



On the Diamond
SAN LORENZO BASEBALL
MEETS PIEDMONT FOR THIRD
TIME, LUCK CHANGES **7**



Be a Savvy Senior
MAKE SURE TO TAKE A LONG,
HARD LOOK AT ESTATE SALE
COMPANIES **12**

WEEKEND WEATHER
MILD Temperatures cool in
cloudy conditions
HIGHS: 61-66
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 50-55

FRIDAY

Sun with clouds

SATURDAY

Sun with clouds

SUNDAY

Sun with clouds

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 28 • NO. 20

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



MedShare volunteers pose under flags of countries that receive the non-profit's medical equipment.

MedShare Volunteers Honored

Over 50 volunteers were honored at Medshare's Distribution and Volunteer Center in San Leandro last month, celebrating both the volunteers and Earth Day.

The volunteers help Medshare deliver needed medical supplies to parts of the world that lack the medical equipment we

take for granted in this country.

The day kicked off with lunch, after which the volunteers were presented with the prestigious President's Volunteer Service Award, awarded for giving a minimum of 100 hours of voluntary service.

This was followed by a presentation by

one of the volunteers, detailing the impact Medshare has had on his home country of Pakistan.

The event was spearheaded by Medshare's Western Regional Director, Eric Talbert and Volunteer Program Manager, see **VOLUNTEERS**, page 5

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDSHARE

City Council Looking at Parcel Tax

Tax money wanted for rising police, fire salaries, pensions

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro City Council is considering asking taxpayers to open their wallets and approve a special parcel tax for the police and fire departments.

The City Council voted unanimously on May 7 to begin the process of putting a parcel tax for public safety on the November ballot, which would largely go to police and fire salaries and pensions.

The next step will be to poll the public to see if there is enough support to pass the tax.

It's an election year and the endorsements of the police and fire unions can give a candidate a boost. More than half of the council is up for reelection in November.

But the tax may be a tough sell to voters – as the city's budget projections show it will be in the red for at least the next decade, due to rising expenditures.

The voters have approved four other tax measures in less than five years. Measure HH passed in 2014 and extended and doubled to a half-cent an older sales tax. Measures NN (a tax on marijuana sales), OO (a tax on warehouse space), and PP (a hotel tax) were passed in 2016.

The new public safety parcel tax is being considered because the city faces looming unfunded pensions. Also, the police and fire

unions say they need more money for equipment and staffing.

Currently, the fire department wants \$650,000 for new vehicles and equipment, as well as money see **PARCEL TAX**, page 18

Mellon Gives EBMUD Update

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

If you want to know what's going on with water and wastewater in town, just ask East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Board Member Frank Mellon.

Mellon has been on the board since 1994 and represents EBMUD's Ward 7 which includes Castro Valley and portions of San Leandro, Cherryland, and Hayward. He gave an update to the public on Tuesday on some of EBMUD's local projects this week.

This past winter wasn't as rainy at the last, but EBMUD reservoirs are in good shape. The see **EBMUD**, page 5

U.C. Prof Reveals Tech's Flip Side

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

All the glamour of high tech comes at the cost of rising numbers of homeless and people struggling to keep a roof over their heads, said social geographer Dick Walker in a talk last Saturday.

High tech is the biggest industry in the world. The Bay Area is the world's center of high tech. People like Zuckerberg and Musk are giants of the tech industry. The Bay Area has it all.

Yet California and the Bay Area lead the nation in homelessness. A quarter of the Bay Area work force is employed at minimum wage. And only 20 percent of the people in the Bay Area can afford a house today.

"It's getting beyond belief. Is this the best capitalism has to offer?" asked Walker, a longtime

U.C. Berkeley geography professor, recently retired.

Walker talked about his new book, "Picture of a Gone City: Tech and the Dark Side of Prosperity in the San Francisco Bay Area," at the South Berkeley Senior Center, presented by Speak Out Now, Revolutionary Workers Group.

"I try to give an honest picture, how important this place is," Walker said. "This is probably the most important place in the world right now. It's a shooting star. Tech is the most important industry in the world. We laugh at Zuckerberg and Musk without realizing how critical this is.

"It's a balloon that hasn't blown up yet. But of course it will."

The reason for the housing



TIMES FILE PHOTO

San Leandro homeless people, many who grew up here, come to a free lunch provided by volunteers.

crisis "is you," said Walker, looking at the audience.

"The reason it's gotten so bad is because you oppose new

building in your neighborhood," he said.

Walker said so-called gentrification see **BAY AREA**, page 6

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

GARDEN

Eden Garden Club to host plant sale. **Page 2**

NEWS

Man killed by hit-and-run on shoulder of I-580. **Page 3**

OUTDOORS

Volunteers pull ivy at Chabot Park. **Page 20**

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San Leandro Times

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Pets of the Week



Stella



King

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Stella the dog and King the dog.

Stella is an 8-year-old who loves going for walks, hanging out with other dogs, exploring new places and sniffing things. She's OK with older kids and adults.

King is a social, neutered 2-year-old with lots of energy. He prefers people and leans into your leg for pets, but enjoys walking with other dogs. OK with older kids.

For more information on Stella or King, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 293-7200.

Church to Unveil Biggest Little Library

Epiphany Lutheran Church, 16248 Carolyn St. in San Leandro (just off Foothill Boulevard), invites you to the dedication of the Biggest Little Library in San

Leandro this Saturday at 10 a.m. RSVP at 279-5133. Donations of gently used books and magazines for all ages will be greatly appreciated.

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Eden Garden Club Plant Sale

Eden Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot behind the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road

in Castro Valley, with heirloom vegetables, perennial flowers, succulents, orchids, trees, houseplants, garden art, baked goods, and garden tools.

Easy to grow favorites such as geraniums, day lilies, irises and other water-wise drought tolerant plants will be for sale, as well as sun and shade plants proven successful in our local gardens.

The net proceeds from the Plant Sale benefit garden grants awarded to schools in Castro Valley and Hayward.

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Rent Review Board

The Rent Review Board will meet on Tuesday, May 22, at 7 p.m. in the City Council chambers at San Leandro City Hall, 835 East 14th St. for a hearing on an apartment at 234 Joaquin Ave.



BY ROBERT ROSAS

If YOU suffer from low back pain, according to National Institutes of Health, you are among

four out of five Americans who will suffer from disabling back pain during their lifetimes.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called "sciatica".

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

That is, until now...

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

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Pleasanton, you can try Non-

THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES Special Reader Offer

Breakthrough Relief for Back Pain and Sciatica

Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care at Intero Chiropractic – the office of low back pain and sciatica relief expert Dr. Jerry Hsieh, D.C.

Dr. Hsieh, D.C. and his team have helped numerous patients find relief from their agonizing back pain and sciatica.

According to Dr. Hsieh, D.C. "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology not found elsewhere in the Tri-Valley Area, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, many patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

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

Pleasanton Weekly has teamed up with the spine therapy team at Intero Chiropractic, to help readers find relief from their

persistent back and sciatic pain.

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

Mention this article (CODE: BOS37SCID5) and Dr. Jerry Hsieh, D.C. will happily reduce his usual consultation fee of \$100 to just \$20. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Dr. Jerry Hsieh, D.C. and his team now by calling (925)255-5805, they are waiting to take your call today.

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

That's why hundreds of grateful

patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

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

Call them now and get a full and thorough evaluation to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$20, the normal cost of such an exam is \$100 so you will save \$80!

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

Call them now at (925)255-5805 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a comprehensive evaluation to diagnose the cause of your problem – and you'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief! Don't



delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

You can even call on the weekend and book an appointment with their answering service to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don't pick up right away, please leave a message.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

Old School Cool

Alameda County Fire Department Engine 13 and the department's 1935 Ford stopped by the 17th Annual Classic and Custom Car and Motorcycle Show at Arroyo High last weekend.

Inmates Celebrate Graduation

The Inmate Services Unit of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office held graduation ceremonies on May 8 and 9 for 116 students who completed one or more of the adult secondary education or career and technical education courses they are offered while incarcerated at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

The catalogue of courses includes: anger management, baking, computer coding, computers, employment readiness, food handler certification, high school diploma, high school equivalency, parenting inside out, restorative justice, roots of success, serve safe, and substance abuse.

Following each ceremony, the students received a special meal, and the high school graduates were given the opportunity to take photographs in their cap and gown.

Completion of these programs is voluntary, and requires a commitment by each student.

The inmate services division says they appreciate the family members that were able to support the graduates by attending the ceremonies.

The corrections team said

they are proud that these students have taken the steps to improve their future by completing these courses.



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Man Killed by Hit-and Run Driver While on I-580 Shoulder

A man was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while walking on the shoulder of I-580 in San Leandro last Thursday night.

The victim, identified by the Alameda County Coroner's Office as Stephen Courtway, 50, was walking east on the side of the westbound lane near the 150th Avenue exit at just after 10 p.m. on May 10, according to the California Highway Patrol.

Courtway was struck by passing vehicle which drove on without stopping, the CHP said.

No one has come forward

as having witnessed the crash, but motorists who arrived on the scene later reported seeing Courtway on the ground.

Courtway was taken to Eden Hospital in Castro Valley where he later died from his injuries.

The CHP says that pedestrians are sometimes spotted on the shoulder of I-580 because there are homeless encampments in the area but it is not known at this time if Courtway was living in one of those encampments.

No vehicle belonging to Courtway was found in the vicinity, according to the CHP.

Anyone who saw the collision or who has any information about the incident is asked to call the CHP at 581-9028.

Ex Cons Can Vote, Too

You can vote if you have a felony conviction, so long as you are not currently in prison or on parole or post-release community supervision, according to the Alameda County Public Defender's Office. You can also vote if you are on felony probation.

You still need to fill out a voter registration card and register at least 15 days before Election Day.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	P	E	F	O	A	M	S	F	B	I
L	A	M	U	P	B	O	W	L	A	D
F	L	U	C	T	U	A	T	E	U	S
M	U	F	F	L	E	R	E	N	T	
U	R	L	E	N	D	N	I	E	C	E
S	A	U	L	T	I	C	D	R	U	G
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R	U	E	F	L	U	M	M	O	X	E
I	T	S	A	T	R	E	E	Y	M	A
P	E	T	T	H	I	N	S	Z	O	

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11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your San Leandro Home for Sale

San Leandro - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away alto-

gether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-844-767-8796 and enter 2003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of John Adams RE/MAX Accord DRE#01293867. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2018

NEIGHBORS



Residents of San Leandro unwind at the end of the day with some good food, drink and entertainment at San Leandro’s “Truth Thursday”.

