



San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Mayor Juan Gonzalez, left, starts the run as Jack Nelson (center with cap) leads a group of runners from Jerry's Beefburgers on MacArthur Boulevard on a route with stops at four high schools.

One Last Run for the Money

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Former San Leandro High teacher and coach Jack Nelson led what he called his "final run" for the schools on Sept. 10.

Nelson and a few fellow runners and students took a 5-mile run with stops

at Fremont, Castlemont and O'Dowd high schools in Oakland. Fremont High greeted him with the school band and cheerleaders.

The run raised money for football helmets, cheerleader and band uniforms and scholarships for students at the three Oakland schools as well as San

Leandro High. One of Nelson's goals is to see high school marching bands in uniform again.

"I heard from kids I taught at John Muir Middle School 30 years ago," Nelson said after the run, which was also featured on KTVU, Channel 2. "They

see RUN, page 11

DA Earmarks \$4M to Fight Retail Theft

Price announced new unit to prosecute smash-and-grab thefts

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

So-called smash-and-grab theft at retailers across the Bay Area and resulting store closures have put pressure on Alameda County law officials to step up.

Last Thursday, Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price announced the creation of an Organized Retail Theft Vertical Prosecution Team and a total of \$4 million to help.

In September, the DA's office announced it received a \$2 million grant from California Governor Gavin Newsom's Organized Retail Crime Task

Force (ORCTF) program to fund a new prosecution unit to address the many coordinated stash-and-grab thefts. Those grants were awarded to the Fremont and Newark Police Departments.

On Thursday, Price committed an additional \$2 million for the project with funds from her Consumer Justice Bureau to help prevent retail theft in the rest of the county.

The funding is poised to also aid local law enforcement in cracking down on other types of property crime related to

see THEFT, page 12

Hospital Tech Arrested For Sexual Battery

San Leandro police arrested a Castro Valley man on October 4 for sexual battery after an investigation into a report of inappropriate touching by an x-ray technician at San Leandro Hospital.

In September 2022, a woman reported that she had been sexually assaulted after she had x-rays taken at the

hospital. She said the technician touched her inappropriately under the guise of a physical examination.

The police investigated along with the hospital's own internal investigation.

The Special Victims Unit developed enough evidence to obtain an arrest warrant

see ARRESTED, page 12

National Pedestrian Safety Month

CHP Tickets 50 in Crosswalk Crackdown

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Yielding to a pedestrian crossing in a crosswalk is the law, a lesson more than 50 people learned the hard way during a California Highway Patrol safety enforcement as part of National Pedestrian Safety Month.

CHP Hayward conducted a Pedestrian Safety check at a crosswalk on Redwood Road near Modesto Street in Castro Valley on the morning of September 21. People working with the CHP, including

a woman wearing a bright orange top, casually attempted to cross the four-lane road.

Within four hours, the enforcement team issued more than 50 tickets to motorists who failed to let pedestrians walk across the street.

On October 31 (Halloween), the Hayward Area CHP office will have additional officers working throughout the unincorporated communities to focus on pedestrian safety,

see CROSSWALK, page 3



PHOTO COURTESY CHP

The CHP reminds drivers to slow down and look out for pedestrians when turning or entering a crosswalk.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

THEATER

San Leandro Players present
Bloody Jack. Page 2

HALLOWEEN

Tour an old mansion for the
Halloween spirit. Page 3

SPORTS

Arroyo football surprises
the Hornets. Page 12

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Calendar.....	3
Classified Ads	8
Crossword	9
Pets.....	2
Food	4
Homes	6
Home Services	8
Letters.....	10
Obituaries	11
Seniors.....	7

MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 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



Guinea Pigs

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are the guinea pigs and kittens. The shelter has guinea



Kittens

pigs galore. Come down to Hayward Animal Shelter and check out a variety of cute, scruffy, young guinea pigs looking for a good home.

Kittens are here. The shelter has a good variety of males and females, short hair and long hair, hyper kittens, and sleepy kittens, the right kitten for you.

For more information or to adopt a guinea pig or kitten, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.

Born on October 19

The intensity that characterizes Libras born on October 19 marks them as unlike any other Libra. These broad-minded individuals find fulfillment through both the worldly and the spiritual sides of their nature. They have strong yet flexible opinions. They are curious about life and have a love for learning.

SL Players Production of *Bloody Jack* Opens Saturday

The San Leandro Players will present *Bloody Jack*, opening on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro, next to the historic Casa Peralta.

The show runs Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. from Oct. 21 to Nov. 19; and on two Fridays, Nov. 10 and Nov. 17, at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors and under 12. For more information or reservations, visit www.slplayers.org or call 510-895-2573.

Who Was Jack the Ripper? The very name brings chills and eerie images of fog-shrouded murder. Tim Kelly's imaginative, suspenseful re-creation of the horrors and frenzy of the Whitechapel murders provides rare theatrical entertainment. Any one



PHOTO COURTESY SAN LEANDRO PLAYERS

Geoffrey Colton and Amy Cook appear in the San Leandro Players production of *Bloody Jack*, opening on Saturday night at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium.

of the play's characters could well be the notorious Bloody Jack. The audience is kept in suspense until the very end!

Featuring: Karen Barbera,

C. Conrad Cady, Geoffrey Colton, Amy Cook, Terry Guillory, Bruce Kaplan, Gretta Stimson, Ben Yuen.

Mistletoe Madness Vendors Wanted

Mistletoe Madness is accepting vendors for the 2023 show of handcrafted items for sale that will be on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. To register or for more information, visit www.mistletoemadness.net.

Correction

In the story of the shooting following a school fight between two girls ("Father of Girl in School Fight Arrested in Shooting," Oct. 12, 2023), the person arrested for the shooting was identified by the police as "a family member" but he was not the father. The victim who was shot at was the father of the other girl.

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Take the Countywide Area Plan Survey



Every four years the County of Alameda Area Agency on Aging collects data from older county residents, which we use to determine current and future needs of seniors. If you are 55+, your participation is needed! Scan the QR code below, or log onto <https://t.ly/ROkq>. Have questions? Call us at 510-268-CWAP (2927).



Your Plan. Your Voice.

Community Calendar

Alta Mira Club Pancake Breakfast

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a "Rock Around the Clock" Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 8 a.m. to noon. Tickets are \$12 for adults, and \$6 for children. Tickets available at the door, or by calling Sue Patrick at 510-931-8111.

American Legion Post 4th Sunday Breakfast

San Leandro American Legion Post 117 will host its 4th Sunday breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 22, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. Pancakes with sausage, coffee, tea, juice. \$5 for veterans, \$6 for non-veterans.

Eden Garden Club Fall Bazaar

The Eden Garden Club is having a Fall Bazaar to raise funds for school garden grants on Monday, Oct. 23, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Castro Valley United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St. in Castro Valley. Drop off donations from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Plants, garden items, books, linens, toys, jewelry, housewares, office, electronics, baked goods, and holiday decorations. Please no clothing, car seats, or bed pillows. For more information, call Dona Pedvin at 510-499-2132.

