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WHEN THE WEATHER TURNS COLD 4

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FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

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SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY MICHAEL SINGER

About 45 to 50 professional women firefighters from around the country took part at the Alameda County Fire Department training facility in San Leandro this past weekend.

Fire Women Train in San Leandro

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Female firefighters from across the country came to a two-day, hands-on training this past weekend in San Leandro where other seasoned female firefighters trained them in an encouraging, safe, and supportive environment.

About 45 to 50 professional women firefighters and volunteers from the Bay Area, Los Angeles, Washington state, Alaska, and Texas took part at the Alameda County Fire Department training facility in San Leandro. They trained in small groups and sharpened their skills in fighting a live fire, removing people

from car crashes, and other rescue situations.

The event, entitled "Women and Fire," is held every other year and typically is hosted in Washington state. This year, several Bay Area agencies expressed interest, and the Alameda

see FIRE, page 11

Bridge and Road Fixes to Take a While

Haas Avenue Footbridge replacement to take 3 to 5 years; Lake Chabot Road repair won't be until at least next year

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

San Leandrans should not expect either Lake Chabot Road or the Haas Avenue pedestrian bridge to be usable this winter, residents found out at a community meeting held at the San Leandro Main Library last Saturday.

Nor is there a firm date for when either would reopen, city officials said.

The meeting was called by District 1 City Councilmember Celina Reynes, joined by City Manager Fran Robustelli and Sheila Marquises, city engineering and transportation director.

Public safety and police reform were also discussed at the meeting. It was also announced that the city's first Navigation Center for the homeless is nearing opening.

Marquises estimated that it could be three to five years before the Haas Avenue footbridge is rebuilt. It is currently in the demolition phase, she said, and funding is still being sought for the project.

There is no construction plan for the footbridge yet,

though the city does have the original plan from when it was first built in 1973, she said.

Lake Chabot Road is also far from being fixed, city

see BRIDGE, page 11

Chamber Appeals To Mayor On Crime

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Crime is no longer just a topic of conversation in San Leandro.

It's threatening the survival of businesses and the city as a whole, according to the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber of Commerce President Emily Griego recently sent a letter to the mayor and City Council where she

see APPEALS, page 12

Police Oversight Board Lacks Student Interest

Board to broaden parameters to allow more young members

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

San Leandro's Community Police Review Board (CPRB) will be operating without student input for the time being after the City Council delayed a decision that could have reduced the number of members on the CPRB from nine down to seven.

At the September 16 meet-

ing, the City Council voted 5-0 (with council members Bryan Azevedo and Pete Ballew abstaining) to change the rules to allow "ex-officio" residents between ages 14 and 22 to be nominated to the board. This means they could attend meetings but wouldn't be subject to the training requirement, wouldn't affect the majority or quorum, and wouldn't have

a vote.

The council also asked that the CPRB evaluate how they would like to be involved in future selections of applicants.

The council was asked to help sort out the staffing conundrum after the CPRB had been without a student voice since January. Two students were selected from an original pool of 50 applicants and un-

derwent the two-step vetting process last summer.

But at the last minute, one of the students withdrew from the board. Deputy City Manager Eric Engelbart said the other student resigned because they moved away for college.

"Since that time, the city has continued to make ongoing robust recruitment efforts

see BOARD, page 5

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GARDENING

Keystone plants help the birds and butterflies. **Page 3**

VETERANS

Veterans Center to host program on Vietnam War. **Page 5**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



Flounder



Sebastian

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are both young dogs, Flounder and Sebastian.

Flounder is a 5-month-old Queensland heeler mix. He is looking for a home that can cater to this poor puppy that is under socialized. Flounder would do best in a home with

teens and up.

Sebastian is a 6-month-old Chihuahua mix. He is a goofy boy looking to be the center of attention, and have fun. Sebastian would do best in a home with older kids.

To adopt or meet Flounder or Sebastian, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.



PHOTO BY SCOTT FAUST

The Washington Manor basketball team won the Middle school championship last month.

Washington Manor M.S. Wins Title in Basketball, Cross Country

By Scott Faust
Special to the Times

Washington Manor Middle School is celebrating an unprecedented pair of fall

league championships – in varsity boys' basketball and sixth-grade girls' cross country – and neither came easy.

The basketball team won its first SACMAL (Southern Alameda County Middle Athletic League) championship in 13 years on Oct. 12, and the day before, sixth-grade runner Kaitlyn Starke led her team to victory by placing first ahead of 63 other East Bay runners.

In the basketball championship, the Wolves mounted a late-game comeback against Itliong-Vera Cruz Middle School (IVC) of Union City, winning 42-36 at the Arroyo High School gym. The victory brought their season record to 11-2 and matched the squad's junior varsity championship a year before.

"Right after the game, I told them how proud I was of them as a group," said head coach Gerardo "Jerry" Delos Reyes, in his 15th year. "When we needed this win, we did it, and everybody on this team won it for us because during the season and in practice, everybody pushed each other."

Washington Manor made it to the title game by beating John Muir Middle School of San Leandro in the playoffs on

Oct. 5 and Creekside Middle School of Castro Valley in the finals on Oct. 10.

The team is looking forward to a school ceremony for placement of their championship banner on the wall of the Washington Manor gym, when a cross country banner will also be added.

Delos Reyes, who works as an information technology technician for the San Lorenzo Unified School District, told his players, "For you eighth-graders who are moving on, if you should ever come back in this gym, you will look up there and say, 'That was my team.'"

Cross Country

In cross country, Kaitlyn Starke capped a competitive debut season by winning her first race when it really counted, in the championship meet at Newark Junior High. She overtook a girl from IVC within 200 feet of the finish and completed the one-mile course in 6:54.

Her sixth-grade teammates were Andrea Gascon, who placed fourth as an individual; Kaedance Yanez, ninth place; and Inaya Ansari, 29th.

In the girls' junior varsity see MANOR, page 5



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Community Calendar

Veterans Resource Center Program on Vietnam War

The Veterans Resource Center at the San Leandro Main Library will host a Veterans' Day event on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Viet Nam War, a conflict that greatly affected American society and the lives of millions. It will be an opportunity for the community to come together and demonstrate gratitude for the courageous men and women who have served our nation.

Hill and Valley Club Scholarship Bazaar

Hill and Valley Club, 1808 B Street in Hayward, will hold its annual Scholarship Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will feature collectibles, jewelry, beautiful handmade items, holiday decorations, gift baskets, candy and baked goods, plants, books, bargains, and more. Proceeds provide scholarships for local students. Plenty of parking is available. Cash, checks, and credit/debit cards accepted.

SL Church of Christ Workshop on Anxiety

"Hope for the Anxious Person" is a free workshop put on by Pepperdine University's Boone Center for the Family. It will run from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the San Leandro Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur Blvd., on Saturday, Nov. 4. This workshop will empower you with tools and strategies to help you understand and grow through anxiety in your own life or in the lives of those you love. (Material is built on a foundation of theology and Restoration Therapy.) Entry is off the back parking lot on Lewis Avenue.

