



**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
**CLOUDY** Highs hover in the low 60s  
HIGHS: 58-63  
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110  
LOWS: 41-45

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

# San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2017

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

**Rebecca Chualong, in the red cap with a Bible, brings lunch for the homeless a couple times a week at Root Park. The homeless people say she's been doing this for about six years and they're grateful.**

## 2017: Hipsters Pitch Tech, Homeless Pitch Tents

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

Here is a look back at some of the memorable news stories of 2017 in San Leandro.

### January

- The first San Leandro baby of 2017 was 8 pound 3 ounce Marces Almendarez, born at Eden Hospital at 12:04 a.m. on Jan. 1 to parents Frances Enriquez and Marlon

Almendarez.

- The Davis Street Family Resource Center paid off a six months past-due \$1.5 million loan it owned to the City of San Leandro.

- An artistic collective called Factory 510 was kicked out of The Gate, the mixed use space on the second floor of the Westgate Center. The Gate's owner said they were looking for a more long-term tenant,

but the Factory spokeswoman said she thought the artists were being pushed out as a response to the Ghost Ship fire in Oakland.

### February

- A campaign supported by the San Leandro City Council and state Assemblyman Rob Bonta was started to dissolve the Eden Healthcare District and have its funds

see 2017, page 10

## CHP Officer Killed by Stoned Driver

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

A California Highway Patrol officer on the lookout for dangerous drivers was struck and killed on Christmas Eve by a driver suspected of being on alcohol and pot.

Officer Andrew Camilleri, 33, was parked on the side of I-880 in Hayward near the southbound Winton Avenue exit monitoring traffic with his partner when their police car was hit by a driver who police say was under the influence of both alcohol and marijuana.

The driver was moving at a high rate of speed when he veered onto the shoulder of the road and struck the back of the police car just before 11:30 p.m., CHP officials said.

"I come to you with a broken heart, but also anger," said CHP Assistant Chief Ernest Sanchez at a news conference Monday. "This person chose to drive while under the influence of alcohol and also drugs, and this needs to stop."

Camilleri's partner Officer Johnathan Velasquez was treated for minor injuries at St. Rose hospital and released, police say.

Camilleri was a resident of Tracy and leaves behind a wife and three young children, ages 12, 6, and 2. He joined the CHP in 2016.

The suspect is a 22-year-old Hayward man whose name has not yet been released. He remains hospitalized in serious condition. Police say that after he recovers and the case goes to the district

attorney's office, he will likely face multiple felony charges.

"This individual was coming home from a party and obviously had too much to drink and maybe

see FATALITY, page 12

## Cops: Hard To Prove If Drivers High on Pot

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The recent death of a California Highway Patrol officer at the hands of a suspected drunk and high driver highlights what will likely become a larger issue in the New Year – how to determine whether a driver is under the influence of marijuana.

There is no definitive test to determine if a person is stoned on pot, a slight problem for law enforcement.

Officer Andrew Camilleri, 33, was in his patrol car on I-880 in Hayward when he was struck by another car and killed on Christmas Eve. Police say the driver was suspected of being under the influence of both alcohol and marijuana.

see POT, page 3

## Top Comics on Deck for New Year's Show

By Jim Knowles  
San Leandro Times

You can't say there won't be anything to do in San Leandro on New Year's Eve.

A comedy show with some of the top comics in the business will play the San Leandro Performing Arts Center on Sunday night. The show includes Dr. Gonzo and Chicago Steve Barkley from "America's Funniest People," along with Brian Copeland of San Leandro who's producing

the show.

"Lighten Up for New Year's Eve" will also feature Joe Kloczek from "Comedy Central," Robert Duchaine from HBO, Chip Franklin, Shanti Charan, Donald Lacy and a few surprise guests will take the stage, too.

"Everybody I'm putting on the stage is a headliner – every one could headline any comedy club," Copeland said. "I'm putting them all on one bill."

The show starts early for a



**Shanti Charan will be on stage in San Leandro for New Years.**

New Year's event – 7 p.m. – at the Performing Arts Center at 2050 Bancroft Ave.

"We start early, the show will be over by 9:30, so it's good if you want to go home and be off the road by the time all the drunks are out," Copeland said. "Or if you want to go somewhere else afterwards, you have plenty of time."

The show should have something for everybody.

see COMEDY, page 12

### INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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Students see the movie *Wonder* with wide eyes. **Page 2**

#### NEWS

Fire department gets a new utility terrain vehicle. **Page 3**

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Check the calendar for the next crab feed. **Page 4**

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## MEETING SCHEDULES

### CITY COUNCIL

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

### SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



## San Leandro Times

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

### EDITORIAL

**Fred Zehnder**  
Editor and Publisher

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

**Amy Sylvestri**  
City Editor  
amys@ebpublishing.com

**Steve Schaefer**  
Auto Editor

### Contributing Writers

**Buzz Bertolero**  
**Martha Kennelly**  
**Carl Medford**  
**Linda Sandsmark**

### PRODUCTION

**Howard Morrison**  
Manager

**Greg Benson**  
Art Director

**Moxie Morrison**  
Assistant

### OPERATIONS

**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)



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## Pets of the Week



**Peppermint**

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Peppermint the bunny and Zara the dog.

Peppermint is a friendly young bunny who's easy to handle and will hop up to you for a treat. She loves greens, Timothy hay and an occasional piece of banana. Peppermint is already spayed.

Zara is a happy, active pup who needs a family who will take her for daily walks and



**Zara**

give her lots of play time. She would enjoy being enrolled in doggy obedience classes to keep learning. Best in an adult-only home.

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

## Get Tickets for Business Awards

San Leandro Chamber of Commerce will host its Business Awards Celebration, "Spotlight San Leandro: A Maker City," on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th

St. Tickets are \$125, and tables are \$2,000. VIP wine reception, hosted bar and hors d'oeuvres, nightcap and networking. Semi-formal attire.

For tickets, go to [sanleandrochamber.com](http://sanleandrochamber.com).



## Birthright Of San Lorenzo

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WE BELIEVE: "It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth... and the right of every child to be born."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. BEDE SCHOOL

Students at St. Bede School laughed and cried at the movie *Wonder*.

