

Autumn
BEGINS ON MONDAY



WEEKEND WEATHER
HOT Sunny skies and low winds
 HIGHS: 80-85
 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
 LOWS: 56-61

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Connie McWilliams stops the traffic to make it safe to cross East 14th Street in front of McKinley School.

Connie the Crossing Guard On the Job for Half Century

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

You worry about the cars and the kids getting safely to school, but somebody's been helping them get across the street... for about the past half century.

Connie McWilliams has been stepping out into the crosswalk with her stop sign for the past 49 years. She became a school crossing guard in 1970. She hasn't missed a year, and hardly a day, since.

For the past couple of decades, she's been stationed at the crosswalk on East 14th Street in front of McKinley Elementary School. She works the morning shift and then comes back when school gets out in the afternoon.

"Before here I was at Jefferson, Washington, Monroe and Corvallis," she said, waiting for the light to change.

McWilliams is short but fearless. In her bright yellow vest, cap, and holding a big

stop sign she goes where few dare to tread – East 14th Street right where cars are turning from Estabrook Street.

She likes to switch things up with different colored hats. Otherwise, Constance McWilliams is as constant as the stars in the sky.

Kids can take for granted that somebody's watching out for them. When a group is waiting for the light to change, see *CROSSING GUARD*, page 8

Where Have The Recycling Centers Gone?

One of the last recycling centers, RePlanet, goes out of business

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Hoping to get back that nickel for that empty soda can or bottle? You'll probably end up spending more in gas to find a place that will take your recyclables.

Castro Valley's last redemption center behind the Lucky Supermarket on Castro Valley Boulevard recently shuttered its doors in part because its parent company RePlanet went out of business back on Aug. 5.

The company closed all of its centers in California. Most were adjacent to grocery stores which have the highest volume of sales of bottles and cans that charge a California Redemption Value (CRV) fee.

The Container Recycling Institute reports there are around 250 redemption centers left on grocery store lots statewide, forcing consumers to travel longer distances and waiting in long lines to recycle.

That aggravates Conrad Wilgus, an adjunct math professor at Chabot College who has been diligently crushing cans and recycling as far back as the 1970s when Castro Valley's co-op grocery store took steel cans back for money.

"I should not have to travel 10 miles to recycle," Wilgus said. "If the state charges for something like a CRV fee and they say you can take them to these centers

but then these centers continue to close, the state should suspend CRV fees until they reopen them."

Wilgus is not the only voice crying foul that the state collects see *RECYCLING*, page 8

Council Covers Variety Of Topics

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

San Leandro's City Council looked at renewable energy, housing needs, using new technology and choosing an appropriate bank for the city's accounts at the Sept. 16 meeting.

Members of the public, too, suggested things for the City and the council to work on in the months ahead. Two speakers urged the city to declare a climate emergency to put greater urgency on its current efforts to combat climate change.

Another two members of the public urged expanding tenant see *COUNCIL*, page 16

Art Association Displays Work this Weekend

Original art and greeting cards on sale at ArtFest 2019 at the Library

The San Leandro Art Association invites the public to ArtFest 2019 this Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Over 25 local artists will display their original artwork and greeting cards for sale. The association will also be doing fundraising for two grants which support art expression in the local schools.

Win original art by donating \$1 a ticket for a raffle of artwork donated by members – pick your favorite for a chance to win.

Funds from the drawing will be the seed money for a new grant. Greeting cards featuring artwork from local children will also be for sale.

All funds go toward the Dorothy Cunningham Art Grant which helps local art teachers buy supplies.



INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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The Douglas Morrison Theatre starts 40th season. **Page 2**
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Coast Guardsmen posthumously awarded. **Page 3**
- **FOOD**
Hearty meals for cooler weather. **Page 7**

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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.



Pets of the Week



Timber



Alyssa

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

Timber is a male 4 year old Affenpinscher mix who loves

meeting new people and dogs. He loves being outside and exploring new places. He may do well with families with younger children.

Alyssa, like many Florida White bunnies, has a calm temperament and would make an excellent family member for a first-time bunny guardian. She is spayed and a super sweet and easy to handle bunny with silky-soft fur.

For more information on Miley or Alyssa, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.



PHOTO BY TERRY SULLIVAN

From left, David Schiller as Athos, Dan Kurtz as Porthos, Steve Allhoff as Aramis and Izaak Heath as D'Artagnan in Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers* at the Douglas Morriison Theatre through Sept. 29, kicking off the theatre's 40th anniversary season.

The Three Musketeers Plays At Douglas Morriison Theatre

Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers* kicks off the 40th Anniversary season at the Douglas

Morriison Theatre in Hayward with performances continuing through Sept. 29.

This adaptation, which was commissioned by the Bristol Old Vic in England, is based on the timeless swashbuckler by Alexandre Dumas, a tale of heroism, treachery, close escapes and above all, honor.

The story, set in 1625, begins with d'Artagnan, a young Frenchman from Gascony, who sets off for Paris in search of adventure. Along with d'Artagnan goes Sabine, his sister, the quintessential tomboy. Sent with d'Artagnan to attend a convent school in Paris, she poses as a young man – d'Artagnan's servant – and quickly becomes entangled in her brother's adventures.

Soon after reaching Paris, d'Artagnan encounters the greatest heroes of the day, Athos, Porthos and Aramis, the famous Musketeers.

After blundering into each of them in turn, and challenging them to duels on the same night,

d'Artagnan joins forces with his heroes to defend the honor of the Queen of France.

In so doing, he finds himself in opposition to the most dangerous man in Europe, Cardinal Richelieu, as well as his henchman, Rochefort, Captain of the Cardinal's Guard.

Even more deadly is the infamous Countess de Winter, known as Milady, who will stop at nothing to revenge herself on d'Artagnan – and Sabine – for their meddlesome behavior.

Steve Muterspaugh, who has a long string of Bay Area directing credits, said he is excited to be working as director and fight choreographer with the Douglas Morriison Theatre.

Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

For tickets (\$29 general), call 510-881-6777 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.. The theatre is located at 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward. For more information, visit dmtonline.org.

Correction

In the story on the horse endurance rider ("Ninth Grader Blazing the Trail," Sept. 5, 2019) the rider who began at the Chabot Equestrian Center now rides at another stable where her horses now reside.

San Leandro Times

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

EDITORIAL

Fred Zehnder
Editor and Publisher

Jim Knowles
Managing Editor
jimk@ebpublishing.com

Steve Schaefer
Auto Editor

Contributing Writers

Buzz Bertolero

Carl Medford

Linda Sandsmark

PRODUCTION

Howard Morrison
Manager

Kayla Steinorth
Art Director

Moxie Morrison
Assistant

OPERATIONS

Claudette Morrison
Business Manager

ADVERTISING

Display Advertising

Claudette Morrison

Classified Advertising

Patrick Vadnais

HOW TO REACH US

San Leandro Times
2060 Washington Ave.
San Leandro, California 94577

Office hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

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Families Accept Purple Hearts for Coast Guardsmen

By Carrie Barnecut
Special to the Times

Purple Heart medals were presented on Sept. 3 to the families of two Coast Guardsmen who served aboard a cutter that was sunk by a German submarine in 1918.

In a ceremony at the U.S. Coast Guard Base Alameda, relatives of the Coast Guardsmen accepted the Purple Heart medals, the military decoration awarded to those wounded or killed in war. The award is posthumously presented to the next of kin.

This presentation of Purple Heart medals, which occurred at Freedom Park, U.S. Coast Guard Base Alameda, was 20 years in the making.

The awards were given posthumously to family members of Oiler First Class Edward W. Kelleher and Quartermaster Arthur J. Deasy. Both served on USCGC Tampa, which was torpedoed and sunk by the German



PHOTO COURTESY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The posthumous medals were presented by Vice Admiral Linda Fagan to Lisa Rehman, niece of Arthur Deasy; and Bob Kelleher, nephew of Edward Kelleher.

submarine UV-91 off the coast of England on 23 September 1918. Six cutters of the Coast Guard, newly formed in 1915,

were sent overseas under the Navy for convoy duty. The Tampa sailed 18 missions as an ocean escort for merchant ships

prior to their sinking. All Coast Guardsmen of the one hundred and thirty crew perished just weeks before the official end of the war.

In 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an executive order allowing the Navy to award the Purple Heart to Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guard personnel. Ten years later, it became possible for the medal to be awarded retroactively for actions after April 5, 1917.

However, it wasn't until 1999 that efforts began to have the medal awarded to the 111 Coast Guard members and four Navy sailors on board the Tampa, said Nora Chidlow, an archivist with the Coast Guard. According to Chidlow, technology advances

“Today we have the great privilege of taking the long overdue opportunity to award the Purple Heart to two great American heroes.”

— Vice Admiral
Linda L. Fagan

have helped the Coast Guard identify survivors. The 100th anniversary of the Tampa's loss helped her get support from the Coast Guard for a big push to find more family members of the ship's crew.

Once Kelleher and Deasy family members were identified, the descendants chose a suitable

location for the ceremony. In this instance, they chose Coast Guard Island, Alameda, California.

