



Happy Fourth of July
MAKE YOUR INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
COMPLETE WITH A TREAT 4

WEEKEND WEATHER
SUNNY Sunny thru Sunday
HIGHS: 82-89
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 58-59

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 34 • NO. 27 THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024 SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Oh Heck Yeah

If you like deep-fried Oreos like they serve at the Alameda County Fair then on Independence Day it's your God-given right to dig into one ... but just on this one day of the year.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Allies Call for More Action by County

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

If Alameda County expects to take climate change seriously, it must talk less and do more to develop a safe, connected, and continuous bicycle and pedestrian network, bike advocates said last week.

At the Unincorporated Alameda County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (UCBPAC) meeting on June 27, county planning department representatives presented the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) and Safety Element Update. The 149-page report outlines ideas for getting people out of their cars, encouraging mass transit, biking, and walking, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving sustainability.

According to the report, the county "continues to eliminate gaps in the existing network and improve bicycle and pedestrian connections to transit, schools, parks/trails, retail and employment centers, community/senior centers, and libraries."

see BICYCLE, page 12

Grand Jury Gives SL City Jail High Marks

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

If you ever wind up in the slammer, you would be hard pressed to find better accommodations than the San Leandro City Jail.

The Alameda County Civil Grand Jury looked into jails this year, including the San Leandro City Jail, and concluded that it's a well-run and lockup.

"We found a clean, well-maintained facility that appeared to meet or exceed all required standards," the Grand Jury said in its annual report that was released last week.

The jail in the San Leandro police station is a temporary holding facility for people arrested in San Leandro and

see JAIL, page 5

Hundreds Attend Senior Resource Fair

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Over 300 San Leandro seniors crowded into the Senior Community Center last Thursday (June 27) for the 2024 Senior Resource Fair.

That was a big increase from the 200 who attended in 2023, according to San Leandro city Senior Services Supervisor Alice Walker, who helped organize the event.

"It was really successful. I was welcoming people in until 12:45," said Walker. "We had at least one person come by at 1:30 to see if it was still going on."

Attendees got to meet with representatives of some 40 care organizations, businesses and government agencies offering services to the aging.

But just to remind everyone that today's seniors were

see SENIOR page 11



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Over 300 seniors came to the Senior Community Center on June 27 for the Senior Resource Fair.

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Washington Wildcats win city basketball title. **Page 2**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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Washington Teams Win City Basketball Championship

Two teams from Washington Elementary School won this year's championship of the San Leandro Unified School District Basketball League.

Washington Blue Wildcats Win 3rd Grade Division

In the Third Grade and under division, the Washington Blue Wildcats came from behind to beat the Roosevelt Hornets, 38-36, in an exhilarating victory that showed perseverance, heart and poise for all the players on the team.

The roar of the crowd and cheers from the parents and family members could be heard from blocks away.

Earlier in the day, the Bronze Medal match was won by the Jefferson Jaguars over the Washington White Wildcats. Both teams showed good sportsmanship and great attitude. The children were the biggest winners as they learned teamwork, mentoring,



In the 3rd Grade Division Washington Blue Wildcats: Marisol Hurtado Chipres, Oliver Nguyen, Ozzie Bueno, Julian Gallo, Matias Ledesma, Joaquin Corona, Alex Rose Heystek, Brooklyn Dowling, Maizie Ortiz, Valentino Salazar, Ximena Barrajas, Logan Adams, Asher Valdivia, Erez Weisman, head coach Khoi Nguyen, assistant coach Alka Ram Adams, Danielle Junco-Valdivia.

good sportsmanship and perseverance. They also learned a lot of basketball along the way.

Washington Wins

5th Grade Division

In the Fifth Grade and under division, the Washington Wildcat team capped their undefeated season by



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL BASKETBALL

In the 5th Grade and under division, along with Mayor Juan Gonzalez. the championship team from left to right: Alex DePonte, Ronnie Johnson, Mateo Miranda, Rickie Johnson, Markies Madrigal, Daniel Zavala, Giovannie Espjel, Jerry Taylor (not pictured); head coach Chrissy Johnson assistant coach JR Taylor (not pictured), Ian Johnson(not pictured), Khoi Nguyen.

defeating the Roosevelt Yellow Hornets, 49-37, displaying the hardworking attitude that allowed them to defeat all on-comers throughout the season.

Mayor Juan Gonzalez III attended the game and he thoroughly enjoyed the energy and competitive play exhibited by the kids and how the parent coaches were teaching and

guiding the kids to succeed. The Roosevelt Green Hornets won the Bronze medal.

At the end of the day, the students all got Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals for each of the winning teams for both divisions. The Gold medal teams got the added benefit of cutting down the nets of the venue that hosted the tournament.

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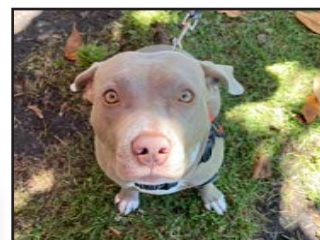
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Adopt-A-Pet



Lucille



Rex

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are a pit bull mix and a terrier mix.

Lucille is a 1-year-old grey and white pit bull mix who is young, sweet, and loves to be around people and other dogs.

Rex is a 1-year-old tan terrier mix who is sweet, and

loves to lick and cuddle with you.

He would do well in a home that can help be confident with normal everyday life. Rex is shy with new people and play with toys.

To adopt or meet Lucille or Rex, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.

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Community Calendar

Life Skills Camp for Youth Ages 14 to 22

Join the library for a Life Skills Camp for youth ages 14 to 22 for workshops on time management, budgeting, applying for jobs, and more on Tuesday evenings from July 9 to July 23 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Registration open now for individual sessions. Door prizes and snacks at every session.

A Free Tech Talk: Digital Library Services.

Come to a free tech talk at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on Thursday, July 11, from 4 to 5 p.m. Learn how to: Read eBooks on the Libby app, access 60+ Libraries with Link+, put your library card on the SLPL mobile app, find museum passes, take free classes, get resume help, and more. Space is limited. You must register for the talk but calling 510-577-3971.

Craft Fair to Benefit Local Charities

Together Women Rise will host an International Craft Fair on Saturday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 4628 Grenadier Place in Castro Valley. A variety of handicrafts and specialty foods will be available. The proceeds benefit local charities providing education opportunities and environmental conservation globally. Email Amy Madsen at amycmadsen@gmail.com for more information.

