



## Long and Short

RICE – FEEDING BILLIONS SINCE 7000 B.C. –  
HERE'S THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT ..... 4

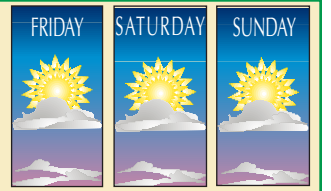
### WEEKEND WEATHER

**CLEAR** Partly cloudy Friday  
thru Sunday

HIGHS: 69-73

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

LOWS: 49-51



# San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 34 • NO. 16

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANCROFT GIRLS WRESTLING TEAM

The Bancroft Middle School girls wrestling team celebrates after winning the middle school girls wrestling California State Championship.

## Bancroft Girls Wrestling Team Wins California State Championship

The San Leandro Bancroft Middle School Girls Wrestling team defended their title and for the second year in a row reign as the Middle School Girls Wrestling State Champions for California.

There were 40 teams, and over 200 girls competed, in the tournament at

Ukiah High School on March 30.

“To have the largest team at that tournament is a great thing, and my hope is that the girls who competed will understand their place in history, as they develop the qualities they’re exposed to through wrestling: toughness, perseverance, commitment, winning and losing

with grace,” said Bancroft head coach David D’Antonio.

Medal earners from Bancroft for their weight classes are:

Gianna Barbieri- 1st place in her class (defending champion for the second year in a row)

see CHAMPIONSHIP, page 11

## Council Hires Consultant to Pitch Utility Tax

City Council votes to spend \$225,000 on firm that helps pass taxes and bond measures

By Michael Singer  
San Leandro Times

At its March 8 meeting, the San Leandro City Council voted to spend up to \$225,000 to hire a consultant to do a public awareness campaign and polling for a potential 3.4 percent increase in utility bills to help fund public safety, infrastructure, and housing priorities.

After public surveys, the City Council will decide this summer whether to put the tax measure on the November ballot.

City officials say additional revenue is desperately needed to address crumbling roads, upgrade fire stations, and fully fund senior and youth programs, among other priorities.

San Leandro currently imposes a 6 percent tax on electricity and gas bills and a 5.7 percent tax on cable TV and telecom services.

Compared to surrounding cities, San Leandro’s utility ballot. see TAX, page 10

## 99 Cents Only Stores Going Out of Business

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

The 99 Cents Only store at 699 Lewelling Blvd. in the Greenhouse Marketplace is closing, along with the other 370 stores in the chain that had been founded in 1982 and recently declared bankruptcy.

The store hasn’t announced a final closing date, but they are honoring gift cards

through tomorrow, April 19 and also offering up to 30 percent discounts through tomorrow.

Lines were sometimes long at the going-out-of-business sale Sunday, and many shelves were already empty.

Customers expressed disappointment at the closing.

“It’s going to be a disappointment,” see 99-CENTS, page 11

## Copeland’s Not a Genuine Black Man 20th Anniversary Show on Saturday

By Jim Knowles  
San Leandro Times

This Saturday will be the 20th anniversary of Brian Copeland’s award-winning one-man show, *Not a Genuine Black Man*.

Copeland will perform the show Saturday night at the Marsh San Francisco where the show premiered in 2004. The 1000th performance co-

incides with Copeland’s 60th birthday.

The current run of *Genuine at the Marsh*, on Saturdays through May 4, isn’t all that the San Leandro comic, actor and author is up to these days.

“I’m just back from New Orleans where I filmed a part in Rob Reiner’s sequel to *This Is Spinal Tap*,” Copeland said.

Reiner is also developing

*Not a Genuine Black Man* for television.

That’s not all. Copeland is also about to release his first crime novel, *Outraged*, on April 23. It’s the first in a series of crime fiction set in the East Bay by Copeland. The second book will be released in 2025.

*Not a Genuine Black Man* has taken Copeland across the

country with performances. He followed the show with a book which is now taught in high schools and colleges. When he performed the show in Los Angeles he met lots of Hollywood stars who came to see it, including Katherine Ross who told Copeland she wanted to see the show because she grew up in Walnut see GENUINE, page 12

### INSIDE YOUR TIMES

#### THEATER

SLHS to present *Mamma Mia*, opening Friday. Page 2

#### NEWS

City Council names April 18 Steven Taylor Day. Page 3

#### SENIORS

Probate law helps you keep your home. Page 5

38,500 EVERY THURSDAY  
THE LARGEST FREE-DELIVERED NEWSPAPER IN THE EAST BAY

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

## 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

### EDITORIAL

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

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

Contributing Writers  
**Buzz Bertolero**  
**Mike McGuire**  
**Michael Singer**  
**Carl Medford**  
**Linda Sandmark**

### PRODUCTION

**Howard Morrison**  
Manager

**Moxie Morrison**  
Assistant

**Claudette Morrison**  
Business Manager

### ADVERTISING

Display Advertising  
**Claudette Morrison**  
Classified Advertising  
**Patrick Vadnais**

### HOW TO REACH US

**San Leandro Times**  
2060 Washington Ave.  
San Leandro, California 94577  
Office hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Main Office: (510) 614-1555  
Newsroom: (510) 614-1557  
Sports: (510) 614-1561  
Advertising: (510) 614-1555  
Classified: (510) 614-1558  
Fax: (510) 483-4209  
Email: jimk@ebpublishing.com  
[www.ebpublishing.com](http://www.ebpublishing.com)



California Newspaper Publishers Association member

# Mamma Mia! to Open Friday Night at SLHS

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

*Mamma Mia!*, the musical featuring the songs of ABBA, is coming to the San Leandro Performing Arts Center at San Leandro High School the next two weekends, April 19 to 21 and April 26 to 28.

It's the story of a young woman's upcoming wedding on a Greek island, and of her search to find her father to walk her down the aisle. She invites three different men from her mother's earlier years as most likely, without quite telling her mother, who runs a hotel on the island.

"It's fun, joyous for the whole family," said co-director Kimberly Braun. "Bring the kids. It's quite wholesome really, despite what some might think."

The play stars Sophie Nguyen as Donna, the mother, and Ava Probasco as her daughter Sophie.

The three possible fathers are played by Joshua Tesoro as Sam, Jessie Olivier as Harry, and Tyler Silva as Bill. Playing Donna's former bandmates from two decades before are Killian Garcia as

Tanya and Marianell (Mari) Rivera López as Rosie.

The play is co-directed by Kimberly Braun and Dallis Wright-Morash, with Braun also serving as music director and Wright-Morash as choreographer. Jesse Vail is the

“It was canceled for the pandemic and the alumni are happy to finally see it performed.”

— Connie Simsuangco

technical director.

This year's production literally brings back one of the first things the pandemic took from us. The anticipated 2020 production of the play was about to open just a few weeks after that year's spring lockdown changed everyone's plans.

"It was canceled for the pandemic in 2020, and the alumni are happy to finally



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

**Mamma Mia! cast finishes a number in rehearsal, as co-directors Dallis Wright-Morash (back left) and Kimberly Braun look on.**

see it performed," said Connie Simsuangco, who plays Pepper, a friend of Sophie's intended Sky.

Those original cast members have graduated since, Braun said.

Cast members said they like the play's familiarity,

its summery feel and "beach vibe," and ABBA's music. Asked if they still listened to ABBA, whose music was edging to "classic rock" for some of their elders by the time of the 2008 movie with Meryl Street, cast members almost roared "yes!"

"I love my castmates for being so warm, welcoming, considerate and kind," said Crys'aya Garner, who plays Ali in the play.

Rivera López thanked Technical Director Jesse Vail for keeping the drama club alive after turnover in the drama department.

"My favorite part is work-

ing with directors we know have done their best to make this enjoyable," Garcia said.

Cast member Jaylah Mifflin took the good feelings further. "I feel so comfortable being here. It's a home away from home," she said.

*Mamma Mia!* opens tomorrow night, Friday, April 19 at 7 p.m. at the San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave, with shows following at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 20 and 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 21. The following weekend, there are shows at 7 p.m. on both Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 and at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 28.



Benefiting Hope Hospice

## HIKE for HOPE

Saturday, May 4

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Welcome back to our returning hikers, and hello to first-timers!

The Hike for Hope is an annual memorial event and fundraiser for **Hope Hospice**. This important day raises support for patient care and community programs. Register today and join us for a fun morning in the beautiful outdoors. A free barbecue lunch is provided.

Self-paced hike • Barbecue lunch • Lawn games  
Raffle prizes • Silent auction • Fundraising

Register at [TheHikeForHope.com](http://TheHikeForHope.com)

## Mamma Mia!

**Where:** San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Avenue

**When:** April 19-21, and April 26-28; Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m., and Sundays at 1 p.m.

**Tickets:** Tickets at [sanleandropac.com](http://sanleandropac.com)  
Students \$8, adults \$15, seniors \$10

Spring into a lovely kiss

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR CLEANING (510) 929-5092

SAN LEANDRO DENTAL STUDIO

# Community Calendar

## San Leandro Players to Present

### Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express

The San Leandro Players will present Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express," running through May 5 at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. Show times are Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus two Friday show at 8 p.m. on April 26 and May 3. Tickets are \$25 general; \$20 seniors and under 12 (other discounts may apply). For tickets or more information, visit [www.slplayers.org](http://www.slplayers.org) or call 510-895-2573. Masking is strongly recommended.

## SL Adult School Job Fair

San Leandro Adult & Career Education Center and Rubicon Programs will host their bi-annual free, in-person Job and Resource Fair on Friday, April 19, on the campus at 1448 Williams St. in San Leandro. The event starts at 10 a.m. Join other interested job seekers to meet and discuss career opportunities and community resources with over 30 businesses and organizations ready to help you.

## IDES St. John

### Salad Bar Lunch & Bingo

IDES St. John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will have a Salad Bar Lunch & Bingo on Saturday, April 20, at noon. \$15 per person. Price includes lunch and four Bingo cards. Extra Bingo cards can be purchased for 25 cents each. For tickets, call Janet Re at 510-483-1132, Willie Calvo at 510-207-6326, or Kathy Dunlap at 775-722-8208.

