

The Magic Levee

ORO LOMA'S LEVEE NATURALLY FILTERS WATER BEFORE IT HITS THE BAY 5



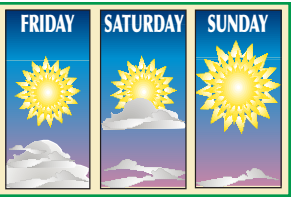
Parents Guide

STUDIES SHOW THAT TEENS WHO SLEEP WELL PERFORM BETTER IN SCHOOL 9



WEEKEND WEATHER

MILD Clouds clear out on Sunday
HIGHS: 68-75
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 49-52



San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 27 • NO. 16

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Breaking Bread at the Park

Rebecca Chualong (in red cap) brings lunch for the homeless a couple times a week at Root Park. The homeless people say she's been doing this for about six years and they're grateful. Chualong and a friend Kathleen Flores, delivered pizza, salad and fruit at a recent lunch gathering. Before each meal, Chualong invites whoever wants to join her in a prayer. Some do and some don't, no one is obligated to join the prayer circle. "God blessed us and we pass along the blessing," Chualong said.

Artists to Design Murals for County

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

If you want to share your opinion about what kind of art should be painted on freeway overpasses in the unincorporated area, the county is inviting the public to speak with artists and share ideas.

The county is spending over \$400,000 to paint "community identifier murals" for Ashland, Cherryland, Castro Valley and San Lorenzo.

The murals will be located in San Lorenzo at I-880 and Hesperian Boulevard, in Ashland at I-238 and Mission Boulevard, and in Castro Valley at I-580 and Redwood Road. The mural over Mission will say Ashland in one direction and Cherryland going



The county wants to identify areas with murals like this one in Richmond.

in the opposite direction.

The county arts commission says the identifying art is important because the unincorporated areas don't have signs that tell people where they are.

Five artists have been select-

ed as semi-finalists for the project and they will meet with the public at Ashland Place, 16385 East 14th Street, at 6 p.m. on April 26; and at the San Lorenzo Library, 395 Paseo Grande on May 2 at 6 p.m.

Once the artists get an idea

of the public's desires, they will create their proposed artwork, which will be on display at the San Lorenzo and Castro Valley libraries and online over the summer and a selection is expected in September or October.

Davis Street Asks Eden Healthcare For \$500,000

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The Davis Street Family Resource Center is asking the Eden Health District (EHD) for a \$500,000 grant to keep its clinic open.

Davis Street CEO Rose Padilla Johnson sent a letter requesting the money to EHD and the district's board was scheduled to decide at its Wednesday night meeting, after this newspaper went to press.

Davis Street already gets \$250,000 annually from Eden Health. EHD dispenses about \$500,000 in grants and scholarships annually for health related causes, and half of that money goes to Davis Street to provide health services for the needy. When Davis Street opened a clinic in 2014, EHD decided to give Davis Street \$250,000 annually for five years.

If EHD's board votes to award an additional \$500,000 grant, the money would come from EHD's reserves, according to Dev Mahadevan, EHD's CEO.

Mahadevan said that EHD currently has about \$11 million in reserve, but there are "a number of demands" on their money.

Among those demands is \$20 million that EHD has been paying since 2013 in \$2 million annual payments to Sutter Health as a result of a lawsuit stemming from the fight to keep San Leandro Hospital open.

Mahadevan says EHD is also committed to upgrades on some of its real estate holdings

among other costs and he estimates their reserves will be around \$7 million by the end of the year.

In her letter to EHD, Johnson asks for the money to keep the clinic open.

see GRANT, page 14

Gunshot Fired Downtown

Someone fired a gunshot in the McDonald's in the Downtown Plaza on Monday afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

No one was hit by the bullet and police are investigating, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

Benabou said this week that detectives are working on the case and that's all he can say for now, but more information would come out on Thursday.

Customers at McDonald's who saw the shooting said they heard a loud bang and everybody was scared. Witnesses pointed out a patch of duct tape on the front window covering the bullet hole.

The customers said that the shot was fired by a woman who had gotten into an argument with someone.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

MUSIC

Bands play for fundraiser at Cafe Bethel. **Page 2**

NEWS

City Council adds extra tax to pot sales. **Page 14**

WATER

League of Women Voters to host forum on water. **Page 16**

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San Leandro Times

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

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Landscaper to Speak at Eden Garden Club

The next meeting of the Eden Garden Club will be Monday April 24, at 9:30 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley.

Retired landscaper, teacher and volunteer Steve Wiley will talk about the San Lorenzo High School native plants garden run by Druids Environmental Club.

He will bring a few examples of the native plants and fliers of their upcoming plant sale.

Meetings are free and guests are always welcome.

Food and Music at SLHS Multi-Cultural Fair

San Leandro High School presents a Multi-Cultural Celebration on Wednesday, April 26, at the school's Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave. A

food fair begins at 5 p.m. and the show starts at 6 p.m. Taste food from around the world, and then see a variety show of dancing, poetry, music and skits. Student

clubs performing: Latinos Unidos, the Filipino Club, the African American Student Council, plus a performance by Ballet Folklorico. Tickets are \$4.



Big Band Swings into Library

The Arts Council of San Leandro and the San Leandro Public Library will present a free spring concert by What's Up Big Band this Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Hear classic big band music including Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Harry James, Bunny Berigan and more.

Bands to Play Saturday At Cafe Bethel Fundraiser

Cafe Bethel at Bethel Community Presbyterian Church, 14235 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, will have its annual fundraiser for the April Showers program this Saturday at 5 p.m.

Hear the music by a wide variety of bands, including Purple Smoke and Circle Soul, plus The Gnarly Men, and the Oakland

East Bay Gay Men's Chorus, and more.

The April Showers program provides showers and clean clothing to local homeless people on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month.

Suggested donation to the fundraiser is \$10 and a pair of new athletic socks.

Boy Scouts to Clean Up Downtown

The Boy Scouts and other volunteers plan to celebrate Earth Day with a downtown San Leandro cleanup this Saturday

from 8 to 10 a.m. For more information, email City Councilmember Deborah Cox at DCox@sanleandro.org.

FINALLY - Straight talk About Sciatica

Are you suffering from back pain or sciatica? Then it's likely your biggest problem is pain. But there's another major problem: bad information.

To end sciatica misery, you must have the right information. Pay close attention because I'm going to destroy sciatica myths and give you the facts.

MYTH: Sciatica will just "go away" with some rest.

FACT: If you are dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, then you must seek help from a sciatica specialist immediately. Left untreated, sciatica can lead to permanent nerve damage - and lifelong pain.

MYTH: Pain is the only problem associated with sciatica.

FACT: In severe cases, sciatica can be associated with inability to control your bowels or bladder - leading to embarrassing situations.

MYTH: You must take pain medications to deal with sciatica.

FACT: Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications have serious potential side-effects and do not cure the root cause of sciatica.

MYTH: "I must have done something wrong to get sciatica."

FACT: Physical work or simply sitting at a desk for long periods can lead to sciatica. Accidents and trauma can also be the culprits. Pregnancy can cause sciatica. Sciatica can affect anyone - including

super-fit celebrities like Tiger Woods, Sylvester Stallone, and British Olympic medalist Ian Wynne.

MYTH: Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to overcome sciatica.

FACT: Staying active can help to relieve sciatic pain and prevent the pain getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

MYTH: Sciatica requires surgery.

FACT: NO! There's been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain. It's a procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results from this treatment have been published in major medical journals. Success rates are up to 90%.

MYTH: "There's nothing anyone can really do. I'm just stuck with this for the rest of my life."

FACT: With the correct treatment from a healthcare professional who specializes in sciatica, you can find relief from the core cause - and the symptoms.

MYTH: Getting sciatica properly diagnosed is expensive.

FACT: Not true. Intero Chiropractic in Pleasanton is currently offering an initial consultation for **Just \$20**.

Dr. Jerry Hsieh and his team of fully-trained spinal care specialists have helped numerous patients find relief from agonizing back pain and sciatica.

He's one of the first professionals in the U.S. to use Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

This procedure does not require a hospital stay and in most cases you'll be able to continue with your normal daily activities with little interruption. The focus is on finding - and correcting - the original cause of the back pain and sciatica.

According to Hsieh, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in the region, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica. This means superior long-term results for most people."

Almost Immediate Relief From Pain

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe, and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their back pain.

Patient Narae S. from San Leandro says, "I had pinched nerves and pain in my back and neck. It hurt so much that I couldn't reach up or reach down without sharp pain and walking was hard on my back as well. I attempted to take pain relievers but they did not help. I tell people that Dr. Jerry is a magician. Right after the first treatment my pain was drastically reduced and each time I came with a sore back, the treatments have been really helpful."

Take the Next Step - END the Suffering... Initial Consultation Just \$20



The first step is to secure a thorough examination with one of the specialists at Intero Chiropractic.

Call (925)255-5805 to schedule your appointment. Mention this article (CODE: TC20SCSM12h) and Intero will happily reduce their usual consultation fee of \$100 to just \$20!

Only 100 reader consultations are available at this exclusively discounted rate.

