



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

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018 **SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA** VOL. 28 • NO. 28



# **Our Readers Remember**

Rick Wood works on an old Ford in 1949 at the Texaco gas station that was across the street from San Leandro High in a photo sent by reader Bob Juntz. For more memories, see "Our Readers Remember," starting on page 7.

# **Full Report Finds that Accusations** Against Zapata Don't Hold Up

By Amy Sylvestri

The City of San Leandro CEO Rose Johnson.

independent investigation by at- wrote in summary. torney Karen Kramer who found which was released in June.

"The credible evidence prereleased the full 50-page inde-sented during the course of the pendent investigator's report on investigation establishes that the allegations of sexual harass- more likely than not. Mr. Zapata ment made against former City did not make any sexual overtures Manager Chris Zapata by Davis towards Ms. Padilla Johnson, Street Family Resource Center nor did he express any interest in having a romantic or sexual The report is the result of an relationship with her," Kramer

Zapata has said that John-Johnson's accusations to lack son's allegations were designed credibility. The report includes to undermine his credibility, interviews and documents that whether as a distraction from



weren't included in an earlier Davis Street's financial issues At the Fosters Freeze on Alvarado Davis Street CEO Rose summary of Kramer's findings or in retaliation for the city not Padilla Johnson claimed that City Manager Chris Zapata see REPORT, page 14 behaved inappropriately.

# **Board Members** Forced to Sign **Gag Order On Zapata**

'Failure to sign will result in immediate removal," Council woman Cox tells commissioners

By Amy Sylvestri

The City Council has issued a gag order to all the members of member wishes to make statethe city's board and commissions, ments in violation of the separapreventing them from speaking tion agreement, they would have ill of former City Manager Chris to resign before doing so. Zapata.

The document is dated July 3 and is addressed to all appoint-3 and is addressed to all appointed officials of the city of San **Sex Charge** Leandro, informing the recipient of a new legal obligation.

Zapata and the city entered into a "mutual separation agreement" last week when Zapata exited the city's top position after having been accused, and subsequently cleared of sexual harassment allegations.

separation agreement which says that neither party will "defame, youth Explorers program. disparage, demean or besmirch the reputation" of the other.

appointed positions.

The document also says that press charges. the commissioners could face a "legal risk to you personally" victims of sexual misconduct for making any defamatory com- have the right to decide not to ments about Zapata.

If any commission or board

see GAG ORDER, page 5

# **Dropped on Ex SL Cop**

By Amy Sylvestri

Charges have been dropped The document sent to the against the San Leandro police commissioners refers to the officer who had sex with an underage girl in the department's

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office has dis-If the commissioners do not missed the case against former sign the agreement, the letter says San Leandro policeman Marco they will be removed from their Becerra, 27, because the young woman involved declined to

Under California law, alleged see DROPPED, page 14

### **INSIDE YOUR TIMES**

	ŀ	1	S	T	O	R	Υ

Take a history walk on Davis Street.

#### FOOD

Turn a summer salad into a full meal.

#### MACHINES

World's best calculators were made in San Leandro. Page 16

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

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# MEETING **SCHEDULES**

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

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

#### ■ SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



#### San Leandro Times

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

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# Pets of the Week



Miss Minion

Barnes Court in Hayward, are soon. Miss Minion the kitten and Gus

**Miss Minion** is all purrs, ward Animal Shelter at 293-7200.

**Join the Happy Stampers** 

If you like crafts, join the Monday of each month at the

Happy Stampers who use rubber San Leandro Main Library, 300

stamps to make greeting cards. Estudillo Ave. For more infor-

The club meets on the second mation, call Janie at 483-0389.



Gus

old, she loves to play with toys and is very interested in cuddling with people.

Three-month-old Gus is a big fan of the "surprise!" He likes to hide under things and The Pets of the Week at the pop out to an unsuspecting party. Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 He wants to find a loving family

For more information on Miss Minion or Gus, call the Hay-

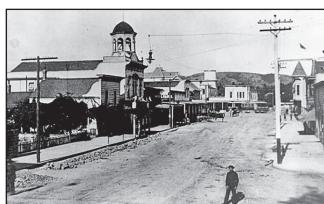


kisses, and cuddles. At 3 months The history walk on Davis Street this Saturday will take in the sites of the former Caterpillar building, country courthouse and the old City Hall.

# **Historic Walk on Saturday** To Explore Davis Street

The San Leandro Historical Society and the San Leandro Historical Railway Society invite the public to a Davis Street History Walk on Saturday, July 14, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Stroll along Davis Street and discover the past. Find out about William Heath Davis, see historical photographs and hear about buildings and industries that once lined the street – the old city hall site, former county courthouse



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site, the Catepillar Tractor site, and more.

ciety in the old Southern Pacific additional \$10. depot in Thrasher Park where you can see the working model androhistory.org or call 969-0975 railroad while light refreshments and leave a message with your will be served.

Pre-registration required by July 12. \$10 for members, \$20 The walk will end at the San for non-members. An optional Leandro Historical Railway So- deli lunch is available for an

To register, visit www.sanlename and phone number.



Fri, July 13, 8pm - Mr. Chin's Hot Sauce Sat, July 14, 6pm - The Collective Sun, July 15, 3pm - The Blues Bottle Band

Fri, July 20, 8pm - Latin Rhythm Boys Sat. July 21. 1pm - Gus Wedemeyer's 3 O'Clock Jump

Sat. July 21. 6pm - South 46 Sun, July, 22, 3pm - Johnny Mahalo and The Wild Coconuts

Fri, Jul 27, 8pm - Re-wind, That 80's Band Sat, July 28, 6pm - The Simms Band Sun, July 29, 3pm - Margie Turner and The Out Back Blues Band

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# Cardboard Cargo Overboard

A truck lost its load of cardboard boxes last Friday afternoon at around 4:30 p.m., causing a mess at the corner of Marina Boulevard and Alvarado Street.

# Fire Breaks Out During I-880 Commute

Alameda County Firefighters extinguished a car fire that turned into a grass fire on Monday evening.

A car traveling on northbound I-880 at around 6:30 p.m. caught fire on the shoulder at the Marina Boulevard west exit.

The fire spread to the vegetation. The fire was put out before it spread to any structures and no one was injured.

exit was closed until around 8 p.m.



The Marina Boulevard west Smoke from the car fire that spread to the grass was visible from Marina Boulevard

# **CROSSWORD ANSWERS**



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# Town Hall Forum Provides a **Chance to Chat with Officials**

By Amy Sylvestri San Leandro Times

The city held a special town hall forum on Monday night at tricts, 3, 4, and 6, represented by Councilmen Lee Thomas, Benny took questions.

mayor, City Council members,

What was on people's minds? the old Dick's restaurant.

Before he took audience tioned the ongoing controversy Zapata.

Ballew thanked acting City Manager Jeff Kay and City Attorney Richard Pio Roda for "working really hard to make sure part of their programs. the city keeps moving forward."

problems are minor in comparison to the issues in some cities, though he didn't elaborate.

"We are lucky to be in San Leandro," said Ballew. "There paredness programs in place 1, 2, and 5 in May. are a lot of cities dealing with including earthquake safety trainbigger things than what we are dealing with."