American Legion Post 117 Veterans Day Ceremony

San Leandro Post 117 of the American Legion will hold a Veterans Day ceremony at the San Leandro Senior Community Center 13909 East 14th St., on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. Post 117 invites everyone in honoring all those who have served in the military.

Soroptimist International Annual Holiday Boutique

Visit the 18th Annual Holiday Boutique benefiting Soroptimist International of the East Bay at the Hill and Valley Club, 1808 B Street in Hayward, on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The boutique supports women and girls in our community to achieve education and economic independence. You'll find handcrafted gift items, holiday decor, hats, jewelry, woodworking, knitted and crocheted items, handmade pottery, pampered chef, Tupperware, and much more. Refreshments will be available.

Alta Mira Club Community Boutique

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host its Annual Community Boutique on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10 and 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. White Elephant stage tables, opportunity drawing/gift table, unique handmade items presented by many popular vendors and Alta Mira members.

San Leandro Garden Club Sale

The San Leandro Garden Club will be selling plants and previously owned jewelry on the porch at the Alta Mira Clubhouse, 561 Lafayette Ave., San Leandro on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10 and 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Garden Club's sale on the porch will be on the same days as the Alta Mira Club's Annual Community Boutique inside.

International Bible Church Program for Veterans

International Bible Baptist Church, 15963 Marcella St. in San Leandro will host a special program with gifts for veterans on Sunday, Nov. 12, from 10 a.m. to noon. The Veterans Sunday program will honor veterans who have served out country. Hosted by IMOMS: IBBC Moms of military men and women.

American Legion Post 649 Monthly Meeting

American Legion Post 649 in Castro Valley meets on the last Monday of every month at 1800 (6 p.m.) for dinner, followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20385 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. For more information, call Jim Smith at 510-305-2280.



A honey bee lands on an aster. Learn how to create a restaurant in your garden for bees, birds and butterflies.

Gardening with Nature; Grow Keystone Plants

Learn how to grow California "keystone" plants in your garden or on your balcony to save butterflies, moths, bees, and birds from decline at the Homegrown Habitats San Leandro fall event at Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd., on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, in the library's Program Room. Presentation and Q&A with Jennifer Dirking, patio native garden tour, native seed giveaway. Rain or shine. Presented by Homegrown Habitats San Leandro, sponsored by the City of San Leandro, Office of Sustainability.

SL Historical Society To Host 2nd Annual Trivia Bee on Saturday

The San Leandro Historical Society is hosting its 2nd Annual Trivia Bee Event this Saturday, Nov. 4, from noon to 2:30 p.m. at the historic Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro.

Doors open at noon, lunch and a meeting start at 12:15 p.m., and the trivia bee starts at 1 p.m.

An option for pizza and salad lunch is available for \$5 if purchased in advance. Lunch for those who pre-purchased lunch tickets will be available during the meeting, which will offer an overview of the Historical Society in 2023.

The interactive trivia bee uses historical photographs to ask questions about San Leandro history. The presenter will provide more information about each topic.

Local history pros get to share their knowledge. Newbies enjoy learning some San Leandro stories, and everyone has fun discovering San Leandro history.

The Historical Society rented the historic and beautiful Alta Mira Club/Peralta House, the oldest building in San Leandro, for the event. Participants will have an opportunity to explore the building after the Trivia Bee. The address will be provided with your registration confirmation.

Register for this free event (purchasing the \$5 pizza and salad ticket if you would like lunch during the meeting) at www.sanleandrohistory.org/events.

Email: sanleandrohistory@gmail.com for more information or leave a message at 510-969-0975.

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Announcements

San Leandro History Museum Documentary Series for Native American Heritage Month

The San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., is hosting free documentary screenings on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in November (excluding Thanksgiving) to celebrate Native American Heritage Month. November 1 and 2: "History of Native California" by Humboldt State University PBLC. November 8 and 9: "Ohlone People Survivance to Thrivance" by Kanyon Consulting. November 15 and 16: "Archaeology, History and Heritage of the Muwekma Ohlone" by Los Altos History Museum. November 22: "Interviews and Photography from Reclamation: Resilience of the Muwekma Ohlone" by New Museum Los Gatos. November 29 and 30: "The Colonizers Among Us" by Chairwoman Charlene Mijmeh TEDx Berkeley. No registration is required. Please email Dylainie Nathlich, Museum Curator at dnathlich@sanleandro.org for more information

Bay Area Family Church Talk on Education

The Universal Peace Federation - Northern California Chapter presents "Education for the 21st Century: the Challenges, the Moral Dangers and Innovation with guest speaker Dr. Frank Kaufmann, president of the Settlement Project, on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Bay Area Family Church, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro. Kaufmann is editor in chief of the New World Encyclopedia and president of the Professors World Peace Academy.

Mistletoe Madness Accepting Vendors

Mistletoe Madness is accepting vendors for the 2023 show of handcrafted items for sale that will be on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. To register or for more information, visit www.mistletoemadness.net.

San Leandro Toastmasters Meets Every Thursday

San Leandro Toastmasters meets every Thursday from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. online through Zoom. Email sanleandrotm@gmail.com for more information. Also, the Toastmasters meet in person at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on the last Thursday of every month from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Hope Hospice Webinar on Medicare

Hope Hospice's Family Caregiver Education Series presents a webinar forum on Medicare, the federal health insurance program for people age 65+ and those with disabilities on Thursday, Nov. 9, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., followed by a question-and-answer session. Jenny Pardini, Community Education Coordinator from Alameda County's Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), will provide basic information about Medicare coverage and options for supplementing. She will also share information about the changes that will be implemented in 2024 for both Medicare and Medi-Cal (Medicaid). This webinar is presented over Zoom. To register and obtain the meeting link, visit: HopeHospice.com/family. For more information, call Debbie Emerson at 925-829-8770.

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Cold, Autumn Night? There's a Soup for That!



As the days get shorter and nights get colder, it's time to get that kettle of soup simmering on the stove top.

VEGETABLE BEEF & BARLEY SOUP

- 1/2 pound extra-lean ground beef
- 1 (14.5 oz) can stewed tomatoes, undrained, cut up
- 1 (14 oz) can beef broth
- 1 (8 oz) can tomato sauce
- 1 cup frozen mixed

vegetables (from 1-lb bag)
1/3 cup uncooked quick-cooking barley

In a 3-quart saucepan, cook ground beef over medium-high heat, stirring frequently, until thoroughly cooked; drain.

Stir in remaining ingredients. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat to medium; cover and cook 10 to 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are tender. Serves 4.

PORTUGUESE KALE SOUP

- 1 Spanish onion, diced
- 1 pound linguica, sliced
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 pound tomatoes, peeled and crushed
- 1 pound potatoes, diced
- 1 pound mixed kidney beans and navy beans cooked
- 96 ounces beef stock
- 1/2 pound cabbage, chopped
- 1/2 pound kale, chopped salt and pepper

In a large sauce pot or Dutch oven, sauté the onions and carrots in the butter until the onions clear. Add the tomatoes and linguica and cook for 5 minutes more. Add the potatoes, cooked beans, cabbage, kale, and beef stock. Add salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil and simmer until the potatoes are cooked about 30-40 minutes.