## Students Learn to Wonder

Over 200 students from St. Bede Catholic School in Hayward attended a school-wide field trip to watch the movie *Wonder*, based on R.J. Palacio's book.

In preparation, several classes read and discussed the story of a boy named August Pullman who, at birth, was diagnosed with a serious medical condition that required numerous surgeries and resulted in facial differences.

*Wonder* describes the life of August, his family, and the school when he begins attending, for the first time, as a fifth grader. From mockery and bullying to fear and

friendship, the story highlights lessons of perseverance, determination, and most importantly, kindness towards all.

As the movie played, the students expressed their excitement for the parts of the story they anticipated. They laughed at the light-hearted jokes while many in the audience shed tears of sadness and joy.

"This movie is a life changer for me," said seventh grader Shareeza Dean. "Not only does this relate to my life, but it taught me that you can find a true friend, not only by their qualities, but by

their actions."

Another seventh grade student, Jeremy Aleman, advised, "Don't try to fit in when you were born to stand out."

When asked what important lessons the first graders learned from this story, Lucas Sornet said, "Be nice to everyone even though they are different," and Evan Gabatino said, "We are all wonders."

The powerful message of kindness and acceptance in this story is a reminder to all of us that we can be wonders in the lives of others.

## Museum to Screen Comedy Classics

Make a resolution to start the New Year at the San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., with a dose of comedy classics on Saturday, Jan. 6, starting at 11:15 a.m. with Charlie Chaplin in *The Gold Rush*, followed by the Marx Brothers in *Duck Soup*, and *A Night at the Opera*. No charge for admission. Appropriate for kids 7 and older. For

more information, call 577-3990.

*The Gold Rush* was inspired by stereoscope pictures of the 1896 Klondike Gold Rush.

*Duck Soup* contains several famous scenes, including the hilarious mirror sequence. A wealthy widow offers financial aid to the bankrupt country of Freedonia on condition that Rufus T. Firefly be made leader.

But his chaotic, inept regime bumbles into war with neighboring Sylvania.

*A Night at the Opera* is a classic farce featuring the outrageous genius of the Marx Brothers. This is a chance to see some of their best bits. It was a huge critical and commercial hit, and Groucho considered it and *A Day at the Races*, the best films he ever did.

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# Deputies Shoot and Injure Man Who Had a Machete

Alameda County Sheriff's deputies shot and wounded a domestic violence suspect in Cherryland on Christmas Day.

Deputies arrived at a home on the 22300 block of Princeton Street in the unincorporated area at just before 2 a.m. on Monday

and a woman told them she had been assaulted by her husband, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the sheriff's office.

The woman directed deputies to the rear patio where her husband was. The man allegedly grabbed a machete from his

waistband and tried to attack the cops, Kelly said.

A deputy fired one shot at the suspect, who was taken to the hospital for treatment while in police custody.

The suspect is expected to recover from the shooting.

## Pot: How will drivers be tested?

*continued from front page*

Recreational marijuana sales will become legal statewide on Jan. 1 when Proposition 64 goes into effect. Prop. 64 passed in 2016 with 57 percent of California voters in favor of legalized adult use.

California Highway Patrol Commander Steve Perea said that, with the passage of Prop. 64, his officers have received additional training about what to do with drivers that they think are impaired by marijuana.

With alcohol, it's a simple breathalyzer test, but determining the level of cannabis intoxication is different, Perea said. Under state law, there is no set limit for the amount of drugs in a driver's system, unlike alcohol which has .08 percent blood alcohol threshold.

Officers must use their observation skills during field sobriety tests and find probable cause for an arrest. At the station, an officer with specific training as a "drug recognition expert" can request a blood test which can determine levels of THC present.

In 2017, there were 441 DUI arrests by the CHP in the Eden Area through the month of October and 34 were drivers with just drugs in their system, with no alcohol aspect — that number has nearly doubled in the past year, up from 19 arrests in 2016.

Determining that a driver is intoxicated on marijuana isn't as cut and dried as driving under the influence of alcohol, because there is no quick test used by law enforcement to determine levels

of intoxication.

In Georgia, the ACLU recently sued a police department for arresting suspected high drivers, arguing that the suspects' Fourth Amendment rights had been violated because the police made the arrests before any chemical tests were completed.

Locally, many politicians support pot, which could potentially reap millions in taxes.

Last week, the Alameda County Board of Supervisor gave the go-ahead for two existing medical dispensaries in Ashland and Cherryland to begin recreational sales. Under the new ordinance, the Board of Supervisors say that the dispensaries "advance the goals of the county by supporting emerging businesses."

At a meeting in Castro Valley last month, Alameda County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Bret Scheuller discussed how cannabis enforcement will be handled once recreational use is legalized.

Scheuller said his department is trying to prepare for legalized pot, but a lot is still unknown.

"We've never had to deal with legal cultivation before," said Scheuller. "It's a cash crop. It's a commodity. Also, the black market is here and it is going to remain. We aren't just throwing our hands up and saying 'Oh, it's legal now so anything goes.'"

Scheuller said that trouble stemming from marijuana has gone up "exponentially" since medical marijuana use was made legal 20 years ago.

Last week, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors

hosted a "Winter Cannabis Summit" detailing how people in the pot business can comply with new laws related to the legalization of recreational use.

Supervisor Nate Miley was an organizer of the summit and he came under fire this year when it was discovered that medical marijuana purveyors donated \$60,000 to his recent reelection campaign. Miley also spearheaded a successful county initiative this year to increase the number of medical marijuana shops in the unincorporated areas of Alameda County from two to five.

Another issue with legalized marijuana is that it's an all cash business. Most banks will not deal with the pot business because it remains illegal federally. District Attorney Nancy O'Malley has expressed concern that dispensary employees will be robbery targets.

Perea said that much of what will happen after recreational legalization remains a mystery to law enforcement.

"With Prop 64, we are in uncharted territory," said Perea.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

OWN	S	A	N	D	A	F	R	O
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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

## Santa Stops in San Leandro

Christmas 2017 marked the 10th Anniversary of "Santa at the Firehouse." Last week, dozens of kids gathered at Firehouse No. 9 on Estudillo Avenue to take a photo with Santa on a vintage fire truck and sip hot chocolate. Party goers brought gifts to donate to the less fortunate so everyone could have a very Merry Christmas.