San Lorenzo Adult School Classes

San Lorenzo Adult School offers morning and evening classes and services for all levels of English as a Second Language, High School Diploma, Adult Basic Education (GED/ HiSet prep), Conversation skills, Citizenship, Financial Literacy, and Computer skills. Career Technical Education classes are offered during evening classes. They also offer classes in sewing/fashion design, quilting, and knitting/crochet. Register now online at the school's website: adu.slz.usd.org or register in person Thursday, Oct. 26, from 9 to 11 a.m. or from 5 to 7 p.m.; and on Friday, Oct. 27, from 9 to 11 a.m. For more information, call the main office at 510-317-4201.

District Attorney Pamela Price to Speak At San Leandro Democratic Club

Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price will speak at the meeting of the the San Leandro Democratic Club on Thursday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium/ Lecture Hall at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. This is a free, ticketed event. You must register through Eventbrite to obtain your ticket. Use this link to register: <http://tiny.cc/5ngcvz>. The public is welcome.

Job and Resource Fair at SL Adult School

San Leandro Adult & Career Education Center, 1448 Williams St., along with Rubicon Programs will host a free in-person Job and Resource Fair on Friday, Oct. 27, at 10 a.m. Join other interested job seekers to meet and discuss career opportunities and resources with over 30 businesses and organizations ready to help you.

First United Methodist Church Fall Festival

First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave., invites the community to its Fall Family Festival on Sunday, Oct. 29, from noon to 2 p.m. Enjoy a variety of games, a pumpkin roll competition, and a crazy costume photo booth. Cheap eats available. Wear your costume. Games appropriate for ages 3 to 12 and adult family members. For more information contact office@fumcsl.org.

Veterans Resource Center Program on Vietnam War

The Veterans Resource Center at the San Leandro Main Library is hosting a Veterans' Day event on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Viet Nam War, a conflict that greatly affected American society and the lives of millions. It will be an opportunity for the community to come together and demonstrate gratitude for the courageous men and women who have served our nation.

Join Rewilding Walk at Sibley Volcanic Park

Jessica Carew Kraft will lead a "Rewilding Walk" on Oct. 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve staging area, 6800 Skyline Blvd. in Oakland. Go to Eventbrite for details and tickets: Let's Go Wild with Jessica Carew Kraft at Sibley Park.

Join The Friends of San Leandro Creek and Jessica Carew Kraft, California naturalist and author of *Why We Need to Be Wild*, for an adventurous wild wander at the Sibley Volcanic Preserve.

Nature is always making a map for us, and the land is full of clues and signs. Learn techniques for reading the landscape used by wildlife trackers and all of our ances-

tors to forage and navigate.

If you've ever wondered about how humans survived and thrived in wild environments, or questioned how to keep yourself from getting lost without using GPS, this afternoon excursion will give you more knowledge and the confidence to safely wander off the beaten path.

Expand your perception of subtle signs in nature so that you can "read" trees, water paths, shadows, animal signs, and several species of edible plants.

Kraft will also share her personal story of learning the skills of rewilding depicted in her book.

It's a 2+ mile hike. Bring sturdy footwear, water bottle, snack, and notebook.

Crosswalk: Slow down and look out for people crossing the street

continued from front page
according to CHP Officer Jen Pabst.

"The Hayward Area CHP office is committed to ensuring pedestrian safety," CHP Hayward Captain Danmeier said. "We aim to reduce pedestrian-related crashes through ongoing enforcement and educational campaigns."

Every year, approximately 30 to 40 pedestrians in San Leandro are involved in collisions with vehicles, according to San Leandro's Engineering and Transportation Department.

On March 16, an unidentified pedestrian was found unresponsive after being hit by a car at San Leandro Boulevard and Williams Street. He was taken to a local hospital while investigators tried to identify him by a signature ring on his finger.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

(NHTSA) promotes National Pedestrian Safety Month every October and offers the following tips for drivers:

- 1.) Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times.
- 2.) Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.
- 3.) Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or entering a crosswalk.

4.) Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.

In the United States in 2021, an estimated 60,577 pedestrians were injured in traffic crashes, an 11-percent increase from 54,771 pedestrians injured in 2020. On average, a pedestrian was killed every 71 minutes and injured every 9 minutes in traffic crashes in 2021.

No Evidence of Shooting After Someone Calls 911

The San Leandro police said they received a call about a shooting on Tuesday at a middle school, but there was no evidence of any shooting.

Police said that at about 11:40 a.m. they received the call regarding Washington Manor Middle School on Fargo Avenue. But when police

arrived they could not locate any sign of a shooting or the person who called.

Officers remained on the scene to conduct a safety check of the school and work with school personnel. Traffic was blocked on the 1100 block of Fargo for about an hour as police checked the area.



Meek Mansion will be open for tours.

Tour McConaghy and Meek Mansions for Some Halloween Spirit

To get in the Halloween spirit, join the Hayward Area Historical Society for "Beyond the Veil," a frightfully delightful guided tour through McConaghy House or Meek Mansion.

Tours at McConaghy are available Friday and Saturday, Oct. 20 and 21; and at Meek Mansion on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27 and 28.

More information and tickets are available at www.haywardareahistory.org.

Meek Mansion is located at 17365 Boston Road in Hayward. McConaghy House is located at 18701 Hesperian Blvd. in Hayward.

Inner Wheel Club to Present *The Fantastics*

The Inner Wheel Club of San Leandro will present *The Fantastics* at the Chanticleers Theater, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, on Sunday, Oct. 29, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$35. Make checks payable to IW Club of San Leandro, and mail to: Inner Wheel Club of San Leandro c/o, 2628 Glen Cotswold Court, San Jose, CA 95148. For more information, email iwclubofsanleandro@gmail.com or call 510-828-3050.

The Fantastics is one of the longest running musicals in American history. The story focuses on two young lovers, their meddling fathers, and the journey adolescent thrills, hurt and betrayal, and heart-break to discover who we truly love. This is the Inner Wheel Club's October fundraiser.

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So get your taste buds ready for the annual onslaught!

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

For the crust

- 1-1/4 cups graham-cracker crumbs (from 10 whole crackers)
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted
- For the filling:*
- 4 packages (8 ounces each) bar cream cheese, very soft
- 1-1/4 cups sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 cup canned pumpkin purée
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin-pie spice

- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs, at room temperature

Preheat oven to 350°F, with rack in center.

Assemble a 9-inch non-stick springform pan, with the raised side of the bottom part facing up.

Make the crust: In a medium bowl, mix cracker crumbs, sugar, and butter until moistened; press firmly into bottom of pan. Bake until

golden around edges, 10 to 12 minutes.

Make the filling: With an electric mixer, beat cream cheese and sugar on low speed until smooth; mix in flour (do not overmix). Add pumpkin purée, pie spice, vanilla, and salt; mix just until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, mixing until each is incorporated before adding the next.

Place springform pan on a rimmed baking sheet. Pour filling into springform, and gently smooth top. Transfer to oven; reduce oven heat to 300°F. Bake 45 minutes. Turn off oven; let cheesecake stay in oven 2 hours more (without opening).

