



Bring Back Biking

BIKING IS FUN FOR ALL AGES AND GOOD FOR OVERALL HEALTH 7



Pets of the Week

HOMER AND NAKIA JUST WANT TO FIND THEIR FUR-EVER HOMES 12

WEEKEND WEATHER

WARM Possible thunderstorm

HIGHS: 72-77

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110

LOWS: 53-58

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 22

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

City Council To Look at Budget Cuts

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter and the City Council will consider budget cuts next month to confront the economic impact on the city and businesses of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Like other cities, businesses in San Leandro came to a near standstill more than 70 days ago when California imposed a stay-at-home order. And even though some of those restrictions have been lifted, the City is expected to see its tax revenues drop by 8 percent in the next fiscal year (July 2020-2021), according to Assistant City Manager Liz Warmerdam.

A presentation of the City of San Leandro Draft Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget at the City Council meeting on May 18 prompted questions about how the city could be more efficient in its operations to help reduce costs while maintaining essential city services. The City Council is expected to approve its revised 2020-2021 budget on June 15.

Some of those suggested cuts to keep a recession at bay include a selective hiring freeze and eliminating non-essential travel. Staff is also recommending funding cuts or delaying projects such as renovating the San Leandro Police gun range, updating bicycle and pedestrian lanes at the intersection of Floresta Boulevard and Monterey Boulevard near James Monroe Elementary, and remodeling the restrooms at the Main Library.

Sales tax revenue—which contributed \$41.3 million to San Leandro's budget this fiscal year—is projected to be reduced to \$39.9 million by July 2021, said Warmerdam. Businesses see BUDGET, page 10

Woman Arrested For Racist Messages

A San Leandro woman was arrested on Friday night after police said she posted racist messages on doors in the Heron Bay neighborhood.

One resident posted pictures on social media of the message and photos taken by a security camera of a woman at a front door with a large handbag, wearing sunglasses and a U.S.A ski cap, who the resident said was the person posting the racist messages.

San Leandro police said they arrested a 52-year-old Nancy Arechiga of San Leandro later that evening and took her to the Santa Rita county jail where she was booked and released. Her court date will be set later, police said.

see ARREST, page 3



PHOTO BY FRED ZEHNDER

Big Day at the Beach

Memorial Day, the traditional start of summer, saw a big crowd at Crown Memorial Beach in Alameda, and by the lack of face masks you would never know there's a pandemic going on.

97-Year-Old Rosie the Riveter Takes on DMV

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Mary Torres went down to the DMV to renew her driver's license and all they had was a computer screen to take the test.

Nope, that wasn't going to work. Torres has taken the test on paper every time. And she's taken the test a few times, considering she just turned 97 last week.

"I demanded a paper one," Torres said. "I said, I'm a taxpayer and I demand a paper one. Boy, they got one in a hurry for me."

The DMV quickly found out they were dealing with an original Rosie the Riveter. Torres left home at 18 and came out to California to work in the shipyards during World War II. She was a welder, building Liberty Ships. She's dealt with tougher situations than the DMV.

She got her driver's license renewed.

"So I took on the DMV and I beat the heck out of them," laughed Torres. "It was quite a day. I was there all day at the DMV. I don't think they ever want to see me again."

As a Rosie the Riveter, Torres speaks at

schools and at the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Homefront Park in Richmond. She loves to talk to people and tell them about the days when the shipyards were booming.

Back in 1942, her brothers had left the family home in Donora, Pennsylvania to go into the service. Torres graduated from high school and saw an advertisement in the newspaper that they needed workers in the shipyards out in California. But her dad didn't want her to go.

She saved all her money from her job at JC Penny. One Sunday when her parents went to church, she packed a suitcase and went down to the Greyhound bus station.

"I bought a one-way ticket," Torres said. "I wasn't planning on coming back. I was going to California."

In the '40s, most of the route across the country was on dirt roads. The bus driver would pull over to the side of the road for bathroom breaks.

Torres recalls the driver saying, "All right, you girls go behind the bushes on that

see ROSIE, page 12



Mary and her future husband Frank at Moore's Shipyard in Oakland.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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ARTS

State arts grand supports local drum corps. Page 3

PETS

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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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Redwood Graduation Makes National News Broadcast

Redwood Christian Schools 2020 graduation ceremonies were featured on the nationwide broadcast of the CBS Evening News recently, thanks to the creativity and hard work of school officials and the graduates.

The 44th high school commencement managed to feature all 68 graduates together digitally.

That was accomplished by School Superintendent Dr. Al Hearne and Principal Ben Warner who worked over a three-day period hosting ceremonies for each graduate and their family while Marketing Director Teresa Hendren captured it all on video. Director of Advancement Mike Kady served as the official graduation photographer.

The event was broadcast on the KPIX local news on May 12 and was picked up by the CBS-TV Network and televised across the country on Friday.

The graduates were recorded in their own individual 10-minute segments with a five-minute interval between each to ensure social distancing. All were recognized for their accomplishments, future plans, and life goals, then received their diplomas from their parents or other family members.

Olivia Clausen, Deanna Gee and Jackson Leonard earned Co-Valedictorian honors.

The videos of each graduate and the speeches are available on the Redwood Christian Schools Facebook page.



PHOTO BY MIKE KADY

VIRTUAL GRADUATION: RCS High School Co-Valedictorian Deanna Gee with parents Calvert and Connie Gee and Superintendent Dr. Al Hearne reading her information and Principal Ben Warner waiting to congratulate her in the empty Bruce D. Johnson Gymnasium.

Join the Library's Virtual Happy Hour

Adults 21 and over are welcome to join San Leandro Public Library's Virtual Happy Hour on Friday, May 29, from 5 to 6 p.m.

Bring your favorite snack and beverage and chat about books, TV shows, movies, new recipes, "quaran-cleaning" hacks, and

positive mental health wellness habits.

To access this virtual Zoom meeting, go to sanleandrolibrary.org to the calendar event to get the Zoom link, or check out our San Leandro Public Library Facebook page.

Swalwell to Host Talk with VA Director

Congressman Eric Swalwell will hold a Facebook Live Q&A today (Thursday, May 28) at 1:30 p.m. with guest Thomas J.

Fitzgerald III, CHESP, Director at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

Join the forum at: [Facebook.com/CongressmanEricSwalwell](https://www.facebook.com/CongressmanEricSwalwell) and submit questions in advance on the event Facebook page.

House votes are scheduled for Thursday. If votes are called during this event, a member of Congressman Swalwell's staff will step in to moderate so the forum can continue.

Fitzgerald oversees one of the most complex facilities in the VA system with an annual budget in excess of \$1.1 billion, more than 7,000 staff and volunteers, 808 operating beds spread between three inpatient divisions. He also maintains a cooperative relationship with Stanford University School of Medicine.

