

### Battling the Flames

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### WEEKEND WEATHER


**COOL** Time to start wearing layers

HIGHS: 63-68


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LOWS: 41-46


FRIDAY



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



# San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 28 • NO. 46

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

## How Seniors Can Get Tax Exemption

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

A pair of parcel taxes from the San Leandro and San Lorenzo school districts were passed in last week’s election, and now seniors will want to know how to get the exemptions they were promised as part of both districts’ campaigns.

In San Lorenzo, Measure J is a \$99 per parcel annual tax that is expected to bring in around \$2 million annually to the school district’s general fund.

In San Lorenzo, seniors are eligible for the exemption if the property owner is 65 or older and resides at the property for which the exemption is claimed. Seniors need only to apply once for the exemption and it will remain in effect for the length of the tax – eight years in the case of Measure J.

Seniors must prove their age by attaching a copy of a driver’s license or birth certificate and provide proof of residence by attaching a property tax bill. They will also need to include their property’s parcel number, which can be found on the property tax bill.

The exemption form for the San Lorenzo school district residents can be found at [www.slzsd.org](http://www.slzsd.org) under the departments tab, click “business services” or see **EXEMPTION**, page 5

## Church Taking Supplies To Send To Paradise

The Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene has a drop-off center for donations to be trucked to Paradise, California where fire destroyed most of the homes in the town.

Church of the Nazarene Pastor Steve Redmond has been in touch with a pastor in Paradise who said they could use as much support as possible.

Supplies can be dropped off by the front door of the Church of the Nazarene, 19230 Lake Chabot Road in Castro Valley every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. through Nov. 28.

Personal hygiene items needed include soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, Band-Aids, combs and brushes, towels, Kleenex, fingernail clippers, socks, underwear, first-aid kits, etc.

For a list of items needed, go to [castrovalleynaz.org](http://castrovalleynaz.org).

Families from Chico and Oroville will be taking supplies to the evacuation centers. Also needed are families willing to house evacuees.

For more information, call the church at 581-8377



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

All the regulars at the Victorian Pub stop by for the final days at the neighborhood bar before it closes on Nov. 24. Nancy Mrak is in the center, and to her right are Jennifer Saucedo, Donna Molzen and Charlie McClaren.

## Patrons Say Goodbye to Victorian Pub

By Jim Knowles  
San Leandro Times

The regulars come in for the final days of the Victorian Pub before it closes on Nov. 24.

They all agree on one thing. Make that two things. They all love Nancy, who’s behind the bar on this night, and they’re all sad the neighborhood pub is closing.

“It’s going to be sad, it’s like a land-

mark,” said Donna Molzen. “It’s one of those places like *Cheers* where everybody knows your name.”

Molzen is having a drink and chatting with Charlie McClaren, who used to tend bar here at the Victorian at 15325 Washington Ave. He’s also worked at Cunha’s, Shilo’s, Shooters; all the local watering holes.

McClaren is old school. He’s dressed casually tonight because he’s a customer. But he never steps behind the bar without a tie and vest. The vest is covered with pins from customers.

“That vest must weigh 40 pounds,” McClaren laughs. “It has pins from Southwest Airlines, City of San Leandro, Texas Longhorns, you name it.”

McClaren and Nancy Mrak have been bartending here since current owner Daniel

see **PUB**, page 5

## SLZ School Board Appoints New Member

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

Juan Campos joined the San Lorenzo School Board earlier this month, but he didn’t win a race for the seat: he was unanimously appointed by his fellow board members after no candidate filed to run in the general election.

Originally, the San Lorenzo School Board race was going to be a pick-two election with the top two vote getters earning a spot as board trustees.

But only one person - teacher

and 2012 Arroyo High grad Samuel Medina – filed to run. The other incumbent, current Board President Janet Zamudio, did not run for reelection.

So the school board had to appoint a member to fill the empty seat.

Campos was one of five applicants considered by the board during a special meeting and interview on Friday Nov. 2. The other candidates were Sarah Ansari, Lisa Burns, Alicia Gonzalez, and Daniel Murdock.



Juan Campos

If the board didn’t select a new member before the Nov. 6 general election, they would have been forced by the Alameda County Office of Education to hold a special election, which could cost up to \$300,000.

“We were delighted by the level of interest that we saw from our community,” said board vice president Penny Peck in a written statement. “They demonstrated sincere interest in our public schools in general and in our

see **SCHOOL BOARD**, page 14

### INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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DMT presents a show you can sink your teeth into. **Page 2**

**NEWS**

Local fire fighters lend a hand up north. **Page 3**

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You think you’re old? Mary Ramos is 107. **Page 4**

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## San Leandro Times

An independent hometown newspaper  
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San Lorenzo and Sheffield Village

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California  
Newspaper  
Publishers  
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# Show Opening at DMT Goes for the Jugular

The Douglas Morrisson Theatre (DMT) continues its 2018-19 season with *Dracula*, with performances running November 15 - December 2, 2018.

Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The preview show is tonight (Thursday, Nov. 15). Tickets are \$29 and \$10 for the preview. Discounts for under 30 and over 60, students with ID, youth, H.A.R.D. residents, and groups of 10 or more.

The box office number is 881-6777 or visit [www.dmtonline.org/dracula](http://www.dmtonline.org/dracula).

Young Lucy Seward has been struck by a mysterious illness that took the life of her friend Mina. Her father Dr. Seward, who runs a sanatorium in South London, hires his old friend, Professor Van Helsing to help diagnose and treat Lucy. The terrifying dreams that Lucy has been having, coupled with the two blood-red dots they

find on her throat, lead Van Helsing to believe this illness might have something to do with Count Dracula, their charismatic new neighbor from Transylvania. Van Helsing must convince his scientist friend that Count Dracula is something other than human, and that to save Lucy, they must destroy him.

Adapted by Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston from the novel by Bram Stoker, DMT's production of *Dracula* is directed by Kendall Tieck and features Kyle Goldman as Count Dracula, Geoffrey Colton as Abraham Van Helsing, Anya Cherniss as Lucy Seward, Tim Garcia as R.M. Renfield, Danny Martin as Jonathan Harker, Michael Sally as Dr. Seward, Michaela Greeley as Miss Wells, and Jim Woodbury as Butterworth. The production will also feature live original music by Donald Tieck.



PHOTO BY TERRY SULLIVAN

Kyle Goldman as Count Dracula, Anya Cherniss as Lucy Seward and Geoffrey Colton as Professor Van Helsing perform in *Dracula* at the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, running Nov. 15 through Dec. 2.

## Correction

In the story last week, "History Buff Looking Up the Forty-two San Leandrans Lost in WWII," the phone number for the Veterans Building was wrong. The correct number is 352-3785.

For anyone with information on the World War II casualties who wants to reach Bob Vincent directly, his number is 415-254-6304.

## Last Weekend to Catch SL Players *Chaos at the Cannery*

The San Leandro Players present old-time melodrama "Chaos at the Cannery" in its final weekend at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro.

The show runs this Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, students.

For information and reservations, call 895-2573 or online at [www.slplayers.org](http://www.slplayers.org).

This old-time melodrama mixes mayhem, murder, mystery, scalawags, scoundrels, toe tappin' old time music, and shenanigans. Professor Mack is back. Welcome to 1881 San Leandro.

## Watercolor Exhibit

Studio 820, the San Lorenzo Adult School Watercolor Class, will exhibit students' watercolor paintings at the San Leandro Main Library through Nov. 29.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL GUILLORY

The citizens of San Leandro break into song. Left to right are Karen Barbera, Ben Yuen, Dani Issa, Sage Hindley, Mark DeWeese, Liam Webster, Ann Barnett, and Emily Yang.

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- Mini Minor (Ages 7 & 8) •
- Minor (Ages 10 & 11) •
- Major (Ages 11-13) •
- Senior (Ages 14-18) •

Ages = Players' ages on December 31, 2018

Fees: Juniors: \$95 Mini Minors \$150 • All other divisions, \$170

Sibling discount: \$25/child



PRACTICES START IN FEBRUARY



Register online at [www.castrovalleysoftball.com](http://www.castrovalleysoftball.com)

## Badarikashrama to Host Thanksgiving Dinner and Concert

Badarikashrama, 15602 Maubert Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Thanksgiving vegetarian dinner and concert on Thursday, Nov. 22, at 3 p.m.

with electronic Bhakti music, a blend of raga influences with electronic and pop genres, and a Hindustani classical instrumental concert.

Many vegan items will be on the menu. Free and open to all.

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# POLICE & FIRE

## County Fire Department, Sheriff's Office Send Aid to Fire Sites

Firefighters from all over the Bay Area have been dispatched to the wildfires that are burning in Butte County and Southern California- including staff from Station 25 in Castro Valley which was sent to the Woolsey Fire in Ventura County.

Since Thursday, 25 local strike teams consisting of over 620 firefighters have been battling the Camp and Woolsey fires, according to the Alameda County Fire Department. ACFD Chief

David Rocha is the Region II coordinator.

In addition to the Alameda County firefighters, staff from the East Bay Regional Park District, Oakland, Hayward, Berkeley, Fremont, Alameda, Piedmont, Albany, and Livermore-Pleasanton fire departments have been deployed.

Two ACFD bulldozers and dozer operators are on the scene in Butte County where the Camp Fire death toll is 48 and expected to rise, as 130,000 acres have been burned

with more than 8,817 structures destroyed. Currently, the Camp Fire is 35 percent contained, according to Cal Fire.

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office has also deployed mutual aid resources to the Camp Fire and is assisting with search and recovery efforts in the city of Paradise.

They have sent emergency managers, animal services technicians, coroner investigators, search and rescue volunteers, and police dogs, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

The nearest fire is over 170 miles from San Leandro, but smoke has caused poor air quality locally.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District rates air pollution in a scale from 0 to 500. As of Wednesday afternoon, the Air Quality Index in San Leandro was 167, considered "unhealthy."



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAL FIRE

Alameda County Fire fighters and sheriff's deputies have been deployed to the wildfires raging in northern and southern California this week.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

### Car Crash Downtown

Slow down when you are driving downtown. A pair of motorists got into a nasty accident Monday morning at the busy intersection of Washington Avenue and Parrott Street.

