RV inhabitants graciously opened their homes for the tour.

Has Sean Charpentier re-signed?

Knowledgeable sources told East Palo Alto Today that Assistant Manager Sean Charpentier resigned his position from the city.

Charpentier, who had been with the city for more than a decade and has been instrumental in moving major city projects and initiatives forward over the years, filled in as the acting city manager when Carlos Martinez, resigned as city manager to start in November 2018 as the new city manager in Richmond, CA. Charpentier applied to become East Palo Alto’s permanent city manager when the city opened its search to replace its former city manager. During its April 2, 2019 meeting, the council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution hiring Jaime Fontes as East Palo Alto’s permanent city manager.

EPA Today called officials for comment, but has not yet received a reply concerning Charpentier’s reported resignation from the city.

East Palo Alto’s Mayor is a Working Scholar

Mayor Lisa Gauthier, was a featured speaker and a graduate at the August ceremony that recognized 10 new graduates of the Working Scholars program. Working Scholars is a community-funded program that was lets participants earn a no-cost bachelor’s degree. It was launched in January 2017 in Mountain View and has since expanded to San Francisco, Gilroy, Sunnyvale, East Palo Alto, Santa Clara, Perris and the Ravenswood School District. Since the program uses community-funded partnerships, there is no charge to participants. Gauthier has enthusiastically encouraged many young people to continue their education and get a college degree. Well, the mayor took her own advice and enrolled in the Working Scholars’ program. The mayor had two prior associate degrees, but her goal was to finally earn her bachelor’s degree in business, which she did through the Working Scholars program.

The graduation ceremony took place at 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 15 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. There were 18 graduates, 12 of whom were in attendance at the ceremony. Bachelor’s degrees were awarded in business administration, computer science, liberal studies and music.

Gauthier was not the only East Palo Alto resident who obtained a degree this year through the program. While working two jobs, David Shaw Bass earned the first degree the program has ever given in computer science. Jessica Lyons, who works with Study.com, that offers the online classes, which the graduates took, said the graduates paid no fees for their coursework.

To find out more about the classes and Working Scholars, go online to www.study.com

SMCOE nutritious meals

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Chart courtesy of the San Mateo County Office of Education Chart showing household income eligibility levels

non-foster children on the same application. Including foster children as a household member may help the non-foster children qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If the non-foster children are not eligible, this does not keep foster children from receiving free meals.

A child’s eligibility status from last school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 school days or until the school processes a new application, or the child is otherwise certified for free or reduced-price meals. After the 30 school days, the child will have to pay full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals.

School officials do not have to send reminder or expired eligibility notices. If you do not agree with the decision or results of verification, you may discuss it with school officials. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by calling or writing the hearing official: Mefula Fairley, San Mateo County Office of Education, 650-802-5553. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Patricia Love is an Administrator of Strategy and Communication in the San Mateo County Office of Education. She can be contacted at pllove@smcoe.org

SMCOE nutritious meals continued from page 1

East Palo Alto Today August - September 2019
Celebrating another memorable family reunion

By Henrietta J. Burroughs

Over two days this past July, Thurman Smith and his wife, Willie Mae, celebrated their 13th family reunion. The couple, who have lived in East Palo Alto since 1958, hosted nearly 40 relatives who came for the reunion. The Smith’s hold the reunion every other year, but last year due to the death of their son, who managed their reunions in the past, they had a smaller gathering.

This year their reunion started the evening of Friday, July 13 at the Girls Club on Ralmar Street and ended Saturday night after an all day gathering at Rengstorff Park in Mountain View.

The first Smith reunion was held in Thurman Smith’s hometown of Forrest, Arkansas. Other reunions were held in such cities as St. Louis, MO; Battle Creek, MI; Memphis, TN, and Little Rock, AR.

Family members arrived from all over the country. Now they can look forward to their next family reunion in another two years.

Call For Applications

The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative invites local organizations serving Belle Haven, East Palo Alto, North Fair Oaks, and Redwood City to submit applications for grant funding through the CZI Community Fund.

The CZI Community Fund supports organizations that are addressing the community’s most urgent needs.

Deadline to apply

September 12, 2019

Learn more about application criteria and eligibility requirements at ChanZuckerberg.com/community/fund
Lifecycles

Visionaries who laid the foundation for Incorporation

By Saundra T. Webster

In 1961, the City of Palo Alto in Santa Clara County annexed the San Francisquito Creek. That side of the Creek had been part of East Palo Alto. This annexation happened when East Palo Alto was an unincorporated part of San Mateo County with no uplifting voice, or positive representation for the residents.