Fitzgerald is a Service Connected Disabled Veteran who served in the U.S. Army active and reserve for 16 years as a Medical Non Commissioned Officer. He served in support of Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

He began his VA Career in 1988 as a Nursing Assistant at the North Chicago VA Medical Center and later served there as a Housekeeping Aide, Housekeeping Assistant General Foreman, Assistant Chief of Environmental Care and Operations, and Chief of Environmental Care and Operations. He later served as Chief of the Environmental Management Service and Assistant Director for VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

Fitzgerald holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in healthcare management from the American InterContinental University, and he is a graduate of the VA management development course in conjunction with the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is a Certified Healthcare Environmental Services Professional (CHESP) by the American Hospital Association affiliate, Association for the Healthcare Environment. He is also a member of the American College of Health Care Executives.

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Arts Council Awards \$65,000 to Deputy Sheriff's Activities League

The California Arts Council has awarded the Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Activities League (DSAL) a total of \$65,000 in two grants for its work in strengthening arts, culture, and creative expression.

A "Youth Arts Action" grant, which supports art projects for

"We're grateful to the California Arts Council for supporting the Rhythm Cadets."

— Hilary Bass

youth outside of traditional school hours, will help fund the DSAL's Rhythm Cadets Drumline, a youth marching musical education program.

In addition to learning drumming, marching, and movement, the Rhythm Cadets learn music theory and how to read and play compositions. Participants have the opportunity to develop creative styles as they supplement

their drumming training.

The second arts grant, from "Jump StArts," will support the Rhythm Cadets Pathway, a version of the Drumline program tailored to meet the needs of incarcerated youth at the Juvenile Justice Center in San Leandro. Youth in the program build life skills while gaining a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Organizations were awarded grants across 15 different program areas addressing access, equity, and inclusion; community vibrancy; and arts learning and engagement.

"We're incredibly grateful to the California Arts Council for supporting the Rhythm Cadets drumline program, which brings music and rhythm to youth in the Eden area and the Juvenile Justice Center in San Leandro," said Hilary Bass, Crime Prevention Senior Program Specialist with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Bass noted that DSAL's mission is part of a community policing initiative to build a safer, healthier, more vibrant community.



The Rhythm Cadets Drumline, begun by the Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Activities League in 2018, and a similar program at the Juvenile Justice Center in San Leandro, were the recipients of \$65,000 in grants from the California Arts Council.

Arrest: Former mayor comments on messages

continued from front page

Police said in a press release the woman was "arrested after posting insensitive messages," but they didn't say what crime she was arrested for.

A message left on the bay trail that said, "No Asians allowed, leave immediately," is also being investigated, police said.

Photos of the messages posted on Twitter show a hand-written paper that begins with the opening words of the Constitution, "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union..." but then the message veers off, "If you are a woman or man and was born in other country, return, go back to your land immediately, fast, with urgency."

The message continues, "The principal of free governments adheres to the American soil. It is bedded in it, immovable as its mountains."

At the end, the message signs off, "One American, white, brave, that serves the Nation

of USA is going to live here. May/22/2020."

Attesting to the sensitivity of the issue, the police department press release on the case included a commentary, and a statement was made over the weekend by a former mayor.

"San Leandro is a community of beautifully diverse people, who share a common desire to live in harmony, and free from intimidation," said San Leandro police spokesman Lt. Isaac Benabou in a written statement. "We welcome people's right to express themselves, but not in a manner that infringes upon the community's sense of security and wellbeing."

Former mayor Stephen Cassidy said in a Tweet that he was glad the police were able to identify and arrest the person.

"Hate crimes have no place in San Leandro, or anywhere else," Cassidy said. "San Leandro is one of the most diverse cities in the US, and we value our diversity."

Day Camp Open for Children of Essential Workers

City of San Leandro camp to be held daily at Chabot Park

The City of San Leandro will host a summer day camp for children whose parents or guardians are presently serving as essential service workers and who live or work in San Leandro.

The camp serves youth entering grades Kindergarten through 9th grade, in addition to Counselor in Training (CIT) and Junior Counselor (JC) programs for those entering grades 10 through 12. Daily activities will include enriching

games and activities that are designed with each child's health and safety in mind, in an outdoor environment at San Leandro's Chabot Park on Estudillo Avenue.

Chabot Day Camp will be administered in compliance with the current state and county public health orders and will include numerous protocols to maintain social distancing and other relevant measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Chabot Day Camp will take place daily from from June 15 through August 7. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with an optional extended care option from 3 to 6 p.m. Lunch is included. Space is limited and registration will be

offered on a first-come first-serve basis. Registration will open Thursday, May 28 at 7 a.m. To register, visit www.SanLeandroRec.org, or contact Liz Hodgins for more information at ehodgins@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3473.

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NAVY PHOTO BY SPECIALIST 3RD CLASS JULIAN DAVIS

Local Sailor Aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt

U.S. Navy Electronics Technician 3rd Class King Chen from Hayward runs diagnostics on a radar data processor, simulating operations aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt while moored at Naval Base Guam last week. The aircraft carrier is back at sea for the first time in nearly two months after a coronavirus outbreak on board infected more than 1,100 sailors. The ship arrived in Guam on March 27 after an outbreak of the coronavirus. All of the nearly 5,000 sailors onboard were tested for COVID-19. One Roosevelt sailor died from the virus on April 13, and nine others were hospitalized. The Navy said most of the approximately 1,140 crew members who tested positive for COVID-19 were asymptomatic.

Food Recovery Project Seeks Vendors

Dig Deep Farms, a division of the Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League (DSAL), has begun operating an innovative, drive-up food distribution center on Friday afternoons from 1 to 3 p.m. for home-bound seniors, medically vulnerable patients and families experiencing food insecurity and hunger as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The food is distributed for free at the Dig Deep Farms Food Hub, located at 2700 Fairmont Drive in San Leandro in partnership with ALL IN Alameda County and Alameda County Community Food Bank (ACCFB).

The non-profit is looking for small business food vendors, such as restaurants and caterers, to partner with in the production of individually prepared meals for distribution throughout Alameda County.

Each selected vendor will receive \$15,000, funded by the Stupski Foundation, to cover the cost associated with preparing up to 1,000 meals from May 2020 - September 2020 with a minimum of 200 meals per scheduled week



PHOTO BY SAM GARVIN

Dig Deep Farms at 2700 Fairmont Drive in San Leandro is operating a drive-up food distribution program every Friday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. for those experiencing food insecurity.

per selected vendor.

The DSAL will develop a regular schedule for each selected vendor to distribute meals during the five-month time frame.

Food would need to be prepared in a commercial kitchen and in alignment with food safety practices dictated by the Alameda County Environmental Health Department. The meals incorporate fresh produce, lean proteins, and whole grains; and ideally be individually wrapped for single-serve or family consumption in a sturdy, reusable/compostable container.