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$20. The normal cost of such an exam is \$100 so you will save \$80!

Call them now at (925)255-5805 and cut out or tear off this valuable article and take it to your appointment. You'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief!

You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answering machine to secure your spot and they promise to return all calls. During the week staff can be very busy helping patients so if they don't pick up straight away, do leave a message.

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PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Narcotics Task Force Raid

Armed members of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Task Force entered a home on Hays Street Tuesday morning using a battering ram. Sgt. Ray Kelly, the sheriff's department's spokesman, said that the task force handles media inquiries themselves via email and they did not to respond to requests for information.

Man Hides From Police Near Bayfair

A 25-year-old Oakland man was arrested for trespassing after Bayfair mall security tried to oust him last Saturday just before 2 p.m.

The man was known to have stolen from the mall in the past and security guards told him to leave. He would not, and instead hid in a restroom, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the SLPD.

Police arrived and tried to speak with the man, but he wouldn't talk. He then ran off into a residential area. Eventually, San Leandro police and sheriff's deputies located him near the Denny's on Freedom Avenue.

Sheriff's deputies believed he matched the description of a suspect in a robbery that took place the day before, but they

could not substantiate the claim.

The man was taken into custody on suspicion of trespassing and resisting arrest.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

Man Convicted of Lewd Acts

An Oakland man has been found guilty of three felony counts of lewd and lascivious behavior against two young boys, after an assault prosecutors say took place at Lake Chabot.

Henry L. Camphor, Jr. was arrested in July of 2014 for committing act upon a child, willful violation of the offenders' registry, special allegation of being a habitual sexual offender, according to county records.

Earlier this month a jury found Camphor guilty of the crimes against victims identified only as John Doe 1 and John Doe 2, according to the Alameda County District Attorney's office.

The prosecutors say that Camphor, 49, spent months doing favors for, and spending time with, the family of the two victims, who were 8 and 9-years-old at the time and are cousins.

Camphor then took the victims camping at Lake Chabot and had sexual contact with them in the middle of the night.

Camphor is currently being held at the Glenn Dyer Jail in Oakland scheduled to be sentenced at the Rene Davidson Courthouse in Oakland on May 19.

Because Camphor has a prior conviction for sexual assault, Camphor faces a possible life sentence in state prison.

Dog Rescued From Fire on Hesperian

Alameda County firefighters successfully extinguished a fire at a home on the 15000 block of Hesperian Boulevard last Saturday just before 2 p.m.

When they arrived, they found an unattended kitchen fire and were able to contain the blaze to that room.

No occupants were on the scene at the time of the fire and no one returned home after the fire was put out.

Firefighters rescued a dog from the scene and there were no injuries.

The scene was turned over to the San Leandro police department and the investigation continues.



DA Honored

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley (center) received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alliance for HOPE International. The award was presented at their annual conference in Milwaukee in front of 700 abuse and human trafficking professionals.



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NEIGHBORS

Local Author Andrew Roberts Wins Future Writers Contest

San Lorenzo resident Andrew Roberts is one of the winners in the Writers of the Future contest.

Roberts was chosen from a group of eight finalists making him a quarterly winner in the contest. He has also earned a cash prize, a trip to Hollywood for a week-long intensive professional workshop, a gala awards ceremony, as well as having his winning short story published in the annual, "L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future Volume 33."

The contest enjoys a favorable reputation in the science fiction community, although its connection with the Church of Scientology has caused some controversy.

Roberts is mainly a fantasy writer, who also enjoys magical realism, science fiction, and epic verse.

His writing influences include Ursula K. Le Guin, J.R.R. Tolkien, Kawabata Yasunari, Robertson Davies and Dylan



Author Andrew Roberts is a resident of San Lorenzo.

Thomas. His current book project is a supernatural piece set in seventeenth century Japan.

He and his wife, Kazue, live in a modest suburban house sur-

rounded by musical instruments and stacks of books. They have a small, talking dog and a black cat named Miyako. Japan is his second home.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ San Leandro Main Library Activated Story Theatre

The San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., is hosting the nationally touring Act!vated Story Theatre, on Wednesday, April 26, at 7 p.m., who will perform two popular tales, *The Gingerbread Man* and *The Tortoise and the Hare*. All ages will enjoy this free Family

Fun Night. At 6:30 p.m., the performers will be hosting an acting workshop for kids ages 6 and up. The workshops are limited to the first 12 participants, who will be cast as "guest stars" in the show, dress in a costume and perform a scene on stage. To participate in the free pre-show workshop, please line up outside the Estudillo room by

6:25pm. For more information, call 577-3960.

❖ Morrisson Theatre

The Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward, presents *Side by Side by Sondheim*, a musical revue featuring the earlier songs of one of the greatest composers of American musical theatre. The musical runs through April 23 with shows on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$29 with discounts available for seniors, under 30s, students and groups of 10 or more. For tickets, call the box office at 881-6777 or visit the website: www.dmtonline.org. DMT's production of "Side by Side by Sondheim," is directed by Michael Ryken, with music direction by Dean Starnes, and features a talented ensemble of Bay Area performers: Tielle Baker, Brian Couch, Christine Macomber and Jenny Matteucci.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ **Opera at the San Leandro Main Library**
The San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., will offer two free opera programs for families on Friday, April 21. At 11 a.m., children ages 7 and up can participate in a "Sing-A-Story" Workshop, where a professional opera singer engages children in the telling of the fairytale *Cinderella* using props and costumes, and encouraging everyone to sing along. Registration is required; please call 577-3960. At 1 p.m. there will be a free movie screening of the San Francisco Opera's *Cinderella for Families*. The opera is sung in Italian with English subtitles and is recommended for ages 7 and up. The screening includes a live introduction by a teaching artist from the San Francisco Opera. Seating for the movie is first-come, first-served. For more information, call 577-3960.

❖ San Leandro Garden Club

The San Leandro Garden Club will have its annual spring fundraiser on Saturday, April 22, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. in San Leandro. Lunch will be served at noon. There will be a pick-your-prize, previously loved treasures and jewelry, a plant table with a wide selection of plants, as well as the delicious salads. For tickets or more information, call Sharon at 785-2057.

❖ Aswat Women's Choir at SL Library

In celebration of Arab American Month, the San Leandro Public Library presents the Aswat Women's Choir on Saturday, April 22, at 2 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free. Aswat is an ensemble for classical and folk Arabic music. It performs Muwashahat (Arabic poetry, sung in the tradition of Andalusia, Spain) as well as traditional and contemporary songs from the Arab World, and has made appearances in numerous colleges, universities, festivals and conferences in the Bay Area. The group consists of 20 singers and musicians from different parts of the world.

❖ Fundraiser at Cafe Bethel

Cafe Bethel at Bethel Community Presbyterian Church, 14235 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, will have its annual fundraiser for the April Showers program on Saturday, April 22, at 5 p.m. with music by the bands Purple Smoke and Circle Soul, plus The Gnarly Men, the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus, and more. The April Showers program provides showers and clean clothing to local homeless people on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month. Suggested donation to the fundraiser is \$10 and a pair of new athletic socks.

❖ Big Band Spring Concert

The Arts Council of San Leandro and the San Leandro Public Library will present a free spring concert by What's up Big Band on Sunday, April 23, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Hear classic big band music including Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Harry James, Bunny Berigan and more. What's Up Big Band, dedicated to keeping alive swing era music, performs at American Legion halls, libraries, community events, and weddings all around the East Bay.

❖ SL Multi-Cultural Celebration

San Leandro High School presents a Multi-Cultural Celebration on Wednesday, April 26, at the school's Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave. A food fair begins in the lobby at 5 p.m. and the show starts at 6 p.m. Come and taste

food from around the world, and then see a variety show of dancing, poetry, music and skits. Student clubs performing will include Latinos Unidos, the Filipino Club, the African American Student Council, plus a performance by Ballet Folklórico. Tickets are \$4.

❖ San Leandro Art Association

Paintings and various art works by members of the San Leandro Art Association will be on display during regular library hours through April 28 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

❖ Sea Scout Ship Open House

The Sea Scout ship Makai will host an open house on Saturday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ballena Isle Marina, 1150 Ballena Blvd., in Alameda. Tour the 65-foot power boat Makai and the 49-foot sailboat Sequoia and talk to the crew and leaders. Enjoy free food and beverages and take a cruise on one of the boats. The Sea Scouts program is for both boys and girls, age 13 and up. Young people who are interested can come and find out more about the program.

❖ San Leandro Toastmasters

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

❖ SOS Meals on Wheels Fundraiser

Join SOS Meals on Wheels 4th Annual Boutique Fundraiser at the Hill and Valley Women's Club, 1808 "B" St. in Hayward, on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you're not a shopper, come enjoy the food prepared by the chef - eat there or take some home. Great handmade items and a pick-your-prize raffle. Help Meals on Wheels serve the average 1,100 meals per day to seniors in Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Hayward and Oakland. For more information, call Gerry at 483-8156 or if you would just like to donate send your donations to SOS Meals on Wheels, 2235 Polvorosa #260, San Leandro 94577.