“Truth Thursdays” to Return

Downtown San Leandro’s “Truth Thursdays” will return this summer at the San Leandro Tech Campus, 1600 Alvarado St., starting Thursday, May 24, from 5 to 9 p.m. Every fourth Thursday of the month throughout the summer, the space around the 55-foot Truth Is Beauty statue will come alive with a community event featuring food trucks, beer and wine, recreational games, and live entertainment.

Food trucks and live music will rotate each month at the site just west of the San Leandro BART Station. Friends and family will enjoy recreational games like corn hole and bocce ball on the grass in addition to the live music, food and drinks for the entire evening.

Future dates for the 2018 “Truth Thursdays” series are: Thursday, June 28; Thursday, July 26; and Thursday, August 23.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ **Art Exhibit at Foothill Gallery** exhibit by students from the Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo and Hayward

Creating Our Future, an art

school districts, will be on display at the Foothill Gallery, 22394 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward through May 31, sponsored by the Hayward Arts Council and Seneca Family of Agencies. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

❖ **PhotoCentral Spring Exhibition** This exhibit features photographs by the friends, patrons, and students of PhotoCentral, and showcases the work of artists throughout San Francisco Bay Area and beyond, at 1099 E Street in Hayward. For more info, visit: www.photocentral.org.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Lots of possibilities begin to open up by midweek. Some seem more appealing than others. But wait for more facts to emerge later on before you consider which to choose.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bravo to the determined Bovine. While others might give up, you continue to search for answers. Expect your Taurean tenacity to begin paying off by week's end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might want to consider stepping back from the task at hand for a while. This could help you get a better perspective on what you've done and what still needs to be done.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your keen Cancerian insight should help you determine whether a new offer is solid or just more fluff 'n' stuff. The clues are all there waiting for you to find them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Being ignored is difficult for any proud Leo or Leona. But pushing yourself back into the spotlight might be unwise. Instead, let things work themselves out at their own pace.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Trying to uncover a colleague's secret under the pretext of showing concern is ill-advised. Control your curiosity to avoid raising resentment in the workplace.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Expect to hear good news about a loved one. Also, be prepared for some changes in several family relationships that could develop from this lucky turn of events.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some surprises are expected to accompany a number of changes that will continue through part of next week. At least one could involve a romantic situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You might be upset by some of your critics. But most of your associates continue to have faith in your ability to get the job done, and done well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A workplace goal that suddenly seems out of reach is no problem for the sure-footed Goat, who moves steadily forward despite any obstacles placed in his or her way.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Uncertainty about who is right and who isn't might keep you from making a clear-cut decision. Wait until you know more about what you're being asked to decide.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be careful to keep your emotions in check when dealing with a demanding personal situation. You need to set an example of strength for others to follow.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ **Free Health Workshop** Learn about mental wellness as staff members from Asian Health Services offer a free health workshop, “An Introduction to Mental Health,” on Saturday, May 19, at 11 a.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Learn about healthy coping mechanisms when managing stress, anxiety, or depression. Chinese and Vietnamese interpreters will be on hand to translate. Light refreshments served.

❖ **May Fundraiser for Meals on Wheels** The 10th annual spring luncheon benefiting SOS/Meals on Wheels will take place on Saturday, May 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Oliver Hall, at Eden United Church of Christ, 21455 Birch St. in Hayward. The festivities will feature a sumptuous buffet cooked by the resident Chef Eric. There will be lovely prizes in the pick-your-prize raffle as well as silent auction items that range from a weekend away at North Shore Tahoe to a heated toilet seat with a built-in bidet. The tickets are \$35 each. Proceeds go directly to making sure the program continues to deliver the 1200 daily meals to the seniors in Hayward, Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo and Oakland. For information on purchasing tickets, sponsoring the event or donating an auction item, email mary@sosmealsonwheels.org or call Mary at 582-1263.

❖ **Community of Faith Breakfast** Bay Area Family Church, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro, will hold its monthly Community of Faith Breakfast on Saturday, May 19, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Rev. Angelike Selle will speak on “Peace Starts With Me - Creating a Culture of Heart.” All are welcome.

❖ **Meeting of the Eden Garden Club** Eden Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot behind the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley, with heirloom vegetables, perennial flowers, succulents, orchids, trees, houseplants, garden art, baked goods, and garden tools. Easy to grow favorites such as geraniums, day lilies, irises and other water-wise drought tolerant plants will be for sale, as well as sun and shade plants proven successful in our local gardens. The net proceeds from the plant sale benefit garden grants awarded to schools in Castro Valley and Hayward Unified School District. For more information, call Karen Misenhimer, Plant Sale Chairperson, at 397-1268.

❖ **District Attorney Candidates’ Forum** Hear from the candidates running for Alameda County District Attorney at a candidates’ forum on Monday, May 21, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. at the San Lorenzo Library, 395 Paseo Grande in San Lorenzo. Incumbent Nancy O’Malley and challenger Pamela Price will participate and the audience will have the opportunity to pose questions. The event is free and open to the public. The Forum is co-sponsored by the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association East Bay Chapter (APAPA-EBC), the League of Women Voters Eden Area and the Alameda County Library. For more information, contact Aiwa Zelinsky, League of Women Voters Eden Area, at aiyz@comcast.net.

❖ **History Presentations at Bancroft** Bancroft Middle School, 1150 Bancroft Ave., presents *Civilizations of The World* on Thurs-

day, May 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrate the middle ages as we circumnavigate the globe through scholarly research projects from the 7th grade students. Artistic and musical presentations will delight and astound you, including acts by the California Revels, Ninja and Viking demonstrations, Aztec dance troop, and henna artists.

❖ **Balinese Dance & Music at SL Library** In celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the San Leandro Public Library invites everyone to enjoy an exquisite performance of Balinese dance and music by the Gadung Kasturi performers on Thursday, May 24, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free. The Gadung Kasturi Balinese Dance and Music Company is committed to preserve, promote and develop the traditional dance and music of Bali, Indonesia, through live performance, workshops, classes, lectures and publications.

❖ **Program on the Battle of Iwo Jima** The Veterans Resource Center of the San Leandro Public Library will present, *Iwo Jima and the Photo that Changed America*, a program on the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the battle’s iconic photograph on Saturday, May 26, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Lecture Hall of the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. A panel, including veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima, will discuss the battle and the famous photo, *Iwo Jima Flag Raising*, taken by war photographer Joe Rosenthal. The 2-hour program is suitable for all ages and will begin with a short film. A question-and-answer session will follow and everyone is invited to an ice cream social afterward.

❖ **Alameda County Food Bank Drive** Paramedics Plus wants your help to fill an ambulance with food to deliver to the Alameda County Food Bank. The emergency medical service for the county, will host a food drive during the month of May. The goal is to fill 96 boxes of food – 192 cubic feet inside an ambulance. A donation of non-perishable food can be dropped off at the Paramedics Plus office at 575 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during May.

❖ **Ancestry Day Asian Cultural Center** The Oakland Asian Cultural Center and the California Genealogical Society present Chinese Ancestry Day on Saturday, May 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 Ninth St., Suite 290, in Oakland, a day of learning the fundamentals of genealogy tailored for those learning about their Chinese ancestors. Speakers include Felicia Lowe, Grant Din, Marisa Louie Lee and John Wong, plus resources from partners California Historical Society and Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. Lunch buffet by Peony Seafood Restaurant included with registration (required). Register at www.californiaancestors.org.

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

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

Building Futures to Mark 30th Year with Jazz It Up

Building Futures will mark 30 years of life-changing programs and services with its annual gala on Friday, May 18, from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Jazz it Up 2018 is a celebration of the people Building Futures serves, and the partners who have helped the agency provide housing, shelter, and supportive services for 30 years.

The outdoor event unfolds at San Leandro's historic Casa Peralta, a grand Spanish-style villa. Food will be provided by area favorites Locos Only (Hawaiian-Mexican fusion) and Wezy Cuisine (Asian fusion) food trucks. Added magic includes a live performance by seven-time Grammy nominee John Santos, one of the world's foremost exponents of Afro-Latin music.

Building Futures will present awards to the City of San Leandro's Homeless Compact, Alameda icon Jim Franz, and Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley. "San Leandro is truly a place where kindness matters, and the San Leandro Homeless Compact is a direct example of our approach to the less fortunate in our community," says Mayor Cutter. "I thank our



Great music for a great cause -- Jazz It Up! 2018 will feature live musical performances by seven-time Grammy nominee John Santos.

city council and staff, Building Futures, and April Showers for providing the leadership to house, shelter, and serve homeless people.

Don't miss an array of silent auction packages that includes Disneyland Park Hopper passes and transportation, and tickets to Hamilton at the San Francisco Orpheum Theatre. The raffle's grand prize is a weeklong beachfront getaway to beautiful Costa Rica. All event proceeds will support Building Futures' array of

programs and services designed to connect vulnerable Alameda County families and individuals with a place to call home.

Building Futures is grateful to premiere sponsors AC Transit, FH Dailey Chevrolet, Bridge Housing, Cahill Contractors, Nancy and Michael Pretto, Kaiser Permanente, Creekside Plaza Partners, Michael and Jeanne Williams, Mosaic Financial Partners, Inc., McDermott Costa Insurance Brokers, Gaye Eisenlord, Dark Heart Nursery,

Century Housing Corporation, Maximus Real Estate Partners, Evelyn and Juan Gonzalez, City of San Leandro, Rob and Emily Rich, and AT&T.

Don't delay—purchase event or raffle tickets online at JazzItUp2018.eventbrite.com, or call Lorie Curtis at 510-924-3092.

EBMUD: Water bill: Use less, pay more

continued from front page

reservoir system is at 109 percent of average and 89 percent of capacity as of April.

EBMUD has a \$2 billion, 2-year budget with several rate hikes to customers over the past few years. Last July, the board approved raising rates by 9.25 percent and another 9 percent hike is scheduled for July 2018.

That's on top of rate increases totaling over 35 percent since 2013. So, the average East Bay household's water bill went from \$30 per month five years ago to more than \$50 in 2018.

The irony is that people are using less water, but their bills are still increasing. Water use in the EBMUD coverage area dropped from 195 million gallons in 2007 to 125 million gallons in 2016. EBMUD says its costs don't change just because the amount of water used goes down, so the rate hike is necessary to maintain the infrastructure.

