



## A is for Apple

USE NUTRITIOUS APPLES TO MAKE  
SCONES, CAKES AND PIES ..... 4

**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
**CLEAR** Partly cloudy Friday  
 the sunny thru Sunday  
 HIGHS: 76-81  
 LOWS: 54-59

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

# San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 34 • NO. 41

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAN OTHEN

The Multiplying Good Club with former SLHS teacher Jack Nelson who led the program for years. Teacher Jan Othen now leads the program.

## Student Club 4th in National Competition

By Michael Singer  
San Leandro Times

Students with San Leandro High School's Multiplying Good Club placed 4th nationwide in the prestigious Jefferson Awards for 2024. Unfortunately, a financial wrinkle with the organizing charter is temporarily dampening the achievement.

San Leandro's placement in the "Students in Action" category entitled the club to receive their award in New York City this month. But the Jefferson Awards Foundation filed for bankruptcy in March and this year's award ceremony is now scheduled as an online event.

Club advisor and San Leandro High School golf coach Jan Othen says de-

spite the last-minute trip cancelation, the 15 students in the club are still proud of their achievement.

"The students and I are not going to stop giving back to the community just because the Jefferson Awards people are reorganizing," Othen told the Times. "We have so much to do in the next few

see GOOD, page 11

## City Council Candidates Speak at Forum

Chamber of Commerce hosts forum on Zoom for candidates

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

A call for more police and disagreements over how to pay the "true cost of government" were two of the many things discussed at a San Leandro City Council candidates forum held on Zoom October 1, hosted by the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

Six candidates running for four seats made opening statements, answered questions presented by moderator Adrian Abuyen, and made closing statements

Councilmembers Sbeydeh

Viveros-Walton (District 1) and Fred Simon (District 4) are both incumbents running unopposed.

Dylan Boldt and Robert Bulatao are running against each other in District 6. Former councilmember Ed Hernandez is running against incumbent Bryan Azevedo in District 2.

Former Councilmember Benny Lee filled in at the forum for Azevedo who was recovering from a minor medical procedure.

see CANDIDATES, page 11

## PG&E Crews Help Restore Power in Georgia

More than 400 PG&E electric workers and support staff, and more than 300 vehicles, arrived in Georgia Friday afternoon to join the mutual-assistance response to Hurricane Helene.

PG&E crews worked on Saturday and Sunday at 60 different work locations throughout the hardest hit areas of Georgia replacing power poles

and lines.

By Monday, Oct. 7, Georgia Power says that more than 95% of its 1.3 million customers who lost power during Helene have been restored. About 20,000 personnel from Georgia Power and from other utilities across North America continue to make progress with repairs and restoration.

see POWER, page 2

## Five Candidates Vie for Oro Loma Board

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

Five people are running for two seats on the Oro Loma Sanitary District's board in the November election.

That district serves San Lorenzo, Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview, and portions of the City of San Leandro, the City of Hayward, and Castro Valley. Oro Loma provides sewage, solid waste and recycling services.

Only one incumbent,

Benny Lee, is running for re-election, as incumbent Paul Stelzmann chose not to run. But former board member Bob Glaze is running to return to the board.

Also running are challengers Moira "Mimi" Dean, Luis Reynoso and Damaris Villalobos-Galindo.

### Benny Lee

Lee is seeking his second term on the board. He works in finance when he's not on board

business, and says he brings familiarity with that key area to the board, along with an ease at working with data.

Lee endorsed by several fellow board members and by a number of elected officials. He is a past member of the San Leandro City Council.

When he first joined the Oro Loma board, he pushed for enhanced cybersecurity to guard against hacking, ransomware and even sabotage. Now, he says none of the dis-

trict's systems can be accessed remotely from anywhere in the world, unlike a number of other companies and agencies.

He calls for repairing and improving aging pipes and other infrastructure to stay ahead of climate challenges.

"We have to plan so we're ahead of the game, so our sewers don't break down if a 140 million gallons per day storm happens again," Lee said. "The one on December

see ORO LOMA, page 12

## INSIDE YOUR TIMES

### COMMUNITY

Steve Moore named president of Kiwanis Club. Page 2

### LITERATURE

Put your story into words at writer's workshop. Page 3

### HEALTH

Coach Kev has some tips exercise. Page 5

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# MEETING SCHEDULES

## CITY COUNCIL

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

## SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



## San Leandro Times

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

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PHOTO COURTESY OF KIWANIS CLUB OF SAN LEANDRO

## Moore Takes the Helm At the Kiwanis Club

Kiwanis of San Leandro held their annual Changing of the Guards on Sunday, Sept. 22. Above, outgoing President Rob Bae welcomed the club's new incoming President Steve Moore. Congratulations Steve. If you are interested in volunteering opportunities, the Kiwanis Club invites you to join them for a meeting or you can find the club on Facebook at FB-Kiwanis Club San Leandro-growing strong since 1923/Community Organization.



## Mayor Wishes Ruby Happy Birthday

Ruby Dean Scott Hatchett (center) of San Leandro celebrated her 100th birthday in August at the Broadmoor Plaza senior apartments and Mayor Juan Gonzalez and Supervisor Lena Tam came to wish Ruby a happy birthday. Ruby's daughter Vera Sims, her granddaughter Leslie Robertson and other grandchildren and great-grandchildren were also on hand for the party.

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PHOTO COURTESY PG&E

PG&E crews help repair lines after Hurricane Helene.

## Power: Another storm coming

continued from front page

Unfortunately, right on the heels of Hurricane Helene, another massive storm is getting ready to make landfall. Hurricane Milton, which rapidly intensified in the Gulf of Mexico over the weekend and is now a Category 5 hurricane, could be the strongest hurricane to hit the Tampa Bay area in 100 years.

Ahead of that storm, PG&E crews and vehicles are headed to Daytona Beach Monday,

on the Atlantic Ocean side of Florida, to be positioned once it is safe to do so. Once the brunt of the storm passes through Florida, it's expected that PG&E crews will be dispatched to areas most severely impacted by Milton.

As a result of this move, after supporting Georgia Power over the weekend, the PG&E contingent will now be supporting Florida Power & Light (FPL).

## Adults learn to read free!

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# Community Calendar

## Oro Loma Sanitary District Board Candidates Forum

The League of Women Voters Eden Area (LWVEA) will host a virtual candidate forum on Zoom for candidates running for the Oro Loma Sanitary District board of directors on Thursday, Oct. 10, from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. The candidates invited to participate are Moira "Mimi" Dean, Bob Glaze, Benny Lee, Luis Reynoso, Damaris Villalobos-Galindo. Register for the Zoom link and find more forums via <https://tinyurl.com/LWVEA2024>

## San Leandro Adult School Job Fair

San Leandro Adult & Career Education Center and Rubicon Programs will host its first bi-annual Free Job and Resource Fair on Friday, Oct. 11, on campus at 1448 Williams St. from 10 a.m. to noon. The job fair connects local job seekers with employers and resources to enhance their career prospects, featuring a diverse lineup of employers from various industries, offering a range of positions. Meet face-to-face with hiring managers, submit resumes, and participate in on-site interviews. Bring multiple copies of resumes and dress in professional attire.

