



## Loyal Readers

THE TIMES AND THE FORUM  
GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE  
THEIR LOYAL READERS .... 8-9



## Travis Brass

AIR FORCE BRASS BAND  
TO PLAY TUESDAY AT ALL  
SAINTS CHURCH ..... 14

**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
**SUNNY** Clouds roll in  
Sunday afternoon  
HIGHS: 62-67  
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110  
LOWS: 46-51

**FRIDAY** **SATURDAY** **SUNDAY**

# San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL THORNE

Daniel "Red" Thorne of San Leandro made a hole in one on the fourth hole of the Marina Course at the Monarch Bay Golf Club on April 1.

## April 1st Hole in One No Joke

It's no joke. Daniel "Red" Thorne made a hole-in-one on April 1

Thorne's tee shot went into the hole on the fourth hole of the Marina Course at the Monarch Bay Golf Club. The par-3 fourth hole is 124 yards.

"I used an 8-iron," Thorne said.

The 9-hole Marina Course is the shorter

of the two course at Monarch Bay, the other being the 18-hole Tony Lema Course.

Thorne saw his shot land on the green and followed its path.

"I saw it bounce and roll a few inches and then it disappeared," Thorne said.

Just to make sure everything was kosher, Thorne asked another player walk up on the

green and check hole. Sure enough, the ball was in the cup.

"I've been playing here at the Marina short course and the Tony Lema course for about five years, every Saturday," Thorne said. "When the ball disappeared, I knew it was in the hole."

— By Jim Knowles

## City Budget Forecast: In the Red

Rising employee costs push annual deficit to \$4 million

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The City of San Leandro's finances will be in the red beginning this fiscal year and for the next 10 years, according to a budget update the City Council got on Monday night.

"Our costs are increasing faster than our revenues," said Finance Director David Baum.

The current 2017/2018 budget shows around \$108 million in revenue and over \$112 million in expenditures – a shortfall of \$4.4 million. There is another \$3.5 million shortfall projected in 2018/2019.

To make up the difference, the city will have to dip into its reserves. Right now, the city has \$29 million in reserve, next year it'll be \$25 million, in 2019/2020 it will be \$18 million, and then drop to \$10 million in 2020/2021.

Former Mayor Stephen Cassidy spoke at the meeting, comparing the city to the Titanic and said they needed to act immediately to avoid disaster.

"You are looking at a serious budget crisis in the next three to four years," said Cassidy. "I think you need to start making decisions tonight."

Acting City Manager Jeff Kay outlined a more slow-paced approach. He proposed paying \$50,000 to hire a financial forecast advisor. He said that a representative from each of the

city's departments will soon be meeting regularly as a "cost and revenue efficiency team" to see where costs may be cut most effectively.

"Lots of small changes are  
see BUDGET, page 16

## Sheriff Plans to Run Youth Center

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

A plan for the Alameda County Sheriff's Department to take over running the REACH Ashland Youth Center has met opposition from kids and parents.

REACH stands for Recreation, Education, Arts, Career, and Health, and the center is designed to help local youth ages 11 through 24 in all of those areas with programs ranging from sports, to graphic design, to college preparation.

Last December, Supervisor Nate Miley wrote an open letter to the community declaring that the

see SHERIFF, page 16

## Sheriff Shows Off Drones in San Lorenzo

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

In the past year, drones have helped find downing victims, put out fires, and even tested for poisonous gasses, according to the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Greg Ahern and a couple of his officers stopped by the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association meeting hall Monday afternoon to talk about their fleet of "unmanned aerial vehicles" or drones.

The sheriff's office has a doz-

en drones, which they use locally but also lend out to surrounding agencies. They've been a part of emergencies such as the Ghost Ship Fire and the recovery effort in Mendocino for the family that was driven over the cliff to their deaths.

The crowd in San Lorenzo was gung-ho about the drones, thanking Ahern for his department's hard work. But when the

see DRONES, page 14



The Sheriff says drones have been helpful.

## INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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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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## Hundreds of Loyal Readers Respond With Subscriptions

### Note from the publisher

To date, more than 1,400 readers of the *San Leandro Times* and the *Castro Valley Forum* have purchased Loyal Reader Subscriptions which will enable the two community newspapers to publish advertising not available in the past.

The *Times* and *Forum* depend entirely on income from ads to stay in business, so the additional revenue will be especially helpful as the industry struggles with increasing costs and against the shift in adver-

tising from print to the internet.

On pages 8 and 9 of this week's *Times*, you will find the names of subscribers of both papers that were received as of Monday.

Those received after Monday will be printed in next week's edition.

If you subscribed but your name doesn't appear in the list, or if your name was misspelled, please contact the publisher, Fred Zehnder, at fredz@ebpublishing.com

## Ride on Sunday with The Cherry City Cyclists

Join Cherry City Cyclists and Bike Walk San Leandro this Sunday for a community bike ride from San Leandro to the Alameda shoreline and back. Meet at the San Leandro BART Station at

9:30 a.m.

The full loop is 23 miles. The optional shorter ride is 9 miles. Post-ride get-together at 21st Amendment for beers and brunch.

## San Leandro Couple Stars in Little Women at the Chanticleers

Longtime San Leandro residents Judy and Matt Beall have been performing together on Bay Area stages for the past 15 years – after being inspired by watching their daughter Jennifer.

Their current show is a musical version of the beloved Louisa May Alcott classic novel *Little Women*, playing through May 6 at the Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley.

The story follows the four March sisters and their beloved mother and explores the universal themes of family, adversity, personal discovery, love and loss set against the backdrop of the Civil War.

Judy is playing the role of Aunt March and Matt is playing Mr. Laurence. Even though they don't actually share any scenes together, the personalities of their characters both display a steely exterior, masking a heart of gold.

This timeless production is directed by John Baiocchi and Todd Aragon and features a live orchestra led by musical director Luis Zuniga. The show runs



Matt and Judy Beall of San Leandro perform in the musical version of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* at the Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley.

through May 6 at Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Avenue, Castro Valley.

For tickets, call SEE-LIVE (733-5483) or go to [www.chanticleers.org](http://www.chanticleers.org).

General admission is \$25;

admission for seniors (60+), students, and military is \$20.

The Chanticleers Theatre FlexPass (gives you four tickets to use anytime during the season) is \$85 general and \$68 seniors/students/military.

## Practice Public Speaking

The San Leandro Toastmasters meet on Thursday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

The group fosters improved communication and public speaking. All levels of speakers from novice to seasoned are welcome.



## U.S. AIR FORCE BAND OF THE GOLDEN WEST

presents two free

## Concerts

by the  
**Travis Brass**

Tuesday, April 17 • at 7 p.m.  
All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd.,  
San Leandro, CA

Monday, April 23 • at 7 p.m.  
Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St.,  
Livermore, CA



For more information, visit the Appearances page on the USAF Band of the Golden West website.  
[www.bandofthegoldenwest.af.mil/events/index.asp](http://www.bandofthegoldenwest.af.mil/events/index.asp)

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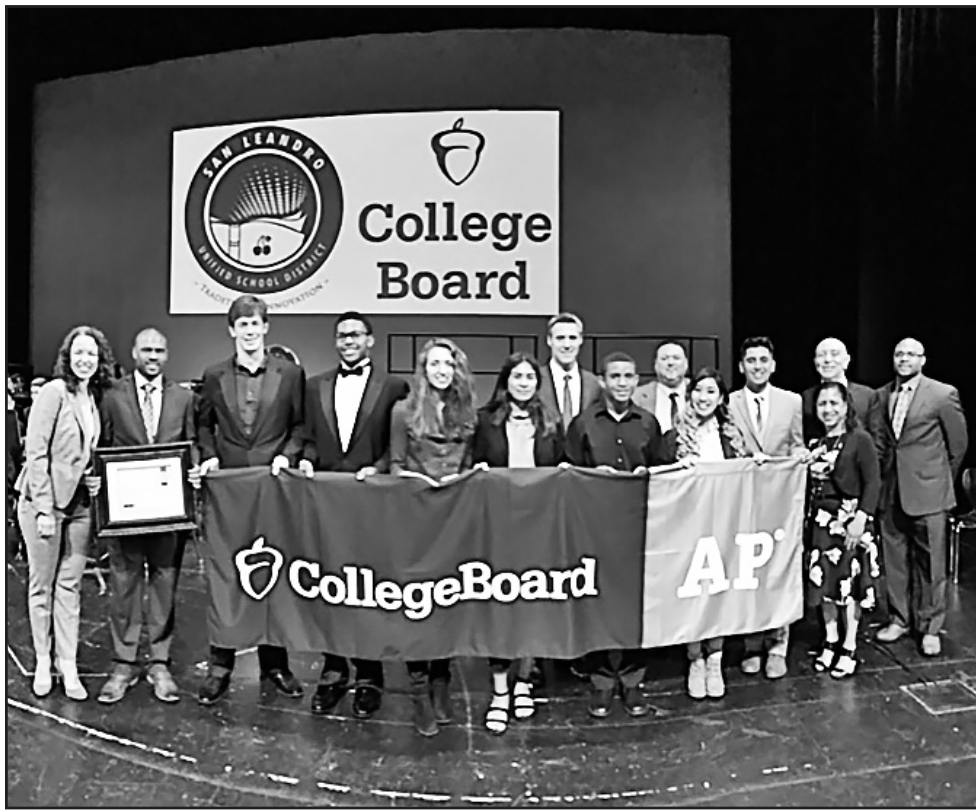


PHOTO COURTESY OF SLUSD

San Leandro High was presented with the Advanced Placement District of the Year Award from the College Board this week.