The city recently cut down trail and one woman asked when drive recklessly and do donuts by ebpublishing.com

there is a lack of shade while walking.

Public Works Director Debproperty, so they had to go. The city is about to remove the Lee, and Pete Ballew, who talked stumps and they are working with have been called to the marina for about their neighborhoods and the Heron Bay Homeowners' stunt drivers and other calls 428 It was a chance to talk to the replacement trees to plant.

School board member Diana shot was fired. and other officials in an informal Prola told the council that she was disappointed by a sign at the Optimist Club's booth at throughout the area." Cars doing donuts, litter, and the Cherry Festival that invited Optimist Rifle Club.

Prola said she doesn't have dead landscaping. questions, Ballew obliquely men- anything against guns but that it was inappropriate to have a big of former City Manager Chris photo of a gun and to appeal to said. kids when there have been so many school shootings.

disaster preparedness and said sanleandro.org. there should be more planning at the neighborhood level.

The city has emergency preing and in 2017, the city adopted meeting to have your voice be a local hazard mitigation plan.

several trees on the Heron Bay naire Park said people constantly this paper by emailing letters@

they'd be replaced because now her house and at the marina.

Police Chief Jeff Tudor said that that type of behavior can lead to sideshows and it's something the Marina community Center bie Pollart told her that the trees he and his fellow East Bay chiefs to hear from residents of Dis- were encroaching on private take so seriously and that they've formed a task force.

Tudor said that his officers Association on what kinds of times so far in 2018, including a large party in late June were a gun

> "It's a big topic," said Tudor. "It's a phenomenon we are seeing

Another woman said that she finding some kind of tenant for young people to join the Junior wants the city to do more about blight downtown like litter and

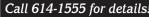
> "I just think we can up our game a little aesthetically," she

Mayor Pauline Cutter said that everyone should download The Optimist Club stresses the MySL app which lets you gun safety and responsibility as report any spots of blight directly to the city; it's available for iOS One Heron Bay resident or Android and more information He said that San Leandro's asked what the city is doing for is on the city's website, www.

> The city holds these town halls for different districts periodically and held one for Districts

If you couldn't make the heard, don't forget you can al-A woman who lives in Bo- ways send a letter to the editor of









I am not an attorney. I can only provide self help services at your specific direction.

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San Leandro Times THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

# **NEIGHBORS**



# Laying a New Line

Workers recently installed a new fiber-optic line under the intersection of East 14th and Davis streets in downtown San Leandro, as traffic was held up briefly.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMEN

#### **❖** Woodminster Amphitheater

mance.

stein's classic Broadway musical, under the musical direction of will be presented by Woodminster César Cancino, will present its in Hayward. For information or Summer Musicals and Producers Summer Concert: Six Continents tickets, call 881-6777 or visit Assoc., Inc. at 8 p.m. on July 12, of Music on Friday and Saturday, www.dmtonline.org. 13, 14 and 15 at Woodminster July 20 and July 21, at 8 p.m.; and Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Sunday, July 22, at 2 p.m. The Park, Joaquin Miller Rd. in Oak- summer concert will feature the land. Purchase tickets at 531-9597 lively, tropical, and romantic The San Leandro Players will or www.woodminster.com or at rhythms from around the world. the box office before any perfor- Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for adult H.A.R.D. resident, \$15

❖ Douglas Morrisson Theatre for under 30/over 60 and \$12 for Oklahoma!, Rodgers & Hammer- The Morrisson Theatre Chorus, youth/student. Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St.

#### **❖ San Leandro Players** at San Leandro Museum

present The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie from July 21 to Aug. 19 at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Show times are Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus Fridays at 8 p.m. on Aug. 10 and Aug. 17. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, students (with ID). For more information or reservations, call 895-2573. Information and tickets online at www. slplayers.org. In this who-done-it, a group of strangers trapped by a snowstorm discovers that a murderer is among them, and you'll never guess who it is. The The Mousetrap has been thrilling audiences continuously since its 1952 premiere in London's West End.

#### **HOROSCOPE** by Salomé © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your zeal for challenges usually works well for you. But this week it's best to avoid jumping into new situations without more information. Vital news emerges by the weekend.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Once again, the Bovine's patience pays



off as that pesky problem works itself out without taking too much of your valuable time. A new task opens interesting possibilities. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Those suggestions you want to share need



to be set aside for a while so you can focus on the job at hand. There'll be time later to put your ideas into a workable format.



**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Be sure about your sources before you use the information in any decision you reach about your new project. Some of the data might be out of date or misinterpreted. **LEO (July 23 to August 22)** A sudden challenge might rattle you at first. But pump up that strong Lion's heart with a full measure of courage, and face

it with the continuing support of family and friends.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Watch your expenses this week so you can have a financial cushion to fall back on should things tighten up later this month. Money matters ease by the 1st.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Uncertainty over workplace policy creates anxiety and confusion among your colleagues. Don't be surprised if you're asked, once again, to help work things out.



offers a chance to relax and restore your spent energies. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is not the best time to go to extremes to prove a point. Better to set a sensible goal now and



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A step-by-step progression is the better way to move ahead. Taking shortcuts could be risky at this time. Important news arrives on the 1st.

move forward. There'll be time later to take the bolder course.



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Avoid getting drawn into workplace disputes that should be handled by those directly involved. Instead spend your energy developing those new ideas.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You still need to be prudent about money matters. But things start to ease by the end of the week. A weekend encounter with an old friend brings welcome news.



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# **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

#### **♦** Amateur Boxing Event & Outdoor Festival

The Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs Activities League (DSAL) and boxer Andre Ward will host an amateur boxing event and outdoor festival entitled The Generation NEXT Showdown outdoor boxing event and festival on Saturday, July 14, at the Hayward Adult School gymnasium, 22100 Princeton St. in Hayward. Meet Andre Ward at the festival with rock climbing and entertainment from noon to 1:30 p.m., and the boxing matches start at 2 p.m. General admission is \$15, ringside seats are \$25. Tickets can be purchased at the event or online at http:// www.acdsal.org/boxingdetails.html.

#### ❖ Fix-It Clinic at San Leandro Library

The San Leandro Library and Public Works Office of Sustainability invites the public to a Fix-It Clinic on Saturday, July 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Items for repair might include bikes, skateboards, clothing and fabrics, computers, phones, toys, kitchen equipment, and small devices. This event is a family-friendly, do-it-together repair shop for the community. Interested volunteers with any fixing expertise may sign up at http://goo.gl/ xS1MRK or call 577-3975.

#### **❖** A Davis Street History Walk

The San Leandro Historical Society and the San Leandro Historical Railway Society invite the public to a Davis Street History Walk on Saturday, July 14, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stroll along Davis Street and discover the past. Find out about William Heath Davis, see historical photographs and hear about buildings and industries that once lined the street – the old city hall site, former county courthouse site, the Catepillar Tractor site, and more. The walk will end at the San Leandro Historical Railway Society in the old Southern Pacific depot in Thrasher Park where you can see the working model railroad while light refreshments will be served. Pre-registration required by July 12. \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. An optional deli lunch is available for an additional \$10. To register, visit www.sanleandrohistory.org or call 969-0975 and leave a message with your name and phone number.