The posthumous medals were presented by Vice Admiral Linda L. Fagan, commander of Coast Guard Pacific Area, to Ms. Lisa Rehman, the niece of Quartermaster Arthur Deasy; and Mr. Bob Kelleher, the nephew of Oiler First Class Edward Kelleher.

Also attending the Purple Heart ceremony were Navy League of the United States members from San Leandro Carey Barnecut and Carrie Barnecut, Julio Blea from San Lorenzo, and Ryan Fahlenkamp (ret.) of Alameda.

“Today we have the great privilege of taking the long overdue opportunity to award the Purple Heart to two great American heroes,” Fagan said.

“When he established this award, General Washington's intent was to ‘cherish a virtuous ambition in his soldiers and foster and encourage every species of Military Merit.’ And he directed that the Purple Heart be awarded for ‘singularly meritorious action not only in instances of unusual gallantry but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service.’

“Meritorious Action. Unusual Gallantry. Extraordinary Fidelity. This is why we honor Edward Kelleher and Arthur Deasy.”

Creek Cleanup On Hegenberger

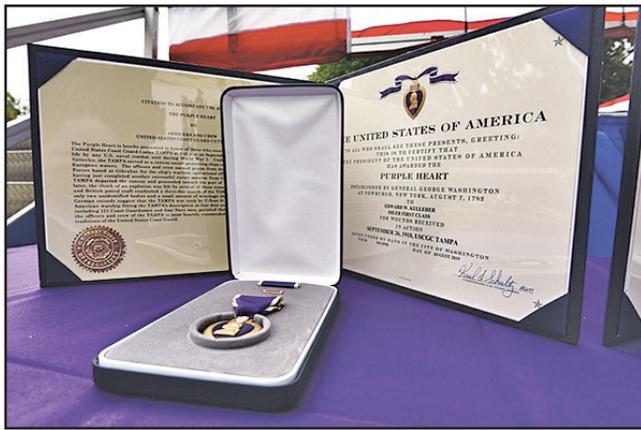
The Friends of San Leandro Creek will meet at the south side of the bridge over the San Leandro Creek on Hegenberger Road in Oakland on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Creek to Bay Cleanup will help keep trash out of streets and waterways and prevent flooding by allowing storm water to flow through unobstructed storm drains. Creek to Bay Day raises awareness about sources of water pollution, and is a fun, community-building event for participants of all ages and abilities.

Youth, scout, church, school groups and individuals are welcome. City of Oakland and Friends of San Leandro Creek waivers must be signed. Waivers will be available on site. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Water and snacks will be provided. Bring a reusable water bottle. Bring gloves, wear heavy shoes and clothing you don't mind getting dirty. Trash bags and vinyl gloves will be provided.

There is limited parking available at the site, or across the street at the San Leandro Creek Staging Area parking lot (limited parking). Meet on the bridge that crosses the creek on the southeast side of Hegenberger Road, next door to HegenBurgers.



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BRA	ENE	SKEW
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DAMSEL	GAR	
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	BUENO	FRO
DAMNATION		TUB
ORION	GMT	EBB
MADRE	NEO	NAY

NEIGHBORS

SL Chamber of Commerce Announces New Event & Marketing Manager

The San Leandro Chamber of Commerce announced the new Event & Marketing Manager, Natasha Fernandez.

Fernandez will develop the event strategy of the organization and promote the Chamber brand.

Her work experience crosses both the public and private sectors. She is a leader in establishing relevant innovative programs, community partnerships, and fosters organizational success.

Fernandez believes in the value of being involved in her community and is excited about her new role with the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

Fernandez previously held a 10-year position with Stepping Stones Growth Center, serving as an event assistant and ultimately moving on to deputy director of programs and development.

She is also a partner in a successful pop-up event, The 90's Experience, located at Jack



Natasha Fernandez is the new Event & Marketing Manager for the San Leandro Chamber.

London Square. She enjoys working within her community, volunteering and developing

events. But most importantly, she loves spending time with and raising her daughter.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ **Douglas Morrisson Theatre**
The Three Musketeers
The Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N 3rd St. in Hayward will present *The Three Musketeers* through Sept. 29. Steve Muterspaugh directs Ken Ludwig's

adaptation of the classic swash-buckling Alexandre Dumas story of heroism, treachery, close escapes, and above all, honor. The play begins in 1625 with D'Artagnan setting off for Paris in search of adventure. Along

with D'Artagnan goes Sabine, his sister. Soon after reaching Paris, they encounter Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, the famous musketeers. They join forces to defend the King and Queen against the most dangerous man in Europe, Cardinal Richelieu, and the deadliest woman in Europe, Milady, the Countess de Winter. Showtimes are 8 p.m. on Fridays, Sept. 20 & 27, Saturdays, Sept. 21 & 28 at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Sept. 22 & 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 - \$29 for adults, \$22 - \$25 for adults under 30 or over 60 or H.A.R.D. resident, \$15 for students with ID, and \$10 on preview night. To purchase tickets, call 881-6777.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



❖ **Fun Times at 1st. Presbyterian of SL**
First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro, 180 Estudillo Ave. invites you to join in the fun on Wednesday nights from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Everyone will gather to have dinner, play games, learn music and learn about the Bible. This opportunity is available for students K through 12th grade. For more information, contact Lauren@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org or the church office at 510-483-2772.

❖ **SL Art Association ArtFest 2019**
The San Leandro Art Association invites the public to ArtFest 2019 on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 20 and 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Over 25 local artists will display their original artwork and greeting cards for sale. The association will also be doing fundraising for two grants which support art expression in the local schools. Win original art by donating \$1 a ticket for a raffle of artwork donated by members - pick your favorite for a chance to win. Funds from the drawing will be the seed money for a new grant. Greeting cards featuring artwork from local children will also be for sale. All funds go toward the Dorothy Cunningham Art Grant which helps local art teachers buy supplies.

❖ **"Pick of the Patch" at Bayfair Center**
Bayfair Center invites the community to visit "Pick of the Patch," a colorful fall pumpkin patch at the shopping center between Sept. 20 and Oct. 31 in the parking lot opposite Kohl's. Pumpkins galore and photo opportunities for the whole family, a paintball range (beginning Oct. 1) and a variety of inflatables to run and play with for give children ages 2 through 12. With tours available it is also a great idea for birthday parties, school groups, non-profit get-togethers, and Mommy & Me groups. The pumpkin patch is open to the public, and admission and parking are free. Paintball costs \$5 per cup, and the use of the inflatables ranges from \$13 per child for 30 minutes to \$17 per child for one hour of fun. For more information, visit the pumpkin patch event page on the Bayfair Center website at <http://ow.ly/IafY30pqcA>.

❖ **Bilingual Music with Mariela Herrera**
Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro, on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 2 p.m. as Mariela Herrera brings an educational, energetic, and interactive bilingual story and song time for children. Mariela is famous across the Bay Area for her fun children's song times. Fun for the whole family. Free and no registration required.

❖ **4th Sunday Breakfast for Veterans**
American Legion Post 117 will host a breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 22, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the San Leandro Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. The menu will be eggs-to-order, bacon/sausage, hash browns, toast and coffee. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for veterans, and all others. All donations benefit American Legion veteran programs. No breakfast in November or December.

❖ **Eden Garden Club Meeting**
The next meeting of the Eden Garden Club will be Monday, Sept. 23, at 9:30 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. The speaker will be Pete Veilleux a master de-

signer, nurseryman and photographer. He owns East Bay Wilds in Oakland that grows East Bay natives as well as rare and unusual plants from all over the state. He is a reservoir of information on how to succeed with natives. Plants will be available for purchase. Meetings are free and guest are welcome. For more information, call 510-397-1268.

❖ **Meeting of the Eden Garden Club**
The next meeting of the Eden Garden Club will be Monday, Sept. 23, at 9:30 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. The speaker will be Pete Veilleux a master designer, nurseryman and photographer. He owns East Bay Wilds in Oakland that grows East Bay natives as well as rare and unusual plants from all over the state. He is a reservoir of information on how to succeed with natives. Plants will be available for purchase. Meetings are free and guest are welcome. For more information, call 510-397-1268.

❖ **Ribbon Cutting at Washington School**
The San Leandro Unified School District will have a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Washington Elementary School, 250 Dutton Ave. in San Leandro. The community is invited to celebrate the completion of installation of all new heating and cooling systems across the district. Funding for the project was made possible by the J1 Bond, passed by voters in 2016.

❖ **Meeting of the SL Democratic Club**
The San Leandro Democratic Club will meet on Thursday Sept. 26, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Guest speaker Casey Farmer, executive director of the Alameda County Complete Count Committee, will talk about the 2020 Census and what Alameda County can do to prepare for a complete count.

❖ **Health Fair**
Praises of Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Health Fair on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free disposal of expired prescriptions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free dental toothbrush and toothpaste. Free hair cuts for all ages by professionals from 10 a.m. to noon. Free cell phone to those receiving social services. Bring in any of the following documents: MediCal food stamps, Section 8 or WIC documents, you must be present and have your ID with you. Free blood pressure reading by registered nurses. Free nutritional and exercise information. Health drinks, popcorn and water will be served. Games for the children and free face painting. For more information, call 510-483-1811.

