



Hot Summer, Cold Salad

WHEN HOT WEATHER HITS THE BEST DISH CAN BE A COOL SALAD 4

WEEKEND WEATHER
CLOUDY Partly Cloudy thru Sat
 Sunny on Sunday
 HIGHS: 72-83
 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
 LOWS: 57-60

FRIDAY **SATURDAY** **SUNDAY**

San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2024

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

8,000 San Leandro Students Return to School



PHOTO COURTESY SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

First-grade students gather at Madison Elementary School for San Leandro's first day of school on August 14.

Students see improvements to schools made over the summer

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Over 8,000 students returned to 14 San Leandro Unified School District schools on Wednesday, August 14, along with another 8,000 returning to San Lorenzo Unified School District's 16 schools the same day.

The San Leandro students came back to schools that saw physical improvements over the summer as the school finished projects funded by the Measure N bond, the district said in the "August Update" on its website.

Perhaps the most visible of

those projects will be a new gymnasium at San Leandro High School, scheduled for completion this fall, which will be one of the largest high school gyms Northern California according to School Construction News.

Other improvements are coming as the district starts on projects funded by Measure J, which passed in March, the district said.

Projects completed over the summer, according to the district, include:

see *SCHOOL*, page 11

San Lorenzo Man Shot And Killed in Oakland

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

A 47-year-old San Lorenzo man was shot and killed in his car on 12th Avenue in Oakland just before 2 a.m. on Aug. 10.

Oakland Police reported that Alfonso Najera-Hernandez was driving on the 1500 block of 12th Avenue between Foothill Boulevard and International Avenue about 1:50 a.m. when a woman flagged him down. Najera-Hernandez stopped the car and began talking with the woman when there was an altercation, ac-

ording to police. A second person ran up to the vehicle and shot Najera-Hernandez.

Najera-Hernandez then sped off a little way before crashing his car, police said. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police have not made any arrests or added any more about a motive for the shooting.

"The investigation is still very active, and no updates see *KILLED*, page 12

Volunteers Stay Active After 60

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

San Leandro resident Maureen Forney has been passionate about many things, including family and career. But in this third stage of her life, she's now focused on global issues such as fighting climate change, defending democracy, and supporting racial justice.

The retired San Leandro Unified School District teacher and teachers' union organizer is now a co-facilitator with ThirdAct.Org. The national volunteer organization brings together people over 60 to work on various social issues.

The ThirdAct.Org Bay Area group has just under 500

active members and is looking for more people to join.

Forney's message to other residents is that it's never too late to get involved.

"Please don't wait for other people to do something positive to change the world—we need everybody," Forney said.

ThirdAct.Org was founded nearly three years ago by environmentalist, author, and journalist Bill McKibben, who founded the global grassroots climate campaign site 350.org.

"Bill named this new organization 'third act' because we are focusing on the energies of those of us who are in our see *ACTIVE*, page 12



PHOTO BY LUIGI SEMENZATO

ThirdAct.Org members Janet Parks, Maureen Forney, and Ann Walker head to Modesto Jr. College to register voters.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

COMMUNITY

Happy Birthday to Toni Alcalde. Page 2

PARKS

EB PARKS says give the animals space. Page 3

OPINION

Bay-O-Vista wants Lake Chabot Road open. Page 5

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Calendar.....	3
Classified Ads.....	8
Crossword.....	9
Food.....	4
Homes.....	6
Home Services.....	8
Letters.....	10
Obituaries.....	11
Seniors.....	5

MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



Adopt-A-Pet



Arky



Sox

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are a shepherd mix and a Queensland mix.

Arky is a 2-year-old tan shepherd-mastiff mix. He's a big ole boy who loves to take you for a walk, not vice versa. Arky has plenty of energy, but knows how to be a big cuddle. Arky is already chipped and is looking to start his new life in a home.

Sox is a 7-month-old Queensland heeler mix. He is looking for a home to grow and become the perfect companion for someone or a family.

Sox is playful, has lots of energy, and is at the perfect age to learn all his commands with ease.

For more information, or to adopt or meet Arky or Sox, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.



Toni Alcalde, at left in 1942, and a more recent photo, turned 100 earlier this month.



Happy 100th Birthday to Toni

Antoinette "Toni" Alcalde (nee Sanchez) Celebrated her 100th birthday recently with over 60 family members and friends, including daughters Joanne and Cheryl.

Born on August 7, 1924 at Fairmont Hospital to Antonia and Julian Sanchez, Toni has been a life-long resident of San Leandro.

The Congressional Gold Medal of Honor for Rosie the Riveter was presented to Toni by Elise Eagle, a representative from the Rosie the Riveter Museum. From 1942 through 1944, Toni distributed

ration books for the city of San Leandro. She also was a volunteer at the San Leandro Police Department from 2002 until 2008.

Cheers to many more happy years!

San Leandro Times

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

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Historian to Speak About Casa Peralta

San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., will present information about Casa Peralta from guest speaker and historian Cindy Simons on Saturday, Sept. 7 from noon to 1 p.m.

This program is suitable for all ages and will include instruction about the new interactive project 'Don Quixote and the Casa Peralta Tiles' in

the Casa Peralta grounds. Registration is required. Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/casaday> to register.

Casa Peralta Workshop Each Wednesday In September

Explore the rich cultural heritage of the Casa Peralta through a captivating blend of historical insights and creative expression every Wednesday in September (Sept. 4, 11, 18, and 25) from 1 to 4 p.m. Drop-in (no registration required for this activity).

Experience the San Leandro History Museum and explore the Historic Casa Peralta Tiles in the Casa grounds, learn about their significance in the historical context.

Engage in a hands-on workshop where you'll create your own tile designs inspired by this historic masterpiece on a terracotta tile.

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San Leandro Times

Community Calendar

Highway Patrol Age Well, Drive Smart Training

The First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro, 180 Estudillo Ave., will host a free class for drivers 65 and older, presented by the California Highway Patrol on Thursday, Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall. Certificates of completion will be provided at the end of the class. Seating limited to 45 people. To reserve a seat or to get on the waiting list for this training, call 510-483-2772.

American Legion Post 117 Sunday Breakfast

American Legion Post 117 of San Leandro will host its monthly Fourth Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, August 25, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. Pancakes with sausage, eggs, coffee, tea, juice. Veterans \$7, non-veterans \$8.

San Leandro Players Present *Waiting in the Wings*

The San Leandro Players presents Noel Coward's *Waiting in the Wings*, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. The show runs on Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Aug. 18, plus two Friday shows at 8 p.m. on Aug. 9 and Aug. 16. Tickets: \$25 general; \$20 seniors and under 12 (other discounts may apply). For more information or tickets online at www.slplayers.org or by calling 510-895-2573.

