



## Baking with Love

VALENTINE'S DAY RECIPES

THAT SAY I LOVE YOU ..... 4

WEEKEND WEATHER

RAIN

Rain thru Friday

HIGHS: 57-64

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

LOWS: 39-51

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

# San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 35 • NO. 7

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



The crowd mingled at the Best of San Leandro awards at the Net Zero Energy Center, hosted by the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

## Chamber Honors Outstanding Businesses

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro Chamber of Commerce honored San Leandro businesses and organizations on Thursday, Jan. 30, at the Net Zero Energy Center on Catalina Drive.

The awards were presented in six cat-

egories, based on a community survey. The winners were: Minuteman Press, All Steele Fitness, LemonAD Media, Danny Murry's Irish Pub, Torani and the San Leandro Boy's & Girl's Club.

The evening drew several hundred people who enjoyed a light dinner, circus performers, and a deejay.

Chamber President and CEO Emily Griego welcomed the crowd and said it had been a successful year for the chamber and for San Leandro businesses. She kicked off the event with the first winner, Minuteman Press in the Business Services category.

see *BUSINESSES*, page 11

## City Council OKs Bridge Cost Overruns

Cost of removing Haas Avenue-Cary Drive Pedestrian Bridge increases to \$575,000

By Michael Singer  
San Leandro Times

The cost to remove the damaged Haas Avenue-Cary Drive Pedestrian Bridge jumped to \$575,000, an increase of \$136,268 from the previous cost estimate, as the City Council voted to approve the cost overruns.

The City Council unanimously approved the extra expenditures at its Feb. 3 meeting.

The unforeseen costs included erosion control and

replanting of the rebuilt slopes (\$38,803), a steel barrier that was added where the sidewalk on Cary Drive ends at the top of the creek bank (\$2,347), and a buried storm drain manhole that was uncovered and found to be filled with rubble (\$15,466).

"If you recall, the bridge collapsed in the creek and was covered by eucalyptus trees," Public Works Director

see *BRIDGE*, page 10

## Jones Dickson Named District Attorney

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors picked current Superior Court Judge Ursula Jones Dickson to be the county's new interim district attorney on Jan. 28.

Jones Dickson will serve until the next general election in 2026, and can then run for the remainder of the term of

recently recalled D.A. Pamela Price, which goes through 2028.

Price had been elected in 2022 to a four-year term, but in March 2024 voters changed some county office terms to align presidential election years, which extended Price's term by two years. However, voters then recalled Price last

see *JONES DICKSON*, page 12

## SLHS Class of '48 Holds Reunion

By Jim Knowles  
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro High School, Class of 1948 held a reunion recently, though over the years the ranks have thinned out a little.

Dale Berven drove up to Grass Valley to have lunch with Jean (Warren) Cooper and hold their 77th class reunion.

"As far we know, Jean and I are the last two standing," said Berven.

Berven now lives in Livermore. He and his oldest son, David, drove up to Grass

Valley and met with Jean and her youngest daughter, Terri Myers.

The held their 77th reunion at the same restaurant where they met a couple of years ago for their 75th class reunion.

"It was a most enjoyable time talking about the old days," Dale said.

They reminisced about the old San Leandro High campus, which stood where Bancroft Middle School is today.

Dale and Jean still have

see *REUNION*, page 12



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE BERVEN

Dale Berven and Jean Cooper recently held the SLHS Class of '48 reunion.

## INSIDE YOUR TIMES

### COMMUNITY

Nominate someone to the Women's Hall of Fame. **Page 3**

### CALENDAR

Catch the Alta Mira Club's Mystery Tea. **Page 3**

### HEALTH

Park district issues mushroom warning. **Page 5**

**38,500 EVERY THURSDAY**

THE LARGEST FREE-DELIVERED NEWSPAPER IN THE EAST BAY

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



## MEETING SCHEDULES

### CITY COUNCIL

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

### SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



## San Leandro Times

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

### EDITORIAL

**Howard Morrison**  
Editor and Publisher  
howardm@ebpublishing.com

**Jim Knowles**  
Managing Editor  
jimk@ebpublishing.com

Contributing Writers

**Buzz Bertolero**

**Mike McGuire**

**Michael Singer**

**Carl Medford**

**Linda Sandsmark**

### PRODUCTION

**Howard Morrison**  
Manager

**Moxie Morrison**  
Assistant

**Claudette Morrison**  
Business Manager

### ADVERTISING

Display Advertising

**Claudette Morrison**

Classified Advertising

**Patrick Vadnais**

### HOW TO REACH US

**San Leandro Times**  
2060 Washington Ave.  
San Leandro, California 94577

Office hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Office: (510) 614-1555

Newsroom: (510) 614-1557

Sports: (510) 614-1561

Advertising: (510) 614-1555

Classified: (510) 614-1558

Fax: (510) 483-4209

Email: jimk@ebpublishing.com

[www.ebpublishing.com](http://www.ebpublishing.com)



California  
Newspaper  
Publishers  
Association  
member

©2019 East Bay Publishing Corporation

## County Women's Hall of Fame Extends Deadline

The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame is extending the deadline for nominations for its class of 2025 inductees.

The new nomination deadline is the end of the day on Monday, Feb. 17.

The inductee nominations can be submitted online at <https://www.acgov.org/whof/>.

Inductee nominations can be submitted online in the following categories: Business & Professions, Culture & Art, Community Service, Education, Emerging Leaders,

Environment, Health, Justice, Non-Traditional Careers, Philanthropy, Science-Technology-Engineering, and Sports & Athletics.

The Hall of Fame was established in 1993 to honor local women who make a meaningful impact in the diverse communities of Alameda County and to preserve their legacies in the county archives.

Up to 12 inductees and four youth scholarship recipients will be selected by a panel of judges and honored at a special luncheon and awards ceremony on Saturday, April 26, at The Club at Castlewood, in Pleasanton. The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame raises funds to support local organizations that serve women and families throughout Alameda County.

### Orozco Named to Dean's List

Victoria Orozco of San Leandro excelled during the fall 2024 semester at Hofstra University to earn a spot on the Dean's List. Victoria's major is Television Production & Studies.

## Xouhoa Bowen Named to League of Cities Committee

City Councilmember Bowen appointed to League of Cities Human Development Advocacy Committee

San Leandro City Councilmember Xouhoa Bowen has been appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2025 Human Development Federal Advocacy Committee.

Councilmember Bowen, who is also vice mayor of San Leandro, was elected to a one-year term and will provide strategic direction and guidance for NLC's federal advocacy agenda and policy priorities on workforce development, education, early childhood, public health, mental health, substance use, veterans, seniors, immigration and more.



**Xouhoa Bowen was named to a committee that voices the needs of cities to decision-makers in Washington.**

Bowen will play a key role in shaping NLC's policy positions and advocate on behalf of America's cities, towns and villages before Congress, with the administration and at home in San Leandro.

"From workforce develop-

ment and education to public health and services for children and seniors, these issues directly impact the lives of San Leandro residents and families across the country," Bowen said. "I look forward to collaborating with local and federal leaders to advance meaningful solutions that create a more inclusive, equitable, and thriving future for all."

"NLC's federal advocacy committees are vital for uplifting the voices and needs of America's 19,000 cities, towns, and villages to decision-makers in Washington," said National League of Cities President Steve Patterson, Mayor of Athens, Ohio.

The leadership of this year's committee will consist of Chair Kim Norton, mayor of Rochester, Minnesota; Vice Chair Michael O'Connor, mayor of Frederick, Maryland; and Vice Chair John Strand, commissioner of Fargo, North Dakota.

## VITA Offers Free Tax Preparation

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will offer no-cost tax preparation to qualified taxpayers who earn \$67,000 or less annually (applies to both the individual and households), persons with disabilities, and limited English-speaking people.

The service will be available by appointment on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. through April 15 at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro.

In addition, services will

be available from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. on the following dates: Feb. 18, Feb. 27, March 11, March 20 and April 1.

To make your appointment at either site or for more information contact VITA by email at [vita.eitc@acgov.org](mailto:vita.eitc@acgov.org) or by calling at (510) 271-9141.

This service is possible thanks to a partnership with the Alameda County Social Services Agency, VITA, and the City of San Leandro.

### Correction

In the story about the City Council's planning session (City Council Wish List Will Require Money," Feb. 6, 2025), the description of the public comments about Lake

Chabot Road implied that the speakers favored reopening the road as soon as possible, but that was not the case. The commenters favored giving other projects priority.

## LET THE PROS HANDLE IT!™

**1. WE CLEAN CLOGGED GUTTERS**

**2. WE SEAL + ALIGN GUTTERS**

**3. WE INSTALL LEAFFILTER**

# 20% OFF

Your Entire Purchase\*

# + 10% OFF

Seniors + Military

**CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!**

## 1-510-690-8920

**BEFORE**

**AFTER**

**We're looking to install our NEXT GENERATION gutter guard on your home!**

**FULL SERVICE GUTTER PROTECTION – SCHEDULE YOUR FREE INSPECTION NOW! 1-510-690-8920**

## THE LEGENDARY DROWNING DARRYL'S of SAN LEANDRO



### YOUTH SWIM TEAM TRYOUTS

**February 21, 28 & March 8**

**AGES 4-17**

For more information visit: [www.DrowningDarryls.com](http://www.DrowningDarryls.com)



## Community Calendar

### Downtown Celebration for Black History Month

Celebrate Black History Month on Saturday, Feb 15, from noon to 6 p.m. at 222 Davis St. as Downtown San Leandro and West Coast Makers bring together our community to support all of our wonderful local small businesses. Great food trucks, beer, and cocktails, and cultural dancers all to the beat of club DJ. Fabulous Art, and there will even be a fashion show with prizes.

### Alta Mira Club Mystery Tea Luncheon

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Mystery Tea Luncheon on Monday, Feb. 17, at noon, featuring popular mystery writers Jennifer Morita, Karen Phillips and Simon Wood. Salad bar luncheon, followed by the program. Tickets \$25. All proceeds benefit scholarships. Limited seating. Email or call for reservations: Nancyfong@aol.com or 510-483-1018.

### San Leandro Garden Club to Meet

The San Leandro Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 10:30 a.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. The speaker this month will be Daniele Fogel, Ph.D. and owner of Yervika. She will be doing a workshop on the importance of herbs for garden ecosystems.