## Family Friendly October Fest

The First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro 180 Estudillo Ave., is having a Family Friendly October Fest on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. with dinner, music, dancing and entertainment by Douglas McCay the Charismatic Conjuror. For more information or to reserve a seat for \$12 call the church office at 510-483-2772 Tuesday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

## Hearing Loss Association to Meet

The Hearing Loss Association-East Bay will hold an in-person meeting (also on Zoom) on hearing aids now available over-the-counter at reduced costs on Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Oakland Kaiser Fabiola Building, 3801 Howe St., Room G-26. Coffee and tea at 9:30 a.m., presentation at 10 a.m., and a pizza social at 11:30 a.m. RSVP by Thursday, October 10, 2024 at: [HearingLossEB.org](http://HearingLossEB.org) and click on "Monthly Meetings"

## San Leandro Garden Club

The San Leandro Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. The speakers this month from the Alameda County Master Gardeners will give a presentation on native plants. Everyone is welcome.

## Washington Homeowners Association Meeting

The Washington Home Owners Association will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. The Guest speaker will be City Councilmember Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton, the representative from District 1. Ask questions and find out her plans to improve our city. Washington Manor residents and the general public are welcome. For more information, call Bob Glaze at 510-352-2058.

## Ribbon Cutting for San Leandro High School Gym

The San Leandro Unified School District invites the public to the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new gym at San Leandro High School, 2200 Bancroft Ave., on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 5:30 p.m. And you're welcome to stay after the ceremony to cheer on the 2024 Girls' Varsity volleyball team.

## Coat Drive Hosted by Beats 4 Hope

Beats 4 Hope non-profit is hosting a coat drive to collect clean, gently worn or new coats on Sunday, Oct. 20, between 1 and 6 p.m. at the 21st Amendemnt Brewery, 2010 Williams St. in San Leandro. Residents are invited to make a difference in the bay by donating to the coat drive and helping reach the goal of 1,000 coats for local nonprofits. This family-friendly coat drive is a partnership with the Alameda County Firefighters Association Local 55. The day will be filled with DJs, tasty food, the Street Made SF car show, the Island Thunder California motorcycle show, fire trucks, a kids' zone. Bay Area artist Adrian Marcel be on hand for a featured performance.

# Have a Story? Get Started in this Writers' Workshop

Calling all San Leandro writers. Have a story to tell but don't know where to begin?

Start Your Story is a workshop for writers and aspiring writers in San Leandro on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Have a story but don't know where to begin? Join San Leandro Writer Rose Whitmore for the Free Writing Workshop.

Whether it's laying our lives bare on the page, capturing difficult emotions or simply not knowing where to

start, "Start Your Story" will explore ways to create moving scenes, capture people from our lives with honesty, and most importantly, put words to the blank page.

The workshop will arm participants with tools to combat roadblocks, write with conviction, and leave with the creative momentum to keep going. Ages 15 and up are welcome. Pen, paper, and writing prompts will be supplied.

Rose Whitmore is a writer, educator, and a 2024 San Leandro Arts and Culture Grant Recipient.

## No Excuse Moms to Hold 5k at Marina Park On October 12

No Excuse Moms San Leandro, a non-profit, mom-led free workout group, will hold its 2nd Annual Breast Cancer Awareness 5k at Marina Park, 14001 Monarch Bay Drive in San Leandro, on Saturday, Oct. 12. Meet at the Heron Picnic Site (South end of Park) at 9 a.m.

No Excuse Moms is Non-Profit started in 2014 by a Mom in Sacramento. The free, weekly workouts are led by volunteer moms at city parks.

Currently, there are ap-

proximately 350 U.S. groups and in 25 other countries, totaling 70,000 members. The San Leandro Group has over 900 members on their Facebook page with 4 group leaders.

Weekly workouts consist of yoga, walks, cardio and strength training. There are also annual events such as Step Bet, Plank Challenge, Turkey Trot and now Breast Cancer Awareness 5K.

Check out the Facebook page at No Excuse Moms San Leandro/San Lorenzo.

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# More Events at The Library

## Lego Challenge

Come to the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd., on Monday, Oct. 14, from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. as we encourage kids to use their creativity, design, engineering skills and even teamwork to complete monthly build challenges in this fun STEM-based series using Lego bricks. Best for kids in grades K-5th. No registration required.

## Free Classic Horror Film Double Feature

Come to a spine-tingling double feature of classic horror films on Saturday, Oct. 19, beginning at 1 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Watch Dracula (1931, NR, 75 mins. at 1 p.m.) and Frankenstein (1931, NR, 71 mins. at 2:45 p.m.) back-to-back and experience these iconic Halloween favorites and learn a little bit about the books that inspired them. No charge for admission. Costumes are welcome, so feel free to dress up and embrace the spooky spirit.

## Homework Center at San Leandro Public Library's Manor Branch

Starting Oct. 1, students in grades 1 through 5 can get help with their homework every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. Volunteers are here to assist with homework and support your child's learning needs. Registration is required. For more information, contact Samira Habibi at [shabibi@sanleandro.org](mailto:shabibi@sanleandro.org) or call 510-577-7971.

## Resolve to Lose Weight by Joining TOPS

Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for the support you need to start your weight loss journey. TOPS is a non-profit weight loss support group that meets on Fridays at 9 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria Street in Castro Valley. For more information, call Sandy Montero at 510-299-7312. Join for fellowship and support. What do you have to lose?

## Calendar Submissions

The Community Calendar is for publicizing nonprofit organizations, charities and community groups. Items can be emailed to [jimk@ebpublishing.com](mailto:jimk@ebpublishing.com) or call 510-614-1557.



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**Hummus Heaven Restaurant**



## Apple Desserts? Easy as Pie!

Although apples are available year-round, they always seem to be the favorite fruit of the fall harvest. You'll find many varieties at your local market, all just waiting to be turned into America's

favorite pie or any number of other apple-a-day dishes. As far as keeping the doctor away, apples couldn't hurt. With only about 80 calories and virtually no fat or cholesterol, a medium apple has calcium,

copper, magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, vitamins B and C, and 5 grams of fiber.

### OLD-FASHIONED APPLE PIE

Pastry for two-crust 9-inch pie

6 Golden Delicious or similar apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced

1/4 cup sugar  
2 tablespoon flour  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

1/8 teaspoon mace  
2 tablespoons butter or margarine  
Cream or whole milk

Heat oven to 425°F. Line

a 9-inch pie pan with half the pastry.

In large bowl, combine apples, sugar, flour, vanilla, cinnamon, ginger, and mace; toss well to blend. Transfer apple mixture to pastry-lined pie pan and dot with butter.

Cover apple filling with remaining pastry; pinch together edges of bottom and top crust to seal. Brush top crust with cream or milk; cut several slits to vent steam.

Bake 20 minutes. Reduce oven heat to 375°F and bake 30 to 35 minutes or until apples are tender.