## City-Wide Community Cleanup

A citywide community cleanup day will be held on Sunday, April 21, from 9:30 a.m. to noon in honor of Earth Day. Everyone is welcome to either clean up in your own neighborhood or meet at Palma Plaza and join Cynthia Prieto-Diaz and City Councilman Bryan Azevedo. For more information or to RSVP, go to <https://forms.gle/C3mBCt9R97YmHbps6>.

## History of Industry in San Leandro at the 21st Amendment Tap Room

Join the San Leandro History Museum at 21st Amendment Brewing, 2010 Williams St. in San Leandro, for a unique program on the history of industry in San Leandro on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 4 p.m. Learn about San Leandro's industrial history by viewing a small exhibition with a short hands-on activity. Drop by any time between noon and 4 p.m. The program is designed for ages 21 and up.

## Eden Garden Club Plant Pop-Up

The Eden Garden Club is having a Plant Pop-Up at Paradise Gardens, 20095 Mission Blvd. in Hayward, on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featuring vegetables, perennials, succulents, shrubs, natives, garden art, pottery, garden supplies and tools. Donations of plants and garden related items in good condition are accepted from 6 to 9:30 a.m. The proceeds are given for school garden grants awarded to CVUSD and HUSD schools. For more information, email [edengardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:edengardenclub@yahoo.com).

## Hill & Valley Club Flea Market

Hill and Valley Club, 1808 B St. in Hayward, will hold its annual Flea Market on Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This old-fashioned indoor rummage sale will include clothing, jewelry, household goods, plants, books, toys, sewing and craft materials, electronics, holiday decorations, baked goods, and miscellaneous. This is a fundraiser to benefit several local charities. The sale will be held rain or shine, and plenty of parking is available.

## Friends of Castro Valley Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Castro Valley Library will hold an indoor book sale on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, April 28, from 1 to 4 p.m., fill a bag for \$5. The sale will feature fiction and mystery books as well as all genres of nonfiction, children's books, music CDs, DVDs, jigsaw puzzles and games, and miscellaneous, at bargain prices. Funds from this sale pay for library programs and amenities.

# City Council Marks April 18 as Day to Recognize Steven Taylor

By Michael Singer  
San Leandro Times

Monday's San Leandro City Council meeting began with a proclamation to recognize April 18, 2024, as a day recognizing "Steven Taylor and the Sanctity of Every Human Life."

Taylor was shot and killed by San Leandro police in the Walmart store on Hesperian Boulevard on April 18, 2020, following a report of a shop-lifter holding a baseball bat. The former officer involved in the incident was charged with voluntary manslaughter and is awaiting trial.

Steven Taylor's grandmother, Addie Kitchen, received the proclamation from Vice Mayor Fred Simon and

said she was overcome with gratitude and speechless.

"We've been doing this for four years and will continue to fight for justice for all impacted families," Kitchen told the audience. "Steven wasn't the only person who was fatally shot in a mental health crisis. There have been others here in San Leandro, and my wish and prayer is that it would never happen again."

As a result of Taylor's death, the city is converting an area of Marina Park into a memorial, "Steven Taylor Sanctity of Life Park," commemorating Taylor and others with mental health problems who were killed by police.

# Muir Evacuated By Bomb Threat

More than 1,100 students and staff at John Muir Middle School were evacuated last Thursday afternoon following a bomb threat, according to school and police officials.

San Leandro police issued a community warning through the Nixle app warning residents to avoid the area of the 1400 Block of Williams Street.

"A hoax threat was called into the school about 2 p.m., which prompted an evacuation," said San Leandro Unified School District spokesperson Keziah Moss. "All was

cleared about 20 minutes later, and students were released to their families."

San Leandro police, Alameda County Fire Department crews, and Explosive Ordinance K9 teams from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office were sent to the school.

"No threats were detected," said Lt. Abe Teng of the San Leandro Police Department. "In the meantime, students were ushered to Cherry Grove Park where they were reunified with parents and released," told the Times.

836 Arbor Ct., Livermore - \$1,079,000

3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1,582 Sq. ft., Built 1959

Open House Sunday, 4/21, 1-4 pm



**Lovewell Team**

(CA DRE #00689931, #01912817, #02187163)

"Lovewell Team" is a dynamic,

award-winning Real Estate team

Call 510-351-5555 or visit us at

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

— A team you can love and trust —

## Spiritual, but not religious?

Watch 11:11am Live-stream at

[unitysanleandro.org](http://unitysanleandro.org) or on Facebook Live

- We emphasize spirituality more than religion.
- We believe there are many paths to God.
- We show you how to transform your life through practical spiritual principles.
- Everyone is welcome.

[www.unitysanleandro.org](http://www.unitysanleandro.org)

SUNDAY 11:11 A.M.

Unity Church of San Leandro

P.O. Box 2018, San Leandro, 94577

# More Events

## College & Career Readiness at the San Leandro Main Library

What do I want to do with my life? Teens in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for an interactive workshop with Stanford Lecturer Shanice Webb on Saturday, April 20, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Explore the endless possibilities of your future using design thinking techniques. Curious but not totally sure? Sign up to join us and we'll figure it out together. Register in advance, spaces limited. Snacks provided.

## Animal Trivia Night

Test your knowledge of animal facts and compete to earn a prize at the Animal Trivia Night on Thursday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Come with a team or join one at the event. This event is for adults 18+

## San Leandro Dahlia Society Tuber and Small Pot Sale

For spectacular summer color, it's time to plant those dahlias. The San Leandro Dahlia Society will hold its annual tuber and small plant sale on Saturday, May 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Milford Garden Improvement Clubhouse, 13055 Aurora Drive in San Leandro, across the street from Garfield Elementary School. Tubers will sell for \$7 and cuttings, small plants, will sell for \$9, including tax. Dahlia aficionados will be on hand to advise on planting and caring for the dahlias. With so many varieties, there is something for everyone. Just no blue blooms.

## Castro Valley Orchestra Spring Concert

Castro Valley Orchestra will present a spring concert on Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m. at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts, 19501 Redwood Road in Castro Valley. Works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, and Bach will be performed. Isaac Kim and James Choi will be featured in the Bach Double Violin Concerto. There will be a reception immediately after the concert to meet the soloists and musicians. Admission is free.

## Spring for Education

April 26 | 6-9 PM | Adobe Art Center

SUPPORT ART & MUSIC PROGRAMS  
INFO & TICKETS @ [CVEF.ORG](http://CVEF.ORG)



## HELP AN ADULT LEARN TO READ

Volunteer with the library's free adult literacy & ESL program



PROJECT LITERACY  
San Leandro Public Library

NEW TUTOR TRAINING  
SATURDAYS MAY 4, 11, & 18



Scan QR code or visit [sanleandro.org/literacy](http://sanleandro.org/literacy) for online orientation and to register for tutor training

PROJECT LITERACY | SAN LEANDRO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
[projectliteracy@sanleandro.org](mailto:projectliteracy@sanleandro.org) | 510-577-3944



## RICE – The Long and Short of It

Rice has been around for a long time. It dates back to at least 7000 B.C., feeding billions of people and becoming the staple for half the world's population.

Technically a grass, rice is available in three basic styles: long-, medium- or short-grained. Short-grain rice is high in starch and stickier than other rices and is often used

in Asian cooking. Arborio, a prized short-grain rice, is a mainstay in risotto.

Medium-grain rice is slightly sticky. It cooks up tender and plump with a mild flavor and can be used in a variety of dishes.

Long-grain white rice is the most common variety used in America. It has a neutral taste and firm texture, and remains separate and fluffy when cooked. Such long-grain rices as jasmine and basmati are aromatic and are good paired with stir-fry and other Asian

and Indian dishes, or used in pilafs.

### BASIC RISOTTO

*Risotto is a popular Northern Italian method of cooking short-grained arborio rice in a broth to a creamy consistency.*

- 1/4 cup onions, minced
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1-1/2 cups arborio rice
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups water

Saute onions in olive oil until they are soft. Add the rice, stirring for 2 minutes to coat the rice. Add 1/4 cup of the stock and simmer, stirring. When most of the stock has been absorbed, add 3/4 cup water. Stir until the water is almost gone. Add remaining stock and simmer until it is absorbed. Add water and repeat. Taste. If rice is still hard, add more water or stock and continue to simmer and stir until done. Serves 4.

*Enrichments:* Add 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese when cooked. Add white wine in place of water.

### MUSHROOM RICE

- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 cup long-grained rice
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups chicken stock

Cook mushrooms in butter in large, heavy saucepan until tender and any liquid is absorbed. Add rice, salt and chicken stock and stir.

Bring to boil, cover lightly and cook over very low heat until rice is tender and stock is absorbed, 15 to 20 minutes. Serves 4 to 6.

### CHINESE RICE WITH VEGETABLES

- 1 cup uncooked white rice
- 2 cups water
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 cups any combination of:
  - frozen mixed vegetables
  - julienned carrots
  - chopped green pepper
  - broccoli flowerets
- Salt and black pepper

Combine rice, water, soy sauce and oil in 2 to 3-quart saucepan. Bring to a boil. Stir once or twice. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer 15 minutes. Add vegetables. Cover; simmer 5 minutes or until rice and vegetables are tender and liquid is absorbed. Season to taste. Serves 6.

### SPANISH RICE

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (28-oz) can chopped tomatoes
- 1 green pepper, finely chopped
- 6 slices bacon
- 1 cup water
- 3/4 cup long grain rice
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 5 drops hot sauce
- 1 tablespoon Worcester shiresauce
- Pinch of ground pepper

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon chili powder

In a large skillet, cook bacon until crisp, then drain on paper towels. Crumble the bacon and set it aside. Save 2 tablespoons of the bacon drippings and add the onion and green pepper. Cook until tender but still crispy.

