



Pumpkin Power
PUMPKIN RECIPES FOR CAKE,
BREAD AND COOKIES 4

WEEKEND WEATHER

CLOUDY

HIGHS: 65-68

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

LOWS: 53-58

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 35 • NO. 43 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025 SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY RUBEN BANAUELOS

The Lucha Libre wrestlers brought high-flying action to the library on October 11.

Wrestling in the Stacks; Lucha Libre Grapplers Battle at the Library

By Ruben Banaueles
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro Library hosted a special community event which evolved into a complete spectacle when families and wrestling enthusiasts and curious visitors filled the library to watch Mex-

ican-style professional wrestling known as Lucha Libre on Saturday afternoon. Wrestling For Charity (WFC) organized the event which brought high-flying action and colorful characters and loud cheers to an unexpected library space while supporting community

engagement and charitable outreach. Robert Haugh, who serves as President and Founder of Wrestling For Charity, expressed his surprise about the unpredictable nature of new events. “You never really know what to

see *WRESTLING*, page 11

Caltrans Weighs I-580 Truck Ban

State agency eyes environmental racism behind truck ban that forces all trucks onto I-880

By Ruben Banaueles
San Leandro Times

A decades-old truck ban on Interstate 580 through Oakland is under review, as Caltrans District 4 launches a new study examining how lifting the restriction could affect traffic, safety, and public health in nearby communities. The I-580 Truck Access Study focuses on a key question: what would happen if big rigs, currently banned between Grand Avenue and I-238, were allowed back on the highway? Caltrans officials say the goal is to look at the full picture — from freight efficiency and congestion to pollution and racial equity in neighborhoods like West and East Oakland. “The study is really centered on how communities would be affected — not just trucks,” said Gia Whiteside, Caltrans’ Public Affairs

see *TRUCK BAN*, page 12

Diwali Festival Highlights South Asian Culture

Oakland Diwali returns this year, bringing the best of South Asian culture with authentic Oakland spice on Friday, Oct. 24, at 6 p.m. at BLOC 12 - 252 Second St. in Oakland. Oakland Councilmember Janani Ramachandran, the founder of Oakland Diwali, invites you to attend the East Bay’s premier festival of lights. RSVP by going to www.oaklanddiwali.com. Oakland Diwali is a festival of lights, a free and family-friendly event bringing together hundreds of people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds from across the Bay Area in each of the past two years. Dynamic dance and music performances, delicious South Asian food, and infectious community vibes have made Oakland Diwali stand out as a celebration. Get ready to dance your heart out, nourish your soul, and enjoy a celebration rooted in culture and lit by community.

see *DIWALI*, page 12

SLHS Grad Wins Coveted Award At Western New England University

2022 San Leandro High School graduate Kendall Branchaud was awarded the 2025 Skookum Award at Western New England University in September. Skookum is a native American Chinook word meaning “excellence.” Kendall was selected one of 15 recipients out of 75 nominated students. Students selected have a strong academic standing and have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in all their accomplishments – cocurricular activities, athletics, community service and volunteer work. Kendall is a criminal jus-

“She plans to work as a translator for students learning English.

tice major and has been on the Dean’s List twice. She is one of the Women’s Wrestling Team captains for WNE and competed at the NCAA Women’s Championships in Iowa. Kendall is a Campus Life Skills Mentor and is a representative on the Student

see *AWARD*, page 12

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



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EDITORIAL

Howard Morrison
Editor and Publisher
howardm@ebpublishing.com

Jim Knowles
Managing Editor
jimk@ebpublishing.com

Contributing Writers
Ruben Banaelos
Buzz Bertolero
Carl Medford
Linda Sandmark

PRODUCTION

Howard Morrison
Manager

Moxie Morrison
Assistant

Claudette Morrison
Business Manager

ADVERTISING

Display Advertising
Claudette Morrison
Classified Advertising
Patrick Vadnais

HOW TO REACH US

San Leandro Times
2060 Washington Ave.
San Leandro, California 94577
Office hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Office: (510) 614-1555
Newsroom: (510) 614-1557
Sports: (510) 614-1561
Advertising: (510) 614-1555
Classified: (510) 614-1558
Fax: (510) 483-4209
Email: jimk@ebpublishing.com
www.ebpublishing.com



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Bethel Community Presbyterian Unveils Mural

San Leandro 2050 and Bethel Community Presbyterian Church, 14235 Bancroft Ave., invites you to come on Sunday, Oct. 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. to celebrate the completion of the church's community mural, learn more about the resilience projects, and connect with neighbors over a community potluck.

For RSVP and more details, go to: <https://www.sl2050.org/community-mural-celebration>

SL Toastmasters Meet

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF BETHEL COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bethel Community Presbyterian Church will celebrate its new mural on Sunday.

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San Leandran Earns Masters at Georgia Tech

Affton Maryland of San Leandro, California, has earned a Master of Science in Cybersecurity from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Maryland was among 6,660 undergraduate and graduate students to be presented Georgia Tech degrees during the Institute's 268th Commencement exercises.

The Georgia Institute of Technology, or Georgia Tech, is one of the top public research universities in the U.S., developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

The Institute offers business, computing, design, engineering, liberal arts, and sciences degrees, as well as

professional development and K-12 programs for fostering success at every stage of life. Its more than 53,000 undergraduate and graduate students represent 54 U.S. states and territories and more than 146 countries.

They study at the main campus in Atlanta, at instructional sites around the world, and through distance and online learning.

As a leading technological university, Georgia Tech is an engine of economic development for Georgia, the Southeast, and the nation, conducting more than \$1 billion in research annually for government, industry, and society.

For more information, visit www.gatech.edu.

Free Senior Clipper Card Sign Up and Wheel-chair Marking and Tether Strap Program

The AC Transit's Accessible Services Department will issue Clipper Cards for ages 65+ (cards issued with no cash value) on Tuesday, Oct. 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. AC Transit will also provide a free service for marking and installing tether straps on mobility devices. Call 510-891-7113 if you are interested in having your mobility aid marked or tethered.

FLEX Rides Program Informational Session

The City of San Leandro's FLEX Rides Transportation Service for residents age 50 will hold its next information session on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. You're welcome whether you're new to the program or are a returning member in need of review.

Community Calendar

Mars Talk: What We've Found And What's Next

Ben Buress will share about all things "Red Planet" on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Bring your burning Mars questions for the Q&A session to follow. Light refreshments served, including two space-themed non-alcoholic drinks designed by Torani.

Halloween Family Fun Fest

The San Leandro Public Library will be hosting a family-friendly celebration with creative crafts, live entertainment on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. Costumes are welcome and encouraged, and fun is guaranteed for all ages. Come celebrate this spooky season. For more information, call 510-577-7970.