### FRESH APPLE CAKE

2 cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
2 cups apples, pared, cored

and quartered  
1/4 cup non-hydrogenated shortening  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
1 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger  
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves  
1 cup raisins  
1-1/4 cups whole pecans

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In the bowl of a food processor, process pecans very briefly by pulsing twice to leave nearly whole pieces. Add 1 cup peeled and cored apple pieces along with salt, sugar, vanilla, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, ground cloves and ginger. Process briefly so that chunks remain. Add second cup of apples, processing one pulse only. This provides two differ-

ent consistencies for the apples. Add raisins and melted butter. Pulse once.

Add flour and process only until combined; some lumps will remain. Turn into a well greased and floured 9x9x2-inch baking pan.

Bake 40 to 50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Serve with whipped cream flavored with a little vanilla or rum and a sprinkling of cinnamon sugar.

Variation: Add up to 1/2 cup coarsely chopped apples and nuts to top before baking. Keep the layer of apples and nuts light so it won't stop cake from rising.

### BAKED APPLES

4 large good baking apples, such as Rome Beauty, Golden Delicious, or Jonagold  
1/4 cup brown sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 cup chopped pecans  
1/4 cup currants or chopped raisins  
1 tablespoon butter  
3/4 cup boiling water

Preheat oven to 375°F. Wash apples. Remove cores to 1/2 inch of the bottom of the apples. Use a spoon to dig out the seeds. Make the holes about 3/4-inch to an inch wide.

In a small bowl, combine the sugar, cinnamon, currants/raisins, and pecans. Place apples in a 8-inch-by-8-inch square baking pan. Stuff each apple with this mixture. Top with a dot of butter.

Add boiling water to the baking pan. Bake 30-40 minutes, until tender, but not mushy. Remove from the oven and baste the apples several times with the pan juices.

Serve warm with cream or vanilla ice cream on the side. Makes 4 servings.

### APPLE SCONES

2 cups unsifted flour  
1/3 cups sugar  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon cardamom  
1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
4 ounces cold butter, cut into

1/4-inch slices  
2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest  
1 Granny Smith apple, peeled, cored and cut into 1/2-inch chunks to yield 1 cup  
1/2 cup chopped toasted walnuts (optional)  
1/2 cup sour cream mixed with 4 tablespoons water  
2 tablespoons sugar

Adjust rack to lower third of oven; preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Sift the flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, ground cardamom and baking soda into a large bowl. Using a pastry blender, cut in the butter until the particles range in size from coarse meal to peas.

Lightly stir in the lemon zest, apple cubs and walnuts.

Add the sour cream mixture all at once. Stir and toss with fork until the dry ingredients are moistened.

Add additional water, teaspoon by teaspoon, if needed. Transfer the soft, sticky dough to a lightly floured work surface, and gently knead a few times only until the dough holds together.

With a lightly floured hand, pat into an 8-1/2 inch circle. Cut the circle into 8 pie-shaped wedges. Place the wedges on the baking sheet and sprinkle sugar over the tops. Bake at 425°F for 15 minutes or until browned.

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### HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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- ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Your bold approach to a difficult situation turns a doubter into a supporter. Be aware, though, that you still need to dig for facts to build an even stronger case.
- TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Distractions continue to nibble at your available time. Turn them off and concentrate on setting your sights on your goal. Progress might be slow, but it is steady.
- GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** An opportunity opens up in a new field. You might not feel that it's for you, but check it out anyway. You could be surprised; you might be able to adjust to its requirements.
- CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** A new work environment presents some difficult choices. Best advice: Be ready to defend your decisions while still keeping your mind open to suggested alternatives.
- LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Don't let your Leonine pride continue to jeopardize a cherished relationship. You've already taken too long to make that apology. Do it now before it's too late.
- VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** A friend needs assistance but fears that you might want to know more than they are prepared to reveal. Provide help without probing into the situation.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** You face an important personal decision that could affect a family member. Have a full, frank, no-holds-barred discussion with them before you act.
- SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Take some time out to think over the choices that have suddenly emerged in your life. Don't be rushed into making a decision until all the facts are known.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Someone might be trying to gain your trust for their own advantage. Be wary: A seemingly friendly smile might be an exercise in teeth-baring.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** A situation that emerged earlier can no longer be ignored. You need to deal with it now so that it won't interfere with more important considerations.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** A job situation presents some problems. Deal with them one by one, and they'll soon vanish. Meanwhile, in your personal life, a Libra would like to know your intentions.
- PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** Let your partner know how you feel about your stalled relationship. A delay will result in your swimming around in circles and going nowhere.

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# HEALTH & FITNESS

## Making Fitness a Priority by Slowly Working Through the Discomfort

**By Kevin Koo**  
*Special to the Times*

Happy October, everyone. I've been getting busier and busier, and I'm tired.

I've had longer workdays, but I've also been traveling for vacation. And as you know, travel is taxing on the body. Over the last few weeks, a scary thought has kept popping up.

"Maybe I should start working out."

You see, even though I play some tennis, that's been my only source of exercise. I take a decent number of steps, but it's been a while since I've worked out. You know, use weights, push my limits, things like that.

The next thought after that is, "Ugh, that sounds tiring." After having this pattern of

thoughts a few times this past month, I realized I've grown comfortable with not exercising.

I've been spending time meditating, and that's done a lot for me, but I've now entered a season of life that requires a more physical me. The only way to increase my energy output is to strengthen my body.

This leads me to my next realization: I don't like change because my current life is comfortable.

If you're okay with your situation, there's no need to change. But I'm so busy that it's no longer okay, so I need to examine my willingness to work through the discomfort seriously.

As I was coming to accept my new reality, it sparked



**Kevin (Coach Kev) Koo**

another realization (as you can tell, this was a big moment for me), that I tried to fight off the idea of working out by saying working out didn't feel right, that I didn't need it. But at that

moment, I was mixing up the difference between something feeling right and feeling comfortable.

### It's Not that You Can't

Too often I hear people say how they could never do something because they're not that way – but in most cases, it's not that they can't do it, it's because doing it would be so uncomfortable that it's not worth the effort.

But if they took the time to work on it, they could become the type of person that does that thing.

For example, public speaking is the number one fear for most people. Number two is the fear of death. That means more people would rather be in the casket than giving the eulogy. Those people might

say, "I could never speak in front of a crowd."

### Start Gradually and Work Your Way Up

If we created a way for the person to practice speaking in front of 1 or 2 people, then a small crowd, then a medium-sized crowd... that person could become a public speaker. Slowly working through the discomfort allows them to change and grow.

So, when it comes to changing ourselves or achieving our goals, a certain level of discomfort is required to grow into that level because the goal is set at a level we currently do not operate at.

So how are your goals coming along? If you haven't made progress, is it because you don't want to

leave your current comforts? Is the discomfort of change too great? If so, there may be some adjustments to make. For me, I decided to reach out to a trainer friend and get her support. If you're unsure how to make those adjustments, please reach out.

*Coach Kev helps people find calm, clarity, and confidence in their life while getting uncomfortable. Contact him at [kevinkoocoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kevinkoocoaching@gmail.com), or follow on IG and YouTube @kevinkoocoaching and come meditate with him at <https://bit.ly/kkcmeditation>*

*Kevin Koo is a professional coach who specializes in personal, business, and leadership development. Contact him at [kevinkoocoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kevinkoocoaching@gmail.com)*

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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



# Buyer Beware of Potential Electrical Issues

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

Home's electrical system. Buyers should ensure the home is thoroughly inspected and attention paid to the wiring. Here

are potential issues to look for:

1. Knob and tube (K&T) wiring. Beginning in approximately 1880 and continuing until the mid-1940s, K&T was the standard system for homes across the US.