#### ❖ I.D.E.S. St. John Lunch & Bingo

I.D.E.S. St. John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will host a barbecue ribs lunch and bingo on Saturday, July 14, at noon. Tickets are \$15 and include lunch and four bingo cards. Extra cards are 25 cents each. For tickets, call Willie Cavo at 635-6326 or Frances Leite at 886-1568.

#### **❖** Hearing Loss Association Picnic Canceled

The East Bay Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association will cancel the family picnic on Saturday, July 14 due to poor response. For more information, call 221-6080.

#### **❖** Buon Tempo Club Family Dinner

The Buon Tempo Italian American club is having a family dinner on Tuesday, July 17, at 7 p.m. in the Mt. Tabor Hall, Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley (located across from the 580 Marketplace). Chef Craig Durao and his team will serve a five course family style dinner of Pork Spare Ribs. Red and white wine and soda are also included. Everyone is welcome to attend. Happy hour is at 6:30. This dinner is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, July 13th, by calling the Buon Tempo dinner line at 483-6929. For more information about events or membership, go to www.buontempo.org.

#### **\*** Cherry City Toastmasters Meetings

The Cherry City Toastmasters Club meets every Tuesday from 12:05 to 1:05 p.m. in the Trustees Room on the first floor of the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Learn how to speak effectively in a safe and supportive environment. Build confidence and effectiveness in your professional and personal life. Come explore what Toastmasters is all about.

#### **❖** The Philatelic Society of San Leandro

The Philatelic Society of San Leandro Inc. meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Trustee room and the San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Gayle at 638-8765.

#### **&** *E.T.* Playing at the San Leandro Museum

The San Leandro Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., will show the movie E.T. on Wednesday, July 25, at 1:30 p.m. Follow the earthly journey of lovable E.T. when a group of aliens visit Earth E.T. is accidentally left behind. He is discovered by 10-year-old Elliott and the two become friends. (1982, PG, 2 hours) Free admission. Bring your favorite movie snacks.

#### **\*** Elders Take the Mic

Elders will take the mic and share their personal and poignant life stories on Saturday, July 28, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Hayward Senior Center, 22325 North Third St. in Hayward. No charge for admission. Hear stories about childhood mischief, moments of hardship and triumph, or reflections on the retired life. Get inspired to join the class and write your own story. RSVP is appreciated by calling the Hayward Area Senior Center at 881-6766.

#### **❖** Coyote Hills Community Bike Ride

Join the Cherry City Cyclists and Bike Walk San Leandro for a community bike ride on Sunday, July 29. 18 miles with +/- options. Meet at the Union City BART station (west side) at 9:30 a.m. We'll stop at Sno-Crave for an ice cream treat. For more information, see facebook for details: https://www.facebook. com/events/2042899222705189/

#### **❖** Legos On Display

A Legos city is on display Friday through Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m., through Aug. 16, on the second floor of the Bay Area Family Church, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro. See, build or buy Legos. Admission is \$5, cash only at the door, or tickets online at: brickshow2018. eventbrite.com.

#### \* Kiwanis Club of San Leandro

Join the Kiwanis Club of San Leandro for weekly lunch meetings on Tuesday, from 12:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Englander Sports Pub and Restaurant, 101 Parrot Street, San Leandro.

#### **❖** The Happy Stampers

If you like crafts, join the Happy Stampers who use rubber stamps to make greeting cards. The club meets on the second Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Beginners welcome. For more information, call Janie at 483-0389.

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



# Weatherford and Vallar **Throw No-Hitter; Dodgers Post Winning Week**

The San Leandro Dodgers hit by a pitch. youth baseball team beat APS for a no-hitter.

walked, scored two runs and stole two bases. Enrique Batz contributed a single and walked twice.

The Dodgers broke out the over Alameda as Gordon Reed hit once, stole two bases and had an a pair of doubles, scored 4 runs, RBI sacrifice fly. Tyler Finamore and drove in 2 runs.

Cam Weatherford hit three an RBI. singles, a double, scored 3 runs and drove in 2 runs. Victor Her- the Dodgers lost, 6-2, to Pace nandez pitched two innings and Legion from Nebraska coached it does not force the officials to struck out all six batters that he by Gene Felise, a former San faced. James Cardera had a dou- Leandro High outstanding player. rights to express their opinions ble and scored twice, and Devin David Greene had a double, a Castro had a double, scored once walk and an RBI and Vic Herand drove in a run.

On Friday evening, the Dodg-stole a base. ers beat All Pro, 4-2, with Noah and stole a base. Danny Mendoza trying to steal a base. singled, stole a base, scored once and had an RBI. Daniel Pasillas record now stand at 23-7 on the said she is doing so because she walked once, stole a base and got season.

Saturday morning, the Dodglast Tuesday, 3-0, as Cam Weathers beat the Bay Area Bombers, erford and Matt Vallar combined 9-0, with Matt Vallar pitching a complete game, giving up only Fidel Sanchez singled and two hits and striking out five.

Freddie Ramos had two singles and stole two bases. David Greene had two singles, a walk, scored twice and stole a base. bats on Thursday with a 22-5 win Sammy Hadley singled, scored singled twice, scored two and had

In the second game Saturday,

On Sunday, the Dodgers lost, Amaral pitching a complete 9-2, to Watsonville. Noah Amaral game, allowing just three hits, tripled, single and scored a run. and striking out eight batters. Josh Valenzuela singled and stole Adrian Enriquez had a single, a base, plus he caught a great got hit by a pitch, scored once game and threw out two runners who were reached wished to

CHOCOLATE 6

# Gag Order: Deadline to sign is this Friday

continued from front page

The non-disparagement clause is two-way street, so Zapata also can't say anything bad about the city and city officials and employees.

The gag order only applies to the commissioners and board members when they are acting in their official capacity, according to deputy city manager Eric Engelbart.

Engelbart said that the agreement is "fairly standard" and that

An effort to silence negative comments displays a shocking lack of understanding of the right to free speech.

> - Former Mayor **Stephen Cassidy**

abandon their First Amendment when acting as an individual.

Engelbart said that the agreenandez singled, scored a run and ment also applies to all San Leandro employees when acting in their official capacities, but city employees are not being asked to formally acknowledge the agreement in writing.

None of the commissioners be identified, but one who is The San Leandro Dodgers planning to sign the document doesn't want to lose her spot on



Mayor Pauline Cutter and City Councilwoman Deborah Cox sent letters to their commissioners advising them to sign the document, or be removed from their position.

commission."

the board.

about signing and said he was considering getting his own lawyer to look at the document before or Pauline Cutter wrote: "Alhe made a decision.

Another said he did feel that the letter violated his First Amendment rights and questioned the city's authority to make him resign if he didn't comply. He called the City Council's handling of Zapata's case "filthy."

In a cover letter sent with the gag order to the commissioners she appointed, Councilwoman Deborah Cox said she was saddened by Zapata's loss and said he was "falsely accused of sexual misconduct."