❖ **SL High School Reunion Class of 1999**
The San Leandro High School Class of 1999 will hold its 20th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 7 to 11 p.m. at Playt, 1036 B Street in Hayward. Tickets are \$75. For more information, email slhsc1999@gmail.com or visit Facebook: San Leandro Class of 1999.

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

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

AUTOMOTIVE

Event Showcases EV Selections

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

National Drive Electric Week is a nine-day celebration of the electric car. Now in its second decade, it grows annually, and spanning two weekends and the days between in the middle of September, offers EV enthusiasts a chance to meet and compare notes as well as give non-EV drivers a chance to look at, and sometimes even drive, the current crop of plug-ins outside of a dealership environment.

I attended the Cupertino, California event on Saturday, September 14—the first day of NDEW 2019. I brought my Chevrolet Bolt EV, which I've enjoyed—and showed—since I got it in January of 2017. With its three-year lease running out on 1/8/2020, it's likely the last chance I'll have to share it before switching to another EV next year.

The Cupertino event has a long history, and there is where you can still see some of what EVs used to be—labor-of-love science projects. I'll talk about a few shortly.

EVs You Can Buy or Lease Now

Many of today's pure EV options were there. I saw three Chevrolet Bolt EVs, including my own. A compelling new entry, the Hyundai Kona Electric, was there, sporting a white top over its jaunty blue-green.

The Kona, with a 258-mile range, is the next-best thing to a Tesla for range, and probably today's best deal for range. This base model, at about \$36,000, sat mere steps away from a 2019 Jaguar I-PACE, which starts at about twice that price. The Jaguar offers great style and luxury, and with 220 miles in the big battery and all-wheel-drive, has its own, different, buyer.

Nissan brought a new LEAF

and let people drive it. From its booth, they awarded prizes throughout the six-hour event.

I saw a BMW i3 down at the far end, and a couple of Tesla Model 3s. Also nearby was a plug-in hybrid Ford Fusion, flanked by two Ford Focus electrics. These EVs, with just 76 miles of range, would make cheap used cars if you wanted a stealth EV.

At the other end was a Chrysler Pacifica plug-in hybrid. It's a significant vehicle, because it's the only PHEV minivan available in the U.S. Its 33 miles of electric range is plenty for local soccer practice shuttles and commuting.

Historic EVs

EVs have been available in major manufacturers' showrooms since 2010, when the 2011 Nissan Leaf and Chevrolet Volt came out. But before that, besides the conversion projects, there were few around. One model that had two representatives there at the show was the Toyota RAV4. Built for a few years just around the turn of the century, it put Toyota ahead of the crowd. Too bad they didn't keep building them, because the RAV4 is a very popular body style now. You can get a new one as a hybrid today.

Pioneers, Projects and Conversions

As long as there have been cars there have been tinkerers—people who enjoy a tough project. While some folks like to make a classic Mustang faster and louder, others enjoy electrifying an old

gasoline car.

I spent some quality time with George Stuckert, a retired engineer who also serves as secretary of the San Jose chapter of the Electric Auto Association. This group, a major sponsor of NDEW, was founded way back in 1967. They used to host a Cupertino event that was all project cars. George is glad that you can buy a new EV at a dealership today, but his pride and joy at this event was his 1996 Volkswagen Golf, which he converted ten years ago. It looks like an old Golf but has a clever pinstriped design with a plug along the side. It's filled with electronic tech.

George proudly displayed a large card with photos of the project, and showed me his notebooks of carefully documented steps and the book that got him started.

It was not a smooth process, and included a few spectacular explosions, but he showed the grit and determination that I admire about people willing to get their hands dirty and triumph over failure to ultimately achieve success. The fact that you can buy a used 2015 VW e-Golf that is superior in every way to George's car is completely missing the point.

In the front corner of the exhibit were two fascinating displays that, along with George's Golf, gave a look at what a Cupertino Electric Auto Association event was like before the NDEW and mass market



I brought my Chevrolet Bolt EV, which I've enjoyed - and showed - since I got it in January of 2017.

EVs. Bob Schneeveis, a local legend, showed off his two-wheeled inventions, including a prototype steam-powered bike.

Yes—you read that right. Although it's not quite in the "drive it around the lot" stage, it is a beautiful piece. His electric motorcycle featured a fascinating front fork that made the ride soft and smooth. As a novelty, he had a "chariot" with a horse up front with "legs" made from brushes that capably gave rides to lucky attendees.

I enjoyed an extended conversation with Jerrold Kormin, who brought two displays: his converted Honda Insight and his prototype solar panel trailer. The former, besides swapping its engine for a motor and batteries, had new fiberglass nose and radically changed tail (and just one rear wheel). These design changes, per Kormin, gave the car a 15 percent improvement in its coefficient of drag.

The car was being charged by Kormin's fascinating portable solar generator. The inventor's goal is to replace dirty, noisy Diesel generators. He is renting his prototypes out now. One appeal of replacing Diesel, Kormin told me, was that companies can avoid the major inconvenience of refueling Diesel generators, which adds complexity and expense. He claims customers can save \$500 a month in fuel costs with a solar generator working just a 40-hour week. The trailer folds up for easy towing and takes about 5-6 minutes to open up.

I met Joseph, an entrepreneur who was showing his Cirkit electric bike prototype. Looking clean and simple, it reminded me a bit of early minibikes, that you would assemble from a kit and the engine from your lawnmower!

EVs need to be charged, which is why you'll always find a

friendly ChargePoint booth at EV shows. ChargePoint is a leader in chargers (I have one in my garage).

A fun event, as always. I got a chance to network with EV lovers of many stripes, as well as present my Bolt EV to several non-EV drivers, who, I hope, will go home and then decide to join our ranks. They can bring their cars to the 2020 events!

Steve Schaefer lives in Castro Valley. He has been reviewing new cars in the Times for 27 years.

LEGAL NOTICE

FILED
AUGUST 27, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562794-796

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the businesses:
(1) Hospice Audit & Charting (2) Hospice Patient Care (3) Patient Compliance Audit located at 4061 East Castro Valley Blvd. Suite 116, Castro Valley, CA 94552, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew Bennett, 1420 Cliff Swallow Dr., Patterson, CA 95363. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Matthew Bennett
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUGUST 27, 2024
SEPT 19, 26, OCT 03, 10, 2019
0151-SLT

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LEGAL NOTICE

FILED
AUGUST 08, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562083-4

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
(1) JAVON H. WILLIAMS (2) JAVON HALEY WILLIAMS located at 2386 107th Ave., Oakland, CA 94603, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ja'von H. Williams Trustee of, 2386 107th Ave., Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by a Trust. This business commenced N/A.

Ja'von H. Williams Trustee of
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUG 08, 2024
AUG 29, SEPT 05, 12, 19, 2019
0142-SLT

FILED
AUGUST 16, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562417

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
Funny Papers located at 1160 Oakes Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Mari Parsnick, (2) Todd Parsnick, 1160 Oakes Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a married couple. This business commenced August 1, 2019.

/s/ Mari Parsnick, Todd Parsnick
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUGUST 16, 2024
AUG 29, SEPT 05, 12, 19, 2019
0143-SLT

FILED
AUGUST 26, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562769

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
OT Electrical located at 1975 Warren Ave., Oakland, CA 94603, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tevita Okusi, 1925 Warren Ave., Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Tevita Okusi
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUGUST 26, 2024
SEPT 05, 12, 19, 26, 2019
0144-SLT

FILED
AUGUST 27, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562782

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
SugarScrubsByTricia located at 15360 Beatty Street, San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tricia Underwood, 15360 Beatty Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Tricia Underwood
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUGUST 27, 2024
SEPT 05, 12, 19, 26, 2019
0145-SLT

FILED
AUGUST 16, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562420

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
P3Kingdom Fitness located at 15017 Fleming St., San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vanessa Gonzalez, 15017 Fleming St., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Vanessa Gonzalez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires AUGUST 16, 2024
SEPT 05, 12, 19, 26, 2019
0146-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 03, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 562996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business:
North Coast Enterprises, Inc. DBA Nor Cal Tires and Wheels located at 42240 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, in Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): North Coast Enterprises, Inc., 863 N. Main St., Fort Bragg, CA 94537. This business is conducted by a corporation. This business commenced 08-01-19.

/s/ North Coast Enterprises, Inc.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires SEPTEMBER 03, 2024
SEPT 12, 19, 26, OCT 03, 2019
0149-SLT

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Call (510) 357-7282 for zips 94577, 94578, 94579

BRING IT TO A PARTICIPATING COLLECTION SITE

OPTION 2

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

9235 San Leandro Blvd., Oakland, CA 94603

Omega JV, Inc.

3449 Enterprise Ave., Hayward, CA 94545

Hayward Transfer Station

3458 Enterprise Ave., Hayward, CA 94545

Fremont Transfer and Recycling

41149 Boyce Rd., Fremont, CA 94538

City of Berkeley Transfer Station

1201 Second St., Berkeley, CA 94710



Pleasanton Transfer Station

3110 Busch Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94566

Hours of operation and unit limits vary.
See website for details.

TAKE IT TO AN UPCOMING COLLECTION EVENT

OPTION 3

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Nov. 30, Dec. 28

9am to 1pm

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LIFESTYLE

Favorites for Fall

This week's rain was a little reminder that fall is just a few days away.