Remove from oven; cool completely. Cover with plastic wrap; refrigerate until firm, at least 4 hours. Unmold before serving.

PUMPKIN FUDGE

- 3 cups sugar
- 3/4 cup butter or margarine
- 2/3 cup evaporated milk
- 1 cup solid-pack pumpkin
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1 (12-ounce) package of butterscotch morsels
- 1 (7-ounce jar) marshmallow creme
- 1 cup chopped almonds, toasted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

In heavy saucepan, combine sugar, butter milk, pumpkin and spices; bring to boil, stirring constantly. Continue boiling over medium heat, stirring, until mixture reaches 234°F on candy thermometer.

Remove from heat and stir in butterscotch morsels. Add marshmallow creme, nuts and vanilla, mixing until well-blended. Quickly pour into greased 13-by-9-inch baking pan, spreading just until even. Cool at room temperature; cut into squares. Store tightly wrapped in refrigerator.

LATTICE PUMPKIN TART

- 2 9-inch refrigerated pie dough discs
- 1 cup pumpkin purée, unsweetened
- 3/4 cup heavy cream
- 1 egg, large, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Preheat oven to 425°F.

Roll out 1 pie dough disc on a lightly floured surface to 1/8-inch thick. Press crust into tart pan and prick bottom several times with a fork.

Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until lightly golden. Allow to cool.

Combine pumpkin, cream, egg, brown sugar, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and salt until completely blended. Pour into cooled tart shell.

To make lattice -- roll out remaining dough disc 1/8-inch thick. Using a pastry wheel or knife, cut ten 3/4-inch wide strips (the number of strips required will vary depending on your spacing). Weave strips on top of pumpkin filling.

Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon.

Bake tart for 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350°F and bake an additional 30 to 35 minutes or until filling is set.

Allow tart to completely cool before serving.

PUMPKIN CRANBERRY BREAD

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 5 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 3 cups granulated sugar
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil

- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries (thawed)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour two 9x5-inch loaf pans.

Combine flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt in large bowl. Combine sugar, pumpkin, eggs, vegetable oil and orange juice in large mixer bowl; beat until just blended. Add pumpkin mixture to flour mixture; stir just until moistened. Fold in cranberries. Spoon batter into prepared loaf pans.

Bake for 60 to 65 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Yields two 9x5-inch loaves.

PUMPKIN GINGERBREAD

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 3/4 cup butter or margarine
- 2 large eggs
- 1 can (1 pound) pumpkin
- 1/2 cup light molasses
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- Whipped cream

In a large bowl, stir together flours, sugar and spices. With a pastry blender or your fingers, cut or rub in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. Set aside 2/3 cup of the mixture.

In a small bowl, beat eggs, pumpkin, molasses, milk and baking soda to blend. Add to dry ingredients and stir until just evenly moistened. Pour into a greased 8- by 12-inch baking pan. Sprinkle with reserved flour mixture.

Bake in a 350°F oven until top is firm to touch, about 50 minutes. Serve warm, adding whipped cream to taste. Serves 8 to 10.

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GREEN - Green building designee

Michelle Miller is a Broker with Compass and a 34-year veteran of the real estate industry. She has represented clients all over the East Bay in hundreds of transactions. Michelle built a large foundation of clients through her professionalism, integrity and an unfailing commitment to always put her client's first. Michelle says that "When you love what you do, it doesn't feel like work. Even though it's stressful at times, helping buyers and sellers navigate their way through the challenges of an ever-changing marketplace is very satisfying." Michelle lives in San Leandro where she serves on her neighborhood association board (EENA), is a monthly supporter of the local schools and contributes part of every transaction to a variety of organizations. Real Trends voted Michelle into the 2022 & 2023 Lists of America's Best Real Estate Agents, which represents the top 1.5% of the Realtors in the country.



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Lynn is a multi-million-dollar producer with a focus on service and real estate with "a personal touch". She brings over 38 years of experience selling residential real estate in this area. She has been awarded the Bay East Association of Realtors' Grand Master Award and is a consistent Top Producer in her area. Lynn has been the President of Soroptimist International of the East Bay and currently is their Membership Chair. A few years ago she served as the district's Fellowship Director, awarding over \$100K to women completing their doctorates. Soroptimist is a worldwide group founded in Oakland in 1921 and dedicated to helping women and children locally and throughout the world. At the local level, the group's focus is on helping raise money for the indigent, battered and elderly members of the community. A recent addition is helping at-risk women become free from trafficking in the East Bay. Born in New York City in 1947 to an Italian-American family, Lynn attended Hunter College and then went on to own her own ethnic music store in Greenwich Village, "The House of Musical Traditions". She was an accomplished craftsperson, building dulcimers, and later did music management. Lynn has one son who she home schooled and who graduated from Dominican College on a tennis scholarship with a degree in business. And, of course, saving the best for last — 14 years ago, she was blessed with a beautiful granddaughter, and 6 years ago with a handsome grandson.



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IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY

I am the owner of a small boutique immigration law firm in San Leandro. I focus my practice to 100% immigration law, as I am committed to providing my clients with high-level, attorney-driven representation, allowing us to provide an individualized solution and success-driven outcome. We pride ourselves on our 99% approval rate. I enjoy assisting families, employers and business owners obtain legal residence, citizenship or naturalization, as well as other nonimmigrant visas. I chose "Omega" as the name to represent the beginning and end solution to one's immigration needs. After having moved my business to San Leandro from the San Jose area, I am enjoying the variety of clientele from San Leandro, Castro Valley, Hayward, Oakland, and neighboring cities. Our services also include: free consultations and Spanish-speaking legal assistants.



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With over 18 years under her belt, Malanie Yan is not your ordinary real estate agent. Buying or selling a home can be stressful and time-consuming - but not with Malanie! Her clients are some of the happiest and knowledgeable home buyers and sellers in the Bay Area. That's because Malanie's first priority is exceeding her clients' goals with integrity, attention-to-detail and a dash of humor. Whether it be managing a remodel, staging, photography, or advertising a residential property, Malanie works with resources and local professionals in the community to provide the utmost of service.

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Lupita Garcia

Funeral Arranger

With almost 30 years of experience as a professional administrative accountant, Lupita earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting, and worked with the Administrative Department of the Consulate General of Mexico for over 15 years. Impressed by her education, extensive experience and dedication as a committed employee, Lupita joined the Santos-Robinson Mortuary staff in March 2023. Competent in many areas of the business, Lupita is a fluent Spanish speaker which allows her to help, and guide, our Spanish-speaking community in planning the funeral services of their loved ones. We understand how difficult these times can be for families and Lupita's main goal is serving families in an exceptional manner with both compassion and professionalism.



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Honestly, I have never looked back! I bring my own passion to working with others, creating an experience, designing a thoughtful plan for selling and buying & forging relationship that last well beyond a working relationship. I will always remember where this love and commitment for Real Estate came from. I believe our company, Rinetti & Company is unique in that way. We all encourage each others strengths share our experiences and encourage one another to succeed. We strive to do our best, help others find their dream homes, move on to their next home and create a new future. Thank you to all our past clients for your continued support and all of those we look forward to helping now and in the future.



