

# NEWSLETTER



Volume 2018, Issue 3

May/June

## LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

### Is It Time To Ask For Help?

Many issues can affect the decision to ask for help at home. Family members, time, abilities, energy, and other responsibilities may come into play. Finances, safety, careers and health must be considered. Plus, emotions driven by a sense of loyalty, feelings of guilt and desire to please have to be dealt with.

What a tough situation to be in, especially for those facing this decision for the first



With the passage of time, difficult questions can arise about providing needed personal care

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Contact Villages of San Mateo County at: 650-260-4569 or [info@villagesofsmc.org](mailto:info@villagesofsmc.org)  
Sequoia Village and Mid Peninsula Village are two local villages under the umbrella  
501(c)(3) nonprofit called Villages of San Mateo County

## COFFEE CONNECTION

If you have an extra room in your home that might be a source of additional income for you, or if you might willingly allow someone to share a room in your home as a welcomed companion, come join us for a question and answer session with **Laura Fanucchi**. Our presentation is open to all Villages of San Mateo County members (Sequoia Village and Mid Peninsula Village), volunteers, and their guests. Light refreshments will be provided.

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 30, 2018  
**TIME:** 10AM—11:30AM  
**LOCATION:** Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
1300 South El Camino Real, San Mateo



Laura Fanucchi

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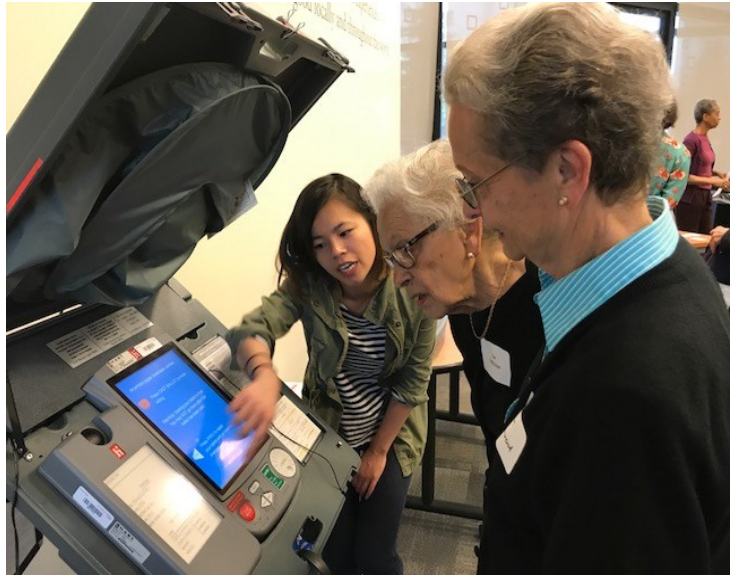
**PRESENTER:** Ms. Fanucchi is Associate Executive Director for HIP (Human Investment Program) Housing, a non-profit organization that provides affordable housing solutions in San Mateo County. She oversees the Home Sharing and Self-Sufficiency program and is VP of the National Shared Housing Resource Center, which provides technical assistance to non-profits regarding the development of Home Sharing Programs throughout San Mateo County. She also works with volunteers, Senior Service Coordinators, Outreach Specialists, and the Nonprofit Management Institute, as well as other agencies.

**RSVP:** Please contact the Villages of San Mateo County office by **May 21** by emailing us at [info@villagesofsmc.org](mailto:info@villagesofsmc.org) or by calling us at 650-260-4569 if you wish to attend.

**Please indicate if you need a ride AND please indicate if you are bringing a guest.**

## CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

San Mateo County has been selected by the State Legislature as one of 14 pilot counties statewide to conduct All-Mailed Ballot and Vote Center elections under SB 450, the California Voter's Choice Act. On September 12, 2017, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors authorized the Chief Elections Officer to proceed with the implementation of the California Voter's Choice Act. The June 5, 2018, Statewide Direct Primary Election will be the first election held under this Act. Five counties will use this new Colorado-based model. Nine other counties will follow in subsequent elections.



*L to R: Cho Chin, from the SM County Election Service Team, showcases new voting machine to Karin Heyward (guest) and Lilya de Michiel (VSMC member)*

The California Voter's Choice Act was enacted to increase voter participation, enlist public engagement and expand voting options for all voters. The law fundamentally changes the manner in which future elections will be conducted by establishing an All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center election model that utilizes Vote Centers and Ballot Drop-Off locations strategically placed throughout the county. Under the Voter's Choice Act, all registered voters will be mailed a ballot 29 days before the election along with a postage-paid envelope to return the ballot.

