



Stepping Out

DANCERS ARRIVE ON THE RED CARPET FOR STEPPING STONES DANCE 2



Sawing Logs

SNORING MAY SIGNAL SOME UNDERLYING SERIOUS HEALTH ISSUES..... 5

WEEKEND WEATHER


CLEAR Temperatures drop on Sunday

HIGHS: 57-64


0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110

LOWS: 42-47


FRIDAY



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



San Leandro Times

AN INDEPENDENT HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SERVING SAN LEANDRO, ASHLAND, SAN LORENZO AND SHEFFIELD VILLAGE

VOL. 28 • NO. 7

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY INGRID POMEROY

Little Leak

A crash involving three cars sent one vehicle over the curb, breaking off a fire hydrant at the corner of Bancroft and Estudillo avenues at about 10 o'clock on Sunday morning. There were no injuries, said Alameda County Fire Department spokeswoman, Aisha Knowles. After firefighters cleared the scene, San Leandro police controlled traffic until EBMUD arrived.

City Unprepared For Looming Pension Costs

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The City of San Leandro's pension costs have doubled in the past four years and will continue to rise as more employees draw their pension and live longer.

The City Council held a pension workshop Tuesday night and heard some grim news about the financial future from California Public Employee Retirement System (CalPERS) strategy manager David Teykaerts.

San Leandro currently has \$210 million worth of unfunded pension liabilities looming, compared to \$105 million in 2014. Unfunded liabilities are costs the city must pay in the future, but doesn't have money for.

"To state the obvious, this is not something we'll be solving quickly or easily," said Jeff Kay, the city's interim city manager.

The sole public speaker at the meeting was former mayor Stephen Cassidy, who said the city should not look to the state or CalPERS for solutions, but rather take the matter into its own hands.

"I do believe the city is in a dire situation," said Cassidy. "The clock is ticking. You have to come up with a solution. You have to stop saying 'this is a problem everyone has,' or 'we've got to look to the state for a solution.'"

Cassidy said the obvious solution would be to make city employees contribute more to their pensions to ease the amount the city has to pay.

Mayor Pauline Cutter said

that asking city employees to contribute more would be "difficult" and may lead them to leave San Leandro for cities with more generous pension packages.

Instead, the city's chief response is to mitigate the pension

see *PENSIONS*, page 3

Cutter Leads Mayors' Panel

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Mayor Pauline Cutter led a panel on issues facing women in government and the "MeToo" movement at the recent United States Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C. in late January.

Cutter serves as the Chair of the Women's Leadership Alliance, a group of women mayors which was first convened 35 years ago by then-mayor of San Francisco Dianne Feinstein.

The Women Mayor's alliance meets twice a year to discuss issues. This was Cutter's first conference as chair and she says she had to leap right in and face

see *CUTTER*, page 10

Safeway Janitors Drum Up Support

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Janitors picketed in front of the downtown Safeway last Friday afternoon, saying they're not getting fair pay and benefits.

The pickets, organized by the Service Employee International Union-United Service Workers West (SEIU-USWW), was directed at their employer Premier Floor Care, which is contracted by Safeway to clean the store.

Though Premier says it is paying a fair wage and benefits and it's the union that isn't negotiating fairly.

But the union says that Premier Floor Care isn't paying a premier wage or providing premier health care. Workers said

they're just asking for enough for their basic needs. They say many janitors have work two jobs to make a living.

"They're (Premier) not agreeing to the standards of fair pay for janitorial work that other stores are," said SEIU spokesman Mark Sharwood.

The police showed up, apparently called by store management. A policeman politely told Sharwood that the drums and bullhorns were causing customers to cover their ears.

"Right now you're disturbing the peace," the policeman said.

Sharwood had the drummers see *JANITORS*, page 12



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Janitors picketed at the downtown Safeway last Friday, saying they want a better contract with the company that cleans the store, Premier Floor Care. The police arrived and told the janitors they had to stop making noise with the drums and bullhorns.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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Car thief at Marina Square eludes police. **Page 3**

NEIGHBORS

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NEWS

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Hundreds Step Out for Stepping Stones Dance

About 375 people attended the 12th annual Valentine's Dance for teens and adults affected by disabilities last Friday night at Creekside Community Church in San Leandro, in partnership with Stepping Stones Growth Center.

The guests included 200 people affected by disabilities, family members and 150 volunteers.

The music was directed by Creekside's worship pastor Max Butler, who oversees a weekly music club open to the public who performed at the dance.



PHOTOS BY KRISTIANNE KOENEN

The red carpet was rolled out to welcome people to the dance at Creekside Community Church on Friday night.

Qare from Stepping Stones was crowned king, Bea from Thrive was crowned Queen.

Rick and Janet Angell from River Recovery Church in San Leandro headed up the kitchen team where a dinner of ham, scalloped potatoes and Caesar salad was served.

The event's success is due to the love and teamwork of all the volunteers from Creekside, Life Chiropractic College West, Bancroft Middle School, Redwood Christian High School and Kohl's Pleasanton and San Leandro employees.



Scientifically Validated "Higher Diagnostic Standards" for Back Pain and Sciatica Now Available In Pleasanton

Advertising Feature

The No Guesses Way to Eliminate Back Pain and Sciatica

IF YOU suffer from low back pain and/or sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the US with this painful spinal condition... And it can really get you down.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain and numbness and tingling through the buttock, leg all the way down to the tip of the toes are all some of the most common symptoms.

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting and even significant disability. If not taken care of properly it can become progressively more common and worse as time goes on. Even if it comes and goes from time to time.

Despite being a common problem it's difficult to get a cure because most health care providers don't have access to the right technology or don't understand how to diagnose it correctly.

But you can get help...

Recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

In Pleasanton, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at Intero Chiropractic where there is a team of fully trained spinal care team that has helped over hundreds of patients find relief from their agonizing back pain and sciatica.

According to the team, "We use a combination of carefully selected diagnostic technology, not found elsewhere in Pleasanton for precisely diagnosing the

cause of your low back pain and sciatica.