### Auletta to Speak at

#### Washington Home Owners Meeting

The Washington Home Owners Association will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. The speaker will be City of San Leandro Parks and Landscaping Manager Jennifer Auletta. Hear about the newly adopted Master Tree Plan and ask questions and get answers about the trees in Washington Manor and the rest of the city. Washington Manor residents and the general public are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, visit the association's website at : [www.whoasl.com](http://www.whoasl.com) or call Bob Glaze at 510-352-2058.

### Epiphany Lutheran's Closing Worship Service

Epiphany Lutheran Church, 16248 Carolyn St. in San Leandro, invites everyone to celebrate the life and ministry of the church on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m. Gather at this closing worship service in gratitude and faith as we give thanks for Epiphany Lutheran's impact and legacy.

### Join the "Book It 2025 Reading Challenge"

Push the boundaries of your reading by joining the San Leandro Library's "Book It 2025 Reading Challenge," open to teens and adults, starting Jan. 10. Stop by any branch library to pick up a gameboard, or join online at [sanleandrolibrary.beanstack.org](http://sanleandrolibrary.beanstack.org)

### Women's History Month Tiny Art Show at the San Leandro Public Library

The San Leandro Public Library is celebrating Women's History Month with its 4th Annual Tiny Art Show. Pick up a mini art kit (3"x3" canvas, paint, brushes) starting 02/03 at the Main Library to create a masterpiece inspired by women artists. Return by February 27 to be featured in the March Tiny Art Show display. Kits available while supplies last.

### SLHS United Parents Crab Feed

The San Leandro High School United Parents are having a crab feed on Saturday, March 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 2200 San Leandro Blvd. Fresh Dungeness crab, pasta, meatballs, salad, French bread. No host bar and dessert bar. Raffle, auction items. Pre-sold tickets only: <https://forms.gle/AS5EKaobyMxiZt1w7> Order by Feb. 22. Tickets are \$85 and \$15 of each ticket donated to a sports team or student organization of your choice.

### Become a Bicycle and Pedestrian Commissioner

Help make San Leandro a community where walking and biking are safe, equitable, and enjoyable for all ages and abilities. Become a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission. As a commissioner, you'll advise on biking and walking conditions and help create a more accessible San Leandro. Apply now: [SanLeandro.org/Boards](http://SanLeandro.org/Boards)

## Resolve To Lose Weight By Joining TOPS

Resolve to lose weight in 2025. Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for the support you need to start your weight loss journey.

TOPS is a non-profit weight loss support group that meets on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria Street in Castro Valley.

For more information, call Sandy Montero at 510-299-7312. Join for fellowship and support. What do you have to lose?

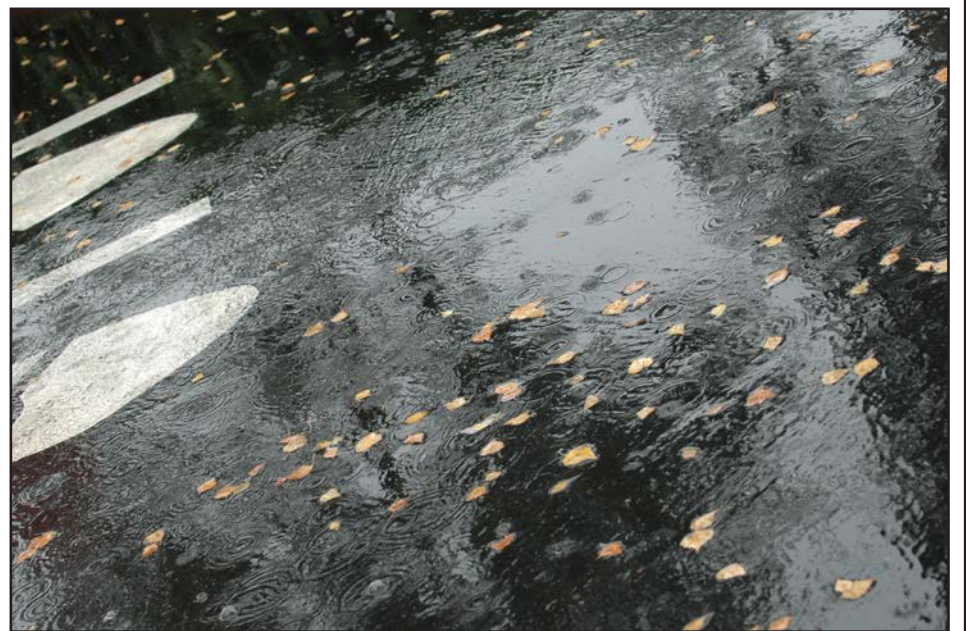


PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

## Rainy Days

We got plenty of rain last week as the water came down in a parking lot just off San Leandro Boulevard. The forecast calls for rain today and cloudy through the weekend.

### Applications for the 2025 Cherry Festival & Parade

Last year, over 20,000 people enjoyed the parade and festival. The festival is seeking vendors with high-quality products, unique experiences, professional attitudes, community non-profits, and performers to help make this the best Cherry Festival yet. If you're interested in applying, visit [sanleandrocherryfest.com](http://sanleandrocherryfest.com) for more information. The 2025 Cherry Festival and Parade will be on Saturday, June 7.

## Spectrum Community Services Fall Prevention Classes

Spectrum Community Services will hold its Winter 2025 fall prevention programs: A Matter of Balance and Walk with Ease, hosted at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 E 14th St. in San Leandro. These classes are designed to help older adults improve their strength, mobility, and confidence, enabling them to maintain their independence. To register or learn more, visit [SpectrumCS.org](http://SpectrumCS.org) or call 510-876-8809.

No one will be turned away for inability to pay, ensuring these life-changing programs remain accessible to all.

A Matter of Balance: Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. January 14 – March 4 (8

weeks). Through group discussions, practical exercises, and expert tips, participants will learn to overcome the fear of falling, strengthen their balance, and enhance home safety. Each session includes a nutritious hot lunch, fostering camaraderie among classmates.

Walk with Ease: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 to 10 a.m. and from 1 to 2 p.m. January 3 – March 21, 2025 (12 weeks). This one-hour program combines guided walking sessions with fall prevention education. Participants will build stamina, improve balance, and loosen stiff muscles and joints through practical, self-motivating techniques.

## Financial Wellness Workshops at the Library

Take steps toward your financial wellness with a free workshop series on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Learn planning and savings tools from Youngky Hermanto, CLTC, a registered financial advisor.

Two sessions remain: "Understanding Asset Accumulation Strategies" on Feb. 20; and "Fulfilling Long-Term Goals" on Feb. 27.

Register for any or all sessions by calling 510-577-3971 or visiting the library's website at [www.sanleandrolibrary.org](http://www.sanleandrolibrary.org)

## Events at the Library

### Taste of Legacy: Exploring Black History through Food and Oakland's Culinary Experience

Discover Oakland's vibrant Black culinary history with Chef Wanda Blake on Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 6:30 to 7:30 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Learn how the Great Migration shaped the community, from the Pullman Porters at the West Oakland train station to Slim Jenkins' restaurant, Housewives Market, and the Black Panther's free breakfast program. Explore the traditions that built businesses and supported families. Light refreshments will be served.

### How To Digitize & Document Your Family History

Learn how to preserve your family history with AI and multimedia storytelling on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Learn tools for oral histories, photo restoration, and creating a lasting digital heritage library. Explore case studies, free resources, and best practices for legacy preservation. Led by Ron Chan, founder of the Bay Area Chinese Genealogy Group, this session offers innovative techniques to bring your ancestral stories to life.

### Meditation Mondays

Relax at a free drop-in relaxation practice on the first Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Calm your stress with meditation, gentle stretching, breath work, and poetry. For age 18 and older. Call 510-577-3971 to reserve a spot of just drop in. Future Meditation Mondays will be on Feb. 3 and March 3.

### Homework Center at the Manor Branch Library

Need help with your homework? Come to the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd., for after-school homework help on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. This is for students in grades 1 through 5. Registration needed at [bit.ly/4fD096R](http://bit.ly/4fD096R) or call 510-577-7971.

## Adults learn to read free!



**PROJECT LITERACY**  
San Leandro Public Library  
**510-577-3944**

- Work at your own pace
- Flexible hours
- One-on-one tutoring
- At the Library or online



Made With Love: Valentine Recipes That Say 'I Love You...' and 'I Love Me'

Valentine's Day is this Friday, and whether you're planning a romantic dinner for two, a cozy night in with friends, or simply want to treat yourself, nothing says "I love you" (or "I love me!") quite like something delicious and homemade. Forget overpriced chocolates and predictable roses this year! Instead, let's get into the kitchen and whip up some unforgettable treats that are guaranteed to impress.

This article is packed with easy-to-follow recipes, complete with ingredient lists and amounts, designed for cooks of all skill levels. We'll be covering a range of delectable desserts, from classic chocolate indulgences to lighter, fruitier options, ensuring there's something for everyone to enjoy. So, put on your apron, turn up the music, and let's get baking!

CHOCOLATE LAVA CAKES FOR TWO

Is there anything more romantic than sharing a warm, gooey chocolate lava cake with your sweetheart? These individual desserts are surprisingly simple to make and deliver a huge wow factor. The molten



A DESSERT TO FALL FOR: Ever wondered why chocolate lava cake is the go-to dessert for date night? It's more than just the rich, chocolatey flavor. The warm, gooey center that oozes out with every bite is the secret. This contrast between the slightly firm, cake exterior and the molten interior creates a textural delight, making it a truly sensual experience.

- chocolate center is pure bliss!
- 6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- 2 large eggs
- 2 large egg yolks

- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- Pinch of salt
- Powdered sugar, for dusting (optional)
- Fresh raspberries, for garnish (optional)

Preheat your oven to 425°F (220°C). Grease and flour two ramekins (6-ounce size). Make sure to coat them well to prevent sticking. You can use butter or cooking spray for greasing, and flour or cocoa powder for dusting.

In a heatproof bowl set over a saucepan of simmering water (or in the microwave in 30-second intervals), melt the chocolate and butter together, stirring occasionally until smooth. Be careful not to let the bottom of the bowl

touch the water. If using the microwave, stir frequently to avoid burning the chocolate.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, egg yolks, and sugar until pale and slightly thickened. This will take about 2-3 minutes. A hand mixer or stand mixer will speed up the process, but a whisk works just fine.

Gently fold the melted chocolate mixture into the egg mixture until just combined. Be careful not to overmix, as this can result in a tougher cake.

Add the flour and salt and fold until just incorporated. Again, avoid over-mixing.

