

San Leandro Times

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

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SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



Baseball card collector, and Hank Aaron fan, Pete Tomasovich and his wife Joyce have been displaying their goods at the Meridians Sports Collectors show since it began 35 years ago.

Collectors Show Delivers Sports Memories

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Pete Tomasovich started collecting baseball cards in 1957.

"I was a baseball fan then," he said.

And he still is today. His favorite player of all time is Hank Aaron, so he wears a Braves jersey, Aaron's team since the Braves were in Milwaukee.

There's a lot of sports memorabilia at the semi-annual collectors' show at St. Leander's Ryan O'Connell Hall – jerseys, balls, pennants, programs – but Tomasovich specializes in baseball cards.

"I was a young man when I started collecting cards," Tomasovich said. "That went up to about 1965 when girls took over first place. I wish I would have stuck with

the cards, it would have been a lot more profitable."

But Tomasovich got back to card collecting and he was one of the three original dealers at the first Meridian's of St. Leander's Sports Collectors show 35 years ago. The twice-yearly event has become a tradition.

"It was me, Pete and George Baljevich,"

see MEMORIES, page 9

BART Murder Suspect Had Just Left San Leandro Hospital

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

The man accused of stabbing a BART passenger to death on a train in Hayward on Nov. 19 began his day with an arrest for attacking paramedics on Marina Boulevard on his way to San Leandro Hospital.

The man later fled the hospital and got on BART at the San Leandro station just before the murder occurred on a Warm Springs bound train in Hayward.

San Leandro police spokesman Lt. Ted Henderson confirmed that Jermaine Brim, 39, of San Francisco, was being transported to San Leandro Hospital from Oakland at about 1 a.m. He was in need of medical attention for undisclosed reasons, Henderson said. State and federal laws prohibit details of a patient's medical care from being made public.

Brim was treated at the hospital but fled about 12:20 p.m. The hospital called police to report a missing patient who was "at risk."

San Leandro Hospital officials have yet to return a call this week about whether Brim was

see MURDER, page 5

Mayor's Raise to Benefit Her Pension

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Readers have asked since our story on Mayor Cutter's pay raise if this would have any effect on her eventual pension through the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) if the mayor retires as planned after her current term.

According to city Human Resource Manager Emily Hung, the answer is yes, though she was unable to cite an exact figure. Hung did say that an elected official's retirement is based on years of service, base pay in their three highest consecutive years, and age at retirement.

see PENSION, page 14

Torani Setting Up Shop in San Leandro

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Torani Flavors, a favorite of both cooks and bartenders, is putting the finishing touches on its new factory at 2000 Marina Blvd. and plans to move its headquarters to San Leandro by next June.

Torani, moving here from South San Francisco, is known for its more than 150 flavors of syrups and sauces. They started out with five recipes imported from Lucca, Italy in 1925 by a San Francisco married couple.

The latest is balsamic fig. Those preferring something a bit more seasonal or traditional can

get their pumpkin pie flavor as a regular syrup, a sugar-free syrup or a Puremade sauce without any artificial or GMO ingredients. If that's not quite right, one could substitute pumpkin spice, as either a regular syrup or in a Puremade sauce.

The new facility, just west of Merced Street, almost fills up 327,000 square feet in the renovated Marina Gateway Center owned by Overton Moore Properties. While Torani has plenty to put inside the building now, they are leaving some room for expected future expansion.

Their 140 current employees

see TORANI, page 5



Women electricians (wearing pink hardhats) work alongside male plumbers (wearing yellow hardhats) getting the Torani plant ready for its upcoming opening.

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 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 Michelle Mayfield at 667-3522.



San Leandro Times

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

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Tigger

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Tigger the kitten and Tinkerbell the cat.

Tigger, a 3-month-old orange tabby, is sweet and energetic – a total kitten.

He loves to explore his space, play with toys and wrestle with his condo mates. Meet Tigger, and the many other kittens, at the Hayward Animal Shelter.



Tinkerbell

Tinkerbell, a stunning, long-haired gal, had a run of bad luck before arriving at the shelter. She had a broken pelvis, an abscess, and a hernia.

Now, this curious, attention-seeking beauty is completely healed and ready to go home.

For more information on Tigger or Tinkerbell, call the Hayward Animal Shelter, 510-293-7200.

Badarikashrama to Host Thanksgiving Dinner

Correction

The front page photo last week ("A Little to the Left," Nov. 21, 2019) of the forklift picking up a metal structure should have added that the steel frame will be the roof of an outdoor garbage enclosure.

Badarikashrama, 15602 Maubert Ave. in San Leandro, will host its Annual Thanksgiving International Vegetarian Dinner & Concert on Thursday, Nov. 28, at 3 p.m., free and open to all.

Hear a Carnatic (South Indian) Concert with the renowned

All Invited to Assumption Tree Lighting, Caroling On Sunday Night

The community is invited to the Church of the Assumption for the second annual Tree Lighting and Caroling Night on Sunday, Dec. 1, from 5 to 6 p.m. outside of the parish at 1100 Fulton Ave. in San Leandro.

Caroling music will be provided by guitarist Michael Denton. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served at the "Apres Ski Chalet" set up outside in the Mary Sees Plaza.

No need to RSVP to this free event – just come and enjoy.

The entire community is welcome.

For more information about the tree lighting or Assumption Catholic Parish, call the parish office at 510-352-1537 or visit www.assumptionsanleandro.org.



Spanish Ranch Hosts Veterans Day Ceremony

The Spanish Ranch II mobile home park in Hayward honored 22 veterans who reside in the community on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The program included speeches from two resident veterans, the singing of the National Anthem, and the presentation of a plaque featuring the names of all veterans in the community. United States Air Force veteran Dennis Howell, a resident of Spanish Ranch II, helped organize the ceremony.

FOOD DRIVE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES with The Lovewell Team

We are proudly partnering with the Alameda Food Bank for the 2019 holiday food drive. Please participate in aiding those in need by donating non-perishable food items. Checks made payable to Alameda County Food Bank are also welcome. Every \$1 donated allows the Food Bank to distribute \$7 worth of food. We invite you to drop off non-perishable food to our office: 3327 Castro Valley Blvd. or Call 510-351-5555 and we can come and pick it up.

Thank you for your contributions in helping those in need in our communities!
The Lovewell Team - Re/Max Accord Castro Valley
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All Saints Holiday Concert & Dance

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will hold a Holiday Concert and Community Dance on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. with Celtic, medieval music with dance that honors the season. Dancing is fun, accessible and, of course completely optional. Tickets are \$15 per person at the door.

Lunch Menu at The Senior Center

Lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services

A low-cost senior lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services is served on weekdays at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. Everyone age 60 and up can have lunch. A suggested donation is \$3.75, but no one is refused for lack of funds. (\$10 for those under 60.)

Call 24 hours ahead to reserve a lunch (1-510-825-9793) or sign up at the Senior Center.

The menu for lunch next week, Dec. 2 to Dec. 6, is:

Monday – Chicken salad with golden raisins over Romaine lettuce with tomato and

cucumbers, hearty vegetable soup, rolls, strawberries.

Tuesday – Butternut squash and chicken with whole wheat penne, tossed vegetable salad, garlic bread, and oranges.

Wednesday – Turkey and veggie fajitas, soft tortillas, black beans, and pico de gallo, and grapes.

Thursday – Cod with lemon caper sauce, tomato florentine soup, orange rice pilaf, brussel sprouts and an apple.

Friday – Savory Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, pineapple fruit cup, and a roll.



Introducing Katrina Short!

**2602 Castro Valley Blvd.
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The Classy Canine is excited to announce our new owner, Katrina Short. Katrina began her grooming career in 2007 and quickly gained notoriety for her spectacular creative grooming. Katrina has showcased her grooming skills nationwide competing and winning top awards in many grooming competitions, including Carmel's "Poodle Day" two years in a row and "Bark at the Park", as well as taking 2nd place at "Super Zoo", an international pet industry expo.

