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SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 28 • NO. 21

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Signature Time

Signature gatherers are out getting voters to put propositions on the November ballot, the election-year exercise where we sign a proposition we haven't read and find out just before the election just what in the heck we signed.

DA Candidates Price and O'Malley Square Off at Forum in San Lorenzo

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

In the race for Alameda County District Attorney, Pamela Price is trying to emphasize what sets her apart from incumbent Nancy O'Malley – namely, Price's refusal to accept donations from police unions.

But in nearly every other subject touched on at a candidates' forum this week, the women were in close agreement.

Price and O'Malley met Monday night at the San Lorenzo Library for a forum hosted by the League of Women Voters and Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs. The two alternated answering questions posed by moderator Janice Friesen, a for-

“I will not charge a juvenile as an adult, minority teens face the adult court more often than white teens.”

— Candidate for district attorney Pamela Price

mer Castro Valley school board member, and they often took the same stance on a given issue.

Asked their opinions on trying teens as adults, both said diversion programs to keep young offenders away from prisons are ideal.

Price said that when it comes to deciding whether a youth should be tried as an adult, minority teens face the adult court more often than white teens.

“I will not charge a juvenile as an adult when I am your district attorney or charge a juvenile with life without the possibility of parole,” said Price. “I want to make sure we give kids a chance to make a mistake.”

O'Malley agreed that getting

young offenders back on track to being members of society is important, but said that juveniles receiving harsh sentences is only for “very heinous crimes.”

O'Malley added that in 2016, four teens ended up in the adult court, one a “white guy who lit a woman on fire and then stabbed her when she wouldn't die fast enough.”

In 2017, a juvenile triple rape suspect was charged as an adult and no youths have been charged as adults so far in 2018, according to O'Malley.

On working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) both women said they would protect the undocumented.

see CANDIDATES, page 9

BRT Construction To Finish by End of Summer

AC Transit says rapid bus line won't open until end of 2019

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The AC Transit Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project is 80 percent complete in San Leandro, but don't expect to hop on an express bus until the end of 2019 at the earliest.

BRT construction began in San Leandro in April of 2017 and major roadway and station work will be done by the end of the summer, according to BRT program director David Wilkins.

That's good news to the business along the East 14th northern corridor who have had their sidewalks blocked and parking restricted during the 16-month-long construction project. That includes Angelina's Pizza owner Claudia Norberto who estimated she's lost 15 percent of sales since construction started.

The currently active construction zones in San Leandro are on East 14th Street at Georgia Way and West Broadmoor Boulevard and median work is being done on Durant Avenue.

BRT is touted as “light rail on wheels,” a 9.5 mile route on International Boulevard and East 14th Street between 20th Street in Oakland to the downtown San Leandro BART station. It will feature both median and curbside elevated stations and will replace the existing Line 1 route.

About 80 percent of the route will include dedicated bus lanes

in the middle of the road, but in San Leandro the bus-only lane will go just a few blocks into the city before turning off East 14th

see BRT, page 5

City Council Postpones Parcel Tax

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

The City Council will postpone putting a parcel tax for the police and fire departments on the November ballot, and instead shoot for a special election next June.

The decision came on Monday night after council members discussed a conflict with the school district also planning to put a parcel tax on the ballot this November. There's a better chance of a tax measure passing if just one is on the ballot, council members agreed.

Councilman Lee Thomas said it would be better to put the public safety parcel tax on the ballot next June, and Councilwoman Corina Lopez seconded the motion.

see POSTPONE, page 9

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

DANCE

Balinese dancers to hit the stage tonight. **Page 2**

NEWS

Danville man dies as his Tesla dives into pond. **Page 3**

MEMORIAL DAY

Lone Tree to hold Memorial Day ceremony. **Page 16**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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Pets of the Week



Mary Ann



Officer Hopps

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Mary Ann the cat and Officer Hopps the bunny.

Mary Ann is a 7-year-old love bug who can sit in a lap for hours and loves toys. She's a special needs kitty who's already spayed and ready to go home.

Officer Hopps is a sweet, easygoing bunny who loves fresh greens and hay. She's looking for an indoor home where she can be with her new family and be part of all the activity.

For more information on Mary Ann or Officer Hopps, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 293-7200.

Sign Up for Summer Reading Challenge

Sign up for the all-ages San Leandro Library Summer Reading Challenge, learn about all the adventures going on at the library this summer, then enjoy a sweet treat and games in the summer sun. The ice cream socials will be held on three dates: Thursday,

June 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the South Branch Library, 14799 East 14th St.; Saturday, June 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.; and Monday, June 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Mulford Branch Library, 13699 Aurora Drive.



Balinese dancers will perform tonight at the Main Library to celebrate Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Balinese Dancers to Celebrate Pacific Islands

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

performers tonight (Thursday) from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free.

Established in 2007 in California as a non-profit organization, the Gadung Kasturi Balinese Dance and Music Company is committed to preserve, promote and develop the traditional dance and music of Bali, Indonesia, through live performance, workshops, classes, lectures and publications.

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

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

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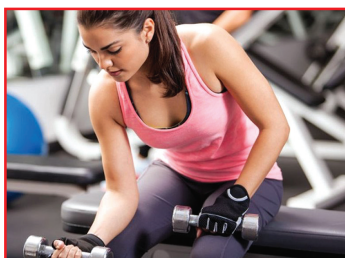
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Buon Tempo Family Dinner

The Buon Tempo Italian American Club will have a family dinner on Tuesday, June 5, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Hall, Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley.

Chef Joseph Sotello and his crew will be serving a 5-course family style dinner of pork chops with mushrooms. Red and white

wine and soda are included. Everyone is welcome. Happy hour is at 6:30.

This dinner is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, June 1, by calling 483-6929. For more information about events and membership, go to www.buon-tempo.org.

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Bake Sale for the Blind

The fourth grade class at St. Felicitas school recently had a bake sale to support the Guides Dog for the Blind organization. Their goal was to raise \$200 and they exceeded it. The class baked all the cookies and they sold out very quickly. Pictured are teacher Mrs. Marcotte and students Abigail Arenas, Janelle Um, Carlo Castaneda, Dylan Valentine, Dominic Kabiling, Emilio Pinones Campos, Dominic Huelga, Ashton Crow, and Gavin Palo.

Man Arrested for Groping Customer at Massage Parlor

A man has been arrested for allegedly inappropriately touching a woman during an unlicensed massage at a San Leandro massage parlor earlier this month.

A female customer entered SK Foot Massage at 215 Estudillo Avenue on May 12 and paid for one 30-minute body massage and one 30-minute foot massage. The customer went into a private room and the female owner of the business gave her the body massage without incident, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

The owner then asked her brother, who is not a certified masseuse and not an employee of the parlor, to give the customer the foot massage.

During the foot massage, the suspect began slowly touching other parts of the female customer's body beyond her feet, Benabou said. The customer became uncomfortable and the suspect became more aggressive and started touching the customer's breasts and private area.

The customer tried to end the service, but the suspect attempted to escort the customer back to the

massage table, Benabou said. The victim again stood up and exited the room after dressing.

The customer went home and called police to report the incident. Officers responded to the business along with the victim, and she identified the man who sexually assaulted her.

Baokai Song, 61, an Oakland resident and contractor by trade, was arrested at the massage parlor.

After review of the case, Song was charged by the Alameda County District Attorney's office with a misdemeanor sexual battery offense. Song was released from custody with a pending court date.

"The San Leandro police department does not tolerate this type of activity within our massage establishments," said Benabou in a written statement. "We take steps to ensure that massage businesses within San Leandro are operating under the law and require that all massage therapists are certified."

The San Leandro police have ordered the business SK Foot Spa to cease and desist operation pending review of their business license in light of this incident.

There are 17 licensed massage businesses in San Leandro and all massage therapists must be certified through the California Massage Therapy Council.

