

VALENTINE'S DAY
IS THIS FRIDAY

Because I Love You

PAGES
6 & 7

WEEKEND WEATHER											FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
MILD Mix of sunshine and clouds														
HIGHS: 61-66														
0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110			
LOWS: 46-51														

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 7

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Moon Over the Manor

The full moon rose over the Manor Shopping Center sign on Saturday night, just before the howling winds started to kick up later in the night and through Sunday.

Duplex Tenants Offered Money To Move Out

City Councilman Hernandez says city can help tenants

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Tenants at an 80-unit apartment complex along Thornally Drive, just off Hesperian Boulevard, are being offered money to move out by the new owner, but City Hall has offered to help them stay if that is what they want.

The new owners offered \$4,000 to tenants who move out by April 13, and \$5,000 to tenants who move out by March 13. There was no suggestion where they should move to.

Tenants who called the information number on the landlord's letter say they were told that the apartments would be renovated and re-rented at almost double the current rents.

Some 75 residents of the Hesperian Apartments came to a Friday night outdoor meeting organized by tenants to hear City Councilman Ed Hernandez tell them of their rights and what the city could do to help.

"Don't sign anything," Hernandez advised, pending the city's investigation of the situation.

"We're going to work with the new owners to make sure you can stay here if that's what you want," Hernandez said.

Hernandez added that rent increases were limited by state law, even if the property was sold, and that tenants forced to move out of units through no

fault of their own were entitled to relocation assistance from the landlord. That assistance is more than the landlord offered, he said.

The residents gathered in a
see TENANTS, page 16

Quarantines Slow Spread Of Coronavirus

By Linda Sandsmark
San Leandro Times

Coronavirus was the topic of a doctor-led discussion at Castro Valley Library on Monday night.

The overall message was that there's no need to panic at this time, despite rapidly changing information about the contagion's spread.

Longtime Castro Valley physician Dr. Mark Finch, Sr., an infectious disease specialist, said that while the disease is "big news," quarantines in place around the U.S. have done much to arrest its spread.

Corona viruses are so named for their crown (corona)-shaped spikes when viewed under a microscope. They are common in many animals.

see CORONAVIRUS, page 8

MedShare Sends Face Masks to China

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

A San Leandro firm just shipped 1.5 million face masks to China to help stop the spread of the coronavirus.

MedShare's West Coast center on Alvarado Street held a press conference on Monday on the company's effort to stop the spread of the virus in China. MedShare, headquartered in Atlanta, sends out-of-date or surplus medical equipment from the United States to parts of the world where it's needed — everything from hospital beds to stethoscopes to medical machines.

During a crisis, as there was with the hurricane in Haiti, Med-

Share responds where medical supplies are needed.

A reported 40,000 people have come down with the virus in China, and over a thousand have died, according to China's health ministry.

In the China effort, MedShare is assisted by \$500,000 from the Coca-Cola Foundation, and UPS is providing the shipping.

"I live in Shanghai. It's my home," said Curt Ferguson, president of Coca-Cola of Greater China and Korea. "Imagine if this happened here at Christmastime when everybody was at home."

China is fighting an all-out war against the virus, said Am-
see MEDSHARE, page 8



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Ambassador Wang Donghua, Chinese Consul General of San Francisco, talked to reporters at the MedShare warehouse on Alvarado Street on Monday.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

MUSIC

'80s pop group The Jets to play Valentine's show. **Page 2**

BUSINESS

Chamber of Commerce awards businesses. **Page 3**

FOOD

Here's the recipe for Valentine's cookies. **Page 6**

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Wolfgang

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

Wolfgang, a 2-year-old white husky mix, is shy and reserved. He loves to explore on his own terms, is a bit of a couch potato, and likes being with people. He just needs some TLC to blossom. Okay with teens and older.



Lelani

Lelani is a 2-year-old beauty who is easy to leash and walk. She loves to be near people. She's initially uncomfortable in new situations but with a little patience and TLC, she comes around. Okay in an adult-only home.

For more information on Wolfgang or Lelani, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.

Alta Mira Club Mystery Tea

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Mystery Tea with prominent mystery writers Janet Finsilver, Cindy Sample and Simon Wood on Monday, Feb. 17,

at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets to the tea luncheon, followed by the speakers, is \$20. Limited seating. For reservations, email Nancyfong@aol.com or call 510-483-1018.



The Jets will play a show on Valentines night at the Bal Theatre in San Leandro.

Jets to Play the Bal for Valentines

Eighties pop music icons The Jets will perform a live Valentines Day concert at the Bal Theatre, 14808 E 14th St. in San

Leandro, on Friday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m. The Jets had eight Top 10 hits, including "Make It Real," "You Got It All," and many more.

Tickets are \$40 to \$98. For tickets or more information, visit www.BALTheatre.com or call the box office at 510-614-7700.

San Leandro Schools Planning Meetings

The San Leandro Unified School District is planning for the future. Attend one of the district's upcoming Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) community forums.

These meetings will also in-

clude details about the facilities improvement bond, Measure N, which is on the ballot for March 3.

The meetings will be on Tuesday, Feb. 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Bancroft Middle School, presented in Spanish; on

Wednesday, Feb. 26, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at John Muir Middle School, presented in Chinese;

and on Saturday, Feb. 29, from 9 to 10:30 a.m., at the Barbara Lee Health Center (2251 Bancroft Ave.), presented in English.

Every School in San Leandro School District Will Receive Measure N Funds

Elementary Schools

- ✓ Modernize classrooms at the district's older elementary schools to meet academic and safety standards at new schools
- ✓ Replace aging classroom windows with new, energy efficient windows
- ✓ Replace remaining portable classrooms with new, permanent classrooms
- ✓ Renovate school kitchens and construct new, shaded outdoor student lunch areas with hydration stations
- ✓ Construct/redesign drop-off and pick-up areas for student safety
- ✓ Upgrade campus security by installing new intercom and emergency communications systems



High School

- ✓ Construct new science and engineering labs and career technical education classrooms
- ✓ Replace outdated gymnasium with a new, modern facility
- ✓ Update classroom instructional technology



Middle Schools

- ✓ Replace aging portables with new, permanent classrooms
- ✓ Modernize older classrooms so they meet current academic and safety standards
- ✓ Replace deteriorating school roofs
- ✓ Construct drop-off area for drivers at Bancroft to improve student safety and reduce traffic congestion (John Muir has a drop-off area)

All Measure N Funds Will Stay in San Leandro to Improve Our Schools!

Learn more at www.sanleandransforgreatschools.com

Paid for by San Leandrans for Great Schools—Yes on N 2020—FPPC #1386769



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Nate Offenberg gets his beard trimmed by barber Kevin Mercado at award-winning Barberian's Barbershop on Bancroft Avenue.

Chamber Honors Local Businesses and People

ACCO Engineered Systems and Barberian's Barbershop won as businesses of the year at the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce's annual Business Awards gala held Jan. 30 at the Senior Community Center.

Top awards also went to Alameda County Industries (ACI), Geltor, Station SL owner Shannon Hockley, community volunteer and business leader Arlene Lum, and Chabot College dean Kristin Lima.

ACCO Engineered Systems, at 1133 Aladdin Ave., was named Business of the Year. They manufacture mechanical systems such as HVAC for buildings.

Barberian's Barbershop, at 379 Bancroft Ave., opened only last year but prevailed in a tight race for the People's Choice Small Business award.

The Businessperson of the Year award went to Shannon Hockley. She owns Shannon Leigh Associates, an environmental graphic design firm, and Station SL, a business meeting space, both at 1455 Hays St.

Arlene Lum received the Community Service award, honoring her decades of community board positions, committee seats, and volunteer activity. These included serving as the chair of the Asian Business Council and Vice

President of the Asian Community Cultural Association.

ACI was awarded the legacy Leader in Business award for its decades of cleaning up San Leandro.

Kristin Lima was recognized for her work in promoting business partnerships through such events as East Bay Manufacturing Day. She serves as Chabot College's dean of Applied Technology & Business Innovation.

Geltor won the Innovation & Technology Leader award. Located at the Gate 510 center on Davis Street, they make animal-free collagen for cosmetics products.