As far as infrastructure goes, EBMUD says they are constantly replacing their pipes, some of which are over 100 years old. There will also soon be upgrades to some important pumping plants, including a \$1.8 million rehabilitation of mechanical and

electrical equipment at the Fire Trail pumping plant in Castro Valley and the Bayfair pumping plant in San Leandro.

The district also plans on spending \$5 million to replace the control system at the Upper San Leandro Water Treatment plant.

And EBMUD will also soon spend \$80,000 to perform a customer opinion survey to analyze customers feedback on water and wastewater services.

EBMUD is also part of the "Haywired Scenario" which the United States Geological Survey (USGS) put out to demonstrate what could happen if a 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit the Hayward fault.

The USGS predicted an Oakland epicenter quake would lead to 800 deaths, 16,000 injuries, and about \$120 billion in quake and fire damages.

EBMUD is trying to mitigate some of that potential damage with their seismic upgrades, including replacing brittle cast iron pipes with more flexible plastic ones which can better withstand the shaking, the recent retrofit of the Chabot Dam and the switch to a steel tank from a cement reservoir in the Castro Valley hills.

Volunteers:

continued from front page
Shana Hassol.

To recognize the positive impact MedShare volunteers have on the environment, there was a send-off ceremony for a shipment of high-quality medical supplies and equipment, destined to the Philippines. Part of what made this Primary Care shipment a wonderful fit for the event was that it was funded by a MedShare volunteer and her husband.

"MedShare volunteers know that human health and environmental health go hand in hand," Talbert said. "Each of us has the responsibility to make a healthier world, and that's exactly what MedShare volunteers do each day."

Since the beginning of the year, more than 6,000 people have volunteered their time to advance MedShare's mission to improve global health.

"Thanks to the selfless efforts of MedShare's volunteers, more than 330,000 patients will now live healthier lives," Talbert said.

Pauline Cutter, Mayor of San Leandro, also attended the event.

"One of the best things about being mayor is getting to talk to people in the community who have a heart, who make the community better," Cutter said. "What (Medshare does) here just can't be duplicated, diverting things from landfill and actually giving it to people to use to help save lives."

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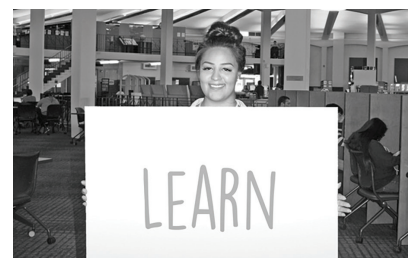
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Bay Area: From blue-collar region to land of elites and working poor

continued from front page

fication, the idea of artists fixing up a rundown part of town, is a myth.

It's not gentrification, what you have is the central cities have been taken over by the rich as their private playground, driving workers out to places like Stockton on the outer reaches of the Bay Area, he said. And the wealthy depend on a huge pool of cheap labor who can barely afford to live in the Bay Area, or who live in their cars.

The housing supply has fallen behind while the demand for housing has shot up. You can't create housing like iPhones, Walker said. It takes years to expand the housing supply.

There's a myth that the high tech industry is built on genius, said Walker. But it's really built on social capital, all the tech workers in the Bay Area.

But all the tech workers aren't sharing in the immense wealth produced by the tech industry, because costs are so high. A lot of coders are sharing rooms, like living in a flop house, Walker said.

Millions of people in the Bay Area are doing jobs that are neither high-tech nor glamorous. One of the greatest illusions of the age is that the real producers are the highly educated and entrepreneurs, while the mass of working people are just hang-



UC Berkeley professor emeritus Dick Walker takes a look at the economically and geographically expanding Bay Area and the role played by high tech.

ers-on, he said.

But low-paid workers are doing the jobs that make it possible for the Bay Area to exist.

Tech made capitalism fun and exciting again, Walker said. It relies on fetishism (sleek iPhones, Teslas, etc.) to put people under a spell.

"And if you oppose it, you're backwards or a Luddite," Walker said.

A woman in the audience asked Walker if he thought Silicon Valley might emulate Kaiser, which built housing for its shipyard workers. Walker's simple answer brought a chuckle from the crowd.

"No."

No one will build housing for the bottom third, there's no money in it, unless you're forced to, Walker said. He added that Pullman built housing for his railroad car workers and what he learned from that is that it solidified a sense of class antagonism.

Another reason housing won't be built is there's no federal money for housing anymore, thanks to the neo-liberals, Walker said.

"We're all grappling with the 25-hour news cycle and Tweets from a crazy president," Walker said.

But try to keep Trump in the

background, he said, and work on a more enlightened housing policy. Adding, take housing off the market, which you have to do in a crisis.

Someone mentioned the teachers strike in West Virginia that got them a raise. Walker said the teachers union is powerful in California too, and returned to Silicon Valley where he cited examples of the low wage workers starting to organize – the food service workers, and the Teamsters organizing the bus drivers.

"Revolutions happen, strikes happen," Walker said. "They can just sort of come out of nowhere."

The high tech titans aren't doing much for the working poor of the Bay Area, Walker said.

"These guys talk a good line but they end up falling in line with their class interests," he said. "The ruling class has gotten so rich and so disconnected with reality."

When the next recession comes it could hit the Bay Area hard, Walker said.

"I do foresee a major downturn. I've predicted the last four out of five, you can ask my students," Walker said.

It won't be as bad as the recession in 2007-2008, but tech

is hit the hardest in recent recessions, so the Bay Area will feel it worse than the rest of the country. And a lot of loose capital has flooded the Bay Area – Chinese money, New York money – going into apartments and housing.

"And a lot of that is going to go away," Walker said. "So it could be pretty dire."

But Walker ended on an upbeat note.

"In the Bay Area we have people who know how to solve every problem, the housing crises and all the rest," Walker said. "If they could simply be unleashed, they could solve the problem."



Balinese dancers will come to the Main Library next week for a performance to celebrate Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Balinese Dancers to Celebrate Pacific Island

In celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the San Leandro Public Library invites everyone to enjoy an exquisite performance of Balinese dance and music by the Gadung Kasturi performers on Thursday, May

24 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free.

Established in 2007 in California as a non-profit organization, the Gadung Kasturi Balinese Dance and Music Company is committed to preserve, pro-

mote and develop the traditional dance and music of Bali, Indonesia, through live performance, workshops, classes, lectures and publications.

Balinese dance is a very ancient dance tradition that is part of the religious and artistic expression among the Balinese people of Bali island, Indonesia. Balinese dance is dynamic, angular and intensely expressive. Balinese dancers express the stories of dance-drama through the gestures of fingers, hands, head and eyes.

For more information, please call the Main Library at 577-3971.

Join the Happy Stampers

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

For more information, call Janie at 483-0389.

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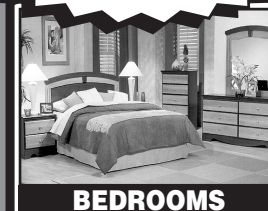
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San Lorenzo Baseball Wins Two, Drops One to Piedmont

By Andrew Joseph
San Leandro Times

The San Lorenzo baseball team beat Piedmont twice at the end of the regular season, but the Highlanders got the upper hand on Tuesday in the Western Alameda County Conference (WACC) playoffs with an 8-2 win.

But San Lorenzo still might qualify for the North Coast Section playoffs next week.

Christian Torres drove in a run for San Lorenzo, and Gonzalo Barajas and Chris Giles, Jr. each scored a run.

"The bulk of our team never gave up, we remained positive until the end of the game," said San Lorenzo head baseball coach Harry Torres. "We don't think the season is over — we plan on playing in the North Coast Section playoffs. We will find out on Sunday."

Piedmont scored the first run of the game when Grant Keating singled, sending Carson Gerhardy home from second base.

"They're a good team and I give my respect to them, they have a good organization over there," said San Lorenzo outfield-

er Andres Lopez.

The Highlanders added to their lead in the top of the third when Gerhardy singled to right field that drove in Joe Sassi,

"The momentum shifted our way when we had the bases loaded, but it went back when they got that strikeout."

— San Lorenzo baseball player Christian Torres

and added two more runs in the fourth.

San Lorenzo's fourth inning

comeback started when Chris Giles, Jr. walked, and then Andres Lopez singled. Gio Valdez laid down a sacrifice bunt to bring home Giles, Jr. with only one out. Raul Arechiga was hit by a pitch, putting two runners on base with two outs.

"When you get one or two runners on and then you get that hit by Christian Torres who I think is the best batter on our team this entire year, you spark a run," said coach Torres.

Christian Torres followed with a base hit that drove in Lopez, and Logan Vanhille walked to set up a pivotal point in the game. San Lorenzo had the base loaded and two men out when Jerrick Romer stepped to the plate, but was struck out to end the fourth inning.

"I feel like in the fourth inning the momentum shifted our way when we had the bases loaded with two outs, but it went back to them when they got the strikeout," said Christian Torres. "We know we can still compete in the NCS playoffs so this loss does mean something, but we still know we can beat them."

"If we got that hit with the bases loaded I think our whole



PHOTO BY ANDREW JOSEPH

San Lorenzo was trailing, 6-2, with the base loaded and two out with Jerrick Romer swinging at the plate in the fourth inning.

dugout would have been ignited and came alive," added Lopez. "It would have been a clutch moment where we would have bounced back, but it didn't happen our way. Our coach tells us all the time, 'Don't let failure determine you.'"

After that, The Highlanders put the game away with two more runs in the top of the fifth inning.

"My pitching focus today was remembering that I had them off-balance when we played them last week so I tried to do the same thing today," said San Lorenzo starting pitcher Jonathan Sira. "They were ready and forced me to come over the plate a little more than I am comfortable with. They came to play today with revenge from our last series."

San Lorenzo is now 10-6 in league play and 12-13 overall, while Piedmont improved to 9-6 in league and 15-9-1 overall having won seven of their last nine games.

The NCS playoffs start on Tuesday, with the entries and matchups being posted this Sunday on the website: www.CIF-NCS.org



Joe Rosenthal's photo of the Marines raising the American flag on Mt. Suribachi became one of the most recognized photos in history.

Veterans Center Presents Talk On Famous Iwo Jima Photo

The Veterans Resource Center of the San Leandro Public Library will present, "Iwo Jima and the Photo that Changed America," a program on the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the battle's iconic photograph on Saturday, May 26, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Lecture Hall of the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

A panel, including veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima, will discuss the battle and the famous

photo, "Iwo Jima Flag Raising," taken by war photographer Joe Rosenthal, who would later become a photographer at the San Francisco Chronicle for 35 years. Rosenthal's photograph of six U.S. Marines raising the flag atop Mt. Suribachi is one of the most recognized and reproduced photographs in history.

