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Parents Guide

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WEEKEND WEATHER
MILD
Cloudy, light winds at night
HIGHS: 56-61
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 41-46

FRIDAY



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

Development at Marina Still a Year Away



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

Most of the slips are now empty at the San Leandro Marina and the Harbor Master's office is closed, and in a year the docks will be dismantled.

Public meeting on shoreline development set for Jan. 28

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Plans for rebuilding the San Leandro Marina, moving slowly for several years, may be about to speed up. The developer hopes to have it completed by 2023.

Developer Cal-Coast's proposal for the marina includes a 280-unit apartment building, a 220-room hotel with a restaurant and banquet facilities, 147 single-family residences, 53 town home residences, a new restaurant, a new Mulford-Marina branch library, and a new public park.

Construction itself can take roughly two years, said Cal-Coast General partner Ed Miller, who heads up the project.

The Community Development Department will give a report on the project to the City Council at its next meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Also, an informational public meeting on the project will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. The project developer will be present to answer questions, along with city staff members.

City Economic Development Manager Katie Bowman estimates that demolition of the boat docks and some existing buildings is about a year away. Construction would follow.

The eventual closing of the Marina was underscored when the city closed the Marina Office on Mulford Point Drive on Nov. 1, 2019.

The City Council decided several years ago to transform

the harbor itself to different uses, such as kayaking and a nature area.

Dredging was ended in 2009. As the marina fills in with silt, fewer and fewer boats have been

see MARINA, page 14

Eden Area Holds First Advisory Meeting

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

The Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) held its first meeting Tuesday night at the San Lorenzo Library, bringing more direct representation at the county level to the unincorporated areas.

The seven-member body is appointed by Alameda County supervisors Wilma Chan and Nate Miley, and represents residents of unincorporated San Lorenzo, Ashland, Cherryland, and Hayward Acres. The council joins MACs in Castro Valley, Sunol and Fairview, other unincorporated areas in the county.

A municipal advisory council has no authority to make laws or policy but it makes recommendations to the county board of supervisors.

see MAC, page 15

Alameda County Seeks Comments on Art Proposals for Ashland Street Project

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Alameda County is working on two street projects that include artwork, and everyone is invited to give their comments.

The projects on East 14th Street in Ashland and Hesperian Boulevard in San Lorenzo are intended to make the streets safer and better looking. The county Public Works Agency is working with the Alameda County Arts Commission to include public art as part of the project.

A small group of artists have been chosen by the Artist Selection Committee as semi-finalists. The public is invited to comment on whether each artist's proposal may or may not be a good match for the projects.

The comments will be considered by the committee when it meets in February and picks one artist for each project. The committees are comprised of local residents and artists.

To view the art submissions and send comments to the art selection committee, go to www.acgov.org/arts and click on "What's New."

The East 14th Street corridor improvement project extends from 162nd Avenue in Ashland to the I-238 overpass.

The artists took ideas from community meetings last fall where people from Ashland and San Lorenzo shared their thoughts about the special charac-



Artist Louis Chinn's theme, "Thrive," for East 14th Street alludes to Ashland's agricultural past.

teristics of their community and how that could be reflected in the artwork. Ideas also came through

an online survey.

Artist Louis Chinn titled his see PROJECT, page 16

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

■ PETS

Two bunnies are hopping to find a new home. **Page 2**

■ NEWS

Man hit by train near Davis Street. **Page 3**

■ MLK Day

SL to host programs for Martin Luther King Day. **Page 16**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Alyssa



Pansy

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

Alyssa, a young white bunny, arrived at the shelter last June along with several other bunnies. She's quite social and loves Timothy hay and greens. Alyssa is spayed and hoping to find a

loving family soon.

Pansy, also arrived at the shelter last June and would love to find a loving family and more space to hop around and explore. She's also very social and can't pass up an occasional treat of apple or banana. Spayed.

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

DMV Says Good Time to Update Drivers License for Air Travel

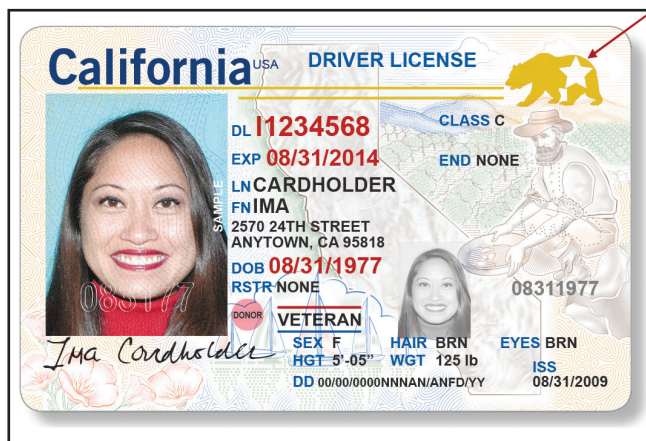
The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is encouraging residents to make a New Year's resolution to be prepared if they plan to fly within the U.S. after Oct. 1, 2020.

Starting on that date, anyone who plans to fly within the United States or access federally secure facilities and military bases will be required to have a REAL ID or other federally approved document, such as a U.S. passport.

The DMV, which issues the new ID cards, wants Californians to prepare now for the upcoming changes.

Those applying for a REAL ID are required to visit a DMV field office with the following items:

- An identity document, such as a valid passport or original birth



The DMV, which issues the new ID cards, wants Californians to prepare now for the upcoming changes.

certificate. If you've changed your name, legal name-change document(s) might be required.

- A document with the entire Social Security number visible, such as an original Social Security card or W-2 form.

- Two hard copy documents showing California residency, such as a utility or cell phone bill, bank statement, or mortgage bill.

With lines at the DMV now shorter than ever, officials hope to keep wait times low by asking

applicants to fill out the required form online before visiting a DMV. Appointments are not required to complete an in-person REAL ID application, and customers can check wait times at nearby offices on the DMV website.

A full list of DMV offices and operating hours can be found at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/fo/fotoc>.

For more information, visit CaliforniaREALID.org.

Design a Vision Board at Manor Library

Design a vision board for the new year at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. today (Thursday) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Make your goals visible and

get your plans in action.

Open to the first 25 attendees. Magazines, images and posterboard will be provided for you to create your collage.

You're welcome to bring a picture of yourself and any images or quotes you might like to include. For more information, call 510-577-7971.

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Lunch Menu at The Senior Center

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, Jan. 20 to Jan. 24, is:

Monday – Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Tuesday – Birthday lunch – beef stroganoff over egg noodles, seasoned green beans, whole wheat roll, fruit, birthday cake.

Wednesday – Southwestern baked cod, white bean and kale soup, carrots, brown rice, fruit.

Thursday – Cheesy veggie rice casserole, tossed vegetable salad, whole wheat roll, fruit.

Friday – Chicken tetrazzini over whole wheat penne pasta, vegetable medley salad, whole wheat roll, fruit.

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POLICE & FIRE

New PG&E Phone Scams Reported

PG&E is alerting customers to be aware of ongoing scam phone calls with criminals threatening to shut off power if a payment is not made. There have been double the number of scam attempts, in some areas, compared to this time last year.

PG&E's Corporate Security department has received several reports in the past few weeks regarding scammers requesting payment on past due utility bills immediately with a cash card. The real PG&E accepts more conventional means of payment. "In the past, we've seen scammers demanding payment be made using a Green Dot card or Money Pack but now we're seeing these criminals requesting payment with a gift card. This should raise a red flag," said Kevin Cashman, PG&E security investigator for the North Bay and North Coast.

Most recent incidents reported to PG&E have happened in Marin, Sonoma, Lake, Men-

docino and Humboldt counties.

Scammers are now including specific names of customers, and in some cases, guessing general dollar amounts owed, the company says. They are also disguising their true phone numbers with a caller ID that says "PG&E" or "Pacific Gas & Electric."

Other scam phone call tactics include:

Notifying residents that they are eligible for a federal tax refund related to their utility bill; trying to sell services related to solar evaluation; and claiming to represent a PG&E initiative to sell a product in order to gain access to their home.

PG&E offers the following tips to help protect customers from all types of potential scams:

PG&E's Credit Department will not ask for personal information or a credit card number over the phone. Anyone who has received such a phone call and

provided credit card or checking account information should report it immediately to the credit card company or bank and to law enforcement.

Customers concerned about the legitimacy of a call about a past due bill, service request or request for personal information are encouraged to call PG&E at 1-800-743-5000.

PG&E employees always carry their identification and are willing to show it to you. Customers should always ask to see

identification before allowing anyone claiming to be a PG&E representative inside their home.

If you feel threatened in any way, notify local law enforcement immediately.

PG&E says they take security seriously and will actively work with law enforcement to help stop any scam victimizing customers. Anyone who has received such a call can report it immediately by calling PG&E at 1-800-743-5000 or visit www.pge.com/scams.



FILE PHOTO

Beware of telephone calls claiming to be from PG&E.

Five-Year Sentence For Drugs, Guns

A federal judge has sentenced Donta Lashaun Perry of San Leandro to 60 months and one day in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm and for possessing firearms in connection with drug trafficking, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.

The sentence was handed down in Oakland by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey S. White.