## SLHS Wins National Award

San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) has been named a College Board Advanced Placement District of the Year.

They were recognized for being a national leader among medium-sized school districts in expanding access to Advanced Placement Program (AP) courses and improving AP Exam performance.

On Wednesday morning, the College Board met with the school board, city officials, and AP students and teachers at the high school's Arts Education Center to present the honor.

The San Leandro Unified School District was one of 447

school districts across the United States and Canada that made it on the annual AP District Honor Roll.

From this list, three AP Districts of the Year were selected based on an analysis of three academic years of AP data.

SLUSD was chosen for the 'medium' district population size, which is defined as having between 8,000 and 49,999 students.

SLUSD was the only district in the state and only three in the nation who were honored with this recognition.

In addition to SLUSD, the College Board named Chicago

Public Schools in Illinois and Santa Cruz Valley USD in Arizona as AP District of the Year for large and small districts, respectively.

"We are extremely proud to have earned this distinction which is a testament to the dedication of our teachers and the hard-work of our students and the families that support them," said Superintendent Mike McLaughlin in a written statement. "This award underscores our commitment to ensuring each and every student has the opportunity to succeed in their goals toward college and career readiness."

## Victim Chases Suspect After Laptop Gets Snatched

Two men were arrested and one has been charged with grand theft after an attempt at snatching a laptop computer at the Starbucks at 1057 MacArthur Boulevard last week.

On April 6 at around 11:40 a.m., police received reports that customers were chasing a laptop thief from the coffee shop and when officers arrived, they located the victim and several passersby holding down the suspect who was attempting to get away, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

The suspect, an 18-year-old Oakland man, was arrested and the laptop computer was also recovered after he dropped it while running.

Witnesses said that the suspect entered the coffee shop and snatched the computer from someone who was sitting at a table, according to Benabou.

The suspect ran out of the store with the victim chasing him and the commotion alerted other patrons who realized what occurred and also gave chase.

The suspect tried to enter a waiting vehicle being driven by a second suspect, but he was unable to open the door.

As a result, the victim and witnesses were able to grab the suspect and hold him until police arrived.

The driver has been identified as an 18-year-old Berkeley resident. He was arrested at the scene, but the District Attorney's Office did not press charges against him and he has been released.

The alleged thief was charged

with grand theft and was released with a court date scheduled.

Last week the San Leandro Police Department produced and posted a safety video on Facebook on these types of crimes. The video explains what to look for and how to prevent yourself from becoming a victim.

"Laptop thefts from coffee shop patrons are becoming very popular amongst criminals," said Benabou in a written statement. "We have seen a sharp increase in this type of crime in San Leandro and surrounding areas. We urge everyone to be more aware of your surroundings as these crimes

are easily preventable."

Benabou said that in this case it worked out for the victim to chase the suspect, but that people should not give chase because it is too dangerous and they should leave it to the cops.

If you become a victim, call 911 and refrain from attempting to confront or chase after the suspect.

Be a good witness, take note of a suspect's descriptions, clothing, a direction of flight, getaway vehicle and license plate.

Your safety and the safety of others is most important in these circumstances.

## Cold Case Homicide

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's help in solving a cold case homicide which occurred on April 4, 2005.

Kente Jones, 24, was shot and killed outside of the Quart House Liquors at 22596 Center Street in unincorporated Hayward, near the Castro Valley border.

Jones was rushed via ambulance to Eden Hospital but did not survive his injuries.

Witnesses observed two black males assaulting Jones in the liquor store parking lot next to his vehicle and, during the altercation, saw one of the men fire multiple shots at Jones before fleeing the scene.

The Sheriff's Office is asking



Kente Jones

anyone with information about the crime to call their cold case unit at 667-3661 or the department's anonymous tip line at 667-3622.

## DA Settles Suit Against Home Depot

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Brad Seligman has ordered Home Depot to pay \$27.8 million to resolve allegations that Home Depot unlawfully disposed of hazardous waste, and discarded records without rendering private customer information unreadable.

"The settlement marks a victory for both environmental and consumer protection throughout California," said Alameda County DA Nancy O'Malley.

The judgment is the culmination of a civil enforcement action filed on Feb. 15.

The civil complaint alleged that more than 300 Home Depot stores and distribution centers throughout the state were routinely sending hazardous waste to

local landfills and were tossing documents containing sensitive customer information into store trash bins, potentially exposing the information to identity thieves.

From 2013 to 2015, a se-

ries of waste inspections of dumpsters belonging to Home Depot stores revealed unlawfully disposed of hazardous wastes including pesticides, aerosols, paint and corrosive materials.

The discarded records con-

taining customer information included names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.

There are 12 Home Depot stores in Alameda County and all are subject to the terms of the settlement.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	G	E	D	E	V	E	R	B	Y	E
R	O	D	E	R	I	L	E	L	A	W
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C	O	N	T	R	O	L	S		S	L
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# NEIGHBORS



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

## SL Farmers' Market Is Back

The Downtown San Leandro Farmers' Market is open for another season on Wednesday evenings from 4 to 8 p.m. on Parrott Street, between East 14th Street and Washington Avenue.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### ❖ SL Players Present *Death by Design*

The San Leandro Players present *Death by Design*, a comedy/mystery with surprising twists, running through May 6 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 two Friday shows at 8 p.m. on April 27 and May 4. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, students. For more information or reservations call 895-2573 or online at [www.slplayers.org](http://www.slplayers.org).

### ❖ Chanticleers Theatre *Little Women The Musical*

*Little Women, The Musical*, an all-new Broadway high-energy musical adaptation, will be presented by Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and at 2 p.m. on Sundays till May 6. For tickets (\$25, \$20), visit [chanticleers.org](http://chanticleers.org) or call 733-5483.

### ❖ San Leandro Performing Arts Center *Legally Blond, The Musical*

*Legally Blond, The Musical*, the story of a sorority girl who enrolls at Harvard Law School to win back her ex-boyfriend, will be presented by San Leandro High School Dramatic Arts on April 13, 14, 15, 20, at 7:30 p.m. and on the Sundays of April 15 and 22, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2200 Bancroft Avenue. Tickets are \$8 and \$15 and can be purchase on-line at [www.sanleandropac.com](http://www.sanleandropac.com)

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



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



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



**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Be less rigid when handling a relationship problem. You might believe you're in the right, but try to open your mind to the possibilities of facts you're currently not aware of.



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



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



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



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



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



**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** With your creative aspects on high, you might want to restart your work on that novel or painting you put aside. Your efforts will bring a surge in your self-esteem.



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



**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Being applauded for your achievement is great. But watch out that you don't start acting like a star. It could lose you valuable support with your next project.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### ❖ Redwood 4-H Club

Redwood 4-H is hosting an open house tonight, April 12, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley. Come see that 4-H is about more than animals. For more information, call Karen at 566-3672.

### ❖ Hearing Loss Association Meeting

The Hearing Loss Association will meet on Saturday, April 14, at the Oakland Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Fabiola Bldg., 3801 Howe St., lower level, room G26. Refreshments are at 9:30 a.m. with the program starting at 10 a.m. Dawn Abrahamson from the Canine Companions for Independence center will discuss how to get a hearing ear dog to alert the owner to a variety of sounds. Parking is free in the old garage across from Howe Street. For more information, email [athos.artist@att.net](mailto:athos.artist@att.net) or call Kay at 886-4717.

### ❖ Film on Holocaust Survivor

The Castro Valley Community Alliance, in partnership with the Castro Valley Library, will show the film *One Survivor Remembers* on Sunday, April 15, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave. in Castro Valley. The film depicts Gerda Klein's account of surviving the Holocaust as a child. After the film, a panel will discuss the Holocaust, antisemitism and how these issues continue to affect members of our community. The panelist will be Iris Bendahan who will be bringing her exhibit CHAIM.

### ❖ Buon Tempo Family Dinner

Buon Tempo will have its April Family Dinner on Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley in the Mt. Tabor Hall. Chef Lisa Briones will serve a six-course family style dinner, featuring canelloni. Dinner includes dessert, and carafes of red and white wine. Everyone is invited. Happy hour is at 6:30 p.m. The dinner is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Advanced reservations are required by Friday, April 13, and made by calling the Buon Tempo dinner line at 483-6929. For information about upcoming events and/or membership check out [www.buontempoclub.org](http://www.buontempoclub.org).

### ❖ United States Air Force Band

Travis Brass, one of the cornerstone ensembles of the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, will present a free concert of patriotic and classical music on Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at the All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro. The band is based at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield and is comprised of two trumpets, French horn, trombone, and a tuba, and performs for a wide variety of musical events such as military ceremonies, patriotic shows, veteran appreciation events, and formal concerts. This concert will show case much of the music that will be performed at the end of the April when Travis Brass heads to Eastern Washington where they will be the featured soloists with the Witworth Wind Symphony.

### ❖ Forum on Prop-13

Helen Hutchison, president of the League of Women Voters of California, and Ben Grieff, campaign director and spokesperson for Evolve, will speak at a forum on The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018, a ballot initiative de-

signed to change Prop 13, on Thursday, April 19, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Hayward City Hall, 777 B St. in Hayward. The forum is sponsored by the League of Women Voters Eden Area, and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Rita Duncan, program co-chair, League of Women Voters Eden Area, at [freemyheart@yahoo.com](mailto:freemyheart@yahoo.com).