Stir in the can of tomatoes with juice, cold water, long grain rice, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, salt, chili powder, pepper and hot sauce.

Reduce heat to low, cover with a tight fitting lid, simmer 30 minutes until rice is done. Top with bacon. Serves 4.

### DIRTY RICE

- 1/2 pound bacon
- 1/2 pound ground pork
- 1 pound ground chicken livers
- 1 large onion, finely diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 2 ribs celery, finely diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon ground thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 5 cups cooked rice, at room temperature
- 4 green onions & tops, minced
- 1/4 cup parsley, minced

In a heavy Dutch oven, saute bacon, pork and livers until very brown. Let the meat stick to the skillet a bit before stirring. Add onion, bell pepper, celery and garlic and cook until they are wilted.

Add chicken broth, bay leaf, thyme, cayenne pepper, salt and pepper. Simmer for 30 minutes. Remove bay leaf. Add rice and toss the mixture until rice is hot. Stir in green onions and parsley. Adjust seasonings. Serves 8 to 10.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

**Louise Diane Delucchi**  
Case Number:  
24PR063244

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Louise Diane Delucchi**

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **Susan Calvao**, in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that **Susan Calvao** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

**A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 24, 2024, 10:15 a.m., Dept. 201, at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.**

**IF YOU OBJECT** to the granting of the petition you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

**IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent**, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the **later** of either (1) **four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

**YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court.** If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner: Elizabeth Thompson 284854 Thompson Law Office, 1615 Bonanza Street Suite 305, Walnut Creek CA 94596 (925) 935-5566

LEGAL 1200 -24PR063244 04/04/24, 04/11/24, 04/18/24

### HOROSCOPE by Salomé

© 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.



**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Rumors of a change in the workplace could make you a little uneasy about going ahead with implementing your ideas. Best advice: Ignore the talk and proceed as planned.



**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Everyone has an opinion on how to handle a recent business suggestion. Thank them for their advice, then go ahead and follow your own fine instincts.



**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** While home is your main focus this week, new issues in the workplace need your attention as well. Take things step by step. Pressures will ease in time for weekend fun.



**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Be less rigid when handling a relationship problem. You might believe you're in the right, but try to open your mind up to the possibilities of facts that you're currently unaware of.



**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Leos and Leonas run at a hectic pace throughout much of the week. But by the 22nd, the Lions' dens become a "purrfect" place for you Fine Felines to relax in over the weekend.



**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Change is favored early in the week. This should make it easier for you to reassess your plans for handling a troubling professional relationship. Good luck!



**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** A suggestion from a colleague could give your professional project a long-needed boost. Meanwhile, someone close to you still needs your emotional support.



**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Before complying with a colleague's request, check to see that the action benefits all, not just one person's agenda. Continue firming up any travel plans.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Your social life is on the upswing, and the only problem is deciding which invitations to accept. Enjoy yourself before settling down for some serious work next week.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** With your creative aspects on high, you might want to restart your work on a project that you put aside. Your efforts will bring a surge in your self-esteem.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** While you're generous with others, be sure that you're not overlooking your own needs. Take time to assess your situation and make adjustments where necessary.



**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** Being applauded for your achievements is great, but watch out that you don't start acting like a star. It could lose you your valuable support with your next project.

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

On Sale in April!  
**Terry Naturally Products**  
**25% OFF** Terry Naturally  
EuroPharma.



Since 1969  
**HEALTH UNLIMITED**  
— NATURAL FOODS —  
**San Leandro**  
182 Pelton Center  
(510) 483-3630  
**Castro Valley**  
3446 Village Dr.  
(510) 581-0220

# SENIORS

## The Benefits of Probate: Are You Aware Of Homestead and Family Allowance?

**Q:** My husband just passed away. He did not have a Will or Trust, and our home was his separate property from his prior marriage. His son is now anxious to sell the home in order to receive his inheritance share, but that would force me out of the home with nowhere to go. Do I have any rights?

**By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.**  
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

**A:** Yes, you do! There are two important rights of which you should be aware: the Probate Homestead and the Probate Family Allowance. These key provisions of probate are designed to safeguard the interests of surviving family members, and together they play an important role in providing financial protection and stability to them during this time of transition.

**Probate Homestead**  
The probate homestead provides a valuable shield for you and any minor children by allowing you to claim your husband's home as your "homestead", with the right to continue to reside in the home. This right is liberally construed and favored by the law. In ruling on the request for a Probate Homestead, the court has discretion to determine the proper conditions and appropriate duration of this homestead. Such conditions can include the assignment of other property owned by your husband to his son or other heirs or devisees, i.e. as a kind of

"trade-off" so, as here, the son might receive other items of value from his father's estate while you continue to reside in the home. The court will also set the duration of the Probate Homestead in its order, and this can be as long as your own lifetime if the court determines that your financial and shelter needs so require. However, if you later remarry, it is likely that the homestead would then dissolve.

### Probate Family Allowance

Another feature of the probate process is your right to request a probate family allowance, a feature designed to provide immediate financial assistance to you and surviving family members during the administration of your husband's estates. This provision can ensure that you, as the surviving spouse, will have access to a reasonable allowance from your husband's estate to support yourself during administration. This allowance can help cover essential expenses such as expenses related to the home, utilities, food, and other necessities during the probate process.

If your husband's estate is solvent, the court has wide discretion in determining the duration of a family allowance, but it must terminate no later than the entry of the final order for distribution of his estate, which could very well be a year or more from the beginning of the probate process.

Some local court rules, however, require that it be of limited



duration, and require additional petitions in order to extend the duration of this allowance. These are all matters that you should discuss with your attorney.

In conclusion, the Probate Homestead and the Probate Family Allowance serve as essential safeguards for surviving spouses and minor children, providing a place for them to continue to live, and for immediate financial assistance in their time of need. These provisions can play an important role in ensuring your own well-being during and even beyond the probate process. Be sure to discuss these matters with your attorney as soon as possible.

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

**WINKLER LAW**

Living Trusts &  
Trust Administration  
Probate • Wills  
Real Estate • Litigation

— Give Us a Call —  
Most Initial Consultations  
Are Free

**(510) 357-3403**  
1883 East 14th Street  
San Leandro

## Special Education Resource for Parents Provides Plan for Students

**By Glenda Nardine**  
*Special to the Times*

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) is a Special Education resource to help provide an individual plan for Special Education students.

The CAC is appointed by the Mid-Alameda County Special Education Local Plan Area (MACSELPA), representing San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Hayward, both public and private schools, for Special Education students in the local Plan Area.

The CAC represents the unique interests and needs of Special Education. CAC collaborates between students, Educators and community members and the family. CAC helps families with the Individual Education Process (IEP) to provide an individual education plan for

the student.

Regular CAC Meetings are held five times a year and sponsor three educational workshops per year. Accessing the workshop meeting, such as IEP Process and participating effectively are on Zoom Links. Contact Michelle Miller (MAC/SELPA Staff Technician for assistance at 510-537-3000, ext. 1220.

If you are transferring your child from another school or they are getting promoted and you need a IEP or help, contact Michelle Miller. She will provide information for you.

CAC meetings are open to the public held on Zoom. Please contact Michelle Miller for more information.

Come to our meeting and see what we are about and how we can help answer your questions.

### Parent Workshop Tonight Via Zoom

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is pleased to announce the upcoming Parent Workshop-Topic Behavior Intervention Strategies: Series 1 on April 18, and Series 2 on May 16, via Zoom

Behavior Specialists-BCBA Certified Janet Sinhbandith, Jagmeet Sangha, and William Kent are looking forward to sharing their expertise and knowledge regarding behavioral interventions implemented in the classroom environment to assist children and youth with special needs access the curriculum.

For the Zoom link to the workshops, call Michelle Miller at 510-537-3000, ext. 1220.

*Glenda Nardine is the Chair of the Community Advisory Council (CAC).*



**ALAMEDA COUNTY  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

**Want to Impact Public Education?**



**Eager to Represent your Community and Promote a Fair and Equitable Hiring and Promotion System?**



**Apply Today to be a Member of the Alameda County Office of Education Personnel Commission.**



**We're Here for You in This Next Stage of Care**



Have a peace of mind knowing that helping hands are never far away. Take a tour of our senior living community today.



**Carefield**  
Castro Valley

Assisted Living • Memory Care



**510-925-2738**

19960 Santa Maria Ave  
Castro Valley, CA 94546

CarefieldCastroValley.com







# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



# Fake News Proliferating After Historic Settlement

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

It is no secret that news organizations sensationalize headlines to increase readership. Such was the case with the recent National Association of Realtors (NAR) settlement in a class action lawsuit. The suit alleged NAR had conspired to keep real estate commissions artificially high. With the announcement of a \$418,000 million settlement, NAR has not admitted any wrongdoing, but is settling to end the proliferation of copycat lawsuits springing up as attorneys are smelling blood in the water.

As the settlement was

announced, media outlets across the country launched headlines insisting the 'standard' 6% real estate commission was history, 'home prices were going to fall' ... and more.

As an example, on 03/16/2024, CNN Business Headlines screamed, "The NAR settlement could slash home prices for many Americans." The author Elisabeth Buchwald stated, "The entire US housing market is about to get remodeled, and the end product could come with a big perk: cheaper home prices." She continued, "That's due to a \$418 million settlement the National Association of Realtors announced Friday with groups of home sell-

ers." She further declared, "The settlement, which is still subject to a judge's approval, will eliminate the long-standing standard 6% commission paid by the seller. Those fees, however, are often baked into the listed price of the home. Lower commissions could therefore lower home prices, experts say. And at a time when elevated housing costs are driving inflation across the country, reining in home prices could help bring price increases back to levels Americans experienced before the pandemic."