POLICE & FIRE

Stabbing Is San Leandro's First Murder In Two Years

An 18-year-old San Leandro teenager, Ty Bothwellmitlitsk, has been arrested for murder for allegedly stabbing to death his mother's boyfriend.

The incident occurred Friday, Feb. 7, around 11:30 pm, when San Leandro police officers were dispatched to the 500 block of Beverly Avenue for a stabbing assault.

Police arrived on scene and found a 62-year-old male suffering from multiple stab wounds. Police provided immediate first aid until paramedics arrived.

The victim was transported to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The motive for the crime

is still being investigated. The suspect's mother witnessed the stabbing and told police that her son fled the residence in her vehicle after the incident.

San Leandro police detectives arrived on the scene and began investigating the case.

Detectives followed leads that indicated the suspect was possibly in San Francisco.

Within a short time, around 3:40 am, police investigators located the suspect driving his mother's vehicle across the Bay Bridge back towards San Leandro.

Police attempted to stop the suspect. But he failed to pull over and instead led officers on a

20-minute pursuit as far as Dublin before turning back towards the bay.

The suspect continued to flee from several police vehicles until Castro Valley, where he eventually stopped and was taken into custody.

"The fast and thorough work of our officers and detectives led to the swift arrest of the suspect," said San Leandro Police Lieutenant Isaac Benabou.

This is San Leandro's first homicide for 2020. San Leandro had no murders in 2019 and one in 2018.

Bothwellmitlitsk has been booked into Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

PG&E Submits Plan For Fewer Fires, Shutoffs

PG&E submitted its 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on Friday.

The plan is designed to address the growing threats of extreme weather and wildfires.

The company's 2020 plan includes changes to make public safety shutoff (PSPS) events

smaller in scope and shorter in duration and to lessen the overall impacts of shutoffs while working to keep customers and communities safe during times of severe weather and high wildfire risk.

These efforts include installing 592 automated devices on power lines to reduce the number

of communities without power during a PSPS event, and adding 23 transmission switches capable of redirecting power and keeping substations and transmission lines energized in some areas during a PSPS event.

PG&E's 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan is subject to public review and approval by the CPUC.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

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NEIGHBORS



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Smoothing It Over

A road roller smooths out the blacktop as workers repair a rough spot of pavement recently in the Downtown Plaza.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ CV Center for the Arts *Chicago the Tribute*

Come see *Chicago the Tribute* on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts, 19501 Redwood Road. Enjoy listening to "Saturday in the Park," "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" and their many other legendary hits, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are from \$38 to \$40 and can be purchased at www.cvcfa.com; or at the Center Box Office, 19501 Redwood Road, Thursdays and Fridays from 3 to 5 p.m. (phone 510-889-8961), or at the Castro Valley Adult School, 4430 Alma Avenue.

❖ Chanticleers Theatre *Steel Magnolias*

Steel Magnolias opens at the Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail

Ave. in Castro Valley, runs through March 1. The show plays on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 to \$27 and may be purchased online at chanticleers.org or by calling 510-SEE-LIVE (510-733-5483). Group discounts also available. *Steel Magnolias* is a stage play by American writer Robert Harling, a comedy-drama about the bond among a group of Southern women in northwest Louisiana. The title suggests the female characters are as delicate as magnolias but as tough as steel. The magnolia specifically references a magnolia tree they are arguing about at the beginning. Harling based this play on his experience with his sister's death. Director, actor, and designer spanning four decades in West Coast theatre, Kendall Tieck will make his Chanticleers Theatre directing debut with *Steel Magnolias*.

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



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

Call 614-1555 for details!

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) All that flattery and fawning shouldn't affect any decision you have to make. Keep your focus on the facts and ignore all the hyperbole, especially if it gets uncomfortably personal.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your Bovine instincts are on the mark about that "favor" you're being asked to do. Agree to nothing unless you get a full explanation -- which you would check out first, of course.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A somewhat unsettled recent period should give way to a smoother time going through the week. Use this quieter time to catch up on matters you might have had to let slide.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Feeling a little confused is understandable with all those mixed messages. Take time to list the questions you have. Then present them and insist on answers that make sense.



LEO (July 23 to August 22) Cupid can be very helpful for Lions seeking a love connection. The chubby cherub also brings warm and fuzzy feelings to paired Leos and Leonas who already share a special love line.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Travel is favored this week, whether you'll be globe-trotting or taking a trip to a nearby getaway. You might be surprised (or maybe not) by who wants to be your traveling companion.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Getting advice on your next business-related move is a good idea, but only if your advisers are trustworthy. Get references that you can check out before you make any decisions.



SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Getting a boost in your self-esteem is one benefit that comes with a job well done. There are other plusses as well, including being noticed by all the right people. Good luck.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Make time to deal with family matters, especially where they concern your elderly kinfolk. Being there for them from the start can help resolve problems sooner rather than later.



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Getting a project started can often be difficult. But the good news is that you won't want for lack of assistance from colleagues who would like to work with you. So, let them!



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A lot of work-related issues might be raised this week, and you need to be prepared for whatever comes along. Things should be easier when it comes to matters in your private life.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) What might appear to be a much unwanted change in your life right now could turn out to be a very welcome event after all. Give yourself a chance to see where it might take you.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Calendar Items is Friday for the Following Week



❖ Meeting of the Libertarian Party

The Libertarian Party of Alameda County will meet tonight, Feb 13, at 7:15 p.m. at the Sons of Liberty Alehouse, in the Downtown Plaza, 150 W. Juana Ave. in San Leandro. Meet Libertarian candidate Jamie Druzak, who is seeking to be a write-in candidate for California State Senate District 9. No membership required, free to attend, all political affiliations welcomed. For more information, visit lpac.us.

❖ Perry Yan Magic Show

The Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro, will present the Perry Yan Magic Show tonight, Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m. The family magic show is best for ages 3 and up. For more information, call 510-577-7971.

❖ Un-Valentine's Day Mini-Golf

The San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., invites everyone 18 and over to an Un-Valentine's Day Mini-Golf after-hours event on Friday, Feb. 14, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Bring your friends or come alone. Mini Golf will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free. Pizza will be served while supplies last. Board games and video games will also be available. For more information, call the Library Information Desk at 510-577-3971.

❖ Our Lady of Grace Polenta Dinner

Our Lady of Grace Church Hall, 3433 Somerset Ave. Castro Valley, will host the Italian Catholic Federation Polenta Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 15. Doors open at 6 p.m. Salad, polenta, sausage, bread, dessert, wine, soda and coffee. Entertainment and raffles. Price \$35 per person or \$250 for a table of eight. Reservations and payment required in advance. Deadline is Feb. 10. Send one check with the names of those at your table for 8 to; Lisa Crudo, 3718 September Court, Castro Valley, CA 94546, the same for individual reservations. For more information, call Lisa at 510-861-9835.

❖ Mystery Tea at the Alta Mira Club

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Mystery Tea with prominent mystery writers Janet Finsilver, Cindy Sample and Simon Wood on Monday, Feb. 17, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets to the tea luncheon, followed by the speakers, are \$20. Limited seating. For reservations, call 510-483-1018 or email Nancyfong@aol.com.

❖ Paws to Read

The Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro, will present Paws to Read on Feb. 18 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. for children in grades 1 to 5. Friendly therapy dogs look forward to hearing children read all kinds of books. Call the Manor Branch Library at 510-577-7971 or come in person to the library to sign up in advance for 20 minute reading sessions.

❖ Panel on Caring for Older Adults

Join Center for Elders' Independence (CEI) on Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 4 to 6 p.m. at 1850 Fairway Drive in San Leandro. Bring your questions about caring for an older adult to an informative panel discussion with CEI doctors, psychologists, social workers and family caregivers that begins at 4:30. CEI supports East Bay seniors 55+ with multiple health challenges to live safely at home, not in nursing homes. The staff specializes in caring for older adults. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments, free parking and eldercare resources provided. For more information, contact Dafina Dailey at ddailey@cei.org or 510-318-7136. To register visit: <http://bit.ly/Feb18experts>.