The technology has been developed to measure the functional problem leading to the pain a person is suffering, it is more accurate than the usual tests you would get which are usually done lying down and are often meaningless. We also have a completely unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

The diagnostic accuracy of this technology and excellent results of this treatment have been validated in major medical journals. Success rates are 88% on average.

And because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report relief beginning to take shape almost immediately.

Your personal invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your low back pain and sciatica...

The spine therapy team at Intero Chiropractic want to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do to receive a thorough diagnostic examination with the most advanced technology in the world and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call (925) 255-5805.

Mention this article (CODE:

TC43SCID) and Intero will happily reduce their usual consultation fee of \$100 to just \$20. But hurry – this is a time limited offer – and with only 100 reader consultations available at this

exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer... Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with the Intero team now by calling (925) 255-5805, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That's why hundreds of grateful patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

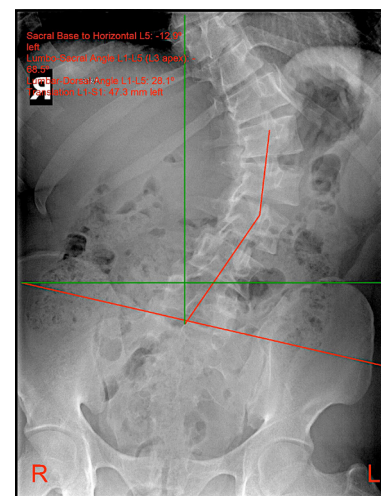
Over the years, they've treated hundreds of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination

to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$20, the normal cost of such an exam is \$100 so you will save \$80!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer and don't let it get any worse. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

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Call (925) 255-5805 NOW and leave a message if it's the weekend or the line is busy - they promise they will get back to you as soon as they can. So call now on (925) 255-5805 and quote this special discount code: TC43SCID

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN DIONISIO

The Winter Olympics Come To St. Felicitas School

St. Felicitas School held their own winter Olympics this week in honor of the games in South Korea. Students were rotated to various stations such as skating on the gym floor, hockey, NERF gun biathlon, and bobsledding (pictured above). All grades got to experience a little of what it is like to compete in various sports. Each class was assigned a country and dressed in that country's colors and displayed their flags in the gym.

Pensions: Costs have doubled

continued from front page

debt by creating a fund to set aside for unfunded pensions.

Over the past four years, the city has put \$14 million in that fund, which is equivalent to just about one year of city pension costs.

But during those same four years, pension costs have risen by another \$105 million.

Kay said the looming unfunded liability problem is combination of issues including higher employee salaries and pensions, longer retirements, and lackluster investments.

CalPERS "guarantees" its pension payments, meaning that if investment returns don't come in, it is up to cities to bridge the gap and make up for any losses.

Overall CalPERS return on investments has been 4.3 percent over the past decade, falling short of its goal of 7 percent and accounting for an additional strain on cities who have to make up the difference.

But the returns tend to even out over time, and average 8.4 percent over the past 30 years.

Another problem CalPERS faces is that the number of active employees paying into the system will soon be eclipsed by the number of retirees drawing pensions.

In 2001, 740,000 active employees were paying in and 370,000 retirees were drawing a pension.

In 2015, 800,000 employees were paying in and 611,000 were taking a pension.

"The numbers are skewing, and not in our favor," said Teykaerts.

Another consideration is that people are living longer and therefore receiving their pension longer.

"People are living longer and that's great, but make no mistake, that is a problem for pensions," said Teykaerts.

In 1994, the average man drew a pension for 25 years before his death and the average woman for 30.

In 2017, it's 29 years for men and 32 years for women.

"Living two years longer, that's 24 more pension checks and that money has to come from somewhere," said Teykaerts.

Kay said that because almost every city in California will be facing a pension crisis, they can work together to find solutions.

"The upside is, we can work together, pool ideas, and lobby

for change at the state level," said Kay.

Car Thief Gets Away After Police Order Shelter in Place

A suspected car thief eluded capture at Marina Square last week.

San Leandro police officers patrolling the parking lot of the shopping center at just before 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 8 saw a suspicious car with someone sitting inside of it parked near the FedEx-Kinkos store.

The cops ran the license plate and discovered that car had been reported stolen.

When they tried to arrest the driver, he took off on foot, according to Lt. Robert McManus of the San Leandro police.

SL, CV Women Arrested for Drugs

Irish Gaid, a 45-year-old San Leandro woman, was arrested in Union City on Feb. 2 for allegedly trafficking drugs.

Union City police spotted Gaid and Annabelle Maniago, 46, of Castro Valley in a suspicious vehicle at around 11 p.m. near the Hayward and Union City border.

Police said the women consented to having the car searched and police found a large amount of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

The driver ran across Marina Boulevard and San Leandro police and Alameda County Sheriff's deputies arrived on the scene to set up a perimeter to try to catch him.

Police put out a notice on social media that people living in between Marina Boulevard to Castor Street and Pacific Avenue to Wayne Avenue should "shelter in place" while they searched for the suspect.

After about 45 minutes, police concluded the suspect had gotten away and lifted the shelter in place order, McManus said.

"Our detectives will now do what they do best – identify and arrest the outstanding suspect," McManus said in a written statement.

The suspect is described as

an African American man, about 6-foot-2, with a thin build. He appeared to be in his early 40s and was wearing a maroon and black sweater and jeans at the time of the incident.

Police are asking anyone with information regarding this case to call the Criminal Investigation Division at 577-3230.

BART Bomb Hoax

A baseless bomb threat was made at the downtown San Leandro BART station Tuesday afternoon.

The station was closed for about 20 minutes from 1:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. while BART police investigated and ultimately determined there was no threat, according to a BART spokesman.

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HAYWARD AREA RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

Spring 2018

Join the re-opening celebration for San Lorenzo Community Park March 3, 2018 at 10:00am

Spring time... a great time to get out and enjoy new activities! Summer Camps Guide inside!

