

San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTOS BY MIKE McGUIRE

San Leandro Celebrates the Holidays



The Moore family, official lighters of San Leandro's Christmas tree, with Morgan Mack-Rose, at right, executive director of the sponsoring downtown benefit district, just before the tree was lit on Friday evening to kick off the annual "It's A Wonderful Night" holiday festival. Over 7,000 people attended and the number of vendors increased to 45 with another 10 community organization booths.

Left, kids and a parent or two posed for a picture with Santa Claus at the annual festival in downtown San Leandro.

Council Honors Community Volunteers

Gonzalez: They aren't sitting around saying 'somebody should,' they're actually leaders

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

More than two dozen residents, organizations, and volunteers were honored for their work in making San Leandro a better community at the City Council's Dec. 2 meeting.

Each year, the mayor and City Council recognize those institutions and individuals for their contributions to improving life in San Leandro.

The people honored were given small plaques for their role in improving the whole city, their impact on an indi-

vidual district, or their length of service as a commissioner on a city board.

“One thing that you’ll see in all of the people that we’ve brought up is leadership,” said Mayor Juan González. “They are not sitting around saying, ‘somebody should,’ but actually being a leader and incorporating others, guiding others, encouraging others.”

For example, the mayor
said this year's Cherry Fes-
see HONORS, page 11

Approved 80-foot Tower Appealed by Residents

An appeal has been made to reconsider the approval of an 80-foot communications tower that will be heard at the City Council meeting on Monday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

The 80-foot tower was approved by the Planning Commission at its Nov. 7 meeting. The tower would be built on the property of

San Leandro Electric Supply
at 440 Peralta Avenue in the
North Area.

The Planning Commission approved the tower which would be designed to look like a tall pine tree to comply with the city's "stealththing" requirement.

But an appeal is being
made on the grounds that such
see APPEALED, page 5

Oro Loma Sanitary District Wrestles With Employee Certification Tests

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

The Oro Loma Sanitary District's board of directors has tabled a management proposal to no longer require certification by an industry group of all the employees in the Collections Department, which maintains the district's

sewer lines.

The board called on the general manager to look into other ways of helping newer workers gain the knowledge they needed to pass the certification tests.

But some former and current employees say the district should not get rid of the cer-

tification tests, because that insures Oro Loma's standards are kept high. The said the board would just lower the standards by eliminating the tests.

Since at least the 1970s, new hires at Ora Loma have been given two years to pass the first of four certifications

offered by the California Water Environment Association (CWEA). Level 1 addresses what a collections worker would have normally learned on the job in those first two years, according to Oro Loma General Manager Jimmy Dang.

see TESTS, page 11

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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Madison celebrates Indian Heritage Month. **Page 3**

ENTERTAINMENT

Copeland's Christmas show to return. **Page 3**

HISTORY

*The story of
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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 835 E. 14th St., San Leandro. For more information, call the City Clerk at 577-3367.

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 835 E. 14th St., San Leandro. For more information, call Zaira Duncan at 667-3522.



San Leandro Times

An independent hometown newspaper serving San Leandro, Ashland, San Lorenzo and Sheffield Village

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Navajo Dancer, Singer Visit Madison School

Madison Elementary School celebrated American Indian Heritage month by having a Native American, Manny Leira from the Navajo and Comanche Tribe, singing and telling stories through his drumming and flute. He also had a dancer from the Choctaw Tribe called "Tank," but his real name is Matthew Young, captivating the students with his vibrant dancing and colorful regalia adorned with beautiful feathers. Madison thanks the Bay Area American Indian Council for helping with this presentation.



DIY Gift Giving Workshop At the Manor Library

Bring your crafting skills for this DIY creative workshop at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Whether you're making a gift to give to a loved one, a friend, neighbor, coworker,

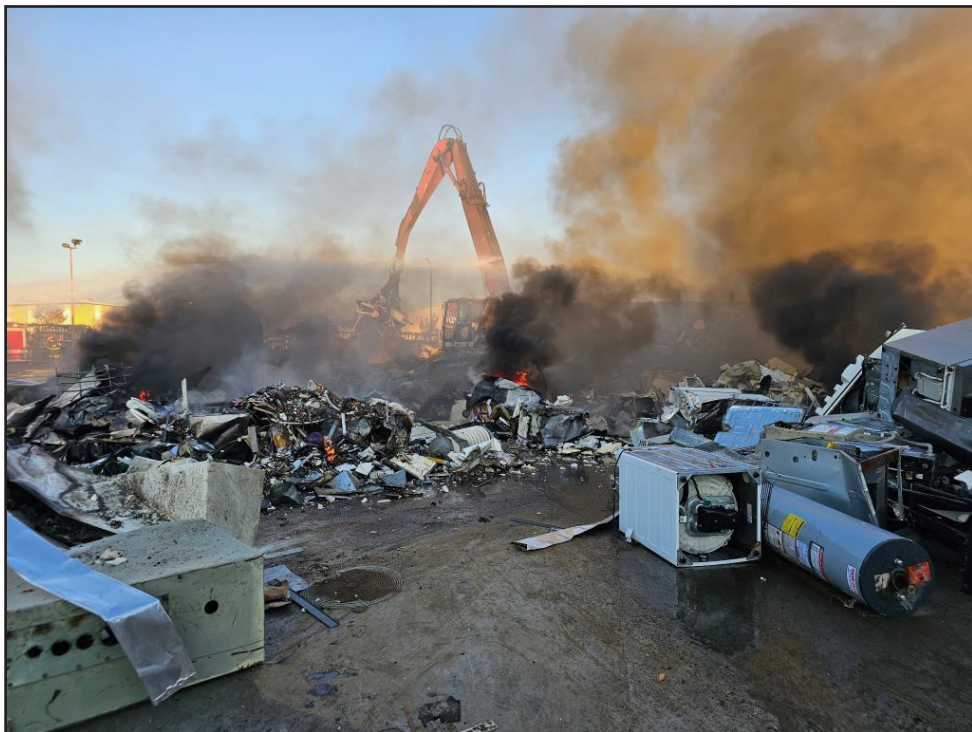
or even keeping it for yourself, come enjoy the excitement with fellow crafting enthusiasts from your local community. Materials will be provided while supplies last. Light refreshments will be provided. For adults 18 and older. No registration required.

Hearing Loss Association Holiday Party on Saturday

The Hearing Loss Association of America, East Bay will hold its December meeting and Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. – in person, no Zoom – at the Kaiser Fabiola Building, 3801 Howe St., Room G-26,

in Oakland. Potluck – bring a holiday treat if you like.

HLAA East Bay will provide bagels and coffee. Register by Dec. 12 at www.hearinglosseb.org and click on "Meeting Details" and then "RSVP."



Fire Dept. Puts Down Blaze at Scrapyard on Doolittle Drive

Firefighters put out a blaze at a metal scrapyard on Doolittle Drive last Thursday afternoon, Dec. 5.

The fire broke out just before 4 p.m. at Alco Iron & Metal Co. at the corner of

Doolittle and Davis Street.

Four engines, a truck and a rescue engine responded along with a battalion chief. In total, 19 people were on scene fighting the fire. The fire was under control in 20 minutes

after crews poured water on the site using a truck ladder.

Fire Department spokesperson Cheryl Hurd said there were no injuries. The cause of the fire is unknown and is under investigation.



You're invited!
Our Christmas Eve services are on December 24th at 5:00 and 9:00 PM
All are welcome!
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ETAL	AIM	
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ELEV	FLASHMOB	
ALAI	TAR	TARA
LALA	SBA	ATTY

Community Calendar

Raiders Boosters Club Toy Drive

The Oakland Raider Booster Club will hold its annual toy drive on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. at Rickey's Sports Bar, 15028 Hesperian Blvd. in San Leandro. Bring new, unwrapped toys and they will be donated to the Davis Street Community Center.

