

San Leandro Times

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SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO: EBCT

Jordyn Foley (Alice) shows Cara Impallomeni (Ellen) the Original Cast Album that she performed on during rehearsals for *The Man Who Saved Christmas*, running through this weekend at the Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley.

Saving Christmas Wasn't Easy

The Man Who Saved Christmas plays through December 17 at the Chanticleers Theater, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley.

Show times are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets

are \$30 for adults, \$25 for children. For tickets or more information, visit www.Chanticleers.org or call 510-SEE-LIVE.

The Man Who Saved Christmas is loosely based on the true story of toy maker A.C. Gilbert (the inventor of The

Erector Set.) Set in 1917, as America is embroiled in the First World War, this "new old-fashioned" crowd-pleaser focuses on Gilbert's battle with the U.S. government as it attempts to ban

see *CHRISTMAS*, page 2

Price Recall Petition Collects Signatures

Democratic Party opposes recall, supports district attorney

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Less than a year into Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price's term, a group has started gathering signatures on petitions, mostly in area shopping centers, aiming to force a recall election in the spring.

The deadline for gaining more than 70,000 signatures — would depend on the likely date for the election, which has not yet been set.

March is a good possibility, said San Leandro resident Edward Escobar, who is ac-

tive with the group behind the recall, Save Alameda For Everyone (SAFE). He said the group plans to gather many more signatures than the minimum, as some are likely to be disqualified.

There is a recall rally planned for Monday, Dec. 18 in Fremont, although exact time and place are still being finalized, he said.

SAFE claims crime is up sharply since Price took office, that her office has been

see *RECALL*, page 11

Reynes Resigns From City Council

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

In a surprise announcement last Thursday, Celina Reynes said she is resigning her position on the City Council, effective at the end of the month.

Reynes represents District 1, which includes downtown San Leandro, Estudillo Estates, and the Bay-O-Vista neighborhoods. A third-gen-

eration San Leandran, Reynes' grandparents immigrated to California from Portugal in the early 1950s.

In a press release from City Hall, Reynes said she's resigning based on a need to "prioritize my own well-being and that of my newborn daughter."

"I didn't run for office lightly, and I didn't take re-

see *RESIGNS*, page 12

Local Group Spots Salmon in SL Creek

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Salmon have been spotted recently in San Leandro Creek, says a local creek protection group.

"We've been hearing about a big salmon run this year and recently we have spotted them ourselves and got photos," said Susan Levenson, watershed awareness coordinator with the Friends of San

Leandro Creek.

The salmon they've seen are probably Chinook (or King), said Levenson. These are winter-run salmon, which head upstream from September through December. The local rainbow or steelhead trout spawn later, from December through April.

Levenson said she isn't pointing out the exact location

see *SALMON*, page 11



INSIDE YOUR TIMES

PETS

Santana and Boomer are available at the shelter. **Page 2**

TRANSIT

AC Transit's Holiday Bus gets into the spirit. **Page 3**

HEALTH

Five fitness tips for the new year. **Page 5**

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Calendar.....	3
Classified Ads	8
Crossword	9
Pets.....	2
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 Michelle Mayfield at 667-3522.



San Leandro Times

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

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Pets of the Week



Santana



Boomer

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are both dogs, a German Shepherd mix and a Doberman mix.

Santana is a 7-year-old German Shepherd mix. He is looking for someone who he can look to for guidance to build his confidence. Santana is sweet and would love to be in his forever home.

Boomer is a 1-and-a-half-year-old Doberman mix. He is looking for a very active home and someone who will take him out on adventures and train him to be a fantastic boy. Boomer would do well in a home with teens and up.

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



PHOTO BY ARCHIE OVERTON

Catch Anything?

Michael Tatmon's grandson Marckez Tatmon has been watching the fishing shows and wanted to learn to fish. Before they went up to Lake Chabot, his grandfather took him outside on Harlan Street for a little practice using the rod and reel, and neighbor Archie Overton took a photo.

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Christmas: Family complications

continued from front page
toy sales during the holiday season.

Added to the mix: A secretary who keeps her heart on ice and a visiting reporter

determined to thaw it out, and the Gilbert's precocious niece Ellen, who untangles the myriad complications in which the young lovers, and the Toy Tycoon, find themselves.

Raiders Boosters Club to Meet at Ricky's

The Original Oakland Raiders Booster Club meets tonight (Thursday) at Ricky's Sports Lounge, 15028 Hesperian Blvd. from 5 to 8:30 p.m. No host cocktails at 5 p.m.

Clarification

In the story on the annual downtown holiday festival, "It's a Wonderful Night" ("Crowd Flocks to Downtown Festival," Dec. 7, 2023), the organizers estimate there were 3,500 people in attendance. In addition to the Downtown San Leandro Community Benefit District, the other event sponsors were the City of San Leandro, Fieldwork Brewing Company, and the Optimist Club of San Leandro.



Join Us For

Christmas Eve Services!

December 24

5:00 PM – Candlelight Service
9:00 PM – Candlelight Service

9PM Service Livestreamed on:
www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranCV

Faith Lutheran Church of Castro Valley
20080 Redwood Road
Castro Valley, CA 94546
(510) 582 - 0818
www.flccv.org

All Are Welcome!

See You There!

Community Calendar

Create a Winter Collage

Explore paper cutting and gluing to make a fun, colorful, winter themed collage on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. No experience is necessary and all materials will be supplied by the instructor. This workshop is for Adults 18+, no registration required.

Raiders Booster Club Toy Drive

The Oakland Raider Booster Club will hold its annual toy drive on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. at Ricky's Sports Bar, in San Leandro. Donations of new, unwrapped toys will be donated to the Davis Street Community Center.

Winter Reading Weekend with Roo Roo

Visit the Main Library (300 Estudillo Ave) or Manor Branch (1241 Manor Blvd) during open hours to join the Winter Reading Game and take a photo with Roo Roo, the library mascot, from Friday, Dec. 15, to Sunday, Dec. 17. You'll also get a packet of hot cocoa mix and a winter craft sticker sheet while supplies last. Bring your own stuffed animal to meet Roo Roo if you'd like.