Perry, 31, pleaded guilty to the charges on Oct. 1, 2019.

According to his plea agreement, Perry admitted that he possessed a 9mm handgun and an AR 15 short-barreled rifle when the California Highway Patrol arrested him on March 7, 2018.

In the agreement, Perry also admitted that on that date he was a convicted felon who was not eligible to possess a firearm.

Perry further admitted that he possessed marijuana, and that he intended to distribute the drugs. He admitted to possessing his firearms in furtherance of his drug trafficking, including to defend his drugs against potential theft.

Perry initially was charged by the Alameda County District At-

torney's Office, but fled the area after posting bail. He remained a fugitive for approximately 10 months until his arrest in Oklahoma in March 2019.

Federal charges were filed on Sept. 30, 2019, charging Perry with one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, and one count of using, carrying, or possessing a firearm during and in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Perry pleaded guilty to both charges.

In addition to the prison term, Judge White ordered Perry to serve a three-year period of supervised release and to pay a \$200 special assessment.

Special Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Vieira prosecuted the case, with the assistance of Lenora Hamilton. This case is the result of an investigation by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and the California Highway Patrol.

Train Strikes, Kills Man On Davis Street

A man died after being struck by an Amtrak train at Davis and Alvarado Streets Monday night at about 6:47 p.m., police say. His name had not been released by the county coroner's office as we went to press.

The man, who was walking west on the north side of Davis Street, walked past lowered railroad gates directly into the path of the train, according to San Leandro Police spokesman Ted Henderson.

The man was pronounced dead at the scene. Warning lights were working and vehicles had been stopped by the gates, ac-

cording to police.

Lt. Henderson said there was no report the man was wearing headphones or using a phone that could have distracted him.

Capitol Corridor Train 546 headed for Sacramento was going almost 80 miles per hour as it approached the Davis Street crossing, Henderson said. Nobody on the train was injured, and passengers were transferred onto another train to complete their journey.

Several blocks of Davis Street were closed to traffic for two hours as San Leandro and Amtrak police investigated.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

M	O	P	S	S	A	C	P	A	P	A
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SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Dear San Leandro Community,

I am pleased to announce the San Leandro Unified School Board has received a distinguished, highly competitive **California School Boards Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award** for significantly increasing access and equity in Advanced Placement programs at San Leandro High School. This award is the state's leading educational honor to recognize outstanding public school programs for innovation, sustainability, and best practices that facilitate positive student outcomes. SLUSD was one of only 52 school districts in California to receive this award, out of several thousand entries from across the state.

Every year since 2015, the district has increased the number of students registering and succeeding in Advanced Placement courses while simultaneously increasing the demographic diversity in those courses. Those efforts also received national attention from the College Board in 2018 when the district was named a College Board Advanced Placement District of the Year for increased access and equity.

Our staff continues to find ways to identify and encourage our students to see themselves as infinitely capable. Our students continue to meet and exceed those expectations. This award represents the equity-based, student-centered collaboration that makes SLUSD such a special place.

Please join me in congratulating the SLUSD school board, staff, students, and families on this achievement.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D.



CITY CORNER

CURRENT ISSUES AND INFORMATION FROM THE CITY OF SAN LEANDRO

The City of San Leandro invites the community to attend a celebration honoring a great American leader

A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Monday, January 20, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th Street

Oratorical Festival & Poetry Slam – San Leandro students will perform and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s message of peace, tolerance, and social justice through essay, speech, and poem.

Unity in the Community – Continue the celebration with a performance by the Bancroft Middle School Jazz Band and a panel discussion with Alameda County Superintendent of Schools L. Karen Monroe and student leaders from San Leandro High School.

ENTERTAINMENT • CRAFTS

Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Liz Hodgins (510) 577-3473 or visit <https://Bit.ly/MLKjr2020>



NEIGHBORS



Take Your Pick

The signs on this door give out what you might call mixed messages at a diner.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ PhotoCentral Gallery

PhotoCentral Gallery presents the 42nd Area Artists' Annual Juried Exhibition photo exhibit from Jan. 25 to March 7. The popular annual exhibition, juried by Diane Zuliani, will present \$150 Merit Awards and non-monetary Honorable Mention awards at the PhotoCentral galleries at 1099 E St. in Hayward. Photo Central is part of the Hayward Area Park and Recreation District. Two receptions will be held on Saturday, Jan. 25, and on Saturday, March

7, from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibit will be in both galleries. The upstairs gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The downstairs gallery is open Monday from 5 to 10 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and by appointment. For more information, call 510-881-6735 or email adobegallery@haywardrec.org.

❖ Chanticleers Theatre
Steel Magnolias

Steel Magnolias opens at the

Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, on Feb. 7 and runs through March 1. The show plays on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 to \$27 and may be purchased online at chanticleers.org or by calling 510-SEE-LIVE (510-733-5483). Group discounts also available. *Steel Magnolias* is a stage play by American writer Robert Harling, is a comedy-drama about the bond among a group of Southern women in northwest Louisiana. The title suggests the female characters are as delicate as magnolias but as tough as steel. The magnolia specifically references a magnolia tree they are arguing about at the beginning. Harling based on his experience with his sister's death. Director, actor, and designer spanning four decades in West Coast theatre, Kendall Tieck will make his Chanticleers Theatre directing debut with *Steel Magnolias*.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Use that Arian charm to help make a difficult workplace transition easier for everyone. News about a long-awaited decision can be confusing. Don't jump to conclusions.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Although you might well be tempted to be more extravagant than you should be at this time, I'm betting you'll let your sensible Bovine instinct guide you toward moderation.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) An opportunity for travel could come with some problems regarding travel companions and other matters. So be sure you read all the fine print before you start packing.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Make an effort to complete your usual workplace tasks before volunteering for extra duty. Scrambling to catch up later on could create some resentment among your colleagues.



LEO (July 23 to August 22) A financial matter could have you rethinking your current spending plans. You might want to recheck your budget to see where you can cut back on expenses until the situation improves.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) One way to make your case for that promotion you've been hoping for might be to put your planning skills to work in helping to shape up a project that got out of hand. Good luck.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be careful about "experts" who have no solid business background. Instead, seek advice on enhancing your business prospects from bona fide sources with good success records.



SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Standing up to support a colleague's viewpoint -- even if it's unpopular -- can be difficult if you feel outnumbered. But you'll win plaudits for your honesty and courage.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) While progress continues on resolving that recurring problem, you might feel it's taking too long. But these things always need to develop at their own pace. Be patient.



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Someone close to you might have a financial problem and seek your advice. If you do decide to get involved, insist on seeing everything that might be relevant to this situation.



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A personal matter takes an interesting turn. The question is, do you want to follow the new path or take time out to reconsider the change? Think this through before deciding.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Moving into a new career is a big step. Check that offer carefully with someone who has been there, done that, and has the facts you'll need to help you make your decision.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Calendar Items is Friday for the Following Week



❖ SL Girls Softball League Registration

The San Leandro Girls Softball League will hold a walk-in registration tonight, Jan. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m.; and on Saturday, Jan. 25, from noon to 2 p.m. at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 2150 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro. The league is open to girls age 6 to 14 of all playing abilities. For more information, email Leo Sheridan at leosheridan@gmail.com.

❖ Adult Collage Program at Manor Library

Design a vision board for the new year at the Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. tonight, Jan. 16, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Make your goals visible and get your plans in action. Open to the first 25 attendees. Magazines, images and posterboard will be provided for you to create your collage. You're welcome to bring a picture of yourself and any images or quotes you might like to include. For more information, call 510-577-7971.

❖ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

The City of San Leandro's annual celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be on Monday, Jan. 20, at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St., free of charge and open to the public. The celebration includes live entertainment, a student oratorical contest, crafts for kids, and light refreshments. Students attending San Leandro schools between the 3rd and 12th grades are encouraged to participate in the Oratorical Festival and Poetry Slam. Students are eligible to win gift card prizes in their grade category. Entry forms are available online at <https://Bit.ly/MLKjr2020>. For more information, contact Liz Hodgins with the Recreation and Human Services Department at 510-577-3473 or ehodgins@sanleandro.org.

❖ Friends of San Leandro Creek Cleanup

The Friends of San Leandro Creek will have a creek cleanup on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 250 Hegenberger Road in Oakland at San Leandro Creek. Groups and individuals of all ages and abilities are invited to join in a day of volunteer community and outdoor service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Saturday, January 25, 2020. The MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service, a "day on, not a day off." Meet at the bridge over the San Leandro Creek at 250 Hegenberger Road, next door to Park N Fly. Park on the street or inside the gate by the creek. Snacks, water, gloves and bags will be provided.

❖ Project Literacy Tutor Training

The San Leandro Public Library's adult and family literacy program, Project Literacy, is seeking volunteer literacy tutors. Find out how you can help others learn to read by attending Project Literacy's tutor orientation on Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Additional required tutor trainings: Tutor Training Part 1 on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Tutor Training Part 2 on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., also at the Main Library. All prospective tutors must attend all three sessions. Lunch is provided on both Saturday training sessions. For more information or to register, call 510-577-3944. Visit Project Literacy on the web at sanleandrolibrary.org under the 'Services' tab.