Community Chat with City Councilman Fred Simon

San Leandro City Councilman Fred Simon will hold his monthly community chat on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Greenhouse Market Place, 699 Washington Ave., in front of Great Clips. Listen and share ideas on improving our environment and city, and learn how to become a community ambassador.

Lucille Kline Holiday Tea At the Alta Mira Club

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette St. in San Leandro, invites everyone to the Lucille Kline Holiday Tea on Saturday, Dec. 14, at noon. Tickets are \$30 per person. For reservations, call Linda Klass at 510-914-5684 or Isabel Polvorosa at 510-955-7155.

Hearing Loss Association Holiday Party

The Hearing Loss Association of America, East Bay its December meeting and Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. – in person, no Zoom – at the Kaiser Fabiola Building, 3801 Howe St., Room G-26, in Oakland. Potluck – bring a holiday treat if you like. HLAA East Bay will provide bagels and coffee. Register by Dec. 12 at www.hearinglosseeb.org and click on "Meeting Details" and then "RSVP."

Free Winter Holiday Concert and Community Sing-Along

Join Chorus Eclectic for a free concert on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur Blvd. The chorus will sing Christmas songs and invite the audience to sing along with several holiday favorites. Entry is off of the back parking lot. Snacks, desserts, hot chocolate, and raffle tickets for themed baskets will be available for purchase during intermission.

Toy Giveaway for Kids 17 and Younger

Kids 17 and younger can pick up a free toy at The Toy Shop, 1375 East 14th St. in downtown San Leandro, on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m. The toy giveaway is sponsored by The Toy Shop, the Optimist Club and City Councilman Bryan Azevedo. Kids can pick out any toy they want.

Merry & Bright Holiday Party

Join the City of San Leandro Human Services Department for some holiday cheer and fun at the Merry & Bright Holiday Party on Thursday, Dec. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. Enjoy friends, refreshments, a craft, raffles and music from the Ukulele Jam. \$8 for residents, \$10 for non-residents. Use course #24512 to register online at sanleandroec.org or call 510-577-3462.

Sign Up for Davis Street Holiday Basket Giveaway

Davis Street will hold its Annual Holiday Food and Toy Basket Giveaway on Dec. 23. Registration for families, seniors, and singles in need is now underway. If you or someone you know is need – head over to www.davisstreet.org or call 510-347-4620 to see if you qualify. In-person sign-up hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday from noon to 6 p.m.

Homework Center at the Manor Branch Library

Need help with your homework? Come to the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd., for after-school homework help on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. This is for students in grades 1 through 5. Registration needed at bit.ly/4fD096R or call 510-577-7971.

Copeland's Christmas Show, The Jewelry Box, To Play at the Library on December 19

Award-winning playwright and actor Brian Copeland's family-friendly holiday show The Jewelry Box will return for one special performance at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 cash at the door general admission and \$20 for those under 15. The show is recommended for ages 12 and up. The show runs approximately one hour.

Solo Series subscribers for the 2024 season will be admitted free on a first come, first served basis.

The Jewelry Box was written by Copeland and directed by David Ford. The hilariously heartwarming story, a prequel to Copeland's hit solo show Not a Genuine Black Man, follows a young Brian as he heads to the "mean streets"



of Oakland to buy his mom a Christmas present. When he finds the perfect gift – a jewelry box in the White Front store – six-year-old Brian sets out to earn the required \$11.97

by Christmas.

The show is rife with references to 1970s Oakland as it follows Brian's adventures as he scours the "help wanted" ads, applies for jobs, and collects

bottles, inching his way toward the perfect Christmas gift.

San Francisco Magazine named The Jewelry Box as one of its "7 Must See San Francisco Holiday Events of 2024."

FESCO Brings Holiday Cheer to Families in Need

Buying presents for the holiday is a strain on many parents, even those who have jobs and regular incomes. Children see tempting advertisements for the latest toys, electronics, and clothing their friends have.

For families who are struggling or living in a shelter, and are working toward goals that will enable them to move from the shelter or current situation to their own rental house or apartment, it's doubly difficult to provide those things on their child's Wish List.

Families who are part of FESCO, the Family Shelter and La Familia, family non-profits both headquartered in Hayward, are fortunate to have help with this dilemma. They are able to give assistance through a program that the non-profits have sponsored for a number of years.

Their Adopt-a-Family Pro-

gram pairs families who need help buying holiday gifts for their family with individuals, organizations, churches and businesses who "adopt" the family.

The family provides a Wish List with the ages, sizes, and suggested gifts for members of the family (there's a dollar limit), and the "adoptive buyer" uses the suggestions to buy them, wrap the gifts and turn them over to FESCO/La Familia by early December. This season, we are gathering gift cards to provide extra support for those in need.

Your generous contributions will help ensure that individuals have access to the essentials and experience a little extra joy during the holiday season.

If you're a community member who would like to support this program, you can contact FESCO or La Familia at Alramirez@livelafamilia.

org or mail a gift card to 24301 Southland Drive, Suite 300, Hayward, CA 94545.

The deadline for participating in Adopt-a-Family is: Friday, December 13

FESCO is a Family Shelter, founded in 1986, which provides a wide range of resources for families with chil-

dren including shelter, meals, case management, family counseling, classes for parents and children and employment assistance. La Familia is a full-service non-profit with a wide range of programs for families, youth, veterans, foster youth and individuals.

San Leandro Art Association to Host Reception Tonight At the Library

The San Leandro Art Association (SLAA) invites you to a reception for its art show hanging in the Main Library Upstairs Gallery, through the month of December.

The reception will be held on Thursday, Dec. 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, Room B, 300 Estudillo Ave. On display are some of

the results of our series of seven free art classes developed for San Leandro residents with a grant from the San Leandro Arts, Culture and Library Commission. Included is a 12-by-7-foot original mural and photos from the classes.

Snacks and beverages will be served. The public is encouraged to participate in this free event.

Chabot College Jazz Ensemble Plays Tonight

Chabot College (Chabot) will present their Holiday Big Band Concert tonight (Thursday, Dec. 12) at 7 p.m. at the Reed L. Buffington Visual & Performing Arts Center, Building 1300, at 25555 Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward.

The performance features the Chabot College Jazz Ensemble and will include Fil-

ipino-born American singer guest artist Ellona Santiago and actress, singer-songwriter, and recording artist April Absynth.

The Chabot College Jazz Ensemble is Chabot's top multi-award winning student jazz group that consists primarily of music majors.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission.



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Christmas Just Around the Corner!

It's time to start making plans for your yuletide feast, because the big day will be here before you know it. For a spectacular holiday centerpiece, nothing quite compares to a beautiful beef roast cooked to perfection. Cooking a roast may seem a bit intimidating at first, but it really is one of the more simple

main dishes to prepare. There's little more to it than putting it in the oven and pulling it out when it's done. To know when it's done, you'll need a good meat thermometer (an instant-read type is best to use).

CLASSIC PRIME RIB ROAST

- 1 (6-8 pound) trimmed beef rib roast, chine bone removed
- 6 large cloves garlic, crushed
- 1-1/2 teaspoons dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon cracked black pepper

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine garlic, thyme and black pepper. Press evenly into surface of beef roast. Place roast, fat side up, on rack in shallow roasting pan. Do not add water or cover roast. Roast approximately 2-1/4 to 2-1/2 hours. Using an instant read thermometer, remove roast when internal temperature reaches 135°F for medium rare or 150°F for medium. Tent loosely with foil and let stand 15 minutes prior to carving. Serve with Yorkshire Pudding, if desired. Makes 8 to 12 servings.