## Inmates Graduate

Last week, the Inmate Services units at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin and the Glen Dyer Jail in Oakland held their 64th graduation ceremony, honoring 126 students that have completed one or more of the adult secondary education, or career and technical education courses offered while incarcerated.

Some inmates earned their high school diploma while others took courses on anger management, baking, computer coding,

employment readiness, financial literacy, art therapy, and substance abuse.

Following each ceremony, the students received a special meal and the high school graduates were given the opportunity to take photographs in their cap and gown. Family and friends were also invited to come and witness the graduation ceremony.

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

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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| K | I | D | D | M | P | G | S | E | E | K |



Dear San Leandro Community,

We are deeply thankful for your ongoing commitment to our schools, and especially for the success of Measure I, which restored essential funding to protect the quality of education in SLUSD. With California ranking among the lowest in the nation for per-pupil spending when

adjusted for the cost of living, we continue to rely on financial support from our community to support our initiatives.

The Measure I steering committee, led by SLED Executive Director Morgan Mack-Rose and former San Leandro Mayor Stephen Cassidy, was central to the success of Measure I. Committee members included SLUSD School Board Trustee Evelyn Gonzalez, Trustee-Elect Christian Rodriguez and his wife Marina, SLUSD Assistant Superintendent Kevin Collins, Chris Deng, Lesley Feikert, Mike Katz, Jill Stowe, and Kathy Vitz. We want to convey our sincere appreciation for their tireless work on our behalf. The great strides we have made in SLUSD are due much to their leadership.

Again, thank you for your advocacy on our behalf as we continue to create a culture of excellence for our students and our community. We encourage you to visit our website at [slusd.us](http://slusd.us) to see your money in action.

Sincerely,

Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



Don't throw out your holiday lights — **RECYCLE** them!

**Where:** Public Works Service Center  
14200 Chapman Road

**When:** November 19, 2018 – January 11, 2019  
Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

**SAN LEANDRO RESIDENTS ONLY**

**Lights accepted:** Light strands of all lengths and colors, from any holiday. Lights can be working or non-working. No CFLs, pre-lit trees or lighted garland. Please remove all packaging.

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# NEIGHBORS



Mary Ramos a resident of San Leandro will celebrate her 107th birthday today.

## Happy Birthday Mary Ramos

Mary Ramos has spent her whole life being a part of the San Leandro community. Born in Hawaii, she moved to San Leandro at the age of two and attended St. Mary's grade school which is now St. Leander elementary school. As a resident and home owner she is a parishioner of St. Leanders and an active member of the Portuguese community. She will be celebrating her 107th birthday on November 15 and her family and friends wish her a Happy Birthday with all their love and respect.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ **SL Museum Auditorium** The San Leandro Players present old-time melodrama *Chaos at the Cannery* through Nov. 18, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Tickets are \$20 for general, \$15 for seniors, TBA members, under 12, students. Show times are Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Also Fridays at 8 p.m. on Nov.

9 and Nov. 16. For information and reservations, call 895-2573 or online at [www.slplayers.org](http://www.slplayers.org). Professor Mack is back. Welcome to 1881 San Leandro. This old-time melodrama mixes mayhem, murder, mystery, scalawags, and scoundrels, toe tappin' old time music, and shenanigans.

❖ **Ramana Vieira Appearing at The Back Room** Ramana Vieira of San Leandro will perform at The Back Room, 1984 Bonita Ave. in Berkeley on Friday, Nov. 16, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$17 at [backroommusic.com](http://backroommusic.com). Vieira has been hailed by the New York Times as an American singer at the forefront of fado, the folk music of Portugal.

❖ **Talk & Book Signing by Prof. Paul Ortiz** The San Leandro Public Library presents a talk and book signing with University of Florida Professor Paul Ortiz, the author of *An African American and Latinx History of the United States* on Saturday, Dec. 1, from noon to 1 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Ortiz is a graduate of San Leandro High School and his non-fictional work is a recipient of the 2018 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Book Award. The book is an intersectional history of the shared struggle for African American and Latinx civil rights and argues that Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa were integral to the development of democracy in the United States.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ **San Leandro LeTip Meeting** Come see how LeTip can help your business sales grow. Meetings are held every Thursday at 7 a.m. at Denny's Restaurant, 1803 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro. LeTip is a professional organization whose purpose is the exchange of business leads. Each business category can only be represented by only one person. For more information, call Robert West at 912-0555.

❖ **Community of Faith Breakfast** The Bay Area Family Church will hold its monthly community of faith breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro. The featured speaker will be the local pastor of Bay Area Family Church, Rev. Kevin Thompson.

❖ **Bay Area MG Walk** Participants affected by myasthenia gravis (MG) will gather to celebrate the lives of MG patients, physicians and caregivers, and walk to raise awareness and funds to support the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America (MGFA) at the Bay Area MG Walk on Sunday, Nov. 18, at Lake Merced Park in San Francisco. MG affects people of any age, race or gender. The most common form of MG is a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disorder that is characterized by fluctuating weakness of the voluntary muscle groups. To learn more, visit the MGFA website at [www.myasthenia.org](http://www.myasthenia.org) and the MG Walk website at [www.MGWalk.org](http://www.MGWalk.org) or call 1-855-MGWALKS (855-649-2557).

❖ **Pre-Thanksgiving Prayer Service** Praises of Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, will have a pre-Thanksgiving prayer service on Tuesday, Nov. 20, from 6:30 to 7 p.m., followed by the evening worship service at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

❖ **San Leandro Garden Club Meeting** The San Leandro Garden Club invites the public to attend its meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at the Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro. A plant sale begins at 9:30 a.m., the meeting at 10 a.m., followed by a guest speaker from the Sulphur Creek Nature Center.

❖ **Badarikashrama Thanksgiving Dinner** Badarikashrama, 15602 Maubert Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Thanksgiving vegetarian dinner and concert on Thursday, Nov. 22, at 3 p.m. with electronic Bhakti music, a blend of raga influences with electronic and pop genres, and a Hindustani classical instrumental concert. Many vegan items will be on the menu. Free and open to all.

❖ **5th Mistletoe Madness Craft Fair** The 5th Annual Mistletoe Madness craft fair with 100 percent handmade items will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. A 50-50 raffle supports CASA Kids. For more information, visit [www.mistletoemadness.net](http://www.mistletoemadness.net).

❖ **St. Leander's 34th Annual Sport Show** The Meridians of St. Leander Church are sponsoring their 34th annual Sport Show on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ryan-O'Connell Hall, 575 W. Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro, across from the SL BART station. A variety of vintage sports memorabilia (1880-2018) will be for sale. Proceeds from the show will benefit St. Leander parish and

local charities. Door prizes will be given away. General admission is \$4 for those under 10 or over 65 admission is \$2. For more information, call Mark at 538-6245.

❖ **Hayward Area Museum of History** The exhibit *Day of the Dead 2018* will be on view through November 25, at the Hayward Area History Museum, 22380 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. This year's exhibition presents all forms of ofrendas from community members, from traditional altars to innovative sculptures. Some artworks highlight big moments in a loved one's life while others illustrate the impact of an historical figure. All show the many ways that Day of the Dead is celebrated. Admission is free.

❖ **Eden Garden Club** The Eden Garden Club will meet on Monday, Nov. 26, at 9:30 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. The speaker will be Scott Bigelow of Wicked Gardens Nursery in Castro Valley, who will share with us his creative garden art and arrangements. Meetings are free and guests are always welcome. For more information, call 397-1268.

❖ **SLZ Heritage Society Christmas Boutique** The San Lorenzo Heritage Society will present Holiday Treasures, Christmas gifts and more on Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association 377 Paseo Grande in the Bohannon room.

❖ **Creekside Craft Show** The 15th annual Creekside Craft Show will be on Friday, Nov. 30, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Creekside Community Church, 951 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro. This year's show will benefit Mercy Brown Bag Program – seniors helping feed low-income seniors in need. The craft show is free of charge, food and drink is available for sale each day and includes a raffle that will take place at 4 p.m. on Dec. 1. Plenty of parking and all are welcome. The 5th Annual "Chili Cook-Off" will take place on Friday, Dec. 1 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. with 10 chefs compete in a fiery competition all for a good cause. \$5 advance ticket or \$7 donation at the door until the chili runs out. Proceeds from the Chili Cook Off also benefit Mercy Brown Bag Program.

❖ **Auditions for Children in Gypsy Musical** San Leandro High School will produce the musical, *Gypsy*, the first two weekends in April, 2019. Auditions for children will be held on Thursday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. at the high school theatre, 2200 Bancroft Ave. Roles for boys and girls between 8 and 12 years old. Prepare part of a song (not from Gypsy) and bring sheet music in your key. A short dance routine will be taught. Wear clothes and shoes you can move in. After school rehearsals begin Jan. 28. For more information email: Sue Ellen Nelsen, [director.springshow@gmail.com](mailto:director.springshow@gmail.com)

❖ **Corvallis School Holiday Boutique** Corvallis School, 14790 Corvallis St. in San Leandro, will have a Holiday Boutique on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with raffles, refreshments and local vendors. Help those in need by bringing a toy, canned food item or a clean used coat. Receive a raffle ticket for every item you bring. Admission is free. For booth information, email [Corvalliselementarypta@gmail.com](mailto:Corvalliselementarypta@gmail.com).