This is simply not true and demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding by the media of what is actually happening. In a 03/25/2024 statement by Budge Huskey, President & CEO of Sotheby's Realty, he addresses the claim that, "The settlement forces real estate brokers to reduce their compensation." He states this is false, explaining, "The settlement in no way establishes any standard or limitation on Realtors for what they may charge or the services they



### Looking For A House With Bay Views? Great Location & Extra Room for In-laws?

Come take a look at this great home! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, over 2,100 square feet. Ideal in-law set-up. Refinished original hardwood floors, energy-efficient double pane windows, metal roof, formal dining room. **1365 Graff Avenue in San Leandro is Open Sunday 1 to 4 PM.** Asking Price \$949,975. Take a Virtual Tour [www.ListedByAntonio.com](http://www.ListedByAntonio.com)

Presented by **The Realtors In Motion**  
Call for a private showing, **(510) 326-4263**  
**Antonio M. Cardenas**  
RE eBroker Group • Lic # 0898737



elect to deliver. Realtor fees have always been negotiable. Realtors may cooperate on transactions toward a common goal yet are fiercely independent and highly competitive with one another."

buyer demand. With all of the fake news hitting the airwaves, Budge Huskey's entire response is worth reading. To access the article, go to <https://wrenews.com/budge-huskey-on-the-nar-settlement-dont-believe-everything-you-read/>.

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

## RECENT HOME SALES

### Castro Valley

218717 Crest Avenue 94546: \$1,030,000 [4 BD - 1,580 SF - 1949  
19244 Pinehaven Place 94546: \$1,275,000 [2 BD - 1,674 SF - 1967  
6355 Ridgewood Drive 94552: \$1,320,000 [3 BD - 1,978 SF - 1990

**TOTAL SALES: 3**  
**LOWEST AMOUNT: \$1,030,000** **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,275,000**  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,320,000** **AVERAGE AMOUNT \$1,208,333**

### Hayward

27941 Mandarin Avenue 94544: \$600,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1954  
26555 Sunvale Court #12 94544: \$610,000 [3 BD - 1,200 SF - 1985  
22858 Optimist Street 94541: \$700,000 [2 BD - 842 SF - 1950  
2371 Arf Avenue 94545: \$715,000 [4 BD - 1,474 SF - 1970  
29310 Hub Lane 94544: \$718,000 [1 BD - 1,222 SF - 2020  
21311 Locust Street 94541: \$800,000 [3 BD - 1,530 SF - 1954  
21491 Burr Way 94541: \$820,000 [3 BD - 1,402 SF - 1950  
201 Sunset Boulevard 94541: \$850,000 [3 BD - 1,452 SF - 1940  
27681 La Porte Avenue 94545: \$851,000 [3 BD - 1,119 SF - 1955  
260 Sullivan Way 94541: \$896,000 [4 BD - 1,860 SF - 2011  
3160 D Street 94541: \$910,000 [2 BD - 1,364 SF - 1951  
537 Solano Avenue 94541: \$925,000 [3 BD - 1,468 SF - 1951  
26234 Coleman Avenue 94544: \$1,100,000 [3 BD - 1,130 SF - 1953  
2017 Parkhurst Street 94541: \$1,170,000 [4 BD - 2,105 SF - 2011  
2473 Lancaster Court 94542: \$1,485,000 [5 BD - 2,452 SF - 1958  
27865 Pebble Court 94542: \$1,530,000 [3 BD - 1,928 SF - 1967  
298 Drummond Drive 94542: \$1,929,000 [5 BD - 3,799 SF - 2009  
24764 Mohr Drive 94545: \$2,000,000 [2 BD - 1,151 SF - 1925

**TOTAL SALES: 18**  
**LOWEST AMOUNT: \$600,000** **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$873,500**  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$2,000,000** **AVERAGE AMOUNT \$1,033,833**

### San Leandro

1136 Pontiac Street 94577: \$375,000 [2 BD - 1,449 SF - 1940  
951 Portola Drive 94578: \$600,000 [3 BD - 1,511 SF - 1955  
16700 Rolando Avenue 94578: \$620,000 [3 BD - 1,101 SF - 1940  
14635 Corvallis Street 94579: \$725,000 [3 BD - 1,081 SF - 1951  
16600 Los Banos Street 94578: \$772,000 [3 BD - 1,496 SF - 1925  
416 Lloyd Avenue 94578: \$825,000 [3 BD - 1,008 SF - 1952  
15625 Wicks Boulevard 94579: \$999,000 [4 BD - 1,936 SF - 1958

**TOTAL SALES: 7**  
**LOWEST AMOUNT: \$375,000** **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$725,000**  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$999,000** **AVERAGE AMOUNT \$702,285**

### San Lorenzo

558 Empire Street 94580: \$450,000 [3 BD - 1,014 SF - 1950

**TOTAL SALES: 1**  
**LOWEST AMOUNT: \$450,000** **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$450,000**  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$450,000** **AVERAGE AMOUNT \$747,500**

### Helping you with all your REAL ESTATE needs

Since 1984

**Laurie Pfohl**  
510-851-3551  
LauriePfohl@gmail.com

**Selling & Buying**  
Primary Residence  
Investment Property



CRS • DRE # 00866660

**COLDWELL BANKER**

### BUY/SELLING YOUR HOME?

**Call Maria C. Ramirez**  
(510) 719-1131  
mari@jandlrealestategroup.com

19 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



HABLO ESPAÑOL



DRE# 01512468

### Robert Jones and Associates

Celebrating 41 years at our Downtown Location!

We Are Here For YOU!



Matt Jones & Bob Jones  
DRE#0137894 DRE# 00276097

142 JOAQUINAVE • SAN LEANDRO • 510-357-0120  
RobertJonesandAssociates.com



**Antonio M. Cardenas**

Real Estate Broker - Ballroom Dancer

"The Realtors In Motion"  
(510) 326-4263

[www.ListedByAntonio.com](http://www.ListedByAntonio.com) • [write2me2@aol.com](mailto:write2me2@aol.com)  
R.E. eBroker Group • DRE #00898737



### SERVING SAN LEANDRO FOR 20+ YEARS

Your neighbors and real estate experts.  
Have real estate questions? Please give us a call!



**JULIE CUELLAS**  
REALTOR® - DRE #01252720  
510.682.5665  
julie@redoakrealty.com  
juliecuellas.com



**GREG NOVAK**  
REALTOR® - DRE #01721382  
510.472.4770  
greg@redoakrealty.com  
gregnovakrealtor.com



**CORY BOLLER**  
REALTOR® - DRE #02132597  
510.221.3037  
cory@redoakrealty.com  
coryboller.com

# Roses are Resilient Plants, so Don't Worry about Pruning

By Buzz Bertolero  
The Dirt Gardener

**Q** I didn't prune my roses well enough during the winter months. So, I've got gangly stems that blow around in the wind. Is it safe to drastically prune the roses once the first sets of flowers are spent?



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rose\\_fields\\_Vampula\\_1.jpg#/media/File:Rose\\_fields\\_Vampula\\_1.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rose_fields_Vampula_1.jpg#/media/File:Rose_fields_Vampula_1.jpg)

**A** Roses are very resilient plants. You can drastically cut them back after the first, second, or third blooming cycle. Although most people think of it as a winter activity, roses are pruned year-round. Ideally, the most severe pruning is done during the winter when the plants are dormant. After each blooming cycle, pruning is used to groom the plants by reducing the top growth and the sides to keep the plants in balance and removing the spent flowers or deadheading. Most of the rose pruning

information says to prune to the second set of five leaves, but I suggest you ignore this point. Grandiflora and Hybrid Tea varieties quickly grow five to six feet tall per year. The only way to keep them from overgrowing an area is to prune them back after each flush of flowers. This is also called shaping the plant. Another common problem with these types of roses is that they're planted too close to one another.

Pruning during the growing season prevents them from merging into one massive plant with several stems. So, I have no problem cutting back the gangly stems as far back as necessary and the rest of the plant. After pruning, you may need to take some special precautions with any bare or naked canes. The new growth or canes are usually green in color. They are very susceptible to sunburn from the di-

rect sun when the temperatures are over eighty-five degrees. Sunburn causes the canes to turn black, and they may die from it. This is not a problem during the winter months as the days are shorter, the temperatures are cooler, and there is cloud cover with moisture on many days. You protect the naked canes for two to four weeks by covering or draping shade cloth over the plant(s). Feed the roses with Rose Food to encourage the new growth. The shade

cloth is removed once the new growth shades the bare canes. Covering the plants will not be necessary if there is lots of foliage left after pruning.

**Q** I have a white Potato Vine growing on an arbor in a container. Recently, I noticed roots from the vine that had grown out of the bottom of the container. If I cut these roots, will the vine die?

**A** I wouldn't expect your Potato Vine to die from trimming the roots. There is always

a possibility, but you can minimize that by pruning the top growth after pruning the roots. There is a direct relationship between the roots under the ground and the foliage it supports. The best time to do this is after the Potato vine has stopped blooming.

*Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is [www.dirtgardener.com](http://www.dirtgardener.com) and questions can be sent by email to [buzz@dirtgardener.com](mailto:buzz@dirtgardener.com).*

**OPEN HOMES** SAT. & SUN. APR 20 & 21

CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDR./BA.	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
L		1-4	836 Arbor Ct	\$1,079,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
H	1-4	1-4	541 Evangeline Way	\$898,000	3/2	Coldwell Banker	Trish Radovich	510-367-7999
A		1-4	1365 Graff Avenue	\$949,975	2/1	RE eBroker	Antonio M. Cardenas	510-326-4263

**CITY GUIDE** A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BERKELEY • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD  
L = LIVERMORE • M = MODESTO • S = SAN RAMON • SLZ = SAN LORENZO • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA

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

## CEI PACE Care for Every Part of You.

**CENTER FOR ELDER'S**  
**independence**  
Your life just got better

At the **Center for Elders' Independence (CEI)**, seniors aged 55 and above receive all their medical services through a personalized PACE program that adapts to their needs.