Voters will be able to cast their ballots by choosing one of three methods:

- **Vote by mail:**

- ⇒ You can vote and mail your ballot in the postage-paid return envelope on or before Election Day.

- **Drop off your ballot by hand:**

- ⇒ You can vote and return your ballot 24/7 into a secure Ballot Drop-Off Box. Ballot Drop-Off Boxes will be located in 4 locations throughout San Mateo County, i.e. Pescadero, East Palo Alto, Daly City and San Mateo, starting 28 days

*(Continued on page 4: Voter's Choice Act)*

before Election Day.

- **Vote in person at a designated Vote Center:**

⇒ Vote Centers look and feel like polling places, but will provide additional services and options for voters, i.e. vote on an accessible voting machine or vote with a paper ballot, access multilingual election materials while receiving assistance from English, Spanish, Chinese, Filipino or Korean speaking staff, drop off your ballot, receive a replacement ballot, register to vote or update registration information until/throughout Election Day.

Four Vote Centers will be open 29 days before Election Day. Four more Vote Centers will be open ten days before Election Day. These Vote Centers will be open on weekdays and on the two weekends before Election Day for a minimum of eight hours per day. An additional 31 Vote Centers will be open three days before Election Day for at least eight hours daily. All Vote Centers will be open on Election Day, June 5, from 7 a.m - 8 p.m.

Locations of Ballot Drop-Off Boxes and Vote Centers will be mailed with the Vote by Mail ballots to all registered voters. They will also be provided in the Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet.

For more information on the Voter's Choice Act, please visit [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org).

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(Help: continued from page 1)

time. Fortunately, there are peers and professionals who are willing to share their experiences and expertise to help. They can add clarity to the decision-making process and relieve some of the pressure felt by caregivers and their benefactors.

Medical and health professionals are available that specialize in the care of seniors. Geriatric Care Managers are specialists in long-term care issues and planning. There are also local agencies and associations that deal with senior care, health and living issues. In addition, VSMC offers *advocates*, volunteers who may suggest guidance and relevant referrals as avenues for options through some difficult situations. For more information, call the VSMC office at 650-260-4569 to request an *advocate* to help guide you through.

(Source: KCTemecula.com)

## **VILLAGE MEMBERS CAN BE VOLUNTEERS TOO!**

Our most requested Village services (and therefore the greatest volunteer opportunities) are transportation, home repairs, house and yard chores, and technology assistance. Many of our members would like to do volunteer work, but their talents or capabilities don't land in these most requested categories. Does this sound familiar? But there are other village tasks: help organize social events, mentor new members and volunteers, make friendly visits or phone calls, interface with members as an office staffer, or be an advocate to help a member overcome a challenge. Talk to our Volunteer Coordinators to find out if there are volunteer tasks that might fit your skills and interests. Get started by calling the VSMC office at 650-260-4569.

Village members could also consider volunteering for one of our community partners who provide other types of services. **Healthy Cities Tutoring** is a wonderful nonprofit that matches volunteer tutors with K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are struggling to succeed in school. It only takes one hour per week, scheduling is flexible, and the tutoring is done on site at schools in San Carlos and Redwood City. Training is provided, but no previous experience is required. Transportation to the schools can be provided by the Village. Call the tutoring service at 650-508-7327 to get started.

Another excellent possibility is the **Senior Peer Counseling** program with **Peninsula Family Service**. After completing a training program, you will be matched with a senior who is having difficulty navigating the many challenges of aging. Your own success in dealing with aging can be of great value as you meet for one hour each week with the person you are counseling. Counselor candidates must be 55 years of age or older and have reliable transportation, which the Village can provide! Please call Peninsula Family Service at 650-403-4300 to learn more.

Volunteering our time or services can give us purpose, satisfaction, and joy. Our primary mission for our Village is to serve our Village members, but we are also dedicated to partnering with other organizations to improve our communities in general. I encourage each of you to find the volunteer role that is meaningful to you.

*by Scott McMullin, VSMC Board Chair*



**VILLAGES OF SAN  
MATEO COUNTY  
CHAIRS AND  
COMMITTEES**

VILLAGES OF SAN  
MATEO COUNTY:  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Linda Burroughs*

PRESIDENT

*Scott McMullin*

MID PENINSULA  
VILLAGE CHAIR

*Eric Hanson*

SEQUOIA VILLAGE  
CHAIR

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*Deborah Flaherty*

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OUTREACH

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NEWSLETTER

EDITORS

*Wani Wynne*

VENDOR

*Lisa Sharek*

VOLUNTEER/SERVICE  
COMMITTEE

*Randi Kutnewsky*

*Irene Liana*

**KEY VOLUNTEER OPENING AT VSMC:**

**VENDOR COORDINATOR**

Over the past three years, Lisa Sharek has done a wonderful job of setting up our Vendor program. Now she is moving on to other activities and we need another volunteer to step into this important role.