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

### HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** A project benefits from your organizational skills that get it up and running. Your success leaves a highly favorable impression. Don't be surprised if you get some positive feedback soon.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Spend time on practical matters through the end of the week. Then begin shifting your focus to more-artistic pursuits. Resist being overly self-critical. Just allow yourself to feel free to create.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Restarting those creative projects you had set aside for a while will help provide a much-needed soothing balance to your hectic life. Besides, it will be like meeting old friends again.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** A change in plans could make it tough to keep a commitment. But stay with it. You'll get an A-plus for making the effort to do what's right and not taking the easy way out by running off.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** The Lion's enthusiasm for a workplace policy review is admirable. But be sure you know who is really behind the resistance to change before pointing your finger at the wrong person.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** You can expect to have to do a lot of work through midweek. Devote the rest of the week to checking your holiday plans in case some need to be adjusted to accommodate changes.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Try to avoid signing on the dotted line in the early part of the week. You need time to study issues that weren't fully explored. Later in the week might be more favorable for decision-making.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** A new development could snarl travel schedules or other holiday-linked projects. Some flexibility might be called for to deal with the problems before they get too far out of hand.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Relatives seek your advice on a matter you'd rather not be involved in. If so, use that sage Sagittarian tact to decline the "offer," so that no one's feelings are needlessly hurt.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** A shift in planning direction might help you speed up your progress toward achieving that long-planned goal. Trusted colleagues are ready to offer some valuable support.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** An unexpected demand for settlement of an old loan could create some pre-holiday anxiety. But you might not really owe it. Check your records thoroughly before remitting payment.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** It's a good time to get into the social swim and enjoy some well-earned fun and games with those closest to you before you have to resume more serious activities next week.



# Pub: 'It's not a club, it's a neighborhood bar,' says longtime barkeep

continued from front page

Kim bought the bar 11 years ago. Mrak said Kim decided it's time to sell the property, and he was hurt by a frivolous lawsuit, too. She said a restaurant will be opening on the property.

"I didn't believe it was closing myself till I saw the sign posted on the window," Mrak said.

The way the regulars see it, it's not just the closing of one bar. Neighborhood bars in general are going out of style, and McClaren has a theory.

"The younger, nighttime crowd has no respect," McClaren says. "They don't care, there's fights, the new owners want to make a club. No, it's not a club, it's a neighborhood bar."

"Somebody who made a bunch of money in Silicon Valley decides he wants to have a New York-style club. They got a lot of money but they don't know what to do with it. Lots of loud music. They hire a DJ. Raise prices after 9 o'clock and make a nightclub. But

it's not, it's a neighborhood bar."

McClaren is no longer working. He says he's more worried about longtime bartender Nancy.

"People like Nancy who are working full time, they're the ones hurt," he says.

**"I didn't believe it was closing myself till I saw the sign posted on the window."**

— bartender Nancy Mrak

Donna Molzen adds, "Nancy's irreplaceable."

Truck driver Dan Britton said he started coming to the Victorian when Nancy came over from the Iron Gate in San Lorenzo.

"It's just nice here," Britton said. "I know the people here. I'm not a nighttime guy, just have a pop or two and go home. They're good people here."

Everybody has already gotten dibs on the neon signs, especially the Budweiser sign with the Raiders logo.

"Everybody wants the Raiders sign," Nancy said.

The pool team plays on Thursday nights. That's when Jennifer Saucedo likes to come in. She's a hairdresser, but these days she's taking care of both her parents who are on dialysis.

"I'm at the pool table most of the time I'm here," said Saucedo.

Bartenders Scott Gomez and John Laster aren't sure what they're going to do next. Gomez says there's not as much demand for male bartenders as female bartenders. Laster says he's just going to see what happens.

"But I'm going to get choked up when this place closes," Laster said.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

It's going to be last call at the Victorian Pub on November 24, two days after Thanksgiving, where patrons share their memories of the longtime neighborhood bar.

**"I like bars just after they open for the evening. When the air inside is still cool and clean and everything is shiny and the barkeep is giving himself that last look in the mirror to see if his tie is straight and his hair is smooth. I like the neat bottles on the bar back and the lovely shining glasses and the anticipation. I like to watch the man mix the first one of the evening and put it down on a crisp mat and put the little folded napkin beside it. I like to taste it slowly. The first quiet drink of the evening in a quiet bar—that's wonderful. — Raymond Chandler, The Long Goodbye"**

## Exemption: Tax measures pass

continued from front page  
call 317-4641.

### San Leandro

In San Leandro, things are a bit different. District officials are waiting until the election results are certified before they make exemption materials available, according to assistant superintendent Kevin Collins.

San Leandro's Measure I is a \$39 per parcel annual tax that will bring in an estimated \$745,000 annually to the district. The district says Measure I is a continuation of a similar \$39 school parcel tax that ended this past June. But unlike the tax it replaces, Measure I will be permanent.

Collins said that if you have already applied for an exemption to that former tax, you will have to re-apply, but the district plans on mailing applications directly to those 658 senior households who had the previous exemption by the end of January.

Others who want to apply will have to send proof of age and property ownership to the district. An application will be available in late January on the district's website, [www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us](http://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us).

Despite the tax not having a sunset, the San Leandro applications are one-time only and will remain valid as long as the applicant remains the owner of

the parcel.

The new taxes go into effect in 2019. In order to qualify for the exemption, seniors must file applications by June 30, 2019.

Official results for the Nov. 6 election won't be certified by the county until the end of the month at the earliest, but the San Leandro school district's Measure I parcel tax looks to have passed comfortably with 74 percent of the votes (it needed a two-thirds majority to pass).

San Lorenzo's Measure J also needed a two-thirds majority and, as of a week after the election, it has 67.6 percent of the vote — a narrow margin of victory of just 144 votes.



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## AUTOMOTIVE

## Premium Jaguar Bursts onto EV Scene

By Steve Schaefer  
San Leandro Times

**T**he i-Pace is the prestigious British marque's first step into the electric motoring future. As a crossover, it's perfectly positioned to compete in the premium EV realm.

The obvious competition here is all-electric Tesla, but other European brands, notably Audi and Mercedes-Benz, are jumping in, too. The i-Pace just won Germany's Car of the Year award, so it has a head start.

In a brilliant Yulong White, the i-Pace is truly a crossover, not an old-fashioned boxy SUV. Its proportions are dramatic, with a short hood appropriate to an EV's smaller space requirements but also dramatically styled with a classic Jaguar grille and intensely staring headlamp pods.

The grille is solid black plastic—for show only. Also black on my car were exterior styling accents and bold 20-inch alloy wheels.

The sides and window greenhouse look carlike, but the high roof means a generous rear cargo capacity. Fold the seats down and remove the cargo area cover and you can handle a big load.

The i-Pace employs two electric motors, one at each axle, which generate 394 horsepower and a mighty 512 lb.-ft. of torque. Power comes from a 90-kW lithium-ion battery that gives the i-Pace a very usable 234 miles of range, per the EPA. At Level 2, 240-volt charging, it takes about 13 hours to fill the big battery, but quick charging to 80 percent cuts that down to 45 minutes to an hour and a half.

Other EPA figures include MPGe ratings of 80 City, 72 Highway, and 76 combined. Compare these numbers to other EVs.

All-wheel drive is part of the action, giving the i-Pace some cred when competing with its Land Rover cousin and other luxury crossovers.

With abundant horsepower and the instant torque, the i-Pace

blasts from 0 to 60 mph in just 4.5 seconds. While that's not as fast as a Tesla in Ludicrous mode, it's definitely quick and fun.

As an EV, the i-Pace lets you use one-pedal driving to accelerate as well as slow down and stop, so you rarely need the brakes. You can easily set it to a more "normal" style, but this is the best way to get the most out of an electric vehicle.

Choose from three different drive modes—Comfort (the default), Eco, or Dynamic. Eco mode is great for maximizing range by changing acceleration and lowering climate control use. Dynamic mode increases suspension stiffness and steering wheel weight and feedback, while sharpening accelerator pedal response.

I used Dynamic mode while on the curving back roads, and it made the tall, heavy car feel light on its feet. I spent my commute time in Comfort mode, which was indeed comfortable. The car feels firm, but not harsh, and stable and smooth at all speeds.

My car's handsome interior or color scheme was a dramatic Ebony and Mars Red. I didn't see woodgrain anywhere, but the silvery accents were tasteful. The steering wheel spokes are dramatic billet-quality pieces that look rich and custom.

The Meridian Surround Sound System provided exquisite musical entertainment. Once I figured out how to store my preset SiriusXM favorites, it was easy to get exactly what I wanted from the premium sound system.

The interior features ambient lighting all over, from the ceiling



Adaptive Dynamics analyzes acceleration, steering, throttle, and brake pedal activity and the electronically controlled dampers adjust to optimize the suspension settings.

to the doors to the console and the floor. You can customize the color from about a dozen compelling shades.

The information panel on the dash is integrated into a wide, flat screen. The touch system was responsive, and gave me access to multiple screens by swiping across, as on an iPad. There are many ways to customize the driving experience.

The air suspension lets you raise and lower the i-Pace to suit your needs. Normal is higher than a regular car. Raise it for offroad driving or lower it to the Access setting—easing entry and exit for shorter-legged folk.

The official base price of the i-Pace is \$70,450 (including \$995 destination charge). For now, you can also opt for the i-Pace First Edition, starting at \$85,900, which is packed with special features. My test vehicle base-priced at \$80,500 and to-

taled out at \$89,310, including many options, some of which may be part of the First Edition, and all of which made it an extraordinary experience.

The i-Pace is assembled in Graz, Austria from 74 percent Polish parts, including the motors.

As Jaguar's first EV, the i-Pace paves the way for the

brand to bring out more offerings in the next few years. Jaguar has invested in training their sales and service people to understand how EVs need to be sold and serviced. They also plan to invest \$1.5 billion in the United States over the next five years on new facilities and enhanced owner experiences.



To maintain the calm interior, the i-Pace features acoustic laminated glass on the front windows and windshield, reducing outside noise.