BROCCOLI-CHEDDAR SOUP

- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups low-fat milk or original-flavored soy milk
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1-1/2 cups shredded sharp Cheddar cheese (6 oz.)
- 3 cups bite-size broccoli florets
- Popped popcorn, if desired

In 3-quart saucepan, heat oil over medium heat. Stir in onion, flour and salt. Cook 2 to 3 minutes, stirring constantly, until onion is soft.

In small bowl, stir milk and cornstarch with wire whisk until smooth. Gradually stir into onion mixture. Cook 5 to 6 minutes, stirring frequently, until thick and bubbly. Stir in cheese. Cook about 3 minutes, stirring frequently, until cheese is melted. Stir in broccoli. Cook about 1 minute or until hot, stirring occasionally. Serve topped with popcorn, if desired. Serves 6.

CREAMY WINTER TOMATO SOUP

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 small onion, peeled and finely chopped
- 3 medium cloves garlic, peeled and minced
- 1 28-ounce can peeled and diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 (8-3/4 ounce) can garbanzo beans, undrained
- 1-1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano, crushed
- 2-1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 3 plum tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped
- Freshly ground black pepper

In a medium-size pan, heat olive oil over medium heat. add onion and garlic; sauté for 5 minutes. Stir in undrained tomatoes and garbanzos, broth, rosemary, oregano, basil, and sugar. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes.

Remove cheese rind and, with a slotted spoon, put vegetables in small batches in a blender; purée until very smooth. Stir purée back into liquid with plum tomatoes. Heat through on low heat. Adjust seasonings and serve. Serves 4.

CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP

- 8 ounces fresh mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons onions, chopped
- 1 -2 garlic clove, minced
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 -3 tablespoons flour (separated)
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

Cut the mushrooms into slices. Melt butter in large frying pan. Add in onions, garlic, and mushrooms. Cook until onions are soft. Blend in 2 tablespoons flour and stir. Add in the chicken broth and heat until slightly thickened while stirring frequently. Stir cream with additional 1 tablespoon flour and seasonings. Add in cream to soup. Heat to thicken while stirring frequently. Serves 6.

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PHOTO BY SCOTT FAUST

The Washington Manor sixth-grade girls cross country team overcame the odds for a winning season.

Manor: Runners finish strong

continued from page 2

race, WMMS seventh-grader Camilja Tejada placed fifth out of 60 runners.

Starke, who discovered her speed while practicing for soccer, said that during the race she could see that the runner ahead of her was tiring, and she still had enough energy

for a kick.

"I decided to sprint so the girl behind me couldn't catch up," she said. "I was able to sprint in front to finish first."

Cross country coach Eduardo Altamiro said the sixth-grade team's accomplishments are especially impressive considering they only had four

total runners, compared to larger schools with scores of runners.

Despite those odds, Altamiro said he knew Starke had a chance to win it all: "Going in, I told her, 'You are for sure going to be top-three. Just go out there and do your best.'"

Board: Trying to fill board seats

continued from front page

to try to refine other students to replace them and serve as successors," Engelbart said Monday. "It's been a very challenging process. And the other variable with all of this is that those student vacancies have demonstrable impacts on the operations of that board."

The CPRB and independent police auditor (IPA) positions were created last year in response to the April 2020 police-involved shooting death of Steven Taylor at the Walmart store on Hesperian Boulevard.

The 9-person board is tasked with reviewing and providing comments to the police chief and city manager on San Leandro Police Department policies. The CPRB is also responsible for receiving complaints from the public, issuing public reports, and participating in the hiring process for future police chiefs. At the time of its formation, the council decided that student input on the CPRB would be critical.

Each council member is allowed to include a member from their district with an at-large member appointed by the mayor, bringing the number of CPRB members to seven. The last two board members

were to be students between the ages of 18 and 22.

With only seven members remaining, the CPRB recommended the city broaden its parameters and convert the student seats to "at-large" appointments with the intent to nominate young San Leandro residents even if they were not students. Two other options considered included removing the two student seats altogether or converting the two student seats to "ex-officio" status.

And while most San Leandro boards and commissions have nine members, with the mayor able to appoint three at-large positions, members of the public, including three CPRB members speaking as individuals, requested that Mayor Juan González not be allowed to appoint the empty positions for fear of overreaching influence.

"While the mayor evidently has authority to make multiple nominations for other boards and commissions, that is not compelling precedent. The CPRB was deliberately structured differently," said San Leandro resident Bob Bailey. "A balanced and diverse representation was the original intent of the CPRB. Allocating three of those positions to the mayor skews that balance and

unduly politicizes the composition of the board."

The CPRB is expected to bring up the issue at its next meeting and report back to the City Council on its findings soon after.

Support for India

In other city business, the council voted 7-0 to approve a resolution condemning violence against the Kuki Christian community in Manapore, India.

In May, a conflict between the Christians and the Hindu Meitei community resulted in the forced displacement of 70,000 people. According to the resolution, the Hindus reportedly killed over 170 people and led to the burning of an estimated 350 Christian churches and 4,800 homes.

Over the last month, several people have spoken during the public comment section of the City Council meetings to call attention to the situation. A draft resolution was presented Monday and approved.

The city will now send letters to local federal representatives, including Barbara Lee, Nancy Pelosi, and Eric Swalwell, asking them to advocate for the protection of religious freedom, and the preservation of human rights in Manapore, India.

SENIORS

Seniors: Administering Trust is Not Necessarily a Simple Task

Q. My mother recently died. Her home, bank accounts and other assets were held in a Living Trust. Her financial advisor said we should now see a lawyer to help with trust administration. This surprised me. I thought if you had a Living Trust that there was little or nothing to do following the death of the trust-maker? Is that not so?

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
Special to the Times

A. Your mother's financial advisor is correct. One of the most common misconceptions among those who have established a Living Trust is that there is little or nothing to do following the death of the trust-maker. In fact, depending upon the nature of the assets, there is often quite a bit to do.

Think of it this way: many people create Living Trusts in order to avoid a formal probate proceeding, which many people correctly understand to be a cumbersome, time-consuming process overseen by a judge in court. By comparison, administering a trust following death involves many of the same processes, except that it is controlled by a trustee in an out-of-court process called trust administration. A probate is a public proceeding, while administering a trust is typically private.