❖ Meeting of the San Leandro Garden Club

The San Leandro Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Alta Mira House, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro. The business meeting begins at 10 a.m., followed by a speaker at 11 a.m. Jolene Adams, past president of the American Rose Society, will talk about roses and answer questions. All are welcome. The San Leandro Garden Club is in its 55th year of promoting gardening and providing community support, and meets every third Thursday of the month from September to June. For more information, call Carla Francis at 510-582-5288.

❖ Meeting of the East Bay Rose Society

The East Bay Rose Society will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Oakland. Joe Truskot, a Master Rosarian and President of the Monterey Rose Society, will speak on Rose Rosette Disease. This disease is transmitted by microscopic mites and can devastate a rose garden. Truskot will show how to identify Rose Rosette and discuss ongoing research and potential remedies. Enjoy snacks and people who talk roses. For more information, visit www.eastbayroses.org.

❖ Hill and Valley Club Flea Market

The Hill and Valley Club, 1808 B St. in Hayward will hold its annual Flea Market on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring household goods, clothing and accessories, jewelry, linens, appliances and electronics, books, toys, sewing and craft materials, and miscellaneous items. Lunch will be served in the café. Funds raised benefit several local charities. This is an indoor sale with plenty of parking available.

❖ Eden Cancer Support Groups

Eden Medical Center, 20101 Lake Chabot Road in Castro Valley, continues a partnership with Cancer Support Community in 2020 by offering free cancer support groups and quarterly cancer workshops. The Gentle Restorative Yoga workshop will be held on Thursday, Feb. 27, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Learn how breathing and gentle movements promote healing and restores the body. It is also one of the best ways to fight fatigue and restore strength and balance. If you are going through cancer treatments, are on the road to recovery, or are a caregiver, this class is for you. Madelyn Kimball is a certified yoga trainer and will share her knowledge in this free workshop. Registration is encouraged by calling 925-933-0107. All Cancer Support Groups are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m, also held at the address above, but no registration is needed for these drop-in groups.

❖ I.D.E.S. St. John Crab Feed

I.D.E.S. St. John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will have its annual Crab Feed on Saturday, Feb. 29, from 6 to 10 p.m. The dinner comes with salad, pasta, garlic bread, and dessert. Tickets are \$55 per person, and \$25 for children 6 to 12 years old. For more information or tickets, call Darlene at 510-589-6536, Willie at 510-207-6326 or Frances 510-886-1568.

❖ Bayfair Toastmasters

Bayfair Toastmasters is a small, growing club seeking new members who want to learn the art of public speaking. All are welcome to the club's weekly meetings every Wednesday from noon to 1 a.m. in the Bayfair Mall 2nd floor meeting room above the food court. For more information, call Noreen at 510-538-6025 or Wayne at 407-0048.



Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz and their team will be coming and hope to find some historically significant objects.

'American Pickers' Coming To the East Bay in March

The reality TV show on the History channel, "American Pickers," will be coming to California and will film episodes in this area in March.

The pickers hunt for valuable antiques and they are interested in finding unique collections and learning the interesting stories behind the items.

Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz, and their team hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way. They're always looking to discover something they've never seen before.

American Pickers is looking for leads and would love to

"The pickers are interested in finding unique collections."

explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better

part of the day looking through, send your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinetflix.com or call 855-OLD-RUST.

Deadline Extended for Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame

Nominations are being accepted for the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame, honoring extraordinary women making a difference in the community.

Honorees will be celebrated at the 27th Annual Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 11, at the USS Hornet – Sea, Air and Space Museum, 707 W. Hornet Ave. in Alameda.

The deadline to submit a nomination has been extended to Feb. 14.

The Women's Hall of Fame is accepting nominations in 13 categories: Business & Professions; Community Service; Culture & Art; Education; Emerging Leader; Environment; Health; Justice; Non-Traditional Careers; Philanthropy; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; Sports & Athletics; and Youth.

Submit your nominations in any of these categories today. A nomination can be submitted online at <http://www.acgov.org/>

whof, where there is also more information about tickets and sponsorships that affords deserving youth the opportunity to attend the event.

More than 250 women have been inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame since its inception in 1993.

In addition to commending exceptional women leaders from Alameda County, the annual event raises funds for youth scholarships and supports local nonprofit community partners serving women, youth and families.

This countywide event is co-hosted by the Alameda County

Board of Supervisors and the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. The Women's Hall of Fame is an annual event held to recognize outstanding women for their achievements and contributions, and to support community partners serving women and families in Alameda County.

The event is expected to sell out with more than 500 people present to recognize the achievements of our inductees and to contribute support to youth and community partners.

The next group of Women's Hall of Fame inductees will be announced in early spring.

Natives Garden Tour Plant Event

Local nurseries specializing in California native plants will be open on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A percentage of all purchases made on Feb. 22 will go to support the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour. Green Thumb

Works, 20095 Mission Blvd. in Hayward, will host a pop-up sale of hard-to-find California native plants.

Handmade soaps and pottery for sale plus solar oven cooking demonstration. Beekeeper meet and greet at 2 p.m.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

Barry Lamont Thompson
Case Number:
RP20050801

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

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **Michael Herrera, Sr.** in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that **Michael Herrera, Sr.** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 18, 2020, 9:31 a.m., Dept. 201, at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

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

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

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

Attorney for petitioner: Rachael N. Phillips
Law Offices of Ann Marshall Robbeloth
31 East Julian Street, San Jose, CA 95112 (408)371-5206

LEGAL 0219-SLT RP20050801 02/06/20, 02/13/20, 02/20/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Pediatric Language Therapy Associates located at 2242 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Claire Ibrahim, 8033 Earl St., Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Claire Ibrahim

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 30, 2025

FEB 06, 13, 20, 27, 2020
0221-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Aleyda's House Cleaning located at 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aleyda Revelo Rivera, 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 01/09/2020. /s/ Aleyda Revelo Rivera

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 9, 2025

JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020
0210-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): BLACK MEN LIFE Insurance Foundation located at 1972 Quebec Ave., San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BLACK MEN LIFE Insurance Foundation, 1972 Quebec Ave., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by a corporation. This business commenced 1/29/2020. /s/ BLACK MEN LIFE Insurance Foundation

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 29, 2025

FEB 13, 20, 27, MAR 05, 2020
0222-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Hallibron located at 16077 Ashland Avenue, #355, San Lorenzo, CA 94580, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cornor Alexander Jr., 16077 Ashland Ave., #355, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Cornor Alexander Jr.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 15, 2025

JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020
0211-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): "E" and "L" Property located at 862 Evergreen Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Christine Soledad Ortega Max (2) Edwin Stanley Barahona, 862 Evergreen Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. This business commenced 01-16-20. /s/ Christine Soledad Ortega Max, Edwin Stanley Barahona

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 16, 2025

JAN 30, FEB 06, 13, 20, 2020
0215-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Gabriella Gutierrez, CSR 9024 located at 1128 Billings Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gabriella Gutierrez, 1128 Billings Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Gabriella Gutierrez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires DECEMBER 31, 2024

JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020
0212-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Concrete Rock Stamp Rental and More located at 16530 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wendy Karina Nunez, 424 Pacifica Ave., Baypoint, CA 94565. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Wendy Karina Nunez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 22, 2025

FEB 06, 13, 20, 27, 2020
0218-SLT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Safe Transportation Service located at 1215 Asbury Ct., San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Fayeze Aldahmi, 1781 Auseon Ave., Oakland, CA 94621 and (2) Muneer Alkabsh, 1215 Asbury Ct., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by Co-partners. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Fayeze Aldahmi, Muneer Alkabsh

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires JANUARY 15, 2025

JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020
0213-SLT

LIFESTYLE

Capturing Hearts on Valentine's Day

Finding the perfect Valentine's Day present for the one that you love isn't always easy — so it's a good thing that almost everyone appreciates a sweet, homemade treat.

CHOCOLATE TRUFFLE COOKIES

- 4 (1-ounce) squares unsweetened chocolate, chopped
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 6 tablespoons butter
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour

- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

In the microwave or in a metal bowl over a pan of simmering water, melt unsweetened chocolate, 1 cup of the chocolate chips, and the butter stirring occasionally until smooth.

Remove from heat and set aside to cool.

In a large bowl, whip eggs and sugar until thick and pale, about 2 minutes. Stir in the vanilla and the chocolate mixture until well

mixed.