As the days get shorter, the nights get colder, and leaves begin littering our sidewalks and yards, it's time for some delicious seasonal comfort foods.

AUTUMN BISQUE

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 large onion, thinly sliced
- 1 (2-pound) butternut squash, peeled, seeded, cut into 1-1/2 inch cubes
- 1 (1.5-pound) trimmed celery root, peeled, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 6 cups chicken broth, skimmed
- 1/4 teaspoons grated nutmeg
- Salt & freshly ground pepper

Heat olive oil in a 3-quart pot over medium-high heat. Add onion, squash and celery root. Sauté, for about 12 minutes until very fragrant, stirring often to avoid scorching. Add stock and simmer, covered, until vegetables are very tender, about 25 minutes. Strain liquid from solids. Return liquid to pot. Purée solids in blender until smooth, then combine with liquid and stir well to combine. Add nutmeg and season to taste with salt and pepper. Makes 6 servings.

ROSEMARY PORK ROAST

- 1-1/2 tablespoons fresh rosemary
- 2 teaspoons garlic salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 3-pound boneless pork loin roast
- Rosemary sprigs (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large, resealable plastic bag, mix rosemary, garlic salt, thyme, and pepper. Place pork roast in the

bag, seal, and toss until thoroughly coated with the garlic salt mixture. Transfer to a medium baking dish.

Cook pork roast 1 hour in the preheated oven, or to an internal temperature of 160°F. Serve on platter garnished with rosemary sprigs. Serves 6.

APPLE FRITTERS

- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 4 teaspoons vegetable oil, plus 2 cups for frying
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 cups all-purpose flour (spooned and leveled)
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon fine salt
- 4 medium tart apples, cored, peeled, and cut into 1/2-inch-thick rings

In a medium bowl, combine 1/2 cup sugar and cinnamon. In another medium bowl, whisk buttermilk, 4 teaspoons oil, and eggs. Stir in flour, 2 tablespoons sugar, baking powder, and salt.

In a large, heavy, high-sided skillet, heat 2 cups oil until it registers 375°F on a deep-fat or candy thermometer. (The oil should bubble rapidly when a drop of batter is added.)



A boneless pork roast coated with fresh rosemary makes a savory centerpiece for an autumn supper.

In batches, coat apples in batter and fry until golden brown, about 4 minutes per batch, flipping halfway through. Transfer to a paper-towel-lined baking sheet to drain. Toss apples in cinnamon sugar and serve immediately. Yields 20.

PUMPKIN BREAD

- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 2/3 cup water
- 3 cups white sugar
- 3-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda

- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour three 7x3-inch loaf pans.

In a large bowl, mix together pumpkin puree, eggs, oil, water and sugar until well blended. In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger. Stir the dry ingredients into the pumpkin mixture until just blended. Pour into the prepared pans.

Bake for about 50 minutes in

the preheated oven. Loaves are done when toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Yields 24 servings.

CHEDDAR CORN CHOWDER

- 8 ounces bacon, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 6 cups chopped yellow onions (about 4 large onions)
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 12 cups chicken stock
- 6 cups medium-diced white boiling potatoes, unpeeled
- 10 cups corn kernels (10 ears fresh, or 3 pounds frozen)
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 8 ounces sharp Cheddar cheese, grated

In a large stockpot over medium-high heat, cook the bacon and olive oil until the bacon is crisp, about 5 minutes. Remove the bacon with a slotted spoon and reserve. Reduce the heat to medium, add the onions and butter to the fat, and cook for 10 minutes, until the onions are translucent.

Stir in the flour, salt, pepper and turmeric and cook for 3 minutes. Add the chicken stock and potatoes, bring to a boil, and simmer uncovered for 15 minutes, until the potatoes are tender. If using

fresh corn, cut the kernels off the cob and blanch them for 3 minutes in boiling salted water. Drain. (If using frozen corn you can skip this step.)

Add the corn to the soup, then add the half-and-half and cheddar. Cook for 5 more minutes, until the cheese is melted. Season, to taste, with salt and pepper. Serve hot with a garnish of bacon. Yields 10-12 servings.

CRUNCHY PEAR-CELERY SALAD

- 4 stalks celery
- 2 tablespoons cider, raspberry or other fruit vinegar
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 ripe pears
- 1 cup finely diced white Cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- Freshly ground pepper
- 6 cups butterhead or other lettuce

Soak celery in a bowl of ice water for 15-30 minutes. Drain, pat dry, and cut into 1/2-inch pieces.

Whisk vinegar, honey, and salt in a large bowl until blended. Add the celery, cheese, and pecans, and stir to combine. Season with pepper. Divide the lettuce leaves among 6 plates and top with a portion of salad. Serve at room temperature or chilled. Serves 6.

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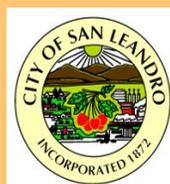
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Questions? Email akim@sanleandro.org

Recycling: Program hasn't panned out

continued from front page
the CRV but turns its back on the redemption part. The nonprofit, nonpartisan group Consumer Watchdog says Californians plunk down \$1.5 billion each year in CRV deposits, yet only

“Consumers need grocery stores to redeem their bottle and can deposits, otherwise the CRV deposit is little more than a tax.”

— Consumer Watchdog President Jamie Court



TIMES FILE PHOTO

Before you could get money back from cans and bottles, as seen in this photo from 2004. But now there are fewer places to get your money back from the CRV deposit since RePlanet has gone out of business.

about half of the deposits come back to consumers because they cannot find a convenient place to return empties.

“Consumers need grocery stores and retailers to redeem their bottle and can deposits, otherwise, the CRV deposit becomes little more than a tax,” Consumer Watchdog President Jamie Court

said. He added that if a town or city does not have a recycling center within a mile radius, that grocery and liquor stores are required to receive empties and payout CRV fees.

While the practice of returning empty bottles was the norm before 1986, when CRV fees were established, your local gro-

cery store may refuse your offer.

Survey: Most Retailers Refuse To Redeem Deposit

A Consumer Watchdog survey in May 2019 found two-thirds of the 50 retailers visited who were legally obligated to redeem deposits refused to do so. Additionally, last-minute leg-

islation submitted on Sept. 7 by State Senator Steve Glazer (SB 643) would exempt thousands of grocery stores statewide from the obligation to recycle consumers' bottles and cans and return their deposits.

Recycling center closures also hurt communities through job losses and income for individuals, like the homeless who gather discarded cans and bottles to earn extra cash.

As for the fate of those bottles and cans, Wilgus says he's resigned to schlepping his \$13 worth of empties outside of Castro Valley instead of dumping the aluminum and glass in the recycle bins offered by garbage collection companies.

“I already paid the CRV fees once. I do not wish to line the pockets of the garbage companies with money owed to me,” Wilgus says.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Connie McWilliams says the kids are nicer today than they were in the '70s and '80s.

Crossing Guard: Some drivers just don't want to stop

continued from front page
McWilliams sometimes calls out to say get back on the curb. If that doesn't work, she's got her whistle to get someone's attention.

Sometimes grown-ups come back and ask McWilliams if she remembers them when they were crossing the street to school.

“They ask me if I remember them and sometimes I do and sometimes I don't,” she said.

The light changes and McWilliams springs into action, stepping out into the middle of East 14th as a group of kids and parents cross the street.

How do kids today compare to kids in the '70s and '80s – does she notice any difference?

“They're a little bit nicer than they were back then,” McWil-

liams says. “Back then they were a little rougher. They didn't want to wait for me.”

But when it comes to the drivers, that's a different story.

“They ask me if I remember them and sometimes I do and sometimes I don't.”

— School crossing guard Connie McWilliams

“The drivers are worse,” McWilliams says. “They don't want to stop. There's more traffic now, too.”

And for the drivers on cell phones?

“Oh, boy, they're concentrating on who they're talking to,” she said.

The crossing guard program, run by All Cities Management, gets all the crossing guards together a couple times a year for a refresher course.

“Oh, yeah,” McWilliams said. “We go over all the rules and regulations.”

Next April will be 50 years from her first day as a crossing guard, so maybe they'll have a cake for her to mark the occasion.

“Oh, yeah,” she said. “That would be nice.”

“I tie up traffic for the little ones.”

— Crossing guard quote on a coffee cup

City of San Leandro's Home Earthquake Strengthening Course

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

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

When: October 3, 8, 10, and 15
This is a four-day course.

Where: The Senior Community Center @
13909 E. 14th Street,
San Leandro, Main Hall B

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Cost for City of San Leandro Residents:
\$30.00 for single / \$35.00 for couples

Cost for Non-Residents / Unincorporated San Leandro: \$50.00 for single / \$60.00 for couples

Class size is limited.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL OR PHONE

ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS
For more information, please call Division of Building & Safety Services at (510) 577-3405.

TO REGISTER: Please mail your payment and information or call:



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SENIORS



Home Sharing Helps Seniors Find Renters

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

Renting out a spare room in your house is a great way to generate some extra income and even get some help with chores around the house.

To find a good fit, older homeowners often turn to "home sharing programs" that will match an empty nester with someone needing affordable housing.

But be aware that home sharing isn't for everyone. You need to carefully consider the pros and cons of renting out a spare room in your house and make a list of what you want and don't want in a housemate/renter.