An African American resident, Mr. Edward Becks, (now deceased) recognized that these kind of political tactics would continue to happen if not challenged. Mr. Becks informed and organized a small group of local friends largely African Americans to protect the community from further similar appropriations and maneuvers. He was successful in getting a determined focused group of about 30 neighbors, altogether, called “The Floating Crap Game.” This name was in memory of the famous Community Advocacy Group in Harlem, New York. The “The Floating Crap Game” met in each other’s homes at least once a month and sometimes two or three times acting as an unofficial government body that selected candidates to run for office with solutions to rectify local issues. When important city policies and issues came up, they met to resolve and address them.

Council gives proclamation for exemplary service

August-September 2019 EPA Today

By Ivan Temes

Michael Campbell, son of Edward Campbell, Sr., accepted a proclamation award from the East Palo Alto City Council on behalf of his father. The proclamation, which was presented at the council’s meeting on July ..., was awarded to Campbell, Sr. for his 60 years of exemplary service to the community.

Campbell appeared along with Halley Crumb, CEO of Retraining the Village, which has been the beneficiary of a home from Edward Campbell which is now used to support men in re-entry situations and those who come from homelessness. This also includes veterans. Halley initiated the process to ensure appreciation from the community was demonstrated. Three of her many people who have successfully gone on to jobs and training programs spoke at the council meeting and expressed their heartfelt thanks to Edward Campbell. He has been very involved with the community since he purchased his first home to support his family in 1959. Edward Campbell worked hard at the Menlo Park VA and Beckmann’s ma...
Would you like to know what you can do to benefit the future for all, in particular, the children of tomorrow? Or, how about making our world children of tomorrow? Or, you can do to benefit the future resulting in global warming?

Transportation, as being harmful to the planet resulting in global warming, climate change, the impact to our health, our planet and our future is action we can take. Most of us have heard about the catastrophic effects of global warming but may have not tied it to emissions from our own vehicles. It is up to us to help eliminate it.

The fact is it has been responsible for: Sea levels rising. This is happening because global warming and drastic climate change. Key to awareness of global warming, climate change, the impact to our health, our planet and our future is action we can take. Most of us have heard about the catastrophic effects of global warming but may have not tied it to emissions from our own vehicles. It is up to us to help eliminate it. The fact is it has been responsible for:

Sea levels rising. This is happening because global warming is melting ice sheets, producing more water in the oceans and rising sea levels in our oceans and bays. High temperatures and severe heat waves resulting in potentially fatal risks to people everywhere.

Severe storms. Climate change brings unpredictable weather, including the intense and severe storms.

Fires and bad air quality. Climate change causes prolonged droughts and higher winds that increase the risk of forest fires and poor air quality.

El Concilio of San Mateo County is a non-profit community based organization, established in 1980. Its mission is to increase education, employment and access to quality education and employment for people in our community.

Reduce your carbon footprint with El Concilio

By Gloria Garcia Flores

By Kimberly Carlton

Are cryptocurrencies the future of money?

By Example service

Exemplary service continued from page 9

chinese shop—going on to achieve his dream as a realtor.

He became a community hero, offering people of African-American descent the opportunity to purchase homes in East Palo Alto while also keeping rent low. He started his own savings and loan facility to assist families and business people.

The residents of The Floating Crap Game helped, contributed, and organized the community from 1961 until approximately 1971. They laid the foundation during its lifespan for some of the benefits that we are experiencing today in East Palo Alto.

Mrs. Helen Harvey-Harris is also, one of the visionaries/owners of The Floating Crap Game, who laid the foundation for the Incorporation of East Palo Alto.

She has been a resident of East Palo Alto for fifty-four years and taught in the Ravenswood School District for 32 years. Mrs. Harris’ children, Guy, Garr, Robin, and Rona attended Nairobi Day School.

The Ravenswood City School District Board in 1968.

In addition, the group helped elect the first African Americans: Robert Hoover, Sr. and Strytilla Katab to the Ravenswood City School District Board in 1968.

Some say it’s the most exciting wealth-generating opportunity of our lifetimes (cyber security expert John McAfee famously predicts the price of Bitcoin will hit $1 million by the end of 2020). Others see a dangerous bubble that will leave many “average suckers” holding the empty bag (economist Nouriel Roubini says Bitcoin’s price will “crash to zero”).

Bitcoin started in 2009 in the aftermath of the financial crisis and wave of foreclosures hit hard in communities like ours. The true identity of its founder is still unknown, except for the famous pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. Because of how it was created, many people believe that it was meant to be a direct challenge to the existing system that has been used (and abused) by those in power at the expense of ordinary people.

Bitcoin is digital currency, but unlike the dollars held in bank accounts it is decentralized. This means it’s not controlled by any central authority. No one can just make more of it, causing inflation. If you know people in Venezuela or have lived through hyperinflation somewhere else, you understand why that can be so valuable.