Alta Mira Club Salad Bar Extravaganza

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Weddings through the Ages – Salad Bar Extravaganza on Saturday, Aug. 31, at noon. Fashions by the San Leandro Players and Alta Mira members and friends. Tickets are \$35. For reservations, call Gayle Hamilton at 510-638-8765 or Linda Klass at 510-914-5684.

Annual Dahlia Show — Free Admission

The San Leandro Dahlia Society will present the annual dahlia show Saturday, August 31, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Dahlias come in a variety of sizes, shapes and colors and will amaze everyone. No charge for admission. Hundreds of blooms. More information can be found on our the SL Dahlia Society's website, slds.club.

Enter Your Car in the Rides and Readers Car Show

Enter your car in the San Leandro Public Library's 3rd Annual Rides and Readers Car Show, to be held on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. If you have a vehicle that is from 1975 or older (preferred, not limited to), that you would like to enter in the show, visit tinyurl.com/SLPLCarShow to register your vehicle online. Or pick up a paper registration form from the Main Library or Manor Branch Library by September 7. Participant space is limited. For more information, call 510-577-3971.

Senior Citizens Exercise and Meditation

First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, invites senior citizens for seated exercise and guided meditation followed by conversation over healthy refreshments on Tuesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 p.m. from Sept. 10 to Nov. 12. Nurture your body, mind, and spirit while building community. Meet in the Chapel which is entered from Bancroft Ave. All are welcome, non-denominational. For more information, call the church office at 510-483-0606, Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteer for Library's Homework Help Program

The San Leandro Library is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join the Homework Help program at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. Starting Oct. 1, volunteers are needed just two days a week, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Whether you excel in math, science, languages, or simply enjoy assisting students with their studies, your support can make a real difference in our community. No teaching experience is necessary — just a willingness to lend a helping hand. Become a vital part of the library's mission to empower students and foster academic success. To sign up or for more information, contact Samira Habibi at shabibi@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3956.

Give Grazing Animals Space During Calving Season

Calving season runs from August to October in the East Bay Regional Parks, so the park district has a reminder for the safety of both people and grazing animals.

Safety Tips:

- Do not approach or touch calves.
- Do not take selfies with calves.
- Do not get between a mother and her calf.
- Do not worry if a calf is by itself. The mother cow is usually nearby.
- Leash dogs around cattle and keep them away from calves.

More information about leashing dogs at www.eb-parks.org/safety/dogs.

If a calf appears to be in significant distress, or injured, sick, or dead, please note the location, the color of the animal, the ear tag number, and report it to park staff at 510-881-1833.



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS DISTRICT PHOTO

Admire grazing animals from a distance, especially during calving season, advises the East Bay Regional Parks District.

Grazing animals have been part of the ecosystem of this region for tens of thousands of years.

Today, conservation grazing plays an important role in maintaining a healthy eco-

system for native plants and wildlife and reducing wildfire risks.

Over 86,800 acres of parkland are grazed annually by cattle, sheep, or goats, mostly during the winter and early

spring months. Conservation grazing is a practical and economical tool to manage grasslands.

For more info, visit www.ebparks.org/natural-resources/grazing.

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the library's mission to empower students and foster academic success. To sign up or for more information, contact Samira Habibi at shabibi@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3956.

Class on Cat Trap-Neuter-Return

Full Circle Cats will offer a free, online Beginning Cat Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Class on Wednesday, Aug. 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Visit fullcirclecats.org/workshops for more information.

Slide Show on the East Bay in 1900

Historian Richard Schwartz will present a slide show of historical photographs as he tells stories of everyday life in the East Bay at the turn of the century on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 2 p.m. at the Little Brown

Church, 384 W. Estudillo Ave., behind Casa Peralta, presented by the San Leandro Historical Society. Schwartz's book, *Berkeley 1900: Daily Life at the Turn of the Century*, picked by the San Francisco Chroni-

cle as a Holiday Gift Book of the Year, will be available for purchase after the presentation. Find more information at www.sanleandrohistory.org, or call 510-969-0975 and leave a message.

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This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the East Bay Regional Park District September - October 2024 Activity Guide.

Regional in Nature
Activity Guide
 SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2024

If your copy of the Times does not include the EBRP Activity Guide, call 510-614-1555 or stop by the Times office (2060 Washington Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to obtain one.



Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

Salad for Supper

As any Bay Area old-timer can tell you, the hottest days of Summer 2024 are still ahead — the perfect time to switch to those lighter California suppertime favorites — the warm-weather salad.

GRILLED CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

1/3 cup plus 1 tablespoon

- extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 slices French bread, crusts removed, cubed
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper, divided use
- 4 anchovie fillets, chopped (optional)
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 dashes hot red pepper sauce
- 1 head Romaine lettuce, torn
- 3 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add bread cubes and fry until lightly browned (about 5 minutes). Drain on paper towels; set aside.

Lightly oil grill rack or broiler pan. Season chicken with 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper.

Grill or broil 3 inches from heat, turning once until cooked but moist (5 to 6 minutes). Cool 5 minutes then cut crossing into 1/4 inch thick slices.

Mash anchovies (if using), garlic, and remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt to paste in large salad bowl. Add lemon juice, mustard, pepper sauce and remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper; whisk until blended. Gradually whisk in remaining 1/3 cup

oil. Add chicken and toss to coat. Add lettuce, cheese and rye croutons; toss well. Makes 4 main-course servings.

TOSSED SALAD WITH PEACHES

- 4 ripe peaches, peeled
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 6 cups mixed salad greens
- 4 cups torn romaine
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced cucumber
- 6 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- 1/3 cup chopped toasted pecans

Slice three of the peaches and set aside. Cut the remaining peach in half and place in a blender. Add sugar, lemon juice, vinegars and salt. Cover and process until blended. While processing, gradually add oil in a steady stream.

In a large bowl, combine the salad greens, romaine, onion and cucumber. Pour about 2/3 cup dressing over salad and toss to coat.

Transfer to a serving platter; top with sliced peaches and bacon. Drizzle with remaining dressing;

sprinkle with pecans. Yields 12 servings.

FRESH BROCCOLI SALAD

- 2 heads fresh broccoli
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 pound bacon
- 3/4 cup raisins
- 3/4 cup sliced almonds
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar

Cook bacon in deep skillet over medium high heat until evenly brown. Cool and crumble.

Cut broccoli into bite-size pieces and combine with the bacon, raisins, almonds and mix well.

Mix mayonnaise, sugar and vinegar until smooth. Stir into the salad, chill and serve. Serves 9.

TUNA SALAD

- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lime peel
- 2 (6-1/2 ounce) cans tuna, drained and flaked
- 1 medium red pepper, cubed
- 1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 1/3 cup sliced green onions

Combine first 3 ingredients. Stir in remaining ingredients. Cover and chill. Makes 4 cups.

