



Chef's Specials

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WEEKEND WEATHER
CLOUDY Cloudy thru Sunny
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 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
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FRIDAY **SATURDAY** **SUNDAY**

San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK CLIFFORD

Mark Clifford coming back from Operator Desert Storm in 1991, wearing a survivor shirt.

Former Marine and San Leandro Policeman Returns to Mt. Pinatubo

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Mount Pinatubo is a big and sometimes violent volcano in the Philippines, but not quite big enough nor violent enough to defeat retired San Leandro police officer, author and Marine veteran Mark Clifford.

The volcano tried really hard once

before, on Philippines Independence Day (June 12), 1991. It was the second most severe volcanic eruption in Earth's recent history and sent hundreds of thousands of Filipinos fleeing, and destroyed a U.S. military base.

The volcano also buried then Staff-Sergeant Clifford and his small group of Marines under several yards

of hot volcanic ash.

Due to one of history's biggest evacuations and just enough advance warning from scientists, most people in Pinatubo's path survived. But it was close for Clifford and his fellow marines.

Clifford headed back on April 7
see RETURNS, page 11

Shops Told to Take Down Window Signs

Storekeepers say stricter enforcement of sign laws is hurting their businesses

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Acapulco Records would like to have a little sign in the front window that tells people what they sell.

You see, most people aren't buying records anymore, so Acapulco Records has diversified.

Now they have electronic accessories, clothing, a notary service, money wires. But no signs for those things can be in the window.

"I had to take the signage down," said business owner Leslie Garcia, whose father founded the longtime store on

East 14th Street.

Garcia offered to make the signs smaller, but she was told the signs aren't allowed at all because it doesn't match the name of the business, she said.

"They said you can't put anything that promotes your products or services," Garcia said.

Stepped Up Sign Ordinance Enforcement

Up and down East 14th Street businesses said they've been told to remove signs
see SIGNS, page 11

Ballots Sent Out on Sewer Rate Increase

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

The City of San Leandro would like to raise rates for sewers to pay for improvements and has sent out ballots to property owners.

City leaders say they need the increase in rates to keep up with increased operational

costs, comply with stricter environmental regulations, and maintain publicly owned sewer infrastructure. The plant itself dates back to 1939 and its last major upgrade was in 2017.

The mail-in ballots give property owners a chance to
see BALLOTS, page 12

Hayward to Host Lit Hop on Saturday

Annual literary festival features an array of writers and artists

The annual Hayward Lit Hop is coming back to downtown Hayward this year on Saturday, April 26, from 2 to 8 p.m. on Independent Bookstore Day and National Poetry Month.

The literary festival begins at 2 p.m. at Heritage Plaza,

across the street from the downtown Hayward Public Library, with a welcome from Hayward local civic and literary leaders and a musical performance from the East Bay Symphonic Band.

Next, Hayward's poet laureate Leticia Guzman and

“Hop from place to place to venues on B Street.

former poet laureate Bruce Roberts will perform, followed by youth laureates Fern Biswas and Ellie Bleharski.

From 4 to 7 p.m., hop from place to place to venues on and around B Street to hear performances from groups, including
see LIT HOP, page 10

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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Halkin School Students Walk through San Leandro History

San Leandro Museum gives students hands-on history lesson

By **Hannah Hom**
San Leandro Times

Twenty-four third-graders from Halkin Elementary School, accompanied by one teacher and ten chaperones, recently embarked on an immersive journey into the past at the San Leandro History Museum.

Their field trip focused on exploring San Leandro history through a guided tour, live reenactments, and hands-on activities that brought it all to life. The museum has offered school field trips since 2004.

The trip aligned with California's third-grade curriculum, which emphasizes local history.

Teacher Sean Cavanaugh, who has been educating students for 30 years and organizing this field trip for a decade, emphasized its value.

"Every year, I see students gain a deeper connection to their hometown," Cavanaugh said. "Understanding what was here before us helps students appreciate where we are today."

The students participated in a play that highlighted key historical figures from San Leandro's past. A student named Tommy Jue played Thomas Mulford and he enjoyed stepping into the role of



PHOTO BY HANNAH HOM

The students performed a San Leandro history-themed play where they wore costumes and recited a short script relevant to their character's role.

a successful landowner.

"It's cool to become a millionaire," he said.

Vinny Salcedo, who played a vaquero, found it exciting to learn about his city's heritage while acting as a cowboy.

The museum staff designed interactive activities, including traditional staves (Ohlone) games, hand-washing clothes as people did in the 1800s, and a bucket brigade. These activities aim to transport students into the daily lives of those who lived in the region centuries ago.

Parents who attended as chaperones expressed how much they also learned about the city's history.

The teachers emphasized the importance of highlighting lesser-known aspects of San Leandro's past and ensured that students develop a well-rounded understanding of their community's roots.

Educators at the event recommended the field trip to others, as it is open weekly, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1 to 4 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month, from

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The teachers praised the museum's role as an invaluable resource for bringing history to life. As the students

returned to their classrooms, they carried with them a newfound appreciation for the past that continues to shape their present.

St. Leander School 2025 Classic Car Show Invites Car Owners to Enter

Calling all lowriders, hot rodders, muscle cars and classic car owners. The St. Leander School 2025 Classic Car Show will be held on Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Leander School, 550 W. Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro.

Join St. Leander's inaugural classic car show fundrais-

ing event. Registration is \$30. To register your classic car for this event, visit stleanderschool.org/car-show by Sunday, May 5.

Participant space is limited. Admission to the show is free to the public. All proceeds

support student grants and scholarships.

Asian American Heritage Performance

Celebrate Asian Heritage Month at a free performance on Monday, May 5, from 2 and 4 p.m. in the Lecture Hall at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Experience the talent of a renowned group of musicians and artisans who will be making their debut in the

Bay Area. The performance will feature musicians playing Chinese instruments, Chinese opera, and short drama skits.

This free performance is hosted by the Asian Community Cultural Association of San Leandro and organized by the Jiangsu & Zhejiang Associations.

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY!

Vivian Strayhorn Stewart celebrates her milestone 100th birthday on April 25, 2025.

Born in Virginia, Vivian's journey has been truly remarkable. She cherished her time with her late husband, Colonel James Stewart, as they traveled the world together during his military career before settling in California over 60 years ago.

Vivian loves all kind of sports,

especially basketball, and her favorite players are the former Splash Brothers: Steph Curry and Klay Thompson.

Over the course of a century, Vivian has witnessed significant historical events such as World War II, the Cold War, the rise of the internet, the COVID-19 pandemic, the Civil Rights Movement, the Space Race, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Great Depression, the Apollo 11 moon landing and the election of the 1st African American President of the United States America.

Vivian currently resides with her family who surrounds her with their loving care on a daily basis, and are inspired by her wisdom, resilience and love.

Congratulations Vivian, on your centennial celebration!



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Community Calendar

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

I.D.E.S. St. John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Luncheon Bingo on Saturday, April 26, at noon. Tickets are \$15 and includes four Bingo cards. Extra Bingo cards for 25 cents each. Linguica sandwich, French fries and hot dogs. For tickets, call Jenet Re at 510-483-1132, or Willie Calvo at 510-207-6326.