To help you figure this out visit SharingHousing.com, this a website dedicated to understanding home sharing and which offers a guide and workbook (\$25) to help you find and choose a good housemate.

Finding a Match

If you decide to proceed in finding a housemate/renter, your first step is to seek out a home sharing program in your area.

Home sharing programs, usually non-profits, screen both homeowners and renters. They check references, handle background checks and consider lifestyle criteria when making matches.

They can also help you with the leasing agreement that the renter would sign that covers detailed issues like smoking, pets, chores, overnight guests, use of common rooms, quiet hours, etc.

Most home sharing programs are free to use or request a small donation. Others, however, may charge the homeowner and potential renter a fee for this service. To look for a home sharing program in your area visit the National Shared Housing Resource Center website at NationalSharedHousing.org.

Other Options

If you don't find a program that serves your area, you can also search for housemates through an online home sharing service like Silvernest.com or SeniorHome-shares.com.

These sites work more like online dating sites that require homeowners and home seekers to fill out a profile. Once a match is made, you'll be responsible for contacting and interviewing prospective renters and making the final agreement.

If you don't have any luck with any of these home sharing sites, put a call in to your Area Agency on Aging (call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 for contact information) who may be able to offer assistance or refer you to local agencies or nonprofit organizations that offer shared housing help.

You can also check with your local senior or community center, or local church you attend to see if you can post an ad on their bulletin board or in their newsletter. Or, you can advertise in your local newspaper or online at CraigsList.org. SpareRoom.com or RoomMates.com.

If you find someone on your own that you're interested in renting to, ask the prospective renter to fill out a rental application (see RentalLeaseAgreement.org to download and print one for free) and run a tenant screening and background check, and then call their references. Tenant screening/background checks can be done for free at Naborly.com.

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

Nursing Home Discrimination Against Medi-Cal Beneficiaries

Q If I seek entry into a nursing home for my mother, will it be tougher to find a bed if she goes in as a Medi-Cal beneficiary?

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

Medi-Cal program must sign a provider agreement certifying under penalty of perjury that they will adhere to all state and federal laws, which include a prohibition against Medi-Cal (Medicaid) discrimination.



hospital and refuse to readmit them, regardless of their right to a bed hold, the right to return to the facility and their right to the first available bed.

Nursing home discrimination against Medi-Cal beneficiaries and residents has become epidemic in California, and the state regulatory agencies do nothing to contain it."

For more information about discrimination and resident discharges, contact the CANHR office in San Francisco at 1-800-474-1116.

Attorney's Note: Often, the key is to enter a nursing home directly following a hospital stay of at least three nights' duration. This will trigger the preferred MediCARE coverage for a period between 20 and 100 days. Thereafter, the patient will need to pay privately or qualify for a Medi-Cal subsidy. But once in the nursing home, the patient may stay if the need for such care continues, although some advocacy may be needed to resist some of the above tactics.

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

A Unfortunately, that is a distinct possibility. See the following article published by California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR), re-printed here with permission:

"Over the past 5 years, one of the most disturbing violations of state and federal laws has been the increase in discrimination against Medi-Cal beneficiaries who need nursing home care.

Call a nursing home and tell them that your mother, a Medi-Cal beneficiary, has dementia along with other medical issues and that her doctor has recommended a nursing home — good luck in finding a placement within 200 miles - or at all!

Tell them that your mother is in the hospital on Medicare, and your chance of finding a nursing home placement increases 100%. Because Medicare reimbursements are higher than the Medi-Cal daily rates, discrimination against accepting Medi-Cal eligible residents has become the preferred way for nursing homes to increase their profits.

Illegal? Yes, such discrimination is illegal under both state and federal laws. In fact, certification for Medi-Cal is totally voluntary and nursing homes who wish to participate in the

Despite these laws, nursing homes have found numerous ways of discriminating to reduce their Medi-Cal population and free beds up for private pay or Medicare residents.

If a resident does happen to find placement as a Medicare patient, when Medicare days are terminated, the facility will often tell the resident or the resident's family that the resident must leave; that they only retain "short-term" residents; that they don't have any Medi-Cal beds; or that the resident — despite all evidence to the contrary — no longer needs the nursing home level of care.

These are falsehoods, of course, aimed at scaring residents out of the facility. The truth is that, in California, if a nursing home is certified for Medi-Cal, all the beds are Medi-Cal certified. There is no such animal as a "short-term" nursing home. If they have a bed at all, it's a Medi-Cal bed.

Because Medi-Cal does not pay for a private room, a common practice is to transfer the resident to the Medi-Cal "ghetto," i.e., a section of the facility with 2-3 bed rooms all on Medi-Cal with limited staffing and no rehab services or to transfer the resident to the acute care

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Rise of Illegal Entry Into Vacant Homes Highlights Insurance Issues

A recent census of homeless residents in Alameda County confirmed what everyone knows: the numbers are up dramatically in the past two years.

Not only are homeless population numbers increasing, the number of visible encampments is also on the rise, a clear indication of the rapidly escalating housing crisis in California.

Sellers marketing empty homes are being caught in the crosshairs as break-ins of vacant properties are increasing.

One East Bay Realtor has had three of his listings occupied by homeless individuals in the past year alone. In two of the cases, significant damage was done.

In the third extreme case, the property was boarded up after numerous break-ins in which solar panels were stolen, holes were punched in walls, paint was sprayed on windows to obscure visibility into the interior and more. Even with

the home boarded shut and an alarm installed, the illegal entries continued.

Making matters worse is the reticence of some insurance companies to provide satisfactory coverage on empty homes.

Insurers are concerned that unattended homes can be accessed without the owner's knowledge and used for illegal activities. They are also aware that damage may occur without the owner's knowledge and, if left unchecked, cause significant damage (eg. broker water pipes).

One insurance agent I talked to stated the number of claims on vacant homes is significantly higher than for occupied properties.

In many cases, sellers, without carefully reading their homeowner's insurance policy, have relocated to replacement homes, leaving their existing policy in place on the now vacant property, assuming everything was fine.

In a recent case, a seller, their property vandalized, was told their policy only covered damage for the first 30 days after they vacated. Another seller, preparing her home for the market, was shocked to discover that her current insurance company did not provide vacant property insurance of any kind.

Here are 3 key facts when insuring your vacant home:

- Call your insurance company once you know the home will be vacant.
- Vacant property insurance is typically more expensive and less comprehensive than for occupied homes.

When shopping for insurance, carefully read the policy to see what is actually covered. Many shop only for price, not realizing lower cost policies may have significant omissions.

While it is much easier to market properties when vacant, savvy sellers will be prepared in the event their home becomes a target for unintended occupants.

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.

885 Glen Drive • Open Sunday 1-4



This home is proof that sometimes, properties are owned by just the right people! Pristine and Gorgeous, this impeccably maintained 1928 Tudor boasts an abundance of original charm. An extensive high-end remodel preserved original character while incorporating the most up-to-date amenities, including extraordinarily high tech capabilities. Features Include 3 Bedrooms - Master Suite with back yard access - 2 Full and 1 Half Bathrooms, Approx. 2186 Sq. Ft., Large Living Room with Beamed Ceilings, Chef's Kitchen, Charming Breakfast Room, Formal Dining Room, Family Room, Bonus Room with Half Bath, second Bonus Room overlooking the Creek (currently used as a music studio) and Detached Garage. Offered at \$1,095,000. For more information, contact Michelle R. Miller, Associate Broker, of Compass Real Estate at 510-701-3442. BRE# 01012751



COMPASS

Gopher or Mole?; Containing Your Canna Lillies

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

What's the difference between a mole and a gopher? I believe I have a gopher in my garden; however, others say it's a mole. Plants are disappearing, and the roots on one of my roses have been eaten.

In California, moles and gophers are two different rodents with different controls. This is not the case in many other states, like Washington.

Gardeners and non-gardeners will refer to them interchangeably. The Nursery Professional at your favorite garden center is an excellent resource to help with conflicting information.

There are some physical differences between them, but few get that close, so here is how to separate the two.

Moles do not eat plants. Their diet is protein-based, so they forge and tunnel the soil surface for insects, grubs, and earthworms. The best way to control moles is to eliminate the food source, forcing them elsewhere.

Bonide Mole Med is a

granular repellent made with Castor Oil. It coats the soil bugs making them not very tasty. Another option is Beneficial Nematodes, which seek out and destroy grubs and soil insects, but not earthworms. They're both safe for people, pets, and the environment.

Gophers, on the other hand, do eat plants and are known to pull them underground. They live in burrows, travel about two feet under the soil in runs and come to the surface in exit holes.

Gophers are much more challenging to control than moles. Flooding, trapping, and gas are the primary methods of controlling gophers. Also, there are hundreds of home remedies. Unfortunately, there is no 100% sure proof answer. It's all trial and error.

The major mistakes people make with gopher controls is not wearing gloves. Traces of human scent alerts the gophers. Also, the controls need to be placed in the major runs, not the exit holes. You are correct suspecting a gopher.

I removed a patch of out-of-control canna lillies. My problem now is that I didn't get rid of



all of them. They're starting to shoot up between in newly planted areas. Any suggestion on an herbicide I can use?