Monday Movie Matinees

At the Main Library

Come to the family-friendly movie matinees on Mondays at 1 p.m. from June 10 to July 29 in the Lecture Hall of the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Check the website calendar for exact movies. www.sanleandrolibrary.org

Resolve to Lose Weight By Joining TOPS

Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for the support you need to start your weight loss journey. TOPS is a non-profit weight loss support group that meets on Fridays at 9 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria Street in Castro Valley. For more information, call Sandy Montero at 510-299-7312. Join for fellowship and support. What do you have to lose?

Life Skills Camp For Youth Ages 14-22

Join workshops on time management, budgeting, applying for jobs, and more on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. through July 23 at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Registration open now for individual sessions. Door prizes and snacks at every session. sanleandro.libcal.com.

Creekside Community Church Annual Day Camp

Creekside Community Church's Camp O' Fun Jr. is coming up this July. Camp O' Fun Jr. is an annual day camp for 3-5 year olds and features games, crafts, Bible stories, snacks, singing, and more. It will meet from July 8 to July 12 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Creekside Community Church at 951 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro. The cost is \$55 per camper and camperships are available. The registration deadline is June 24. Register at creeksidecommunity.org/camp-o-fun or contact kids@creeksidecommunity.org for more information.

San Leandro Toastmasters Meet Every Thursday

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

American Legion Post 649 Monthly Meeting

American Legion Post 649 in Castro Valley meets on the last Monday of every month at 1800 (6 p.m.) for dinner, followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 20385 Rutledge Road in Castro Valley. For more information, call Jim Smith at 510-305-2280.

Harmony Fusion to Perform *Sundaes & Songs*

Enjoy an afternoon of music and delicious treats when a women's a cappella ensemble Harmony Fusion performs on Saturday, July 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Hill and Valley Women's Club, 1808 B St. in Hayward.

The performance is a benefit for the club. Admission is \$15.

Harmony Fusion is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a chapter of Sweet Adelines International (SAI) and has held its Monday night rehearsals at the Hill and Valley Club for many years. This annual joint benefit event is their opportunity to help the members of the club which has been a part of Hayward for over 100 years.

Also performing for the event are a cappella quartets All Sorts, With a Twist, and double quartet Sisters in a Chord whose members are from Harmony Fusion and other Bay Area Sweet Adelines choruses.

Reservations for table seating can be made by calling Pat Keathley (Hill & Valley Club) at 510-461-1321, or Kenit Golabi (Harmony Fusion) at 925-719-1250.



PHOTO COURTESY HARMONY FUSION

Harmony Fusion, a women's a cappella group, will perform in Hayward for the Hill and Valley Club on July 13.

Harmony Fusion is committed to musical excellence and education, sharing the joy of singing four-part, a cappella harmony in the barbershop style as well as a variety of other vocal genres. Members pride themselves on community involvement and strive for innovative entertainment and diversity in their membership.

Sign Up for Freshman Football at SLHS

The Freshman Football Team is starting again at San Leandro High School. Any incoming freshman is welcome to join.

To join, call Coach Pete Ballew at 510-846-6058, or

go to the "Athletics" tab at slhs.net.

"We're really excited because this is the first time in about five years that we're going to have freshman team," said coach Ballew.

Play Texas Hold'em and Support Local Veterans

Have fun and support your local military at a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament on Saturday, July 13, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Veteran's Memorial Building, 1105 Bancroft Ave., hosted by the Navy League of the United States Lake Merritt Council, U.S. Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officers Association-Golden Gate Chapter, and American Legion Post 117. \$65.00 Entry Fee, \$25.00 Re-buy. Doors

open at 5 p.m. and the tournament begins 6 p.m.

To purchase a table spot, email: ggcwoa@outlook.com. First prize will be \$500. Additional prizes contingent on ticket sales. Food and drink tickets will be sold at door.

Tournament proceeds support local Military, and Coast Guard operations. Even if you don't know how to play poker, Blue Dog Events helps you to have fun.

San Leandro Art Association Offers Free Art Classes for Kids Age 6 to 12

The San Leandro Art Association is offering a free art class to children ages 6 to 12, on Saturday, July 13, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Boulevard in San Leandro.

This is the third in a series of free art classes offered by SLAA to the residents of San Leandro, funded by a grant from the San Leandro Arts, Culture and Library Commission.

In this course students will have fun making paper sculptures using colorful construction paper. All supplies

for the class will be provided. The students will take home their art creations along with limited supplies for future art projects. During the breaks in the class time, beverages and snacks will also be provided for students and their guardians. The class is limited to 16 students, on a first come – first reserved basis.

For more information about this class, other upcoming classes visit: <https://www.sanleandroart.org/freeartclasses>. To register your child for this Paper Sculpture Art Class send email to: sanleandroart.contact@gmail.com

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SUNDAY 11:11 A.M.

We are now livestreaming and meeting in person
at **Unity Church of San Leandro**
20121 Santa Maria Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546



A Classic 4th of July Picnic

Gathering with family and friends for the 4th of July has always been one of summer's greatest pleasures. So roll out your tablecloth, and start off with some simple but tasty appetizers made ahead of time. For main dishes, prepare American classics such as mouthwatering chicken and

light summertime salads that are tasty and easy to transport. And, of course, no picnic would be complete without serving nostalgic apple pie.

SAVORY CHEESE SPREAD

- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 ounces)

- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons chopped green onions
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- Chopped fresh parsley or chopped nuts
- Crackers

Blend cheeses, mustard, onion and garlic in medium bowl with mixer at medium speed. Divide mixture in half; form into 2 (8-inch) logs. Roll logs in parsley or nuts. Wrap and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Slice and serve as a topper or spread on crackers. Makes 1-3/4 cups.

CLASSIC CHEESEBURGERS

- Safflower oil, for grill
- 1-1/2 pounds ground beef chuck (80 percent lean)
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 4 slices sharp Cheddar cheese
- 4 large hamburger buns
- 1 beefsteak tomato, cut into 4 slices
- 1/2 onion, cut into 1/4-inch rings
- 4 teaspoons mayonnaise
- 4 lettuce leaves (green-leaf, Boston, romaine, etc.)

Preheat grill to medium-high; brush grates with oil.

Gently form beef into four 1-inch-thick patties, about 4 inches in diameter. Make an indentation in the top of each patty. Generously season both sides with salt and pepper.

Grill burgers 3 minutes. Flip, top with cheese, and grill 4 minutes for medium-rare. Toast buns face-down on grill until just lightly charred, about 30 seconds. Spread them with mayonnaise.

Place burgers in buns with tomato, onion, and lettuce. Yields 4 burgers.

PICNIC BBQ CHICKEN

- 1/2 cup Grey Poupon yellow mustard
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 pound fresh boneless chicken breasts

Mix mustard, brown sugar, oil and vinegar. Divide mixture in half.