Arroyo High Athletic Boosters Holiday Boutique

Arroyo Athletic Boosters will host a Holiday Boutique on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Arroyo High School, 15701 Lorenzo Ave. in San Lorenzo. Items for sale will be homemade goods, such as lotions, blankets, ornaments, wreaths as well as a few food vendors.

Santa Claus at the Firehouse

Have your picture taken with Santa Claus on Sunday, Dec. 17, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Alameda County Fire Station #9, 450 Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Hot chocolate, cookies and milk. Bring a toy for the ACFD/Local 55 toy program.

Bowman to Speak at Washington Home Owners

The Washington Home Owners Association will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in Room C of the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. The guest speaker will be Katie Bowman, the City of San Leandro's Economic Development Manager. She will talk about new developments planned and in progress in San Leandro. Washington Manor residents and the general public are welcome. If you have any questions, you can call Bob Glaze at 510-352-2058.

Play Winter Reading Bingo

The San Leandro Library presents Winter Reading Bingo. Earn prizes and Loard's ice cream. Complete squares on the BINGO card by reading and doing activities. Join at the library or online starting Dec. 14. Stop by the library and join in on the fun. Free for all ages at all branches.

Family Fun Night – Holiday Puppet Show

Puppet Art Theater Co. presents a holiday version of Red Riding Hood on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. All ages welcome.

Arts & Crafts Swap Meet

California BrainWaves hosts an Arts & Crafts Swap on the first Wednesday of every month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Trustees Room of the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Free, all ages and skill levels welcome. Neurodivergent-friendly. Donate, craft, grab goodies.

San Leandro Toastmasters Meets Every Thursday

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

American Legion Post 649 Monthly Meeting

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

AC Transit Holiday Bus Offers Free Rides

Get into the spirit of the season on AC Transit's free Holiday Bus.

During the month of December AC Transit is running a specially wrapped Holiday Bus – and the rides are free – on different local lines throughout the East Bay.

The tradition of a free-ride Holiday bus began in 1963, just three years after AC Transit began service.

This year's bus takes lines from the popular holiday tune, "Jingle Bells," one of the best known, and commonly sung American songs in the world.

Different bus routes are highlighted in festive ornaments all over the bus. See if you can spot your line.

As an added thank you to



PHOTO COURTESY AC TRANSIT

Look for AC Transit's Holiday Bus on routes around the East Bay for a free ride and gifts.

riders, AC Transit has created some festive Holiday Bus gifts. While you're on the Holiday Bus, grab a mini paper bus (while supplies last) or some paper-chain

ornaments and gift tags, available throughout the fleet or at the AC Transit Customer Service Center in Oakland.

"We're looking forward to

more rides in 2024 and many journeys together on the roads of the East Bay with you," said AC Transit. "Wishing you joy and happiness on your holiday journeys."

Hope Hospice to Host Zoom Workshop on Grieving

Hope Hospice offers a one-hour workshop over Zoom as a safe space to discuss the unique considerations of grieving during the winter holiday season.

Although this workshop is offered over Zoom, space is still limited due to the interactive nature of the presentation.

There is no charge to attend. The program will be on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 2 to 3 p.m.

To register, call the Grief Support Department at 925-829-8770 or submit an inquiry form at HopeHospice.com/grief. Experiencing grief at this time may intensify feelings of loneliness or anxiety about being asked how you are coping.

You may feel disinclined to participate in holiday gatherings to avoid such questions, or because you feel lost without your loved one by your side.

Flores Named to Dean's List

Ariel Cordova Flores of San Leandro, California was named to the 2023 spring semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston.

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

Simmons University is located in the heart of Boston, a respected private university offering more than 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats, or entirely

online in nursing and health sciences, liberal arts, business, communications, social work, public health, and library and information science.

Founded in 1899, Simmons has established a model of higher education that other colleges and universities are only recently beginning to adapt: the combination of education for leadership in high-demand professional fields with the intellectual foundation of the liberal arts.

The result is a Simmons graduate prepared not only to work, but to lead in professional, civic, and personal life.

Fall Safety Prevention Class for Seniors

Calling All Seniors: Fall into safety with Spectrum's Fall Prevention Program

Spectrum's Community Services Fall Prevention Program is accepting registration for its winter classes. The EnhanceFitness classes offer exercises addressing strength, balance, and flexibility. The Walk With Ease classes focus

on self-motivated walking to boost strength and ease arthritis symptoms.

Classes run from Jan. 2 to March 22 at the Cherryland Community Center, San Leandro Senior Center, or virtually via Zoom. Call 510-881-0300 (Option 6) or register online at www.SpectrumCS.org.

Calendar Submissions

The Community Calendar is for publicizing nonprofit organizations, charities and community groups.

Items can be emailed to jimk@ebpublishing.com or call 510-614-1557.

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East Bay Living



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FOOD CHANNEL

The one important thing about cooking a roast is temperature. Ovens are not all created the same, and heat differs from one to the other. Cooking times are suggestions. They can't be exact in every case. But using a good instant-read thermometer will be exact.

Roast to about 130°F for rare, 145°F for medium, 155°F for medium well, 165°F for well done.

For a juicy and tender roast beef, it's best to serve it rare. Meat continues to cook after it has been removed from the oven, so remove the roast when it reaches the desired temperature and allow it to rest for 20 minutes after removing it from the oven.

The drippings will provide the essentials for a traditional Yorkshire pudding.

CLASSIC ROAST BEEF

- 1 boneless beef top sirloin roast (6-7 pounds)
- Salt and freshly ground black

- pepper
- 1 ounce olive oil
- 6 to 8 garlic cloves
- 2 cups Merlot, dry
- 2 cups low-sodium beef broth
- 2/3 cup Port wine
- 2 tablespoons butter

Preheat oven to 250°F.