❖ Dahlia Tuber and Cutting Sale

The San Leandro Dahlia Society is sponsoring their Annual Dahlia Tuber and Cutting Sale on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Root Park, 1033 East 14th St. in San Leandro. For spectacular summer color, it's time to plant dahlia tubers or cuttings. Many dahlia lovers will be there to answer your questions or give information about planting. For more information, go to sanleandrodahliasociety.org.

❖ 3K Color Run Fundraiser

John Muir Middle School PTO is hosting Color Run to raise funds for the school and promote fitness on Saturday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (registration opens at 10 a.m.) at Marina Park, 13801 Monarch Bay Drive in San Leandro. Color Run is a 3K (1.8 miles) where participants run/walk/dance through the course and get color-blasted in safe, eco-friendly, plant-based powdered dye at every zone, turning them into a moving target of fun. After the race, participants jam out to music at the after-blast party. Advance registration is \$25, registration at the event is \$30. To register, plus a T-shirt and color pack, visit <https://squareup.com/store/JMMS-PTSO>. For more information, call contact Regina Chennault 456-5860 or email leadership@john-muir-ptso.net

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

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): The Lamb loves to be surrounded by flocks of admirers. But be careful that someone doesn't take his or her admiration too far. Use your persuasive skills to let him or her down easily.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): This is a good time to begin setting far-reaching goals and connecting with new contacts. Aspects also favor strengthening old relationships -- personal and/or professional.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): A personal disappointment should be viewed as a valuable learning experience. Go over what went wrong and see where a change in tactics might have led to a more positive outcome.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Don't leave projects unfinished or personal obligations unresolved, or you might find yourself tripping over all those loose ends later on. A relative has important news.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): Expect a challenge to the usual way you do things. Although you might prefer the tried-and-true, once you take a good look at this new idea, you might feel more receptive to it.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Much work has yet to be done to polish a still-rough idea into something with significant potential. Expect to encounter some initial rejection, but stay with it nonetheless.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): There still might be some communication problems in the workplace, but they should be resolved soon. Meanwhile, that "tip" from a friend should be checked out.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): A new relationship appears to need more from you than you might be willing to give right now. Best advice: Resist making promises you might not be able to keep.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): That restless feeling encourages you to gallop off into a new venture. But remember to keep hold of the reins so you can switch paths when necessary.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): A demanding work schedule keeps the high-spirited Goat from kicking up his or her heels. But playtime beckons by the week's end. Have fun. You earned it.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): You're beginning to come out from under those heavy responsibilities you took on. Use this freed-up time to enjoy some much-deserved fun with people close to you.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Before you get swept away by a tidal wave of conflicting priorities, take time to come up for air, and reassess the situation. You might be surprised by what you'll find.

Local Task Force Focuses on Domestic Violence

By Sophie Linder
Special to the San Leandro Times

Building Futures, an agency of San Leandro's Housing First, has been working closely with the San Leandro Police Department (SLPD) on the recently assembled San Leandro Domestic Violence Task Force.

Building Futures leads the task force, funded by the city of San Leandro in July 2015, in developing the best practices for domestic violence.

The task force – which includes the City of San Leandro, Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments (SAVE) and the San Leandro Unified School District – provides education and resources for domestic violence victims.

Services focus on both prevention and intervention, including domestic violence counseling, support groups and case management. If the abuser is the breadwinner, families receive advisement in developing a plan to leave. Victims who have lived in fear for years are finally given peace of mind.

The SLPD works weekly with an advocate from SAVE doing outreach and offering counseling to victims. They also issue restraining orders and work with district attorneys for prosecution. Building Futures has held trainings for members of the task force using the SLPD's domestic violence-related statistics.

Lt. Robert McManus of the SLPD says that only one out of 10 victims of domestic violence report it to the police, and that 20 instances of domestic violence take place before one instance gets reported. McManus says that one solution to the lack of reporting is to respond to calls from neighbors about family dis-

putes, which are often a precursor to domestic violence.

Executive Director of Building Futures Liz Varela said she is very proud of the progress they have made, but acknowledges there is still room for growth.

"One way we are working to improve the accessibility of resources is by using gap analysis to expand our language capacity for domestic violence services to help reach more people," Varela said.

The task force publicized awareness about Teen Dating Violence Awareness month in February. According to McManus, teen dating violence has statistically become more prevalent, as it has only become a more widely discussed topic in recent years.

One outlet for teen dating violence is the increasing trend in misusing social media. An example is a partner threatening to expose damaging material and spread rumors through social media sites such as Snapchat and Instagram. Once the material is out on the internet it can't be deleted, leaving the victims feeling powerless.

The task force is also getting teens involved in the effort to end teen dating violence. They are working with Barbara Lee Health Center's Health Education Action Teams (HEAT) to teach teens at San Leandro High School to educate their peers and share resources.

For Teen Dating Violence Awareness month, San Leandro High School's HEAT team passed out Love is Respect pins, bracelets and stickers, information about warning signs and types of abuse, and contact information for getting help.

Oro Loma's Pioneering Levee Makes Natural Water Filter

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

It doesn't look like much – just tall grass and native plants on about two-acres of mud – but the Oro Loma Sanitary district is receiving national attention for its pioneering "horizontal levee."

The director of the Environmental Protection Agency is just one of over 1,000 ecological experts who have made the journey out to the end of Grant Avenue in San Lorenzo to see the levee, which is near Oro Loma's water treatment plant.

"I said to the EPA head, this will be one the most boring-looking things you've ever flown across the country to see," joked Jason Warner, Oro Loma's general manager.

But the action is all going on underneath the levee, as wastewater is filtered through the earth and vegetation.

"Our water is very clean when it comes out of the plant, but this is that extra step before it's discharged," said Warner.

The horizontal levee doesn't look like a traditional levee with a simple embankment. There is an elongated slope of marshland and water flows out to the Bay by gravity.

Oro Loma and the Castro Valley Sanitary District paid to build the \$9 million levee. This month, the districts received the 2017 Bay Hero Award from the San Francisco Bay Institute for their work on the levee.

And Save the Bay, an organization dedicated to preserving the coastline, also created an on-site nursery to grow the wetland plants that have been planted at the levee.

The year-old levee also acts a barrier against sea-rise. State projections have the sea-level rising up to five feet by the end of the century, which would flood the Oro Loma property. If that happens, the elevated slope of



PHOTO BY AMY SYLVESTRI

Oro Loma General Manager Jason Warner has given tours of the water-cleansing levee to ecological experts from around the country.

the levee would give the animals – including rabbits, mice, and sea birds – that live in the area a place to escape the water, according to Oro Loma.

Warner considers the project a pilot, which other sanitary districts can learn from in their own response to sea-level change. A similar levee is being planned for

the marshland around the salt flats in the South Bay.

"It's an honor," Warner said of the Bay Hero award. "It's an exciting project."

City of San Leandro's Home Earthquake Strengthening Course

The City of San Leandro is again offering its nationally recognized and award-winning Home Earthquake Strengthening Course to homeowners. This is a "do-it-yourself" course geared towards owners of older, raised-floor homes. Homeowners will be shown how to identify and strengthen structural weaknesses in their homes. Upon completion of this four-day course, each homeowner will have a customized blueprint for their seismic project.

If you own a hillside home, please contact the Division of Building & Safety at (510) 577-3405.

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AUTOMOTIVE

Volvo Flaunts a New, Sleek Swedish Beauty

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

Today, most people likely no longer associate Volvo with boxy cars and safety. Yes, they did look like shoeboxes from the late 1960s through the 1990s, and you wanted to be in one if a crash occurred (they invented the shoulder belt). But in the 21st century, Volvos look much sleeker and more appealing.

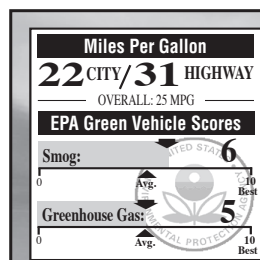
Now, with Chinese ownership and the resultant inflow of investment cash, the brand enjoys a product renaissance. Following in the footsteps of the award-winning XC crossover comes the lovely new S90 flagship sedan.

Run your eyes over the exterior. The flanks present forthright styling that captures some of the old edginess, but framing a sensuous midsection. The concave grille wears a waterfall of matte

silver bars and the traditional iron-mark, surrounded by a chrome ring. This evokes memories of the revered old 1800's sports coupe. The Thor's Hammer headlamps give a powerful and unique take on the "eyes" of the car. The tail-lamps sit on a vertical surface but follow a fanciful shape — and flaunt the now famous widely spaced Volvo logotype between them.

Inside, as always, you'll experience where the Volvo truly shines. The chairs wear beautiful, comfortable leather. The dash panel features gorgeous linear walnut wood inlays with angled grain and a matte finish. The hardware and leather-wrapped steering wheel all convey richness while maintaining the classic "Danish Modern" look. You feel tension melt away when you sit down in this car.