The organization is also currently seeking donors such as restaurants, grocery stores, distributors and producers who want to reduce food waste, surplus goods and increase access to healthy foods for low-income residents of Alameda County.

Donor-partners will need to be actively engaged in the project, and must be willing and able to:

- Donate at least 100 pounds of eligible food items per week.
- Dedicate at least one staff member to coordinate food recovery efforts for your organization.
- Participate in data collection and pilot program evaluation.
- Work collaboratively with

DSAL to address problems, continuously improve process, and improve outcomes.

In addition, the Food Recovery Project is looking for organizations that can receive and distribute donated food to low-income or food insecure individuals and families in Alameda County through their own networks.

For more information, visit www.acdsal.org/ to fill out an application.

Tuesday Was Declared a 'Spare the Air' Day

Tuesday was a "Spare the Air" day, declared by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).

The declaration is issued on days when the air is forecast to be

unhealthy. Suggestions are given to reduce air pollution.

During summer months, the ozone levels can build up to levels that violate federal health standards. During winter months, wood smoke can create unhealthy levels of fine particles in the air.

A Spare the Air Day alerts citizens who can play a part in reducing air pollution. Among the suggestions from BAAQMD to spare the air are using transit, carpooling, bicycling to work or getting a greener car, although BAAQMD's suggestions of transit and carpooling are a little out of date during the coronavirus emergency.

LEGAL NOTICE

FILED
APRIL 24, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By _____, Deputy
FILE NO. 570079

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
WON KEM, LLC located at 2601 Alvarado St., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): WON KEM, LLC, 2601 Alvarado St., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. This business commenced 12/04/2019.

/s/ WON KEM, LLC

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires APRIL 24, 2025

MAY 7, 14, 21, 28 2020
264-SLT

FILED
APRIL 27, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By _____, Deputy
FILE NO. 570102

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
(1) Fam-It (2) Every Day Free Item located at 828 Begonia Dr., San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Jonathan Chew (2) Ching Yee Chew, 828 Begonia Dr., San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a married couple. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Jonathan Chew, Ching Yee Chew
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires APRIL 27, 2025

MAY 14, 21, 28, JUNE 04, 2020
265-SLT

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LIFESTYLE

The Many Ways of Chili

The spicy mixture known as chili can show up almost anywhere – in a bowl or a burrito, over pasta, on top of rice, or smothering a burger in a bun.

Cooking times can vary from several hours (like the International Chili Society winner below) to less than 20 minutes.

INTERNATIONAL WINNER 1967

- 4 pounds coarsely ground sirloin
- Olive oil or butter
- 2 (6-ounce) cans tomato paste + like amount water
- 3 to 4 medium onions, chopped (about 3 cups)
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped (about 3/4 cup)
- 2 to 10 cloves of garlic, minced
- 3 tablespoons chili powder, or more to taste
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil

In a 4-quart pot, cook meat in a little olive oil or butter (or a blend of the two) until no longer pink. Drain excess fat.

Add remaining ingredients and simmer 2 to 3 hours with the lid on. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

BLUE RIBBON CHILI BOWL

- 2 pounds lean ground beef

- 1 cup chopped onions
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 (7-ounce) cans green chile salsa
- 1 (10-ounce) can spicy tomato cocktail juice
- 1 (1-pound) can pinto or kidney beans, drained
- French bread or tortillas

Cook beef in a large skillet until brown and crumbly. Drain excess fat. Add onion and garlic and cook until onion is tender. Add chili powder, oregano, salt, chile salsa, tomato cocktail and beans. Simmer, covered, until thick, about 1 hour. Stir occasionally. Serve in bowls with warm French bread or heated flour tortillas on the side. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

SOUTHWESTERN CHILI

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 large yellow onions, chopped, about 4 cups
- 2 pounds coarsely ground beef (shoulder or chuck)
- 2 pounds coarsely ground pork
- Salt
- 1/3 cup mild, unseasoned chile powder
- 3 tablespoons ground cumin, from toasted seeds, if possible
- 3 tablespoons dried oregano, preferably Mexican
- 3 tablespoons unsweetened

- cocoa powder (not Dutch process)
- 2 tablespoons cinnamon
- 1-1/2 teaspoons cayenne pepper, or to taste
- 4 cups tomato juice
- 3 cups canned beef stock
- 8 medium garlic cloves, peeled and minced
- 2 tablespoons yellow cornmeal as optional thickener (for more as needed)
- 1 (32-ounce) can dark red kidney beans (drained and rinsed)

In a large skillet, over medium heat, warm the oil. Add onions and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, about 20 minutes.

Meanwhile in a 4 to 5 quart heavy flameproof casserole or Dutch oven over medium heat, combine beef and pork. Season with 2 tablespoons salt and cook, stirring often, until meat has lost all its pink color and is evenly crumbled, about 20 minutes.

Scrape onions into casserole with meats. Stir in chili powder, cumin, oregano, cocoa, cinnamon and cayenne pepper. Cook, stirring, 5 minutes. Stir in tomato juice and beef stock. Bring to a boil then lower heat and simmer, uncovered, for 1 hour.

Taste, correct seasonings and simmer another 30 minutes or until chili is thickened to your liking. Stir in garlic. To thicken chili further or to bind any surface fats, stir in the optional cornmeal.

Stir in the beans and simmer



another 5 minutes. Serves 6 or more.

MICROWAVE CHILI

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 2 (14-1/2 ounce) cans stewed tomatoes
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1-1/2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- 1 (16-ounce) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- Salt and pepper to taste

Crumble beef into a 2-quart

microwave-safe bowl. Add onion; mix well. Cover and microwave on high for 5 minutes or until meat is no longer pink; drain. Stir in the tomatoes, chili powder and mustard; mix well. Cover and microwave on high for 10 minutes. Add beans, mix well. Cover and microwave on high for 3 minutes longer. Add salt and pepper. Serves 4.

CHUCK WAGON CHILI

- 3 pounds ground chuck
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 2 bell peppers, chopped
- 2 hot yellow peppers, chopped

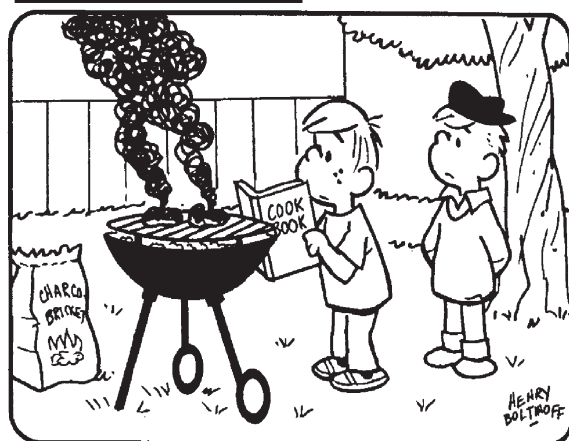
- 2 (16-ounce) cans tomatoes
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 4 teaspoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/4 pound margarine
- 1 teaspoon Tabasco

Brown meat lightly in skillet and transfer to large pot. Sauté onions and peppers in skillet and add to meat. Chop and sauté tomatoes and add to meat. Add remaining ingredients and simmer 3 hours in covered pot, stirring often.