Eden Garden Club Plant Sale

The Eden Garden Club will hold a plant sale on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 19910 Forest Ave. in Castro Valley. All proceeds benefit school garden grants for CVUSD and HUSD schools. For more information, call or text Gwen Dossey at 510-828-8787.

American Legion Post 117 Sunday Breakfast

American Legion Post 117 of San Leandro will host its monthly Fourth Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, April 27, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. Pancakes with sausage, eggs, coffee, tea, and fruit. Donation: veterans \$8, non-veterans \$9.

Senior Lunch Program at First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro, 180 Estudillo Ave., will offer a senior "Young at Heart" lunch program the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Each lunch will be followed by a program ranging from musical groups to information about local charities.

Alta Mira Club Spring Intergenerational Tea

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Spring Intergenerational Tea on Saturday, May 3, at noon. Tea party attire and hats are optional. \$40 per person, \$10 for children under 12. For reservations, email Nancy Fong at nancyfong@aol.com or call 510-483-1018.

24th Annual Arroyo Athletic Boosters Car Show

The Arroyo Athletic Boosters will hold its 24th Annual Car Show, a day of amazing cars and bikes, on Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Arroyo High School, 15701 Lorenzo Ave. in San Lorenzo. Free admission. To register a vehicle in the show, visit <https://ahs-car-show-2025.cheddarup.com> Pre-registration: \$15 cars, \$15 bikes. Day of show: \$30 cars, \$20 bikes. Email Arroyo.Athletic.Boosters@gmail.com for more information.

Resolve to Lose Weight by Joining TOPS

Resolve 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 weight loss support group that meets on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria Street in Castro Valley. For more information, call Sandy Montero at 510-299-7312. Join for fellowship and support. What do you have to lose?

First United Methodist Senior Exercise

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 activities with tea and healthy snacks. Meet on Tuesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. from March 11 to May 13 in Hale Hall which is entered from Bancroft Ave. Nurture your body, mind, and spirit while building community. All are welcome, non-denominational, no charge. For more information, call the church office at 510-483-0606.

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.

League of Women Voters Socks & Underwear Drive For the Homeless

The League of Women Voters of the Eden Area (LWVEA) is sponsoring an Underwear Challenge and asks community groups to donate new adult socks and underwear to benefit South Hayward Parish and First Pres Hayward homeless shelters.

Underwear and socks are the number one request at these shelters. Please ask your members and friends to supply new men's and women's underwear and socks to donate to the shelter.

The Underwear Challenge

will run from April 8th to May 8th and culminate with a weigh-in on May 8th at 6 p.m. at Eden Township Health District, 20400 Chabot Road, Suite 303 in Castro Valley.

Participants are invited to join us at an ice cream social during the weigh-in.

Please contact Jo Loss if your organization will be participating by emailing us at LWVEA57@gmail.com.

If you can't make the weigh-in, you can arrange to have your items picked up by calling 510-8813109.

Earth Day Cleanup in CV

The Alameda County Unincorporated Area Clean Water Volunteers are hosting their annual Earth Day Clean Up Event in Castro Valley and are seeking volunteers on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet at the Castro Valley Creek Trail, 3625 Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley.

Help clean up litter and enhance the wildlife habitat. Wear work clothes, sturdy shoes and gloves. Bring a refillable water bottle and a snack. Hosted by the Alameda County Unincorporated Area Clean Water Program and the Castro Valley Sanitary District. Volunteers can sign up at www.cvsan.org/ED

San Leandro Garden Club Yard Sale

The San Leandro Garden Club will have its 4th annual Yard Sale on Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bethel Presbyterian Church, 14235 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro with a large variety of home goods, handicrafts, previously loved jewelry and of course plants, pots and lots of other things. Proceeds will go to other local non-profits in the area.

Friends of the Library Gift Bazaar

The Friends of the San Leandro Library will host a Gift Bazaar on Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the gift shop at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Lots of jewelry, scarves, puzzles, soaps, cozy socks, Hallmark-style books, and more. All proceeds benefit the San Leandro Library's programs and services. Credit cards accepted.

Events at the Library

Family Emergency Preparedness Workshop.

Learn ways to prepare your family for earthquakes, wildfires, flooding and extreme heat at the Family Emergency Preparedness Workshop on Tuesday, April 29, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. While the presentation is designed for adults, children welcome to attend. There will be craft tables and a play space in the room. Light refreshments served. For more information, call 510-577-3960.

Students – Apply for a Summer Job at the SL Library

Apply for a summer job at the San Leandro Public Library. Develop job skills, give back to the community, and have fun. Teen volunteers must be entering grades 9 to 12 and able to commit to 4 weeks of volunteering. More information can be found at sanleandro.org/library. Applications are due May 9.

SLHS Jazz Band Invites Everyone to Spring Concert

Everyone is invited to the San Leandro High School Jazz Band Spring Concert on Wednesday, May 7, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. Tickets are \$5 at the door. All proceeds go to support the San Leandro High School Instrumental Music Program. It's going to be a spectacular evening filled with soulful jazz music that you won't want to miss.

The Great Gildersleeve at the San Leandro Museum

Step back in time and enjoy a special screening of *The Great Gildersleeve*, the beloved local radio sitcom character brought to life on the big screen, on Saturday, May 3, from noon to 2 p.m. at the San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave.

After the film, immerse yourself in the fascinating world of early animation by creating your own zoe-

trope, an incredible device that brings the magic of motion to life.

This hands-on program offers a fun, interactive way to explore the charming humor of *The Great Gildersleeve* while discovering the origins of animation technology.

For ages 10 and over. For more information email historymuseum@sanleandro.org.

Performances at the Library For Dia de los Libros

Children and their families can celebrate Día de los Niños (Children's Day) / Día de los Libros (Book Day), with two performances, a craft activity, a book giveaway, and refreshments on Saturday, April 26, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Main Library at 300 Estudillo Ave.

At 1 p.m., Mariela's Music Time presents an energetic and bilingual (English and Spanish) musical performance.

From 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., children can create their own Mini Piñata to take home and enjoy

refreshments. At 3 p.m., The Slim Chance Circus Show will entertain with a humorous presentation with magical tricks. The event will conclude with a Free Book Giveaway to help families build their home libraries. Seating for the performances will be first come, first served. Doors will close if room capacity is reached. The book giveaway is while supplies last.

For more information, contact Adrian Barrientos at abarrientos@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3996.



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Chef's Specials Revealed

Not all of our memorable recipes came from the likes of Martha Stewart or Julia Child. In fact, many regional favorites were born in the work-a-day kitchens of large chain restaurants and small mom-and-pop diners.

Sometimes these eateries made their recipes available to the public. In other cases, inventive chefs produced copycat versions. Some of the establishments have disappeared from the landscape, but their classic innovations live on in countless cookbooks

DENNY'S-STYLE FRENCH TOAST

4 eggs

- 2/3 cup whole milk
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
- 6 slices Texas toast thick bread
- 3 tablespoons butter
- Powdered sugar
- Butter and syrup
- Fresh berries, optional

Mix together the eggs, milk, flour, sugar, vanilla, salt and cinnamon.

Heat a large skillet, or griddle. When the skillet is hot, add 1 tablespoon butter. (If butter smokes, the pan is too hot – turn down the heat.)