Cox's letter also told her commissioners: "Failure to sign

ate your cooperation." Former Mayor Stephen Cassidy has criticized the city's decision to issue the gag order to the commissioners. It should be noted that Cassidy now works for Bloom Innovations, a marijuana-related business whose CEO is

though at first glance this letter

may appear to be strongly word-

ed, please know we are doing our

best to protect the best interests of

all parties involved and appreci-

director of community benefits. Cassidy said he was "shocked" that the city was Another was on the fence immediate removal from your trying to limit the speech of the commissioners and wrote:

also the CEO of the Davis Street

Wellness Center, where Zapata's

accuser Rose Johnson is the

"Threatening the service see GAG ORDER, page 14



the document will result in the

In her own cover letter, May-

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# Our Readers Remember

# A Young Cowboy Poses for a **Photographer at Thrasher Park**

By Sam Jason Special to the Times

Back in the early 1960s my dad and grandfather had a shoe repair shop on Davis Street near Douglas Drive where my brother and I would spend many afternoons after school.

One day as my dad drove us down Davis Street, we noticed that there was a guy with a pony at Thrasher Park taking photos. I remember what a thrill it was for my 5-year-old self to get all decked out into full cowboy gear for this photo.

My parents, Benny and Sarah Jason, who still live in the same house they bought in San Leandro 63 years ago, still have this photo, and the matching one of my brother, proudly displayed in my old bedroom.

Five-year-old Sam Jason got decked out in his cowboy gear to have his picture taken on a pony at Thrasher Park in the early '60s.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JASON FAMILY

# **Hank Solis Takes Ride** In a New Radio **Flyer**

Hank Solis will have many years to remember his first ride in a Radio Flyer wagon.

Hank is the son of Mike and Kate Solis, and nephew of Jeannie Powers who took the picture.

Good thing there's room for two - he's expecting a little brother or sister in

Though this is a recent photo, it's sure to bring memories for years to come.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEANNIE POWERS

# The Heyday of Peabody Motors

By John Ouintell Special to the Times

I remember when San 200 East 14th Street.

Peabody Motors in the 1950s and '60s, was owned by Van Peabody, Jr. and Bob

ouths.

Leandro had a first class service manager, Vic Canto and a part-time bartender at Chrysler-Plymouth dealer at was the assistant manager, Sherry's on Mission Bouleand Gene Mederious (my vard in Hayward. cousin) was the parts man-

White. San Leandro police was a master mechanic and 1961.

patrol cars were 1957 Plym- a hardtop race car driver at the old Oakland Speedway at Bill Almeida was the auto 150th and East 14th Street,

I remember because I was the lubrication mechanic Ted Montague of Hayward during this time, 1957 to

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Sharon, Bob, Matt, Rob and Kristin Jones in a family photo taken in 1980.

# Jones, Jr. Recupes from Head Injury, Joins Family Real Estate Business

By Maggie Sharpe San Leandro Times • July 24, 2003

since 1964. Now his son, Matt, for lack of trying. has joined the family business on Joaquin Avenue.

would one day be working along- just one arm and one leg," said side his son. In May, 1991, Matt his dad. "I think that really helped sustained a serious head injury in him to recover." a car accident. He came within an inch of his life, spending 35 days youngster of the family. He and in a coma, breathing through a his brother, Rob, 34, and sister, tube in his throat, before slow- Kristin, 33, all went through Rooly starting to recuperate. It took sevelt, Bancroft and San Leandro months of rehabilitation for Matt High schools. to make a comeback.

learn how to talk again," said ramento; Kristin is a graduate of Matt. "I didn't know how to put Chico State and lives in Beaversentences together."

a lot of head injury victims lose when she was just 36. large chunks of memory, but his

memory is intact.

He still has double vision positive attitude. which glasses are able to correct estate business in San Leandro of his right arm. But that wasn't

Bob didn't imagine that he in an Olympic-size pool, using

Matt, who is now 30, is the

Rob graduated from Cal State "I knew words but I had to Hayward and now lives in Sacton, Oregon. Their mother, Sha-He says he's lucky because ron, died of lung cancer in 1981

Slowly recovering from the

car accident, Matt maintained a test the first time," said his dad,

"I got a second chance at life," Bob Jones has been in the real and he never regained the full use he said. "I just take it one day at time and this time he passed."

> He went back to school at Los "When Matt was in rehabili- Positas College, earning an A.A. tation, he swam 50 laps every day degree and getting his Realtor's Bay-O-Vista club to work out

> > "He didn't pass the real estate just lights up."

"but he didn't give up. He studied some more, took the test a second

Bob describes Matt as "inspirational."

'When Matt goes to the every morning, the whole place

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# Our Readers Remember



# **Earl Likes to Cruise in Style** In His 1971 Lincoln Mark III

When the time came to buy a new car Earl Cava headed down to what was Auto Row at the time, Broadway in Oakland. "I was going to buy a Ford and then I saw this," Earl said. "A 1971 Lincoln Mark III. I sat in it and said, 'This is it.' Earl still drives the '71 Mark III. Sometimes people ask how much he wants for it. "It's not for sale," Earl says.



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# The Picture that Became **Picazo Family Treasure**

### Mama couldn't afford three pictures but one did the job

By Ester Picazo Special to the Times

In the 1940s there were men who made a living with a pony and a camera, traveling all over Texas documenting wide-eyed children atop a tired horse.

Mama couldn't afford three pictures, so the photographer willingly eliminated the pony. He gave our grandparents copies of this photo, and through the years a copy has surfaced at unexpected

Our clothes were homesewn and the pose reflects the era - the older sister in charge of the younger Radio station KFUU, San ones. Being poor did not mean being hungry or on public assistance. The war erased many barriers and our mother worked as a Rosie the Riveter at a shipyard in

> unfettered childhood, playing outside until dusk, falling Adelina (left) and Rebecca. in love with movie cowboys

> > **HOUR** TOWING



Our memories are of an Esther Picazo (right) poses in a photograph taken in Texas in the 1940s that became a family heirloom with her sisters

(I never recovered from lov- ing to count in the bargain. ing Gene Autry), learning to read from hymn books, and then, less threatening and having no activity more high-safer, because in our neightech than playing cards with borhood a kid was every-

It was a sunnier world our grandparents and learn- body's child.

#### What to Do with All that Garbage

Pictured left to right: George

Guy Robinson, circa 1949.

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bage fires are endangering during a whole year. naval air transports and othport. One fire was reported about 1944.

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From A Garden Grows er planes at the Oakland Air- in Eden by Harry E. Shaffer,



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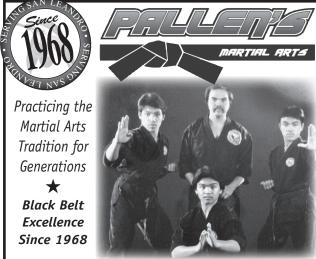
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# Our Readers Remember

# The Bush Girls Take a Picture at the Fountain

Gin Murphey and her sisters had their picture taken in front of the old fountain in downtown San Leandro in 1949. The family moved to San Leandro in the late '40s and lived on Gardner Boulevard for a few years and then bought a new house on Leonard Drive in 1954. Shown in the picture is Kathy Bush Kenslow, Mary Bush Leoni and Gin Bush Murphey.