The 2-hour program is suitable for all ages and will begin with a short film. The panel will

be moderated by Tom Graves, author and Chapter Historian of the Joe Rosenthal Chapter, USMC Combat Correspondents Association. A question-and-answer session will follow and everyone is invited to an ice cream social afterward.

For more information, contact Addie Silveira at 577-3991 or send an email to asilveira@sanleandro.org, or call David Moragne at 577-3993.

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AUTOMOTIVE

Try Something Different

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

Audi is famous for its fine sedans, and they've more recently added a line of popular crossover vehicles. The A5, however, is a coupe, occupying a slightly sportier segment in the lineup. This next-generation model just received significant updates, too, on a new chassis.

While Audis have been conservatively updated over the years, their general proportions historically are clean and balanced. Over the last several years, larger and larger grilles and more edges have become more part of the design.

Despite some sharply defined details, the new A5 has a pleasing upward curve on the rear fenders, with muscular haunches giving more liveliness to the design. The hood wears sharp creases as it points down to the fiercely rendered "eyes" and a wider, flatter Singleframe grille. As per today's style book, vents under the headlight pods give a more mechani-

cal, race car feel. You can order up optional LED or matrix LED headlamps with dynamic turn signals, too.

Where Audis especially shine is in their interiors. This one is no different. With the new model's longer wheelbase, the interior offers more room. The aluminum trim glistens throughout and assembly and materials remain first rate.

The electronic Virtual Cockpit delights with its realistic but artificially generated instrument panel. Its high-resolution 12.3-inch TFT display can be configured in two ways with a push of a button. It's fun to watch the dials shrink and slide to the sides to display vehicle information.

As usual, you control what's on your center console screen with a dial on the floor console. You can get used to this way of interaction. Apple CarPlay and Android Auto give you access to your apps and conveniences like hands-free texting (it's legal) while underway.

So many nice touches. A rimless rearview mirror sits between the reading lamps, which turn on as your hand nears them. Strip lights under the door speakers and on the console add ambiance at night. The trunk offers four chrome tiedowns and a netted storage area on each side.

In the U.S., your engine choice is single — a 2.0-liter turbocharged inline four-cylinder that puts out 252 horsepower and 273 lb.-ft. of torque. Good news — you can select either a six-speed manual or a seven-speed automatic, with no price difference. My tester came with the automatic, which is the way most buyers in America are likely to take it. In Germany, there are several Diesel engine options which we are not likely to ever see on this side of the Atlantic.

This compact turbo powerplant takes the 3,549-pound A5 from zero to 60 in a respectable 5.7 seconds. And there's plenty of entertainment as the firm suspension and crisp steering give you a feeling of lightness and control. The new A5 is 132.2 pounds lighter than its predecessor, thanks to the use of advanced materials and lightweight design.

EPA numbers, for a sporty car, are quite good: 24 mpg City, 34 Highway, and 27 Combined. I averaged 24.8 mpg, but in an example of how you drive making a difference, my final 18-mile commute netted 30.2 mpg. The green scores are 5 for Smog and 6 for Greenhouse Gas — about average.

Of course, Audi provides its famous Quattro all-wheel-drive system for more safety and performance without you lifting a finger. There's a long list of standard



The exterior of the Audi A5 has been redesigned to feature more dramatic shapes and sharp lines.

safety features, from eight airbags to pre-sense preventative occupant protection in case of a crash. You'd expect no less.

Like so many cars in this segment, the standard package is well equipped already, but you can easily load it up. My Glacier White Metallic tester (\$575 for that special paint) included the Premium Plus Package (\$3,000), with heated mirrors and seats, SiriusXM, a parking assistance system, and much more. The Navigation Package (\$2,600) includes navigation plus the Virtual Cockpit. The S line sport package (\$1,250) injects sportiness and exclusivity with 18-inch alloy wheels, and unique S line bumpers, fender badges, sill blades, and a sport suspension.

But wait, there's more! My car also included a sensational Bang & Olufsen audio system with 3D sound (\$950) and a wheel upgrade to the S line 19-inch wheel package (\$800). Do



The Audi A5 interior features a three-spoke multifunction steering wheel with shift paddles.

the math, and a car that base prices at \$42,800 comes to \$52,950 with destination charge.

Audi has been on a roll for quite a while, with monthly sales numbers increasing month-to-month for years. Although some of the simplicity of the design is lost, the mixture of driver-orient-

ed performance features and the exquisite quality of assembly and components add up to a compelling package. Although coupes are a minority today, it shows that the four-ring marque is serious about providing a range of choices. No minivans or pickup trucks are coming, however.

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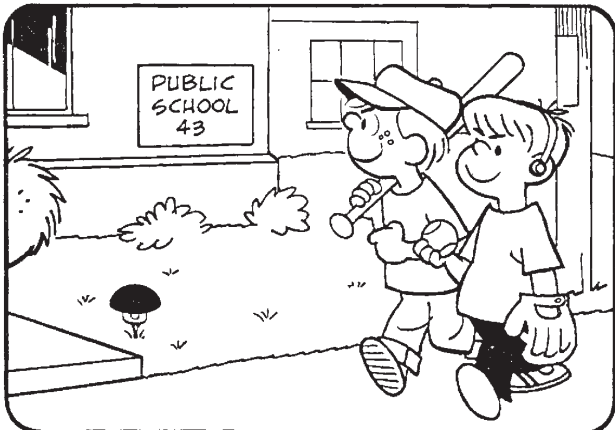
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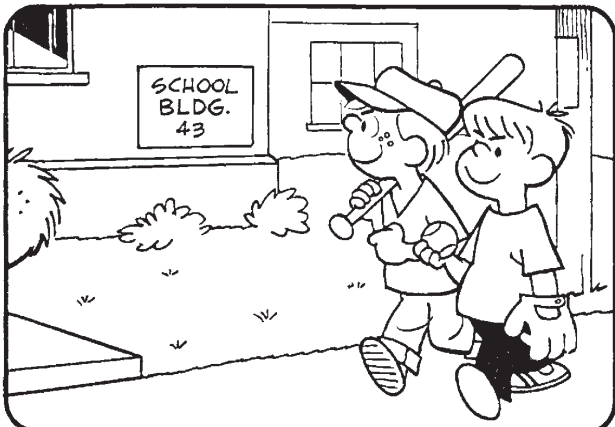
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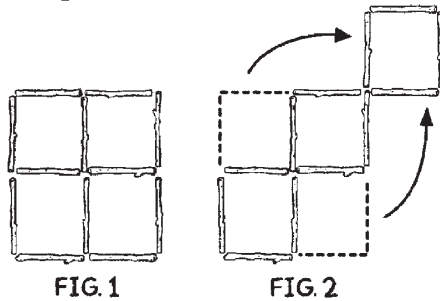
BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Window is higher. 2. Sign is different. 3. Lawn light is missing. 4. Neckline is different. 5. Headset is missing. 6. Glove is different.

PUZZLE CARD



LAY OUT 12 STICKS, as shown in figure 1, and challenge your friends to move four of them to new positions so that three equal squares will be formed. Figure 2 gives our solution.

EIGHT DOWN AND TWO TO GO! See if you can figure out what the next two letters are in this series of letters.

A E F H I K L M _ _ ?

Answer: The above eight letters are in alphabetical order and they are all made using straight lines. Therefore, the next two letters should be "N" and "T."

IT TAKES A "PUZZLE ARTIST" TO SOLVE THIS ONE! At right is a word square. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same both across and down.

1. Picture support (given).
2. Ancient Greek marketplace.
3. Individual performances.
4. To wear down.
5. Sci-fi weapon.

Answers: 1. Easel. 2. Agora. 3. Solos. 4. Erode. 5. Laser.

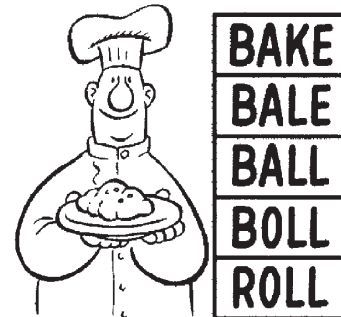
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A				
S				
E				
L				

Illustrated by David Coulson

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

SEE IF YOU CAN "RISE" TO SOLVE THIS ONE!



In this type of puzzle you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. In our example, we changed BAKE to ROLL in four moves. See if you can change the following five words in four moves.

1. JUNK to PILE
2. PASS to BUCK
3. MOAT to WALL
4. COLD to FEET
5. RANK to FILE

Answers: 1. JUNK, PUNK, PINK, PINE, FILE. 2. PASS, BASS, BASK, BACK, BUCK. 3. MOAT, MOLT, MALT, WALL, WALL. 4. COLD, COLT, FELT, FEET, FEET. 5. RANK, RINK, FINK, FINE, FILE.

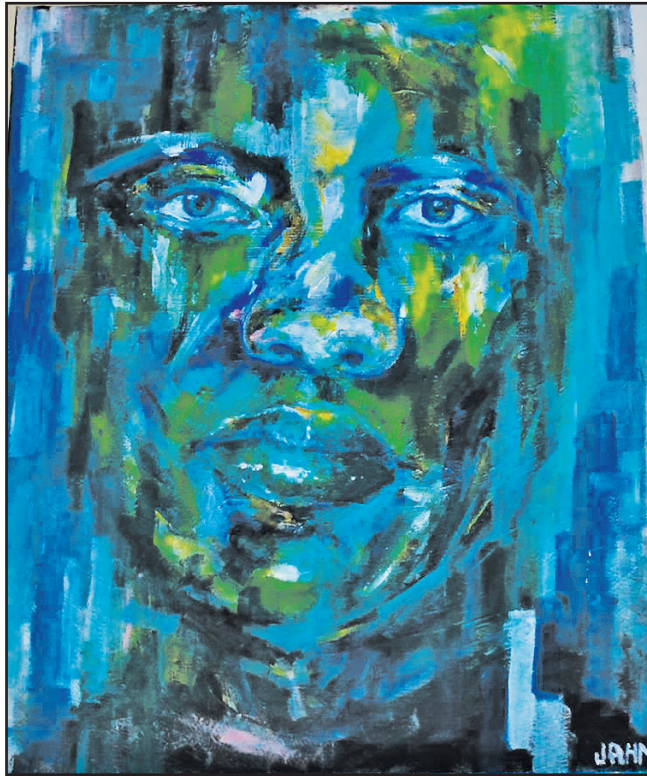
SLHS Student Nguyen Wins Congressional Art Competition

Congresswoman Barbara Lee announced that Janet Nguyen, a senior at San Leandro High School, was chosen as the winner to represent the 13th Congressional District in the 2018 Congressional Arts Competition, An Artistic Discovery for her painting entitled "The Gaze."

