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East Palo Alto Today



Providing news that is relevant, informative and critical

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East Palo Alto and Belle Haven

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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 mil-

lion 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 continued on page 12

Capturing the completion of a dream



Photo by HJ Burroughs

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,

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. If you are not eligible now, but your household income goes down, household size goes up, or a household member starts receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits, you may turn in an application at that time. Information given on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified 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 filling out 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

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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 gain wider support among members of the Assembly and Senate, many of whom were strongly opposed when the proposal was first introduced.

Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego) intro-



Photo courtesy of Robert Maryland, CBM

Governor Gavin Newsom signs AB 392 “California Act to Save Lives” with family members and advocates standing by his side along with the author Assemblymember, Dr. Shirley Weber (D-San Diego) and legislative leaders August 19, 2019.

duced the legislation she co-authored with Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento). Both lawmakers are African American.

Inspired in part by the 2018 shooting of an unarmed 22-year-old African-American man, Stephon Alonzo Clark, by police officers in Sacramento, the bill proposes changes to California’s penal code regarding “justifiable homicides” by “peace officers.” It’s language requires cops to only use deadly force “in defense of human life”

when a suspect poses an “imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to themselves or others.”

Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) championed the bill in the Senate.

“With so many unnecessary deaths, I think everyone agrees that we need to change how deadly force is used in California,” said Weber, who is also chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus. “We can now move a policy forward that will save lives and change the cul-

ture of policing in California.”

The bill, which was initially sponsored by the civil justice group Black Lives Matter (BLM), also calls for police officers to rely on training and exhaust all resources available to them, whenever possible, before shooting to kill. The bill defines “imminent harm” as a threat that must be “instantly confronted.” It rules out fear of future harm - no matter how great or likely the potential danger is.

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 AB392 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. “Unfortunately, in efforts to get law enforcement to lift their opposition, the bill was so significantly amended that it is no longer the kind of meaningful legislation we can support.”

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.”

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City, County, State & U.S. Government Meetings & Contacts

East Palo Alto City Council

The East Palo Alto City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers, East Palo Alto City Hall, 2415 University Avenue; (650) 853-3100 or Fax: (650) 853-3115. Website: www.ci.east-palo-alto.ca.us

East Palo Alto City Council Members

Lisa Gauthier

Mayor

(650) 387-4584

lgauthier@cityofepa.org

Regina Wallace Jones

Vice Mayor

650-709-9660

rwallacejones@cityofepa.org

Carlos Romero

cromero@cityofepa.org

650) 328-4363

Ruben Abrica

(650) 804-3347

rabrica@cityofepa.org

Larry Moody

(650) 644-9110

lmoody@cityofepa.org

East Palo Alto Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Committees

Planning Commission

Second and Fourth Monday

Rent Stabilization Board

Second and Fourth Wednesday

Public Works & Transportation Commission

Third Wednesday

Youth Advisory Committee

First Thursday of each month

Senior Advisory Committee

Meets first Wednesday of the even numbered months from 1:30p.m.-3:30p.m. - City Hall.

East Palo Alto Sanitary District

The East Palo Alto Sanitary District office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and re-opens from 1:00 p.m. to

5:00 p.m. for service. Regular Board Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm.

Menlo Park City Council

The Menlo Park City Council holds meetings every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers located at 801 Laurel Street. You can subscribe to receive the agendas and minutes by e-mail when they are published. For questions about an agenda, call the city clerk at 650.330.6620.

Menlo Park City Council Members

Ray Mueller

Mayor

650-776-8995

Cecilia Clark- Mayor Pro Tem

650-589-5073

Catherine Carlton

650-575-4523

Drew Combs

650-924-1890

Betsy Nash 650-380-3986

Menlo Park Boards, Commissions, Committees

Arts Commission

Bicycle Commission

Environmental Quality Commission

Finance and Audit Commission

Housing Commission

Las Pulgas Committee

Library Commission

Parks and Recreation Commission

Planning Commission

Transportation Commission

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Warren Slocum

Fourth District

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors meets on March 3, 17, 31, & April 14, 28 2009 in the County of San Mateo Hall of Justice & Records 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. Roll call at 8 a.m. 9 a.m. Regular & Consent Agenda Items. 650-691-2121

State Officials

Governor

Gavin Newsom

State Capitol Building

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-445-2841

Fax: 916) 558-3160

Assembly Member

Marc Berman

District Address

5050 El Camino Real

Ste.117

Los Altos, CA 94022

650 691-2121

State Senator

Jerry Hill

District Address

1528 South El Camino Real

San Mateo, CA 94301

(650) 212-3313

U.S. Government

U.S. Congresswoman

Jackie Speier

San Mateo Office

155 Bovet Rd, Suite 780

San Mateo, CA 94402

Phone: (650) 342-0300

Washington, DC:

(202) 225-3531

Community News Briefs

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,



Photo by H.J. Burroughs

City and local foundation officials stand behind East Palo Alto's Mayor Lisa Gauthier as she makes opening remarks to those who gathered for an informal tour of the city's RV Safe Parking program.