Man Killed Driving Tesla into Pond in Rural Castro Valley

A man driving a Tesla Model S was killed in a single-vehicle car crash on Crow Canyon Road over the weekend, but it is too early to know whether the car's autopilot feature was engaged at the time of the collision.

Keith Leung, a 34-year-old Danville resident, was pronounced dead at the scene after his car was submerged for several hours in a pond on a property on the rural 11000 block of Crow Canyon Road, according to a joint press conference held Monday by the Castro Valley branch of the California Highway Patrol and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Leung, who worked as a chemical engineer, also played in a band and he was last seen Saturday at a performance in Foster City. It is unknown when the car left the road, and the accident was not witnessed by anyone.

Instead, CHP officers responded at just before 8 p.m. on Sunday night when the property owner reported a broken fence and other debris as well as tire tracks that led him to believe a car might have traveled down an embankment and gone into the pond, according to CHP Officer Daniel Jacowitz.

A team of nine divers from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office was called in and took about two hours to locate the vehicle in the large pond, which was filled with underwater vegetation. Leung's body was eventually recovered from the car at around 5:30 a.m. on Monday.

"There was zero visibility in the pond," said Jacowitz.

According to the CHP, the posted speed limit in the curvy stretch of road is 35 m.p.h. and speed may have been a factor in the crash.



Keith Leung was killed when his Tesla left the road and submerged in a pond.

Jacowitz said that Leung would have to have been traveling at a considerable rate of speed to leave the road, break through the fence, and land several yards away in the pond. Jacowitz said that it is too soon to know if drugs or alcohol were factor in the crash but did add that Leung was wearing his seat belt.

Sgt. Ray Kelly of the sheriff's office said that the Tesla being an electric car was a complicating factor in the recovery effort and that the divers and other staff did research before attempting to pull the car out of the pond.

"We have never dealt with a

submerged electrical car before," said Kelly. "After some research, we did what we needed to do to safely get it out. We didn't want one tragedy to lead to another."

Jacowitz said that the CHP will be communicating with Tesla as the investigation continues to see if the car's autopilot feature could have been a contributing factor to the collision.

The autopilot feature was engaged in an unrelated fatal Tesla crash in Mountain View back in March and the autopilot was also on when a Tesla crashed into a fire truck while going 65 m.p.h. in Southern California in January.

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NEIGHBORS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF REV. JUSTIN CANNON

The United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, Travis Brass, performed at the All Saints Episcopal Church in San Leandro. The band is comprised of two trumpets, a French horn, trombone, and a tuba and performed a wide variety of music.

Travis Brass Fills the Pews at All Saints

There wasn't a vacant seat in the house as people from throughout San Leandro and beyond came to hear the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, Travis Brass, perform at All Saints Episcopal Church in San Leandro on the night of April 17.

The evening opened with an arrangement of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and closed with patriotic favorites honoring veterans. Among the audience's favorites were Shadow Catcher composed by Eric Awazen and Four Sketches composed by Anthony Plog, two American composers.

This event was part of an ongoing free chamber music series at All Saints Episcopal Church. A future concert will be held on Tuesday, June 19 at 7 p.m.

More information is available online at www.saintsalive.net. All Saints is the only Episcopal church in San Leandro and welcoming and inclusive spiritual community for all people.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ History Presentations at Bancroft

Bancroft Middle School, 1150 Bancroft Ave., presents *Civilizations of The World* tonight, May 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrate the middle ages as we circumnavigate the globe through scholarly research projects from the 7th grade students. Artistic and musical presentations will delight and astound you, including acts by the California Revels, Ninja and Viking demonstrations, Aztec dance troop, and henna artists.

❖ Balinese Dance & Music at SL Library

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

❖ Program on the Battle of Iwo Jima

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

❖ Alameda County Food Bank Drive

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

❖ Ancestry Day Asian Cultural Center

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

❖ Buon Tempo Club Family Dinner

The Buon Tempo Italian American Club will have a family dinner on Tuesday, June 5, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Hall, Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley. Chef Joseph Sotello and his crew will be serving a 5-course family style dinner of pork chops with mushrooms. Red and white wine and soda are included. Everyone is welcome. Happy hour is at 6:30. This dinner is \$15 for members,

\$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, June 1, by calling 483-6929. For more information about events and membership, go to www.buontempo.org.

❖ 4th Sunday Breakfast for Veterans

American Legion Post 117 will host breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. every 4th Sunday of the month, except on holiday weekends, at the San Leandro Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. The menu will be eggs-to-order, bacon/sausage, hash browns, toast and coffee. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for veterans, and all others. All donations benefit American Legion veteran programs.

❖ SL Library Summer Reading Challenge

Sign up for the all-ages San Leandro Library Summer Reading Challenge, learn about all the adventures going on at the library this summer, then enjoy a sweet treat and games in the summer sun. The ice cream socials will be held on three dates: Thursday, June 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the South Branch Library, 14799 East 14th St.; Saturday, June 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.; and Monday, June 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Mulford Branch Library, 13699 Aurora Drive.

❖ St. John's Luncheon and Fashion Show

A salad bar luncheon and fashion show will be held on Saturday, June 9, at St. John's Church, 264 East Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo. The doors open at 11 a.m. and lunch will be at noon, followed by "Fashions In Time" show with the Goodwill Bags making an encore appearance. There will be a large assortment of delicious salads, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, raffle items including a money tree as well as door prizes and cheesecake for dessert. Tickets are \$20 so bring your friends and family and come enjoy a wonderful time. For tickets or more information, call Eva Lowe at 586-0376.

❖ Eden Japanese Community Ctr. Bazaar

The Eden Japanese Community Center's Annual Bazaar will be on Saturday and Sunday, June 9 and 10, at 710 Elgin St. in San Lorenzo, from 1 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy Japanese food (barbecued teriyaki chicken and rib dinner, sushi, udon, chicken curry and shaved ice), carnival-type games for kids, bingo and a raffle.

❖ Art Demonstration by Shari Benson

Sculpture artist Shari Benson will give a demonstration at the monthly meeting of the Leandro Art Association (SLAA) on Tuesday, June 12, at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Doors open for refreshments at 6:30 p.m., the meeting starts at 7 p.m., and the demonstration will begin at 7:30 p.m. SLAA membership is \$40 per year. Also, meet the artists at the Cherry Festival on Saturday, June 2.

❖ The Eagles Father's Day Brunch

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Eden Auxiliary 1139 will host a special "Before Fathers Day Brunch" on Saturday, June 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagles Hall, 21406 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. Bring that special man in your life, husband, father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather or nephew and join the group for a special afternoon. A variety of foods will be available such as scrambled eggs, ham, bacon, fruit, pasta, breakfast burritos and more. Get your tickets early, reserve by May 30. Adult tickets are \$15, \$9 for Children 10 and under. For more information, call Glenda at 584-1568 or 782-8187.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An apparent act of injustice might turn out to be either an error in judgment or just plain stupidity. So calm down and cool off, and let the explanations roll out.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It's upsetting when someone you trusted might have failed you. But with new opportunities ahead, you'll soon be too busy to feel even a wee bit sorry for yourself.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A sense of uncertainty could be a good reason to change your position on an important matter. Someone close might try to talk you out of it, but it's your decision to make.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Being too zealous in pursuing your goal could create some resistance. Try to be more mindful of what you ask people to do, and they'll be more likely to do it.



LEO (July 23 to August 22) Things change as you go from being ignored to being lionized once again. This is a good time to reintroduce those previously rejected ideas to a more receptive audience.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Someone new in your life creates both anticipation as well as anxiety. Avoid the potential for misunderstandings by watching what you say and how you say it.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Watch your budget so that you don't overspend now and have less to invest when the time is right later on. Arrange to share your weekend with someone special.



SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The temptation to involve yourself in a friend's or family member's personal problems is laudable. But get the facts before you make a firm commitment.



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



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You've reached an important point in your ongoing pursuit of your goals. You might now want to consider letting someone you trust join you on your journey.