Divide the batter evenly between the prepared ramekins.

Bake for 12-15 minutes, or until the edges are set but the center is still slightly soft. The exact baking time will depend on your oven, so keep a close eye on them.

Let the cakes cool in the ramekins for a minute or two before inverting them onto plates.

Dust with powdered sugar and garnish with fresh raspberries, if desired. Serve immediately and enjoy the ooey-gooey goodness!

STRAWBERRY HEART HANDS

These adorable heart-shaped hand pies are a delightful and easy way to celebrate Valentine's Day. They are especially perfect if you're short on time or looking for a fun activity to do with kids.

- 1 box (14.1 ounces) refrigerated pie crusts
- 1 cup fresh strawberries, hulled and chopped

- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 egg, beaten
- Coarse sugar (optional)

Preheat your oven to 375°F (190°C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a medium saucepan, combine the strawberries, sugar, cornstarch, and lemon juice. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture thickens and the strawberries are soft (about 5-7 minutes). Let cool slightly.

Unroll the pie crusts on a lightly floured surface. Use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut out as many hearts as possible. You can re-roll the scraps to get more hearts.

Place half of the heart cutouts on the prepared baking sheet. Spoon a small amount of the strawberry filling onto the center of each heart.

Top with the remaining heart cutouts. Use a fork to crimp the edges of each pie, sealing the filling inside. This will also prevent the filling from leaking out during baking.

Brush the tops of the pies with the beaten egg and sprinkle with coarse sugar, if desired.

Bake for 15-20 minutes, or until golden brown.

Let cool slightly before serving. These are delicious served warm or at room temperature.

RASPBERRY WHITE CHOCOLATE BARK

This Raspberry White Chocolate Bark is not only visually stunning but also incredibly easy to make. It's a perfect last-minute treat or a beautiful addition to a Valentine's Day gift basket.

- 12 ounces white chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 cup freeze-dried raspberries, crushed
- Optional toppings: mini chocolate chips, sprinkles, chopped nuts

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Melt the white chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a saucepan of simmering water (or in the microwave in 30-second intervals), stirring occasionally until smooth. As with the lava cakes, be careful not to burn the chocolate.

Pour the melted white chocolate onto the prepared

baking sheet and spread it into an even layer.

Sprinkle the crushed freeze-dried raspberries and any other desired toppings over the chocolate.

Gently press the toppings into the chocolate.

Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes, or until the chocolate is firm.

Break the bark into pieces and enjoy! Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

RED VELVET CUPCAKES WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- Ingredients (Cupcakes):
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
  - 1 cup granulated sugar
  - 1 teaspoon baking soda
  - 1 teaspoon baking powder
  - 1 teaspoon salt
  - 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder
  - 1 cup buttermilk
  - 1/2 cup vegetable oil
  - 1 large egg
  - 2 tablespoons red food coloring
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1 teaspoon white vinegar

- Ingredients (Frosting):
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
  - 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened
  - 3 cups powdered sugar
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions (Cupcakes):

Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Line a muffin tin with cupcake liners.

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, salt, and cocoa powder.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the buttermilk, oil, egg, red food coloring, and vanilla extract.

Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix until just combined.

In a small bowl, combine the vinegar and baking soda. The mixture will fizz. Add this to batter and mix until just combined.

Fill the cupcake liners about 2/3 full. Bake for 18-20 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Let the cupcakes cool completely before frosting.

Instructions (Frosting):

In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and butter together until smooth and creamy. Gradually add the powdered sugar, beating until smooth. Stir in the vanilla extract.

Frost the cooled cupcakes with the cream cheese frosting. You can use a piping bag for a more decorative look, or simply spread the frosting with a knife.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Having second thoughts could be a good thing, even if you're determined to go through with your plans. You might find it worthwhile to take a fresh look at how things have been set up.

**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Financial matters could continue to be a problem until you're able to straighten out some of the more pesky situations. Once this happens, the rest should be easier to unravel.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** Family matters once again take center stage and should be dealt with competently and quickly. Again, insist that others take on their fair share of the responsibilities.

**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Your creative pursuits seem to be running into a roadblock. But rather than blame outside factors, look within to see if you might be holding back your efforts for some reason.

**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Keep your keen Cat's Eye focused on relevant aspects of this new situation in your life. Don't be distracted by trivial matters. You need the pertinent facts before making a decision.

**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** As much as you prefer doing things on your own, continue to accept help if you still need to resolve the problem that affects your project. Meanwhile, some cheerful news is about to come your way!

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** While you might begrudge the added time it will take to get your project from point A to B to C, etc., you could benefit from the facts that will emerge over this expanded time span.

**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Regarding your workplace suggestions, be prepared to produce the facts to counter reactions from skeptics who feel like your approach is unreasonable or even impossible.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Savvy Sagittarians will look for work-related answers on their own rather than relying on unproved assumptions. It might take more time to do so, but the payoff is worth it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Your aspects continue to favor family issues, with a special emphasis this week on changes in and around your home. Get everyone to suggest what they would like to see done.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** A matter you thought had been settled still might produce surprises. Best advice: Continue to gather facts to bolster your position just in case you need to produce them quickly.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** While your instincts are usually right when discerning 'twixt truth and deception, you could benefit from doing more research on the new "prospect" that you've been pitched.

On Sale in February!  
American Heart Month!

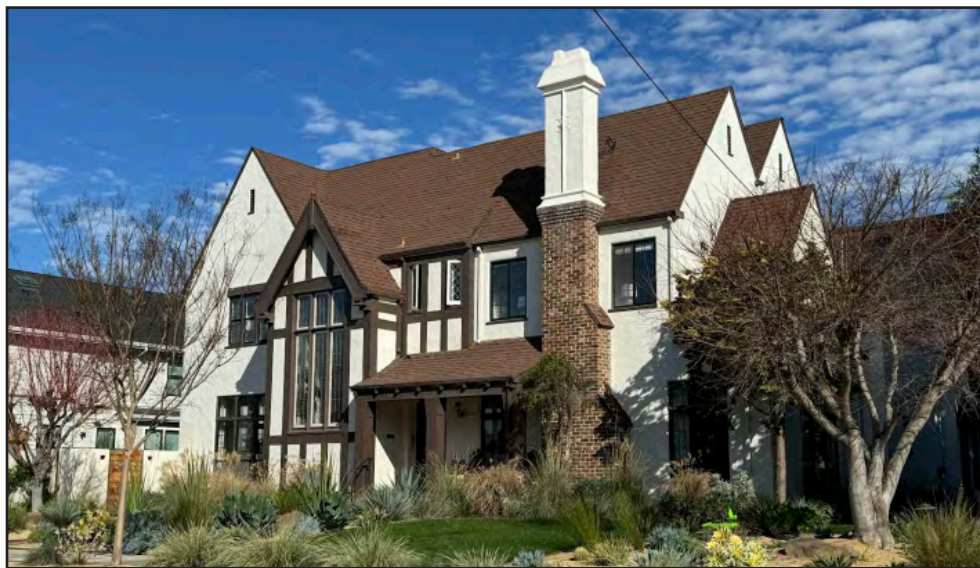
25% OFF

Since 1969

San Leandro  
182 Pelton Center  
(510) 483-3630

Castro Valley  
3446 Village Dr.  
(510) 581-0220





## SL Historical Society Seeks Hosts for Home Tour

By Cindy Simons  
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro Historical Society will host its 4th annual Architecture & Home Tour on May 10, a curated exploration of San Leandro's historically significant properties.

Does your home have interesting architectural features or a story that speaks to the city's history or culture? Is it a typical example of a neighborhood, style, and time in San Leandro's development?

Please reach out about sharing your piece of San Leandro history with its history-loving residents.

The Historical Society wants to reveal the hidden gems and variety of San Leandro's architecture and homes. Architecture and home tours build community and teach us the value of preserving and restoring homes to maintain a city's character.

Past tour site homeowners have been delighted with their tour experience. They appreciate the Historical Society's research of their home and the architectural historian's description of its style. They enjoy the discussions sparked and sometimes meeting former residents on the day of the tour. They treasure the Ar-

chitecture & Home Tour book featuring their home.

View past Architecture & Home Tour books on the San Leandro Historical Society website to see examples of the full color photos and descriptions of tour sites. ([www.sanleandrohistory.org](http://www.sanleandrohistory.org), then click on "San Leandro History" and then "Past Architecture & Home Tour Booklets.")

The Historical Society would be happy to tell you about the tour and answer any questions if you're curious about being a host. Email [sanleandrohistory@gmail.com](mailto:sanleandrohistory@gmail.com) or call 510-910-3215 to reach the tour coordinator.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

FITNESS BEYOND THE PHYSICAL

### The Positive Effects of Fitness On Neurodiverse Populations

By Jagmeet Kaur Sangha  
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

For many, fitness goals revolve around losing weight or reducing body size; however, exercise and consistent fitness routines offer many benefits beyond just physical well-being.

Recently, there is growing recognition of the positive impact that regular exercise can have on everyone, including individuals with neurodiverse conditions such as autism, ADHD, and other cognitive differences.

Studies indicate that exercise can help manage symptoms often associated with neurodiversity, including anxiety, restlessness, and difficulty with focus.

For instance, a 2024 review in Sports Psychiatry found that physical activity improved mood and behavior for children with autism. It also highlighted the additional benefits of improving sleep, enhancing self-esteem, happiness, communica-

tion, social functioning, and emotion control.

Exercise is believed to stimulate the production of brain chemicals like dopamine and serotonin, which are crucial for mood regulation, focus, and emotional control as well as executive functioning.

Some neurodivergent individuals face barriers such as stigma, fear of exclusion, deficits in coordination, or limited communication. By customizing fitness routines to address their specific needs and preferences, we can create an empowering and inclusive space for physical activity that offers a wealth of behavioral, emotional, and social benefits. Here are some beneficial behavioral factors to consider:

#### Social/Emotional

Physical activities provide structured opportunities that encourage social skills without the anxiety that may arise from more traditional social situations. Group activities also help develop cooperative skills and practice social cues in a safe environment.

#### Routine-Based

Neurodivergent individuals, especially those with autism spectrum disorder, often thrive in structured environments where routines are predictable. Establishing a regular fitness routine provides a comforting sense of predictability.

#### Exposure to New Experiences

Fitness routines encourage stepping out of one's comfort



zone. For individuals with limited exposure to new experiences, trying different physical activities can help expand sensory, cognitive, and social boundaries in a controlled manner.