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

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Tackling East Palo Alto's traffic and mobility issues

By **Monica Guzman**

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 synchro-

nization 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 Uni-


versity 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.

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EAST PALO ALTO SANITARY DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Glenda Savage, President	901 Weeks Street
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Akin Okupe, M.B.A, P.E., General Manager

Notice of Bid Invitation for the Lease of the Office Building at 903 Weeks Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303

The East Palo Alto Sanitary District seeks proposals from qualified parties (collectively "Proposer") interested in leasing the office space at 903 Weeks Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, for office use, subject to a lease agreement with the District.

Located in East Palo Alto, California, East Palo Alto's Sanitary District provides sewer services to the residents of East Palo Alto and portions of Menlo Park.

In addition to its proximity to downtown businesses, the District lies directly south of The Facebook Campus, North of the Google Campus. Several other destinations are located near the District Office including, Stanford University.

The deadline for answering questions is September 23rd, 2019. The deadline for tours is September 27th, 2019. All proposals are due by October 2nd, 2019.

For additional details and to download the Lease Document, please visit our website at www.epasd.com. For any questions, please call our District Office at 650-325-9021 Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. during hours of operation.

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10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

From the Editor's Desk

Are we at the dawn of a new day?

On August 19, 2019, the Business Roundtable, which includes 200 major U.S. corporations held its annual meeting and issued a statement that many hope will have enormous impact on the way U.S. corporations conduct business.

During their meeting, one hundred eighty one of the Business Roundtable's members issued a new statement to define "the purpose of a corporation." 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 undeniable responsibility not just to their shareholders who were paramount in the past, but also to their customers, employees, suppliers and the communities in which they work (Read their complete statement at <https://www.businessroundtable.org/business-roundtable-redefines-the-purpose-of-a-corporation-to-promote-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 business landscape for 40 years, was widely accepted and even taught in leading colleges 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 pollution were 'preaching pure and unadulterated socialism.' His theory, which made shareholder primacy the rule for generations of executives, held that businesses only needed to fulfill their duty to provide profit to shareholders. Free markets would look after everything else."

Using Friedman's definition and even prior to his issuing it, businesses and countries, alike, have always justified almost anything in the name of growth and increasing profit; actions like the massive seizures of Native American lands in this country, the importation of Africans as slaves, using children as cheap labor, paying below minimum wage or no wage, charging exorbitant rents that cause high rates of tenant evictions and homelessness, even burning down the Amazon to carve out grazing land for cattle to sell to multinational corporations.

If it is accepted that the only obligation of a business is to maximize profit and return the highest return to shareholders, then, anything and everything can be justified and excused.

Never mind the enormous damage and tragic repercussions inflicted in the process.

So, is there now, with this new definition of a corporation's purpose, light at the end of the tunnel?

We can hope so. But, we must not stop just with hope. If one agrees as the Business Roundtable members do that corporations must assume responsibility for their actions and act not just in the interest of acquiring profit, but also in the interest of others around them, then we, need to hold the corporations around us to every inch of their new statement of purpose.

Civic and community groups in East Palo Alto can feel that they have been ahead of the curve in demanding community benefits and an acknowledgment of responsibility from local corporations that operate within the city's boundaries.

Such demands, coming continuously over decades

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Henrietta J. Burroughs



When East Palo Alto's \$300,000 RV Safe Parking Pilot Program opened this year on May 14, it was a newsworthy event, since it was the very first program to offer space for up to 20 local RV dwellers to park overnight. The one-year pilot program, partially funded and run by Project WeHope, offers access to portable restrooms, showers and laundry facilities. It continues to be of interest to other local cities, whose representatives toured the facility on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 - Photo by HJ Burroughs

Letters in East Palo Alto Today

Things aren't always "common-sensical"

Dear Editor:

"Don't stand there with the refrigerator 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 fridge doesn't create cold air: It is a heat extractor, sending the warmth away from the box and into the room. This is counterintuitive. In almost every field I studied in higher education, I encountered "counterintuitive," and it made learning fun. Unfortunately, many voters never got this far, and it is so very hard to convince them to back public policies that seem counterintuitive to them.

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

criminals, to "just lock'm up" with no rehabilitation puts them back on the street with nothing, and they reoffend. It is dismal how many of them are functionally illiterate to begin with. In some European countries, plenty of courses are offered to them, including on practical skills they will need when they are released. My nephew is in prison in Washington state. The diet was so stingy, mostly junk calories, that the legislature recently realized that it was paying enormous sums for medical care. Diabetes! Heart trouble! The food improved almost overnight last year with more funding.