She and her Standard Poodles Zeus and Kevin have also won the MLB 2017 San Francisco Giants dog costume contest and opened for the San Jose Sharks. Katrina has also been featured on the TV show "Right This Minute" twice. Please join us in welcoming Katrina to The Classy Canine family!



To schedule your pup's next appointment.

Call 510-583-7297

Follow Katrina on Instagram [Katrina_Short](https://www.instagram.com/Katrina_Short)

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New Cannabis Dispensary Opens on Teagarden Street

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

San Leandro will be getting its second cannabis dispensary, some three years after the City Council approved it. A third is planning to open by the end of the year.

NUG Wellness, located at 3809 Teagarden St. next to the Davis Street Family Resource Center, had its "soft opening" on Saturday, Nov. 16 and hopes to be fully open in January 2020.

While San Leandro's cannabis dispensaries were originally allowed to sell only medical marijuana, the City Council voted in April 2019 to also allow them to sell recreational marijuana and other cannabis products to people over 21. This followed the state's legalization of recreational marijuana in 2018.

Cannabis is a broader term than marijuana, and includes some products that do not contain THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

NUG Wellness was formerly known as Davis Street Wellness.

NUG's San Leandro general Manager Rachel Nisbeth said the name change was to clarify that the Resource Center was not itself running a cannabis dispensary.

The Davis Street Family Resource Center had strongly supported the opening of the dispensary at a time when only medical marijuana was legal in California.

Resource Center officials Rose Padilla Johnson and Gordon Galvan had initially held positions with Davis Street Wellness.

Neither is currently affiliated with what is now known as NUG Wellness Center. However, former San Leandro mayor and school board member Stephen Cassidy, a longtime attorney, recently became NUG's general counsel.

NUG has agreed to donate 2 percent of their receipts to the local non-profit.

Nisbeth said she hopes to position the store as a community resource in many areas of wellness, not just cannabis.

The part of the new facility where wellness products are sold tries to project a spa feeling, and the general public is welcome to attend trainings for staff put on by vendors of wellness products, she said.

Nisbeth said that NUG has reached out to veterans groups in need of meeting space to offer them places to meet at the dis-



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The staff at NUG Wellness in San Leandro. General Manager Rachel Nisbeth is in front at center left.

pensary. Many veterans suffering from chronic pain or post-traumatic stress disorder use cannabis products to help their symptoms, she said.

The city had licensed three cannabis dispensaries in 2015 and 2016, when medical marijuana was legal in California but localities could opt to restrict or even an dispensaries.

The City Council imposed restrictions on locations of the dispensaries, keeping them away from such places as schools and churches.

At that time, those providing medical marijuana had to be non-profit organizations, according

to Deputy City Manager Eric Engelbart. California voters subsequently legalized recreational marijuana, and dispensaries are no longer required to be nonprofits.

None of San Leandro's three licensed dispensaries now claim to be nonprofit organizations.

Of the other two dispensaries approved, Blüm is in operation at 1915 Fairway Drive and Harbor-side hopes to open by year's end in San Leandro, on Verna Court off Marina Boulevard.

NUG Wellness, based in Oakland, is opening its second dispensary overall here, after recently opening in Sacramento.

Auto Burglary Suspect Nabbed

Police had an easy time solving a recent auto burglary in San Leandro when the victim told them exactly where the thief had taken the goods.

Police received a call on Nov. 22 about 7:30 a.m. about an auto burglary on Sunnyside Drive. An iPad had been taken, and the victim was tracking its whereabouts online.

He directed police to a residence on the 200 block of Beverly Avenue. Officers found the house vacant, but they discovered a shed in the back yard that looked like it had been burglarized.

The officers looked inside and found Andre Lamont Penney, 43 and believed to be a transient, asleep on a work bench. They woke him and discovered the stolen iPad in his backpack.

Police arrested Penney for possession of stolen property and discovered through a record check that he was a parolee at large. Police found and contacted the homeowner, who told them Penney did not have permission to be on the property.

Penney was booked into the Santa Rita Jail and is being held without bail.

POLICE & FIRE



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE

First-Graders Visit the Firefighters

Firefighters at Station 9 in San Leandro welcomed McKinley Elementary School's first-grade class on Nov. 21. They toured the station and explored firefighters' work.



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NEIGHBORS

IN THE SERVICE

U.S. Air Force Airman **Calvin D. Redding** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Redding is the son of **Marlene Redding** of San Lorenzo.

He is a 2019 graduate of Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo.



Airman Calvin D. Redding



Christian A. Linschoten

U.S. Air Force Airman **Christian A. Linschoten** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values,

physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is a 2019 graduate of Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ Holiday Festivities in Downtown San Leandro

The San Leandro Downtown Association is sponsoring “It’s a Wonderful Night” on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the downtown Plazas, between Washington Ave. and E. 14th St.

Kick off the holidays with the Holiday Tree Lighting at 5:30 p.m. Sing along with stages full of holiday entertainment. Get selfies with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Come for the outdoor movies and games. Bring an unwrapped toy for Marine Toys for Tots and receive a free hot dog and popcorn. Take a chill ride with friends and family in Horse-Drawn Carriages. The best parking will be in the nearby City parking lot at Estudillo and East 14th. Traffic through the shopping area is often crowded and slow.

ceive a free hot dog and popcorn. Take a chill ride with friends and family in Horse-Drawn Carriages. The best parking will be in the nearby City parking lot at Estudillo and East 14th. Traffic through the shopping area is often crowded and slow.

❖ Evening of Christmas Hymns at St. Felicitas Church

Catholic Daughters of the Americas will host an Evening of Christmas Hymns and Humorous Stories with singer Michael Russell O’Brien on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. at St. Felicitas Church, 1662 San Leandro Blvd. in San Leandro. Tickets are \$10 in advance. Call Kim Oliver at 510-940-5949. Proceeds benefit local charities such as Habitat for Humanity, Disabled Veteran’s and many others.

Keep your out-of-town friends and family informed with a subscription to the San Leandro Times!



■ Did you know that the San Leandro Times will mail the paper to anyone in the continental United States?

Call 614-1555 for details!

HOROSCOPE

by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) There could be an unexpected change in plans for your upcoming holiday travels. But keep in mind that a little flexibility goes a long way in resolving any disappointments.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A new relationship might not be responding quite as quickly as you’d hoped. Could you be expecting too much too soon? Try to ease up and let things happen at their own pace.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) As we approach the frenetic pace of pre-holiday planning, take time out now to reconnect with the wonderful people who share your life, especially the one who also shares your dreams.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A misunderstanding should be resolved before you get caught up in the flurry of holiday preparations. Set your pride aside and deal with it, regardless of who might have hurt whom first.



LEO (July 23 to August 22) Being told that a colleague might have been trying to undercut your effectiveness might or might not be true. Get all the facts before you even think about acting on this so-called information.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It’s a good idea to start your holiday preparation plans early in order to avoid a time crunch if an unresolved workplace situation causes a problem. That old friend might have some welcome news.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A family member’s actions continue to surprise you, but this time with positive results. Could be your wise counsel finally got through. It’s like having an early holiday gift, isn’t it?



SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your reluctance to act in a current situation could be traced to your inner self advising you to take more time to study its complexities before you attempt to deal with it. Good luck.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Soothing hurt feelings before they can ignite an angry outburst is the wise thing to do. And, of course, when it comes to doing the “wisdom thing,” you do it so well.



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Budget your time so that you can handle both your workplace duties and your personal holiday planning -- including travel arrangements -- without burning out on either end.



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might find that you still need to firm up one or two of those still-outstanding decisions so that you finally can move forward as you had planned. Weigh the facts, then act.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You usually don’t carry grudges, but you might feel this is one time when you’re justified in doing so. But aren’t you spending too much energy holding onto it? Let it go and move on.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Calendar Items is Friday for the Following Week



❖ Bayfair Center Holiday Strolls

Bayfair Center, 15555 East 14th St. in San Leandro, will host a series of festive strolling musical performances this holiday season which began Friday, Nov. 29. Additional performances will take place on four consecutive Saturdays from Nov. 30 through Dec. 21, with one final performance on Tuesday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve). During each event, the performers will begin near Center Court and stroll through the center from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., sharing their happy holiday sounds along the way. These performances are free and open to the public.