YORKSHIRE PUDDING

- 1-1/2 cups flour

- 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1 cup milk
 - 1 tablespoon butter, melted
 - 2 eggs
 - 4 to 8 tablespoons reserved drippings from roasting pan
- Preheat oven to 475°F. Whisk together the flour, salt, milk, butter and eggs. Using a baster, drop a teaspoon or two of drippings into each cup of a muffin tin. Put the muffin tin in the preheated oven. When the drippings are sizzling hot, remove the tin and fill each cup 1/2 to 2/3 full with batter. Bake for 15 minutes, then reduce oven temperature to 350°F and bake for 15 to 20 minutes longer, or until the popovers are puffed and brown. Serve hot. Yields 12 large popovers.

CREAMY MASHED POTATOES WITH CHIVES

- 6 Idaho or russet potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh chives
- 4 ounces mascarpone cheese
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus more for cooking potatoes
- 1 cup milk, warmed

Place potatoes in a large pot and cover with cold water to 2 inches above potatoes. Season water generously with salt and bring potatoes to a boil to cook for 40 minutes, until very tender. Drain potatoes and return to pot. Mash potatoes with warm milk until smooth. Fold in mascarpone and chives. Season with 1 teaspoon salt. Serves 6 to 8.

CHRISTMAS CRANBERRY SALAD

- Cranberry Vinaigrette:
- 1/4 cup white wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries, thawed

- 2 green onions, cut into 1-inch pieces
 - 1 tablespoon sugar
 - 1-1/2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 - 1/4 teaspoon dried sage, crushed
 - 3/4 cup olive oil
- Salad:
- 12 cups mixed greens
 - 1 small red bell pepper, chopped
 - Grated or shredded Parmesan cheese, optional

In a blender, combine the first eight ingredients. While processing, gradually add oil in a steady stream. Chill until ready to serve. In a large salad bowl, combine the greens and red pepper. Sprinkle with cheese if desired. Serve with cranberry vinaigrette. Yields 12 servings (1 cup vinaigrette).

GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE

- 2 (10-3/4 ounce) cans Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup
 - 1-1/2 cups milk
 - 2 teaspoons soy sauce
 - 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
 - 4 (9-ounce) packages frozen cut green beans, thawed
 - 2-2/3 cups French fried onions
- Stir soup, milk, soy sauce, black pepper, beans and 1-1/3 cups onions in 3-quart casserole. Bake at 350°F 30 minutes or until hot. Stir. Top with remaining onions. Bake 5 minutes more until onions are golden. Makes 12 servings. To enhance this dish, cook 4 slices bacon until crisp and crumble over the top.

SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

- 4-1/2 cups cooked and

- mashed sweet potatoes
 - 1/2 cup butter, melted
 - 1/3 cup milk
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 - 2 eggs, beaten
 - 1 cup light brown sugar
 - 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
 - 1/3 cup butter
 - 1 cup chopped pecans
- Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish. In a large bowl, mix together mashed sweet potatoes, 1/2 cup butter, milk, sugar, vanilla extract, and eggs. Spread sweet potato mixture into the prepared baking dish. In a small bowl, mix together brown sugar and flour. Cut in 1/3 cup butter until mixture is crumbly, then stir in pecans. Sprinkle pecan mixture over the sweet potatoes. Bake for 25 minutes in the preheated oven, or until golden brown. Serves 12.

STEAMED WINTER VEGETABLES

- 3/4 pound baby carrots, peeled
- 4 medium new potatoes, quartered
- 6 Brussels sprouts, halved
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Place carrots and potatoes in steamer over boiling water. Cover and steam 6 minutes. Add sprouts and continue steaming 5 to 7 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Combine butter, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Toss with steamed vegetables. Serves 8

ROASTED BRUSSELS SPROUTS

- 1-1/2 pounds Brussels sprouts, ends trimmed and yellow leaves removed
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 400°F. Place trimmed Brussels sprouts, olive oil, salt and pepper in a large resealable plastic bag. Seal tightly, and shake to coat. Pour onto a baking sheet, and place on center oven rack. Roast in the preheated oven for 30 to 45 minutes, shaking pan every 5 to 7 minutes for even browning. Reduce heat when necessary to prevent burning. Brussels sprouts should be darkest brown, almost black, when done. Adjust seasoning with salt, if necessary. Serve immediately. Serves 6.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Don't be sheepish about asking more questions before making a major decision at your workplace. Meanwhile, your personal relationships continue to improve.




TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): You might be rushed into renewing an old, cold relationship. But do you really want a reheated romance when there's a chance to warm up with someone new?




GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Someone tells you something that could lead you to rethink your plans for the holidays. Get the full story before you make a decision.




CANCER (June 21 - July 22): A financial matter that had you in a dither is finally being sorted out as more facts become available. A perplexing personal matter also clears up.




LEO (July 23 - August 22): You face a slew of new tasks at home and work. So, as much as you love being a social Lion, be careful not to overdo it at those holiday parties.




VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Unexpected news could cause some minor adjustments in your holiday planning. Defer a decision about a financial matter until you have more facts.




LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): A project might not be bringing you the results you'd hoped it would by now. But stay with it -- things will soon begin to turn around.




SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): A budding personal relationship continues to develop. Things also improve in your career, although some problems still need close attention.




SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Mercury is finally stationing direct in your sign after a few weeks in retrograde. This will give you motivation to take care of any outstanding tasks before the holidays.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Allowing a misunderstanding to go unchallenged could jeopardize the plans you've made for the upcoming holidays. Clear the air now.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): While you should be open to suggestions on how to plan for the holidays, you should also be firm in saying "no" to anything you disagree with.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Get out from under all those holiday preparations and immerse yourself in a world of music. You'll soon feel refreshed, revived -- maybe even reborn!

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City Council Ups Rewards for Three Homicides

The San Leandro City Council unanimously approved a resolution on Dec. 2 to significantly increase the reward amounts for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for three unsolved homicides in the city.

The three cases are:

The October 9, 2010 double homicides of Marius Robinson and Kwame Nunn (reward increased to \$150,000).

The March 22, 2013 homicide of Delun "Allan" Pan (increased to \$150,000).

The December 14, 2014 homicide of Joel Ramirez (increased to \$150,000).

These tragic cases have remained unresolved for years, leaving families and the community searching for justice. The enhanced rewards are part of the City's commitment to bringing closure to the victims' loved ones and holding perpetrators accountable, the City of San Leandro announced in a press release.

"San Leandro stands with the families of Marius Robinson, Kwame Nunn, Allan Pan, and Joel Ramirez," said Mayor Juan González. By increasing these rewards, we are sending a clear message: these victims are not forgotten, and neither

are their families. We hope this initiative encourages those with information to come forward and help us deliver justice."

San Leandro Police Chief Angela Averiett highlighted the importance of community involvement in solving these cases.

"Our detectives remain committed to pursuing all leads and working tirelessly on these investigations," Averiett said. "However, community input is critical. Someone out there knows something that could make the difference. These enhanced rewards are meant to encourage anyone

with information to step forward and help bring justice to these families and our community."

San Leandro Police Department asks anyone with information about these cases

to contact them via the following methods: Sergeant Jason Vincent at 510-577-3315, anonymous tip line at 510-577-3278, or Text-to-Tip at 888777 (keyword: TipSL-Police).

Appealed: Critic of tower cites radiation

continued from front page

towers emit harmful radiation.

Cherrywood and other neighborhoods that would be near the tower would be exposed to harmful radiation, said San Leandro resident Gustav Link, one of the opponents of the tower.

Link sent a letter to the city's Planning Department, saying the 8-foot tower should be reconsidered because of potential radioactivity in the radius of nearby homes.

After-School Homework Help At the Manor Branch Library

Need help with your homework?

Come to after-school homework help on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Manor

Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd.

This is for students in Grade 1 through grade 5.