Combine the flour, cocoa, baking powder and salt; gradually stir into the chocolate mixture. Fold in remaining 1 cup chocolate chips. Cover dough and chill for at least an hour or overnight.

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Roll chilled dough into 1 inch balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheets so they are 2 inches apart.

Bake for 9 to 11 minutes in the preheated oven. Allow cookies to cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.

SHORTBREAD COOKIES

- 1 cup salted butter, cold and cut into pieces
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2-1/4 cups all-purpose flour

In a medium bowl of an electric stand mixer cream together butter, granulated sugar and vanilla extract until well combined.

Add flour and mix until combined. Knead dough by hand for 5 minutes. It should end up soft and pliable, similar to play-dough, not sticky.

Form a ball, wrap tightly, and chill for about 30 minutes. While the dough is resting, preheat oven to 350°F. Line baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside.

Roll dough out to about 1/2 inch

thickness, use a cookie cutter for shapes.

Place each cookie 2 inches apart on baking sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes, or until edges are golden brown. Immediately transfer to a wire rack to cool.

RED VELVET COOKIES

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 (1-ounce) squares unsweetened baking chocolate, broken into pieces
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 2/3 cup dark brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon red food coloring
- 3/4 cup sour cream
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips (optional)

Preheat oven to 375°F with the rack in the middle position. Grease baking sheets or line with parchment paper. Sift together the flour, baking soda, and salt.

Break the chocolate squares into chunks, place in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave on High until the chocolate melts, about 90 seconds. Stir the chocolate until smooth and set aside to cool.

In a large bowl, beat 1/2 cup



butter, brown sugar, and white sugar until light and fluffy; pour in the egg and beat until smooth.

Mix in the red food coloring and chocolate, scraping the bowl down regularly, until evenly blended, about 30 seconds. Add half of the sifted dry ingredients, stirring until well incorporated.

Beat in the sour cream and mix in the remaining dry ingredients. Fold in the chocolate chips. Drop

spoonfuls of the dough 2 inches apart onto prepared baking sheets. Bake one sheet at a time in the preheated oven until they spring back when pressed, about 9 minutes. Cool in the pans for 5 minutes before removing to cool completely on a wire rack.

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 4 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar, sifted
- Red food coloring (optional)

Whip 1/4 cup butter, cream cheese, and vanilla until smooth. Blend in the powdered sugar in half cup portions until the frosting reaches the desired consistency. Add a few drops of red food coloring if desired.

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Happy Valentine's Day
my love. Excited for this next
year of adventures.

MedShare: Worldwide effort to prevent the spread of coronavirus

continued from front page
bassador Wang Donghua, Chinese Consul General of San Francisco.

"I'm deeply impressed by what America has done," Donghua said. "What MedShare has done is improving the quality of life. We are grateful to you for providing these generous donations."

Donghua said China is optimistic but he also warned against over-reacting.

"China is cooperating with the international community in an

"We're grateful to you for providing these generous donations."

— Chinese Consul General of San Francisco Wang Donghua

open, transparent and responsible manner," Donghua said. "But in the U.S. there has been some irresponsible remarks and finger pointing. The number of cases in China is relatively small. Without the steps taken by China I think the number of cases outside China would be higher."

Donghua then expressed gratitude for the assistance to China. He then took part in a brief ceremony as MedShare Regional Director Eric Talbert called the speakers back up to mark the occasion with a ceremonial gong.

Donghua, Ferguson, MedShare President Charles Redding, Kevin O'Brien of UPS, and David Kochman of Henry Schein Inc. all got up for the ceremony as photographers took pictures.

"I lived for 4 years in China, so this is personal to me," said MedShare President Redding.

SIRs Meets Monthly

SIRs, an organization of retired men, meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Wedgewood Center at the Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Drive in Oakland. Happy hour starts at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon.



Moy Wong and other Coca-Cola employees attended the press conference. Wong works at Coca-Cola's Walnut Creek office. Her t-shirt reads, "Please Drink Coca-Cola."



PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

Curt Ferguson from Coca-Cola, MedShare President Charles Redding, and Ambassador Wang Donghua ring the ceremonial gong as MedShare Western Regional Director Eric Talbert looks on.

Coronavirus: Doctor's advice

continued from front page

The respiratory virus, whose scientific designation is 2019-nCoV, is thought to have originated in Wuhan, China, where meat from wild and domesticated animals is sold. The first recorded human cases were detected last December.

The possibility of the virus spreading from person-to-person led U.S. officials to establish quarantine areas for people arriving from China, where much of the population is under quarantine. Dr. Finch said a quarantine that extensive has not happened before in his lifetime.

"There are efforts going on now to prevent it from getting a foothold outside China," Finch said.

With an incubation period of up to 14 days, travelers from China may be isolated for up to two weeks so as not to inadvertently spread the virus. Anyone

who has been in contact with these travelers and who shows symptoms (cough, fever, upper airway congestion, diarrhea, and

"I know it sounds scary but I think we here are pretty well protected."

— Dr. Mark Finch, Sr., an infectious disease specialist

later shortness of breath) may be isolated as well.

"I know it sounds scary, but I think we here are pretty well protected," Finch said. "You shouldn't be avoiding people because of their ethnicity."

If by some stroke of bad luck

you get exposed to someone who slipped past the quarantine and you become ill, Finch said you should call your primary physician, contact an Emergency Room and explain your symptoms, and — only when the ER is warned and prepared — should you don a mask and go in.

At present there is no vaccine for the virus. People should take the same common-sense precautions as they do in general: avoid contact with sick persons, disinfect surfaces that may be contaminated with germs, wash hands thoroughly, and avoid touching nose, eyes and mouth with unwashed hands.

Dr. Finch reminded the audience that influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, which should be cause for concern. He recommended everyone get a flu shot.

"I get the flu shot every year," he said. "It's a safe vaccine, and prevents severe infection, and death."

SL Players to Hold Auditions

Auditions for San Leandro Players Spring production of *The Man Who Came to Dinner* will be held on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 24 and Feb. 25, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave.

Ensemble cast, no pay, non-AEA. Male and female roles, all ages and ethnicities are encouraged.

Rehearsals will be evenings Monday through Thursday, beginning on Monday, March 2. Open auditions; appointments possible. Performances will be on weekends from April 18 to May 17.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Is Your Life Full of Headaches? Rethink Popping the Painkillers

By Dr. Suhyun An
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Headaches remain a common source of pain in the U.S., but the frequency and severity differ widely among sufferers, and how to avoid headaches altogether is still a head-scratcher.

The first remedy for most people is to take a painkiller. But this may not always be the best or safest option.

Whether it's aspirin, acetaminophen, naproxen, ibuprofen, or another medicine, these can work well — if you don't use them too often.

Using too much pain medicine can make your headache worse and cause other problems as well. And you may also have headaches more often as a result.

You might want to rethink



Using too much pain medicine can make your headache worse and cause other problems as well. And you may also have headaches more often as a result.

popping a painkiller every time you get a headache. There are other ways to deal with or reduce the frequency of headaches:

Painkiller overuse

Side effects. Non-prescription analgesics, commonly taken for headaches, can have serious side effects if taken too often. For example, if you regularly take acetaminophen (paracetamol) for several days, you could damage your liver. These drugs can also cause kidney problems. Aspirin and ibuprofen sometimes cause gastric bleeding.

Rebound headache. An additional problem you may encounter if you take pain relievers regularly is a medication overuse headache, also known as a rebound headache.

This is caused by regular, long-term use of medication to treat headaches, such as migraines. It becomes less effective and your headache comes back as soon as the medicine

wears off.

If you choose to take a pain reliever, always follow the dosage recommendations on the label.

Non-drug solutions

Make lifestyle changes. Headaches occur for many reasons: lack of sleep, poor diet, stress, excessive computer or phone screen time, etc. Tweaks in your daily routine can reduce the number of headaches or migraines you have. Drink plenty of water, monitor your caffeine and alcohol intake, have a consistent sleep schedule, get exercise, and have a healthy diet.

Tracking your headaches can help you devise lifestyle changes. Write down when you get one and what you were doing beforehand.