❖ Sons of Norway Lodge Crab Feed

The Sons of Norway Lodge 6-061 in Hayward will host its annual crab feed on Saturday,

Jan. 25, at the Hill & Valley Club, 1808 B St. in Hayward. No-host social starts at 6 p.m. and dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by music and dancing. Tickets are \$55 for Snorre Lodge members (13 and up), \$60 for non-members, \$25 for 12 and under, and under 5 admitted free. Send payment to club secretary Aunda Arndt, 1016 Apache St., Livermore, CA 94550.

❖ Fishing Fun at Hayward Shoreline

Hike out to the bay and learn the basics of rigging, casting, and possibly catching fish on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center's, 4901 Breakwater Ave. in Hayward. No experience needed. Gear provided. For ages 16 years and over. The tide will be opportune for fishing on this day. Must have a fishing license available online by visiting ca.gov. Feel free to bring a zero waste (all reusable or compostable) lunch or snack. Fee: \$12 per angler. For more information, call 510-670-7270.

❖ Financial Aid for High School Seniors

San Lorenzo High School, 50 East Lewelling Blvd., is hosting a Cash for College Night on Thursday, Jan. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the D-Hall Computer Labs. This is free for all high school seniors and their families who would like assistance in completing their financial aid applications (FAFSA and CA Dream Act for undocumented students). Financial aid is available for community colleges, four year universities, and some trade schools. Come with a parent or guardian and bring 2018 Federal tax forms and other financial documents, though students can still work on the application without the forms. Financial aid experts and translators will be available. For more information, call Katricia Manalo at 510-317-3129.

❖ Discovery Channel's Gold Rush Tour

Volvo Construction and Equipment Services, 1944 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro, is hosting the Discovery Channel's Gold Rush, gold painted excavator tour on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See the Gold Rush excavator up close and meet Dave Turin from the Gold Rush show. Enjoy great food, fun and raffles while checking out the latest Volvo construction equipment. The event is free, including the food, and the goal is to bring awareness to the San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED), which supports local public schools, and to kick off the 10th season of Gold Rush.

❖ Kiwanis Club of San Leandro

The San Leandro Kiwanis Club will hold its annual crab feed on Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. in San Leandro. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, which includes all-you-can-eat crab, pasta, salad and hot garlic bread. Local band, The Kopi Katz, will provide classic rock 'n' roll oldies for post-dinner dancing. The event is assigned seating only. To purchase tickets or for more information, call Terri Neumann at 510-895-4425. Proceeds support the San Leandro Kiwanis Club.

❖ Alta Mira Club Shrimp Fest

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a shrimp fest on Saturday, Feb. 1. The social hour begins at 5 p.m. and dinner starts at 6 p.m. with shrimp, pasta, salad, bread and ice cream. Tickets are \$45. For tickets or more information, call Carol at 510-305-5393.

**READ &
RECYCLE!**

**WATCH
BATTERIES
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LIFESTYLE



With the realization that vegetables, potatoes and pasta are essential components of our diets, the casserole is being welcomed back to the supper table in style.

And a big bonus is that the leftovers actually benefit from reheating the next day.

BEEF & PASTA CASSEROLE

- 1 pound penne pasta prepared according to package directions
- 8 ounces lean ground beef

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 cups water
- 1/3 cup red wine (or water)
- 2 (6-ounce) cans Italian tomato paste
- 1 tablespoon instant beef-flavor bouillon
- 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Preheat oven to 350° F. Cook beef and onion in large saucepan, stirring occasionally, until beef is no longer pink. Add water, tomato paste, wine and bouillon; cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 to 15 minutes or until flavors are

blended.

Layer half the pasta, half the cheese and half the sauce, then repeat the layers. Cover and bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until heated through and cheese is melted. Season with salt. Serves 6.

QUICK & EASY MEAT LOAF

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 2/3 cup milk

- 1/2 cup cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 egg, beaten

Mix all ingredients together gently. Form into a loaf and place in baking dish or loaf pan. Top with more ketchup if desired. Bake at 350° for about 1 hour. Serves 4.

TUNA CASSEROLE

- 8 ounces wide egg noodles
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1 teaspoon dill weed
- 1 can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1-1/3 cups skim milk
- 1 (12-1/2-ounce) can water-pack tuna drained
- Pepper to taste
- 2/3 cup grated part-skim Mozzarella cheese
- Paprika

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 7x11-inch baking dish with non-stick spray. Set aside. Cook noodles in boiling water for 5 minutes, drain and set aside. Heat oil in large skillet.

Add onions and sauté until limp. Remove from heat, stir in dill and soup, and gradually stir in milk until smooth. Add tuna chunks and

pepper to taste. Stir in noodles and toss well to coat. Pour into prepared baking dish, top with cheese and paprika and bake for 20 minutes. Serves 6.

EASY CHICKEN CHALUPAS

- 1 2-pound roasted chicken,
- 8 flour tortillas
- 2 cups reduced-fat shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup mild green chili salsa
- 1 cup mild red salsa

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray 13x9-inch ovenproof dish with nonstick cooking spray.

Remove skin and bones from chicken; discard. Shred chicken meat. Place 2 tortillas in bottom of prepared dish, overlapping slightly. Layer tortillas with 1 cup chicken, 1/2 cup cheese and 1/4 cup of each salsa. Repeat layers, ending with cheese and salsas. Bake casserole 25 minutes or until bubbly and hot. Makes 6 servings.

CORN & SPINACH CASSEROLE

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 3 cups frozen corn kernels
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tbsp. kwhite wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh pepper
- 1/2 pound chopped spinach
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 pound bacon slices
- 1/4 cup dried bread crumbs

Butter a 1-1/2 quart casserole. Sprinkle chopped onion in dish. Add corn, sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon salt and dash of pepper. Mix eggs with milk and pour over the corn. In another bowl, add vinegar, salt and pepper to chopped spinach and toss. Place spinach mixture on top of corn. Sprinkle with cheese. Cover with bacon slices. Top with bread crumbs and bake in preheated 375°F oven for 45 minutes.

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LEGAL NOTICES

For information about how to get a legal notice in the San Leandro Times or the Castro Valley Forum, call Patrick at (510) 614-1558.

FILED
DECEMBER 09, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 566233

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Saeology located at 14036 Reed Ave., San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chan Saeteurn, 14036 Reed Ave., San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 08/01/18.

/s/ Chan Saeteurn

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

Expires DECEMBER 09, 2024

DEC 26, 2019 JAN 02, 09, 16, 2020
0196-SLT

FILED
DECEMBER 17, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 566567

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Meza Electric located at 1665 Orchard Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alejandro Meza-Mendez, 1665 Orchard Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 12/17/19.

/s/ Alejandro Meza-Mendez

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

Expires DECEMBER 17, 2024

DEC 26, 2019 JAN 02, 09, 16, 2020
0199-SLT

FILED
DECEMBER 17, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 566566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Plaza Center Building located at 15292 Liberty Street, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Thomas Pedemonte, 3067 Massachusetts Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546 and Cheryl Damgen, 4 Elizabeth Lane, Danville, CA 94526. This business is conducted by a general partnership. This business commenced May 1, 1969.

/s/ Thomas Pedemonte, Cheryl Damgen
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires DECEMBER 17, 2024

DEC 26, 2019 JAN 02, 09, 16, 2020
0201-SLT

FILED
DECEMBER 17, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 566579

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): IAMPRESHCUTS located at 16360 Foothill Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, mailing address 2600 San Leandro Blvd. Apt #514, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): William Agustin, 2600 San Leandro Blvd. Apt #514, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced September 11, 2018.

/s/ William Agustin

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

Expires DECEMBER 17, 2024
JAN 09, 16, 23, 30, 2020
0204-SLT

FILED
DECEMBER 18, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 566589-91

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): (1) The Rangsis - Harrington Group (2) Chelsea Rangsis Realty (3) Urbia Homes + Money located at 4767 Mira Loma St., Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Suksadachanh Rangsis, 4767 Mira Loma St., Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Suksadachanh Rangsis

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

Expires DECEMBER 18, 2024
JAN 16, 23, 30, FEB 06, 2020
0208-SLT

FILED
JANUARY 9, 2019
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 567397

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Aleyda's House Cleaning located at 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aleyda Revelo Rivera, 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 01/09/2020.

/s/ Aleyda Revelo Rivera

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

Expires DECEMBER 18, 2024

JAN 16, 23, 30, FEB 06, 2020
0210-SLT

PARENTS GUIDE

Five Tips To Prepare Your Children For Success In School

One of the best things you can do for your children is to make sure they attend school every day. After all, we want our kids to have the best possible chance of doing well in school and achieving their dreams.

But getting a child to school isn't always easy. While some absences are understandable, it's important to understand the impact of each absence.

Although most parents understand the importance of

getting their child to school every day, many believe that missing three or more days of school each month won't make a difference.

In reality, as early as elementary school, students who miss just two school days per month are more likely to fall behind in school, and less likely to graduate from high school. Even when the absences are excused or understandable, absences add up.

Students who miss just two

days of school each month end up missing 18 school days, or 10 percent of the school days in a year.

By following these five simple tips, you can help ensure your child attends school every day. Attending school every day puts your child on the path toward success in school and in life.