Congresswoman Lee hosted a reception in Alameda to celebrate all of the students who submitted work in this year's event before announcing Janet Nguyen as the winner. Janet will also receive two complimentary tickets to attend the annual awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

"Our East Bay student-artists raise the bar of artistic excellence each year. I am truly impressed by all of the students who submitted work to represent the 13th Congressional District," said Congresswoman Barbara Lee. "Congratulations to Janet Nguyen on being selected as this year's winner and my deepest appreciation to all of the student-artists who participated."

Congresswoman Lee also posted the submissions on Facebook to give the public a chance to vote for their favorite piece of artwork. The submission with the most "likes" won the opportunity to hang in the Congresswoman's district office for one year.



Janet Nguyen's painting, "The Gaze," was the winner to represent the 13th Congressional District in the 2018 Congressional Arts Competition.

Elyse Cypher, a student at Bishop O'Dowd High School, was selected as the "Facebook Fan Favorite" with more than 130 likes for her painting entitled "Unexpected Snow."

About the Congressional Art

Competition: Founded in 1982, the Congressional Art Competition provides an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of student artists in their district.



San Leandro High student Janet Nguyen posed for a photo at the SLHS spring art show at the school's Art Education Center.

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By Jim Miller
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

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org let you find estate sale companies in your area.

• **Check their reviews:**

After you find a few companies, check them out on the Better Business Bureau (BBB.org), Angie's List (AngiesList.com), Yelp (Yelp.com) and other online review sites to eliminate ones with legitimately negative reviews.

• **Call some companies:**

Once you identify some estate sale companies, select a few to interview over the phone. Ask them how long they've been in business and how many estate sales they conduct each month.

Also find out about staff, services provided, if they're insured and bonded and if they charge a flat fee or commission. The national average commission for an estate sale is around 35%, but commissions vary by city and region.

You may also want to ask them about visiting their next sale to get a better feel for how they operate. And be sure to get a list of references of their past clients and call them.

• **Schedule appointments:**

Set up two or three face-to-face interviews with the companies you felt provided you with satisfactory answers during the phone interviews.

During their visit, show the estate liquidator through the property. Point out any items that will not be included in the sale, and if you have any items where price is a concern, dis-

cuss it with them at that time. Many estate companies will give you a quote, after a quick walk through the home.

You also need to ask about their pricing (how do they research prices and is every item priced), how they track what items sell for, what credit cards do they accept, and how and where will they promote and market your sale.

EstateSales.net is a leading site used to advertise sales, so check advertising approaches there.

Additionally, ask how many days will it take them to set up for the sale, how long will the sale last, and will they take care of getting any necessary permits to have the sale.

You also need to find out how and when you will be paid, and what types of services they provide when the sale is over. Will they clean up the house and dispose of the unsold items, and is there's an extra charge for that?

Also, make sure you get a copy of their contract and review it carefully before you sign it.

For more information on choosing an estate sale company, see National Estate Sales Association online guide at NESA-USA.com, and click on "Consumer Education" then on "Find the Right Company."

Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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real estate companies, estate sale operators are largely unregulated, with no licensing or standard educational requirements.

That leaves the door open for inexperienced, unethical or even illegal operators. Therefore, it's up to you to decipher a good reputable company from a bad one. Here are some tips to help you choose.

• **Make a list:**

Start by asking friends, your real estate agent or attorney for recommendations. You can also search online. Websites like EstateSales.net and EstateSales.

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790 Cary Dr.
920 Collier Dr.
1022 Collier Dr.
1330 Daily Dr.
1645 Daniels Dr.
878 Dolores Av.
724 Elsie Av.
927 Emerald Av.
643 Estudillo Av.
821 Evergreen Av.
1384 Graff Av.
300 Harlan St.
459 Harlan St.
664 Joaquin Av.
776 Juana Av.
846 Juana Av.
2111 Lakeview Dr.
2358 Longview Dr.
1970 Marineview Dr.
2819 Marineview Dr.
526 McKinley Ct.
715 Rodney Dr.
769 Rodney Dr.
825 Rodney Dr.
874 Rodney Dr.
888 Rodney Dr.
1013 San Rafael St.
1580 Santa Maria St.
1747 Scenicview Ct.
1345 Scenicview Dr.
591 Sybil Av.
1550 View Dr.
1748 View Dr.
1711 Vistagrand Dr.

Area 2

1653 136th Av.
1770 136th Av.
1791 140th Av.
1470 142nd Av.
601 143rd Av.
1265 145th Av.
1205 147th Av.
1287 147th Av.
1431 148th Av.
1920 Bradhoff Av.
2148 Bradhoff Av.
2029 Cleveland St.
590 Dahlia Ct.
1029 Dillo St.
14913 Fjord St.
1032 Grace St.
953 Hollyhock Dr.
1920 Linwood Way
453 Nabor St.
14755 Oleander St.
14701 Pansy St.
1010 School St.
1646 Sidney Av.
15291 Upton Av.
13921 Velarde Dr.
14424 Wake Av.
14887 Western Av.
2115 Whelan Av.

Area 3

14447 Acacia St.
882 Arguello Dr.
1268 Avon Av.

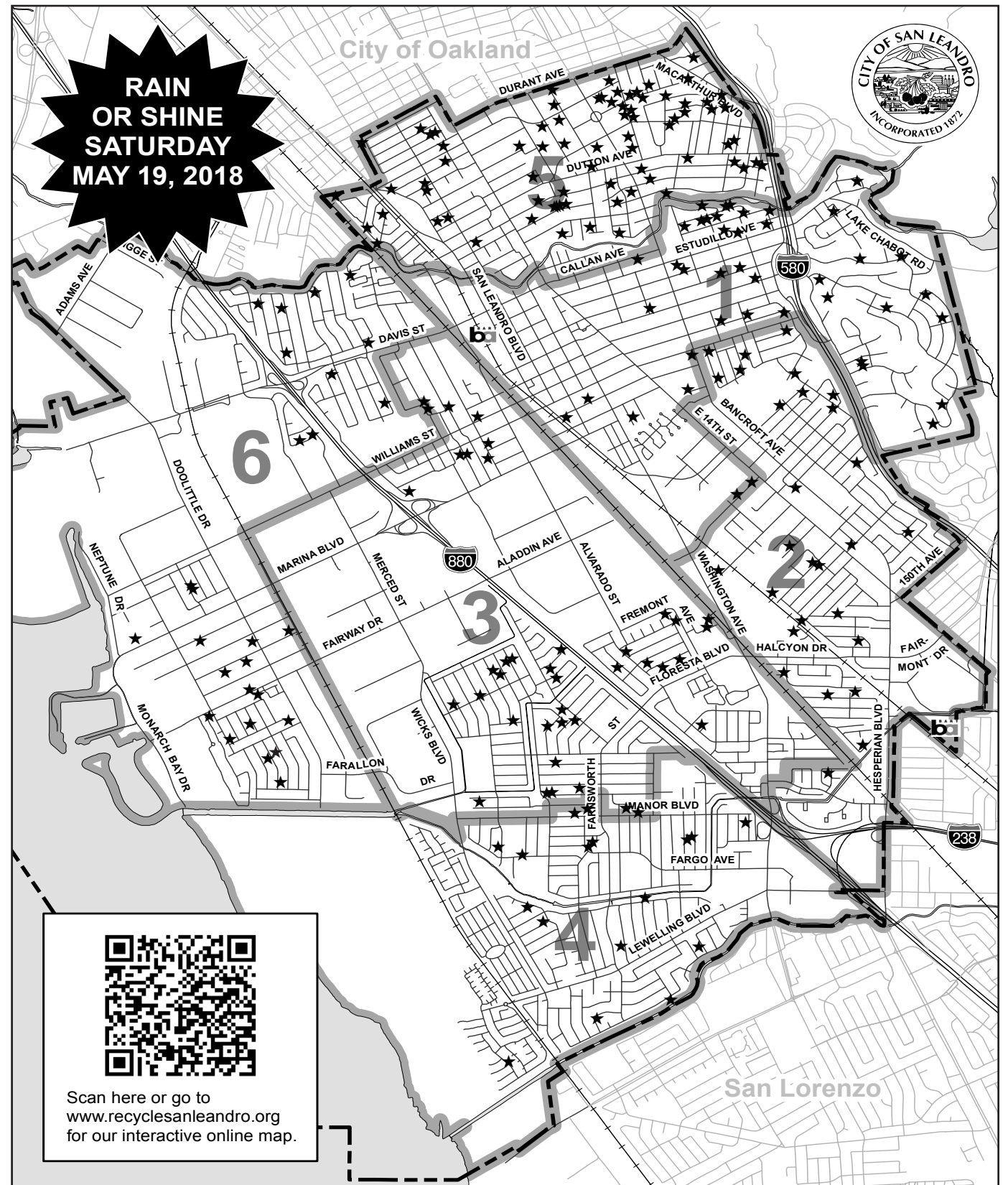
14749 Bethany St.
14382 Birch St.
14698 Birch St.
1120 Bodmin Av.
1774 Boxwood Av.
3565 Carrillo Dr.
3440 Chaplet St.
724 Chico Dr.
820 Chico Dr.
14428 Colgate St.
14691 Corvallis St.
14733 Corvallis St.
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1232 Dartmouth Av.
3405 Del Monte Way
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1373 Devonshire Av.
14485 Elm St.
1937 Eveleth Av.
1956 Eveleth Av.
14721 Fisk Ct.
14494 Juniper St.
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513 Monogram Rd.
833 Monterey Ct.
3536 Monterey Blvd.
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1240 Ottawa Av.
1650 Pacific Av.
2078 Sundberg Av.
1596 Wayne Av.
1644 Wayne Av.
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14372 Wiley St.
964 Williams St.

Area 4

15648 Baypoint Av.
1141 Burkhart Av.
15111 Chapel Ct.
15369 Edgemoor St.
15069 Endicott St.
15634 Hebron Ct.
1304 Hubbard Av.
15126 Inverness St.
15063 Juniper St.
15017 Kesterson St.
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15113 Thoits St.
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260 Begier Av.
266 Begier Av.
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595 Begier Av.
652 Begier Av.
316 Bellevue Dr.
325 Bellevue Dr.
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442 Beverly Av.
220 Bowling Green St.
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621 Broadmoor Blvd.
627 Broadmoor Blvd.
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565 Diehl Av.
15 Dorchester Av.
543 Dowling Blvd.
911 Dowling Blvd.
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955 Dutton Av.
181 Euclid Av.
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216 Garcia Av.
530 Glen Dr.
851 Glen Dr.
953 Helen Av.
954 Helen Av.
372 Hollister Ct.
709 Jubilee Ln.