We provide transportation to their doctor's appointments and to our health centers, where they can get help with their daily routines, exercise, and even make new friends. Most importantly, our program provides home care so seniors can stay where they feel their best: at home.

Because caring for every aspect of our seniors' health means taking good care of the little things that make them whole.



**Visit [Elders.org](http://Elders.org)**  
**or call 833.803.1150**

ADVERTISE WITH EAST BAY PUBLISHING AND REACH OVER 60,000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

FENCES/DECKS

\*SPECIALIZING IN WOOD FENCES, DECKS & RETAINING WALLS. Replace or repair, paved walkways, yard cleaning, tree trimming, topping or removal, garage cleaning & debris removal. Insured & Bonded #8189. Jerry 510-410-2427.

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

GARAGE SALES

4/20 8am- Home decor, plants, ponytail palms, bonsai pots, toys, records 1847 Wayne ave. San Leandro

ESTATE SALE: COME ON BUY! Fri/Sat, Apr 19-20, 9a-2p 2959 Massachusetts St., CV Tools, Household, Camping Men's XL clothing. CASH ONLY!

Moving Sale! Sat 4/20 9 am-4 pm, 860 Begler Ave, San Leandro. Furniture, SF Giants collectibles, sound systems, books, clothing, kitchen items & more!

GARDENING

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

Dormant Pruning Professional hand pruning and cleanup. Landscape design/install. Katsura Landscaping CL#.#858145 Call Mike 510-828-4854.

GARDENING

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

GARDENING/TREE SERVICE

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

HAULING SERVICE

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

HOUSE CLEANING

VICTORIA'S HOUSE CLEANING Excellent references. Free estimates Reasonable rates. 510-715-1578 VictoriaGutierrez140@gmail.com

MISC. FOR SALE

Office chair- \$7 Small bookshelf- \$6 Brand new Jockey 100% cotton V-neck T-Shirt (3 pack), M 38-40 \$16 Call 510-566-6678 leave message.

RCA portable radio (from the 50's) in good condition. \$45. 510-278-9719.

MISC. WANTED

WANTED - Reel to reel music tapes, Call Patrick 510-517-3351.

MISC. WANTED

RECORDS WANTED: Jazz, Rock, Soul and Blues. LP's 45's. 510-331-9138. slsouth467@gmail.com

RENTALS

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

RENTALS/RV SPACES

RV/ Trailer space in San Leandro and Oakland & Hayward. \$950/month. Call 510-481-9901.

SERVICES

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

TREE SERVICE

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

FILED MELISSA WILK

March 16, 2024 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 604863

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

The name of the business(es): 1. The LockerRoom 2. The LockerCast, located at 17265 Via Primero, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Kid 'n Crew, located at 17265 Via Primero, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced N/A /s/Raine Godfrey This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires March 14, 2029

FILED MELISSA WILK

March 18, 2024 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 604873

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

The name of the business(es): General Mrehandise, located at 27516 Tampa Ave., Hayward, CA 94544. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Arturo Landers Andrade, located at 27516 Tampa Ave. Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by an Individual. This business commenced 04/04/2023 N/A/s/ Arturo Landeros Andrade This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires March 17, 2029 APR 18, 24, MAY 02, 09, 2024 1792 - SIT

FILED MELISSA WILK

March 25, 2024 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 605074

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

The name of the business(es): Pilas Cloud Solutions, located at 2181 E 14th street, Unit 10, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Peter Lasode, located at 2181 E 14th street, Unit 10, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an Individual. This business commenced 02/07/2024 /s/Peter Olumuyiwa Lasode This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires March 24, 2029 APR 18, 24, MAY 02, 09, 2024

FILED MELISSA WILK

March 12, 2024 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 605525

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

The name of the business(es): The Lonchera Deli, located at 2109 Mac Arthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94601. / 20325 Wisteria Street, Castro Valley, CA 94542. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Lonchera Deli, located at 20325 Wisteria Street, Castro Valley, CA 94542. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced N/A /s/Gerry Mendoza This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires March 11, 2029

HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY

REACH OVER 60,000 READERS. Call today for ad rates and availability. HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY Call 614-1558

Advertise your specialty services in the.... HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY Please remember to recycle this paper!

HAVE SERVICES? Advertise with us today in the HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY

Construction full carpentry / building service Fully licensed / bonded / insured since 1992 KEVIN BIDDLE Owner CA Lic # B 659828 Kevin@Biddlebuilders.com 510-359-6632 BIDDLE BUILDERS LLC

Whatever your specialty, the place to advertise is in the... HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY Delivered to 32,736 homes in San Leandro, over 20,000 homes in Castro Valley, and another 8,264 are delivered to businesses and libraries.

Thank-You... Wonderlin Roofing for advertising with us. Wonderlin ROOFING SYSTEMS. Family Owned & Operated since 1992. \$200.00 OFF COMPLETE REROOFING WITH TEAR-OFF. (510) 538-1530 www.WonderlinRoofing.com

House Cleaning Tender Loving Care House Cleaning Service Family Owned Since 1980. WEEKLY • BI-WEEKLY • MONTHLY. Specializing in detailed cleaning tailored to your home. FREE ESTIMATES. Email: PATTYATTLCA@AOL.COM www.tlc-housecleaning.com 510-481-9193 BONDED & INSURED • ALL TAXES PAID

Plumbing Residential/Commercial PLUMBING All Types / Reasonable This Ad Space Could be Yours! To reserve this ad space call advertising Sales Rep Patrick Vadnais at 510-614-1560

Painting Diego Painting Residential/Commercial Interior/Exterior Power Washing FREE ESTIMATES Lic. #855054 • diegopainting@comcast.net www.diegopainting.com (510) 331-6152

Plumbing CAPELLI PLUMBING & DRAIN CLEANING Compare Our Prices! FREE ESTIMATES 24/7 SERVICE Trenchless Sewer Repair Military & Senior Discounts Family Owned & Operated 510-969-4358 LIC. #1026755

Roofing Wonderlin ROOFING SYSTEMS. Family Owned & Operated since 1992. Reroofs • Repairs Dry Rot Repair Seamless Pre-painted Gutters. FREE ESTIMATES. Castro Valley Lic. #642517 • Insured/Bonded

Roofing K REED ROOFING Complete Residential & Commercial Roof Systems (510) 357-5116 Call Now For A Free Written Roof Analysis & Estimate

Child Care Licensed Child Care Nurturing Environment Contact Us Today This Ad Space Could be Yours! To reserve this ad space call advertising Sales Rep Patrick Vadnais at 510-614-1560

We truly appreciate all of our advertisers! San Leandro Times / Castro Valley Forum

Roofing Wonderlin ROOFING SYSTEMS. Family Owned & Operated since 1992. Reroofs • Repairs Dry Rot Repair Seamless Pre-painted Gutters. FREE ESTIMATES. Castro Valley Lic. #642517 • Insured/Bonded. \$200.00 OFF COMPLETE REROOFING WITH TEAR-OFF. (510) 538-1530 www.WonderlinRoofing.com

Roofing K REED ROOFING Complete Residential & Commercial Roof Systems (510) 357-5116 Call Now For A Free Written Roof Analysis & Estimate



**LEGAL NOTICES**

FILED March 19, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604910  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
PCOM, located at 633 E 14th Street  
#100 San Leandro, CA 94577. Alameda  
County, is hereby registered by the fol-  
lowing owner(s): Professional Commer-  
cial Office Management Inc., located at  
633 E 14th Street #100 San Leandro, CA  
94577. This business is conducted by a  
Corporation. This business commenced  
N/A  
/s/Alexander Lithgow  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 18, 2029

FILED March 29, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 605206  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Marina's Harmony, located at 24645  
Broadmore Ave. Hayward, CA 94544.  
Alameda County, is hereby registered by  
the following owner(s): Marina Garcia,  
located at 24645 Broadmore Ave.  
Hayward, CA 94544. This business is  
conducted by An Individual. This busi-  
ness commenced 12/2020  
/s/Marina Garcia  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 28, 2029  
APR 04, 11, 18, 24, 2024  
1280 - SLT

FILED March 26, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 605109  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Dabarkadz Filipino Bistro, located at  
24297 Hesperian Blvd. Hayward, CA  
94545. / 1442 Mount Palomar Dr, San  
Jose, CA 95127 Alameda County, is  
hereby registered by the following  
owner(s): Asian Grill & Bar LLC, located  
at 24297 Hesperian Blvd. Hayward, CA  
94544.  
This business is conducted by An Indi-  
vidual. This business commenced N/A  
/s/Teresita Collong  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 25, 2029  
APR 04, 11, 18, 24, 2024

FILED March 20, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604940  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Bamboo Advance Beauty College,  
located at 14624 E 14th street, San  
Leandro, CA 94578 Alameda County,  
is hereby registered by the following  
owner(s): Mai-pham investments LLC,  
located at 14624 E 14th street, San  
Leandro, CA 94578. This business is  
conducted by a Limited Liability Com-  
pany.  
This business commenced 03/21/2019  
/s/ Christina Mai  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires February 19, 2029  
MAR 28, APR 4, 11, 18, 2024

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS BUSI-  
NESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NUMBER: 586705  
The following person has abandoned  
the use of the fictitious business name:  
**UNIVERSAL CARPET,**  
at 1600 86th Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94621.  
Full name of registrant is:  
**Tomas Gutierrez,**  
at 1600 86th Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94621.  
The Fictitious Business Name Statement  
**UNIVERSAL CARPET,**  
was filed on 2/25/2022 in the county of  
Alameda. Original File Number 586705.  
I declare that all information in this  
statement is true and correct.  
(A registrant who declares as true in-  
formation, which he or she knows to be  
false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement  
was filed with the County clerk of Ala-  
ameda County on: top right stamp date.  
NOTICE - This fictitious name statement  
expires five years from the date it was  
filed on, in the office of the County Clerk.  
A new Fictitious Business Name State-  
ment must be filed prior to that date.  
The filing of this statement does not of  
itself authorize the use in this state of a  
fictitious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal, state  
or common law (see Section 14400, et  
seq., B&P Code.) This statement was  
filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of  
Alameda County on 03/12/2024  
**APR 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2024**  
1273 - SLT