### ❖ Artfest & Reception at the SL Library

The San Leandro Art Association (SLAA) welcomes the public to Artfest 2018 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on Friday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Browse or buy fine art in a variety of mediums on display both inside and outside the library. Watch and learn from artist demonstrations and enter a prize drawing. Also, the SLAA will host a reception on Wednesday, April 18, from 6 to 7 p.m. with beverages and viewing the art in the gallery. A portion of proceeds supports the San Leandro Art Association's Dorothy Cunningham Fund which in turn supports art programs at San Leandro schools.

### ❖ Ethnic Dance Festival

Eden Area Interfaith Council presents ethnic dance festival featuring folk dances of North India, American square dancing, Jewish folk dancing, and classical dance of North India with international vegetarian cuisine on Saturday, April 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 2490 Grove Way in Castro Valley (next to Trader Joe's). Get your tickets at Ethnic Dance Festival @ Ethnic Dance Festival <https://brownpapertickets.com/events/3370423> or at the door. \$20 per person \$35 for families up to 4. This fund raiser supports the Eden Area Interfaith Council. For more information call 962-6588 email: [info@edeninterfaith.org](mailto:info@edeninterfaith.org).

### ❖ Free Women's Lifestyle Coaching

"Celebrate You Coaching" expert Phoebe Jue offers a free 1-hour lifestyle coaching session about "What Matters Most in Our Everyday." on Tuesday, April 24, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Space is limited. To register, call 577-3971.

### ❖ Viewing of *An Inconvenient Sequel*

The San Leandro Democratic Club and Our Revolution San Leandro will host a viewing of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power* on Thursday, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The guest speaker will be Chris Tiedeman, California Environmental Protection Agency deputy secretary of law.

### ❖ 2018 FESCO Shuffle Walkathon

Join FESCO (Family Emergency Shelter Coalition) in its efforts to end family homelessness in Alameda County by attending the 21st Annual FESCO Shuffle Walkathon on Saturday, April, 28, at the San Leandro Marina Park, 14001 Monarch Bay Dr. in San Leandro. Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m. at the Seagull Picnic Site and the walk begins at 10 a.m. You can walk as a team or as an individual in this family-friendly, dog-friendly event along this beautiful path. Come and enjoy morning refreshments, lunch, entertainment and a drawing! Sign up to walk or to donate at [www.firstgiving.com/21524/21st-annual-fesco-shuffle](http://www.firstgiving.com/21524/21st-annual-fesco-shuffle).

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.



# HEALTH & FITNESS

## Concussion and Sports: How the Rules are Changing for Athletes

By Shelly Gordon

Special to the Times

Increased education and awareness about the potential for injury has changed the way the game of football is played, and new rules have been put in place to protect NFL players.

Pacific Brain & Spine neurosurgeon Dr. Ronnie Mimran serves as the team neurosurgeon for the Oakland Raiders.

His practice focuses on surgical and non-surgical treatment of brain and spine disorders, with an emphasis on minimally invasive techniques for the spine. He performs surgeries at Eden Medical Center and San Ramon Regional Medical Center.

I asked him to give me his perspective on the neurological challenges facing both professionals as well as young athletes and teens who play tackle football.

*What has changed in football since neurological damage caused by brain injuries came to light 15 years ago?*

Players are penalized for helmet-to-helmet hits or hits to a defenseless player.

Before, players would shake off injuries and ignore signals to walk off the field. Now, instead of players assuming they have to take their hits like a good soldier, they are self-reporting concussions or taking themselves out of the game.

In addition, starting in 2009, the NFL mandated that each professional football team hire its own neurosurgeon.

To prevent bias, teams are now also required to bring in an independent neuro-trauma consultant to corroborate the physician's diagnosis and treatment for brain concussions.

So today, when a player is suspected of having a concussion, he is removed for the remainder of the game. Players no longer blame the doctors for taking them out. They understand that the NFL changed the rules and the rules are

the reason they're being taken out of the game.

Awareness and education have become paramount among coaches and trainers. They are recognizing that concussions aren't easy to spot because a player's injury isn't always obvious.

So even if he isn't limping, he may still be hurt. Now, if the coach suspects that a player is injured he will remove him from the game.

*What about young athletes and high school football players? What are your top recommendations for preventing injuries, during practice or during the game?*

First, young athletes, under high school age should avoid tackle football. They can learn the game by playing flag football.

Young athletes can still learn the fundamentals – running, passing, kicking – while avoiding early head hits to the skull and brain at a time when brain development is really important.

Injurious impacts have ripple effects during a young player's developmental years.

When athletes get to high school they may feel more emboldened toward aggressive physical contact. Coaches should limit padding, helmet use or other protective equipment during practice to discourage players from aggressive physical contact.

Proper fitting of equipment is essential. An older brother shouldn't hand off his football gear to his younger sibling. Families should invest in new, properly-sized equipment instead. Helmets and shoulder pads should not be passed down from one brother to the next.

*What about technology? How is technology being used to prevent injuries?*

To really solve the problem of concussions in sports we need a multifaceted approach. As I said, one arm is education; the second is changing the rules of the game. The third and final piece is technology.

The NFL, along with the Department of Defense and other institutions are funding research for equipment and this research is delving into a variety of issues.

Helmets are an obvious target for innovation. Researchers are studying the question of how we can make helmets absorb impact before it is transferred to the skull and brain.

But it's also important to know that a large number of concussions are caused by contact with the ground. So, the composition of the field turf where the game is played – and the idea of changing ground cushion to absorb impact, without changing the way the game is played – is another area that is being researched.

*Is there anything else that parents, coaches and those in the sports world need to know about these neurological issues?*

Don't ignore injuries from other sports besides football. I've seen



concussions in water polo, soccer, rugby, even cheerleading... over the last 20 years, I have seen them in nearly every sport or activity imaginable.

Concussions are not a football specific injury. It happens in all sports. It's important to be aware of these issues and, as the NFL

has done, to take steps to change the rules, upgrade equipment, and reduce the likelihood of brain injuries.

Shelly Gordon is a writer for Pacific Brain & Spine.

# Saturday, May 19

# Neighborhood Cleanup Day

### EVENT FEATURES

#### Citywide Garage Sale ~ 8am - 1pm

Host a garage sale at your home. The City will provide free advertising, including a map and listing in the May 17 edition of the *San Leandro Times*.

#### Spring Cleaning Event ~ 10am - 3pm

Bring appliances, mattresses, electronics, scrap metal, clean wood/yard trimmings, tires household batteries and fluorescent lamps. Residents may also drop off cell phones, chargers, CDs, DVDs and audio and video tapes for recycling.

Keep your neighborhood clean and green! Pull out your old, unused items from the attic in preparation for San Leandro's annual Citywide Garage Sale and Spring Cleaning Event.



### SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE

You can sign up online or complete and submit this form by May 9th to receive free garage sale advertising and/or access to the recycling event.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to participate in:  
(check all that apply)

- ☐ Citywide Garage Sale  
☐ Spring Cleaning Event

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## AUTOMOTIVE

## Miata Makes for Many Memories

By Steve Schaefer  
San Leandro Times

**T**he MX-5 Miata is an automotive treat that I've loved for 26 years. I've driven 14 of them since I started testing cars as a journalist back in 1992.

My first Miata test car came from the press fleet, and was a revelation. The moment I sat in it and then took it out on the road, I was riding in my father's Austin-Healey again, on a warm summer evening with the sun still out, going to get some ice cream.

There's nothing quite like driving an open car, and in the Miata, all you do is drop the top and go. Ever since day one, you can unlatch the top and just flip it behind you. It's amazing how many things there are to smell as you drive — most of them interesting or pleasant. You get whiffs of food from restaurants, freshly baked bread, and newly-mown grass. You also get to

sample every possible kind of music blaring out of fellow drivers' windows.

Mazda's little million-selling sports car provides direct connection to the road, with steering, close-ratio manual shifting, and responsive braking. I prefer the manual six-speed to the automatic. With its short little lever and feeling of being connected to actual gears, you can't beat it, even in commute traffic.

It takes some dexterity to get yourself into the low driver's bucket seat, and some strength and care to extricate yourself. I can still maneuver OK, but at 65, I take it easy.

Miatas have their fans — lots of them. There is a Miata race series. While testing this new model, I ran across a co-worker with a green-and-white '91, and another colleague who owns a nicely-preserved '94 in the limited-edition Laguna Blue. On a ride, he was impressed by the new car's acceleration from the little 155-horsepower 2.0-li-

ter engine (with 148 lb.-ft. of torque). With the manual six, the soft-top Miata weighs in at just 2,332 pounds, so that's plenty.