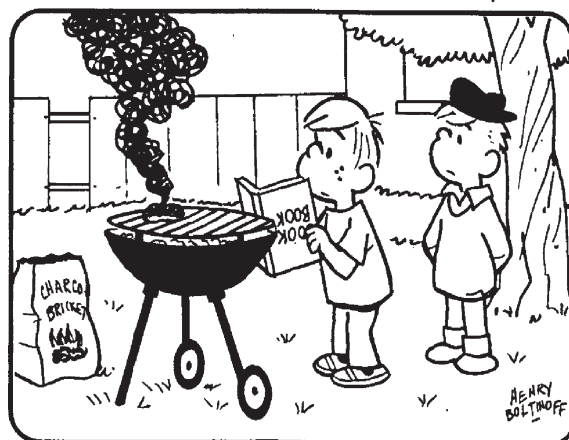
TIME OUT FOR FUN & GAMES

HOCUS-FOCUS

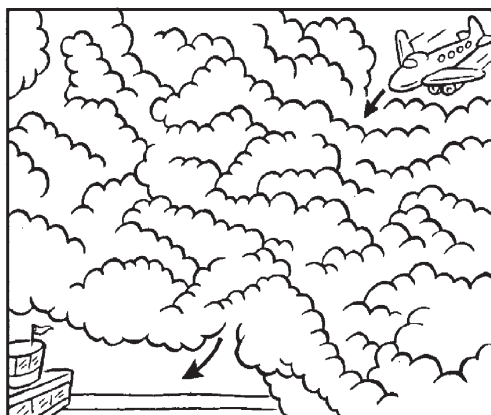
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Fence slat is missing. 2. Window is added. 3. Book is upside down. 4. Steak is missing.

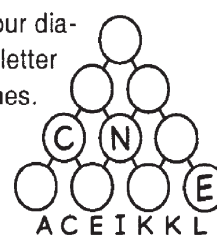


SOCKED IN! Visibility is zero. Can you guide the small plane through the maze of clouds to a safe landing at the airport pictured above?

LUCKY SEVENS! Professor Flunkum wants you to make up a math problem using seven 7's and one minus sign to arrive at the answer "7." You have seven minutes to solve this one.

Answer: $7 \cdot 777 - 777 = 7$

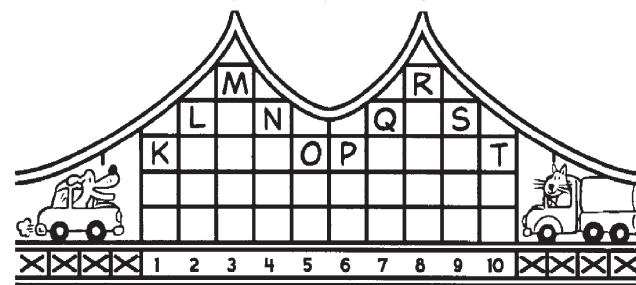
CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.



Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Lack, lace, lane, lank, line, link, lick, lice.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



Illustrated by David Coulson

A WORD BRIDGE!

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word plus plenty of hints:

1. A family relation.
2. Type of onion.
3. A free-for-all fight.
4. A snack or light meal.
5. A lyric poem.
6. A wooden church bench.
7. A clever, witty remark.
8. A picture puzzle.
9. A short performance.
10. A sailor.

Answers: 1. Kin. 2. Leek. 3. Melee. 4. Nosh. 5. Ode. 6. Pew. 7. Quip. 8. Rebus. 9. Skit. 10. Tar.

REAL ESTATE GALLERY

REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Cal/OSHA Intensifies Regulations for Showing Homes

Inching closer to June 1st, some potential home buyers and sellers are eyeing the end of Shelter-in-Place (SIP) as a Get-Out-Of-Jail-Free card.

Nothing could be further from the truth: real estate sales as we have known them have dramatically altered and will remain that way for some time to come.

Until we have an effective treatment regimen or vaccine for COVID-19, the focus for real estate-related activities will be on prevention. Consequently, many current restrictions will remain for the foreseeable future, including *no* open houses and personal showings limited to two persons and their agent.

Trying to figure out how this will play out longterm has been difficult since the rules are morphing almost weekly.

The last significant change

has been the interjection of Cal/OSHA (The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration) into home sales.

According to their website (<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/>), Cal/OSHA's mission states "protects and improves the health and safety of working men and women in California and the safety of passengers riding on elevators, amusement rides, and tramways." A quick scan of their website reveals nothing real estate specific per se, so how might they be involved?

Under the guise of safety, Cal/OSHA has issued directives concerning access to real estate sales.

First, they have mandated that a placard be placed on the entry of every home for sale specifying obligatory safety precautions that must be met

while accessing the home. These currently include wearing masks and gloves (booties are no longer required and gloves may soon become unnecessary), washing or disinfecting hands prior to and after viewing the home, practicing social distancing and avoiding touching any surfaces inside the dwelling.

Additionally, for those who might not have their own personal protective items, homeowners or listing agents are tasked with providing sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, gloves, masks and a trashcan for used items.

Second, guidelines have been handed down mandating the cleaning and disinfecting of properties both before and after showings including counters, door and cabinet handles, lock boxes, keypads, sinks, light switches and more. They also state that during a showing, fresh outside air be allowed to enter the property (i.e. leaving the front door open).

The good news is that even with COVID-19 restrictions, significant inventory shortfalls are causing most homes to sell quickly. Multiple offers are also helping keep prices up. Stay tuned as we continue providing updates ... in this new Real Estate Reality.

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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Matt
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Brown Lawn Stressed by Water

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Q My lawn looks great except for two spots that brownout during the spring and summer months. My neighbor seems to think it's some type of fungus. How do I go about preventing the brown spots before they begin?

A While it's possible to have lawn fungus or even insect damage, it's not likely at this time of the year. With warm and windy days, the first thing I suspect is water stress.

Check to see that the sprinklers are operating properly as they can get clogged. The spray from each sprinkler should overlap each other. The overlapping should be close to 100% for each square inch of turf to receive an equal amount of moisture.

Dry spots develop in the sunniest locations where the moisture level is uneven. The gap in the coverage occurs when sprinklers are spaced too far apart or when different types of sprinklers are mixed on the same line.