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS BUSI-  
NESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NUMBER: 602807  
The following person has abandoned  
the use of the fictitious business name:  
**PCOM INC,**  
at 633 E 14th Street #100  
San Leandro, CA 94577.  
Full name of registrant is:  
**Professional Commercial Office  
Management Inc.,**  
at 633 E 14th Street #100  
San Leandro, CA 94577.  
The Fictitious Business Name Statement  
**PCOM INC,**  
was filed on 12/14/2023 in the county of  
Alameda. Original File Number 602807.  
I declare that all information in this  
statement is true and correct.  
(A registrant who declares as true in-  
formation, which he or she knows to be  
false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement  
was filed with the County clerk of Ala-  
ameda County on: top right stamp date.  
NOTICE - This fictitious name statement  
expires five years from the date it was  
filed on, in the office of the County Clerk.  
A new Fictitious Business Name State-  
ment must be filed prior to that date.  
The filing of this statement does not of  
itself authorize the use in this state of a  
fictitious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal, state  
or common law (see Section 14400, et  
seq., B&P Code.) This statement was  
filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of  
Alameda County on 03/19/2024  
**MAR 28, APR 04, 11, 18, 2024**  
1273 - SLT

FILED March 12, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604740  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Flooring Installers, located at 1600  
86th Ave., Oakland, CA 94621. Alameda  
County, is hereby registered by the fol-  
lowing owner(s): Tomas Gutierrez,  
located at 1600 86th Ave., Oakland,  
CA 94621.  
This business is conducted by An Indi-  
vidual. This business commenced  
N/A/s/Tomas Gutierrez  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 11, 2029  
APR 11, 18, 24, MAY 02, 2024  
1285 - SLT

FILED March 12, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604747  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Banejad & Haddad Properties San Fran-  
cisco. LLC, located at 3716 Oakes Drive,  
Hayward, CA 94542. Alameda County,  
is hereby registered by the following  
owner(s):Banejad & Haddad Properties  
San Francisco. LLC, located at 3716  
Oakes Drive, Hayward, CA 94542.  
This business is conducted by a Limited  
Liability Company. This business com-  
menced 02/28/2024  
/s/Hani Haddad  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 26, 2029

FILED March 12, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604746  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Banejad & Haddad Properties Hayward  
LLC, located at 3716 Oakes Drive, Hay-  
ward, CA 94542. Alameda County, is  
hereby registered by the following  
owner(s):Banejad & Haddad Properties  
Hayward LLC, located at 3716 Oakes  
Drive, Hayward, CA 94542.  
This business is conducted by a Limited  
Liability Company. This business com-  
menced 02/28/2024  
/s/Hani Haddad  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires March 26, 2029

FILED March 12, 2024  
MELISSA WILK County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 604756  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
Pursuant to Business and  
Professions Code  
Sections 17900-17930  
The name of the business(es):  
Looksbykylee, located at 933 Macar-  
thur Blvd., Suite 150 San Leandro, CA  
94577 / 751 Midway Ave, San Leandro  
CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby  
registered by the following owner(s):  
Kylee Cooksey, located at 751 Midway  
Ave, San Leandro CA 94577. This busi-  
ness is conducted by An Individual.  
This business commenced N/A  
/s/ Kylee Cooksey  
This statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of Alameda County on date indi-  
cated by file stamp above.  
Expires February 27, 2029  
MAR 28, APR 4, 11, 18, 2024

Advertise your garage sale in the  
San Leandro Times and Castro Valley  
Forum for only \$35.00  
(10 words or less - each  
additional word \$1.00).



Get the  
word out with  
over 60,000 in  
circulation!

DEADLINE: MONDAY 10 PM.

**NEED TO PLACE  
A LEGAL AD?  
CALL 510-409-4250**

**HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY**

**Drainage/Structural**

**Alameda Engineering**  
Since 1989  
• RETAINING WALLS  
• DRAINAGE SYSTEMS  
• FOUNDATION REPAIRS  
• SEISMIC UPGRADES  
• CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION  
www.alameda-engineering.  
**510-537-6550**  
General Engineering Contractors  
License# 562641  
alamedaengineering@comcast.net

**Electrical**

**AZACK'S ELECTRIC**  
Established in 1977  
SERVING  
San Leandro, San Lorenzo,  
Castro Valley  
**SMALL JOBS ONLY  
TROUBLE SHOOTING  
& REPAIRS**  
**(510) 357-4926**  
azackselectric@gmail.com  
Lic. # 339866

**Handyman**

**HANDYMAN SERVICES**  
Serving Castro Valley &  
San Leandro for 28 Years  
**Big or Small -  
We Do It All!**  
**(925) 548-4202**

**Hardwood Flooring**

**FERREIRA'S  
HARDWOOD FLOORING**  
Sand • Install • Refinish  
Glista • Oil Base  
25 Years Experience  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Call Jeff Today!  
**510-366-6491**  
Lic. #803455

**Gardening / Tree Service**

**PEREZ**  
Gardening &  
Maintenance  
**TREE SERVICE**  
Pruning, Topping, Removing, Synthetic  
Grass Installation, Planting, New Lawns &  
Lawn Care, Sprinkler Systems, Lots & Hill-  
sides Cleaned & Planted, Drainage/Gutters,  
Fences, Decks, Patios, Arbors, Concrete, etc.  
**CALL 510-385-2122**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
EXCELLENT REFERENCES / SINCE 1994  
INSURED / ALL WORK GUARANTEED / UNLICENSED

**Roofing / Gutters / Solar**

**RIDOUT  
ROOFING CO.**  
~ SINCE 1922 ~  
ALL TYPES OF ROOFING & GUTTERS  
P.V. SOLAR / SKYLIGHTS  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
SENIOR DIS-  
**(510) 351-1922**  
621-A WILLIAMS • SAN LEANDRO  
STATE CONTRACTORS LICENSE NUMBER 260176

**Roofing**

**BANNER ROOFING CO.**  
★ New Roofs ★ Re-Roofs ★ Roof Repairs ★  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

**WE CONTROL  
YOUR RAIN!**  
★★★★  
**ALL TYPES OF  
ROOF REPAIRS**  
☒☒☒☒  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
★★★★  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**SENIOR DISCOUNTS**  
**LIC # 657692 BBB A+**

**ROOFING TYPES**  
• ASPHALT SHINGLES  
• FIREPROOF TILE & SLATE  
• CEDAR/SHAKE SHINGLES  
• METAL ROOF SYSTEMS  
• TAR & GRAVEL  
• SINGLE-PLY SYSTEMS

**GUTTER TYPES**  
• SEAMLESS ALUMINUM,  
• PREPAINTED IN 20 COLORS  
• GALVANIZED 5", 6" & 7"  
• COPPER GUTTER SYSTEMS  
• SHEETMETAL FABRICATION  
• OVERHANG SOFFIT & FASCIA  
• CLEANING & REPAIRS

**20% OFF**  
20% OFF ANY OF OUR ROOFING & GUTTER  
SERVICES  
20% OFF ANY COMPLETE OR PARTIAL ROOFING  
JOB  
ONE DISCOUNT PER HOUSEHOLD

LICENSED / BONDED / INSURED • 14349 WASHINGTON AVE., SAN LEANDRO  
**510-895-4433**

**Roofing & Painting**

**San Leandro Painting & Roofing**  
Family Owned Since 1966 • Bonded & Insured • Lic. #883326  
• Residential and Commercial Roofing • Re-roofing • Certified Roof Inspections  
• Roof Repair • Rain Collection Systems • Attic Ventilation  
• Gutter Installation and Cleaning  
• Painting  
**510-798-9674**

**THE TIMES CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13			14			
15				16				17			
18							19	20			
			21				22				
23	24	25		26		27		28		29	30
31			32		33		34		35		
36				37		38		39		40	
		41			42		43		44		
45	46						47		48	49	50
51					52	53					
54						55			56		
57						58			59		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Siren
  - 5 Cagers' gp.
  - 8 Halt
  - 12 Eventful periods
  - 13 Cleric's tunic
  - 14 Jared of "House of Gucci"
  - 15 Persistence
  - 17 Privy to
  - 18 Tar
  - 19 Laid down the lawn
  - 21 Cattle call
  - 22 Crystal gazer
  - 23 Not "dis"
  - 26 Scale abbr.
  - 28 Impetus
  - 31 Crunchy cookie
  - 33 Chef Garten
  - 35 Faux pas
  - 36 Reddish dye
  - 38 PC screen type
  - 40 Salty expanse
  - 41 Leave an impression?
  - 43 Gear tooth
  - 45 Salsa ingredient
  - 47 Chopin pieces
  - 51 Say it's so
  - 52 Stresses
  - 54 Hindu royal
  - 55 911 responder
  - 56 Tizzy
  - 57 Sax range
  - 58 -- Angeles
  - 59 JFK postings
- DOWN**
- 1 Nov. honorees
  - 2 Bailiwick
  - 3 -- -pedi
  - 4 Sacred song
  - 5 Capital of Kenya
  - 6 Crunchy sandwich
  - 7 Void
  - 8 Small burgers
  - 9 Curly strands
  - 10 Oklahoma tribe
  - 11 Frogs' hangout
  - 16 Hip
  - 20 British ref. work
  - 23 Homer's cry
  - 24 "Right you --!"
  - 25 Multi-family dwelling
  - 27 NBC weekend show
  - 29 Compete
  - 30 Ecol. watchdog
  - 32 Toronto's province
  - 34 Emphasizes
  - 37 Play segment
  - 39 Pixels
  - 42 "Monopoly" buy
  - 44 Appearance
  - 45 Skater Lipinski
  - 46 Ellipse
  - 48 Word of warning
  - 49 Author Bagnold
  - 50 Bygone fliers
  - 53 Punk-rock subgenre
- ANSWERS ON PAGE 4**

# Tax: Mayor says tax increase is needed to address shortfall

*continued from front page*  
tax is lower than Oakland, Berkeley, Piedmont, and Alameda. But if voters agree to the 3.4 percent increase, San Leandro residents and businesses would pay a 9.4 percent tax on electricity and gas and a 9.1 percent tax on cable TV and telecom.