#### Emotional Regulation

For neurodivergent individuals who may struggle with sensory overload or emotional outbursts, regular exercise can help regulate mood and behavior. Cardio activities or even mindful movement help release tension, improve focus, and create a sense of calm, all of which aid in emotional self-regulation.

#### Confidence and Self-Awareness

Participating in fitness activities promotes a sense of accomplishment and helps boost confidence. The progress made through consistent effort helps individuals build confidence and sometimes helps identify hidden strengths and talents.

Inclusive fitness programs tailored to the needs of neurodiverse individuals can lead to better outcomes for mental health, well-being, and social integration for all. Making physical activity a part of daily life can indeed be a game changer for those in the neurodiverse community at all ages.

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

## Park District Issues Mushroom Warning

During the rainy winter season, wild mushrooms pop up in great numbers throughout East Bay Regional Parks.

Mushrooms are an ecologically important part of the parklands and can look beautiful—but some of them contain dangerous toxins. The death cap (*Amanita phalloides*) and western destroying angel (*Amanita ocreata*) are two of the world's most toxic mushrooms, and both can be found in Regional Parks during the rainy season.

The death cap and western destroying angel mushrooms contain amatoxins, molecules that are deadly to many animals. Symptoms may not appear until up to 12 hours after consumption, beginning as severe gastrointestinal distress.

It can progress to liver and kidney failure if treatment is not sought immediately.

Both of these mushrooms



The park districts warns people not to pick mushrooms in the parks, which include the poisonous Death Cap mushroom and the Western Destroying Angel.

can be lethal to humans and pets if consumed. Pet owners should contact a veterinarian immediately if they suspect their pet may have eaten a toxic mushroom.

They are mainly associated with oak trees and can be found growing anywhere oak roots are present. Collecting

any mushrooms in East Bay Regional Parks is not allowed.

#### How to Recognize Poisonous Mushrooms

The best way to stay safe is to ensure that no mushrooms are consumed by humans or pets. As an added safety measure, learn to recognize

poisonous mushroom species when encountering them in Regional Parks.

The death cap is a medium to large mushroom that typically has a greenish-gray cap, white gills, a white ring around the stem, and a large white sac at the base of the stem.

see WARNING, page 12

**KIM BROS. JEWELRY • 357-4069**

14393-A WASHINGTON AVE. • SAN LEANDRO (NEAR PAK 'N' SAVE)

**TEMPORARY HOURS: WED.-SAT. 11 AM-2 PM**

**25%-50% OFF**

\*Selected Merchandise • Expires 2-28-25.

**\$10.00 NO LIMIT!**

**Battery Replacement**

REGULARLY \$13.00 • EXCEPT LITHIUM  
With this ad. Expires 2-28-25.

**20% OFF**

**Jewelry & Watch Repair**

With this ad. Expires 2-28-25.



# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



# Days on the Market Under Attack

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

As if real estate has not been turbulent enough, it appears we have another issue looming on the horizon that may profoundly affect the data displayed online for homes for sale.

Days on the market

(DOM).

Currently, when a listing goes live, an automatic counter displays the number of days (DOM) the home has been active. DOM has been considered critical information and is used by buyers to gauge a home's activity. If homes in a neighborhood remain live only a few days, it is

reasonable to assume it is a hot neighborhood. Should a buyer wish to buy a home in that locale, logic dictates they make a strong offer sooner than later, especially if there is an offer deadline.

Adversely, buyers looking at a home with a large DOM might assume something is wrong: the price could be too high, there might be condition issues or it is in a poor location. Consequently, a buyer might consider writing an offer below list price. Additionally, their offer could potentially be the only one on the table, providing room for negotiation.

Some sellers, hoping to hide the reality their home has a high DOM, take their property off the market and then relaunch it (called 'churning') hoping, since it shows up as a 'new listing' once again, buyers will approach it differently.

Ironically, even though it might show up on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) as a new listing, any buyer using a site such as Zillow can immediately see the previous DOM, revealing it is not really a new listing. As a result, some sellers have been lobbying for the complete removal of DOM

**2269 Croyden Place**  
DOWNTOWN SAN LEANDRO  
2 BR 1.5 BA 1371 SF | \$700,000  
EastBayREALTOR.com

**Louis Heystek**  
East Bay REALTOR®  
510.928.5501  
DRE 01771666



**Antonio M. Cardenas**

Real Estate Broker - Ballroom Dancer

"The Realtors In Motion"

(510) 326-4263

www.ListedbyAntonio.com • write2me2@aol.com  
R.E. eBroker Group • DRE #00898737

## Robert Jones and Associates

For All Your  
Real Estate Needs

We Are  
Here For You

~ Lots of Rentals Call Today!! ~ — Matt Jones & Bob Jones

142 JOAQUIN AVE. • SAN LEANDRO • 510-357-0120  
RobertJonesandAssociates.com



**HEELS & HILARITY**  
Sequins, Sarcasm and Stand-up  
Scan for tickets

**COMEDY DRAG SHOW**

**COUGAR**  
comedy collective presents

**AVERY NIGHT**

**DAVE BRESSOUD**

**MICK BERRY**

**MIA FIERCE**

**ZENTI BISTRO**  
500 DAVIS ST  
SAN LEANDRO, CA

**02.22.25 7 pm \$15**

www.cougarcomedycollective.com

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	G	U	A	E	L	F	B	A	S	E
S	E	A	S	O	N	A	L	E	Y	E
P	O	L	I	T	I	C	O	D	E	M
D	O	D	T	I	L	S	I	T		
A	I	M	E	E	V	I	V	A		
T	H	I	S	P	O	L	E	M	I	C
M	O	S	T	A	L	L	S	M	O	W
P	O	L	E	N	T	A	T	A	P	E
I	M	P	S	V	O	C	A	B		
W	H	O	O	P	I	A	E	R		
H	O	R	N	P	O	L	I	S	H	E
E	P	E	E	E	X	P	L	O	R	E
Y	E	L	L	S	O	S	S	S	N	S

information so buyers have no idea how long any given home has been on the market.

While I understand the logic on one level, there are problems. California leads the nation with its disclosure laws, mandating that sellers provide extensive information so buyers can make informed decisions. As such, in my opinion, DOM is critical and should be disclosed, since it can dramatically influence the type of offer a buyer is willing to write. The simple fact is that if a home lingers on the market a long time, sellers should not be able to hide this fact.

It is similar to buying a used car: sites like CAR-FAX provide detailed information so buyers can make intelligent decisions: why should home selling be any different?

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.

## RECENT HOME SALES

### Castro Valley

21608 Orange Avenue 94546: \$925,000 [3 BD - 1,197 SF - 1948  
20640 Woodside Way 94546: \$1,115,000 [3 BD - 1,124 SF - 1952  
3461 Lenard Drive 94546: \$1,266,000 [3 BD - 1,479 SF - 1957  
18862 Sydney Circle 94546: \$1,330,000 [4 BD - 1,901 SF - 1993  
20673 Forest Avenue #C 94546: \$1,395,000 [6 BD - 2,139 SF - 1962  
5764 Cold Water Drive 94552: \$1,410,000 [3 BD - 1,452 SF - 1966  
19011 Gliddon Street 94546: \$1,450,000 [5 BD - 1,936 SF - 1953

TOTAL SALES: 7

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$925,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,330,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,450,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,270,142

### SAN LEANDRO

13517 Aurora Drive #113 94577: \$620,000 [3 BD - 1,270 SF - 1982  
117 Breed Avenue 94577: \$680,000 [2 BD - 1,100 SF - 1930  
15332 Edgemoor Street 94579: \$765,000 [2 BD - 851 SF - 1950  
407 Lloyd Avenue 94578: \$848,000 [3 BD - 1,344 SF - 1952  
14459 Birch Street 94579: \$867,000 [3 BD - 1,076 SF - 1952  
663 Arthur Avenue 94577: \$875,000 [3 BD - 1,484 SF - 1942  
16373 Panoramic Way 94578: \$900,000 [3 BD - 1,084 SF - 1954  
1287 View Drive 94577: \$1,020,000 [3 BD - 2,081 SF - 1955  
643 Woodland Avenue 94577: \$1,150,000 [2 BD - 1,222 SF - 1924

TOTAL SALES: 9

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$620,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$867,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,150,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$858,333

### SAN LORENZO

15917 Via Arroyo 94580: \$662,500 [3 BD - 1,062 SF - 1946  
1699 Bandoni Avenue 94580: \$720,000 [3 BD - 1,316 SF - 1952  
1865 Corte Breve 94580: \$725,000 [3 BD - 1,539 SF - 1955  
1094 Via Corolla 94580: \$755,000 [2 BD - 868 SF - 1949  
15803 Via Nueva 94580: \$760,000 [3 BD - 1,131 SF - 1955  
15814 Paseo Largavista 94580: \$775,000 [3 BD - 1,050 SF - 1944  
2051 Luna Avenue 94580: \$888,000 [2 BD - 1,608 SF - 1956

TOTAL SALES: 7

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$662,500 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$755,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$888,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$755,071

## Dental Days & Low-Cost Pet Vaccinations Clinic at

### Wiggle Rumps ReTail!

Give your furry friend the care they deserve! Join us at Wiggle Rumps (2644 Castro Valley Blvd.) on February 13 & 14 for Dental Days and affordable pet health services provided by United Pet Veterinarians.



- ✓ Low-Cost Vaccinations \$38+
- ✓ Deworming & Flea Prevention Prescriptions
- ✓ Non-Anesthetic Dental Cleanings \$300

www.WiggleRumpsReTail.com



Don't miss this chance to keep your pet healthy, happy, and wagging at a great price! Call us to book your pets apt. See you there! 🐾 510-583-PAWS or 510-274-5752

Offered every other month



# Root Bougainvilleas from Stems, Leaves

By Buzz Bertolero  
The Dirt Gardener

**Q** I'd like to take some cuttings from my bougainvillea plant and try to root them. When is the best time, and how would I go about doing it?

**A** Bougainvilleas are easily rooted by taking stem or leaf cuttings. Softwood cuttings are taken in the spring and summer while hardwood cuttings are taken in the fall and winter.

Regardless of the time of the year, the rooting procedure is the same.

The cuttings should be four to five inches long, cut on an angle, and should include four leaf nodes or more.

They're then inserted three to four inches into pre-moistened potting soil,

and remove any flowers. Also, take three times the number of cuttings as you need so you can transplant the most vigorous ones. Be careful to space them far enough apart so you don't disturb the roots.