Registration needed. To register, call 510-577-7971.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY

REAL ESTATE REALITY
By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times
GUEST COMMENTARY

Make Wise Lighting Decisions for the Holidays

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

With the Holiday Season upon us, lights are appearing everywhere. Not only are numerous strings outlining homes across the

county, but they are also hung inside as well, especially on the Christmas trees that are a central part of many Bay Area family's holiday celebrations. Additionally, it seems that every year more front yards are decorated with

no end of festive items ranging from Nativity scenes to blow-up Santas, reindeer, snowmen and more. All of this can add up to a serious surge in electrical consumption at this time of year and even potential overloads to older electrical systems. We have two suggestions to keep you safe this Holiday Season.

Do not overload your electrical system. Overloaded electrical circuits can heat up the wiring, increasing the potential of a fire. This can be especially true in older homes with significantly outdated electrical systems. A sign that a system is overloading is a frequent tripping of an electrical breaker or blowing a fuse. The correct response should circuits continue to shut off is to reduce the load by either unplugging things or only allowing a limited number of items to be on at the same time.

The second approach would be to hire a licensed electrician to analyze your electrical system and make upgrades as necessary. Some homeowners, attempting to solve ongoing issues without the cost of upgrades swap out breakers or fuses that constantly trip

The Garden Bug Holiday cactuses

"Thanksgiving cactus" (*Schlumbergera truncata*) displays broad, pointy leaves and may bloom from late October through November.

"Christmas cactus" (*Schlumbergera bridgesii*) has scalloped, flat leaves and may bloom from late November to late January.

The "Easter cactus" (*Rhipsalidopsis gaertnerii*) displays rounded scalloped leaves, sometimes with "hairs," and may bloom from mid-March through April. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: planetdesert.com, Sunny Home Gardens

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with those with a higher capacity. This can be EXTREMELY dangerous and is not recommended under any circumstances.

Go with LED lighting. The relatively recent advent of LED lighting and subsequent decreases in pricing has been a complete game changer. As an example, an 8-bulb chandelier with 60W bulbs consumes a total of 480 watts. In contrast, comparable LED replacement lights draw 5.5W each, for a total of only 44 watts - less than 10%! Since a typical 15A circuit should only handle a maximum of 1,440W, reducing the wattage required to light your home can result in significant savings and increased safety.

Keep this in mind as well when hanging those strings of holiday lights. The new LED strings use dramatically less power than the old incandescent bulbs and also last a lot longer. Although it may cost a bit to replace older strings, the change will pay for itself in short order and mean you can actually add more lights if desired.

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

RECENT HOME SALES				
Castro Valley				
17413 Rolando Avenue 94546:	\$375,000	[1 BD - 520 SF - 1952		
21117 Gary Drive #113 94546:	\$675,000	[2 BD - 1,245 SF - 1981		
20398 Forest Avenue 94546:	\$868,000	[3 BD - 1,060 SF - 1953		
4252 Omega Avenue 94546:	\$908,000	[3 BD - 1,224 SF - 1947		
18044 Jaymark Court 94546:	\$1,050,000	[3 BD - 2,109 SF - 1959		
22484 Queen Street 94546:	\$1,066,000	[3 BD - 1,770 SF - 1940		
4634 Ewing Road 94546:	\$1,159,000	[1,347 SF - 1952		
4526 Newhaven Way 94546:	\$1,319,000	[3 BD - 1,497 SF - 1960		
4307 Heyer Avenue 94546:	\$1,380,000	[4 BD - 2,139 SF - 2002		
19701 Edwin Markham Drive 94552:	\$1,579,000	[4 BD - 2,639 SF - 1984		
25370 Gold Ridge Drive 94552:	\$2,100,000	[5 BD - 2,956 SF - 1997		
TOTAL SALES:	11			
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$375,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$1,066,000	
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$2,100,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$1,134,454	
SAN LEANDRO				
1609 153rd Avenue 94578:	\$615,000	[2 BD - 916 SF - 1948		
1705 163rd Avenue 94578:	\$680,000	[2 BD - 876 SF - 1947		
2026 Marina Court 94577:	\$745,000	[2 BD - 1,500 SF - 1952		
1847 Wayne Avenue 94577:	\$795,000	[4 BD - 1,554 SF - 1952		
14447 Juniper Street 94579:	\$800,000	[3 BD - 1,282 SF - 1952		
1991 Orchard Avenue 94577:	\$810,000	[3 BD - 1,095 SF - 1951		
96 Sunnyside Drive 94577:	\$811,000	[2 BD - 1,091 SF - 1926		
1160 Grace Street 94578:	\$828,000	[3 BD - 1,772 SF - 1948		
3572 Monterey Boulevard 94578:	\$850,000	[3 BD - 1,135 SF - 1955		
14564 Elm Street 94579:	\$865,000	[3 BD - 1,096 SF - 1953		
1343 Purdue Street 94579:	\$882,000	[4 BD - 1,483 SF - 1951		
14978 Fjord Street 94578:	\$930,000	[3 BD - 1,608 SF - 1978		
96 Begier Avenue 94577:	\$970,000	[2 BD - 1,265 SF - 1939		
1387 Glen Drive 94577:	\$1,125,000	[3 BD - 1,674 SF - 1948		
1715 Starview Drive 94577:	\$1,350,000	[4 BD - 2,576 SF - 1966		
TOTAL SALES:	15			
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$615,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$828,000	
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,350,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$870,400	
SAN LORENZO				
1366 Culver Place 94580:	\$585,500	[2 BD - 1,188 SF - 1972		
787 Hacienda Avenue 94580:	\$820,000	[3 BD - 1,351 SF - 1947		
1548 Via Ventana 94580:	\$826,000	[3 BD - 1,100 SF - 1954		
1472 Via Hermana 94580:	\$885,000	[3 BD - 1,565 SF - 1955		
TOTAL SALES:	4			
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$585,500	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$823,000	
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$885,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$779,125	
HAYWARD				
27692 Baldwin Street 94544:	\$525,000	[3 BD - 1,238 SF - 1952		
699 Dartmore Lane #372 94544:	\$539,000	[2 BD - 894 SF - 1988		
1674 C Street 94541:	\$630,000	[2 BD - 814 SF - 1950		
22284 Peralta Street 94541:	\$650,000	[1 BD - 910 SF - 1925		
22834 Arnold Court 94541:	\$824,000	[3 BD - 1,023 SF - 1949		

Mortgage Rates Continue to Decrease

This week, mortgage rates decreased to their lowest level in over a month. Despite just a modest drop in rates, consumers clearly have responded as purchase demand has noticeably improved. The responsiveness of prospective homebuyers to even small changes in rates illustrates that affordability headwinds persist.

Winter Is the Best Time to Transplant Roses

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q Is this a good time to transplant several mature roses from one garden area to another? Should it be done before or after they have been pruned, or does it matter? Also, can I plant new roses in the same spot?

A Most gardening books recommend transplanting roses while they are dormant; however, with our mild temperatures, roses never go entirely dormant; it is also not unusual for them to have buds and blooms, although the foliage looks crummy. The ideal window to relocate or transplant roses along with other landscape shrubs and conifers is from Thanksgiving through mid-March. Typically, most gardeners wait until after the holidays to transplant. You prune before or after, as it doesn't matter. I prefer to prune

them back first so there are fewer branches and thorns to get in the way by reducing the height and sides. Roses have an extensive spreading root system, so you'll leave some behind. You may bare-root the plants. The lack of soil now is not a problem because of the cool conditions. You can also spread this task over several days or weekends. Once out of the ground, you can store them above the ground by covering them with a tarp or plant them in temporary containers. Roses survive beautifully after being mistreated. When you're ready to replant, avoid a common mistake and plant them too deep. The top of the first root should be at or near the soil surface. All too often, the bushes are planted up to the bud union. The bud union is where the desirable rose variety is budded to the rootstock and should be above ground. The distance between the roots and the bud union varies significantly with each bush. Problems develop

from the poor drainage of our clay soils and the constant moisture from frequent watering. I'm unaware of any issues preventing you from planting a new rose in the old location(s). The new roses for 2025, along with many of your old favorites, will arrive at your favorite garden center later this month.