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Massage & Skin Care are my passions. I graduated from The National Holistic Institute in Emeryville, CA, in 2002.

In 2012 I went into the beauty space & became a licensed esthetician.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



NAR Working to Reduce Mortgage Interest Rates

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

As interest rates continue rising, a domino effect is threatening to bring the real estate market to a halt. Potential sellers with mortgages in the sub-3% range cannot stomach the idea of losing their current mortgages and replacing them with rates approaching 8%. Consequently, they are putting potential sales on hold, causing an inventory shortage which is pushing prices higher. Buyers, reaching the limits of their purchasing power, are putting their hopes of home ownership on the shelf, hoping the market will stabilize in the future.

In the meantime, the Fed is

discussing raising rates even higher – a move that would further aggravate the current situation. In response, the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) has specific suggestions for federal regulators to reduce mortgage interest rates.

In a memo just released to Alameda County Realtors, David Stark, Bay East Association of Realtors Chief Public Affairs and Communications Officer stated, “NAR has joined a coalition of lenders and independent community banks asking the Department of the Treasury and the National Economic Council to stabilize the mortgage-backed securities market and reduce the gap between 30-year mortgage rates and 10-year Treasuries. NAR and its partners stated in

a letter to federal regulators that these actions could significantly lower mortgage interest rates, increase housing affordability, and jump-start real estate markets nationwide.”

In their communications to the Fed, NAR states, “The gap between the 30-year fixed rate mortgage and 10-year Treasury is normally about 1.5%. Currently it is now closer to 3%. This 1.5% extra gap reflects inefficiencies in the market, but in particular the Fed’s attempt to reduce its holding of MBS when there are few/no buyers to replace it. This decline demand causes rates to go up relative to Treasuries.

Simultaneously several factors have reduced demand for MBS that could be a long-term issue. Under GSE reform, the GSEs’ portfolios are limited to minimal sizes. Thus, a second major source of demand is gone. Compounding this is that banks tend not to want to buy mortgages or MBS in rising rate environments and that some are actually selling them due to financial strain (e.g. Silicon Valley Bank). All this has resulted in drain on demand is pressing up on mortgage rates relative to Treasuries.”

As the situation worsens, it is our hope that the Fed will finally listen to reason and make appropriate changes to help breathe life back into the real estate market.

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.



By F5ZV - Fichier:Essaim d'abeille posé.JPG, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1344317>

Backyard Beekeeper Has Neighbor Buzzing

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

My next-door neighbor informed me yesterday that he intends to set up a beehive in his yard. Is he even allowed to do this in a populated area? We both have half-acre lots, and he says the hive likely will be located in a far corner, but I see nuisance and even disaster ahead. What if the bees swarm? What if they

sting a child and, God forbid, that child is allergic? Should I contact the city about this?

Believe it or not, beekeeping can and does take place in suburban areas – and even in the middle of the city. I understand your concern, however.

Take heart in the fact that your neighbor came over to tell you about the planned hive before it arrived. That gives you the opportunity to ask some questions about the hive, the type of bees and so on.

I encourage you to keep it polite. For now, just ask questions and listen to your neighbor. There’s a very good chance that he has been researching beekeeping for some time and that he even knows the municipal ordinances regarding the activity.

If he already has some homesteading activities going on, such as keeping a few chickens, and those activities haven’t been a nuisance to you or others, it’s likely that the beehive will make little to no difference in the neighborhood – other than the flowers in your garden perhaps blooming bigger and better than ever before, thanks to nature’s best pollinators living nearby.

After talking to your neighbor, do some research of

your own. MAAREC (Mid-Atlantic Apicultural Research & Extension Consortium) has a good pamphlet available to download as a PDF about suburban beekeeping, and a number of websites are available under that search term. There are many ways for beekeepers to reduce the possibility of nuisance and stings in the neighborhood.

You also can contact your municipality about whether beekeeping is allowed. If it is specifically permitted, there are usually rules about how big the hive can be and whether it needs to be registered with the state’s agricultural office.

Above all, give it a chance. The dwindling bee population worldwide is greatly concerning researchers, so homesteaders’ beekeeping can be a small but helpful contribution toward solving the problem. And, being on friendly terms with a successful beekeeper can have the positive side effect of receiving an occasional, and perhaps steady, gift of honey.

Home Tip: Interested in beekeeping but don’t have a lot of money or space? Look up local beekeeping groups online or consider starting one at a community garden or other open space.

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RECENT HOME SALES

Home sales information is compiled and provided by CalREsource and includes Bedrooms, Square Feet and Year Built when available

CASTRO VALLEY

Total: 11 – Average Price: \$1,266,454
High: \$1,800,000 – Low: \$815,000

19659 Center Street 94546:
\$776,000 [4 BD - 1,146 SF - 1947
18584 Carlton Avenue 94546:
\$1,068,000 [3 BD - 1,591 SF - 1966
2700 Somerset Avenue 94546:
\$1,160,000 [4 BD - 1,712 SF - 1963
4733 Rollinghills Way 94546:
\$1,200,000 [3 BD - 1,572 SF - 1959
3546 Quail Avenue 94546:
\$1,290,000 [4 BD - 1,548 SF - 1959
25520 Foggy Glen Drive 94552:
\$1,300,000 [3 BD - 1,374 SF - 1998
18351 Carlton Avenue 94546:
\$1,480,000 [4 BD - 2,752 SF - 1959
5826 Greenridge Road 94552:
\$1,670,000 [4 BD - 1,834 SF - 1960

HAYWARD

Total: 26 – Average Price: \$879,730
High: \$1,535,000 – Low: \$400,000

470 C Street 94541: \$530,000 [5 BD - 2,684 SF - 1950
1318 B Street #208 94541:
\$540,000 [2 BD - 1,081 SF - 1984
685 Dean Street 94541: \$550,000 [2 BD - 635 SF - 1940
26234 Coleman Avenue 94544:
\$575,000 [3 BD - 1,130 SF - 1953
2646 Oliver Drive 94545: \$719,000 [4 BD - 1,474 SF - 1971
18741 Melrose Avenue 94541:
\$750,000 [3 BD - 1,156 SF - 1951
612 Artistic Place 94541: \$750,000