You also don’t need any one’s permission to buy and use it. If you happen to be undocumented, then you know very well what makes that important. It’s also censorship-resistant, which means that no one can just come in and freeze your assets. You hold it and control it. Finally, it’s extremely portable and cheap to use. If you send money to anyone abroad, you know how much and how long the other side has to wait to actually get the money. With Bitcoin, you can send just about any amount for pennies and the recipient can see a reason why the powers that be would try so hard to discourage people from using it. In fact, the biggest risk of Bitcoin is its biggest benefit: it completely changes the game of finance and disrupts those in power who control the system now.

So far, some governments have banned it (or tried to ban it) outright. Most haven’t, probably because they realize the cat is out of the bag. If you remember the beginning of the Internet, maybe you remember how people then said it would bring incredible freedom to communication. And it has. But, at the same time, a lot of private companies have worked hard to centralize their control over how we communicate. Some are sites like Facebook or Amazon, where you have to be in their space and play by their rules to engage with others.

And some are the service providers like Comcast, who have created monopolies to control access completely.

It’s very possible that the same with happen with cryptocurrencies. It’s already starting. Facebook, for example, is working on creating its own private, centralized cryptocurrency for people to use just on their site.

Besides Bitcoin, there are a LOT of alternative coins out there being sold. If you’re thinking about buying them, beware. The vast majority are likely scams. You really have to take the time to do the research and learn about them before investing.

Cryptocurrencies are considered speculative investments because they are incredibly risky. In fact, a good rule of thumb is never invest more than you can afford to lose.

That said, it’s also potentially a massive opportunity for regular folks to make a lot of money. Normally, ordinary people are the last ones who are allowed to invest in risky assets. The real money is made by the earliest investors, and there are laws governing who is allowed to invest in those kinds of opportunities. Basically, you have to be wealthy just to get in the game.

Not so with cryptocurrencies!
Students take a stand on teen vaping

By Shawneece Stevenson

They tell me I’m a wimp if I don’t try it. They tell me it’s just water and some ‘flavorings’, oblivious to the fact that in that pen, 42 chemicals are waiting to attack their lungs.” Excerpt from Menlo-Atherton High School graduate Mikaela Douglas graced the pages of the school publication, The Mark. The spoken word served as a notice to the student body that not everyone is influenced by this latest trend. Flavored Tobacco and vape pen usage is on the rise and 4 members of Menlo-Atherton Students’ Union (BSU) joined forces with the Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council (BACHAC) to bring awareness about the dangers that vaping and flavored tobacco usage poses on teens. These members were dubbed the S. Truth Ambassadors; named after abolitionist leader and speaker, Sojourner Truth. The S. Truth Ambassadors believe it’s very important to spread awareness of the dangers of flavored tobacco and vape pens because they, with their increased knowledge, have become very passionate about educating youth on what they are exposing their bodies to. The students report that many young people have been misinstructed that vaping is not harmful or that it does not have deadly side effects. In a recent BSU meeting, Mikaela Douglass shared with her peers just how much a problem vaping has become. She told them about an incident that happened while she was in class. She exclaimed, “This kid believed it was okay to vape in class!” When she confronted the students about using the vape pen, Douglass said the student seemed not to care about the potential dangers that are in the chemicals.

Another recent Menlo-Atherton graduate and BSU member, Toninia Allen, began to analyze why teens would feel unbothered by the statistics regarding vaping. Some of the statistical data that the S. Truth Ambassadors have gathered from truth.org include the following:

- Vaping among high schoolers had increased to 78%.
- Over 10 million youth aged 12-17 are at risk of using an e-cigarette.
- One pod of a vape pen is equal to a pack of cigarettes.

During their discussion, BSU members felt that the increase of vaping had a lot to do with marketing and trends. Social media plays a part in showing teens that vaping is trendy, cool and not harmful. The students felt that vaping companies, while many have age restrictions on their websites, do not do enough to block under age people from purchasing their products online. However, in their opinion, the most detrimental marketing tactic that vaping companies use is offering vaping liquid in ‘kid-friendly’ flavors such as cotton candy and fruit punch. Toninia commented that, “it is not just water and flavoring. It’s much more than that; it contains 42 different chemicals such as lead and tin.” Misconceptions such as these are common amongst teens. Mikaela reported that she has heard many of her peers say things like:

- “It’s just water vapor”
- “It’s just flavoring”
- “My vape says it’s nicotine free. There is no way I’ll become addicted”
- “Just because I vape doesn’t mean that I’m going to smoke cigarettes”

The S. Truth Ambassadors took the initiative to make students on the campus aware of the truth. Not only did they write an article for the school publication, they spread the word during campus lunch events to help dispel some of the myths. They even put messaging on stickers that they placed on food sale items and created posts for their social media account. They worked together on other social media posts and videos that the BACHAC used for their online awareness campaign. During BACHAC’s Soul Stroll event, BSU advisor Sherinda Bryant beamed with pride as her students, along with others from Sequoia High School’s BSU, took the lead and imparted knowledge to an eager crowd. Everyone agreed that they spoke to were not aware that vaping has become such an issue among teens. Upon learning the facts, many replied that they would warn their friends and the young people in their lives to see where they stood on this issue.