Selecting an S90 involves choosing from two levels of performance and two levels of



Three engine choices are available: a four-cylinder, 2.0 liter turbocharged and supercharged T6 engine, the turbocharged T5 variant and the T8 Twin Engine plug-in hybrid.

equipment. Entry to the model begins with the T5 FWD (front-wheel drive) model with its turbocharged 2.0-liter engine. That may not sound like much powerplant to move a 4,222-pound car along, but the little two-liter puts out a respectable 250 horsepower and 258 lb.-ft. of torque.

For more urgency moving down the road, pick the T6 model,

with all-wheel drive and supercharging added to the driveline. That enhancement bumps horsepower up to 316, with 295 lb.-ft. of torque. Now you're talking — that'll get you a 0-60 time of just 5.7 seconds. An eight-speed Geartronic automatic transfers energy to the wheels in either car.

Efficiency scores rank high for a large midsize sedan. My T6 tester scored EPA fuel economy miles-per-gallon numbers of 22 City, 31 Highway, and 25 overall. The EPA rated the green scores at 6 for Smog and 5 for Greenhouse gas — midpack. I averaged 23 mpg during my test week.

The other choice you make involves level of equipment. The Momentum level holds the more affordable role in either T5 or T6. The Inscription models steps up the action to a higher level.

My weeklong test drive took place in a T6 Inscription that wore a coat of Mussel Blue Metallic paint. The Inscription level brings a long list of enhancements, including illuminated Volvo sill



The interior makes use of the Sensus Connect touchscreen that debuted in the XC90, providing a clutter-free interior with minimal dashboard buttons.

plates, leather on the dash and doortops, manual sun curtains on the rear windows, high-pressure headlamp cleaning, and much more. You get 19-inch, 10-spoke alloy wheels to show off, although my test car stepped up to optional 20-inchers for an extra \$750. Inside, the seats gain power side support and cushion extension and wear premium soft Nappa leather upholstery.

Cruising in the S90 feels like home from the minute you light up the engine. To do this, twist

a knob on the console — while leaving the Nappa leather key fob in your pocket. Grip the handsome and comfortable steering wheel and off you go.

Most cars today feature dash-mounted screens that provide a range of information. Volvo's Sensus technology employs a 9-inch portrait screen that displays different functions in stacked horizontal bars. Touch one to open its full menu and make choices, such as climate settings or audio selections. Swipe the screen to the side to get further options. Tap the "Settings" tab to open up a world of configuration to make your S90 just the way you like it. I especially liked the way the music was sorted into a "Library."

Speaking of audio, my tester included the optional Bowers & Wilkins premium sound system (\$2,650). Man, what a sonorous environment you can create, from concert hall to studio. Manage it all easily from the Sensus screen.

Pricing for the S90 begins with the T5 Momentum at \$47,945. As equipped, with numerous options, my T6 Inscription came to \$66,105.

The S90 represents a truly international effort — owned by the Chinese, built in Gothenburg, Sweden, with 40 percent Swedish and 15 percent German content. Transmission parts come from Japan.

Bottom line? This beauty competes directly and successfully with German, Japanese and American luxury sedans, while offering a welcome relief from the standard favorites. Look out Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Audi (and Cadillac and Lexus). Meet the new player in the luxury midsize segment!

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SENIORS

Are Your Ears Ringing?

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

Tinnitus is a common condition that affects around 45 million Americans, but is usually more prevalent in the 60-and-older age group. Here's what you should know, along with some tips and treatments, that may help.

What is Tinnitus?

Tinnitus (pronounced tin-NIGHT-us) is the sensation of hearing a ringing, buzzing, roaring, hissing or whistling sound in one or both ears when no external sound is present.

The sounds, which can vary in pitch and loudness, are usually worse when background noise is low, so you may be more aware of it at night when you're trying to fall asleep in a quiet room. For most people, tinnitus is merely annoying, but for many others it can be extremely disturbing.

Tinnitus itself is not a disease, but rather a symptom of some other underlying health condition. The best way to find out what's causing your tinnitus is to see an audiologist or an otolaryngologist — a doctor who specializes in ear, nose and throat diseases (commonly called an ENT).

The many things that can

cause tinnitus are:

- Age-related and noise-induced hearing loss — this is the most common cause.

- Middle ear obstructions, usually caused by a build-up of ear-wax deep in the ear canal.

- The side effects of medicines like aspirin, ibuprofen, certain blood pressure medicines and diuretics, some antidepressants, cancer medicines and antibiotics.

- Various medical conditions such as high blood pressure, vascular disease, diabetes, allergies, thyroid problems, ear or sinus infections, fibromyalgia, otosclerosis, a tumor, an injury to the head or neck, traumatic brain injury, depression, stress and more.

Treating the Causes

While there's currently no cure for tinnitus there are some ways to treat it depending on the cause. For example, if your tinnitus is caused by a wax build-up in your ears or a medical condition (high blood pressure, thyroid problem, etc.), treating the problem may reduce or eliminate the noise. Or, if you think a medication you're taking may be causing the problem, switching to a different drug, or lowering the dosage may provide some relief.

Other Treatments

Another treatment option for



tinnitus that can help suppress or mask the sound so its less bothersome are "sound therapies."

These can be as simple as a fan or a white noise machine, or something more sophisticated like a modified-sound or notched-music device like Neuromonics (neuromonics.com) or the Levo System (otoharmonics.com) that trains your brain not to hear the tinnitus.

Or, if you have hearing loss, hearing aids can help mask your tinnitus by improving your ability to hear actual sounds.

There are also certain medications that may help. While currently there's no FDA approved drugs specifically designed to treat tinnitus, some anti-anxiety drugs and antidepressants have been effective in relieving symptoms.

For more information on tinnitus treatment options, visit the American Tinnitus Association at ata.org.

Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Covering Dementia Care Takes 'Special' Planning

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
Special to the Times

Q My wife suffers from dementia and has been in a nursing home for some time. About a year ago, we put everything in my name so she could qualify for a Medi-Cal subsidy to help pay for her care. We currently have only simple wills which leave everything to the survivor of us, and then to our two children. Is this the best plan?

A Probably not, and here's why. If for some reason, you predeceased her, then all of your assets would go to her. These assets would then put her over the \$2,000 Medi-Cal resource ceiling for an unmarried individual, and she would be terminated from the program. She would then have to use these very assets to pay for her care, potentially depleting a lifetime of savings and leaving little or nothing as an inheritance for your children.

A better plan would be to change your own will and trust so that if you predeceased her, your assets would go into a Spousal

Special Needs Trust ("S-SNT") for her benefit.

The S-SNT is a special trust which would hold these assets in the name of a "friendly" trustee, who would use them to pay for extra things for your wife not provided by Medi-Cal, such as a TV in her room, occasional outings, and perhaps companion visits.

Because the assets would be owned by the trustee, they would not count as hers and would thus not undermine her continued eligibility for Medi-Cal. One of your children could serve as trustee.

Upon her later demise, the balance remaining would go to your children or other designated beneficiaries.

This spousal S-SNT requires that your plan be structured in a very special way. Because of a quirk in the law, it must be created by Will, and not by trust. In this sense, the S-SNT created for a spouse is very different from the Special Needs Trust sometimes created for a child or grandchild on public benefits.

Your plan could still use a trust and companion will. They would be structured so that they worked together but contained a kind of "toggle switch." If your wife predeceased you, then upon your own later demise they would



Gene L. Osofsky

pass everything to your children by trust. But, if your wife survived you, the "switch" would trigger and trust assets would, instead, transfer to the Will to create the S-SNT for her.

Because the S-SNT for a spouse must be created by will, it requires some involvement by the probate court after your demise.

Fortunately, this requirement does not necessarily mean that your estate would need to go through a full probate. It only requires that, after your demise, a petition be filed in the probate court seeking an order formally establishing the S-SNT and authorizing its funding from your probate estate. Once the order is granted, your estate assets would be so transferred, and the probate could then be closed.

This plan does require that it be in place before your demise and its design and implementation does require special skill. I recommend that you seek out a knowledgeable Elder Law or Special Needs attorney to assist you in creating it.

Note: A variation of this plan would be suitable for a couple, presently in good health, who wish to plan for the possible future long-term-care needs of the survivor of them.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney in Hayward. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com.

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PARENTS GUIDE

Urge Teens To Make Sleep a Priority

For most teens, one of the best ways to find success in school is to get enough sleep.

When well rested, teens are more likely to be healthy, energetic and have a positive attitude toward life in general — helping them be their best and do their best in school and at home.

To help, the National Healthy Sleep Awareness Project launched the “Sleep Recharges You” campaign, urging teens to get eight to 10 hours of sleep per night to promote optimal health.

“It’s important to make sleep a priority,” said Dr. Ronald Chervin, president of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine. “Setting and sticking to a routine to get as much sleep as possible is one of the best things teens can do for their health, academic achievement and athletic performance.”

● Lack of Sleep Jeopardizes Grades, Health and Safety

Sleepy teens may fare worse in school than their well-rested peers. Studies show that teens who are sleep deprived may be more easily distracted and recall information more slowly. Sleeping fewer than the recommended hours is also associated with attention, behavior and learning problems.

Lack of sleep may also affect a teen’s athletic performance. When teens sleep, hormones are released that help them grow taller and develop muscles. Sleep also helps restore energy to the brain and body.