While everyone's situation is different, here is a partial list of things that need to be done during a typical trust administration:

Prepare a formal, written notice to beneficiaries and heirs in compliance with the Probate Code;

Identify and protect decedent's assets;

Give formal notice to government agencies: Medi-Cal, FTB, IRS;

Prepare trust accounting, if required by the terms of the trust;

Obtain appraisals: for tax purposes and for distribution purposes;

Lodge decedent's Will with the Court in the County of Decedent's Domicile;

Ascertain and pay creditors;

Deal with any Medi-Cal Estate Recovery Claim for benefits received by the Decedent

Resolve disputes among beneficiaries;

Take title to real property in trustee's name;

Upon distribution, re-transfer title to beneficiaries;

Assist with Non-Pro Rata Distribution of assets where appropriate;

Where necessary, arrange interim funding from special lender to assist with Non-Pro Rata Distributions;

Deal with Property Tax Issues, such as "Prop 13" & recently enacted "Prop 19";

Handle sub-trust funding if required by the trust;

File fiduciary income tax returns where necessary;

Assist accountant to file estate tax returns for larger estates or to elect portability for the surviving spouse to preserve the estate tax exemption;

Arrange care for pets.

Sometimes there are problems with a trust which need to be corrected by either (1) seek-



ing a court order to modify the trust, or (2) via the recently enacted Decanting Act, wherein some trust changes may now be handled by an out-of-court process. One example of the need for change might involve a trust prepared years ago, when tax laws were different, which should now be revised to comport with new tax law. Another example: where a trust leaves assets to a beneficiary who is now disabled and receiving public benefits (such as SSI), and whose bequest should, instead, now go into a Special Needs Trust for his benefit so as not to disturb the continuation of those benefits.

While the rules regarding trust administration are generally more relaxed than those governing a probate proceeding, nevertheless it is wise for the successor trustee to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in these matters so that he or she can be properly advised, avoid tripping over legal requirements, minimize family disputes and avoid creating liability for themselves.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney who has been helping East Bay families for over 30 years with Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Medi-Cal Planning, and related matters. Visit: LawyerForSeniors.com, or call (510) 247-2555.



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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



HUD Provides New FHA Guidelines for ADUs

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Forum

As California has loosened zoning regulations concerning ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units) to help alleviate the statewide housing crisis, units of various types have begun popping up everywhere. They can take many forms: the classic "mother-in-law suite," a converted garage, a separate detached small building and so on. While still requiring building permits to construct, the easing of regulations has made the process easier with the result that ADUs are becoming

more common.

There have been a few issues that have been problematic when buying or selling a home that includes an ADU. If the unit is a part of an existing home that has been cordoned off or converted with building permits (eg. a garage), then the square footage can be included in the overall number for the house and can be given the same per square foot value as the rest of the home. If square footage has been added to the existing structure, it is important to ensure that the county tax records reflect this change.

If the ADU is a detached structure, however, the square

footage cannot be included as a part of the overall home's total. It can be included in advertising but will not have the same value per square foot as the primary dwelling. Appraisers, when determining a property's value, will view a detached structure as an amenity (such as a pool or other detached feature of the home) and attach a specific value for the unit that will typically not correspond to the main home's value per sq/ft. This usually means that the ADU's per sq/ft value will be less than the value given to the primary structure.

The second issue concerns tracking income. In the past, rental income for ADUs has not been included when calculating a buyer's loan-to-value percentage. This has just changed, however. In an article published by Inman News on 10/19/2023, Matt Carter states, "FHA mortgage lenders can now include rental income from accessory dwelling units (ADUs) when qualifying borrowers thanks to a policy change announced Monday by the Department of Housing and Urban Development."

This will effectively increase the borrowing power

of buyers who qualify under FHA guidelines who are purchasing a home with an ADU. HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge states, "We are committed to increasing the housing supply so that more people have access to quality housing that they can afford so that their families can thrive."

Carl Medford is a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams Realty and a licensed general contractor. This article is sponsored by the Central County Marketing Association.

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19992 Santa Maria Avenue 94546: \$935,000
18133 Lamson Road 94546: \$1,100,000 [3 BD - 1,010 SF - 1940
18807 Sydney Circle 94546: \$1,220,000 [4 BD - 1,901 SF - 1991
5898 Greenridge Road 94552: \$1,700,000 [4 BD - 1,901 SF - 1963

TOTAL SALES: 4

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$935,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,160,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,700,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,238,750

Hayward

2002 Oak Creek Place 94541: \$655,000 [2 BD - 1,526 SF - 1972
22705 Atherton Street 94541: \$660,000 [2 BD - 1,075 SF - 1997
437 Shirley Avenue 94541: \$693,000 [3 BD - 1,090 SF - 1951
1794 Panda Way 94541: \$710,000 [3 BD - 1,293 SF - 1972
29442 Urbia Way 94544: \$720,000 [2 BD - 1,286 SF - 2020
614 Moss Way 94541: \$825,000 [3 BD - 1,827 SF - 2012
25535 Calaroga Avenue 94545: \$830,000 [3 BD - 1,359 SF - 1959
24540 Autumn Mist Way 94544: \$878,000 [3 BD - 1,812 SF - 2019
26072 Cascade Street 94544: \$885,000 [3 BD - 1,335 SF - 1954
1825 Dahill Lane 94541: \$900,000 [5 BD - 2,019 SF - 1959
26337 Regal Avenue 94544: \$940,000 [3 BD - 1,227 SF - 1952
438 Saint Andrews Street 94544: \$949,000 [3BD - 1,419 SF - 1955
21195 Ocean View Drive 94541: \$950,000 [3 BD - 1,393 SF - 1940
2710 Gamble Court 94542: \$986,000 [3 BD - 1,920 SF - 1980
25185 Soto Road 94544: \$990,000 [3 BD - 1,548 SF - 1925
1692 Highland Boulevard 94542: \$1,030,000 [3 BD - 1,577 SF - 1948
1541 Fry Lane 94545: \$1,060,000 [4 BD - 1,610 SF - 1960
24165 Amaranth Loop 94541: \$1,150,000 [3 BD - 1,922 SF - 2021
760 Panjon Street 94544: \$1,284,000 [4 BD - 2,283 SF - 2001
671 Toomey Terrace 94544: \$1,400,000 [4 BD - 2,380 SF - 2019
2806 Breaker Circle 94545: \$2,000,000 [4 BD - 3,651 SF - 2005

TOTAL SALES: 21

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$655,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$940,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$2,000,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$975,952

San Leandro

14835 East 14th Street #23 94578: \$483,000 [2 BD - 958 SF - 1997
1132 Carpenter Street #309 94577: \$490,000 [2 BD - 1,180 SF - 1983
705 Williams Street 94577: \$565,000 [2 BD - 1,936 SF - 1900
550 Marina Boulevard 94577: \$570,000 [2 BD - 859 SF - 1900
1594 Virginia Street 94577: \$683,000 [2 BD - 815 SF - 1942
890 Midway Avenue 94577: \$722,000 [2 BD - 832 SF - 1942
123 Oakes Boulevard 94577: \$760,000 [2 BD - 1,223 SF - 1920
2268 Croyden Place 94577: \$790,000 [1,659 SF - 1977
13865 Seagate Drive #257 94577: \$799,000 [3 BD - 1,957 SF - 1988
1372 Spruce Street 94579: \$840,000 [3 BD - 1,831 SF - 1952
525 Dolores Avenue 94577: \$845,000 [2 BD - 1,136 SF - 1946
15097 Beatty Street 94579: \$875,000 [3 BD - 1,020 SF - 1949
1456 Sayre Street 94579: \$975,000 [3 BD - 1,470 SF - 1957
15463 Brunswick Circle 94579: \$1,070,000 [3 BD - 1,908 SF - 1968
2025 West Avenue 134th 94577: \$1,100,000 [4 BD - 1,848 SF - 1947
805 Bancroft Avenue 94577: \$1,104,000 [3 BD - 2,055 SF - 1935
1450 Glen Drive 94577: \$1,190,000 [2 BD - 1,951 SF - 1940