Trump wants to withdraw aid from Central American countries for sending "those people up here." These are aid programs funding education and food aid to help them stay where they are. Counterproductive!

And then, there are vicious cycles: Punishing a country by imposing tariffs starts a trade war. Our soybean farmers are angry because the Chinese re-

taliated with tariffs on soybeans.

Or, take the arms race. An arms buildup on our side may provoke our opponents to match and exceed ours, inciting us to accelerate our development, on and on. We saw this during the Cold War, draining money from programs like low-income housing. Now, we wonder why we can't get a handle on homelessness. It was just dumb luck that the nukes were never used. I am reading "The Doomsday Machine" by Daniel Ellsberg. There have never been enough safeguards on those bombs. It's chilling that Trump is revving weapon production up again, "We have to upgrade our nuclear arsenal." Viscous cycle!

To understand "counterintuitive," "counter productive," and the "vicious cycle" to solve problems takes abstract thinking. Trump doesn't have it. Over and over, he leads with his gut. "If I am hit, hit back harder." This is going to get both him and us into big trouble.

Gertrude Reagan
Palo Alto, 94303

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 agreement with our readers, advertisers and all others within our service

area.

East Palo Alto Today is dedicated 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 accurately and include multiple perspectives without favoring one over the other.

We will hold ourselves accountable to common standards of decency, treating our colleagues, news sources, and the public with respect.

We are committed to maintaining our independence by avoiding partnerships, investments or business relationships that would compromise the integrity of our news reports.

East Palo Alto Today

Publisher: East Palo Alto Center for Community Media
Editor-in-chief: Henrietta J. Burroughs

East Palo Alto Today is published bimonthly;
Address all letters to: East Palo Alto Today
2111 University Avenue #160, East Palo Alto, CA 94303
(650)289-9699 epatoday@epatoday.org;
www.epamedia.org and www.epatoday.org

Opinion

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

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-



Ofelia Bello

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, other 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

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Examining East Palo Alto's mobility study

By Court Skinner

On Thursday June 5th, 2019, the city of East Palo Alto hosted a community meeting to talk about parking in the Gardens area and potential methods for mitigation.

This is a component of an ongoing mobility study headed up by Susan Barnes, a FUSE fellow, and Michelle Hunt of Hexagon, Inc our consultant for the study. Susan and Michelle both gave short presentations that were followed by questions from the participants.

About 20 people showed up at the meeting. First comment was about the effective-

ness of the survey that is still ongoing. It is available in a number of formats and languages and so far more than 300 surveys have been completed.

Barnes went over the overall goals of the Mobility Study which includes traffic, cut through traffic and parking and approaches to reduce or mitigate the effects without causing more trouble than it solves. This will include policy changes, traffic furniture, better enforcement, and better design including bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

Both short term and long term approaches will get considered up to and including ideas like congestion price



Court Skinner

management and updating our Traffic Demand Management policy and traffic impact fees for certain developments. (Traffic Demand Management (TDM) was reviewed at the 7/2/2019 city council meeting and, again, at the 9/3/2019 city council meeting.

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 neigh-

borhoods), 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)

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Did you know there is an Asian American Heritage Month?

By Michael Uhila

Sometime between 2003-2008 an elderly Asian man approached the East Palo Alto city council and said, "You people are idiots." That was David Tschang and I never heard an Asian say that before. Each year, May is observed as Asian Pacific Islander heritage month. Did you know this? I did. Why? Here's a little about me. Being a Samoan (formerly Western Samoa) national and a US citizen makes me have dual citizenship. Having a Tongan family name Uhilamoelangi still makes me a Tongan. Being a Buddhist keeps me connected

to the Zen tradition of Japan and the Nygma lineage from Tibet.

The contributions Asians and Pacific Islanders have made to America are measurable by what you see and hear. Asians admittance into ivy league universities outnumber every other minority. Are you attracted to the mystique of geishas? How about the masculinity of the New Zealand All black rugby team performing the Maori Haka? Some like to see Polynesia women shake it at Tahiti Fete. That's us.

Are Asians passive? Former rapper of the 2 Live Crew Chris Wong Won sais, "Sometimes



Michael Uhila

it's not passive. It's listening and observing." Chris Wong Won also went by his stage name Fresh Kid Ice. He was also the first Asian Rapper on the hip hop scene. Sadly, he died of cirrhosis of the liver and it's pas-

sive now. The 70s TV show Kung Fu was a quirky breakthrough on American TV for martial arts. As comedienne Margret Cho says the show should have been called "That guys not Chinese!"