Q This summer, I planted three large Coleus plants in pots in partial shade. Will they survive the winter or should I take them inside?

A Coleus is a plant that adapts to indoor and outdoor conditions. They will survive the winter outside as long as the temperatures stay above forty degrees. However, they grow nicely indoors in a room with lots of direct or indi-



BUZZ BERTOLERO
THE DIRT GARDENER

rect light. To be safe, I'd move them indoors now and then back outdoors in early March after the danger of frost has

passed. At that time, I'd prune off fifty percent of the growth and fertilize with Osmocote or other similar time-release

fertilizer to encourage the lateral growth.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following Ordinance was introduced at a first reading and passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of San Leandro at its meeting of **December 2, 2024**:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-017

First Reading of an Ordinance of the City of San Leandro City Council Amending San Leandro Municipal Code Title 7 (Maps, Buildings, and Subdivisions) by Adding Article 16 (Earthquake Hazard Reduction in Existing Soft-Story Residential Buildings) to Chapter 7-5 (Building Code)

The full text of this Ordinance is posted for public inspection on the City Council bulletin board located at the entrance to the City Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

Kelly B. Clancy

Kelly B. Clancy, CMC
City Clerk



Alameda County Industries

We are proud to be your service provider for **Recyclables, Organics, & Garbage.**

Holiday Collection Service Schedule

DECEMBER 23 - 28, 2024

If your collection day is:	Mon. 23	Tue. 24	Wed. 25	Thu. 26	Fri. 27
Your holiday collection day will be:	Mon. 23	Tue. 24	Thu. 26	Fri. 27	Sat. 28

DEC 30, 2024 - JAN 4, 2025

If your collection day is:	Mon. 30	Tue. 31	Wed. 1	Thu. 2	Fri. 3
Your holiday collection day will be:	Mon. 30	Tue. 31	Thu. 2	Fri. 3	Sat. 4

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S DAY WEEKS:

If your regular collection day is Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, your containers will be serviced one day later. For more info, scan the QR code or visit AlamedaCountyIndustries.com/sanleandro/holiday



Holiday Tree Collection - On regular residential service days, from December 26 to January 31, place your holiday trees curbside. ACI will collect and compost them. Please note that different trucks are used to collect the trees, so tree removal may occur earlier or later than your normal organics service.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Place tree curbside on your scheduled collection day.
- Remove all decorations, lights, and the stand.
- Cut tree in half if taller than 6'.
- Flocked and artificial trees cannot be composted. Place them in the garbage or schedule a special collection.



Wrap It Up! - Metallic wrapping paper, most ribbons and bows, cellophane, and polystyrene packaging are not recyclable through curbside collection.

TRY THESE WASTE SAVING TIPS:

- Wrap gifts in reusable, recycled/recyclable, or compostable materials.
- Save and reuse ribbons, wrap, and other recyclable and compostable packaging.
- Visit Resource.stopwaste.org to see a guide for reuse, repair, recycling, and safe disposal.



As a last resort, place non-recyclable packaging and wrapping materials in the gray garbage cart, securing small items in a bag.

Alameda County Industries wishes you the happiest of holidays and a prosperous 2025.

Contact us:

AlamedaCountyIndustries.com

Phone: 510-357-7282

Office Hours & Address: M-F, 7am-5pm

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To Place a Garage Sale Ad call 614-1558

CONTRACTOR SERVICE

NOTICE TO READERS

California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State Law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. Advertisers appearing on this page without a license number indicate that the contractor is not licensed. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800) 321-2752. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

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For more detailed information, please visit www.sanleandro.org. EOE

LEGAL NOTICES

Please **BOYCE ELLIS** be advised and put on notice that a small claims lawsuit in the amount of \$3,852. 58 for move out charges has been filed on March 1, 2024 in the county of Alameda against Boyce Ellis for his contract of renting at the premises of 1555 164th Ave. apartment number 35 by the Plaintiff, San Leandro Ashland LLC, with the defendant being Boyce Ellis case number 24SC66034. This notice is to serve as publication of service as per the order granted and dated October 21, 2024 to run in this newspaper for four consecutive weeks. Contact plaintiff at Ashland Office located at 1555 164th Ave San Leandro, CA 94578, 510-278-3920, Ashlandmanor@jleproperties.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

Please **JOSE AVILA** be advised and put on notice that a small claims lawsuit in the amount of \$3,099.84 for move out charges has been filed on March 1st, 2024 in the county of Alameda against Jose Avila for his contract of renting at the premises of 1570 164th Ave. apartment number 56 by the Plaintiff, San Leandro Shamor LLC, with the defendant being Jose Avila case number 24SC66032. This notice is to serve as publication of service as per the order granted and dated October 21, 2024 to run in this newspaper for four consecutive weeks. Contact plaintiff at Shamor Office located at
1570 164th Ave
San Leandro, CA 94578,
510-278-1889
Shamor apartments@jleproperties.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED November 13, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610610
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Jack London Debris Removal located at 2399 E. 14th Street, 106, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Evan Smith, located at 2399 E. 14th Street, 106, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A
/s/Evan Smith
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 12, 2029
DEC 12, 19, 26, JAN 2, 2025

FILED November 18, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610676
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
1 TJ Taylor, 2 Late Bloomers located at 749 Cary Dr., San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jane Taylor, located at 749 Cary Dr., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A
/s/Jane Angelina Taylor
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 17, 2029

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED November 20, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610739
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
CloudBerry, located at 25899 Dollar Street Hayward, CA 94544. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Zainaya LLC, located at 25899 Dollar Street Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced N/A
/s/Shadab Ahmed AftabSiddiqui This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 19, 2029
DEC 05, 12, 19, 26, 2024

FILED October 30, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610357
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Juls Schoolhouse, located at 2894 D Street Hayward, CA 94541 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julie Kikon 22894 D Street Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 10/30/2024
/s/Julie Kikon
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 29, 2029
DEC 12, 19, 26, JAN 2, 2025
1892 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED October 09, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 609822
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
That Love Coach, located at 14881Wiley Street, San Leandro, CA 94579 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Louren, located at 14881Wiley Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 10/01/2024
/s/Lauren Ballesteros
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 08, 2029
NOV 28, DEC 05, 12, 18, 2024
1814 - CVF

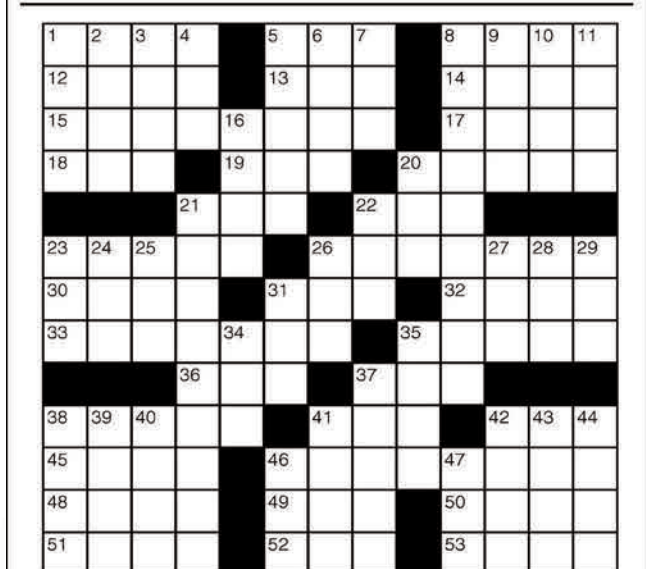
FILED October 30, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610372
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Christ-Centered Life Recovery Coaching, located at 10970 International Blvd., Suite 206 Oakland, CA 94603. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nokia Rembert, located at 10970 International Blvd., Suite 206 Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by An Individual Limited Liability Company. This business commenced 10/30/24
/s/Nokia Rembert
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 29, 2029
DEC 05, 12, 19, 26, 2024
1890 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED October 25, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610264
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Bowen Electric, located at 2055 Williams Street, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): H. A. Bowen Electric, Inc. located at 2055 Williams Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a corporation. This business commenced 01/01/2024
/s/Brooke Bowen
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 24, 2029
NOV 21, 28, DEC 05, 12, 2024
1800 - SLT