### **Goldt Drives** First Car Around Backyard

Amanda Goldt drives her pedal car in her backyard in Floresta Gardens in October 1970. Amanda, who is a real estate broker today, says, "I still like white cars but now it's a Mercedes.'



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## **Young Actors Hit** The Stage at SLHS By Margaret Dambley Special to the Times

sembly during school hours. in them, or to watch. In 1939, at McKinley

recall what the play was about, but it was fun preflower costumes.

right) Leah Godwin, Mimi lon (Rodriguez).

Back in the day, schools Fithian, and me, Margaret had plays that were present- Castro (Dambley). Standing ed to the students at an as- is my best friend Midori Ogo.

Years later, in 1945 at They were always fun to be San Leandro High School, our Spanish Club put on a play for the Junior assem-School, our class put on a bly, and then for the Senior play where a few classmates assembly. It was directed by and I were flowers. I cannot our Spanish teacher, Annie Tedeschi.

Left to right in the high paring for it and making our school picture are Mary Castro (Hicks), John Behymer, In the picture, the three Margaret Castro (Dambley), girls kneeling are (left to Joe Torres, and Marie Vigal-



Leah Godwin, Mimi Fithian and Margaret Castro (Dambley) kneeling, and Midori Oro standing, are in their flower costumes for a play at McKinley School in 1939. At right members of the Spanish Club are in costume for a play at San Leandro High in 1945.



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# **Peak of the 2018 Market Behin**

league of its own.

economy, strong wages and rising wage increases. Additionally, ininterest rates are just a few of the creasing mortgage rates are whitpeaked?

2018 began normally enough upward. Although upward market gains at the beginning of the year ly indicators seem to suggest this ing January. is old news (we've seen strong year may be no different. property value increases the past 6 Januarys), the strength of 2018's surge caught everyone off guard.

Starting with a December 2017 average price in Alameda County of \$956,000, we just ended June at \$1,128,000 - an incredible 6-month increase of 17.99%.

While this good news for sell-

prices higher yet.

There may be good news on the the past 4 years in a row, and ear-

The first five months of our local market are typically the strongest, with the highest number of transactions going pending every as pending sales dipped in June May and then closing in June.

t's no secret the 2018 Bay ers, it further compounds the issue ber of closed transactions, it also Area housing market is in a for those trying to buy. 17.99% is represents the yearly pinnacle a massive increase and dramatical- for prices. While June posts the Record low inventory, a hot ly outpaces same period average highest number of closings, it also shows a decrease in number of homes going pending. With fewer metrics driving the record-break- tling away at affordability, making homes entering escrow, July closing market upwards. But have we the effective increase in home ings are always lower and, typically, prices decline as well.

Over the past 4 years, closings with home prices in Alameda horizon for buyers, however. June and prices have eased from July County reversing themselves from average prices have represented to the end of the year, and then, in December's slide and heading the peak of the yearly market cycle classic "lather, rinse and repeat" fashion, shot up again the follow-

> If that pattern holds true, then It is a historical pattern worth the market has peaked for 2018 and we can expect lower prices and fewer transactions for the remainder of the year.

Currently the trend is holding, as anticipated and contract prices for sellers who are left wondering Not only is June the peak of lowered as well. While good news why offers and prices have sudthe market with the highest num- for buyers, it's a frustrating time denly diminished.



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# Discourage Spiders from **Building Webs at Windows**

By Buzz Bertolero

Despite my best efforts, I have a stubborn spibuild spider webs in the corners garden spiders. As a group, they have anything against spiders, away and steer clear of humans. but I do like to have this window open. What can I do to make very beneficial in controlling cause it's an excellent source of

this spot unattractive to spiders? garden insects, so we don't want

I'm not sure that I have an excellent answer to the spider problem. der, that continues to There are over 3,000 varieties of of my kitchen window. I don't are pretty shy, so they tend to run

to remove them with pesticides. Yes, there are some poisonous spiders (the Black Widow spider poses the only threat in the Bay

Spiders trap their food in the cobweb they produce which is formed mostly at night. They Spiders are, believe it or not, continue to revisit this area be-

food for them.

Night-flying bugs are also attracted to the windows because of the light. If possible, install a yellow porch light to discourage the insects. Also move any ripening fruit away from the opening, as fruit flies are one of the favorite foods of spiders. I hope this helps.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Professional.



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# Pesky Oxalis Hard to Control in Lawn Making Minor Gutter Repairs

By Buzz Bertolero

This is the time of year that the stubborn, yellow flowering Oxalis insists on spreading throughout our lawn. My attempts at pulling or digging out the main roots seem only to result in spreading the problem. How do I go about getting rid of it?

Oxalis, also known as the common yellow wood-sorrel, is a common perennial weed in lawns and gardens. Both the green and red leaf varieties have a clover-like shape while the bulbous type has white flowers with long, green strap leaves.

ularly difficult to control while the cloverleaf type is easier. You can be successful in manually removing Oxalis from containers; however, it's a tedious and frusyou're not all that successful.

After flowering a capsule form as necessary to control those plants



The bulbous oxalis is partic- that contains several seeds. The from the germinating seeds. seed is difficult to identify and yourself of oxalis in the turf.

Turflon Ester from Monterey trating task in turf, and frankly, Lawn and Garden does the best job in removing the actively grow-Oxalis reproduces itself from ing plants. One application with a rel family comprising about 570 com and questions can be sent by be patched with a wire brush. Any seed as well as above and un- tank sprayer should control the ac- species. Many of the varieties are email to buzz@dirtgardemer.com rust around the leak should be cut and to locate any damage or deteriderground stems or rhizomes. tively growing oxalis. Reapply it cultivated and planted in gardens. or on Facebook at Facebook.

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I'm not aware of any organic is spread by mowing. So, you'll herbicide that will selectively need to use a herbicide to rid control the oxalis without damaging the desirable grass. It's a war of attrition.

The flowers are usually white. com/Buzz.Bertolero.

pink or yellow, and the foliage if your gutters are aluminum, buy can be green, purple or red. The aluminum patches; if they're steel, traditional Irish shamrock is a variety of oxalis.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Note: Oxalis is a large genus of *Professional*. The Dirt Gardenflowering plants in the wood-sor- er's website is www.dirtgardener.

By Samantha Mazzotta

mall holes that are less than a half inch in diameter in rain gutters should be patched as quickly as possible so that they don't

It's important to do it correctly so that the patch material doesn't sit too high and cause a new rough patch for debris to jam up on.

A safety note: Work from a ladder, rather than from the roof, when fixing gutters, and always have a helper to steady the ladder and hand up tools as needed.

If you have metal gutters, buy a small tube of roofing cement and more than enough metal repair patches that are the same type of metal as your gutters. For example, buy steel. For fiberglass gutters, use fiberglass patching material and gutter repair cement or caulk. Using two different metals could cause corrosion between them.

Scrub the area around the spot to away with metal or aviation snips. Glue the metal patch in place by

dabbing roofing cement around the bottom and pressing firmly over the leaky area, then coat the edges of the patch with cement and smooth so the cement feathers out into the gutter

If leaks are occurring around the joints, check to make sure the gutter isn't loose or uneven at the joint. If it is you'll probably need to adjust the nearest hanger(s) or, if these components are damaged or rusted, replace them. Once the gutters on each side are secure, then pipe roofing cement along the joint and smooth down.