The primary concern is that modern electrical demands are higher, potentially overloading the wiring and causing overheating. Heat can deteriorate the wire's insulation which in turn could lead to a fire. While many homes have functioned with K&T for years, insurance companies are beginning to refuse to provide insurance to these homes. The cost to upgrade can be significant, especially since older homes tend to have plaster and lathe instead of sheetrock. Opening walls and ceilings to install new wiring can be an expensive proposition.

2. Ungrounded systems. Looking at the outlets in many older homes, you will notice they only have two prongs, meaning the electrical system does not have a third grounding wire going to each outlet. While grounding provides an additional level of safety and is required in modern construction, homes built before the mid-1960's typically have ungrounded outlets. Although prevalent in many homes, grounding the system is a good idea.

3. Aluminum wiring. Used in homes built between 1960-1970, aluminum wiring was cheaper than copper. Unfortunately, it comes with issues that can potentially cause fires unless correctly maintained.

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A		1-4	15094 Alexandria St	\$1,068,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555

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A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BRENTWOOD • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD  
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4. Fused panels: Older homes that have not been upgraded can have fuses instead of breaker panels. While not unsafe, fused systems can be annoying when fuses blow, requiring replacement. Some homeowners, to combat this issue, install fuses with a higher capacity than recommended, which can overload the system, producing heat and possibly lead to a fire.

5. Unsafe panels: Many homes built between the 1950s-1970s have breaker panels made by Federal Pacific or Zinsco. These panels have been demonstrated to have serious safety issues and should be replaced.

6. DIY issues: Older homes frequently have owner "upgrades" that do not meet current building codes. While not necessarily unsafe, these DIY systems should be upgraded to current codes or removed.

Older homes were not built with modern electrical demands in mind, so when buying an older home, be aware that significant upgrades may be required to meet modern standards.

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

## RECENT HOME SALES

### Castro Valley

21861 Redwood Road 94546: \$820,000 [3 BD - 1,288 SF - 1948  
21498 Oak Street 94546: \$1,000,000 [6 BD - 2,692 SF - 1920  
21299 Kahlert Street 94546: \$1,000,000 [2 BD - 1,375 SF - 1959  
3642 Lorena Avenue 94546: \$1,143,000 [3 BD - 1,940 SF - 1938  
5192 Camino Alta Mira 94546: \$1,170,000 [3 BD - 1,980 SF - 1968  
18619 West Cavendish Drive 94552: \$1,400,000 [3 BD - 2,689 SF - 1986  
4738 Proctor Road 94546: \$6,800,000 [3 BD - 2,504 SF - 1956

TOTAL SALES: 7  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$820,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,143,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$6,800,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$1,904,714

### SAN LEANDRO

1421 156th Avenue 94578: \$575,000 [3 BD - 1,026 SF - 1947  
107 Warwick Avenue 94577: \$720,000 [2 BD - 1,476 SF - 1925  
14637 Pansy Street 94578: \$750,000 [2 BD - 1,076 SF - 1951  
780 Donovan Drive 94577: \$768,000 [2 BD - 876 SF - 1942  
1426 140th Avenue 94578: \$781,000 [3 BD - 1,207 SF - 1946  
2073 Eveleth Avenue 94577: \$850,000 [3 BD - 1,040 SF - 1952  
2178 Bradhoff Avenue 94577: \$850,000 [2 BD - 1,154 SF - 1947  
440 Linnell Avenue 94578: \$875,000 [3 BD - 1,032 SF - 1952  
1966 Arctic Street 94577: \$880,000 [3 BD - 1,488 SF - 1950  
924 Sybil Avenue 94577: \$980,000 [2 BD - 1,338 SF - 1946  
967 Serra Drive 94578: \$1,000,000 [3 BD - 1,226 SF - 1954  
814 Arbor Drive 94577: \$1,025,000 [2 BD - 1,508 SF - 1926  
2006 Clipper Court 94579: \$1,200,000 [3 BD - 1,807 SF - 1996  
648 Elsie Avenue 94577: \$1,278,000 [4 BD - 1,510 SF - 1939  
1076 Tulane Avenue 94579: \$1,325,000 [4 BD - 2,397 SF - 1951

TOTAL SALES: 15  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$575,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$875,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,325,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$923,800

### SAN LORENZO

27 Paseo Grande #A 94580: \$560,000 [2 BD - 1,056 SF - ]  
16024 Via Paro 94580: \$755,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1944  
17354 Via El Cerrito 94580: \$930,000 [3 BD - 1,509 SF - 1951  
17127 Via Del Rey 94580: \$990,000 [3 BD - 1,725 SF - 1951  
17454 Via Frances 94580: \$1,100,000 [5 BD - 2,091 SF - 1953

TOTAL SALES: 5  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$560,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$930,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,100,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$867,000

### HAYWARD

27901 Thornton Court #5b 94544: \$452,000 [2 BD - 900 SF - 1986  
25852 Underwood Avenue 94544: \$603,000 [3 BD - 1,042 SF - 1952  
22515 Byron Street 94541: \$721,000 [3 BD - 1,715 SF - 1946  
25851 Bel Aire Drive 94542: \$734,000 [2 BD - 888 SF - 1951  
27922 Mandarin Avenue 94544: \$800,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1954  
913 Central Boulevard 94542: \$820,000 [3 BD - 1,258 SF - 1940  
1030 Martin Luther King Drive 94541: \$825,000 [3 BD - 1,845 SF - 2010  
800 Old Oak Lane #3 94541: \$849,000 [3 BD - 1,542 SF - 2011  
757 Cherry Way 94541: \$870,000 [3 BD - 1,975 SF - 1951  
27903 Ormond Avenue 94544: \$870,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1954  
23045 Hopper Road 94541: \$890,000 [4 BD - 2,179 SF - 1951  
26760 Bahama Avenue 94545: \$900,000 [3 BD - 999 SF - 1959  
28357 Kam Drive 94544: \$950,000 [3 BD - 1,335 SF - 1981

# Lack of Soil Nutrients Cause of Blooming Decline

By Buzz Bertolero  
The Dirt Gardener

**Q** Will dividing clumps of Bearded Iris increase the flowering? Currently, they flower sparsely along the edge of the clumps, while the center has none. What do I need to do before replanting?