Online Registration Begins February 19 (9:00am) - 11:00am. Sign up by Feb 28th at HaywardRec.org

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NEIGHBORS



Five Generations

Harrison Josiah Mawhorter was born on Jan. 28, weighing 6 pounds 14 ounces, and measuring 21 inches long. Harrison is shown here with five generations of his family – with momma Bianca (Marhx) Mawhorter, grandmother Tina Silva (second from left), great-grandmother Marie Silva (left), and great-great-grandmother Connie Silvas (right). Harrison’s mom Bianca lives in Walnut Creek now but grew up in San Leandro.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ Chanticleers Theatre

Dial M for Murder
Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Avenue in Castro Valley, proudly presents *Dial M for Murder*, through Feb. 25. This thriller by Frederick Knott and directed by

Katina Letheule is about Tony Wendice and his wife, Margot, and how he plans to murder her for her money. He blackmails a scoundrel he used to know into strangling her for a fee of one thousand pounds, and arrang-

es a brilliant alibi for himself. Unfortunately the murderer gets murdered and the victim survives. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$20 for students and seniors over 60. For more information, call 733-5483.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): It could be risky to push for a project you believe in but others are wary of. Never mind. If you trust your facts, follow your courageous Aries heart and go with it.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Your enthusiasm sparks renewed interest in a workplace project that once seemed headed for deletion. Support from supervisors helps you make all necessary changes.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): A colleague might be a bit too contrary when your ideas are being discussed in the workplace. A demand for an explanation could produce some surprises all around.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Try to avoid distractions at a time when maintaining stability in a fluid situation is essential. There'll be time enough later for the Moon Child to enjoy some well-earned fun and games.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): Stop wasting energy licking your wounded pride. Instead, put the lessons you learned from that upsetting experience to good use in an upcoming opportunity.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): You love being busy. But try not to make more work for yourself than you need to. Get help so that you don't wind up tackling tasks that are better left to others.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Your usually balanced way of assessing situations could be compromised by some so-called new facts. Check them out before making any shift in judgment.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): You might feel angry over an unexpected shift in attitude by someone you trusted. But this could soon turn in your favor as more surprising facts come out.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Love rules everywhere for all amorous Archers, single or attached. It's also a good time to restore friendships that might have frayed over the years.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): It's not always easy for the proud Goat to forgive past slights. But clearing the air could help establish a better climate for that important upcoming venture.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Good news: Your skillful handling of a recent matter has won admiration from someone who could be influential in any upcoming decisions involving you.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): You continue to welcome new friends into the widening circle of people whom you hold dear. One of those newcomers might soon have something special to tell you.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ Chamber Music Concert

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will present a free chamber music concert on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m., featuring Dan Nebel, Sam Bachelder, and Brian Wilmer performing music of Brahms, Schumann, Cherubini, and Paquito d’Rivera on French horn, clarinet, and piano. All are welcome. A free-will offering will be taken to support the music program at All Saints. Future concerts in this series will be held on March 13, April 17, May 15, and June 19.

❖ Brian Copeland at San Leandro Library

The San Leandro Public Library and Project Literacy invites everyone to “An Evening of Stories and Laughter with Brian Copeland” on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. A dessert buffet will begin at 7 p.m., followed by the show at 7:30 p.m. featuring the long-time stand-up comic and television host. Copeland will be available for book sales and book signings after the show. Tickets are \$30 and available at the Main Library circulation desk. All proceeds go to the Project Literacy Adult Reading Program.

❖ Faith Breakfast

Bay Area Family Church, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro, will hold its monthly Community of Faith Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

❖ Mystery Tea Luncheon at Alta Mira Club

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, presents a mystery tea luncheon with prominent mystery writers on Monday, Feb. 19, at 11:30 a.m. Have lunch and meet authors Cara Black, Janet Dawson and Cindy Sample. Tickets are \$15. Limited seating. Call 483-1018 or email Nancyfong@aol.com.

❖ East Bay Rose Society

The East Bay Rose Society will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue in Oakland. Judy Eitzen, chair of the Sacramento Old City Cemetery Board of Directors and a master gardener, will discuss the Historic Rose Garden in the Sacramento City Cemetery. The garden has a fabulous collection of roses rescued from a variety of pioneer sites - cemeteries, ranches, backyards, and fields. Enjoy snacks, meet people who talk roses, and enjoy the show.

❖ St. Felicitas Valentine Luncheon

Tickets are now on sale for the St. Felicitas Parish monthly Young at Heart Luncheon on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 1662 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. Doors open at 11:45 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Spaghetti and meatballs with all the fixings plus dessert and a beverage will be served. Tickets are \$7. Entertainment and door prizes at the luncheon. Tickets must be purchased no later than Thursday, Feb. 15 before the luncheon. Tickets available at the parish office Monday through Thursday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

❖ San Leandro Democratic Club Meeting

The San Leandro Democratic Club will host a forum for candidates running this year for the San Leandro City Council and San Leandro school board and the Alameda County district attorney on Thursday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

❖ Lunar New Year Celebration

The San Leandro Public Library invites every-

one to a colorful and festive Lunar New Year celebration on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Karp/Estudillo rooms at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free. Welcome the Year of the Dog with beautiful music, artful martial arts demonstrations, exciting dancing, live drumming performances, and magnificent lion dancers. The amazing performances scheduled include lion dancers of Vovinam Viet-Do-Dao of San Jose, Chung Ngai Dance Troupe, and EGO Korean Drummers. After the celebration, free Asian craft-making sessions for children will be hosted by the Asian Community Cultural Association (ACCA) of San Leandro from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Trustees Room.

❖ San Leandro Toastmasters

The San Leandro Toastmasters meet on Thursday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The group fosters improved communication and public speaking. All levels of speakers from novice to seasoned are welcome.

❖ Kiwanis Club of San Leandro

Join the Kiwanis Club of San Leandro for weekly meetings. The first Tuesday is for socializing. Dinner is open menu and starts at 5:30 p.m. The following Tuesdays, second through the fourth or fifth, are luncheons and are from 12:10 to 1:30 p.m. and will have a speaker. All meetings are held at The Englander, 101 Parrett Street in San Leandro.

❖ Table Tennis for Seniors

The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District has table tennis for players 50 and older on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon at the San Lorenzo Community Center, 1970 Via Buena Vista in San Lorenzo. All levels welcome. Drop-in fee \$2 per player. For more information, call 881-6766.