## Fire Department Gets New 'UTV'

The Eden Health District (EHD) Board of Directors (pictured right) recently received a "show and tell" visit from the Alameda County Fire Department and their new emergency mobile Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV), funded by a \$25,000 EHD grant.

The new UTV and trailer will primarily serve the fire districts closest to Eden Hospital including Lake Chabot and help access more remote areas including the hills.



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# NEIGHBORS



Residents of Carlton Senior Living enjoyed delivering their handmade blankets to the Davis Street Resource Center. Pictured from left to right: Mary K. Adams, Amber Bennett, Caroline Price, Roz Davis and Rose Padilla Johnson

## Busy Elves Delivered Magic Blankets To Davis Street Resource Center

The residents of Carlton Senior Living of San Leandro have been busy elves, creating and delivering their signature Magic Blankets to the Davis Street Family Resource Center. Each blanket was handmade with love by the residents, starting with cutting the fabric, hand tying each knot, washing, folding and tying

with a special ribbon with the note attached that states: "This Magic Blanket is infused with love and healing powers. Hand-created, each blanket contains the magical feeling of being comforted and loved." The residents look forward to the children enjoying their special gifts this holiday season.

## Homeowners Encouraged to Pay Second Installment Property Taxes by December 31

The Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector, Henry (Hank) Levy wants to remind all taxpayers, especially residential homeowners, that they may want to consider paying their second installment property taxes for

2017-18 fiscal year by Dec. 31, 2017.

The due date for the second installment of the 2017-18 fiscal year property tax is Feb. 1, 2018 and delinquent after April 10, 2018. But the new income

tax law will limit the amount of the itemized deduction for property taxes paid after Jan. 1, 2018. Taxpayers should check with their income tax advisors, but many taxpayers will lose an income tax benefit by waiting until next year to pay the second installment if the new income tax law is enacted.

Taxpayers can use all the payment options that are usually available. The county treasurer recommends e-check payment option, which is payment through the web via a bank transfer called an ACH. However, taxpayers may continue to pay by cash, check, or credit card. Visit the county's website at [www.acgov.org/propertytax](http://www.acgov.org/propertytax) or call the office at 272-6800, if you need help locating your second installment voucher.

### HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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**ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** An old adversary wants to make amends over the holidays. The decision is yours. But wouldn't it be nice to share the upcoming new year with another friend?



**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** As news of your work gets around, expect to receive a special holiday "gift" from influential contacts who could help you launch your new projects in the new year.



**GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** Instead of fussing over what you didn't do to prepare for the holidays, relax and enjoy the kudos for a job truly well done. A happy surprise awaits you early next year.



**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** The best way to shake off lingering holiday blues is to join loved ones in the fun and festivities of this special time. A confusing situation starts to make sense in upcoming weeks.



**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Special emotional rewards mark this holiday time for Leos and Leonas who are able to open up to new relationships and the possibilities they offer in the upcoming year.



**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Your efforts to make the holidays especially memorable for some people will be rewarded in some unexpected (but very welcome) ways in the upcoming year.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Be assured that your efforts to make this holiday special for everyone won't go unnoticed by those who could make some important changes in your life.



**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Lots of folks want you to light up their holiday parties. But try to take some quiet time 'twixt those glittering galas to spend with some very special people.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** While the current round of holiday revels has your social life on the fast track, someone special might want to keep pace with you next year, as well.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Enjoy all the fun you deserve at this holiday time. However, don't lose sight of the need to check out some of the changes the new year is expected to bring.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** What happens during this holiday time can help clear up some of the confusion jeopardizing a once-stable relationship. Follow your instincts on what to do next.



**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** Your holidays are brightened by new friends eager to become part of your life. But don't forget to spend time with that one special person. (You know who!)

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### ❖ The Diabetes Support

The Diabetes Support group will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at 4 p.m. at Carlton Plaza Senior Living, 1000 East 14 St. in San Leandro. Topic for discussion: "Keep Moving; gentle exercise to start the year off right." All those with a chronic illness and their significant others are invited to attend. There is no admission fee. For more information, call Amber Bennett at 636-0660.

### ❖ San Leandro Parkinson's Support Group

The San Leandro Parkinson's Support group will meet on Thursday, Jan. 4 at 10:30 a.m. at the San Lorenzo Community Church, 945 Paseo Grande. For more information, call Lona White at 276-3119.

### ❖ Comedy Classics at the Museum

Make a resolution to start the New Year at the San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., with a dose of comedy classics on Saturday, Jan. 6, starting at 11:15 a.m. with Charlie Chaplin in *The Gold Rush*, followed by the Marx Brothers in *Duck Soup*, and *A Night at the Opera*. No charge for admission. Appropriate for kids 7 and older. For more information, call 577-3990.

### ❖ San Leandro Readers Roundtable

The San Leandro Readers Roundtable meets Saturday, Jan. 6, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., to discuss *The Book of Unknown Americans* by Cristina Henríquez, the story of nine immigrant families whose lives collide when they arrive in America. All are welcome, and all books discussed are available for purchase at the Library's Booktique bookstore.

### ❖ I.D.E.S. of Alvarado St. Crab Feed

I.D.E.S. of St. John will have its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., the raffle at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$25 for persons under 12. Dinner will include hot and cold crab, pasta, salad, garlic bread and desert. For tickets call, Willie Calvo at 207-6326, John Santos at 992-9985, and Frances Leite at 886-1568. The door prize is a 32 inch flat screen TV.

### ❖ Lego Brickshow at Principled Academy

See a giant Lego display at the Lego Brickshow 2017 through Jan. 7 at the Principled Academy, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro, on the second floor. The display is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Cost is \$2. All proceeds go to The Principled Academy 7th and 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.