❖ Mistletoe Madness Craft Fair

All are welcome to Mistletoe Madness 2019, a true craft event with nothing pre-made or imported, on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. Admission is free.

❖ Assumption Tree Lighting and Caroling

The community is invited to the Church of the Assumption for the second annual Tree Lighting and Caroling Night on Sunday, Dec. 1, from 5 to 6 p.m. outside of the parish at 1100 Fulton Ave. in San Leandro. Caroling music will be provided by guitarist Michael Denton. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served at the “Apres Ski Chalet” set up outside in the Mary Sees Plaza. No need to RSVP to this free event – just come and enjoy. The entire community is welcome. For more information about the event or Assumption Catholic Parish, please call the Parish Office at (510) 352-1537 or visit www.assumptionsanleandro.org.

❖ Buon Tempo Club Family Dinner

The Buon Tempo Club is having a family dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Hall, Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley. Everyone is welcome. Chef Jessica Pacheco and crew will serve a five-course family style dinner of chicken picata. Red and white wine and soda are included. Happy hour is at 6 p.m. The dinner is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, Nov. 29, by calling the Buon Tempo dinner line at 510-483-6929. For more information, see the club’s website at www.buontempoclub.org.

❖ Teacher Holiday Boutique

California Retired Teachers Division 59 invites current or retired teachers to its Holiday Boutique at the Castro Valley Masonic Center, 4521 Crow Canyon Road, on Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Gift Baskets will be raffled; gently-used items and home-baked goods brought by attendees will be available for purchase. Proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund, which is distributed to qualified Cal State East Bay Education students in June. Fabulous musical entertainment by Stage Bridge’s “The Dreamers” will be enjoyed from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Luncheon cost is \$12. Contact Marilyn at 510-828-9650 or Ruth at 510-247-1039 for more information and/or for making a required reservation.

❖ Drake’s First Friday Fundraiser

It’s going to be an epic block party you won’t want to miss. All donations and net proceeds from beer sales will benefit Wilson Elementary School and John Muir Middle School. It’s all happening at Drake’s Barrel House, 1933 Davis St. in the West Gate Center, on Friday, Dec. 6 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be 32+ beers on tap and great food from local food trucks available for purchase. Feel free to bring your own lawn chair or other tailgate seating to make yourself comfortable. \$5 suggested donation per person at the gate. This event is for 21 and over, children 16 and under allowed if accompanied by parents.

❖ St. Gerard Women’s Club

The members of St. Gerard Women’s Club at St. John’s Church will have a Christmas Bake Sale and Raffle in the Community Room, 264 E. Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo, after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Dec. 7; and and after all the Masses starting at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. Baked goods and raffle prizes. For more information contact Juanita Velasquez, President at 510-688-0669.edited for the calendar:

❖ Winter Wonderama

Diana Shmiana presents Winter Wonderama: a multicultural show about winter themes of giving, light, and seasons changing, on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2:30 p.m. at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro.

❖ Child Actors Needed

Child actors needed for Christmas pageant. Rehearsals will run for about an hour for the first three Sundays in December at noon on stage at the San Leandro Church of Christ building. All ages are welcome. Contact Woody and Judy with questions and to sign up: woodysquare@sbcglobal.net. Pageant is during worship service on Sunday, Dec. 22, from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. San Leandro Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro.

❖ San Leandro Readers Roundtable

The San Leandro Readers Roundtable meets Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., to discuss *Go, Went, Gone*, by Jenny Erpenbek, the story of a widower in Berlin and the African refugees he becomes involved with. All are welcome, and all books discussed are available for purchase in the Library’s Booktique bookstore.

❖ All Saints Holiday Concert & Dance

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will hold a Holiday Concert and Community Dance on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. with Celtic, medieval music with dance that honors the season. Dancing is fun, accessible and, of course completely optional. These concerts have a holiday party feel. Tickets are \$15 per person (tickets purchased at the door). No charge for children with parents.

❖ Creekside Craft Show

The 16th annual Creekside Craft Show will be on Friday, Dec. 6, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Creekside Community Church, 951 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro. The Holiday Art & Craft Show is free of charge, food and drinks will be available for sale each day and includes a raffle at 4 p.m. on Dec. 7. Plenty of parking. This year, a portion of the proceeds will support Foster the Bay, a coalition of churches committed to providing a loving home for every child in foster care. The Chili Cook-Off will be on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. where 10 chefs will compete in a fiery competition all for a good cause. \$5 advance ticket or \$7 donation at the door until the chili runs out.

❖ Corvallis Elementary Holiday Boutique

Corvallis Elementary School, 14790 Corvallis St. in San Leandro, will have a holiday boutique on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the cafeteria. Bring a toy, canned food item or a clean used coat for a donation to the Davis Street Family Resource Center. Receive a raffle ticket for every item you bring for a chance at a prize drawing.

❖ Meeting of the SL Democratic Club

The San Leandro Democratic Club will have a Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 E. 14th St. Sing Christmas carols, tell political jokes and line dance.

Torani: New bottling plant in San Leandro will be state of the art

continued from front page

ees had been working in a 240,000-square-foot building in South San Francisco. Torani plans to add employees over time.

Torani joins a number of other food and beverage companies calling San Leandro home, in a city with a history of foodmaking, notably sausages.

They will be joining Ghirardelli chocolates, Mi Rancho tortillas, Saag's and Aidells sausages, Otis Spunkmeyer baked goods, Pavel's yogurt, Coca-Cola beverages, and of course, Loard's ice cream. Three breweries have also opened in recent years: Drake's, 21st Amendment and Cleophus Queal.

Torani CEO Melanie Dulbecco said they were drawn to San Leandro by its friendliness to business, particularly manufacturers, and by its convenience to where most of the company's employees already live.

"This is a city of makers," she said. "San Leandro has the same kind of mix in our new community as we have in our team."

She noted that some 29 countries are represented among management and production workers at Torani.

"We'd also looked at a ZIP code map for where our team members lived, and discovered quite a few already lived close to San Leandro. Some who didn't are quite interested in moving here," Dulbecco said.

Inside the plant are gleaming stainless steel fixtures and tanks. During a tour, women electricians worked alongside male plumbers on the same machine, which Dulbecco said gladdened her as a female CEO.

One very large vat, reaching 30 feet high, can store all the needed ingredients and then dole them out to smaller vats each producing a different flavor.

"The efficiency of the new line is staggering. We'll be able to expand a lot," said Dulbecco.

The company's facility manager, Ed Kutzler, explained that the facility's capacity is high enough for plastic and glass to be ordered in bulk. Plastic and glass can then be shipped to different lines to be filled with different products, he said.

The company uses Krones bottling equipment, made by a German company that is the "Mercedes Benz of bottling," Kutzler said.

The machinery uses ionized air rather than water to rinse bottles, a good thing in a state with recurring droughts. It also fills by weight, not volume, he said.

A rejector a little further down the line checks caps and weight, and gently moves aside bottles that don't measure up.

There's a cooling area to the side of the bottler for the PureMade line, whose bottles are filled hot.

"We use a lot of equipment you'd find in wineries," said Dulbecco. That includes a machine to paste a gold capsule over the cap, like you would find on a bottle of wine.

They bought that machine from an Italian producer, said Kutzler, "the only one in the world, and still the best."

Bottles are automatically put into crates and wrapped onto pallets, ready for delivery, Dulbecco said. Three different bottling lines can run at once.

"All the bottles come in one area, all the cases go in the other," said Kutzler.

The flavors are sold all over the world, to about 50 different countries, said Stacy Cooper Dent, the company's manager of



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Torani CEO Melanie Dulbecco leads visitors from what will be the lower lobby of the company's San Leandro headquarters toward the upper lobby.

international business. They're especially popular in Asia, with strong demand in Vietnam, South Korea and the Philippines.