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You've been going through a spate of uncertainty involving people you care for. But it might be time to take a stand on a position you feel sure you can defend.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Treading water keeps you busy, but it won't get you where you need to go. Time to stop making excuses and to start moving ahead toward your goals.



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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.



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

Veterans Center Presents Talk On Famous Iwo Jima Photo

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

A panel, including veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima, will discuss the battle and the famous photo, "Iwo Jima Flag Raising," taken by war photographer Joe Rosenthal, who would later be-

come a photographer at the San Francisco Chronicle for 35 years. Rosenthal's photograph of six U.S. Marines raising the flag atop Mt. Suribachi is one of the most recognized and reproduced photographs in history.

The 2-hour program is suitable for all ages and will begin with a short film. The panel will be moderated by Tom Graves, au-

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

For more information contact Addie Silveira at 577-3991 or asilveira@sanleandro.org or David Moragne at 577-3993.

BRT: Hopes to rejuvenate East 14th

continued from front page

Street at Davis Street and heading to the BART station.

The \$213 million BRT project has been in the works for over 15 years. In 2014, AC Transit said the buses would be running by 2017.

Once the construction is complete in San Leandro, AC Transit will finish construction in Oakland and then take several months to organize the new fleet of hybrid buses, schedules, and ticketing systems before passenger service starts late next year, Williams said.

Williams gave a BRT progress report to the City Council on Monday and said there will be a loss of 36 parking spaces along the 1.1 mile BRT San Leandro.

Councilwoman Deborah Cox put a positive spin on that, saying there will be a need for fewer spaces because people will be on the bus, not in their cars.

Mayor Pauline Cutter said that, because each station will have security cameras and bright lighting, she also hopes people will feel safer.

"I hope it will rejuvenate that part of town," said Cutter.

Councilman Ed Hernandez asked the AC Transit officials if BRT might eventually expand its route to the Bayfair BART station, which he would like to see.

"I'm supportive of bringing



AC Transit plans to have a BRT rapid bus line with dedicated bus lanes running from the San Leandro BART Station to downtown Oakland.

mass transit to the masses," said Hernandez.

The AC officials sounded amused at the question, probably because in 2012 plans for the BRT to run all the way to Bayfair with dedicated lanes were rejected by the San Leandro City Council, before Hernandez was on the council.

But Cutter said that there is still a possibility of a Bayfair BRT in the distant future.

"I think once we see the success (of this portion of the project) we shouldn't have too much trouble selling it the rest of the way," said Cutter.

AC Transit also announced that beginning June 17, there will

be expanded services on several regular bus lines in San Leandro and that they will be adding more bus stops in town in the near future, including new stops at the marina and near the Davis Street Family Resource Center.

Of course, it wouldn't be a construction project in San Leandro without a little "not in my back yard" feedback.

Councilman Lee Thomas said that he's heard from constituents near the planned Alvarado/Fremont Street bus stop that they are worried about trash, noise, vandalism, and parking congestion near the stop. AC Transit promised to monitor the stop closely once it opens.

San Leandro Toastmasters Meet Thursdays

The San Leandro Toastmasters meet on Thursday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The group fosters improved communication and public speaking. All levels of speakers from novice to seasoned are welcome.

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AUTOMOTIVE

Taking Your Half out of the Middle

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

The tiny Smart, produced by Mercedes-Benz and sold in selected dealerships, is now offered exclusively as an electric vehicle in the U.S. This slightly larger and much improved second-generation model, introduced a couple of years ago, presents a unique choice in the growing world of EVs.

The Smart looks like a ridiculously stubby egg, but it doesn't feel small on the inside. Although it stretches just under nine feet long, it's 65.6 inches wide and stands a generous 61.2 inches tall.

Mercedes-Benz developed the Smart's tridion passenger cell to be strong against the expected larger other car it would collide with. Smarts fare well in crash tests with their S-Class cousins.

The Smart EV is powered by a 60 kW three-phase electric motor, which puts out 80 horsepower and is rear mounted, driving

the back wheels. That's why the car needs very little nose or tail. A 17.6-kWh battery sits under the seats, centrally mounted for stability. As with other electrics, the Smart has a single forward speed in its automatic transmission.

The car can accelerate capably from a stop, enter the freeway, and keep up in traffic. It's 0-60 time is 11.4 seconds, not fast, but not a complete slug, either.

The Smart comes in two forms—a coupe and a canvas-topped Cabrio (convertible). The only fully electric powered convertible on the market now, the Cabrio draws back its power top in two stages, giving you flexibility as to how open you want to be. You can remove the bars above the doors and stow them in the tiny rear trunk lid. The Cabrio's tiny trunk has room for about four large pizzas.

Inside, the sweeping dash features protruding vents on top, covered in a cloth that's a bit like that found on Nike running

shoes. The concave dash panel is a silvery gray that highlights the center screen that pops out with loads of useful information. The pair of seats are firm and nicely proportioned and wear optional leather in the top-level model.

As an EV should, the Smart provides a gauge showing your battery status – charging or discharging – and a meter for percent of battery charge remaining.

The Smart's small battery is good for just 57 miles of range, making it unsuitable for any kind of extended trip. But that's not the Smart's job. I was able to use it every day to commute to work and back (36 miles), charging only at work during the week. It takes just three hours to fill from empty on a Level Two 240-volt charger and quite a bit longer on household 120-volt.

The Smart is a nifty grocery getter and errand runner, partly because it's fun to drive. The steering ratio is quick, and the 22.8-foot turning radius means you can turn around in the middle of the street in a single loop. The battery provides a low center of gravity, and the 118 lb.-ft. of torque is plenty good for the mini machine.

EPA numbers are 112 MPG City, 91 Highway, and 102 Combined. EPA green numbers are perfect 10s for Smog and Greenhouse Gas.

The Smart comes in three ascending levels: Pure, Passion, and Prime. My Lava Metallic Orange and White tester was the Cabrio with the \$1,000 Prime package, including leather upholstery, heated seats, rain-sensing wipers, light-sensing headlamps,



Short overhangs, a minimal length and a high steering angle are optimal prerequisites for ensuring that the Smart models get around every corner and into every parking space.

foglamps, and fancy lighting features. My car also had the \$200 Climate Package, with a heated steering wheel, automatic climate control, and extra insulation. My car included the optional JBL sound system (\$1,780).

With Destination and Delivery, my little test Smart came to \$32,180, a hefty price tag. However, this car will cost next to nothing to run and service and is packed with extra features. Also, the base Pure model with nothing extra starts at just \$24,700, including destination. You can still get state rebates and federal tax breaks (up to \$10,000 combined in California).

The little Smart feels like much more car when you're behind the wheel. The firm suspension and feeling of durability in the controls adds to peace of mind. Unlike a low-slung sports car, it sits up high, adding to a sense of control and visibility.



Like a nut, the interior is protected from harm by a rigid shell: the tridion safety cell.

The car encourages you to drive gently to save charge and extend your range. Its display screen shows a score for acceleration and anticipation (braking) behavior. I earned 88/100 over the week.

So, who will buy a Smart? With its 57-mile range, it's not

meant for long freeway trips, although it cruises at 70 mph with no problem. It's a perfect third car, designated for commuting and errands. However, despite its charms, there are other small EVs with more space and greater range. And, is anyone actually looking for a third car?

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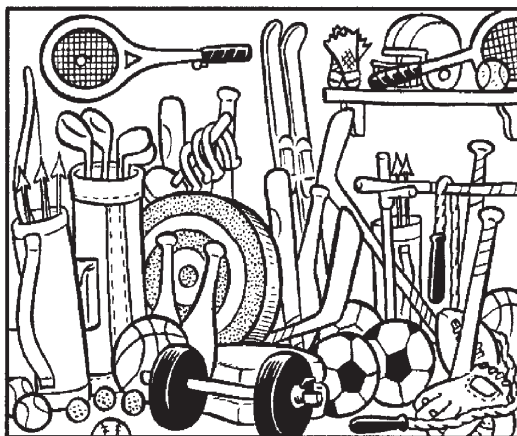
BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Doghouse is missing. 2. Post is missing. 3. Shift design is different. 4. Shift tail is different. 5. Arm is moved. 6. Kite tail is shorter.