Trim meat of any heavy fat cover in excess of 3/8 inch and any visible cartilage on bottom of roast. Some fat is essential for self-basting the roast as it cooks. Season all side of the roast with salt and pepper.

On the stove top, heat a heavy iron Dutch oven or deep skillet, add olive oil and garlic. Brown all side of beef roast approximately 4 to 5 minutes on each side.

Place roast in pot in oven. When internal temperature reaches 110°F (in approximately 60-80 minutes), turn oven up to 500°F and continue until internal temperature reaches 135°F. This will provide a medium rare roast with a nicely browned exterior and take up to 15 additional minutes.

Remove roast from oven, transfer it to a tray and allow

it to rest for about 20 minutes. While it rests, a pan sauce and Yorkshire pudding can be prepared.

Pour off and spoon all excess fat drippings from the pan. Reserve hot for Yorkshire pudding.

Heat pan with remaining juices over medium-high heat, add Merlot and reduce by half. Add stock and Port. Scrape all browned bits from the bottom and sides of the pan. Reduce to about one cup. Strain and remove garlic. Add butter and serve.

YORKSHIRE PUDDING

- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted
- 2 eggs
- 4 to 8 tablespoons reserved drippings from roasting pan

Preheat oven to 475°F.

Whisk together the flour, salt, milk, butter and eggs. Using a baster, drop a teaspoon or two of drippings into each cup of

a muffin tin. Put the muffin tin in the preheated oven. When the drippings are sizzling hot, remove the tin and fill each cup 1/2 to 2/3 full with batter.

Bake for 15 minutes, then reduce oven temperature to 350°F and bake for 15 to 20 minutes longer, or until the popovers are puffed and brown. Serve hot.

Yields 12 large popovers.

HORSERADISH SAUCE

- 1/4 cup prepared horseradish
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise

Combine all ingredients in bowl and serve with roast.

CRISPY ROAST POTATOES

- 6 medium-large potatoes, peeled, cut into quarters
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Salt and pepper

Boil potatoes in salted water for 15 minutes, drain well. Return to pan and shake over heat to dry completely.

Heat olive oil in oven-proof skillet. Add the potatoes, turn to coat all sides. Then transfer pan to 350°F oven and bake for 15 to 20 minutes, turning once, until potatoes are golden brown. (This can be done while roast is "resting.")

Season lightly with salt and pepper. Serves 6.

STEAMED WINTER VEGETABLES

- 3/4 pound baby carrots, peeled
- 4 medium new potatoes, quartered
- 6 Brussels sprouts, halved
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Place carrots and potatoes in steamer over boiling water. Cover and steam 6 minutes. Add sprouts and continue steaming 5 to 7 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Combine butter, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Toss with steamed vegetables. Serves 8.

A Christmas Classic

What would Christmas be without the classic roast beef of Olde England, flanked

by crispy potatoes, tangy horseradish, crunchy Yorkshire pudding, and steamed winter vegetables!

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HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19): At this time, you might want to resist that otherwise admirable Aries penchant for getting to the heart of a matter quickly. Keep in mind that a delicate situation calls for patience.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Your aspects favor more diplomacy and fewer direct confrontations when dealing with a relationship problem. Avoiding hurt feelings can help in your search for the truth.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Positive aspects are strong this week. Although you still might have to deal with some problems caused by a recent period of turmoil, you are making progress, and that's what counts.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): A family matter could benefit from your counsel. But don't bring yourself into it unless you're invited, and don't stay if you feel uneasy. Just remember to reassure one and all that you'll be there for them.

LEO (July 23 - August 22): As the truth about an ongoing situation emerges, you could find that you were right to defer judgment before you had all the facts. Now would be a good time to move on to other matters.

VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Your plans to take control of a personal situation because you feel the most qualified could create resentment. It's best to hear what everyone else involved in the matter has to say about it first.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Uncovering some surprising background facts about that ongoing personal matter could make you reconsider the extent of your involvement. A neutral family member offers advice.

SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Religious or spiritual themes start to dominate your aspect this week. This can serve as a counterweight to the mounting effects of the season's growing commercialization.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Taking on that recent challenge impressed a lot of important decision-makers. Meanwhile, proceed with your holiday plans, and don't forget to include you-know-who in them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Disagreeing with an opinion that you can't accept could be dicey, and your motives might be questioned. It's better to wait to mount a challenge until you have support for your position.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Getting involved in helping others during this increasingly hectic period makes the generous Aquarian feel good. You could also gain a more substantive benefit from your actions.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): The Piscean way of thinking clearly and objectively helps you resolve a complex situation without creating any ill will. Don't be surprised if your counsel is requested on another matter.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Five Fitness Tips to Know for the New Year

By Mitch Rothbardt
Special to the Times

This is a scary time of year, friends. Right about now you'll start to see things. Things that defy description, logic, and common sense. Things that challenge all we hold to be true.

I'm talking, of course, about New Year's gym and personal trainer promotions. Terrifying stuff, indeed!

We know deep down that these promises are as real as Santa Claus, and yet each year they arrive just the same. And you know that if they do come around each year, that means the lies must still work.

That makes me sad and angry.

So, what do you say this year we do our best to change that, huh? Let's not fall for that garbage. Let's not give in to the New Year Transformation Challenge quick-fix stuff you'll see.

Yeah, it's expertly marketed with amazing before-and-after pictures and incredible messaging and boy-oh-boy do we want it to be true. But it's not.

The good news, though, is that you can get results. Real ones with real world implications that make your real life better. It doesn't have to take long, and you don't have to do back-breaking workouts, either.

Here's 5 things to know to arm yourself against the crazy hyped-up stuff so when you see it, you can fight back.

1.) There are no quick fixes. You know I'm right. Your body just doesn't work like that and by the way, that's a good thing. If someone promises you something crazy, just back away slowly.