The S. Truth ambassadors admitted that this work is risky. They would be subject to teasing, perhaps, and the focus of heated debate. However, they used their education on the issue to build confidence and hone their leadership skills. They stand for something important and let their voices be heard to make a difference at their school and in their community. At Menlo-Atherton they have built a spark and now pass the baton to upcoming BSU leaders to carry on this work to ensure that other young people are both aware of the negative impact of vaping and that they chose to make their health a top priority.

Contributing authors: Mikaela Douglas and Toninia Allen, Students/Graduate, Sherinda Bryant, Teacher/Advisor Menlo Atherton High School Black Student Union (BSU). BACHAC is very proud of how our local youth are trying to change the hearts of their peers. Please tell your friends, youth in your life, and follow #VapeStopsHere Campaign in Action! Like, Share and Comment on the Posts So We Can Build Engagement For Your School! Join us in getting the message out. BSUextend the campaign and the message to educate youth about flavored tobacco and vaping. Please follow us on: Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SoulStroll; Twitter: https://twitter.com/thebachac Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/thebachac/

Photo courtesy of Rainier Ridao

From left, Craig Wingate, Sherinda Bryant, Shawneece Stevenson, Henrietta J. Burroughs, Aniya Majors, Lisa Tealer and Gregg Zaire are shown on the set of Talking with Henrietta after their show discussion on E-Cigarettes- Helpful or Harmful? The show was taped on Thursday, July 25, 2019. Get more info at www.epatoday.org/tv.html.

Asian Americans

continued from page 7

what does that mean? Do what they do or do what you do. In post concentration camps here in the good ole USA, the Japanese were made to give up many of their Japanese customs. For example, in a Japanese Buddhist temple in Palo Alto, you could wear your shoes in the temple. Wearing shoes in a Zen temple is forbidden, but accepted at the Palo Alto Buddhist church. The irony is that the people at the Zen temple are primarily white people and those at the Japanese Temple are primarily Japanese. Maybe the facts are off from acculturation and assimilation.

It’s common for Samoans to beat their kids to discipline them, but in America that’s a legal NO. Even if it’s your kids. The law protects the children and “abusive” parents are the perpetrators. Many Samoan and Tongan parents have been punished by the law and even incarcerated for beating their kids. Assimilate or acculture? I heard a judge tell one of my cousins, “This is America, by law we can’t beat children.” Let’s start again because reality is beating up the silent population.

Many Americans now ask: What did you bring to America?

Well, Koreans brought Sam sung, Hyundai, barbecue, Tae Kwon Do and Kim Chee. The Vietnamese brought manicurists, pedicurists and Pho soup. Filipinos brought lumpia, chicken adobo and people to work at the post office. Indians brought software engineers, curry, yoga and knowledge of the eight chakras. The Japanese brought Toyotas, Sony, Infinity, Nissan, Toshiba, Hitachi, Benihana and a karaoke machine to sing Sukiyaki.

Let’s start over fresh. We’re real people and not statues in the Asian Art museum or some forehead on Easter Island.

We’re not Moana and we are Moana. We’re not the Karate Kid and we are the Karate Kid. We’re not a theory given by a Phd Anthropologist samurai collector. We’re here on the ground. From yoga studios to the Tonga Room at the Fairmont Hotel. From DHl to the NFL. From the Joy Luck Club to Harold and Kumar going to White Castle. We’re here. From Vera Wang to Troy Polamalu. Message out about the campaign because I could be wrong. After all, each of us in the Asian Pacific Islander community can ask ourselves: How did I get here?
Clinton Stanton Sr.

Electronics Certification in January of 1958 - the same month his second daughter was born. Clinton accepted a job in November 1958 as a Missile Mechanic Electronics Engineer at General Dynamics in San Diego California. He was promoted to a Senior Calibration Technician and later accepted a position as Field Engineer at NASA in Houston Texas. Clinton finished his career at Varian in Palo Alto, California and retired as a Quality Engineer in 1985.

As the only African American at most of his workplaces, Clinton Sr. advocated for fair and equal treatment and worked hard to be known and respected as the best in his field.

After retirement – Clinton Sr. spent his time working in the community perfecting his photography and preparing Tax for Seniors in the community. Clinton known by his friends and family as Stan, never shied away from a good game of dominos, cards or bowling. He was the master game player.

Beverly and Clinton moved to the Bay Area in 1966, first to Menlo Park then to East Palo Alto. Mr. Stanton loved this community and always sought to actively participate in making it the best place to live! He served on the East Palo Alto City Planning Commission for five years, the Personnel Commission for three years, chaired the Criminal Justice Committee for three years, and served on the Board of Directors of OICW.