[2 BD - 1,700 SF - 2004
300 Old Oak Lane #1 94541:
\$775,000 [3 BD - 1,538 SF - 2010
28624 Roanoke Street 94544:
\$825,000 [4 BD - 1,490 SF - 1960
114 Virginia Street 94544:
\$875,000 [3 BD - 1,070 SF - 1952
19563 Royal Avenue 94541:
\$875,000 [3 BD - 1,626 SF - 1951
22488 South Garden Avenue
94541: \$880,000 [5 BD - 1,848 SF - 1947
1293 West Street 94545:
\$900,000 [3 BD - 1,227 SF - 1954
25510 Scripps Street 94545:
\$930,000 [3 BD - 1,374 SF - 1959
90 Middleton Place 94544:
\$975,000 [3 BD - 1,938 SF - 2015
1068 Central Boulevard 94542:
\$1,000,000 [3 BD - 1,232 SF - 1959
132 Berry Avenue 94544:
\$1,180,000 [4 BD - 1,807 SF - 2001
29049 Hillview Street 94544:
\$1,200,000 [3 BD - 1,614 SF - 1995
1777 Dahill Lane 94541:
\$1,225,000 [3 BD - 2,933 SF - 1958
3632 Seabreeze Court 94542:
\$1,350,000 [3 BD - 1,768 SF - 1973
3455 Skyline Drive 94542:
\$1,390,000 [3 BD - 1,808 SF - 1979
30021 Mountain View Drive 94544:
\$1,575,000 [4 BD - 2,734 SF - 2018
87 Dunfirth Drive 94542:
\$2,138,000 [4 BD - 3,965 SF - 2017

SAN LEANDRO

Total: 15 – Average Price: \$845,833
High: \$1,560,000 – Low: \$329,000

1132 Carpentier Street #307
94577: \$445,000 [2 BD - 1,182 SF - 1983
16380 Gordon Way 94578:
\$610,000 [2 BD - 778 SF - 1952
71 Harlan Street 94577: \$750,000 [2 BD - 948 SF - 1940
2032 Cleveland Street 94577:
\$765,000 [3 BD - 1,028 SF - 1944
1552 Plaza Drive 94578: \$780,000 [2 BD - 1,196 SF - 1925
14995 Lark Street 94578:
\$810,000 [3 BD - 1,137 SF - 1945
1536 137th Avenue 94578:
\$869,000 [3 BD - 1,360 SF - 1947
478 Lloyd Avenue 94578:
\$870,000 [3 BD - 1,014 SF - 1952
2058 Bradhoff Avenue 94577:
\$880,000 [3 BD - 1,309 SF - 1947
14228 Maracaibo Road 94577:
\$901,000 [4 BD - 1,386 SF - 1962
14886 Farnsworth Street 94579:
\$910,000 [4 BD - 1,500 SF - 1950
538 Fortuna Avenue 94577:
\$963,000 [2 BD - 1,144 SF - 1938
747 Maud Avenue 94577:
\$1,050,000 [3 BD - 1,916 SF - 1926
15653 Fantail Court 94579:
\$1,170,000 [4 BD - 1,817 SF - 1998
295 Oakes Boulevard 94577:
\$1,200,000 [3 BD - 1,418 SF - 1915

SAN LORENZO

Total: 6 – Average Price: \$857,666
High: \$950,000 – Low: \$620,000

1732 Bockman Road 94580:
\$859,000 [3 BD - 1,078 SF - 1954
18920 Times Avenue 94580:
\$980,000 [4 BD - 1,750 SF - 1956

Seniors: Advance Care Planning

Q. Our parents are up in years and have become increasingly frail. I know that they both have definite wishes about advance care planning and end-of-life decisions. Any suggestions on how to make sure their wishes are honored?

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

A. Yes, I do. The first step is to begin the conversation. There is an excellent “Conversation Guide” prepared by the California Coalition for Compassionate Care that is available for free download at www.finalchoices.org, or by calling 916-552-7573. It is not necessary to conduct the entire conversation in one sitting. Instead, it can be an extended discussion that is raised from time to time, just in case your parents’ wishes change over time. One of the best ways to ensure that their wishes are honored is for you to help them communicate their wishes to their family and physicians.

In terms of legal documents, I also suggest that your parents sign an Advance Healthcare Directive, which expresses their end-of-life wishes and appoints a health care agent to implement them if they are unable to do so themselves. They can either sign a preprinted form or they may have a customized document prepared by their estate planning or elder law attorney. Please Note: While this is a very valuable and important document, studies do show that end-of-life decisions are, unfortunately, not honored as often as most

people think. Sometimes the signed directive is not available at the time of need, or it is not clear, or the designated agent is just unwilling to give up the hope that further treatment may restore their loved one’s health. We therefore recommend that your parents also take the following further step in the following circumstances:

For persons faced with a serious or potentially terminal illness, they should initiate a discussion with their physician with the idea of jointly signing a document known as “Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (“POLST”). This is an innovative medical form recently created under California law that allows patients to specify what kind of care they wish at the end of their life. The most important feature, and the one that distinguishes it from the Advanced Healthcare Directive, is that the form is signed by the patient’s doctor and becomes an actual physician’s order. As such, it carries special weight because it must be honored by all medical personnel involved in treatment. Your parents’ physician, rather than any designated agent, would have responsibility for implementing your parents’ wishes. By doing this, your parents can relieve you and your siblings of the responsibility of making the final decisions.

The POLST form is designed to become a permanent part of the patient’s medical re-



records and to travel with the patient as he/she moves from one treatment facility to another. It is printed on bright pink paper so that it is easily identifiable in the patient’s chart. At least one study has shown that patients who had properly executed POLST forms had much less unwanted hospitalization and medical interventions.

For more information on Advanced Healthcare Directives and the POLST form, you may either visit our own website (www.LawyerForSeniors.com) or you may contact the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California at 916-489-2222 (www.capolst.org), or the California Medical Association at 1-800-882-1262 (www.cmanet.org).

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney who has been helping East Bay families for over 30 years with Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Medi-Cal Planning, and related matters. Visit: LawyerForSeniors.com, or call (510) 247-2555.

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WEEKEND GARDENER

Vegetables

Harvest winter squash and pumpkins when the vines are dry and the rinds are hard. Cut the stems rather than breaking or tearing them, and leave 2 inches of stem attached to the squash. Let them cure in a dry, well-ventilated area at room temperature for two weeks. Squash and pumpkins should keep for about six months.

Ground Cover

Now is the time to plant new ground covers from six-packs or flats. The root systems will become established over the fall and winter months allowing growth to accelerate in spring.

Vegetables

Transplant artichokes, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, ornamental cabbage, rhubarb and established herbs such as comfrey, sage and thyme. All of these should mature before the first frost and will overwinter nicely.

Flowers

Most perennials can be transplanted, or divided and replanted. To divide, use a spade or sharp knife to separate the large clumps. Discard the old, unproductive sections. Trim the foliage of young growth to 4 or 6 inches. Dig in compost, replant and water to settle the soil.