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347 Kenilworth Av.
438 Kenilworth Av.
441 Kenilworth Av.
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568 Superior Av.
664 Victoria Ct.
691 Victoria Ct.
730 Victoria Av.
760 Victoria Av.
775 Victoria Av.
1048 Victoria Av.
100 Warwick Av.
251 Warwick Av.

589 Warwick Av.
957 Woodland Av.

Area 6

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755 Billings Blvd.
2026 Charlotte Av.
13425 Doolittle Dr.
1277 Douglas Ct.
2321 Fairway Dr.
2516 Fairway Dr.
2222 Fiji Way
1048 Hutchings Dr.
2727 Marina Blvd.
695 Martin Blvd.

725 Midway Av.
2024 Nome St.
2044 Nome St.
1210 Pearson Av.
1539 Pierce Av.
13939 Tahiti Rd.
1565 Timothy Dr.
2292 Transom Way
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14554 Trinidad Rd.
2418 West Avenue 133rd
2009 West Avenue 135th
2270 West Avenue 135th
2360 West Avenue 135th

REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Bogus Listing Tactics Produce Fake Numbers

In a recent listing appointment, I was asked a question I hear frequently.

"What is the ratio," the seller asked, "between your list prices and selling prices?"

Called the "sale-to-list ratio," the number is supposed to indicate the effectiveness of the listing agent. As an example, if the average sales price in an area is \$100,000 and a specific listing agent frequently lists homes at \$100,000 but sells them at \$105,000, then they have a ratio of 5% over list price.

If other agents have a ratio of 1-2%, then a seller may be inclined to choose the agent with the higher ratio to list their home.

While that sounds logical, it assumes agents are not using abnormal tactics or tricks to skew their sale-to-list ratios.

There are two base assumptions here: (1) the home is listed at a reasonable market price and (2) the seller is willing to accept the list price if that is all they get. In many markets across the country, in fact, the seller is overjoyed to get full price — offers frequently come in lower.

Here in the Bay Area I frequently hear agents bragging that they are selling homes for hundreds of thousands of dollars above list price and some use these numbers in listing appointments to impress potential sellers.

While it's true the market here is overheated due to an extreme lack of inventory and buyers are willing to pay astronomical prices to land a deal, agent claims are frequently not what they are cracked up to be.

Truth be known, the tactics employed by some local listing

agents could only work in an area and market such as this and, when viewed by agents in other parts of the country, have been called deceptive or even dishonest.

The two indicators? First, their homes are *not* listed at normal market prices — they are listed substantially *below* current market values. Second, there is no way a seller will accept an offer at the list price. Listing low trying to create an auction-like atmosphere, they assume buyers will be attracted to the low price and send in multiple offers, driving the prices up.

My opinion? Use fake listing prices and you end up with bogus sale-to-list ratios, which, in the current market here in the Bay Area, mean absolutely nothing.

It's a case of seller beware: not every number is what it's claimed to be.



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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.

Cleaning a Rusty Grill

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

With our recent summery weather, thoughts of outdoor grilling may be dancing in your head. But if you left your grill out in the weather over the winter, you may see that you have some cleaning up to do.

You can buy a cleaner that removes rust stains at your local hardware or home-improvement store, or if the rust is most-

ly surface-based, try wiping the area first with a damp cloth. If not all the rust is removed, try scrubbing the area with a steel-wire brush or steel wool.

If the interior of the grill or the grates are rusty or caked with old charcoal and burnt-on food, use the same cleaning methods to scrub them off. Then, clean the interior well (for readers who use charcoal grills, remove the old ashes and charcoal and then clean).

Once clean, you'll want to seal the rust-damaged areas. On the outside of your grill, a high-temperature paint will keep air and moisture away from the metal and won't flake away quickly.

The interior should be cleaned between each grilling session and closed to prevent

rain from entering. Grill racks should be washed after cleaning and each use, and a thin coat of cooking oil sprayed or rubbed on them so they stay rust-free between uses.

If you're not going to use the grill for a long time, say several weeks, regardless of the season it should be cleaned, covered with a grill cover and moved out of direct rain and sunlight.

Some owners coat the exterior of the grill with a thin coat of cooking oil if they plan to store it for some time.

Home Tip: Got a tough cleanup of grill racks? Make a foamy vinegar-baking soda paste and apply to the racks, let them sit for a few minutes, then scrub away burnt-on food and grease.

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Getting an Indoor Meyer Lemon to Bear Fruit

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

I have a dwarf Meyer lemon tree that's currently in my living room as I'm using it as an indoor plant. I love the fragrance of the blossom, but the flowers keep falling off. What do I need to do to help it bear lemons?

Meyer lemons can be grown as a houseplant, however, it's not typical in our areas. They're the easiest of all citrus to get to bear fruit inside.

That being said, it will be challenging to keep it as a long-term houseplant. You'll need lots of direct and indirect light to keep the foliage green, although this is usually not the biggest problem.

Keep in mind that the dwarf variety of lemons are not small and petite. They grow to six plus feet with a three to four-foot width. You'll need to prune it often to keep it small.

To set fruit indoors, you'll have to hand pollinate each blossom with a little camel hair – or artist – brush to replace the bees, Mother Nature's pollinator. The blossoms fall off whether



they're pollinated or not.

With the brush, you gently swirl each inside the flower individually to transfer the pollen from the male to the female

structure. Once pollination occurs, lemons take nine to twelve months to mature.

Water and watering are the biggest ongoing problem you'll

face. At first, there is plenty of room in a container for root growth and moisture retention. But as the plant grows, the root ball becomes denser and requires more frequent and larger volumes of water.

As the plant matures, you're not going to be successful with a periodic glass or two of water. You'll need to move it to either a bathtub or outside to water it thoroughly. And that can become tedious as it should be done once or twice a month.

Irregular watering causes the leaves to yellow and the maturing lemons to drop off. The long-term solution is to look for a more permanent outdoors location.

Note: Kaffir lime and Calamondin orange also work indoors. But I'd avoid navel oranges and grapefruits – they'll never sweeten up sufficiently because of the lack of summer heat.

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/BuzzBertolero](https://www.facebook.com/BuzzBertolero)

Top 5 Home Upgrades

By Samantha Mazzotta
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Many people think that remodeling the kitchen is an expense they can fully recoup in terms of home value or resale value, but that is not necessarily the case.

According to Remodeling Magazine, a major kitchen remodel averaging \$56,768 will recoup 67.8 percent of that cost, or just \$38,485.

However, a number of indoor and outdoor projects will increase the value of your home. Here are five projects on the midrange cost scale that will provide the biggest return for your remodeling investment:

1. Entry door: Replacing your entry door with a steel door will recoup 101.8 percent of the cost. (Replacing it with a fiberglass door will return 72 percent.)

2. Veneer: Replacing the bottom third of your home's exterior siding with manufactured stone veneer will recoup 92.2 percent of the cost.

3. Garage door: Replacing your garage door will recoup 88.4 percent of the cost.

4. Siding replacement: Adding vinyl siding to your home's exterior will recoup 80.7 percent of the cost.

5. Wooden deck: Adding or expanding a wooden deck will recoup 80.5 percent of the cost.

Other projects that have a higher chance of recouping their cost include a minor (below \$20,000) kitchen remodel (79.3 percent), wood window replacement (78.8 percent) or converting part of your attic to a bedroom (77.2 percent). Remodeling your bathroom will recoup 70 percent of its cost.

So, when putting together a remodeling project list, take their lasting value into account. You may decide to downscale that ambitious kitchen or bathroom remodel and shift some of the budget to your home's exterior elements.

Tip: Wood or vinyl windows? Carefully consider the merits of both before deciding on replacement windows. For example, wood windows are aesthetically pleasing, but vinyl windows require almost no maintenance.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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45	46						47					
48				49		50				51	52	53
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

ACROSS

- Gorilla
- Lathers
- Justice Dept. div.
- Felon's flight
- Violinist's stroke
- Young chap
- Shift back and forth
- Work with
- Have a bug
- Texas city
- Suppress the sound
- Landlord's due
- Web address
- Finish
- Nephew's sister
- Author Bellow
- tac-toe
- Pharmaceutical
- Spritelike
- "Bow-wow!"
- Historic period
- Pedicurist's target
- Got away from
- Supernatural spirit of Islam (Var.)
- Existed
- Regret
- Confuses
- Where ___ at
- "___ Grows in Brooklyn"
- Singer Sumac
- Dog or cat, usually
- Dilutes
- Menagerie

DOWN

- TV alien
- Chum
- Ostrich's cousin
- Vain
- Rich
- Lawyers' org.
- Engine
- Home of Volvos and Saabs
- Discomposd
- Low voice
- Concept
- Half-___ (Starbucks option)
- Oklaho-ma city
- Clio or Erato
- Caspian feeder
- Most superficial
- 24 horas
- Remedy
- "Zounds!"
- Friend of Dorothy
- Guys with oars, maybe
- Lo-cal, often
- Fires
- Cultivated land
- Gls' entertainment org.
- Faucet problem
- Twine fiber
- Spoon-bender Geller
- End of the alphabet
- Comedian Philips
- ___ Paulo, Brazil

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

WEEKEND GARDENER

Vegetables

Sow seeds or use transplants for lima and snap beans, beets, carrots, chard, cucumbers, eggplant, endives, herbs, leeks, melons, peppers, pumpkins, radishes, spinach, squash and tomatoes.

Plant corn in blocks of at least four rows in each each direction to assure good pollination (by wind). Make successive plantings through the end of June, because later plantings usually suffer from smut problems when the corn matures.

This is the last chance to sow cool-weather varieties of lettuce, although heat-tolerant leafy lettuce can be grown during the summer. Thin vegetable seedlings when they are an inch or so tall for greater yield.

Flowers

Sow or transplant heat-loving flowers, such as ageratum, asters, clarkia, dahlias, hollyhocks, linaria, marigolds, nasturtiums, salvias, statice, strawflowers, sunflowers and zinnias. Cover the planting area with a 2-to-3-inch layer of mulch to conserve moisture and keep roots cool on hot days.

Tree Care Booklet Offered

The Arbor Day Foundation is offering a handy tree-care booklet designed to help people plant and care for trees.