### ❖ SL Boys & Girls Club Crab Feed

The San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 401 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro, will host its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 13. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, which includes all-you-can-eat crab, pasta, salad and French bread. Live entertainment by Curtis & Nikkole. The event is assigned seating only and always sells out so purchase tickets early. For tickets or more information, call Bob Glotch at the Boys & Girls Club between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-5581. Proceeds support the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, which provides educational and enrichment after-school programs for 1,200

children per day at 12 sites an San Leandro and San Lorenzo.

### ❖ Civil Rights Documentary

The Castro Valley Community Alliance will screen the documentary film about the civil rights struggle, *A Time of Justice*, on Sunday, Jan. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave. in Castro Valley.

### ❖ Martin Luther King, Jr. Honored

San Leandro students will perform speeches, essays and poems honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, Jan. 15, at 10:30 a.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. There will be refreshments served, and crafts for children.

### ❖ Kiwanis Club Annual Crab Feed

The Kiwanis Club of San Leandro is hosting its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 20, at the Boys and Girls Club, 401 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. and dancing is from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$50, purchase them early for seats are reserved. For more information and tickets, call Terri Neumann at 895-4425.

### ❖ Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge Crab Feed

Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge 6-61 presents its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 1808 B St. in Hayward. No host bar and raffle begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., raffle at 8:30 p.m. Early bird payment must be postmarked by Dec. 16. Make checks payable to Sons of Norway and send to Aunda Arndt, 1016 Apache St., Livermore, CA 94551. Cost is \$50 for Adults, \$17 for children 12 and under. For more information, email [aja469@hotmail.com](mailto:aja469@hotmail.com) or call 925-548-0292.

### ❖ San Leandro Art Association Exhibit

Original paintings by The San Leandro Art Association artists are on display and available for sale through Feb. 8 at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13900 East 14th St., in the three activity rooms and in the hall lobby.

### ❖ Bayfair Toastmasters

Bayfair Toastmasters is a small, growing club seeking new members who want to learn the art of public speaking. All are welcome to the club's weekly meetings every Wednesday from noon to 1 a.m. in the Bayfair Mall 2nd floor meeting room above the food court. Come through Entrance 5 facing the Century Theater. For more information, call Noreen at 538-6025 or Wayne at 407-0048.

### ❖ San Leandro Toastmasters

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

### ❖ Sons In Retirement Meetings

Sons In Retirement (SIRs), an organization of retired men, meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Wedgewood Center at Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Dr. in Oakland. Happy Hour starts at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. Great guest speakers. Guests are welcome. Come and meet new friends. For more information, call MEL at 357-0601.

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



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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY

## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



## Top Five Real Estate Predictions for 2018

Starting with President Trump's inauguration, 2017 was a turbulent record-setting year delivering surprise-after-surprise, including heart-breaking natural disasters, the lowest housing market inventory ever recorded and continued low interest rates.

Heading into 2018, expect more turmoil. Here are our 2018 Top Five predictions:

- Prices to continue upward as inventory shortages drive the market.

The lack of available homes to purchase is the single largest contributor to escalating prices. This will continue into 2018 for many reasons, including the lack of incentive for existing homeowners to sell, inability for move-up wannabees to find

replacement homes, low interest rates encouraging owners to stay and remodel and the inability of new home builders to bridge the gap.

For those fearing we are in a housing bubble that may burst, the underlying market metrics say otherwise.

- Number of potential first-time buyers barred from ownership will increase.

As home prices continue pounding upwards, some buyers are being priced out of local homes. This trend will continue as pricing increases outpace income gains.

As an example, the first eleven months of 2017 saw Alameda County prices increase an average of 18%.

- Slew of natural disasters in

2017 will have many rethinking their location.

From fires across California to floods in Southern Gulf regions, 2017's onslaught of disasters has many rethinking where they want to live. Some fire victims are already looking to relocate, hoping to sell off their lots as soon as the rubble has been removed.

- New tax bill will slow housing in California.

Historically, homeowners needed to live in a home two of the past five years to score capital gains exemptions. The new tax bill changes this to five of the past eight years, a move which will prompt many to remain in their homes, further tightening inventory.

Additionally, changes to state and local tax deductions (SALT) will reduce the amount California homeowners can deduct, lowering the incentive to purchase.

- Mortgage interest rates will rise.

We've been saying this for two years, but many believe 2018 will finally see our 10-year run of record-low interest rates rising into the mid-to-high 4% range. This, along with increasing prices, will bar many from ownership.

Factor in a decrease in home-buying optimism and millennials relocating from urban environs to more affordable housing, 2018 looks to be a year of continued change.

Strap in tight — it looks like it will be quite a ride.

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.

## Rates Tick Upward

Average mortgage rates inched up last week with the approach of the end of 2017, according to Freddie Mac's weekly survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 3.94 percent, up from 3.93 percent the week before. A year ago at this time, the 30-year FRM averaged 4.30 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed rates averaged 3.38 percent, up from 3.36.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.39 percent last week, up from 3.36 percent.

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## Schedule Your New Year DIY Resolutions

By Samantha Mazzotta  
 Special to the Times

While many home-maintenance tasks are better performed at specific times of the year, damage should be repaired as soon as possible, particularly to a home's exterior.

That certainly means a DIYer may find himself or herself tacking down a replacement shingle in frosty weather.

But, say that several damaged shingles need to be replaced, or the gutter is in good shape but just needs some cleaning and a patch or two. More extensive maintenance and repairs should take place in warm months, so that patching material and roofing cement can cure properly.

That's why now, at the start of the new year, is a good time to rough out a home maintenance calendar. It doesn't have to be precise — you don't have to block out exact days (unless you want to) — but breaking down certain tasks by month, quarter or season can really keep your maintenance on track.

January and February, with cold temperatures, dormant plants and

few holiday get-togethers to worry about, are good months to reorganize the workroom or garage, sharpen tools and mower blades, and draw up a budget for maintenance or improvement projects.

March through early May get busier: late pruning of shrubs and trees needs to be done before the last frost. Garden soil needs to be turned, fertilizer put down and lawns' bare spots reseeded. Exterior damage that didn't need immediate attention should be repaired now. Air-conditioning systems need their annual check-up by a professional.

The hot summer months, June through early September, are prime time for both exterior and interior maintenance and repair. Painting and remodeling are easier with the windows thrown open to

allow fresh air in. Roofing cement cures properly. Balance all this with regular lawn care, and it's a busy time.