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Pursuant to Business and
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Sections 17900-17930

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Cifuentes Brother's Gardening, located
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registered by the following owner(s):
Mauro Cifuentes, 6039 Seminary Ave,
Oakland, Ca 94605. This business is
conducted by an individual. This business
commenced N/A
/s/ Mauro Cifuentes
This statement was filed with the County
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Expires OCT 12, 2028

FILED
MELISSA WILK
October 11, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601314

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Marjoly Adult Care at 33412 Alvarado
Niles Union City, CA 94587./4321 Planet
Circle Union City, CA 94587. Alameda
County, is hereby registered by the following
owner(s): Marjoly INC., located at
4321 Planet Circle Union City, CA
94587. This business is conducted by a
Corporation. This business commenced
N/A
/s/ Kyla Josef Rinon
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Expires October 10, 2028
OCT 18, 25, NOV 01, 08, 2023

FILED
MELISSA WILK
September 20, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600927

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
7Angels Assisted Living, located at 491
W Juana Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.
Alameda County, is hereby registered by
the following owner(s): Lupe Mailau,
491 W Juana Ave., San Leandro, CA
94577. This business is conducted by
An Individual.
This business commenced N/A
/s/ Lupe Mailau
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SEP 28, OCT 05, 12, 19, 2023
0860- CVF

FILED
MELISSA WILK
September 13, 2023
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By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600752

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
(1) Villa Lobos Corporation, (2) Jav Financial
(3) Wolf Motors located at 1250 A Fairmont
Dr., Suite 204 San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda
County, is hereby registered by the
following owner(s): Villa Lobos Corporation,
located at 1250 A Fairmont Dr., Suite 204
San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is
conducted by a Corporation. This business
commenced N/A
/s/ Jorge Villalobos
This statement was filed with the County
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Expires September 12, 2028
OCT 11, 18, 25, NOV 01, 2023

FILED
MELISSA WILK
September 5, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600552

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Rosezzz located at 21748 Vallejo St,
Hayward, CA 94546. Alameda County,
is hereby registered by the following
owner(s): Brittney Cacas located at
21748 Vallejo St, Hayward, CA 94546.
This business is conducted by An Individual.
This business commenced
09/01/2023
/s/ Brittney Cacas
This statement was filed with the County
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by file stamp above.
Expires September 4, 2028
OCT 19, 26, NOV 02, 09, 2023
0892- SLT

FILED
MELISSA WILK
September 18, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600826

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Kumuzi Kwatu, located at 2662 23rd
Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606. Alameda
County, is hereby registered by the
following owner(s): Kanyanta Nkonde,
2662 23rd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606.
This business is conducted by An Individual.
This business commenced N/A
/s/ Kanyanta Nkonde
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1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22			23					24	25
26	27	28				29				30		
31					32				33			
34				35					36			
37			38				39					
		40					41			42	43	44
45	46					47	48			49		
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

ACROSS

DOWN

1 Apple tablet
5 Dispensed candy
8 1980s Chrysler line
12 -- bene
13 King, in Cannes
14 British noble
15 Diner employee
16 Gerund ending
17 Pub potables
18 Candy bar nut
20 Stoic philosopher
22 Baseball film starring
Robert Redford
26 Kathmandu's land
29 Census stat
30 Chemical suffix
31 Exploits
32 LPs' successors
33 Air outlet
34 -- de mer
35 Before
36 Rodeo rope
37 Baseball film
starring Kevin Costner
40 Hawaiian island
41 Phase
45 Quick look
47 Extended lunch?
49 "Doing my best"
50 Vogue rival
51 Brit. record label
52 April forecast
53 D.C. insiders
54 Squealer
55 North Sea feeder

1 Bygone Peruvian
2 Betting group
3 Teensy bit
4 Stately duo?
5 A deadly sin
6 Long time
7 Slaloms
8 Reeves of "Speed"
9 Dieters count them
10 "Right you --!"
11 "Kidnapped" monogram
19 Stanley Cup org.
21 Paris summer
23 Consumer crusader Ralph
24 Curry and Landers
25 Jared of "Panic Room"
26 Feeling no pain
27 Birthright barterer
28 Helter-skelter
32 Squad car
33 Dracula, for one
35 College URL ender
36 Vegas lead-in
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46 "Xanadu" band
48 Ms. Thurman

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Washington Manor Neighbors Tackle Safety and Streets

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Public safety and the state of the streets were main concerns of some 80 neighbors and several city officials at a backyard Neighborhood Roundtable in Washington Manor on Sunday, Sept. 24.

"A sense of community is what we want, and would like to get back to," said Bridget Salazar, a Wiley Street resident who helped organize the meeting along with Diana Chen.

Salazar said she was pleased that so many people

came, and focused on solutions rather than just complaining about problems.

The roundtable was supported by the Washington Home Owners Association (WHOA), though not officially sponsored by them.

Crime in the area, especially around Greenhouse Marketplace, and the disrepair of streets, especially potholed Wiley Avenue, drew responses from Mayor Juan Gonzalez and City Councilman Fred Simon. Earlier, the group had been in touch with City Manager Fran Robustelli about

the issues.

Besides sharing concerns, neighbors and officials shared a potluck that spread across five tables, and watched fire-dancing. Many of the neighborhood's children played together while the adults asked questions, socialized, and listened to public officials speak.

Mayor Gonzalez spoke to the group, linking the city's three main priorities as they related to the neighbors' concerns, and took questions for about 45 minutes. He

see MANOR, page 11



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Some of the neighbors at the round-table in Washington Manor on Sunday, September 24. The man at far right is the fire dancer, dressed in his work clothes.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and must be under 300 words. Letters can be edited for clarity or length. Letters are the views of the author and not necessarily the views of the newspaper or its advertisers. E-mail letters to: letters@ebpublishing.com or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Police Cameras Are Fantastic Editor,

Instead of shouting out "Show me the money," I want to be heard loud and clear, "Show me the cameras."

The city has installed 41 cameras to help protect the citizens of San Leandro and that's fantastic but it's only a start. The originally approved plan was to install 41 more cameras but four members of our city council (Aguilar, Azevedo, Reynes, Simon) confirms the fact that they should be considered the modern day Marx Brothers, have shot down the plan to install anymore cameras. This means that when you do the math (41 out of 82) they are completely happy with half-ass results and that might say a lot about their decision-making processes on a multitude of levels.

Our police department is short-staffed with several openings and any tools that can be provided to help them do their job more efficiently should be a top priority. When you consider the fact that the annual cost of one policeman is \$250,000 a year and a 24/7 camera is \$4,900 a year I'm surprised that all 82 cameras are not up and running today. I don't want Big Brother looking into my back yard but having eyes on public areas should be considered totally acceptable.

If the unsavory clientele know that they are on Candid Camera when they enter San Leandro then

they might think twice about breaking the law and spending quality time in our hoosegow.

Brent Heath
San Leandro

Can't Negotiate

Editor,

Of course, the United States has to provide Israel with what it needs to defend itself, but the truth is you can't negotiate with Hamas leadership. Neville Chamberlain tried that with Hitler in 1938 and it didn't work. You have to destroy what is trying to kill you.

The armed wing of Hamas is not the German Wehrmacht or the Japanese Imperial Armed Forces that protected German and Japanese leadership. Therefore, getting rid of Hamas needn't require a massive invasion and destruction of a major city to destroy it.

Instead, the CIA and the Mossad need to allow small strike teams to pick up Hamas' leadership which is probably not even in Gaza, bring them back to Jerusalem, try them for crimes against humanity, and execute them if found guilty. Ordinary Palestinians would probably applaud that since Hamas has terrorized them as well as Israelis.