Bethel Community Resilience Hub: Open House

San Leandro 2050 and Bethel Community Presbyterian Church, 14235 Bancroft Ave., invites you to come on Sunday, Oct. 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. to celebrate the completion of the church's community mural, learn more about the resilience projects, and connect with neighbors over a community potluck. For RSVP and details, go to: <https://www.sl2050.org/community-mural-celebration>

Historical Society Trivia Bee

The San Leandro Historical Society invites you to join a fun afternoon testing your knowledge of local history on Saturday, Nov. 1, from noon to 3 p.m. at the historic Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette St. in San Leandro. Don't know much local history? You will after you attend the Trivia Bee. To register, visit: [www.sanleandrohistory.org/Events & Meetings](http://www.sanleandrohistory.org/Events&Meetings) page. Free, or \$10 to include pizza and salad lunch.

Hill and Valley Club Scholarship Boutique

Hill and Valley Club, 1808 B St. in Hayward, will hold its annual scholarship holiday boutique on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring jewelry, beautiful handmade items, holiday decorations, gift baskets, plants, candy, baked goods, and more. Proceeds pay for scholarships for high school seniors and nursing students. This is an indoor event that will be held rain or shine. Plenty of parking available. Cash, checks, and credit/debit cards accepted. For more information, visit the website at www.hillvalley.club.

Chamber Concert at All Saints Church

Music with a Mission: Brotherhood Chamber Concert at All Saints Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro on Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased at tinyurl.com/yinyang2526. Discount for students and under 30.

Alta Mira Club's Annual Community Boutique

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will have its Annual Community Boutique on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8 – on Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch is available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. White Elephant stage tables, opportunity drawing, gift table, unique handmade items presented by popular vendors and Alta Mira members. All proceeds will support the club's purposes.

Ohlone DAR Celebrates Veterans

Join the Ohlone Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution in celebrating local veterans at Lone Tree Cemetery, 24591 Fairview Ave. in Hayward, on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 1 p.m. Free parking. Light refreshments will be served.

Join the Book Club for Adults

Join a book club that offers adults 50+ a welcoming space to explore the joys, challenges, and wisdom that come with growing older through insightful literature and meaningful conversation. Each gathering invites reflection, connection, and celebration of the aging journey in all its complexity. The book club meets on the first Monday of the month at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Dia de Los Muertos Community Altar at The Library

Come to the Day of the Dead Community Altar at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. from October 27 to November 8.

All ages are invited to contribute a memento to remember and honor their deceased loved ones. A craft will be provided for anyone who wants to contribute to the altar.

Please drop off contributions at the library's front service desk.

For more information, email at Libraryinfo@sanleandro.org or call 510-577-3970.

Free Talk on Native Plants At Evergreen Nursery

Shop this Saturday, October 25, at the upcoming Native Plant Extravaganza, or order online from Green Thumb Works or California Native Seeds on either Sat. or Sun. October 25 or 26, and a percentage of your purchases will go to support the Native Garden Tour.

Free talks in the Nurseries on Saturday, October 25

Evergreen Nursery & Garden Center, 350 San Leandro Blvd. in San Leandro. Noon to 3 p.m.: Native-plant-loving-team-member Sara Giretto will be available to answer questions and help you with plant selection.

Castro Valley Women's Club

The Castro Valley Women's Club, 18330 Redwood Road in Castro Valley, will have an Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Women of all backgrounds and from anywhere including San Leandro are welcome to attend, meet current members, and learn about new programs and initiatives.

This non-profit club has been in existence for 73 years and has contributed greatly to the community over those seven decades with support for many volunteer organizations.

Friends of Library Gift Shop Bazaar

The Friends of the San Leandro Library will host a Gift Shop Bazaar on Saturday Nov. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro.

Shop a one-of-a-kind selection of gifts: jewelry, scarves, collectible McDonald's Happy Meal toys, and more. Find a little something for your loved ones or treat yourself and help your library thrive.

All proceeds benefit the San Leandro Library's programs and services. Credit card accepted.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SAN LEANDRO PLAYERS

Terry Guillory, Geoffrey Colton, Amy Cook, and Atesa McAleenan-Morrell perform in the SL Players' production of *Thunder Rock*.

The San Leandro Players Present *Thunder Rock* at SL Museum

The San Leandro Players will present *Thunder Rock*, opening on Saturday, Oct. 25, through Nov. 21 at the At the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium 320 W. Estudillo Ave.

The show runs Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus two Fridays at 8 p.m., Nov. 14 and Nov. 21. Tickets are \$25 general, \$20 seniors and under 12 (other

discounts may apply).

For tickets or more information, visit at www.slplayers.org or call 510-895-2573. Masking is recommended.

On the eve of WWII, a man seeks solace in a Lake Michigan lighthouse as he flees the world and its problems. When all looks darkest, a collection of ghostly figures help him find the strength and

courage to rejoin the world of the living.

This play's determined message is uniquely relevant for today.

Featuring: Geoffrey Colton, Amy Cook, Nikolas Greene, Terry Guillory, Edric Kusuma, Polina Litvak, Atesa McAleenan-Morrell, Paul Pedersen, and Jim Woodbury.

Meditation and Activities for Seniors at First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, invites senior citizens to a free program of seated exercise and meditation, followed by conversation and table ac-

tivities with tea and healthy snacks on Tuesday mornings, through Nov. 11 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Nurture your body, mind, and spirit while building community. Meet in

Hale Hall which is entered from Bancroft Avenue. All are welcome, non-denominational, no charge. For more information, call the church office at 510-483-0606.

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Pumpkin Treats Spice Up October



Pumpkin-Orange Poppy Seed Cake

Round, oval, tall, wide, or some endearing combination in between, pumpkin is an American tradition this time of year. It adds moisture to an entire range of baked goods. It's also a superb carrier for the flavors of subtle spices. Canned pumpkin, such as Libby's, can be used in any recipe call-

ing for pumpkin puree with no difference in taste or texture.

PUMPKIN-ORANGE POPPY SEED CAKE

- 1 (18.25-ounce) package yellow cake mix
- 2 cups pumpkin puree
- 3 large eggs
- 2/3 cup orange juice
- 1/4 cup poppy seeds
- Glaze

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour 12-cup bundt pan.

Combine cake mix, pumpkin, eggs and orange juice in large mixer bowl. Beat on low speed until moistened. Beat on medium speed for 2 minutes. Add poppy seeds; mix until blended. Pour into prepared bundt pan.

Bake for 35 to 40 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in cake comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack for 10 minutes; remove to wire rack to cool completely. Drizzle with Glaze.

To make Glaze, stir 1-1/2 cups sifted powdered sugar with 3 tablespoons orange juice until smooth.

GLUTEN-FREE PUMPKIN BREAD

- 1 stick butter, at room

- temperature, plus more for pan
- 1-3/4 cups gluten-free flour (spooned and leveled)
 - 1-1/2 teaspoons gluten-free baking powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 - 1-1/4 cups sugar
 - 3 large eggs
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - 1-1/4 cups pumpkin puree
 - 3/4 cup buttermilk

Preheat oven to 350°F. utter a 4-1/2 by 8-1/2-inch loaf pan.

Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg.

In a large bowl, using a mixer, beat butter and sugar on medium-high until light and fluffy, 7 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition and scraping down bowl as needed. Beat in vanilla. With mixer on low, gradually add flour mixture and beat until just combined. Add pumpkin and buttermilk and beat until just combined.

Transfer batter to pan, smooth top, and bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out with a few moist crumbs attached, about 1 hour 15 minutes (cover with foil if overbrowning). Let cool in pan on a wire rack, 15 minutes. Turn out onto rack and let cool completely. Serves 8.

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

- 2 pounds cream cheese
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 2 (1-pound) cans pumpkin
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
- Graham Cracker Crust (recipe below)

Sour Cream Topping (below)

Blend cream cheese with sugar until smooth. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating until blended. Add whipping cream, pumpkin, vanilla and spice, blending thoroughly.

Pour into Graham Cracker Crust. Bake at 300°F for 1-1/2 hours or until cake sets.

Remove and let rest 10 minutes, then pour Sour Cream Topping over cheesecake. Cool thoroughly before removing from pan. Chill. Makes 1 (10-inch) cheesecake.

Graham Cracker Crust

- 1 teaspoon soft butter
- 1-1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup melted butter

Brush 10-inch springform pan with soft butter. Mix crumbs, cinnamon, sugar and melted butter. Press

onto bottom of pan.

Sour Cream Topping

- 1 pound sour cream
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoon vanilla

Blend sour cream, sugar and vanilla until smooth.

CHOCOLATE-STRIPED PUMPKIN COOKIES

- 2 cups flour, spooned and leveled
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin-pie spice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 stick butter at room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 4 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped

Preheat oven to 375°F. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, baking powder, pumpkin-pie spice, and salt; set aside.

Using an electric mixer, beat together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg; beat until smooth. With mixer on low speed, alternately add flour mixture in two parts and pumpkin puree in one, beginning and ending with flour mixture; mix just until combined (do not overmix).

Drop dough by heaping tablespoons onto two baking sheets, about 1 1/2 inches apart. Bake until puffed and edges are golden, 15 to 20 minutes, rotating sheets once during baking. Immediately transfer cookies to wire racks, and cool completely.

When cookies have cooled, set them (still on rack) over a baking sheet or waxed paper. Place chocolate in a medium heatproof bowl set over (not in) a saucepan of simmering water; stir until almost melted. Remove from heat; stir until completely melted. Pour chocolate into a resealable plastic bag. Snip off a corner with scissors or a knife to make an 1/8-inch hole; pipe chocolate over cookies. Refrigerate until chocolate is firm, about 20 minutes. Yields about 42 cookies.

PUMPKIN-RAISIN MUFFINS

- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 3-1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1-1/4 cup 2% milk
- 1/4 cup soft butter or margarine
- 1 cup raisins
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 400°F and grease muffin tins

Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in pumpkin and eggs. Dredge raisins in 1/2 cup of flour.

Sift remaining flour and spices together. Pour milk into a mixing bowl. Mix in dry ingredients by hand until just mixed, then stir in raisins. Spoon mix into muffin tin. Bake at 400°F for 20 - 25 minutes. Serve warm or cool.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Caution dominates the Sheep's monetary aspect this week. Rams and Ewes might want to shear their big spending plans until a more favorable financial picture begins to emerge by week's end.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Thrift counts both at home and at work. So, you might want to rethink major purchases or investments. Also, be wary of a so-called revelation about a previous business decision.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Both household budgets and workplace accounts might benefit from some judicious trimming of unnecessary expenses. Meanwhile, a business partnership could lead to an unexpected challenge.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): A previously overlooked opportunity could reemerge with a new travel-related matter. Check this out carefully to see if it's what you really want before you decide one way or another.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): This could be the start of a new career-changing phase, so start marking down your many accomplishments for those who need to know how much you have to offer. Good luck!



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): It's not too early for the sometimes procrastinating VIRGO to start making some long-distance travel plans. The sooner you decide where to go, when to go and how to go, the better.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Financial matters once again figure in any major action you might take regarding career, travel or other endeavors. You'll want a ready reserve to help you back up your moves.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Trying to resolve a problem in a personal relationship could be more difficult than you'd expected. Look into the possibility that someone might be interfering for their own reasons.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): A workplace project you once rejected might be more attractive because of changes that you feel you can now work with. The weekend is especially favorable to family matters.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): This is a good week for the gregarious Goat to enjoy being with the people you care for. You might even want to show off the creative kitchen skills you're so adept at.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): A colleague might think your attitude is patronizing, or even outright insulting. True, but this might be their problem. Still, you might want to take some reassuring steps anyway.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): It's a good time to jettison old concepts about a family matter that you might have been holding on to. This will help make room for a new and more enlightened way of dealing with it.

Day of the Dead Exhibit At the Hayward Historical Society

The Day of the Dead exhibit returns this month to the Hayward Area Historical Society (HAHS), 22380 Foothill Boulevard in Hayward.

The works of over 25 local artists and many students can be viewed at the Hayward Area Historical Society Museum through November 8.

The Museum is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Special programs and crafts will be available to the public during the run of the exhibition. A Family Fun Saturday craft day will be on Nov. 1.

These crafts are suitable

for adults and children. Activities include making tissue paper marigolds, foil art, monarch butterflies, skeletons, and skull masks.

Parking is available behind the building off of Russell Way.

More information about the exhibit and special Saturday programs are available at www.haywardareahistory.org.

Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a special celebration practiced by people throughout the Americas that celebrates life and death through honoring loved ones that have passed. Special symbols, traditions, and themes

are associated with the holiday, like monarch butterflies, marigolds, and sugar skulls. Those who celebrate believe that the souls of the deceased have returned during a time in which the veil between the worlds of the living and dead are thinnest, and memorialize this brief reunion with food, drink, and celebration.

"We are very happy to be able to bring this exhibition back," says Executive Director and Curator Diane Curry, "And are grateful for so many wonderful artists."

Sign Up for Masters Swim Team; Swimming for Adults on Wednesdays

MEMO Swim Team, a Masters Swim club that practices at Farrelly Pool, is now offering evening workouts two days a week.

The cost for San Leandro residents is \$50 a month. Workouts are from 5 to 6 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Sign up for the October session.

Masters Swimming is training for adults 18+, who can swim a minimum of 200 yards.

Call head coach Marcia Benjamin for more information at 510-517-2738.



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HEALTH & FITNESS



PHOTO COURTESY NO EXCUSE MOMS

No Excuse Moms held their 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Awareness 5k at Marina Park on October 12.

No Excuse Moms Hold Breast Cancer Awareness Run

No Excuse Moms San Leandro held their 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Awareness 5k at Marina Park on Sunday, October 12.

The non-profit, mom-led free workout group was started in 2014 by a mom in Sacramento. The free, weekly workouts are led

by volunteer moms at City Parks.