Rinse chicken; pat dry. Place chicken breasts on the grill, and baste with half of the mustard

glaze. Cook until internal juices run clear and meat thermometer in thickest part of the chicken reads 170°F. Serve with remaining glaze. Makes 4 servings. Refrigerate leftovers immediately.

GOLDEN SLAW

- 2/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup mustard
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 small green or red cabbage, shredded (about 6 cups)
- 2 medium carrots, shredded (about 1 cup)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Blend mayonnaise, mustard and vinegar in large bowl. Add cabbage, carrots and parsley; toss to coat well. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes to blend flavors. Serves 8.

GRILLED CORN ON THE COB

Peel husks back, but do not remove. Using your fingers, remove silk from corn and pull husks back up around corn. In a large pan, cover corn (husks on) with cold water. Soak for at least 1 hour. Drain, shaking corn to remove excess water. Cover corn as much as possible with husks. If necessary, tie the tips of the husks together with wet kitchen string.

Grill corn (with husks) on an uncovered grill directly over medium-hot coals about 25 minutes or until tender, turning several times. Carefully remove the husks and strings.

Meanwhile, melt some margarine or butter with a little lemon juice, and thyme. Brush mixture over the corn before serving.

EASY BAKED BEANS

- 6 ounces smoked bacon, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 2 onions, peeled, chopped
- 3 (28-ounce) cans Boston-style baked beans
- 1/2 cup catsup
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard

Over medium-high heat, stir fry bacon until crisp, 6 to 8 minutes, and transfer to paper towels to drain. Discard all but 1-1/2 tablespoons fat in pan.

Add onions to pan and stir often until they begin to brown and stick to bottom of pan, 7 to 9 minutes. Add beans and their liquid, catsup, brown sugar, dry mustard, and cooked bacon; mix well. Pour into a shallow 3-quart casserole.

Bake, uncovered, in a 350°F oven until beans are bubbling in the center, 30 to 40 minutes. Makes 10 servings.

DEVILED EGGS

- 6 hard-cooked eggs
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Garnish: paprika

Use large eggs that are at least a week old (fresh eggs are difficult to peel). Place eggs in a pan large enough to hold them in a single layer and add cold water to cover them by an inch. Bring the water to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 12 to 15 minutes. Cold eggs take slightly longer.

Plunge the eggs into iced water and cool until just warm. Tap the eggs all over against a hard surface and remove shells and inner membrane, beginning with the large end, by rolling the egg between the palms of your hands.

After peeling, slice the eggs in half lengthwise with a sharp knife that has been dipped in water and carefully remove the yolks, leaving the whites intact.

Lightly mash the yolks with the mayonnaise that has been combined with the sugar, mustard, vinegar and salt and pepper. Heap the mixture into the whites with a spoon and refrigerate. Garnish with paprika just before serving. Yields 6 servings.

Deviled eggs may be prepared the night before, but they should be removed from the refrigerator a half hour before serving.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

Willa Clydene Cullum aka Willa C. Cullum
Case Number:
24PR079905

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Willa Clydene Cullum, aka Willa C. Cullum**

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **Diane Correia McCoy** in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that **Diane Correia McCoy** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on July 31, 2024, 9:45 a.m., Dept. 202, at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner: Ronald W. Hillberg
Ronald W. Hillberg - Attorney
630 Crane Avenue, Suite C, Turlock, CA 95380-4549

LEGAL 1512-SLT RP21106752 06/20/24, 06/27/24, 07/04/24

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Your Arian leadership qualities can help bring order out of confusion, whether it's on the job or at home. But be careful to guide, not goad, others into following you.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Applying a more personal view to a job-linked issue could help provide better insight into persistent problems. Use your keen Taurean logic to cut through the double talk.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Taking some time off could be the best way to get through a seemingly endless round of demands. You'll return refreshed and ready to tackle things from a new perspective.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Restoring a sagging professional relationship takes a lot of effort. By all means, state your position. But also make sure that you pay close attention to the other person's point of view.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): A hot prospect intrigues the Big Cat, who is always on the prowl for a promising investment. But be careful that this "promise" has a chance of being kept. Check it out more carefully.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): A friend could use some of your compassion and concern. If they don't ask for help, be sure that you step up and make the first move. Also, check out a new career possibility.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): You might have difficulty getting your opinions heard because of all the noise being made by the other side. But hang in there. Others should line up with you once they learn the facts.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Offering to help a colleague is commendable. But before you commit your time and effort, check to see if this person's situation is all that they have led you to believe it is.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): You should soon be seeing positive results from your recent efforts on behalf of a family member. On another matter, check that you have all the facts regarding a job assignment.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Your aspects favor closer family relationships this week. Take time for visits, whether in person, by phone, by mail or in cyberspace. Let them know how important they are to you.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): A missed opportunity isn't always a negative. Maybe your instincts are telling you not to rush into something you "thought" was worthwhile. Make time for family this weekend.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Your sense of humor helps you get through a tricky situation. But some stick-in-the-muds might not be so willing to make the changes that you and others agree are necessary.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

L	I	R	E		P	H	D	S		N	E	O
U	R	A	L		A	M	O	I		A	L	B
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ALAMEDA COUNTY GRAND JURY PHOTO

The Alameda County Grand Jury found the San Leandro City Jail to be clean and well maintained.

Jail: Frozen food, milk and cookies

continued from front page

some from local Highway Patrol operations. The grand jury found that the booking process takes from 40 to 90 minutes, and that most people in the jail are repeat offenders.

The Grand Jury's inspection was conducted in October of 2023.

"Detainees are able to make a phone call within about 30 minutes from when they first enter," the Grand Jury said. And they're able to post bail from the facility. They're held an average of 4 hours and then transferred to the county's Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

The San Leandro Jail has a total of 12 cells: eight for men and four for women. Each cell can hold two people, for a maximum of 24. Although there is an average of about one person per day in the city jail.

People in jail are given clothing as needed – shirts, pants and socks, and two clean blankets. The jail has cameras in the hallways but not in the cells.

Holding people for a few hours reduces the amount of time a police officer sits in traffic, the Grand Jury found. For example, if someone is arrested at 3 p.m., they would be taken to the San Leandro Jail, booked, provided with

a meal, and then at 9 p.m. or later taken to Santa Rita Jail when there is much less traffic.

The report pointed out that the jail is not equipped to handle violent detainees or those who need medical attention. It also said there was some kind of "issue" with the enamel flooring in the sobering cell that precludes its use. So detainees under the influence are taken directly to Santa Rita Jail.

If medical issues come up, the jail staff is trained in basic first aid, and a fire station just a few blocks away can be summoned for anything more serious.