Anyone can receive Conservation Trees, a user-friendly booklet featuring illustrations, colorful photos, and easily understood descriptions, by making a \$3 donation to the Foundation this month.

The booklet provides details about the right way to plant and prune trees. Taking care of existing trees is just as critical as planting

new ones," says Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

It also includes tips on using shade trees and windbreaks to save on energy costs and to attract songbirds.

To receive the booklet, send a \$3 check along with your name and address to Conservation Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or order online at arborday.org/conservationtrees.



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Mortgage Rates Level Out

The 30-year fixed mortgage rate remained at 4.55 percent last week, reflecting the current economic nirvana of a tight labor market, solid economic growth and restrained inflation, according to Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist.

A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 4.05 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 4.01 percent, down from 4.03 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.77 percent, up from 3.69 percent.

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C	1-4	1-4	4740 Rollinghills Way	\$745,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff RE	Kristy Peixoto Team	925-251-2536
A	—	1-4	1445 E. Juana Ave.	\$747,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
A	—	1-4	1825 Bancroft Ave.	\$779,000	3/1	Varos Real Estate	Terry Martinez	510-772-3746
A	—	1-4	972 Estudillo Ave.	\$785,000	3/2	Varos Real Estate	Terry Martinez	510-772-3746
S	2-4:30	2-4:30	387 Marlow Dr.	\$849,000	3/2	Marvin Gardens RE	Greg Novak	510-472-4770
C	1-4	1-4	5628 Cold Water Dr.	\$899,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff RE	Lisa Ferraris	510-304-1271
C	—	1-4	33803 Palomares Rd.	\$1,280,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff RE	Kristy Peixoto Team	925-251-2536

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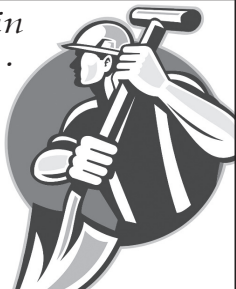
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Parcel Tax: Firefighter says it couldn't hurt, lets the public decide

continued from front page

for additional crew members. The police say they need \$400,000 for new radios.

But by far the biggest expenditures come from salary and pension costs.

Currently the San Leandro Police Department accounts for \$40 million of the city's \$112 million budget expenditures, which funds 135 staff members – 93 of which are sworn officers. The average annual cost of an officer is \$270,000 including benefits.

The city contracts fire services with the Alameda County Fire Department at a cost of \$23.7 million per year, which pays for 63 firefighters in town.

The amount of the tax is still to be determined after public polling results. The city is considering taxing an additional \$140 per parcel, which would bring in \$6 million per year.

Yet to be decided: commercial and residential priorities could be taxed a different rates, the tax could be assessed based on size or per parcel, exemptions for seniors and disabled people could be considered.

Only one public speaker addressed the City Council regarding the tax. Sean Burrows of the firefighters union unsurprisingly said that he'd like more funding and said that putting a tax on the ballot couldn't hurt because it gives the public a chance to make the decision.

Former Mayor Stephen Cassidy emailed a statement Monday saying that the city shouldn't attempt to ask for more taxpayer money at the same time it is forecasting 10 years of budget deficits and has \$188 million in unfunded pension costs.

"Exploding pension costs constitutes the cause of the city's looming fiscal crisis, (so) San Leandrans will legitimately ask why the city has not immediately cut its expenditures and entered into negotiations with employees to reduce pension costs prior to seeking any new tax," wrote Cassidy. "There will not be (enough) support in the community for a parcel tax to fund rising and unsustainable pension costs for public safety officers."

Councilman Pete Ballew acknowledged that he has spoken

with several residents who are concerned about the city's finances.

"I haven't even asked the public; they've volunteered it," said Ballew. "They are very vo-

“Exploding pension costs constitute the cause of the city's looming fiscal crisis.”

— Former mayor Stephen Cassidy

cally wanting to know what we are doing to raise revenue and lower expenditures."

Ballew, who is a former police officer, said that the city's cops and fire personnel are their

"own worst enemy" because he says they do their jobs so well that he public might not think they need more staff or funding.

Aside from the issue of public support, another challenge will be a significant time crunch – the city usually likes a full year to work on a tax measure and it's now less than six months to election day.

Councilman Ed Hernandez countered that waiting might not pay off if there is an economic downturn in the meantime.

"If we don't do it now, the probability of it passing in 2020 may actually be less," said Hernandez.

Mayor Pauline Cutter ultimately voted to go ahead with the polling, but said she was wary of rushing the tax and having it result in an unsuccessful vote.

"I hate to be the lone man out but I'm not sure this is the right thing for right now," said Cutter. "I'm just worried this is going to be back to bite us and we won't be supporting our police and fire like we should."

City Council members are all vocal about that support

because the backing of those unions can be helpful during their campaigns. This November, Cutter, Councilman Deborah Cox, Councilman Lee Thomas, and Councilwoman Corina Lopez are up for reelection. Councilman Benny Lee is in the middle of his second term, but is running for mayor against Cutter.

The school district is also considering a parcel tax of its own, which could crowd the ballot and potentially discourage

voters from saying yes to both.

Another challenge is that earmarked parcel taxes require a supermajority of two-thirds for approval.

The costs of getting a parcel tax on the ballot would be about \$130,000 including consultant's fees, the survey, and election costs, according to a city staff report.

The City Council said they want the police and fire unions to chip in on the the costs of the survey.

DA Candidates to Speak At Forum Monday in SLZ

Hear from the candidates running for Alameda County District Attorney at a candidates' forum on Monday, May 21, from 6:30-7:45 p.m. at the San Lorenzo Library, 395 Paseo Grande in San Lorenzo.

Incumbent Nancy O'Malley and challenger Pamela Price will participate and the audience will have the opportunity to pose questions. The event is free and

open to the public.

The Forum is co-sponsored by the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association East Bay Chapter (APAPA-EBC), the League of Women Voters Eden Area and the Alameda County Library. For more information, contact Aiwa Zelinsky, League of Women Voters Eden Area, at aiyz@comcast.net.

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William Arthur Cunningham

June 29, 1928 ~ May 8, 2018
Resident of Manteca, CA



Mr. William Arthur "Bud" Cunningham, of Manteca, California, born on June 29, 1928 in Newark, New Jersey, passed away peacefully at age 89 on May 8, 2018.

William is survived by his wife of 66 years, Mary Theresa Cunningham. Mary and Bud moved to Manteca in 2001 - after 37 years in San Leandro. Their life together was filled with adventure, excitement, love, and laughter.

He is also survived by his five children: son, Bill Cunningham (Joanne); daughters, Mary Anderson (Dennis), Kathy Pietrunti (John), Nancy Calderon (Phillip), and Theresa Stevens (James); seven grandchildren: Colleen Anderson Guidi (Scott), Michael Anderson, Stephen Pietrunti (Maria), Megan Pietrunti, Lindsey Calderon, Nicole Stevens, and Andrew Stevens; and two great-grandchildren: Ryan Guidi and Mia Guidi.

William is a graduate of Panzer College, East Orange, N.J., and completed graduate business studies at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

He was in the Facility Management industry for most of his career. He served at the Philadelphia Trade and Convention Center as an Assistant Director from 1957-1964; at the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Complex as General Manager until 1980; and Coliseum Consultants as the President until retiring in 1995. He was elected President of the International Association of Venue Management (IAVM) from 1973-1974, then received the Charles A. McElravy award in 1978, the industry's highest honor, for his contributions to the organization and profession. His career coincided with multiple championships for his beloved Oakland Athletics, Oakland Raiders, and the Golden State Warriors.

He will be remembered most as loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a very kind, intelligent, and generous man – a friend and mentor to many.

Friends and family can pay their respects at the memorial service on Friday, May 18 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 6404 Washington Street, Yountville, California. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to charity in his memory.

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Zora Radonich



Zora Radonich died at the age of 102 on May 9, 2018 with dignity and grace. Her family was at her side during the last few hours of her life. She was loved by so many and touched their hearts and lives with care and love.

Zora will be remembered for her passion of cooking. She so enjoyed Sunday family dinners. She was happiest when she was surrounded by family, especially her great granddaughters.

Zora was born in Sutter Creek, California to Mitar and Aneta Skulich. She graduated from Castlemont High School in 1934. She married Alexander "Lefty" Radonich in June of 1944.

She was preceded in death by her husband Alexander of 40 years, her brother Milan Skulich and her daughter Alexandra "Sandy" English. She is survived by her daughter Tina Craver and husband Bruce of Danville & sister Olga Swartz of San Leandro.

She loved spending time with her grandchildren Jeff English, Brandon Craver & wife Kristen, and Ashley Craver. Her great granddaughters, Anja and Brooklynn brought special joy to her heart.

Services were held on May 15th at Santos Robinson Mortuary in San Leandro and the burial was held at the Serbian Cemetery in Colma.

FRAZIER, Walter W.
TRINIES, Barbara B.

■ **Walter W. Frazier**, a 38 year resident of San Leandro, passed

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In
Memory
of



Jerome M. "Heinrich" Otten

Sept. 25, 1970 ~ May 16, 2016

Jerry was a wonderful Father, Brother, Uncle, Cousin and Friend. He will be missed by all.

Everyday I think about you Jerry and a part of my heart will never be the same.

Thank you for all the great memories. Cameron, Jason and the rest of us will never forget you.

God Bless You

away on May 11, 2018, at age 70. He is survived by his wife, Amy, and his three daughters, Demetria, Tennille and Miranda. Funeral service is on Wednesday, May 23, at St. Rest's Missionary Baptist Church, 1401 - 57th Ave., in Oakland.

■ **Barbara B. Trinies**, a resident of San Leandro, passed away May 9, 2018, at the age of 93. Her Vigil Service was held on May 16. The Funeral Liturgy will be today at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Oakland, beginning at 10 a.m. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery.

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SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

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

County Offers to Sell Coliseum Property at 2016 Value

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors reaffirmed its long-standing offer to sell the County's 50 percent share of the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum complex to the City of Oakland at a price based on a 2016 appraisal of the properties.

"Alameda County is making what we consider a generous offer to the City of Oakland in the belief that selling our share of the Coliseum properties provides timely opportunity for an agreement that would keep the Oakland A's

in Oakland," said Wilma Chan, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

County leaders continue to negotiate a sale of their share of the Coliseum properties in the wake of expressions of interest by the A's to purchase the land to build a new home stadium there. Alameda County officials said that negotiating such a purchase and a plan for future development of the Coliseum properties would be simplified – and more likely be successful – if the prop-

erties had a single owner.