TOTAL SALES: 17

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$483,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$799,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,190,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$815,352

San Lorenzo

15620 Tracy Street 94580: \$675,000 [2 BD - 744 SF - 1950
15771 Hesperian Boulevard 94580: \$710,000 [3 BD - 1,168 SF - 1944
16810 Bar Avenue 94580: \$725,000 [2 BD - 938 SF - 1947
1832 Via Natal 94580: \$735,000 [3 BD - 1,238 SF - 1955
898 Hacienda Avenue 94580: \$750,000 [3 BD - 1,051 SF - 1947
980 Bockman Road 94580: \$830,000 [3 BD - 1,062 SF - 1948
16031 Via Harriet 94580: \$865,000 [3 BD - 1,529 SF - 1956
15952 Bayberry Lane 94580: \$950,000 [3 BD - 1,572 SF - 1996

TOTAL SALES: 8

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$675,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$742,500

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$950,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$780,000

Peach Leaf Curl Requires Specific Remedy

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

Q I have a yearly problem with the Peach Leaf Curl. Also, the peaches form, but they fall off before ripening. What can I do to prevent it?

A Peach Leaf Curl is a water-activated fungus. Peach and Nectarine trees are the only plants affected by this fungus disease. Curly leaves on other trees are another problem with a different solution. To successfully curate Peach Leaf Curl, you need to apply the right products at the right time and need some help from Mother Nature. Cop-

per Fungicide is the primary Peach Leaf Curl solution. To succeed, you must apply fungicide in the fall and again in January or February. Your first application of Copper Fungicide is made when 50% of the leaves have dropped from the tree(s) or after November 15. The fungal spores from Peach Leaf Curl overwinter on the bark and in the cracks and crevices of the tree. The tree bark constricts with cold weather, so getting that first application on is critical while the daytime temperatures are above 60 degrees and dry. Your next application should be in



January/February or, more importantly, February when the peach and nectarine buds are about to open. This is called the 'Pink Bud' or 'Popcorn Stage'. This is when the emerging leaves are the most susceptible to the fungus. Wet, damp weather triggers the infection as the spores are washed into the open or opening buds. If we have dry weather, there is an excellent chance that the Peach Leaf Curl problem will be minor. A major Pacific storm suggests Peach Leaf Curl issues late in the spring. While Peach Curl causes leaf problems, it does not affect the fruit. A new set of leaves will replace the infected leaves that drop off. So, it's advisable to fertilize in the

spring. A combination of natural things, a natural thinning of a crop, and plant stress could cause the fruit to drop.

Q I have two Phalaenopsis Orchids that have finished flowering. The leaves are delicate, but the stems are starting to turn yellow. Do I cut these stems off? How, then, do I continue to care for them?

A It's natural for the old flower stems on Phalaenopsis Orchids to turn

yellow and die back. I would not cut the old stems off in the soil. Instead, cut them back, leaving about four inches of the old stem. It would help if you got a new flower spike developing from this point in about eight to twelve weeks. Next, I would start feeding them Orchid Food as they are now going into a growing cycle. Orchids are dormant when they are in bud and bloom. Gro More is one of several brands of Orchid Food available. Overwatering is a big problem now, so watch the watering schedule. The grow-

ing medium is breaking down into smaller particles and holding more moisture. So, extend the days between watering to prevent them from staying too wet. Replanting is the recommended method of avoiding this problem.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com.

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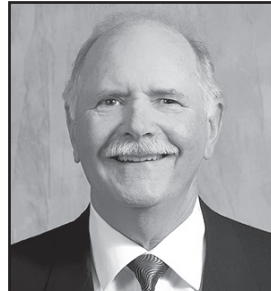
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MELISSA WILK County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 601246

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

The name of the business(es): Surefit Auto Upholstery, located at 13922 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): James E. Silva, located at 3533 Brookdale, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/James E. Silva This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires October 04, 2028

NOV 02, 08, 16, 23, 2023 0999- SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER 586411

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

Direct Parts Imaging, at 17640 Via Arriba San Lorenzo, CA 94580.

Full name of registrant is: **Zhong Yuan Liang,** at 17640 Via Arriba San Lorenzo, CA 94580.

The Fictitious Business Name Statement **Direct Parts Imaging,** was filed on 02/09/2022 in the county of Alameda. Original File Number 586411. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.

(A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime). This statement was filed with the County clerk of Alameda County on: top right stamp date. **NOTICE** - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14400, et seq., B&P Code.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 10/16/2023

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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED OCT 13, 2022
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601365

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

The name of the business(es):
Cifuentes Brother's Gardening, located
at 6039 Seminary Ave, Oakland, Ca
94605, in Alameda County, is hereby
registered by the following owner(s):
Mauro Cifuentes, 6039 Seminary Ave,
Oakland, Ca 94605. This business is
conducted by an individual. This business
commenced N/A
/s/ Mauro Cifuentes
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated
by file stamp above.
Expires OCT 12, 2028

FILED October 11, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601314

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

The name of the business(es):
Marjoly Adult Care at 33412 Alvarado
Niles Union City, CA 94587./4321 Plan-
et Circle Union City, CA 94587. Alameda
County, is hereby registered by the fol-
lowing owner(s): Marjoly INC., located
at 4321 Planet Circle Union City, CA
94587. This business is conducted by a
Corporation. This business commenced
N/A
/s/Kyla Josel Rinon
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-
cated by file stamp above.
Expires October 10, 2028
OCT 19, 26, NOV 02, 09, 2023

FILED OCT 19, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601488

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

The name of the business(es):
1. Cunningham Ventures LLC, 2. John
Jay Associates located at 1333 Morgan
Avenue, San Leandro, Ca 94577, in Al-
ameda County, is hereby registered by
the following owner(s): Cunningham
Ventures LLC, 1333 Morgan Avenue,
San Leandro, Ca 94577. This business
is conducted by a Limited Liability. This
business commenced 10/19/23
/s/ John Cunningham
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-
cated by file stamp above.
Expires OCT 18, 2028
OCT 26, NOV 02, 09 16, 2023

FILED September 13, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600752

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

The name of the business(es):
(1) Villa Lobos Corporation, (2) Jav Financia
(3) Wolf Motors located at 1250 A Fairmont
Dr, Suite 204 San Leandro, CA 94578. Al-
ameda County, is hereby registered by the
following owner(s): Villa Lobos Corporation
located at 1250 A Fairmont Dr, Suite 204
San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is
conducted by a Corporation. This business
commenced N/A
/s/Jorge Villalobos
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated
by file stamp above.
Expires September 12, 2028
OCT 12, 19, 26, NOV 02, 2023