At the time of the Grand Jury's inspection it found that the police department was looking at proposals for a mental health response program, the report said.

The food at the San Leandro City Jail is frozen meals stocked by a vendor and "appeared to be of good quality," the report said. The jail also has snacks such as juice, cookies, milk and cereal.

The jail does not receive many juvenile detainees, who are being temporarily held while waiting to be picked up by their parents or guardians. They are held in a different area away from the adult detainees, the report said. Also,

the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center is not far away, so juveniles can be taken there directly.

Other Jails

The Grand Jury also inspected the jails in Pleasanton, which it found to be clean and well-managed, and the Hayward Superior Court holding cells where people are only held for a few hours.

The Hayward court holding cells were generally clean and neat, but there were four maintenance issues that stood out, the report said.

The paint was in poor condition, doors were missing from toilet stalls, the elevator had been out of operation for several months, the report said. The grand jury learned that the court sessions involving detainees are only held on the first floor, eliminating the need for the elevator at this time.

The areas where inmates can confer with their attorneys has glass partitions between the attorneys and inmates that are covered with scratches graffiti markings, and the phones are badly scarred, the Grand Jury report said.

The Grand Jury usually requires a response from an agency when it finds serious

see JAIL, page 11

New Law: Preserving Benefits for A Special Needs Child in Divorce

Q: *Our daughter is going through a divorce. She has a 24 year old son (our Grandson) who has a disability and gets both SSI and Medi-Cal. She plans to seek child support from the father. We worry that the child support will reduce our Grandson's SSI and possibly eliminate his Medi-Cal. Is there a way around this?*

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

A: Yes, indeed! Very few attorneys or judges are familiar with the work-around for this concern, which involves the use of a Special Needs Trusts ("SNT"). As a result, the sad fact is that many children with a disability who receive SSI and Medi-Cal see their benefits reduced or eliminated when their parents divorce. A bit of background:

To qualify for Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"), your Grandson with a disability must meet two financial conditions: He must (a) have less than \$2,000 in non-exempt resources in his own name (e.g., savings), and (b) his monthly income must be less than the SSI benefit rate, currently \$1,182.94 per month if living independently or \$873.87 if living in his mother's home (in 2024). An award of SSI also entitles him to Medi-Cal without a co-pay ("share of cost").

But it gets more complicated in the divorce process.

For an adult child, if he is "incapacitated from earning a living and without sufficient means", then his parents' duty to support him continues into adulthood under California law. However, any court-ordered Child Support ("CS") that he receives would—unless special arrangements are made as described below -- be treated as "unearned income" to him and offset his SSI dollar-for-dollar, reducing or eliminating it entirely.

The question, then, is whether there is a way to preserve

both his right to SSI and his right to Child Support?

Answer: YES! Enter the Special Needs

Trust ("SNT"). With professional guidance, your daughter could create a SNT for her adult son and, through her attorney, ask the court to "irrevocably assign" the payment of CS to the SNT. If structured properly, under SSI rules there would then be no offset to his SSI! Your Grandson would then receive (1) Full Child Support, (2) SSI without offset, and (3) Medi-Cal without a Share of Cost. While this strategy has been available for some time, many judges and attorneys are unfamiliar with it and, until now, some judges are of the view that they cannot order Child Support payable to any kind of trust.

Good news! Just this month, Governor Newsom signed legislation clarifying the matter. The new law (AB 2397), was introduced by Assembly Member Maienschein and amends Family Code § 3910. In relevant part, it provides simply as follows:

"The court may order that a support payment be paid to a special needs trust"

The law becomes effective on January 1, 2025, and will give the courts explicit authority to assign child support for children with disabilities to a SNT so that they do not risk losing their SSI benefits.

The SNT would be managed



by a Trustee, which could be your daughter, who would then handle the funds in a manner compliant with the SSI and Medi-Cal rules. This typically would mean that, as Trustee, she would not disburse funds directly to your Grandson, himself, but instead would use them to pay third party providers directly for goods and services provided to him, such as a tutor, computer, clothing, etc.

The use of an SNT may also be used to shelter support for a minor child who receives SSI (although the offset calculations are a bit different), as well as to shelter Spousal Support for a spouse going through divorce.

To make this option work, it is essential that your daughter engage an Elder Law or Special Needs attorney familiar with the use of the SNT in the divorce context. The SNT attorney would then work with her divorce attorney to create the proper SNT, and might even help educate the judge and opposing counsel to the benefits of this technique. In this regard, our firm has developed a special interest in these cases, and the results have been very rewarding and usually recognized as a "win-win" by all parties before the court.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney who has been helping East Bay families for over 25 years with Trusts, Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Medi-Cal Planning, and related matters. To contact his office, send an email to Gene@LawyerForSeniors.com or call (510) 247-2555.

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By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Remember Those Who Have Made Our Freedom Possible

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

September 14th, 1814, saw an American lawyer, Francis Scott Key, aboard

a British warship securing the release of William Beanes, a local physician. Key observed British attempts to destroy Fort McHenry in Baltimore's harbor. To avoid the fort's

substantial batteries, the ships remained a distance out and, despite multiple British warships firing between 1,500-1,800 bomb shells and 700 rockets, the fort stood its ground.

During the battle, a large garrison Stars and Stripes (15 stars and 15 stripes) measuring 30 by 42 feet was raised in defiance of the British bombardment. Looking at this soaring symbol of America's freedom, Francis Scott Key penned the poem that became our National Anthem in 1931.

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?

And the Rockets' red glare, the Bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our Flag

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Vegetables

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Add Color, Shade

The first week in July is a good time to add color and shade to the yard. Look for bargains in hibiscus, gardenias, bougainvilleas, white and yellow marguerites, and patio trees in 5-gallon containers. Brighten up the midsummer months with flowering vines, such as trumpet vines in red, orange or lavender, star jasmine and Hall's honeysuckle.

Roses

Lightly prune, feed and water roses on a weekly or biweekly basis to encourage them to flower continuously into late fall. Trim faded blooms down to the first 5-part leaf or further to gently shape the plant. New blooms should appear in about three weeks.

Lawns

Mow grass often enough to maintain a 2-inch height. Closer cutting in hot weather weakens the turf. Use the grass clippings as mulch around plants, but mix them with leaves or shredded newspapers to keep them from matting.

was still there; O! say does that star-spangled Banner yet wave, O'er the Land of the free and the home of the brave?

This July 4th we will

celebrate our 248th year of freedom. While the national holiday is celebrated with fireworks and barbecues, we must remember the valiant soldiers who fought through

harrowing situations to best the greatest military might on the planet.