2.) Avoid extreme methods. 1,000 calories diets...crazy workouts that make you feel like death warmed over...never eating another cookie. Does any of that really make sense?

3.) Consistency is key. When starting a workout program, keep that in mind.

4.) Do something you like, or at least something you don't hate. I get that exercise isn't everyone's idea of a good time, but if you join a program doing something you hate, you won't do it, no matter what your intentions were. Trust me. I've seen it many times.

5.) Don't use the scale to gauge your success. The scale isn't a measure of your health or your worth. Don't believe anyone who tells you that merely losing weight will make you healthier or happier. Losing weight may not have any effect on either one and in many cases leaves you less healthy and more unhappy than before you started. The myth that losing weight will cure all is perhaps the biggest lie there is. Don't fall for it.

I know this may ask you to change some things about what you're listening to or believe, but it's worth it. Ask me any questions you like about any of it or ask if you just want some help on picking your own exercise program for 2024. I promise you I'll help, even if it isn't mine.

Mitch Rothbardt is the owner and head trainer at Castro Valley Fitness. He can be reached at Mitch@CastroValleyFitness.com.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



The Key to Real Estate Investing: Buy and Hold

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

Charlie Munger recently passed away at the age of 99. Second in command to Warren Buffett at Berkshire Hathaway, Munger built a fortune most of us can only imagine. He began in real estate in California.

Munger's impact has been felt in every area of investing: not for get-rich-quick schemes, but for his practice of strategically buying and holding. He stated, "It's remarkable how much long-term advantage people like us have gotten by trying to be consistently not stupid, instead of trying to be very intelligent."

Over the years, we have seen many market strategies here in the Bay Area. We

have endured the foreclosure crisis, short sales, waves of flippers and commercial investors acquiring large numbers of properties. Through it all, with the ups and downs, those who have invested in real estate and held for the long haul have profited significantly and built wealth.

The key to investing, according to Munger, is to buy wisely and hold for a long period of time. He stated, "If you're going to invest in stocks for the long term or real estate, of course there are going to be periods when there's a lot of agony and other periods when there's a boom. And I think you just have to learn to live through them."

The mistake many make is to let their emotions get the better of them: if the market is hot, they want to

jump in and buy, failing to realize that the most significant gains have already been made. Inversely, as the market slides, an emotional response is to sell to stave off potential losses. This type of mindset – buy high and sell low – will result in significant losses. Instead, the goal should be to buy and hold, regardless of the current market condition. I know local investors who purchased residential income properties years ago and who, watching their property values plummet during the foreclosure crisis, refused to sell their assets. Those same investors, once the dust of the financial crisis settled, saw their values skyrocket.

Real estate has always been a great investment. Even with the current high prices and interest rates, if a person buys now and holds long term, history shows

us that over time, they will be able to build significant wealth. Unfortunately, many, reacting to current conditions and hoping for better days, will miss the opportunity currently staring them in the face.

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.

Nearing Seven Percent, Mortgage Rates Continue to Decrease

Market sentiment has significantly shifted over the last month, leading to a continued decline in mortgage rates. The current trajectory of rates is an encouraging development for potential homebuyers, with purchase application activity recently rising to the same level as mid-September when rates were similar to today's levels. The modest uptick in demand over the last month signals that there will likely be more competition in a market that remains starved for inventory.

The Cathy Brent Team
would like to wish all a Wonderful Holiday Season
Filled with everything good that life can bring!



Thank You to all our clients past, present & future for entrusting us with your business and contributing to our status as Berkshire Hathaway's #1 Team. We could not have done it without you! We look forward to helping you all in the New Year.

Cathy, Kathi, Wayne, Linda & Kelly



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Linda Neff: 557-9185 / linda@lindaneff.com / DRE #01495978

Kelly Brent McCoy: 925-786-2681 / kelly.mccoy@bhhsdrysdale.com / DRE# 02095209

RECENT HOME SALES

Home sales information is compiled and provided by CalResource and includes Bedrooms, Square Feet and Year Built when available

Castro Valley

29524 Palomares Road 94552: \$1,900,000 [4 BD - 2,301 SF - 1949

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$1,900,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$1,900,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,900,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$1,900,000

Hayward

53 Fernridge Court 94544: \$500,000 [3 BD - 1,585 SF - 1991
27841 Biscayne Avenue 94544: \$650,000 [3 BD - 1,216 SF - 1954
1008 Imperial Place #5 94541: \$660,000 [2 BD - 1,565 SF - 1982
24647 Traynor Court 94544: \$715,000 [3 BD - 1,058 SF - 1950
675 Hampton Road 94541: \$725,000 [5 BD - 1,530 SF - 1989
1266 Sandy Bridges Court 94541: \$750,000 [3 BD - 1,532 SF - 1988
215 Bolt Court 94544: \$752,000 [2 BD - 1,491 SF - 2020
693 Chase Avenue 94541: \$753,000 [3 BD - 1,345 SF - 2004
456 Brian Street 94544: \$770,000 [3 BD - 927 SF - 1952
24730 Santa Clara Street 94544: \$780,000 [3 BD - 1,400 SF - 1957
27925 Biscayne Avenue 94544: \$820,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1954
26981 Jennings Way 94544: \$949,000 [3 BD - 1,231 SF - 1955
301 Fig Tree Court 94544: \$1,135,000 [4 BD - 1,821 SF - 1996
29028 Vagabond Lane 94544: \$1,250,000 [4 BD - 3,025 SF - 2008

TOTAL SALES: 14
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$500,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$752,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,250,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$800,642

San Leandro

2077 Washington Avenue #314 94577: \$372,000 [1 BD - 692 SF - 1984
1551 Marybelle Avenue 94577: \$780,000 [3 BD - 1,015 SF - 1944
1221 Coe Avenue 94579: \$855,000 [3 BD - 1,401 SF - 1951
1359 Santa Rosa Street 94577: \$905,000 [3 BD - 1,338 SF - 2000
181 Sunnyside Drive 94577: \$1,020,000 [4 BD - 2,286 SF - 1923
837 Glen Drive 94577: \$1,140,000 [4 BD - 1,523 SF - 1929