VEGETABLE-RAISIN GARDEN SALAD

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 4 lettuce leaves
- 1 cup shredded zucchini
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1 cup shredded beets
- 3/4 cup raisins

Combine olive oil, lemon juice, basil and pepper in jar. Shake well to mix.

Arrange lettuce leaves on four serving plates. Arrange shredded zucchini, carrots and beets evenly among plates and top with raisins. Drizzle with dressing.

Makes 4 servings.

COBB SALAD

- 1/2 head iceberg lettuce
- 1/2 bunch watercress
- 1 small bunch curly endive
- 1/2 head romaine
- 2 tablespoons minced chives
- 2 medium tomatoes, peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 whole chicken breast, cooked, boned and diced
- 6 strips bacon, cooked, diced
- 1 avocado, peeled, diced
- 3 hard-cooked eggs, diced
- 1/2 cup Roquefort or blue cheese, crumbled
- French Dressing

Chop lettuce, watercress, endive and romaine in very fine pieces, using knife or food processor. Mix together in large wide bowl. Add chives. Arrange tomatoes, chicken, bacon, avocado and eggs in narrow strips or wedges across top of greens. Sprinkle with cheese. Chill

At serving time, toss with 1/2 cup Special French Dressing. Pass around remaining dressing. Makes 6 servings.

Special French Dressing

- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 3/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/2 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil

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HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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-  **ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Impatience with those who don't keep up with you can cause resistance, which, in turn, can lead to more delays. It's best to be helpful and supportive if you want good results.
-  **TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** A surprise announcement from a colleague could put you on the defense. Gather your facts and respond. You'll soon find the situation shifting in your favor.
-  **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** The time spent away from a project pays off with a new awareness of options that you hadn't considered before. Weigh them carefully before deciding which to choose.
-  **CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Consider confronting a personal conflict while there's still time to work things out. A delay can cause more problems. A longtime colleague might offer to mediate.
-  **LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Some emerging matters could impede the Lion's progress in completing an important project. Best advice: Deal with them now before they can create costly delays.
-  **VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Your aspect continues to favor an expanding vista. This could be a good time to make a career move, and taking an out-of-town job could be a good way to do it.
-  **LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Disruptive family disputes need to be settled so that everyone can move on. Avoid assuming this burden alone, though. Ask --no, demand help with this problem.
-  **SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Patience is called for as you await word on an important workplace situation. A personal circumstance, however, could benefit by your taking immediate action.
-  **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Don't lose confidence in yourself. Those doubters are likely to back off if you demand that they show solid proof as to why they think your ideas won't work.
-  **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** A temporary setback might cause some unsettling moments for the usually sure-footed Goat. But keep going! The path ahead gets easier as you move forward.
-  **AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** There's welcome news from the workplace. There could also be good news involving a relationship that has long held a special meaning for you.
-  **PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** You still might need to cut some lingering ties to a situation that no longer has the appeal it once held. In the meantime, you can start to explore other opportunities.

A Will or A Trust?



lifetime management, and later ultimate disposition, of their assets.

Note: Neither a Will nor a Trust control assets held by you in joint tenancy, nor insurance policies payable to individual beneficiaries, or financial accounts designated as “Pay on Death” or “Transfer on Death” accounts. Those assets go to the surviving joint tenant or to the designated beneficiaries, and are usually not controlled by either a Will or a Trust.

A WILL OR A TRUST? Many people do use the terms interchangeably, but in reality they are quite different.

Q What is the difference between a will and a trust? Some of my friends seem to use the terms to mean the same thing?

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

A Yes, many people do



use the terms interchangeably, but in reality they are quite different legal documents, although they often work together to form a complete estate plan.

A Will is a document that directs who will receive your property at your death and only goes into effect upon your demise and then usually only in the context of a court proceeding, called a probate. By contrast, a Trust takes effect as soon as you create it and usually does not require court supervision either during your lifetime nor upon your later demise.

A Trust is a legal arrangement whereby you, as Trustor, transfer property to a Trustee, who then manages the assets according to the Trust terms for the benefit of your designated Beneficiaries, who would typically be you and your spouse during your lifetimes, and then to your ultimate Beneficiaries upon the later demise of both of you.

The initial Trustees would typically be you and your spouse, and the successor-trustee would typically be the survivor of the two of you, and thereafter your child(ren) in the order you designate. However, you could, instead, designate others to serve as your successor trustee, such as a trusted friend or even a Professional Fiduciary. As initial “Trustees”, you and your spouse (or

the survivor of you) would continue to control and manage your assets as before, albeit as “trustees” of your own trust.

A Will only directs the disposition of assets that are in your name when you die. A Trust, on the other hand, typically serves a “dual role”, in that it controls the use and disposition of assets both during your lifetime, as well as upon your later demise. This difference can be very significant if you are, for any reason, unable to manage your financial affairs during your lifetime, due – for example – to declining cognitive ability.

Note: Your Trustee can only administer assets that have been formally transferred into your Trust, usually by re-titling assets into the names of the trustee(s), such as by a new deed. Example: your home might be transferred via a deed from, say, “John & Mary Jones, husband and wife”, to “John & Mary Jones, Trustees of the Jones Family Trust”.

A Will typically requires a formal probate proceeding upon your death, which is a court proceeding wherein the administration of your estate is overseen by a judge who approves actions taken or proposed by your Executor, albeit consistent with your Will. By comparison, a Trust Administration following the demise of the Trustors is usually handled without court oversight, by your designated Successor Trustee, and is typically a less expensive, speedier and more private process than probate. Not surprisingly, most persons opt to create a Trust for the

Typically, both a Trust administration and a Probate proceeding would be handled with the assistance of an attorney, but the legal fees for a Trust Administration would usually be less and the process speedier.

Finally, a Will becomes part of the public record and is therefore available for anyone to view, while a Trust usually remains private.

Wills and Trusts each have their advantages and disadvantages. For example, a Will allows you to name a guardian for minor children and to specify funeral arrangements, while a trust does not. On the other hand, a Trust can be used to plan for disability during your lifetime, for asset management by your successor trustees if doing so becomes too burdensome for you, and may be useful if you need to apply for a Medi-Cal subsidy to help with long term care expenses.

Unfortunately, many people who set up Trusts neglect to transfer all of their assets into their trust. That is where a companion Will can help: the companion Will, often called a “pour over” Will, can direct that assets inadvertently left out of the trust be transferred into the trust by a later court order, in order to achieve a coordinated plan of disposition.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney who has been helping East Bay families for over 25 years with Trusts, Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Medi-Cal Planning, and related matters. To contact him, please email: Gene@LawyerForSeniors.com or call (510) 247-2555.

60 Years Later: Reflecting On Life With Disabilities

By Jagmeet Kaur Sangha
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Over the past 60 years, understanding and supporting disabilities has profoundly transformed. Whereas people with disabilities were often marginalized or institutionalized, society has moved toward creating environments that promote independence and inclusivity.