Because utility rates vary significantly from household to household and utility bills may not be readily available for public inspection, Deputy City Manager Eric Engelbart said that providing general estimates on how the changes would impact all residents is challenging.

“However, using a \$50 per month cell phone bill as an example, a 3.4 percent increase in tax would equate to an approximately \$1.70 monthly increase over and above what a resident already pays,” Engelbart said. “A household with a \$100-per-month PG&E bill would see a \$3.40 increase in that bill.”

According to the staff presentation at the meeting, a 3.4 percent tax increase could add between \$6.8 million and \$7.1 million annually to the city’s general fund, which could be applied to a short-list of City Hall priorities, including fixing potholes, preserving neighborhood police patrols, and maintaining

youth violence prevention and drug and gang intervention programs. And even that won’t be enough, according to Mayor Juan Gonzalez, who put the blame on previous city councils.

“We can’t continue doing what we’ve been doing,” Gonzalez said. “We had the engineers from (the Metropolitan Transportation Commission) come out and tell us that San Leandro today needs to invest about 13 million dollars a year in streets just to keep the current level of service. Right now, we’re spending about four (million).”

To address the shortfall, the city considered three options: issuing a general obligation bond, adding a parcel tax (both of which require a two-thirds majority of voters to pass), or increasing the city’s Utility User Tax (UUT), which would only require a simple majority to be enacted.

In a 6-1 vote—with Councilman Bryan Azevedo dissenting—the council adopted a resolution to hire Oakland-based consultancy Clifford Moss Inc.

## ‘City of Need’

Starting later this month, Clifford Moss Inc. will communicate San Leandro’s narrative as a “city of need,” gauge the public’s appetite

for adding taxes to their utility bills and provide information about the need for the tax.

Azevedo said he disagrees with spending the city’s money on a consultant in this instance.

“After listening to my constituents and residents in my district, I felt spending \$225,000 on the consultant was a waste of taxpayer money and that there are other ways to determine if putting a utility tax on the ballot would be feasible,” Azevedo told the Times.

San Leandro voters have authorized six tax measures over the past 10 years, Engelbart explained, including

Measure HH—a one-half-cent sales tax that helps maintain existing city services until 2044—and Measures OO, PP, and NN, which tax small businesses, hotels, and cannabis businesses, respectively.

Measure VV in 2020 increased property transfer taxes but as an emergency reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. In each case, San Leandro paid consultancy fees to various contractors in amounts ranging from \$189,000 to \$205,000.

But paying a consultant \$225,000 to help ask voters for higher utility bills did not sit well with those making public comments.

“When was the last time

this council said no to anything?” said resident Douglas Spalding. “Too often, you overpay and double pay. I don’t know if you’ve noticed, but my utility bill has increased quite a bit. I think most people have. So, no thank you, until you tighten your belts and address the expenditure side of this.”

In a letter sent to The Times, former City Councilman and real estate broker Ed Hernandez said now is not the time for the city to raise the cost of gas, electricity, and phones.

“It is also important that the city act transparently,” Hernandez wrote. “The City Manager should disclose the

full survey questions and results. The poll is not a confidential document, and the community could better assist in informing the actions of the council, where it is best to do so, thereafter aligning the best path forward for the city.”

The City Council is expected to receive campaign feedback in June before deciding whether to place a utility tax increase measure on the November ballot.

Engelbart said the city is still exploring other revenue measure options that could appear on the November 2024 ballot, and no decisions have yet been made about the specific utility tax measure.

## Volunteer as an Adult Literacy Tutor

Over 20 percent of adults in our community have low literacy levels, and 22 percent speak English less than very well. These adults struggle not just with reading, but also on the job, when seeking accurate information, when communicating with their children’s teachers, and in many other situations.

Project Literacy provides these adults with volunteer tutors at no cost. After training, new tutors are matched with an adult who wants to improve

their reading and writing or their English language skills. Tutors work one-on-one with their assigned learner for two hours a week in person at the library or online.

### Upcoming Tutor Training In May

Training consists of four parts: a self-paced online orientation and three 90-minute in-person workshops. Training workshops are offered throughout the year. Upcoming dates are three consecutive

Saturday afternoons: May 4, 11, and 18 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. For more information, to access the online orientation, and to sign up for the free training, visit [sanleandro.org/literacy](http://sanleandro.org/literacy), or email [projectliteracy@sanleandro.org](mailto:projectliteracy@sanleandro.org).

### Volunteer Qualifications

Teaching experience is not necessary, as Project Literacy will provide new tutors with training and support. The most important qualifications are empathy, respect, and patience

for others in the learning process. Additionally, Project Literacy tutors must be at least 18 years old; have a high school diploma or GED, be able to speak, read, and write English well, pass a fingerprint screening, and commit to tutoring a minimum of two hours per week for six months.

Become a volunteer tutor and give the gift of literacy to an adult in your community. To get started, visit [sanleandro.org/literacy](http://sanleandro.org/literacy) or email [projectliteracy@sanleandro.org](mailto:projectliteracy@sanleandro.org)

## OPINION

### LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

#### Boat Launch Area Cluttered With Parked Boats

Editor,

I love this city. San Leandro is a great place to live. That’s why I raised my kids here and still enjoy the city. I live by the Marina and have for close to thirty years.

I am encouraged to see plans are moving along for the west side of the city to be improved. However, as they closed the marina harbor to prepare for the new construction, worse-for-wear sailboats covered in blue tarps, moved around the

point. One has been tied up to the condemned dock at the boat launch for several months with a pile of belongings stacked on the dock.

With “anchor-out” boats from the Oakland estuary in the news lately, it was just a matter of time for other boats to show up in the Marina lagoon. Each successive storm has seen new arrivals. Today four boats are tied up to both docks or anchored in the lagoon. One was on its side during low tide waiting for the tide to come in. Anchor-outs look for sheltered spots like the

Marina lagoon.

At this point there is nowhere for residents launching their boat to tie off to park their trailer. I wonder if these boats could pass a Coast Guard safety inspection? Of more concern, where do they dump their sewage? My wife and I put our paddle boards into the water at the boat launch area ramp. I’m not sure it is safe to even put our paddle boards in the water at this point.

How many more boats can the lagoon hold? It’s just a matter of time. We may find out soon. I do know that the San Leandro Police Department is busy, like every other department in the area, but the city can do more to contact outside agencies with maritime enforcement capabilities to deal with this issue.

Steve Kidwell  
San Leandro

#### No New Taxes

Editor,

My neighbor, Steve Parker, wrote an excellent letter (March 14) showing there are about 91,000 people in

San Leandro and only 2.6 percent of residents cast a vote on whether the school district should be given another \$175 million. Only 459 votes (0.5 percent) decided for the rest of us that we should have a big increase in our property taxes for years to come.

Are we stupid? San Leandro is the most heavily taxed city in Alameda County (10.75%). Sales taxes are even levied on food. Each year members of the City Council as well as the San Leandro School District plot another tax hike for the ballot. The school district even pays an ex-mayor \$25,000 to represent them.

I have decided to vote against every candidate for mayor and city council who won’t sign a pledge for no new taxes, including bonds. I hope other citizens of San Leandro will join me.

George Z. Banks  
San Leandro

#### Add a Pool

Editor,

“Let’s add a pool,” said no one

ever in San Leandro when discussing renos to their house just before selling. Then Carl Medford’s realtor advertizing section of the SLT urges you to hire a realtor to get reno advise.

Free advice - SLT reader, just search "ROI on home renovation". You will find that increasing curb appeal is the only, consistent renovation that increases your net profit on sale. #1 - Update your garage door, #2 Update entryway finish and, #3 Update front door. Everything else is a net loss. “Add a pool” isn’t even on the list.

Even better ROI is the time you spend (free) negotiating a fair price for value on sales commission rate. "You don’t have to agree to 6% to get your home on the MLS anymore" said Carl Medford in the future article we want him to write. Paying just 3% to the seller agent and 1% to buyer agent on your \$1M house is \$20K in your pocket and with no reno “hassle factor.”

John Clouston  
San Leandro

# 99 Cents: 'A lot of us depend on the 99 Cents Only store for a lot of things'

*continued from front page*  
 vantage to be closing a low-price market, especially for lower-income people," said Neha Maharaj, who had come from Hayward with her mother to shop there. "It's walking distance for people who don't have a car, and it's big, too, as low-priced stores go."

99 Cents Only Interim CEO Mike Simoncic said in a press release that the pandemic, theft and inflation are some of the reasons for closing.

"Unfortunately, the last several years have presented significant and lasting challenges in the retail environment, including the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, shifting consumer demand, rising levels of shrink, persistent inflationary pressures and other macroeconomic headwinds," Simoncic said.

He said these things made it difficult to continue to operate the chain. "Shrink," short for shrinkage, is a retail industry term for shoplifting or other types of theft from a store.

The chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, which sometimes can set the stage for a different chain taking over the stores, while a Chapter 7 filing would indicate no hope for a takeover. No potential buyer was named by 99 Cents Only, however, and employees

Sunday say they had heard nothing about one.

One employee who did not wish to be named said, "What am I going to do now, both for work and for shopping?" She noted other low-priced stores were shutting, too.

She said she had been with the store about a year and enjoyed her work there.

"It's a little heartbreaking, and it will affect the community," said customer Cruz Aguilera of Hayward. "People relied on it a lot for holiday shopping. A lot of us depend on the 99-Cent store for a lot of things, especially produce."

"It's bad for low-income people," James Morse of Oakland.