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$372,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$880,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,140,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$845,333

San Lorenzo

1777 Via Redondo 94580: \$805,000 [3 BD - 1,434 SF - 1954
16052 Via Harriet 94580: \$880,000 [3 BD - 1,621 SF - 1956
17453 Via Valencia 94580: \$930,000 [3 BD - 1,973 SF - 1951
1508 Via Hermana 94580: \$1,075,000 [3 BD - 1,627 SF - 1955

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$805,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$905,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,075,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$922,500

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FROM THE STAFF OF
SAN LEANDRO TIMES



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Getting Your Home Ready to Sell

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

Q: Several months ago, my parents agreed they were unable to take care of their house on their own, and moved to an assisted-living community. I took on the task of selling their home so that they can continue to fund their new situation. However, the real-estate broker who I initially contacted said the house is in too poor a condition to sell. I don't have the time or money to fix up their house. What can I do?

A: Did the broker give you any indication of why he or she felt the house couldn't be sold in its current condition? If not, contact the broker to find out what specific things stood out. If you don't get answers, contact another real-estate firm to come see the house and find out if it's

really unsellable.

I don't have any specifics as to the home's condition from your letter, but to an agent or broker trying to sell your home, appearance is very important.

Is the inside of the home very cluttered? Is there damage to interior walls, visible mold, large cracks or other immediately noticeable issues? Is the exterior of the home in need of paint or repairs to the siding, roof, steps or walkways? These all affect the home's sale price and can make it sit on the market longer than anyone would like.

Houses can sell in any condition – but the price will take a hit if it needs a lot of work. I vividly recall being shown a triple-decker several years ago with foundation problems so bad, the structure was tilting at an alarming angle. The house sold,

but at about one-third the average price for homes in that neighborhood.

If the house is structurally sound, you may be able to raise its sale price by investing some time and sweat into freshening up its appearance, outside and in. A fresh coat of paint alone can make a home's value jump, and it's not a huge investment.

Make a plan to do specific things over several weekends, or even one day a week if that's all the time you have. Enlist family and friends to help. Put together a budget ahead of time so you know how much you can spend on minor repairs.

- Spruce up the house exterior by keeping the lawn mowed and the hedges trimmed. Tear out any dead vegetation. Plant a few flowers along the walkway or in front of the house.

- De-clutter the entire

home interior, too. If there's a lot of furniture or keepsakes, if the closets are full of clothes, find out what your parents want to keep, sell or distribute. If they can't come to the house to show you, take pictures of all the items, put them on your laptop and go through them with your parents.

- Clean as much as possible: Get dust and cobwebs out of the house, wipe the walls clean and get the kitchen and bathrooms as sparkling as possible.

- Give interior walls a fresh coat of paint. Remove peeling or torn wallpaper, and repair small holes and dings in the walls.

- Check out websites or books about staging a house. HGTV has some quick tips, as well as a room-by-room staging guide.

- Finally, if the house has some major repair issues, such as needing a new roof, foundation or plumbing issues, talk with the broker

about them and how these home easier by removing can affect the sale of the personal items, photos and memorabilia first – it takes much of the emotion out of the decision-making.

Home Tip: Make much of the emotion out of de-cluttering and staging a the decision-making.


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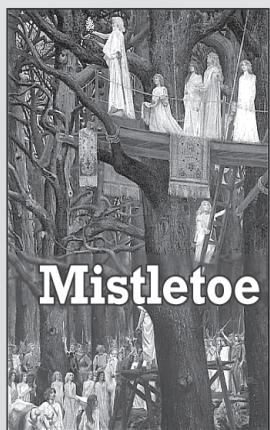
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Pliny the Elder once wrote how the Druids held nothing more sacred than finding mistletoe growing on an oak tree. They prepared a banquet beneath the tree, while chanting. A priest dressed in white

climbed the tree and cut the mistletoe off with a golden sickle, catching it in his garments. Two large white bulls were then killed as they asked their gods to accept their offering, and to impart fertility to any person or animal that ate the mistletoe berries. – Brenda Weaver

Source: thegardenstrust.blog

"Druids Cutting Mistletoe on the Sixth Day of the Moon" by Henri Motte (1890)

WEEKEND GARDENER

Prune

Prune fruit trees and vines this month and next, but only after all of the leaves have fallen. Pruning plants that are not fully dormant leads to disease and damage to the tree tissue. Don't prune rose until mid-January.

Vegetables

Transplant globe artichokes, Jerusalem artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, cabbages, cauliflower, horseradish and rhubarb. Dig the soil when it's not waterlogged. If you squeeze a handful of soil and it stays in a lump, it's too wet to dig.

Flowers

Transplant azaleas, camellias, ornamental cabbage and kale, cyclamen, primroses and pansies. Be on the lookout for snails. If you prefer not using pesticides, use a flashlight to handpick them just after dark. If the plants are dry, sprinkle them at dusk which will encourage the snails to come out of their hiding places.

Dividing plants Now is the time to divide dormant perennials, including herbs like marjoram, mint and rosemary. They're easy to transplant in cool weather.