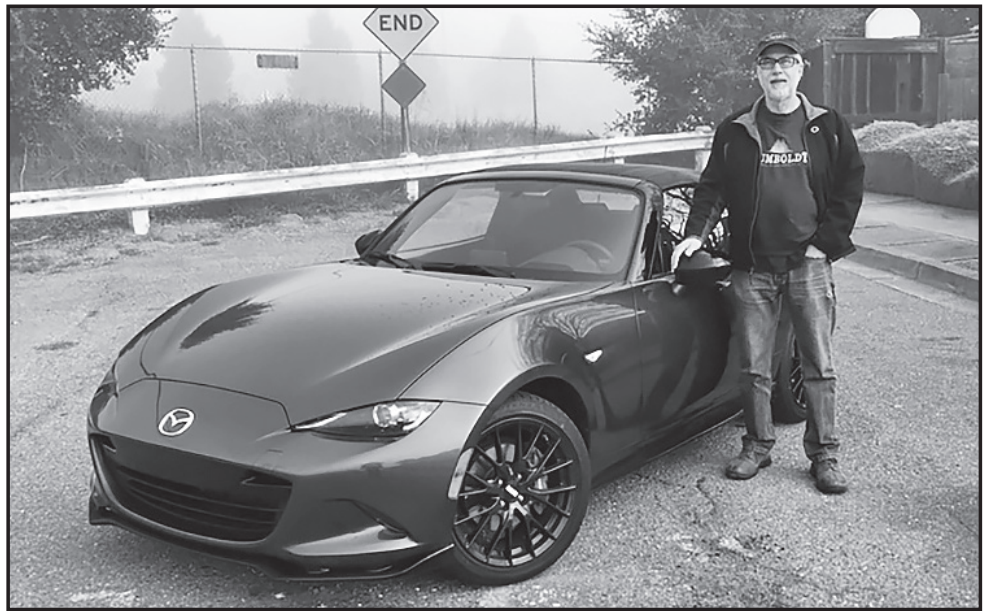
Riding low takes a little getting used to. When you look out either side window, it's directly at someone's wheel. When you look out the windshield, you'll see rakishly canted fenders, in the latest "Kodo Design" theme. The hood cut lines are cleverly hidden beyond the curve, so you don't notice them from the cabin. The hood gently rises at its center over the engine compartment.

The original Miata featured a simple, plain interior, with no luxury touches. There were silver rings around the gauges, though, a tip of the hat to classic sports cars. There was a tachometer in the middle of the instrument panel, as it is today.

The car has become more and more elegantly designed over the years, with sculpted door panels and the neatly trimmed interior fittings. Beautiful metallic accents on the steering wheel, transmission surround, air vents and door handles lend an upscale air. The Kodo Design theme blends a flow of soft curves and edges across the doors and dash.

My 2018 test car, a mid-level Club model, had some significant extras. The Machine Gray paint, a serious shade, added \$300 to the tab. I personally would prefer red or blue. The car has come in a variety of colors over the years. One especially nice setup combined British Racing green paint with a tan leather interior.

My tester flaunted a dark red



Over 26 years, Steve Schaefer has tested 14 different Miatas — a car reminiscent of his father's Austin-Healey.

cloth top — a no-cost option. The big upgrade, however, was the Brembo BBS Recaro package, at \$4,470. It transformed the car inside and out, with gripping Brembo disc brakes, black BBS custom wheels, and gorgeous and supportive Recaro racing seats in a soft alcantara suede. These buckets are heated, and feature speakers in the headrest, which aids hearing while on the road with the roof lowered.

The EPA numbers are 26 City, 33 Highway, and 29 Combined. I averaged 31.4 mpg in a week that had much too much commuting and too little back road running. The EPA Green numbers are a disappointing 3 for Smog but a solid 6 for Greenhouse Gas.

In an era of basic cars starting close to \$20,000 and mid-level Toyota Camrys approaching \$30,000, the Miata's price doesn't seem out of line.



The Kodo Design theme inside the MX-5 Miata blends a flow of soft curves and edges across the doors and dash.

My Club-level test car started at \$29,155, but with extras and delivery, hit \$35,240. A 2018 MX-5 Sport with no extras will set you back just \$26,185.

Consumer Reports has given the Miata high praise over the years. Owners report better than average reliability, so you'll see

plenty of all four generations on the road. The car magazines love it, too.

The MX-5 Miata holds a special place in my heart, and it has remained great—and improved over the years, becoming (by far) the most popular sports car ever.

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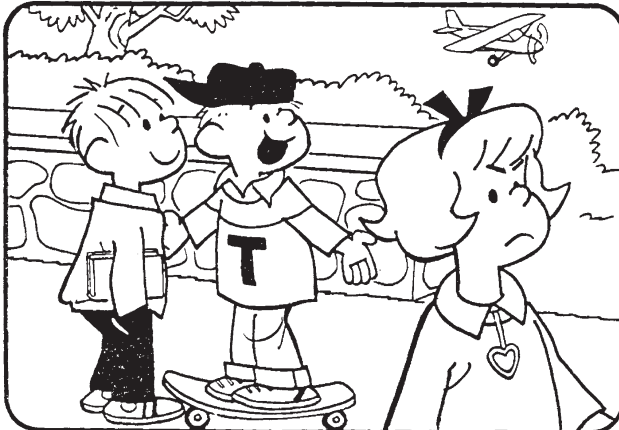
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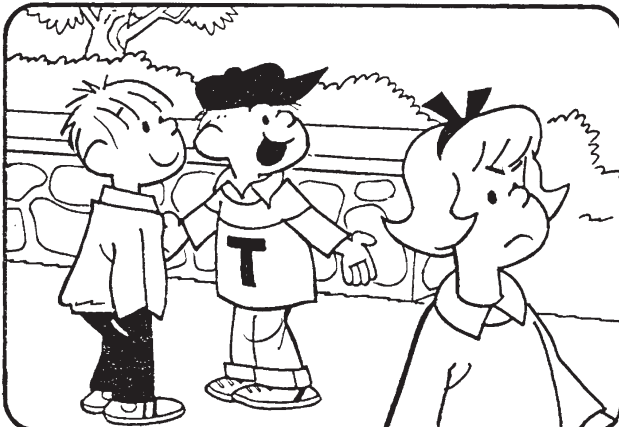


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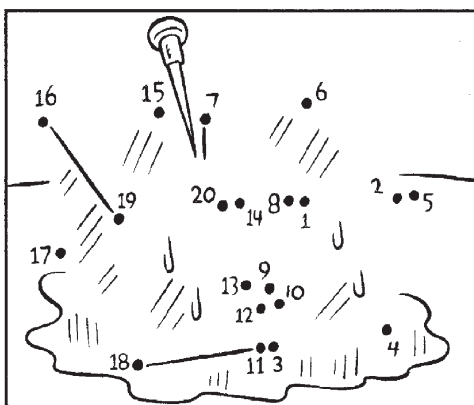
BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Book is missing. 2. Cap is reversed. 3. Skateboard is missing. 4. Airplane is missing. 5. Hair is shorter. 6. Pendant is missing.



IF A BISCUIT is a soda cracker, what is an ice pick? Connect the dots and find out.

Answer: It's a water cracker.

A "WINTER GOLF" PROBLEM! See if you can substitute the digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 for the letters on our pad so you will have a correct addition problem. The same digit is used for the same letter.

Answer: C=2, L=6, U=5, B=7, T=4, E=1, G=3, O=0, F=8, (2657 + 411 = 3068).

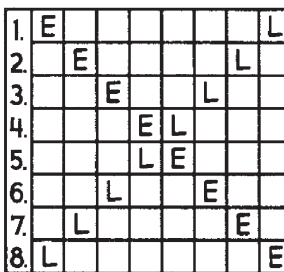
A "PEA" CULIAR PUZZLE! In this puzzle the words get progressively longer and they all begin with PEA. The following hints should help:

1. Pea (in place).
2. A delicious fruit.
3. Found in the sea.
4. Comes already wrapped.
5. Loud burst of noise.
6. Feeling much better.

Answers: 1. Pea. 2. Pear. 3. Pear. 4. Pearl. 5. Peanut. 6. Peachier.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for:

DEFINITION:

1. Momentous
2. To confuse or perplex.
3. Farming apparel.
4. Paper container.
5. Game of chance.
6. Animal enclosures.
7. Foundation of language.
8. To cover on both sides.

ANAGRAM:

1. fuel + vent
2. feud + bled
3. save + roll
4. pole + even
5. lute + tore
6. puns + bell
7. peal + bath
8. mail + tale

Answers: 1. Eventful. 2. Betwixt. 3. Overall. 4. Envelope. 5. Roulette. 6. Bullpens. 7. Alphabet. 8. Laminate.



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Fe Montemayor	Marjorie Kornhauser	Pamela Ball	O. Morones	Gay Leonard	Mike Focha
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Lisa Skinner	Colleen A Nelson	Morgan Stout	Walter Johe	Rosella Jackson	Carolena Productions Plus
Arline Souza	Jennifer Chang	Maria C. Rocha	Kenneth Domingos	Margaret Kuzmicky	Gilbert Roach
Kay Athos	Bernice sotel	Antoinette Alcalde	Sabine Dietsch	Margaret McLean	Lila Roach
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Avis Logan	Julie A. Moreno	Christine Araneta	Ellen Pelissero	Diane Meck	Phil Wilders
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Terri Neumann	Carrolyn Bryant	Ruth DeBone	Catherine Guntrum	Patricia Quant	Casandra A. Burr
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Maria Elena Galeana	Lucia Sweeney	Joanne Leonard	Nancy Asmundson	W & AL McGeorge SR.	Jeannette DeCarlo
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Betty J, Foott	Frances Atoigue	Ligia Chow	Leroy Vierra	Jeanne Powers	JoAnn Lewis
T Meyers	Sherrie Penney	Shirley Goodwin	Roger Humphreys	Deborah Trujillo	Marilyn Bennett
Percival Aquino	Mary Milton	Gayle Marie Guhde	Virginia Silva	Kevin Biddle	Marilyn Tribble
Jee Yeon Kim	Leonora Laurence	Richard L. Parker	Alfredo Ureta	A. Giangrosso	Richard Jones
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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



### Condo Buyers Beware of Potential HOA Issues

An investor purchased a condo in a local development. A few months later, his agent received a call. "The HOA has levied an assessment to each unit," the investor stated, obviously upset. "They need to resolve significant structural issues in the development," he clarified, "and they want to assess each owner over \$80,000.00."