Leaf cuttings are taken from the middle of a stem not the tip. You need a shallow tray filled with pre-moistened potting soil.

Next, remove the leaves with the petiole still attached. The petiole is the long narrow tissue that attaches the leaf to the stem.

The leaf is then placed in the soil with the petiole buried and the leaf pointing upward.

Cover the container with a plastic bag to trap the heat and moisture, and add some small sticks to support the plastic. You're

forming a mini-greenhouse.

It should then be placed in a warm, lighted area of morning sun for rooting to take place.

Add more water as needed when the soil appears dry.

Softwood and leaf cuttings take root in three months or less while hardwood cuttings take longer to root, three to four months.

The mortality rate with bougainvilleas is high when the roots are disturbed; so, again, be careful when transplanting them.

*Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional and the Senior Gardening Professional at Sloat Garden Centers. The*



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	G	U	A	E	L	F	B	A	S	E
S	E	A	S	O	N	A	L	E	Y	E
P	O	L	I	T	I	C	O	D	E	M
				D	O	D	T	I	L	S
A	I	M	E	E	V	I	V	A		
T	H	I	S		P	O	L	E	M	I
M	O	S		T	A	L	L	S	M	O
		P	O	L	E	N	T	A	T	A
				I	M	P	S		V	O
W	H	O	O	P	I	A	E	R		
H	O	R	N		P	O	L	I	S	H
E	P	E	E		E	X	P	L	O	R
Y	E	L	L		S	O	S		S	S

Dirt Gardener's website and questions can be sent aol.com or at Facebook. is www.dirtgardener.com by email to dirtgarden@aol.com or Buzz.Bertolero.

## OPEN HOMES

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 15 - 16

CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDR/BA.	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
A	1-4	1-4	14170 Outrigger Dr	\$578,000	2/1	United Brokers	Tere Lee / Danielle Ewing	510-305-8827
A	2-4	2-4	2269 Croyden Place	\$700,000	2/1.5	COMPASS	Louis Heystek	510-928-5501

### CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BRENTWOOD • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD  
L = LIVERMORE • P = PLEASANTON • S = SAN RAMON • SLZ = SAN LORENZO • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA



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



By Ryan A. Berenz  
Special to the Times

1. This relief pitcher won World Series titles with the 1969 New York Mets and the 1980 Philadelphia Phillies. His son is a country music star. Who is he?

2. Who did Muhammad Ali defeat in a hard-fought unanimous decision to retain the undisputed heavyweight championship at New York City's Madison Square Garden on Sept. 29, 1977?

3. Name the motorsports driver, engineer, designer and businessman from New Zealand who was killed in 1970 while testing a new racecar in England.

4. Center Will Perdue won three NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls from 1991-93 and won his fourth title with what team in 1999?

5. Pro Football Hall of Fame wide receiver Calvin Johnson, who played for the Detroit Lions from 2007-15, was nicknamed after what "Transformers" character?

6. Atlanta Drive GC, Boston Common Golf, Jupiter Links GC and The Bay Golf Club are among the teams in what indoor/virtual golf league?

7. Name the Hall of Fame jockey who won the Kentucky Derby riding Sea Hero in 1993 and Grindstone in 1996.

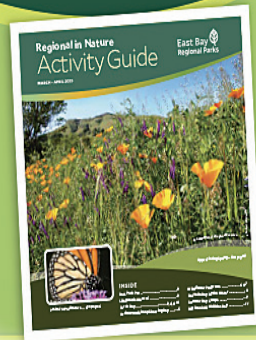
### Answers

1. Tug McGraw (his son is Tim McGraw).
  2. Earnie Shavers.
  3. Bruce McLaren.
  4. The San Antonio Spurs.
  5. Megatron.
  6. TGL Golf.
  7. Jerry D. Bailey.
- (c) 2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the East Bay Regional Park District March - April 2025 Activity Guide.

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

## Regional in Nature Activity Guide



## WEEKEND GARDENER

### Sowing Seeds

It's not too early to sow some flower seeds outdoors, including cosmos, sweet alyssum, sweet peas, California poppies and larkspur. Start seeds indoors in flats for summer vegetables, including tomatoes, squash and peppers.

### Perennials

Plant perennials now for early spring bloom. English primroses, day lilies, Shasta daisies and phlox are all good bets.

### Don't Wait

If you haven't pruned roses, fruit trees and grapes, do it now. New growth has already started to appear, but better late than not at all. Also, February is your last chance for dormant spraying. Dormant spraying controls insects that hibernate during the winter and fungal diseases such as peach-leaf curl.

### Pests

Pull weeds before they bloom and spread seeds. Handpick snails and slugs by sprinkling the garden in late afternoon, then using a flashlight to catch the little devils just after dark.

Be prepared before the next power outage.



It's not just a generator.  
It's a power move.™

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 510-826-1463 to  
schedule your free quote!

\*Terms and Conditions apply.

**GENERAC**



ADVERTISE WITH EAST BAY PUBLISHING AND REACH OVER 60,000

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

CALL

510-614-1555

NEWS

510-614-1557

EMAIL

Classifieds@ebpublishing.com

TO VIEW THE CLASSIFIED ADS

Visit our Websites 24 hours a day

www.sanleandrotimes.com

www.mycvforum.com

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE

New ads, cancellations or ad changes:

DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON

Call 510-614-1558 (Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER & AmEx Accepted

AUTOS / TRUCKS

\$35 10 words (3 weeks)

GARAGE SALES

\$35 10 words (1 week)

HELP WANTED

\$35 10 words (1 week)

MISC. FOR SALE

\$35 10 words (3 weeks)

RENTALS

\$35 10 words (1 week)

SERVICES

\$35 10 words (1 week)

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS ALSO RUN FREE ONLINE! AD MUST BE PREPAID WITH CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD ADDITIONAL WORDS ARE \$1 EACH

CLASSIFIED ADS RUN EVERY WEDNESDAY IN THE CASTRO VALLEY FORUM AND EVERY THURSDAY IN THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES

AUTOMOBILE/SALES

1996 Corvette, black, 5.7L, 98K miles. \$7,000 o.b.o. Call 510-867-4987.

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

Dry Cleaners in Oakland for sale. \$1,500,000. Call David (Realtor) 510-326-7108. Dre#00820734.

CONCRETE SERVICE

ISLANDER CONCRETE. Quality Work, Free Estimates. Lic.#989994. Steven 925-915-5240/ 510-798-3732.

S.L. CONCRETE SERVICE Drive-ways, Sidewalks, Stamped Concrete, Retaining Walls, Tree and Drain Service. Lic.#982202. 510-856-8937.

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

FENCES/DECKS

Fence wobbly? Call Randy's Fence Reinforcement and save thousands! 510-706-6189.

FENCES/DECKS

\*SPECIALIZING IN WOOD FENCES, DECKS & RETAINING WALLS. Replace or repair paved walkways, yard cleaning, tree work, brush removal (fire prevention... don't get insurance cancelled). Insured & Bonded #8189. Jerry 510-410-2427.

GARDENING

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

GARDENING

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

GARDENING/TREE SERVICE

NAVA'S COMPLETE LANDSCAPING: Mowing, trees, cleanup, hauling, FREE estimates. 510 512-5857.

HAULING SERVICE

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

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: Monday 5:00 p.m.

HELP WANTED

DATA ENGINEER: Lingo US Inc., an Abbott Labs Co., located in Alameda, CA seeks qualified Data Engineer. Work closely with multidisciplinary Agile software development lifecycle (SDLC) team to build high-quality data pipelines for high-end analytics solutions. Bachelors or foreign equiv in Computer Science, Info Systems, Info Mgmt or in rtd fld of study w/ min. 4 yrs of exp in: (i) SQL & data analysis & programming languages Python &/or Scala; (ii) big data tools s/a Hive, Hadoop Impala, Apache, Spark &/or Kafka; (iii) ETL, reporting tools, data governance & data warehousing; (iv) developing solutions for cloud computing services & infrastructure; (v) developing & maintaining data warehouses in big data solutions; & (vi) Agile software development lifecycle (SDLC). An EOE. 40 Hrs./wk. \$170,893 - \$173,300/ year. Send resumes to: Abbott Laboratories, Elvia Salazar, Willis Tower, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Floor 25, Dept. 32, Chicago, IL 60606. Refer to ad code: ABT-0082-ES

HELP WANTED

DSP Staff wanted to work with D.D. adults in a Care Home in San Leandro working with disabled adults & their needs. Will train. AM, PM and W/E shifts available + overnight. Salary + Benefits. Call 510-638-8070 or email: mr2125@att.net.ry

NEED REMODELING?

How about a new kitchen or bath? Check the TIMES "Classified Ads" & The TIMES "Home Service" ads for help!

HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY

Child Care

We provide childcare in a safe nurturing and inclusive environment

Now Enrolling Call Now to schedule a tour Ages 2-6 year olds

FUTURE STARS ACADEMY WHERE DREAMS BEGIN

Hablamos Español 864-341-4002

FutureStarsAcademy77@gmail.com futurestarsacademy-where dreamsbegin.com Castro Valley, CA #015701047

Construction

CIS Cal One Services DESIGN CONSTRUCTION REMODELING

Residential & Commercial

Building Care General Contr.

CSLB# 1087383 510-706-1304

Construction

full carpentry / building service Fully licensed / bonded / insured since 1992

KEVIN BIDDLE Owner

CA Lic # B 659828 Kevin@Biddlebuilders.com 510-359-6632

BIDDLE BUILDERS LLC

Construction

NEW GENERATION CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING

Kitchen & Bath Remodels • New Additions • New Construction • Plumbing • Electrical • Decks/Fences • Renovations

FREE ESTIMATES 510-304-8378

BONDED/INSURED • LIC. #1000571 www.newgenbuilder.com

Drainage/Structural

Alameda Engineering Since 1989

• RETAINING WALLS • DRAINAGE SYSTEMS • FOUNDATION REPAIRS • SEISMIC UPGRADES • CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

www.alameda-engineering.com 510-537-6550

General Engineering Contractors License# 562641 alamedaengineering@comcast.net

Gardening

BEAUTY GARDEN LANDSCAPING

• Dry Garden Design, Installation and Maintenance • Artificial Grass, Patio Pavers, Hillside Cleanups and more!