FILED October 11, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601328

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

The name of the business(es):
Ultimate Carpet Cleaning, at 25673
Eldridge Ave, Hayward, CA 94544. Al-
ameda County, is hereby registered by
the following owner(s): Rodrigo Garcia,
located at 25673 Eldridge Ave, Hay-
ward, CA 94544. This business is con-
ducted by An Individual. This business
commenced 04/20/2015
/s/Rodrigo Garcia
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-
cated by file stamp above.
Expires October 10, 2028
OCT 26, NOV 02, 09, 16, 2023
0993- SLT

FILED September 5, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600552

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

The name of the business(es):
Rosezzz located at 21748 Vallejo St,
Hayward, CA 94546. Alameda County,
is hereby registered by the following
owner(s): Brittney Cacas located at
21748 Vallejo St, Hayward, CA 94546.
This business is conducted by An In-
dividual. This business commenced
09/01/2023
/s/Brittney Cacas
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-
cated by file stamp above.
Expires September 4, 2028
OCT 19, 26, NOV 02, 09, 2023
0892- SLT

FILED September 25, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600991

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

The name of the business(es):
Don Bablo Cleaning Service at 705
Peterson Street, Oakland, CA 94601.
Alameda County, is hereby registered
by the following owner(s): Marta Cruz
Ramirez, located at 705 Peterson Street,
Oakland, CA 94601. This business is
conducted by An Individual. This busi-
ness commenced N/A
/s/Marta Cruz Ramirez
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-
cated by file stamp above.
Expires September 24, 2028
OCT 26, NOV 02, 09, 16, 2023
0990- SLT

FILED September 25, 2023
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 600991

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

The name of the business(es):
Don Bablo Cleaning Service at 705
Peterson Street, Oakland, CA 94601.
Alameda County, is hereby registered
by the following owner(s): Marta Cruz
Ramirez, located at 705 Peterson Street,
Oakland, CA 94601. This business is
conducted by An Individual. This busi-
ness commenced N/A
/s/Marta Cruz Ramirez
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27 Estuary
29 -- de cologne
30 "Top Gun" target
31 Historic time
35 "Take your time"
36 Panda's diet
39 South Pacific nation
40 Eve's grand-son
41 "Do -- others ..."
43 Sax range
45 Gumbo veggie
46 Friend
47 Beams
49 Some coll. degrees

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

Price Files to Disqualify Defense Attorney in Fletcher Case

Rains says motion is frivolous

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price submitted papers to the courts on Monday asking a judge to disqualify the defense lawyers representing a former San Leandro police officer charged with voluntary manslaughter for killing Steven Taylor in a Walmart store on April 18, 2020.

"We filed a motion to disqualify the law firm, Rains, Lucia, Stern, St. Phalle & Silver, based on their unethical and improper breach of the professional rules of professional conduct as well as a violation of the standards of ethics that apply to lawyers," DA Price said in a press release.

The motion claims Michael Rains and his firm illegally obtained privileged material from her office, specifically from former Alameda County prosecutor Amilcar "Butch" Ford, a 19-year veteran prosecutor who now works for the San Francisco District Attorney's office.

Rains said the motion was frivolous and would likely not be granted by the judge.

"Ford provided that information to the county's affirmative action officer in a written complaint filed there," Rains said. "That's where the information arrived from."

When the suspected infor-

mation was shared, Ford was on paid administrative leave for alleged misconduct. Rains is Fletcher's defense attorney who also represents Ford in another matter.

"The District Attorney wants me off the case because they know they will lose if I

am still representing Fletcher," Rains told the *Times*.

DA Price denounced Fletcher's actions, saying her office continues "standing up for the family of Steven Taylor, and for this community, and we will continue to fight for justice for his survivors."

"Defendant Fletcher's decision to shoot Steven Taylor in Walmart was a traumatizing event for the entire community and was acknowledged worldwide as an act of violence that should not go unredressed," DA Price said.

The District Attorney's

office said both sides were expected to return to court on Nov. 20.

Defense attorney Rains told the *Times* that that date is unlikely since he is scheduled to be in a Los Angeles courtroom for a separate matter on that day.

San Leandro Art Association Reception

The San Leandro Art Association is exhibiting the artwork of 25 members at

the John O'Lague Galleria in Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street, running through Jan.

11, 2024.

The public is invited to the opening reception Friday,

Nov. 3, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Hearing Loss Association to Meet November 11

The Hearing Loss Association of America, East Bay Chapter, will hold its monthly meeting on Saturday, Nov. 11, via zoom. Greeting at 9:30

a.m., presentation 10 a.m. RSVP at www.hearinglosseb.org and click on monthly meetings.

Dr. McCullagh will talk

about her research on brain-stem level sound processing in a genetic form of autism, FXS, and the new work in her lab using a comparative ap-

proach to understand hearing with two ears. McCullagh is an assistant professor in the Integrative Biology department at Oklahoma State University.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Open Letter the Mayor and City Council and City Manager on Blatant Acts of Crime And Public Safety

Dear Mayor Gonzalez,

San Leandro is experiencing an alarming rise in crime, posing a substantial financial burden on the business community, and causing mental and financial distress among employees. It is imperative, as a united council, to take action to implement measures to enhance public safety.

In April 2022, the San Leandro City Council unanimously approved the acquisition of forty-one cameras for city wide installation aiming to assist the police department in crime resolution.

The Chamber of Commerce spoke in favor of the cameras as a public safety measure. Forty-one cameras were ordered and installed. However, a recent proposal to purchase a second batch was rejected by the current council that has stated public safety is its top priority.

While it is acknowledged that cameras will not prevent all crimes, they could deter crime and have the potential to solve crime; whether one agrees or disagrees with police

reform, police oversight committee work, or privacy policies, those initiatives do not have the potential to prevent or solve crimes. They are simply initiatives.

The extent of how the crime issues are affecting businesses and their employees is critical to understand. Business owners are teetering on the edge of losing their insurance coverage, valuable employees and facing substantial financial losses.

Businesses have incurred expenses for replacing equipment, windows, addressing the mental health impact on employees, as well as time off.

Employees are faced with repairing broken windows (\$200 to \$500), replacing stolen catalytic converters (\$1,000 to \$7,000), or replacing an entire stolen automobile. Employees have discussed leaving their current place of employment due to the constant worry of having to repair a broken car window or if their car will still be in the parking lot at the end of their workday.

The burden of these crimes is falling on hard-working people who need their paycheck to care for their families, childcare, housing,

and food.

This council has emphasized public safety as a top priority. Now is your moment to take decisive actions that can build trust, foster a sense of security in the community, deter crime, solve crimes, and be fiscally prudent in the coming years. It is crucial to convey a clear unified message that San Leandro is not a community where crimes can go unpunished.