• What to Do:

1. Keep track of how many days of school your child has missed.

2. Figure out why your child is absent from school. Is your child dealing with a chronic illness such as asthma? Is he being bullied or struggling at school? Is she staying home to help care for a family member?

3. Ask teachers and community leaders for advice and specific resources. Reach out to other parents, too, to ask for help and share tips.

4. Consider enrolling your child in a mentoring or an afterschool program. When kids work with mentors, they learn about the importance of

attending school every day.

With an additional support system in place, kids learn strategies to address their day-to-day challenges. Similarly, when kids get involved in afterschool programs, they are more likely to feel connected to their school communities and are less likely to be absent.

5. Visit AbsencesAddUp.org for information on the impact of absences and resources to help prevent them in the future. On the website, you'll learn how to help children who are struggling in school, being bul-

lied, managing chronic illness or dealing with mental health challenges.

Additionally, the site also provides parents with resources to assist with caregiving, housing and food challenges.

• Learn More

Families can visit AbsencesAddUp.org to find resources and tips that can help them through many challenges, whether their child isn't feeling well, their family is struggling with housing, or anything in between.

—North American Precis Synd. Inc.



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Helping Kids Achieve

There's a pleasant, easy way parents and teachers can improve their own memory and mental development and help their children do the same.

How? Simply by reading at least 15 Pages A Day in print.

Expert Advice

"Reading, like playing a musical instrument or exercising, involves habit," explains Dr. Naomi Baron, professor of linguistics at American University. She studied students in the United States and found students who read digitally are more distracted.

"Ninety-two percent of U.S. students found it easiest to concentrate when reading a hard copy," said Dr. Baron. "Students

tell us they remember more when reading in print, spend more time when reading print and read more carefully than with digital texts."

Adds Daniel Willingham, professor of psychology at the University of Virginia, there's a "cost to comprehension when students read from a screen."

What To Do

To exercise your brain, pledge to read at least 15 Pages A Day in print. Share your involvement and invite friends to take the pledge using #15Pages on social media.

Why It Matters

• The American Library Association says "students who read independently become

better readers, score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not."

• Reading aloud for 15 minutes a day aids language development, instills a love of reading, and increases understanding of how knowledge is gained and shared.

• Current research indicates that taking notes by hand on paper aids memory and recollection.

• According to another recent study, "people who regularly read and write have a markedly slower decline in memory than people who don't."

—North American Precis Synd. Inc.



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PARENTS GUIDE

Are Your Kids Using Mobile Devices Safely and Responsibly?

Does your child have a digital device? If so, they are in good company. Fifty-three percent of children own a smartphone by age 11, and 84 percent of teenagers have their own phones, according to Common Sense Media.

While there are many great benefits to being digitally connected at a young age, there are certain issues families should address. Consider these suggestions for safer, more responsible mobile device use:

1) Discuss Privilege and Trust. Have a casual, open-ended chat about the privilege and responsibilities of device ownership. Ask questions about whether their friends own devices, and what they're most excited to use it for.

2) Set Clear Agreements. Setting clear rules about device usage is essential. Depending on your child's age, you may agree that the device only to be used for certain purposes (for example: contacting you, FaceTiming relatives, doing homework).

Even with older kids and teens, it's important to discuss appropriate online behavior, healthy digital habits and "screen etiquette." Consider putting together a "contract" to be displayed somewhere visible.

3) Buy a Protective Case



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For peace of mind, be sure your child is using their digital device safely and responsibly.

and Warranty. Devices are easy to lose or break — especially by kids. Consider buying a durable case and screen protector as additional presents, and definitely purchase a warranty through your carrier or a third party.

Finally, make sure you have a location monitoring app installed on your child's device, which offers peace of mind,

saves headaches coordinating pickups and can help you locate lost devices in a pinch.

4) Download a Parental Guidance App. Download a parental guidance app onto your own device, such as OurPact, which allows you to install a simple profile on your child's device. Then, you can remotely set up automated schedules for when internet and apps are

unavailable, or block access manually to the device for a specified period of time.

With such features as URL whitelisting and blacklisting, daily screen time allowances and iMessage/SMS blocking, you can be engaged with how your child uses their device, letting you enjoy the peace of mind knowing they aren't playing Angry Birds or Fruit Ninja past bedtime when they should be snoozing.

Available at the iOS App Store and Google Play Store, parents can also sign up for an account at www.ourpact.com.

5) Screen Applications for Quality. Make sure all apps installed on your child's device pass your approval. It's good practice to have the App Store blocked using a tool like OurPact. This way, when your child wants to install a new app, you can research it together.

6) Practice What You

Preach! Kids are more likely to respond to actions over words, so make sure that you're setting a good example. Never text and drive. Make eye contact when you talk. Last but not least: always put relationships -- especially with your children -- before devices.

— StatePoint

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PARENTS GUIDE

Parents as Guilty as Kids When it Comes to Too Much Screen Time

Parents spend nearly the same amount of time with devices as they do with their kids, according to new research from The Genius of Play, a nonprofit initiative dedicated to raising awareness of play's vital role in child development.

The results of the OnePoll survey of 2,000 parents of school-aged children ages 5-18 suggest that families should be finding more screen-free ways to spend time together.

Half of the survey's respondents have been asked by their child to put their phone away, and 79 percent believe that their relationship with their children would benefit if everyone spent

less time on devices.

"Screens and tech can make up some of your playtime, but parents should be mindful of creating balance," says Ken Seiter, EVP, marketing communications at The Toy Association, the organization that spearheads The Genius of Play. "A wide variety of toys and games will help create rich childhood memories, lead to optimal physical, cognitive and social-emotional development, and nurture critical skills like creativity and out-of-the-box thinking."

Parents are aware that excessive screen time is a problem. Seventy-four percent worry that

their child spends too much time staring at a screen and the majority limit their kids' screen time to about two hours per day. However, when it comes to their own use of devices, setting a limit is easier said than done. Survey results revealed:

- Sixty-two percent of parents admitted to spending too much time on their cell phone while with their kids.

- Sixty-nine percent feel "addicted" to their phone.

- Parents spend almost as much one-on-one time with devices as with their kids. They are spending an average of two hours and 17 minutes of personal time on their phone per day, compared to two hours and 41 minutes of quality, screen-free time with their children.

The survey also found that while parents worry about the amount of screen time kids are getting, technology is now an integral parenting tool.

- The majority (83 percent) agree that screens and technology are necessary when raising a

child in this day and age.

- Parents use screen time to keep their child occupied (58 percent), as a reward (53 percent) and to help their child calm down when they're upset (52 percent). In addition, taking screen time away is used as a consequence (63 percent).

"Parents often complain that it's hard to get kids to put down devices, but they can set a positive example by swapping some of their own screen time for other types of play," says Seiter.

Experts at The Genius of Play recommend setting aside dedicated periods of the day for arts and crafts, word games, role play, board games, sports, puzzles, charades and other screen-free activities to maximize quality time for families, which will benefit both kids and adults.

For inspiration and play ideas, visit TheGeniusofPlay.org or follow @GeniusofPlay on Facebook and Instagram.

—StatePoint



Make Education More Affordable

As most parents know, even a free public school education comes with certain expenses that over the course of a school year can really add up. While many of these expenditures feel unavoidable, there are certain ways that families can save money on the hidden costs of schooling.

Skill Share

Is your child struggling in one class and excelling in another? Consider a skill share as a free and friendly alternative. There is likely a student in your child's class who possesses the opposite strengths and challenges. Encourage your child to team up with that student and become cooperative study buddies.

Online Calculators

All-in-one web-based mathematics resources can eliminate the expense of a calculator and other math supplies. For example, ClassPad.net, free to educators and students, is a tool geared toward K-12 and beyond that exceeds the functionality of a calculator.

A user-friendly tool that's also offering educators an innovative way to share lesson plans, among its many features are a

virtual protractor and compass, and a math-based text editor that provides a rich assortment of mathematical templates.

This web-based calculator is designed to be equally usable by keyboard and mouse as with touch-based platforms and gives users the ability to create folders, organize and share work. To register, or for more information, visit ClassPad.net.

Organize a Fundraiser

From band uniforms to chess club fees, participation in extracurricular and after school activities frequently comes with a price tag. To reduce or eliminate such expenses for not only your child, but for every club or team member, consider spearheading a fundraiser and getting everyone involved.

From car washes to silent auctions, fundraisers do more than the name implies, building team spirit among participants and community awareness of the club's goals and accomplishments.

With a few tricks and some new tech, your family can save significantly on the cost of school.

—StatePoint

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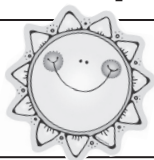
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When shopping for a hospital, the most important criteria is to choose one that has a strong department in treating your area of need.

How to Choose the Right Hospital for You

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

Most people spend more time shopping for a kitchen appliance or flat-screen TV than choosing a hospital.

But selecting the right one can be as important as the doctor you choose. Here are some tips and resources to help you research the hospitals in your area.

Hospital Shopping

While you may not always have the opportunity to choose your hospital, especially in the case of an emergency, having a planned procedure can offer you a variety of choices.

When shopping for a hospital, the most important criteria is to choose one that has a strong department in treating your area of need.