Since the City of Oakland ultimately controls land use related to the Coliseum properties, Alameda County believes the City should be that single owner. County officials are basing a sale on a 2016 joint City-County appraisal of the properties despite the fact that the parcels would certainly be appraised at a higher value today.

To facilitate the sale, the county is willing to accept the nearly 2-year-old appraisal since conducting a new one

would slow the process.

"We think this offer is especially timely now that the Oakland City Council has approved an ENA with the A's for the Coliseum properties," said Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley, who also chairs the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Authority board.

For more than 50 years, Alameda County and Oakland have jointly owned, operated and managed the Coliseum complex, the home of three championship franchises – the A's,

Oakland Raiders and Golden State Warriors. Alameda County and Oakland also jointly own rights to the Raiders training facility and headquarters in the City of Alameda.

Over the past several years, all three teams have sought new home stadiums. While both Alameda County and Oakland have been committed to keeping the teams in Oakland, efforts to retain the teams have been complicated by the joint ownership of these properties.

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.

Measure A Means Expanded Access to Quality Child Care

Editor:

Childcare should not be a luxury. Yet with the average cost of childcare eating up 25 percent of a family's income, many Bay Area families cannot afford to enroll their children in quality early education while parents work. Other children spend years on waiting lists.

As a business owner who has spent a lifetime serving families across three preschool sites, I've witnessed firsthand the importance of quality education and care in a child's life. Sadly, thousands of Alameda County children are missing out on those critical first years of education. The ripple effect hits our community hard.

Measure A – on our Alameda County ballot this June – will open up early education for these children and set them up for success in K-12 and beyond. The measure invests in children early, when 90 percent of brain development occurs, as well as supporting preschool teachers who are shaping our future leaders.

Measure A is expected to generate \$140 million per year through a modest one-half cent sales tax and help reduce the childcare waiting list for 2,000 children ages 0 to 5. Funding will also be used to enhance early education services for 4,500 children. The measure supports preschool teachers by providing livable wages, which is critical to providing children with the best educators and caregivers.

By voting yes on Measure A, our community wins. Expanded access to quality child care means Alameda County children grow up healthy, strong and educated. Stable child care means parents can go to work and employers have stable workforces, and educators can live where they work and provide for their own families. And we all live in a thriving community. Please join me in voting YES on Measure A this June.

—Makinya Ward
San Leandro

The Many Advantages of Biking to BART and Urban Cycling

Editor:

Thank you for publishing a photo

of the huge turnout for Bike San Leandro on the front page of last week's newspaper.

We also had a successful Bike-to-Work Day on May 10. This year, over 200 people biked and visited the energizer station at San Leandro BART station from 7 to 9 a.m. This was a huge increase from previous years.

More and more people are discovering the advantages of biking over driving to BART, which include not having to worry about parking. With a BikeLink card, you can park your bike in a secured bike locker at BART for 3 cents/hour.

Bike Walk San Leandro supports residents to get around town and commute by bicycle. Here are some upcoming opportunities to learn more:

1) Learn the basics of safe urban cycling.

Bike East Bay is offering free urban cycling classes for adults and teens in San Leandro.

Urban Cycling 101 Day 1 (Classroom Workshop) will be on Saturday, May 26, from 1 to 3 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro.

Urban Cycling 101 Day 2 (Road Class) will be on Sunday, June 10, from noon to 5 p.m. at the OSIsoft campus, 1600 Alvarado St., near the San Leandro BART station. Go to BikeEastBay.org/education to register.

2) Ride your bike to the Cherry Festival: Bike Walk San Leandro and Cherry City Cyclists are offering a free bicycle valet service at the festival on June 2. You can also join our bike parade in the morning at 10 a.m.

3) To follow what's happening for cyclists and walkers, and to get involved in our events, check us out on Facebook (Bike Walk San Leandro). See you on the road.

—Donna Chang, Founder
Bike Walk San Leandro

Where Was the Apology for Comment About Sen. McCain?

Editor:

So it seems that according to the current White House Administration, John McCain, a Senator and former P.O.W. is fair game because "he's going to die soon" and will not issue an

apology for that statement made by an aide, but heaven help any comedian that makes fun of the eyeshadow worn by the Press Secretary....

—Tony Shull
San Leandro

Says Critic of New Car Tax and Registration Costs Got it Wrong

Editor:

Cory Anderson ("Time to Change the Tax Rate and Registration Cost for a New Car," Letters, May 10) tries to create a fuss, but his letter is full of mistakes.

First — To get to "upwards of \$1000," his new wheels would have to be worth over \$100,000. That's a fancy "standard" car, Mr. Andersen.

Second — A standard car, pick a Nissan Sentra for example, can be purchased in San Leandro for about \$18K (Truecar.com). Using the app at dmv.ca.gov it says that registration fees will be \$290.

Third — He cites Washington State fees would be just \$50K. Wrong again. WA DMV website (dol.wa.gov) actually says to register a similar car in the greater Seattle area (like our Bay Area) it is \$38 base + \$45 (average car weight fee) + \$172 regional transit fee? That adds up to \$255. That's just \$35 different.

Three strikes, Mr. Andersen. You're out.

—John Clouston
San Leandro

Disappointed Over Planned Delta Twin Tunnel

Editor:

I am disappointed that the Santa Clara Water Valley District, who rejected a proposal to build the Delta twin tunnel project six months ago, has now reversed their position and voted 4-3 in favor of it.

The tunnel, which will divert water away from the Sacramento River and transport it to both San Joaquin Valley and Southern California, will cause hardship to the Winnemen Wintu People who reside in Northern California.

They rely on the water for the salmon populations, which have been part of their livelihood for thousands of years. Their culture depend on them.

Building the tunnel will wipe out the salmon populations as well as the livelihood of the Winnemen Wintu People. I urge the majority of Californians to stop the project from going forward.

—Billy Trice, Jr.
Oakland

INQUIRING REPORTER

Your plans for the summer?

— Asked around town

I'm going to Arizona with some friends to go camping in the desert.

Deborah Mendez
Oakland



I'm a teacher, so I have half of June and July off. I'm going to visit family in Northern Minnesota and Arkansas. My mom has a cabin on a lake in Minnesota, and in Arkansas the Ozarks are beautiful.

Rachel Ahrens
San Francisco,
works in San Lorenzo



I'm going to L.A. and getting out of the Bay Area for a while. I'll link up with family and friends. We might go to Hollywood and see the sites and the street performers.

Victor Hill-Cormier
Vallejo



My plan is to take a vacation, if I can, to Thailand. I've been doing kick-boxing for seven years and it's always been my dream to go to Thailand and train in the mountains where kick-boxing originated.

Angelo Smith
San Leandro



To get work and save some money. I'm from here but we just moved back here from Ohio a week ago. And to just enjoy the sunshine.

Cameron Cole
San Leandro



Volunteers Wanted at Chabot Park For Second Saturday of Pulling Ivy

Volunteers removed 40 bags (at 40 gallons each) of invasive ivy and blackberry along San Leandro Creek at Chabot Park on Saturday, including ivy cut off from two native bay laurels that were about to get suffocated by the ivy.

Another volunteer day, organized by the Friends of San

Leandro Creek, will be held this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The group will lay down sheet-mulch over the weeded area to thwart regrowth with burlap sacks, cardboard and mulch.

Volunteers are wanted. Bring gloves, clippers and sturdy shoes. Refreshments will be provided.

Volunteers will need to sign

a waiver, which will be available at Chabot Park at the east end of Estudillo Avenue.

More information and the waiver is available at www.fslc.org.

CV Toastmasters Meet

The Castro Valley Toastmasters welcome everyone to their weekly meetings every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 21966 Dolores St. in Castro Valley. For more information call 566-9761.



Volunteers pulled ivy from the banks of the creek on Saturday at Chabot Park.



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Paramedics Plus Wants Help Filling an Ambulance with Food

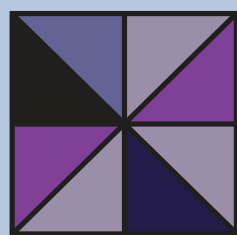
Paramedics Plus wants you help to fill an ambulance with food to deliver to the Alameda County Food Bank.

The emergency medical service for the county, will host a food drive during the month of May.

The goal is to fill 96 boxes

of food – 192 cubic feet inside an ambulance.

A donation of non-perishable food can be dropped off at the Paramedics Plus office at 575 Marina Boulevard in San Leandro on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during May.



SAN LEANDRO Connect Monthly



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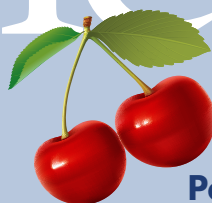


Reminder: Election Day is June 5th

As a reminder, June 5th is the statewide direct primary election. Primaries for State Governor, US Senator, Congressional seats, and a variety of other State and County offices will be decided, with the top two vote-getters proceeding to the November general election. Voters will also weigh in on several ballot measures.

For more information, or to find your designated polling place, please visit:

www.acvote.org



Final Call for Cherry Festival Parade Participants

As a reminder, San Leandro's 109th annual Cherry Festival is scheduled for June 2nd. Any local groups, clubs or businesses interested in participating in the Parade that kicks off the event at 10:00am that morning should apply now. Participants may build a float, ride bikes, drive vintage or unusual cars, or simply walk or dance. To apply, please visit:

www.sanleandro.org/cherryfestival or contact Ely Hwang at 577-6079 or ehwang@sanleandro.org.

Memorial Day Weekend Programming

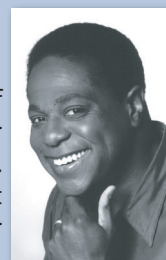
May 26 • 2:00pm - 4:30pm • Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

The Library is partnering with the San Leandro Historical Society to present The Battle of Iwo Jima and the iconic photograph, Flag Raising on Iwo Jima. The program will feature a short film followed by a panel discussion featuring veterans from the battle. For more information, please call Addie Silveira at 577-3991 or David Moragne at 577-3993.

Evening of Stories and Laughter with Brian Copeland

June 30 • 7:00 pm • Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

The San Leandro Public Library and Project Literacy present "An Evening of Stories and Laughter with Brian Copeland." Tickets for adults are available for \$30 at the Library Circulation Desk. (Payments accepted via cash or check only. Please purchase tickets in advance). All proceeds go to the Project Literacy Adult Reading Program. For more info, contact Cinda Mariscal at 577-3944 or cmariscal@sanleandro.org



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