To prevent buildup of leaves and debris in the gutters, consider investing in gutter screens. These are placed over the top of the gutter runs and discourage larger debris from getting in.

Gutter guards should be installed along the entire run. Prices vary depending on how much you need and the type or brand you need to buy, and of course, whether you install them yourself or hire a contractor to

Home Tip: Gutters should be cleaned and inspected twice a year to make sure they're free of debris

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Fifteen-year fixed-rate home loans averaged 3.99 percent, down from 4.04 percent.

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#### gage averaged 4.52 percent last mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.74 week, down from 4.55 percent a percent, down from 3.87 percent. SATURDAY & SUNDAY JULY $14^{ ext{TH}}$ & $15^{ ext{TH}}$ **PHONE BDRMS/BATHS** REALTOR **AGENT** 4/2.5 925-998-8131 Fracisco Realty Mike Lovewell Team 510-351-5555 Re/Max Accord 3/1 Greg Novak 510-472-4770 Marvin Gardens RE 3/2 510-357-0120 Robert Jones & Assoc. Matt Jones 4/3 Coldwell Banker Stella Hui 510-604-3861

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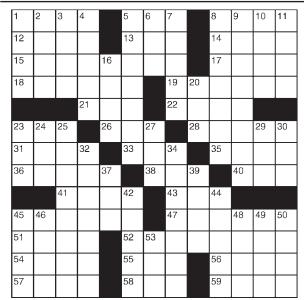
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**ANSWERS ON PAGE 3** 

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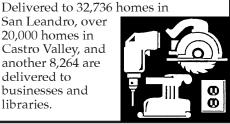


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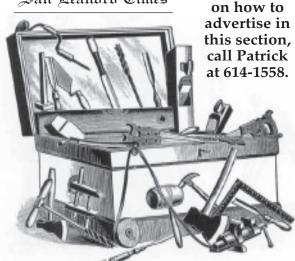


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San Leandro Times / Castro Valley Forum

San Leandro Times THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

# Report: Zapata exonerated

continued from front page

granting the Davis Street Wellness Center a lucrative medical marijuana permit. A few of Kramer's discoveries seem to indicate that someone was trying to dig up dirt on Zapata.

At some point, Zapata learned that Davis Street made a Public Records Act request from his former employer, National City, seeking any complaints made against Zapata while he was employed as city manager there.

Zapata and several other National City officials were named in a lawsuit in 2006 in which a national City employee alleged she was wrongly terminated and harassed for being non-Hispanic.

Zapata told Kramer that on May of 2017, a redacted party told him "I'm not a part of this. It's Rose (and two other redacted names)" who were obtaining "opposition research" against Zapata.

Another part of Kramer's report says that Zapata believed deadlines even after they were some real estate. that Johnson or an affiliate of hers extended. had hired a private investigator in Zapata.

The conflict between Johnson and Zapata apparently stemmed from the fact that Zapata made a separate loan from Wells Fargo. Mr. Zapata, Ms. Padilla Johnson public that in 2016 Davis Street failed to pay back a loan of \$1.5 Kramer also suggests that Davis other bills." million in taxpayer money the Street did not not intend to back a clinic, and missed payment immediately, even after they sold the "press releases" tab.

Mabel M. Gonsalves

**Peter Tsahalis** 

**Janet Florence Heininge** 

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The independent report found that Chris Zapata did not make any sexual overtures toward Rose Padilla Johnson.

time resident of San Leandro held on Friday, July 20 at St. Lean-

passed away on July 10, 2018. der Catholic Church beginning at

Visitation will be held at San- 9:30 a.m. Burial to follow at Holy

tos-Robinson Mortuary on Thurs- Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward.

day, July 19, beginning at 5 p.m. Arrangements by Santos-Robin-

an attempt to uncover something that not only did Davis Street Johnson at the Cherry Festival," to discredit him months before not pay back the money in time, she sent the City Council a letter Johnson signed papers stating saying she'd been harassed by that the loan was unencumbered when she knew the same piece of he asked Ms. Padilla Johnson if property was being used as collateral for both the city loan and the property sold. According to

SARA L. ENNOR

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"Mr. Zapata shared that in Kramer's report determined June 2016, he saw Ms. Padilla Kramer wrote. "He had heard from (redacted) that the Davis Street property was for sale, so the City would be paid back once Zapata's interview with told him that Davis Street has

Kramer's full report is availcity gave the non-profit to open the city's loan of taxpayer money able on the city's website under

■ Mabel M. Gonsalves, a long- 7 p.m. The funeral mass will be Street in Castro Valley beginning

DEATHS

# City Council to Vote on \$500 per **Year License on Tobacco Stores**

By Amy Sylvestri San Leandro Times

The City Council is scheduled to vote next Monday on whether to require a special license for tobacco retailers to continue to sell cigarettes, cigars, and other tobacco products in San Leandro.

The new proposed license is set to cost each of the city's 86 stores in town that sell tobacco \$500 per year.

It would be required in additional to the two licenses already required to sell cigarettes in San Leandro – the city business license and state Board of Equalization tobacco license all retailers are already required to have.

And next month the city's new flavored tobacco ban goes into effect. So some retailers have been left feeling like the city is hurting their businesses.

Starting Aug. 15, no one can buy flavored cigarettes, cigars, or vape juice, but menthol is still okay. All cigarettes must be sold in packs of 20 or more, all individual cigars must be sold in packs of five or more and cost at least \$7 but individual cigars can be sold if they cost more than \$5.

The city says the fee is not a money-making effort, but just recoups the cost of running the licensing program and having officers go to stores to make sure no flavored tobacco is being sold.

'We can't charge any more

at 11 a.m. Burial will be at Lone

Tree Cemetery in Hayward. Ar-

rangements by Santos-Robinson

Mortuary, 510 483-0123.



Flavored tobacco products will be banned in San Leandro starting Aug. 15.

money than what we are going it away? You can't return it and to use to run this program," said it's expensive." Lt. Robert McManus of the San

the products they won't be able to sell after the flavor ban goes

cigarettes are more dangerous on July 16 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. than guns, and you have gun buy- There's another information backs, so why not buy-back some session for retailers about the of these products?" he asked. flavored tobacco ban on July 25 "Are we supposed to just throw at 5 p.m. at City Hall.

Deputy city manager Eric Leandro police at a meeting of Engelbart reminded the store tobacco retailers on Wednesday. owners that they have known the One retailer asked if the city ban was going into happen since would consider a buy-back of all last fall, so they had time to sell their remaining products.

The City Council will discuss whether to impose the new tobac-'You seem to be saying that co retailers license at the meeting

# **Dropped:** Changes made to Explorers program

continued from front page have the right to decide not to program himself. proceed with prosecution at any time and the victim, who is now over 18, made that decision.

statutory rape charges stemming arrest, but started running again from having a sexual relationship with the Explorer in late 2017 when she was still 17-years-old.