As a father, Mr. Stanton was a constant presence and active participant within the school district. He and his wife Beverly were as a part of the parent committee for school integration. Mr. Stanton required hard work and accountability from his children and the teachers that taught them.

Clinton Stanton joined St. John Baptist Church after his son Clinton Jr. was baptized under the leadership of the late Rev. Branch. His four children and five of his grandchildren that were all baptized at St. John. Clinton Stanton Sr. loved to serve! His service at St. John started as the Junior Laymen’s Director for four years and Sunday School Teacher in the Youth Department.

In 1983, Brother Stanton was ordained as a Deacon. In 1986, Deacon and Deaconess Stanton were one of the nine guarantors who put up their homes as collateral to enable the church to build a social hall under the leadership of Dr. Robert L. Fairley. Deacon Stanton was voted Chairman of the Deacon Board under the leadership of Rev. Sumner and was on the pulp selection committee when Rev. Williams was called as the current Pastor St. John Baptist Church. Deacon Stanton continued to serve as Sunday School teacher of “Adult Class 4” for over 40 years and was the Senior Deacon of St John’s Deacon Board.

In February 2019, he was honored in St John’s 2019 Black History Celebration for his faithful service and dedication to the work of the Lord.

Deacon Clinton Stanton Sr. joins those who have preceded him in death – father Willie Sr., mother Annie Nelson, stepfather C. G. Nelson, siblings Willie Jr., Roosevelt and Laura, and aunt Carolyn Harris.

Deacon Clinton Stanton Sr. leaves his wife Beverly Ann Stanton, his children (Stanetta & husband Lonnie Crawford, Pamela & husband Gary Simpson, Clinton Stanton Jr. & Felicia Anderson), seven grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews and cousins throughout the country and many friends.

His strong faith and love for his Savior Jesus Christ has continued from page 8

Some consumer advocates and legislators around the country say the settlement didn’t go far enough.

“Equifax’s data breach put over 100 million Americans at risk by exposing their Social Security numbers and other personal information,” said Rep. Frank Pallone (D-New Jersey), chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

“This settlement does not come close to making consumers whole and, once again, shows the limitations on the FTC’s ability to seek strong penalties and effective redress for consumers.”

News of data breaches of financial institutions and credit monitoring agencies is becoming increasingly common occurrence.

Paige Thompson, a Seattle-based hacker, was arrested by the FBI last Monday after she bragged on social media about hacking Capital One and leaking 100 million consumers’ data.

Thompson, who previously worked on Amazon Web Services, bragged about her hacking exploits on Twitter under the username “Erratic.”

Manny Oltico writes for California Black Media. This article is reprinted with permission.
Oakland event highlights resident displacement

By Kyra Brown

Nita Bee and Leon Sykes are two community organizers from Oakland who planned #510Day in May. The goal of the gathering was three-fold: to stand up against displacement, to celebrate Oakland’s history and culture, and to foster a sense of pride. We spoke about a week after the event. Here is what they had to say.

Q: What inspired you to start #510Day and what did you hope to achieve?
Leon: #510Day – an event put on by people born and raised in San Francisco, meaning long-term residents. It was a celebration of a working-class community of color and its rich culture.

Nita: We started #510Day in 2016. I saw it as an opportunity to send a message. At one point, signs were being put up around Lake Merritt stating that groups of people (of 12 or more) could not assemble at the lake without a permit – even though it was public space! The first year, 200 people showed up. This year, at least 1,500.

Q: I understand that an Anti-Displacement March was part of this event, can you tell me more about that?
Leon: The march was fully the youth’s idea! We adults supported, but the youth brought out 150 young people and came up with the hashtag: #WeStillHere. Meaning, we still congregate and we are still a driving force in the culture of Oakland. The culture here is full of black folks, Latinx folks, Asian folks.

Nita: And Oakland has a huge population of Native American folks! My teenage daughter was involved in organizing the march. Four organizations were also involved: Urban Peace Movement, Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice, United Roots and an Asian and Pacific Islander grassroots organization: AYPAL.

Q: Did you have other hashtags for this event? Did you intend to make it go viral?
Leon: The other hashtags were: #OaklandAgainstGentrification and #TownBizness. A lot of media coverage that the event received was because of the whole #BBQBecky incident at Lake Merritt last summer. A white woman called the Oakland police (in tears) because two black men were simply having a barbecue (of PeopleBlack). I would say that the incident proved why #510Day is necessary. At the end of the day, it was the youth who put on for their city!

Q: What are some of the housing struggles that residents are facing here in Oakland?
Nita: Illegal evictions happen here. But many people don’t realize that as tenants they have rights or either they lack the resources to fight eviction cases. There are also no regulations in place (rent control) to keep the rents affordable for working class people of color. Or to take it a step further, when developers come to town, they aren’t mandated to have a certain percentage of low-income units in a given project — or if they do, they can buy their way out of it. Also, many people that did buy their homes lost them due to predatory lending. So there are a lot of policy issues.