Torani recently ran a master flavor class in Tokyo, she said.

Dulbecco said that their flavors have been used historically in sodas and cocktails, but people

have recently been adding them to champagne, foods and in sparking water, where demand for flavors has been exploding.

With all the glass bottles around and with the lines often elevated, Kutzler said seismic preparation was vital.

"We're built to the latest

earthquake standards, and then some," he said.

CEO Dulbecco added that she joined the company, then operating out of San Francisco's Bayview district, just after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. "We didn't lose one bottle, even back then" she said.

Murder: Walked to SL Bart Station

continued from front page

being held involuntarily.

San Leandro Hospital recently became part of the Alameda County system, Alameda Health Care, and does accept patients for psychiatric evaluation if they're believed to be at risk of being a danger to themselves or others.

Henderson said that the hospital promptly called police, who first searched for him in the area around the Ghirardelli chocolate factory on 139th Avenue, just west of the hospital.

Police did not find him there, Henderson said.

Brim apparently walked to the downtown San Leandro BART station, where a fellow passenger noticed he was barefoot and acting oddly, according to news reports. It is not known whether he had walked barefoot more than a mile from the hospital.

Brim boarded a southbound Warm Springs train. Somewhere around Hayward station, he tried to steal a homeless man's shoes while that man was sleeping. Passenger Oliver Tyrone Williams tried to stop him from doing that, and he was allegedly stabbed to death by Brim, according to BART police.

Brim escaped from South Hayward station before BART police arrived. According to multiple media accounts he then tried to carjack a car from an auto dealer but was stopped by an employee. That employee then pulled him out of a car he tried to carjack on the street.

Police caught up with Brim a few minutes later, on Tennyson Road in Hayward and arrested him.

Brim was arraigned Nov. 21

at the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin on charges of murder, two counts of attempted carjacking, second-degree robbery and attempted second-degree robbery,

the latter charge for also trying to steal Williams's shoes. He did not enter a plea. He is being held without bail at Santa Rita Jail and is due back in court Dec. 5.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

Ruth Dahl
Case Number:
RP19042988

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Ruth Dahl.**

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **Stonecrest Acquisitions, LLC: Denise Hill, Manager** in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that **Stonecrest Acquisitions, LLC: Denise Hill, Manager** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 12/18/2019, 9:31 a.m., Dept. 202, at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the **later of either (1) four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code or **(2) 60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner: Heather Ledgerwood, Esq
2400 Professional Drive Suite 100, Roseville, CA 95661 800-835-2634
LEGAL 0187-SLT RP19042988 11/21, 11/28 12/05/2019

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED
NOVEMBER 05, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 565177

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses: El Canario Produce Sales located at 1455 167th Ave. Apt. 19, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Jose Coto (2) Lucy Jouel, 1455 167th Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a general partnership. This business commenced on 11/05/19.
/s/ Jose Coto, Lucy Jouel
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 05, 2024

NOV 14, 21, 28, DEC 05, 2019
0182-SLT

FILED
OCTOBER 18, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 564577

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses: Healthy Life Nutrition located at 14410 Washington Avenue Ste 100, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Magdalena Quintero, 15227 Central Ave., San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Magdalena Quintero
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 18, 2024

NOV 14, 21, 28, DEC 05, 2019
0185-SLT

FILED
NOVEMBER 06, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 565205

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses: Tonya Kelly Jewelry located at 2237 Sol Street, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tonya Kelly, 2237 Sol Street, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Tonya Kelly
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 06, 2024

NOV 14, 21, 28, DEC 05, 2019
0183-SLT

FILED
NOVEMBER 05, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 565175

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses: Tacos El Diablito located at 1024 75th Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, mailing address 1024 75th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94621 in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mario Gomez, 1024 75th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94621. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 11/05/19.
/s/ Mario Gomez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 05, 2024

NOV 21, 28, DEC 05, 12, 2019
0186-SLT

FILED
OCTOBER 31, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 565038

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses: A1 Gutierrez Construction located at 3875 Castro Valley Blvd. #54, Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alfredo Gutierrez Medina, 3875 Castro Valley Blvd. #54, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Alfredo Gutierrez Medina
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 31, 2024

NOV 14, 21, 28, DEC 05, 2019
0184-SLT

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LIFESTYLE

Thanksgiving: *But Wait, There's More!*

Sure, we'll all be groaning after tomorrow's big dinner, but most of us have waited all year for the grand prize of Thanksgiving — the weekend of leftovers!

Whether it's a late Thursday night raid of the fridge, a turkey sandwich with a little warmed-up stuffing on Friday, or a bowl of turkey soup on Sunday, most Thanksgiving remnants are even better the second time around. And there's just no end to the possibilities.

TURKEY CLUB SANDWICHES FOR 8

- 1 (8-ounce) carton sour cream
- 2 tablespoons prepared horseradish
- 2 teaspoons honey mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/8 teaspoon white pepper
- 3/4 pound thinly sliced ham
- 12 slices whole wheat bread
- 4 slices Swiss cheese
- 8 lettuce leaves
- 3/4 pound thinly sliced leftover turkey
- 8 slices tomato
- 4 slices bacon

Combine sour cream, horseradish, honey, mustard, garlic salt, and white pepper; stir well. Place 3 ounces of ham on each of 4 slices of bread. Top each with 1 teaspoon sauce, 1 slice cheese, a lettuce leaf, and another slice of bread. Place 3 ounces of turkey on each slice, and add 1 teaspoon sauce, lettuce leaf, 2 slices tomato, and 1 slice bacon. Top with remaining slices of bread.

Cut each sandwich into halves or quarters (if quartered, secure each segment with a toothpick.) Serves 8.

TURKEY & NOODLES

- 1-1/2 cups leftover turkey, diced
- 6 ounces egg noodles
- 1 (10-3/4 ounce) can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (15-ounce) can mixed vegetables with liquid
- Pepper to taste
- Dash of sage

Cook egg noodles according to direction on package. Combine all ingredients in a medium saucepan. Simmer over medium heat until hot through. Serves 4 to 6.

CREAMY DIJON TURKEY SALAD

- 2/3 cup Dijon mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 cups cubed cooked turkey
- 1 apple, chopped
- 1/2 cup sliced celery
- 1/2 cup finely shredded carrot
- 3 tablespoons minced onion

(Use either prepared or home-made Dijon mayonnaise. To make your own, combine 1 cup mayonnaise with 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard and 1 tablespoon lemon juice.)

Combine Dijon mayonnaise

and lemon juice in large bowl. Add turkey, apple, celery, carrot and onion; toss to coat. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Makes 4 (3/4-cup) servings.

TURKEY CASSEROLE

- 1-1/2 cup cubed cooked turkey
- 3 cups cooked rice
- 1 cup sliced cooked asparagus
- 1 cup turkey gravy
- 1/2 cup dairy sour cream

In a large bowl mix together turkey, rice and asparagus.

Combine gravy and sour cream. Pour over turkey mixture and mix well. Turn into a greased 1-1/2 quart casserole. Bake in a 350°F oven for 30 to 40 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

CRANBERRY-TURKEY LOAF

First Layer:

- 2 packages unflavored gelatin
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1 pound jellied cranberry sauce
- 1/3 cup orange juice
- 1/2 cup celery, diced
- 1/4 cup pecans, chopped

Second Layer:

- 1 package unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1 cup chicken broth, hot
- 2/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup evaporated milk
- 1/2 teaspoon Salt
- 2 cups cooked turkey, diced

First Layer: Soften gelatin in

cold water. Mash cranberry sauce, add orange juice, and heat until sauce melts. Stir in gelatin. Chill until partially set, then add celery and pecans. Pour into 9-1/2- by 5- by 3- inch loaf pan and chill until almost set

Second Layer: Soften gelatin in cold water; stir in hot broth. Chill until partially set. Blend in mayonnaise, milk and salt. Add diced chicken. Spoon over cranberry layer. Chill. Unmold and garnish as you choose

CALYPSO SALAD

- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup chutney, chopped
- 3/4 teaspoon curry powder
- Leftover turkey (about a pound, cubed)
- 1-1/2 cups celery sliced diagonally
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1 green onion, sliced
- 1 apple large, red, cubed
- 4 lettuce leaves
- 1/2 cup peanuts (optional)

Mix yogurt, mayonnaise, chutney and curry powder until well blended. Stir turkey, celery, raisins, onion and apple into dressing. Cover and chill until serving time. For each serving, spoon 1 cup onto lettuce. Garnish with peanuts and additional red apple slices. Serves 4.