❖ AARP Income Tax Preparation

Trained AARP volunteers will be on hand to prepare income tax returns for low and moderate income individuals and families, with emphasis on serving those over 55 years of age. These two locations offer these services: Senior Community Center, 13909 E 14th St., San Leandro, Tuesdays till April 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd., San Leandro, Fridays till April 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 577-3462.

❖ Jewish Voice for Peace

The Bay Area Jewish Voice for Peace and several co-sponsors invite people to join them in an anti-Islamophobia/pro-immigrant canvassing of San Leandro shops asking them to post signs saying: “We stand with our Muslim, Arabic and immigrant neighbors,” on Saturday Feb. 24, at 2 p.m. Meet across from the San Leandro BART Station at 1400 San Leandro Blvd. one block from W. Juana Avenue. For more information, email bayarea@jvp.org with “FEB 24” in the subject line.

❖ I.D.E.S. of Saint John Breakfast & Bingo

I.D.E.S. of Saint John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will have a Pancake Breakfast and Bingo on Saturday, March 3, at 9 a.m. Breakfast is \$10 and includes four bingo cards, additional cards are 25 cents each. Bring canned food for the food drive. For more information and tickets, call Helder Quadros at 357-5846, or Willie Calvo at 635-6326, or Frances Leite at 886-1568.

Calendar items should be submitted at least one week prior to the desired edition of the Times, which is published Thursdays. Space limitations require we print items of the most general interest.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Stop Snoring... Unconventionally

By Dr. Gene Sambataro

Special to the Times

An estimated 90 million American adults snore, according to sleepfoundation.org. And over half the country – 59 percent – has a partner who snores.

Millions of people are looking for remedies, and after years of unsuccessful tries with more traditional methods, it may be time to try other techniques.

However you go about solving the issue, it's important to take it seriously and address it in some way.

Snoring is more than just annoyance. There are serious health consequences for ignoring what could be a bigger issue. If you know someone who snores, then you can no longer wait to find out

what is going on.

Here are some interesting and effective ways people can address their snoring:

Dental or oral devices.

The goal of resolving sleep-disordered breathing is to remove the obstruction in the airway. The tongue is usually the culprit.

One device that can be recommended for the snorer or sleep apnea sufferer is the mandibular advancement device. This is one of the most widely-accepted dental appliances for the treatment of sleep apnea. It's useful in forcing the lower jaw down and forward slightly.

By creating an appliance that is worn at night, an oral physician can help a patient's jaw carefully and methodically move forward, which automatically moves the

base of the tongue out of the back of the throat.

Use a tennis ball.

Snoring is almost always worse when you sleep on your back. This causes your tongue to fall back in your throat, which then disrupts your airflow. One solution is to attach a tennis ball to the back of a T-shirt, making it uncomfortable to sleep on your back and forcing you to sleep on your side. Eventually, side sleeping should become a habit and you won't need a tennis ball attached.

Do tongue aerobics.

Muscle weakness within the tongue, mouth, and upper throat may lead to snoring and obstructive sleep apnea. Strengthening exercises called myofunctional therapy target the facial muscles used to chew and swallow. Research



shows that doing certain facial and tongue exercises every day can reduce your chances of snoring.

Change your pillows.

The allergens in your bedroom and in your pillow may contribute to snoring. If you feel fine during the day but obstructed at night, these things may be contributing to your snoring. Everyone should

• *Do you know what the right kind of care is?*

There are four types of long-term care. Home health care allows someone to remain in their own home while receiving care by

licensed or unlicensed workers, as well as designated family members.

Assisted living is housing for someone unable to live independently, but who just needs mid-level custodial care, medication support, lifestyle activities, transportation and meals.

Nursing homes are for those who need higher level skilled care. Finally, hospice care is for people in the final six months of life.

• *Are you prepared to pay for it?*
The cost of long-term care can devastate a family's finances,

Orestis says. The annual cost of nursing home care, for example, is more than \$80,000. Generally, there are three options for paying for long-term care: tapping into retirement savings, buying long-term care insurance, or relying on Medicaid and Medicare.

"Most seniors don't want to be a burden on their families, and yet too often families are unprepared for how long-term care will have an impact on them," Orestis says.

"That's why it's important to plan for that day and not wait until you're in the middle of a crisis."

Family Health Crisis: Are You Financially Able to Handle One?

Americans are living longer, which means more time with the grandchildren, more time to travel to those places you didn't see when you were younger and more time to devote to leaving your mark on the world.

But a longer life expectancy also comes with problems.

At least 70 percent of Americans will eventually watch as an aging loved one's life is taken over by a growing list of impairments that could mean there's a need for long-term care. And many family members will be unprepared both financially and emotionally to make decisions about what's best for that person they care about so much.

"Too many people wait until they are in the middle of a crisis before they start trying to figure out how the world of long-term care works," says Chris Orestis, author of the books "Help on the Way" and "A Survival Guide to Aging."

That's why it's important to have a game plan mapped out ahead of time, Orestis says, and there are key things people need to be thinking about. Those include:

• *Can you recognize the need for care?*

The first step in providing long-term care is identifying that a loved one needs care. "Sometimes this can sneak up on you slowly or it can happen overnight," Orestis says.

Some of the telltale signs include cognitive impairment, such as forgetfulness or confusion; a house that is not as tidy or organized as it once was, or has objects in odd places; and physical deterioration, such as marked weakness, loss of strength and stamina, difficulty balancing or drastic weight loss.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



Property Tax Fairness Initiative Proposed

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

With California housing inventory at record lows, prices have escalated to the point many first-time buyers are locked out of buying.

One contributing issue is the fact that many homeowners 55 years and older face significant property tax penalties if they sell their existing home and relocate to another county in California. Consequently, many hoping to relocate outside the Bay Area find themselves firmly anchored here.

California's Prop 13 locks property tax assessments when a home is purchased by multiplying the purchase price by 1.25 percent. A home purchased for \$400,000 would have a property tax bill of \$5,000/year*. Property purchased for \$1,200,000 would have an assessment of \$15,000/year*.

Therein is the rub. A home pur-

chased 40 years ago for \$50,000 would have an approximate property tax bill of \$625/year. However, that home could easily be worth \$1,000,000 today. If a seller sold their home and bought a comparable property, their tax bill would explode from \$625/year to \$12,500/year.