The Chamber of Commerce has compiled a list of reported crimes from multiple business owners:

- Two armed robberies at food establishments last month
- Multiple smash and grabs of cars parked at their places of employment
- Multiple cars stolen at their places of employment
- Multiple work trucks having their catalytic converters stolen
- Multiple acts of property damage
- Employee car jacked leaving work
- Windows shot out at businesses
- Hit-and-run into the front of a store
- Hazardous unhoused encampments, one of which nearly caused a fire, and another prevented the sale of a commercial building
- Unhoused residents violating public parking rules for extended amounts of time, several days, weeks and in one case, months.

We urge the San Leandro City Council to work in solidarity and take proactive measures to protect the community.

Emily Griego,
President & CEO
San Leandro
Chamber of Commerce

Don't Mind Opinions

Editor,

Responding to Letters to the Editor, "Leave the Politics to the National Papers," Oct. 26, 2023.

I think you do a good job in the opinion section and prefer your vision to that of Mr. Rubin's. Maybe you go overboard with the regular locals sometimes as evidenced by previous complaints about your abilities that you published. I don't mind. I think you keep it balanced. I believe you are in spirit with the first amendment, free speech and stuff like that.

I like how you have other sections in your newspaper where one could learn about weekly events like the Community Calendar and Announcements. By the way, I thought the opinions you posted in last week's paper were well written, interesting and informative.

Ben Frager
San Leandro

Vendor Business Permits

Editor,

Why are there so many street vendors lately, and do they have business permits? It's one thing for police to turn a blind eye on some minor crimes, which they do (not good), but to drive by a fruit stand and not ask for a business permit?

This is wrong, every business owner needs to obtain a business permit and follow the rules. However, these people are usually immigrants and most if not all are here illegally, which compounds the situation even more. There are multiple violations just at one stand.

What about the temperature of these food items? Is the food safe

to eat? Please enforce the laws on the books and make things fair.

Robert Johansen
San Leandro

Fake News and Fake Dictionaries

Editor,
Wayne Wright is an obvious follower of the Fake News, he also uses a fake dictionary to look for a definition of fascism. He ignores that Mussolini was a member of Socialist Party of Italy and Hitler's party was the National Socialist Party, hence the name "Nazi." The Democratic Socialist of America are strong supporters of Joe Biden, hence "fascist" is an apt denomination for the current regime in the White House that's engaging in exactly the same tactics of the fascists of the past in their witch hunt and jailing of the opposition, including the using of goons to terrorize the population, like Antifa and Black Lives Matter.

Then, there's the letter of Owen Rubin who includes a lot of "garbage" in it, a perfect example of the thought police promoted by the Democrats.

Leo T. West
San Leandro

It All Adds Up

Editor,

We get (San Leandro Times front page, Oct. 26, 2023):

"Suspect Arrested for Two Murders..." ..then,

"Woman Hit and Killed By Car on Springlake" ..then,

"Download a Horror Story for Halloween"

I think those first two headlines take care of the third headline.

Gary Branchaud
San Leandro

Fire: Being a woman in a predominantly male field has challenges

continued from front page

County Fire Department offered to host.

"My first real instructor opportunity was at a Women and Fire event," said Captain Katy Erhardt with the Alameda County Fire Department. "I was paired with a captain from Los Angeles who mentored me and pushed me. Now, I am a training captain, teaching at a college, and running the coordination for this event."

Being a woman in a pre-

dominantly male field has its challenges. The National Fire Protection Association estimates that women comprise 4 percent of career firefighting positions. The women in this training come away with education, experience, and support for fire service women.

"We have people with six months of experience learning from those with 20 years of experience," said Captain Erhardt. "It's awesome to have these women teaching each other and getting them

to enhance their professional development and firefighting skills. Much of the training is also tailored to the firefighter's experience. For example, we'll ask them if they have pulled a line (a fire hose) into an interior fire... yes or no. And if they have, then we work on more advanced techniques."

Erhardt also talked about the role of the fire department as a community service and its importance to reflect the diversity of the community it serves.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SINGER

Exercises such as Saturday's Women and Fire training are essential to network, connect, and train with other female fire personnel, organizers said.

"Only about four percent of the calls we get are for actual house fires," Erhardt said. "We go to wildfires. We respond to power lines that have fallen. But I've been to some calls where all it takes is to have somebody listening to them. Perhaps they lost a family member, and all they need for you to be is empathetic."

Two non-profit organizations sponsored the training:

Camp Blaze, a Seattle, Washington group that holds leadership camps and mentorship opportunities for young women in fire service, and NorCal Women in the Fire Service, which has hosted four girls' fire camps for local teenagers with the assistance of local fire agencies and state groups.

"Training opportunities such as this weekend's Women and Fire event are essential

for helping women in the fire service to network, connect, and train with other female fire personnel across a broader spectrum," said Jenn Panko, Vice President of NorCal Women in the Fire Service and Battalion Chief with the Santa Clara Fire Department. "This helps support inclusivity and opportunity and encourages women in the profession to demonstrate leadership."



Bridge: With road closed, through traffic plagues Bay-O-Vista

continued from front page

officials said at the meeting. Right after the storm damage last winter, engineering staff had been hopeful for at least a partial reopening before this year's rainy season began.

Those hopes haven't been fulfilled, Marquises said. The road is still unstable underneath its surface, and all the funds for its repair haven't been identified.

Reynes asked if one lane of the road could be opened so cars could get through, with directions of traffic alternating. Marquises replied that even that was more challenging than most people might think.

Unstable areas alternate on both sides of the road, necessitating a weaving route even if the stable areas were utilized, the engineering and transportation director said. There is also no easy access to utilities, so solar traffic signals would have to be used for one-lane operation.

This didn't convince Kat Wellman, president of the Bay-O-Vista Improvement Association (BOVIA) and chair of the Save Lake Chabot Road Coalition. Residents of



TIMES FILE PHOTO

The footbridge was knocked down by fallen trees.

the Bay-O-Vista neighborhood have been especially affected by both the road closure itself and by through drivers detouring onto local streets while it's closed.

"Why can't you designate a safe route?" she asked. Wellman suggested using bollards to make even a twisting route safe.

With Lake Chabot Road closed, drivers are speeding through the Bay-O-Vista neighborhood.

"It's the Tesla 500 on View Drive now," said Bay-O-Vista residents Gary Sloane, referring to drivers coming from

Castro Valley speeding down neighborhood streets.

City Manager Robustelli said that construction on Lake Chabot Road would begin

next year.

Crime and Public Safety

Several residents said they felt unsafe just coming out of their houses. One speaker said his partner had been followed down the street by a man shouting slurs at him, and had once been shoved against a wall exiting a neighborhood bakery.

A woman said she has been repeatedly followed down the street and sexually harassed by men who appear to be unhoused, and either mentally ill or criminals. On several occasions men in the downtown Safeway parking lot tried to force their way into her car, she said. There are simply too few police or unarmed com-

munity ambassadors to head off all such actions, she added.

One resident cautioned one should not blame all the homeless for everything bad done by individuals, while another replied that some people who are not homeless act poorly or even criminally in public.