Our substantial list of “Village Vetted Vendors” and “Member Recommended Vendors” are professionals who provide services which are beyond the scope of our volunteers for a market rate, such as plumbing or roof repair. Our goal is to have an ample supply of qualified, reputable, experienced and vetted professionals to refer to our members when the need requires.

Once settled in, the Vendor Coordinator will devote about 10 hours per month in this position. Training will be provided. If interested, please contact the VSMC Executive Director, Linda Burroughs, at 650-394-5227 or [lindab@villagesofsmc.org](mailto:lindab@villagesofsmc.org) to learn more about the job and determine if it’s a good fit for you.

**MUSICIANS WANTED**

Do you play a musical instrument? Would you like to play your music with other like-minded musicians? Contact the Villages of San Mateo County (VSMC) office at 650-260-4569 or email us at [info@villagesofsmc.org](mailto:info@villagesofsmc.org) to indicate your interest, and we’ll try to connect you with some new musical contacts.

**VSMC MARDI GRAS 2018!**

“All That Jazz” was celebrated Feb. 24th by more than 100 VSMC members, volunteers and guests. They filled the Sandpiper Community Center in Redwood Shores as they listened to the Jim Dunning Trio Dixieland jazz ensemble and enjoyed Louisiana Jambalaya provided by the Gurka’s Catering Company. Look at all the smiling faces!

*(continued on page 7: Mardi*

## VSMC VILLAGE DONORS

*Villages of San Mateo Country* extends its sincere appreciation for the generous financial support and in-kind gifts received from the following individuals and organizations:

- *Charis Fund*
- *City of San Carlos*
- *Danford Foundation*
- *Dignity Health*
- *Howard & Martha Girdlestone Foundation*
- *Kiwanis Club of San Carlos*
- *Mid-Peninsula Vineyard Christian Church*
- *Peninsula Healthcare District*
- *Peter & Paula Ucelli Foundation*
- *Redwood City Parks and Recreation*
- *Rotary Club of San Carlos*
- *Sequoia Healthcare District*
- *Touchpoint Foundation*
- *Trinity Presbyterian Church of San Carlos*
- *Wells Fargo*
- *West Valley Federated Women's Club*



Photos by Susan Gerard and Jan McKim



## AVOID COMPUTER SUPPORT SCAMS

Scammers spoof phone numbers — a fraudulent or malicious practice in which communication is sent from an unknown source disguised as a source known to you as the receiver — and use flattery and threats to pressure you into giving them your information and money.

Specifically, if you receive an unsolicited phone call from someone claiming to be from Apple/Microsoft Tech Support, hang up! Apple and Microsoft do not make these kinds of calls. Any contact they have with you must ALWAYS be initiated by you.

Do not trust unsolicited phone calls. NEVER provide any personal information.

Also, do not call the phone number in a computer pop-up message. Legitimate error and warning messages NEVER include a phone number.

To report technical scams in the United States, click [here](https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1) to use the FTC Complaint Assistant Form or visit the FTC website at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1>.

## TESTIMONIALS

*"At first I only signed up for a couple of rides a week, but I'm enjoying it so much, I now sign up for more and more, wanting to see my riders again; they are so nice and appreciative!"*

- **Linsey K.**

*"I want to thank Mike G. so much for being such a trouper and picking me up at SFO. My flights were delayed and cancelled, and I appreciated so much his willingness to pick me up so late. SV has an angel."*

- **Nancy B.**

*"Thanks for the March/April edition of the newsletter. I appreciate all the interesting and helpful information. Hoping to put some of it to use in the near future. Good job!"*

- **Jacquie B.**

## BOUQUETS TO ART



In March, fifteen VSMC members boarded a comfortable bus and made their way to San Francisco for a very enjoyable day. This year's 34<sup>th</sup> annual Bouquets to Art exhibition at the de Young Museum was a much anticipated treat. The floral arrangements, by designers from San Francisco to Tokyo, were beautiful and captivating. It was such a unique experience to see how each designer created their own masterpiece to mimic a chosen art selection. It was a memorable trip!