Here is a simple method to help determine if your coverage is adequate. You'll need several, probably six to eight, straight-sided, empty containers. They are spread out or equally spaced in the lush and problem area(s).

To check proper coverage, turn on the sprinklers until there is a minimum of one inch in a container. Keep track of the time. Check to see if each container is about the same. If one is excessively higher or lower, the sprinklers will need adjustments.

Proper irrigation is about an inch of water twice a week when the temperature is under 85 degrees. If over, three times a week. However soil types, drainage, temperature, age of the turf can all play factors in irrigation. Repeat this for each sprinklers zone or section. If the water levels are close to equal, your sprinkler

system is working efficiently. If not, you'll need to make some adjustments and add some sprinklers.

If the solution presents too many problems, increase the water and hand water these spots regularly. Next review the frequency and length of time the sprinklers run.

There is no set rule as there are quite a few variables as mentioned earlier. The soil profile is the key to the solution. This is where the grassroots are growing.

To expose the soil profile you need to make two right angle slices to each other in the turf using a shovel and then lift up the section at the apex. You might do this in several locations. With older lawns or those poorly amended, the grassroots tend to be at the soil surface or located in an organic layer referred to as thatch.

These lawns need to be watered more often and for shorter periods of time in warm windy conditions than those rooted deeper in the native soil. I recommend that turf be watered in the early morning on a rising temperature instead of waiting for it to be under stress later in the day. Watering in the morning is more water-wise when it's calm as less water is blown around and wasted. And finally. Seasonal grasses will brown out with warm temperatures and return in the fall when it cools off.

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 or on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BuzzBertolero](https://www.facebook.com/BuzzBertolero)



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HEALTH & FITNESS

It's Time to Get More Kids Biking

For kids, biking is one of the gateways to growing up. Popular films and TV hits such as "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial" and "Stranger Things" highlight the joy a bike can bring as a fun way to explore or spend time kicking around the neighborhood. Yet, according to a study from the Outdoor Industry Association, bike riding among kids declined 19% between 2007 and 2019.

With the weather getting warmer, there are plenty of good reasons for anyone to get outside and ride a bike. Especially during this time of social distancing, bike riding offers the perfect opportunity to shake off cabin fever and safely enjoy the fresh air.

Benefits of bike riding

For tweens and teens in particular, there are many benefits of owning and riding a bike, including:

- * It gets kids outside away from screens to enjoy fresh air and vitamin D-giving sunshine.

- * It promotes cardiovascular health.

- * It builds muscles, while improving balance and coordination.

- * It improves mental health by helping to reduce anxiety or stress.

- * It is good for the environment, offering an emissions-free mode of transportation.

- * It helps build self-confidence and relationships with others who like cycling too.

Help for foster kids who need bikes

Unfortunately, not every kid has the opportunity to enjoy the many positive aspects of bike riding. Children in foster care, tweens and teens in particular, don't always have

access to a bike, so they aren't able to experience this important milestone of growing up.

To help address this issue, and in recognition of National Bike Month and National Foster Care Month, Honeycomb cereal is donating \$50,000 to Together We Rise, a national nonprofit dedicated to helping improve the lives of youth in foster care. The donation will provide 600 bicycles to tweens and teens in foster care nationwide, helping them to build their confidence and experience the many physical and emotional benefits that having a bike brings.

Bikes have been part of Honeycomb's history since the 1970s, featured in its advertising and promotions. Kids growing up in the '70s and '80s fondly remember collecting Honeycomb bike-sized state license plates, which were given

away free inside cereal boxes each year. Honeycomb's latest "Always Be Big" spot features a bicycle with a nostalgic nod to the past.

"We're thrilled to team up with Together We Rise to give kids in foster care the chance to experience the fun and joy that biking brings," said Michelle Titus, senior brand manager of Honeycomb cereal. "Throughout its history, Honeycomb has been a champion of the small yet big moments for kids. This donation will make the dream of owning a bike a reality for these kids."

Safety tips

Kids heading out on their bikes should follow basic guidelines to protect their health and safety. Remind your tween or teen to:

- * Always wear a helmet, even for a short trip.

- * Be visible by wearing bright clothing and using reflectors or lights to ensure



others can see you, especially in the early morning or around sundown.

- * Always use sunscreen to protect exposed skin from UV rays.

- * Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids.

- * Stick to bike paths, if possible, rather than riding on the street.

- * Obey all traffic laws.

- * Stay alert while riding.

- * Don't use ear buds or headphones that could prevent

you from hearing traffic or other dangers.

- * Don't use your phone or text while riding - stop and get off the trail to use any device.

Now is the perfect time to get your kids biking and consider helping foster kids do the same. For more information about the Together We Rise Bikes for Foster Children program or how to sponsor a bike for kids who need one, visit TogetherWeRise.org.

-Brandpoint

In the Fight Against COVID-19, We all Have a Part to Play

You've probably heard the term "essential worker." You might even know a few. Among them are those in the medical profession, education and food production. And they're working hard to keep our nation going during the COVID-19 crisis.

That's why workplaces are putting extra measures in place to keep them protected. Tyson Foods, for example, is providing facial coverings for all workers, conducting symptom screening (including temperature) daily and facilitating social distancing with physical barriers between workspaces.

But have you ever thought about the role you play in keeping essential workers safe?

Tom Brower, senior vice president of health and safety at Tyson Foods, says, "Combining protective measures is the most effective way to keep our team members safe."

We all factor into that equation. Here are a few ways to protect yourself, your loved ones and the essential workers you might encounter.

Choose actions that protect others.

Keeping a safe distance from others takes many forms. If you do decide to go out in public: Keep those trips to a minimum, make sure you stay at least six feet away from others, avoid large gatherings (10 or less is best), follow directional signs in stores, and of course, wear a mask the correct way. If you don't know where to find a mask, check

for sales through social media classifieds or watch tutorials to make one yourself.

Let's be clear: Masks don't keep you safe, but they might keep the person next to you safe. In grocery stores and other places where social distancing is a challenge, wearing a mask can help ensure you don't spread infection to others.

Communities that practice good social distancing play a key role in reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Wash those hands as often as possible.

Did you know, if you're like most people, that you touch your face 23 times ... an hour? While COVID-19 is believed to spread through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing or even breathing, it could also be transmitted through shared surfaces. Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds helps ensure you don't transfer the virus from a shopping cart to your face or vice versa.

And don't forget hand sanitizer. If you are unable to wash your hands the traditional way,

the "CDC recommends consumers use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol."

When in doubt, stay home.

If you feel like you may be sick, or getting sick, just stay home. This reduces the potential spread of any illness you may knowingly, or unknowingly, be carrying. Even if you don't feel sick, it's a good general rule to stay home unless you really need to venture out for work or basic items. Imagine cutting out a single errand a week, like making one trip to the grocery store instead of two. It could mean you avoid close contact with dozens of other customers.