Some article called us the "silent population." Are they joking? That's like calling a German Shepherd a barking mute. Is there a team of elitists labeling us? I don't know what silent population means because Samoans and Tongans are loud. With gout, diabetes, heart failure, cancer, high cholesterol and enough depression to consider suicide. Is it silence when you're praying to die now in-

stead of live with colon cancer? We're visible in our size. We're loud when we see each other, because it's a tribal thing or as the Fijians call it mataqali. According to the TV show 60 Minutes, a football player of Samoan descent is 56 times more likely to get in the NFL than any other race.

When you see a Tongan man wearing a weaved mat wrapped around his waist, that is called a ta'ovala, which literally means baked in clothing. The word taboo is derived from the Tongan word tapu (tabu) which means sacred. Where

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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 outdid 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, an 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



Photo by Ivan Temes

Her audience listens attentively as Akala Francis shares useful ideas at StreetCode's Demo Day on August 7, 2019 at 1050 Myrtle St. in East Palo Alto

firefighters 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 Strohmeier manned a table that donated books and backpacks.

There were demonstrations from the Bayshore Christian Ministries robotics team. Other well-known attendees included the Andressen and Horowitz Culture Fund and venture capitalist Jessica 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.'



Photo by Ivan Temes

The audience at Demo Day seemed engrossed in the presentations

Tackling

continued from page 3

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.

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 web

page.

<http://www.city-ofepa.org/DocumentCenter/View/4461>

Anyone interested in participating in the city-wide resident survey can do so by August 31. The survey is also available on the Public Works cite.

<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.html#mobilityissues.

See more on page 15 of this issue of EPA Today.

Business Classes 2019

Interested in Starting or Growing Your Own Business?

If you want to build or grow a business of your own, Renaissance is here to help you do it right. We offer small business training, consulting, incubation, access to capital and networks, and emotional support (and yes - sometimes a kick in the pants!) to transform your dreams into "Open for Business" signs!

Location: 1848 Bay Rd. East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Orientation

DATES: Thursday, August 15, 22 & 29
TIME: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Are you ready to start a business or thinking about it? Find out your business readiness and get the tips and resources, including the access to a wide range of Renaissance's services, to launch or expand your business.

Start Smart

DATES: Thursday September 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 3rd
TIME: Meets for 4 weeks 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

In this course you will find out about the basic tools you need to start a successful business: Learn how to define your vision for your future, create a mission statement to meet the vision, assess if you have the skills, passion and resources, craft a business model to match your reality and test the feasibility of your business.

Business Preparation

DATES: Thursday, October 10th - December 19th
TIME: Meets for 10 Weeks 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

This intermediate course covers business basics and prepares entrepreneurs to write business plans by learning the fundamentals of marketing, operations and finance. Enrollment requires a clearly defined business or concept by staff approval or completion of Start Smart.

To register for classes and to learn more, go to www.rencenter.org or call 650-321-2193 Scholarships available upon request.

These classes are presented by Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit social impact organization. Learn more at www.rencenter.org
Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Please contact Crystal Rosenbusen 650.321.2193






Community News Briefs

continued from page 3

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 signed up to participate in the pilot program and 12 of them 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 RV's."

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 resigned?

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 it's 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 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, Parris 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



Photo courtesy of Jessica Lyons
Mayor Lisa Gauthier, shown standing at the top right in this photo, poses proudly with the other 2019 graduates of the Working Scholars college program.

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

continued from page 1

Effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020					
Household size	Year	Month	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Week
1	\$23,107	\$1,926	\$963	\$889	\$445
2	\$31,284	\$2,607	\$1,304	\$1,204	\$602
3	\$39,461	\$3,289	\$1,645	\$1,518	\$759
4	\$47,638	\$3,970	\$1,985	\$1,833	\$917
5	\$55,815	\$4,652	\$2,326	\$2,147	\$1,074
6	\$63,992	\$5,333	\$2,667	\$2,462	\$1,231
7	\$72,169	\$6,015	\$3,008	\$2,776	\$1,388

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 plove@smcoe.org







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Climate Change Community Survey

Be a voice for your community! Volunteer surveyors will be in your neighborhood with our survey on August 24th or 31st from 10am-1pm.
¡Sea una voz para su comunidad! Voluntarios estarán en EPA con una encuesta corta el 24 o 31 de agosto entre las 10am y 1pm.
Loto mu'a keke hoko koha le'o ma'a hotau kainga, kolo "community".
'Ihe 'aho 24 pe koe 31 'o 'Akosi 'ihe vaha'a taimi 'o e 10:00 am ki he 1:00 pm "E a'u atu ai kiho 'api nofo'anga ha kau ngaue savea ofa. 'O tufa atu ha ngaahi fehu'i faka'eke'eke ke mou po talanoa ai.
la fai oe ma leo o lou afioaga!
Ole a oo atu sui oloo faafaigaluegaina faavaitaimi ele Komiti o le Fesuaiga o le Tau i East Palo Alto mo sailiiliga laiti, i outou maota ma laoa/aiga taitasi ma le pepa e faatautaia ai se suesuega ile aso 24 Aukuso poo le aso 31, mai le 10 ile taeao sei oo ile 1 ile aoauli.