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FILED
MELISSA WILK
October 31, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601745

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

The name of the business(es):
Valley Nail & Spa, located at 4170 Piedmont Ave., Suite A, Oakland, CA 94611 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lmvo Corporation, located at 4170 Piedmont Ave. Suite A, Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Corporation This business commenced 10/28/2023 /s/My Thi VO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires December 07, 2028
DEC 20, 27, JAN 03, 10, 2023
1062- SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED
MELISSA WILK
October 16, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601380

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


The name of the business(es):
Intimate Sessions Coaching, located at 14881 Wiley Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lauren Ballesteros, located at 14881 Wiley Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/Lauren Ballesteros
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires October 15, 2028

FILED
MELISSA WILK
November 27, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 602293

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

The name of the business(es):
Wonderland Smoke Shop, located at 40900 Fremont Blvd., fremont, CA 94538. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Adelal Ghithil, located at 40900 Fremont Blvd., fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/ Adelal Ghithil
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MELISSA WILK

November 15, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 602097

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Ashland Art Studios, located at 1577
152nd Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Carolyn Weatherbee, located at 1577 152nd Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an Individual. This business commenced N/A
/s/Carolyn Weatherbee
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 14, 2028
NOV, 23, 30, DEC 7, 14, 2023

FILED
MELISSA WILK

November 06, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 601884

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Crawl Space Champions Panda Heating & Cooling, located at 10121 Denny Street, Oakland, CA 94603. / 718 Douglas Ave, Oakland CA 94603. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Attic Pros Inc., located at 718 Douglas Ave, Oakland CA 94603. This business is conducted by a Corporation. This business commenced N/A
/s/Leonid Molchanov
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 05, 2028
NOV, 23, 30, DEC 7, 14, 2023

FILED
MELISSA WILK

November 09, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 602002

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Adjei Rita, located at 13475 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rita Gyamfi, located at 13475 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an Individual. This business commenced 03/02/2016
/s/Rita Gyamfi
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 08, 2028
NOV, 23, 30, DEC 7, 14, 2023
1015- SLT

FILED
MELISSA WILK

November 18, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 60148

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Inkbold Tattoo Studio, located at 2350 Saratoga Street Unit 149, Alameda, CA 94501. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bayarjargal Enkhbold, located at 2000 Ardent Way Apt 106, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by an Individual. This business commenced 12/01/2022
/s/Bayarjargal Enkhbold
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires November 17, 2028
NOV 30, DEC 07, 14, 21, 2023
1017- SLT

FILED
MELISSA WILK

December 06, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 602454

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and
Professions Code
Sections 17900-17930
The name of the business(es):
Fast Gas & Propane, located at 13700 Gatalina Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Asim Husain Ali, located at 20 Twelve Oaks Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588. / Muhammad Wadas Ahmed, located at 51 Goldeneye Court, American Canyon, CA 94502. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. This business commenced 12/24/2014
/s/Muhammad Wadas Ahmed
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires December 4, 2028

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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						52			53			

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ACROSS

1 North --
5 Green prefix
8 Oodles
12 Writer Kingsley
13 As well
14 Capri, e.g.
15 Souvenir seller
17 Move like a butterfly
18 Tours season
19 Snaky fish
20 Ceases
21 Solidify
22 Twitch
23 Shroud city
26 He can hold his head high
30 "Dream on!"
31 Zero-star review
32 Santa's runway
33 Old English
Sheepdog feature
35 Skilled
36 Tramcar contents
37 "-- the season ..."
38 Poker play
41 Fish propeller
42 Spa sounds
45 Protracted
46 Decorative paper
48 "There!"
49 Santa's helper
50 Penne -- Vodka
51 Uppity one
52 Ambulance initials
53 Lunch hour

DOWN

1 Leaf
2 Skip
3 Biography
4 Ballpark fig.
5 Lucy's pal
6 "Neato!"
7 "Alley --"
8 Prepaid stocking stuffers
9 Capital on a fjord
10 Radar image
11 Collections
16 Beheld
20 -- Lancelot
21 Eloquent person's talent
22 Can metal
23 Indent key
24 GI entertainers
25 Tease
26 Cowboy's sweetie
27 Nemesis
28 Dandy guy
29 Newton
31 Bakery purchase
34 Canine cry
35 "-- Misbehavin' "
37 Squabbles
38 Diner orders
39 Cash advance
40 Loosen
41 Motion picture
42 Folksinger Guthrie
43 Saintly ring
44 Bridge
46 "My word!"
47 Pallid

ANSWERS ON PAGE 4

Four Reasons To Shop Locally for the Holidays

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

The holiday season is a time for joy, family, and of course, shopping. But as we rush to find the perfect gifts for our loved ones, it's important to remember the impact our spending decisions have on our communities.

Shopping locally and patronizing local businesses owned and operated by community members is a powerful way to support your neighbors, strengthen the local economy, and create a more vibrant and sustainable place to live.

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), every dollar spent at a local business generates an average of \$57 in local economic activity, compared

to just \$23 when spent at a chain store. This is because local businesses tend to reinvest their profits in the community, creating jobs, paying taxes, and supporting other local businesses.

In fact, small businesses create 7 out of every 10 new jobs in the United States.

Community Spirit and Social Connections

Shopping locally isn't just about economics, it's also about building community. Local businesses are often the heart of their neighborhoods, providing places to gather, socialize, and connect with one another.

They sponsor local events, support local charities, and employ people from the community. By shopping locally, you're not just investing in

your local economy, you're investing in the spirit of your community.

Unique and Personalized Experiences

Local businesses offer something that big chains often can't: a unique and personalized experience. Local shopkeepers are passionate about their products and services and take the time to get to know their customers. They can offer personalized recommendations, gift wrapping, and other special touches that make shopping locally a truly enjoyable experience.

Sustainable Practices

Many local businesses are committed to sustainable practices, such as using locally sourced materials, reducing waste, and minimiz-



ing environmental impact. By shopping locally, you can be confident that you're supporting businesses that are committed to creating a more sustainable future.

Making a Difference

Every dollar you spend at a local business makes a difference. It helps to create jobs, strengthen the economy, and build a more vibrant

community.

This holiday season, consciously shop locally and experience the many benefits of supporting your neighborhood businesses.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Mobile-Home Utility Bill Way Too High

Editor,

Reading about Monica Rivera's \$500 electric bill is criminal. (Costs Rise for Mobile Home Owners," Dec. 7, 2023) My mother and I live in a two-bedroom, one-bath apartment downtown, and our last bill straight from PG&E was less than \$50.