Leon: Oakland has a Rent Board. I have gone to some of their meetings. But where they were receiving 2-3 cases a year regarding illegal evictions, they are now receiving 100 or more cases per year. This means that by the time many of these cases are able to be addressed, families have already been displaced. Also, many jobs in Oakland don’t provide a living wage which means that even with a full-time job, many people still can’t afford to pay the high cost of rent. Gentrification is an attack on working-class people. This is why I say, gentrification is violence.

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The people of East Palo Alto

Photo by H.J. Burroughs

Young Pacific Islander dancers captured the attention of everyone at YUCA’s 25th celebration with their dance numbers.

back from 4 years at UC Santa Barbara and was preparing to start my master’s degree at University of San Francisco. Having been gone for 4 years meant that a lot of things looked different when I got back. See, my family and I have been tenants of single family homes all of our lives. And I returned to a city that had seen unforgiving waves of displacement only a few years prior.

One of my core beliefs is that the opposite of being displaced is growing more deeply rooted in your community — meaning both the place and the people. I took it upon myself to immediately get reconnected with folks doing the work on the ground to protect the people, the place, and the spirit of this community.

One of those first people I met with was my predecessor, Tameeka Bennett. I’ll never forget those first few coffee dates in Oakland. She inspired drive, passion, commitment and fire in my belly like the true leader she is all while giving me the download on the state of housing in East Palo Alto. A few months later I found myself volunteering with YUCA and with the coalition Envision Transform Build — East Palo Alto (better known as ETB). I joined a circle of brilliant community organizers who shared my passion and many of my goals for this city. I participated for at least a solid year or so before the ED position opened up and the rest is history. I’ve read up a good deal on my YUCA history and while I’m sure there’s more to learn, (because, hey, there’s always more to learn!) I am in awe and with the coalition Envision Transform Build — East Palo Alto (better known as ETB). I joined a circle of brilliant community organizers who shared my passion and many of my goals for this city. I participated for at least a solid year or so before the ED position opened up and the rest is history. I’ve read up a good deal on my YUCA history and while I’m sure there’s more to learn, (because, hey, there’s always more to learn!) I am in awe and

Full of joy, entertainment, good food, sustainable lifestyles, neighbors who will defend you, healthy housing, jobs we enjoy, and in solidarity with all oppressed people of the world. And don’t get me wrong! We are already a model in so many ways but we have so much room to be far greater. Empower and mentor young people, give them culturally competent and relevant education, put the tools and resources in their hands, listen to what they themselves have to teach and give them decision-making power and you’ll see what we’ve been seeing at YUCA for the past 25 years. We look forward to many more years of interracial, intergenerational movement building and victories. Personally, I find liberation not in a far-away place, but right here in the process of fighting for the world we all deserve and I am so excited to be here.

Thank you so much for joining us today and I hope you enjoy the rest of the program!

continued on page 7
California now has strongest

A new day

from similar groups nationally and worldwide, have, undoubtedly, been instrumental in motivating the Business Roundtable to issue its new guiding business philosophy. Change doesn’t just come from nowhere. It’s triggered by something. But, this time, change has apparently arrived. After all, Jamie Dimon, Chairman and CEO of JP Morgan Chase & Co. and the Chairman of the Business Roundtable, said, “Major employers are investing in their workers and communities because they know it is the only way to be successful over the long term.”

These modernized principles reflect the business community’s unwavering commitment to continue to push for an economy that serves all Americans.”

A copy of page 23 from the City of East Palo Alto’s Mobility Study Update. Drivers respected each other, bikers and pedestrians. As density increased, cost of housing escalated, garages became homes and what was the commons of the neighborhood was no longer sufficient to support the residents’ quality of life. Some moved away to places more like they remembered. Some stayed with the hope that things would improve. Unless we take measures now it will likely get even worse. As one participant put it, we really need to address the root of the problem. It isn’t the lack of parking spaces. That’s only a symptom. Meetings like this are a start, but only a start. More bikes and walking spaces are a component, but adding them doesn’t address the problem of too many people with too many cars, who can’t get around like they used to.24/7. The community all share is space and time. Slow traffic uses up more time.

Too many single driver cars lead to slow traffic. Parking uses up space. More space will continue to get filled up unless we find a way to reduce the number of single driver cars. And that’s today! Tomorrow, we may have the same problem even with multiple passenger vehicles. But it’s a start. We need a new way of thinking about the “problem” that makes the solutions clearer. Of course, one more attribute of the commons is money, but that is really just a way to allocate space and people’s time. More enforcement amounts to people’s time. Money is a way to allocate it. This approach is not perfect, but it’s one we more or less understand. What we need to understand, also, is that we need to put in place the incentives (regulations, perhaps) that drive behavior that creates a fair allocation for all. Region wide. That’s new, but it’s beginning to happen. Programs like Traffic Demand Management and Transportation Management Associations can let us optimize the use of existing resources. Just building more roads, or more parking garages won’t help.