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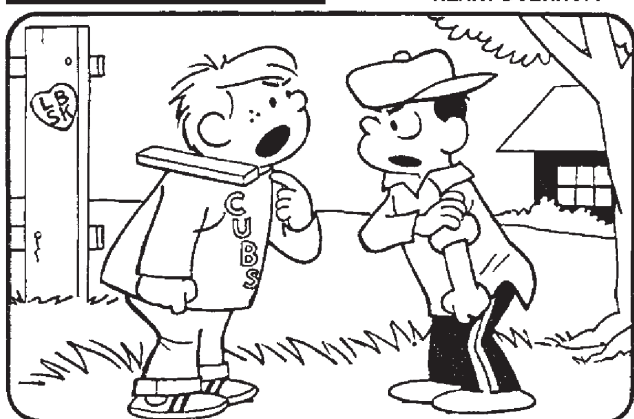
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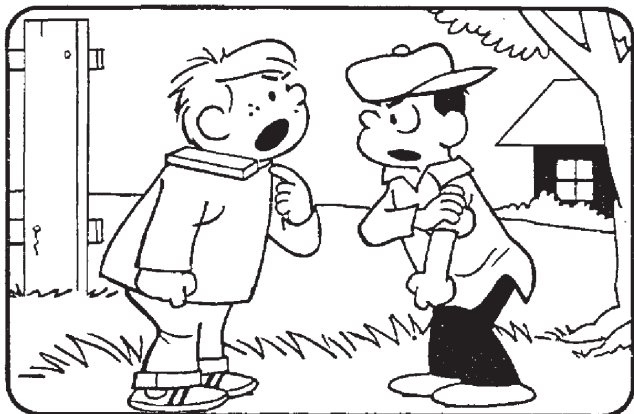


## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Heart is missing. 2. Block is missing. 3. Team name is missing. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Stripe is missing. 6. Window is different.

## A RHYMING RIDDLE!

"In marble walls as white  
as milk,  
Lined with a skin as  
soft as silk;  
Within a liquid crystal clear  
A golden apple doth appear.  
There are no gates to  
this stronghold,  
Yet thieves break in  
and steal the gold."

CAN YOU FIGURE OUT the answer to the Jolly Jester's Rhyming Riddle!

Answer: He's talking about an egg.

CAN YOU EXPLAIN how a baseball pitcher could win a nine-inning game without once pitching to a batter?

Answer: He could if he were a substitute pitcher brought into the game at the top of the ninth inning with the score tied, two outs, and a man on first base. If he then picked the man off at first base, the side would be retired and his team would come to bat. If his team then scored the winning run, in the bottom of the ninth, he would be the winner without ever having pitched to a single batter.

LINK-UPS! Here's a list of 12 short words, divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from one word in the left column to one word in the right.

Answers: jabbed, erasing, finale, garbled, hallowed, legend.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

|    |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | L |   |   |   |   | D |
| 2. |   | L |   |   |   | D |
| 3. |   |   | L |   | D |   |
| 4. |   |   |   | L | D |   |
| 5. |   |   |   | D | L |   |
| 6. |   |   | D |   | L |   |
| 7. |   | D |   |   |   | L |
| 8. | D |   |   |   |   | L |

### FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

### DEFINITIONS:

1. What the shipbuilder did.
2. Found in toothpaste.
3. Used to reckon time.
4. A large kettle.
5. Found in newspaper.
6. Campers need them.
7. Eccentric people.
8. A wooden interlocking joint.

### ANAGRAM:

hand + clue  
dour + file  
land + acre  
laud + corn  
nail + heed  
orbs + dell  
dabs + doll  
viol + date

Answers: 1. Launched. 2. Fluoride. 3. Calendar. 4. Cauldron. 5. Headline. 6. Bedrolls. 7. Oddballs. 8. Dovetail.



# HEALTH & FITNESS

## Now's the Time to Get the Flu Shot

More than 80,000 Americans died of the flu in the winter of 2017-18, according to federal health officials.

Although 90 percent of those deaths were in people over 65, the flu also killed 180 children and teenagers.

The dominant strain last season was an H3N2 flu, which is usually the most deadly of the seasonal flu strains.

In California, flu usually begins to increase in late November or December, and the State Health Department is urging Californians to get a flu shot now to protect your health during the upcoming flu season.

It takes a couple of weeks after vaccination for the body to build immunity, so now is the time to get vaccinated to have the best protection now that the flu season has started.

"Getting vaccinated is the best line of defense against flu," said Dr. Karen Smith, State Public Health Officer. "You can prevent missing work or school, visits to the doctor or hospitalization, and protect others from coming down with the flu."

A person with the flu may be contagious and infect others in as little as a day before they even feel sick.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), during the 2016-2017 season, flu immunization prevented an estimated 5.3 million illnesses, 2.6 million medical visits, and 85,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations in the United States.

Flu vaccines are administered as a shot or nasal spray. For the 2018-19 flu season, the CDC recommends vaccination with no preference for any one vaccine over another.

The Health Department recommends the annual flu vaccination for everyone six months of age and older. While anyone can get flu, pregnant women, children under five, adults 65 years of age and older, and people with chronic conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes and asthma are particularly at risk for flu-related complications.

Flu vaccinations are needed every year to maintain the greatest protection because the vaccine changes each year to match circulating viruses and annual vaccination boosts immunity.

For pregnant women, flu complications can include premature birth, low birth weight, and stillbirth of the baby. Besides helping pre-

vent flu complications, flu vaccine given during pregnancy also helps protect babies from flu infection for several months after birth, before the baby can be immunized, which is a time that babies are at high risk for flu complications.

Common symptoms of the flu — which often come on suddenly — include fever or feeling feverish, a cough and/or sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, chills, fatigue, and body aches. Children may also have nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

To stop the spread of flu and other respiratory illnesses, you should also:

- Stay home while sick and limit contact with others.
- Cover coughs or sneezes with your sleeve or disposable tissue.
- Wash hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and warm water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

State health officials encourage Californians to contact their health care provider, physician's office or clinic about getting the flu vaccine. When flu vaccine is in stock, adults with Medi-Cal can also get immunized at the pharmacy where they generally pick up their prescriptions.

In Castro Valley, flu vaccinations are available at:

- Safeway, 20629 Redwood Road, 510-538-0268
- Walgreens, 3382 Castro Valley Blvd., 510-537-0072
- CVS Pharmacy at 3667 Castro Valley Blvd., 510-538-1227

For more information about the flu, visit [cdph.ca.gov](http://cdph.ca.gov). For other locations, visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).



## Managing High Blood Pressure During Cold and Flu Season

Colds and flu bring special considerations for people with high blood pressure, especially those on blood pressure medication. Here's how to keep your blood pressure stable:

DO: Keep track of medication. The American Heart Association's online tools at [www.heart.org/hbp](http://www.heart.org/hbp) include a downloadable chart to manage medications and a tracker that lets people set up text message reminders, text in their readings, track their blood pressure and connect with providers.

DON'T: Miss your flu shot. People who get a flu shot may reduce their risk of heart attack or stroke. Stay away from people who are sick and wash your hands regularly.

DO: Read labels on over-the-counter (OTC) cold and flu medicines. Look for warnings to those with high blood pressure and who take blood pressure medications. Some ingredients in cold and flu medicines can affect blood pressure.

Decongestants, used for a stuffy nose or congestion, and some pain relievers, such as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), are known to raise blood pressure.

Decongestants include:

- Oxymetazoline
- Phenylephrine
- Pseudoephedrine.

NSAIDs include:

- ibuprofen
- naproxen sodium
- celecoxib.

Check with your doctor before taking these medicines. A decongestant should be used for only the shortest amount of time possible and never by someone with severe or uncontrolled high blood pressure.

DON'T: Try to replace your prescriptions with supplements. There are no special pills, vitamins or drinks that can substitute for prescription medications and lifestyle modifications. Talk to your health care provider before taking any over-the-counter drug or supplement that claims to lower blood pressure.

DO: Work with your health care practitioner. If you have high blood pressure, it's important to know that some medicines, even supplements, will affect you differently. If you're struggling to keep your pressure controlled, review your routines—including over-the-counter medicines and supplements—and talk with your doctor about changes you can make. You should never be too busy to manage your blood pressure.

Learn more at [www.heart.org/hbp](http://www.heart.org/hbp).

Bayer Consumer Health, is a sponsor of the AHA Hypertension Web content area.

—North American Precip Synd. Inc.

## Give Thanks, Give Blood

The American Red Cross urges people to share their good health this holiday season by donating blood or platelets during one of the three blood drives that will be held in Castro Valley next week.

A decline in donations occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors are busy with holiday activities and travel. However, medical treatments and emergencies that require blood don't stop for the holidays.

A blood drive will be held Friday, Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eden Medical Center, 20101 Lake Chabot Road.

On Saturday, Nov. 24, Redwood Chapel will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 19300 Redwood Road. Appointments are encouraged. Sign up at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and use sponsor code REDWOOD.

Also on the 24th, Transfiguration Church will hold a blood drive from 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 4000 East Castro Valley Blvd.

Make an appointment to donate blood or platelets by downloading the free American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

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# Grand Jury Annual Report Cites Unfunded Health Care

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The Alameda County civil grand jury acts as a watchdog and investigates various public authorities, then releases a report of its findings each summer.

This year, the grand jury found fault with the city of Oakland's healthcare system, and found that county officials hog Warriors tickets for themselves.

Among the jury's conclusions were that Oakland's municipal retired employee healthcare system is in "crisis," and that public employees are getting free tickets to Warriors and Raiders games instead of the charities they were designated for.

Advised by Assistant District Attorney Rob Warren, the 19-member grand jury is made up of citizens from all over the county – this year two members were from San Leandro – and it's up to the jury what topics they investigate, often acting on tips from the public.

This year, the jury investigated San Leandro Hospital because it's part of the county's Alameda Health System (AHS). Back in

2014, the grand jury criticized AHS's governance and finance, but said that since that initial report improvements have been made.

However, this year the grand jury received a citizen complaint about how AHS oversees physicians. Over 50 percent of the physicians who work at AHS are employed by a single private for-profit medical group called OakCare.

AHS contracts with OakCare for \$34 million annually and a member of OakCare's board of directors sits in the AHS board of directors. This is unusual as most county hospitals directly employ their medical staff.

The grand jury found that the relationship between OakCare and AHS was "contentious" and "uneasy." The jury found that OakCare failed to provide an updated roster of physicians, failed to provide a description of services provided by their doctors, and failed to provide adequate invoices for services.

The jury wrote that a key problem was "The relationship between OakCare and AHS seems to be 'one-way,' with OakCare's

power derived from its role of providing the majority of physician services and virtually all of the medical leadership at AHS."