At the same time, though, the Palestinian Authority needs to find a replacement for President Abbas that speaks English without an accent (we Americans are so shallow

unfortunately) so he or she can make the case on American television for a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its Capital. Israel should accept that, actually work towards it. Otherwise, there will be another Hamas in the future even when the current one is destroyed.

Don Siefkes
San Leandro

Prop. 13 Warps Housing Market Editor,

I was living in California when Proposition 13 was passed into Law in 1978. It appears that Tom Kunich was also living here at the time, but his letter here last week was chock full of misinformation which asked us to ignore the plentiful evidence that Proposition 13 is a major contributor to our massively escalating housing costs and the increased homelessness and insecure living situations which those price increases have brought.

Tom told us that his mother bought the family home he now lives in with the income from her middle class job. His mother almost certainly bought the property during the pre-Prop. 13 era. It's hard to provide better evidence of how badly Prop. 13 has warped the housing market. Tom is essentially conceding here that he would not be able to afford the home he now lives in if his mother had not transferred its ownership to him.

Wealthy, extreme right-wing forces created the policies and funded the campaign for Proposition 13. It would be silly to believe that mega-rich conservatives created and funded the expensive winning campaign for a set of policies meant to help the middle and working classes.

Tom claimed in his letter that ending Prop. 13 would lead to wealthy people buying up massive amounts of housing. You and I should not ignore the fact,

as Tom asked us to do here, that wealthy people are buying up massive amounts of housing in the Bay Area NOW because of the incredibly destructive increases in property values which Prop. 13 has helped cause.

Proposition 13 has utterly failed to keep its promise to keep housing affordable in California. It's not time to end it, but it is time to reform it. The status quo which Prop. 13 has brought us is unsustainable.

Doug Jones
San Leandro

Open Letter to the Mayor and City Council

You Honor and Members of the City Council,

I am interested to see that the Nimitz Motel is going to be turned into an "interim shelter and navigation center." I have a lot of experience working on the homelessness problem in San Francisco, and would like to recommend something.

These projects are always established as "temporary" — they usually are not. The reality is there are always going to be many people who are not able to take care of themselves. Circumstances vary, but will not on our lifetimes move far from the center between the extremes of libertarianism and Marxism. Living in an imperfect and increasingly complex world, there will be ever more people who need help.

So I urge you to do what you can to maximize the value of the resources being allocated. We don't get far by draconian punishment for marijuana, possession or drunkenness; but we do get VERY far by disincentivizing drunken/drugged rampages. Those who are receiving benefits need to be held to some standard. Draw the line wherever you see fit, but don't let it slide into what we see in San Francisco and

San Diego and Los Angeles and Seattle and Chicago and New York. It is not OK to smoke or inject hard drugs. It is definitely not OK to do so while expecting to be fed and housed.

Many decision-makers in this country have lost all connection to any realistic moral framework. They do not see that sin begets sin. But make no mistake: our sin/evil deeds and our complacency in the face of sin/evil will result in (further) tragedy for us, our children, and generations to come.

So don't be afraid to hold the vulnerable people who you (use my tax dollars) to house accountable. Their neighbors — and they themselves — will thank you for it.

Robert Hill
San Leandro

Try Trump before the Election Editor,

Recent reports state that Trump and his lawyers are asking to delay his four separate criminal trials until after the election, so as not to "cripple his chances of being elected." That justification is false, and it is dangerous to our democracy. In fact, the opposite is true. Voters need to know whether a presumed candidate for President of the United States is guilty of any of the 91 serious criminal charges against him BEFORE the election.

Court trials, conforming to our system of justice, are the best and only way we can know whether an accused person is guilty or not guilty. An innocent candidate for office could be presumed to want the trials' results before the election. A criminal candidate can be presumed to want to delay his trials until after we have voted.

Delaying trials cripples our chances of knowing if the candidate is a crook.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont

Dolores Avenue Residents Talk Crime with Mayor Gonzalez

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Residents on Dolores Avenue near downtown invited Mayor Juan Gonzalez last week to talk about crime and other issues in their neighborhood.

"There's theft, speeding, and a clerk at CVS was assaulted," said Carmen Apodaca, who lives on Dolores.

The neighbors met in the driveway of David Silva's house on Dolores and talked to the mayor. They also pointed out how the street lights are dim and it's hard to see walking down the sidewalk. So the meeting covered a range of issues.

Gonzalez said he has a sense of people's concerns. He said the city is working on these issues but it does take time.

Someone asked, how many police are patrolling?

"On any given day there are five, sometimes six or seven," Gonzalez answered. But he added that sometimes detectives and captains are out in the field.

"As a practical matter, we don't really have a traffic division."

— Mayor Juan Gonzalez

"But we're down 26 patrol officers," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said his first job was fully staffing the 9-1-1 operators.

"That was Job One," Gonzalez said. "The first business was that there's someone there to answer when you call."

Job Two, Gonzalez said, is hiring patrol officers. He explained the overall difficulty — there weren't many applications, and then there are a number of steps along

the way that whittle down the number, so it takes time.

"But (the city's) H&R is focused on recruiting," Gonzalez said. He added that more applications are coming in now.

And on a third point, Gonzalez said he agreed with residents about speeding and other traffic violations. But he spoke about priorities, assaults and home invasion robberies, as top concerns.

The police department's traffic division, the officers who give out traffic tickets, are two officers, sometimes one or none, Gonzalez said.

Then he added, "As a practical matter we don't really have a traffic division."

The mayor said he's concerned about crime being normalized, where people just accept it. And there's crime going on that people just aren't reporting.

He told a story of talking to a local business person and he asked if the business was seeing any crime.

"He said, 'No, just that the fence gets cut and people



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Mayor Juan Gonzalez, center, chats with neighbors on Dolores Avenue after they asked to meet with him about crime, street lighting and other issues.

come in and take stuff."

The mayor said he replied, "Isn't that crime?"

On another issue, Gonzalez said that two of the fire stations in town are unsafe and need work and he's going to be proposing a bond on the ballot

for projects like these.

"Look at San Leandro Unified (school district)," he said.

Gonzalez pointed out the new buildings and other improvements at the schools.

"You've got to continue to invest and upgrade."

One woman said the street lights are so dim she's afraid cars won't see her when she's crossing the street, on top of the speeding. She said she carries a flashlight to shine as she crosses to make sure the drivers see her.

Manor: More money spent on paving streets this year than ever before

continued from page 10

detailed public safety, where short-staffing has been a problem but which is being resolved. In particular, he said, a lack of police dispatchers had slowed response time or even reaching the police to tell them something is wrong.

"Huge progress has been made in hiring dispatchers," Gonzalez said. "I've talked to police officers and found morale is good, and individual officers are helping recruit new officers to the force."

"The tide is turning," the mayor added.

On housing and homelessness, Gonzalez said the city continues gathering funding for a homeless navigation center. Neighbors had reported an increase in smash-and-grab

robberies, assaults sometimes by people who clearly had mental health issues, and an uptick with crime they thought connected to more homeless encampments.

On some issues, Gonzalez said the city needs to work with other government agencies. These included cleaning up freeway on- and off-ramps, and AC Transit buses speeding down Wiley Street.