How could a Homeowner's Association (HOA) get into a situation like that? Easier than you might imagine.

When the recent foreclosure crisis descended, it hit condo developments particularly hard. Countless owners, unable to pay escalating mortgage payments, chose to let their units go into foreclosure or short sales. One constant in either case: they stopped paying their monthly HOA dues.

With the sudden escalation of HOA fee defaults, Home Owner Associations across the country quickly entered financial difficulty. Many went into bankruptcy. The result was a complete

halt to all ongoing development maintenance.

Associations that had responsible leadership, decent financial reserves and facilities that were in good condition to begin with managed to weather the financial storm and emerge relatively whole at the end of the crisis. Others did not.

Most developments realized that they would need to raise monthly HOA fees to return to financial health, and so the recovery years following the financial meltdown saw average HOA fee amounts increase dramatically from an average pre-crisis fee of \$250/month to the current average of well over \$400/month.

Unfortunately, developments in poor condition prior to the collapse discovered that higher HOA fees alone would not be enough to bail them out of difficulty.

Consequently, their only recourse was to introduce special assessments to bring them back from the brink. In many cases, the assessments ranged between

\$5,000 to \$10,000. In extreme situations, however, the assessments were larger. In some cases, *much* larger.

While many condos are wonderful places to live, buyers need to perform due diligence when buying.

Carefully examine the entire HOA package. Scan the minutes for any suggestions of future assessments. Go over the financial statements to ensure strong reserves are in place. Walk through the development and look for obvious issues such as dry rot, peeling paint, asphalt in poor condition or weathered roofs.

If the development looks like it needs a lot of work, walk away.

In a classic case of buyer beware, we recommend you carefully examine everything before signing the final closing papers. The cash you save will be your own.

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.



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### Mortgage Rates Drop Last Week

Average mortgage rates dropped last week for the second consecutive week, according to Freddie Mac's weekly nationwide survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.40 percent, down from 4.44 percent the week before. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 4.10 percent.

Fifteen-year home loans averaged 3.87 percent, down from 3.90 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.62 percent last week, down from 3.66.

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AND  
RECYCLE!**

### RECENT HOME SALES

#### San Leandro

1042 Begier Avenue	94577: \$961,000	2 BD - 1,651 SF - 1940
1400 Carpentier Street	94577: \$490,000	2 BD - 1,176 SF - 1983
2426 Croyden Court	94577: \$430,000	3 BD - 1,659 SF - 1977
14413 Seagate Drive	94577: \$520,000	2 BD - 968 SF - 1984
1749 140th Avenue	94578: \$618,000	3 BD - 1,232 SF - 1946
1203 147th Avenue #C	94578: \$300,000	2 BD - 996 SF - 1974
1570 165th Avenue	94578: \$280,000	1 BD - 546 SF - 1987
622 Begonia Drive	94578: \$313,500	N/A BD - 1,659 SF - 1979
15956 East 14th Street	94578: \$425,000	2 BD - 918 SF - 2008
439 Lloyd Avenue	94578: \$622,000	3 BD - 1,032 SF - 1952
14849 Towers Street	94578: \$655,000	3 BD - 1,700 SF - 1948
15248 Hardin Street	94579: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,241 SF - 1952
15244 Inverness Street	94579: \$766,000	5 BD - 2,287 SF - 1952
1012 Marquette Way	94579: \$525,000	3 BD - 1,148 SF - 1956
1537 Sagewood Avenue	94579: \$730,000	3 BD - 1,441 SF - 1953

TOTAL SALES:	15		
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$280,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$525,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$961,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$549,033

#### Castro Valley

17883 Apricot Way	94546: \$828,000	3 BD - 1,234 SF - 1957
18579 Carlwyn Drive	94546: \$860,000	2 BD - 1,585 SF - 1954
2935 Lake Chabot Lane	94546: \$750,000	3 BD - 1,802 SF - 1979
4034 Leavitt Court	94546: \$830,000	3 BD - 1,378 SF - 1961
3616 Lorena Avenue	94546: \$756,000	2 BD - 1,379 SF - 1951
3641 Lorena Avenue	94546: \$740,000	2 BD - 1,175 SF - 1937
20060 Lorena Place	94546: \$575,000	2 BD - 1,258 SF - 1981
18444 Magee Way	94546: \$875,000	3 BD - 1,383 SF - 1952
3412 Marques Court	94546: \$780,000	3 BD - 1,328 SF - 1954
18442 Ogilvie Drive	94546: \$750,000	3 BD - 1,516 SF - 1956
4540 Paradise Knowles	94546: \$828,000	4 BD - 1,597 SF - 1959
19807 San Miguel Ave	94546: \$440,000	2 BD - 1,000 SF - 1964
2262 Vestal Avenue	94546: \$620,000	2 BD - 1,018 SF - 1948
5782 Cold Water Drive	94552: \$1,100,000	3 BD - 1,944 SF - 1967
5509 Jasmine Court	94552: \$1,200,000	BD - 1,746 SF - 1978

TOTAL SALES:		15	
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$440,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$780,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,200,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$780,000

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This is a great location — adjacent to the Monarch Bay Golf Club, near Kaiser, transportation, restaurants and markets. **Asking Price: \$525,000**

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# Don't Plant Your Tomatoes Too Early; Now's the Time to Prune Citrus Trees

**Q** I'm not going to get around to planting my tomatoes until next month. Are there varieties that do better when planted late? I'd like a large slicing variety like Beefsteak.

**A** May is an ideal month to plant tomatoes along with hot peppers, eggplants, and melons.

Tomatoes have a maturity or ripening date that ranges from 60 to 90-plus days. This is how long it takes a variety to ripen when started from seed under optimum conditions. The information is found on the seed package or plant label.

The days associated with each variety should be used only as a guide as to which variety matures early or later than another. Typically, the weather is the variable that affects the ripening.

The maturity date remains the same regardless of when the seed is sown. This especially true with Beefsteak. It's one of the latest maturing varieties at 96 days. So you're better off waiting until late May to plant to avoid having your plants start off slowly due to Mother Nature.

I believe tomatoes are planted too early in our area. Those planted in March and early April often suffer from the cool, wet conditions from the end of the rainy season.

Tomatoes are a warm-season



vegetable that like warm days and nights that are somewhat consistent. Quite often flowers form and then fall off before the tomatoes form. Tomatoes need warm days and nighttime temperatures above 55°F for fruit set.

It's widely believed that the early planted tomatoes will take off when the weather stabilizes. Unfortunately, they don't, as there is 'No Catch Up' gene with tomatoes. These plants will continue to disappoint all season long.

By mid-May, you should have a good idea as to how they are per-

forming. At that time you have two options with those that are struggling. First, you need to lower your expectation or start over with new plants. It's not too late to plant at Memorial Day.

**Q** Is now a good time to prune my orange? I'm also looking for some advice on how to plant a midjet grapefruit tree.

**A** Now is an excellent time to prune citrus. They're pruned annually to remove the winter damage, eliminate any dead wood, and shape the plant. This ensures that the fruit production remains pretty constant.

If you prune irregularly, you often have to sacrifice the yield to get the plant back in bounds. Hence, you get lots of fruit one year and a few the next.

It's also an ideal time to plant a dwarf orange and any other type of citrus. I would dig a hole twice as wide and six inches deeper than the container it's already in and prepare the backfill with half soil conditioner and half native soil.

Plant the new citrus, so the original ball of soil sets up one inch above the final grade. This allows the plant to settle without being buried too deep. You then construct a watering basin around it. Citrus should be watered two to three times per week.

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



## WEEKEND GARDENER

### VEGETABLES

As soon as garden beds are able to be worked after the April rains have passed, you can begin setting out vegetables, including radishes, eggplants, green peppers, beans, cucumbers and squash. Buzz Bertolero recommends waiting until May to set out tomatoes. Nurseries and garden centers are well-stocked with six-packs and 4-inch pots of vegetables ready for transplanting.

### FLOWERS

Summer annuals and perennials can also be planted this month to brighten up flower beds. Look for petunias and zinnias—two of the most popular annuals—available in a wide range of colors, shapes and sizes to fulfill any requirement, whether for dramatic massed beds and borders, window boxes or planters on the patio. Select plants with healthy, deep green foliage. In both vegetable and flowers gardens, watch out for hungry snails which have multiplied many times over due to all the wet weather.