The grand jury's recommendation was that AHS must continue internal monitoring for all physicians in the system. The jury also recommended that AHS should hire more medical staff who are directly employed by AHS.

## City of Oakland Faces \$860 Million in Unfunded Healthcare Costs

Other grand jury findings included the fact that the City of Oakland has a looming \$860 million in unfunded employee healthcare costs and the city is not properly planning how to solve this problem.

The jury wrote: "Without radical changes, the city will never be able to pay for what it promised. This dilemma is already starting to crowd out essential government services."

Oakland will have to find the money to pay for these unfunded benefits at the expense of other programs. The jury wrote: "City

revenues are not keeping up with expenditures. The difference must be made up from either cuts in programs, increased taxes, or borrowing."

The Oakland public school system was also criticized, with the jury saying it is hiring and spending outside of its budget, is operating nearly twice the number of schools that can be justified by the enrollment numbers, and there is a lack of trust and high turnover rate for employees.

The school district has been on average \$20 to \$30 million in debt for the past 15 years.

The jury concluded that Oakland schools need to be consolidated if the district wants to survive.

The jury wrote: "The elected board of education, district staff and the community must realize that failure to support a unified effort at comprehensive reform is marching the district towards state takeover."

## County Officials Hog Warriors Tickets For Themselves

And officials of Alameda



The 2018 Alameda County Grand Jury.

County and the Oakland/Alameda Coliseum Authority were found to be taking free tickets to sporting events that are supposed to be given to non-profits and community groups.

Both public entities each get the same amount of free tickets to events at the Coliseum complex to give out to non-profits for fundraisers or other purposes that benefit the public, but the jury found that these tickets are not distributed ethically.

The jury wrote: "Expensive tickets seem to be treated as a

perk of office or employment: They are often used repeatedly by the same elected or appointed officials and their staff members.

"Although approximately 30 percent of tickets are given to worthy non-profit organizations for use in fundraising, almost none of the most valuable play-offs and finals tickets go to community groups.

"The vast majority of employees who receive tickets are the staff members of the officials responsible for their distribution."



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When your holiday party is over and you have unusable leftovers, put them in your **Organics** cart. All food scraps and food-soiled paper belong. Decorations such as pumpkins, poinsettias, garlands and wreaths can also go in. Be sure they are free of any paint, glue, plastic or metal.

For a full list of what belongs in your **Organics** cart, visit: [www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com).

### ORGANICS CART TIPS

- Layer/cover food waste with yard waste.
- Freeze or refrigerate wrapped food scraps before placing them in the cart.
- Keep the lid closed.
- Put the cart out weekly for service (even if it isn't full).
- When the cart is empty, rinse it out over a landscaped area using only water.



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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY

## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



## The Real Purpose of Open House Signs

At the peak of the market, inventory was so scarce open houses were few and far between.

With inventory climbing, however, open house signs are sprouting on corners like mushrooms after the rain, with agents competing to get the best part of any given corner.

Open house signs are a conundrum: while everyone thinks they understand their purpose, their real function is not as apparent. This has become obvious as sellers, their homes sitting on the market longer than expected, have become vocal about the number of signs out and their

locations.

It is clear most sellers believe open house signs dictate the number of visitors that appear.

While this might have been true years ago, it is no longer accurate. Listing agents post open houses on the MLS (Multiple Listing Service) which broadcasts dates and times to all major real estate websites, including Realtor.com, Zillow, Trulia and more.

Buyers looking for open houses no longer follow directional signs — they look online (typically their phones), preselect which houses they will see, verify the date and time and then activate the address link so their phone's GPS takes them there.

Truth be known, agents have had successful open houses with only one directional sign located in the front yard. This then begs the question: "Why have signs at all?" There are 3 reasons:

- To get as many neighbors in as possible.

Neighbors are not looking to buy, so they are not checking online for open houses. Many are curious and, when they see signs, stop by to check out the house and pricing. A visit may trigger thoughts of a potential buyer.

- To put sellers at ease.

Since sellers have no control over who is viewing their home online, the signs provide a sense that something visible is being done to get buyers to their home.

- To advertise the listing agent.

This is the real reason many agents put out multiple signs, and why you may see 2 or more signs from the same agent at any given intersection.

While they might insist it is to catch cars coming from any direction, the reality is the more signs that are out, the higher the visibility and possibility that a prospective seller will notice the signs and call for an appointment. It is free advertising and, in some agent's minds, the more signs they can get out the merrier.

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.

## Mortgage Rates At 7-Year High

After weeks of climbing, mortgage rates have now risen to their highest level in seven years, according to Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market survey issued last Thursday.

Freddie Mac Chief Economist Sam Khater said rates are now at their highest level since the week of April 14, 2011.

According to the survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.9 percent, increasing from 4.71 percent a week earlier, and significantly higher than last year's rate of 3.91 percent.



14868 Towers St. • San Leandro

Open  
Sunday 2-4

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3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath home with 1493 sqft. Priced at \$698,000 it's a great value. Located close to schools, shopping, and transportation. Offered by Robert Jones and Associates, celebrating our 35th year at our downtown location, 142 Joaquin Avenue.

For more information call 357-0120.



## WEEKEND GARDENER

### Vegetables

For a bumper harvest of broccoli, pinch out the main shoot a month after planting. This will result in fewer—but larger—side shoots and the biggest overall yield. Cutting the main shoot after the head has already formed will result in more side shoots, but they will be smaller in size.

Set out garlic, onions and shallots from sets, planting them where they can dry out for the month before harvest next June or July.

### Roses

Stop watering and feeding roses. Prune lightly to remove long, bloomed-out canes, but hold off hard pruning until January when the bushes are fully dormant.

### Trees

Now that shade and ornamental trees have shed their leaves, their need for pruning to correct any problems is readily apparent by their fully exposed branches. Though pruning can be done any time in fall and winter, there are good reasons for doing it now to eliminate potential hazards of weak, broken or diseased limbs crashing down in the storms that will be coming in the next few weeks. Major problems with trees should be left to professional arborists.



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# Easy-to-Grow Pomegranates Are Regaining Popularity

By Buzz Bertolero  
The Dirt Gardener

**Q** Last winter I planted a bare root pomegranate. It has done well, in fact it has nearly doubled in size, but the growth is very leggy. Should I cut it back now to encourage branching, or wait until it is dormant? By pruning now, will I cut off any potential fruit?

**A** Pomegranates are pruned usually during January and February, but you can start earlier when the leaves begin to drop.

They're grown as a medium size shrub or a multi-stem small

tree.

There are three things you need to do when pruning pomegranates: (1) eliminate the dead wood, (2) remove the rubbing and crossing branches and (3) shape the plant by reducing the length of the growth.

That being said, pomegranates naturally have long arching branches that give it an arching, vase-like form, so heavy pruning can alter the plant's aesthetics. You can preserve the natural tree look by removing branches to the trunk or larger limbs instead of an overall shearing.

The canopy should be thinned out every three years, regardless of the growth form. Of course, all of this is a judgment call on

your part, as there are many correct methods of shaping depending on the location and the plants surrounding it.

Pruning can affect the size of the crop as the fruit forms on new wood. Hence, it's important to feed annually in the early spring with a complete fertilizer to encourage the new growth.

Pomegranates are one of the easiest fruits to grow. The Spaniards introduced them to California in the Sixteenth Century. They're native to southern Europe and they spread throughout California with the establishment of the missions. Today they're being rediscovered by a new generation of gardeners just like blueberries.

They're popular for the following reasons.

They are high in antioxidants and easy to grow in a wide variety of soils or in containers.

They're somewhat drought tolerant and not affected by many pests or diseases.

The bright orange tubular flowers attract hummingbirds and are a popular plant choice for bonsai.

Wonderful and Eversweet are the two most widely available varieties, but there are many others. And finally, you'll also find Punica Granatum is a non-fruiting landscape shrub, that is available in our area. It grows to four feet with a three-foot spread, so it's very adaptable to small yards.

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



Pomegranate Tree

## Home Improvement Projects that Take Less than 2 Hours

The words "home improvement" usually conjure up images of major undertakings like tiling your bathroom or kitchen or tearing down a wall, taking hours or even days to complete.

The fact is there are some meaningful home improvements you can finish in under two hours.

1) Concerned about security? Installing a video doorbell takes just a few minutes and you can monitor visitors at your front door on your smartphone through an app. This is a way to add some security to your home.

You can be anywhere with your phone but answer your front door and see who's there. They have no idea where you are, home or otherwise.

2) Dealing with poor indoor air quality? The upstairs can often be hotter than the downstairs. Air can be humid and wet. House odors from cooking, pets, etc., can hang around. A Whole House Fan is quiet (with a light white noise) and can be installed without reframing.

When you open the windows with the whole house fan on, it strips out the heat from the home as well as the unwelcome smells. In summer months it keeps the house cooler and it eliminates stale air in the winter.



An easy home improvement project is to swap out outdated lightbulbs for LEDs. While more expensive, they last 20 year's or more.

3) Considering a new bathroom fan? Another product that installs quickly is an upgraded bathroom fan. It comes with a variety of options such as heaters and lights. An upgraded bathroom fan can dramatically reduce bathroom humidity and odors and run more quietly.

4) Still using outdated light bulbs? An easy home improvement project is to swap out light bulbs for LEDs. Even CFL bulbs can't hold a candle to LED bulbs, which, while more expensive, last up to 20 years or more.

—BrandPoint

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**San Leandro Times**

### OPEN HOMES

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>

| CITY | SAT | SUN | ADDRESS           | PRICE       | BDRMS/BATHS | REALTOR                 | AGENT          | PHONE        |
|------|-----|-----|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| A    | —   | 2-4 | 14868 Towers St.  | \$698,000   | 3/1.5       | Robert Jones & Assoc.   | Robert Jones   | 510-357-0120 |
| C    | 1-4 | 1-4 | 20206 Safire St.  | \$810,000   | 4/1.5       | Keller Williams         | Carol Peterson | 925-577-5510 |
| C    | 1-4 | 1-4 | 17849 Parker Rd.  | \$968,000   | 4/2         | Berkshire Hathaway RE   | Cathy Brent    | 510-381-1065 |
| A    | 1-3 |     | 393 Dowling Blvd. | \$1,188,000 | 5/3.5       | Robert Jones and Assoc. | Matt Jones     | 510-357-0120 |

One-Line Open Home Listings run Wednesdays in the Castro Valley Forum (22,500 circ.) and Thursdays in the San Leandro Times (38,500 circ.) for \$25. For more information and a listing form, call 614-1558. DEADLINE: TUESDAY AT NOON.

#### CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = SAN LORENZO • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DANVILLE • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD • K = CONCORD  
L = LIVERMORE • M = MODESTO • O = OAKLAND • P = PLEASANTON • S = SHEFFIELD VILLAGE • W = WALNUT CREEK



All real estate advertised in the Castro Valley Forum is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, marital status, national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The Castro Valley Forum will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate that is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

# Play Your Part.

We all have a role to play in helping firefighters and first responders.

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**music for relief**

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| ONLINE | www.ebpublishing.com         |

TO VIEW THE CLASSIFIED ADS

Visit our Websites 24 hours a day  
**www.sanleandrotimes.com**  
**www.castrovalleyforum.com**  
2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE

New ads, cancellations or ad changes:  
**MONDAY BY 5:00 P.M.**  
Call 510-614-1558 (Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m - 5 p.m.)  
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LANDLORDS** – Advertise your units! A vacancy day is money lost forever ... R. Bowman

**NEED - MUSIC LESSONS or PIANO TUNING?**  
Check the Classified Ads under **"MUSICAL SERVICES"** for help.

ANTIQUES WANTED

**WANTED:** Used reel to reel tapes (for tape recorder). Call Patrick 510-517-3351.

AUTOMOBILES/TRUCKS  
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**1976 FORD F-350** Dually 1-ton flat-bed, 92K miles, \$8,000. 510-582-6010.

**2003 FORD Expedition**, runs great. \$5,800 o.b.o. Call 510-934-1251.

**SELL YOUR CAR OR TRUCK** with a Classified Ad  
**For more info or to place an ad call 510-614-1558**  
San Leandro Times/Castro Valley Forum

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**I buy** used foreign and domestic cars/ trucks, running or not. Please call Miller 510-209-7524.

CONCRETE SERVICE

**\*AFFORDABLE CONCRETE.** Driveways, Walkways, Patios, Retaining Walls, etc. Lic.#868589. 510-575-1163

**\*MP CONCRETE.** Driveways, Patio, Retaining Walls, Stamped Concrete, Asphalt, Foundations, Stamp-Concrete, Paving, Retaining Walls, Paving, Landscaping, Sprinklers, Tree Service, Drainage, Fencing. Lic.#570826. 510-967-2447.

**\*NAI CONCRETE & LANDSCAPING** Patios, Driveways, Walkways, Asphalt, Foundations, Stamp-Concrete, Paving, Retaining Walls, Paving, Landscaping, Sprinklers, Tree Service, Drainage, Fencing. Lic.#570826. 510-967-2447.

CONTRACTOR SERVICE

**Need Contractor Service?** Check our HOME SERVICE & CLASSIFIED ads for help!  
Castro Valley Forum/San Leandro Times

**NEED - MUSIC LESSONS or PIANO TUNING?**  
Check the Classified Ads under **"MUSICAL SERVICES"** for help.

CONTRACTOR SERVICE

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State Law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. Advertisers appearing on this page without a license number indicate that the contractor is not licensed. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or (800) 321-2752. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

**\*LOOKING FOR WORK?**  
Check the **Help Wanted** ads on the next page of this newspaper. Also: **Limited Time Offer!** You can run a FREE 15 word "Employment Wanted" ad. Ad runs in the San Leandro Times & Castro Valley Forum. Call **510-614-1558** to place an ad or for more info. (Some restrictions may apply)

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

I am an experienced sales rep, writer, cook, waiter, baker, cashier, garden-er. I'm available days, weekends & holidays. Kent Gabel 510-940-8280

EVACUATION SUPPORT

**Castro Valley Church** of the Nazarene is an official drop off center for Crisis Care Kits to go to the fire evacuees of the City of Paradise. Many items are needed including personal hygiene items such as tooth brushes, clean socks, shampoo, soap, tissue, toilet paper, first aid kits, etc. For a list of items needed please go to: [castrovalley-naz.org](http://castrovalley-naz.org). Kits and/or supplies can be dropped off by the front door of the Church of the Nazarene at 19230 Lake Chabot Road, C.V., everyday starting Nov. 14 thru and including Nov. 28. from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. You can also make a \$20 donation we'll purchase a Crisis Care Kit for you and save you the shopping. The need is great. 510-581-8377.

**Advertise your Home for rent** in the San Leandro Times & Castro Valley Forum  
**DON'T LET ANOTHER WEEK SLIP BY!**  
– A vacancy day is money lost forever –  
To place an ad call **510-614-1558**

FENCES/DECKS

**A.T. WOOD FENCES & DECKS** Fence, Concrete, Tree, Lawns. Painting, Cleanups. 510-507-1457/ 510-507-0968.

**FENCE LEANING?** Don't replace... repair and save! Call Randy 510-706-6189.

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE  
MONDAY 5PM  
510-614-1558

GARAGE SALES

**\*FALL CLEANUP!!!**  
Time to clean out your Attic, Garage, Basement (House)!!!  
Get your items together and place a **GARAGE SALE** ad in the San Leandro Times and the Castro Valley Forum for as little as \$30.  
To place an ad  
**Call 510-614-1558**

**LANDLORDS** - Advertise your units!  
– A vacancy day is money lost forever –  
**R. Bowman**

GARAGE SALES



CASTRO VALLEY

**MOVING SALE:** 4040 Stevens Street, Castro Valley. **Sunday 11/18**, 9am till it's gone. Pachenko game, miscellaneous items.

**MORE DOWNSIZING** 9am-3pm, Fri. 11/16 & Sat 11/17. Holiday decorations, jewelry, garden-kitchen items, tools etc. 5613 Lynwood Ct., Castro Valley 94552.

**HOLIDAY GIFT BOUTIQUE** 11/17, 9am-4pm & 11/18 9am-3pm. 2875 Grove Way, Castro Valley.

SAN LEANDRO

**ESTATE/ GARAGE SALE** 11/17, 8am-4pm. 14255 Wake Avenue, San Leandro.

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**\*ANY YARD WORK.** Cleanups and Maintenance. Free Estimates. Call 510-798-1833.

**\*BEAUTY GARDEN LANDSCAPING** Design - Construction - Maintenance. Cleanups, New Lawn, Artificial Grass, Irrigation, Patios, Pathways, Brick, Stone, Concrete Fence/ Decks. Free Estimates! Lic.#925130. 510-691-8852.

**\*NAVA'S COMPLETE GARDENING:** Mowing, trees, cleanup/hauling. FREE estimates. 510-512-5857

**JAIME'S GARDENING** Maintenance, Trimming, Clean-ups, Hauling, Sprinkler Repair/ Timers. FREE Estimates. Insured. 510-299-9583

**Katsura Landscaping.** Professional hand pruning. Landscape design/ install/ consultation. Garden clean-up and redesign. Call Mike 510-828-4854. Contr. Lic.#858145

**LUIS GARDENING & HAULING SERVICE.** Maintenance, Mowing, Weeding, Cleanups, Hauling, etc. Insured. Unlicensed. 510-499-5453

**NEED Gardening Service?**

Check the advertisers in our "Home Servic Directory" and our "Classified Ads" for help!

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**FREE** - 10+ wooden/ metal 30"x72" table tops (pedestals are available). Call 510-562-7144.

**FREE** - 3 new pieces of fiberboard (2 are 4 1/2' x 2' & one is 4' x 3' 2"). Call 510 357-8606.

**FREE** - Oak reclining office chair. Seat needs re-caning. Also free Oak poker/card/pool table. 510-828-1265.

GIVEAWAYS

**FREE** - Decorative, smooth, grayish color river rocks, each about the size of a bowling ball (about a pickup truck's worth). U-load & haul away. 510-414-7607.

VIEW the Classified Ads Online at

sanleandrotimes.com or castrovalleyforum.com

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For more info call 614-1558

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**HAULING:** Small and Big Jobs. Furniture, Concrete, Wood, Trash, Metal, Demolition. Also house inside/ outside cleanups. 510-715-1578.

HELP WANTED

GENERAL

**Do you need some help at your business?**

To place an Help Wanted ad call **510-614-1558**

Your ad will run in and the Castro Valley Forum on Wednesday and the San Leandro Times on Thursday. Find help and support your local newspaper at the same time!

- Thank you -

**\*LOOKING FOR WORK?**

Check the **Help Wanted** ads in this newspaper.

*Also: Limited Time Offer!* If you are looking for a job you can run a FREE 15 word "Employment Wanted" ad. Ad runs in the San Leandro Times & Castro Valley Forum. Call **510-614-1558** to place an ad or for more info.