By late September, heating-system inspection and chimney cleaning need to be scheduled or completed — ahead of the inevitable rush that comes during the first big cold snap. Gardens are harvested and lawns prepared for the cold months. Up north, it's time to put away lawn-care tools and set out marker stakes to keep plow trucks from churning up the lawn edges.

So, while you're making more detailed resolutions to take care of yourself and your family as the year begins, remember to make plans to take care of your home, too. The best New Year to you all.

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## RECENT HOME SALES

### San Leandro

201 Accolade Drive	94577:	\$675,000	4 BD - 1,768 SF - 2000
202 Accolade Drive	94577:	\$683,000	4 BD - 1,768 SF - 2000
1268 Alder Creek Circle	94577:	\$689,000	3 BD - 1,567 SF - 2003
1290 Alder Creek Circle	94577:	\$689,000	3 BD - 1,567 SF - 2002
13475 Aurora Drive #3	94577:	\$523,000	3 BD - 1,694 SF - 1982
839 Bridge Road	94577:	\$1,021,000	3 BD - 2,200 SF - 1936
1400 Carpentier Street	94577:	\$450,000	2 BD - 1,187 SF - 1983
732 Douglas Drive	94577:	\$560,000	2 BD - 885 SF - 1942
963 Helen Avenue	94577:	\$685,000	3 BD - 1,397 SF - 1927
876 Linwood Way	94577:	\$645,000	2 BD - 1,325 SF - 1948
837 Superior Avenue	94577:	\$900,000	2 BD - 1,724 SF - 1939
1279 Wainwright Avenue	94577:	\$183,500	4 BD - 1,620 SF - 1942
2077 Washington Avenue	94577:	\$310,000	1 BD - 726 SF - 1984
915 Woodland Avenue	94577:	\$650,000	2 BD - 1,027 SF - 1930
1481 155th Avenue	94578:	\$445,000	3 BD - 1,264 SF - 1953
2121 166th Avenue	94578:	\$705,000	4 BD - 1,770 SF - 1978
16769 El Balcon Ave	94578:	\$520,000	3 BD - 984 SF - 1944
15950 Gramercy Drive	94578:	\$865,000	3 BD - 1,695 SF - 1958
16533 Hannah Drive	94578:	\$768,000	4 BD - 2,120 SF - 1961
16311 Mateo Street	94578:	\$616,000	2 BD - 1,594 SF - 1947
1214 Belleau Street	94579:	\$595,000	3 BD - 1,390 SF - 1958
1296 Cumberland Ave	94579:	\$500,000	3 BD - 1,306 SF - 1953
15446 Montreal Street	94579:	\$675,000	3 BD - 1,204 SF - 1960

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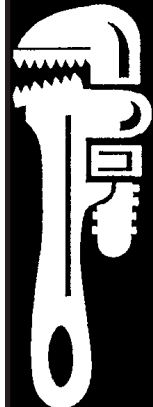
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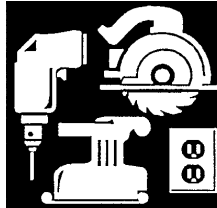
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# 2017: Arroyo wins NCS championship

continued from front page  
funds absorbed by the county. After months of debate, a county commission voted to keep the district running as it is.

- Civil rights pioneer Fred Korematsu was honored with a Google “doodle” on what would have been his 98th birthday. Korematsu evaded being sent to an internment camp during World War II and was arrested in San Leandro and convicted. His conviction was overturned in 1984. In 1998, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor.

- The San Leandro City Council and the San Leandro school board both passed resolutions declaring “sanctuary” spaces for undocumented immigrants.

## March

- Over two dozen trees were cut down along the northern end of East 14th Street to make way for the AC Transit Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. The \$180 million BRT has been in the works for over a decade and the line is set to begin running in 2019.

- The City Council began the months-long process of creating a “tenant relocation assistance program,” which has landlords in San Leandro pay tenants the equivalent of three month rent if the tenant is forced to move due to skyrocketing rents.

- PG&E raised their rates



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

**The Arroyo High baseball team won the North Coast Section Division II Championship this year.**

by 2 percent – one of three rate increases by the utility within the space of one year.

## April

- The developer behind the marina project drastically switched the design of the construction by moving all buildings inland and away from the harbor in order to meet state regulations regarding sea-level rise.

- A woman fired a gun at an 11-month-old baby at the McDonald’s in the downtown plaza. The baby was not injured. The shooter was the baby’s father’s girlfriend, police said.

- The free lunch program for the needy at St. Leander’s Church

was cancelled after the parish priest received a letter from a property management company complaining that homeless people were causing problems on properties near the church. Volunteers had been serving food on the church grounds every other Saturday for more than 20 years. Homeless people say they’ve been kicked out of downtown as the city opens its arms to high tech.

## May

- A San Leandro High student was arrested for taking part in a mob robbery and beating of multiple passengers on a BART train stopped at the Coliseum station.

- Marea Alta, the 115 unit affordable rate apartment complex across from the downtown BART station, opened after more than a decade of planning.

- Redwood Christian School broke ground on a new gymnasium at its San Lorenzo campus.

## June

- A report from the city’s human services department revealed that the number of San Leandrans living below the poverty line has nearly doubled since the year 2000, with about 10,000 residents living in poverty.

- The San Leandro Dodgers baseball team swept the California Warriors in a Sunday double-header at San Leandro Ballpark. Noah Amaral pitched four solid innings and scored a run.

- Alameda County finalized its annual budget – \$3.1 billion with a \$108 million deficit.

## July

- The East Bay Municipal Utility District increased water rates by 9.25 percent and announced a second rate hike of 9 percent to take effect in 2018. The utility has implemented rate increases totaling over 35 percent since 2013.