## Mortgage Rates Drop Last Week

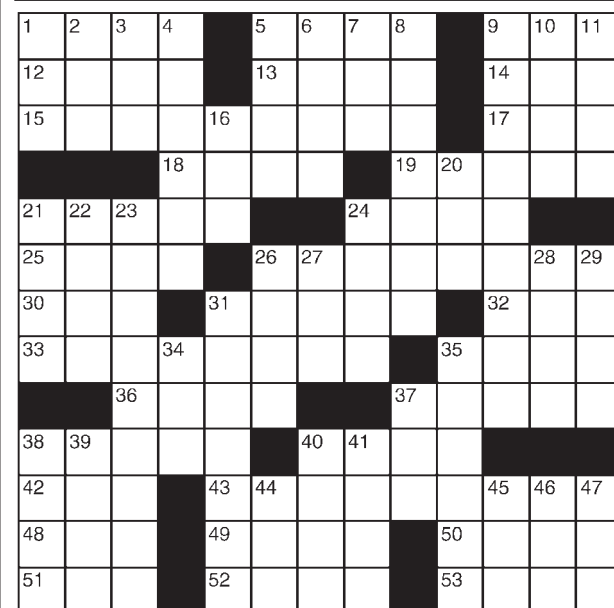
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Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.62 percent last week, down from 3.66.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Old
- 5 Always
- 9 "See ya"
- 12 Took the bus
- 13 Anger
- 14 Legislation
- 15 Pyrite
- 17 Anger
- 18 Implement
- 19 Makes one's way
- 21 English composition
- 24 Behave
- 25 Cookware
- 26 Both ways
- 30 Equal (Pref.)
- 31 Bichon --(dog breed)
- 32 "-- the fields we go"
- 33 Reins
- 35 Metal refuse
- 36 Actor McGregor
- 37 How one says "alas"
- 38 Georgia city
- 40 Leaves
- 42 Past
- 43 Absolute dominance
- 48 Web address
- 49 Teeny bit
- 50 Soon, in verse
- 51 Pop
- 52 Vacillate
- 53 Relaxing discipline

### DOWN

- 1 "Bow-wow!"
- 2 Sticky stuff
- 3 Tokyo's old name
- 4 River-mouth regions
- 5 Therefore
- 6 String instrument
- 7 Right angle
- 8 Claret, for one
- 9 "Pin the tail on the donkey" prop
- 10 Play area
- 11 Rams fans?
- 16 Sauce source
- 20 Conclusion
- 21 Grand tale
- 22 Mediocre
- 23 Absolutely
- 24 Church service
- 26 1982 movie with a 2010 sequel
- 27 Lubricant
- 28 Authentic
- 29 Wild party
- 31 Hollywood's "Talking Mule"
- 34 Pair
- 35 Strut about
- 37 Witness
- 38 Tennyson poem
- 39 City of India
- 40 "-- match?"
- 41 Fine
- 44 Explanation
- 45 Yoko of music
- 46 Journal
- 47 "CSI" evidence

ANSWERS ON PAGE 5

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C	1-4	1-4	22335 W. Lyndon Loop	\$939,000	3/2.5	J. Rockcliff RE	Suzanna Chew	510-326-4125
C	1-4	1-4	18690 Capricorn Ct.	\$949,000	4/2.5	Berkshire Hathaway	Cathy Brent	510-381-1065
C	—	1-4	35600 Palomares Rd.	\$1,275,000	4/3	J. Rockcliff RE	Kristy Peixoto	925-251-2536
C	—	1-4	33803 Palomares Rd.	\$1,280,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff RE	Kristy Peixoto	925-251-2536
O	—	1-3	9001 McGurrian Rd.	\$1,333,888	4/4.5	Robert Jones & Assoc.	Matt Jones	510-357-0120

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*Golden Gate for advertising with us for over 13 years!*

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**We truly appreciate all of our advertisers!**

*San Leandro Times / Castro Valley Forum*

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GIVEAWAYS

**FREE** - Computer desk. You pickup. Call at 510-612-2824.

**FREE** - Computer/office chair (black) in fair condition. Call 510-276-1251.

**FREE** - Mattress pad twin size memory foam 3" thick. 510-813-7864.

**FREE** - Redwood & Pine tree cuttings (truck loads only). *Also* scrap construction wood (good for camping/ outdoor burning only). *Also* construction leftovers firewood for indoor burning. Call 7:30am - 3:30pm, 7 days a week at 510-909-6182, San Lorenzo. Will not accept restricted phone numbers.

**White** (1.6 gallon) toilet with seat, tank, and lid, in excellent condition. Call 510-247-3364.

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An art piece of a ship made of wood with a thousand tiny white lights when it is turned on. It's a conversation piece for home or the boat industry. All hand made. Call Mary 510-861-3270.

**BROTHER** fax machine Model# 2800 in good condition (includes extra toner cartridge & manual) \$40. Cash only. Patrick 510-517-3351.

**Fax machine** (with paper, ink and manual) \$40. Cash only. Call Mary 510-861-3270, Castro Valley.

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MISC. WANTED

**WANTED:** Reel to reel music tapes (new or used) and reel to reel tape recorder wanted. Call Patrick at 510-517-3351.

**WANTED:** Two quiet rooms suitable for acupuncture/massage+ 1 small office. ADA accessible, Caryn 510-727-1238.

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**SELL YOUR CAR OR TRUCK** with a Classified Ad  
**For more info or to place an ad call 510-614-1558**  
San Leandro Times/Castro Valley Forum

YOUR INFO

**Advertise** your Home for rent in the San Leandro Times & Castro Valley Forum  
**DON'T LET ANOTHER WEEK SLIP BY!**  
- A vacancy day is money lost forever -  
To place an ad call **510-614-1558**

**CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE:**  
Monday 5:00 p.m.

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

**NEED - MUSIC LESSONS** or **PIANO TUNING?**  
Check the Classified Ads under "MUSICAL SERVICES" for help.

**VIEW the CLASSIFIED Ads Online at**  
**sanleandrotimes.com or**  
**castrovalleyforum.com**  
For help or for more info call **510-614-1558.** E.B. Publishing

ATTENTION LANDLORDS

  
You may rent your property with a sign in the window or with an ad on the internet... But why not also advertise your rental in both the San Leandro Times & Castro Valley Forum for as little as \$25, and reach over 60,000 readers!  
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BUY, SELL & SAVE HERE IN YOUR LOCAL MARKETPLACE

**CastroValleyForum.com**  
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**Buy! Sell! Save!**

**Help for the homeowner means business for you!**

  
**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY**  
**CALL 614-1558**

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE!

**CastroValleyForum.com**  
**SanLeandroTimes.com**  


YOUR INFO

**CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE:**  
Monday 5:00 p.m.

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

VIEW ALL CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE!

**CastroValleyForum.com**  
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All real estate advertised in the **CASTRO VALLEY FORUM** and **SAN LEANDRO TIMES** 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.

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Need Remodeling? How about a new kitchen or bath?

  
**CHECK OUT OUR CLASSIFIED ADS & HOME SERVICES FOR HELP!**

Attention Classified & Home Services Directory Advertisers

Classified & Home Service ads run in both the Castro Valley Forum and San Leandro Times.  
**TOTAL CIRCULATION 60,500**  
Call Patrick at 614-1558 for details and rates.

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We greatly appreciate our many advertisers who make it possible for us to publish these newspapers.

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**WE CONTROL YOUR RAIN!**  
★★★★  
**ALL TYPES OF ROOF REPAIRS**  
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**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR HOME SERVICES DIRECTORY**  
**CALL 614-1558**

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE!

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## Drones: More drones in the air

continued from front page  
county first announced plans to use them five years ago, there were protests.

### Public Misunderstood Type of Drones Sheriff Was Considering

"People think we are using military-type aircraft," said Commander Tom Madigan. "Instead, we are using these things from Best Buy. I bet someone in your family has something like it."

At a Alameda County Board of Supervisors special meeting back in 2013, dozens spoke out against the plan to purchase just two of the flying cameras, including representatives from the American Civil Liberties Union.

Madigan said that the the sheriff's office use of the drones first came up at a meeting at the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association about five years ago and there was immediate backlash.

"A week later it was in the *New York Times*," said Madigan. "We caught hell. In the infancy, there was a lot of misconceptions — people thought we were using Predator drones (the large military drones that fire missiles)."

Madigan said the drones are the same as the public can buy.

"We aren't using any kind of technology that a member of the public couldn't purchase," said Madigan.

Even since the drones have

been in use, the sheriff's office has said they would never be used to invade privacy, but only for public safety.

Madigan said that during the Alco Metals fire in San Leandro last summer, they were able to

**"We aren't using any kind of technology that a member of the public couldn't purchase."**

— Sheriff's Department Commander Tom Madigan

attach a five-way gas sensor to a drone and fly it through the noxious smoke to determine what kinds of gases were being released to help put out the fire. It was the first time a gas sensor had ever been attached to a drone.

Madigan showed off a video

of a drone being used during a high-risk search warrant in Oakland, where the drone operator was able to tell deputies on the ground that suspects were running out behind the house and down the street. You could see one suspect toss a gun and a bag of what Ahern said were drugs over a fence.

Madigan said that the footage is strong evidence in court and that the department turns over unedited footage to the district attorney's office in such cases.

Then the drone footage turned into something out of *America's Funniest Home Videos* as the suspect lost his pants while running.

"If you are going to run from the police, please pull up your pants," said Ahern, to big laughs from the San Lorenzo crowd.

But much of the Alameda County Sheriff's drones' work has been anything but funny. They've been used to help find the car of the young woman who drowned in Niles Canyon last winter, a teenage kayaker who died in the Bay, in the recent Lake Merritt murder-suicide, and in the Santa Rosa fire to assess damage.