His shopping companion, who declined to give her name, was a bit more direct.

"It's f---ed up," she said.

The man in line behind her was more philosophical.

"It's just the reality, with the internet wiping out real stores," he said, as his wife and children nodded in agreement.

The San Leandro 99 Cents Only store store that's now closing had spoken of its importance on its website, in happier times.

"The 99 Store, located at 699 Lewelling Boulevard in the bustling heart of San Leandro, is your go-to destination for an extensive range of



PHOTOS BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The 99 Cents Only store at the Greenhouse Marketplace in San Leandro was busy last weekend as shoppers bought merchandise marked down even lower for the going-out-of-business sale. Many San Leandrans rely on discount stores, but both 99 Cents Only and Dollar Tree are going out of business.

quality products at remarkably low prices."

The website continued, "The 99 Store is more than just a shopping venue: it's a pivotal part of the San Leandro community, prioritizing affordability and satisfaction."

99 Cents Only isn't the only discount chain closing up shop.

The closings of the 99 Cents Only stores comes only

weeks after Dollar Tree announced it would soon close some 1,000 Dollar Tree and Family Dollar stores nationwide. Some 600 Family Dollar

stores will close in the first half of this year, while another 370 Family Dollar and 30 Dollar Tree stores will close when current leases expire.

## Championship: State champs

*continued from front page*

Ja'me Mosley-Self - 2nd place in her class

Jenny Samonek- 2nd place in her class

Moli Tupou- 1st place in her class.

D'Antonio had great support from assistant coaches Jennifer Garcia, Vianey Saucedo, Victor Doan, David Jagoda, Yubini Barrera, Anthony Barbieri, Steve Stewart, Monica Paz and Josue Lopez-Cortez.



The top finishers lined up on the podium with their trophies at the end of the competition.

### Individual Metal Earning Results:

- 1st Place - Gianna Barbieri of Bancroft
- 6th Place - Krystal Alvarado of Bancroft
- 4th Place - Sadie Weaver of Bancroft
- 6th Place - Danica Ponce of Bancroft
- 2nd Place - Ja'me Mosley-Self of Bancroft
- 6th Place - Eva Fernando of Bancroft
- 5th Place - Julieta Valdez of Bancroft
- 6th Place - Mari Chable

- of Bancroft
- 2nd Place - Jenny Samonek of Bancroft
- 4th Place - Piper Dodge of Bancroft
- 1st Place - Moli Tupou of Bancroft

**SANTOS-ROBINSON MORTUARY**  
 — Supporting Local Churches and Families for Over 90 Years —  
**FUNERAL AND CREMATION PROFESSIONALS**  
 Traditional Services • Cremation Options  
 Pre-Arrangements  
 Serving All Faiths and Cultures  
**510-483-0123**  
 www.santos-robinson.com  
 CALIC. FD-81

**FAMILY OWNED**



**DEERCREEK FUNERAL SERVICE**  
 35<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrating Lives!  
 PROFESSIONAL CREMATION SERVICES  
**Castro Valley Office: (510) 317-7890**  
**Jay Spencer, DeerCreek2965@gmail.com**  
 www.DeerCreekCremation.com

# Genuine: 'I love it here. That's why I'm still here today'

continued from front page  
Creek.

Lou Gosset, Jr., who Copeland saw in *Roots* and interviewed before on his radio show, came to the show in L.A.

"He brought Dick Van Dyke with him to see my show in L.A.," Copeland said. "The Los Angeles Times did a huge spread on the show and everybody in Hollywood came to see it."

A month after the book came out, Copeland got a call from Ed Asner.

"He said, 'This is Ed Asner. I just want to tell you I

just read your book and when you're in Los Angeles I'd like to have dinner with you,'" Copeland said. He added that Asner was as nice as can be.

The idea for *Genuine* began years earlier. Copeland had wanted to do a one-man show but had no idea what to write about. One day he had Carl Reiner on his show on KGO radio. During a commercial break he told Reiner his idea.

"He said, 'Find a piece of ground that you alone stand on and write from there.' I said, 'I don't know what that is.' He said, 'That's what you have to

figure out.'"

Copeland soon found his own unique ground after getting a mean letter that said, "As an African American I get disgusted every time I hear your voice because you're not a genuine Black man."

Copeland began to wonder about that.

"From 8 years old when we moved to San Leandro I was the only Black face in the room," he said.

Copeland decided his unique ground is what it's like to be the only one, to be different, and how you navigate the waters when it's different.

He took a composition book and No. 2 pencils and began writing every day at Sabino's coffeehouse on MacArthur Boulevard.

"A lot of memories I repressed. After a few months I had a dozen notebooks," he said. "I had the raw material, so I went to the library to find out about what was going on

at that time."

Copeland said he never thought of having it tough when he was growing up. His mom died when he was 14 and from then on he was raised by his grandmother. He didn't fully understand racial discrimination. He didn't know his mother had to have her friend (who was white) pick up and submit an apartment application so the Copeland's could rent an apartment in San Leandro.

"That's how we got in," Copeland said.

At the library, Copeland told librarian Cindy Simons that he was looking for information on that era.

"She said, 'I have something to show you,' and she opens up a file cabinet and pulls out some yellowed papers, a term paper written by a student named Don Magnifico for his sociology class in 1967 at what was called at the time Cal State Hayward. The term paper was about how homeowners associations kept San Leandro an all-white ghetto.

"Each association had a City Council person who did

what the associations wanted," Copeland said.

Copeland found that people who tried to integrate the city got bricks through their windows. He also discovered San Leandro was one of the towns the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights looked into because you couldn't get a mortgage if you're Black.

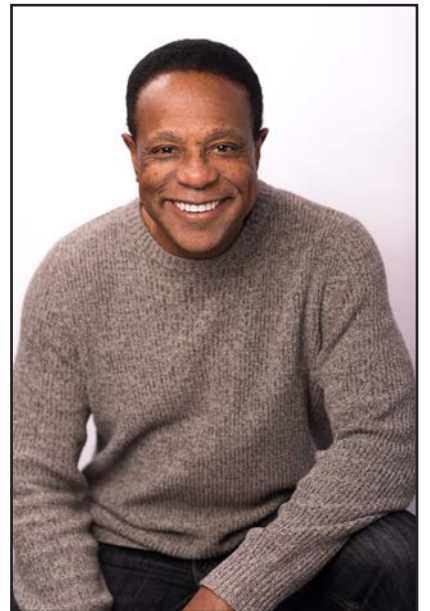
Despite all that, Copeland wants to make one thing clear: "I love it here, that's why I'm still here today," he said. "Today San Leandro

is one of the most diverse suburbs in the country."

Copeland recalls both the meanness and the kindness as he grew up.

"I had people, grownups, call me the n-word as I was walking down the street," he said. "But many wonderful people in San Leandro helped me along the way."

Tickets for the current run of *Not a Genuine Black Man*



**Brian Copeland will perform Not a Genuine Black Man on Saturday at The Marsh San Francisco.**

at The Marsh San Francisco on Saturdays at 5 p.m. are \$25 to \$35 at [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org) for general seating, sliding scale. The show is 2 hours in length with one intermission, for age 14 and up.

Copeland will be reading and signing his new crime novel, *Outraged*, on Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at Books Inc., 2483 Washington Ave. in San Leandro.

## Not a Genuine Black Man

**Where:** The Marsh San Francisco – 1062 Valencia Street in San Francisco

**When:** Saturdays at 5 p.m. through May 4

**Tickets:** Tickets: \$25 - \$35 at [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org) or [briancopeland.com](http://briancopeland.com)

COMMIT YOUR FAMILY TO BE FIT!

# Bay-O-Vista

Swim Lessons Available for Members Only

**Private Family Fitness, Gym, Swim & Tennis Club**

Indoors & outdoors gym

Yoga w/7 classes a week

W/40 classes per month of other group exercise classes

**One Time Initiation Fee (April Only)**  
**\$1500 Family now \$700 Save \$800**  
**\$800 Single now \$500 Save \$300**

**APRIL FREE**  
 When you join early and pay for your 1st month dues

**2 Free Lockers 1 for each Spouse for 1 year.**

**FREE MONTH**  
 w/Annual Dues, Pay for 11mo. get 12mo. FREE  
 Offer exp 4/30/2024

Monthly Dues Families = \$299    Monthly Dues Singles = \$279

\*Previous members of 12 months or less are not eligible for this promo. Not to be combined with any other offers.

## 8 NEW CHAMPIONSHIP PICKLEBALL COURTS

All Club features are included in your monthly dues. Except Babysitting, Swim lessons, Massage and Personal Training

**See website "BOVSWIM.COM" FOR ALL OUR CLASSES AND FEATURES.**

1881 Astor Drive-Directions: Lake Chabot Rd. is Open. Use View Drive or Fairmont to Lake Chabot Rd. to Club @ Astor Dr. during construction.

**510-357-8366 • email: [swim@bovswim.com](mailto:swim@bovswim.com)**

## LIVE MUSIC

Fri. April 19	Mr LEO RHYTHM AND SOUL	8PM
Sat. April 20	3 O'CLOCK JUMP	2PM
Sat. April 20	PATRÓN LATIN RHYTHMS	6PM
Sun. April 21	PAPER THIN BAND	4PM
Fri. April 26	Re-Wind, That 80's Band	8PM
Sat. April 27	THE DELTA WIRES	6PM
Sun. April 28	Mr CHIN's HOT SAUCE	4PM
Fri. May 3	AC & THE HEATWAVE	8PM
Sat. May 4	TOUCH OF CLASS	6PM
Sun. May 5	DANILO ORQUESTA UNIVERSAL	4PM
Fri. May 10	DEE COCO & Co.	8PM
Sat. May 11	BLUES BOTTLE BAND	6PM
Sun. May 12	GGBS - Nat Bolden's Blues Revue	4PM

ALL SHOWS ONLY \$5.00

## 22519 Main St, Hayward

510-881-9877    Click for our Website