Missed us? Take the survey online at bit.ly/climatesurveyEPA or call us at (408)9906447

Lifecycles

Clinton Stanton, Sr. - January 29, 1930 - July 12, 2019



Clinton Stanton, Sr.

The East Palo Alto community has been a part of the life journey of Clinton Stanton, Sr. for 53 years. His life of 89 years was built on the

three pillars: Faith, Family and Service.

Clinton Stanton was born on Wednesday, January 29, 1930 in Bessemer Alabama to Willie and Annie Belle Stanton. Clinton was the second of two children. Willie Jr. was raised by their grandmother but the two remained very close even though they lived in different homes. Clinton's mother re-married when he was 10 years old to Everett G. Nelson. Mr. Everett G. was a provider, mentor and father to him.

His mother poured her life into raising her son and getting him out of Alabama during the Civil Rights era.

Clinton graduated from Dunbar High School in 1948 and left Alabama in 1950 to join the Army. After Basic Training in Fort Knox Kentucky, Clinton continued his military career by joining the 82nd Airborne Division from 1950 to 1953 where he earned his wings as a Paratrooper. Upon receiving an honorable discharge from the Army, Clinton returned to

Alabama for a short time working at Atlanta Life Insurance as a special agent. Clinton moved to the Detroit in May of 1953. He worked at the Cunningham Drug Store until gaining employment in the auto industry at Chrysler, followed by the Cadillac division of General Motors.

Clinton Stanton met and married Beverly Ann Turner in Detroit Michigan on June 27, 1954. Sixty-five years of marriage produced four children, two sons in law, seven grandchildren and twelve

great grandchildren. Marrying Beverly, who lovingly called him "Stan" changed his life and gave him a new perspective on family values. Clinton learned and reflected the hard work ethic personified by his mother, stepfather and In-Laws Mr. & Mrs. Turner.

Clinton Sr. knew the importance of education to support and care of his family. With a 2-year old daughter and one on the way, Clinton worked days and attended night school to complete his

Julio Gastón Bolaños del Solar- July 11, 1932 - July 10, 2019



Julio Gastón Bolaños del Solar

Julio Gastón Bolaños del Solar was born in Arequipa, in southern Peru, on July 11, 1932. Very young, he moved to the capital, Lima, where he became a beloved and respected businessman.

In 1967 he married Bethzabé Ida Yáñez and together they had four children: María Angélica, María Sol, Gastón Jesús and Gustavo Adolfo. In 2000 he moved to California,

with his wife, and, over the years, his children and his nine grandchildren also settled in this state.

In 2017, Julio Gastón and Bethzabé celebrated 50 years of marriage. But, just two years later, on July 10, Julio Gastón was called to the side of God. He was a kind man, beloved and admired by his entire community. He leaves a deep sorrow in everyone who met him, especially in his beloved big family.

His service was held on July 11, 2019 at the St Francis of Assisi Church in East Palo Alto.

Julio Gastón Bolaños del Solar nació en Arequipa, al sur del Perú, el 11 de julio de 1932. Muy joven, se mudó a la capital, Lima, donde llegó a ser un empresario querido y respetado.

En 1967 se casó con Bethzabé Ida Yáñez y juntos tuvieron cuatro hijos: María Angélica, María Sol, Gastón Jesús y Gustavo Adolfo. En el año 2,000 se mudó a California, al lado de su esposa, y, con los años, también sus hijos y sus nueve nietos llegaron a radicar en este estado.

En el año 2017, Julio Gastón y Bethzabé celebraron 50 años de matrimonio. Pero, apenas dos años después, el pasado 10 de julio, Julio Gastón fue llamado al lado de Dios. Fue un hombre noble, amado y admirado por toda su comunidad. Deja un hondo pesar en todo aquel que lo conoció, en especial, en su amada gran familia.

Su servicio se llevó a cabo el 11 de julio de 2019 en la Iglesia de San Francisco de Asís en East Palo Alto.

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 missed last year due to the death of their son, who managed their reunions in the past.



Photo courtesy Jerry Smith Thurman and Willie Mae Smith

This year their reunion started the evening of Friday, July 13 at the Girls Club on Ralmar Street and ended Sat-

urday 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.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

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 Sandra 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 the East Palo Alto was an unincorporated part of San Mateo County with no uplifting



Photo courtesy of ST Webster

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.