A facility that excels in coronary bypass surgery, for example, may not be the best choice for a hip replacement. Research shows that patients tend to have better results when they're treated in hospitals that have extensive experience with their specific condition.

In order to choose a hospital that's best for you, it is important to discuss your concerns and alternatives with the doctor who is treating you. Some doctors may be affiliated with several hospitals from which you can choose.

Or, if you've yet to select a doctor, finding a top hospital that has expertise with your condition can help you determine which physician to actually choose.

Another important reason to do some research is the all too frequent occurrence of hospital infections, which kill around 75,000 people in the U.S. each year. So, checking your hospital's infection rates and cleanliness procedures is also a

smart move.

Free Researching Tools

There are a number of free online resources that can help you evaluate and compare hospitals in your area, including:

- Medicare's Hospital Compare (Medicare.gov/HospitalCompare): Operated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, this tool has data on more than 4,000 U.S. hospitals.

- Why Not The Best (WhyNotTheBest.org): Created by the Commonwealth Fund, this is a private foundation that provides performance data on all U.S. hospitals.

- The Leapfrog Group (LeapfrogGroup.org): This national, not-for-profit organization grades more than 2,000 U.S. hospitals on quality and safety.

These websites use publicly available data to rate hospitals on various measures of performance like death rates from serious conditions such as heart failure and pneumonia, frequency of hospital-acquired infections, patient satisfaction and more.

On these websites, you plug in your location to find hospitals in your area. You can then check to see how well or poorly

each hospital manages patients in various conditions.

Two other good sites that can help you choose a good facility include U.S. News & World Report (USNews.com/best-hospitals) and Healthgrades (Healthgrades.com).

U.S. News & World Report is an online publication that publishes a hospital ranking in 17 medical specialties like cancer, orthopedics and urology, and rates common procedures and conditions, such as heart bypass surgery, hip and knee replacement and COPD. They also rank hospitals regionally within states and major metro areas.

And Healthgrades, which is a private for-profit organization, provides free hospital ratings on patient safety and medical procedures, and scores hospitals using a 5-star scale.

They also provide comprehensive information on most U.S. doctors including their education and training, hospital affiliations, board certification, awards and recognitions, professional misconduct, disciplinary action and malpractice records, office locations and insurance plans.

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

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A Solution To The Tax Problem When Selling A Home Held in Joint Tenancy After The Death Of A Spouse

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

Q My late husband and I bought our home 40 years ago for \$50,000, and we were then advised to take title as Joint Tenants to avoid probate.

When he died 3 years ago, I was told by a realtor that it was worth about \$1.2 Million. I was recently told by our CPA that, if I were to sell it, I would have a steep capital gains tax to pay. Is that so and is there any way around that?

In effect, holding title in Community Property form wipes out all capital gain up to the date of death of the first spouse!



\$250K Home Use & Ownership Adjustment: In either situation, under the tax code you would also be entitled to claim a \$250K capital gain exclusion available to an owner who has lived in the home at least 2 years before sale.

In the Joint Tenancy situation, this would help reduce – but not eliminate -- the capital gain. In the Community Property situation, this exclusion might not even be needed, except perhaps to the extent there were further appreciation between the date of your husband's death and your actual date of sale.

So, is there any way to convert Joint Tenancy title to Community Property form after the death of your spouse?

Answer: Yes! Assuming that you and your husband purchased your home with earnings and savings from your marriage,

it would actually be community property in character under California law, even if it were not so titled.

In this situation, you might initiate a rather simple court proceeding called a "Spousal Property Petition", asking a Superior Court judge to issue a Court Order finding that the home is, in fact, Community Property, passing to you without probate.

With such an order in hand, you could then claim the "double step up in cost basis" when reporting the gain on the sale of your home, dramatically reducing or even eliminating your capital gain and its corresponding tax.

One caveat: While the IRS is not necessarily bound by a state trial court order, I have not known the IRS to dispute this procedure and have used it successfully in the past to eliminate capital gain in similar situations.

Gene L. Osofsky is an Elder Law and Estate Planning attorney in Hayward. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com.



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REAL ESTATE GALLERY

REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



'Concierge Services' Improving the Home Improvement Process

Fueled by cable TV home improvement shows, home buyer expectations have been steadily increasing.

Realtors, scrambling to help sellers improve their properties and maximize potential selling prices, frequently encounter pushback when discussing escalating buyer tastes.

While some homeowners are reluctant to invest in upgrades, thinking future owners might rip out newly installed items to decorate in their own tastes, other sellers are struggling with a more fundamental issue:

Funding.

Many sellers today understand the need for preparing their home for the market.

A quick discussion with any potential seller reveals that, by the time they meet with a Realtor, they have already started the search for a replacement property.

This means they have looked at a fair amount of homes on-

line and are aware of the impact generated by homes that are properly prepared and beautifully staged.

While it is one thing to grasp the need for property preparation, it is a far different thing to figure out how to make it happen.

To facilitate, larger real estate teams are providing project managers who walk sellers through the prep process. Cathy Petersen, a Property Prep Coordinator for a local real estate team states, "My goal is to meet with the client, determine how to maximize the property's potential in the most cost-effective manner, produce an improvement budget and then manage the prep process for the client from beginning to end."

She continues, "Our goal is to make the process as stress-free as possible – we ask clients for a set of keys and then manage the project while they are off at work or away doing other things."

This again brings us back to the fundamental issue: who pays for the improvements?

While it is ideal for the homeowner to carry the costs, in some cases, that is impossible. Consequently, some Bay Area real estate companies are rolling out new levels of service which include fronting the improvement costs and being repaid at the close of escrow.

These new levels of support are being called, "Concierge Services" and new players are emerging weekly. While it is true that many Realtors have provided this level of support

for years, individual agents do not have the deep pockets of the some of the new players and may find it very hard to compete long term on any kind of scale.

Understand the need to improve and want the easiest path forward? Think "Concierge."

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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Salvaging Old Paint Brushes

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

Q Last summer, I repainted the garage. Because I had plans to paint some other rooms, I wrapped up the rollers and brushes in old plastic shopping bags to keep the paint damp. And then ... I forgot about them. This morning while cleaning my workspace, I found them again. The paint has hardened to stone. Can I save the brushes and rollers, or do I need to just buy all new stuff?

A I'm not going to judge. I've let far too many paint-laden brushes dry out myself when I got distracted. But you should definitely try to salvage the brushes and rollers before shelling out money for new paint supplies.

First, confirm what kind of paint you used in the garage last summer by checking the label

on the cans of leftover paint. It most likely was latex-based interior paint, but oil-based paint is still in use.

The good news is, latex is the easiest paint to clean up, even when it's been dried on for some time. Don't use solvents like turpentine, alcohol, gasoline or anything else to clean latex, and don't listen to anyone who insists you use these chemicals.

To clean latex paint off your brushes and rollers, fill a pail or utility sink with warm, soapy water. (Plain dish soap is fine.) Peel the plastic shopping bags off the brushes and discard them. If pieces of the plastic stick to the rollers or brushes, just leave them on, rather than potentially damaging the brushes by trying to pry them off. Drop the brushes and rollers into the soapy water and let them sit for at least 20 minutes.

Check to see if the dried latex is loosening up, being careful



not to bend or tug at the bristles of the paintbrushes. If they're still stiff with paint, the bristles could fray or break. Keep soaking them, checking every 20 minutes or so, until the latex loosens from the bristles and roller sponges, and you can easily push it off the brushes.

(If the brushes are still stiff or have bits of paint stuck to them, try soaking the bristles in boiling-hot white vinegar for about five minutes, then run a stiff nylon or plastic brush (never metal) through the bristles.)

Rinse the soapy water off, shake or spin the rollers and brushes to get rid of excess water, and let them dry on sheet of newspaper or clean towels.

Oil paint is a different matter. If you used oil-based paint and it has dried, you can try salvaging the brushes by soaking them in

mineral spirits or paint thinner for several minutes. Make sure the room is well-ventilated, and that you wear gloves and eye protection during this process.

Roller sponges with oil paint dried on them may not be salvagable but if you need to pry them off the roller handles, apply mineral spirits or paint thinner to the ends to loosen the dried paint.

Finally, store rollers upright and either hang brushes up or store them in a clean paint can, handles down and brushes upward.

Home Tip: To easily hang up paintbrushes, run a wire or twine across the front of a storage shelf and either thread the brushes onto the wire by the holes in their handles, or attach pegboard hooks to the wire and hang the brushes from them.

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How Living with AI Can Improve Your Daily Life

These days, AI - artificial intelligence - has become a household name, mostly because so many household gadgets and appliances use it.

What's the impact of AI becoming part of your everyday life? Ultimately, it's about convenience. Many tasks are getting easier, products are more efficient and AI is enhancing daily lives in unexpected ways.

Here are some recent AI advances that may be improving your life.

Appliances that can think and learn

You may not have expected laundry machines to be among the major appliances to use AI, but it's true - the latest innovations in washers and dryers allow consumers more freedom in controlling their machines, and help those machines apply more precision in how they handle different types of clothing.