LEFTOVER MASHED POTATO BAKE

- 3 cups hot mashed potatoes
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1-1/3 cup french fried onions

- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Heat oven to 350°F. Combine mashed potatoes, sour cream, milk and garlic powder in large bowl; mix well. Spoon half the mixture into a 2-quart baking dish.

Sprinkle with 2/3 cup french-fried onions and 1/2 cup cheese. Top with remaining potato mixture.

Bake 30 minutes until heated through. Top with remaining onions and cheese. Bake 5 minutes longer, or until onions are golden. Yields 6 servings.

Carlton Senior Living San Leandro, will be hosting our annual

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www.CVISPSPORTSLEAGUE.org

San Leandro Choreographers Win County Arts Leadership Award

The Alameda County Arts Commission recognized six people for their achievements and contributions for the arts community and residents of Alameda County.

Among the six award winners are **Kendra Barnes** and **Laura Elaine Ellis** of San Leandro, co-founders and co-directors of the Black Choreographers Festival, a yearly event celebrating African and African American dance and culture. The festival culminates each year with performances at Laney College in Oakland.

Kendra and Laura are also dance educators and lead their own non-profit arts organizations that supports and promotes dance and performance. Kendra is the director of the Kendra Kimbrough Dance Ensemble and K*STAR* Productions. Laura is the director of the African and African American Performing Arts Coalition.

Kendra and Laura joined forces to present the comprehensive Black Choreographers Festival: Here and Now, a forum to increase the visibility of African American dance.

The project contributes to the Alameda County and the Bay Area arts community by presenting local and national artists in a series of contemporary and traditional concerts, showcases, mentoring, educational pro-



Kendra Barnes and Laura Elaine Ellis of San Leandro, co-founders and co-directors of the Black Choreographers Festival, were among the six Alameda County Arts Commission award winners.

grams, community partnerships, symposia, and archival documentation. The Black Choreographers Festival also fosters a new generation of supporters ensuring the longevity of both established and emerging artists.

Bee Chow

Other award recipients in-

clude Bee Chow of Fremont, the founder of Cantabella Children's Chorus in Livermore. In 1992, Bee started the organization with a small music literacy class for 11 children. Bee grew and nurtured Cantabella Children's Chorus into an international award-winning organization with a total membership of over 250 singers

ranging from kindergarteners to high school students.

Suzanne Gayle

Suzanne Gayle of Hayward, an artist and community volunteer who dedicates her life to improving the community through public art and service. Suzanne has created over 100 public artworks including murals, paintings, and sculpture located

at municipal sites, schools and libraries throughout the Alameda County and the greater Bay Area.

Suzanne sponsors a yearly art internship with a local high school senior and mentors students at local schools. As a member of the Keep Hayward Clean and Green Commission, she has created artworks for a series of utility boxes and in 2018, she was recognized by the Commission as "Volunteer of the Year."

James Gayles

James Gayles of Oakland is known for his distinctive watercolor portraits. James attended Pratt Institute in New York. While on staff at NBC Television, he won an Emmy for his graphic illustrations. James moved to Oakland in the mid 1980s. While working as a newspaper illustrator for over 20 years, his artworks were featured in all of the major Bay Area newspapers. His artwork has also been published in the New York Times, Essence Magazine, Preview Magazine, Black Enterprise Magazine,

Random House and many others. James has also completed public art commissions for the City of Oakland Craft and Cultural Arts Department and the City of Richmond.

Rob Jackson

Rob Jackson of Oakland is a founder and the executive director of Beats, Rhymes and Life in Oakland. Rob is a passionate community leader, educator, and multi-faceted artist.

Rob is dedicated to creating a community-based organization that identifies strategies to address socioeconomic injustices and mental health disparities. Beats, Rhymes and Life pioneered one of the first hip hop therapy programs as an innovative and pragmatic approach to transform and uplift the lives of at-risk youth.

For more information about the program or the award recipients, please contact the Alameda County Arts Commission at (510) 208-9646 or by email at artscommission@acgov.org.

Apply for H.A.R.D. Advisory Committee

The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (H.A.R.D.) is accepting applications from interested residents of Hayward, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo and

unincorporated Alameda County to serve as committee members on the District's Citizens' Advisory Committee (C.A.C.).

There are currently four position openings on the C.A.C. The Committee provides important advisory recommendations to the board of directors in the areas of district programs, operations, and park design projects. The C.A.C. meets four times per year and members serve a two-year term.

To obtain a C.A.C. application or additional information, call the H.A.R.D. district offices at 510-881-6704 or visit <https://www.HaywardRec.org/cac> to download an application. The deadline to submit the application is Monday, Dec. 16.

For more information about the Citizens' Advisory Committee, please call James Wheeler, Director of Recreation, Arts and Community Services at 510-881-6704 or email WheJ@HaywardRec.org

To learn more about H.A.R.D., visit www.HaywardRec.org.

Eden Garden Club to Meet

The next meeting of the Eden Garden Club will be Monday, Nov. 25, at 9:30 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley.

Sandra Wallace will share her creativity with a demonstration of making a rolled paper bowl. Oil and acrylic are the media for Artist Margery Zweigle who will share her passion for painting. Meetings are free and guests are always welcome. For more information, call 510-397-1268.



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Memories: Sports collectible dealers lay all their cards on the table

continued from front page

recalls Mark Macrae, one of the show's founders.

"My mom belonged to the Meridians and they were looking for a fundraiser," Macrae said. "We proposed the idea to the church, they liked it, and 35 years later we're still going strong."

The hall was filled with sports merchandise for the show on Saturday, but more than that, it's filled with memories. Joe Montana throwing to Dwight Clark, Henry Aaron stepping up to the plate, Roberto Clemente throwing out a base runner with a perfect strike from the right field corner.

At another table, John Sempietro had an old baseball glove, a Skeeter Kell model, for \$40. Kell played for the old Philadelphia A's and the glove is more like a flat piece of leather than the deep-pocketed modern models.

By the way, Skeeter Kell played just one season, 1952, for the A's. He's probably better known for being the brother of George Kell, an all-star third baseman in the '40s and '50s.

Sempietro, a Giants fan, started collecting 20 years ago and he's 28 now. In a reverse of how most people pass along the hobby, he picked it up first, and now his mom and dad help him drive the merchandise to the shows, since it take two carloads.

AC Transit bus driver Tim Caldwell got into it 20 years ago, too, and began collecting memorabilia.

"I got enough to get a table and it blossomed from there,"



Caldwell said.

Caldwell, who also plays the drums, drives a bus route in East Oakland which he says is his favorite part of the East Bay to work, because people are really grateful to have bus service.

Caldwell sells programs, baseballs and other stuff, but not cards. He realized when he started that the card market was already cornered, so he took a different route.

"A lot of people had cards," Caldwell said. "So I knew I had to do something else."

The sports collectors' show at St. Leander's is held every June and November, so all the vendors will be back in seven months.

Said Tomasovich: "I've been here since it started and I haven't missed one yet."

PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

Sports collectible dealers Tim Caldwell and Dennis Miguel support both the Giants and the A's. At right, programs and other publications are displayed at Caldwell's table.



The dealers specialize in different items, including bats.



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PHOTOS WITH SANTA

THROUGH DECEMBER 24, 2019

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REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Meager Gains Projected for the 2020 Housing Market

As we rocket towards the end of the year like an out-of-control tobooggan, the question on everyone's mind is, "What does the market look like in 2020?"