To alleviate this issue, Prop 60 was passed to allow sellers 55 and older a one-time transfer of their current tax base to another purchase in the same county (significant rules apply).

However, if they want to move out of the county to lower-priced regions of the state, they are mostly out of luck. Even though Proposition 90, passed with the goal of making moves possible statewide, of California's 58 counties, only Alameda, El Dorado, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Clara, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Mateo and Ventura counties

participate.

A statement released by the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) states they are "embarking on an historic effort to increase homeownership opportunities."

C.A.R. is going to qualify an initiative for the November 2018 ballot allowing senior homeowners (55 years of age and older) to keep all or most of their Proposition 13 property tax savings when they move.

Seniors, often on a fixed income, fear they will not be able to afford a big property tax increase if they sell their existing home and buy another one, discouraging them from moving. As a result of this "moving penalty", almost three-quarters of homeowners 55 and older haven't moved since 2000.

C.A.R.'s portability initiative would allow senior homeowners to transfer their property tax base from their current residence to a replacement residence located anywhere in California.

With seniors freed to move, inventory would increase and prices could stabilize, producing a win-win for everyone.

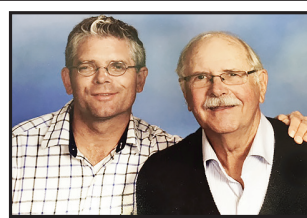
*Approximately — certain rules apply.

Carl Medford is a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams Realty. This article is sponsored by the Central County Marketing Association.



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Patch Your Lawn's Bare Spots

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

Now is the time to take care of those bare spots in your lawn.

Try to match the new grass seed with the type of grass that makes up your lawn. (You may need to take a sample of the sod to a professional landscaper or garden center.)

Also, note how much sun the bare patch gets. You'll want a seed that performs well in the available sunlight. Or, you can just pick up a sun-and-shade seed mixture.

To reseed, clear the bare spot of debris and rake out loose or dead thatch. Use a pitchfork to puncture the soil, then spread the new seed according to package instructions. Be careful not to overseed, as that can lead to rot. Water the spot, but don't flood it. Tamp the soil to press the seeds in, then scatter straw or grass clippings on top to keep birds from eating all the seed.

Another option is to completely re-sod a bare spot. If the

spot is fairly large with a lot of underlying thatch buildup, de-thatch the area so you have clear ground underneath. Purchase sod that matches the surrounding grass (this is where taking a sod sample into the garden center comes in handy).

Measure the height of the new sod against the depth of the de-thatched bare spot. If the spot is too deep to ensure an even lawn, fill the bare spot with soil, tamped down firmly, until the difference is made up. Add a little more soil so that the new sod sits about a half-inch higher than the surrounding lawn; it will settle in the next few weeks.

Lay the new sod pieces, packing them tightly together. Tamp them down lightly and poke a few holes with a pitchfork so the soil stays porous. Keep the new sod moist for the next two weeks so that the sod grows in well.

In both cases, protect a newly seeded or sodded spot by marking it with stakes and string around the perimeter so that people stay off it while the lawn regrows.

Home Tip: Clear away old mulch around trees and shrubs and replace with fresh mulch each spring.

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659 Macarthur Blvd	94577: \$650,000	3 BD - 1,732 SF - 2008
351 Rosewood Court	94577: \$605,000	4 BD - 1,151 SF - 1940
1580 150th Avenue	94578: \$560,000	4 BD - 1,330 SF - 1939
1437 153rd Avenue	94578: \$352,000	2 BD - 935 SF - 1946
429 Bradrick Drive	94578: \$670,000	3 BD - 1,086 SF - 1953
462 Nabor Street	94578: \$524,000	2 BD - 833 SF - 1947
16512 Toledo Street	94578: \$850,000	3 BD - 2,330 SF - 1975
1417 Church Avenue	94579: \$375,000	3 BD - 1,646 SF - 1952
1033 Duzmal Avenue	94579: \$700,000	4 BD - 1,585 SF - 1980
1706 Nelson Street	94579: \$730,000	3 BD - 1,470 SF - 1956
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4634 Malabar Avenue	94546: \$625,000	3 BD - 2,337 SF - 1948
17357 Robey Drive	94546: \$450,000	4 BD - 2,488 SF - 1988
6033 Mt. Olympus Drive	94552: \$1,030,000	4 BD - 2,327 SF - 1991
20707 Tuxedo Court	94552: \$995,000	3 BD - 2,336 SF - 1966

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Cutter: Schaaf says she faced harassment

continued from front page
the controversial topic of sexual harassment.

It wasn't lost on Cutter that her own city is now dealing with a sexual harassment allegation against its highest ranking employee.

City Manager Chris Zapata is on paid leave during an investigation into alleged inappropriate behavior with non-profit CEO Rose Padilla Johnson.

"As chair, my job is to bring up topics for discussion and, in today's climate, these type of allegations need to be discussed," said Cutter. "It's something that has come up in San Leandro and something a lot of other cities are dealing with as well."

Cutter said that the topic led to a lot of personal stories being shared.

Cutter organized a panel featuring other female mayors including Libby Schaaf of Oakland, who talked about her own experiences in being discriminated against due to being a woman.

Schaaf talked about how during college, professors "took advantage" of her. The conversations and sexual advances made against her made her question her intellectual accomplishments, Schaaf said in a press release from the mayor's conference.

When she became a lawyer, Schaaf said she was told she would never make partner because she was going to quit and have babies.



Mayor Pauline Cutter at the Women's Leadership Alliance meeting with Burnsville, Minnesota Mayor Elizabeth Kautz; Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf; Tacoma, Washington Mayor Victoria Woodards; and Salt Lake City Mayor Jackie Biskupski.

"People had a lot of personal anecdotes that were important to hear," said Cutter. "It's a better climate right now for people to come forward with their stories. But it's also interesting from a policy perspective. How do you protect the rights of employees and due process and also make it a safe place for people to come forward?"

Cutter reiterated that the City Council would not be making any decision about Zapata's future until an independent investigation is completed.