Dip each slice of bread into the

batter for 30 seconds on each side. Let some of the batter drip off, then put in skillet. Cook each slice 1-1/2 to 2 minutes per side until each side is golden brown.

Add more butter, if necessary, to cook all of the slices. To serve, put on plate, dust with powdered sugar. Serve with butter, syrup and fresh berries if you like. Serves 6.

OLIVE GARDEN'S MINISTRONE SOUP

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 cup minced white onion
- 1/2 cup chopped zucchini
- 1/2 cup frozen cut Italian cut green beans
- 1/2 stalk celery, minced
- 4 teaspoons minced garlic

- 4 cups vegetable broth (not chicken broth)
- 2 (15-ounce) cans red kidney beans, drained
- 2 (15-ounce) cans small white beans or great northern beans, drained
- 1 (14-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup shredded carrot
- 2 tablespoons minced parsley
- 1-1/2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
- 3 cups hot water
- 4 cups fresh Baby Spinach
- 1/2 cup small shell pasta

Heat olive oil over medium heat in a large soup pot.

Saute onion, celery, garlic, green beans, and zucchini for 5 minutes or until onions begin to turn translucent.

Add vegetable broth, tomatoes, beans, carrot, hot water, and spices and bring soup to a boil, then reduce heat and allow to simmer for 20 minutes.

Add spinach leaves and pasta and cook for an additional 20 minutes or until desired consistency. Makes eight 1-1/2 cup servings.

SPENGER'S CRABLEGS IN SHERRY WINE SAUCE

3 pounds crab legs

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup chopped green onions
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1/4 cup Sherry
- 1/4 cup clam juice

Roll the crab legs in flour. In a large pan, heat the butter. Add crab legs. Sauté 2 minutes on one side and turn. Add onions and mushrooms; cook 2 minutes. Add Sherry and clam juice. Cook 3 minutes while shaking pan. Serve on hot cooked rice. Serves 6.

BLACK ANGUS GARLIC BREAD

- 1 loaf French bread
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup shredded Asiago cheese
- 1 cup shredded Jack cheese
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 bunch green onions, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, puréed

Split French bread loaf into halves horizontally. Mix butter, cheeses, mayonnaise, green onions and garlic in bowl, blending well. Spread the cut side of bread halves with spread.

Bake at 350°F for 7 minutes, then place under broiler about 3 minutes longer.

Cut into slices and serve. Makes 10 to 12 slices.

TONY ROMA'S ONION RING LOAF

- 4 to 6 mild white onions
- 1 cup milk

- 3 eggs, beaten
- Salt
- 2 cups pancake mix, about
- Oil for deep-frying
- Parsley

Slice onions crosswise and separate into rings. Soak rings in mixture of milk, eggs and salt to taste in bowl for 30 minutes. Dip each onion ring in pancake mix and fry in oil heated to 375°F until golden brown. Pack fried onion solidly, without pressing, into 8x4-inch loaf pan and bake at 400°F for 10 to 15 minutes. Turn onto serving plate. Garnish with parsley. Makes 4 servings.

PANERA BREAD BLACK BEAN SOUP

- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 celery ribs, finely chopped
- 1/4 red bell pepper, chopped
- 2 small chicken bouillon cubes
- 2 (15-ounce) cans black beans, undrained
- 1-1/4 cups boiling water
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1-1/2 tablespoons cornstarch

In a pot, combine the first six ingredients; simmer for 10 minutes. Add half a can of beans, salt and cumin; cook for 5 minutes.

Puree soup and add the rest of the beans to the soup. Combine the cornstarch with 1-1/2 tablespoons of water. Add the lemon juice and cornstarch and cook until thickened. Yields 4 to 6 servings.

IHOP BUTTERMILK PANCAKES

- 1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 egg
- 1-1/4 cups buttermilk
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 cup cooking oil
- 1 pinch salt

Preheat a griddle or skillet over medium heat. Mix all of the ingredients till combined.

Melt a little bit of butter in the pan. Pour the batter by spoonfuls into the hot pan, forming 5-inch circles. When the edges appear to harden, flip the pancakes. They should be golden brown.

Cook the pancakes on the other side until they are also golden brown. Yields 8 to 10 pancakes.

APPLEBEE'S HOT ARTICHOKE & SPINACH DIP

- 1 (10-ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed
- 1 (14-ounce) can artichoke hearts, drained and roughly chopped
- 1 cup shredded Parmesan-Romano cheese mix
- 1/2 cup shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 10 ounces prepared Alfredo sauce
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 4 ounces softened cream cheese, Pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine ingredients thoroughly in a bowl and spread mixture into a small (about 3x8-inch) baking dish and bake for 25-30 minutes until cheeses are bubbling and melted.

Yields 10 to 12 servings.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED NEW AMENDMENTS TO CITY FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES AND TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City Council of the City of San Leandro, City Hall, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California, on Monday, May 5th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the below matter:

Matter of proposed establishment of new fees and changes in City user fees and service charges for fiscal year 2025-2026. Said fees and taxes to be effective July 1, 2025, in most cases.

Members of the public may attend the meeting in-person at the Council Chambers located at 835 E. 14th Street, online by visiting <https://zoom.us/j/506831637>, or by phone 1-888-788-0099 Enter Webinar ID: 506 831 637

Public comment may be made live during the meeting in-person, via zoom or through the eComment feature at <https://sanleandro.legistar.com>. Please note that the eComment period will close at 11:59 pm the Sunday before the scheduled council meeting and distributed to City Councilmembers prior to the start of the City Council meeting. Written public comment will not be verbally read out loud.

Detailed schedules on the proposed fee adjustments can be found on the City of San Leandro website by visiting <https://www.sanleandro.org/306/Finance-Department> or at the City of San Leandro on file in the Finance Department for public inspection, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dated / Published: April 24, 2025, and May 1, 2025

Kelly B. Clancy
City Clerk, City of San Leandro

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-  **ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Someone will try to pull the wool over your eyes. Trust your inborn sense of what's right and what's wrong to help you avoid getting fleeced.
-  **TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Love dominates the Taurean landscape this week, but someone from the past doesn't feel so kindly to the divine Bovine. Resist an attempt to goad you into a fight.
-  **GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** A perplexing on-the-job situation that you thought was resolved reopens with a new twist. But this time, you'll have more people willing to help you deal with it.
-  **CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** A major move could be good for your career, but you worry that it might cause problems for your loved ones. Before making a decision, talk things over with them.
-  **LEO (July 23 - August 22):** The Big Kitty's glitter dazzles the right people who react to your charm. But they'll want more proof that you can do the job they're offering.
-  **VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Continue to assess both sides of a workplace situation before deciding which to support. An old friend brings potentially life-changing news. Listen well.
-  **LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Your natural inclination for fairness might conflict with the special needs of a friend. Weigh both issues carefully and make your decision in your usual honest way.
-  **SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** A misunderstanding causes a rift in a once-closed relationship. Make a move toward sealing the breach before it grows too wide to ever be repaired.
-  **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** You can keep secrets like no one else can, but an unexpected development may force you to consider revealing one of them.
-  **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Someone tries once again to goad the Goat into a confrontation, but resist. Remember that you've nothing to gain by being the butt of someone else's ambitions.
-  **AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** An opportunity that recently opened up needs to be fully explored to make sure that no unsettling surprises will emerge later on. Ask questions and demand answers.
-  **PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** An old friend reveals a secret from the past that can lead to changes in relationships with family and friends. Expect a shocking reaction from a surprising source.