The California Association of Realtors (CAR) has put a lot of thought into that question and provided projections*. The first clue is the title of their report: "Economic uncertainty and affordability issues to subdue California home sales."

The report, released on September 26, 2019, continues, "Low mortgage interest rates will support California's housing market in 2020 but economic uncertainty and affordability issues will mute sales growth".

The report is broken into four major categories.

- Slight increase projected for single family home sales statewide.

With market prices peaking in most parts of California in May/June, 2018, we saw a 5.2% dip in home sales across the state in 2018 and a further 3.1% reduction in 2019.

Sales in 2020 are expected to reverse the negative trend and an actual increase of .8% is projected. It is assumed that price reductions since the peak and continued low interest rates are the primary factors turning this trend around.

- Median prices are projected to continue to rise.

While prices are projected to increase 2.5% in 2020, this is nothing like the robust rises we've seen in previous years. 2017 saw a statewide increase of 7.1%, which decreased to 6% in 2018 and slowed even more in 2019 to 4.1%

- The housing affordability increase will remain at 2019 levels.

Affordability index numbers dipped to a record low of 28% in 2018 and rebounded to 32% in 2019. 2020 numbers are projected to remain level at 32%.

While this is good news compared to 2018, when stacked against the rest of the nation, it is abysmally low. The immediate effect is an increasing migration of first-time homebuyers leaving California in search of lower home prices elsewhere.

- Mortgage rates are projected to be lower.

If there is any good news here, it is that mortgage rates are projected to be at their lowest levels in 3 years, down to an estimated 3.7% from 3.9% in 2019 and a high of 4.5% in 2018.

CAR Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young concludes, "With California's job and population growth rates tapering, the state's affordability crisis is having a negative impact on the

state economically as we lose the workers we need most such as service and construction workers, and teachers."

* <https://www.car.org/en/aboutus/mediacenter/newsreleases/2019releases/2020forecast>

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.

Water-Stressed Trees Don't Bear Fruit; Mealybugs the Culprit for Sticky Residue

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Q We planted a small fig tree from a nursery several years ago. It had three figs about three years ago and has since stopped. It's tall and sparse. A gardener told me to top it so it would fill out more and start producing but that didn't work. What would you suggest to get it to fruit again?

A Typically, figs fail to fruit because they're too young or overfed. But, I don't believe that's the reason in your case. Instead, I'd look at water stress as the cause for no figs.

Water stress could be too much or not enough or a little of both during the growing season. Water stress will send the tree into a survival mode and the tree will simply not have the energy needed to invest in making fruit.

Poorly draining soil and frequent waterings will prevent the fruit from forming. Review your watering pattern after the rainy season ends by putting a good size watering basin around the tree. It should be six inches tall and extend from the trunk

to beyond the drip line. Fill it up several times a week with normal temperatures and more often when it's warmer. I'd also feed it once in the spring with an organic, fruit and shade tree fertilizer.

Q Since July, the leaves of my silver-veined Fittonia have developed patches of white, fuzzy stuff along with being sticky. It sits on my office desk and now my co-workers have noticed that it is sick looking. You can imagine my embarrassment! I've been rubbing the white puffs away when I see them but it keeps returning. I'm wondering, if it may be a "micro spider" and what I can do to stop this?

A Workplaces are stressful enough without having your plants embarrassing you.

I'd take the Fittonia home for recovery and replace it at the office with one that is lush and thriving. The overnight revival will make great water-cooler conversation.

The white stuff on houseplants is usually one of two things: powdery mildew or



mealybugs and not a "micro spider."

Powdery mildew is a fungus disease that covers the leaf surface with a white film. It can cover the entire leaf or be in random spots. In severe cases, it will also coat the leaf petiole and stems.

I do not believe this is your problem as powdery mildew is not sticky to the touch while mealybug can be. The mealybug is a sucking insect like an aphid. It produces white-stringy filaments to cover itself.

At a glance it looks more like a cotton ball. Mealybugs feed on the plant juices. These juices are secreted as a clear, sticky substance called 'Honey

Dew.' It's a problem on indoor herbaceous plants, palms and other tropical plants.

If this is a persistent problem, I'd control the mealybugs with a granular systemic insecticide instead of the typical insect spray. Systemic granules are applied to the soil and available at most garden centers. The insecticide is then transported throughout the plant controlling the mealybugs when they attack.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com or on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero](https://www.facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero)

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Pension: Plans for retirement

continued from front page

One has to have five years of service to get a pension. Mayor Cutter will have served twelve years by the end of her current term, eight as mayor and four as city councilwoman, and the pension is based on the average of the highest three years.

But Cutter served much longer, and was paid more, as a San Leandro teacher, so that will have a bigger impact on her retirement income.

Hung also said that joining

the retirement system is optional for elected officials, some of whom already have excellent retirement plans from outside or past employment, but the mayor did choose to join. Employees covered by CalPERS contribute to their own retirement account, along with the public employer.

Coming up with an exact pension amount for an elected official is difficult, said Hung, because some have held other public employment and may have paid into CalPERS or different retire-

ment plans. Details of how those contributions are credited toward a CalPERS pension vary. Mayor Cutter would be a member of the State Teachers Retirement System due to her years as a teacher.

Cutter also served on the school board for a dozen years. When asked if this would affect her eventual pension, Board of Education Pres. Leo Sheridan laughed.

"Not in the least," he said. "School board members aren't eligible for any pension."

Boys & Girls Club Annual Crab Feed

The San Leandro Boys & Girls Club will hold its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with dinner being served at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 per person, which includes all-you-can-eat crab, pasta, salad and French bread.

According to Boys & Girls Club Executive Director, Bob Glotch, "The Club's Annual Crab Feed usually has 480 tick-

ets available but because we're at the Marina Community Center this year, we can only offer about 300 tickets. So this year's event will definitely sell out. I suggest that anyone interested in coming should purchase tickets early".

Assigned seating only. To purchase tickets or for more in-

formation, call Bob Glotch at the Boys & Girls Club at 510-483-5581 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Proceeds support the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, which provides educational and enrichment after-school programs for 1300 children per day at 12 school sites in San Leandro and San Lorenzo.

Strolling Musicians Coming to Bayfair

Bayfair Center, 15555 East 14th St. in San Leandro, will host a series of festive strolling musical performances this holiday season beginning Friday, Nov. 29. Additional performances will take place on four consecutive Saturdays from Nov. 30 through Dec. 21, with one final performance on Tuesday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve).

During each event, the performers will begin near Center Court and stroll through the center from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., sharing

their happy holiday sounds along the way. These performances are free and open to the public.

Demo Club Christmas Party

The San Leandro Democratic Club will have a Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 E. 14th St. Sing Christmas carols, tell political jokes and line dance.

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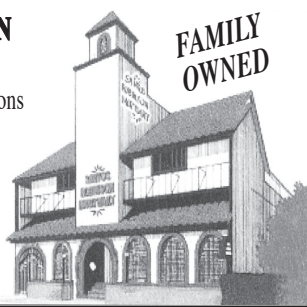
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LOCAL DEATHS

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. For assistance, call 510-614-1555.

Roger Clark Lowe

November 10, 1947 – November 18, 2019

Roger Lowe passed away at home in his sleep early Monday morning, November 18, 2019. He had recently celebrated his 72nd birthday. He touched so many lives as a friend, mentor and father figure. He had the biggest smile that would brighten anyone's day and a laugh you could hear from blocks away.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Elizabeth Lowe, his children Clark (wife Mae-Lin Manns) and Elizabeth (husband Octavio Huizar) and daughter-in-law Breean Lowe. He joined his eldest son, Raymond, in eternal rest. He was the loving grandfather (Duda) of Alexander & Luciano Lowe and Amber, Benicio & Emilio Huizar. His brother Brian and sister Barbara preceded him in death. He is survived by two sisters Sheila Deniz (brother-in-law Dean), Linda Tanner and sister-in-law Barbara Lowe, many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews that he loved very much.