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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



Michael Crumb stands with Halley Crumb and supporters.

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-

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Reduce your carbon footprint with El Concilio

By Gloria Garcia Flores

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 healthier by learning about solutions to global warming? How can I make a difference, you ask?

I wonder how many have of us put into perspective our own vehicles, our means of transportation, as being harmful? What about the gas pump that fuels our vehicles?

Emissions are the exhaust and vapors released in the air from our vehicle's tail pipe. This air-borne matter is a great source of harm to the planet resulting in global



Courtesy of <https://el-concilio.com/>

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 qual-

ity of life services to the underserved communities of San Mateo County. Within its mission, staff provide information about the various aspects of zero emission vehicles to the community as one way to participate in the solution to global warming. Our goal was to reach over 1,500 low-income residents of San Mateo and Santa Clara County by the end of June 2019 for the purpose of spreading the word about available benefits, incentives, the lack of gas or maintenance costs, car pool privileges, reduced insurance fees, income tax write offs and rebates. Zero emission vehicles can get us where we

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Are cryptocurrencies the future of money?

By Kimberly Carlton

Do you find yourself wondering what all the hype is about when people start talking about Bitcoin and blockchains?

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").

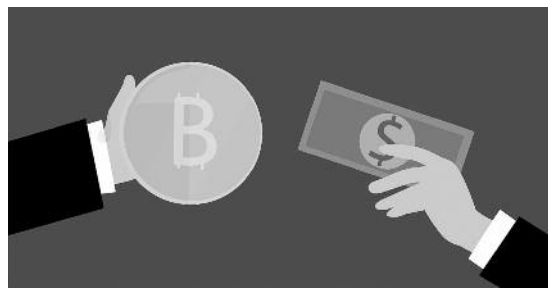
Bitcoin started in 2009 in the aftermath of the financial crisis and wave of foreclosures hit hard in communities like ours. The true identity of its founder is still unknown, except for the famous pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. Because of how it was created, many people believe that it was meant to directly challenge 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 anyone'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 you control it.

Finally, it's extremely



Courtesy of <https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/>

portable and cheap to use. If you send money to anyone abroad, you know how much they charge for that service 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 gets it within seconds.

Knowing all this, maybe you 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, you might 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 cryptocurren-

continued on page 16

Visionaries

Their advocacy, diligence and commitment to the community, influenced the County of San Mateo Board of Supervisors to establish the East Palo Alto Municipal Council in 1968 with advisory powers.

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

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/pioneers of The Floating Crap

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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

Exemplary service continued from page 9

chine 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 rents low. He started his own savings and loan facility to assist families and business people.

At one point during a transition period in EPA when people were moving out Mr. Campbell and his partner Jay Finkle owned 66 of 147 properties in East Palo Alto.

Many in the community commend him for being a true community hero in terms of sharing with and supporting other community residents.

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's Black Student 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 miseducated 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 of 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



Photo courtesy of Rainier Ridao

See <https://unsplash.com/photos/4I2QhSrvW1A>

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 feel 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 the following:

- **"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 their 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. Even many adults

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 surely check in with 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 stood 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

lit 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

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 BACHAC to see the #VapeStopsHere Campaign in Action! Like, Share and Comment on the Posts So We Can Build Engagement for Your Work! Join us in getting the message out about the campaign and the message to educate youth about flavored tobacco and vaping. Please follow us on: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SoulStroll/>; @soulstroll; Twitter: [@thebachac](https://twitter.com/thebachac); Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thebachac/> @thebachac



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

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did that come from? Somewhere during Margaret Mead's anthropology excursions in the South Pacific she heard us say tapu (tabu). How did she hear tapu (tabu) from silent savages? What Margaret Mead lacked in respect to the natives she gained due to her white privilege in the field of anthropology. It's like having a license to make up crap about the savages you look down on. The word taboo stuck around longer than Margaret Mead did.

In a sociology class at UC Berkeley, they talked about how ethnicities survive in America by assimilation or acculturation.

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 acculturate? I heard a judge tell one of my cousins, "This is America, by law we don'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 Samsung, 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 DHI to the NFL. From the Joy Luck Club to Harold and Kumar going to White Castle. We're here. From Vera Wang to Troy Polumalu. Disregard everything I said here because I could be wrong. After all, each of us in the Asian Pacific Islander community can ask ourselves: How did I get here?

Equifax

of about 15 million people.

"Our credit status impacts nearly every aspect of our lives - from purchasing a home or a car to finding a job," said California Attorney General Xavier Becerra. "The same Americans who had to immediately protect themselves from fraudsters or identify thieves will have to be vigilant for the rest of their lives. We encourage every eligible person to apply for the relief they are entitled to as part of our settlement."