Essential workers in your area are depending on the safe habits of people like you. The next time you enjoy a meal, receive medical care or turn on your lights, think about the hardworking people who made that happen - and what you can do to keep them healthy.

Remember, in the fight against COVID-19, we all have a part to play.

-Brandpoint

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Budget: Lockdown lowers revenue

continued from front page

hardest hit include restaurants and hotels, auto and transportation, fuel and service stations, retail, and construction. Additional sales tax losses have been noted in the business-to-business sector, food and drug products, and online sales.

City spending this fiscal year is up 4 percent with much of that increase going to support families and small businesses stay afloat during the pandemic. Some \$250,000 is earmarked for small business grants with an additional \$120,000 set aside for food pantries in the city.

"I believe we have made significant cuts to take a bite out of the deficit, and because of thoughtful and disciplined efforts by the City Council and previous administrations, we are in a strong position going into what looks like a COVID-induced recession," Warmerdam told the San Leandro Times. "This is not only helpful for city finances,

but also for the community at large, as we work toward finding ways to assist our residents and businesses either through business grants, addressing food

"I believe we have made significant cuts."

— Assistant City Manager
Liz Warmerdam

insecurity, or issues around the un-housed."

Some considerations presented to the City Council if operating budgets continue to decline included deferring the Monarch Bay Shoreline Development Project and continuing the current Storm Water Fund, said Warmerdam. Finance department staff also noted that its emergency cash reserves will likely drop by more than \$12 million from \$34.4 million secured at the end of next

month down to \$22.2 million by the end of June 2021.

Even though it could save the City a total of \$3.1 million, staff says it is reluctant to implement the 2019 city employee-based CARE Team recommendations of employee furloughs for non-safety positions or reducing non-safety staff hours.

Some options to soften the financial blow for next year include raising local property taxes by 2 percent and adding 1 percent to the existing utility users' tax.

The City Council initially adopted expected total operating revenues at an estimated \$117 million for 2019-2020 and \$118 million for 2020-2021. Staff projections are now for an estimated \$109 million for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

The projected Total Operating Expenditures are \$7.2 million lower than projected for the rest of this year but a larger \$11.1 million for the 2020-2021 fiscal calendar.



Congratulations Bancroft Broncos Class of 2020

The Bancroft Middle School PTA congratulates the Broncos eighth-grade promoting class of 2020! Eighth grader Luke Washburn in the photo is one of the 354 members of the Bancroft Class of 2020 to be promoted on to high school next fall.

Hayward Firefighters, Managers Agree to Hold Off on Raises

The Hayward City Council approved changes in compensation agreements with Hayward firefighters last week to save money amid steep declines in city revenue stemming from the COVID-19 health emergency.

The agreements include fire department managers and City Manager Kelly McAdoo. Under the agreements, firefighters, fire department management and McAdoo are giving up two percent salary increases they were scheduled to receive July 1, saving the City a combined

\$487,215 in the upcoming 2021 fiscal year.

Also Tuesday, the Hayward Mayor and council members voted to reduce their salary by two percent for Fiscal Year 2021 and cut their travel and other expense budgets by 50 percent, saving the city an additional \$11,800 in the coming fiscal year.

These agreements and give-backs are the first to be reached since the city manager sent two formal proposals to city employee bargaining groups asking that all city workers accept 80 hours

of furloughs or agree to forego scheduled July 1 pay increases.

The proposals, along with corresponding changes in compensation for unrepresented groups of city employees, would save Hayward approximately \$2 million to \$3 million in Fiscal Year 2021, preserving cash that is projected to be needed to help maintain a balanced budget and sustain city services in the months and years ahead.

By the close of the 2020 fiscal year on June 30, revenue declines attributable to COVID-19 are

projected to require use of \$17 million of the City's \$36 million General Fund operating reserve.

The General Fund pays for basic municipal services, such as police, fire-fighting, 911 response, libraries, maintenance of public spaces, and administration of general governmental operations and programs.

The General Fund reserve is similar to a savings account that provides a cash-flow cushion for meeting unanticipated needs, getting through cyclical fluctuations in expenses and revenues, and to

draw on in times of emergency.

Without further action to slow spending and a bounce back in sales tax and other key General Fund revenues, the City is at risk of exhausting the entire

General Fund reserve during the 2021 Fiscal Year starting July 1, making it difficult to maintain services while meeting all of the City's financial obligations over the next 12 months.

Hope Hospice Offering 3 Free Town Hall Webinars

Hope Hospice will present a free series of live educational panel discussions via Zoom on the next three Wednesday evenings to discuss issues surrounding end-of-life planning, understanding grief, and caring for the elderly.

Participants in the following webinars will be able to ask questions of Hope's in-house experts:

- May 27, 5-6 p.m.: "Understanding Loss and Grief": Leaders from Hope's supportive staff – Kathleen Brand and Rev. Melissa Tumaneng – will discuss different kinds of loss and how loved ones can support one another during uncertain times.

- June 3, 5-6 p.m.: "Understanding the Care Needs of Aging Loved Ones" – While many families wait until a crisis to start discussing care needs, sharing of responsibilities, and finances, you will learn how to save stress by starting research early from Hope's Veronica Martin and Debbie Emerson.

Logon information is posted at HopeHospice.com/townhall. For more information, call 925-829-8770.

AAA Offers Free Roadside Assistance to First Responders and Healthcare Workers

AAA Northern California is offering free AAA Roadside Assistance service to first responders and healthcare workers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the end of May.

"Offering free AAA Roadside Assistance when they break down is a small way AAA can help get these heroes back on the road to where they're needed most," said Tim Condon, the company's president and CEO.

All first responders and healthcare workers, including those who aren't AAA members, can call 1-800-AAA-HELP if they need roadside assistance, which operates as an essential service during shelter-in-place orders.

The company is also offering free Virtual Car Seat Inspections with nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians to help expectant families get home safely from the hospital.

For full information, visit calstate.aaa.com/automotive/car-seat-inspections

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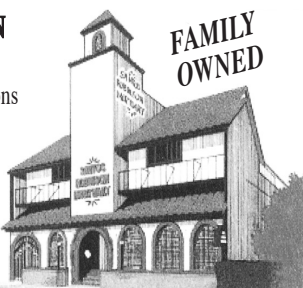
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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Your Aries self-esteem level is high, as is your impatience to see more action come your way in the workplace. Good news, Lamb: It could start to happen sooner than you think.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Changing things now could upset a lot of people. But if you feel you're acting because you believe it's the right thing to do, others will understand and even come to support you.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): A change of mind might not necessarily be a change of heart. You still want to go ahead with your plans, but you might see a better way to make them happen. So go for it.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): An old business dispute could re-emerge and possibly affect upcoming negotiations. Consider opening up the situation to include suggestions from others on both sides of the issue.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): Some Leos and Leonas might find it somewhat difficult to get their ideas accepted or even considered. But that's only for a while. Things will soon return to the way you like them.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): The pace seems to be slowing down from the hectic on-the-job run you recently enjoyed. But be assured that you're still in the race to pick up new workplace-related goodies.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Seasonal changes create opportunities for busy Librans. However, be sure to balance your workload with your personal life so that you don't overdo it on one end or the other.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): A former critic could make a surprise turnaround and become a supporter. But if your Scorpion sense suspects a questionable motive, who are the rest of us to doubt it?