Becerra was a mentor in the Explorers program that the girl had joined. The program is only with officers of the same designed for young people intergender and adding rules on how ested in law enforcement careers. instructors can contact Explorers.

Becerra resigned and confessed last October to having sex with the 17-year-old on three separate occasions while he was was consensual. There were off duty.

charged with three felony counts as just shy of 18, the law says it of unlawful sexual intercourse.

Becerra had been with the department for three years, was ifornia is 18, under California a SWAT team member, and was state law.

formerly a part of the Explorers

The Explorers program is open to young people ages 14 to 19. The program was temporarily Becerra was facing three suspended following Becerra's in February.

The San Leandro police made changes to the Explorers program policies, including allowing Explorers to go on ride-alongs

Becerra's lawyer Michael Rains said shortly after the arrest "This relationship in every sense strong emotional feelings by In November, Becerra was both parties and despite that she was illegal."

The age of consent in Cal-

#### with a vigil service beginning at son Mortuary, 510 483-0123. SAN LEANDRO

■ Peter Tsahalis, a longtime resident of San Leandro passed away on July 5, 2018. A Trisagion Service was held on July 11. Funeral Services will be held on Thursday July 12, at the Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church, 20104 Center

TIMES OBITUARIES may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. For help, call 510-614-1555.

### **Janet Heininge**

Nov. 21, 1934 ~ July 5, 2018

Janet Florence (nee Waugh) Heininge, age 83, died peacefully in her San Leandro home on July 5th, 2018, after an extensive battle with leukemia.

Janet was born at East Oakland Hospital on November 21st, 1934, to her father, Emmet

Gladstone Waugh, and her mother, Florence Elizabeth Waugh (nee Watters). Janet was raised in San Leandro. She married George Keith Heininge in 1955 and raised their family in San Leandro. Janet enjoyed travelling with her family, and to her death managed difficult challenges in her life with humor and dignity.

She was preceded in death by her aforementioned parents, by her sister, Alice Elizabeth (Waugh) Bawden, and by her eldest daughter, Kathryn Ann (Heininge) Frazier, who was taken from this world at age 52 following her own battle with cancer. Janet is survived by her husband, George Keith Heininge, her son, Kenneth Heininge, her youngest daughter, Elizabeth (Heininge) Yano, by seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A memorial service for Janet will be held at San Leandro First Presbyterian Church, 180 Estudillo Avenue, San Leandro, on July 21st, at 10:30 a.m. A reception at the church will follow.

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# Gag Order: Former mayor objects to order

continued from page 5 of city commissioners in an value and importance of the effort to silence any negative First Amendment's right to free comments concerning the job speech." performance of the former City Manager constitutes an abuse missioners and board members a of power by the mayor and City deadline of July 13 to return the Council and displays a shocking signed document.

lack of understanding of the

The city has given the com-

# **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.

#### Eviction of 81-Year-Old Is a Community Crisis

Editor:

The front page story of John Busch (The Times, July 5) puts a face on what is happening to our residents in our city.

With no Rent Review Ordinance in place for Mobile Home Parks, property owners can do what ever they want to their tenants, including raising rents 60% or use other unethical tactics to get them out. It is impossible now for most renters to ever afford to buy a place to live.

Renters live with the stress and vulnerability of their landlord having free rein to pretty much do whatever they want. Mr. Busch's story is all too familiar, and we need to stop turning away from the problem and make change.

The City Council has been a progressive leader in passing the expedited minimum wage and declaring itself a Sanctuary city, now it's time to look at affordable housing solutions. Especially vulnerable are seniors and others on fixed incomes. I call on the City Council to take notice of Mr. Busch's story, and work to find solutions: more affordable housing, rent protection for our renters, and more programs to help people at risk of becoming homeless like Mr. Busch.

—Carol Habercoss, San Leandro

#### Blames Negligent Politicians For Failing Tenants

Thank you for your coverage of the eviction crisis in San Leandro. Based on your story it seems the absolute worst outcome is really for those people who were told buying a "mobile home" or manufactured home was a smart investment.

Clearly in places like San Leandro, elected leaders have failed tenants time and time again. For people like 81-yearold John Bush, who may soon be living out of his car, it must feel like a slap to the face. I believe that any adverse health effects following the eviction will rest at the feet of negligent politicians, who repeat industry talking points instead of leading boldly.

If Prop. 10 passes (Costa-Hawkins Repeal), the city will have one less excuse to stonewall the needed regulation on rent increases. It may not be too late for San Leandro residents to rally behind a strong rent law to protect tenants. Meanwhile, I urge the readers to please donate to the eviction defense fund for John Bush and other affected elders awaiting removal from their own home. Visit www.gofundme.com/81-year-resident-faces-eviction and donate what you can.

This November there will be an election. Will the rent cost be an issue? It will be for John and the many other seniors on a fixed income. But it's not likely to be something Mayor Cutter and her opponents are likely to talk about.

-Guillermo Elenes Our Revolution San Leandro

#### Fourth of July Explosions Called 'Out of Control'

I'm wondering how much more jarring, more explosive, more traumatizing and dangerous celebrations like the 4th of July can get before something real is done about it.

Each year, millions of people have to sit and cringe as we listen to hours of repetitious loud booms and bomb-like explosions puncture the night air. Windows have to be shut. Animals have to be secured, comforted or drugged to prevent injuries and panic attacks.

Some unlucky, unsupervised animals have no choice but to run away, completely terrified and insane from the noise. They tragically get injured or killed by cars, wires, fences, etc. Wildlife is equally traumatized and displaced. In addition, fires are a real high risk.

I can't even imagine the trauma and stress this level of violent and triggering noise inflicts who fought in battle, serving the very country that is being celebrated.

As I understand, fireworks in San Leandro are illegal, but clearly folks feel a large sense of impunity, huge disregard and complete carelessness. How can citizens help the city cope with this?

Is it too much to ask for more astringent and/or creative policies to ensure everyone can enjoy this holiday without this level of aggravation? Nobody wants to take people's fun away, but there has to be a better way. There are cities that have actually banned loud fireworks, opting for silent ones. Others have used drone

I am respectfully requesting strong attention to this matter by the city of San Leandro, as these explosions have become more prolific in duration and intensity throughout the years.

They have grown more out of control and they seem to be allowed to take place with zero restrictions in too many of our neighborhoods. They also don't end at a reasonable time, but continue on throughout the night, disturbing the peace of those who are due to work early the next day, or worse, those who are ill.

-**Lucia Fatone**, *Teacher* San Leandro High School

#### Ending City Manager Zapata's Contract Costly to San Leandro

So the City Council elected to throw away \$350,000 last week by ending the contract with City Manager Chris Zapata. That now brings the cost of the Rose Padilla's bogus sexual allegation #Me Too Movement up to a whopping \$530,000

The \$530,000 comes from the fact that Zapata was put on five months of paid administrative leave which works out to be \$142,000. He was the highest paid San obscene amount of money to oversee Leandro employee making \$244,170 per year and when you throw in the employee benefits it works out to be grand total of \$340,653 per annum, which ain't no chicken feed in my book.