Robustelli said that some

dent would be made in homeless issues by the long-awaited opening of the city's navigation center at the former Nimitz Hotel at 555 Lewelling Blvd. She said the city would finalize the purchase of the property this week.

Reynes promised to keep see *BRIDGE*, page 12

Coralyn Kettlitz

July 9, 1944 ~ September 13, 2023

Resident of San Leandro

Coralyn Kettlitz passed away on September 13, 2023, from complications of a lengthy illness. She was 79 years old. Coralyn was born on July 9, 1944, in Purcell, Oklahoma, the only child of Russell and Doris Dickman. The family moved out west, settling in Oakland, where Coralyn graduated from Oakland Technical High School in 1962.

Coralyn eventually moved to San Leandro, where she spent most of her life, raising a family and working as a bank teller for many years. Among lots of hobbies and pursuits, Coralyn enjoyed travelling, hanging out with her cats, and spending time with friends and family. She was a dedicated Masterpiece Theater and Jeopardy watcher as well as a serious QVC customer. Coralyn was a big sports fan and loved her Warriors and 49ers. Even as her health began to decline, she still found time to volunteer with Meals on Wheels. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Karsten, and survived by a son, daughter, five grandchildren and many other family members and friends. She will be missed.



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PHOTOS BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The Chan family at the lemonade table at Harvest Share's Share & Swap at Thrasher Park on Sunday, October 1. In front, from left, Bernice and Angus; in back, from left, May and Wing.

Crop Swap Makes Use of Produce from Local Gardens

By Mike McGuire
Special to the Times

Dozens of San Leandrans came to Thrasher Park on Davis Street on Sunday, Oct. 1, to share backyard produce bounties with other residents.

It was the third event this year hosted by San Leandro Food Sovereignty to promote greater community food self-sufficiency. Other Crop Swaps had been held on March 25 and June 25, following the initial event last year.

Cortney Daniel of Food Sovereignty said much of the fruits and vegetables grown in residents' gardens goes unharvested, as some families struggle to get enough fresh produce into their diets.

"San Leandro has a lot to offer. The resources are all there, all around us," she said.

People dropped off fruits and vegetables from their own gardens on a table at the park. Eventually the table was filled with lemons, apples, chayote, grapefruits, limes, jalapeno and bell peppers, pears and other produce. Pastries and

"San Leandro has a lot to offer. The resources are all around us."

— Cortney Daniel

bread, both homemade and from stores also were free for the taking, along with home-harvested honey.

Lemonade made from fresh lemons was offered, a hit especially with the children at the event.

Any produce left over was being donated to different apartment complexes where people cannot easily grow their own produce, and to the food program at the Da-

vis Street Family Resource Center.

"We try to serve a little bit different clientele than most food pantries do," Daniel said. "Some people can't easily get to a food pickup spot, either because of lack of a vehicle or physical issues, and others are uncomfortable taking advantage of programs run by churches, where some food pantries are located."

The Crop Swaps grew out of the group's initial efforts, which was to redistribute lemons. The fruit was often going to waste while still on trees, Daniel said. Some of the owners were no longer physically able to pick the lemons or other citrus fruits, so the group sent over volunteers to do the picking.

Anything not needed by the owner was then taken to other people unable to grow their own fruits, she said.

Daniel said the group would like to offer more frequent food swaps that involve much more produce being shared, but has been held back by a lack of volunteer help. Sunday's swap was staffed by herself, one other Food Sovereignty member, and three students from Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo.

"We need help with all kinds of things, from picking produce to delivering it, to even sending out emails that an event is upcoming or that we could use more produce donations at the moment," she said.

Daniel suggested contacting the group at info@slfsp.org if you can lend a hand. The group also has a website at www.slsfp.org.



Arroyo High School students, from left, Mei Ling Chen, Maureen Lum and Sijam K.C. make lemonade from fresh lemons at the Share & Swap event held by Harvest Share at Thrasher Park

Veterans Center to Host Program on Vietnam War Era

The Veterans Resource Center at the San Leandro Main Library is hosting a Veterans' Day event on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Viet Nam War, a conflict that greatly affected American society and the lives of millions. It will be an opportunity for the community to come together and demon-

strate gratitude for the courageous men and women who have served our nation.

The film, "Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam," will be shown, plus a slide presentation: Laura Thor's "Vietnam War Postcards." Vietnam era photos, art and posters, curated by Nancy Redden, and music of the era, curated by Bob Smith.

City Council Meetings to Return to 7 p.m. Starting Time

Regular meetings of the San Leandro City Council will return to a starting time of 7 p.m., beginning with the next council meeting on Monday, Nov. 6.

Regular City Council

meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month. If a meeting date is a city holiday, the meeting is held on the next business day.

The meeting time had been moved up to 6:30 p.m. the

past two years, but the council decided to return to the 7 p.m. starting time to allow both the public and City Council members ample time to arrive at the meeting on time.

Bridge: Tenant protections discussed

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public safety as one of her highest personal priorities on the council, and will try to put together a later public meeting that also involved the police, who were not present at Saturday's meeting.

City Manager Robustelli also said that efforts are underway to restore some police functions dropped in the recent past, starting with homeless outreach and traffic enforcement.

Several residents also spoke out for protections for tenants, citing evictions and sudden rent increases as problems.

Reynes said that several upcoming city meetings would be key for tenant protections and other issues.

Several public meetings to elicit suggestions on needed housing protections, requested by a majority of city council members, have been held,



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

City Manager Fran Robustelli, District 1 City Councilmember Celina Reynes, and city Engineering and Transportation Director Sheila Marquises at the District 1 Community meeting held at the Main Library on Saturday. About 100 people attended.

most recently on October 25 at the Senior Center. The consulting firm that ran those meetings will present recommendations at a City Council Rules Committee meeting on Thursday, Nov. 9 at the Sur-lene Grant Meeting Room at

999 E. 14th St. The committee will then make recommendations to the full City Council.

At a work session on Monday, Nov. 13, the City Council will discuss expanding the downtown ambassador program.

Appeals: Employees considering leaving jobs in San Leandro

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spelled out the effect crime is having on businesses, as well as the employees.

Not only are businesses taking a loss, Griego said, employees are faced with the cost of replacing windows or their entire car, so employees are considering leaving their jobs for someplace else.

"Businesses are teetering on the edge of losing their insurance coverage," Griego said in her letter. Adding that

they're also on the edge of losing valuable employees and facing financial losses.

Griego sent the letter to Chamber of Commerce members, inviting them to endorse the letter if they wished. She also asked them to speak out at the next City Council meeting on Monday, Nov. 6, starting at 7 p.m.

Mayor Gonzalez acknowledged the threat to business while speaking at a recent neighborhood meeting on

Dolores Street. He said a business owner told him, "Juan, it's simple. If I can't get insurance I can no longer keep my car dealership in San Leandro."

Gonzalez also said there is practically no traffic division to ticket drivers, due to the police department being short by 26 patrol officers.

But the mayor said the city is focused on recruiting more police and more applications are now coming in.