Canna Lilies can become a nuisance when left to grow unattended. They're contained by dividing the clumps every three years or so in the fall or spring. You don't have to be particularly careful about it either.

You can protect desirable plants with a cardboard plant shield, or you can use any

type of plastic cylinder like a beverage container.

You'll have to be persistent as it's a battle of attrition, but you should win it.

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



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Why Your Clothes Dryer Is an Energy Hog - And What You Can Do About It

There's nothing quite as comforting as pulling on your favorite hoodie when it's fresh from the dryer. As much as you love luxuriating in that warmth and softness, you may not be aware just how much energy this beloved appliance burns through in a year. When it comes to energy savings in the laundry room, the dryer has long been an obstacle, and here's why.

• Unlike washing machines, refrigerators and other common household appliances, energy-efficient dryer models have been absent from the market. It wasn't until 2014 when the first ENERGY STAR® Certified dryers became available. Products that earn the EPA's ENERGY STAR label are independently certified to save energy.

• Before then, dryer technology had stayed pretty much the same for decades. A standard dryer blows heated air into the drum chamber, removing moisture from the clothing. Then the hot, moist air is vented out of the machine (and out of the house). Because of that constant loss of heat, the machine works continuously to resupply the drum with hot air.

• According to the EPA, the standard clothes dryer uses more energy than any appliance in a typical household, including the clothes washer and dishwasher. It uses even more than the refrigerator.

Now that energy-efficient dryers are available, here's a look at the core technology found in ENERGY STAR certified dryers.

• Moisture sensors detect

when your clothes are dry, triggering the machine to end the cycle, saving energy and excess wear on your clothing.

• Heat pump technology eliminates the need for venting and continuous heating. First, the air is heated through a condenser, and then it's blown into the drum and the hot dry air is circulated with the clothes absorbing some of the water. Instead of venting the warm, moist air outside like a conventional dryer, it is pulled out of the drum and through an evaporator, which removes the moisture. The remaining warm, dry air is returned to the condenser and the cycle begins all over again. Because the air feeding into the condenser is already warm, less energy is needed to maintain the optimal temperature in the drum for drying clothes.

To save energy in the laundry room, there are plenty of choices to meet your unique needs and space requirements.

• The energy savings from switching to an ENERGY STAR certified clothes dryer

can reach 20%. For additional savings, look for certified ENERGY STAR Most Efficient models to save at least 28% compared to standard models. To maximize savings, pair it with an ENERGY STAR Most Efficient washer.

• Some models require no ventilation, meaning you can put your laundry room wherever there's access to power and water. Whether you live in a compact space or are just looking to relocate your laundry room to a more convenient place, energy-efficient models offer more flexibility.

• ENERGY STAR certified dryers come in a variety of models to meet your needs. If space is tight, compact options are available that are stackable with a washer. Those who are doing laundry for a big family can find high-capacity models as well.

There are even more benefits of owning one of these super-efficient dryers. With ENERGY STAR, you are also doing your part for the environment. If all clothes dryers sold in the U.S. were



ENERGY STAR certified, households would save more than \$1.5 billion each year and 22 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 2 million vehicles. Even better, many utilities offer generous rebates, so you can save even

more money. Learn how you can still enjoy that warm, fresh-out-of-the-dryer hoodie while you save energy and money, and do your part to protect the climate. Find available products and rebates near you by visiting energystar.gov/hpdrdryer.

- Brandpoint

Mother Nature Inspires 'New Neutral' Home Design Trends

Many interior designers gravitate toward grays or whites as a starting point when building a home's look and feel, but a new trend is emerging. Homeowners are getting back to basics and finding ways to bring the outdoors in by using neutral earth tones as their blank slate. These wood tones have become the "new neutral" for those beginning their brand-new home design.

No matter your style - modern, eclectic or anything in between - the toned-down hues of natural-looking wood surfaces are the perfect starting point for building a versatile, relaxing and high-end look in your home.

It's all natural

Finding inspiration from nature can create a more calming retreat in our hectic, constantly connected lives. Start with a neutral and natural palette in the home as the first step to designing your oasis. Incorporating colors found in nature can act as a reminder to disconnect and recharge in your home.

Stay grounded

Include a variety of textures from the ground up to transform your space and make it unique. From flooring to décor, finding ways to pull in elements from Mother Nature will turn your home into your haven. Bring out your home's natural beauty with flooring like Lumber Liquidators' Claire Gardens Oak hardwood, which features an organic oak grain where no two boards look the same. The textured grains pair beautifully with greenery (faux or natural), and the neutral color complements a variety of earthy paint palettes.

Woodland oasis

Wood is the perfect element when deciding to bring nature

into your home - whether on the floor or on the walls, as an accent or as a headboard. Featuring a variety of wood elements in the décor itself can also allow you to play with mixing different grains, colors and textures throughout the home while still maintaining a seamless overall design.

Light and airy

To make small spaces feel more open, be sure to accentuate natural light by incorporating mirrors. Try and keep your space clear of clutter and add natural foliage and plants to improve air quality and mood. Installing long, wide planks of flooring will also make your room feel larger.

Branch out

Starting with a neutral, earthy color palette means you have plenty of room to play with color - be it bold, muted or a reflection of the world around you. Include colorful accent pieces that remind you of the perfect fall foliage, a day at the beach or spring's first blooms. Natural inspiration provides a world of possibilities.

- Brandpoint

Michelle Ross Miller
Associate Broker

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1368 Purdue Street	94579: \$671,000 3 BD - 1,081 SF - 1951
2058 Bradhoff Avenue	94577: \$678,000 3 BD - 1,309 SF - 1947
2264 Sitka Street	94577: \$705,000 3 BD - 1,042 SF - 1951
350 Harlan Street	94577: \$715,000 1,187 SF - 1933
328 Elsie Avenue	94577: \$720,000 4 BD - 1,776 SF - 1946
239 Peralta Avenue	94577: \$728,000 2 BD - 1,234 SF - 1941
14552 Wiley Street	94579: \$735,000 3 BD - 1,533 SF - 1953
14472 Acacia Street	94579: \$750,000 3 BD - 1,476 SF - 1952
162 Georgia Way	94577: \$810,000 2 BD - 1,546 SF - 1942
878 Dolores Avenue	94577: \$870,000 3 BD - 2,059 SF - 1953

TOTAL SALES: 14

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$420,000

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SEPT. 21 & SEPT. 22

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SLZ	—	1-4	1978 Boxer Ct.	\$699,000	4/2	Re/Max Accord RE	Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
A	—	1-4	885 Glen Dr.	\$1,095,000	3+2.5	Compass RE	Michelle Miller	510-701-3442
A	1-4	1-4	1725 Estudillo Ave.	\$1,499,000	4/4	Robert Jones & Assoc.	Matt Jones	510-357-0120

One-Line Open Home Listings run Wednesdays in the Castro Valley Forum (22,500 circ.) and Thursdays in the San Leandro Times (38,500 circ.) for \$25. For more information and a listing form, call 614-1558. DEADLINE: TUESDAY AT NOON.

CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = BERKELEY • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DANVILLE • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD
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HOROSCOPE

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Travel plans could be interrupted by the re-emergence of a workplace problem that was never quite fully resolved. Deal with it at once, and then take off on that well-deserved trip.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Aspects favor cultural activities for sensuous Bovines. Attend a concert or an art show. Better yet, create something yourself (a poem, perhaps?), and dedicate it to someone special.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Respect any doubts you might now be feeling about a new situation. They could be reflecting your inner awareness that some essential information might be missing. Check it out.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It's important to start the new month with as clean a slate as possible. Either complete all those unfinished tasks or pass them on to others who would be more than happy to take them on.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to cut down on expenses and tame that urge to splurge. Applying some financial discipline now could help the Big Cat ride out a possible monetary crunch later on.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Money matters are dominant this week. Recheck your accounts and make sure they're up-to-date. Also, pay more attention to personal issues before they become major problems.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might be tempted to employ the same tactics as your adversary, but that could backfire. Better to use the same balanced approach that has worked for you before and could again.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A changing workplace environment could stir up confusion as well as apprehension. Best to ignore the rumors and get the facts. You could find that the changes bring positive elements.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Communication is easier this week with people ready and eager to hear what you have to say. Also, check for possible technical problems before you start your new project.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Aspects favor change for the usually traditional Goat. Opening your mind to possibilities you had ignored could lead you to make decisions you once considered improbable.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Making personal as well as professional adjustments to changing conditions might be easier with more information explaining the "hows" and "whys" of the situations in question.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) With a growing tide of positive reactions to buoy your confidence, this could be the right time to put the finishing touches to your new project and get it well and truly launched.

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SL Art Association Creates Grant for High School Grads

The San Leandro Art Association created a new grant for graduating high school students in the San Leandro Unified School District who will be studying art in their continuing education.

The goal is to give \$500 to up to four students each year for art supplies depending upon our fundraising each year. The grant is named after Jane Tshushima,

an active member since 1975, who continues to be an inspiration for us all to keep exploring art throughout our lives.

Jane was surprised at the announcement of the grant but accepted the announcement certificate and enjoyed the celebratory cake. For information about donations and sponsorship visit slartassociation.org or email info@slartassociation.org.