See a doctor. If your headaches get in the way of daily life, it's time to talk to a doctor. The following occurrences should cause someone to seek medical

advice: severe headaches that come on quickly; a headache accompanied by fever, stiff neck, rash, confusion, seizure, double vision, weakness, numbness or difficulty speaking; a headache increasing in severity despite rest and pain medication; taking pain relievers more than twice a week; certain actions like bending over or coughing that bring on a headache.

Your primary care physician is a good place to start, but headaches can be complex, and neurologists and headache specialists have special training to help them figure out the type of headache you have and its causes.

Use natural therapies. Many natural therapies can be useful. Your headache specialist may suggest stress management such as relaxation exercises and meditation, physical therapy, cognitive behavior therapy, biofeedback, massage or acupuncture.

Whether or not you suffer from frequent, severe headaches, migraines, or just the occasional tension headache, you should try to limit the use of over-the-counter and prescription drugs. Meanwhile, you should always be vigilant about your lifestyle habits.

Dr. Suhyun An (www.dr-suhyunan.com) is the clinic director at Campbell Medical Group in Houston and an expert on regenerative medicine.

Do I Have Severe Asthma?

Better understand your asthma, so you have better control of your symptoms.

	Well Controlled	Uncontrolled	Difficult-to-treat	Severe
Daily asthma symptoms and activity limitations		✓	✓	✓
Waking up at night due to asthma		✓	✓	✓
Daily use of quick-relief medicine		✓	✓	✓
Asthma episodes requiring an oral corticosteroid, emergency room visit or hospital stay		✓	✓	✓
Use of multiple medium to high-dose long-term controller medicines			✓	✓
Biomarkers are positive for type 2 or non-type 2 inflammation				✓

How to Tell if You Have Severe Asthma

While the majority of the more than 25 million Americans living with asthma enjoy active, healthy lives, for others, severe symptoms are part of daily life, despite using high dose asthma medicines and avoiding triggers.

Does this sound familiar? If so, you could have severe asthma, a type of asthma that affects approximately 5-10 percent of those with the condition. Increasing the risk of death, illness, and depression, and limiting the ability to work or go to school, severe asthma is dangerous, and is responsible for 50 percent of all asthma healthcare costs. Control is the

key and is attainable even if you do have severe asthma.

Is your asthma under control? To find out, start by visiting the American Lung Association website, where you can take the My Asthma Control Assessment and access a downloadable summary of its findings to take to your next doctor's appointment. Visit Lung.org/severe-asthma for more information, as well as to access questions that you can ask your doctor for a more productive conversation.

Better understanding your asthma is the first step to taking better control of your symptoms.

Free Cancer Workshop at Eden Medical

Eden Medical Center is continuing its partnership with the Cancer Support Community in 2020 by offering a series of free support groups and quarterly free cancer workshops.

The first workshop will be "Gentle Restorative Yoga" from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27, when those attending will learn how breathing and gentle movements promote healing and restore the body. This form of yoga is also one of the best ways to fight fatigue and restore strength and balance.

If you are going through cancer treatments, are on the road to recovery, or are a caregiver, this class is for you. Madelyn Kimball, a certified yoga trainer, will share her knowledge during this session.

All workshops are held on the second floor of the Eden Medical Center's Medical Office Building at 20101 Lake Chabot Road. Registration is encouraged by calling 925-933-0107.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming workshops: "Eating for Healing" on May 21, "Yoga for Self-Care" on Aug. 20, and "Sugar, Blood Sugar & Cancer" on Nov. 12, all from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Cancer Support Groups are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. also in the Office Medical Building. No registration is needed for these drop-in groups. If you are interested in different workshop topics, please call Eden Medical's Cancer Data Services at 510-727-2718.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY

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



FEMA and CEA Combine to Lower Earthquake Retrofitting Costs

As we head deeper into 2020, most San Francisco Bay Area residents realize that each day brings us closer to another earthquake.

Whether the next temblor will be a minor event or the much anticipated "big one" is anyone's guess. Prudent homeowners are working now to prevent significant damage to their dwellings regardless of the severity of the next shaker.

In order to improve the survivability of homes during an earthquake, California has instituted significant reforms to its building code.

With many of the world's seismic experts and institutions housed in California, we have seen continual upgrades to the building codes since the 1930's, with the most significant

improvements coming after the devastating 1994 Northridge shaker that caused 72 fatalities.

Consequently, homes built to newer building codes are typically connected directly to slab foundations and include numerous shear walls and mechanical connectors throughout.

This still leaves, however, a significant number of homes throughout the region susceptible to earthquake-related damage.

Most Bay Area homes are comprised of wood-frame construction and those most likely to be impacted have crawlspaces which include cripple walls, living areas over garages or, in the case of homes built before the 1950's, may have little or no anchor bolts adequately connecting the home to the foundation.

Older properties with unreinforced masonry walls are also at significant risk.

Homeowners interested in making seismic upgrades to their homes have often faced significant engineering and retrofitting costs.

Hoping to standardize upgrades and lower related

expenses, the California Earthquake Authority (CEA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have combined forces to produce a two-volume publication entitled Vulnerability-Based Seismic Assessment and Retrofit of One- and Two-Family Dwellings.

A recent news release by the California Earthquake Authority informs, "Contractors, architects, engineers and skilled homeowners who are planning to retrofit certain types of at-risk residential structures can order the free publication, consisting of a "prestandard" and several plan sets prepared by the Applied Technology Council, by calling (800) 480-2520 or download them at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/175158>."

Michael Mahoney, Geophysicist for FEMA states, "These publications are a great resource for owners who want to improve the seismic resilience of their homes." He adds, "Seismic retrofitting may mean the difference between a homeowner being able to live in their home after an earthquake or being forced to evacuate."

It is not a matter of "if" but "when" the next local quake will occur. Wise homeowners will be ready.

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.



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Linda Neff: 510-557-9185 / linda@lindaneff.com / DRE #01495978
Kelly McCoy: 925-786-2681 / DRE #02095209

Prune Damage After Last Cold Spell

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Q I've noticed that my passion vines are not looking very good, as the foliage is sparse and brown. They were planted several years ago. I've never pruned them, so when is the proper time to do so?

A Passion vine is an evergreen that is sensitive to cold temperatures. The cold causes the foliage to turn brown, and if it gets frigid, we can see some significant structural damage.

It's too early to know if that is the case this year. We've had several cold spells this winter, and there still may be another so I wouldn't be in a hurry to prune off the damage as yet.

This would be the same advice for citrus, bougainvillea, hibiscus, Mandevilla, and other frost-sensitive plants. The



damaged foliage will act as an umbrella to protect the undamaged leaves underneath.

The last date we would expect frost is March 15, but it does vary from year to year. You could prune off the cold weather damage anytime after that date. Personally, I'd wait until April when I saw the new growth. I'd then know exactly where to cut back.

Passion vines are an aggressive grower so they will take a severe trimming, which is necessary to keep them contained. Ultimately, how far you trim them back is a judgment call on your part.

I'd also pay attention to the growth on the backside of the plant. All too often aggressive vines are planted on a fence, and unfortunately, they intrude into a neighboring yard. Your neighbor may not be thrilled with the unwanted intrusion so

cut this growth off.

Another containment technique is to prune them off at the ground every three to four years.

They're fed annually with Dr. Earth All-Purpose Fertilizer after pruning. I would recommend similar pruning with Jasmine polyanthus, hardenbergia, and trumpet vines. With evergreen vines such as a passion vine, you need to be proactive in maintaining them each year; otherwise, they can get out of control.

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



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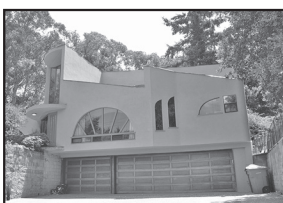
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How to Update Home Lighting to be Easy on the Eyes

If you ever experience eye-strain, tired itchy eyes, blurry vision or headaches, it may be time to give your home a lighting makeover.

Problems caused by bad lighting can be intensified by using it for longer, something most households should keep in mind, as 74 percent of Americans in a recent survey, commissioned by lighting manufacturer, Signify, say they spend eight hours or more a day under artificial light.

The World Health Organization predicts that 50 percent of people will be short sighted by 2050.