Madigan said that they are always looking at adding new technology to the drones, including obstacle avoidance systems. Eventually, they will be able to fly the drones beyond the line of sight of the operator, he said.



PHOTO BY HEIDE COUCH

Travis Brass members are Thomas Salyers, James Wright, Daniel Nebel, Lee Jarzembak, and Alan Matteri.

## Travis Brass to Play at All Saints

Travis Brass, one of the cornerstone ensembles of the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, will present a free concert of patriotic and classical music on Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at the All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro.

The band is based at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield and is comprised of two trumpets, French horn, trombone, and a tuba, and performs for a wide variety of musical events such as military ceremonies, patriotic shows, veteran appreciation events, and formal concerts.

This concert will showcase much of the music that will be performed at the end of the April when Travis Brass heads to Eastern Washington where they will be the featured soloists with the

Witworth Wind Symphony.

In addition to supporting military ceremonies and presenting free concerts, Travis Brass invests much of their time preserving our American music heritage by educating the musicians of tomorrow.

According to Technical Sergeant Tom Salyers, the non-commissioned officer in charge of Travis Brass, "Working with students is one of the most gratifying and important facets of my job as an airman-musician because we are able to encourage young musicians in their craft and inspire the next generation of American airmen."

Travis Brass works in direct support of the 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis Air Force Base. Air Mobility Command flies C-5 Galaxy and C-17 Globemaster III aircraft and specializes rap-

id global transport: conveying people, equipment, and supplies anywhere in the world in less than 24 hours.

Air Mobility Command also operates a fleet of KC-10 Extenders refueling American and coalition aircraft mid-flight to extend their range. Air Mobility Command is the backbone of America's humanitarian response to natural disasters at home and abroad.

The concert is a way for all of our airmen to thank the community for their continual support of airmen and their families, honor America and her Veterans, and promote patriotism through music.

For more information, visit the USAF Band of the Golden West website: <http://www.band-ofthegoldenwest.af.mil/>



The Alameda County Chief's Office's drones were sent to the Coffey Park neighborhood in Santa Rosa to capture the aftermath of the Tubbs Fire last October.

## Art Association to Display Work Next Week at Artfest 2018

The San Leandro Art Association (SLAA) welcomes the public to Artfest 2018 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on Friday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Browse or buy fine art in a variety of mediums on display both inside and outside the library.

Watch and learn from artist demonstrations and enter a prize drawing. Also, the SLAA will host a reception on Wednesday, April 18, from 6 to 7 p.m. with

beverages and viewing the art in the gallery.

A portion of proceeds supports the San Leandro Art Association's Dorothy Cunningham Fund which in turn supports art programs at San Leandro schools.

Serving Families In Our Community  
With Compassion and Service Excellence



### San Leandro Funeral Home

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Serving All Faiths  
• Large Chapel  
• Reception Room & Kitchenette



FD 442

## LOCAL DEATHS

### Robert "Bob" J. Condap



Robert "Bob" J. Condap, 71 and a resident of San Leandro, passed away at his home on March 14, 2018.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, April 15, 2018, at 11 a.m., at the Hayward Seventh-day Adventist Church, 26400 Gading Road in Hayward, with a Celebration of Life luncheon immediately following.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the "Robert Condap Memorial Fund" at the Hayward Seventh-day Adventist Church or to the Alzheimer's Association tribute page for Bob (Google "Tributes Alzheimer's Assn" Click on "Tributes | Alz..." > Click on "Find..." > Type "Robert Condap")

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TIMES OBITUARIES may be submitted online at [ebpublishing.com](http://ebpublishing.com), emailed to [obits@ebpublishing.com](mailto:obits@ebpublishing.com) or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number.

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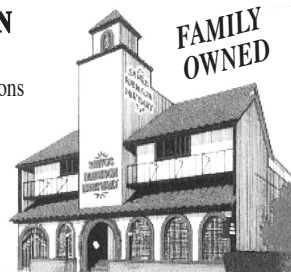






PHOTO BY JEE KIM

Music students of Maureen Spranza earned certificates for advancing to the next level.

## Music Students Reach Noteworthy Goal

The Alameda County Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC.org) sponsors the music study program Certificate of Merit (CM) held each year at Holy Names University.

The program provides a standard of curriculum that requires students to strive for focused musical excellence in performance, technique, ear training,

sight reading/singing, and music theory.

Congratulations to these hard-working piano students of Maureen Spranza, PhD. who earned the certificate for their level on March 4. From left to right: Emily Fong, Grade 7; Denise Castaneda, Grade 3; Aaron Nguyen, Grade 1; Bernard Gallegos, Grade 6; Josias Fong, Grade 2; Roberto Hernandez, Grade 7; Jose Villalobos, Adult; Kaley

Nguyen, Grade 4; Kyra Batarse, Grade 10; Baron Batarse, Grade 6; Miguel Solomon, Grade 6; Miles Smith, Grade 10; Sam Linnevers, Grade 4; Owen Shrive, Grade 5; Michelle Adutwum, Grade 8; and Hertha Phung, Grade 4. Missing are Max Linnevers, Grade 6; Willie Ko, Grade 2; Sofia Sotelo, Grade 4; Alessandra Sotelo, Grade 7; and Nick Herman, adult.

## OPINION

### LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and **must be under 300 words**. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. E-mail letters to: [letters@ebpublishing.com](mailto: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.

#### Didn't Experience Much Kindness On His Eden Housing Appeal

Editor:

On March 19th, the City Council met to consider my appeal of the Eden Housing project adjacent to my home. The project will erect a 60-foot-high wall along my entire western border, causing extensive shadows on my home.

Despite earlier reports, my appeal was ONLY a request to have Eden Housing change the building design to cause less shadow on my home. The Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA) passed the project with a vote of 4 to 1 abstention, not "unanimously" as reported.

It was reported I was joined by a "handful of neighbors," actually about 9 people spoke and 80 to 90 people attended. The three weeks I canvassed the Transit Oriented Development area passing out flyers and begging neighbors to attend paid off.

Mayor Cutter was absent, councilmen Hernandez and Ballew recused themselves, leaving a bare quorum of 4 for the appeal. Shadow studies were only mentioned, but not shown to the BZA.

I threw myself on the mercy of the city council, and found little sympathy, except for councilwoman Corina Lopez, who tried to come up with compromise, but received NO support.

Eden Housing architects insisted only one building configuration was possible. The council voted to deny the appeal, failed by a vote of 3 to 1 abstention. The hearing occurred 60 days since the appeal's filing, the council's inability to act rendered it void. What amazingly convenient timing! You can view the appeal at [goo.gl/6EYWTl](http://goo.gl/6EYWTl). One hour in, watch how eloquently Member Lee repeatedly

emphasizes that, despite the defeat of the appeal, his expectation Eden Housing do something has "teeth" in it.

In her State of the City address, Mayor Cutter stated San Leandro was a "city where kindness matters," aside from member Lopez, I did not experience much kindness in the council chambers.

—James W. Blaine III  
San Leandro

#### Calls the San Leandro Marina 'A Disgrace'

Editor:

I had the displeasure of visiting the San Leandro Marina today with my teenage daughter and her friend.

This was a special place where I spent many hours in the 1960s and 1970s fishing and enjoying the scenery. What I saw today was a disgrace.

The road in the Marina is full of potholes and there was garbage all over the parking lot, lawns and in the rocks along the shore.

There is no excuse for the lack of care and upkeep for this place. The civic leaders of San Leandro should be ashamed to allow this beautiful place to become a dump. Get your act together and clean up the Marina immediately.

#### Join the 2nd Annual 'March for Science' This Saturday

Editor:

The second annual "March for Science" will be starting at Lake Merritt Amphitheater on Saturday April 14th from 11am to 4 pm. Our Revolution San Leandro along with other East Bay progressive organizations will participate in the march meeting locally at San Leandro BART at 10:30.

Last year's march drew over 70,000 participants.

According to the organizers "the March for Science champions robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity. We unite as a diverse, nonpartisan group to call for science that upholds the common good and for political leaders and policymakers to enact evidence based policies in the public interest."

We are living in dangerous time when 97 percent of scientist believe that climate change is man made while the Trump administration and their special interest groups are funding and believing in the 3 percent who are in denial. Ironically Trump is from the Casino Industry where there is about a 3 percent chance of winning straight up on a roulette wheel. He's got the whole world in his hands and is gambling with life on the planet.

Please consider attending the event on Saturday with fellow concerned San Leandrians.

—Craig Williams  
Our Revolution San Leandro

#### Says Comey Needs to Explain His Odd Political Revelations

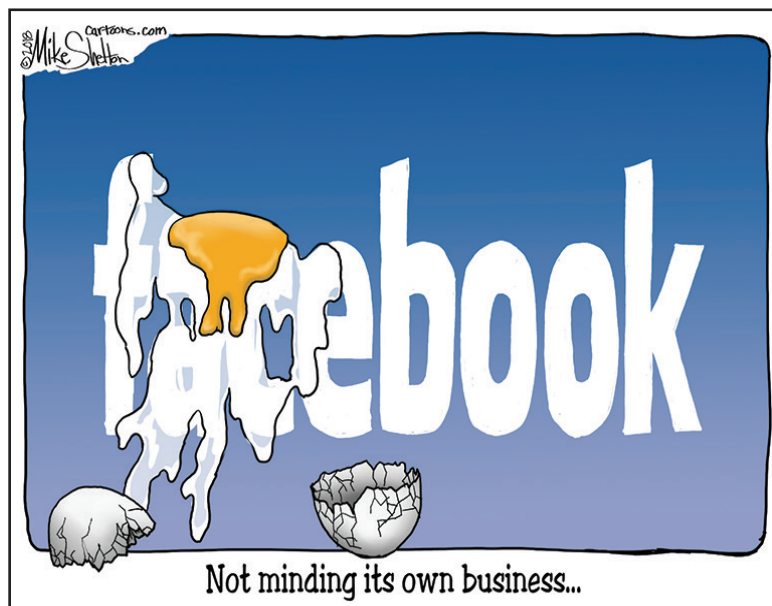
Editor:

James Comey is about to begin a publicity tour through many news and entertainment shows, to promote his book.