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Data on a new project seems less than dependable. But it might turn out to be just the opposite. Consult with someone who knows how you might best be able to check it out.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Capricornians face many decisions this week, with the Sea Goat's kids rating high on the consideration scale, especially regarding vacations and upcoming school matters.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Showing that you care is what Aquarians do so well. It's your very special skill. And this week, you'll have several chances to show off that gift for a very special person. Good luck.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): That streak of Piscean wariness should serve you well this week should you be among those who come up against a slippery character offering a fishy deal with nothing to back it up.

County Ramps Up Contact Tracing to Track Down Coronavirus

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Now that some restrictions have lifted in Alameda County, public health officials are focused on contact tracing in the fight against the spread of COVID-19.

Contact tracing is one way to track the spread of an infectious disease. Public health staff works with a patient to help them recall everyone with whom they have had close contact during the time frame while they may have been infectious.

Health agencies have used contact tracing to combat tuberculosis, polio, measles, HIV/AIDS, and many other infectious diseases. California Governor Gavin Newsome announced last Friday that a team of 500 people statewide would be focused on contact tracing with a goal of 10,000 in the next few weeks.

The spread of the novel coronavirus in Alameda County has tapered off enough that Public Health officials have allowed for more outdoor activities like golfing and gardening as well as curbside pickup of pre-ordered

items from retailers.

But the number of COVID cases in the county has not dropped enough to reopen schools, movie theatres, or sporting venues. Currently, county health officials report 2,874 cases of coronavirus infections with 93 related deaths.

San Leandro reported 140 infections. Castro Valley reported 113 cases. The rest of the unincorporated area saw 196 cases. Hispanic, Pacific Islander, and African American demographics have the highest rates of infection.

Seniors older than 80 and those with underlying health issues are also most at risk of contracting COVID-19.

Public health officials say the more people who participate in its contact tracing program, the more lives and jobs can be saved.

"Right now, with shelter-in-place restrictions, we are finding about three close contacts for each case, but we are planning for an average of 10 contacts per case after restrictions are eased," says Alameda County Public

Health Department spokesperson Neetu Balram. "We are also more likely to see clusters of cases in community settings that may require large contact investigations once shelter-in-place restrictions are lifted."

Alameda County has about 75 people on staff working with COVID-19 patients. Officials would like 300 people doing this work once shelter-in-place restrictions are eased.

Balram says if staff can reach at least 90 percent of cases and identify their contacts, it will help relax even more restrictions of the county's shelter-in-place.

How Contact Tracing Works

If you test positive for COVID-19, Alameda County Public Health Department will ask where you have been and the people you have spent time with recently.

The Department may also obtain information from healthcare providers or employers in some situations. Your information is confidential and will not be shared, and you will not be asked

about your immigration status.

If a patient was in a community or group setting like a school, retail store, or care facility, Public Health will rely on a combination of interviews as well as the managers to identify and reach potentially exposed clients.

If you have been in contact

with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, you will receive a phone call from a health worker. They will provide you access to testing at no cost to you and medical care if needed. You will also be asked to separate yourself from others in your home to protect those

around you.

Currently, Alameda County Public Health Department does not have a phone tracking system that would monitor the movements of COVID-19 patients and there are no current plans to enforce installing such an application.

EBCE Gives \$250,000 to County

A partnership between East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) and the Clearway Energy Group is distributing \$250,000 in grants to support COVID-19 relief efforts in Alameda County.

A total of \$140,000 will go to local organizations that provide help on utility bills, food security, rent, health and wellness.

An additional \$50,000 will

be spent on masks and hand sanitizer for community members in need and front-line workers in the county.

The remaining \$60,000 is yet to be allocated.

PG&E Offers Payment Relief

PG&E is offering additional support for customers experiencing hardships as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The company is implementing a series of billing and service modifications effective immediately to ensure the lights stay on and the

gas continues to flow for customers experiencing financial challenges.

Customers having trouble paying their bills due to the economic impact of COVID-19 can call PG&E at 1-800-743-5000 to arrange flexible payment plans.

The utility has implemented a

moratorium on service disconnections for non-payment. This suspension applies to both residential and small business customers and will remain in effect until further notice.

PG&E will also provide additional support for low-income and medical baseline customers.

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.

Breaking the Feed/Kill Chain

Editor:

Something needs to be said when the POTUS puts the interests of the meat and dairy industry ahead of the health and safety of their frontline workers. Maybe there has never been a better time to find the courage to break from the feed/kill chain.

Every trip to the grocery store is an opportunity to replace animal products with healthy nutritious alternatives that are better for us, the animals and environment. Shoppers, have you noticed that more and more healthy vegetarian products are appearing on the shelves at the grocery store? The tide is turning.

When you buy vegetarian you are voting with your dollars for a healthier future and the politicians will notice.

— Benjamin Frager
San Leandro

The \$135,000 Squiggle

Editor:

About the Times throwing a paper at every house in San Leandro ("No Newspapers for Millennials," Letters, May 21): one of those houses just happens to be mine. As far as I am concerned, litter on. I fought for that right and I'm not giving it up.

About the question mark: Those of you who feel so strongly about said punctuation that a question mark should cost \$135,000, please open your wallets, your purses and your checkbooks. Pay for the blessed little squiggle and let the rest of us content ourselves with roast beef

sandwiches, vittles and sauerkraut.

—David F. Sigel
San Leandro

The Times: 'Very Appreciated'

Editor:

Very disappointed on the comments made in previous letters to the editor, ("No Newspapers for Millennials," Letters, May 21). The San Leandro Times newspaper distribution and delivery service you provide is very appreciated.

Understanding it's impossible to appeal to everyone, pride in community and information about that community is a major way to increase that pride. Millennials cannot find this type of local news and information anywhere else. Home ownership is obviously reaching the younger demographic and along with that ownership comes maturity and a certain level of increased pride that craves local information.

—Larry Salas
San Leandro

The Untouchable President

Editor:

Donald Trump, Capo dei capi, has cheated, lied, fired and disparaged to protect his pretense as the most untouchable President in US History and secure his re-election. No one, since the Senator Joseph McCarthy investigations and hearings of the 1950s supposed communist infiltration of various areas of the U.S. government, has ever deserved such damnation.