We must also remember that our freedoms continue because of the dedication of our American armed forces daily striving to preserve what so many take for granted. I am proud two of my children served in the armed forces; a daughter in the navy and a son in the army. While celebrating the 4th a few years ago, our daughter called from an aircraft carrier on the other side of the world. When asked if they were setting off fireworks, she responded, "Dad - please. We're firing rockets!"

It is also important to remember that many veterans face extreme difficulty in securing a piece of the American dream for which they faithfully served. Homeownership, especially in regions such as the Bay Area, can be almost impossible for those who gave up prime years of their lives serving on our behalf.

Remember, this 4th, of those who have served. Together, let us strive to secure solutions for veteran home ownership so that the American dream is available to all.

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

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The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage continues to trend down, hitting the lowest level in almost three months. By historical standards, the economy is in good shape, and we expect rates to continue to come down over the summer months, bringing additional homebuyers back into the market.



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Check Thickness of Bark Layer; Bearded Iris Never Goes Dormant

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q For weed control, I've laid a layer of decorative bark over landscape fabric. After four days, I was very surprised to find weeds growing right through the material. How do I get rid of the weeds? What should I do to prevent this from happening again?

A To be effective for weed control, the bark or any other type of mulch should be at least two to three inches thick, depending on the particle size. The larger the material, the thicker the layer.

The combination of the fabric and the mulch prevents light from reaching the soil. Without a light source, the dormant weed seeds can't germinate.



Mulch material should be at least two to three inches deep. The larger the material, the thicker the layer.

In the past, black plastic was used; however, it did not allow soil to breathe. Moisture was trapped year-round and plants suffered from root rot from the excessive moisture.

In your situation, I suspect that the bark layer wasn't thick enough; hence, the weeds were

able to germinate.

To correct the current situation, I'd spray the unwanted vegetation with Round Up or any similar herbicide to kill the existing unwanted vegetation. These herbicides can be sprayed under desirable plants as long as the solution is kept

off the foliage.

Once the weeds are dead, I'd then thicken the mulch layer with additional bark. This should take care of the weeds for a couple of growing seasons, but it's unrealistic to think the problem is solved forever.

The landscape fabric prevents only those weed seeds from germinating that it covers. It isn't effective controlling any seeds above the barrier.

Annual grasses and other plants produce seeds in the late spring, when they turn brown, and then the seeds are blown by the wind into new areas.

Also, keep in mind that bulk bark or any other mulch is stored in open bins and are more likely to have some weed seeds than mulch found in bags.

Over time, the bark and other organic mulches break down and the particles become smaller and smaller. It then becomes a perfect medium for new seeds to sprout and grow.

Monterey Weed Impede is a pre-emergent herbicide that sets up a chemical barrier that kills the weed seeds and not the desirable plants above the barrier before they germinate. However, once the seeds germinate, it's too late to apply.

To keep the area weed free, be sure to follow the instructions on the label and don't cultivate the area; otherwise, the herbicide will have to be reapplied to reestablish the barrier.

Q What should I do to my bearded irises that have bloomed? Should I wait for the leaves to turn brown?

Also, is it necessary to dig them up and replant the tubers each year?

A Bearded iris is an ever-green tuber that doesn't go dormant. The leaves should not turn brown unless there is a problem.

After flowering, the spent flowers are cut off as close to the ground as possible. The plants are not dug up unless you're dividing the clumps, which is in August and September.

Buzz Bertolero is Executive Vice President of Navlet's Garden Centers and a California Certified Nursery Professional. Send questions by email to dirtgarden@aol.com or to 360 Civic Drive, Ste. "D," Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, and on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Buzz-Bertolero](https://www.facebook.com/Buzz-Bertolero).



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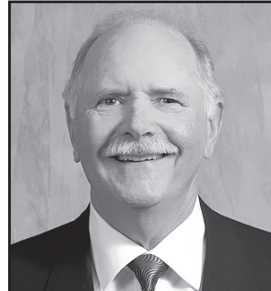
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TREE SERVICE

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 24, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607425

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

The name of the business(es): Peacefull Hands, located at 838 Hancock Street #33, Hayward, CA 94544 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): John Joseph Jr., located at 838 Hancock Street #33, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/John Joseph Jr

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 2, 2029
JUL 03, 10, 17, 24, 2024
1527 - SLT

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 7, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 606166

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

The name of the business(es): Aurea Learning L.L.C., located at 1311 Park Street #1239, Alameda, CA 94501 / 1064 Fredrick Road San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aurea Learning L.L.C., located at 1064 Fredrick Road, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Limitrd liability Company.

This business commenced N/A /s/Paulina Alicia Gonzalez Rojas

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 6, 2029
JUN 20, 27, JUL 04, 11, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 3, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 606917

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

The name of the business(es): 9JAGRILLS, located at 258 Haas Ave, San Leandro CA 94577-3720 / 1319 Washington Ave Unit 1231, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Load Support Enterprise LLC., located at 1319 Washington Ave Unit 1231, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Limitrd liability Company. This business commenced N/A /s/Omotoyosi Quadri

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 2, 2029
JUN 20, 27, JUL 04, 11, 2024
1512 - SLT

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CastroValleyForum.com

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 7, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607055

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

The name of the business(es): The Varos Group, located at 1031 MacArthur Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94577 / 6450 Moraga Ave Oakland, CA 94611 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Red Oak Realty, located at 7502 Fairmount Ave, El Cerrito, CA 94530. This business is conducted by a Corporation.

This business commenced N/A /s/Vanessa Bergmark

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 6, 2029
JUN 27, JUL 04, 11, 18, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 13, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607279

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

The name of the business(es): Boot Collector, located at 1271 Washington Avenue Apt 797, San Leandro, CA 94577 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tiffany Whitfill, located at 1271 Washington Avenue Apt 797, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by An Individual.

This business commenced N/A /s/Tiffany Whitfill

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 12, 2029
JUN 20, 27, JUL 04, 11, 2024
1511 - SLT

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ACROSS

DOWN

1 Old Italian money

1 Schleps

5 Profs' degrees

2 Pakistan neighbor

9 "The Matrix" role

3 "Bohemian Rhapsody" star Malek

12 Caspian Sea feeder

4 Football team

13 Mine, in Montreal

5 Sandbox toy

14 Cleric's garment

6 "Let me think ..."

15 When sports events start

7 Female hare

17 Avril follower

8 Twine fiber

18 Whine

9 Anonymous

19 Representative

10 Flair

21 Chicago transport

11 Life story?

22 Sanctioned by Islamic law

16 Website contact no.

24 Pottery oven

20 Talk on and on

27 Nourished

22 Artist Matisse

28 Hotel furniture

23 Eden evictee

31 JFK info

24 Beer barrel

32 Genetic letters

25 Mineral suffix

33 "Mayday!"