Studies show that teens who sleep less than the recommended hours are more likely to be overweight and develop hypertension and diabetes. Additionally, insufficient sleep in teenagers has been found to increase the risk of depression and is associated with increased risk of self-harm, suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts.

● Parents, Caregivers Play Crucial Role

Teens should be encouraged to get enough sleep every night to recharge. The AASM advises parents and caregivers to help by modeling healthy sleep habits, promoting a consistent sleep schedule and creating a quiet sleep environment for their teens.

Additionally, setting restrictions on screen time before bed is key to helping teens get to sleep on time. Teens may be tempted to keep using their laptops, smartphones and game consoles late into the night rather than going to sleep.

It is also important that parents and local school boards work to-

Teens who do not get the recommended eight to 10 hours of sleep per night fare worse in school compared to their well-rested peers.



gether to implement high school start times that allow teens to get the healthy sleep they need to meet their full potential.

The AASM recommends that teens sleep eight to 10 hours per night on a regular basis to promote optimal health.

Parents concerned that their teen is sleeping too little or too much should consult a board-certified sleep medicine physician or visit www.sleepeducation.org to find an accredited sleep center nearby.

—North American Precip Synd., Inc.



Summer is the perfect time of year to encourage kids to nurture interests through non-fiction literature to help bridge the gap between last school year and the next.

Ensure Learning Continues Over the Summer Break

Long breaks from reading, writing and critical thinking can be detrimental for students. That’s why savvy parents ensure that kids keep learning over summer.

But you don’t need to replicate a classroom to reap the benefits of summer studies. After all, it’s called “vacation” for a reason. Here are a few fun ways to keep kids’ brains on high alert all season:

■ Make Math Fun

The more interactive and hands-on you can make math, the more engaged they’ll be. So, avoid drilling them with stale worksheets.

Play a board game like “Monopoly,” and bestow the role of “banker” on your child. Or, let them handle the real thing on outings by letting them pay the ice cream vendor and the grocer. You can even consider capitalizing on the summer weather with a lemonade stand — it’s a great first small business experience.

Supplement these experiences with tools that go beyond a standard workbook using interactive elements. Tools like this can make a tedious subject entertaining.

■ Foster Their Interests

The school year can be hectic

and isn’t necessarily an ideal time for a child to take on new hobbies. Summer, however, is the perfect time of year to encourage kids to explore new interests through thematic summer camps, community classes and sports teams.

You can also nurture interests through non-fiction literature to help bridge the gap between last school year and the next.

■ Get Informed

The implementation of new education policies and standards can be difficult on students, but you can help smooth the transition and prepare your child for the coming school year.

—StatePoint

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Luxury Looks a Bit Different These Days

Looking for a luxury home? A few short years ago, that meant buying a massive, multi-storied home in a gated community. Times have changed, however, and tastes have migrated. Here are 10 features today's luxury buyers desire in their new digs:

1. One level living. Tired of moving up-and-down to access parts of the home, growing numbers of luxury buyers want single-level homes.

2. Smart home features. Automated climate control systems top the list, followed with custom lighting, shades, entertainment systems and state-of-the-art security and video systems that can be controlled from wall pads, smart devices and voice commands.

3. Gourmet kitchens. The

trend is for high-end, commercial-grade appliances with all the bells and whistles, extensive food prep areas, massive storage and more. They also want the kitchen to be a part of a greater space, so that food-related activities can be factored into everything else that's going on.

4. Walkability. Instead of hiding behind gated facades, many luxury buyers want to be in the middle of things. They love the idea of being able to walk to favorite restaurants, shops, parks and other community features.

5. Access to the outdoors. Think window walls that slide out of sight and open entire living areas to the outside. And, once the walls are retracted, luxury owners want to walk out into beautiful outdoor living spaces designed

with entertaining in mind, including full high-end outdoor kitchens.

6. Modern bathrooms. Sleek Euro-styled plumbing fixtures are all the rage, along with remote controlled bidets, heated toilet seats, radiant heat systems, steam rooms, shower systems, touchless faucets and entertainment features such as mirrors with built-in flat screen televisions. Access to a massive walk-in closet is a must.

7. Wine rooms. Current luxury buyers want to showcase their bottles in strategically placed temperature-controlled wine rooms.

8. Exercise facilities. The larger the room the better, complete with a full range of equipment, mirrors and video screens.

9. A massive garage. No longer is a 3-car garage adequate; see LUXURY, page 11



Opportunity Knocks!

Located at **3529 Monterey Blvd.** in the popular Redwood Heights neighborhood, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home is ready for your upgrades. **Priced at \$715,000. Open Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.** Offered by Robert Jones and Associates — celebrating our 34th year at our downtown location, 142 Joaquin Ave. For more information, call 357-0120.



Mortgage Rates Hit Lowest Mark of 2017

Rates have dropped for the fourth consecutive week

Long-term mortgage rates dropped last week for the fourth consecutive week and hit a new low for 2017, according to Freddie Mac's nationwide survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.08 percent, down from 4.10 percent the week before. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 3.58.

Fifteen-year home loans averaged 3.34 percent, down from 3.36 percent. A year ago at this time, the 15-year rate averaged 2.86 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.18 percent last week, down from 3.19 percent.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

555 Lewis Avenue, San Leandro

This expanded single-level bungalow is located in the Broadmoor and features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, plus a family room, and remodeled kitchen and baths — all in 2,081 sq. ft. Built in 1926, this unique home is updated and ready for your family! **Offered at \$798,000.**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

946 Rodney Drive, San Leandro

Discover large living in a serene creekside setting — featuring 2+bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, an enclosed sunroom and a bonus third bedroom. Built in 1930, other features of this 1,731-sq.-ft. home include a detached garage and huge, private deck overlooking the creek. **Offered at \$749,000.**

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about the Community Identifier Projects
in **San Lorenzo & Ashland/Cherryland!**

Attend the Roundtable in Your Community!

Free, open to the public. All ages welcome.

The Community Identifier project involves designing and hand-painting the name of your community along with other simple design elements on a freeway overpass.

Ashland/Cherryland

Wed., April 26, 6:00-7:30pm

Ashland Place
16385 E. 14th Street
San Leandro, 94578

San Lorenzo

Tues., May 2, 6:00-7:30pm

San Lorenzo Library
395 Paseo Grande
San Lorenzo, 94580

Everyone is invited! Come to the Roundtable to –

- Hear about the Community Identifier projects
- Share your thoughts about your community and how those should be reflected in the designs of the Community Identifier
- Meet the Artist Semi-Finalists who will make design proposals

For more information, visit: Alameda County Arts Commission at www.acgov.org/arts ("What's New")

Spot Treat Grassy Weeds; Ants Present a Problem

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q We've just bought a house and the lawn is weedy with lots of bare spots. How do we go about correcting this?

A Bonide Weed Eater Ultra and Ortho Weed-B-Gon are two selective herbicides that kill broadleaf weeds such as dandelions in the grass without harming the desirable grass. But for grassy weeds, you'll have to spot treat them with a non-selective herbicide such as Burn Out or a RoundUp like product. These herbicides are non-selective, killing all desirable and undesirable vegetation.

Before spraying, make sure to protect the desirable grass by surrounding the undesirable grass with a cardboard plant shield. Once this is done, you are ready to reseed the entire lawn.

However, there is a bigger question you need to ask yourself before deciding what to do. Is the above-mentioned remedies a solution or is it a band-aid? Many times, you are better off installing a new lawn rather

than trying to correct someone else's headache.

Other factors that need to be considered is how efficient is the irrigation system. Also, how level is the grass surface.

Another option might be to convert a portion of the lawn to water-wise plants.

If you decide to install a new lawn in the near future, I'd do a minimal amount of repairs now. I'd be inclined to keep a turf of mixed grasses but remove the broadleaf weeds. And, depending on the timetable for the new lawn, I might even skip reseeding the bare spots.

So, it's a judgment call on your part as to what to do or not do next.

Q I'd like to get rid of the ants in my lemon tree; however, it is near a fish pond. So, I have to be careful in what I use. Is there something that I can use other than tearing up my whole yard in trying to locate the nest?

A Ants are a nuisance in Bay Area gardens. However, they will not cause

plants or leaves to turn brown, yellow or any other color nor will they put holes in the leaves or cause them to curl up.


At this time of the year, ants are after the sugary substance or nectar in citrus flowers. They also feed off a clear, sticky substance produced by sucking insects like aphids, scale and mealybugs.

If the lemon is in bloom, I'd do nothing, as spraying will interfere with the fruit set. After the flower petals have dropped off, I'd make two applications of Horticultural Oil a week apart and cover the fish pond with a sheet of plastic.

With the food supply gone, the ants will move on.

In addition, place a 2-inch band of Pest Barrier or Tanglefoot on the trunk. Pest Barrier is a clear, sticky resin that traps the ants. It's applied with a popsicle stick. It doesn't kill the ants but it does prevent them from climbing into the canopy.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional and Senior Gardening Professional at Sloat Garden Centers. His web address is www.dirtgardener.com. Email questions to dirtgarden@aol.com or go to [Facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero](https://www.facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero).