- Westlake Development announced plans to build a 7-story apartment building on the grounds of the tech campus at

see 2017, page 12



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

**John Ham demonstrates a high tech SOLOID mattress at the Hardwarecon conference held in April.**

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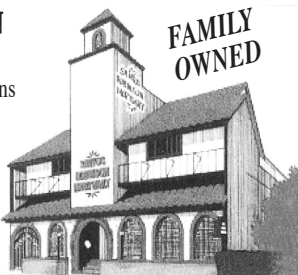
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### Viola Eileen Enders Walters

June 2, 1939 ~ Dec. 10, 2017

Viola Eileen Enders Walters (affectionately known in her family as Honey) passed away in San Leandro, CA on Dec. 10, 2017. She was born at her midwife’s home in Deadwood, SD to Viola Eyster Enders and Wendell Ervin Enders on June 2, 1939. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Dwight H. Enders. She is survived by her brother Wendell E Enders and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Viola lived in Lead, SD from birth to 1961, graduating from Lead High School, a graduate of Black Hills Teachers College in Spearfish, SD. She taught high school briefly in Newcastle WY and then moved to Denver, CO where she began her work in office administration that would last her lifetime. She married Douglas C Walters in Denver in 1964, before living in Florida, S. Carolina, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Denver. They were divorced in 1981.

Viola moved to San Leandro, CA in 1984, and retired from The Clorox Company in 2009. After retirement she became a volunteer at the local library and the senior center because she believed firmly in two principles; everyone should have the opportunity to read, and all senior citizens deserve loving and caring. Her greatest pleasures were her friends, quilting, making Temari, and photography. Viola enjoyed her interesting life but was always looking for her next adventure.

**KIBANOFF, Richard P.**  
**TUAZON, Linda L.**  
**WALTERS, Viola**

■ **KIBANOFF, Richard P.**, of San Leandro passed on December 26, 2017. Visitation on Fri. Dec. 29 at 4 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 5 p.m. at St. Leander Church, 550 W. Estudillo Ave., San Leandro. The Funeral Liturgy celebrating his life will be held on Sat. Dec. 30 at 9 a.m., also at the church. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward. Arrangements by Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

■ **TUAZON, Linda L.**, of San

Leandro passed on December 25, 2017. Visitation will be on Fri. Dec. 29 at 4 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 5 p.m. at Church of the Assumption, 1100 Fulton Ave., San Leandro. The Funeral Liturgy celebrating her life will be on Sat. Dec. 30 at 10 a.m. also at the church. Interment will be private. Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

#### SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3



## OPINION

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

### Optimistic About Our 'Beer-Drinking' City's Future

Editor:

In response to Gary Langbehn ("City Hall Should Accept San Leandro For What it Really is," *Letters*, Dec. 21): It is indisputable that a community with less crime is a better community. The more that our local government can do within the confines of our State and Federal Constitutions to reduce crime, the better our community will be.

I also agree that being a "blue-collar," a beer (as opposed to \$14 appletini) drinking city is a good thing. This is a community where anyone can live. There are million dollar homes in the hills and trailer parks in the flats. San Leandro is diverse on a plethora of planes – from ancestry, employment, income, and education to race, religion and retirement status.

We aren't just a beer drinking city – we're a beer making city (thank you Drake's, 21st Amendment, and Cleophus Quealy!)

But I disagree with your characterization of San Leandro being a "pig" to which the city government is applying lipstick. I believe the city is working on all fronts to bring all kinds of people to San Leandro, and that's a good thing. Yes, having less crime is a good thing, but so is increased higher-wage technical employment. There's room for improvement in both areas.

I have spent my days in Oakland since 1993 (work and home). I remember when downtown Oakland was a ghost town. When the clock hit 5, everyone headed home. Then the city promoted construction in Jack London Square and downtown to attract tech companies and workers from San Francisco.

There's lots to complain about (gentrification, crime), but I can tell you this, firsthand: at 5 p.m. people come to downtown Oakland.

W.P. Kinsella wrote "if you build it, they will come." Tech will come to San Leandro, and it will be good. Many tech workers drink beer.

—Andrew Kopp  
San Leandro

### Fears 'the Beginning of the End of San Leandro as We Know It'

Editor:

San Leandro is the new East Oakland. The developers have been lining up trying to get permits to build housing in San Leandro along with the mandatory "affordable housing" that goes with it.

A case in point is the middle class Lakeside apartments that used to exist at the intersection of Hesperian Blvd. and Springlake Drive. The city cleared it out and then came in and remodeled to government specifications and reopened as affordable housing. They had no more than started renting out the units when the vandalism, break-ins, burglaries, robberies, and at least one home invasion started happening. It is not just in that neighborhood, crime is on the rise throughout San Leandro.

This was a blue collar city when I moved here fifty years ago as a working Teamster. I am proud of the officers of the San Leandro Police Department who

afford us protection and with whom I have come in contact. Now I have a security system in and around my home and on two occasions officers came to look at videos that I made of suspicious people on my block, and after I called a few months ago they came and made an arrest of two people in a stolen car on my block.

As Mr. Langbehn (*see above*) stated in his letter "the very best way to rebrand San Leandro is by reducing crime." I don't think San Leandro needs to be rebranded. That is what they are trying to do now. I think San Leandro needs to return to what it always has been. A clean, affordable city where people can work, raise a family and retire safely with good honest neighbors around them.

San Leandro has an abundance of empty space nearby with room for both manufacturing and warehousing. Businesses that wish to locate here, would have a community nearby from which to draw employees. Let big business find us and let us support them. That is the basis of a healthy, happy, thriving community.

We already have a large low income housing area between 150th and 169th avenues along the East 14th St. corridor. Making this a sanctuary city and filling it with more low income housing is not the answer; it is the beginning of the end of San Leandro as we know it.

Stop the inflow of crime and give our police department what they need to serve and protect those of us who have made San Leandro our home.

—Frank Powers  
San Leandro

### Police Admonition to Conceal Valuables Just Makes Sense

Editor:

Why do police advise you to keep your valuables in the trunk or otherwise concealed in your car when you go out Christmas shopping?

Think about it. If someone breaks into your car and steals your valuables, you are not culpable. You are not held at fault, not even partially. It in no way lessens the thief's guilt and wrongdoing if you left your valuables in plain sight. You have the right to leave your valuables in plain sight if you want to.

So then why do police advise you not to advertise your valuables? It lessens the likelihood that someone will break in, which is good for all of us.