"I'm anxious to see the results of the investigation and we'll go from there to see what, if any, policies will change," said Cutter.

Aside from the panel she hosted, Cutter said that she learned a lot from other mayors during the conference, attending sessions on transportation, net neutrality, and solutions for homelessness.

"It's a lot of work, but it's also fun," said Cutter. "It's important to have San Leandro out there and getting noticed on a national level and that's 'what I've been trying to do.'"

Cutter added that President Donald Trump was another big topic of conversation at the conference, which is attended by over 1,400 mayors from cities with populations of 30,000 or more.

"Trump has created a lot of havoc," said Cutter. "Not all mayors were invited to the White House, just select people. That's really divisive. We used to go as a whole group to the White House. I do think people are there trying to work with him and work together, but he is a very divisive leader."

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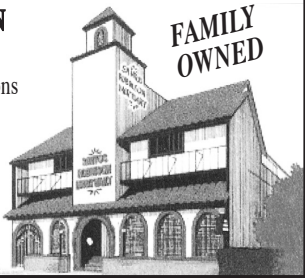
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LOCAL DEATHS

VILLA, Refugio M.
Eugene Anthony "Gene" Re

Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

■ VILLA, Refugio M. "Cuca" passed away on February 11, 2018, at age 96. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro from Noon to 8 p.m. with a vigil service beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be held on Wed., Feb. 21 at St. Leander Catholic Church, 550 W. Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro beginning at 10 a.m. Interment to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward. Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San

SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. Brief death notices are published free. Longer-length notices, including pictures, are available for a fee. For further assistance, please call 510-614-1555.

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NEWS BRIEFS

All Saints Episcopal Free Chamber Music Concert

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will present a free chamber music concert on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m., featuring Dan Nebel, Sam Bachelder, and Brian Wilmer performing music of Brahms, Schumann, Cherubini, and Paquito d'Rivera on French horn, clarinet, and piano. All are welcome. A free-will offering will be taken to support the music program at All Saints. Future concerts in this series will be held on March 13, April 17, May 15, and June 19.

San Leandro Swim Team Information Night and Tryouts

The San Leandro Swim Team will hold an information night for the upcoming summer season on Tuesday, Feb. 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Porky's Pizza, 1221 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. The swim tryouts will be on Monday and Tuesday, April 2 and April 3, at 6 p.m. at the San Leandro High School pool, 2200 Bancroft Ave. For more information go to TeamUnify.com or call Darryl at 913-0850.

Rent Review Board

The Rent Review Board will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m. at San Leandro City Hall, 835 East 14th St. Hearings will be held for three apartments at 1468 Grand Ave.

Table Tennis for 50 and Over

The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District has table tennis for players 50 and older on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon at the San Lorenzo Community Center, 1970 Via Buena Vista in San Lorenzo. All levels welcome. Drop-in fee \$2 per player. For more information, call 881-6766.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

Eugene Anthony "Gene" Re

Eugene Anthony "Gene" Re was born to John and Anna Re on June 17, 1930 in San Leandro, CA.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years Lois, his daughter Debra Lillard, his son-in-law Dale Lillard, and his sister Josephine Marshall. He was predeceased by his sister Carmen Re, and his brothers Frank, Nathan, Edward, Emilio, Silvio, Albert, Serafin, Julio and Lawrence Re.

Gene was a lifelong resident of San Leandro graduating from San Leandro High School in 1948. He was a star athlete in both baseball and football as a catcher and quarterback. Gene was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team and played semi-professional baseball. It was during a baseball game in Willows, California, that Gene met the love of his life, his wife Lois.

Gene served honorably in the United States Army during the Korean War. Gene worked for the Oakland Scavenger Company as well as the San Leandro Recreation Department. He enjoyed playing softball and was a fixture at the Pacific High School Softball Complex for many years. Gene was an avid fan of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish football team and the New York Yankees.

Visitation will be on Monday, Feb. 26 from noon to 8 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 6:30 p.m. at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro. A Funeral Liturgy celebrating his life will be on Tuesday, Feb. 27 at St. Leander Church, 550 W. Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro at 10 a.m. Interment will be private at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Hayward. Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San Leandro (510) 483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and **must be under 300 words**. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. E-mail letters to: letters@ebpublishing.com or fax to: 510-483-4209, or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Times' Labeling of Apartment Opponents Called 'Misleading'

Editor:
Last week's article on the City Council's zoning code clean-up vote ("*Bancroft Apartment Hubbub Reveals 'Inconsistencies' in City Zoning Laws*," Page 1, Feb. 8) was misleading.

It omitted a critical fact: in 2016 when the City Council updated the zoning code the City staff repeatedly assured the public that development on Professional Office District sites, which are found throughout San Leandro, would be limited to 30 feet or 3 stories in height. In fact, staff got it wrong when implementing the clear intent into the zoning code. Certain projects on these sites can reach 50 feet or 5 stories in height.

I applaud Councilmember Corina Lopez for identifying at the meeting multiple documents, including the city's own staff report to the Council, stating unambiguously that the maximum height would be 30 feet.

I also thank Mayor Pauline Cutter and Councilmembers Pete Ballew and Deborah Cox for their support for fixing the error in the zoning code.

Why is this important? Today, a developer is trying to exploit the failure of City staff to cross their *t's* and dot their *i's* in the zoning code update. He is seeking to build a housing project on Bancroft Avenue immediately adjacent to single family homes that is far too dense and large for the site.

This is why I particularly object to the paper's labeling myself and other local residents as NIMBYs. We supported the zoning change allowing construction of housing on Professional Office districts where no housing previously was allowed.

That is the opposite of NIMBYism. At the same time, the City assured the community any new housing would comply with reasonable density and height limitations. All we are doing is trying to hold our government accountable for what it promised and ensure that new housing is constructed in compliance with the rules.

—Aaron Bukofzer, San Leandro

Take Issue with Silva, Mulgrew's Use of Term 'NIMBYs'

Editor:
Regarding the article about the 1388 Bancroft proposed dense housing site (*see above*), it's interesting to note Messers. Silva and Mulgrew's use of the term NIMBY. Perhaps as non-residents of San Leandro, they might be excused for not knowing what *is* in our backyards, in fact, in the neighborhood of 1388: three churches, one synagogue, one convalescent hospital, a veteran's community auditorium, and one of only two middle schools serving the whole of San Leandro.