For example, LG Electronics introduced an AI-powered TurboWash 360 Front-Load Washer/Dryer Pair. The Ultra Large-Capacity washer assesses fabric type, weight and softness to choose the best washing motions for a superb clean. The advanced spinning algorithm measures load size to minimize vibrations, noise and spin time. LG's user-friendly ezDispense feature takes the guesswork out of detergent dosage by automatically adding the exact amount of detergent and fabric softener needed for each load.

Because the washer and dryer both utilize AI to learn from usage patterns over time, settings continually optimize for the best results. The machines are also Wi-Fi connected, so you can control the units or monitor cycle times remotely using ThinQ-enabled smartphones or voice commands via Amazon Alexa. When the washer is synced with your Amazon account, it can reorder detergent before you run out.

Enhanced entertainment platforms

Just a few years ago, TVs couldn't perform half the functions they can today. Using ThinQ AI and powered by the α (Alpha) 9 Gen 3 AI processor, the latest LG OLED TVs bring picture and sound quality to a whole new level - and are used for much more than watching shows.

These TVs apply a deep learning algorithm to recognize content source quality, then determine the best method for optimal picture quality among four genres: movie, sports, standard and animation. The new processor finely adjusts the picture, taking into account the room's ambient conditions to offer the best levels of screen brightness and contrast, using its understanding of how the human eye perceives images. What's more, the processor's AI Picture Pro is capable of recognizing faces and text on screen, fine-tuning and sharpening each to produce more natural skin tones, well-defined facial features and clearer, more readable characters.

Even sound is enhanced by the intelligent algorithm, which can mix two-channel audio to deliver convincing surround sound. Thanks to LG's AI Sound Pro, LG OLED TVs analyze and classify the audio of content among five categories - music, movies, sports, drama or news - for clearer voices and richer, more textured background sound.

The latest lineup of TVs also matches perfectly with LG's stylish 2020 sound bars, which are future-proofed to help you create seamless visual harmony in any room. These advanced models are self-calibrating, able to recognize and analyze tones to accurately assess the dimensions of a given space and adjust accordingly.

With ThinQ and a built-in connection to Google Assistant and Alexa Amazon, you can use your TV to control other compatible devices and appliances, search the web - and even order pizza without pausing the movie you're watching!

Advanced mobile communication

What could be better than experiencing LG OLED TV technology in your home? How about holding it in your hand?

Using LG's latest LG V50 ThinQ 5G smartphone, you can enjoy LG OLED quality display on demand, with striking clarity and vibrant color.

The ability to communicate, record and enjoy pictures and videos, plus livestreaming shows and movies on-the-go has reached new levels of speed and quality, especially with the revolutionary new 5G connectivity.

You can also use its five cameras to create and share high-quality content. With three rear cameras and two front cameras, you can capture truly original selfies, pictures and videos with rich detail.

Artificial intelligence may still sound like science fiction, but the truth is, everyone is using it more and more each day. AI technology is helping people perform tasks and enhancing everyday life in so many ways - and there's no telling what the future may bring.

[1] Customers can add this new feature by accessing the LG support and updating their compatible TV's firmware with the latest version posted on that support site. TV models and release dates may vary by region.

Sunken Roses Need a Boost to Resist Disease

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Q I'm looking to replace several older rose bushes this year. Which roses are more resistant to rust, mold, etc.?

A Rust, mildew and black spot are the primary fungus diseases that plague Bay Area roses. These diseases attack the majority of the Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora and Floribunda varieties.

The very popular Floral Carpet Roses, which is a landscape rose, are not effected.

Those varieties introduced since the year 2000 are far more disease resistant than older varieties; but none are completely disease free.

You might consider the following choices: Neil Diamond, a pink with white stripes hybrid tea; Doris Day, a golden yellow floribunda; or Anna's Promise, a bicolor golden tan and pink blush with a copper reverse grandiflora.

There are a number of factors that contribute to rust, mildew and black spot on roses.

Mild nighttime temperatures and moisture on the foliage after the sun goes down is the key to all of these diseases. In addition, removing all the debris around the bushes after pruning is recommended to eliminate the over-wintering fungal spores.

With the spring rains, rust, mildew and black spot are an area-wide concern. You need to apply your fungicides prior to the problem occurring.

With roses, the infection occurs 12 to 18 days before the problem shows up on the foliage.

While there are plenty of rose disease controls available, there are no products that will eradicate the problem; hence, they return when the right conditions occur.

Fortunately, we have several systemic fungicides that can be applied ahead of time that will protect the foliage for six weeks. Bonide System Drench and Bayer All In One for Roses are



Rose varieties introduced since the year 2000 are more disease resistant than older varieties.

two such products. They are best applied when the new growth is at least an inch long and rain is in the long-range forecast.

If you're an organic gardener, these products are not for you.

After the rainy season concludes, watering the foliage in the late afternoons or those areas with an afternoon marine influence will prolong the problems into the summer and fall months.

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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Castro Valley			
2718 Jennifer Drive	94546: \$720,000 3 BD - 1,566 SF - 1962		
2260 Lobert Street	94546: \$745,000 2 BD - 966 SF - 1948		
4208 Lawrence Drive	94546: \$897,500 3 BD - 1,760 SF - 1958		
TOTAL SALES:	3		
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$720,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$745,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$897,500	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$787,500
San Leandro			
242 Caliente Drive	94578: \$500,000 3 BD - 1,245 SF - 1980		
16600 Hannah Drive	94578: \$563,000 2 BD - 850 SF - 1947		
14419 Seagate Drive	94577: \$585,000 2 BD - 1,346 SF - 1984		
1319 Lillian Avenue	94578: \$637,000 2 BD - 1,066 SF - 1947		
1326 Manor Boulevard	94579: \$703,000 4 BD - 1,611 SF - 1951		
805 Maud Avenue	94577: \$705,000 3 BD - 1,152 SF - 1945		
326 Dolores Avenue	94577: \$715,000 2 BD - 1,216 SF - 1923		
865 Emerald Avenue	94577: \$752,000 4 BD - 1,503 SF - 1946		
TOTAL SALES:	8		
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$500,000	MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$670,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$752,000	AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$645,000
San Lorenzo			
444 Via Coches	94580: \$600,000 3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1944		
15912 Mills Avenue	94580: \$670,000 3 BD - 1,304 SF - 1951		
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- ACROSS**

 - Cleans the floors
 - Pouch
 - One of the Three Bears
 - Admitting customers
 - Time of your life?
 - Change for a five
 - Draped dress
 - Sailor
 - Western state
 - Deceptive
 - Melody
 - Lengthwise, to 16-Across
 - In spades
 - Actress Farrow
 - Mai ___ (cocktail)
 - Exceptional
 - Corral
 - Check
 - Film trickery, for short
 - One of the Brady Bunch
 - Cartoonist Trudeau
 - Everywhere
 - Surround
 - Attachments
 - Blunder
 - Rowing need
 - Help in crime
 - Padlock fastener
 - Oilfield structure
 - Fourth dimension
 - Vocal comeback
 - Hearty brew
 - Surmounting
- DOWN**

 - Rolling stone's lack
 - Colorful fish
 - Graceful woman
 - Cold symptom
 - Attendant of Bacchus
 - ___ Khan
 - Foolproof
 - 100 pence
 - Enemy of an "army"?
 - Shade of green
 - Shade of blonde
 - Plaything
 - Actress Merkel
 - Make corrections
 - Equitable
 - Wee
 - St. Louis landmark
 - Creche trio
 - Annoyingly proper
 - Internet radio provider
 - Numbers to be crunched
 - Cookie container
 - Deity
 - Ballerina in "Fantasia"
 - Ginormous
 - Last write-up
 - "Finding ___"
 - Flight component
 - That girl
 - Fond du ___, Wis.
 - Have something

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

Marina: Project going through the 'approval process'

continued from front page

able to use the berths there since, and then only when the tide is high enough.

The occupancy of the Marina's berths is down to 58 boats and 5 live-aboards, for 63 total out of 462 slips, Public Works Director Debbie Pollart said. That is an occupancy rate of less than 14 percent.

No new rentals have been accepted since 2012.

Boat owners confirm that it has been getting harder to get in and out of the harbor, and seem resigned to eventually move their boats elsewhere.

Colin Scott was one of the last boat owners to move into the Marina, and he has to be careful getting his 25-foot boat with a 4-foot draft in and out of its berth.

At some low tides you can see mud around half the berths, he said.

Scott sees losing the harbor as a loss for the public, if a gain for some large private businesses.

There are still two yacht clubs operating at the Marina. San Leandro Yacht Club Port Captain Dwight Pitcaithley said people still gather socially there. They continue to teach safe boating classes through the Power Squadron organization. Socializing also continues at the Spinnaker Yacht



TIMES FILE PHOTO

At low tide parts of the marina now are mud flats, since the cost of dredging has made the marina too expensive to maintain for boats that require deeper water. When the marina is rebuilt it will just be for kayaks and other boats that can navigate in shallow water.

Club across the harbor.

"We've become more of a social club than a yacht club, though," said past Spinnaker Yacht Club Commodore Sunny Elliott.

She said the area between the public boat launch and the channel is often just mud, and they've seen plenty of groundings of boats, sometimes even jet skis. Sailboats need more of a draft than power boats, she said, and the former have largely disappeared from the Marina.