Unfortunately, there's a disconnect between people's concerns about eye health and the steps they are taking to support eye comfort at home. While 80 percent of U.S. consumers in the same Signify survey say they believe good lighting is beneficial for eye health, a 2017 Signify study found only 21 percent take that into account when purchasing light bulbs, and only 29 percent consider light quality.

For many consumers, the disconnect may stem from overwhelming choice when it comes to home lighting and from not having enough information to make an informed decision. Luckily, manufacturers are taking steps to improve lighting quality and help guide consumers in their search for comfortable light that's easy on the eyes.

For example, Signify has defined specific lighting quality parameters, which take into account factors such as flicker, strobe, glare and dimming effects that can affect one's eye comfort. Consumers can look for an EyeComfort label on product packaging to identify the Philips LED light bulbs that meet the standards for quality lighting that's easy on the eyes.

To further protect your eyes and avoid discomfort, try the following:

- If you are in front of screens (computers, smartphones, televisions) for extended periods of time, close your eyes for 20 seconds or more, every 20 minutes, to allow them to relax.

• If outdoors, wear sunglasses with 100 percent UV protection to help protect your eyes from the sun. It's helpful to keep a pair in your bag or car, so they are always nearby. Also consider spending a bit more time in natural light and less in artificial light.

- Exercise and strengthen your eyes by incorporating simple, yet effective eye yoga exercises into your daily routine for a few minutes daily.

- Schedule regular check-ups with an eye specialist, who will be able to detect the first signs of any eye condition or disease.

While certain eye conditions are beyond one's control, why not do what's in your power to protect your family from eye-strain and related discomfort? The simple DIY project of upgrading your home lighting can mean happier, healthier eyes and better quality of life.

— Statepoint



Tips for Creating the Perfect Home Office

With more people nationwide opting to create their own businesses or work for their employer remotely, the home office has become one of the most used spaces of the house, with many people spending more than eight hours a day in this room. If you're one of these people, the kitchen table just won't cut it if you're looking to get serious and organized.

To create a dedicated workspace that is beautiful, smart and functional, consider the following tips:

Tip 1: Design a space where you'll enjoy spending time. Simple touches like lighting, a bright touch of paint or a wide-open window, can help create an inviting ambiance, and so can the addition of certain accessories. Instead of opting for a simple ceiling light fixture, dare to add a pop of style and color with a new ceiling fan.

Not only can this addition make your space more comfortable, it can elevate your décor, with the ceiling as the centerpiece. Options from Hunter Fan Company like the Norden or Hepburn can bring the Satin Copper trend from the kitchen to the office, while new finishes in some of the brand's fan favorites, such as the Cranbrook in Dove Grey or Blush Pink, will fit seamlessly into a bright and inviting space.

Tip 2: Add life. Add color and vitality to your home office with some plant life. Not only will you be improving indoor

air quality, you'll be adding beauty to the space. To save precious desk-space, consider a few hanging planters, opting for plants that thrive indoors, such as spider plants or jade.

Tip 3: Don't forget function! As the wheels turn and your creative juices start flowing, nothing can be more distracting than a creaking ceiling fan or a light that just doesn't do the trick. A simple switch can make all the difference. While a desk lamp might solve your lighting problem, why not opt for a fixture that can solve both of those issues at the same time? Tech-savvy ceiling fan options from Hunter Fan Company like the Tunable White LED Dempsey, allow you to adjust the temperature of the light, ensuring your fan will operate quietly, keep you cool, and work as hard -- and as late -- as you do. With its dimmable remote, you

can adjust the light temperature for your eyes, using warm white lighting for nighttime work and cool white lighting to perk you up in the morning. Such details will help any entrepreneur avoid distraction and create a more productive work environment.

Tip 4: Get personal. You may be doing business, but when it comes to decorating, it's time to mix in the personal. Items such as photographs of friends and family or reminders of previous accomplishments will bring you joy and help you stay motivated. Whatever you do, don't settle for completely bare walls!

Gone are the days of dark wood-paneled, moody lighting and rolodexes. Today's most effective home offices are brighter, more welcoming, and unite function with your personal style.

— Statepoint

Spray Fruit Trees in Fall

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

What is the best spray plan for peach and other fruit trees? What if rain prohibits on scheduled dates?

Peach leaf curl is the primary concern with peaches and nectarines which should be treated. I suggest you apply a copper fungicide dormant spray. You need to start with one applica-

tion in the late fall after half of the leaves have dropped off. The next application is around mid-February. You want to wait until the buds are about to open. This is called the pink bud stage or popcorn stage.

Rain is a big problem as it will wash the peach leaf curl spores into the open buds and infect them. Hence, you want clear dry conditions when the trees are in bloom.

You can spray now, but your first application is best made

in the fall. With the other fruit trees except for citrus, one application of a copper fungicide made in January-February is sufficient.

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



WEEKEND GARDENER

Plant a Tree

Arbor Day is celebrated in California in March, so make a plan—and pick a spot—to plant a tree.

Before it Rains Again

If the weather is nice this weekend, get out and do some serious work. Finish pruning roses, grapes and deciduous fruit and nut trees. (If you want more grape vines, stick a few of the pruned cuttings into the ground—they root easily.) Put any bulbs that haven't been planted into the ground right away. Pull weeds while the ground is still very moist and before they take over everything.

Repot Cymbidiums

If your cymbidium orchids are bulging out of their containers, repot them from now until the end of June. Remove the old bark, discard dead roots and rotted bulbs, and transfer the entire plant into a larger container filled with cymbidium mix or bark. You can also split up the plant into groups of three to five bulbs with leaves and repot each division individually.



Planning your garden style

- Consider a **container garden** to grow your fruits, vegetables, or herbs. Only a small, sunny area is needed for your pots.
- You can choose a **raised garden bed**. This works for smaller properties, or if you prefer multiple small beds instead of one large plot.
- You can plan an **in-ground garden**. Make sure the area receives good sun, then plan its dimensions, what you will plant in it, and how much you will plant. Prepare the soil and the water source to be used. Schedule the planting and maintenance. — B. Weaver

Source: morningchores.com

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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45 Charged bit

46 Portion of N.A.

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Redwood Christian Schools Honors 2020 Court at Annual Homecoming

Ashleigh Nicole Johnson named 2020 Redwood homecoming queen

Redwood Christian High School honored its 2020 Homecoming Court at the Annual Homecoming Games on Saturday, Jan. 18.

Homecoming Queen and King, Ashleigh Nicole Johnson and Xavier Cherry were joined by the rest of the 2020 Homecoming Court in the Bruce D. Johnson Gymnasium on the RCS Middle and High School campus.

King Xavier has been a student at the Redwood Christian Schools since kindergarten.

Each court member was escorted by a parent as the Masters of Ceremonies Redwood Christian Schools Superintendent Dr. Al Hearne and Principal Ben Warner read student-provided information and personal letters written by family members.



PHOTO BY CATHY BRESLOW OF BRESLOW IMAGING

Members of the 2020 Redwood Christian High School Homecoming Court (back row, from left) Senior Prince Thunder Reytez (Trey) Gallarzan of San Leandro, Homecoming Queen Ashleigh Nicole Johnson of Richmond, Homecoming King Xavier Cherry of San Leandro, Senior Prince Danny Barquero of Hayward; (front row) Senior Princess Olivia Clausen of Castro Valley, Senior Princess Hannah Stirling of Castro Valley; Junior Princess Netanya Buenrostro of San Leandro, Sophomore Princess Madelyn Francis of Livermore and Freshman Princess Pilar Portillo of San Lorenzo.

Buon Tempo Dinner

The Buon Tempo Club is having a family dinner on Tuesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Hall, Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley. Happy hour is 6 p.m. The dinner is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, Feb. 28, by calling the Buon Tempo dinner line at 510-483-6929.

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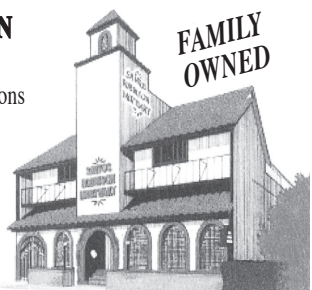
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LOCAL DEATHS

Marian Pereira

Marian Pereira passed on January 31, 2020. She was a native of Hawaii and graduated from Sacred Hearts Academy. She was married to Raymond Pereira for 48 years and survived the attack on Pearl Harbor. At age 86 she was still enjoying bowling on a league. She was an active member for many years with the Eagles Club. Marian was a beautiful hula dancer and was even in parades and on a post card. She is survived by her daughter Raynette Lavine, granddaughter Lisa Rowe, "grandson" Ken Rowe, and great-granddaughter Catitia Rowe.