Rene’ Besold is a retired director of human resources and training who lives in Castro Valley. She recently shared a powerful story about the lived experience of a family caring for a now-63-year-old adult with a disability, whom we’ll refer to as Liesa, to protect her privacy.

Liesa was born with an extra chromosome and diagnosed as being developmentally disabled. At the age of three or four, doctors told Liesa’s mother that she would be better off sending Liesa to an asylum since she would have no chance of ever leading a productive life. Instead, her mother raised her alone for ten years, refusing to give up.

Rene’ met Liesa’s family when she was 27. She was instantly drawn to helping and supporting Liesa’s independence and development. When Rene’ learned that if Liesa’s mother were to pass, Liesa would be sent to state care, she inquired about becoming Liesa’s co-conservator.

Rene’ explains that the strain became too much over

the years, and Liesa’s mother began seeking a placement to provide her daughter with a structured living environment and educational support.

They discovered The Cedars of Marin. In this world-renowned program, individuals with various diagnoses can live independently within a community, engage in prosocial activities, and lead productive lives. Today, Liesa lives in a group home with others. They are all responsible for independent living and being an adult. She can now write her name and speak. She makes and sells art and cares for animals.

Rene’ shares, “For over five decades now, The Cedars of Marin has provided impeccable nurturing, teaching, constant caring, and loving reinforcement, and Elle is now a highly functional, outgoing, articulate,



and accomplished adult who brings countless hours of joy to those she meets. Those who are different bring greatness in their own ways. If those of us who are so-called “normal” give them a chance and the resources to become productive members of society, then most will succeed beyond our wildest expectations.

I hope this story inspires you. We are in a new era of awareness and access to resources that enable all individuals to lead meaningful lives. Let’s continue to build on this progress in the future.

Jagmeet Kaur Sangha is a board-certified Behavior Analyst who lives in Castro Valley. Her organization, Behavior Pivot Consulting, partners with organizations to cultivate neuro-inclusive environments that understand brain-based differences and promote mental wellbeing. For more info, visit: www.behaviorpivot.com

Senior Meals Program

Senior Meals are for all in the community ages 60 and up and guests. These delicious lunches are freshly prepared each day at Spectrum’s cooking kitchen by the loving hands of our chefs. A nutritious lunch and friendship enhances physical and mental well-being.

An annual registration is required along with an advanced reservation at the meal site. For

each meal a \$4 contribution is requested, but no eligible senior will be denied a meal due to an inability to give. Any amount is greatly appreciated. Meal tickets (good for 10 meals) are available at the meal site for \$35. These never expire and are accepted at all Spectrum Meal Sites.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Understanding CMAs

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

Buyers, looking to buy their first home, found a house they loved and asked their agent to start the offer process. The agent stated, “Great – let me produce a CMA for you.” After a moment’s hesitation, the buyers asked, “What’s a CMA?”

Short for a Comparative Market Analysis, the CMA is the place to start when attempting to determine the value of any given home. While many potential homebuyers rely on websites such as Realtor.com, Homes.com or Zillow to give them estimates on

any home’s value, these websites do not have access to all the data required to provide an accurate value for any given home. As an example, they do not have the ability to see the level of improvements made or the current interior condition. As a result, when comparing these website’s automated valuations side-by-side, they can often differ dramatically.

Additionally, once a home goes live on the market, the only valuation showing on real estate web portals is the current list price. This fact alone makes the online valuations impractical.

As a result, the most ac-

curate way to determine any home’s value is to rely on a Realtor to provide a CMA. To provide a comprehensive analysis, agents use their access to the multiple listing service to search for comparable homes close to the home in question. Using location, square footage, amenities and other related data, they analyze past sales and homes currently on the market to establish a potential valuation for the home in question. They also, in most cases, have access to the interior pictures of previously sold homes so they can effectively compare features and condition.

To help dial in prospective valuations, Realtors also use proprietary software platforms to crunch the data and ascertain effective valuations. Programs such as CloudCMA can package all of the data and provide a comprehensive report that not only shows all of the properties used in the comparison, but provides a detailed analysis of the key factors to

The Garden Bug



It’s easy to see why this Brazil native has become popular in nurseries, flower shops and garden centers around the world. The gloxinia (related to

Gloxinia

African violets) produce large, velvety, bell-shaped flowers that

may be white, pink, red, purple, or blue.

Place them in a brightly lit location in the home; they prefer temperatures of 65 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit. The soil should be kept evenly moist. When given good care, plants may bloom for several weeks. – Brenda Weaver

Sources: mydomaine.com, yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu

help establish an effective price range.

The one thing any CMA cannot do, however, is accurately predict the future. Once again, a Realtor’s knowledge of the local area, historical sales and current market con-

ditions can take the data from the CMA and then produce a recommended purchase price. While some buyers may be tempted to do this on their own, a professional agent can make the process easy and substantially more

accurate.

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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Mortgage Rates Decrease to Lowest Level in Over a Year

Mortgage rates plunged this week to their lowest level in over a year following the likely overreaction to a less than favorable employment report and financial market turbulence for an economy that remains on solid footing. The decline in mortgage rates does increase prospective homebuyers’ purchasing power and should begin to pique their interest in making a move. Additionally, this drop in rates is already providing some existing homeowners the opportunity to refinance, with the refinance share of market mortgage applications reaching nearly 42 percent, the highest since March 2022.



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Magnolia Suffers from Severe Drought; Junipers Make Mulch

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q My saucer magnolia has turned all brown. The water was off during the last heat spell and I was unable to get out to water it. Is my tree really dead or will it come back if it's watered several times a week? If I cut it down, will it come back from the roots?

A I'm not sure what the status is with your magnolia. Besides the leaves, the permitter or outer growth was also damaged, but I am not sure how far back the dieback extends.

The function of roots is to pump water and nutrients throughout the plant. Plants then release the moisture into the air through a process called transpiration.

Water stress occurs when an insufficient amount of water is available to keep a plant hydrated. It always shows up on the outer most portion of a plant leaf and then proceeds inward. The leaves first wilt and then turn brown.

If caught early enough, only a portion of the leaves are burnt; otherwise, all the foliage turns brown and gets crispy.

Next, the stems, twigs and branches that support the leaves are affected, again starting at the furthest point and working

inward towards the base. The roots push the moisture as far as it can go and the tissue beyond that point dies.

With a brown plant, the dead growth will snap off while the viable stems are still flexible.

I'd scratch the bark on the stems at different points to see if they're green; if so, you're okay.