26 Politico with limited power

34 Jewels

27 Lady of the haus

36 Weaponize

29 Speck

37 D-Day carriers

30 Sound from a hot wok

38 Boredom

35 NBC show since 1975

40 Little -- Peep

37 Yogurt variety

41 Move laterally

39 Violin parts

43 Least possible

40 "Don't -- stranger!"

47 Actor Ferrigno

41 "Citizen Kane" prop

48 Followed

42 Greek vowel

51 Catchall abbr.

43 Accomplishment

52 Actress Sedgwick

44 French 101 verb

53 Bailiwick

45 Crystal gazer

54 Cowboys quarterback

46 Streetcar

55 Peevish fit

49 Writer Rland

56 School session

50 Hosp. scan

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

Keep your out-of-town friends and family informed with a subscription to the Times!



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LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 6, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607010

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

The name of the business(es): Eshthan Studios, LLC., located at 1313 Advent Ave., San Leandro, CA 94579 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eshthan Studios, LLC., located at 1313 Advent Ave., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced N/A /s/Shawn Dulaney

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 5, 2029
JUN 20, 27, JUL 04, 11, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 5, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 606992

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

The name of the business(es): Peek-A- Buddy Lids, located at 19951 Forest Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jacob Schultz, located at 19951 Forest Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by An Individual.

This business commenced N/A /s/Jacob Schultz

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires May 4, 2029
JUN 12, 19, 26, JUL 03, 2024
1510 - CVF

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NUMBER: 558882

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

The Mighty Pen,
at 2128 Longview Drive
San Leandro, CA 94577.

Full name of registrant is:
Tanya Daly,
at 2128 Longview Drive
San Leandro, CA 94577.

The Fictitious Business Name Statement **The Mighty Pen,** was filed on 05/13/2004 in the county of Alameda. Original File Number 558882. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.

(A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime). This statement was filed with the County clerk of Alameda County on: top right stamp date. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14400, et seq., B&P Code.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 04/23/2024
JUN 13, 20, 27, JUL 04, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED June 24, 2024
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 607437

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

The name of the business(es): Alameda Auto Lab, located at 631 Buena Vista Ave., Alameda, CA 94501 Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alameda Auto Lab, located at 631 Buena Vista Ave., Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. This business commenced 00/00/2021 /s/Robert Ramos

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires June 23, 2029
JUN 27, JUL 04, 11, 18, 2024
1525 - SLT

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Public Money for Bowen Sets a Precedent

Editor,
The fact that all City Council members voted to give an additional \$18,000 to Councilmember Bowen after she spent her allotted budget amount for Education/Leadership Conference Travel by May 2024 is not surprising to me. This vote sets a precedent for future Council members in similar situations.

Why was Ms. Bowen allowed to vote this issue? Isn't it a conflict of interest? Why didn't other City Council members offer unspent monies in their budgets to supplement her training so that funds would not be drawn from City budget resources?

Perhaps Ms. Bowen's attendance at this expensive program will give her ideas to stop the trash dumping that occurs every summer along Foothill Boulevard to MacArthur Boulevard. I asked Ms. Bowen, my councilmember, if she would support cameras along this area so fines (CA Penal Code 374.3) from polluters could be collected to support storm water drainage repairs and infrastructure. It is a well-known fact that trash and pollutants flow through streets into rivers and creeks and out to our oceans.

Ms. Bowen did not answer the camera question in my email to her and replied, "We are looking into programs to support community clean ups and hope to launch a volunteer program soon."

Why not stop pollution at its source through fine deterrents? A clean and safe San Leandro benefits all community members equally and supports our oceans' health.

Jeannette Frechou
San Leandro

Keep to the Facts on PG&E

Editor,
Mr. Rubin does raise some very valid points in his letter about the letter from PG&E's VP Jake Zigelman. Rates are high, customer satisfaction is not. There is plenty of reason to distrust PG&E. However, please keep to facts:

PG&E did not declare bankruptcy after the Oakland Hills fire which happened in October, 1991. (This fire was not started by PG&E equipment/lines.) PG&E

did declare bankruptcy in 2001 in response to the deregulation debacle with price gouging engineered by ENRON which significantly impacted many utilities including PG&E.

A drive up Broadway Terrace and through the Oakland Hills affected by the 1991 fire disaster will show those areas affected have been undergrounded. This work was completed around 1994 although all homes capable of receiving power immediately after the fire were provided with electric service by November 1, 1991 – less than 14 days after the fire rekindled by Diablo winds.

Bash away where bashing is warranted, but where it is not warranted – that's just piling on!

Moira Fry
San Leandro

Stormwater Fees Are Reasonable

Editor,
Investing in city infrastructure such as critical underground pipes and pump stations is a sound policy and practice. I support the proposed amendment to the stormwater fee schedule that is currently on the ballot with future increases capped at 3%. We have an aging system that needs repair/replacement from time to time, and that time has come.

Continually reinvesting in city streets and infrastructure improves our quality of life as residents and sends a message to others that we care about our city and are invested in its success. Additionally, businesses considering San Leandro as a future location will also take note of the pride taken in repairing and maintaining what we have to offer. The existing fee schedule needs updating and the proposed amendment is reasonable and fair.

Tim Ballas
San Leandro

Support Stormwater Fee

Editor,
I am writing in support of the City of San Leandro's Proposed 2024 Stormwater fee Amendment. The Stormwater fee has not been increased since 1993 – that is 31 years ago.

The fee currently only generates \$1.1million annually. This amount is far short of the estimated \$4.8 million annual cost to manage the

stormwater system. If we want to repair and maintain critical pipes and pump stations, address recurring flooding and capacity issues, remove trash and pollutants from rain runoff using sustainable methods, and plan for future climate adaptation, we need to approve this fee.

The fee for a single-family home on a medium-sized parcel between 3,200 and 7,200 sq. ft. (the most common size of residential parcel), would increase from \$26.33 to about \$50 per year. To help keep our neighborhoods from flooding and the city from polluting the Bay, this seems a fair price to pay. Official ballots are due by July 8th, 2024. Please support this critical infrastructure plan and send in your ballot now.

Anne Cawood
San Leandro

Congratulations on Contract

Editor,
It's reassuring to read ("McLaughlin's Contract Extended into 2028," June 27, 2024) that Dr. Mike McLaughlin, superintendent of San Leandro Unified School District, is paid a little over \$474,000 per year as well as benefits of \$49,000, making his salary higher than the President of the United States.

Congratulations, Dr. McLaughlin on having your contract extended into 2028.