Just as the moon influences the tides, it also has a gravitational effect on the moisture within the earth, and the moisture within plants themselves.

From the day the moon is 'new' to the day it is 'full,' plant annual flowers and vegetables that bear crops *above* ground.

From the day after it is 'full' to the day before it is 'new' again, plant flowering bulbs, biennial and perennial flowers, and vegetables that bear crops *below* ground. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.almanac.com, themicrogardener.com

Luxury: Prices remain high

continued from previous page

many upscale buyers want a place to store their car collections.

10. Home theaters. The more these spaces imitate a theater, the better, with food-prep facilities, surround sound, high-end seating and spectacular video equipment.

Sound appealing? Be prepared to pay. True luxury has never come cheap and even though tastes are changing, the price tags... are not.

Carl Medford is a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams Realty. This article is sponsored by the Central County Marketing Association at www.ccmgtoday.com.

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S	2-4:30	2-4:30	227 Marlow Drive	\$588,000	2/1	Marvin Gardens RE	Greg Novak	510-472-4770
C	1-4	1-4	21825 Dolores Street	\$629,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Lisa Ferraris	510-304-1271
A	—	2-4	14877 Midland Road	\$699,000	4/2	Rinetti & Co. Realtors	Carrie Miles	510-735-5223
P	1:30-4	1-4	4119 Stanley Blvd.	\$703,000	3/2.5	Robert Jones & Assoc.	Matt Jones	510-357-0120
O	—	1-4	3529 Monterey Blvd.	\$715,000	3/2	Robert Jones & Assoc.	Matt Jones	510-357-0120
A	—	1-4	946 Rodney Drive	\$749,000	2+2	Varos Real Estate	Terry Martinez	510-772-3746
A	—	1-4	555 Lewis Avenue	\$798,000	3/2.5	Varos Real Estate	Terry Martinez	510-772-3746
C	1-4	1-4	5089 Rahives Drive	\$799,000	4/3	Berkshire Hathaway	Stuart Anderson	510-421-8200

CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = SAN LORENZO • BW = BRENTWOOD • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • E = EMERYVILLE • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD • K = BERKELEY • L = LIVERMORE • N = NEWARK • O = OAKLAND • P = PLEASANTON • PH = PLEASANT HILL • S = SHEFFIELD VILLAGE • SR = SAN RAMON • U = UNION CITY • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA

RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

329 Best Avenue	94577	\$625,000	3 BD - 1,164 SF - 1941
433 Harlan Street #203	94577	\$370,000	3 BD - 1,033 SF - 1964
2077 Washington Av #312	94577	\$370,000	2 BD - 960 SF - 1984
1760 142nd Avenue	94578	\$435,000	3 BD - 1,083 SF - 1942
2204 166th Avenue	94578	\$855,000	N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
1448 Fairmont Drive	94578	\$572,000	3 BD - 1,428 SF - 1947
690 Fargo Avenue #11	94579	\$360,000	2 BD - 1,020 SF - 1965
1242 Fordham Avenue	94579	\$630,000	3 BD - 1,081 SF - 1951

TOTAL SALES: 8

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$360,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$855,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$503,500

AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$527,125

San Lorenzo

125 Loma Verde Drive	94580	\$350,000	2 BD - 814 SF - 1984
16060 Paseo Largavista	94580	\$615,000	3 BD - 1,338 SF - 1944
16165 Via Milos	94580	\$589,000	3 BD - 1,188 SF - 1955

Castro Valley

4861 Seven Hills Road	94546	\$740,000	3 BD - 1,302 SF - 1966
19773 Stanton Avenue	94546	\$500,000	3 BD - 1,113 SF - 1940
17671 Trenton Drive	94546	\$830,000	3 BD - 1,475 SF - 1963

Hayward

23933 Carmelita Drive	94541	\$550,000	2 BD - 1,038 SF - 1947
653 Dean Street #657	94541	\$594,000	4 BD - 1,358 SF - 1939
1260 East Street	94541	\$410,000	2 BD - 1,140 SF - 1910
20 Leighty Court #4	94541	\$330,000	2 BD - 864 SF - 1992
857 Lester Avenue	94541	\$540,000	3 BD - 1,040 SF - 1950
636 Moss Way	94541	\$620,000	3 BD - 1,809 SF - 2014
647 Paradise Boulevard	94541	\$520,000	3 BD - 1,296 SF - 1942
24023 Quinn Lane	94541	\$515,000	2 BD - 900 SF - 1961
22826 Upland Way	94541	\$532,500	2 BD - 1,024 SF - 1948
21668 Willow Court	94541	\$548,000	3 BD - 1,087 SF - 1948
308 Drummond Drive	94542	\$1,140,000	5 BD - 3,799 SF - 2008
3419 Pinewood Drive	94542	\$802,000	4 BD - 1,897 SF - 1972
25700 University Ct #101	94542	\$370,000	1 BD - 823 SF - 1981
27867 Lanai Court	94544	\$510,000	3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1954
53 Regency Place	94544	\$750,000	3 BD - 1,938 SF - 2014
29588 Vanderbilt St #115	94544	\$270,000	1 BD - 643 SF - 1988
2509 Admiral Circle	94545	\$851,500	N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
2511 Admiral Circle	94545	\$927,000	N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
1943 Catalpa Way	94545	\$546,000	3 BD - 1,064 SF - 1963
373 Toscana Way	94545	\$600,000	4 BD - 2,138 SF - 2010
459 Toscana Way	94545	\$718,000	4 BD - 2,138 SF - 2010

TOTAL SALES: 21

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$270,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,140,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$548,000

AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$602,095

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

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2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE 4/21 & 4/22, 9am-2pm. Furniture, Household Goods. 401 Marineview Dr., San Leandro.

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Council Sets Tax On Weed Patrick Kennedy Says Pot Business Like Big Tobacco

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro City Council set business tax rates for medical marijuana at its April 3 meeting, and pot looks to become \$500,000 annual cash crop for the city.

Last week, the Council unanimously voted to set the medical marijuana tax in the city at 6 percent of gross receipts – in addition to the 9.75 percent sales tax. The pot tax will go up to 7 percent in 2019 and 8 percent in 2021.

The council has awarded permits for three marijuana dispensaries to operate in San Leandro, but none have opened yet. At least one will open later this year.

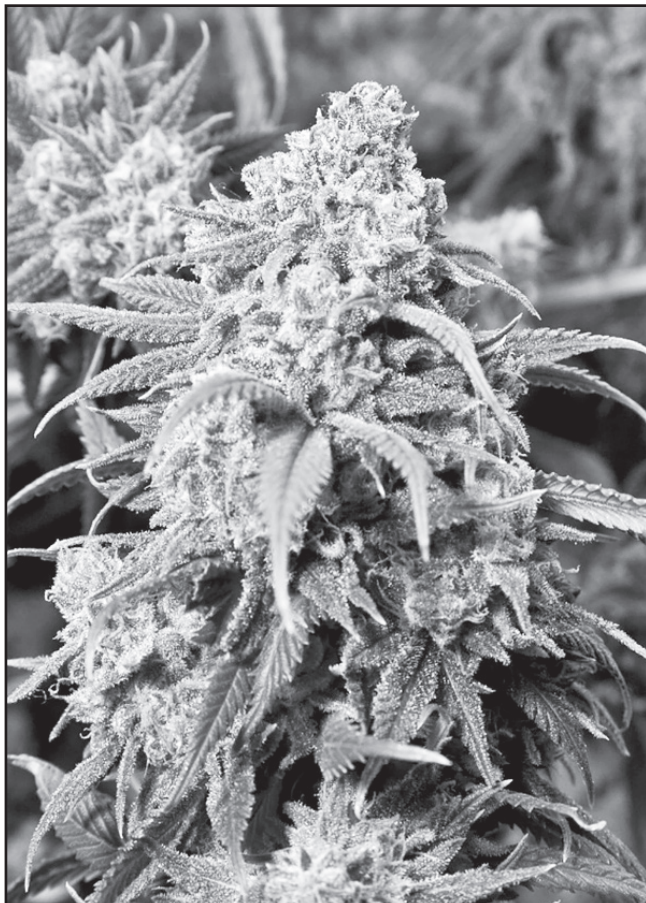
The cannabis tax – Measure NN – was passed by voters last November, when voters approved a tax rate of up to 10 percent, with it being up to the council to set the exact rate.

Also in November, the voters passed state Proposition 64, which legalized recreational marijuana in California.

Both medical and recreational pot are illegal under federal law.

So far the city has not approved any dispensaries to sell marijuana for recreational purposes, only medical. But they have left open the possibility of raising the rate and getting money from recreational users.

“If we ever went to recreational, we would want to cover



Marijuana has become lucrative for both businesses and the tax collectors, for better or worse.

ourselves,” said Mayor Pauline Cutter.

The city estimates that Measure NN will bring in \$500,000 annually at the 6 percent rate once all three dispensaries are open.

The city of Berkeley taxes dispensaries at a 2.5 percent

rate, Oakland has a 5 percent tax, and there is a 10 percent tax in San Jose.