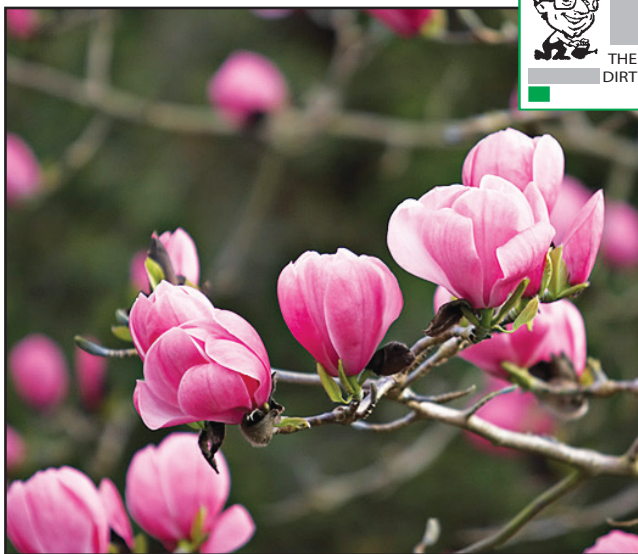
Next, prune off all the dead growth above these points. The growing season is over for Saucer Magnolias, so I wouldn't expect any new growth this year.

I would continue to water it but only if enough of the plant is alive. The burnt leaves will drop off and a new set will emerge in the spring. It should be fed in March to encourage the new growth.

As a last resort, cut the plant off at the ground and wait to see what happens next spring. You might be surprised but I'd be prepared to replace it with a new plant if nothing happens by Mothers Day.

Q Can the dried juniper needles be used as mulch around rose bushes?

A Sure, you can use juniper needles as mulch; however, they can be very prickly so I would wear gloves when working around



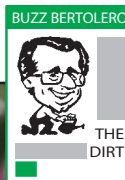
The signs of water stress always shows up on the outer most portion of a plant leaf and then proceeds inward.

the bushes.

You can also use the natural debris from pines, cedars, redwood and oak trees for mulch as long as it's not diseased.

I'd use this material as my base and then cover it with a commercial product to give it a cleaner look. A three-inch layer of mulch is recommended and it should extend beyond the drip line as roses have a wide-spreading root system.

Buzz Bertolero is Executive Vice President of Navlet's Garden Centers and a California Certified Nursery Professional. His web address is www.dirtgardener.com and you can send questions by email at dirtgardener@aol.com or to 360 Civic Drive, Suite D, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 and on Facebook at Facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero.



RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

21421 Rizzo Avenue 94546: \$730,000 [2 BD - 1,122 SF - 1946
4351 Circle Avenue 94546: \$888,000 [3 BD - 1,050 SF - 1953
4987 Buti Park Drive 94546: \$890,000 [3 BD - 1,723 SF - 1962
21475 Rizzo Avenue 94546: \$955,000 [2 BD - 1,146 SF - 1942
22651 Canyon Terrace Drive #U4 94552: \$1,080,000 [4 BD - 1,607 SF - 1997
5937 Charter Oaks Drive 94552: \$1,565,000 [4 BD - 1,987 SF - 1988
4305 Seven Hills Road 94546: \$1,685,000 [3 BD - 1,776 SF - 1956
TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$730,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$955,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,685,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,113,285

San Leandro

877 Linwood Way 94577: \$228,000 [2 BD - 1,070 SF - 1948
1132 Carpentier Street #104 94577: \$445,000 [2 BD - 1,236 SF - 1983
13933 Seagate Drive #241 94577: \$550,000 [1 BD - 990 SF - 1988
63 East 14th Street 94577: \$755,000 [2 BD - 1,377 SF - 1942
881 Billings Boulevard 94577: \$768,000 [2 BD - 874 SF - 1943
681 Douglas Drive 94577: \$800,000 [2 BD - 918 SF - 1942
2067 Pacific Avenue 94577: \$860,000 [3 BD - 1,280 SF - 1952
215 Stoakes Avenue 94577: \$870,000 [4 BD - 2,112 SF - 1971
14301 Corvallis Street 94579: \$931,000 [3 BD - 1,234 SF - 1958
853 Begier Avenue 94577: \$945,000 [4 BD - 1,650 SF - 1929
694 Joaquin Avenue 94577: \$990,000 [3 BD - 1,967 SF - 1947
1512 Hickory Avenue 94579: \$1,011,000 [3 BD - 1,558 SF - 1953
1783 Arena Street 94579: \$1,065,000 [3 BD - 1,590 SF - 2006
651 Elsie Avenue 94577: \$1,100,000 [3 BD - 1,640 SF - 1941
776 Crocus Drive 94578: \$1,300,000 [4 BD - 2,741 SF - 1979
570 Glen Drive 94577: \$1,500,000 [3 BD - 2,288 SF - 1932
1623 Edgehill Court 94577: \$1,650,000 [3,262 SF - 1971
TOTAL SALES: 17
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$228,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$931,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,650,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$927,529

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For Member of the City Council – District 2

Vote for One

- Ed Hernandez
- Bryan Azevedo

For Member of the City Council – District 4

Vote for One

- Fred Simon

For Member of the City Council – District 6

Vote for One

- Robert Bulatao
- Dylan Boldt

For Member of the City Council – District 1 Partial 2-year term

Vote for One

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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED July 26, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 608239

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

The name of the business(es): Venegas Production Group, located at 1105 Begier Ave., San Leandro CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Thomas Venegas, located at 1105 Begier Ave., San Leandro CA 94577. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 5/1/24 /s/Thomas Venegas
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires July 25, 2029
AUG 1, AUG 8, 15, 22, 2024
1585 - SLT

FILED July 23, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 608143

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

The name of the business(es): MC Construction, located at 450 Park Street STE 106, Alameda, CA 94501 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marcos Antonio, located at 19174 Western Blvd., Hayward CA 94541. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 07/01/2024 /s/Marcos Antonio
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires July 22, 2029
AUG 1, AUG 8, 15, 22, 2024
1586 - SLT

FILED August 12, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 608562

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

The name of the business(es): Wyngsoftime, located at 631 Tudor Road, San Leandro CA 94577-1228 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Liliane Sainfeld, located at 631 Tudor Road, San Leandro CA 94577-1228. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 8/11/2024 /s/Liliane Sainfeld
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires August 11, 2029
AUG 15, 22, 29 SEP 05,2024
1672 - SLT

FILED July 9, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607789

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

The name of the business(es): JH Wash & Fold Laundry Services, located at 14278 E 14th Street, Ste A San Leandro, CA 94578 / 1634 Sweetwater Dr, San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jose Javier Martinez, located at 1634 Sweetwater Dr, San Leandro, CA 94578, Victor Hugo Torres 1634 Sweetwater Dr, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by Married Couple. This business commenced N/A /s/Jose Javier Martinez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires July 8, 2029
AUG 01, 08, 15, 22, 2024