Roger was a Veteran of the Coast Guard during the Vietnam War and served 3 campaigns (1966-1970). He returned home in 1970 after the death of his father.

Roger worked for the Ferry Service for 48 years until he fully retired in 2014. After his retirement, he loved being a full service Duda which coined him the nickname "Uber." Attending Mass in the mornings was very important to him as he was strong in his Catholic faith. He very much loved walking and taking afternoon naps with his dog Dexter and taking family walks after dinner. He was the biggest fan at all his grandkids sports games or events and always made them his top priority. A family man he was through and through. Roger very much enjoyed playing cards with close friends, Will and Flo Thau. Lastly, he loved watching his weekday shows like Price Is Right, Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune.

Friends and family are invited to a Rosary on Friday, Nov. 29, starting at 6 p.m. and a funeral mass on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 12:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 3433 Somerset Ave. in Castro Valley. A celebration of life reception will be held at the Our lady of Grace Stack Center immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to George Mark Children's House in his memory.



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LOCAL DEATHS

Scott John Gray

Scott John Gray, aged 57, passed peacefully on November 11, 2019. After suffering a heart attack, he passed away at Alta Bates Summit Hospital, Oakland. Loving son of John and Mattie Gray, he is survived by his son, Ryan, daughter Anna, his brother Brian and sister Linda.

Starting as an auto mechanic for many years at Wrights Automotive in San Leandro, he concluded his career employed by Caltrans as a Supervisor at the Bay Bridge station. He was a long-time member of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, and active participant in California's fish and wildlife community. As a final gesture of Scott's generosity his organs were donated so that others may benefit from his passing.

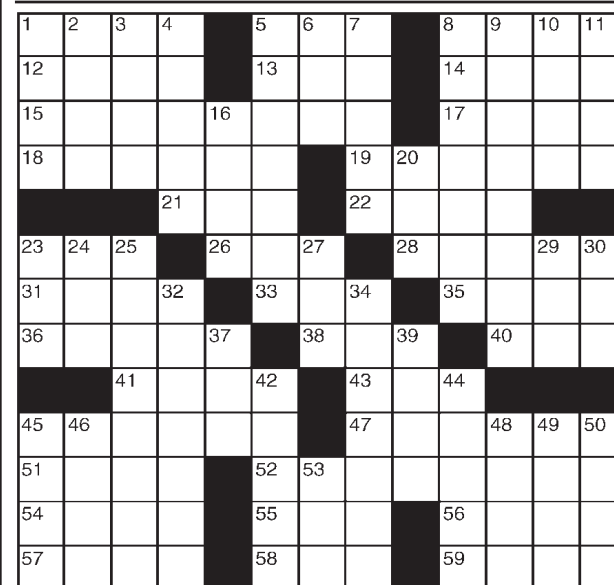
"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

Rest in Peace, Scott.

Funeral services still under development, currently estimated to be early 2020.



THE TIMES CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Temperate
- 5 Owns
- 8 Lovers' quarrel
- 12 Sandwich treat
- 13 Final (Abbr.)
- 14 Small combo
- 15 "Desperate Housewives" actress
- 17 Cincinnati team
- 18 Ingratiate
- 19 Warehouse pile
- 21 Pigpen
- 22 Deck for a 10-count
- 23 Wife of Saturn
- 26 Embrace
- 28 Become one
- 31 Addict
- 33 Shell game item
- 35 "My Heart Will Go On" singer
- 36 Ringworm
- 38 Egypt's boy king
- 40 Toss in
- 41 Transmit
- 43 Afternoon party
- 45 "Jane Eyre" author
- 47 Do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do
- 51 Mongolian tent
- 52 Great bliss
- 54 Mideastern potentate
- 55 Fields or Butterworth
- 56 Villain's look
- 57 Fix, in a way
- 58 Crafty
- 59 Young woman

DOWN

- 1 Double agent
- 2 Press
- 3 Give for a time
- 4 Venetian magistrates
- 5 "Get a move on!"
- 6 Foreman foe
- 7 Pile
- 8 Wandered off
- 9 Transvaal city
- 10 Staffer
- 11 Pitch
- 16 Inauguration recitation
- 20 Ewe's mate
- 23 No longer stylish
- 24 Omega preceder
- 25 Brain's stimulus receptors
- 27 Understand
- 29 Deity
- 30 Conclude
- 32 Space flight conclusion
- 34 Job for a medical examiner
- 37 Pismire
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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

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.

A Thanksgiving Message

Editor:

On behalf of the men and women of the San Leandro Police Department, I would like to wish the San Leandro community a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

I am humbled to serve as your Police Chief and would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the community's continued support, partnership, and trust. Serving the City of San Leandro is a true honor and it warms my heart to see the collaboration between the department and our community as we work together to improve the quality of life for everyone that lives, works, and plays in our City.

Each new day brings us so much more to be thankful for.

I'd also like to take a moment to thank all of our sworn, professional staff, and volunteers who will be working during the holiday to keep our community safe. I am truly thankful for their dedication, commitment, and professionalism to public safety and to serve around the clock with compassion, empathy, and excellence.

We have a lot to be thankful for in San Leandro. Thanksgiving is a great time for all of us to reflect on matters that we appreciate, care for, and love. I'm very thankful for you and your contributions to our wonderful community. Let us be thankful for one another and for living in a City that is kind and welcoming.

I wish you, your family, and our public safety employees a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

—**Jeffrey J. Tudor**, Chief of Police
San Leandro Police Department

To Help the Homeless

Editor:

In response to Erick Gil's letter to several newspapers including the San Leandro Times ("Time to Stand for the Homeless," Letters, Nov. 21), let me be the first to thank Mr. Gil for the desire to help those in our community who are homeless.

To piggyback on his letter, the homeless people are deserving of compassion, services and understanding all days of the year including cold and wet

winter nights.

April Showers has been providing hot showers, food, clothing, barber services and referral services to homeless guests since 2002. We currently operate at Creekside Community Church on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month beginning at 1:00 pm. We truly welcome all including Mr. Gil to come and help in our endeavor.

There is a group of organizations as well as individuals, both faith-based and community-based, which help us provide new socks/underwear, gently used outer clothing, supplies necessary for sanitation and food on a regular basis.

Information about supporting us can be found at www.ihnprilshowers.org. April Showers also sponsors a Thanksgiving dinner at First United Methodist Church on Thursday, Nov. 28, from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Building Futures with Women & Children operates a winter Warming Shelter which is open every Wednesday night from the night after Thanksgiving until the weather breaks for spring in April. It is also open when there is a 50% or greater chance of rain over the nighttime hours or there's a forecast of low temperature of 40 degrees or less (or both).

For information on open nights, please call: 510-924-3787 beginning Nov. 29. For more information, see: <https://bfwc.org/services/housing/>.

The City of San Leandro has been working extremely hard with Building Futures to help get people off the street, into housing, into necessary medical and mental health services and trying to make sure those who prefer to "fly under the radar" know that help is available and provide a roadmap for getting services.

While there is no one answer to homelessness, every hand can help. Mr. Gil, please feel free to join us. We thank you for bringing this on-going issue to the front, especially during the Thanksgiving season and recognize that help is necessary throughout the year also. We will welcome any type of assistance you and others like you can provide.

—**Tom Breckenridge**, Chair
Moir Fry, Vice-chair
Interfaith Homelessness Network
& April Showers

Too Early for Campaign Signs

Editor:

Thanksgiving is this week, Christmas is still a month away, yet campaign lawn signs for the 2020 City Council race are already here. The election is a year away. The candidates for the March 2020 primary haven't even started with their materials.

My only guess as to why a candidate would be starting a year early, is they think they'll beat the pack and get some early name recognition?

What if that causes everyone else to think they better get in on it as well? Are we going to have to look at all of those signs as well? How are these signs going to look after a winter of (hopefully) rain & wind?