Her services will be held in March at Saint Felicitas.

Wilma Ruth (Batteate, Lewis) Castillo

December 1, 1920 ~ January 2, 2020

Wilma Castillo passed away peacefully on January 2, 2020 marking the beginning of her 100th year in the loving care of Carol Pekkari. She graduated from Castlemont High School in 1939. Wilma worked and loved the San Leandro Boys Club for 50 years as secretary. Over those years, she saw many boys and co-workers walk through those doors, some needing a home away from home and a warm heart to welcome them... that was our Mom. She raised her children within those club walls as well: Susan, Kip, Jeff, Kelly and Shane; grandchildren Jason, Megan, Sunnie, Zach, Cliff, Martin, Mika, Nico and Presley; and 7 great-grandchildren. She was presented with the Distinguished Service to Youth Award in 1995 and National Service to Youth Award in 2003 for her years of service and dedication to the Boys Club which were some of her proudest moments. Wilma was preceded in death by Phillip "Babe" Castillo, husband and best friend, her parents Alfred & May Batteate, brothers Sonny and Bud. She lived a life full of love and dedication to her family and dog Bella. Celebration of life will be held at 12 p.m. on February 23, 2020 at the San Leandro Veterans Hall - 1105 Bancroft Avenue, San Leandro.



Early Voting and Vote By Mail for March 3 Primary

Early Voting for the March 3 Presidential Primary Election is available at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Vote by Mail period for this election is from Monday, Feb. 3, through Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Voters may request a Vote by Mail ballot at any time from Feb. 3 through Feb. 25 for the March 3 Presidential Primary Election by one of the following ways: completing the application on the back of their Voter Information Pamphlet, sending an email, send a written request via fax to 510-272-6982, by mail to the Registrar of Voters' Office, or call the Registrar of Voters at 510-272-6973, to request for a ballot to be mailed to you.

quest for a ballot to be mailed to you.

Voters may also complete the online Vote by Mail application at www.acvote.org/vbm. All Vote by Mail ballot requests must be received no later than Tuesday, Feb. 25, by 5 p.m.

Only the registered voter himself or herself may apply for a Vote by Mail ballot. An application for a Vote by Mail ballot that is made by any person other than the registered voter is a criminal offense.

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office is located at: 1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1, Oakland.

For more information, visit acvote.org or call the Registrar of Voters at 510-272-6973.

Un-Valentines Day Mini-Golf

The San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., invites everyone 18 and over to an Un-Valentine's Day Mini-Golf after-hours event on Friday, Feb. 14, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Bring your friends or come alone. Mini

Golf will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free. Pizza will be served while supplies last. Board games and video games will also be available. For more information, call the Library Information Desk at 510-577-3971.

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. A fee will apply depending on the length. A photo can be added for an additional cost. For assistance, call 510-614-1555.

Ruth Rosaria Thomas

February 18, 1928 – February 2, 2020

Ruth Rosaria Thomas, a resident of San Leandro for over 60 years passed away peacefully surrounded by family. She was 91 years old.

She was born in Puunene, Maui, where she spent her childhood. She later moved to Honolulu to go to work, then married on March 27, 1954 to her husband of 65 years, Mead Thomas.

She is survived by her loving husband and soulmate, three devoted children, Audrey and husband John Louis, Charlene and Tom, six cherished grandchildren, Joey, Kelley, Derek, Danny, Erica and Jennifer. She is also survived by her loving sister, Laura, and many loving nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her beloved father and mother, Senon and Maura Cateel, her brothers, Billy and Loreto, and sisters, Alice and Rose.

She is remembered by many for her love of cooking, baking, arts and crafts, generosity, thoughtfulness, friendliness and sense of wit. She had a heart of gold. She loved shopping and always bought gifts for everyone. Her outfits always matched from head to toe. She was a real fashionista. She was a devoted Catholic who went to St. Felicitas Church religiously for 60 years.

A mass will be held Friday, February 21, 2020 at Noon at St. Felicitas Church, 1662 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro, Ca 94579. There will be a celebration of life in the Social Hall afterwards.



'Chicago the Tribute' Coming to CV Center for the Arts on Feb. 22

Eight musicians create the great Chicago sound

By **Terry Liebowitz**
Special to the Times

"Chicago the Tribute" brings the iconic sounds of "the rock and roll band with horns" to the Castro Valley Center for the Arts, Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Come enjoy an evening of Chicago's legendary hits from the '70s and '80s including "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It is?" "Saturday in the Park," and "Will You Still

Love Me?"

In their heyday, Chicago accumulated 23 gold albums and 18 platinum albums. They were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2016.

Billboard magazine ranked them 13th in top American Artists of all time. Chicago was the first rock and roll group to sell out at Carnegie Hall.

Chicago the Tribute is a group of eight accomplished musicians, based out of the Sacramento area, who create the great Chicago sound with powerful horns, rich vocals and

a rockin' rhythm section.

Lead singer Paul Benavidez explains, "To be a great Chicago tribute band, you have to be a great band, period. We bring you that famous fusion of rock, jazz, funk and soul."

Brian Hack, Tony Odda, Joe Gotch, Andy Delano, Dave Metzker, Greg Burch, and Barry Reynolds round out the band. For ticket information, please see www.cvartsfoundation.org/shows

Terry Liebowitz is a founding member of the Castro Valley Arts Foundation.



The Castro Valley Center for the Arts will host 'Chicago the Tribute' on Saturday, Feb. 22. The band creates the powerful horns and vocals of Chicago's sound.

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.

Helpful Electric Car Review

Editor:

Thank you to Steve Schaefer for his Feb. 6 story, "Farewell to My Chevy Bolt EV."

I am considering an electric car for the first time, so I really appreciated reading Steve's account of his long-term use of an electric model.

Nearly all auto reviews focus on the bells and whistles of brand-new models. I find it much more helpful, before buying a car, to find out how well a particular model has performed for its owners over a period of a few years.

Electric cars do present a higher up-front price than their non-electric counterparts, but Steve made a convincing case that he came out ahead on his total cost with his very low operating expenses.

He also fairly explained some of the drawbacks of EV ownership, yet still the advantages prevailed for him.

I may not purchase a Chevy Bolt, but Steve's review did much to convince me that the next time I buy a car, my money will be more wisely spent if I buy electric. That's the kind of car review I find helpful.

—**Sterling Kinnell**, San Leandro

An Investment with Benefits

Editor:

The San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED) believes that when a child succeeds, we all succeed. For this reason, the SLED Board of Directors has endorsed Measure N, a school bond measure on the March 3, 2020 election ballot.

Measure N can support every student succeeding by expanding upon construction projects that have already occurred in our schools. Additionally, many critical needs remain as identified in the district's comprehensive facilities needs assessment. Measure N will complete this work by funding necessary renovation and modernization projects at every school in the district.

Measure N will also enable the school district to obtain state matching funds. The state does not pay for school district construction and modernization without a local match of funds.

San Leandro schools have made tremendous progress over the past decade due in large part to the generous financial support of San Leandro voters. Our community has benefited immensely from this investment.

Strong public schools are essential to our quality of life and the future well-being of San Leandro. Please join the SLED Board of Directors in keeping our schools and our city moving forward by voting Yes on Measure N.

—**Morgan Mack-Rose**,
Executive Director

San Leandro Education Foundation

Continue the Progress

Editor:

Four years ago, the San Leandro School Board conducted an assessment of facility needs of the schools in the district. The assessment identified nearly \$300 million in essential construction and renovation projects.

As a result, the School Board placed Measure J1, a \$104 million bond, on the 2016 ballot to start the work. The Measure J1 construction projects are being completed on time and on budget. Some of these projects include:

- Repairing leaky roofs, dated plumbing, and electrical systems
- Installing heating and HVAC systems districtwide
- Enhancing student safety with security lighting and emergency communications
- Upgrading classrooms, libraries, and science labs
- Replacing deteriorating portables

Measure N, a \$198 million bond, has been placed on the March 3 ballot to finish the work identified in the original facilities assessment. Delaying the work will only increase costs.