FILED August 2, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 608387

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

The name of the business(es): Staging by US, located at 2080 Keller Avenue, San Lorenzo CA 94580 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julie Sellards, located at 2080 Keller Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 / Monica Gouveia Marquez, located at 2080 Keller Avenue, San Lorenzo CA 94580. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. This business commenced 3/1/2014 /s/Julie Sellards
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires August 1, 2029
AUG 15, 22, 29 SEP 05,2024
1650 - SLT

FILED August 09, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 608547

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

The name of the business(es): No Mas Cafe, located at 17245 Via Frances, San Lorenzo CA 94580 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria G Magallon, located at 17245 Via Frances, San Lorenzo CA 94580. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/Maria G Magallon
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires August 08, 2029
AUG 15, 22, 29 SEP 05,2024
1678 - SLT

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Apt. coolers
 - 4 Fishing rod
 - 8 Choir voice
 - 12 New Deal agcy.
 - 13 "Zounds!"
 - 14 Chiefs coach Andy
 - 15 Boring types
 - 17 Tear
 - 18 Bad habit
 - 19 Woodland walks
 - 20 Computer problem
 - 22 Swedish auto
 - 24 Spartan queen
 - 25 Dijon products
 - 29 Tokyo's historic name
 - 30 Quick looks
 - 31 Hasten
 - 32 Sends on, as an email
 - 34 Kick back
 - 35 Bee's home
 - 36 Comic Hedberg
 - 37 Suitor
 - 40 Shakespeare villain
 - 41 Reedy
 - 42 Birds of prey
 - 46 Queue
 - 47 Yankee nickname
 - 48 Debtor's letters
 - 49 Makes a choice
 - 50 Emmy winner Alan
 - 51 Record holder?

- DOWN**
- 1 Moreover
 - 2 French vineyard
 - 3 Surrealist Dali
 - 4 Fuzzy fruit
 - 5 Shrek, for one
 - 6 Young fellow
 - 7 Sheeran and Harris
 - 8 Mexican shout of joy
 - 9 Onion relative
 - 10 Fork part
 - 11 Probability
 - 16 Kudrow of "Friends"
 - 19 Millinery
 - 20 Staff symbol
 - 21 Decorate anew
 - 22 Soft leather
 - 23 Requests
 - 25 TV mogul Griffin
 - 26 Art of speaking
 - 27 Platter
 - 28 Third son
 - 30 Ache
 - 33 Bellyaches
 - 34 Latvia's capital
 - 36 Tribute maker
 - 37 Normandy battle site
 - 38 Use an eggbeater
 - 39 "-- She Sweet"
 - 40 Sport shirt brand
 - 42 Cote cry
 - 43 Internet address
 - 44 Scooby- --
 - 45 Heat source

ANSWERS ON PAGE 4



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OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Obstacles to Effective Policing

Editor,

Keeping San Leandro safe is a complex task. There are various changes in the works and I would like to know more about how all the changes will work together.

Our police officers have trained hard and deserve our respect. Their job is tough mentally and physically. They have to be on their toes at every moment. They have to deal with nonsense like suspects claiming they can't breathe the minute they are cuffed. Eventually a suspect really won't be able to breathe and the police won't believe them. What then?

Mental health intervention is long past due and I'm glad to see something being put in place. I'd like to know, in practical terms, how will it work when the police are faced with a mental crisis involving a weapon? How will that look the next time we have a Stephen Taylor-like situation?

The police are trained to view anyone with a weapon as armed and dangerous. Their first priority is keeping everyone safe. What does that look like when the armed person is in crisis? How will the police and intervention team work together to de-escalate and disarm?

Police brutality needs to be eliminated. However, there is a fine line between revising techniques and micromanaging our police. Let Oakland be a cautionary tale. They have put so many limits on their officers that their force is largely ineffective.

What can we do when our district attorney is lenient with a catch-and-release policy for even violent offenses by young people. Teenage carjackers (13 and 14 year olds) can get brought in and never charged. These teens aren't jacking cars to go joy riding. They get released to do it again. How does this keep us safe?

Sheryl Smith
San Leandro

Lake Chabot Road Closure Risks Public Safety

Editor,

Since January 2023, Lake Chabot Road has been closed due to rains that caused a hill slide, effectively cutting off a vital evacuation route for emergency vehicles and residents. This road is a key piece of city infrastructure for emergency re-

sponse that also links residents with medical resources in Castro Valley. This should be of high concern to residents of Bay-O-Vista, Assumption Parish and Estudillo Estates.

In 2023, Alameda County commissioned a report from national consulting firm Kittleson Associates, who designated Lake Chabot Road a "vital evacuation route" and also noted the extreme fire risk in San Leandro as a result of this route being closed. CalFire has also assigned a "very high" risk rating to the city.

In 1991, the Oakland Hills firestorm killed 25 people and injured 150. Nearly 3,000 homes and 437 apartments were destroyed in less than 6 hours. The winds created by the firestorm were the primary cause of uncontrollable fire. Panicked residents were unable to navigate narrow, winding, steep roads and emergency vehicles were unable to do the same from the opposite direction.

The topography of our hills is very similar to the Oakland hills, where the firestorm quickly spread to the flatlands after starting on Grizzly Peak Road and traveled down slope across Highway 13 and into the Rockridge neighborhood.

In addition, 3,500 vehicles per day have been re-routed through neighborhoods that were not designed for heavy traffic. This has created an unsafe condition and added to the crime rate, impacting public safety.

Successful housing developments are designed to include feeder streets for daily ingress/egress and emergency purposes. Lake Chabot Road and Bay O Vista were well-planned with this in mind. Residents of Bay-O-Vista, Assumption Parish and Estudillo Estates must educate themselves with this information and urge the city to apply for grant funding to restore this vital evacuation route and re-open Lake Chabot Road.

Please sign the petition at: www.openlakechabotroad.com and urge the city council to apply for grant funding to restore this critical infrastructure.

Nancy Tam
San Leandro

Terrified Over Road Closure

Editor,

I urge the City Council to do everything in its power to prioritize funding for the reopening of Lake

Chabot Road. I am terrified that if a fire forces evacuation, the closure of the road may lead to loss of life. Having lived through the Oakland Hills fire and knowing that many people lost their lives, I do not want that to happen here when it can be avoided.

While the details of a reopening are finalized (and hopefully very soon), a very low-cost alternative would be to open the road with an alternating one-way traffic signal. A public records act request reveals that the City Engineering Department was ready to implement and install this temporary fix when it was slow-walked and buried.

If you want Lake Chabot Road re-opened, exercise your democratic rights and attend the City Council meeting on September 9th at 7 p.m. to make our voices heard!

Teri Schlesinger
San Leandro

Closed Road Puts Lives at Risk

Editor,

Everyone I speak to wants the City to prioritize reopening Lake Chabot Road.