About \$300 million of the settlement amount will go to making payments to Americans affected by the breach. Equifax will pay another \$275 million in fines to close the investigation by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and to end legal action by states who filed lawsuits against the company.

The hackers, who have not yet been identified, penetrated Equifax's data files and were able to steal social security numbers, credit card numbers, addresses and other personal data. The breach affected all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories.

To compensate victims, Equifax has set up a website (EquifaxBreachSettlement.co

Impacted by the
Equifax breach?

Learn more.
Claim your benefits.

[ftc.gov/Equifax](https://www.ftc.gov/Equifax)

Courtesy of <https://www.ftc.gov/Equifax>

m) where you can first check to see if you were affected by the breach. Then, you can apply for a check payment of "up to" \$125, or you can choose free credit monitoring with all three major credit bureaus for up to four years, a value of a little over \$950. When that period is over, you can choose to opt in for free credit monitoring by Equifax for another six years.

Because "millions of people" affected have filed claims since the settlement announcement, the FTC, which is responsible for consumer protection across the country, says applying for a cash payment is not the best way to go. So, as an alternative, Equifax is primarily now offering free credit monitoring to its customers affected by the data breach. If you're already signed up for a free credit

monitoring service and intend to keep it for the next six months, then you can apply for the \$125 payment.

"The pot of money that pays for that part of the settlement is \$31 million," the FTC said in a statement. "A large number of claims for cash instead of credit monitoring means only one thing: Each person who takes the money option will wind up only getting a small amount of money. Nowhere near the \$125 they could have gotten if there hadn't been such an enormous number of claims filed."

For Equifax to have paid out the full \$125 to each person affected, a number of no more than 248,000 people would have needed to apply. If all 147 million people end up filing a claim, individual payouts would shrivel down to around .22 cents per person.

The cost for Equifax's credit

monitoring service is \$19.99 a month, according to the company's website. If every victim of the breach signs up, it could cost Equifax up to \$2 billion to cover the costs.

Victims of identity theft or other fraud resulting directly from the breach who have documentation to back up their claim, will receive compensation of \$25 an hour (for up to 20 hours) of the time they took to resolve the problem. They will be eligible for up to another 10 hours of \$25-an-hour payments for the time they took to research or purchase protection services, including freezing their credit, after the fraud happened.

Those who incurred legal expenses or spent money on credit monitoring, notaries and other approved fines as a result of the hack, are eligible for up to \$20,000 per person in reimbursements. They will also be required to show proof that their claims are valid.

The deadline to file all claims is Jan. 22, 2020.

For people who have already requested a \$125 payment and would now like to opt for free credit monitoring instead, look out for an email from Equifax. The company will allow you to change your choice.

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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, in a press release. "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 an 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 for Amazon Web Services, bragged about her hacking exploits on Twitter under the username "Erratic."

Manny Otiko writes for California Black Media. This article is reprinted with permission.

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 as a Quality Engineer retiring 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 church, perfecting his photography and preparing Taxes 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.

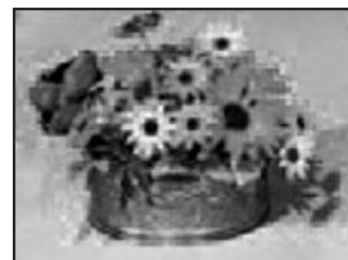
As a father, Mr. Stanton was a constant presence and active participant within the school district. He and his wife Beverly were as a part of the parent committee for school integration. Mr. Stanton required hard work and accountability from his children and the teachers that taught them.

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 9 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 pulpit 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 dedica-



tion 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 Everett 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, Pamala & husband Gary Simpson, Clinton Stanton Jr. and 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

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carried him through life.

His family has been his greatest blessing, and service to his community, church and friends have filled his life with purpose and joy. Clinton's hope is to be remembered as being firm but fair!

Favorite Scriptures: Romans 8:28 "For we know that all things work together for those that love the Lord." Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Favorite sayings: "Don't say too much, then you won't have to take much back." "Make your garment according to your cloth," "A penny saved is a penny earned. If you have 15 cents save a dime." Lesson in life: "Anything worth having is worth working for." In every phase of his life, you will notice God Directing his Path. Servant, Husband, Father, Mentor, Friend -- Now Clinton rests in His Savior's Love and Care! --See more on the East Palo Alto Today website at http://www.epatoday.org/treasured_memories/listing.php

Oakland event highlights resident displacement

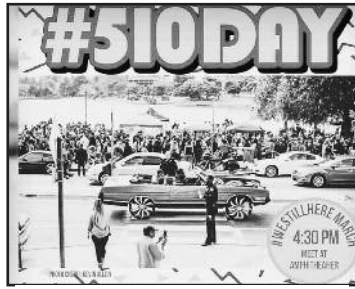
By Kyra Brown

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(uestion): What inspired you to start #510Day and what did you hope to achieve?