I hope the interviewers ask him why he thought it inappropriate to reveal that Trump had been under FBI investigation since July 2016, while he revealed, 11 days before the election, that another investigation of Hillary was beginning. The asymmetry reeks of partisanship.

Given the micro-targeted thin margins which handed Electoral victory to a morally depraved psychopath in thrall to a foreign power, there is no forgiving Comey. He helped elect the most dangerous, unfit president of our lifetimes.

—Bruce Joffe  
Piedmont



## INQUIRING REPORTER

### Best mode of transportation?

— Asked at the San Leandro BART station

Uber or Lyft, because you order a car and it comes real quick. So I like it.

**Paul Yang**  
Oakland



BART, because it's less expensive than a car and it gets you there faster. In a car you can be stuck in traffic on the freeway.

**Indya Sharp**  
San Leandro

A car, because you get to your destination faster and you have your own seat. You don't have to stand.

**Jaya Sharp**  
San Leandro



It depends on what you're trying to do. I prefer the combination of BART and a bike.

**David Harcos**  
Alameda

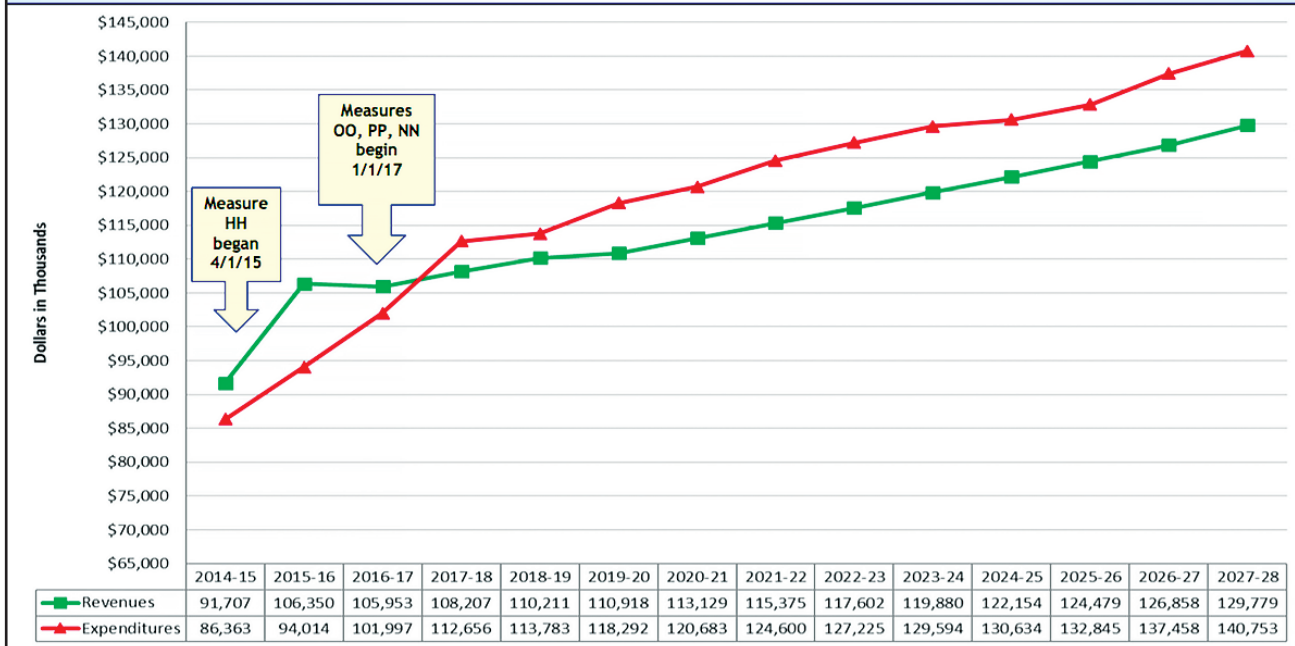
BART, because it's quick and safe. You don't have to worry about something bad happening because you're around a lot of people.

**Imani Rivera**  
Hayward





## General Fund Forecast 2014-15 thru 2027-28



San Leandro's budget is set to dip into the red beginning this fiscal year with deficits of up to \$11 million annually over the next decade, according to David Baum, the city's finance director.

## Budget: Expenditures rising sharply

continued from front page

more likely to be key rather than one major one," said Kay. "We need a sense of urgency, but not a sense of panic."

Kay said that they need to deal with the deficits now so there aren't any "painful cuts" in the future.

"There is good news and bad news," said Kay. "We have strong reserves today and that's a testament to the planning of the City Council. The bad news is that the deficit shows those reserves depleting."

The biggest expense continues to be employee salaries and benefits, which have leapt from \$39 million to 2014/2015 to a projected \$55 million in 2018/2019. Salaries and benefits make up almost half of the city's budget.

In San Leandro the average annual cost to the city for a sworn police officer is \$270,000, which includes salaries and benefits. That's double other city employees, whose average salary and benefit cost is \$130,000.

**"There is good news and bad news. We have strong reserves today, a testament to planning of the City Council. The bad news is those reserves are depleting."**

— Acting City Manager  
Jeff Kay

Then there are the costs of retired employees, including \$188 million in projected unfunded pension liabilities.

Baum said that number has actually been reduced from \$210 million due to actuarial projection adjustments. Still it's much higher than the \$105 million in unfunded pension liabilities the city had in 2014.

Baum said that the pension fund that the city uses — The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) — isn't doing as well with its investments as it should and the city is responsible for paying the difference between what CalPERS pays out and what the retired employee is owed.

Baum said that one thing they are doing to keep employee costs down is to keep the number of total employees as low as possible. There are 436 current city of San Leandro employees compared to 500 a decade ago.

To combat the pension costs,

the city has created a fund to set aside money for the future expenditures. But due to the current budget forecasts and desire to maintain reserves, they estimate they will only be putting about \$1 million in that fund this year.

Another problem is the budget was created with the anticipation of receiving about \$500,000 in income from the three cannabis dispensaries the city has approved. But none of them have opened yet. Several members of the council indicated that once they do open, the city should begin considering recreational pot sales to boost tax revenue.

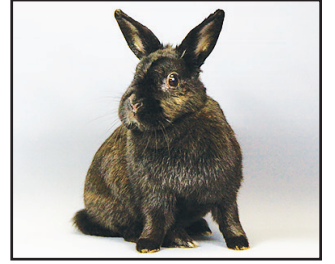
Kay pointed out some other elements of the 10-year budget which are in flux and are likely to get worse: the current budget doesn't account for any raises for employees over the next decade or a potential recession.

The City Council's next budget update is scheduled for Monday, May 21, at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

## Pets of the Week



Sadie



Samantha

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Sadie the dog and Samantha the bunny.

Sadie is a sweet, reserved 2-year-old who'll gently lean against her person for pets, enjoys playing fetch and going for walks. She does well with other dogs, large and small. Okay with kids

10 and older.

Samantha is a calm, sweet and petite bunny who's easy to handle. She loves snacking on veggies and an occasional piece of apple. She's spayed and ready to go to her new indoor home.

For more information on Sadie or Samantha, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 293-7200.

## Sheriff: Miley slows down plan for Sheriff to run REACH Center

continued from front page

Rebecca Gebhart, the agency's finance director, said Heath Care Services has an expertise in "start ups," having opened 19 clinics in the county, so that's why they were chosen to take the lead on REACH in the beginning.

But Gebhart said that Miley and the Sheriff's Office had more to do with getting REACH off the ground than her agency and that she'd be "committed to working with whoever the operator is" in the future.

Sheriff's Department Captain Marty Neideffer, founder of the Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League, wants the department to focus on "community policing" and says taking over operation of REACH can be a part of that so they can "build relationships" with young people.

"I know there are some skeptics in the room, but our desire to be involved in a community association stemmed from the Ferguson (police shooting)," said Neideffer. "What we recognized as law enforcement officers is that if you aren't engaged with a community, you'll be left down the line with a potential blow out."

Neideffer admitted that some youth in Ashland and Cherryland are afraid of the police, but said that's what they are hoping to change by operating REACH. "We want to bind the wounds that exist between communities of color and the police," said Neideffer.

There isn't any timeline for the operation of REACH to change hands. The next step will be a series of meetings with the San Lorenzo School District, La Clinica, REACH staff and youth, and youth currently in juvenile hall over the next few months.

The first of these meetings will be Tuesday, May 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the Alameda County Office of Education, 313 West Winton Avenue, Hayward.

REACH opened in May of 2013 with the Health Care Services Agency as its "lead operator" and serves about 3,000 young people in its programs.

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