Yet, a small group at City Hall seems determined to keep the road closed permanently, despite its critical role as a fire evacuation route. Their stance ignores the fact that lives will be at risk if a major fire forces thousands of us to evacuate at once. I support a cyclist's right to cycle. I insist that they support my right to be safe.

What could possibly be more important than keeping evacuation routes open? If Lake Chabot Road remains closed, it would be used exclusively for biking and hiking—a callous and absurd idea. Just steps away, Lake Chabot Regional Park already offers scenic trails for that very purpose, with no cars allowed.

The argument that fixing the road would divert funds from other projects is misleading. Road repair funding isn't a zero-sum game—grants are available if the City applies. The City's budget won't be significantly impacted.

Has the City Council instructed staff that finding such grants is a top priority? If a tragedy did occur due to the evacuation route being closed could the city be held legally responsible?

Moreover, Lake Chabot Road will need repairs whether it's open or closed. If left closed, it will deteriorate further, becoming an eyesore and a hazard for pedestrians and cyclists due to its uneven terrain. Over time, it could even slide down the hill, impacting the trails below and threatening homes above. Fixing the road now—with the help of grant money—will prevent greater costs and dangers later.

Please sign the petition at openlakechabotroad.com and attend the City Council meeting on September

9th at 7 p.m. Let's ensure Lake Chabot Road is reopened for everyone's safety.

Paul Bracke
San Leandro

Bombarded with Traffic

Editor,

My husband and I have lived in Bay-O-Vista for almost 50 years. During that time it has been and still is a beautiful neighborhood known for its breathtaking views and quiet surroundings. I say "quiet" but actually since early 2023 after the atmospheric storm, our streets, specifically Astor Drive and View Drive, have been bombarded with traffic.

Traffic presumably coming from Castro Valley along lake Chabot Road is bypassing the road closure by the Sports Club and traveling way beyond the speed limit through our steep, windy streets, making it difficult for many of us to exit our driveways because of the blind corners, and parked cars, speeding up to 40/50 miles an hour. This is unsafe for our children, our pets our elderly and actually anyone trying to take a leisurely walk or cross the street to a neighbor's house. What happened to our quiet enjoyment?

Add to this the fact that in the case of a natural disaster, fire, earthquake, Lake Chabot Road is an important escape route for Bay-O-Vista residents due to the limited exit routes down the hills to Benedict Drive. There are state and federal funds available for repair of such roads.

Please sign our petition to re-open Lake Chabot Road at www.openlakechabotroad.com and attend the San Leandro City Council meeting on September 9 at 7 p.m. at City Hall to show your support.

Helen Cataldo
San Leandro

Wildfire Would Trap Bay-O-Vista Residents

Editor,

Lake Chabot Road was built before the Bay-O-Vista neighborhood and used as the first roadway for residents. As the neighborhood has grown to over 3,000 residents, so has the use of Lake Chabot Road.

According to Crystal Sujeski, Cal Fire Chief, Code Development & Analysis, California state law now requires that roadways in the urban wildfire interface area "shall provide for safe access for emergency Wildfire equipment and civilian evacuation concurrently, and shall provide unobstructed traffic circulation during a wildfire emergency."

There are 20 steep, winding roads in Bay-O-Vista that all lead down to only one evacuation route – on Benedict Drive. In the event of a fast moving wildfire, thousands of cars, and panicked residents, will be trying to get out at once. Having Lake Chabot Road open will allow

those closest to the most likely source of wildfire from the surrounding hillsides, to evacuate quickly down Astor, and onto Lake Chabot Road.

Minutes can matter, as shown repeatedly in the latest California wildfires. Giving everyone a chance to survive a wildfire is a vital public safety issue.

No, the roadway is not in the air. In fact, Alameda County repaired their equally undercut roadway months ago. Yes, it will be expensive to fix the road correctly. Of course, the City cannot afford to pay for this fix. But there are federal and state grants for infrastructure, emergency hazard mitigation and fire evacuation routes available now.

We ask that the residents of San Leandro who believe Lake Chabot Road should be repaired and re-opened please join us by signing our petition at www.openlakechabotroad.com and by attending the San Leandro City Council meeting on Monday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at City Hall to voice your support.

Anne Cawood
San Leandro

Road Necessary for Evacuation Route

Editor,

Today, with one of my friends, we went door to door to visit some of our Bay-O-Vista neighbors. We want to make sure everyone knows about the effort to reopen Lake Chabot Road. During our canvassing we noticed many of our neighbors have ramps and special porches to make it easier for them to exit or enter their homes. Some spouses could not stand or walk.

CalFire says Bay-O-Vista is in a very high fire danger zone. In the event of a wildfire at the park, every possible evacuation route will be critical to getting 3,500 people to safety.

Almost everyone we talked with were in support of opening the road. When one young father told us he wanted the road to remain closed, and used only for bicyclists and pedestrians, we tried to point out there were many houses on the back of the hill with residents who were infirm and would not be able to leave quickly. They would require extra time to leave in their cars. His answer was they would just need to get out of their cars and walk to safety.

Really?

The coalition to reopen Lake Chabot Road wants all residents to have the fastest, safest route to safety. If you want that for your neighbors, please visit the website openlakechabotroad.com and sign the petition which will be presented to the City Council on September 9th at 7p.m. Then please join your neighbors, and let the council see your concerned face.

Tondelajo Smith
San Leandro

School: New roofs, paint and floors at the schools this fall

continued from front page

- Fresh exterior and interior painting at Garfield, Halkin, Jefferson, Madison, Roosevelt, and Washington elementary schools, Bancroft and John Muir middle schools, and the San Leandro Adult and Career Education Center.

- Roofing replacement for safety and weather-resistance at McKinley, Monroe, and Roosevelt elementary schools and Bancroft Middle School.

- Resurfaced playground structures at all elementary schools for safety and ease of use.

- New, more attractive flooring was installed for durability in classrooms and common areas at Garfield, Roosevelt, and Washington elementary schools.

- McKinley Elementary School saw restroom renovations for better cleanliness, accessibility, and comfort for students and staff.

San Leandro school district's Back To School Night

is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 5, for all elementary schools; both middle schools on Thursday, Sept. 12; and San Leandro High School on Thursday, Sept. 19.

“Back-to-school nights scheduled for September

Back To School Nights will be held at Lincoln High School on Thursday, Sept. 26 and at San Leandro Vir-



PHOTOS COURTESY SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

School district leaders came to Halkin Elementary School on the first day of school to greet teacher Magaly Ramirez's first grade students. From left, Assistant Superintendents Larry Simon and Sonal Patel, Superintendents of Schools Mike McLaughlin, Halkin Elementary Principal Virginia Quock and Ms. Ramirez.

tual Academy on Thursday, Sept. 26.