New Hangar Opens at Hayward Airport

Hayward Hangars, LLC, which owns and operates a general aviation airplane hangars at Hayward Executive Airport, announced that the construction of a third hangar building, known as Building A, has been completed.

The company expects the hangar to be available for occupancy later this month.

Building A has eight box hangar units, of which four are 50-by-50 feet and four are

50-by-40 feet. Each unit has a single piece hydraulic door, three phase power capability and fire sprinkler protection. The project has a private rest room and ample parking.

The City of Hayward has offered to plant a tree on the site in memory of Marilyn Bender Altschul, the mother of James Altschul, President of Hayward Hangars, LLC. Information on the date of the tree planting and a ribbon

cutting ceremony will be announced soon.

Hayward Hangars, LLC acquired a ground lease at the Hayward Executive Airport in 2004 and later constructed Building B, which has 18 42-by-34-foot deep box hangar units.

Hayward Executive Airport is one of the leading general aviation-focused airports in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Health & Fitness



Middle Schoolers Learn CPR

Middle school students across the San Leandro Unified School District are now equipped with lifesaving CPR skills, thanks to a peer-led initiative made possible through collaboration between the school and community.

Every middle school student in the San Leandro Unified School District has now been trained in CPR, the school district announced last week.

The program is a collaboration with the East Bay Regional Park District, the City of San Leandro, and the Red Cross.

At both Bancroft and John

Muir middle schools, CPR instruction was led by student leaders in Peer Advocates and Leadership programs. After receiving training themselves, these students taught their peers during physical education classes, demonstrating the strength of youth leadership and the power of peer-to-peer learning.

The program was made possible by many staff members from both schools. Educators, support staff, and administrators came together to support the training and create learning experiences

for students.

“This initiative gave our students the skills to save lives and the opportunity to lead,” said Superintendent Dr. Mike McLaughlin. “It was a true community effort, and we’re proud to see our students rise to the challenge.”

This hands-on training marks a major milestone in health and safety education across the district. The collaboration with local partners made it possible to reach every middle school student in SLUSD with this critical instruction.

San Leandro Art Association to Hold Outdoor Spring Art Festival

The San Leandro Art Association (SLAA) will present ArtFest Spring 2025, an outdoor art show at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. on Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Explore many forms of art by members, on display and for sale: paintings, photography, sculpture and more. Find a great Mothers’ Day gift and meet the artists. Buy original works of art. Watch art demonstrations.

Free art activity table where children of all ages may create a piece of art to take home.

Enter the fundraising drawings to win art, goods and services.

All money collected from the raffle goes to SLAA grant programs for school art programs and students in the San Leandro School District. For more information visit SanLeandroArt.org or email sanleandroart.contact@gmail.com

Apply for a Clean Water Program Grant

The Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program is now accepting applications for its Community Stewardship Grants, offering up to \$6,000 per project to support community-based initiatives that prevent stormwater pollution and promote the health of local watersheds, creeks, and the San Francisco Bay.

Projects must be implemented within Alameda County. The application deadline is May 9.

Eligible applicants include teachers and student groups, youth organizations, community and environmental groups, homeowner associations and non-profit organizations. Proposed activities can range from litter cleanups, creek restoration and wildlife habitat enhancement projects to art and multimedia projects, community outreach events and



PHOTO BY BENEDICTE LASSALLE

Litter cleanups are among the projects funded by the grants.

more. Creative and innovative ideas wanted.

To learn more, including projects funded in the past, and to download the application materials visit www.cleanwaterprogram.org/grants.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Homeowner Insurability Issues Continue

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

one problem:

Located on the side of a mountain in Washington State's Cascade range, a beautiful upscale vacation rental home features stunning views, access to local trails for hiking and biking, skiing and other winter activities, a pristine lake, the quaint historic town of Roslyn, the Suncadia resort and much more. It has been a tremendous asset to the owners and a favored destination for vacationers. There is only

Insurance. The owner recently received a Notice of Non-Renewal from their existing insurer which set off an epic search for replacement insurance. After searching for almost a month, a policy was finally secured, but at a cost more than double the previous policy.

Like California, wildfires have occurred in Washington's mountainous regions and, also like the Golden State, insuring residences has

become a significant problem, especially if the property lies outside what would be considered "normal" parameters. In the case of the Cascade vacation rental, since it is a short-term rental, is not the owner's primary home and is located in a wildfire region, no one wanted to provide insurance. Like California, Washington State also has a state-underwritten Fair Plan which is typically the last resort for uninsurable properties, however, in this case, because the home was a vacation rental, the state's Fair Plan was unwilling to provide coverage.

Soaring insurance costs and even basic insurability is becoming a national issue. In California, Realtors have been working with the state to resolve the local insurance crisis. Due to the complexity

of issues involved, there are no easy fixes.

The California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) produces a podcast entitled Unlocking California Politics and the current episode is a discussion about homeowners insurance. The Podcast features C.A.R.'s Senior Vice President of Government Affairs Sanjay Wagle in conversation with Steve Young, general counsel for the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of California, and Amy Bach, executive director of United Policyholders.

You can listen to their conversation about the impact that natural disasters, including the recent wildfires in Los Angeles County, are having on the insurance industry and what homeowners need to know about the future of insurance in California. Go to www.car.org/advocacy/ podcast and look for Episode 24. You can also access the podcast on iTunes, Spotify and YouTube.

Due to its complexity, the current insurance crisis will not end any time soon, but the California Association of Realtors is working hard to find solutions.

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.



331 Marlow Drive • Offered at \$1,088,000

Highlights include:

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- **Twilight Open House: Friday April 25, 5-7PM**
- **Weekend Open Houses: April 26 & 27, 2-4PM** *Per public record



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RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

- 21037 Baker Road 94546: \$626,000 [2 BD - 1,056 SF - 1976
- 22265 Betlen Way 94546: \$750,000 [3 BD - 1,140 SF - 1953
- 2772 Somerset Avenue 94546: \$890,000 [2 BD - 1,054 SF - 1938
- 18375 Sherwood Court 94546: \$980,000 [3 BD - 1,157 SF - 1952
- 22035 Betlen Way 94546: \$1,050,000 [3 BD - 1,312 SF - 1954
- 19483 Yuma Street 94546: \$1,088,000 [5 BD - 2,190 SF - 1971
- 5225 Reedley Way 94546: \$1,350,000 [3 BD - 1,756 SF - 1963
- 17811 Center Street 94546: \$1,770,000 [5 BD - 3,350 SF - 1987

TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$626,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,015,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,770,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,063,000