We have been known to get as high as \$100 when it gets cold. But we run the heat most of the day. Our apartment is likely more square footage than her mobile home, and in the past month we paid less than 10 percent of what she paid.

That is not "fair and comparable to what people elsewhere pay," as they said. Monte Christo Communities and Trailer Haven is ripping you off.

Jenni Romero
San Leandro

City Council Should Call for Ceasefire

Editor,

I attended the December 4th

meeting of the City Council and was very impressed with the San Leandro High School students who called for a ceasefire in Gaza. They came with energy, passion, facts and a commitment to stop the massacre of tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians. Along with them were several Palestinian residents of our city as well as healthcare workers and teachers.

Unfortunately, the City Council was unwilling to take up this request, even though cities all over the country are adding their voices to halt this war, and even though the City Council took a similar resolution opposed to Russia's war on Ukraine.

Even worse was the condescending behavior of the mayor toward the students which was a complete disgrace. I was embarrassed for our city by his dismissive attitude, but proud of our many residents demanding a halt to this disastrous war. I hope the City Council will reconsider and take emergency action to add San

Leandro's voice to the calls across the country to bring this war to an end before it is too late for the people of Gaza.

Finally, this is a San Leandro issue because according to the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights, over \$1 million of San Leandro taxes sent to the federal government goes to assist Israel and its military efforts. Imagine being forced to pay the IRS money that will be used to kill your family back home. Many of our residents do not have to imagine this cruel reality.

Scott Johnson
San Leandro

Thanks for Stopping EBMUD Project

Editor,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the community members of San Leandro and Castro Valley for your incredible support in our fight against EBMUD's plan to turn the quarry site into an infill dirt dumpster for the next 40 to 80 years.

Due to your efforts, and the tenaciousness of our EBMUD Board Member, April Chan, we have stopped the project for the foreseeable future. EBMUD notified the owners of the quarry that they were not exercising their option to purchase the site, which expired in October.

Kat Wellman, the chair of the Save Lake Chabot Road coalition, was the catalyst for this result. Her leadership, professionalism, and organizational skills were the driving force to galvanize our coalition members and communities into action to oppose this project, which also generated the unanimous support of the San Leandro

City Council and the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council.

When we met with EBMUD General Manager Clifford Chan and his staff last February they asked us to help them find alternatives for their pipeline replacement dirt. We offered several possible alternatives. Paul Merrick of our group was able to locate a viable option at the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, where EBMUD is now conducting a pilot project much more suitable to their needs.

We are continuing to pursue a good steward to purchase the quarry site to protect it from any further detrimental plans to destroy the beautiful, natural open space we currently enjoy and we will keep you apprised of this exciting potential development.

Thank you again for your overwhelming response to this monumental project. Your voices were heard and you made the difference in preserving our communities and the valuable surrounding environments of Lake Chabot Park, Fairmont Ridge and our local San Leandro Parks.

Anne Cawood
San Leandro

Support of Charter Schools Misguided

Editor,

Assemblywoman Bonta shared her current year legislative record with voters via email this week. This is a commendable action that other legislators should emulate. Her support of charter schools with her proposal to fund charter school facilities with state money is, in my opinion, misguided.

Charter schools pull funding from public schools without

requiring the kind of standards and accountability demanded of public schools. Thankfully, the governor vetoed this bill.

Jim Mehner
Sheffield Village

Occupation of Palestinian Land Editor,

Supporters for the criminal actions of the Jewish State in Palestine start to show up in the San Leandro Times' pages; as usual, Bruce Joffe is in the vanguard. For these hypocrites, it all started October 7th. Seventy-five years of occupation of Palestinian land and the daily killing of Palestinians don't count.

"The chosen people" is actually a supremacist concept and "The promised land" is nothing but predatory colonialism; under these concepts the occupation of Canaan, and the extermination of the tribes living there, was launched; thousands of years ago. It's the same ideology behind today's massacres.

For those who want to reduce the conflict to October 7th, this is a reminder about where the criminal ideology comes from –

1 Samuel 15:2-3 "This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt. Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.'

Under this ideology the Palestinians, just like the Canaanites must be "put to death" for defending their land.

Leo T. West
San Leandro

Recall: Price's supporters point to thousands of cases she is charging

continued from front page

too lenient in the charges it has brought against suspects, that she has been insensitive to crime victims or their surviving families when they did not survive, and that she refers to some accused perpetrators as victims.

SAFE's website is <https://recallpamelaprice.org>.

"There's an out of control crime wave," said Escobar. "Criminals feel there are no consequences. She really should do her job and not try to be a public defender."

Escobar said he's concerned that Oakland, whose violent crime rate is the highest in the county and one of the highest in the country, is serving as an incubator for crime that disperses it to surrounding communities.

Price supporters say that the push against her comes from people trying to overthrow her election less than a year ago. Price supporters have an anti-recall website called "Protect The Win"



District Attorney Pamela Price says the recall is led by enemies of criminal justice reform.

(www.protectthewin.org).

Alameda County Democratic Party Supports Price

Price's anti-recall website says the effort to recall her, like the recent successful effort to recall San Francisco's Chesa Boudin, is led by Republicans and conservative enemies of criminal justice reform.

The Alameda County

Democratic Party came out against the recall in August, soon after the effort began.

In a statement, they said many voters did not know of her accomplishments, including charging over 7,610 cases including 58 murders and 2,381 felonies, with more under investigation. She's also hiring 122 people for the prosecutor's office, serving 12,000 crime victims with services and increasing the number of victim advocates by almost 35 percent, and expanding the felony trial team.

Price defeated long-time prosecutor Terry Wiley by a 53-47 percent margin in the November 2022 election, following incumbent District Attorney Nancy O'Malley's decision not to seek re-election. Price had vowed to pursue criminal justice reforms to make the system more fair, including prosecuting law enforcement personnel when warranted.