(510) 691-8852 20% OFF (Expires 3/31/25)

Roofing

BANNER ROOFING COMPANY

20% DISCOUNT

CELEBRATION 30th ANNIVERSARY

NEW ROOFS & REPAIRS RAIN GUTTERS INSTALLED & REPAIRED RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ROOFING

Dry - Rot & Termite Structural Repairs Decking - Soffits - Fascias - Rafters - Gables - Etc

14349 WASHINGTON AVE SAN LEANDRO FREE ESTIMATES LICENSE # 657692 510-895-4433

Handyman

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Serving Castro Valley & San Leandro for 28 Years

Big or Small – We Do It All! (925) 548-4202

House Cleaning

Tender Loving Care

House Cleaning Service Family Owned Since 1980

WEEKLY • BI-WEEKLY • MONTHLY

EMPLOYEES COVERED BY WORKERS COMP STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE

Specializing in detailed cleaning tailored to your home

FREE ESTIMATES Email: PATTYATTLCA@AOL.COM www.tlc-housecleaning.com 510-481-9193

BONDED & INSURED • ALL TAXES PAID

Painting

Diego Painting

• Residential/ Commercial • Interior/ Exterior • Power Washing

FREE ESTIMATES Lic. #855054 • diegopainting@comcast.net www.diegopainting.com (510) 331-6152

Plumbing

CAPELLI PLUMBING & DRAIN CLEANING

Compare Our Prices! FREE ESTIMATES 24/7 SERVICE

Trenchless Sewer Repair

BBB Military & Senior Discounts Family Owned & Operated 510-969-4358 LIC. #1026755

Roofing

Wonderlin ROOFING SYSTEMS

Castro Valley Lic. #642517 • Insured/Bonded

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED since 1992 Reroofs • Repairs Dry Rot Repair Seamless Prepainted Gutters FREE ESTIMATES

\$200.00 OFF COMPLETE REROOFING WITH TEAR-OFF One Coupon Per Customer • Expires 03/31/25 (510) 538-1530 www.WonderlinRoofing.com

Roofing

K REED ROOFING

Complete Residential & Commercial Roof Systems (510) 357-5116

Call Now For A Free Written Roof Analysis & Estimate

Serving San Leandro & The Entire Bay Area. For Those Who Demand Superior Personalized Attention. SINCE 1975 / FULLY INSURED

Roofing / Gutters / Solar

RIDOUT ROOFING CO. ~ SINCE 1922 ~

ALL TYPES OF ROOFING & GUTTERS P.V. SOLAR / SKYLIGHTS

FREE ESTIMATES SENIOR DISCOUNTS (510) 351-1922

621-A WILLIAMS • SAN LEANDRO STATE CONTRACTORS LICENSE NUMBER 260176



LANDSCAPING

**TOM THUMBS LANDSCAPING.** Maintenance, Fences/ Decks. 35 years. Senior Discounts. Phone 510-427-0455.

LEGAL NOTICES

Please **TENOLIA JACKSON** be advised and put on notice that a Limited Civil lawsuit in the amount of \$10,060.38 for move out and property damage charges has been filed on February, 22, 2024 in the county of Alameda against Tenolia Jackson for her contract of renting at the premises of 1555 164th Ave. apartment number 39 by the Plaintiff, San Leandro Ashland LLC, with the defendant being Tenolia Jackson case number 24CV065026. This notice is to serve as publication of service as per the order granted and dated January 13, 2025 to run in this newspaper for four consecutive weeks. Contact Plaintiff at Ashland Office located at 1555 164th Ave San Leandro, CA 94578, 510-278-3920, Ashlandmanor@jleproperties.com

MISC. FOR SALE

**MOVING SALE:** Furniture, Persian Rugs, China Cabinet, Dining Table, Bed, Desk, China Set, etc. 510-760-5286.

**Cuisinart** SmartPower 7-sp Blender \$40, Instant Vortex 6-qt air fryer \$40. 510-224-7312.

**Chinese Cabinet** \$50, Baby Mattress \$25. Call 510-575-4620.

**HobbicoAvistar** 40 mk2 awarf RC air-plane \$50. 510-825-8412.

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

MISC. WANTED

**WANTED** - Reel to reel music tapes (these are 7" & 10" round tapes from the 60's). Call Patrick 510-517-3351.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS



Are you interested in buying or selling a home or property?

Would you like the help of a Professional Agent?

For assistance call ...

RENTALS/RV SPACES

**RV/ Trailer** space in San Leandro and Oakland& Hayward. \$975/ month. Call 510-481-9901.

SERVICES

**HANDYMAN & CONTRACTORS**  
You can run a classified ad for a little as \$35 a week. Your ad runs in both of our newspapers, the Castro Valley Forum on Wednesday and the San Leandro Times on Thursday. You can also save by placing your ad on our website at [castrovalleyforum.com](http://castrovalleyforum.com) or [sanleandrotimes.com](http://sanleandrotimes.com). We'll call you for your credit or debit card info for payment.  
To place an ad by phone call **Patrick Vadnais** at 510-614-1560, Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

TREE SERVICE

**\*A CAREFUL TREE SERVICE.** Certified. Arborist. Lic.#694067. Trimming, Removals. **FREE** Estimates. Bonded. Call 510-581-7377.

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
February 10, 2025  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 612396  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Mudroom Clay Studios located at 1311 Park Street #1281 Alameda, CA 94501 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Orange Blossom Arts LLC, located at 1311 Park Street #1281 Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership. This business commenced N/A  
/s/Melissa O'Kane  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires February 09, 2023  
FEB 13, 19, 26, MAR 06, 2025  
1935 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
January 21, 2025  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 611885  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Chrys & Bib Innovations located at 724 Lewelling Blvd. #328 San Leandro, CA 94579 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Anne Happy, located at 724 Lewelling Blvd. #328 San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A  
/s/Anne Happy  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires January 20, 2030  
JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2025  
1916 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

**Ines C. Barbosa et al, Petitioner**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF California**  
**COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**  
**Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse**  
**1225 Fallon St.**  
**Oakland, CA 94612**  
**PETITION OF: Ines C. Barbosa et al**  
**FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**Case No 24CV086797**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**  
**FOR NAME CHANGE**  
**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:**

1. **Petitioner: Ines C. Barbosa et al** filed a petition with this court for decree changing names as follows:  
**(Present name) Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez**  
**(Proposed name) Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez Barbosa**  
2. **THE COURT ORDERS:** That all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
**DATE: 03/21/2025 Time: 09:30 AM Dept: 103**  
The address of the court is:  
**Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse**  
**1225 Fallon St.**  
**Oakland, CA 94612**

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation: printed in this county: San Leandro Times  
**Date: February 6, 2025**

/s/ Sandra Bean  
**JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
**FEB 06, 13, 20, 27, 2025**  
**1925 - SLT**

Keep your out-of-town friends and family informed with a subscription to the Forum!

■ Did you know that the Forum will mail the paper to anyone in the continental United States?



Call 614-1555 for details!

HOME SERVICES

Gardening / Tree Service

**PEREZ**  
Gardening & Maintenance

**TREE SERVICE**

Pruning, Topping, Removing, Synthetic Grass Installation, Planting, New Lawns & Lawn Care, Sprinkler Systems, Lots & Hill-sides Cleaned & Planted, Drainage/Gutters, Fences, Decks, Patios, Arbors, Concrete, etc.

**CALL 510-385-2122**

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
EXCELLENT REFERENCES / SINCE 1994  
INSURED / ALL WORK GUARANTEED / UNLICENSED

Hardwood Flooring

**FERREIRA'S**  
**HARDWOOD FLOORING**

Sand • Install • Refinish  
Glista • Oil Base

25 Years Experience

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Call Jeff Today!

**510-366-6491**

Lic. #803455

Roofing & Painting

**San Leandro**  
**Painting & Roofing**

Family Owned Since 1966 Bonded & Insured Lic. #883326

- Residential and Commercial Roofing • Re-roofing • Attic Ventilation • Roof Repair • Rain Collection Systems
- Attic Ventilation
- Certified Roof Inspections

**510-798-9674**

REACH OVER 60,000 READERS

Call today for ad rates and availability.



**HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY**

**Call 614-1558**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15									16			
			17				18	19				
20	21	22				23						
24					25					26	27	
28				29						30		31
	32		33						34			
			35					36				
37	38	39					40					
41					42	43				44	45	46
47					48							
49					50				51			

- ACROSS**

1 Water, in Mexico  
5 Sprite  
8 Pedestal  
12 Like holiday decorations  
14 Ogled  
15 D.C. veteran  
16 Ms. Moore  
17 Pentagon gp.  
18 Mild cheese  
20 Singer Mann  
23 "-- Las Vegas"  
24 Not that  
25 Verbal attack  
28 Yr. parts  
29 Some latte sizes  
30 Cut the lawn  
32 Italian cornmeal recipe  
34 Race finish  
35 Rapscaillions  
36 Word list, for short  
37 Goldberg on "The View"  
40 -- Lingus  
41 Honker  
42 Refines  
47 Duel tool  
48 Investigates  
49 Holler  
50 "Mayday!"  
51 Taxpayer IDs
- DOWN**

1 Venomous viper  
2 Earth (Pref.)  
3 "Friendly skies" co.  
4 Stage comments  
5 Oklahoma city  
6 Fond du --  
7 Fleet of ships  
8 Pandemonium  
9 Pro votes  
10 Big rig  
11 Tend texts  
13 Oklahoma tribe  
19 Currier's partner  
20 \$ dispenser  
21 Denny's rival  
22 Japanese soup  
23 Battery measures  
25 Primitive flutes  
26 Apple desktop  
27 Club in a Manilow song  
29 Office part-timer  
31 Charlotte's creation  
33 Toy train maker  
34 Sculpted trunks  
36 Bridal cover  
37 Curds' partner  
38 Great expectation  
39 Hurler Hershiser  
40 Swiss peaks  
43 Tic-tac-toe loser  
44 Storefront sign abbr.  
45 Poetic dusk  
46 Hot wok sound
- ANSWERS ON PAGE 6**

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
February 10, 2025  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 612394  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Blackmen "Safe Space" Podcast located at 29212 Harpoon Way, #401 Hayward, CA 94544 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Martin L. Sharp, located at 29212 Harpoon Way, #401 Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A  
/s/Martin L. Sharp  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires February 09, 2030  
FEB 13, 20, 27, MAR 06, 2025  
1930 - SLT

**NEED TO PLACE**  
**A LEGAL AD?**



**CALL 510-409-4250**

**Historic**  
**Bal Theatre**

**Sat., Feb. 22, 2025**  
**8PM • San Leandro**



**Damage Inc**  
**The Ultimate Tribute**  
**Concert To Metallica**

Tickets at:  
**balthatre.com** and  
**Ticketmaster.com**  
**510-614-7700**

**Do You Need**  
**TECH**  
**HELP?**

**ARE SMART DEVICES**  
**DRIVING YOU CRAZY?**  
**CALL DAN THE TECH**  
**CONSULTANT!**

**HOME OR BUS-**  
**INESS SUPPORT**

- Computer
- iPhone / iPad
- Smart TV
- Internet, Wi-fi, Printer, Net-working, etc.