**A** It is beneficial to divide Bearded Iris periodically. However, you can increase the flower production by leaving the clumps alone. The decline in the production of flowers is a nutrient deficiency. The primary elements necessary for plant growth are Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium (N-P-K). Nitrogen (N) keeps plants green, while Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) are for flower, fruit, and hardiness. Bearded Iris stops blooming when the soil is depleted of Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K). Unlike Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium remain fixed in place and have little movement through the soil. Bearded Irises are shallow-rooted and will deplete the surface nutrients over time. Hence, all the flowering occurs at the outer edges because the new roots are expanding into areas that haven't been depleted. Fertilizing in the fall and winter months is critical for the spring blooms. This is when Bearded Iris flowers are forming for next year. Monthly applications of a granular 0-10-10 (N-P-K) such as EB Stone Ultra Bloom or similar fertilizer now through March is recommended to replace the depleted nutrients. Also, any liquid 'bloom type' fertilizers, such as Maxsea Bloom, are acceptable. Do not be concerned that the winter rains will leach the nutrients out of the root zone. Soil erosion is the only way the nutrients would be displaced. Bearded Iris is divided starting in the fall through March. After dividing the Bearded Iris, there isn't anything special one needs to do to the Iris roots/tubers before planting. Although, I'd remove any brown leaves and trim the remaining ones back to eight inches. You would prepare the soil by adding organic matter like soil conditioner or

home made compost and sprinkle a starter fertilizer on the ground. The fertilizer is cultivated into the soil or covered with a layer of soil. The key to planting Bearded Iris is not to bury the tubers. The



tubers must be visible, with half or more roots exposed above the soil line. It's now a judgment call on your part whether to divide or not.

**Q** How would I save the seeds from my Sunflowers for planting next year? The plants produced beautiful blooms on

short stalks. I want to cover a large area with them.

**A** Seed saving is a popular activity; however, it's only recommended with open-pollinated varieties, not hybrids. Plant characteristics such as flower form, color, height, leaf color, etc., from saved seeds are always un-

known. The DNA or the plant genetics will not be revealed until the seed germinates. Unfortunately for seed savers, most varieties are hybrid crosses. You can double-check this online. In the variety description, any reference to an F-1 would indicate that it was a hybrid. Hence, duplicating this year's success will require purchasing a new

seed, as the saved seed would be unpredictable. Hence, I'd skip saving the seed and avoid being disappointed.

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).



## GRAND OPENING

San Leandro Unified invites you to the ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new San Leandro High School gym. Come check out this state-of-the-art facility made possible by Measure N voters and stay to cheer on your 2024 girls' varsity volleyball team - GO PIRATES!



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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

Case No: 24CV086797  
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. In the matter of the petition to change the name(s) of **Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez**. Petitioner(s) **Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez** has/have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name(s) as follows: **Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez** to **Quetzalli Victoria Rodriguez Barbosa**. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. **Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse 661 Washington Street Oakland, CA 94607 on NOVEMBER 1, 2024 at 9:30 am Dept. 103.** A copy of this order to show cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county **SAN LEANDRO TIMES**. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter are directed to make known any objection that they may have to the granting of the petition for change of name by filing a written objection, which includes the reasons for the objection, with the court at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and by appearing in court at the hearing to show cause why the petition for change of name should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

**Dated: AUGUST 12, 2024**  
**Thomas J. Nixon - Judge of the Superior Court**  
**OCT 03, 10, 17, 24, 2024**

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  - 20 Author Yutang
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- ANSWERS ON PAGE 4**

**LEGAL NOTICES**

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
September 6, 2024  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 600147

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

The name of the business(es):  
Rogers Resources, located at 2321 86th Ave Oakland, CA 94605-3907 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sharonne Rogers, located at 2321 86th Ave Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced 11/19/2021 /s/Sharonne Rogers  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires September 5, 2029  
OCT 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS  
BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NUMBER. 603796

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **GMS Cleaning Services** at 1664 Maubert CT APT 10 San Leandro CA 94578. Full name of registrant is: **Gabriela Mondragon Soto** at 1664 Maubert CT APT 10 San Leandro CA 94578. The Fictitious Business Name Statement **GMS Cleaning Services** was filed on 02/02/2024 in the county of Alameda. Original File Number 603796. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime). This statement was filed with the County clerk of Alameda 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 Statement 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 09/26/2024  
**OCT 03, 10, 17, 24, 2024**

FILED  
MELISSA WILK  
September 9, 2024  
County Clerk  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
By-----, Deputy  
FILE NO. 609175

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

The name of the business(es):  
Hazard Serves, located at 2600 San Leandro Blvd #1701 San Leandro, CA 94578 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Derek C. Wilson, located at 2600 San Leandro Blvd #1701. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/Derek C. Wilson  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.  
Expires August 22, 2029  
SEP 19, 26, OCT 03, 10, 2024  
1730 - SLT

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# 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.

### Evacuation Route

Editor,

If Bay-O-Vista residents need to evacuate, they can use Lake Chabot Road (LCR). This is established fact. Watch the recording of the September 9th Council meeting. Public Works Director Marquises presented an update on the status of the repair of LCR and she and Fire Chief Eric Moore answered City Council member questions. Scroll to 1 hr. 12 minutes, when Chief Moore answers Councilmember Bowen's questions using the presentation slides: "You could access out of this (entrance at Astor)... You could go over those bollards to get out... You could come down Lake Chabot and access out through this location," referring to the closure at Chabot Terrace.

I know some people don't trust the city, but the person who doesn't trust the Alameda County Fire Department has truly gone 'round the bend. If they say the road is available for evacuation, it is.

Forget AB this and SB that, the Kittleston Report, whether or not it's a designated evacuation route, whether or not cars could be backed up on Benedict. That's all nonsense. The number of exits — and the number of routes — Bay-O-Vista residents can use to evacuate is the same as it's always been.

Chief Moore recommends a website and app called Genasys Protect. San Leandro residents can check their safety status by simply entering their address. I found it at <https://protect.genasys.com>.

**Sarah Bailey**  
San Leandro

### Simply Raised Awareness

Editor,

In response to the letter to the editor by Kathy and Gregg Azevedo on October 3 (Letters to the Editor, Oct. 3, 2024), I want to emphasize that I have never made a false accusation against their son, Bryan Azevedo.

Mr. Azevedo represents me in the district where I live. I have simply raised awareness about his actions or lack thereof in his official capacity as the representative of District 2. I hold him accountable as my representative, just as I would any council member representing me, and as I am held accountable in my official capacity in office.

It is Mr. Azevedo's actions that have garnered attention. He is the one who accepted money and a trip to Vietnam from individuals under

investigation by multiple agencies including the FBI. He is the one who stated that police and fire unions have no place in politics. He had a role in the incident at the main library, and he and his wife were caught on two separate videos removing his opponent's signs.

If Mr. Azevedo's parents do not like their son being called out for these actions, I suggest that Mr. Azevedo focuses on his campaign and ceases the embarrassing behavior.

A true leader accepts responsibility for their choices and actions, no matter how unfavorable they may be.

**Leo Sheridan**  
San Leandro

### Who's Encouraging Violence?

Editor,

With the Democrats' classic language of lies and distortions, Doug Jones (Letters to the Editor, Oct. 3, 2024) talks about "mass violence," "bomb threats," etc., all Democrats' fabrications that have been used by the Biden-Harris administration to persecute political opponents, politicizing the judicial system, incarcerating thousands in Michigan, California and the federal government. People who want to kill somebody don't go around announcing it.

Jones, with the fallacy of the Democrat, also denies that gangs of shoplifters are not prosecuted. Actually, it is not limited to those gangs. There's currently a measure on the ballot to recall Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price, initiated by families of victims of crime, whose perpetrators Pamela Price even refuses to prosecute or she lets go with a slap on the wrist.