Will you be able to help fund a replacement for Bessie the Cow, which was stolen from the only Thrift Shop in San Leandro operated in the spirit of giving care to children who are terminally ill, and their families?

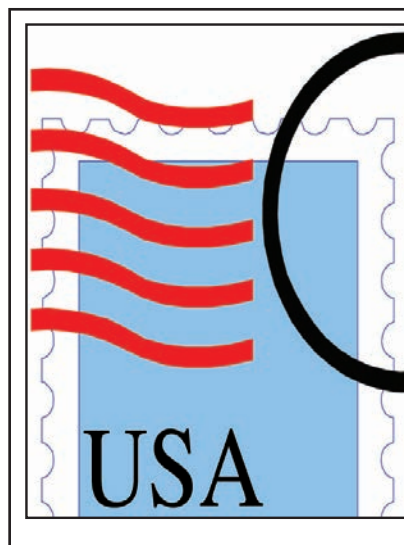
George Z. Banks
San Leandro

Campaign Sign Is Too Big

Editor,
Oops, he did it again. Just weeks after the Azevedo camp cried foul claiming campaign finance violations by his opponent, Azevedo has his own violation to contend with.

In numerous social media posts, an Azevedo supporter claimed that Ed Hernandez violated campaign finance regulations when one of his supporters was spotted wearing a campaign button during the Cherry Festival Parade. But in a plot twist, an ungodly Azevedo campaign sign showed up plastered to the side of a large van on the north end of the city, clearly exceeding the city's political sign regulation. According to the city's website, a political sign cannot exceed 16 square feet. This sign is closer to 48 square feet. This should not come as a surprise to residents as previous campaigns and his current term in office have been marred by numerous city charter violations.

Lawrence Andrews
San Leandro



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

More Campaign Donations Than State

Editor,
Last week San Leandro City Council member Bryan Azevedo sought "to set the record straight" about allegations arising out of the FBI raids last month on the residences of Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao and the politically influential Oakland-based Duong family, and the corporate offices of their trash recycling company California Waste Solutions. While I understand innocent until proven guilty, I write this response to inform the citizens of San Leandro about the blatant and deceptive letter he wrote.

Council member Bryan Azevedo stated he received "a \$2,000 campaign contribution from Andy Duong in support of my campaign for Mayor in 2022." That was only the donation personally made by Andy Duong. Azevedo omitted that he received an additional \$3,000 from "Duong Family Investments."

In total, Duong family members donated \$5,000, not \$2,000, to Azevedo's campaign. The Duong family was the largest donor to Azevedo in his run for mayor, donating over 10% of the funds Azevedo received by the election date. The Duong family did not contribute to any other San Leandro mayoral or City Council candidate in 2022.

Why would the Duong family donate so much money to Azevedo when it had no contract with the City of San Leandro? The answer is obvious: they thought the donations would serve their economic interests. The immediate follow up arises: What did Azevedo say to convince the Duong family that donating to his campaign would be in their best interest?

Azevedo would like us to believe the Duong family writes checks to politicians across Alameda County out of the goodness of their own hearts. Given that Azevedo can't speak straight on a basic fact of how much money he received from the Duong family, I put no trust in Azevedo's claim that he made no assurances to the Duong family concerning helping them secure a trash and recycling contract with the City of San Leandro.

Lee Thomas
San Leandro

Lee Thomas is a former San Leandro City Council member

Mexican Charreadas, the Law And Animal Welfare

Editor,
California boasts the nation's most comprehensive rodeo law, Penal Code 596.7, the result of 1999 legislation carried by Senator Don Perata (D-Oakland), and sponsored by Oakland-based Action for Animals.

The law was amended in 2007 to include the Mexican charreadas common throughout California (AB 1614, by Assemblymember Audra Strickland, R-Thousand Oaks).

Current law requires either an on-site or on-call veterinarian at every rodeo and/or charreada, and bans the use of electric prods in the holding chutes. The law further requires that animal injury reports be submitted to the State Veterinary Medical Board. These reports are Public Record, EMAIL: enforcement.vmb@dca.ca.gov. The law needs amending to require on-site veterinarians at all these events. The PRCA, racetracks, horse shows and endurance rides all require on-site veterinarians--so should all rodeos and charreadas.

Incredibly, no charreada injury reports have been submitted to the Vet Board since 2007. Three of the charreada's nine scored events involve roping the legs of running horses. In the "steer tailing" event tails are routinely stripped to the bone ("degloved"), broken, even torn off.

It appears that the charro community is unaware of state law. Please spread the word to help remedy this unacceptable situation.

Eric Mills
Oakland

No Strings Attached

Editor,
A wink and a nod, a smile and a handshake. If someone gives you money, it should be your grandmother. She doesn't want anything.

Larry Arnold
San Leandro

Senior: Fair displays information and services available to seniors

continued from front page

once much younger, the theme for the event was Hippie Daze, and there were reminders of the '60s at booths.

People could also get their pictures taken at a photo booth, and attend sample senior fitness classes that are offered by the City of San Leandro.

Numerous health care organizations were at the fair, ranging from bigger ones like Kaiser Senior Advantage and Alameda Health Systems to those striving to keep seniors in their homes, like the Center for Elders Independence and Alice Home Care.

Some seniors were quite familiar with Spectrum Community Services for their seniors lunch program, but found out at the fair that the group also provides other help for seniors, notably in weatherizing homes and helping with utility bills.

Families needing help caring for elders at home, residential care facilities or hospice

care were able to consult with groups offering those service. The needs of immigrant elders could be discussed with the Korean Community Center of the East Bay and the Vietnamese Community Center of the East Bay, both of which serve other nationalities as well.

People entering the event got greeted first by city Senior Services staff, including Walker, and then by members of the city's Senior Commission at the next table. Both offered information on services available to seniors from the city, county and elsewhere in the community.

Senior Commission Working to Make San Leandro Age Friendly

The Senior Commission table also had a copy of the draft proposal for making San Leandro a more Age-Friendly Community, based on recently conducted surveys, which is also available on the city's website at www.sanleandro.org/1293/Age-Friendly-Action-Plan.



There is an information session on available services for seniors held every month, Walker said.

Senior Services also has its own YouTube video channel, at www.sanleandro.org/cep.

You can get more information on city and local senior services by calling Senior Services at 510-577-6053.

Top, Seniors getting information, primarily for former federal employees, at the Hallway Health Care table at the June 27 Senior Resource Fair.
At left, A sample fitness class at the Senior Community Center.
At right, City Senior Commission chair Janice Woycheshin recalling the hippie days at the commission's booth.