FILED November 19, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610716
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Discountland, located at 1369 MacArthur Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94577. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wilver Matias, located at 1369 MacArthur Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94577. / Maricruz Cuevas, located at 1369 MacArthur Blvd. This business is conducted by Married Couple. This business commenced 11/19/24
/s/Wilver Matias
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 18, 2029
DEC 05, 12, 19, 26, 2024
1886 - SLT

THE TIMES CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
1 Winter coaster
5 Gear tooth
8 Guesser's words
12 "Arrivederci!"
13 Notre Dame coach
14 German refusal
15 Well-known
17 Body powder
18 "Now, where -- I?"
19 Novelist Deighton
20 One of the Kardashians
21 Squeak stopper
22 Golfer Trevino
23 Lake flock
26 Neighbor of Germany
30 Penny
31 Physique
32 Sci-fi race
33 Boise native
35 Labor group
36 Work unit
37 Prof's degree
38 Presentation aid
41 Romance
42 "Right you --!"
45 Petty of "Tank Girl"
46 Working
48 "Topaz" author
49 -- Dhahi
50 Roman censor
51 Ordered
52 Prof's helpers
53 Strong farm team
- DOWN**
1 Garbage barge
2 Director Wertmuller
3 Comestibles
4 Homer's lament
5 Caravan beast
6 Algerian port
7 Hiatus
8 Getting better
9 Authentic
10 Missile shelter
11 Formerly
16 Yale students
20 "Community" actor Jeong
21 Up-and-coming
22 Guided
23 Biol. or chem.
24 Marry
25 Santa -- winds
26 Mafia boss
27 Foreman foe
28 Aussie hopper
29 Family
31 Satchel
34 Scrap
35 "Oops!"
37 VIP on Air Force One
38 Sandwich type
39 Circle dance
40 Bone-dry
41 Connecticut Sun's org.
42 Trojan War hero
43 Memory method
44 Black, in verse
46 Feedback tidbit
47 -- friendly

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

FILED November 20, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610720
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Small Circle Judo Jujitsu, located at 1029 Mac Arthur Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Quinonez, located at 301 Harding Place San Ramon, CA 94583. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced November 14, 2024
/s/David Quinonez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 19, 2029
DEC 11, 18, 25, JAN 1, 2025
1898 - CVF

FILED December 12, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 611038
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
East Bay Child Development Center located at 14207 East 14th Street, 106, San Leandro, CA 94578 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pediatric Language Therapy Associates PC, located at 14207 East 14th Street, 106, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a Corporation. This business commenced 12/05/2024
/s/Claire IbrahimThis statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 12, 2029
DEC 12, 19, 26, JAN 2, 2025
1903 - SLT

FILED November 15, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610641
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Tortas y Dogos Don Sebas, located at 9527 Sunnyside St., Oakland, CA 94603 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oscar Figueroa Lopez, located at 49527 Sunnyside St., Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A
/s/Oscar Figueroa Lopez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 14, 2029
NOV 21, 28, DEC 05, 12, 2024
1803 - SLT

FILED November 25, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 610836
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Wong's Garden Pavilion, located at 1610 Burkhardt Avenue San Leandro, CA 94579 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kelly Sin, located at 1610 Burkhardt Avenue San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A
/s/Kelly Sin
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 24, 2029
DEC 05, 12, 19, 26, 2024
1885 - SLT

Historical Society Tells Story of Casa Peralta

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

People found out about the history of San Leandro's historic Casa Peralta and even got a chance to photographically see some of its interior at a program held this fall at the San Leandro Historical Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave.

Casa Peralta, next door, has been closed for safety reasons since Christmas 2018, although its grounds are open and a later wing of the building houses offices. The San Leandro Historical Society has kicked off a campaign to raise funds for its repair and reopening.

Casa Peralta Built in 1901

Casa Peralta was first constructed in 1901, but the property links back to the first arrival of Spanish soldiers on what was then Native land in 1776, said Cynthia Simons of the Historical Society at the beginning of the program.

In 1820, the last Spanish governor of California gave a 44,800-acre land grant to Don Luís María Peralta to recognize his 40 years of military service. The land, Rancho San Antonio, is now the site of San Leandro, Oakland and several other East Bay cities. Peralta later divided up the land between his sons, with Ygnacio Peralta getting the land along San Leandro Creek that later became part of San Leandro.

Meanwhile, the countries that claimed the land changed. Mexico, including California, broke away from Spain in 1821, and then the United States took over California in 1848 after the Mexican-American War. California became

a state in 1850. The Peraltas held onto their land title, but had to go to court to do so.

Ygnacio Peralta first built the Peralta Adobe in 1860, San Leandro's oldest building. It now houses the Alta Mira Club on Lafayette Street, Simon said.

His daughter Ludovina and her American husband William Ivey bought a house at the corner of Clarke Street and Estudillo Avenue from the Estudillo family, who had the neighboring land grant across San Leandro Creek and extending south, the Rancho San Leandro.

After Ivey's death, his widow replaced that house with today's Casa Peralta in 1901, which her now-widowed sister Maria Peralta Toler moved into in 1903.

Ludovina died in 1917 and Maria in 1926. Ownership passed to Maria's niece Herminia Peralta Dargie, widow of the publisher of the Oakland Tribune. When she remarried, to a Spanish civil engineer, they remodeled the home's exterior to resemble the Peraltas' ancestral estate in Spain.

They added balconies, arches, red-tiled roofs, fountains and a walled gardens, all in the Spanish Revival style, Simon said. But the interior mostly stayed in the Colonial Revival style, making the house a representative of both architectural styles.

Hand-Painted Tiles From Spain

Beautiful hand-painted tiles, imported from Toledo, Spain, were used throughout the house and grounds. Many depicted the story of Don



PHOTOS BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Casa Peralta on West Estudillo Avenue was built in 1901. Bottom left, tiles of Nuestra Senora de Los Reyes (Our Lady of the Monarchs), and right, tiles made in Toledo, Spain show scenes of Don Quixote.

Quixote, while others were decorative.

Simon showed the audience slides of the beautiful interior rooms and of the tiles inside and outside.

Herminia passed away in 1929, and her sister got ownership in 1938 after a court fight. She quickly sold the building and it first became a rest home, and later an alcohol rehabilitation hospital. It was in danger of being torn down for development when it next came up for sale in 1969, but was instead bought by John and Barbara Mathews Brook.

To great acclaim at the time, they donated the home to the City of San Leandro in 1971. Tours, especially by groups of schoolchildren, became popular, with many of the school groups remembered in Historical Society photographs.

The San Leandro Art Association held their Annual Festival of Art at the Casa, and the San Leandro Education Foundation held fundraisers in the courtyard. Volunteer docents opened the home to visitors on weekends.

Time Takes Toll On Building

Time took its toll on the old building, Simon said. By the early 2000s, the city was worried enough about its structural soundness and earthquake safety that it commissioned an architectural firm to inspect the building and make recommendations.