Currently, there are approximately 350 U.S. Groups and in 25 other countries, totaling 70,000 members.

The San Leandro Group has almost 1k members on their Facebook Page with two group leaders. Weekly

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

No Excuse Moms invites you to check out their Facebook page at No Excuse Moms San Leandro.

Tobacco Recovery Support Group

The Support Group for Tobacco Recovery meets on Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. in the Sequoia Conference Room, 1100 San Leandro

Blvd., one block from the San Leandro BART Station. No prerequisites, no prior experience, no requirements. Discussion topics include

your relationship with tobacco, self-care and stress relief, medicines that can help, wellness and recovery, and the new you.

Vote NO on Prop 50

The League of Women Voters of CA (LWVC) decided not to take a position on Prop 50 (LWVC press release 8/27/25) This same release references their prior position "...we, along with other good government groups issued independent statements opposing mid cycle redistricting." Use bit.ly/42AJhJN or scan the QR code to read "Opposition Letter to Mid Cycle Redistricting" which explains why Prop 50 redistricting is a terrible idea. Let's not pretend replacing independent redistricting with partisan gerrymandering is defending democracy.

Vote NO on Prop 50



Paid for by Independent Voters against Prop 50

More Events

Knit, Crochet, Sew, Handcrafts

Join other crafters to share techniques, patterns, crafting skills, and enjoy each other's company on Wednesdays, from 9 a.m. to noon at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. Please bring your own needles, yarn and craft supplies.

San Leandro Toastmasters Meet Every Thursday

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

Mindfulness Matters

Calm your stress with this free drop-in relaxation practice the first Thursday evening of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Use meditation, gentle stretches, breathwork, poetry, and journaling to find balance in life's stresses. Ages 18+, all abilities. Call 510-577-3971 to reserve a spot, or just drop in.

Rainbow Seniors Meet at the Senior Center

Are you wanting a place where you can feel connected to other LGBTQ adults ages 50+? Rainbow Seniors is a safe space for LGBTQ adults to share thoughts, feelings, resources, information, and support with each other. Second and fourth Tuesdays from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St.

Lose Weight By Joining TOPS

Resolved to lose weight in 2025? Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for the support you need to start your weight loss journey. TOPS is a non-profit support group. We meet on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. (doors open at 8:45 a.m.) at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria Street in Castro Valley.

Diabetes Support Group

The Diabetes Support Group is open whether you have been recently diagnosed or living with diabetes for many years. This support group can help you manage your condition. Share your experience or learn from others in a supportive setting. Everyone aged 50+ is welcome. The support group meets the third Tuesday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St.

REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Confusing Market News Has Many Scratching Their Heads

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

In a 10/18/25 post, WRE News editor Phil Hall declared "California Home Sales Rebounded in September" and went on to state, "A total of 277,410 closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes was recorded in California in September, a 5% jump from the 264,240 homes sold in August and a 6.6% spike from the 260,340 homes sold in September 2024."

Utilizing data from the California Association of Realtors (CAR), he explained, "this represents the first time in six months that home sales posted a year-over-year upswing." He clarified, however, "it was also the 36th straight month in which the seasonally adjusted sales rate remained below the 300,000 benchmark."

It is a classic good news / bad news scenario, leaving readers wondering if they should get excited or not.

There is no doubt we are in confusing times. Just a few weeks ago, mortgage rates inched down, resulting in a mini market flurry. The California Association of Realtors confirmed this, stating that closed escrows of single-family homes jumped 5% over August sales and an even greater 6.6% bump over same month sales in September, 2024.

CAR Senior Vice President and Chief Economist Jordan Levine chimed in, declaring, "The housing market showed modest improvement in September, with both sales and prices up from a year ago. He continued, "Steady mortgage rates may give demand a small boost heading into the fourth quarter, but broader economic uncertainty—like the ongoing government shutdown and renewed US-China trade tensions—will likely keep the recovery gradual." Again, do we get excited or not?

One would think these increases would correlate to an increase

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in mortgage applications. In contrast, however, data from the Mortgage Banker's Association (MBA) indicates that the volume of mortgage applications actually lowered 1.8% from the week previous (seasonally adjusted). Unadjusted, the real number was 2%.

Go figure. It is no wonder that many real estate professionals, when asked, "How's the market doing?" simply shrug their shoulders. Making things even more confusing is the current federal government shutdown, which means that all of the governmental agencies which supply the market data that many business sectors rely on are currently silent.

Even with uncertainty, however, real estate is and always has been a great investment over the long term. There really is no such thing as a bad time to buy – the real issue is where the market is when you decide to sell.

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

RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

21239 Gary Drive #114e 94546: \$499,000 [3 BD - 1,354 SF - 1992
2536 Lessley Avenue 94546: \$750,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1948
21237 Orange Avenue 94546: \$754,500 [3 BD - 1,028 SF - 1943
4247 Gem Avenue 94546: \$755,000 [3 BD - 1,080 SF - 1947
22938 Canyon Terrace Drive #U4 94552: \$795,000 [2 BD - 1,213 SF - 1997
17512 Dorson Lane 94546: \$835,000 [2 BD - 892 SF - 1949
3154 Dominic Drive 94546: \$930,000 [3 BD - 1,064 SF - 1955
2457 San Carlos Avenue 94546: \$960,000 [3 BD - 1,200 SF - 1953
4317 Veronica Avenue 94546: \$985,000 [3 BD - 1,268 SF - 1952
19678 Bernal Street 94546: \$1,035,000 [3 BD - 1,104 SF - 1954
19641 Betrose Court 94546: \$1,075,000 [3 BD - 1,264 SF - 1954
20626 Crow Creek Road 94552: \$1,217,500 [4 BD - 2,655 SF - 1996
20578 Crow Creek Road 94552: \$1,270,000 [4 BD - 2,655 SF - 1995
3554 Arcadian Court 94546: \$1,280,000 [3 BD - 2,050 SF - 1960
6082 Slopeview Court 94552: \$1,435,000 [4 BD - 2,096 SF - 1987
18509 Greenridge Court 94552: \$1,435,000 [2,344 SF - 1976
17561 Vineyard Road 94546: \$1,450,000 [3 BD - 2,126 SF - 1962
4475 Hillsborough Drive 94546: \$1,450,000 [4 BD - 1,916 SF - 1963
3746 La Costa Avenue 94546: \$1,530,000 [4 BD - 2,394 SF - 1991
17523 Parker Road 94546: \$1,621,000 [3 BD - 2,402 SF - 1948

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$499,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$1,055,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,621,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$1,103,100