The city has spent more money on repaving streets this year than it ever has, Gonzalez said. But he has been told that Wiley Avenue is not on the city's 3-year repaving map. The neighbors have counted some 200 potholes, with heavy buses rumbling down the road making it worse.

Gonzalez said at the round-

table that he was looking into the city's assessment of the most urgent paving needs. He wondered aloud if that assessment took into account whether a street is a bus route.

He urged people to not just send the city a form e-mail, but to take pictures of what needs to be fixed or cleaned up, and to submit those along with reports on the city's MySL app. Call 311, too, he suggested.

"Keep pushing," Gonzalez said.

The mayor said the city's streets are now rated third-worst in the county, behind the unincorporated areas.

Gonzalez said that the city has grown noticeably poorer in recent years, with some census tracts now qualifying

see MANOR, page 12



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Mayor Juan Gonzalez speaks at the Neighborhood Roundtable in Washington Manor on Sunday, September 24.

Run: 'No task is too small if it benefits someone'

continued from front page

"They gave money, which was pretty darn nice. I was \$2,000 short of the \$9,800 goal and they came through."

Nelson has held his runs for 30 years now. One was a run that started in Monterey. Now he's keeping his runs shorter.

"I'm out of gas," Nelson said after the run. "I probably

walked three-quarters of the last 2 miles. But it gave me time to reflect on my parents. They would have loved this."

"My dad always taught about doing for others, all that stuff. He said no task is too small if it benefits someone."

Nelson is volunteering now at Fremont High where he said he'll be the water boy for football and basketball,

and pitch batting practice for the baseball team.

In the midst of what appears to be a deteriorating state of society, Nelson doesn't seem to lose his optimistic view. As he was visiting businesses to seek donations for this run, he said one shop owner on Fruitvale Avenue in Oakland said he had just been burglarized the night before,

so he couldn't help.

"He was repairing the metal door at his shop," he said.

But Nelson said it inspired him to see the contributions from people for the four schools, no matter what city the schools were in, San Leandro or Oakland.

"I also had time to reflect on all the great kids I've taught over the years," Nelson said.

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Arroyo Upsets Alameda, 34-14, in Homecoming Game

By Daryl Yalung
Special to the Times

Arroyo handed the Alameda High Hornets their first loss of the season on Friday, winning their homecoming game 34-14.

The Dons' defense contained Alameda's high powered offense, allowing only 26 yards rushing and 124 yards in the air. Arroyo also forced four interceptions, including a pick-six by defensive end Thomas Adkins.

"I knew they were a passing offense, and we formulated a game plan around that," said Arroyo head coach Jeffery Pride. "We were in position (for the interceptions) because our players knew how to read their defensive keys."

"I saw the corner bite on the hitch, so I let it fly."

— Arroyo quarterback
Jonah Shelton

Alameda had scored 198 points in its previous six games, and only allowed a total of 29 points. But the Dons seemed to be able to score at will against the Hornet's stacked defense.

On the first pass of the game, Arroyo quarterback Jonah Shelton threw a deep pass

to receiver Landon Bothello in the end zone, and the Dons never looked back.

"It was a simple hitch and go with checkback to a run," said Shelton. "Pre-snap, I saw no over-top safety on (Landon's) side, so if he won the route, he would be open. I saw the corner bite on the hitch, so I let it fly."

Arroyo gained a total of 489 yards against Alameda, including 160 rushing yards for running back Gabe Flores, and 109 receiving yards from Landon Bothello.

Arroyo will travel to San Lorenzo High School this Saturday at noon against the Grizzlies for the annual Arroyo vs. San Lorenzo Helmet Game.



PHOTO BY CONNOR TULLOCH

Gabe Flores picks up yardage for Arroyo against Alameda on Friday.

Manor: 'Lots of people want to do something to help the city'

continued from page 11

as economically disadvantaged by federal standards. The mayor said the city needs to continue revitalizing its economy and to get our fair share of federal and state aid.

"We shouldn't miss out

on available help out of pride, or because we think this is still 1950s San Leandro," the mayor said.

Fred Simon urged neighbors to get together, as they were doing at the roundtable.

"An active neighborhood

is a safer neighborhood," he said. He suggested neighbors already riding bikes or walking dogs do so together with their neighbors, get to know everybody, and become, even unofficially, community ambassadors.

Simon said that programs like Neighborhood Watch are important for public safety, but noted that program relies on people being in their homes looking outward. There's as much need for people being on the streets, getting to know their neighbors, and noting problems in their community, he said.

Simon said Washington Manor wasn't in his own council district, but he wants to work on issues facing the

whole city, not just his own district.

"Lots of people want to do something to help the city and their community," Simon said after the meeting. He noted that the city may soon hire a volunteer coordinator to make it easier for people to do so.

His sense was that it was the potholes, even more than crime, that brought so many people to a meeting. But he said that safety problems around the Greenhouse

Marketplace shopping center called for a community response.

Simon also said it was essential to involve youth in efforts to keep the community healthy.

Bridget Salazar said she would like to see forums held in all neighborhoods, not just Washington Manor.

She invited people to email her at bridget.m.salazar@gmail.com if they'd like to get involved.

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Theft: Stores closing due to theft

continued from front page

organized retail theft — including vehicle and catalytic converter theft.

"Essentially, we want to choke off the demand that is driving a lot of what we see in our communities," Price said at a press conference.

The team will consist of two Deputy District Attorneys, two Inspectors, plus crime and data specialists to investigate and prosecute organized retail theft cases from start to finish.

"Our goal is to dismantle, disrupt, and deter this type of criminality from occurring and, where appropriate, to divert those who are engaging in this type of criminality," said Alameda County Deputy Dis-

trict Attorney Brian Varghese.

Price was flanked by members of police departments, representatives from various local Chambers of Commerce, the Oakland Chinatown Improvement Association, the Bay Area Council, representatives from the cannabis industry, and retailers such as Whole Foods.

Target, for example, announced it was closing three stores in September — including stores in San Francisco, Pittsburg, and Oakland — because of an overwhelming number of thefts.

"If the District Attorney's new Organized Retail Theft Vertical Prosecution Team can provide some relief, I

welcome the initiative," said Oakland City Councilwoman Carroll Fife.

Alameda County has had a difficult time tracking coordinated smash-and-grab thefts because the commercial shoplifting valued at less than \$950 during business hours was a misdemeanor crime and underreported, according to a report last month by the Public Policy Institute of California.

DA Price's new team is expected to try and connect the dots sooner, cooperate with police and sheriff resources, focus on the investigation, and specifically prosecute organized retail theft crimes.

Arrested: Sexual battery by fraud

continued from front page

and the suspect was taken into custody and later charged by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Dung Tu, 46, of Castro Valley was charged with sexual battery

by fraud.

Detectives believe there may be other victims within at least the past few years. Police ask anyone with information to contact SLPD via any of the following methods:

Detective JoAnna Villa at 510-577-3274, non-emergency line at 510-577-2740, anonymous tip line at 510-577-3278, or text-to-tip at 888777 (keyword: TipSL-Police).