Leon: #415Day – 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



Courtesy of Kyra Brown

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: #WeStill-Here. 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 #TownBusiness. 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 (#BBQnWhileBlack). 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!

Nita: The work that the youth did in organizing this Anti-displacement March is something that will be a driving force (politically) for the years to come [smile]!

Q: What are some of the housing struggles that residents are facing here in Oakland? Have you encountered housing policy issues at the city government level when trying to organize and address housing struggles?

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



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 culture, 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 inspiration and fully aware that I, and each new cohort of young people, stand on the shoulders of giants. I remind myself of that in the moments when our latest struggles feel insurmountable.

When the latest development proposals are plopped on our desk and command over a million square feet of office space and hundreds of new market rate units, at the same time that our public education system is constricted, our air and water quality is not up to par to say the least, and at the same time that our Black, Pacific Islander and Latinx communities continue to be

economically displaced despite working multiple jobs and having some of the strongest rent control laws in the State. So much has changed since 1994, yet so much has stayed the same. We still hear those same old tired arguments that prioritize profit over the health and well-being of the people and the land without any regard to the necessity of thinking outside of the realm of what is politically possible.

I firmly believe in my heart that East Palo Alto is perfectly poised to demonstrate how a transformative, self-determined community ought to be run. 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!

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Clases de Negocios 2019

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Ubicación: 1848 Bay Rd. East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Orientación

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Este curso intermedio cubre aspectos básicos de negocios y prepara a los empresarios para redactar planes de negocios al aprender los aspectos básicos de marketing, operaciones y finanzas. La inscripción requiere un concepto o negocio claramente definido por la aprobación del personal o la finalización de Comienza Inteligente.

Para inscribirse en las clases y obtener más información, vaya a www.rencenter.org o Llame al 650-321-2193. Becas disponibles a solicitud.

Estas clases son presentadas por Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, una organización 501 (c) 3 de impacto social sin fines de lucro. Obtenga más información en www.rencenter.org. Se harán acomodaciones razonables para personas con discapacidades. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Crystal Reamussen 650-321-2193







California now has strongest

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Photo by Spenser Withans on Unsplash

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 Bibring, Police Practices Director for the 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.

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."

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It's a time to rejoice, but even though a new day seems to have dawned, the pursuit of inclusion and justice needs to continue!

Studying

and 4 by lottery up to a max of about 1.7 per du (dwelling unit). They would not guarantee a place to park, but merely serve as a hunting license.

A suggestion to remove overnight parking restrictions at the park in University Square (Joel Davis Park) did not fare well. Apparently the police and fire departments also disapproved of the idea. Cars parked around the park would restrict the view to inside the park as well as access by community service vehicles. It was clear that even with visible access, there are people misbehaving in the parks.

It was very clear during this community meeting that there is a clear sense of frustration. This frustration has been building for a while as folks recall why they moved into this very nice neighborhood many years ago and now see that it has slowly turned into what it has become today.

There was a time when cars were kept in the garage. Sidewalks were for walking,

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.

But, they haven't. They have reached a stage that will be much more difficult to address than it might have been even a few years ago.

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 commons we 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

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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

Strategy:	Peds	Parking	Emergency Access/ Security	Convenience
Restrict daytime parking to one side on narrow streets with rolled curbs (Clear sidewalk on other side for pedestrians)				
Resident permit parking program				
Allow residents to park on the street in front of their own driveway				
Shared use of church/business/park parking lots				

*Parking strategies for other neighborhoods will be developed subsequently based on the outcome and lessons learned in the Gardens neighborhood.

Courtesy of City of East Palo Alto
A copy of page 23 from the City of East Palo Alto's Mobility Study Update.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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 Dis-

trict 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 Pal 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

See more community calendar events at the website for the East Palo Alto Today newspaper www.epatoday.org

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 Pulgas 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)

Talking with Henrietta

Addressing Local Transportation and Mobility Issues



Photo courtesy of Talking with Henrietta
From left, Susan Barnes and Henrietta J. Burroughs sit on the set of the Talking with Henrietta television show after the taping of their show discussion on August 8, 2019.

This show can be seen on Channel 30 on the Midpeninsula and on the Internet at the days and times below until Fri May 10, 2019 on Sundays@5 p.m., Mondays@2 p.m., Tuesdays@8 p.m., Wednesdays@2 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Thursdays@8 p.m., Fridays@3:00 a.m. and 12 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m.

Talking with Henrietta also appears on Channel 27 on Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m.

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.



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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://epato-day.org/tv.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?

Nita: 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 #WeStill-Here in EPA! We have to remember who we are.

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

Cryptocurrencies

cies. 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.



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