Classic Democrat Jones comes in support of Haitians who flooded a small town in Ohio and obtained Temporary Status but, just like the Salvadorans, Nicaraguans and others, under the Democrats, temporary becomes permanent, lies and more lies. Yes, all illegal scabs must be deported; after three-and-a-half-years of flooding the country with them, Kamala Harris plays tough on immigration; the same with Gavin Newsom who now wants to remove all those homeless encampments and RVs by the streets.

These are the Democrats talking about threats but encourage assassination attempts against His Excellency Donald J. Trump, encouraged by congressional Democrats, the Fake News and the constant statements about stopping him from coming

back to the White House. A Secret Service who turns the blind eye and a Deep State that uses freelancers for now to avoid tracing.

**Leo T. West**  
San Leandro

### Voting for Hernandez

Editor,

I will vote for Ed Hernandez for San Leandro City Council. Bryan Azevedo has received my vote in the past. Bryan's union background was one reason why I have voted for him. I appreciate the time he has dedicated to community service events. This isn't enough in 2024.

Bryan's frequent public identification as Vice Mayor was off-putting. It's his recent behavior that has disqualified him. Firstly, there was a social media post (now removed) of him standing on the Children's Memorial Grove plaques. This impulsive act broke my heart since I knew many of the children memorialized there. Since then, there is video evidence of Bryan removing his opponent's political signs. He has engaged in a physical altercation at a political event. His public apology for that isn't enough for me. I understand his desire to stick up for his mother, but I have heard that excuse for bad behavior on public school grounds during my teaching career. I do not like political violence.

Conversely, Ed Hernandez has earned my vote. He wants to address public safety and has plans for how to increase funding in its support. He is a community leader serving Ava Community Energy, which provides renewable energy at competitive rates and creates local green energy jobs and programs. He is on the board of Eden Health District which serves our community hospital. Ed and I can be on opposite sides of an issue, but he will listen and can change his mind. I don't expect Ed to always agree with me, but I do know that he will listen, think, deliberate and reconsider. I expect this behavior from an elected official. Ed Hernandez has earned my vote.

**Maureen Forney**  
San Leandro

### Nothing More than Amplify

Editor,

I would like to respectfully disagree with Gregg and Kathy Azevedo's assertion that false accusations have been made. I have done nothing more than amplify Councilmember Azevedo's actions in an effort to raise awareness to the community that may not be in the know.

I would suggest Councilmember Azevedo's family and campaign manager concentrate more on keeping him from bone-headed moves and the person leaking campaign info in their camp.

I have been one hundred percent accurate in my statements including calling Councilmember Azevedo out for not appearing to the Chamber of Commerce forum one week before the event, which he acknowledged

himself on social media as being correct. It seems he has bigger problems than me.

We are less than a month away from elections, and hopefully will be done with this for two more years.

**Lawrence Andrews**  
San Leandro

### Police Officers Endorsement

Editor,

The San Leandro Police Officers Association strongly supports Ed Hernandez for San Leandro City Council District 2.

Ed is a collaborative, thoughtful leader. He appreciates the importance of civility in our political discourse, and carries himself in a professional manner. Even when we have disagreed on a particular issue, Ed listens carefully to our position and meaningfully engages with us.

San Leandro police officers are proud to serve our community. We share with Ed the fundamental understanding that public safety is the foundation for San Leandro to be a thriving and prosperous city. Ed is committed to seeing that our police department has the staffing and resources needed to keep our city safe. For these reasons, we respectfully request that our residence vote for Ed Hernandez for City Council District 2.

**Iain Fry**  
President, San Leandro Police Officers Association

### Closing Road Is Common Sense

Editor,

We want to thank Ms. Caewood and Ms. Luce for responding to our letter regarding the Lake Chabot Road closure. However, I would like to clarify some points that may have been misinterpreted.

San Leandro 2050 does not have the authority or expertise to determine evacuation routes; such decisions are best left to the city and county fire department, who weigh all relevant factors. When Lake Chabot Road was closed due to a landslide, the city and county deemed that option safest for all, including potential emergency use — the road remains open to emergency vehicles, including cars for evacuation.

Using expertise like the Kittleston report, which you referenced, offers a detailed analysis of risks and prioritizes evacuation routes for upgrades, and Lake Chabot Road is not listed as a priority route (see page 10—anyone can access it by searching "(SB) 99 Network Accessibility Alameda County Climate Action Plan."

Our approach was based on common sense. We reviewed how many households would use Lake Chabot Road as their shortest route to the intersection of Estudillo Avenue and I-580, and it's only a few. The routes that offer more exits onto Benedict Drive, which is farther from the likely burn area, are the ones that are shortest for most.

Preserving Lake Chabot Road's integrity is important for emergency

access, as the road was built without modern standards and is prone to landslides. Limiting the number and the weight of vehicles using it, could extend its lifespan for emergency use, which include evacuating cars.

These are uncertain times, and we face many hazards with limited resources. Prioritizing risks, as demonstrated in the Kittleston report, is essential. It's our collective responsibility to build resilience, both individually and as a community. The city's decision to close the road while allowing emergency access and promoting bike and pedestrian use is a commonsense approach that serves the broader good.

**Patty Breslin,**  
Executive Director, San Leandro 2050  
San Leandro

### Vote Yes on Proposition 5

Editor,

For decades, California cities' efforts for the public good have been hindered by an undemocratic provision of California's Constitution. It requires that all local bonds (public borrowing) must be approved by two-thirds (66.67%) of local voters.

Prop. 5 would reform this provision of the Constitution in a measured and moderate way. Instead of a two-thirds majority, local bonds would need a 55% majority to pass, the same threshold we have required for school bonds since 2000, and only if the bonds are for building affordable housing or public infrastructure — libraries, streets, parks, fire and flood protection, police, etc. Affordable housing includes new housing restricted by income, but also downpayment assistance, first-time homebuyer aid, and housing that gets people out of homelessness.

Prop. 5 is also a critical bridge for us to building housing for low-income families at any scale — which we have not been doing for over a decade, contrary to what some say. (San Leandro's low- and very-low-income housing targets were 774 homes for 2015-2023; through 2022, we permitted only 260.) The county bond that was previously a key source of funds has been spent, so unless we raise more, we may fall short of even our prior inadequate pace.

If you think we've underinvested in the public goods that keep us a functioning community — vote yes on Prop. 5, which unlocks that investment.

**John Minot-Schwartz**  
San Leandro

### A Reason to Vote

Editor,

If I vote for one and you vote for the other, we cancel each others vote and neither vote counts for the win. If I vote for one and you don't vote at all you have given me a vote for my candidate that counts in the win.

This may be the most important election in my lifetime, I'm voting for democracy.

**Geraldine Mellen**  
San Leandro

# Candidates: Politicos went from defund the police to fund the police

*continued from front page*

Benny Lee, speaking for Azevedo, led off the event by saying San Leandro's city government is doing a good job, and so is Azevedo, listing several recent accomplishments.

The crime increase has been halted, and homelessness is down, Lee said. But public safety remained key, he added.