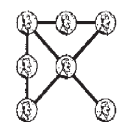


THE COACH IS GIVING the sports locker a spring cleaning. Try counting up every single item in the locker and see if you come up with our total.

Answer: We found 41 items.

A TRICKY CHALLENGE!

Place seven coins on the table and challenge your friends to arrange them in four rows, each row containing three coins. One solution is shown to the right.



LET'S HAVE A "TEA" PARTY! In this puzzle all of the words get progressively longer, and they all start with TEA. The following hints should help:

1. TEA (in place).
2. A hard wood.
3. To enlighten.
4. A tough problem.
5. Fortune-tellers hang out here.
6. A freight hauler.

1. TEA
2. TEA
3. TEA
4. TEA
5. TEA
6. TEA



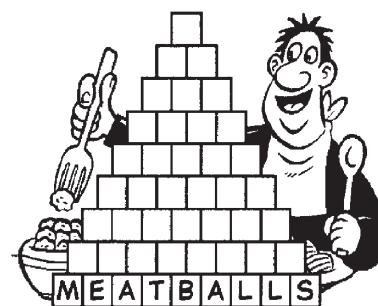
Illustrated by David Coulson

Answers: 1. Tea. 2. Teak. 3. Teach. 4. Teaser. 5. Tearoom. 6. Teamster.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER



Starting with the given word MEATBALLS at the bottom of our word pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so the remaining letters at each level spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with MEATBALLS.

1. Italian treats.
2. To scold sharply.
3. Mexican treats.
4. Found in the ground.
5. Yesterday's bread.
6. Dark bluish-green.
7. To consume.
8. In or near.
9. Your score if you get this far.

Answers: (from the bottom up): Meatballs, lambaste, tames, stale, teal, eat, at, A.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Chronic Overwork Can Negatively Impact Your Overall Quality of Life

FROM AN EARLY AGE, many Americans are taught the value of hard work. The harder you work, our society reasons, the more successful and financially prosperous you will be.

As a result, companies often demand much of their workforce, and a high percentage of Americans work overtime to meet or exceed their business' expectations.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 85 percent of men and 67 percent of women work more than 40 hours a week. The International Labour Organization reports that Americans work longer hours than people in most of the world's developed nations.

But an emerging school of thought holds that many American workers are overworked, and further, that going the extra mile isn't worth it due to higher health costs and other deleterious effects.

"Overworking is overrated," says Jeremy Greenberg, founder of Avenue Group, a firm that

advises executives of Fortune 500 corporations. "We are told to work longer hours, sleep less, and grind. But it's a big misconception to think that this kind of sacrifice leads to success, more money, faster advancement, and happiness."

He says chronic overwork can have very negative impacts on our overall quality of life:

- It can't compensate for business flaws. Putting in another two or three hours a day, while continuing to use the same ineffective ways of doing things, won't solve fundamental issues related to the company's success.

- Whether you're rank-and-file, a mid-level manager or an entrepreneur, there's no guarantee that overworking will save a flawed business model or weak business acumen."

- It distracts from the big picture. Having too much to do often promotes tedium, taking away from valuable time that might otherwise be spent on thinking, creat-

ing, planning, or maybe just taking a breathe.

Business owners have endless to-do lists, but they often get caught up in the day-to-day minutiae or things that are time-intensive and don't have high value. Taking time to rest and reflect is a critical part of being successful in business.

- It leads to health problems. Numerous studies show that overwork and stress can result in all kinds of health issues. Working too hard takes a toll on the brain and the whole body, by boosting stress and inducing bad habits, such as poor eating, reduced exercise, skipping sleep, and relying on too much caffeine. And it lowers performance levels.

"The irony about overworking," Greenberg says, "is you really get less done, accomplish fewer significant goals, and moreover rob yourself of the quality of life that you're presumably trying to attain by working harder and longer."

Deceptive Tobacco Marketing

More than 80 percent of youth who have tried tobacco products started with a flavored product. There are more than 15,500 e-cigarette flavors on the market.

In an effort to combat the tobacco industry's latest marketing strategies aimed at getting youth hooked on nicotine, the State Health Department has launched a new "Flavors Hook Kids" campaign.

The campaign warns parents and concerned adults about the increasing availability of flavored tobacco products targeted to teens and highlights how easy it is for kids to purchase flavored tobacco products online.

"Flavors disguise the harshness of tobacco and make smoking seem harmless, when we know it's not," said State Public Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith. "Innocent sounding e-cigarette flavors like Cherry Crush and Cotton Candy could lead to a lifetime of nicotine addiction."

Also increasing in popularity among teenagers are new e-cigarette devices called "pod mods."



TEENS AND NICOTINE ADDICTION: E-cigarettes are the most common tobacco product used by youth in the U.S.

"We encourage parents to talk to their kids about the significant risks of nicotine addiction and tobacco use – which can impact brain development and cause asthma and respiratory disease," said Dr. Smith. "There's simply no safe level of tobacco consumption, and it is far too easy for teens to get interested and hooked due to the tobacco industry's deceptive tactics."

E-cigarettes are the most common tobacco product used by youth in the U.S. In 2016, 13.6 percent of California high

school students reported using tobacco products, and more than half (8.6 percent) reporting using e-cigarettes, including "pod mods."

Research has shown that minors can successfully buy e-cigarette products online 94 percent of the time.

Free Diabetes Management Classes June 25 - August 13

The Aitken Senior Center at 17800 Redwood Road in Castro Valley is offering a series of free Diabetes Self-Management classes from 1 to 3 p.m. on eight consecutive Mondays, June 25 through August 13.

During the 8-week series attendees will learn "The 7 Self-care Behaviors" – healthy eating, physical activity, monitoring blood glucose, taking prescribed medications, solving problems in unusual situations, reducing the risk of complications, and coping with stress.

Classes are open to those 18 and older who are diagnosed with pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes.

Classes are limited to the first 15 students and are being provided by the County of Alameda Public Health Department's Diabetes Program.

Call 510-881-6738 to register or for more information.

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Candidates: Candidate Price challenging county's status quo

continued from front page

"I would have no involvement with ICE as your district attorney," said Price. "We need to figure out how to support the immigration population."

O'Malley said she currently does not work with ICE and never

"When people talk and have a respectful dialogue, those judgments fall away."

— District Attorney Nancy O'Malley

asks the immigration status of people at the Family Justice Center, a program the county has for victims of crimes like domestic violence and human trafficking.

On police accountability, O'Malley said that building relationships between cops and the community is key to understanding each other.

"When people talk and have a respectful dialogue, those judgments fall away," said O'Malley.

Price said that ousting bad cops will help build public trust.



Candidate for district attorney Pamela Price (left) complained this week about a quote where District Attorney Nancy O'Malley (right) said she would have to be a street fighter to run against Price. "What did she mean when she used the word street when she was referring to me?" asked Price. "I couldn't believe my ears."



"I will hold bad cops accountable for bad acts," said Price. "Trust me, that's what good cops want."

That segued into the discussion of Jasmine Absulin (also known as Celeste Guap), the teen who allegedly prostituted herself to over two dozen members of the Oakland Police and other local police agencies in a scandal that drew national attention to Alameda County law enforcement.

Price is Absulin's former attorney and O'Malley said she exploited the teen when representing her. The initial legal re-

tainer between Price and Absulin not only hired Price as a lawyer, but also gave Price the exclusive option to buy the intellectual property rights to the story and represent Absulin in the media.

O'Malley went on to say that, when she dealt with Absulin during the prosecution of the officers, Absulin's "biggest complaint was against my opponent."

