

## June 19 letters to the editor

Letters to the editor, Oakland Tribune © 2014 Bay Area news Group

Updated: 06/18/2014 06:22:29 PM PDT

InsideBayArea.com

---

### Must better fund our services for seniors

No statistics can capture the hardships caused by California's repeated cuts to services for older adults. What will they do? They're old, and, often, too ill or frail to be their own advocates.

The nonprofits in the Adult Day Services Network serve Alameda County's disabled and older adults. Not only do we help them live in their homes in the community for as long as possible, we help spouses and adult children cope with the hard work of caregiving.

Margaret, 89, is blind in one eye, struggles with diabetes and mild dementia. We keep her on track, making sure she takes her meds. She enjoys exercise and intellectually stimulating activities, while her husband gets much needed rest.

Margaret is not going to the emergency room anymore for out-of-control diabetes, and she is safe and happy. End result: We are saving the county money. We provide lifeline interventions that prevent institutionalization.

The community can help. Call or email your county supervisor and tell him or her to step up and provide funding for community-based services for seniors. For contact information, visit [www.acgov.org/board](http://www.acgov.org/board).

Joanne Haase

Board president Adult Day Services Network of Alameda County Oakland

### FCC must ferret out rogue telemarketers

I don't know about you, but I have been receiving three to five telemarketing calls a day for the past year on my cellphone and land line. They range from credit card interest-reduction schemes and solar panels to home remodeling and medical insurance. One even offered a male enhancement product. (How did they know?)

When I have attempted to question them for identification, they just hang up. Some have been downright rude and abusive.

I am duly registered on the National Do Not Call List and I log and report these calls. I also have vigorously complained to the FCC in Washington to no avail. All I get is "We are working on it."

The FCC has more than 16,000 highly paid bureaucrats sucking up tax dollars and they can't find these irritating mutts. If they can't solve this small problem, I would hate to think what would happen if they were faced with a major one.

Even a complaint to my congressman went unanswered as the FCC just blew him off.

William H. Mallery

Pleasanton

GOP must really fear Clinton as candidate

I hope the Republicans' plan to spend more than \$200,000 to try to undermine Hillary Rodham Clinton backfires. Surely, there are more worthy programs that money could be used for. On the other hand, Republicans must really be scared that she just might succeed in being the Democratic candidate in 2016.

Sharon Lachenmyer

Union City

Taxpayers have been sold down the river

Councilwoman Anu Natarajan, who is also our representative on the board of directors for the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, sold us down the river when she voted yes to add \$9.55 in fees to our property tax bill -- calling them fees, so we do not get to vote on them.

This will cost us about \$700,000 a year. Yes, \$7 million over 10 years. What can we do about it? Nothing, but remember that if she runs for Fremont mayor in 2016, we can show our disappointment with her performance.

The WMA has about 50 high-paid employees who are sticking their noses in other agencies' business, like an untrained camel would do to the tents in the camp. It gives grants all over the place, and I have no clue how it has the right to give away our tax and fee dollars.

The WMA is responsible for us having to pay 10 cents a bag at the grocery store. I have no clue how it has that right.

Checking its website, I found more than \$18 million in the 2013-14 budget that had nothing to do with waste or recycle. Check out [stopwaste.org](http://stopwaste.org).

Caroll Deaton

Fremont

Negotiation was an act of treason

I guess one could say that the release of Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl was negotiated by the United States since our president, Barack Obama, did it.

Of course, it was done without the approval of Congress or any of the American people, which makes it an act of treason considering the five terrorists who were exchanged for this traitor.

Naturally, I do not expect any repercussions from this crime if and when these terrorists lead another attack against the United States.

David Brusiee