Documents filed with the county elections office showed



PHOTO COURTESY OF EDWARD ESCOBAR

Recall supporters have been collecting signatures this fall throughout Alameda County, and above, in downtown San Leandro.

that organizers of the recall effort included Brenda Grisham of Oakland, mother of a local murder victim; Alameda

resident Carl Chan, active in the fight against anti-Asian violence in Oakland Chinatown and an assault victim himself;

and Oakland resident Philip Dreyfuss, an attorney who had been active in the recall effort against Boudin.

Salmon: Determination to return to upstream spawning grounds

continued from front page

where the fish can be seen, so that they won't be disturbed.

As the fish swim upstream in the final stage of their life, their instinct is to spawn (deposit their eggs). After entering fresh water they no longer eat and begin to deteriorate.

"They are therefore not palatable to humans," Levenson said. "In other words, enjoy from a distance, but don't fish."

According to Levenson, it's estimated that only 10 percent of Chinook Salmon are born in the wild, the rest are hatchery fish.

Garbage and Pollution

But it's not all smooth sailing for the fish heading upstream in San Leandro Creek, which some people use as a dump.

"In the downtown stretch of the creek there are many human made obstacles (couches, tires, etc.) that have substantially blocked the flow of water," Levenson said.

"Seeing the tenacity of these native fish to reach spawning grounds upstream should stress the importance of not using our creek as a dump," Levenson said. "While humans have inhabited its banks for thousands of years, it is only within the last 150 that our waters were not met with reverence and respect."

Last year's abundant rain



PHOTO COURTESY FRIENDS OF SAN LEANDRO CREEK

The coloration of the fish, which is spotty white, is showing the damage to the skin in this epic journey. At left, the garbage in the downtown San Leandro stretch of San Leandro Creek isn't an ideal habitat for salmon.

that filled reservoirs also means more water in the creek. Levenson thinks that's the reason the fish are back, but the picture isn't entirely rosy.

"While the return of water levels after last year's big

storms have brought the fish back, they are delicate - are affected by pollution, water temperature and stresses," Levenson said. "Our creek is indeed a natural habitat, and should be treated as such."

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Resigns: Council seat vacant

continued from front page
signing lightly,” Reynes told the Times. “No single factor contributed to this decision.”

When asked about the hardest part about leaving the City Council, Reynes said it was “understanding that everyone has different skills to share and roles to play in creating the change we want to see in the world.”

“For me, there were limits to what I was willing to sacrifice to play this particular role,” Reynes said. “It’s hard to understand what those limits are until you are forced to confront them.”

“The council, mayor, and city staff were supportive of my decision to leave, as were many people in the community who advised me during the decision-making process,” Reynes said. “I am grateful for their kindness and wisdom and look forward to continuing my work with them in the future as a community advocate.”



Celina Reynes

Mayor Juan González issued a statement saying, “I deeply respect Council Member Reynes’ passion and dedication to our community.”

Reynes was elected to the City Council in November 2022 and took office in January. She ran on a progressive platform to “ensure a fair, safe, sustainable, and vibrant city for all.”

“My role is changing, but

my commitment to improving my community hasn’t changed,” Reynes said. “Before serving on the council, I led the coalition to create San Leandro’s historic police oversight program. I’d like to be involved in other policy initiatives in the future as the need arises. On the council this year, I began the process of bringing tenant protections like rent control and just cause to San Leandro. I’m interested in continuing that work in the future alongside many people in the community who support it.”

In accordance with the City Charter, the City Council will begin the process of appointing a new City Council member for District 1. Details regarding the appointment will be made available soon.

Residents of District 1 interested in serving on the City Council are encouraged to apply to serve as Reynes’ successor.



PHOTO COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire fighters extinguished the fire on Via Primero before it could spread to the rest of the house.

House Catches on Fire on Via Primero

The Alameda County Fire Department arrived at a house fire on Via Primero in San Lorenzo just after noon on Sunday.

The fire started on the backside of the home and extended into the attic and kitchen.

A family of three was dis-

placed, but no one was injured. Crews believe the fire started in the laundry room in the back. The cause is under investigation.



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Holiday Service Schedule

DECEMBER 24 - 30, 2023					
If your collection day is:	Mon. 25	Tue. 26	Wed. 27	Thu. 28	Fri. 29
Your holiday collection day will be:	Tue. 26	Wed. 27	Thu. 28	Fri. 29	Sat. 30

CHRISTMAS WEEK: Service during the week of Dec. 24 - 30, 2023, will be one day later.

DEC 31, 2023 - JAN 6, 2024					
If your collection day is:	Mon. 1	Tue. 2	Wed. 3	Thu. 4	Fri. 5
Your holiday collection day will be:	Tue. 2	Wed. 3	Thu. 4	Fri. 5	Sat. 6

NEW YEAR’S DAY WEEK: Service during the week of Dec. 31, 2023 - Jan. 6, 2024, will be one day later.

Holiday Tree Collection - On regular residential service days, from December 26 to January 31, place your holiday trees curbside. ACI will collect and compost them. Different trucks are used to collect the trees, so tree removal may occur earlier or later than your normal organics service.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Place tree curbside on your scheduled collection day.
- Remove all decorations, lights and the stand.
- Cut tree in half if taller than 6’.
- Flocked and artificial trees cannot be composted. Place them in the garbage or schedule a special collection.



Wrap It Up! - Metallic wrapping paper, most ribbons and bows, cellophane, and polystyrene packaging are not recyclable through curbside collection.

TRY THESE WASTE SAVING TIPS:

- Wrap gifts in reusable, recycled/recyclable, or compostable materials. (We used a cotton kitchen towel for the gift shown here!)
 - Save and reuse ribbons, wrap, and other packaging.
 - Donate packing peanuts to a local mailing or shipping store.
- Find locations at www.StopWaste.org.



As a last resort, place non-recyclable packaging and wrapping materials in the gray garbage cart, securing small items in a bag.

Alameda County Industries wishes you the happiest of holidays and a prosperous 2024.

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