SAN LEANDRO

14101 East 14th Street #204 94578: \$440,000 [2 BD - 1,000 SF - 1986
14375 Doolittle Drive 94577: \$465,000 [2 BD - 865 SF - 1979
373 Caliente Circle 94578: \$500,000 [2 BD - 1,060 SF - 1980
1305 144th Avenue 94578: \$603,000 [3 BD - 810 SF - 1913
1550 Bancroft Avenue #321 94577: \$605,000 [3 BD - 1,680 SF - 1976
1250 Douglas Court 94577: \$739,000 [2 BD - 832 SF - 1942
1068 Dillo Street 94578: \$740,000 [3 BD - 1,134 SF - 1948
15933 Cambrian Drive 94578: \$741,000 [3 BD - 1,560 SF - 1960
803 Chico Drive 94578: \$850,000 [4 BD - 1,139 SF - 1954
2046 Altamont Road 94578: \$900,000 [3 BD - 1,224 SF - 1941
16639 Selby Drive 94578: \$907,000 [5 BD - 1,914 SF - 1965
1343 Wayne Avenue 94577: \$908,000 [3 BD - 1,925 SF - 1943
682 Saint Marys Avenue 94577: \$925,000 [2 BD - 1,719 SF - 1949
16651 Selby Drive 94578: \$950,000 [2 BD - 1,600 SF - 1965
725 Joaquin Avenue 94577: \$955,000 [2 BD - 1,366 SF - 1941
620 Muscari Street 94578: \$1,273,000
1542 Graff Avenue 94577: \$1,365,000 [5 BD - 3,045 SF - 1956
739 Estudillo Avenue 94577: \$1,450,000 [4 BD - 2,540 SF - 1974
1021 Lee Avenue 94577: \$1,550,000 [3,074 SF - 1935

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$440,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$900,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,550,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$887,684

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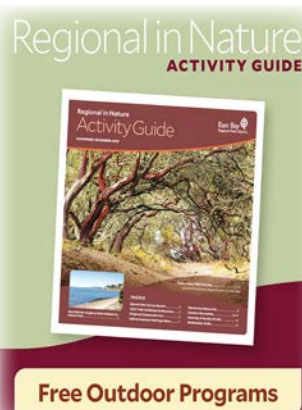


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This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the East Bay Regional Park District Nov - Dec 2025 Activity Guide.

If your copy of the Times does not include the EBRP Activity Guide, call 510-614-1555 or stop by the Times office (2060 Washington Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to obtain one.



Free Outdoor Programs

Green Tomatoes Ripen Easily in Ripening Chamber

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q This spring, I planted a tomato plant in a tomato cage. Unfortunately, it has collapsed under the weight. Now, most of the unripe tomatoes are on or near the ground. What should I do to prevent them from rotting?

A You have two options. You can prop up the vines so that the tomato clusters do not come into contact with the soil. Additionally, it's essential to protect them from the afternoon sun, as they may sunburn if we experience a late-season heat spell. Your other option is to harvest the green tomatoes. Green tomatoes ripen easily off the vine in a simple 'ripening chamber.' All you need is a cardboard box with a lid or any other type of container and some newspaper. First, line the bottom of the box with a one-inch layer of newspaper. Space out the green tomatoes so they do not touch. Cover the tomatoes with another one-inch layer of newspaper, close the lid, and store them in a cool, dry place. If needed, you can add a second layer of tomatoes. Every three to five days, check the tomatoes and remove the ripe ones. The 'ripening chamber' traps the naturally occurring ethylene gas and uses it to ripen the tomatoes. This technique also helps preserve green tomatoes at the end of the season from cold nights. Next year to avoid this, thin out the center of the plants throughout the summer months. This will reduce the weight and allow for better air circulation throughout the plants. Remove one or two branches and pinch out the side shoots that develop along the stems. What to thin or prune is a judgment call on your part.

Q When should I plant the tulips and daffodils that I have stored from last year? Also, should I chill them before replanting them?

A Tulips, daffodils, and other bulbs stored from previous years are replanted at the end of October through December. Yes, I would chill the tulips before planting. Also, when chilling them in a refrigerator, be sure to remove all fruit, such as apples and pears.

The ethylene gas from the maturing fruit can damage the bulbs. Don't expect last year's tulips to be as showy. They require several more growing seasons before they reach their peak.

It is advisable to mix in new tulip bulbs with the older ones at a 50/50 ratio. With daffodils and narcissus, it is quite common for gardeners to leave them in

the ground year after year.

They are dug up and divided when the groupings become so crowded that the flower size is reduced. Additionally, overcrowding is a major reason why daffodils and narcissus stop blooming altogether. Normally, I would look to divide them every three to four years. As with new planting, you should add bulb starter fertilizer or bone meal. Depending on the size of the bulb add a teaspoon or tablespoon under each bulb. This is so the nutrients are immediately available to the new roots. A second application is applied after flowering.

Buzz Bertolero is a California Certified Nurs-

ery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website can be found at www.dirtgardener.com.

er.com, and any questions can be directed to buzz@dirtgardener.com. Additionally, please modify your spam filter to ensure my reply is received.

Mortgage Rates Decrease

Mortgage rates inched down this week and have held relatively steady over the past several weeks. Importantly, homeowners have noticed these consistently lower rates, driving an uptick in refinancing activity. Combined with increased housing inventory and slower house price growth, these rates also are creating a more favorable environment for those looking to buy a home.

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A		1-4	440 Santa Monica Street	\$204,500	2/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
A		1-4	1562 Randy Street	\$748,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
H	2-5	2-5	584 Eleanor Place	\$850,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555

CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BRENTWOOD • C = CASTRO VALLEY • E = EL CERRITO • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD
L = LIVERMORE • P = PLEASANT HILL • S = SAN RAMON • SLZ = SAN LORENZO • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA

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

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ACROSS
1 Animation frame
4 Literary rep
7 Viewed
11 Daring Knievel
13 Singer Lipa
14 Noggin
15 Flintstones' pet
16 Doo follower
17 Gumbo veggie
18 Serengeti grazer
20 Coconut fiber
22 Leg, in slang
24 Tempt
28 Frosty, for one
32 -- Martin
33 Had on
34 Thumbs-up
36 Theater award
37 Rainbow-shaped
39 Country star Judd
41 Sealing ring
43 German article
44 Online auction site
46 River of Rome
50 Pottery oven
53 Ref
55 Gospel singer Franklin
56 On the rocks
57 Mac alternatives
58 Ninny
59 Little lice
60 Consume
61 Helium, for one

DOWN
1 Yield
2 Satan's forte
3 Sultry Horne
4 Annex
5 Avocado dip, for short
6 Sierra Nevada lake
7 Writings by Kate Chopin
8 Comics cry
9 Listening device
10 Secret-protecting doc.
12 Three- or four-day vacations
19 River blocker
21 -- pickle
23 Mother's Day month
25 Lay -- the line
26 Didi of "Grease"
27 New Age singer
28 Booty
29 Asta's caretaker
30 Tolkien villains
31 Up-to-date
35 Pink Floyd's Barrett
38 Society newbie
40 Court divider
42 Hosiery shade
45 Gym site, for short
47 Ship's jail
48 Austen novel
49 Knocks
50 Family
51 Here, in Dijon
52 Allow
54 Calif. clock setting

ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

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Red Cross Accepting Blood Donations in San Leandro On Saturday, October 25

Red Cross: Take steps now to support a strong blood supply; make an appointment to give blood or platelets to offset season drop

The American Red Cross asks donors to make an appointment now to give blood or platelets to support patients counting on a consistent blood supply to survive and heal.