Incumbent Fred Simon, running unopposed, spoke of recent accomplishments but said a number of problems around town needed to be faced.

Later in the forum, he said "I think we've sugarcoated things for too long, and that's why we're in the shape we're in."

Viveros-Walton, Boldt and Bulatao gave brief biographies, saving their stands on issues for later questions.

## Calls for More Police

Ed Hernandez, running against Azevedo for the third time in District 2, brought up the city's problems, calling for an increased emphasis on public safety. He wants to not only restore the police force to full strength, but also wants a change in local culture to be

more supportive of the police. Asked what they would do to increase public safety, other candidates agreed with Hernandez on hiring more police. Other candidates, including opponent Azevedo's representative Lee, echoed his call for restoring the police force to full strength.

Lee, speaking for Azevedo, said the unarmed safety ambassador program has also helped, but mostly during daytime hours.

Azevedo had joined the council just as there was a big increase in anti-Asian crimes, rising 267 percent he year before. His request to the police that they look into and perhaps adopt strategies that had worked elsewhere, helped prevent any increase the following year, Lee said.

Candidates agreed that the public feeling unsafe downtown, and sometimes elsewhere, has kept some potential shoppers away.

"If people don't feel safe when they go downtown, they're not going to come downtown. They're going to go to other places where they feel safe," said Boldt.

Boldt said businesses are giving up on nearby parts of

Oakland, like Hegenberger Road and 98th Avenue. They might be open to coming here if we had the right business-friendly policies and they think they could thrive here, he said.

Bulatao and Simon saw some vehicles as part of the problem. Bulatao called for getting ATV's off East 14th Street. Simon decried bicycle gangs, which had injured people and killed one woman at Bayfair, and called for youth programs to give young people something to do.

## More Taxes and Fees Discourage Business

Hernandez linked small business's troubles not only to public safety, but to increasing city burdens on them.

"Every year we've raised taxes — on business," Hernandez said. The candidate called for a freeze on various fees the city charges businesses, and called for more city aid to them.

Hernandez said crime is the worst here in 37 years, adding that it's hard to prevent crime by interacting with citizens when a shrunken police force only has time to respond to calls.

He called for hiring a full-time police recruiter to more quickly refill the ranks.

Viveros-Walton said the city has the money to hire more police, but needs to rethink hiring so we can get people onboard as quickly as possible.

Viveros-Walton sees opportunities in using data to fight crime. "But data is like produce," Viveros-Walton said. "It needs to be fresh to be useful."

Simon said his second term would have a changed focus on improving public safety.

"Crime and safety is a very high priority for me in my second term," Simon said. "In my first term, we needed to have accountability first after the Stephen Taylor shooting. We've taken care of that. We've solved that problem. Now we can rebuild the police."

Simon said his area of Heron Bay had driven down crime by hiring private security services. The city should do likewise temporarily, while the police are being restaffed, he said.

## Addressing City Expenses

Simon was among several

candidates who said the city has not fully shared with residents the "true cost of running a city."

He explained that in his field of civil engineering and in his work on the Ora Loma Sanitary District board, it's widely agreed that it's cheaper to maintain infrastructure than waiting until it breaks to fix it. Yet cities often put off maintenance to lower spending and thus taxes, he said.

Other candidates agreed that the full bill for future expenses may not have been fully shared with the voters. Hernandez said some \$400 million in capital expenses faces the city in the next 10 years.

Viveros-Walton said big bills for employee retirement will be coming due, though the city has been saving to meet these. She called for a city capital improvement plan also including future staff and retirements, and starting to invest in long-term infrastructure planning.

Lee, speaking for Azevedo, spoke of the slow pace of repaving streets. When Azevedo had joined the council, the city was paving only eight miles of roads a year, out of

360 miles of roads in town. Now, he said, they're up to 12 miles a year, and even at that pace it will still take 30 years to repave all the roads.

Candidates agreed the future might cost more, but disagreed on how to pay for those higher costs. Boldt and Bulatao came out against tax increases, with each calling instead for attracting new businesses to expand the tax base. Hernandez preferred that approach as well. Simon and Viveros Walton support more economic development, but did not specifically address taxes.

## State of the City

Two of the candidates may have together summed up the state of the city as the current City Council term nears its end.

"I think we all agree — San Leandro could use a good deep cleaning," said Dylan Boldt.

"Everyone wants a safe clean city that you're proud to live in, proud to work in and proud to own a business in," said Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton.

You can watch the full candidates forum on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/t9Gi8XLm1sw>.

# Good: Buy-back program to prevent vaping

*continued from front page*

months." The Club schedules regular events that benefit the community — a workshop to fix kids' bicycles, and participation in the Great American Smoke Out. A an event in February will help stamp out underage vaping.

Othen said the club is now discussing helping the Alameda County Sheriff's Office with its gun buyback program.

Many of the club leaders have siblings or parents who are already involved. One of those legacy students is sophomore Christian Zahradka, who said he was quite disappointed about not going to New York.

"When you hear you might be going to New York and then it doesn't happen, it's a letdown," Zahradka said.

Zahradka says he got into Multiplying Good because of his older brother but quickly got involved and volunteered for programs because he enjoyed what the Club stood for. He says he is now serving as a club officer.

Of all the programs that Multiplying Good Club organized, Zahradka said he was surprised by the success of the

vape pen buyback program, to keep kids from getting addicted to nicotine.

"Kids would give us their pens, and we exchanged them for fast food gift cards and other gift cards," Zahradka told the Times. "You could notice fewer kids vaping at school even after a few months. It was also an incentive for school security to turn in the vape pens they confiscated to us. It didn't matter if it was a student or an adult, we would give gift cards to school security too."

And while learning the value of community is a huge part of the club, volunteering with Multiplying Good also looks great on a college application.

"Everyone tells you that," Zahradka says.

The Jefferson Awards for Public Service, founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft Jr., and Sam Beard, celebrate the positive impact of public service. Past award recipients from the Bay Area include Carondelet High School in Concord and El Camino High School in South San Francisco.

San Leandro High's club started as the Jefferson Awards-Deloitte Youth Service Initiative around 2006 with the help of track coach Jack Nelson, who was recognized with a Jefferson Award in 2008.

The club was later renamed Multiplying Good to reflect the national rebrand-

ing and avoid any negative connection with President Thomas Jefferson's slave ownership. San Leandro's Multiplying Good Club placed 3rd nationally in 2013

Othen said she hopes to coordinate with the Golden State Warriors Basketball Team to have the San Leandro High School students recognized at a game this year.