Some cities have laws regulating when the signs can be put out, unfortunately San Leandro does not, so I'm begging, please rethink this. 2020 is an election year, we are going to be inundated with signage, flyers & mailers soon enough. Can we at least get through the holidays, and wait for the end of this year, before starting these visual assaults, and adding to what is sure to be a record year for land fill?

—**Jane Wilcox**
San Leandro

Skyrocketing Prescription Drugs

Editor:

I am an older American, and I want my members of Congress to address skyrocketing prescription drug prices.

Insulin and other medications do not need to be so expensive! There are bipartisan proposals in Congress to fix this -- so this is the moment to finally enact legislation into law.

American People first, drug companies and their huge profits second!

Many seniors cannot afford to keep paying higher and higher prices for medications they need to survive! No one should have to choose between putting food on the table and filling life-saving prescriptions.

I'm demanding that my members of Congress vote YES on a bill that lowers drug prices.

—**Ms. Tammy Ferman**
San Leandro

Where's the 'Give and Take'

Editor:

Re "Defining Hate" and "erasing the hate" by Lisa Anderson.

Do the words "s**thole countries," multiple insults like "Lying Ted," "Sleepy Joe," "Slimeball James Comey," "Sleazy Adam Schiff," "Low-IQ Maxine Waters," "Pocahontas," "Truly weird

Senator Rand Paul", "Low Energy Jeb", "Lyin' Hillary", "Little Michael Bloomberg" "Lightweight Senator Kirsten Gillibrand" sound like the words of a man not consumed with hate?

As for "doing one's job," does spending hours watching Fox News, everyday tweeting out his latest barrage of insults, spending nearly every weekend golfing after lying to the citizens by saying this "Because I'll be working for you, I won't have time to play golf"?

Also, will you translate what you meant by: "What gives any elected official the right to refuse to do their job because they don't like their boss"? To whom are you referring? Maybe John

Boehner, (on his plans for Obama's agenda): "We're going to do everything — and I mean everything we can do — to kill it, stop it, slow it down, whatever we can."

Or maybe Mitch McConnell when he said: "The single most important thing we want to achieve is for President Obama to be a one-term president" And that Mitch has refused to allow consideration of over 60 bills sent to him after being passed by the House?

THAT sure doesn't sound like "involving give and take and compromise" to me. Sounds like someone(s) refusing to do their job!

—**Ken Kellogg**
San Leandro

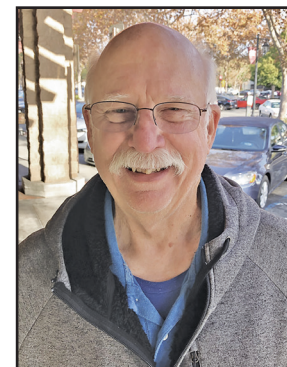
INQUIRING REPORTER

What are you thankful for?

— Asked at the Downtown Plaza

I'm thankful for family, for life, for friends, and for God.

Harvey Klein
San Leandro



First, my faith in God. I'm also thankful for family, friends, food — I'm a foodie — our beautiful weather, and my health. A strong foundation of faith is of utmost importance to me. The rest follows.

Ronnetta Lewis-Foster
San Leandro



Life, salvation, and family. Being married for 35 years, our five kids, and six grandchildren.

Mark Dupart
San Leandro



Sunshine and flowers. I moved back here a couple of years ago from Washington state and appreciate our good weather all the more.

Brenda Rodgers
San Leandro



We appreciate our good health, family, and keeping safe wherever we go. I'm (Shirley) thankful for the ability to be a caregiver for the elderly in my work.

Shirley and Ramil Casas
San Leandro



SPORTS

Top Northern California Runners Compete in Hayward

By Andrew Joseph
San Leandro Times

Boys and girls cross-country runners from San Leandro, Arroyo and San Lorenzo high schools competed along with over 50 other schools at the 2019 North Coast Section (NCS) championships at Hayward High on Saturday morning.

The San Leandro girls' team finished 11th place overall. The Pirates top girls' finishers were Ariana Chavez who earned 13th place overall with a time of 18:20.7 and Alexandra Diaz who finished 68th with a time of 20:38.2.

Chavez was just 0.6 seconds off the finish time needed to qualify for the CIF state finals this weekend. She was barely outrun within a few steps by the last California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) state qualifier Kylee Denver of Freedom High who finished with a time of 18:20.1.

Granada High earned first place with their junior runner Shae Hill winning first overall in

a time of 17:21.2. There were a total of 128 runners in the girls' Division 2 race.

"I really wanted to make it to

"I really wanted to make it to state this year. That's been my goal this whole season."

— San Leandro High runner
Ariana Chavez

CIF state this year—that's been my goal this whole season," said Chavez. "I also wanted to break my overall personal record (PR) and I was able to do that today. All the hard work this season has paid off and I'm very grateful to my coaches for helping me continue to get better."

The Pirates are disappointed

in not qualifying for the CIF championships this year, but they have high hopes for next season with Chavez returning in 2020 as a senior and Diaz also returning as a sophomore. Chavez will continue running this school year as a member of San Leandro's varsity girls' long distance squad on the track and field team.

"I think what happened today will motivate Ariana to work harder so she can qualify for CIF next season," said San Leandro head coach Victor Doan. "Even though I'm heartbroken for her, I can't be more proud of how well she's done."

De La Salle Wins Boys Division 2

San Leandro's boys' team finished 17th overall in the Division 2 race. That division was won by De La Salle with Patrick Curulla earning first overall in a time of 14:55.2. Jacobo Mendez Sanchez was the top finisher for the Pirates, who placed 67th with a time of 16:48.4.



PHOTO BY RYAN NGUYEN

Ariana Chavez (right) of San Leandro makes her way around the course on the second lap of the Division 2 girls race.



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"I feel like this season I've gotten closer to my goals but I always try to push myself to do better," said Mendez Sanchez. "Being in the conversation of qualifying for CIF State is a big deal for anyone who has been running because it's so hard to accomplish that."

The Arroyo boys' team earned 13th overall. Calvin Sun earned 44th place with a time of 16:36.4 as the top finisher for the Dons. Sun hopes to improve his time during the offseason and come back stronger next year.

Maria Carrillo High's boys' team earned first place overall. The division's individual winner was Dylan Gunn of Campolindo who earned first place with a time of 15:08.7.

Yong-Sung Leal from Arroyo still holds the boys' Division 2

NCS meet record in a time of 14:38, set in 2001. The San Lorenzo's boys' team finished 21st.

"This year was a success for our team because everyone broke

"This year was a success for our team because everyone broke under 20 minutes."

— Arroyo coach
Mike Gomez

under a time of 20 minutes," said Arroyo head coach Mike Gomez. "I believe that if Calvin Sun can stay in shape during the offseason and run track this year for the first

time he can come back and make it to state next year."

The Arroyo Dons did not have any girls qualify for competition at NCS this season in Division 3, but San Lorenzo's girls' team finished 19th overall in that division. The Division 3 girls' winner was Campolindo.

There were five separate divisions racing a three-mile course for both the boys and girls athletes. San Leandro competed in Division 2, Arroyo and San Lorenzo competed in Division 3.

The top five highest placed individuals (not on an automatic team entry) qualified from Saturday's NCS championships to the CIF state championships this weekend. This qualification is per the criteria of divisions qualifying two to six teams in each division. For example if a division qualifies four teams, individuals must place in the top 16 at section finals to qualify.

"It's very interesting the way this sport works in qualifying for the state finals because if the fifth place team was fourth place instead then Ariana (Chavez) would have actually made it to the CIF championships this year," said coach Doan.

Only the top performers in Northern California qualify to the NCS championships, so that is a big accomplishment in itself. Making it to the state meet is the cherry on top.

"I really want to make it to state next year because it's been so long since Arroyo has sent someone there," said Sun. "I believe I have the potential to come back next season and do that."

The 2019 CIF State championships will be held this Saturday in Fresno at Woodward Park with the first race starting at 8:30 a.m.

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