And if recreational sales ever come to town, an additional 15 percent state excise tax will be added to any sales as part of state law.

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Big money is pushing marijuana to make it look like a normal and harmless medication and ignoring the dangerous consequences, said former Congressman Patrick Kennedy.

“What I worry about is marijuana sapping the motivation and cognition of our young people,” Kennedy told Yahoo News anchor Biana Golodryga.

Kennedy said the marijuana business is selling the public a Trojan horse, making the drug seem more normalized and acceptable to society when it has dangerous impacts on minors. He compared marijuana proponents’ tactics to those of big tobacco.

Kennedy, a member of one of this country’s most prominent political families, runs an organization called Project SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) to edu-

cate the public and offer solutions available, such as FDA-approved Marinol.

Golodryga asked Kennedy about people who argue that alcohol is a worse drug than marijuana, and Kennedy replied that two wrongs don’t make a right.

“Alcohol’s already legal and there’s no putting that horse back in the barn,” Kennedy said. “Let’s stop this horse from getting out of the barn.”

Grant: Eden board to decide

continued from front page

“Our need is critical; without the Eden Health District grant, we fear the dismantling of the clinic that we fought so hard to launch is upon us,” wrote Johnson. “Lack of access to these funds will have dire consequences potentially leading to the closure of our primary care clinic.”

Davis Street’s clinic has served over 5,000 people since it opened, and has the equivalent of 24 full-time medical, dental, behavioral and management employees.

Last year, the City of San Leandro demanded that Davis Street repay a \$1.5 million loan for the clinic after Davis Street missed repayment deadlines.

“Our need is critical. Without the grant we fear the dismantling of the clinic.”

— Rose Johnson, CEO
of the Davis Street
Family Resource Center

The city further criticized Davis Street for using the same real estate holding as collateral on two different loans.

Davis Street eventually repaid the city in January after getting another loan from a private third party.

“The startup costs of the clinic were exacerbated by the long (insurance and MediCal) reimbursement wait and the recent repayment of a loan used to launch the clinic in 2014,” reads the grant proposal from Davis Street.

If the money is awarded by EHD, Johnson says in her letter it will be held in a restricted account to be used to make payroll and pay for operating costs.

LOCAL DEATHS

Barbara Sutter

April 10, 2017

One of Castro Valley’s most elegant ladies has passed unto a new horizon. Barbara Sutter, a resident of Castro Valley since 1958, passed at the recently turned age of 94 on March 28. The general cause was ramifications that emerged from a broken hip a couple of months ago. Her passage reflected her personal characteristics of elegance and beauty.

Barbara was born in Oakland on March 14, 1923. Her heritage was both Italian and German, although she displayed more of the characteristics of her Italian heritage than the Germanic side. She grew up in Oakland and attended Oakland High School, which is where she met her husband-to-be, Farren “Skip” Sutter. They were married shortly after high school in Reno, Nevada. Skip was trained in the Merchant Marine, but left to marry Barbara and to join the U.S. Army during WWII. During the war, Barbara lived in the New York City area and in the state of Washington (Ft. Lewis), in support of her husband’s military service.

After the war ended, Barbara and Skip returned to the Bay Area, settling in the Fairmont Terrace area adjacent to Castro Valley. In 1958, they moved to Castro Valley, which is where she lived until her passage. Her husband, Skip, passed in 2012. He was a long-time officer in the Oakland Police Department. Barbara had attended both Merritt College and U.C. Berkeley. She had also worked at the “Little Miss & Mister Shop” in downtown Oakland for many years, where she served as a manager of accounting and sales.

Her primary passion was her family, having given birth to two sons — Phillip in 1945 and Shawn in 1957. Phillip is married to his wife, Cindy, and lives in Morro Bay. Shawn is married to Jim McBride and lives in Lodi.

Barbara is survived by both children, as well as 2 grandchildren, Antony and Laura; and 5 great-grandchildren, Elizabeth, Casandra, Amanda, Caitlynn and Antony II.

In addition to her family, Barbara’s passions included animal rescue and gardening. She was a member of the Castro Valley Women’s Club for 45 years and the San Leandro Garden Club for 44 years. She served as President of the San Leandro Garden Club from 1982-84. She was also a long-time supporter of the Sulphur Creek Nature Center. Her generosity, however, extended to all causes for the good of people and the local community.

At her request, there will be no memorial service. Donations in her memory are urged for the Hayward Animal Shelter or to any favored cause for her friends. In her memory, all are asked to smile in her memory for the kindness of being she displayed toward all.



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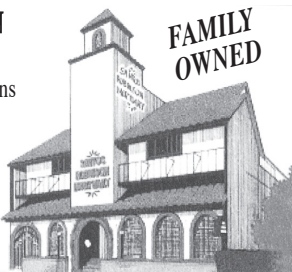
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MACDOUGALL, Catherine H. SUTTER, Barbara

■ Catherine H. MacDougall, a resident of San Leandro, passed away surrounded by family on April 10, 2017. She was 94 years of age. Cathie was born in Braemar, Scotland to the late James and Amelia McGregor and her sister, Millie. Cathie met her late husband and love of her life, Mark MacDougall, while he was stationed in Braemar during World War II. The two were married in Braemar in October of 1945. Cathie immigrated to San Leandro as a war bride to live with Mark and his family in August of 1946. Together they created a loving family legacy which

includes their daughter, Jeanette Hubbard, and her husband, Robert, of Newark, and their son, James MacDougall, and his wife, Rebecca, of San Leandro. She is also survived by her granddaughter, Meghan Meyer, and her husband, Joshua Meyer, and their two children, Madelyn and Brayden. She was a longtime member of Assumption Parish where she made rosaries and was a member of the knitting club. She loved rooting for her local sports teams, spending time with family, and taking her beloved grand-dog, Molly, for walks around the block. Those who knew and loved Cathie will remember her kindness, feisty sense of humor, her love of God, and her love of her family. Services to celebrate Cathie’s life will take place today, April 20, at 10:30 a.m. at Church of the Assumption in San Leandro.

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Aswat Women's Choir

In celebration of Arab American Month, the San Leandro Public Library presents the Aswat Women's Choir this Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Admission is free.

Aswat is an ensemble for classical and folk Arabic music. It performs Muwashahat (Arabic poetry, sung in the tradition of Andalusia, Spain) as well as traditional and contemporary

songs from the Arab World.

Aswat has achieved a professional level of competence and has made appearances in numerous colleges, universities, festivals and conferences in the Bay Area.

The group consists of 20 singers and musicians from different parts of the world and welcomes anyone who is interested or even curious about Arabic music.

Building Futures Jazz Fundraiser

Dancing, music and entertainment in support of nonprofit's programs

Everyone is invited to the 29th annual Jazz it Up! benefit gala with fine refreshments and hip-swinging tunes on Friday, May 5, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Metropolitan Links Golf Course, 10051 Doolittle Drive in Oakland.

Last year, Jazz It Up! raised over \$57,000 in support of Building Futures' life-changing programs and services.

This year, live entertainment will be provided by swing sensations Steve Lucky & the Rhumba Bums, featuring Miss Carmen Getit.

Every penny raised will be used to support programs and services helping Alameda County individuals and families to live free from homelessness and family violence.

Tickets are \$95. Raffle tickets

are \$25 each, or five for \$100. Raffle grand prize is a one-week stay on the southern coast of France, near Nice on the French Riviera, with \$1,200 in travels funds.

Visit www.jazzitup2017.eventbrite.com for details and to purchase tickets.

For more information, contact Lorie at 924-3092 or lcurtis@bfwc.org.

SIRs Meets Monthly at Metropolitan Golf Links

SIRs, an organization of retired men, meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Wedgewood Center at the Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Drive in Oakland. Happy hour starts at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Is PG&E Building Too Many Costly Power Plants?

Editor:

Regarding recent complaints (in the San Leandro Times and from several neighbors) about rising PG&E bills, I listened to a very informative radio discussion about energy issues in California a few days ago. One participant was Ivan Penn, an Los Angeles Times journalist. His article can be accessed by Googling "Ivan Penn, PG&E."

In a nutshell: The California Public Utilities Commission has a history of controversial decisions approving the building of costly power plants (e.g. 2010 Colusa for \$673 million, and about 30 others since 2008, despite energy surpluses and an ongoing trend of declining usage due to improvements in energy efficiency, etc.) apparently under the guise of building reserves that are considered excessive by various experts, while key power plants operate at less than 50% of their capacity!

"The average cost of electricity in the state is now 15 cents a kilowatt hour versus 10 cents for users in the rest of the United States. The rate in California ... has increased 12% since 2008, while prices have declined nearly 3% elsewhere in the country."

A ray of hope is the 2014 successful legal appeal that overturned plans to construct a \$1.15 billion plant in Contra Costa County due to the efforts of consumer advocates. Knowledge is power!

—Sandra Storch
San Leandro

It's the "Blue Collar" that Gets The Hard Work Done

Editor:

I want to take the time to thank and congratulate Bryan Azevedo and the San Leandro Democratic Club for their successful spring cleanup event this past weekend.