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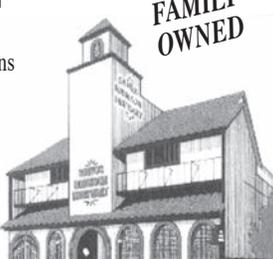
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## Larry Johnston

*April 12, 1945 ~ September 27, 2024*

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Larry Johnston—our beloved husband, father, and Papa. Larry passed away on September 27, 2024. Larry was born on April 12, 1945 in Oakland, CA to parents Robert and Irene Johnston. He grew up in San Leandro and attended San Leandro High School where he met his high school sweetheart and future wife, Pearl. After attending Chabot College Larry entered the Oakland Police Academy. While serving in the highest traditions of public service he was awarded the Medal of Valor. After retirement he continued his public service with the East Bay Regional Park District as a Patrol Officer. Larry was the proud member of Le Société de Camaraderie where he served as President 1979-80. Larry and Pearl were married for 57 years. They raised their wonderful children Karen and Tricia in the family home in San Leandro. As a devoted and very proud father he coached his girls in soccer, softball, and basketball. Larry loved all sports—especially golf. His proudest experience was hitting a hole in one at Rancho Solano Golf Course—15th hole. Larry and Pearl loved traveling all over the world with family and friends. He will be forever loved and remembered in the hearts of his wife Pearl, daughters Karen Johnston, Tricia Gumataotao (Terry), grandchildren Lindsey Lavine, Nathan and Noah Gumataotao, brother Robert Johnston (Janet), brother-in-law Jess Hernandez & Margaret (deceased), Step-mother Ann Johnston (deceased), & Denny Denker (Randy Miller), and several nieces & nephews. A celebration of life mass will be held at the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on October 16, 2024 at 11:00am.

In lieu of flowers the family requests any donations be made to the Martin C Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County—an organization providing immediate financial support to spouses of police officers and firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty and scholarships for their children. [100clubalamedacounty.org](http://100clubalamedacounty.org)



# Oro Loma: Not all Oro Loma candidates want to keep rates low

*continued from front page*  
31, 2022 nearly swamped the district's sewage treatment plant."

Lee would also like to look at the district's historic commitment to having the lowest sewage rates in the Bay Area. He suggests looking instead at providing the best value, so as not to cut corners in needed maintenance and upgrades.

## Damaris Villalobos-Galindo

Challenger Damaris Villalobos-Galindo would like to see some things done differently at Oro Loma. She works as a water resource engineer with the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and has done past work with several water agencies.

Villalobos-Galindo got interested in running for the board after she asked Oro Loma why nearby neighbors, but nobody on her block in Fairview, were getting their trash bins replaced. She said it turned out nobody really knew the service area boundary.

"If they don't know where their service area is, what

else don't they know?" she wondered.

Villalobos-Galindo said she's concerned about the increasing demands for Oro Loma's services, as many new buildings go up in the unincorporated areas it serves.

"Are we increasing our capacity as we replace pipes?" she asks.

"I have the passion to build into the 21st century. I'm a good addition to that particular board to meet the challenges."

## Luis Reynoso

Some people are eager to run for office, but few have greater enthusiasm for it this year than Dr. Luis Reynoso.

He's a college professor who is running not only for re-election to the Las Positas Chabot Community College District board, but also for the Oro Loma board. He's also running for the boards of the Eden Township Health Care District, the Hayward Aea Park and Recreation District, and the Hayward Unified School District.

"I'm running for those boards just to make sure voters know who is seeking to represent them," he said. Reynoso

noted that once he filed for several of those races, other candidates also decided to run, giving voters more of a choice.

At Oro Loma, he would like to see infrastructure not only replaced but upgraded, use technology to give early warnings of potential sewer overflows, expand green waste programs and expand recycling to ease pressure on landfills. And he wants to expand the horizontal levee program to protect against sea-level rise.

"There's always room for improvement, even if we're doing a good job," Reynoso said. "We have clean water with low rates, but could it be cleaner with lower rates?"

Reynoso's campaign website is at [electreynoso.com/](http://electreynoso.com/).

## Bob Glaze

Bob Glaze would like to be back on the Oro Loma board. He served on it from 2017 to 2020, but lost narrowly to challengers along with several other incumbents in the 2020 election.

Glaze is a former San Leandro City Councilmember who is now president of the Washington Homeowners As-

sociation and the San Leandro Optimists. He's retired, but still runs a small electrical company that mostly works with nonprofits.

Glaze would like to see better community outreach over things like rate increases, which recently came as a surprise to some customers. He would also like to see more attention paid to alternatives to sending treated waste out into San Francisco Bay, such as recycling more of it.

"Maybe we could use it to keep the hills green instead of brown so they don't burn so much," he wonders. He adds that water not good enough to drink can still be used for irrigation or fighting fires.

He doesn't take it as far as some solid waste officials to, though, of wanting to turn sewage into drinking water.

"I'm still not convinced that's safe," he said.

Glaze would also like to monitor flows of wastewater more closely in wet weather so the treatment plant is better protected against overflows. He would like to utilize off-site storage when a problem is likely.

Oro Loma has some offsite storage now, but he'd like to investigate getting more.

He also notes that San Leandro's sewage treatment plant is quite near Oro Loma's and suggests the two plants cooperate so that each accepts some of a potential overflow at the other.

## Mimi Dean

Well-known in the community, and especially in the San Lorenzo district's schools, is challenger Moira "Mimi" Dean, an environmental educator and artist. She also serves on the Eden Municipal Advisory Council (MAC).

Dean knows Oro Loma better than most district residents do because she ran its annual Earth Day poster contest for 30 years. She thinks she might already be on the district's board had it not been for a literal unlucky break — of her leg, in a bicycle accident — just as campaigning got underway two years ago.

"I couldn't really get out and campaign, but I only lost to three incumbents by 1 percent," she said.

Dean has taught for several decades, including environ-

mental art and sculpture at Bohannon Middle School. All the materials students used was recycled or reused. A highlight one year was the Trash Fashion show, with all garments made of reused materials.

"I know how to get things done — I'm a teacher," she said.

Dean says she will bring her experience, enthusiasm and knowledge to the board. She also said she looks forward to better educating people to recycle, reuse and use less.

"I have been committed to this my whole life. This is how I live — I recycle everything," said Dean, who has repurposed items throughout her house.

Dean thinks the district may have overdone it in its focus on finance and on keeping rates low.

"Things we should have done around 1980 didn't get done," she said.

She has been endorsed by parks district leaders, MAC members, educators and elected officials including Assemblymember Liz Ortega, as well as by the Alameda County Democratic Party.

# The People Who Keep You Safe, Request Your Vote for Ed Hernandez for City Council, District 2



SAN LEANDRO FIREFIGHTERS



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Alameda County Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez



"Ed Hernandez will prioritize public safety to make San Leandro safer for all."

### Ed's Plan for a Safer San Leandro for All

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- Reintroduce **Community Policing** and Traffic Enforcement
- Deploy Additional Community Safety Cameras
- Establish Permanent Mobile Response Teams for Unarmed Persons in Mental Distress



A small business owner, Ed represents San Leandro as your Eden Health District Director and previously served on our City Council. Ed's vision for San Leandro is that it be a **safe, welcoming, sustainable and thriving community.**

### Additional Endorsements

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- California Attorney General **Rob Bonta**
- Former Mayors **Shelia Young, Pauline Cutter & Stephen Cassidy**
- Six San Leandro Unified School District Trustees
- 20+ current & former San Leandro Commissioners
- 45+ Community leaders



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vote **Ed**  
HERNANDEZ

Ed is the **sole candidate** endorsed by local Firefighters, Police Officers and Sheriff Sanchez.