(Some restrictions may apply)

HELP WANTED

**Apprentise F/T** helper for ranch/ rental property work. Training provided. \$14/hr w/benefits. 510-582-7771.

HEALTH CARE

**Live-in Caregiver & Caregiver** needed at Residential Care Home in San Leandro. Call 510-529-6039.

HOUSE CLEANING

**\*CONNIE'S NATURAL CLEANING** Licensed/ Insured/ Bonded Make Your Home a Pleasant and Healthy Environment www.conniesnatural.com Call **510-506-5053**

**Cristina House Cleaning,** free estimates, senior discount. Bus.-Lic. #121121. 510-825-0459.

**WALTON'S JANITORIAL** Licensed / Bonded / Local For a **SPARKLE CLEAN OFFICE** or Home

- Carpets • Restrooms

**Phone 352-7948**

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LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF MOTION-PETITION TO ESTABLISH THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 6020)**

Case No: RG18907355  
Date: 12-13-18  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Dept: 511

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION

by the EAST BAY PUBLISHING CORPORATION, a California Corporation dba "THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES" has filed in the above entitled Court a Verified Petition requesting that the Court ad-judge that "THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES" is a newspaper of general circulation. You are further notified that Petitioner has alleged in its Petition that it is the owner and publisher of "THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES", and that it has been established and published at regular intervals in the City of San Leandro since 1991 in excess of the statutory requirement of one (1) year (see Govern-ment Code Section 6000) preceding the filing of the Petition. You are further notified that Petitioner has further alleged that the newspaper is one of general circulation, published for dissemination of local and wire-service news of a general character, and that the newspaper has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers. You are further notified that on the filing of the Petition, the above entitled Court directed that notice be given by publication for successive days in "THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES" and the "INTER-CITY EXPRESS" together with a Notice of the time when the Petition would be heard. You are further notified that on December 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Petitioner will apply to the above-entitled Court 24405 Amador St., Hayward, CA 94544, for the Order and relief requested in the petition. Respectfully submitted  
DIANA REDDING LAW  
DATED: September 18, 2018  
By: /s/DIANA REDDING, Attorney for EAST BAY PUBLISHING CORPORATION, a California Corporation dba THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES  
DIANA REDDING, ESQ., CSB #232027  
DIANA REDDING LAW  
2500 Santa Clara Avenue  
Alameda, CA 94501  
Telephone (510) 426-8744  
Facsimile (510) 523-9516  
Attorney for EAST BAY PUBLISHING CORPORATION,  
dba THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES  
10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8 11/15, 11/22, 11/29, 12/6/18

MISC. FOR SALE

**"MISC. FOR SALE"** ads run **3 WEEKS** for the price of 1 week. Call 614-1558.

MISC. WANTED

**WANTED:** Used reel to reel tapes (for tape recorder). Call Patrick 510-517-3351.

MUSICAL SERVICES LESSONS

**EAST BAY MUSICIAN** - Lessons, Good with Kids. Call 510-427-3955.

PAINTING SERVICE

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HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY

Handyman

HANDYMAN SERVICES

*Serving Castro Valley & San Leandro for 28 Years*

Big or Small — We Do It All!

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Sand • Install • Refinish Glista • Oil Base

25 Years Experience

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House Cleaning Service Family Owned Since 1980

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20% OFF ANY OF OUR ROOFING & GUTTER SERVICES

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Telephone (510



# School Board: Shortage of candidates

continued from front page

school district, specifically. It was inspiring to see this strong showing of community commitment to our schools."

Campos has lived in San Lorenzo for the past five years and has a child attending Bay Elementary School in the district. He works as a program director for the East Bay Asian Youth Center with experience in court advocacy, probation, and schools and is also the non-profit organization's soccer coach.

Campos grew up in Oakland and began his career in youth work in 2001 at Castlemont High and says he's ready to bring that experience to San Lorenzo.

"I am excited to serve our children, our dedicated teachers and employees, and the San Lorenzo community that I love so much," said Campos in a written statement. "I am humbled and honored by this appointment and I intend to give this board and our district the time, energy, and passion that they deserve."



Wilson Elementary School on Williams Street.

The San Lorenzo School District last had to appoint a new member in April of 2017, when trustee Helen Randall stepped down mid-term due to her health and the death of her long-time partner. Her replacement was Medina, 23, who was unanimously appointed by his fellow members to take over Randall's term.

The San Lorenzo School District is looking for new leadership on the administrative side as well, as former superintendent Fred Brill resigned in October. At this week's school board meeting, the board hired a firm to search for a

new superintendent.

A shortage of school board candidates isn't unique to San Lorenzo. In the San Leandro general election last week, only one candidate ran in each of three races for open school board seats. Those newly elected-by-default board members will be incumbent Leo Sheridan and newcomers Christian Rodriguez and James Aguilar, 18, a 2018 graduate of San Lorenzo High.

In the 2016 San Leandro school board election, none of five candidates faced any opposition.

## Pets of the Week



Gilbert

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Gilbert the kitten and Carleen the bunny.

Gilbert is 4-months-old and easygoing with people and other cats. He loves getting attention and cuddles. He has gorgeous black and silver fur.

Carleen is friendly with



Carleen

people and bunnies.

She's litter box trained, spayed, and enjoys head pets, greens, and an occasional piece of banana.

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

Serving Families In Our Community  
With Compassion and Service Excellence



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• Reception Room & Kitchenette



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## LOCAL DEATHS

### Frederick Robert During

December 14, 1924 - October 4, 2018

Frederick Robert "Bob" During passed away at home in San Leandro on October 4, following a 4-year battle with dementia. Always a competitor, his contagious smile and sense of humor never left him.

Born in Chillicothe, Ohio to Alma Bishop During and Col. Frederick Robert During Sr., Bob described his childhood as being that of an "Army brat", growing up in a variety of locales. He graduated from San Francisco's Polytechnic High School in 1943.

Bob studied Aeronautics at Texas Tech and served in the Army Air Force (precursor of the U.S. Air Force) 1944-45. He completed work on his BA in Physical Education at San Jose State University in 1949, and taught physical education, math, and speech, as well as coaching all sports at several secondary schools in Northern California before coming to San Leandro.

His contributions in San Leandro included 20 years at the helm of the San Leandro Beavers AAU Swim Club. Many men and women swimmers and water polo players competed and won at the national level. At Pacific High School (1963-83), Bob coached swimming, water polo, football, boys' basketball, girls' basketball and softball (the last two to championships). At San Leandro High School (1983-86), he coached girls' basketball and softball to league titles. Upon retirement from teaching, he served as assistant coach of the women's basketball team at Cal State University, Hayward.

Bob was the cherished husband (41 years) of Patricia Schon During; devoted father of Robert During and Jeffrey During; loving Opa to Matthew, Melinda and Jeffrey; adoring great grandfather to Owen, Noah and Brody. He was predeceased by first wife, Marjorie K. Stephens.

He was the consummate coach, encouraging, challenging, and motivating many young lives as coach, teacher and friend. He was also a world class fly fisherman, enjoying the family's West Yellowstone, Montana home as a base to fish this beautiful area during many summers. Following retirement, he and Pat loved to travel, especially on river cruises in Europe.



TIMES OBITUARIES may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. For assistance, call 510-614-1555.

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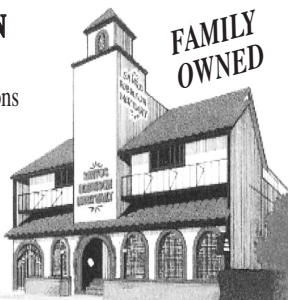
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### Phyllis Jean (PJ) Lewis

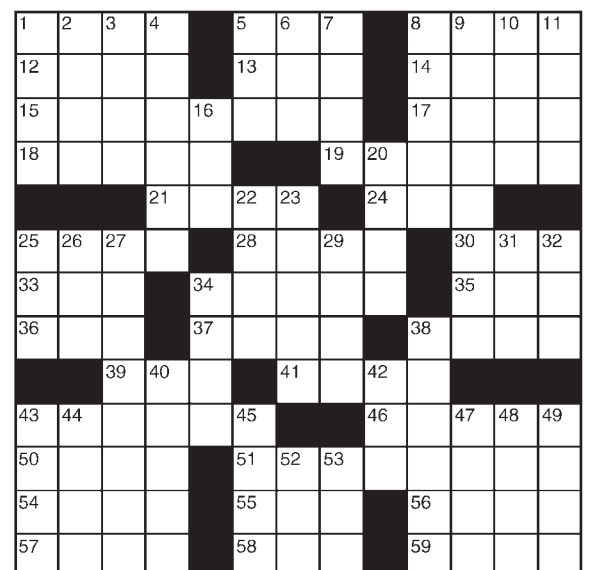
October 24, 1930 - October 27, 2018.

Phyllis Jean (PJ) Lewis, born in Wichita, KS on October 24, 1930, and passed on October 27, 2018.

As a self-described Navy brat, PJ moved around a lot as a child, and graduated from Fortuna High School in 1949. PJ moved to Oakland after graduation, where she met Anthony Lewis while working at Gerber Baby Food as a mail clerk. The two were married in Hayward on June 10, 1951. PJ enjoyed camping and exploring the US with her two sons, Leonard Michael and Kenneth Alan. Never one to follow the norm, for years PJ skipped the traditional method of transportation and rode a 3 wheel Yamaha 125 motorcycle she named Vroomy. PJ loved baking, and participated in many teas with her friends. She was a member of several clubs, including TOPS, where she achieved the KOPS recognition. She maintained her dedication to maintaining her weight loss until the very end. PJ was preceded in death by her husband, Anthony, of 65 years, and her son Leonard. She is survived by her son, Ken, daughter-in-law, Patty, and her grandchildren, Cameron and Kait.

A celebration of Life will be held December 8, 2018 at 3:30 p.m. at New Life Christian Church, 22360 Redwood Road, Castro Valley.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD



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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3



## Sign Up for Boys & Girls Club Basketball

The Boys and Girls Club of San Leandro is taking sign-ups for its Winter 2019 instructional basketball program for all boys and girls in grades 3 through 6. The league begins in January.

The basketball program is designed to give players a fun and competitive experience. Each player is evaluated prior to being assigned to a team so that all teams have a balanced number

of veterans and rookies.

All players are required to play two quarters per game, so all players have an opportunity to be on the court and part of the action.

All practices and games are held at the Boys and Girls Club of San Leandro, 401 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro.

The basketball program fee is \$85 for current "After School"

registered members or \$95 for all others and includes uniforms and awards.

The Boys & Girls Club is also looking for volunteer coaches for the program.

### Thanksgiving Prayer Service

Praises of Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, will have a pre-Thanksgiving prayer service

For more information on the program or if you are interested in volunteering as a coach please contact Ross Lim, at 483-5581 or via e-mail at rosslim89@gmail.com.

on Tuesday, Nov. 20, from 6:30 to 7 p.m., followed by the evening worship service at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

## Applications Available For Home Repair Grants

The City of San Leandro with the Rebuilding Together Oakland East Bay is offering home repair grants of up to \$5,000 for needed improvements including compliance with health and safety standards for need-based residents.