Jail: Alameda County Grand Jury report available online

continued from page 5

faults. But with all three jails inspected, the Grand Jury said no response was required.

The 2024-2024 Alameda County Grand Jury is made up of 18 members from cities throughout the county, with one member from San Leandro, Susan Green.

In addition to the jails, the this year's Grand Jury looked into: Oakland Police Department's Missed Opportunity with Technology; Hasty Council Decision on Billboards Cost Oakland Millions; Alameda County's Staffing Vacancy Rate Concern; Great

Expectations for the Alameda County Probation Department; Hurry Up and Wait – Ambulance Service Delayed by Long Turn-Around Times

at Emergency Rooms.

The Grand Jury's 2023-2024 report can be found online at: <https://grandjury.acgov.org/reports/>



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FD# 1327

Carolyn (Carol) Diaz

1929 ~ 2024

Carolyn (Carol) Diaz passed away April 8, 2024 in San Leandro at the age of 94. She was born and raised in West Oakland and graduated from Prescott School in Oakland and Washington Union High in Fremont.

Carolyn was preceded in death by siblings Frank K. Diaz, Salvador A. Diaz, John Diaz Jr., Maria Diaz Bis-kind and survived by sister Adele Diaz of San Leandro, niece Terri Castillo of Fremont, and nephew Bob (Joyce) Diaz of Pleasanton. Grateful to Dr. Jacqueline Chin-Yin Kiang, M.D. and Kaiser Hospice.

Carolyn was a caregiver to her father, siblings and many others all her life but found time to volunteer at Oakland Kaiser Hospice (HIV), Oakland A's (30 years) and involved in early politics.

She enjoyed reading, classical music, was a lifelong S.F. Opera ticket holder, attended adult evening classes in Alameda, Oakland and El Cerrito. But most of all, she was a strong advocate for humane treatment of all animals, with a special fondness for cats, both young and old.

She will be dearly missed.



Didn't Get Stormwater Fee Ballot? Here's What to Do

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

A resident in the Estudillo Estates neighborhood called the newspaper to say she had not received a ballot for the stormwater fee increase, and said some of her neighbors hadn't either.

City Manager Eric Engelbart addressed the question in a reply to the newspaper. He said all property owners in San Leandro were distributed stormwater fee ballots via the US Postal Service, to the address that is on file with the Alameda County Tax Collector's office.

If someone didn't receive a ballot, Engelbart said there could be several reasons why, including:

- Renters who don't own the property were not mailed ballots
- Residents for whom the

ownership is another family members' name

• Address information on file with the Tax Collectors office that is not current.

If a property owner did not receive a ballot and

believes they should have, they can contact the City Managers's office and request a ballot by calling 510-460-5828. Ballots must be received at City Hall by 5 p.m. on July 8.

Baby Storytime at the Manor Branch Library

Baby Storytime offers a wonderful opportunity for parents and caregivers to engage and form bonds with their infants every Thursday at 9:30 am at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Boulevard in San Leandro.

Within a social setting alongside other babies, infants partake in enriching activities such as singing, fostering pre-language skills, and playful interactions with

age-appropriate toys.

Additionally, adults benefit from the supportive environment, providing a chance to connect with other parents. This storytime is tailored for pre-walking babies, ensuring an ideal developmental space for this specific age group.

Come experience lots of songs and movement. For parents that have a baby and a toddler, please attend the toddler storytime.



ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PHOTO

Alameda County Public Works installed this bike lane on Foothill Boulevard.

Bicycle: Alameda County plans a 400-mile network of walkways and bikeways and greenways

continued from front page

Alameda County Community Development Agency spokesperson Ali Abbors said the CCAP and Safety Elements have had extensive public input, including hosting two open workshops and four Climate Action Team Meetings. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to get the final report later this summer.

UCBPAC Member Bruce Dughi said he was flustered that the report was vague on the community's next steps and recommended some action items.

"We had a discussion on how to get decision-makers to follow the Climate Action Plan since the last version was soundly ignored," Dughi said. "Ali suggested more public outreach with frequent progress reviews. I suggested taking action and repairing washed-out roads due to heavy rains, which totaled \$11 million of extra expense for the 2017 storms alone, including A Street, Redwood Road, Tesla, Palomares Road, and the Vallecitos Bridge."

In a letter to the Board of Supervisors, Roy Taylor said the county must increase and improve access to walking and bicycling throughout the unincorporated parts of the county, including incentives to promote bike and scooter sharing.

"Rather than dismiss the bike lanes, let's try them since Alameda County Planning

staff have identified the bicycle and pedestrian network as the highest priority Climate Action for greenhouse gas reduction and resiliency," Taylor said. "I see middle-aged people on scooters and e-bikes cruising up and down Santa Maria. Bike lanes are especially important in Castro Valley since we have a BART station, which massively extends the range of a cyclist."

Alameda County's connected bike and pedestrian plan is a projected 400-mile network of walkways and bikeways that overlaps with

existing streets like East 14th, Hesperian Boulevard, and San Leandro Boulevard. It also includes well-traveled paths such as Castro Valley Boulevard and Redwood Road in Castro Valley.

The network includes the existing Bay Trail along the shoreline and the proposed East Bay Greenway, a plan to convert 10.6 miles of Union Pacific Railroad tracks near BART lines into a walkable and bikeable path between Oakland and Hayward.

The Next UCBPAC Meeting is Thursday, September 26.

Alameda County Library Invites Readers To a Summer Adventure

The Alameda County Library invites people of all ages and abilities to join its 2024 Summer Adventure: Engaging the Senses, now through Aug. 1.

Participants will go on an adventure of the senses—from the physical to our unique sense of humor, pride, and curiosity.

The Adventure Guide and activity sheets will guide our senses as we connect with ourselves, others, and the world around us.

Everyone will complete engaging activities, reading,

and more to receive a book gift and prize drawing entries.

No signups are required. Pick up an Adventure Guide at any AC Library location, Mobile Library stop, or online (aclibrary.org) anytime through August 1.

The San Lorenzo Library is located at 395 Paseo Grande.

"Engaging our senses not only cultivates curiosity, creativity, and joy but allows us to be fully present in creating memorable and meaningful experiences," said Acting County Librarian Deb Sica.

13TH ANNUAL "OUR READERS REMEMBER" SPECIAL SECTION

We want to hear your stories!

We invite our readers to share their stories and photos — old and not so old — of life in San Leandro.

Email photos or stories to jimk@ebpublishing.com and include a phone number. Items must be submitted by Thursday, July 10, at 5 p.m. For more information, call Jim Knowles at 510 614-1557. For advertising information, call Claudette Morrison at 510 912-1490 or Linda Makhai 510 915-1513.

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