That report, released in 2016, pointed out major prob-

lems and made some 90 suggestions for improvements, though some were higher priority than others. The consultants estimated it would cost some \$6 million to make the most needed improvements.

They suggested at the time that making those improvements could make the building more of a center for community activities than it had been previously. In their report, they noted its rich history and its key location between the BART station and downtown.

That \$6 million estimate did not take into account replacing the building's foundation, made of brick and containing a basement, so particularly unsafe in an earthquake, the Historical Society has noted since.

A few of the improvements were made, notably new exterior lighting, but there was not

funding for the rest.

The building closed to the public for safety reasons before the pandemic, and did not reopen after it eased. The Historical Society had hoped funds for the repair could be found during its closure and the building could be reopened, but those hopes were not borne out at the time.

The city continues to maintain the grounds, which remain open, and the interior.

Casa Needs \$20 Million In Work

Simon said that the original \$6 million price tag would be about \$10 million at today's building costs, and that city building officials have said another \$10 million might be needed.

"So if anybody knows anyone who has \$20 million they can donate ..." Simon

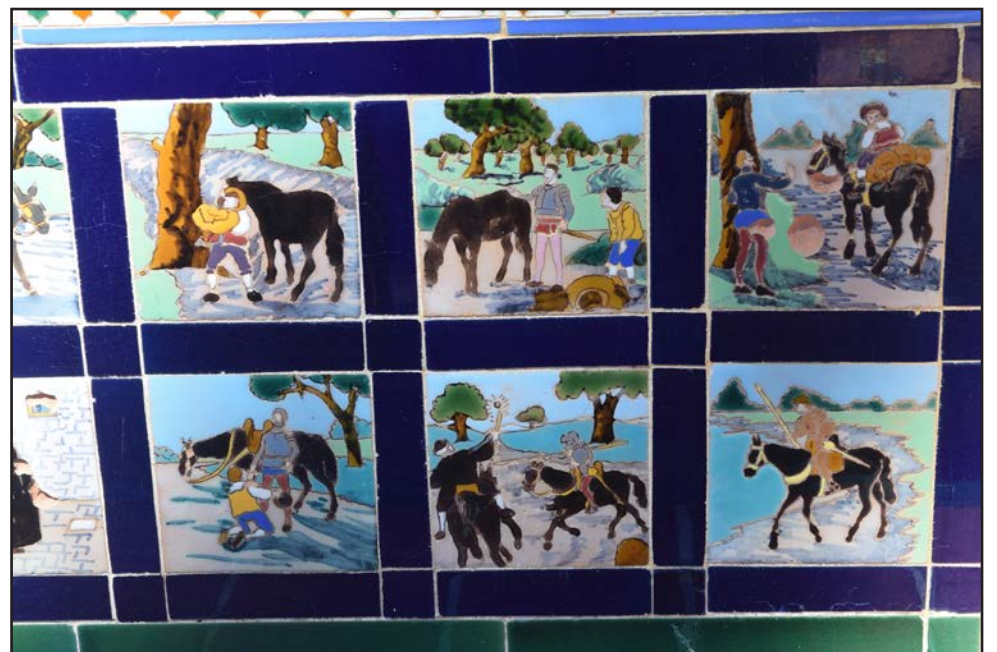
said, ending the program with some laughter.

"It's time to restore this beautiful building, on the National Register of Historic Places and a significant element of our city's historic, architectural, and cultural heritage," Simon said.

Simon said the Historical Society has kicked off a fundraising campaign to fix and restore the building for public use. Its grounds remain open, and can be rented for events through the city's website at www.sanleandro.org/537/Casa-Peralta.

Much of the audience followed a docent outside for a guided tour of the tiles on the house's exterior and throughout its courtyard.

More information on the fundraising drive can be found at www.sanleandrohistory.org/casa-peralta-history.html.



Honors: Individuals, companies acknowledged for contributions

continued from front page

tival was a success thanks to volunteers from San Leandro's Optimist Club as well as sponsorships and donations from businesses such as Prologis, a real estate investment trust, Alameda County Industries (ACI), Waste Management, Ava Community Energy, and Kaiser Permanente Greater Southern Alameda Area.

"While the event was free for everyone, we know that we could not have revived this annual tradition without the help of these sponsors," González said.

For the District Leadership awards, Latina entrepreneur Olga Rosales Salinas was acknowledged for her work, Zheng Jiachun for his work volunteering at schools and churches, Rosa Velasquez for working within the school district and creating a cultural writing program for middle school girls.

Karen Klien was awarded

"What does community look like? I point to this crew and what they were able to pull off."

— Mayor Juan Gonzalez

for helping transform Washington Manor, Gunnar Hissam for focusing on youth sports such as the Floresta Baseball League, and Bella Comelo for her leadership and bringing the "Age Friendly Initiative" to San Leandro.

The mayor also acknowl-

edged the work of the Washington Manor Homeowners' Association and its president Bridget Salazar for their work on the Community Picnic.

"She and many others found volunteers and found vendors to come and spend time and also provide information about how to have sustainable activities for families," Mayor González said. "I was just blown away. To this day, when people ask me, what does community involvement look like? I point to this crew and what they were able to pull off."

Under the Mayor's Awards for Excellence, Ricardo Guerra was acknowledged for his small business work in opening and operating La Bombonera, an indoor soccer facility on East 14th Street that is supported by the San Jose Earthquakes professional soccer club.

Air Protein on Williams



Mayor Gonzalez congratulated the award winners for making San Leandro a better place.

Street was acknowledged for excellence as a medium-sized business. The company converts carbon dioxide into protein peptides.

Mayor González acknowledged Shaw Bakers as a large business for their excellence. Chief product innovation officer Stephane Stocki said the company was very pleased with its growth in San Leandro.

The city also acknowledged B3 Investors for its work in converting several San Leandro business properties into innovation centers including Bayfair Mall.

Lastly, Mayor González acknowledged city commissioners with multiple years of service including Zachary Borja (5 years), Litha Zuber (10 years), and Bella Comelo (15 years).

"The last 15 years on the senior commission have been very rewarding and a great learning experience for me," Comelo said. "The highlight of my tenure has been the opening of the Senior Center in 2010 and the relocation of the Center for the Elders Independence in San Leandro and of course the Age-Friendly Initiative."

Tests: Oro Loma workers proud of district's high standards

continued from front page

But, Dang said, while some of what is covered on the test is directly related to doing the job at Oro Loma, the test also asks about some things that are more general or might be done differently at other sanitary districts.

According to the CWEA website, 36 percent of the Level 1 test for collections workers is on systems operations, inspections and maintenance, while 17 percent is on records, documentation and mapping. Safety and customer service account for 23 percent, and 16 percent is on vehicles, equipment and grounds. The remaining 8 percent is on math for collection systems.

Several of the most recently hired collections workers have had difficulty passing the Level 1 test despite taking it several times, Dang said. He described them as excellent workers who have no trouble doing the job, and questioned the relevance of the Level 1 test to the ability to do the

work.

Management asked the board to drop the certification requirement for entry Level 1 and for journeyman Level 2. Levels 3 and 4, for lead workers and managers respectively, would keep their certification requirement.

The district also requires CWEA certifications for maintenance, plant chemist and industrial waste inspectors job classifications. No change was proposed for those departments.

Some Workers Oppose Eliminating the Tests

Current and former Oro Loma workers and supervisors came to the board's November 12 meeting, with several saying the district should keep the certification test requirement.

Retired manager Lenny Rather said that getting rid of the certification would lower Oro Loma's standards.

"We were at the top," Rather said. "Everyone knew we were at the top. We need to

stay at the top."

Rather said that all the workers passed the tests for the past half century.

Rather added, "Everybody's okay with giving these three (employees) more time, but nobody ever didn't pass in 50 years."