Breakfasts and lunches remain available free for students of any family income, with further food service information available on Instagram at @slusd_food.

Students who need a Chromebook for doing their homework can get one from their school, with schools sending out information to families soon about this, the district said.

More information about the new school year, including a slideshow of the first day at San Leandro schools, is available on the district's website at www.slusd.us.

An update on the the San Lorenzo school district's latest developments and its new school year will appear in a later issue.



Students gather at Madison Elementary School for the first day of school.



Students gather at Washington Elementary School for San Leandro's first day of school on August 14.

Special Education Zoom Meeting Set for Sept. 19

Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CAC) will have a Zoom meeting on Thursday, Sept. 19, from 5 to 6 p.m. Contact 510-537-3000 ext.1220 for information to attend online. CAC is a group of parents, community members, teachers and administrators working collaboratively to create an informed community which supports students' educational and learning experiences. The CAC also provides workshops, assist parents in understanding the special education programs and services.

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Maria Odete Camacho
November 23, 1945 ~ July 29, 2024

Maria Odete Camacho, age 78 of San Leandro, died on July 29, 2024, after a two-year battle with lung cancer. She was surrounded by her family and passed away peacefully.

Maria was born in Madeira, Portugal and came to the U.S. in 1977 settling in San Leandro, where she lived for 45 years with her husband of 53 years, Manuel Camacho until his death in 2021. Maria then moved to Castro Valley to be closer to family. Maria enjoyed cooking, gardening, crocheting and spending time with her family and grandchildren. Maria is survived by her son Rui Camacho of Pleasanton, daughter-in-law Victoria Camacho, grandsons Jared and Steven Camacho, daughter Ana Sousa of Castro Valley, son-in-law Martino Sousa, and grandchildren Nicholas, Alexander and Sabrina Sousa. Maria is also survived by two brothers in Portugal, a sister and brother in Venezuela and numerous nieces and nephews.

Maria was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, she will be deeply missed. Funeral Mass at Saint Leander's Catholic Church in San Leandro will be held to remember and honor Maria at 10:00 am, on Tuesday, August 27th, all are welcome to attend.

Active: Social justice not just for the young

continued from front page
 third active life,” Forney said. “So, we define that third act as starting around 60 and beyond. We have younger members, too, and we are extremely diverse. In this third life, we can set things right for generations to follow.”

For example, the Bay Area chapter has been petitioning and lobbying the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS) and California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) leadership to divest from fossil fuel investments.

A large group of Bay Area chapter members has teamed up and worked collaboratively with other California groups to

get similar legislation passed each legislative year in Sacramento, Forney said.

Other activities include postcard-writing campaigns to elected officials, asking them to support the democratic process and social justice. The volunteers also canvass different towns to get voters to support what Forney calls “climate champion” candidates. She said this includes supplanting incumbents in California Congressional District 13 (Merced County) and District 22 (Kings County).

Forney’s role is among 20 other loosely organized ThirdAct.org leaders who help facilitate protests and awareness events. She said

some members learn valuable skills along the way, such as learning to effectively lobby, speak in public forums, write letters, and train others.

“It’s come full circle for me,” Forney said. “When I was teaching, I told my students to put their energy into socially responsible efforts. Now that I’m working with peers, I’m again helping others seek investment policies, pass a climate action plan, and bring on the sustainability programs.”

While the group’s focus on social change should have global implications, Forney said she’s proud that locally, San Leandro is one of the leading cities in the Bay Area with a forward-looking approach to

adopting a socially responsible investment platform.

“San Leandro passed its climate action plan and brought in a sustainability manager, which predates the inception of ThirdAct,” Forney said. “I know the city currently lacks that sustainability manager position, but that can change. There are things that we can do close to home, and that makes sure that San Leandro is a resilient place that preserves and develops protections for biodiversity,” Forney said. “That’s a local thing, and seeing that the city does that because that’s one very small sample of how we can protect our future.”

Third Act’s website is ThirdAct.org.

Clerk Shot in Robbery At Convenience Store

A clerk was shot in the abdomen in an attempted robbery at the 7-Eleven store on Williams Street and San Leandro Boulevard at 5 a.m. on Wednesday, according to San Leandro police.

The clerk was taken to the hospital and later listed in stable condition, police said.

More information on this story will be in next week’s newspaper.

Killed: Reward

continued from front page
 are being provided at this time,” said Oakland Police spokesperson Paul Chambers.

Oakland Police and Crime Stoppers of Oakland announced a reward of up to \$10,000 on Thursday. Anyone with information is asked to call police at 510-

238-3821 or 510-238-7950 or Crime Stoppers at 510-777-8572.

Najera-Hernandez’s family has scheduled visitation services for him on Wednesday, August 28, between noon and 8 p.m. at Santos-Robinson Mortuary on Estudillo Avenue.

SL Players to Hold Auditions For The Madwoman of Chailot

San Leandro Players will hold auditions for the fall 2024 production of *The Madwoman of Chailot*.

The *Madwoman of Chailot* is a comedic fantasy that centers around a plot by a group of corrupt business executives who are planning to dig up the streets of Paris so they can pump oil that they believe lies beneath.

Reading from sides from

the script, no need to prepare a monologue. Open to diverse casting.

Auditions are at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 3 and Wednesday, Sept. 4 (September 5th callbacks, if necessary) at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium 320 West Estudillo Ave, San Leandro (next to the historic Casa Peralta. No appointment necessary—if interested, contact Daniel Dickinson at

danielrdickinson@gmail.com Non-AEA, no pay; all ethnicities and ages encouraged.

Rehearsals from Sept. 9 to Oct. 24 (Monday through Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.), plus October 25 (dress rehearsal).

Performances Oct. 26 through Nov. 24; Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m., plus Fridays at 8 p.m. Nov. 15 and Nov. 22.

Fri. Aug 23	Re-Wind “That 80’s Band”	8PM
Sat. Aug 24	PATRÓN LATIN RHYTHMS	6PM
Sun. Aug 25	PAT WILDER BAND	4PM
Fri. Aug 30	THE COLLECTIVE	8PM
Sat. Aug 31	BLUES BOTTLE BAND	6PM
Sun. Sept 1	MY BLUE SOUL	4PM
Mon. Sept 2	CHICAGO THE TRIBUTE	4PM
Fri. Sept 6	SPILL THE WINE	8PM
Sat. Sept 7	TOUCH OF GLASS	6PM
Sun. Sept 8	GGBS... TIA CARROLL	4PM
Fri. Sept 13	DEE COGO & Co.	8PM
Sat. Sept 14	AC & THE HEATWAVE	6PM
Sun. Sept 15	HIGHWATER BLUES	4PM

ALL SHOWS ONLY \$5

22519 Main St, Hayward
510-881-9877 Click for our Website

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Report:
 Trash Potholes

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