On top of the \$142,000 the City also paid outside council \$38,000 to investigate the frivolous caper. Chris Zapata had been employed by the City since 2012 with an unblemished record and his contract was scheduled to end in January of 2020 just a short 18 months from now but the council decided to terminate the contract early even though Zapata did

nothing wrong.

There's a old saying, "pay me now or pay me later," well in this case Zapata made out like a bandit at the expense of the San Leandro taxpayers, thanks to the recklessness of the City Council.

—**Brent Heath**, San Leandro

#### Calls on Davis Street Directors To Remove Johnson as CEO

Every San Leandro citizen should be troubled that City Manager Chris Zapata, has been coerced into leaving. "Coerced" because his credibility has been damaged by the scurrilous, unfounded sexual harassment charges made by Rose Padilla Johnson, CEO of the Davis Street Family Resource Center.

Attorney Karen Kramer, the City-hired independent investigator, found, after five months of intensive investigation, that Mr. Zapata had not behaved inappropriately and that Ms. Johnson's account of events could be proven to be false in several instances.

Damaging a person's reputation should have serious consequences. The Davis Street Family Resource Center's Board of Directors should give very serious consideration to identically removing Ms. Johnson of her position and look for a suitable, ethical and credible CEO.

-Gary Naman, San Leandro

#### Suggests City Look Outside U.S. For New Citdy Manager

The city is now in the market for a new city manager, a high-priced city manager. The economist Dean Baker has an interesting take on the issue of professional compensation. Baker argues that we don't blink an eye when we outsource Blue collar jobs but practice strict protectionism when it comes to the professional occupations.

Topping the list are the CEOs who make several times what their foreign counterparts make when their counterparts are still very competitive. The GM CEO probably makes at least double what the Japanese and German CEOs make but you can't argue they make better quality autos.

Baker argues this also holds true for doctors and lawyers and other professionals. When the city hired Chris Zapata it was a long, slow process. Maybe the city should consider hiring someone from outside the U.S. We might be able to find a real innovator, maybe with new clean energy and other ideas, who the city might be able to recruit for half of what domestic city managers are demanding.

—Craig Williams, San Leandro

#### No Surprise that the City is in Financial Trouble

The City of San Leandro is in financial trouble. Is this really a surprise?

The city pays the city manager an a civic monopoly that does not have to compete in price, quality or service. One would think this type money would be reserved for someone who did compete and excelled.

The city has now determined police officers have a greater economic value than a skilled trades person. The city has demonstrated its business acumen in real estate speculation. It purchased the former Lucky Stores site only to sell it for \$2 million less than the purchase price. Then they put out a statement that if we all live as long as Methuselah they will recover the loss in sales and property

The City Council has initiated a policy where the city will not engage an outside vendor unless it pays its employees a minimum of \$15 per hour. This is not the action of elected officials who are interested in being good stewards of the public treasury. Rather it is the action of those who use the public treasury to advance their own political aspirations and/or are intent on purchasing a voting

City managers and city councils, both past and present, have agreed to labor agreements where the city and taxpayers have an open ended pension liability. Maybe that is why the city managers get the big bucks. Do your readers believe this same group would run their own personal affairs in the same manner?

Here are two suggestions. Do an actual cost analysis on every city position, excluding police, and let the data speak for itself. Would it be more cost effective to contract out on an as needed basis or maintain a constant city staff? More importantly, end he defined benefit plans that some employees enjoy and replace it with a defined contribution plan subject to the same limitation of those working in the private sector. If those employees feel abused, they can always exercise their free will and seek employment in the private sector.

—**Peter Parker**, San Leandro

# INQUIRING REPORTER

### Favorite childhood memory?

— Asked at the Bancroft Safeway

I was in Arkansas visiting my grandmother when I was 10 years old and she got me a go-cart. There was a dirt road with no cars on it and me and my cousins would ride around from sunup to sundown. We really had fun.

**Cassandra Chambers** San Leandro





When we went to Pier 39 and our parents would buy us candy-covered apples, and we would see the sea lions and go to the arcade and go on the magic carpet ride where it seemed like you were really flying.

#### Andrena Pearson Oakland

Playing in the park with my friends at Brookdale Park. They had a rec center and we had cooking classes, dance classes and trips to Great America, and tennis lessons, swimming lessons, they taught me how to swim, and we went camping.

> Veronica Taylor Oakland





Going to the pool every day at a neighborhood pool in Stockton. We got there when they opened at 11:30 and stayed until they kicked the kids out at 5:30.

Tracie Kinser San Leandro

My grandfather telling Indian stories that he made up about an Indian who lived in the Grand Canyon. And when he would take me by the hand and be sweet to me and we would go to the Piggly-Wiggly grocery store.

> Victoria McBride San Leandro



THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

### **Swing Fever Band To Play Library July 21**

The San Leandro Main Li-

tribute to the great jazz legends. female vocalist, Denise Perrier.

Since 1978, Swing Fever brary, 300 Estudillo Ave., will has been entertaining audienchost the Swing Fever Band on es in the San Francisco Bay Saturday, July 21, from 2 to 3 Area and throughout Northern p.m. No charge for admission. California. Members of the Enjoy quality music and band include some of the most authentic big band sound while experienced jazz musicians in Swing Fever's musicians pay the Bay Area, as well as the

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# See Old-Time Calculator at SL Museum

Friden Calculating Machine Company (Friden, Inc.) was an American manufacturer of typewriters and mechanical calculators.

San Leandro Times

Founded by Swedish immigrant Carl Friden in 1934, the first permanent plant was built in San Leandro in 1936 at 2350 Washington Avenue.

By 1939 Friden became the second largest operation in San Leandro with 1,300 employees and 15 acres in size. Friden advertising proclaimed the machines to be the "Aristocrat of Calculators.'

With 123 buttons most of us today are not likely to find a Friden Calculator "easy to use," but during the height of their production they were widely used due to their durability, reliability and ease of use. The average machine weighs 42 pounds and cost approximately \$650 when new.

even had a cameo appearance on History Museum and check out film, used by Katherine Johnson what they call the "green main the 2016 film "Hidden Figures" chine," an impressive piece of



The Friden Calcaltor Building at 2350 Washington Ave. where they made mechanical, and later, electronic calculators from 1934 until 1974. Below is photo from the Friden STW operating instructions.

calculating figures for NASA.

Want to see a Friden in real The 1956 Friden STW10 life? Come by the San Leandro



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mechanical engineering.

The Museum is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and the first Saturday of the 577-3990 or email asilveira@ month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Museum is currently um on Facebook.

closed for a short break and will reopen on Wednesday, July 25.

For Museum information call sanleandro.org or find the muse-

### **Theater Tours, Crafts** And Cars In SLZ

tours of the Lorenzo Theater, and fun with activities runs from 6 to outdoor movie will be presented 10 p.m. with the movie "Cars 3" at Showtime in San Lorenzo starting at 8:30 p.m. No admison Saturday, July 21, at 16080 sion charge. Hesperian Blvd. in San Lorenzo.

vendors and the car show will be timeinsanlorenzo.org.

A car show, craft vendors, from 2 to 6 p.m. Outdoor movie

To be a vendor or volunteer Tours of the theater, craft go to the website at www.show-

### **Cherry City Toastmasters**

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