Price countered that O'Malley botched the investigation. Price said O'Malley would have covered for the dirty cops if not forced to investigate when Absulin's identity was made public

after the suicide of one Oakland police officer.

That was pretty much the only point of contention between the two at the forum.

Price ran unsuccessfully for the state assembly in 2014. O'Malley ran unopposed for dis-

"I would have no involvement with ICE as your district attorney."

— Candidate for District Attorney Pamela Price

trict attorney in 2010 and 2014, and she was the first woman to be Alameda County's DA after being appointed to replace Tom Orloff mid-term in 2009.

O'Malley has the endorsements of the entire Alameda County Board of Supervisors, 12 Alameda County mayors including San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter, as well as senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, over a dozen other California district attorneys, and several

police unions.

Price played up her outsider status, saying she'll upset the status quo. She told the story of how she was introduced into the justice system at age 13 when she was arrested for a civil rights protest and saved by mentors who saw her potential. She is a product of the foster care system who made it all the way to Yale and went on to get her law degree

from UC Berkeley.

Price's endorsements include Black Lives Matter founder Alicia Garza, actor Danny Glover, and Our Revolution, San Leandro.

Election Day is Tuesday, June 5. For more information about the election, including sample ballots, voters' guides, and the location of your polling place, visit www.acvote.org.

Sign Up for Boys & Girls Club Basketball League

The Boys and Girls Club of San Leandro is now taking signups for its summer 2018 instructional basketball program for all boys and girls in grades 7 through 9. The league begins in June.

The program is designed to give players a fun and competitive basketball 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 no matter the child's ability

level, they will have a chance to be on the court and be a 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 \$90 and includes uniforms and awards.

The club is also looking for volunteer coaches for the program.

For more information on the program or if you are interested in volunteering as a coach, call Ross Lim, at 566-3305.

Postpone: Teachers and trustees thank council for collaborating

continued from front page

All the other council members agreed, before voting unanimously to move the tax to June of next year and let the school district make its case before the voters this November.

Several council members also said going for the November ballot is rushing things, so it's better to wait until later.

"There's a lot of uncertainty,"

said Councilman Benny Lee

City Manager Jeff Kay says everyone agrees that more money for public safety is a good thing.

In the public speaking segment of the meeting, several speakers encouraged the council to delay the parcel tax, including director of the San Leandro Education Foundation and former school board member Morgan Mack Rose, and former mayor

and school board member Stephen Cassidy.

San Leandro Teachers' Association President John Sherr said he appreciated the collaborative nature of the meeting, as did current school board member Monica Tate.

"Thank you for considering the parcel tax at a later date," Tate said. "We appreciate it very much."

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—Brian C., a Yelper from San Francisco



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- Jeff Rackmil - LCSW, Director, Child & Young Adult System of Care (BHCS)
- Lisa Carlisle - MA, M.Ed, Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Coordinator (BHCS)
- Irene Barraza - MA, LMFT, Behavioral Health and Wellness Coordinator (HCSA)

- 5:45 pm - 6:00 pm Welcome
- 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Alameda County Behavioral Health Services panel discussion
- 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Roundtable discussion / Q&A with teens, families and panelists

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- An overview of Alameda County Health Care Services Agency's Public Health, Behavioral Health Care Services and School-Based Services & Supports for children and youth
- Informational handouts for county- and community-based services to access help and support for children and youth

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Castro Valley Ranked as State's Healthiest Housing Market

Looking for a place to live with a healthy, dynamic housing market? Look no further than Castro Valley.

Ranked by four healthy-housing indicators; stability, risk, ease of sale and affordability, SmartAsset.com places Castro Valley in the No. 1 spot in California.

According to SmartAsset.com, "A healthy housing market is both stable and affordable; homeowners in a healthy market should be able to easily sell their homes, with a low risk of losing money over the long run.

"To find the healthiest hous-

ing markets in the country, we considered the following four factors: stability, affordability, fluidity and risk of loss."

They clarify, "We measured stability with two equally weighted indicators: the number of years people remain in their homes and the percentage of homeowners with negative equity (as homeowners with negative equity are more likely to go into foreclosure).

To account for our second factor, risk, we used the percentage of homes that decreased in value.

To determine housing market fluidity, we looked at data on the average time a for-sale home in each area spends on the market—the longer it takes to sell, the less fluid the market. Finally, we calculated affordability as the monthly cost of owning a home as a percentage of household income in each county and city.

Affordability accounted for 40% of the housing health index, while each of the other three factors accounted for 20%."

While Castro Valley ranks No. 1 in the state, it comes in at No. 42 in the country with an index of 90.07. Southern California's

Cerritos is next, categorized as No. 2 in the state and placing No. 51 for the country (89.25).

The top spot in the USA goes to Depew, NY (100), followed by Huntington Woods, MI (98.7), Munroe Falls, OH (96.97), Pearl City, HI (96.39) and West Seneca, NY (96.33).

Castro Valley's numbers are as follows: Average Years Living in Home: 16.5. Average Homes with Negative Equity: 3.2%. Homes Decreasing in Value: 2.0%. Average Days on Market: 9.2. Home Costs as Percentage of Income: 22.3%.

In contrast, top-ranked Depew, NY's numbers: Average Years Living in Home: 19.3. Average Homes with Negative Equity: 2.9%. Homes Decreasing in Value: 1.5%. Average Days on Market: 34.2. Home Costs as Percentage of Income: 19.0%.

With home prices seemingly escalating out of control, it's good to know we have at least



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Located in the highly desirable Bay-O-Vista neighborhood sits this serene, one-of-a-kind, Mid-century beauty. Built by Berkeley architect Shig Iyama, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath, 1,869-sq.-ft. home embodies peace and tranquility. Enter through the double doors, walk alongside the pond and water rock — and you are instantly transported to a Zen-like sanctuary. Inside the entryway, the Japanese-inspired wood screens and up-lit barrel-vaulted ceilings provide unique and stunning architectural details. The entire back of the home has floor-to-ceiling windows, allowing connection to the private backyard. **Open House Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Offers due Tuesday, May 29, at 10 a.m. For more information, contact the Lovewell Team of Re/Max Accord at 510-351-5555.**



RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

18623 Capricorn Court	94546: \$1,085,000	3 BD - 1,894 SF - 1964
21244 Tyee Street	94546: \$762,000	3 BD - 1,141 SF - 1947
6000 Slopeview Court	94552: \$1,070,000	4 BD - 2,039 SF - 1987
TOTAL SALES:	3	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$762,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,070,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,085,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$972,333

San Leandro

308 Bancroft Avenue	94577: \$710,000	2 BD - 1,376 SF - 1925
90 Begier Avenue	94577: \$650,000	2 BD - 1,028 SF - 1939
14477 Doolittle Drive	94577: \$437,000	2 BD - 865 SF - 1979
921 Frederick Road	94577: \$705,000	3 BD - 933 SF - 1942
532 Lewis Avenue	94577: \$479,500	2 BD - 816 SF - 1925
1923 San Rafael Street	94577: \$1,011,000	4 BD - 1,611 SF - 1948
733 Victoria Avenue	94577: \$800,000	2 BD - 1,166 SF - 1923
1395 Vistagrand Drive	94577: \$1,162,000	3 BD - 2,995 SF - 1958
2485 West Ave 133rd	94577: \$632,000	2 BD - 998 SF - 1941
333 West Broadmoor Blvd	94577: \$640,000	3 BD - 1,598 SF - 1932
1155 Westbay Avenue	94577: \$515,000	2 BD - 1,056 SF - 1925
15014 Andover Street	94579: \$716,000	4 BD - 1,420 SF - 1950
14615 Birch Street	94579: \$701,000	3 BD - 1,096 SF - 1953
1024 Burkhardt Avenue	94579: \$650,000	3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1950
15036 Churchill Street	94579: \$598,000	3 BD - 1,020 SF - 1949
1742 Vining Drive	94579: \$675,000	3 BD - 1,111 SF - 1956
TOTAL SALES:	16	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$437,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$662,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,162,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$692,594

San Lorenzo

15912 Via Media	94580: \$675,000	3 BD - 1,132 SF - 1944
TOTAL SALES:	1	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$675,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$675,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$675,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$675,000

Mortgage Rates Jump to Highest Level in 7 Years

After plateauing in recent weeks, mortgage rates reversed course last week and reached a new high last seen seven years ago.

Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist, says the 30-year fixed mortgage rate edged up to 4.61 percent, which matches the highest level since May 19, 2011.

"Not only are buyers facing higher borrowing costs, gas prices are currently at four-year highs just as

we enter the important peak home sales season," Khater says.

A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 4.02 percent.

Fifteen-year home loans averaged 4.08 percent, up from the previous week when it averaged 4.01 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.82 percent last week, up from 3.77 percent.

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WEEKEND GARDENER

Changeover Season

You won't find it marked on any calendar, but Memorial Day weekend is the changeover season for gardeners. It's time to get everything in the ground without delay. Plant vegetables and annuals from six-packs and 4-inch pots, but start beans, corn and nasturtiums from seed because they don't transplant well. You can still put down a sod lawn, but it's too late to start a lawn from seed.

Planting Bushes & Trees

When setting out containerized nursery stock, fill the hole to the shoulder of the root ball, pack the soil firmly and water. As soil settles, add more as needed to complete the planting and water generously again. Use care in removing plants from containers to avoid breaking the soil ball.

PG&E Trimming Trees to Reduce Wildfire Risks

As part of its effort to reduce wildfire risks, PG&E customers in some East Bay areas will see increased work to prune or remove trees, as well as reduce vegetation and brush near and under PG&E power lines.

This work is being done to enhance fire safety, as a precautionary measure intended to reduce the risk of wildfires and to comply with new state regulations in high fire-threat areas.

New fire-safety regulations, adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission last December require utilities to main-



PHOTO BY JAMES GREEN

PG&E's arborists patrol 134,000 miles of overhead power lines every year.

tain greater minimum vegetation clearances to increase the safety of overhead power lines in high fire-threat areas.

The new standard requires 4 feet minimum distance between trees and power lines in these areas year-round, where previously this was required only during fire season.

In some cases, the 4 feet of minimum clearance is an increase from the previous requirement of 1.5 feet.

"Nothing is more important than public safety, and the safety of our

employees and contractors," said Kevin Dasso, PG&E vice president of Electric Asset Management. "We support the state's effort to develop new fire-threat maps and fire-safety regulations and are working hard to complete this important safety work."

PG&E contract arborists will inspect vegetation for compliance with the new state regulations and schedule any necessary tree work.

During these field inspections, PG&E contractors routinely notify customers regarding work to be performed, including those who

live in areas with the increased clearance requirements.

This may require PG&E to prune and cut back tree limbs or remove trees the company has not previously worked on as part of its vegetation management program.

Inspections and work will occur in the High Fire-Threat District. The first phase is scheduled to be completed by this September.

In addition to the increased clearance work, PG&E will be working in some high fire-threat areas to reduce vegetation and brush near or under its power lines that can act as fuel in case of a wildfire.

This work, part of PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program, will provide access for emergency responders including Cal Fire and local fire departments responding to wildfires. PG&E's efforts will maintain existing fuel breaks and create new ones in some cases. This fuel reduction work will occur primarily in designated extreme fire risk areas.

PG&E inspects and monitors all overhead electric transmission and distribution lines each year, with some locations patrolled multiple times. It prunes or removes some 1.4 million trees annually.

Controlling Voracious Tomato Hornworms

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Last year, I had more tomato hornworms than I've ever experienced in the past. I've been picking them off but is there another method of controlling them? Also, what do they develop into?



The Tomato Hornworm is the larval stage of the Spink or Hummingbird moth. Its life cycle or metamorphosis has four stages.

It begins with the adult female moth laying round, pale green eggs on the leaves of the tomato. The eggs hatch into small, green, caterpillars with a structure or horn on its backside.

In stage 2, the worms grow very large, up to four inches long and have only one purpose — to eat, 24/7. So in a short period, they do lots of damage.

They feed all summer long before they go into the pupa or third stage of their metamorphosis. In September, the pupa drops to the ground and pupae as a hard, brown shell, structure. While they are in the ground, they develop into the adult moth or fourth stage of their life cycle.

In late May or early June, they emerge from the ground to start the cycle all over again.

Besides hand picking them off the plants, there are several other environmentally friendly Hornworm controls. Because of the previous year problem, I would first apply beneficial Nematodes to the soil to control the pupae now.

Beneficial Nematodes are tiny, worm-like critters that hunt, seek, and destroy soil pests including

the Tomato Hornworm pupae and grubs but not earthworms. They are available at your favorite garden center along with the other beneficial insects like Ladybugs, and Praying Mantis.

The worms should start to appear in late June or early July, so be on the lookout for them. Early on, they are found toward the center of the plant. They're located on the undersides of the leaves, and are relatively small.

Look for any leaves that have been chewed or have large holes and or black dropping around the base of the plants. Captain

Jack Dead Bug Brew or Bacillus Thuringiensis; also known as Bt., are two environmentally friendly pesticides that control the worms.

You must make repeat applications about every three weeks as you can have multiple infestations during the Hornworm season because the adult moth will fly in from surrounding yards.

Bt. is specific to worms and gives them a lethal case of stomach flu. The worms continue to feed for a while before they are stricken, so the damage continues.

Captain Jack Dead Bug Brew is a broader pesticide. It will kill on

contact as well as by ingestion. It is the preferred choice if you need an immediate control.

I'd suggest you remove the worms until the population grows

and then spray with Captain Jack Dead Bug Brew.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's

website is www.dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com or on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BuzzBertolero](https://www.facebook.com/BuzzBertolero)

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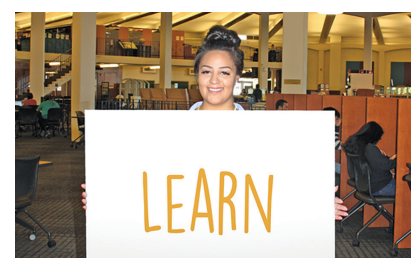
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Hearing Set for June 4 for City's Plan For HUD Funds

A public hearing will be held before the San Leandro City Council on Monday, June 4, at 7 p.m. to consider approval of the city's proposed U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY 2018-2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan.

The City Council of San Leandro is considering the following proposed projects as part of the FY 2018-2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan to be funded with CDBG and HOME funds.

CDBG Funds Available - \$1,044,827 (grant, program income, and unallocated prior year funds)

1. Child Abuse Intervention Services - \$22,260
2. Homeless Prevention Services - \$39,233
3. Senior Support Services/Nutrition Program - \$45,743
4. General Administration -

\$132,982

5. Fair Housing - \$10,000
6. Section 108 Loan Repayment - \$190,635
7. ADA Transition Plan - \$203,974
8. Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation - \$100,000

9. FY17-18 Unallocated Loan Repayment - \$300,000

HOME Funds Available - \$244,691 (grant and unallocated prior year grant funds)

1. Administration - \$13,980
2. HOME Consortium Housing Development Pool of Funds - \$230,711

The Draft FY 2018-2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan has been available for public comment, in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, since April 6, 2018. The City will continue accepting public comments on the plan until 5 p.m., Monday, June 4.

Fourth Thursday Event Returns Tonight

Downtown San Leandro's "Truth Thursdays" will return this summer under at the San Leandro Tech Campus, 1600 Alvarado St., starting tonight (Thursday) from 5 to 9 p.m.

Every fourth Thursday of the month throughout the summer, the space around the 55-foot Truth Is Beauty statue will come alive with a community event featuring food trucks, beer and wine, recreational games, and live entertainment.

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

Dates for the 2018 "Truth Thursdays" series are: Thursday, May 24; Thursday, June 28; Thursday, July 26; and Thursday, August 23.