**510.376.1589**  
**dan@xzault.com**



**PLEASE RECYCLE**



Whatever your specialty, the place to advertise is in the...

**HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY**

Delivered to 32,736 homes in San Leandro, over 20,000 homes in Castro Valley, and another 8,264 are delivered to businesses and libraries.





# Bridge: FEMA to pay for most of the cost of removing bridge

continued from front page

Sheila Marquises told the Council. “This creek is not in our jurisdiction and not an area that we would normally understand what is included in the infrastructure. There was a lot of vegetation and a lot of water in the creek that needed to be removed. The project also required us to get several permits from regulatory agencies.”

Marquises also pointed out that the city would pay to repave the roadway and plant trees to replace those damaged by the heavy-duty vehicles, trucks, and cranes that pulled the damaged bridge out of the creek.

In March 2023, a pair of eucalyptus trees on the banks of San Leandro Creek fell and destroyed the pedestrian bridge that links Haas Avenue and Cary Drive. In September 2023, the City awarded

McGuire & Hester the initial \$250,000 contract for demolition and removal services at the site.

In July 2024, the city added Terraphase Engineering to the project for \$188,732 to help reinforce the sides of the creek.

“Another of the requirements from the water board is that we implement erosion control and replanting of those slopes, so that was something that was added midway through the project,” Marquises said.

The staff report noted that removing water from the bridge site was over budget by \$26,903 because additional work was done to shield the neighborhood from generator noise.

Restoring the slopes was over budget by \$48,374 because the fallen trees and bridge hid the extent of the

damage to the slope, which could not be determined at the time of the original estimate.

The report also states that the city is initially responsible for the \$575,000 cost of cleaning up the site and making repairs.

The funds have already been allocated as part of the FY2024-2025 adopted budget. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is anticipated to reimburse San Leandro for approximately \$500,000 of the cost of the bridge removal.

While the cost to build and install a new bridge is not yet determined, an anonymous donor has given the project a head start. Last September, the Cary Drive-Haas Pedestrian Bridge Association donated \$5 million to reconstruct the bridge using steel girders, a concrete deck, and tubular



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

The broken pedestrian bridge at the end of Haas Avenue has been removed.

fencing like the previous structure.

The City Council unanimously approved the donation and its terms on September 9, 2024.

## 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](mailto:letters@ebpublishing.com) or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

#### For God's Sake, Don't Follow Dirt Gardner's Advice

Dear Editor,

For the sake of the humans, bees, butterflies and all living things on our planet, please do not follow Mr. Buzz Bertolero's advice in the recent Dirt Gardener column.

He recommended Bonide Systemic Drench and Bayer Advanced All-In-One for Roses. These are systemic pesticides that are absorbed through the roots into the tissues of plants, including the pollen and nectar that are then ingested by the bees and butterflies and other pollinators that we need to pollinate the plants that we depend upon for food.

Systemic insecticide are believed to be one of the major causes of the drastic decline in bees, butterflies and other pollinators according to The Xerces Society, Natural Resources Defense Council, and many other sources. If your roses or other plants have rust, mildew or black spot,

these are plant diseases. You do not need a product that kills insects to treat a plant diseases.

Furthermore, these systemic products can get into the food you and your neighbors are growing in your gardens. If your neighbor puts this into the soil around their ornamental plants, do you think the chemical will stop at the fence line and not be absorbed into the lemons or tomatoes you are growing on your side of the fence? Nope!

It will be poisoning not only the pollinators, but possibly you too. It is well known these chemicals migrate in the soil, are very persistent in the environment, and have toxic effects on many forms of life. Even if you are not an organic gardener, please do not use systemic insecticide and fungicides. Do some research about the dangers. Much less toxic alternatives are available.

Lynne Jensen,  
Castro Valley

#### Divine Intervention

Editor,  
Many of us are experiencing dismay and anxiety over the actions being taken by the current administration. Because Republicans hold the majority in both

houses of Congress, Democrats have not been able to challenge the president's reckless decisions in that body. Our nation needs a few Republican senators and representatives of integrity (I know there are many) who are willing to stick their necks out and take a stand for what is right.

I have started praying every day that God will raise up seven Republicans in each house to speak up for what is right. We need fewer than seven in each chamber to tip the scales, but the number seven symbolizes completeness, perfection, and even divine intervention. Also, seven may be just enough to help the few courageous ones feel that they are not alone.

I will pray for this outcome every day and up the ante on Mondays when I will be fasting until dinnertime to amplify the weight of this prayer. I am praying that God's Spirit will create an "Esther" moment for the Republicans that are open to His voice – that they will ask themselves whether they have come to power "for such a time as this." I am praying that God will imbue them with the courage to put the good of the country (and especially its marginalized people) ahead of their personal security and career ambitions.

Will you join me in this prayer endeavor? This is not to replace attending protests, contacting your elected officials, and doing what you can to mitigate the harm being perpetrated by the current administration. But I want to encourage you to add fervent prayer to your efforts. Let's do this together.

Judy Square  
San Leandro

#### Trust the Experts

Editor,

At this month's City Council meeting, opponents of reopening Lake Chabot Road repeated the mantra: "Trust the experts," referring to city staff and the fire captain, who offered this confusing message: the road is safe for emergencies—except when it isn't.

Apparently, first responders would be stationed at the fence to determine which type of emergency allows road use. Does that make any sense?

If you want to "Trust the Experts," trust the 2022 Kittelson Report. The city hired Kittelson to assess emergency preparedness. Their report warned that neighborhoods east of I-580 face "significant evacuation risks," with Benedict Drive and I-580 already over capacity. This was before city staff shut down Lake Chabot Road—a route identified as crucial for emergency evacuations.

City staff claim that "half the road is missing" in places, yet vehicles can still drive on it for an emergency. Does that make any sense?

Some council members opposing the reopening claimed, "Everyone here cares about public safety." Really? Most opponents of reopening are residents directly benefiting from the closure, living immediately below the barricade. Meanwhile, their neighbors above the barricade face real danger of being trapped in an emergency evacuation. Is that

caring about public safety?

If safety were truly a priority, why does the road have this barricade with lockable gates instead just bollards? When asked, the city manager defensively claimed the fences are to block "big rigs." But if a fire engine can fit, so can a big rig. When pressed further, she sarcastically said, "Well, if the council wants to open the road to big rigs..." Disgraceful.

Trust the experts: Reopen Lake Chabot Road.

Greg Novak  
San Leandro

#### Money Making Ideas

Editor,

Michael Singer's front page story (Feb. 6) on the City Council's wish list shows that council members have expertise in ways to spend money but seldom think of ideas to raise money. Here are some suggestions:

1. Congestion Tax: People driving on East 14th Street must pay 2 bucks to enter the city.

2. Increase Traffic Fines: A \$10 tax on each traffic violation within city limits will encourage safer driving and help pay current revenue.

3. Increase Investment: Encourage hedge funds to invest in San Leandro.

By the way, I urge Mayor Gonzalez to remove his tie every so often. When I removed my own tie, I was able to think more creatively, especially about ways to raise money.

George Z. Banks  
San Leandro



# Businesses: 'We have never felt as much a part of a community as right now'

continued from front page

Ben Issertis, owner of the store at 14278 East 14th Street, expressed gratitude that so many people had expressed support for his business, in operation just over a year.

All Steele Fitness repeated last year's win in the Beauty, Health & Wellness category. Owner and coach Heather Steele said the goal of the woman-owned business, at 14760 Wicks Blvd., is "empowering women to be stronger." She said business has been good and they will soon be moving to a larger building.

LemonAD Media won in the Small Business category. Owners Yellie and Eduardo (Eddie) Gonzalez specialize in food and beverage photography, which makes them popular with a growing segment of the local economy.

"We've put ourselves out

into the community, and the love's been returned," said Eddie.

The winner in the Food & Drink category was Danny Murry's Irish Pub at 1680 Washington Ave. Run by Jym Murry and Jazmin Cedillos, who call their pub, "the building that looks like it had been a Taco Bell, but never was."

Danny Murry's Irish Pub has several dedicated nights each week, for whiskey tasting, trivia, karaoke and live music.

The Best Large Business award went to Torani, at 2000 Marina Blvd. The syrup and flavorings business was founded in San Francisco 100 years ago, and moved to San Leandro 10 years ago.

Stacy Cooper Dent, Torani's General Manager - International, said "We have never felt as much a part of

a community as right here, right now."

The Boys & Girls Clubs of San Leandro won in the Home, Family & Community category.

While their main facility is at 2200 San Leandro Blvd., they have built up a considerable presence with 25 sites, including all San Leandro and San Lorenzo elementary and middle schools, and are expanding their network.

"We work for every teen and child who walks through the door with the belief that they can be great, serving 5,000 kids a day," said the club's CEO Kim Pace. She thanked their fellow nominees, who she said are the people the club calls if they can't meet all a child's needs themselves.

Other business and organizations nominated for Best



PHOTO BY MIKE McGUIRE

Winners in each of the six categories took the stage at the Best of San Leandro awards on Thursday, January 30, hosted by the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

## The Weather and You

## Rainfall Above Average

By Mike Pechner  
Special to the Times

A series of Atmospheric River storms aimed at the North Bay made up for a very dry January.

Rainfall is at or above normal from San Francisco northward into Marin, Napa Sonoma and Solano counties. You don't have go very far south to see a sharp contrast in the average rainfall to this date.

In fact, Oakland, just 6 miles across the bay from San Francisco has received only 6.21 inches of rain which is only 57 percent of the average for this date of 10.87 inches. By contrast, downtown San Francisco has received 14.54 inches or 107 percent of the average to this date.

The South Bay has a long way to go to catch up to average with 4.10 inches of rain or a paltry 55 percent of the season average to date.

The flooding and mudslides in Sonoma County this past week are a reflection of the heavy rainfall which has boosted the average precipitation at Santa Rosa to 166 percent and Napa 119 percent.