SAN LEANDRO

- 13540 Bancroft Avenue #1 94578: \$450,000 [2 BD - 811 SF - 1970
- 1854 Hays Street 94577: \$530,000 [2 BD - 943 SF - 1938
- 3431 Monogram Street 94577: \$850,000 [3 BD - 1,577 SF - 2000
- 14564 Wiley Street 94579: \$920,000 [5 BD - 1,076 SF - 1953
- 3925 Mission Way 94578: \$980,000 [5 BD - 1,996 SF - 1954
- 14369 Nassau Road 94577: \$1,015,000 [5 BD - 1,958 SF - 1963
- 458 Diehl Avenue 94577: \$1,075,000 [3 BD - 1,659 SF - 1926
- 1468 Daily Drive 94577: \$1,100,000 [3 BD - 1,940 SF - 1958

TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$450,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$950,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,100,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$865,000

SAN LORENZO

- 17246 Via La Jolla 94580: \$425,000 [3 BD - 1,031 SF - 1950
- 912 Via Enrico 94580: \$889,000 [3 BD - 1,348 SF - 1956

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$425,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$657,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$889,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$657,000

HAYWARD

- 2551 Hermosa Terrace 94541: \$425,000 [2 BD - 750 SF - 1949
- 27505 Tampa Avenue #36 94544: \$445,000 [2 BD - 910 SF - 1981
- 29621 Red Oak Court #11 94544: \$447,500 [2 BD - 723 SF - 1985
- 23018 Nevada Road 94541: \$600,000 [5 BD - 2,111 SF - 1951
- 1636 E Street 94541: \$679,000 [1 BD - 550 SF - 1951
- 26051 Eastman Court 94544: \$755,000 [3 BD - 1,086 SF - 1952
- 535 Cody Road 94544: \$800,000 [3 BD - 951 SF - 1951
- 25323 Ironwood Court 94545: \$800,000 [3 BD - 1,503 SF - 1980
- 1058 Old Oak Lane 94541: \$860,000 [3 BD - 1,748 SF - 2010
- 25084 2nd Street 94541: \$890,000 [3 BD - 1,174 SF - 1946
- 22587 Northview Drive 94541: \$930,000 [5 BD - 1,635 SF - 1963
- 25226 Kay Avenue 94545: \$945,000 [3 BD - 1,276 SF - 1958

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L	E	A	A	D	O	M	E	A	T	S
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A	C	T	B	A	N	S	O	B	E	R
S	H	E	C	V	S	E	N	A	T	E

• Twilight Open House: 331 Marlow Drive Friday April 25, 5-7PM

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CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDR./BA.	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
S	2-4	2-4	331 Marlow Drive	\$1,088,000	3/3	Red Oak Realty	Greg Novak	510.472.4770

CITY GUIDE A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BERKELEY • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD
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Thorny Blackberries Produce the Most Fruit

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

ing, producing large berries that ripen in summer, with the potential for two crops each year.



By Izawa Ryu - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=106839718>

Q I would like to plant some thornless blackberries and would appreciate advice on which varieties are best suited for this area. I'm particularly interested in thornless varieties. Additionally, any planting suggestions would be appreciated.

Q Why do grapefruits fall off the tree before they are ripe? I know you can spray apple trees to hold the fruit, but I'm unsure how to do this with grapefruit.

A I'd consider growing Thornless Black Satin and Thornless Boysenberry along with thorny varieties, Marion, Ollie, Boysenberry, and Evergreen Blackberry.

A As far as I know, there isn't a specific spray for citrus trees that prevents fruit drop. Premature fruit drop often indicates that the trees are experiencing water stress between waterings.

The main difference between thornless and thorny varieties is their berry production; thorny varieties typically yield a larger crop. Therefore, if you prioritize quantity, choosing a thorny variety is best and investing in industrial-strength gloves for handling them.

Since grapefruits are mostly water, the trees tend to drop their fruit first when they become water stressed. Advanced signs of water stress include wilting and brown leaves and branches. To help prevent this, irrigat-

Blackberries grow aggressively, producing shoots both above and below ground. To manage blackberries and raspberries effectively, it is essential to tie them to a trellis structure, as a fence won't contain the plants within your property line.

An ideal planting area or raised bed would be about four feet wide, allowing access to the vines from all sides. It should be at least four feet from the property line to keep the underground stem. Each year, you should prune off the fruiting canes and replace them with new growth that has developed at the base of the plants.

Keep in mind that blackberries only produce fruit during the second year of growth. When planting, incorporate plenty of organic matter, such as redwood soil conditioner or homemade compost.

For many smaller yards, planting traditional berry varieties may not be practical. However, there is a great alternative: Baby Cakes Blackberry. This is a dwarf, thornless variety with a compact growth habit, reaching a height of three to four feet, so staking is unnecessary. Baby Cakes are ideal for container garden-

ing citrus trees twice a week from April through October is important. Additionally, provide extra watering when temperatures reach 90 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. I recommend creating a water basin around each tree that extends out to the

drip line to ensure the roots receive adequate moisture. The basin should be four to six inches high.

Keep in mind that it takes two growing seasons for grapefruits to fully ripen, so it's common for the tree to have both flowers and matur-

ing fruits at the same time.

Buzz Bertolero is a California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com, and questions can be emailed to buzz@dirtgardener.com.

This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the East Bay Regional Park District May - June 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



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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED MELISSA WILK April 18, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 614009

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

The name of the business(es): S&K Training Solutions LLC located at 1271 Washington Ave. Suite 321 San Leandro, CA 94605 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): S&K Training Solutions, located at 91271 Washington Ave. Suite 321 San Leandro, CA 94605. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced 04/14/2025

/s/Salvador Garcia
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED MELISSA WILK March 27, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613497

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

The name of the business(es): Crispy Dents, located at 16012 Via Cordoba San Lorenzo, CA 94580 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christian Marquez, located at 16012 Via Cordoba San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A

/s/Christian Marquez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires March 10, 2030

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED MELISSA WILK March 24, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613393

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

The name of the business(es): CH Moter, located at 2492 Nevada Street Union City, CA 94581 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Madan Lal, located at 2492 Nevada Street Union City, CA 94581. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 03/24/2025

/s/Madan Lal
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 23, 2030

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED MELISSA WILK April 4, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613677

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

The name of the business(es): Wheel Master Driving School, located at 22762 Main Street #F Hayward, CA 94541/29061 Sunrise CT Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Abhijeet Singh, located at 22762 Main Street #F Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A

/s/Abhijeet Singh
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 3, 2030
APR 10, 17, 24, MAY 01, 2025 2025 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED MELISSA WILK March 20, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613302

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

The name of the business(es): Pinkalicious, located at 22855 Watkins St. Hayward, CA 94541 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): P&P Services Inc., located at 22855 Watkins St. Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by An Corporation. This business commenced N/A

/s/Patricia Perez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires March 19, 2030
APR 10, 17, 24, MAY 01, 2025 2020- SLT

FILED MELISSA WILK April 14, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613863

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

The name of the business(es): Aesthetics and Wellness for YOU, located at 14622 Tiburon Rd. San Leandro, CA 94577 / 7991 Sunkist Dr. Oakland, CA 94605 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dr. Luck Integrated Nursing Services, a Prof. Corp., located at 14622 Tiburon Rd. San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Corporation. This business commenced N/A

/s/Jovie De Leon-Luck Palacios
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 13, 2030

FILED MELISSA WILK March 31, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613549