"The San Leandro Improvement Association is bringing 'Truth Thursdays' back for a second year to provide a safe, fun



Food trucks, music and entertainment will be on hand Thursday evening.

place for the community to gather with friends and family during the summer," said Gordon Galvan, president of the San Leandro Improvement Association. "We welcome all community members and visitors to enjoy food, drinks

and live entertainment under the beautiful Truth is Beauty statue." The San Leandro Improvement Association (SLIA) is a non-profit corporation that's run by a board consisting of property owners, residents, community

members and businesses. The SLIA promotes public safety, beautification, economic development, maintenance and promotions, all while preserving and reviving the historic value of the San Leandro downtown district.

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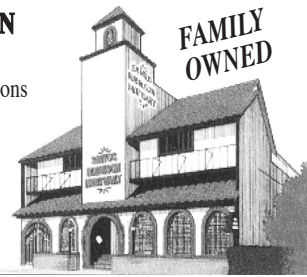
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LOCAL DEATHS

GEMIGNANI, Michelle J.
GORDEN, Christine Marie.
GOLDSBOROUGH Frank C.

■ **GEMIGNANI, Michelle J.**, passed away on May 19, 2018 at the age of 38. She was a graduate of Arroyo High School and worked for Safeway for many years. Visitation will be held at Santos-Robinson Mortuary 160 Estudillo Ave. San Leandro on

Tuesday May 29, 2018 from 12:00 to 8:00PM with a vigil service beginning at 6:30PM. The Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday May 30, 2018 at St. Felicitas Church 1662 Manor Blvd. San Leandro beginning at 10:30AM. Michelle will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Arrangements by Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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DOWN

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- 2 Mound stat
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- 4 Given new energy
- 5 Jekyll counterpart
- 6 Square root of IX
- 7 Astronaut, usually
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- 10 Pasta resembling rice
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- 16 Yoko of music
- 20 Rested
- 21 Uncategorized (Abbr.)
- 22 Met melody
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- 28 Highway division
- 29 Within (Pref.)
- 31 \$50, in Monopoly
- 34 Orison
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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3



LONE TREE CEMETERY'S

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MAY 28th, 2018

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Program begins at 11:00 a.m.

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OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and **must be under 300 words**. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. E-mail letters to: letters@ebpublishing.com or fax to: 510-483-4209, or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Ghirardelli Move Next to BART is 'Best News in Years'

Editor:

I was very excited to hear Councilwoman Cox announce at the recent district meeting that Ghirardelli Chocolate is slated to move into the empty building next to OSI at the BART station.

This is the best news I've heard in years! And, complete validation about what I've been saying all along – that Westlake Urban has built nothing more than an ugly office park next to our BART station instead of some fancy tech center. Ghirardelli Chocolate is the furthest thing from tech there is.

Having the Ghirardelli name next to our BART station and visible by tens of thousands of commuters will actually bring the kind of recognition and cache to our city that we deserve. Ghirardelli Chocolate is a recognizable brand name known the world over. They make a quality product. No one knows what the heck OSI is or what they do.

We were sold a bill of goods predicated on the notion that all these imaginary tech companies would be "flocking" to San Leandro. Since I'm keeping track, the addition of Ghirardelli to the Westlake campus equals a net gain of ZERO businesses to town as both OSI and Ghirardelli are existing businesses.

So, enough talk about San Leandro being the next tech capital of anywhere. We are a blue collar town and hopefully one day seeing the Ghirardelli name in lights downtown will convince our elected officials what Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz" learned long ago,

"If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own back yard. Because if it isn't there, I never really lost it to begin with."

—Gary Langbehn
San Leandro

Council Doesn't Need Consultant To Assess Public Mood on Taxes

Editor:

The City Council is again hiring more consultants to poll us as to whether we want to pay a new parcel tax. Um, how much exactly for consultants, again? Almost \$100,000.

Are they wanting our opinion, or are they pushing us to accept yet another tax?

How about reducing spending? Spend zero on consultants. Let's poll San Leandro in the Times newspaper with an email address for our response. Done. Very little cost.

I am quite tired of cycles in which we are asked to give more and more money for city/county/state services based on our homes and businesses. A big unfunded mandate: Pensions. Past city leaders set these up years ago based on an eight percent return on investments. Then came the recession. They did not plan for that and we cannot keep up. Now we are asked pay for those mistakes?

We are one of the highest sales taxed cities in the country and are facing county measures like Prop A as yet another tax. I want to see the staff recommendations for trimming the budget. The present course is irresponsible and unsustainable. There, I just gave you my opinion on

taxes: No new taxes, cut the budget. And I didn't charge you a penny.

—Corey Anderson
San Leandro

Flat Parcel Taxes Called 'Least Desirable Policy Option'

Editor:

The City Council and School Board may have good reasons for seeking new sources of tax revenue.

Unfortunately, they are gravitating toward the least desirable policy option: flat parcel taxes. These may be appealingly simple to explain, but in practice they levy a proportionally higher rate on those who can least afford to pay.

I voted against Measure B not only because it contained an exemption cynically designed to woo the senior vote, but also because flat parcel taxes are not the progressive tax that we need.

There is an even better alternative. Washington, D.C. instituted a tax on vacant and blighted properties in 2011 which transformed the city. In the short term, absentee landlords and investors bolstered city finances considerably by paying for the externalities of their inaction. Prompted by changes in ownership, a flood of new development and housing then naturally expanded the city's tax base. San Leandro has admirable plans on the books for much-needed higher density housing and commercial development in the downtown core, along East 14th St., and in the Bayfair area. Yet vacant and underutilized properties continue to make redevelopment of these corridors a mere pipe dream.

Rather than ask voters to approve taxes which increase inequality and fail to advance the city's stated goals, the City Council and School Board should consider a targeted vacancy tax as a win-win for residents and the city budget.

—Ben Ball
San Leandro

City Should Ask Police, Firefighters Unions to Fully Fund Pensions

Editor:

The front page of the San Leandro Times on Feb. 15 said "City Unprepared For Looming Pension Cost" because the City has \$210 million worth of unfunded pension liabilities.

I wrote a letter to the editor on March 22 stating that the City Council would then ask the residents of San Leandro for money to specifically cover "our police and fire departments." In the words of the world renowned philosopher and TV's go-to-guy Gomer Pyle "Surprise, surprise."

The City Council now wants to float the idea of adding a parcel tax to help fund these two departments and it "would largely go to police and fire salaries and pensions."

First off, what does "largely go" mean - 51%? Second, Sean Burrows of the firefighters union was the only person who spoke up at the City Council meeting and said that the parcel tax should be put on the November ballot to see if the residents bite.

We all know that the City is operating in red ink and it looks like things will only get worse as time goes on. Here's

my question, has the City Council dared to ask the police and fire unions to fully fund their own pensions? After all, the average salary of a police officer including benefits is \$270,000, ouch! Did you know that the salary of the Vice President of the United States is only \$221,000 so I think the police and firefighters can easily cover their own pensions.

—Brent Heath
San Leandro

Four-Way Stop Needed on Bancroft Before Someone Dies

Editor:

Yesterday our neighborhood was again treated to the sickening sound of cars colliding on Bancroft in front of the Ninth Grade Campus.

We need four-way stop signs to prevent these accidents and near-misses. People entering the intersection at 138th assume there are stop signs on Bancroft, which there aren't. It is a blind intersection with cars parked along Bancroft, some, like SUVs, are too high to see over. Drivers on Bancroft cannot see cars entering the intersection and often are driving too fast to stop.

Common sense says this should be corrected. Does someone have to die before this is fixed?

—Doris Marx
San Leandro

California's Housing Problems Blamed on Democrats

Editor:

The article about the talk by a Berkeley professor ("U.C. Prof Reveals Tech's Flip Side," May 17) states "Yet California and the Bay Area lead the nation in homelessness. A quarter of the Bay Area work force is employed at minimum wage. And only 20 percent of the people in the Bay Area can afford a house today." And then the professor adds "The reason it's gotten so bad is because you oppose new building in your neighborhood."