While emergencies often grab headlines, the need for blood is constant. Especially in October, as donation appointments can often drop quickly when people settle into busy fall routines and make plans around upcoming school breaks.

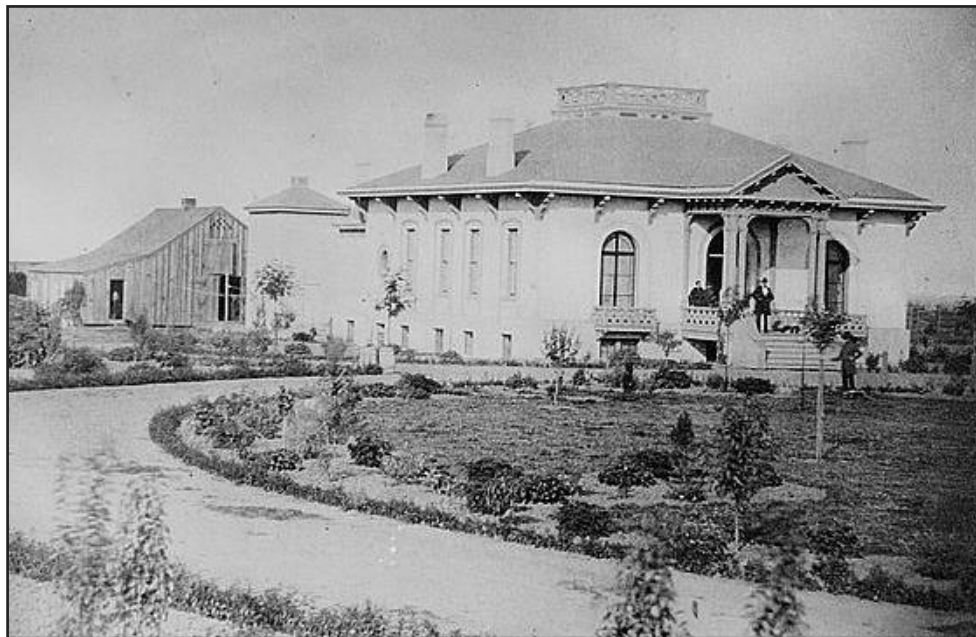
Additionally, the threat

of hurricanes persists this month. Because blood has a short shelf life and can only come from volunteer blood donors, any disruptions in the ability to collect lifesaving blood can have serious consequences for those seeking medical care.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in October include San Leandro on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Red Cross San Leandro office at 1001 Davis St.

Help patients this fall and make an appointment to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Those who give between Oct. 20 and Nov. 16 will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three \$5,000 gift cards. See RedCrossBlood.org/Harvest for details.



The historic Peralta Home is now the home of the Alta Mira Club.

Historical Society Trivia Bee

The San Leandro Historical Society invites you to join a fun afternoon testing your knowledge of local history on Saturday, Nov. 1, from noon to 3 p.m. at the historic Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette St. in San Leandro. Don't know much local history? You will after you attend the Trivia Bee. To register, visit: www.sanleandrohistory.org "Events & Meetings" page. Free, or \$10 to include pizza and salad lunch.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Issues Predate Newsom

Editor,

In response to Corey Anderson's letter last week (Letters to the Editor, Oct. 16, 2025) regarding Gavin Newsom's career: much of what was written is misleading or missing important context. Let me correct the record.

First, on redistricting. Yes, Governor Newsom recently signed legislation to place on the November ballot a constitutional amendment that would temporarily allow the Legislature to redraw congressional map lines, overriding the independent commission for the 2026, 2028, and 2030 elections. But this change will go before voters, and it is explicitly temporary, with the commission restored after 2030.

The stated goal is to counter partisan gerrymandering in other states. Critics have opposed the plan, but it's not a "takeover," it's a proposal for voters to decide.

Second, about the French Laundry dinner. In November 2020, Newsom attended a private dinner at a restaurant with several guests at a time when the public

was urged to limit gatherings. He later apologized and acknowledged it was a mistake. It was a lapse in judgment, but it shouldn't outweigh his broader management of a pandemic that affected more than 40 million Californians.

Third, regarding wildfires. Some fire-prevention funding was delayed in one budget cycle, but overall California's fire protection budget and workforce have expanded under his administration. Newsom has also increased investments in recovery, preparedness, and emergency response. The claim that he "lost or misplaced billions" lacks supporting evidence.

Fourth, economic and cost-of-living issues need nuance. California does have high housing, energy, and regulatory costs, but those stem from decades of complex policy decisions, not one governor. Factors like global energy markets, supply chains, and local zoning laws play major roles. Saying Newsom is single-handedly driving businesses away oversimplifies a much bigger picture.

Fifth, on homelessness, immi-

gration, and infrastructure — these are long-standing challenges that predate Newsom by decades. While progress has been uneven, blanket claims that he alone is responsible ignore the scale and history of these issues.

Lastly, the accusation about his wife's nonprofit work is not backed by verified evidence of wrongdoing or ethics violations. Public figures often face scrutiny, but repeating unproven allegations doesn't make them true.

To say "Gavin, there is no chance for president" isn't an argument — it's an opinion. California deserves an honest debate rooted in facts, not distortions.

Dan Winer
San Leandro

California Must Answer Gerrymandering

Editor,

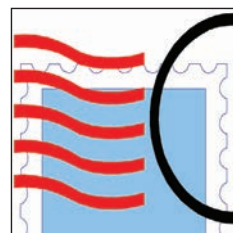
I'm writing to ask your readers to vote yes on Proposition 50, the "Election Rigging Response Act," before November 4.

Californians must answer Republican gerrymanders in Texas and other Red states with this temporary redistricting measure, to restore election fairness and Congressional balance.

This is our fight to defend democracy. While some say that two wrongs don't make a right, anti-democracy bullies must be pushed back, or Trump's dictatorship will oppress us all.

Your vote matters. Don't surrender, don't abandon democracy.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont



Send a letter to the editor to Letters@ebpublishing.com. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number.

Rent Control Can Hurt Tenants

Editor,

I have been a San Leandro housing provider and member of our Chamber of Commerce for over 40 years. The present rush to rent control, because it is politically attainable right now, without examining the consequences can really hurt our tenants.

We owe it to them to look more closely at the consequences. Unless rent increases, somewhat similar to our present state levels, are available, many, if not most, of San Leandro housing providers will sell and exit the property management scene or move their investment to a more lucrative location.

Today, it is so easy to transfer investments, large or small, to those many Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS) while delaying Capital Gains.