Business Council Presents Soul Food Festival on Saturday

The African American Business Council presents a soul food festival this Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. at Cleophus Quealy Brewery, 448 Hester St. in San Leandro with live music, games for kids, dessert cook-off, arts and crafts.

Food vendors will be Katrina's Sweet Treats, Pinx Catering, That's My Que, and The Lumpia Company. DJ Roxwell will provide the music. To enter the dessert cookoff, send an email to info@slaabc.com or call 510-247-2728.

All Saints to Host Presentation On Death and Dying

All Saints Church, 911 Dowling Blvd., will hold a free supper with a presentation to address the proverbial "elephant in the room" – death and dying – on Thursday, Sept. 26, at 5:30 p.m.

Come and reflect on accom-

panying those dying or in hospice care. This evening is offered to help us grow as a community of care for those who are nearing the transition of death.

RSVP to deacon@saintsalive.net.

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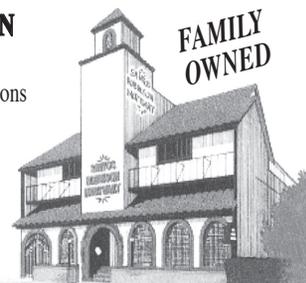
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Senior Lunch Menu

Lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services

A low-cost senior lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services is served on weekdays at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St.

Everyone age 60 and up can have lunch. A suggested donation is \$3.75, but no one is refused for lack of funds. (\$10 for those under 60.) Call 24 hours ahead to reserve a lunch (1-510-825-9793) or sign up at the Senior Center.

The menu for lunch next week, Sept. 23 to Sept. 27, is:

Monday – Cheese ravioli with marinara sauce, tossed vegetable salad, garlic bread,

fruit mix.

Tuesday – Barbecue chicken sandwich on wheat bun with lettuce, tomato and onion, broccoli cranberry salad and bananas.

Wednesday – Beef burger on wheat bun, potato salad, oranges.

Thursday – Baked cod over arugula with lemon yogurt sauce, vegetable bean soup, carrots, strawberries.

Friday – Birthday Lunch! Pork with pineapple relish, seasoned green beans, cabbage, whole wheat rolls, grapes, birthday cake.

SL Demo Club to Meet Sept. 26

The San Leandro Democratic Club will meet on Thursday Sept. 26, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Guest speaker Casey Farmer,

executive director of the Alameda County Complete Count Committee, will talk about the 2020 Census and what Alameda County can do to prepare for a complete count.

LOCAL DEATHS

SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. A fee will apply depending on the length. A photo can be added for an additional cost. For assistance, call 510-614-1555.

Rosaline Pedro

Rosaline Pedro passed away with her family at her side on Thursday, September 12, 2019. As with many children of the Depression era, Rosaline had to forgo higher schooling to help with the family dairy farm. As a child she drove a truck to deliver the milk cans. She rode horses to the ranch, had a love for animals (especially cats), labored as a office furniture maker, & enjoyed gardening until her health declined. She enjoyed bowling, bingo and trips to casinos. Cherished birthday/holiday/greeting cards received & any souvenir gift items brought back from vacations or short trips. When her health declined in later years she had care provided by Baywood Health Center with daily trips home to visit with family, friends, and her two pet cats (Tiger and Gemini). She was preceded in death by her Mother (Rosa Santos), Father (Domigos Santos), and Brother (Domingos Santos). Also preceded in death was her best friend and roommate at Baywood Health Center (Louise Perez). She is survived by her two sons (John and Charles Pedro), two nieces (Louise (Santos) Balentine, and Dominique (Santos) Banner, nephew (Mathew Santos), grandson (Christopher Pedro) and his wife (Lisa Pedro), three great-grandchildren (Dylan, Clara and Camille), along with many other relatives.

Visitation will be Thursday 09/19/2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Santos-Robinson Mortuary 160 Estudillo Ave. San Leandro. A Chapel Service will begin that morning at 10:00 a.m. Burial will follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward. Donations to Hayward Animal Services, 16 Barnes Ct. Hayward, CA 94544 or The Alzheimer's Association Home Office 225 N. Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601 preferred.

Arrangements handled by Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 510-483-0123.

Thomas G. Anderson

Thomas G. Anderson, 59, of Rock Springs, WY passed away on September 9, 2019.

Tommy was born July 29, 1960 in the U.S. Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, CA, the son of George H. and Violet I. Lorincz Anderson.

Funeral services will be held Friday, September 20, 2019 in Rock Springs, WY.

Inurnment will take place in the Memory Gardens Cemetery, Concord, CA at a later date.

Condolences for family can be left by going to www.foxfh.com.



Mary J. (Buffington) Walker

Mary J. (Buffington) Walker, 86, of San Leandro, CA, died of congestive heart failure on Sunday, September 1st, 2019 at Kaiser Hospital in San Leandro. Mary was born May 5, 1933 in Portland, Oregon. She met Norman H. Walker while working together in San Francisco, and they married in 1952. Mary and Norman moved to the East Bay and raised their family first in Antioch then settling in San Leandro.

She is survived by their four daughters, Laurel (Mark) Moser, Terri (Michael) Murray, Gayle (Daniel) Bates, Nancy Walker, and their one son, Jerry (Rhonda) Walker. Grandchildren, Tiffany, Thomas, David (Crystal), Marcus (Aerrissa), Heidi, Dylan, and Rebecca. Great-grandchildren, Chelsea, James, Ariana, and Coley, and her nieces, Gina, Joanne, and Gaye.

Mary was predeceased by her husband Norman H. Walker, parents, Corwin and Agnes (Harnett) Buffington, and her sister, Carol G (Buffington) Ruggiero.

Mary will be buried alongside her parents at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward, CA on Monday, September 23, with a graveside service at 11 o'clock a.m. For more information, call Gayle at 510-387-8252.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Unexpected Parking Tickets

Editor:

I guess I am going to have to start going to meetings to find out what is happening in our San Leandro; why City Hall is in the need of more of our hard earned money.

I live in the area where for the past three years plus, the old CVS Pharmacy was located.

The parking lot has 1 hour parking signs posted, some of which have fallen down and not been replaced. We used to get our tires marked if we were parked in the lot, and an hour or so later they would come back and ticket if the car had not been moved.

The only active business open is the apartment complex on Hyde Street, where some residents have two vehicles, and only one underground parking spot. Others that park here are people that are going to the bank or work in the building on Callan.

Two weeks ago a San Leandro Parking vehicle came through and put citations on most of the vehicles in the lot.

No warning that they were going to start doing citations, no marking of tires so we could have a chance to move our cars.

I am hoping to secure some parking permits to keep from getting citations if I have to park in the lot.

Hyde Street is a one way across the parking lot where people drive the wrong way and exit onto Callan where it is posted no exit. Also, the other exit is a stop sign and no Left turn onto Callan. Maybe they should consider citations there.

At least have the courtesy to mark the tires and give us a chance to move our car if it is parked in this lot.

I guess the City does not have anything to do here any longer, the sweeper truck used to come through Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

And other trucks would come and pick up shopping carts, but it doesn't happen anymore. The handicap parking sign is broken off, other one-hour parking signs are gone. Lucky to have a landscaping company on Tuesday and Thursday come and clean up, thank you for that.

—Phyllis Hanson
San Leandro

SL's Grim Financial Future

Editor:

David Baum, Finance Director for the City of San Leandro, recently stated that the city will start operating in the red as soon as 2021 to the tune of \$2,500,000 and this figure will continue to increase to a minimum of \$10,000,000 per year by 2029.

Former mayor Steven Cassidy noted that the current administration had failed to negotiate with the police and fire departments to balance the budget.

Robert Schwartz pointed out the fact that the average cost for a patrolman in San Leandro is about \$270,000 while it is \$135,000 elsewhere. And let's not forget that our unfunded pension obligations are higher than a pothead smoking the biggest doobie ever created.

Mr. Baum noted that the city employs 437 full time employees and according to Transparent California.com, the average annual health care cost for these 437 employees is \$15,956.

Seeing how our patrolman cost is out of line with the average it's no wonder that our health care costs are so high when compared to San Francisco (\$14,933) Sacramento (\$12,380) and San Jose (\$11,761).

Our City Council could learn a thing or two (or three) from the city of Moraga as their costs are only \$10,838!

We recently reelected 6 out of 7 City Council members for another term and I say we vote them all out of office if they can't turn this around, seeing as how we were operating in the black when they first took office.

—Brent Heath
San Leandro

Ballistic Over Graffiti

Editor:

I went downtown last week to see Pelton Center in the very heart of our beautiful city tagged. Unfortunately, I see tagging around town and know that there is a hotline to call or an app to use to report it — business as usual. First I went ballistic, then I bypassed the normal process this time and wrote directly to the mayor, the city council and the chief of police about this because I don't think having the very heart of our beautiful city tagged should ever be business as usual.

The response to my email took two very different courses. On one hand, a huge *Thank You!* to Chief Tudor who went over to personally help take care of the graffiti. He continues to lead through example instead of worn out, meaningless catch phrases.

One the other hand, one council member answered my email and tried to make a joke out of the situation while another council member figuratively tried to shoot the messenger.