To participate, residents must be homeowners, reside in the home as a primary residence, and meet federal income re-

quirements to be eligible for the program.

Interested applicants can download the program application available online. Completed applications should be sent to Rebuilding Together Oakland East Bay at 520 3rd Street, Suite 109, Oakland, CA, 94607. Rebuilding Together staff will review applications for eligibility.

# 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](mailto: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.

### Doesn't Like Attacks on Political Candidates or by Carl Medford

Editor:

Congrats to Mayor Cutter, returning City Council members and new council person.

San Leandro appreciates that all candidates were willing to step up and serve the City. For those not chosen, please show us that you were willing and worthy of serving by your following actions. The vote shows that the message of "kindness" is the majority view.

We don't like attacks. Statements like "we've knocked off an incumbent" from campaign manager Guillermo Elenes is not in line with San Leandro values. Same for Benny. There is no reason to be surprised that you were at your own party (you booked it) and not at Mayor Cutter's party. I went and it was a very open event. After the results were coming in I am certain you would have been welcomed also.

In that light, it is disappointing that Carl Medford is still enabled by this publication to sow messages that are not in line with San Leandro.

Remember that earlier this year Carl called value-home buyers "sharks," new home buyers "ingrates" and just two weeks ago berated another value-home buyer for his strategy.

Last week Carl Medford gets his very facts on San Leandro just wrong when he says that prices are currently trending down and that "a substantial number of Central County homes have closed under list price."

First, where is "Central County" Carl? Next, take the recent homes list, just 3 inches from your article and look up the listing. I stop after the first 7 since ALL had sold over list and in about a month. September data.

As said before, we don't need to hear from bullies and name-callers like Carl. Maybe someone from the adjoining "Agents in Action" feature could step up to fill this void? Carrie Miles/Laurie Pfohl, and so many others provide valuable San Leandro-based info right to my doorstep with their personal flyers. Let's get you in the paper.

—John Clouston  
San Leandro

### A Word of Thanks from Council Member-Elect Corina Lopez

Editor:

I am honored that you have re-elected me as your Council member. I thank you for your vote and will steadfastly and faithfully serve you in moving forward with our continuing priorities. Together we can work to improve and protect the

things we need in San Leandro.

I am grateful to all those of you that supported this successful campaign and credit you with our resounding victory. As your Council member, I will continue to work hard to make San Leandro a more thriving and vibrant place to live, work, and play for your family and mine. I am at your service and look forward to continuing to work for you in the next 4 years. Thank you San Leandro!

—Councilmember Corina Lopez  
San Leandro

### Longtime Dance Instructor Thanks Recreation Commissioners for Their Support and Respect

Editor:

I have been a contract dance fitness instructor with the San Leandro Recreation Department for over 35 years. I recently attended my second Recreation and Parks Commission meeting and I want to thank Ed Shapiro and Allen Schoenfeld for their support and respect. Not only did Mr. Shapiro remember my group, "The Cherry Bombs" in the Cherry Festival Parade, but he listened to me and offered some viable solutions to my concerns, as did Mr. Schoenfeld. I'm looking forward to the next meeting, gentlemen. Thank you.

—Barb Creamer  
San Leandro

## INQUIRING REPORTER

### Best way to save money?

— Asked around town

Go to the store when something is on sale, and then buy a whole bunch.

**Julie Stensgard**  
San Leandro



Obviously, don't spend too much. Put it into an IRA for retirement.

**Latisha Simmons**  
San Leandro



I take \$20 each month and put it in savings. I have a low income so I look for different brands at the store that are the same thing but less expensive.

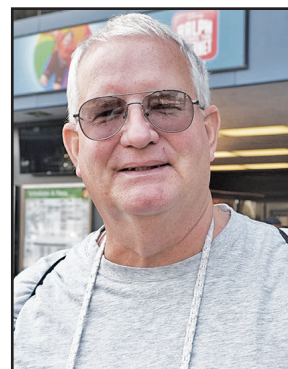
**Tyrone Baxter**  
Oakland



Don't spend it. Just spend what you have to – rent, electricity. I don't save by spending. I eat at home, I only eat out on a special occasion. And these clothes are as old as I am.

**Don Cooper**  
Hayward,

goes to church in San Leandro



I save all my change and put it in a bag and at the end of the year it's a couple hundred bucks. Of course, a savings account. And you save a lot just not buying coffee every day. A latte every day adds up to a couple hundred bucks a month. I pack my lunch and put coffee in a thermos.

**Pamela Fry**  
San Leandro







## Girls Soccer Team Wins Tourney

The SACYSL United under 14 youth girls soccer team for Southern Alameda County Youth Soccer League won the NorCal Founders Cup State Tournament for the first time on Oct. 28.

They beat the top team, Clovis Crossfire United, in a shootout after the match ended in 1-1 tie. Neither team scored in a 5-minute

overtime, so it went to a shootout with five girls taking a shot. SACYSL United made a shot and then SACYSL's goalie blocked the Clovis shot for the win.



The Westgate Center was built in the 1950s as a Dodge assembly plant.

## Popular Westgate Center Sold to ShopCore Properties

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The Westgate Center at 1933 Davis Street has been sold to a retail real estate group for \$87 million, though no change to the existing line-up of stores is anticipated.

Chicago-based ShopCore Properties bought the property in cash from previous owners SKB in late October.

The Westgate Center was originally built in the early 1950s as a Dodge manufacturing plant. In the 1970s it became a Caterpillar tractor plant before being sold and turned into a shopping center in the late 1980s.

Now it's one of the busiest shopping areas in San Leandro with a Home Depot, Dollar Tree, Walmart and other popular shops.

Katie Bowman, the city's economic development manager, said that Westgate is "one of the very top" generators of sales tax revenue for the city.

"It's a net importer of sales

**"The sale is testament to the success of the center."**

— Katie Bowman

tax," said Bowman. "That means it's not all San Leandrans shopping here. People come from other cities to shop."

A few years ago, the empty second floor of the center was transitioned into a manufacturing and office space by SKB, an Oregon-based realty firm.

Today the second floor has been rebranded as "The Gate 510" and houses a 3D printing company, a drone manufacturer, and a food technology company that is bioengineering non-animal based gelatin, among other trendy startups.

The city has been promoting Westgate and Gate 510 as a cutting edge concept: traditional big box shopping combined with small-scale manufacturing in a hipster-friendly atmosphere.

"This sale is a testament to the success of the center," said Bowman. "I'm sure the unique concept factored in."

ShopCore Properties operates shopping centers in 15 states as a branch of Blackstone Real Estate, the largest real estate private equity firm in the world which manages \$120 billion in assets.

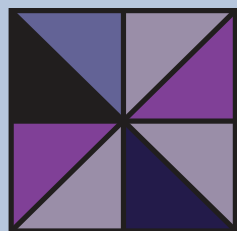
## Call for Vendors For the Holiday Market

The San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St., is taking table reservations for the Holiday Market that will be held on Friday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the

San Leandro Senior Community Center, 15309 East 14 St.

Vendor spaces are now available. Applications are available at the Customer Service Desk at the senior center.

Cost per table is \$25 for residents, \$30 for non-residents and includes one 6-foot table and two chairs. For more information, contact Susan Criswell at 577-6053.



# SAN LEANDRO Connect Monthly



### San Leandro City Council

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter  
Vice Mayor Deborah Cox, District 1

Ed Hernandez, District 2

Lee Thomas, District 3

Benny Lee, District 4

Corina N. López, District 5

Pete Ballew, District 6

City Manager Jeff Kay

### City TV Programming

Comcast Channel 15  
AT&T Channel 99

Check out our new featured videos! Find new content now playing on our City channel or visit youtube



at: [www.youtube.com/cityofsanleandro](http://www.youtube.com/cityofsanleandro).



November 27, 2018 • 6-7:30 p.m.  
Porky's Pizza Palace, 1221 Manor Blvd.

Join San Leandro Police Officers at Porky's Pizza Palace! All dine-in orders only that night will receive a 20% discount.

### Tech Fair & "Appy" Hour at the Main Library

December 8, 2018 • 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Main Library, 300 Estudillo Avenue

Join the City and Tech Exchange at our Tech Fair and Appy Hour. Tech Exchange will be providing free, refurbished computers to eligible participants that are: a) residents of San Leandro, and b) current participants of local social service programs such as CalFresh and discounted lunch programs at the San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD). Tech Exchange will offer computer equipment while supplies last. For more information about this event, contact the Main Library at 510-577-3971.

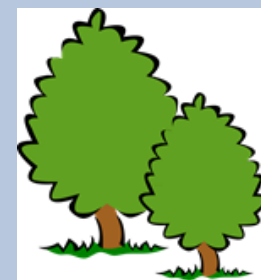
### Housing Rehabilitation Grant Program



Apply Now! The City is offering home repair grants of up to \$5,000 for improvements including compliance with health and safety standards for need-based residents. Residents must be homeowners and reside in the home as a primary residence to be eligible, and meet federal income requirements for the program.

Find application and more information at: [www.rtoakland.org/san-leandro.html](http://www.rtoakland.org/san-leandro.html) or call Rebuilding Together at 510-625-0316 ext. 102.

### San Leandro City Trees



**PLEASE  
HELP US  
PROTECT  
OUR CITY  
TREES!**

The City occasionally becomes aware of illegal removal/trimming of City trees. If you didn't know, any tree planted within the right-of-way (ROW) is considered a City tree. The location of the ROW varies, but is generally located 1-4 feet from the back side of the sidewalk (towards the house). **Residents and their contractors are prohibited from trimming, planting, or removing City trees per San Leandro Municipal Code 5-2-205.** If you see someone other than City Public Works staff working on a City street tree, please contact 577-3440 and help San Leandro maintain our 20+ year 'Tree City USA' designee from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

To receive City Council and Commission agendas and meeting materials, press releases, quarterly newsletters and City sponsored information, you can subscribe at [sanleandro.org/mycity](http://sanleandro.org/mycity).

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