Spinnaker's Port Fleet Captain Mike Perkins said that some boaters are trying to hang on at the Marina. But he increasingly sees boaters who berth their boats

"We've become more of a social club than a yacht club."

— Spinnaker Yacht Club Commodore Sunny Elliott

elsewhere, then come to Spinnaker to socialize.

Public Works Director Pollart said that her department hopes to give boat owners six months or more notice before they have to vacate. She does not know just

when that might be, but it is not imminent.

Katie Bowman said that the city's approval process includes preliminary agreements with the developer, then a vote on plan details by the Board of Zoning Adjustments and for some items the City Council, and finally necessary permits have to be obtained.

Those permits come from regional, state and federal agencies, as well as city departments.

Bowman invited members of the public to bring their comments, suggestions, or complaints, to the Jan. 28 public meeting. Representatives of the developer will be there to answer questions along with city staff members.

City to Host a Pair of Meetings on Housing

The City of San Leandro will host two meetings on housing, public facilities, and social service needs as part of its update to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The meetings will be on Tuesday, Jan. 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd.; and on Wednesday, Jan. 29, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St.

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), uses census data and public comments to assess San Leandro's housing and community development needs. The Plan will cover the period from July 2020 through June 2025.

The meetings are held to determine priority needs in the community in areas such as affordable housing, public facility improvements, and social services, including basic needs programs, homelessness, crisis

shelters, and fair housing services.

Feedback received will be used to update the Plan. This document and grant application is what the City prepares to obtain annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME (HOME Investment Partnership Program) federal funding for local programs and projects that address the needs of city residents, especially low- and moderate-income residents.

Individuals who are interested in attending a meeting but need special accommodations due to physical disabilities or need translation services should contact the City Clerk's Office at 510-577-3351, TDD (510) 577-3343, five working days in advance of the meeting you wish to attend.

For more information, visit www.sanleandro.org/depts/cd/housing/plans.asp or contact Maryann Sargent, Senior Housing Specialist, at 510-577-6005 or msargent@sanleandro.org.

SL Garden Club to Meet

The San Leandro Garden Club meets every third Tuesday from September through June at the Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro.

This month's meeting will be on Jan. 21. Business meeting at 10 a.m., followed by speaker

Pete Veilleux of East Bay Wilds at 11 a.m.

The San Leandro Garden Club has been in existence for over 55 years, promoting gardening and providing community support. For more information, call Carla Francis 510-582-5288.

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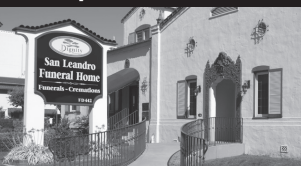
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LOCAL DEATHS

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. For assistance, call 510-614-1555.

Martha Jane (Walters) Carlos

February 5, 1936 - January 8, 2020

Jane passed away peacefully on Wednesday January 8th. She was born in Dayton, Ohio and moved to Phoenix, AZ at age 11. She married Louis in 1955 and then moved to San Leandro, where she lived for 65 years. She graduated from Cal State Hayward with a BA in English and a teaching credential. She taught students with learning disabilities for 25 years in the Dublin Unified School District.

Jane was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, Lou. Jane is survived by her daughter Susan Elliott and son-in-law Matt Elliott; daughter Sharon Carlos; grandchildren Adam Elliott, Ashley Grenier, Alli Hartmeyer, Katy Elliott, Tim Grenier, and Phil Hartmeyer; great-grandchildren Jacob Grenier, Wyatt Elliott, Emily Grenier, Tessa Elliott, Riley Grenier, and Ozzy Elliott; and many other family and friends.

Jane loved visiting with her grandkids and great-grandkids. She enjoyed reading, watching movies, and traveling, especially to the ocean and redwoods. A funeral service will be held at St. Felicitas Church, 1662 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro on Monday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. Services arranged by Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 510-483-0123.

LOCAL DEATHS

Joyce M. Williams

September 2, 1930 – December 15, 2019

Joyce Williams was a warm and loving mother and wife who dedicated her life to caring for her family. Fourth Generation Californian, her great-grandparents were pioneers of the San Joaquin Valley that settled in Modesto in 1851. Joyce graduated from San Leandro High School (SLHS class of 1948) and met her husband Jim Williams (SLHS class of 1947) several years later. She was an aspiring professional singer and she performed on early black and white television. Jim and Joyce married in 1951 and raised three children, Donna (SLHS class of 1973), Jim (SLHS class of 1975) and Michael (SLHS class of 1980) in beautiful San Leandro.



Joyce had a multitude of interesting jobs including a clerk at Western Pacific Railroad, teacher's aide with the San Leandro School District, Office Administrator at New Image Hair Salon at Estudillo Plaza -- and in her later career, she used to say she was "the oldest living Kelly Girl." With the love of music always at the forefront of her life she became a volunteer usher at the Circle Star Theater in the 1970s.

Joyce was well traveled and enjoyed visiting places in the United States and all over the world. She traveled to Hawaii, Europe, Egypt, Costa Rica, Seychelles and Africa. She was an avid reader, loved crossword puzzles and never met a sudoku puzzle she didn't like. Joyce and Jim retired to Santa Rosa in 1995 -- and embraced their new lives with passion, traveling throughout the region and meeting new friends.

Joyce was predeceased by her husband Jim in June 2017. She will be greatly missed by her three children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, family and friends. Her warm smile, great sense of humor and caring attitude made her a very special person.

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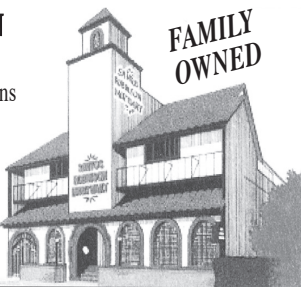
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MAC: Board to hear Ashland issues

continued from front page

"The first meeting of the Eden Area MAC represents a historic day for Alameda County by providing our unincorporated communities the localized representation they have long deserved," said Supervisor Chan.

The Eden Area MAC was created by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on Oct. 1, 2019. Appointees are either residents or business owners in the area.

Supervisor Chan's four appointees are Donald Clowser of San Lorenzo, Jennifer Ong of unincorporated Hayward, Eva Poon of Ashland and Diane Wydler of San Lorenzo. Supervisor Miley's three appointees are Tyler Dragoni of Ashland, Jennifer Esteen of Ashland and Michael Freed of Cherryland.

"Today, the residents of Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo, and Hayward Acres will be able to work together to advocate for services, opportunities, and a better quality of life through the formation of the Eden Area MAC," said Supervisor Miley.

Miley told the group that MACs often clarify issues and resolve problems before matters go to the board of

supervisors.

"And about 90 percent of the time, the supervisors go along with what the MAC recommends," he added.

The new board elected Jennifer Ong as its chair and Michael Freed as its vice chair, and heard presentations on public art projects planned for the area as well as economic development projects.

One speaker from the public got right to the point, welcoming the new body and saying that the Eden area needed to get a greater share of county attention and services. He called for more sidewalks and more parks, and said Eden's communities needed to unify and speak with one voice politically in county matters.

He said that the Eden communities had been gerrymandered in the past, split up between two supervisors' districts with the effect of diluting their political power. He noted that communities like Castro Valley or Pleasanton are within a single district, making it more likely their needs will be heard and addressed.

Another public speaker, Peter Barrows, noted that some Cherryland residents have been leading a move to have Hayward annex the community.



TIMES FILE PHOTO

The Ashland Market & Cafe opened last year.

"Why now, just as we're getting a MAC," he asked, adding that he personally preferred county law enforcement and firefighting to getting the same services from Hayward.

Among the economic development projects planned for the Eden area are Ashland Commons, a park area on East 14th St.; Cherryland Place, retail and housing on Mission Blvd.; the Cherryland Community Center at Hampton and Boston, scheduled to open in December 2020; a revitalized Lorenzo Theater complex on Hesperian Boulevard; and the Village Green housing development facing it across Hesperian near Paseo Grande.

Hayward Area Recreation District Senior Softball Season Gearing Up for Its 30th Year

The Hayward Area Recreation District's senior softball program is gearing up for the 2020 season and its 30th year.

The initial meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at the San Felipe Center, 2058 D St. in Hayward. Applications to play are now available online at hardseniorsoftball.com. The league is open to men and women.

The league will consist of the following three age divisions-50s, 60s and 70s. The 60s division will play on Tuesday morning, the 70s division will play on Wednesday mornings, and the 50s division will play on Thursday mornings.

New players need to attend one of the practice sessions, which will be held at the Castro Valley Community Center on

Lake Chabot Road at 10 a.m. on the dates of February 4, 11, and 18. There will be a draft after the last practice session.

The leagues will begin league play on March 17 at the Alden E. Oliver Fields on Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward and continue through September, finishing after the playoffs and championship games.

Gold Rush Excavator Coming to Town

Volvo Construction and Equipment Services, 1944 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro, is hosting the Discovery Channel's *Gold Rush*, gold painted excavator tour on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

See the Gold Rush excavator up close and meet Dave Turin from the *Gold Rush* show.

Enjoy great food, fun and raffles while checking out the latest Volvo construction equipment.