After the meeting, Rather explained that the district had won a number of statewide awards for being best in the business, with the last one coming in 2013. He called on management to solve the current issue rather than change the rules.

Why are Today's Workers Not Passing the Test?

Retired lead worker Bert Galino questioned whether new employees are getting enough training.

"We all ended up having to do it," Galino said. "Are the kids being given the training they need? Even if on-the-job training (OJT) is 90%, the other 10% is important. If these kids have problems, give them

that help."

One of the workers who had not gained certification asked the board for more time, but did not offer an opinion on the motion for eliminating the requirement altogether.

Oro Loma staffer Lacey Chiles said, "These are great people. Give them more time. Consider some kind of plan instead of losing these people."

Longtime Oro Loma worker Tim Carvalho attended the meeting and spoke briefly in favor of keeping the certification requirement.

After the meeting, Carvalho said he'd always considered the district's board supportive, and thought they would eventually find a good solution to the problem.

Carvalho was concerned, though, that the district had been letting things slide around quality, and the lack of recent awards for excellence was a sign of that. He pointed to a pocket-sized pamphlet given all employees called "The Oro Loma Way," prepared for the

district by consultants.

The pamphlet lists the 28 "fundamentals" employees should apply. Its introduction reads "Yes, we've won awards, but relying on our past

success is not our style."

Remembering how that past success was gained could go a long way toward the district's current and future success, Carvalho said.

Verna Pristia

March 16, 1928 ~ November 14, 2024

Verna passed away on November 14, 2024, after a short illness with family members at her side. She was 96 years old.



Verna was born in Oakland, California on the kitchen table of her grandparents' home to Manuel and Mary Moniz on March 16, 1928. In 1946, Verna graduated from Castlemont High School. Verna met her future husband, Joseph Pristia, in 1946 and they were married on July 27, 1947. In 1949, they moved into their home in San Leandro, California, where they raised their three children. When the children were much older, she worked for American Lithographers for several years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Manuel and Mary Moniz, her husband of 65 years, Joseph Pristia, her great-grandson, Jacob Bales and her sister, Lorraine Rushing.

Verna leaves behind her three children: Mary Ann Bales (Bill), Peggy Ross (Dave), and Leonard Pristia (Liz); six grandchildren: Kristin Tourtellot (Mike), Troy Bales (Adrienne), Lisa DeCamp (Matt), Eric Pristia (Karrin), Phillip Pristia (Rose), Denise Messer (Jake); nine great-grandchildren, Taylor, Makenna and Jack Bales, Jonan and Lucianna Pristia, Bridger and Larsen DeCamp, Harper Tourtellot and Olive Pristia, her sister, Bernice Vincilione and numerous nieces and nephews.

Verna was a homemaker who took care of her husband and children. She enjoyed happy gatherings with family and friends, traveling and taking gambling trips all over Northern California and Reno. She will be missed.

The funeral will be private, for immediate family only, per her wishes. Verna's final resting place will lovingly be beside her husband at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward, California.

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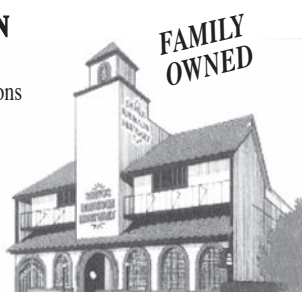
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Intersection Daylighting



What Is Daylighting?

The new Daylighting Law (California Assembly Bill 413) went into effect January 1, 2024, and prohibits parking within 20 feet of the vehicle approach side of any marked or unmarked crosswalk or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present, even if there are no signs or curb markings present.



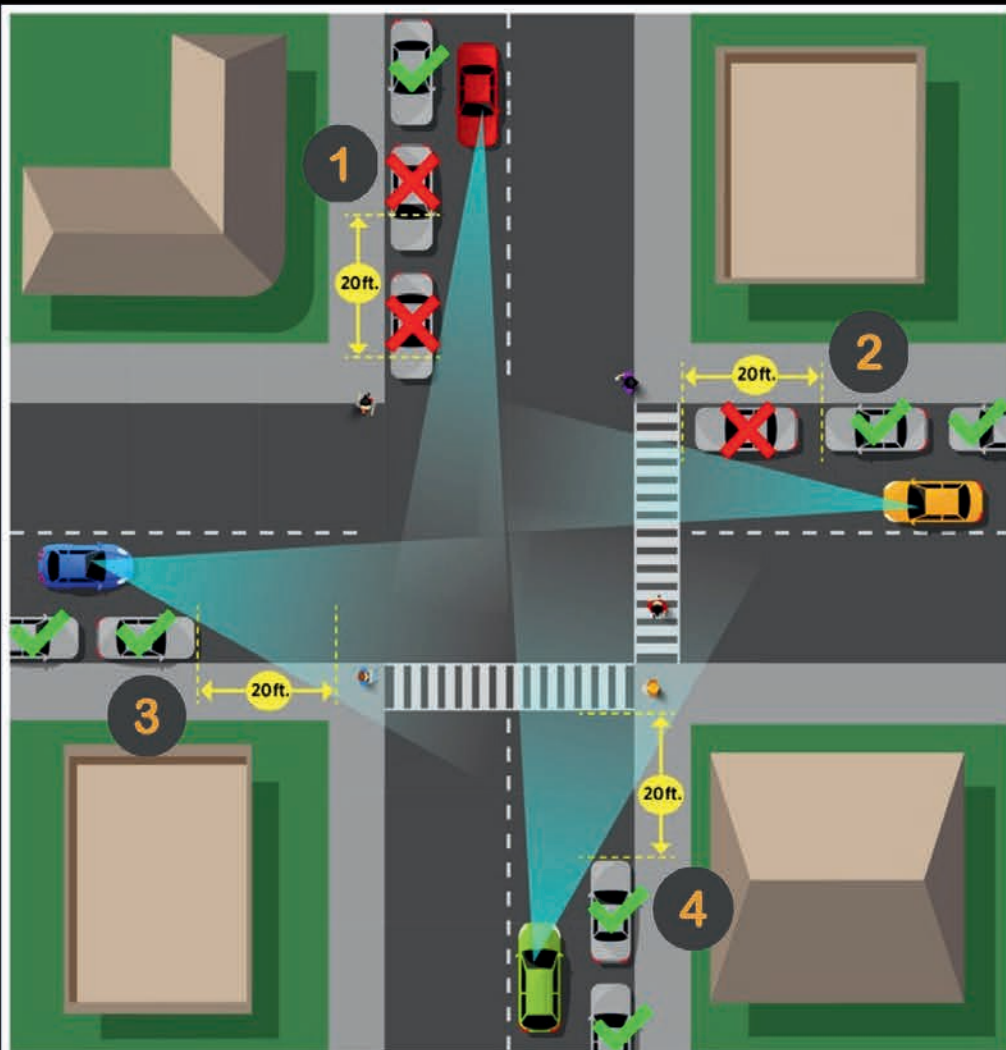
Why Daylighting?

The goal of the new law is to improve the safety of all roadway users by increasing visibility at intersections. Vehicles that are parked immediately adjacent to marked or unmarked crossings limit visibility of pedestrians, which increases the risk for pedestrian related severe injury or fatal collisions. Removing the obstruction of parked vehicles will allow drivers to have a clear view of pedestrians waiting to cross the street while at the same time allowing pedestrians to see approaching cars without having to step into the intersection to see past a parked vehicle before crossing.



What You Can Do

Leave at least 20 feet, the length of one large car, between your car and a painted or unpainted crosswalk.



How It Works

Leaving a clearance of 20 feet provides a greater field of visibility for all roadway users (as shown in scenarios #3 and #4 to the left), whereas not providing that clearance greatly reduces the visibility (as shown in scenarios #1 and #2 to the left).