—Richard Brock  
San Leandro

### Every Dog-Walker Needs to Respect Other Peoples' Property

Editor:

In response to your article, "Broadmoor Resident Hounded by Dog Owners," (*The Times*, Page 1, Dec. 21) regarding Mr. Limner's lawn and the "deposits" thereon: I'm a lifelong resident of Fairmont Terrace and I walk my dog up and down our hills every morning. Our neighborhood has the same issue, so I'd just like to point out a few things.

Dog excrement is a health hazard, attracts flies and yellowjackets, provides a home for maggots, and can make other pets very ill.

Owners who don't pick up are

disrespecting other people's property. If someone doesn't want dogs in their yard, this is their right, and I have absolutely no problem avoiding these yards.

I come home every day with many other dogs' waste (in the free bags provided by H.A.R.D. at my local park) just so my dog won't have to take the blame.

Every neighbor has rights, and every dog walker needs to recognize this. So let's put this into words that the educated yet ignorant can understand: not picking up = bacteria, vandalism and disrespect.

To put the shoe on the other paw, how would these dog owners feel if someone dropped forty pounds of horse manure on their front porch? Just a thought.

—Lisa Anderson  
San Leandro

### Dumping Wells Fargo Called 'An Empty Gesture' for Liberals

Editor:

The City Council's decision to dump Wells Fargo is a meaningless concession to the Berniecrats of "Our Revolution," a Democratic Party booster group.

Reasons cited are Wells Fargo's support for the Dakota Access pipeline project providing under 5 percent of the funding, and the scandal over fake accounts.

Liberals are easy to please. They must have been ecstatic as council members talked of "San Leandro's values" and "social justice." Benny Lee mentioning Russell Means and accusing Wells Fargo of "supporting apartheid" was classic. Wells, like all US banks, supported apartheid in South Africa.

This decision costs the council nothing for opposing the pipeline, which millions of people do including myself. It is likely to cost the taxpayer, though. The city has been paying fees of \$80,000 a year – \$35,000 less than BofA's were a decade ago.

This is an empty gesture. All these big banks are rotten. In 2013, BofA received a \$1.27 billion penalty for pressuring employees to push loans on customers by eliminating controls on the loans' quality and in 2014, was fined \$16.65 billion by the Justice Dept. for financial fraud before during the 2008 Financial Crisis. This had savage consequences for millions of Americans.

Banks are notorious for their abuse of their workers (they are not bankers) and the massive pressure they place on them to perform, get more accounts, sell more loans.

Rather than this hypocritical gesture, I would be much more impressed with the Council if they recognized that bank employees are workers and that they should be unionized. The workers I have dealt with at my local Wells Fargo have treated me with respect and professionalism. To call them bankers is incorrect. The real bankers are the culprits but the council's decision negatively affects bank workers, taxpayers and customers; it's a vote-getting tactic directed at the liberals.

—Richard Mellor  
San Leandro

### A Good Word About Health Care At San Leandro's Kaiser Hospital

Editor:

I have not seen any recent information in the San Leandro Times about the good healthcare here in San Leandro.

Unfortunately, I have had to depend on the paramedics and San Leandro Kaiser Medical Center multiple times this year, as my rare disease has caused many complications. Without their lifesaving care, I would not have survived 2017 (latest was a heart attack). I know that I will receive

excellent care no matter when I call 911, and want to say "Thank You" to all these healthcare angels. For patients, the new hospital is also beautiful with such a caring staff from all departments.

—Anne Becker  
San Leandro

### Sees a Lessening of Sexual Harassment Incidents

Editor:

In the responses to the sexual harassment letters on Dec. 21, no one brought up the incident about seven years ago when the City of San Leandro paid off three female city employees, fired a black police officer they claimed was sexually harassing them, and then we found out

through a journalistic investigation their claims were false.

Their lies were in revenge for the officer's involvement in the takedown of the Black Muslim Bakery fake charity and the arrest in the murder of Chauncey Bailey, a journalist in Oakland.

I was surprised at the time of the claim of sexual harassment. I graduated from college and started work just after Affirmative Action became law. I saw and endured less and less sexual harassment through the 1970s and 1980s. So now it seems only in Hollywood is it still a big issue (all the claims against politicians seem to be for actions from years ago).

—Carol Munoz  
San Leandro

## INQUIRING REPORTER

## Your hope for 2018?

— Asked at the San Leandro BART Station

Unity. That we all come together as the United States of America. That we might disagree but without the hostility.

**Drayton Ashford**  
Dallas, Texas



I'm a year and a half into a new business and I hope we continue to grow. It's a record label. I hope to have some successful releases this year.

**Mustafa Shaikh**  
San Francisco



To have more hours in my job and more time with my girlfriend, and hope income taxes don't affect people too much because of Trump.

**Martin Weitzman**  
Berkeley,  
works in San Leandro



That everybody gets along, politicians and all, because tomorrow isn't promised to anyone. Stop the hate, fighting and killing. Just get along is what I hope for.

**Michael Maxwell**  
Hayward,  
works in San Leandro



Lower taxes and wealth. And I hope for help for the homeless. I take BART and see the homeless all along the way.

**Rhonda McRae**  
San Leandro





## Comedy: More shows planned for SL

continued from front page

"It's the funniest headliners who play the Bay Area," Copeland said. "Dr. Gonzo was one of the biggest headliners in the Bay Area for years. He moved back East but he's coming out for this show, so it's a special appearance."

Tickets are available at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) or by calling 800-838-3006, \$60 in advance or \$70 at the door.

Robert Duchaine's surly humor pokes fun of everything — race, religion, relationships. Duchaine says he's been kicked out of every organization he was ever forced to join, from the Cub Scouts to the U.S. Army, and fired from every job he's ever finagled. He finally found a refuge — on the standup comedy stage.

Copeland began his comedy career here in his hometown of San Leandro at the former Tommy T's Comedy Club. The owner, Tommy Thomas, was Copeland's baseball coach as a kid. Later, Copeland started going to the club, though he wasn't 21 yet.

"I used to go with a fake I.D. and watch the comedians," Copeland said. "And then I saw Richard Pryor on TV and it blew my mind."