Let’s keep talking.

Draft Pilot Parking Program for Gardens Neighborhood

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<th>Strategy</th>
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<th>Parking</th>
<th>Emergency Access/ Security</th>
<th>Convenience</th>
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<td>Restricted daily parking to one side on narrow streets with short cuts (clear sidewalk on other side for pedestrians)</td>
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<td>Resident permit parking program</td>
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<td>Allow residents to park on the street in front of their own residence</td>
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<td>Shared use of church/business/park parking lots</td>
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*Parking strategies for other neighborhoods will be developed subsequently based on the outcome and lessons learned in the Gardens neighborhood.

Necessary force, it spelled out, is when “there is no reasonable alternative.” Although the word “necessary” remains in the current language of the law, its definition has been omitted, leaving it up to the courts to determine on a case-by-case basis.

After the revisions, the bill now requires investigators and prosecutors to consider the totality of circumstances leading up to a police officer’s use of lethal force. Before the passing of AB 392, the law only took into account the immediate actions taken before the shooting.

This latest iteration of AB 392 also allows for the behavior of the suspect to be examined.

“This is an important bill, one that will help restore community trust in our criminal justice system,” said Governor Newsom. “I would like to thank Assemblymember Weber, Senate Pro Tem Atkins, Speaker Rendon and our legislative leaders who all worked tirelessly to get us to this point.”

In California, there have been more incidents of police officers using lethal force against African Americans and Latinos than in any other state. In 2017 alone, cops killed 172 civilians. Latinos made up a disproportionate 47.1 percent of that total number, and Blacks accounted for 15.1 percent.

“We are proud to stand with Assemblymember Weber in support of AB 392,” said Peter Biring, Police Practices Director for The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of California. The ACLU is a leading supporter of the legislation.

“For far too long, California has ignored the problem of deadly police shootings, their devastating aftermath on families and communities, and the enormous racial disparities that accompany these shootings,” he said. “This groundbreaking bill draws directly from use of force policies that individual law enforcement agencies have successfully adopted throughout the country.”

Abdullah insists some of the changes to the bill are “problematic.” But, overall, she still sees it as progress.

“We still think its important legislation,” she says. “Just not as far-reaching as we hoped it would be.”

Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) says AB 392 would move California from being one of the most permissive states when it comes to the use of police force to one of the toughest.

“We need this resolution to save lives, protect public safety, and guarantee justice in every community,” he says. The above article by Tanu Henry is reprinted with the permission of California Black Media.

More:
See an interview with several family members of police shooting victims on the talking with Henrietta show called, Getting the Male Perspective. On the show, they talk about AB392, which is now signed into law. See the show, which was produced on May 23, 2019, by clicking here. See an interview with Oscar Grant’s family members and supporters as they discuss “The Impact of Oscar Grant” on the Talking with Henrietta television show, which first aired on Sunday, March 17, 2019. See the show on YouTube here.
EPA Town Hall Meeting - August 31, 2019 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join Mayor Lisa Gauthier and Vice Mayor Regina Wallace-Jones for a conversation regarding East Palo Alto. The meeting will be held at the City Room at the Lewis and Joan Platt YMCA, located at 550 Bell Street in East Palo Alto.

City of East Palo Alto - East Palo Alto City Council meetings - 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers, East Palo Alto City Hall, 2415 University Avenue.

September - Suicide Prevention and National Recovery Month - Art Show September 1 – 30, 2019 at the Caldwell Gallery, 400 County Center, Redwood City.

The Ravenswood City School District Board of Trustees meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:15 PM in the District Office Board Room at the school district headquarters at 2021 Euclid Street in East Palo Alto. The September meetings will be held on Thursday, September 12 and Thursday, September 26.

Second Annual EPA Senior Prom - September 21, 2019 For adults 55 and older. Enjoy live music, awards and recognitions, dinner and dancing. A prom king and queen will be selected! Event will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Cooley Landing Education Center at 2100 Bay Road in East Palo Alto. Free for East Palo Alto residents. Non-residents pay $10. Dress to impress. Limited spaces for parking. Transportation available. RSVP (650) 853-3100, limited to the first 120.

EPA Police Beat Meeting Schedule:
Beat One & Four
Date: Thursday, September 19, 2019 - Time: 6:00 pm – 07:00 pm - Location: Cabana at Woodland Park Apts. (45 Newell Road, EPA, CA 94303)

Beat Two
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2019 - Time: 06:30 pm – 08:00 pm - Location: Ecumenical Hunger Program- (2411 Puls gas Avenue, EPA, CA 94303)

Beat Three
Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 - Time: 06:30 pm – 08:00 pm - Location: Peninsula Park Apartments - (1977 Tate Street, EPA, CA 94303)

Get more information about this show on the East Palo Alto Today website at www.epatoday.org/tv.html#mobilityissues

Keep Community Media Alive
Support the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media and its media outlets by making a tax deductible donation and by purchasing one or more T-shirts for $15.00 each (sm., med., large and x large), and one or more water bottles for $10.00 each. See more ways to support the center’s programs below.