In my email I let Mayor Cutter know exactly what I think about all this kindness she keeps touting. I see a downtown that has dirty sidewalks, street lights out and now graffiti on one of our few historic buildings.

We have a downtown improvement association and yet besides doing the very, very basics of maintenance I'm unclear why our downtown looks the way it does. None of these issues are ever going to be solved with kindness. How about hard work and determination?

—Gary Langbehn
San Leandro

A Socialist Revolution?

Editor:

San Leandro is not one of the great cities of the world or a bastion, as they say, of civilization.

This is very evident from reading your Letters to the Editor, specifically those of Orin Hite, Thomas Joseph and Ken Kellogg of September 5, 2019.

All socialist revolutions begin as insults and name-calling, then rock and bottle throwing at the authorities, and then culminate in revolutionary violence.

When the angry sheep do get their way, a flashy leader will come along and drain their money away from them under the guise of helping them. They will believe him/her and they, as sheep, will end up being ruled by a new autocrat who will live in a palace while they forlornly end up in the hovels they have brought about for themselves.

The history of the revolutions in Russia, Cuba, Venezuela, and North Korea should have shown us something. Can we not remember that what sets us apart from the beasts is our reason? All the greatest philosophers have reminded us of that.

Name-calling in an elementary school playground might work for a while, but in the long run we must remember that we have a very well put together form of government that continues because we have elections and have pledged to abide by the outcome.

—James Forsberg
San Leandro

Great Shows in Our Own Backyard

Editor:

We went to the opening of the new concert series at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts (next to the high school) last night. The group was Tom Rigney & Flambeau. They were A-M-A-Z-I-N-G!

We were thoroughly entertained from start to finish by world-class musicians. This was a Cajun/Zydeco/Blues/Honky Tonk band. There was even a Cajun dance lesson first. It was soooooo fun!!!

The sad thing was that only half of the theater was filled. The directors of the Center for the Arts bring in a variety of top notch talent.

Check it out ... the commute is great. You don't need to go to Oakland or SF to see exceptional performances, it's right here in your own backyard. The next one coming up is a Carol King tribute on October 12th. I urge you to support this great local venue. Visit www.cvca.com/community-events

—Katy Wright
Castro Valley



Send a Letter to the Editor
Letters@ebpublishing.com



INQUIRING REPORTER

What do you think about Area 51?

— Asked around town

I have a feeling we're not alone — because why is it we're so secretive about the place? What are they doing there?

Anna May Tandi
San Leandro



I don't know if it actually exists. Everyone talks about it. Apparently the government is involved doing scientific stuff and the place is in the dessert. Personally, I don't care to bum-rush to a place that doesn't affect me because I have more important things to do.

Lorenza Martinez
San Leandro

Oh my gosh. It's mysterious, intriguing, and maybe a place I'd even like to visit sometime. It possibly holds many secrets and I'd like to know more — if we'd ever be allowed to go there.

Noelle Adams
San Leandro



Aliens. Something to do with beings from outer space I guess. I don't really know anything about Area 51, but haven't we all heard about it?

Lisa Wetzig
Castro Valley

I know it's much to do about nothing. We need our urban legends and myths.

Thomas Doohar
Castro Valley



Council: Energy provider reports new projects in development

continued from front page

protections, perhaps matching protections voted earlier this year for mobile home dwellers.

Former Councilmen Jim Pro-la urged the city to stop using Wells Fargo as the city's banker, citing Oakland's recent lawsuit against them charging racial discrimination.

San Leandro resident Lenny Fox objected to the "under God" part of the Pledge of Allegiance that opened the meeting, but on pro-religious grounds. He said that while he loved the country and considered it like no place else on Earth, the God he believed in wouldn't want us pledging allegiance to a particular piece of cloth.

95 Percent of Residents Go Along with EBCE

Alex DiGiorgio from East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) gave an upbeat report on the organization's efforts to sign up San Leandrans for renewable energy. EBCE is the default en-

ergy supplier for most Alameda County communities – unless the customer opts out, they will get electricity from EBCE rather than Pacific Gas & Electric.

DiGiorgio said that over 95 percent of San Leandrans went along with the switch from PG&E, while just under 5% opted out and will still get their power generated by PG&E. Most of those staying with EBCE took the most inexpensive plan with at least 91 percent renewable energy.

DiGiorgio estimated that EBCE customers have saved over \$7 million compared to PG&E rates to date. While the city had lent EBCE some money for start-up costs, that has now all been repaid, and EBCE is now debt-free, he said

East Bay Community Energy has also pursued several new renewable energy projects in the Bay Area and in the Central Valley. One of them, in West Oakland, near Jack London Square, provides storage for excess energy produced during mid-day

but needed more in the morning and evening. It replaced a former jet-fueled power plant that had produced considerable pollution.

DiGiorgio, joined by several council members, emphasized the need to shift more to renewable energy rather than fossil fuels to combat climate change.

He said that energy storage is becoming an issue. So much solar energy has come online that we are actually running a surplus of power during the middle of the day, when peak demand from air-conditioning offices used to strain the system. But solar power isn't produced at night, and the system's capacity is now most strained at the beginning and end of people's work days.

City Meets Housing Goals

The city's efforts to comply with federal housing guidelines are in good shape, Senior Housing Specialist Maryann Sargent reported. The City Council voted unanimously to report to the federal Department of Housing and

Urban Development that the city met its housing and community development goals that involved Community Development Block Grant funds.

Several of the council members commended the Housing Services Division and Sargent for their services to city residents.

CDBG funded programs are meant to provide decent housing and create a suitable living environment for low- and moderate-income people, defined as any household earning up to 80 percent of the local median income. Median income is where half the families earn above and half below, and it's about \$111,000 for a family of four in Alameda County.

Programs include home repair grants so houses or mobile homes remain habitable; the opening of the La Vereda section of the Marea Alta development, near the downtown San Leandro BART station; and counseling to tenants facing possible eviction or other landlord disputes. While San Leandro's homeless population appears to have risen in the last year, 54 formerly homeless women and children did gain permanent housing.

Council members discussed a climate-change emergency declaration when setting future agenda items. Oakland and Hayward had recently passed a cli-



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

The City of San Leandro says it has met its housing goals which includes the La Vereda section of the Marea Alta development on San Leandro Boulevard.

mate emergency declaration, but Mayor Pauline Cutter suggested San Leandro write its own. She was concerned that there were a number of different issues cited in those two city's proclamations that San Leandro might not want to include.

Council to Change Panhandling Law

The Council repealed, without any new discussion, its ordinance on aggressive panhandling that had been in effect since 2004. A staff report written partly by the city attorney had explained that the legal climate regarding panhandling had "evolved" since

2004, and that courts have held it as constitutionally protected with some narrow exceptions.

The city attorney did not believe the 2004 statute would withstand a court challenge. He is working on a new ordinance that would meet current court standards and would address such things as soliciting in a roadway median, where there are public safety issues.

The staff report noted that other city laws, such as those banning blocking a sidewalk, would still apply to illegal behavior sometimes related to panhandling if the ordinance was repealed.



Neighborhood Cleanup Event

Saturday, October 19 • 10 am to 3 pm



The San Leandro Recycling Program will host a **FREE** drop off event for San Leandro residents. Register to receive complete details, including event location. Items accepted include:

- Appliances
- Tires
- Mattresses
- Electronics
- Scrap Metal
- Yard Trimmings & Clean Wood
- Household Batteries
- Cell Phones & Chargers
- CDs & DVDs
- Audio & Video Tapes
- Fluorescent and Incandescent Lights

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE

Registration must be received by October 1st

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SUBMIT TO:

City of San Leandro Recycling Program
14200 Chapman Road
San Leandro, CA 94578

Phone: (510) 577-6026 Email: Recycle@SanLeandro.org

Register online: www.RecycleSanLeandro.org



Eden Health District

presents

Saving Lives - Myths and Realities of Teen Depression

An Evening for High School Students at the Barbara Lee Center for Health and Wellness

2251 Bancroft Avenue
San Leandro
Wednesday, September 25, 2019
6:00pm - 7:30pm

FREE Admission and Pizza!

Friends, Family, Schools and Community Partners can all contribute to a Life Worth Living!



6:00pm - 6:40pm You will hear from:

John Bass, LMFT, School Based Therapist & Damon Eaves, LCSW, Assistant Director, Child & Young Adult System of Care, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care

- Identifying the signs and symptoms of depression vs normal teen moodiness (hormones)
- Know what causes teen trauma and what to look for: divorce, drugs, abuse
- How to prevent your teens mental health issues from getting worse/know when to get help
- How to use your extended family and community to help your teen find help

6:40pm - 7:15pm You will hear from:

Cheryl A. Theis, MA, Education Advocate, DREDF (Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund)

- How "invisible disabilities" like mental health challenges can make school difficult
- How to individualize your education through an IEP/504 with supports, services & placements
- Who to contact when problems/issues arise & how to contact school staff
- How to protect your privacy (FERPA)

7:15pm - 7:30pm Q&A session

Seating is Limited - Call (510) 538-2035 to Register PARENTS ARE WELCOME

Partners in Health

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services - Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF)
San Leandro Unified School District - Barbara Lee Health & Wellness Center - Crisis Support Services of Alameda County

To learn more about the Eden Health District go to www.ethd.org