One day, Copeland asked Thomas if he had an amateur night.

"He said, 'No, but I have a comic sick tonight. Can you do it?' I said, sure. I was 18 and didn't know better. I went home, opened a newspaper, and wrote 15 minutes of jokes."

Copeland went on Tommy T's stage that night and did all right.

"I didn't kill but I got laughs," he said. "And I was hooked from that moment on. By age 20, I was doing it full time."

Copeland put on hold his plans for college and law school,



**Brian Copeland, who started out at Tommy T's in his hometown of San Leandro, will host a powerhouse comedy lineup here on New Years Eve.**

and gave himself two years to see what he could do in the comedy business. Later, he and Tommy T's bartender bought the San Leandro club from Thomas and Copeland ran the shows.

"I owned the club for two years," he said. "I don't have time right now, but if I did have time at some point in the future, I would open another comedy club here."

Whether he opens another club or not, Copeland plans to keep producing more comedy shows — in addition to the New Years show and his annual series of solo shows at the San Leandro Library, called "The Best of San Francisco Solo Series," featuring the top one-man shows performed in recent years in the city.

The way Copeland sees it, live entertainment is the same idea as supporting local business. With Netflix and live streaming of shows on the internet, people have no reason to leave the house, he said.

But local theater and comedy would bring people out and in turn help other local businesses.

Copeland is also a new member of the City of San Leandro Arts Commission, which makes recommendations on developing and promoting art in San Leandro.

"I think I can provide some

good night life stuff that would make people get off the couch and not feel they had to go to San Francisco," Copeland said. "If New Years goes well, I'll do a couple of shows a year here."

## 2017: Ban on flavored tobacco products

continued from page 10

601 Parrott Street.

- Albert Anaya, an employee of Alco Metals, was crushed to death by equipment that fell off a forklift.

### August

- The San Leandro School District held a special mail-in election to try and pass a parcel tax. Just over 63 percent of voters were in favor of the tax but that wasn't enough to meet the two-thirds threshold necessary for it to pass. The parcel tax would have brought in about \$1.5 million annually for the school district.

- Everybody rushed outside

to catch a glimpse of the solar eclipse on Aug. 21, but clouds obscured a good view of the event here in San Leandro.

- The city-owned California Conservatory Theatre was permanently closed. It had been the site of various plays and performances since the 1970s. The city plans to turn the building into a public meeting room.

### September

- City Councilman Lee Thomas received a exemption from city zoning officials to build a 6-foot fence, but his neighbors filed an appeal because it ran alongside their front yard and the

## Fatality: Governor orders flags to fly at half-staff for Camilleri

continued from front page

too much to smoke," Sanchez said. "We have enough evidence and enough statements (that the driver was under the influence) that have been made today to allow us to charge this individual."

A public funeral for Camilleri is expected to be scheduled for later this week. A private police bell ceremony for Camilleri was held Wednesday.

Statewide, flags have been lowered to half-staff in honor of Camilleri's death in the line of duty. Governor Jerry Brown also issued a statement.

"Anne and I are deeply saddened to learn of the tragic loss of Officer Camilleri," wrote Brown. "We join his family, friends, and the entire California Highway Patrol in mourning his death and in honoring his sacrifice."

The CHP has established a



**A procession on I-580 was held Tuesday for California Highway Patrol Officer Andrew Camilleri.**

fundraising site to support Camilleri's family, a link to donate is available at [www.facebook.com/CHPGoldenGate](http://www.facebook.com/CHPGoldenGate).

councilman ultimately withdrew his request.

- MedShare, a San Leandro non-profit, sent medical equipment as part of a disaster relief effort following Hurricane Harvey in Houston and Hurricane Irma in Florida. Castro Valley resident Kelly Marquez Johnson did her own fundraising to aid the small island of Culebra, which was devastated by both Irma and Hurricane Maria.

- The Davis Street Wellness Center held an open house at the site of its planned cannabis dispensary, next door to the Davis Street Family Resource Center on Teagarden Street. The city's Board of Zoning Adjustment gave the Wellness Center permission to operate, but a \$350,000 loan to the city has to be repaid by Jan. 31 in order for the dispensary to open.

### October

- Over 6,000 people attended the 17th annual Sausage & Suds festival downtown. And the Asian Community Cultural Association celebrated the Moon Festival at Marina Park.

- The City Council voted to ban flavored tobacco sales in San Leandro, despite protests from owners of smoke shops and convenience stores who said they'll take a big financial hit when the ban goes into effect this March.

- Developers Trammell Crow began construction on three industrial buildings for high tech manufacturing at the 31-acre site of the old Kraft plant.

### November

- The seismic upgrade of the Chabot Dam was completed after two years of work and the dam can now withstand a 7.25 magnitude earthquake. During the construction, the hiking loop

around Lake Chabot was closed, but now it's open again.

- Daniel Carlos, 32, was shot and killed while trying to sell his cell phone to a pair of men who contacted him though an app in what police called a robbery gone wrong. Two 18-year-old men were later arrested for the murder.

- Mayor Pauline Cutter travelled to Italy talk about San Leandro's tech innovations to an international audience at the Ecomondo Conference.

### December

- San Leandro divested from doing business with Wells Fargo at the urging of a local activist group. San Leandro Finance Director Davis Baum said it will take hundreds of hours of city employees' time to find a new bank and that the large banks who work with municipalities are likely also funding the Dakota Access pipeline just as Wells Fargo does.

- Developer Tom Silva withdrew his plans for a 73-unit apartment building at the corner of Bancroft and Estudillo avenues. Neighbors in the Estudillo Estates area vehemently opposed the idea. Silva made and subsequently withdrew another proposal for around 50 units at the site back in 2016. The site is currently zoned for up to 31 units.

- San Leandrans showed their holiday generosity in several ways. The San Leandro Police Officers Association's Bikes for Tykes giveaway, organized by Officer Louie Brant, enabled over 500 needy San Leandro kids to get a bike on Christmas. A San Leandro couple delivered 400 stuffed animals to Children's Hospital. And Alameda County Firefighters invited people to visit Santa at firehouse No. 9 on Estudillo Avenue and drop off a toy for the less fortunate.

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