Okay, so a new landlord buys the San Leandro property and resolves the problem. Not so fast. Many of those older properties, that were held so long, when purchased by a new buyer, the real estate taxes double or more sometimes to four or five times. This is a new ballgame.

It's a huge increase to operating costs. The new buyer is forced to increase rents big time and perhaps

apply for huge pass-through monies.

It is incumbent on our City Council to look at those consequences, as well as the huge maintenance and upgrading associated with San Leandro's older rental stock and the extra monies needed to cover rent control and other big dollar government regulations, such as the balcony retrofit regulations. New Health and Safety laws also.

Meantime, San Leandro rents have softened and are still dropping with competition now from the new apartments coming on line, not just in San Leandro, but throughout the nearby communities. This is a double edge sword. It also forces Housing Providers to upgrade older kitchens, bathrooms, etc. to compete. Again, more pressure on rents.

Already, there is talk of demanding that this issue should be voted on by our citizens, or later come back to a new less liberal City Council. I don't want all this special Election expenses and divisiveness introduced.

To our City Council members please consider all these scenarios. Let's settle things down. Genuinely, we need operating income at least equal to state regulations.

John Sullivan
San Leandro

Wrestling: 'I would give it a 10 out of 10; it's good to see a packed room'

continued from front page
expect with a new event," Haugh said. "But seeing so many people—some who had never seen live wrestling before—was amazing."

The audience maintained their interest throughout the entire performance, according to Haugh, who considers this a sign of success.

"You know you're doing your job right when people

"The audience delivered an incredible response."

— Judas Day

are still cheering at the end, even if they don't know who the wrestlers are," he said. "These aren't TV stars—it's more like going to a minor league baseball game."

The wrestlers who performed expressed their gratitude to the audience who showed such enthusiasm.

Moedase from WFC de-



PHOTO BY RUBEN BANUELOS

The audience filled the room at the Main Library for Lucha Libre.

scribed the experience as pleasant after his wrestling match at the event.

"The crowd was fired up," Moedase said. "The event brought me a positive experience."

Judas Day made his library wrestling debut during the show.

"The audience delivered an incredible response to the event," Day said. "The event exceeded my expectations

because the audience filled to every performance." The event pleased both the

athletic performers and the local families who attended. looking forward to it for a month since we got the flyer."

San Leandro resident Alex-is Gonzalez Shultz attended with her young children and was all smiles after the show.

"I would give it a 10 out of 10. It's good to have community events. It's good to see a packed room and just to see people come together."

Shultz said her children had been buzzing with excitement for weeks.

"Yeah, I have a five- and a three-year-old, and they were

Wrestling For Charity exists to deliver charitable support through its professional wrestling events, which also provide audiences with accessible family-friendly entertainment experiences in non-traditional locations.

The San Leandro Library showed that even libraries can be cultural main events.

With cheers echoing through the stacks, this one was a total body slam.

Obituaries

Obituaries

Jerome "Jerry" Stanley Olson

January 28, 1942 ~ September 30, 2025

Jerome Stanley Olson, 83 years of age, passed away on September 30, 2025, in his home at Ivy Park at Hayward Retirement Living in Hayward, California. Jerry is survived by his brothers Ralph, Mark and Eric. He was predeceased by his parents, Arthur E. Olson and Bernice Jonson Olson, and brothers Tom and Marshall.



Jerry was born in Seattle, Washington on January 28, 1942, graduated from Ballard High School in 1960 and The University of Washington in 1965 with a BA in communications. Jerry joined the Air Force Reserves and was stationed at McCord Air Force in Washington until he was activated and deployed in 1968 to South Korea following the capture of the USS Pueblo. Jerry was upset about his activation but later expressed his appreciation for the experience and the people he met in South Korea.

After his military stint in the mid-1970s, Jerry moved to Hayward, California where he worked as a sales representative for the Alameda Newspaper Group and then the San Leandro Times.

Jerry had many talents and interests. After graduating from The University while still living in Seattle, Jerry built from scratch a wood sailboat known as OK Dingy. It was a joy to sail! He was an avid reader and would give away books he enjoyed with the hope of igniting a stimulating conversation. He was inquisitive and loved discussing and listening to others' points of view.

After retirement Jerry learned wood carving at the Hayward Senior Center and became a first-class carver. He created beautiful works of art that he generously gifted to friends and relatives. Jerry enjoyed traveling to various countries, snow skiing, water skiing, and was an avid fly fisherman who tied his own flies. He also enjoyed long walks, and good food! He continued learning crafts and recently started classes in painting and flower arranging.

Jerry kept track of environmental and economic trends and was concerned about the effect on the community and the world. As a cousin observed "He was a kind, considerate person who loved fly fishing."

He was loyal and devoted to his family, friends, and community. Many folks who met Jerry enjoyed his warmth and intelligence. Jerry really enjoyed the company of his nieces and nephews and had long conversations with them whenever possible. Jerry will be truly missed by his brothers and many dear friends.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Jess C Spencer Mortuary & Crematory Inc., 21228 Redwood Road, Castro Valley. All are welcome.

Caroline Ann Macdonald-Brause

October 10, 1943 ~ October 5, 2025

Caroline Ann Brause passed away peacefully at home on October 5, 2025, after a courageous battle with an aggressive brain tumor. She was 81, just five days shy of her 82nd birthday. Caroline will be remembered by all who knew her for her ever-present smile, joyful spirit and warm and giving heart.



A lifelong resident of the Bay Area, Caroline devoted her life to both her family and her career. Before retiring in 2005, she held a variety of professional roles, one of her very first jobs was at Metropolitan Insurance Company in San Francisco. Caroline had a special passion for education and for many years she served as a teachers-aide and taught children with learning disabilities in both the San Leandro school district and at Chabot College. The final chapter of her career began when she joined Life Chiropractic as a Financial Advisor. She then moved to Chela Financial Services as a Business Development Manager. Following the acquisition of Chela by Nelnet, she advanced to become Vice President of the Western Division.

Even after retirement, Caroline maintained an active and dedicated life in her community. She was a devoted and cherished member of the San Leandro Garden Club, where her many contributions were lovingly recognized with her induction to the Club's Hall-of-Fame and the honor of being named the 2019 "Member of the Year". Caroline also enjoyed staying active as a member of the San Leandro Boys Club Senior Swim group and playing Bocce with her many friends. Many of Caroline's fondest memories were made traveling the world with her beloved friends the "Four Amigos." Caroline shared an especially close bond with her two sisters whose love and friendship were a source of strength and comfort throughout her life.

Caroline's greatest joy was her family. Caroline was the "fun" wife, mom and grandma who was always up for an adventure - whether that meant a lively game of spoons, proudly cheering from the sidelines or sharing stories and laughter around the table. She created a lifetime of cherished memories that her husband, children and grandkids will hold close forever. She was and will always be their biggest cheerleader.