Just leave it to a Berkeley professor to not see the bigger picture: Even though the NIMBY's are part of the problem, what you must remember in this June's elections is who brought us these problems; it's been mostly the Democrats in Sacramento.

No funds have been allocated to build new affordable housing, while the state has been flooded with illegals. A "Sanctuary state" law has been passed to protect criminals from everywhere who show up in California.

There are even more reasons to thank the Democrats: We're paying the highest price for gasoline, under the guise of fighting the hoax of "global warming." The lottery was instituted under the guise of funding schools, still we see new taxes on the ballot every election under the same fraudulent claim, only to find out that the level of education in this state is one of the lowest in the nation.

We also pay the highest sales tax. Taxes, sales tax, Bonds and all kind of gimmicks are used to defraud the people. Criminals in jail for violent crimes are being released by the Democratic governor by thousands, putting the citizens in danger and discouraging the police from fighting crime.

On June 5 remember all of these niceties that the Democrats have brought us.

—Leo T. West
San Leandro

Veggies a Better Choice for the Grill This Memorial Day

Editor:

What ever happened to the good old

days when the worst things we had to fear on Memorial Day were traffic jams and indigestion?

Folks setting to break out their outdoor grill this Memorial Day face a nasty choice. If they undercook their hamburgers, hot dogs, and chicken nuggets, their family and friends may face food poisoning by E. coli and Salmonella bacteria. The U.S. Meat and Poultry Hotline advises raising the temperature.

But our own National Cancer Institute warns that high-temperature grilling of processed meats produces cancer-causing compounds.

Do we really need to choose between food poisoning and cancer?

Luckily, a bunch of enterprising food

processors have met this challenge head-on by developing a great variety of healthful, delicious plant-based veggie burgers, veggie dogs, and soy nuggets. These products don't harbor nasty bugs or cancer-causing compounds. They don't even offer cholesterol, saturated fats, drugs, or pesticides like their animal-based alternatives. And, they are waiting for us in the frozen food section of our neighborhood supermarket, along with nut-based milks, ice creams, and other dairy-free desserts.

This Memorial Day, let's stay safe on the roads, but let's extend the safety net to our family barbecue grill.

—Dennis Roth
San Leandro

INQUIRING REPORTER

Should sports betting be legal?

— Asked at the Main Library

You're caught in a quandary. If you have gambling, where is it going to end? Being a Christian, I'm against it. California is already off the rails anyway.

Stan Pollmann
Oregon



No, I'm not for it. I think we have enough problems without betting on sports.

Carol Fernandes
San Leandro



Well, people are going to gamble whether it's legal or illegal. So it should be regulated like marijuana.

Enican Nguyen
Oakland



I believe it should be. It brings more money to us. I think it would be great. People are going to gamble no matter what. But I don't gamble, except for the Super Bowl brackets and bingo.

Dorothy Stalls
San Leandro



No, I disagree, because it's going to attract people who can't afford to gamble. It will make it easier to gamble away money they can't afford to lose.

Sheldon Yee
San Leandro



SLZ Adult School to Host Job Fair Next Week

San Lorenzo Adult School's College & Career Service Center will sponsor a job fair on Wednesday, May 30, from 10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. in the school's multipurpose room, 820 Bockman Road in San Lorenzo.

It is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. Applicants

will apply for open positions directly with employers.

This event will showcase the school's new college and career readiness curriculum in support of students living sustainable lives, and is provided as a support service to current San Lorenzo Adult School students.

San Lorenzo Adult School has been serving the San Lorenzo community for 55 years, providing students with English language learning skills, community-education classes and high school diploma completion opportunities. For more information, contact pjetson@slzusd.org.

Deputy Superintendent Mucetti To Lead Napa Valley School District

The San Leandro Unified School District announced last week that Deputy Superintendent Rosanna Mucetti has accepted the job of Superintendent of the Napa Valley Unified School District.

Mucetti came to the San Leandro schools in 2013 after having worked in the Hayward and San Jose school districts. She led instructional programs, supporting innovation and technology, and was the district's chief negotiator in union relations with the teachers' union, the



Rosanna Mucetti
district said.

Superintendent Mike McLaughlin wished Mucetti well

and said she has been a tremendous leader for SLUSD who has strengthened relationships with principals, teachers and families.

"It's been a pleasure and an honor to work alongside the many passionate and talented professionals across the SLUSD district," Mucetti said.

School board member Monique Tate said Mucetti's new role underscores the caliber of leadership in the San Leandro Unified School District.



Memorial Day Ceremonies At Lone Tree, on Hornet

Lone Tree Cemetery

Lone Tree Cemetery, 24591 Fairview Ave in Hayward will host its 115th Memorial Day program this Monday, May 28, with a Huey landing that morning.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with donuts, juice and coffee and by the Hayward Municipal Band. At 10:45 a.m. a restored Vietnam-era Huey helicopter will fly over and land in the cemetery.

At 11 a.m. the program begins with entertainment from the nationally famous "Anthem Artist" Joe Everson singing his unique version of the National Anthem.

State Senator Bob Weickowski, Assemblyman Bill Quirk and Hayward Mayor Barbara Halliday will also be on hand.

The keynote speaker this year is Brigadier General John P. Lawlor Jr. the Deputy Commanding General of the 63rd Regional Support Command.

Visitors are also encouraged to visit our Alameda County Peace Keepers Memorial and our recently dedicated Gold

Star Families Memorial to your respects.

The Golden Gate Young Marines and Boy and Girl Scouts will assist in the flag ceremony, and the Hayward US Naval Sea Cadets will greet guests as they arrive and direct parking. After the program concludes, enjoy a hamburger or hot dog. There is no charge to attend this community event. Spending some time at Lone Tree Cemetery on Memorial Day is a great way to honor those that have served, and continue to serve our nation.

U.S.S. Hornet

A Memorial Day Ceremony will be held on the hangar deck of the USS Hornet at Alameda Point on Monday, May 28, at 11 a.m.

The half-hour ceremony will be followed by a wreath toss off the fantail. Stay for the rest of the day for various activities, meet veterans and tour the ship either on your own or with a docent-led group.

The Hornet's museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General

admission applies – adults \$20, children \$10, students, seniors and military \$15. Free for veterans and museum members.

Golden Gate National Cemetery

A Memorial Day Ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. at Golden Gate National Cemetery, 1300 Sneath Lane in San Bruno, following a band concert that starts at 10:30 a.m. to honor of those who have died serving in the U.S. military.

The graves will be decorated with 113,000 American Flags which will be placed over the weekend by 3,000 Scouts, veterans and other volunteers.

Speakers will be Admiral John M. Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations; Madge Fordyce, "Rosie the Riveter" worker during WWII. Also featuring San Andreas Brass Band, vocalists, bagpiper, Gold Star family wreath laying, U.S. Coast Guard Color Guard, rifle salute by 31st Regiment, U.S. Volunteers.



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San Leandro Sports Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations for 2018

The San Leandro Sports Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2018 class of the San Leandro Sports Hall of Fame in four categories:

1. Athlete: at least five years after graduation from high school.

2. Coach: a former athletic coach, instructor, or trainer whose accomplishments merit recognition, who has been inactive as a coach, instructor or trainer for three years.

3. Contributor: An individ-

ual who has made outstanding contributions to athletics in some capacity other than as an athlete or a coach.

4. Team or Club: an athletic team or club that has distinguished themselves above and beyond normal standards: undefeated seasons, league championships and state tournament appearances.

The induction ceremony will be held on Oct. 19 at halftime at a San Leandro High football game at Burrell Field. Tickets for the ceremony and pre-game dinner will go on sale in July.

To nominate a candidate for the San Leandro Sports Hall of Fame or for more information, visit www.slsfi.org or call 895-1918.

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