The kind of turnout and dedication displayed by the volunteers is the result of strong organizing and dedication to this city, once again proving that it's "blue collar" that gets the hard work done.

The spring cleaning is just one

example of deliverables.

I wonder what my city council member has been up to since winning his election? Has anyone seen Ed Hernandez in District 2? I know I asked him for a meeting and I'm still waiting to hear from him.

Hey Ed, call me. Tenants in your district need you.

—Guillermo Elenes, Member,
Democratic Central Committee
San Leandro

Disturbed Over United Airlines' Bumped-Passenger Incident

Editor:

I am extremely disturbed and upset over the news that appeared in many newspapers concerning the recent even aboard United Airlines.

Airline carriers are undoubtedly held to a stricter standard, and the conduct of United Airlines which involved an extreme and outrageous act caused severe emotional distress to a 69-year-old Vietnamese passenger.

Personally, I feel that United Airlines has not exercised their "highest degree of care" to that passenger who should receive all necessary "special" and "general" damages.

—Alfred Kwok
San Leandro

Wants to Know What's Going On With the Marina Development

Editor:

Since I'm keeping track (and I am), let's go through the Marina development over the last 10 years.

Former Mayor Cassidy hired expensive consultants to tell us the road to financial salvation for San Leandro was to do away with the marina and instead put in office, retail, a convention center and housing. This development would take over the vast majority of bay views and limit bay access for future generations of San Leandrans.

We have devoted expensive city resources and time to making sure this development happens regardless of how the average city resident feels about it. We have neglected other projects in town in favor of this development so let's go through the score card.

First, the developer nixed the con-

vention center as a totally unfeasible idea.

Now we find the developer won't be building the office portion either and has expressed real concern about the project even being built at all because the whole thing was originally planned too close to the shoreline and is inconsistent with rising sea levels. This after more than 73 public meetings.

Since the whole scope of the project has changed, where are the new plans of what will be built? Are we moving buildings back and making buildings higher?

Not a single plan currently online reflects exactly what's going on. And so I'm very skeptical based upon what we've gotten for our tax dollars so far. And you should be too!

Please publish new accurate detailed plans and renderings for us all to see.

—Gary Langbehn
San Leandro

Thanks to All for Response to Creek Erosion Workshops

Editor:

On behalf of Friends of San Leandro Creek, I would like to thank the community, Ohlone Elder Ruth Orta, city leaders; Mayor Cutter, City Manager Chris Zapata, Council Members Ballew, Cox and Lopez (and retired CM Prola) and speaker Dr. Ann Riley for the great response to our creek erosion workshops.

The wet ground has created tree hazards everywhere and the easy, cheap and scientifically proven techniques that Dr. Riley shared with us during her workshops was the information that everyone with a tree needed!

For those of you that missed the workshop, photos and plans for bioengineering techniques will be available on our website: www.fslc.org, along with a list of native plants and trees best suited for San Leandro.

If you are having a problem with erosion in your yard due to the wet year, please take a look at the site and/or feel free to contact The Friends at 510-577-6069 or Slevenson@sanleandro.org.

—Susan Levenson
FSLC Watershed Awareness Coordinator

INQUIRING REPORTER

What will you always remember?

— Asked around town

I used to work on ships as a merchant seaman. One time I was on the back of the ship, the fantail, and had a funny feeling a guy was going to throw me overboard. I walked away because it didn't feel right.

I was talking to him about Jesus and he became agitated. I remember he had three tattoos—a snake, a devil and a rat.

Eileen Delahoussaye
Oakland



The day my son was born. It will be three years ago this August. He's in pre-school now and he's smart, too.

Kareem Mahgoub
San Leandro

Mammoth. Silver Lake. It's in the June Lake chain. We took family camping trips there every summer. Fishing — they have brook trout, cutthroat, brown trout, rainbow trout. And we saw the Marvel movies at a little movie theater that seats about 40 people.

Nelson Harrison
San Leandro



Falling in love and marrying my high school sweetheart at Oakland High School in the 1950s.

Virginia Theisen Gibbs
San Leandro



When I came to this country to go to San Francisco State. I could see the Golden Gate Bridge from the airplane. It was great.

Ankit Kapoor
San Leandro



4-H Rising Star Projects to Go on Display Sunday

The Alameda County 4-H Rising Stars Project is hosting an AMP (Art, Music, Photography) Field Day this Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro.

The event is open to the public and kids of all ages.

Participants can exhibit non-judged art works (photos, paintings, sculpture, etc) and perform music and spoken word pieces. For more information and to register, go to: <http://ucanr.edu/>

ampfieldday/.

Registration preferred for art works, and is required for performances. There will also be workshops: bookmaking, recorders, poetry, CD suncatchers, shaving cream painting, color theory, pop art, percussion instruments, and photography.

The Rising Stars are also collecting art and music supplies for Children's Hospital Oakland. There will be door prizes, and light refreshments will be served.

Forum on Future Of California Water

The League of Women Voters will host a luncheon forum on the Future of Water in California on Friday, April 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Castro Valley Adult School, 4430 Alma Ave. in Castro Valley.

A panel of experts will discuss the next steps needed to ensure that the state has adequate water for the future.

The panel will consist of Joan Buchanan, president of Restore the Delta, speaking in opposition to the Twin Tunnels; and Frank Mellon, president and Director of EBMUD, speaking on EBMUD's current water situation and plans.

A third speaker has been invited who has the opposite view on the subject, but has

not confirmed yet. The League strives to provide the public with information on all sides of an issue.

Order a box lunch for \$10 or attend without cost for just the forum. However, everyone must RSVP by Monday, April 24 to: lwvea@aol.com Payment is \$10 for the box lunch if rsvp is received by April 24 and \$15 if paid at the door. Checks should be made out and sent to: LWV Eden Area, Treasurer, P. O. Box 2234, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

The forum is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters Eden Area, Asian Pacific Islander America Public Affairs East Bay Chapter, and Castro Valley Adult and Career Education.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Hector Abarca entered the game in relief in the fourth inning for San Leandro High on Friday.

Pirates Battle in Stretch Drive for Playoff Spot

The San Leandro High baseball team scored 3 runs in the sixth inning but it wasn't enough to bounce back in a 9-3 loss at Alameda on Friday afternoon.

Alameda starting pitcher Tristen Wiley held the Pirates in check

through most of the game. San Leandro is now 5-5 this season in the East Bay Athletic League.

San Leandro won both its games the previous week, beating San Lorenzo, 12-6, and Mt. Eden 1-0.

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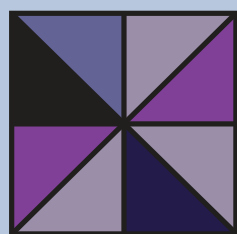
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SAN LEANDRO Connect Monthly



San Leandro City Council

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Vice Mayor Lee Thomas, District 3

Deborah Cox, District 1
Ed Hernandez, District 2
Benny Lee, District 4
Corina N. López, District 5
Pete Ballew, District 6

City Manager Chris Zapata

SAVE THE DATE! • SAVE THE DATE! • SAVE THE DATE! • SAVE THE DATE! • SAVE THE DATE!

District Town Halls

The public is invited to two District Town Halls where residents have the opportunity to provide input to their elected City Council members and ask City-related questions. Both events feature informational tables where residents can learn about projects, initiatives and new programs. Find your Council district here: www.sanleandro.org/depts/council/map.asp

Districts 1, 2 & 5 Town Hall

Monday, May 8th 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Senior Community Center
13909 E. 14th St
(Childcare will be provided)

Councilmembers Deborah Cox (D1)
Ed Hernandez (D2)
Corina Lopez (D5)

Districts 3, 4 & 6 Town Hall

Monday, July 10th 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Marina Community Center
15301 Wicks Blvd.
(Childcare will be provided)

Vice Mayor Lee Thomas (D3)
Councilmembers Benny Lee (D4)
Pete Ballew (D6)

City Council & School Districts Host Joint Work Session

The San Leandro City Council, San Leandro and San Lorenzo Unified School Districts are hosting their annual work session where they will discuss issues of mutual interest.

Tuesday, April 25th
San Leandro Main Library,
Karp/Estudillo Room
300 Estudillo Ave.
Informal Gathering: 6:00pm
Joint Work Session: 7:00pm

Join Us for Our Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration!

Friday, May 5th • 6pm
San Leandro Civic Center Plaza
901 E. 14th St

Enjoy a beautiful spring evening outside City Hall for a family-friendly fiesta! Our annual Cinco de Mayo celebration will feature Ballet Folklórico Costa de Oro, mariachi music, and a children's craft station. The event is free and open to the public.



Check out MySL,
our new
Customer Service App!

Residents can now report potholes, broken streetlights, graffiti and more, via MySL, our new customer service mobile application & website!

Step 1: Download the app available on iTunes and Google Play. Search for "City of San Leandro" or visit www.my-sl.city

Step 2: Create your account. You can also submit anonymous requests.

Step 3: Select your issue from the drop down menu, attach a photo (if applicable) and click "Send Now"

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For more information, contact Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton, Communications and Community Relations Manager at 510-577-3372 or swalton@sanleandro.org.

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