Between them, they serve very young children, the homeless, the hungry, the sick and infirm and recovering, young adolescents, a variety of veterans, and the low income. All of these services and ministries receive steady and enthusiastic support from the neighborhood in terms of time, money, and compassion. These are in addition to numerous apartment buildings which meet the zoning regu-

lations as well as a mobile home park. But good news for Mr. Silva and Mr. Mulgrew: both San Lorenzo and Castro Valley are also great sites for buildings that meet the housing needs of the area!

—Irene P. Chowenhill, Cynthia Hicks, Dennis Chowenhill
Estudillo Estates Residents, Taxpayers

Zapata-Johnson Fiasco: What Happened to 'Common Sense'?

Editor:

It never ceases to amaze me that a woman in Rose Johnson's position would even agree to have a meeting with *anyone* in a vehicle to conduct business, especially city business. Is that not what meeting rooms, even an office are for?

Plus the fact that she did it for 4 years, I wonder why she did not come forward sooner if all this sexual harassment was happening?

I do not have such an important job, but believe me if I was being sexually harassed in any job, that person would be up front and explaining why the first time it happened.

Now we taxpayers have to pay for a lawyer at \$295 per hour plus expenses, and \$400 per hour if it ends up in court. Should have set my goals higher at a young age.

Maybe they should both be fired, him for his part if they prove him guilty, and her for participating in this fiasco for 4 years before speaking up. What happened to "Common Sense"?

An avid reader of this weekly newspaper.

—Phyllis Hanson, San Leandro

Taxpayers' Dollars Being Lost in Zapata-Johnson Legal Drama

Editor:

Re: Mr. Aguilar's Letter ("*Calls for Termination of City Manager Zapata's Contract*," *Letters*, Feb. 8), I am concerned about your position of power in our education system due to your clear dismissal of Coffin v. United States, 156 U.S. 432 (1895). You lead a pitchfork mob, as if dictator of San Leandro, trampling "innocent until proven guilty."

You also lash out at the City because, after informal investigation, Ms. Johnson's back channel complaints didn't produce Mr. Zapata's head.

Based on Mr. Zapata's response (you say attack), and all things equal, I think the Davis Street board of directors should start and pay for their own investigation into Ms. Johnson. If Mr. Zapata's claims are true, her actions could be seen as seriously jeopardizing the stability of the organization and its ability to raise funds.

Shouldn't the city demand this joint investigation from an organization that owes the city hundreds of thousands of dollars? How will that be repaid if Ms. Johnson destroys the organization? Who will be there for the Davis Street clients?

Of course we must remain neutral to both Ms. Johnson and Mr. Zapata until the merits of the claims and defenses are investigated. What's unfortunate is that only the city is currently paying this cost so far. If Mr. Zapata is found innocent, Ms. Johnson or Davis Street will surely volunteer to reimburse us, right?

While we pay to investigate, I'd per-

sonally like to get my tax-dollars worth from Mr. Zapata. Instead of paid leave I call on the city to reinstate him at 99.9% of his duties. Davis Street business can't take up more than 0.1% of the city manager's time. Let's get him back to work.

Good citizens of the city must come out against you, Mr. Aguilar, and your like, by demanding our elected leaders and city departments (police?) support both parties in the dispute until evidence is produced, investigated, weighed, and a conclusion reached by level-headed, neutral parties (that's a court by the way).

—John Clouston, San Leandro

Opposes Firing of Zapata Before Investigation is Complete

Editor:

Do you find yourself wondering why Rose Johnson is calling for the City Manager to be fired *before* the results of the investigation are completed? I for one do! What is her reasoning for that? Does she not want to know what the results are and for us the public to not know the results?

If she is not happy with how the Mayor and City Council handled the situation, then hold them accountable. She claims to be a leader, though is willing to demand a termination without due process?

I, for one, look forward to the findings of the investigation and support every effort to hold those accountable for any wrong doing.

—Diana Souza, San Leandro

War of Words Between West and Joffe Continue

Editor:

By calling some of our neighbors and friends, our students, employees and service providers who arrived here as children and have lived here as law-abiding Americans "scabs," Leo T. West ("*Accuses GOP and Democrats of Supporting Cheap Immigrant Labor*," *Letters*, Feb. 8) reveals himself to be a small-minded, name-calling, angry bigot with whom rational, respectful disagreement is impossible and to whose words no attention should be given.

—Bruce Joffe, Piedmont

PG&E: Don't Let Those Metallic Balloons Get Away

Editor:

With many people celebrating Valentine's Day with metallic balloons, PG&E reminds customers that when metallic balloons contact overhead power lines they can disrupt electric service, cause significant property damage and potentially result in serious injuries.

Last year, metallic balloons caused 456 power outages across PG&E's service area in Northern and Central California, disrupting electric service to more than 371,000 homes and businesses. In the East Bay alone, there were 113 metallic balloon-related outages, affecting service to more than 117,000 customers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

PG&E reminds customers, always tie a weight to metallic balloons, avoid celebrating with balloons near overhead electric lines and never attempt to retrieve a balloon – or any other object – caught in power lines. Balloons should also be deflated before being discarded to prevent them from floating away.

—Laura Wetmore, PG&E

Meat-Free Diet More Than a Tradition of Lent

Editor:

February 14th marks the beginning

of Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, when Christians abstain from animal foods in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the wilderness.

The call to abstain from eating animals is as current as the teaching of evangelical leader Franklin Graham, yet as traditional as the Bible (Genesis 1:29). Methodist founder John Wesley, Salvation Army pioneers William and Catherine Booth, and Seventh-day Adventist Church founder Ellen G. White all followed this higher call.

A meat-free diet is not just about Christian devotion. Dozens of medical studies have linked consumption of animal products with elevated risk of heart failure, stroke, cancer, and other killer

diseases. A United Nations report named meat production as the largest source of greenhouse gases and water pollution. Undercover investigations have documented farm animals routinely caged, crowded, mutilated, and beaten.