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

The name of the business(es): Color Waze Painting, located at 5444 Princeton Street. Oakland, CA 94601 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vicpicks LLC, located at 5444 Princeton Street. Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced 03/31/2025

/s/Miria Christina Gomez Palacios
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires March 30, 2030

FILED MELISSA WILK April 16, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613920

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

The name of the business(es): Hokkaido Sashimi Marketplace, located at 3335 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, CA 94546 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CV Hokkaido Sashimi Inc., located at 3335 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by a Corporation. This business commenced N/A

/s/Charlie Chang
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 15, 2030
APR 17, 24, MAY 01, 08, 2025 2027 - SLT

FILED MELISSA WILK April 8, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613735

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

The name of the business(es): A to Z Auto Care, located at 20535 Mission Blvd Hayward, CA 94541 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Abdelzahir Lhadjarene, located at 4410 Black Walnut CT, Concord CA 94521. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 07/19/2017

/s/Abdelzahir Lhadjarene
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 7, 2030
APR 17, 24, MAY 01, 08, 2025 2025 - SLT

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- DOWN**
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 - Coniferous tree
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 - Obliterate
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 - Heaps
 - "Shark Tank" network
 - Emeritus, briefly
 - Hot temper

FILED MELISSA WILK April 1, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 613580

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

The name of the business(es): Little Friends, located at 22555 Arlette Ave Hayward, CA 94541 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria Carman Osuna, located at 22555 Arlette Ave Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A

/s/Maria Carman Osuna
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires March 31, 2030
APR 17, 24, MAY 01, 08, 2025 2026 - SLT

FILED MELISSA WILK April 21, 2025 County Clerk ALAMEDA COUNTY By-----, Deputy FILE NO. 614031

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

The name of the business(es): Chinampa Roofing located at 1626 92ND Ave. Oakland, CA 94603 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chinampa Roofing, located at 92ND Ave. Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by An Corporation. This business commenced 04/21/2025

/s/Jacob Mendoza Zapien
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires April 20, 2030
APR 24, MAY 01, 08, 15, 2025 2030 - SLT

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No: 25CV119004
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. In the matter of the petition to change the name(s) of Michael Thomas Grosse. Petitioner(s) Michael Thomas Grosse has/have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name(s) as follows: Michael Thomas Grosse to Michael Thomas Wloszek. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. **24405 Amador Street Dept. 514, Hayward, CA 94544 on AUGUST 22, 2025 at 9:30 am.** A copy of this order to show cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county The San Leandro Times. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter are directed to make known any objection that they may have to the granting of the petition for change of name by filing a written objection, which includes the reasons for the objection, with the court at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and by appearing in court at the hearing to show cause why the petition for change of name should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
Dated: APRIL 16, 2025
Thomas J. Nixon - Judge of the Superior Court
APR 24, MAY 01, 08, 15, 2025

Lit Hop: Writers, poets and performers on hand for Lit Hop

continued from front page

ing the AfroSurreal Writers Association, a bilingual Spanish/English reading, the Queer Writers, local Horror Writers' and Mystery Writers' Association chapters, the Women's National Book Association, Women Who Submit Lit, the East Bay Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers, the California Writers' Club, Moreau Catholic High School, and students from Cal State East Bay.

Venues include Books on B, the Odd Fellows Lodge, the Dirty Bird Lounge, Kin Cafe, youth performing arts center Treasures Unleashed, and The World Famous Turf Club. The event concludes with an afterparty with music, food and drinks at the Sun Gallery, 1015 E Street.

This event aims to support local businesses, celebrate Hayward's diverse cultural scene, and allow people to

meet their neighbors and see each other's talents. Another aim is to help people with an interest in writing or art find local groups to support and foster their talents.

Lit Hop will come to downtown Hayward on Saturday, starting at Heritage Plaza and through the day at locations on B Street.



PHOTO BY CARL GORRINGE

American Legion Post 117 Sunday Breakfast

American Legion Post 117 of San Leandro will host its monthly Fourth Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, April 27, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. Pancakes with sausage, eggs, coffee, tea, and fruit. Donation: veterans \$8, non-veterans \$9.

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.

Stand and Speak Together

Editor,
It seems that we are remaining quiet while our institutions are being attacked—universities, law firms, the press, the administration of government—including our safety nets. It is a multi-pronged assault on freedom, pure and simple, and it's all about one thing: power. He's trying to tear down everything that stands in his way—our laws, science, universities, and free speech—which is now arbitrated by him and his lackeys.

This isn't just a few attacks here and there. It's a full-on effort to weaken the things that make our country actually great. It's time for everyone to join and fight back, whether you're a pastor, an educator, a business owner, or a senior citizen. We must speak out and act where we have influence, form coalitions, and resist.

Pastors, use the leadership within your church's administrative body to unite with other religious organizations. If you stand and speak out together you can form a powerful coalition that stands for justice, truth, and the preservation of our democratic and religious freedom.

City leaders, talk to your networks to join forces with other cities to resist. If you are a university educator, encourage your institution to join Harvard and others in the fight in defense of free speech and knowledge.

All of us need to speak and take action within our spheres of influence. Whether it's through local business networks, charitable organizations, or neighborhood associations, we all can take action together. Protecting our country must be a collective effort, and every con-

versation, every action adds strength against unchecked power and the normalization of evil.

Let's protect what's worth preserving and create a future where power is held accountable, not controlled by those with billions. This isn't a fight against Trumpism, it's a fight for our country.

Patty Breslin
San Leandro

Vote No on Sewer Tax

Editor,
San Leandro is just as mismanaged as Oakland. San Leandro residents are paying the highest sales tax, 10.75 percent, in all of Alameda County.

Despite the 10.75 percent tax, the City Council requests to increase taxpayers' sewer/wastewater services by 52 percent over 4 years, in addition to our many other property taxes.

The San Leandro City Council approved an extra \$18,000 for one member for her education expense on top of her salary and benefits. But the City Council still requests residents to pay for sewer services by an increase of 52 percent. This is not the first increase that had been done in the sewer fee.

San Leandro staff is reluctant to fine vendors on the sidewalk without a license who do not pay taxes. Despite this option, the City Council requests residents to pay 52 percent more for wastewater services.

Bring or mail your letter protesting before May 4 to: San Leandro City Clerk, Wastewater Rates, 835 East 14th St., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Include in your letter protesting this increase: 1. Property owner's name. 2. Property address. 3. Prop-

erty Assessor parcel number. 4. Your signature.

We need 51 percent vote protesting this increase at the City Council meeting on May 5. The city needs to find other options and not rely only on increasing wastewater service taxes.

William Rodenburg and Victoria Yang
San Leandro

No Comparison

Editor,

Bruce Joffe, I'm glad your dad survived his sickness with the help of a Korea on student visa (Letters to the Editor, April 10, 2025), but your conclusion from that is nonsensical.

Donald Trump is deporting illegal – read criminal – foreigners who didn't bother to obey our immigration laws and are attacking our people. Remember names like Laken Riley, Jocelyn Nungaray, and Rachel Morin who were mercilessly attacked and killed by illegals and similar actions by gang members from Tren De Aragua and MS-13.