Measure N will fund projects at every school in the district. Some of the projects include:

- Safety drop-off/pick-up areas at several of the schools
- Constructing new Science, Engineering, and Career Technical Education classrooms at San Leandro High School
- Replacing the last of the aging portables with new permanent classrooms at

the elementary and middle schools

- Replacing single-pane windows with new energy-efficient windows
- Constructing a new gymnasium with multi-use flexibility at San Leandro High School

All funds from Measure N will be dedicated to improving our schools for the children of San Leandro today and for future generations. Funds cannot be taken by the State or spent on administrator or staff salaries. An independent oversight committee and yearly audits will ensure all funds are spent properly.

Our community, our schools, and our children have benefited tremendously from previous bond measures San Leandro voters have approved. Let's continue this progress. Please join me in voting YES on Measure N.

—**Peter Oshinski**, President
San Leandro School Board

Reply to West's Letter

Editor:

You've got to love the all important First Amendment that defines democracy. Not to mention: Truth, Accountability and Justice. None of which is honored by the so called President of our great country. History will find him as the greatest deterrent to democracy ever.

Any misunderstanding of a locally based world should now be recognized as superseded by the fact we're all living in a global community. Localized countries' wars will escalate to the world stage. With growing intentions toward annexations by Russia, China, Israel, conflict is inevitable.

Humans have always been a warring species. And it's still spawned by territorial aggression in an ever crowded world of diminishing size.

Growing military might with superpowers tending towards territorial acquisition and dominance will force the ultimate confrontation. Anyone who believes the US military will be the end all protection against future errant aggression has their head buried in the sand. The major military powers have similar military strength. Without a well crafted peace and prosperity for the disadvantaged confrontation is inevitable.

Education is our most valuable tool for salvation. Which will be born out only through future generations who are able to recognize the inherent constraints of errant religious beliefs, their intents, and continued military aggression on all fronts to silence all positions but their own.

—**Dwight Pitcaithley**, San Leandro

INQUIRING REPORTER

Your favorite food?

— Asked around town

Oysters, but I'm allergic to them. I can't eat them anymore.

Jennifer Vecchitto
San Francisco,
works in San Leandro



I like almost any fruit – oranges, apples, mangoes, tangerines. They're sweet and juicy. It's like eating candy but it's healthy.

Carter Scovill
San Leandro



I like lasagna, but I can't eat it. I can't eat carbohydrates. But I like beef and broccoli and grilled chicken – no carbs.

Robert Larieau
Antioch,
works in San Leandro



I like Italian, penne pasta or ravioli, and a good bottle of wine.

Waseem Khan
Dublin



I like chicken, fried chicken and mashed potatoes. My mother would make chicken. She would bake it, fry it, barbecue it. She was a great cook. I loved her cooking.

Maggie Piper
San Francisco



Tenants: Residents aren't sure if they'll be forced to move out

continued from front page

side yard, where lights had been strung up, seats put out, a sound system set up and a table with coffee and desserts placed off to the side. They braved a slightly chilly night to hear what Hernandez had to say and to ask questions.

The buildings, which date back to World War II, had been owned for years by Groyer Homes, who charged rents below what other area apartments have come to demand. Groyer sold in the fall, just after a small rent increase, to new owners Hesperian Apartments LLC, located on Fletcher Lane in Hayward.

Documents from the California Secretary of State's office show, however, that "Hesperian Apartments LLC" is registered to Shannon Abbott, with addresses

"We're having a hard time figuring out what to do."

— Adalberto Villalobos

in San Diego and La Jolla. Ms. Abbot's LinkedIn page identifies her as a regional portfolio manager for MC Investment Partners LC/Acadian Property Group.

While none of original 1940s tenants still live there, a few do go back to the late 1950s. Senior citizens share the complex with middle-aged people and young families with children. Groyer Homes bought the complex in

1959, several tenants said.

There was no mention of later rent increases in the Jan. 29 letter. But several tenants at the meeting said when they called the information number in the letter, they were told that rents would rise to \$2,500 a month after the renovations.

Current rents in the complex are around \$1,300 a month for a two-bedroom duplex, according to tenants.

A few were told that if they didn't take the offer now, they would have to move out later with no compensation.

Phone calls to the new owners for comment were not returned.

Hernandez told the tenants that even if they had signed an agreement to move out, they might be able to rescind that if they had signed it "under duress." If they have not yet signed anything, they are not committed to moving out, even if they had agreed verbally.

Being told to move out now with some compensation versus being forced to move out later without compensation sounded like duress, Hernandez said.

Hernandez stressed that he is not an attorney, though he is a licensed real estate agent and thus knows something about housing transactions.

One couple at the meeting, upon hearing the new informa-



PHOTOS BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The apartment complex as seen from Thornally Street. Is the landlord's offer one that the tenants can refuse?

tion, said they had initially agreed to the owners' offer, but had changed their minds. They had been planning to live temporarily with an adult son in Concord, then look for a house out of state had they taken the offer.

Based on their income, they wouldn't even qualify for renting elsewhere in San Leandro or nearby cities, they said.

Before the meeting had been announced, some tenants were unsure how to respond to the offer.

"We're having a hard time figuring out what to do," Adalberto Villalobos said. "We have kids, and they'd need to find a new school."

His brother Luis Villalobos, whose apartment is near Adalberto's, worried he wouldn't be able to find a new apartment at anywhere near the rent he'd been paying.

The average two-bedroom apartment in San Leandro currently rents for \$2,311 a month, according to apartment-search websites.

A letter sent to tenants by San Leandro Housing Specialist Kimberly Anderson said the landlords told her department that the letters sent to tenants were not termination notices. But the owners did not reveal to her if termination notices were being planned for later.

California's new law limiting rent increases and no-fault evictions prevents a landlord from telling tenants to move out so they can charge new tenants a

higher rent.

But the law allows asking or telling tenants to move out so the landlord can safely do a major renovation of the units, with a rent increase likely to follow its completion.

No city law blocks tenants being forced out by a renovation, either. What the city does have, said Community Development Director Tom Liao, is a process that has to be followed, and the city is investigating whether it has been.

"People have to have due process," he said. "And there's a limit to how much rents can go up

in a year, whether or not there's a new owner."

"We're trying to avoid people being displaced when we're short of housing anyway," Liao said.

The residents of the approximately 80 duplexes on Thornally Drive, Corbett Court and Central Avenue got a notice Jan. 17 from their longtime landlord, Groyer Homes, telling them the building had been sold, tenants said. This came just after a small rent increase.

Groyer told the tenants to pay rent to the new owners, and told them that their security deposits had been transferred over as well.



City Councilman Ed Hernandez speaks at a meeting organized by tenants last Friday night.

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WOMEN IN BUSINESS

Sept. 21 (CVF) & 22 (SLT), 2016

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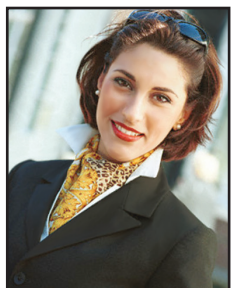
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Lunch Menu at The Senior Center

Lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services

A low-cost senior lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services is served on weekdays at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St.

Everyone age 60 and up can have lunch. A suggested donation is \$3.75, but no one is refused for lack of funds. (\$10 for those under 60.)

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

The menu for lunch next week, Feb. 17 to Feb. 21, is:

Monday – Holiday, no lunch served.

Tuesday – Chicken gumbo with okra, red beans, brown rice, pears.

Wednesday – Albondigas entree soup, tossed vegetable salad, tortilla chips, applesauce.

Thursday – Sloppy joe on whole wheat bun, vegetable medley salad, grapes, birthday cake.

Friday – Tuna salad sandwich, minestrone soup, spinach salad with fruit and nuts, bananas.

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Watercolors on Display at Library

The San Lorenzo Adult School Watercolor Class, Studio 820, has watercolor paintings on display at the San Leandro Main Library through March 27.

Many of the artists are longtime residents of San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Hayward and Fremont, and many of their paintings are for sale.