Today's supermarkets are well in tune with the call to abstain from eating animals. They offer a rich array of plant-based meats, milks, cheeses, and ice creams, as well as the more traditional vegetables, fruits, and grains. Entering "vegetarian" or "vegan" in your favorite search engine provides lots of meat replacement products, recipes, and transition tips.

—Kurt Champler
San Leandro

INQUIRING REPORTER

Your favorite winter Olympics sport?

— Asked at the San Leandro BART Station

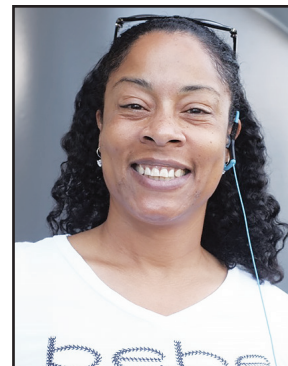
Snowboarding. I used to snowboard in Colorado. It's fun and I like the snow. I'm moving back to Colorado, too.

Terrance Peoples
San Pablo



The bobsled. There are some African-American women on the bobsled team. It's something new.

Jayla Tharp
San Leandro



Skiing, when they do the tricks. I like it because – I'm not going to lie – some people make it, but sometimes they mess up.

Mike Coney
Oakland



Ice hockey. I follow the NHL a little, so I'm interested to see the results of the top stars representing their countries.

Julio Murillo
San Leandro



I like the ski jump, when they fly. It just seems pretty extreme. Seems like it would be a blast.

Kevin Conness
San Francisco





City Meeting Room Named for Surlene Grant

The San Leandro City Council voted to name the community meeting room after former City Councilwoman Surlene Grant, the first African American to serve on the City Council. The meeting room, in the city-owned building that was formerly the California Conservatory Theatre, will be part of the expansion of the police department's offices. In the photo are Mayor Pauline Cutter, City Councilwoman Deborah Cox, Delane Sims, and Surlene Grant.

Happy Stampers Club Invites New Members

If you like crafts, join the Happy Stampers who use rubber stamps to make greeting cards. The club meets on the second Monday of each month at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. For more information, call Janie at 483-0389.

Library Postpones Comedy Show

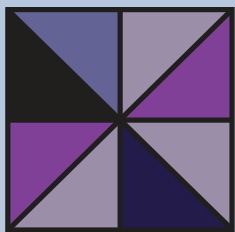
Brian Copeland's comedy show at the library for Saturday night, "An Evening of Stories and Laughter with Brian Copeland," has been postponed due to an electrical problem at the library, the City of San Leandro announced on Wednesday. An announcement will be made when a new date for the show is set. For more information, call the library's information desk at 577-3970.

SL Demo Club to Host Candidate Forum on Feb. 22

The San Leandro Democratic Club will host a forum for candidates running this year for the San Leandro City Council and San Leandro school board and the Alameda County district attorney on Thursday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The candidates who plan to attend include District Attorney Nancy O'Malley and district attorney candidate Pamela Price, a civil rights attorney; City Councilman Lee Thomas, candidate Victor Aguilar, Jr.; City Councilwoman Deborah Cox, candidate Kenneth Pon; City Councilwoman Corina Lopez; school board member Leo Sheridan, and school board candidate Christian Rodriguez.

Janitors: Company says it will resolve differences with janitors

continued from front page
stop and the picketing continued at a quieter pace. Although they didn't appear to be bothering anybody other than store management. "Most people in this area support us," Sharwood said. "They're in favor of us. They want their stores clean, so their food will be clean." Premier Floor Care in Brentwood replied with a statement by email, saying that the janitors make over the contracted wage "by several dollars per hour in many cases." "We agree with the contract overall, including the wages and healthcare, but the union wants Premier to sign off on particular provisions that we do not completely agree with," said the Premier spokesperson. "We feel the union is not negotiating fairly, and one of their representatives told our representative that we will 'sign what they tell us to sign or they will blow up our stores.' That is not negotiating fairly." Premier said it will continue to work out the issues with the union. "We hope for a resolution soon, and will continue to negotiate fairly with the union until we reach one."



SAN LEANDRO Connect Monthly



San Leandro City Council

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Vice Mayor Deborah Cox, District 1

Ed Hernandez, District 2

Lee Thomas, District 3

Benny Lee, District 4

Corina N. López, District 5

Pete Ballew, District 6

Acting City Manager Jeff Kay

To receive City Council and Commission agendas and meeting materials, press releases, quarterly newsletters and City sponsored information, you can subscribe at sanleandro.org/mycity.

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GoGreenSL GoGreenSL - A New Energy Challenge

The City is offering a new energy challenge to help local residents and their families protect the environment. Participants join teams and earn points by completing easy, medium, or challenging actions covering topics including home energy, energy efficiency, transportation, water, food and community. Each action gives the user an understanding of real-world savings and costs in addition to earning points for the user's preferred local school or community organization. City staff will be working with local teachers to promote the campaign and presenting the program to homeowners associations and community groups. To sign up, visit GoGreenSL.org.



Earthquake Brace and Bolt Program

For the fourth year in a row, San Leandro homeowners are eligible to receive up to \$3,000 to help strengthen their homes in the event of a major earthquake. Qualified homeowners in the 94577, 94578, and 94579 zip codes can apply for the program from January 23 through February 23.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.earthquakebracebolt.com or contact the Building Division at (510) 577-3405.

Free Event!

Oakland Ballet Presents: Jangala

Friday, March 16, 7:00pm - 8:15pm

San Leandro High School Performing Arts Ctr.

In partnership with the San Leandro Unified School District, the City will be co-sponsoring the return of the Oakland Ballet. Inspired by Rudyard Kipling's classic, The Jungle Book, Jangala follows the story of a lost boy adopted by a pack of wolves. Pre-registration is required on a first-come, first-served basis at <https://jangalasl.eventbrite.com>.

Dance Dimensions Theater

Thursday, February 15, 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Main Library - Lecture Hall

In celebration of African American History Month, this group will perform traditional & contemporary choreography drawn from African, Jazz and Modern dance. Admission is free. Contact the Information Desk at 577-3971 for more details.

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