Caroline is survived by her devoted husband of 63 years, Herman William (Bill) Brause II; her loving children, Herman William (Billy) Brause III (Kim Brause, spouse) and Suzanne (Suzy) Marie Brause-Volpe (Ron Volpe, spouse); seven cherished grandchildren, Ryan, Allie, Brooke, Paige, Grace, Chloe, and Nic; two adored great-grandchildren, Ella and Zoey; her sisters Madeline and Janet and countless beloved cousins, nephews, and nieces. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made in Caroline's honor to the San Leandro Garden Club or a charity of your choice. A celebration of life to be determined.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the doctors, nurses, and staff at John Muir Behring Cancer facility for the compassionate care and kindness they showed to Caroline throughout her illness.

Obituaries

Robert Ferraris Sr

May 9th, 1929 ~ September 24, 2025

Bob was born on May 9th, 1929 in Richmond, CA to Julio and Santina Ferraris. He grew up in San Francisco with his sister Shirley where he attended Lincoln High School and worked at Pacific Bell (now AT&T). Bob served in the United States Army and was a Sergeant in the Korean War. Once discharged, he married the love of his life, Loretta, on July 13th 1952 and together they raised 2 children (Rhonda and Robert Jr). He was a devoted husband for over 62 years before Loretta past aways in August of 2014.



Bob enjoyed water skiing in Clearlake, CA (up until he was 65 years old), gambling in various places like Tahoe, Reno, and Laughlin, a good manhattan, and was an avid sports fan! He loved the San Francisco Giants but his true love was the San Francisco 49ers! He held season tickets for over 30 years and held some of the best tailgating parties at Candle Stick Park. He was also very active in his Catholic faith at Transfiguration Church.

Bob Ferraris Sr is survived by his children Rhonda Carleton (Brian) and Bob Ferraris, Jr (Lisa). Grandkids Michele Liss (Joe), Chris Ferraris (Anna), Melissa Oravetz (Greg), Daniel Emery, Kim Ogle (Steve), Rachel Emery, and Jessica Barranco (Salvatore). Great Grandkids Austin Oravetz, Choal Liss, Paisley Oravetz, Emery Ogle, Nora Ogle, Emmitt Emery-Ritter, and Richard Barranco.

A Rosary will be held at 6pm on Thursday October 23, 2025 at Jess C. Spencer located in Castro Valley at 21228 Redwood Road. A Funeral mass for Bob will be held on Friday October 24, 2025 at 10am at Transfiguration Church located at 4000E. Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley 94552. Reception to follow at Frankie Johnnie and Luigis in Dublin, CA.

Bob will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.



PHOTO COURTESY OAKLAND DIWALI

Dancing and music are on the bill for Diwali celebration.

Diwali: Cultural traditions

continued from front page

Lineup:

- Councilmember Janani Ramachandran, District 4
- Duniya Dance & Drum Company (South Asian/West African Dance-Fusion)
- The Alaya Project (Classical Indian & Jazz Fusion)
- Bollywood Dance Central
- J Jha & Oakland Theater Project (performing excerpts of Geeta Reddy's Mahabharatha)
- UC Berkeley Azaad (Bollywood Dance)
- Nataraj School of Dance (Classical Odissi Dance)

"When I hosted the City of Oakland's first ever public Diwali celebration a couple of years ago, I was blown away by hundreds of people who chose to show up," said Councilmember Ramachandran, who is also the City's first South Asian council member. "There is a real hunger for inclusive South Asian events in Oakland, that's open to everyone regardless of your religion, age, race, or sexual

orientation. As a queer woman, daughter of immigrants from India, and mother of a mixed-race child, for years I have been wanting to see more spaces that celebrate South Asian culture that make everyone feel welcome, and Oakland Diwali does just that."

Oakland Diwali 2025 is organized by Tiger Arts, a 501(c)(3) cultural arts nonprofit. They are partnering with Visit Oakland and a number of Bay Area corporations and individual sponsors who are excited to support this exciting community event.

"We are excited and energized to build a new Oakland tradition that's rooted in beautiful cultural traditions," said Visit Oakland CEO Peter Gamez. "Oakland Diwali is going to elevate The Town for all the right reasons, and highlight our incredible cultural diversity and strength on a broader stage."

Learn more here and RSVP at www.oaklanddiwali.com.

Award: A mentor to freshman athletes

continued from front page

Athlete Advisory Committee. She was recently elected a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Board, and she has spent the last 3 summers as an Orientation Group Leader for incoming freshmen, and this year became a Lead Orientation Group Leader.

Kendall is also a mentor to other freshman athletes who are moving to WNE from out of state. In addition to working towards another trip to the Women's Collegiate Wrestling Championships.

She will pursue a master's degree in social work with the goal of becoming a Forensic Social Worker.

Kendall, who is fluent in Spanish, plans to work as a translator for students learning English gaining valuable experience for her career.

She credits her success to her years at Roosevelt Elementary, Bancroft Middle School and San Leandro High. The faculty, administrators, coaches, and counselors ensured that, alongside academics, being involved and giving back to the community helped shape a well-rounded adult.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE RAITO-BRANCHAUD

Kendall R. Branchaud receives the award along with Brandon O'Brien, President of the Western New England University Alumni Association, and Western New England University Interim President Michael B. Alexander

Truck Ban: Weighing environmental factors

continued from front page

Branch Chief.

A Ban with History — and Consequences

The I-580 truck ban dates back to the 1950s, originally

meant to protect residential hillsides from freight traffic. As a result, trucks now rely on I-880 — which cuts through working-class neighborhoods already suffering from poor air quality.

Community advocates argue this has led to higher asthma rates, noise, and safety concerns. Organizations like the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP), Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), and San Leandro 2050 are helping shape the study.

Listening to the Community

Caltrans plans to hold public meetings over the next year in communities along I-580, I-880, and I-238. The agency will also conduct a racial equity assessment to highlight which communities bear the greatest burden from freight traffic.

As part of early outreach efforts, Caltrans will host a virtual community meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting will offer residents an opportunity to learn about the study and provide comments to the project team.

To access the Zoom link



A Caltrans map shows the section of Interstate 580 through Oakland and San Leandro that has a ban on trucks that are over 9,000 pounds.

and more details, visit the project page:

dot.ca.gov/d4-580-truck-access-study

"We're developing an evaluation tool to show who's most affected by emissions and health issues," said White-side. "It's about understanding the root causes, not just the symptoms."

No Immediate Policy Change

The truck ban is a California state law, so only the state legislature can change it, not Caltrans.

The Caltrans research findings will help future decisions while suggesting protective measures for communities that are affected.

Balancing Freight And Fairness

While the freight industry supports more direct access to the Port of Oakland, many residents remain cautious.

In 2019, the West Oakland Community Action Plan identified need to look at 580 truck ban, where trucks over 9,000 pounds are not allowed to use the freeway.

The California Trucking Association has argued that they pay the highway fees so why can't they use the highway?

For now, the study marks the beginning of a long conversation — one that could shape the future of transportation, health, and equity across the East Bay.

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