Our own San Leandro Police Officer Daniel Niemi, Badge Number 298, was killed by an illegal who shot him, I believe it was seven times in the face, and for no reason. That illegal is now on death row.

Please stop with the bizarre comparison to a legal student visa holder who happened to recognize the disease your father had. No connection there.

What Donald Trump is doing is making us safer by these deportations. Good for him.

Corey Anderson
San Leandro

PG&E Breaking Solar Contract

Editor,

A few years ago I watched with dismay as PG&E rates, which usually increased slightly each year, began increasing rapidly. This happened after they were ordered to pay fines when their failure to maintain equipment and cut back vegetation resulted in serious damages. It seems increasing rates was how they paid their fines, so I doubted they would improve their operating practices.

Many in San Leandro then in-

vested in rooftop solar. I'm a 75 year old retired minister, and need to keep my expenses manageable, so I did too, expecting to break even in 12 years. Twenty year solar contracts with net energy metering (NEM) pricing are standard in many states.

I was stunned to learn that PG&E, with the backing of the CPUC and the Newsom administration, wants to break the contract after two years. First, it's absolutely unfair to me and 2 million other rooftop solar customers. You cannot recover your sunk cost in two years.

Second, rooftop solar is ideal for a sunny state like California. It makes sense and means PG&E could spend less on infrastructure. But PG&E receives one of the highest guaranteed rates of return on infrastructure investments of any utility in the nation, which may be why they prefer turning arable land into solar panel fields over encouraging rooftop solar.

Please ask your state assembly member and senator to make PG&E honor our solar contracts.

Jennifer Lilburn
San Leandro

Mystified by Hospital Procedures

Editor,

I took a childhood friend to Kaiser Hospital in San Leandro. She was in horrible pain. She has suffered from a paralyzed intestine for many years and must take a pain pill on a daily schedule. Recently, a California ruling was issued that pain medication could be prescribed for only 28 days at a time.

Because she doesn't drive, she requires an ambulance on the last few days of the month. Her daughter, who lives many miles away, called me and asked me to take her mother to the emergency room and talk with her doctor about the indescribable pain her mother was experiencing.

I cannot describe the next two hours of waiting. I begged, my childhood friend begged, she could not sit and could only bend her body with the pain. No nurse, no doctor would see her.

In tears, my friend said that she could get better service by going home and calling an ambulance. I relayed this message to two nurses.

I was told that this would be a waste of money and shrugged shoulders. I was totally mystified.

I then drove her home about four miles and she called 911. A fire engine and an ambulance arrived within minutes. Very polite and sympathetic service was received, and she was driven back to the same Kaiser Hospital.

Hours later, I was called by her doctor and was informed that she needed a ride home. She was given her medication for two days but could not get the needed four days of medication for another week. Therefore, she would need another ambulance service for the additional two days. I cannot understand any of this.

Rosemary Gallegos
San Leandro

Sore Loser Antics

Editor,

Talk about a sore loser, Robert Bulatao runs for the City Council and loses, so instead of figuring out how to win if he decides to run again he acts like a spoiled child and sues the City. I'm glad that he lost as this action is a true insight as to his way of dealing with not getting his way.

The City Council has enough issues to deal with without worrying about a member of the council who needs to take a time out on a regular basis and sit in the corner wearing a dunce cap as that is what would happen if Bulatao had won, based upon his current antics.

If Bulatao thinks a date change for the election would help him win in the future I suggest April 1st (April Fools Day) to be considered and when he loses again. Let him eat cake as he would never consider eating humble pie.

Brent Heath
San Leandro

Heaven

He's up in heaven, is Pope Francis; Climbing clouds, and dancing dances;

'Cause where he's at, he knows the chance is;

He won't meet many J.D. Vances.

Don Weingarten
San Leandro

Signs: Shopkeepers want to let people going by know what they have

continued from front page

in their windows. They said it's hurting their businesses because people can't see what they have to offer.

In recent months, the City of San Leandro has been visiting businesses, telling them to remove signs, and issuing fines.

Also, small business owners say there's a double standard. They say nearby McDonald's and auto supply stores have all their windows plastered with posters and nothing seems to happen to them.

Garcia said she can understand the rules in some cases where stacks of boxes or refrigerators are in front of some stores.

"I'm also for regulations, some businesses cover the whole windows with food and it doesn't look that appealing," she said.

Garcia said she talked with someone in the city's community development department who's going to check back with her, so she's hopeful.

"I think the city will be open to working with us," Garcia said.

Martin Liquor

A liquor store in the same center on East 14th and 143rd Avenue had to remove all its signs in the front window.

Beer signs in the window, and even the store sign, "Martin Liquor," had to be taken

down, said owner Mustafa Ardity.

"You need signs so at least you can tell it's a liquor store," Ardity said.

Ardity showed before-and-after pictures of his store to make his point. Now it just has one small sign and the storefront looks so generic you wouldn't know what it is.

"A business doesn't just have its regulars, people driving through can't tell what it is," Ardity said. "Some stores still have everything. Why only us?"

Telexpress

Telexpress at 1793 East 14th St. sells cell phones, internet and cable services, electronic accessories and has a check cashing service. But you can't tell what they sell now, because the signs had to be taken down.

It's causing business to go down, said Victor Martinez who owns the store with his wife Leticia.

"My business got hit, definitely," Martinez said.

Martinez said he got a \$100 fine, which will go up to \$200 for a second offense, and \$500 for a third.

He points to a Cricket phone store across the street, McDonald's and a tire store on Washington Avenue that he says are covered with posters and have banners flying.

"Why me?" Martinez asks. Martinez said he's owned

the business since 2009 and in all that time there was no problem with the signs until just recently.

In the building Martinez owns, Vic's Bikes was told they can't display bicycles out front on the sidewalk anymore, even though the sidewalk in front of Vic's is wide enough to drive a truck through.

City Trying to Improve Look of East 14th Street

The city has been working to bring businesses in compliance with the sign ordinances since last year, focusing on the East 14th Street corridor, said Wayland Li, planning manager for the City of San Leandro.

"The intent is to improve the city's quality of life and improve the visual character on the East 14th Street corridor," Li said.

The city sent letters to the 700 business owners and property owners along East 14th Street in San Leandro, Li said. He said that the bigger companies, like McDonald's or auto supply chains, have to comply just like the smaller businesses.

Li said the city will work with businesses on finding a solution.

"We try to find creative ways to help a business to work with the code, so a business can accomplish their objective while meeting the requirements," Li said.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Leslie Garcia wants signs on her window so customers know what's in the store, but the city says no.

Li added that the city is working on updating its zoning code, including sign regulations.

"That's going to take into account some of the feedback we've gotten," Li said.

Bottle Shop Repairs Windows

But shopkeepers who talked to this newspaper didn't describe the city as being so amenable. They described it more like, this is the rule, and that's that.

Shop owners said that they don't have any say, that they're more like subjects of

a powerful city government, rather than part of it.

"What can we do?" asked Wisam Aldeen. "They just tell us, you have to do it."

The front windows of Aldeen's store, the Bottle Shop, are still covered with plywood after he spend thousands of dollars to replace the windows, broken by burglars – twice – who smashed through the front with a car.

Aldeen wants to get roll up doors that cover the windows, so burglars don't smash through again. But after replacing the windows he has to wait a while to afford the

roll-up doors.