Trump should be exposed as a traitor

and a dangerous criminal. He's committed serious crimes while in office, and has escaped prosecution under his umbrella of protection as the Executive Privilege President.

Trump has said he's now taking hydroxychloroquine, the anti-malaria drug FDA specifically warned against taking due to risk of heart rhythm problems. FACT: Trump won't continue taking hydroxychloroquine—and no one will know the truth. Trump is deceitful and an implacable liar of immense proportion.

Trump, an aspiring autocrat, is content to allow Coronavirus to play-out and ravage the American people. This further benefits him from chaos, profits him financially, and uses it to consolidate power.

Trump's now calling voting by mail "total election fraud." All in an attempt to discourage voting and setting the stage for calling the election illegitimate.

Jared Kushner—who recently spoke of "killing Social Security"—Trump's mental-midget mouthpiece advisor is now saying, "we don't know if there's going to be an election."

Trump has no intention of leaving office. He will not relinquish the Presidency, cite Emergency Powers due to the pandemic and voter election fraud. He'll call it illegitimate. Say it was rigged, refuse to leave, and the Republican Party will back him up entrapped in his web of criminality.

—Dwight Pitcaithley
San Leandro

Passed the Test

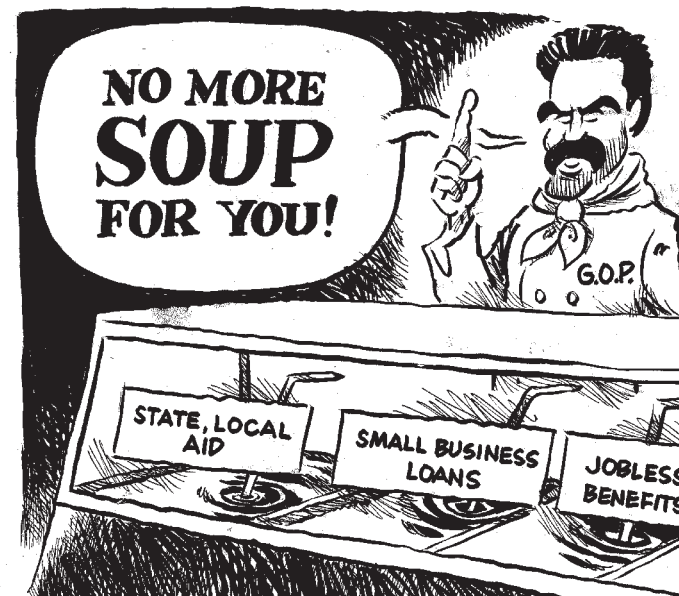
Editor:

Leo West

Is the best.

He mentioned me. I've passed his test.

—George Z. Banks
San Leandro



Rosie: Torres wants to reach out to her friends during the shutdown

continued from front page

side of the road, and you men go to the other side of the road."

Torres found a job at McClellan Air Force base but she didn't think it was challenging enough. She applied at Moore's Shipyard in Oakland where they

"I was there all day at the DMV. I don't think they ever want to see me again."

— Mary Torres

built Liberty ships. It wasn't as big of a shipyard as Kaiser in Richmond where they built ships with assembly-line production. Moore's was a smaller yard where they made the whole ship from the ground up, and that's what Torres liked.

She took a training course to be a tacker (spot welder), and after six months she became a



Right after high school, Torres left Donora, Pennsylvania for California to get a job in the shipyards.

journeyman, welding the steel plates of the ship's hull. The foreman was a man named Frank Torres, who she later married.

When the men came home after the war, they needed jobs so the Rosies left the shipyards. Torres saved her money from the shipyard, invested in stocks and that gave her and Frank enough money to buy a bowling alley in Fremont.

Her husband died 15 years ago but Torres stays busy working in her garden, giving talks and keeping in touch with all of her friends. She just regrets that she can't celebrate her birthday with friends this year because everybody is cooped up during the pandemic emergency.

"Maybe if you put this in the paper everybody will see it and that will be a way to celebrate," Torres said. "We're all miserable with what's going on and we need a little spark."



TIMES FILE PHOTO

Mary Torres wore her Rosie the Riveter scarf for a photo in her backyard five years ago.

UC to Nix SAT and ACT Exams

University of California Regents voted last week to phase out the SAT (Schoolastic Aptitude Test) an ACT (American College Testing) exam as requirements

for admission to U.C. Berkeley, U.C.L.A. and its eight other schools.

Hundreds of schools, including those in the U.C. system, had

already dropped the standardized tests for 2021 after testing dates were disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

The tests have long been criticized as being unfair to low-income and minority students.

The regents' action would mean that, by 2025, consideration of the SAT or ACT for all students would be eliminated. Nearly 300,000 students attend U.C. schools.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Homer



Nakia

Traffic Making a Comeback After Big Dip

Traffic is building again throughout the Bay Area. Overall, traffic in the nine Bay Area counties has surged 61 percent from its nadir during the week of April 8 to 12, according to KQED News.

But traffic is still 73 percent below its March 1 level prior to the start of shelter-in-place orders.

The Pets of the Week from the Hayward Animal Shelter are Homer the pigeon and Nakia the dog.

Homer, a homing pigeon, needs to be an indoor-only bird. He would do great in an aviary and should bond with his feeder. Please check out www.pigeonrescue.org for expert information on how to care for a pigeon.

Nakia is a lovable, 2-year-old

pup with deep brown eyes and a huge smile. She has a jovial personality and is a very friendly, wiggly girl who loves squeaky toys, attention and walks.

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

Former Arroyo Shortstop Lands Cal Coach Job

Former Arroyo High softball player Chelsea Spencer became the new head coach of the California Golden Bears softball team last week.

Spencer was a stellar shortstop at Arroyo and she was named the 2000 Hayward Area Athletic League Softball Player of the Year.

Spencer's success continued at UC Berkeley where she was part of the 2002 NCAA national championship team. She was on teams that went to the Women's College World Series four straight years. Now Spencer returns to her alma mater as the Golden Bears coach.

Spencer began coaching at Chabot College in 2007, and moved to Division I level as an assistant coach at Michigan State. She was most recently on the coaching staff at the University of Texas.

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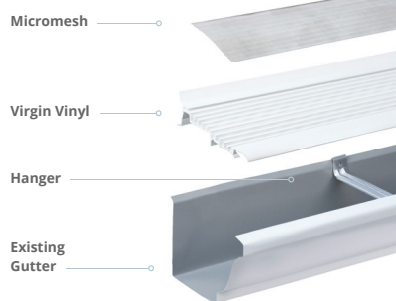
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"My only regret is that I wish I had known about LeafFilter sooner." —Doug L.

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