Support the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media
The East Palo Alto Today newspaper is published by the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media, a nonprofit agency that was formed in January 2003 to create media outlets in East Palo Alto and provide the type of positive, relevant information about the community that is not easily found elsewhere. If you like what you see in East Palo Alto Today, then we ask that you enable us to serve the community better. You can do this by completing the partnership card below and mailing it with your tax deductible donation which will go directly to the center’s media efforts. You can read more about the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media online at www.epamedia.org. You can also donate to the center at the EPA Today and the EPA Media websites. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Name: ___________________________ Phone # ___________________________
Organization: ___________________________ Email Address ___________________________
Street Address: ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ___________________________
Yes, I am interested in becoming a partner with the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media. Please accept my tax-deductible donation as a personal contribution _______ or as a contribution on behalf of my organization _______.

$25 __ $50 __ $100 __ $250 __ $500 $1,000 $2,000
$2001 to $5,000 _______ $5,000 and above _______ In-kind ___________________________

Please check back with me about becoming a donor.

*The East Palo Alto Center for Community Media is a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation - CA # 20-1415500
Mail donations to:
East Palo Alto Center for Community Media PO Box 50274 East Palo Alto, 94303
Reduce your carbon footprint continued from page 10

need to go while reducing pollution and the impact of climate change for future generations.

El Concilio addresses quality of life, social equity and environmental justice while providing education and affordable opportunities for low-income residents of San Mateo County. In addition, El Concilio can help low income families reduce the cost of energy and telephone bills, enroll in CalFresh and learn about affordable Internet offers. El Concilio’s staff invites the community to gain knowledge and spread the word about our energy (including healthy homes), consumer protection and education programs. You may contact us at (650) 330-7432 to learn more.

Gloria Flores-Garcia is the associate executive director at El Concilio of San Mateo County.

See Flores-Garcia and her colleagues discuss El Concilio’s programs on the June 27, 2019 Talking with Henrietta show called, “How Nonprofits Provide Community Services.”

Get more information about the show on the East Palo Alto Today website at http://eapalodaytv.html#nonprofits

Oakland event continued from page 13

Q: What advice would you give to Bay Area communities, like East Palo Alto, daily facing the threat of displacement?

Nila: Don’t move. Don’t sell your land. Land is life. Take up space.

Leon: First, I want to clarify something. We are anti-gentrification, not anti-new-to-Oakland. There’s a difference. Advice? I’d say, there’s strength in numbers.

It’s the Warriors’ motto [smile], it’s very important to remember and it’s vital to our existence. Keep organizing. We from the Bay (Area) and the radical is in us! We have to remind folks that #WeStillHere in EPA! We have to remember who we are.

Kyras Brown is an East Palo Alto resident and regular EPA Today contributor.

Cryptocurrencies

In fact, it’s just the opposite.

Just remember, there is no guarantee of success. And there is no recourse if you get scammed. Cryptocurrency transactions are not reversible so you need to be extremely careful and know what you’re doing.

The other thing to understand is that the price of these assets is extremely volatile, meaning it jumps around a lot. For example, on Sept. 1, 2017, one Bitcoin (BTC) was $4,892. On Dec. 1, 2017, it was $10,975. Just 16 days later, it peaked at $19,497. By March 1, 2018 it had fallen to $10,951. On March 1, 2019, one year later, it was $3,860. On May 15, 2019, it was at $8,205.

This is to give you an idea of why you need a strong stomach if you want to invest in something like BTC. People are prone to panic, and that’s a sure-fire way to lose a lot of money.

You can also see, however, why it has the potential to make people a lot of money.

You don’t have to buy a whole Bitcoin, by the way. Since it’s digital, it breaks down to something like 8 decimal points (in fact, actually. 0.00000001 BTC is known as “one Satoshi” after the founder). It’s possible to buy $10 worth, or $100, or $10,000 or $10 million. Still, buy only as much as you can afford to lose. And, don’t even think about going into debt to buy it!

In fact, don’t even buy it at all unless you are willing to educate yourself first and take 100% complete responsibility for the consequences, bad and good. Even then, I am not advising anyone to buy any cryptocurrency. I will also disclose that I do own some. Always do your own research!

If you have any questions about Bitcoin or cryptocurrencies, send a letter to the Editor and we will answer them the best we can. Just remember, we are not offering investment advice and cannot answer questions about anyone’s specific situation.

Kimberly Carlton is an East Palo Alto resident who serves on the board of the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media.