All of the reservoirs in Marin County are full and spilling. In the mountains, the Central Sierra Snow Lab reports the average total precipitation from rain and snow is 102 percent of the yearly average to date.

Despite recent rains in the Los Angeles basin, downtown L.A. has only received .78

inches so far this season. The average for this date is 3.98 inches.

The medium range forecast models show a cold storm for Northern Calif next week

that my affect Southern California with rain, and snow in the mountains.

Meteorologist Mike Pechner, SF CBS News Bureau, is a Climate and Weather Specialist.

### Michael L. Bennardo

1948-2024

Mike's light was extinguished unexpectedly on December 27, 2024. A native of San Francisco, and a graduate of San Leandro High School, Mike was proud of his Bay Area roots.

Mike served in Viet Nam and as a firefighter/paramedic with Alameda County Firefighters Local 55. His free time was spent on his Arlen Ness chopper, surfing in Santa Cruz, or rooting on the SF Giants. He was a force of nature who lived life to the fullest with no regrets. His rebel spirit and snarky humor was a balm in a troubled world.

He and his wife, Lori, shared many happy times in Italy. As Cal Berkeley grads, they were avid Bears football fans. Known as the 'Mike and Lori Show,' they exited life's stage only a few short weeks apart.

Mike is survived by his sons Brennan Bennardo (Annie) of San Jose and Devin Bennardo (Benazeer) of Pleasanton (and their mother, Linda Bennardo of Pleasanton); four granddaughters; his sister, Kathryn Padro (Alfred) of Castro Valley; and his sister-in-law Sheri Jensen of Concord. Contact family members for further information. Memorial gifts: World Central Kitchen ([www.wck.org](http://www.wck.org)) for their support of firefighters/victims of the LA fire.



### Kent William Myers

February 23, 1941 ~ February 6, 2025

Resident of San Leandro

Kent William Myers, passed away peacefully at his home on February 6, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Michal. Kent will be deeply missed by his sons, Timothy and Troy; daughters-in-law, Brenda and Yvonne; cherished grandchildren, Karina, Morgan, Micaela, and Logan; and a wide circle of dear friends.



A dedicated public servant, Kent served his community in numerous leadership roles, including Vice Mayor and Council Member of San Leandro, Board Chairman of Eden and San Leandro Hospitals, Chairman of the San Leandro Police Chief's Advisory Board, and Commodore of Spinnaker Yacht Club. His distinguished 45-year career as CFO of D.W. Nicholson continued into his retirement with service on their board.

Kent will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. May he rest in peace.

Friends and family are invited to the following events in celebration of his life and legacy:

- Visitation at Santos-Robinson Mortuary on Tuesday, February 18, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- Funeral service at St. Felicitas Church in San Leandro on Wednesday, February 19, from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.
- Luncheon reception to follow at St. Felicitas Church.
- Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward at 2:30pm

Flowers are welcome, and donations may be made to the charity of your choice in honor of Kent.

The Myers family deeply appreciates your kindness, loyalty, love, and support during this difficult time.

Condolences may be offered to the family, and further details may be found in Kent's online obituary at <https://www.santos-robinson.com/>.



# Jones Dickson: New district attorney vows to improve DA's office

*continued from front page*

November, with her detractors charging she was overly lenient toward defendants and convicted criminals.

Jones Dickson vowed to start rebuilding the office, which suffered several key resignations during Price's time as D.A. Dickson also promised to get rid of restrictions on charging crimes, which critics said hampered prosecutors.

District 3 supervisor Lena Tam, who represents San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Alameda and part of Oakland, said in an email that Jones Dickson will improve the D.A.'s office.

"Judge Ursula Jones Dickson, our new district attorney,

will bring balance in carrying out the duties of the office, and help restore the training programs to develop the prosecutorial skills of a new generation of district attorneys," Tam said. "She will also bring an understanding of the needs of victims and their families to the criminal justice system."

Some prominent recall supporters told media outlets they were happy Jones Dickson had been selected. Co-chair Carl Chan, a leading activist against hate crimes directed toward Asians, told media outlets he was happy with Jones Dickson's selection.

Also pleased with the selection was Virginia Nishita, whose husband Kevin had

been murdered while working as a security guard for KRON 4 television news.

Save Alameda For Everyone (SAFE), which

had organized the recall drive, had supported both Jones Dickson and fellow finalist Annie Esposito, currently assistant district attorney in Contra Costa County.

The same two finalists had also been endorsed by the Peace Officers Research Association of California, which saw Price as not only too lenient toward criminals



Judge  
Jones  
Dickson

but also unfriendly toward law enforcement officers.

Almost immediately after being selected, Jones Dickson said she would ask Esposito to join her at the D.A.'s office as a top assistant. Esposito said she was still considering options, and did not promptly accept Jones Dickson's offer.

Besides Esposito, finalists not chosen were Elgin Lowe, Alameda County senior dep-

uty district attorney; Yibin Shen, Alameda City Attorney; Jimmie Wilson, Alameda County deputy district attorney; LaTricia Louis, deputy counsel for Alameda County; and Venus Johnson, chief deputy attorney general with the California Justice Department.

Johnson had drawn some key endorsements, but also drew some opposition for her role as top assistant to state

Attorney General Rob Bonta. This made her an "outsider" to some critics, though she had earlier served as an Alameda County prosecutor and as chief assistant to Contra Costa County district attorney Diana Becton.

The D.A.'s office had been headed temporarily after Price left office by Chief Assistant District Attorney Royle Roberts.

## Warning: Several kinds of mushrooms are poisonous

*continued from page 5*

Although the death cap is mainly associated with oak trees, it has been found growing with other hardwoods. It was accidentally introduced to North America on the roots of European cork oaks and is now slowly colonizing the West Coast. The death cap is not native to California.

The western destroying an-

gel is a medium to large mushroom that usually has a creamy white cap, white gills, a white ring around the stem that can disappear with age, and a thin white sac at the base.

It fruits from late winter into spring. It is associated exclusively with oaks. Unlike the death cap, it is a native California mushroom.

While the death cap and

western destroying angel mushrooms are responsible for most cases of mushroom poisonings in California, deadly toxins can also be found in Galerina and Lepiota mushroom species, which also occur in the Bay Area. For more information about toxic mushrooms, visit [ebparks.org/safety/trails/toxic-mushrooms](http://ebparks.org/safety/trails/toxic-mushrooms).

## Reunion: Taught at CV High

*continued from front page*

hope that a few of the 76 grads of the class of 1948 are still around. They thought they might hear from a relative or friend in San Leandro of anyone in that year's class.

Dale can be reached at [dberv1@gmail.com](mailto:dberv1@gmail.com) if anyone knows the whereabouts of any member of the Class of 1948.

Dale and Jean remember back in their high school days when the school auditorium was the site of the "Shuffle Inn" in Friday nights where you could dance to all the latest hit records.

After high school, Berven went into the navy and

flew jets off aircraft carriers, including the U.S.S. Hornet. He later became one of the original teachers at Castro Valley High School, the year the school opened.

During his 33 years at CVHS, Berven was a teacher, coach and athletic director.

After high school, Jean married Bob Cooper whose family owned Homekraft Bakery in San Leandro. She worked as a secretary while Bob finished college at San Jose State.

The couple raised three children and later sold the bakery, moved to Antioch and built a marina, The Driftwood

Marina, where she and Bob did a variety of jobs. Eventually, they had enough of the work and moved up north. Bob passed away in 2002 and Jean now resides in Grass Valley.

Berven said other classmates that he's aware of went on to careers as executives, some went into education, and one became a county superintendent of schools, among other occupations.

"Unfortunately, neither Jean nor I have heard from any relative or friend of the other 76 grads if any classmate is still alive," Dale said. "We would be appreciative if someone would contact us."

## Kid- and Pet-Friendly Indoor Gardening

By Melinda Myers  
Special to the Times

Creating an indoor oasis of greenery can help lift your spirits, reduce stress and improve your overall wellbeing.

Challenges arise when growing indoor plants with kids and pets in the house. Keep them safe by selecting pet- and kid-safe plants and pest management strategies.

Increase your indoor gardening success by selecting plants suited to your home's growing conditions and gardening style. If you tend to overwater your plants, grow moisture-loving plants or opt for more drought-tolerant plants if you practice benign neglect.

Once you have your list, double-check their people and pet toxicity. Consult with your veterinarian and visit the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) website for a list of pet-safe and toxic plants.

If you suspect your pet or child has ingested a toxic plant, you'll have the proper plant name when contacting your veterinarian or poison control center.

Display any toxic plants out of the reach of curious kids and pets. This can be challenging if your cat or child is skilled at jumping



PHOTO COURTESY MELINDAMYERS.COM

**Prayer plant (Maranta leuconeura) is a tropical plant with beautiful, unique foliage that's non-toxic to pets and people.**

and climbing. With so many beautiful houseplants, play it safe and avoid those that are toxic or too tempting.

Secure plants against accidental tipping by inquisitive pets and kids with mounting putty. A couple of pieces on the bottom of the pot will help reduce the risk of spilled plants and soil. Invest in pots with wider bases for floor plants or secure several pots together to reduce the risk of tipping.

Once you narrow down the list, place your kid- and pet-friendly plants where they will receive the necessary amount of sunlight. An east- or west-facing window provides enough light for most indoor plants.

Keep those that need brighter light within two feet of the window. Those that prefer lower light can be grown near a north-facing window or

up to six feet back or off to the side of an east- or west-facing window.

Enlist children in the ongoing care of your indoor plants. This will help them gain respect for the plants and may instill a love of gardening.

Give kids a hand lens and go on an indoor pest hunt. Children often find bugs more interesting than plants. Have them place yellow sticky traps like in various pots to help monitor and trap insect pests.

Always look for kid- and pet-friendly options when intervention is needed. Start with a strong blast of water to dislodge pests like aphids and mites.

And if those tiny fruit-fly-like gnats are too annoying to tolerate, consider managing them with a *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* product like Summit Mosquito Bits. (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com). It's labeled for controlling fungus gnat larvae and is non-toxic for people, pets, and plants.

Proper plant selection and ongoing care will help keep your indoor plants healthy and children and pets safe from harm.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*.

### ACI OF SAN LEANDRO CUSTOMERS:

# EXPANDED COLLECTION SERVICES

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 2025.



Scan the QR code,  
or visit [SanLeandroRecycles.com/newservices](http://SanLeandroRecycles.com/newservices) for more information.



**aci**  
SAN LEANDRO