He said a city employee told him that doesn't matter. The plywood had to come down, and he was cited for a scrolling sign, too.

"They said that's not the city's problem, and the boards make the city look unsafe," Aldeen said. "But I need the boards up until I can get a roll-up metal door to cover the windows."

Even then, the roll-up door will have to be installed inside the store, not outside in front of the windows, Aldeen said.

"That's another regulation," he said.

Returns: Volcanic ash covered the windows to a height of 10 feet

continued from front page

to conquer that mountain, with much having happened in his life in the meantime. He's being joined by his wife Beth, and is making the three-mile trek to the summit as part of his recovery from a stroke a year ago.

Clifford said he and his men were on patrol, in search of the communist New People's Army then staging attacks across the Philippines, under a clear blue sky. They got an urgent phone call from base urging them to immediately seek shelter from Mt. Pinatubo, some 23 miles away.

They were hurrying back to base as they saw the sky turn white and hot. Toxic ash started falling.

Pinatubo had sent ash 25 miles up into the atmosphere and people knew it would come down again somewhere, but a typhoon hitting at the same made it hard to predict.

The Marines ran into a corrugated-steel Quonset hut in a lesser-used part of Naval

Base Subic Bay. They grabbed some food and water to tide them over, and watched ash cover the windows, then the doors, to a height of ten feet. Breathing became difficult, and as they went to sleep they were convinced they would not live till morning.

Clifford looked at a picture of his fiancée Beth back in the United States., thinking he'd never see her again.

Dug Out of the Ash With their Bare Hands

Clifford and his men woke up in the morning back then and commenced digging their way out through 10 feet of still-hot ash with their bare hands, suffering burns in the process. They went back to duty after medical treatment, but what nature didn't finish, politics did.

Clark Air Force Base had been destroyed in the eruption, and talks with the Philippine government to renew expiring leases on Subic Bay and other U.S. bases failed, partly over



San Leandro Police Sergeant Mark Clifford.

money. The U.S. military left the country within a few months. They were only asked to return recently, as China has expanded its influence over the South China Sea region.

Clifford and his wife Beth have now been married 30 years with three children and their first grandchild. He had a full career in the San Leandro Police Department, and is a published novelist who volunteers to help fellow veterans.

At the police department, he worked in both undercover narcotics and SWAT. He and his partner were the first officers to respond to the murder of three federal meat inspectors by San Leandro's "sausage king," Stuart Alexander, in June 2000.

"It was a really great generation of cops," he said of his fellow hires under the federal 1994 Crime Act who were tasked with "making America safe again." (Its chief Congressional sponsor had been Senator Joe Biden.)

"Of course, every generation of cops thinks theirs was the greatest ever," Clifford added.

Clifford said he thoroughly enjoyed working with the SLPD, right up until his last day before he retired.

His last day, though, was June 1, 2020, and he ended up having to work overtime. Groups of people looted the city the night before as unrest swept the nation after the killing of George Floyd in

Minneapolis.

He'd been trying to find an outlet for the feelings unleashed by his time in the Philippines and his almost meeting his end there, and had started writing in his last years on the police force. Soon after his retirement, he published "Typhoon Coast," available on Amazon and other book-sellers.

He also told of his experiences both in writing and to interviewers from numerous publications, and has found quite a community among fellow writers. According to his website, he is the current program chair for the California Writers Club.

Clifford said he likes to encourage people, especially veterans who may have suffered trauma, to tell their stories while serving others. He mentors veterans transitioning to civilian life at musician Zac Brown's Camp Southern Ground.

He also hosts the Heroes for Hope podcast "Thriving

Beyond Trauma," where he talks with survivors about their healthy habits and turning one's trauma into superpowers.

He suffered his stroke at a family gathering a year and a half ago, and is very glad he had read the advice of "don't ignore a stroke." Knowing he could avoid lasting damage if he got treatment within an hour, he recognized warning signs and was taken straight to a medical stroke center. He got clot-busting drugs and other treatment promptly, and while he suffered some damage he was able to start his recovery, which continues.

"Pinatubo has become something of a tourist attraction these days, with a crater lake at its summit," he said. "Tour operators get you to the base in ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) and then it's another three miles to the top."

"My stroke recovery is still in progress, but we do plan to make it to the summit," Clifford said.

City to Host Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration

The City of San Leandro invites the community to its annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration on Friday, May 2, at 6 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd.

This free and family-friendly event promises an evening of festive

fun, honoring the rich cultural traditions that help shape the diversity of San Leandro. It's an opportunity for residents of all backgrounds to come together in the spirit of unity and celebration.

Enjoy live performances by Mariachi Vasquez and Bal-

let Folklorico Costa de Oro, showcasing the sounds and sights of traditional Mexican music and dance.

Light refreshments will be available and there will be arts and crafts for children.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Mexican Army's victory over the French Em-

pire at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

Today, it is celebrated as a vibrant tribute to Mexican heritage, culture, and resilience.

For more information, contact Liz Hodgins at 510-577-3473 or lhodgins@sanleandro.org.

Ballots: Rate hike passes unless a majority vote no

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object to the rate increase, but a majority of property owners would need to file an objection to block the increase. Those protest votes are due by May 5, and could be mailed to the

city clerk, or hand-delivered to that office.

Most increases in local government taxes or fees require a vote in a regular election under Proposition 218 passed in 1996, but that measure makes an exception for water, sewer, or refuse collection fees.

The city is still required to notify all affected residents and hold a public hearing on the matter.

If a majority of property owners do not file an objection, the city can raise the rates up to the amounts stated on the notice they sent out.

Rates are proposed to raise for those served by the city's Sewage Treatment Plant by about 52 percent if you live in a single-family house, and about 60 percent if you live in a multi-family building or in an accessory dwelling. This does not affect residents served by the Ora Loma Sanitary District.

Currently, residents pay \$53.20 per unit for single-family houses and \$37.40 for multi-family buildings or accessory dwellings. These would rise to \$80.63 and 59.56, respectively, by 2029, with part of that rise coming every July 1 starting this year.

Commercial users would face similar percentage increases. Their charges are based on water usage, what kind of business they use, and the nature of the wastewater released.

System Includes 125 Miles Of Pipelines

Besides the plant, the sewage treatment system includes 125 miles of sewer pipelines and 12 lift stations.

The planned improvements include upgrading the plant to reduce nutrients in discharge water that can harm the Bay and replacing aging infrastructure including sewer pipes and plant structures to ensure safe and reliable use of the system and prevent overflows. It would also help respond to increased operational costs due to increased rates for electricity, chemicals, and biosolids disposal.

More information on the plant and the proposed rate increase is at www.sanleandro.org/wpcp. A copy of the notice to property owners can be found following links at <https://www.sanleandro.org/1440/Sewer-Rate-Adjustments>.

City of San Leandro

City of San Leandro Recycling Program

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE

MAY 17, 2025

Let go of clutter! Earn extra cash! This city sponsored event aims to promote the reuse of unwanted household goods. Participating households will be provided free advertising in the San Leandro Times.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
 Register your home at
SanLeandro.org/CitywideGarageSale
 or call 510-577-3440
 Registration closes May 2nd