The event is free, including the food, and the goal is to bring awareness to the San Leandro Education Foundation (SLED), which supports local public schools, and to kick off the 10th season of Gold Rush.

Project Literacy at The SL Library Looking for Tutors

San Leandro Public Library's adult and family literacy program, Project Literacy, is seeking volunteer literacy tutors.

Find out how you can help others learn to read by attending Project Literacy's Tutor Orientation on Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Additional required tutor trainings: Tutor Training Part 1 on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Tutor

Training Part 2 on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., also at the Main Library. All prospective tutors must attend all three sessions.

Lunch is provided on both Saturday training sessions. For more information or to register, please call 577-3944. Visit Project Literacy on the web at sanleandrolibrary.org under the 'Services' tab.

"People don't realize how a man's whole life can be changed by a book."

— Malcolm X

INQUIRING REPORTER

Are you a summer person or a winter person?

— Asked downtown

I like the summer but sometimes it's too hot, but the winter has the holidays, Halloween and Thanksgiving through Christmas and New Years where people get together with family.

Monica Rivera

San Leandro



I'm a summer person, because it's warmer and I work outdoors. And there are a lot of fun things to do in the summer.

Connie McWilliams

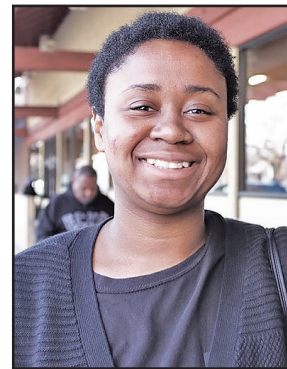
San Leandro



I'm a summer person. I don't like cold. I'm a Pisces and I enjoy the water.

Maria Kastner

Oakland



I'm a winter person, because in the winter you can dress warmer. I like to wear sweaters and dress comfortably.

Angela Pratt

San Leandro



Spring! Because everything is blooming and it's beautiful. Everything is coming back to life.

Elrita Larry

Oakland

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.

Unhappy with the GOP

Editor:

I have discovered that, as a registered Republican, I won't be able to vote for Elizabeth Warren on the California 2020 Primary ballot.

What happened to the open primary? How else can I show the GOP how angry I am with them? They only listen to \$\$\$\$ and votes.

—Joan Soo
San Leandro

A Political Power Struggle?

Editor:

I watched the video for the dis-

cussion of the appointment of Vice Mayor and then the vote. Councilmember Cornia Lopez nominated Councilmember Benny Lee for Vice Mayor. The vote was Councilmember Lopez, Councilmember Aguilar and Councilmember Lee YES; Mayor Cutter, Councilmember Cox and Councilmember Hernandez NO; Councilmember Ballew Abstain.

With a quick glance, it does seem to show the diverse members standing together and then leads me to wonder what political power struggles are going on. Why would Mayor Cutter, Councilmember Cox,

and Councilmember Hernandez not want Councilmember Lee to serve as Vice Mayor?

The appointment of Vice Mayor continues to be a political hot button in San Leandro. It is my belief that each Councilmember elected, should have the opportunity to serve a full year as Vice Mayor at least once, especially if they serve two full terms (8 years) - they obviously have the support of the residents (remember Councilmembers are elected City wide). Creating a policy to rotate the Vice Mayor would eliminate the unconscious bias and behind the scenes political power struggles.

Ultimately, Councilmember Ballew was elected Vice Mayor. He is someone I respect and appreciate having on Council, though do feel that Councilmember Lee deserved the appointment.

—Diana Souza
San Leandro

Student Orators to Lead Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

Two programs for MLK Day to be presented at the Senior Community Center on Monday

The City of San Leandro’s annual celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be on Monday, Jan. 20, at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St., free of charge and open to the public. The celebration includes live entertainment, a student oratorical contest, crafts for kids, and light refreshments. Students attending San Leandro schools between the 3rd and 12th grades are encouraged to participate in the Oratorical Festival and Poetry Slam. Students are eligible to win gift card prizes in their grade category. Entry forms are available online at <https://Bit.ly/MLKjr2020>. “It makes me so happy that the city is able to again host this annual event commemorating the birthday of Dr. King and honoring his lifelong work toward equality and peace,” said Mayor Pauline Cutter. “I encourage the public to come out and join us in the celebrations and witness the incredible talent of our local youth.” This event is made possible by a donation from the San Leandro Optimist Club. For more information, contact Liz Hodgins with the Recreation and Human Services Department at 510-577-3473 or ehodgins@sanleandro.org.

Unity in the Community to Host Panel for MLK Day

Unity in the Community San Leandro will present a program to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, Jan. 20, at 12:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St., in San Leandro. The program will feature entertainment by the Bancroft Middle School Jazz Band and a panel discussion with student leaders from San Leandro High School, facilitated by Alameda County Schools Superintendent L. Karen Monroe. The theme will reflect upon the legacy of Dr. King, education and community service. The program follows another event, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Festival and Poetry Slam that will be held at the Senior Community Center, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Unity in the Community San Leandro is a local community group advocating to remove racial barriers and erase racism. For more information, call Event Committee Chair Monique Tate at 510-913-2900 or email unityinthecommunitysl@gmail.com.

SLZ High Offers Financial Aid Assistance for College

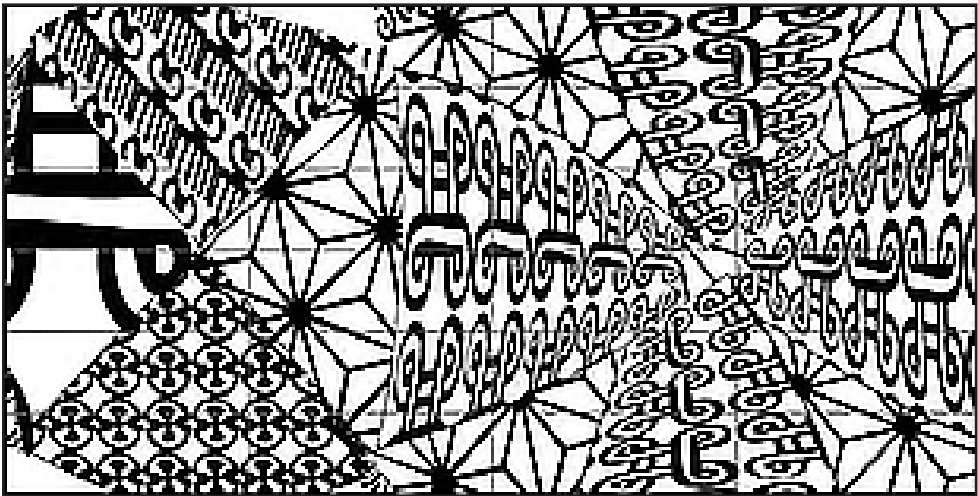
San Lorenzo High School is hosting a Cash for College Night on Thursday, Jan. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the D-Hall Computer Labs, free for all high school seniors and their families who would like assistance in completing their financial aid applications (FAFSA and CA Dream Act for undocumented students). Financial aid is available for community colleges, four year universities, and some trade schools. Come with a parent or guardian and bring 2018 federal tax forms and other financial documents, though students can still work on the application without the forms. Financial aid experts and translators will be available. For more information, call Katricia Manalo at 510-317-3129.



Programs in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. are scheduled for San Leandro and Hayward for Monday.

Hayward Program to Mark MLK Day

A morning rally and march followed by an evening musical tribute will honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday, Jan. 20, at 9:30 a.m. at Hayward City Hall Plaza, 777 B St. in Hayward. The Martin Luther King Jr. Day March is organized by South Hayward Parish with the theme, “Immigration: Love Without Borders.” There will be a rally, music and speeches, followed by a procession through downtown Hayward. Later that day, at 4:30 p.m., Hayward’s 34th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration will commence at the Reed L. Buffington Visual & Performing Art Center at Chabot College, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward. Musical and spoken-word performances to be delivered in tribute to the great civil rights leader, including the Mt. Eden High School Choir, members of the Chabot College Forensics Team, the Cherryland Elementary School Dramatic Chorus, the Brett Hart Middle School Slam Poets, and the Mt. Eden High School Men’s and Chamber choirs. The Dr. King Birthday Celebration began in Hayward in 1986. In 1993, the event Planning Committee began honoring individuals who have contributed substantially to advancing Dr. King’s work and commitment to civil rights and social justice within the Hayward community. That tradition continues this year with the presentation of the Planning Committee’s Community Award by Freddy M. Davis, president of the Hayward South Alameda County NAACP. The evening, with former Mayor Michael Sweeney serving as master of ceremonies, will conclude with a sing-a-long led by the Mt. Eden High School Choir of “Happy Birthday,” as arranged by Stevie Wonder.



One of the designs for Hesperian Boulevard in San Lorenzo is by Raylene Gorum.

Project: Design taken from nature

continued from front page project “Thrive,” alluding to Ashland’s agricultural past and his desire for Ashland to grow and flourish as people are given opportunities. “My hope is that when people see my artwork, they see an Ashland that thrives because of its richness in diversity, a nurturing community, connection to each other and the beauty of the surrounding natural environment,” Chinn said. Artist Sheila Ghidini’s project for Hesperian Boulevard has seven different aspects of natural gardens that once existed in San Lorenzo – the shore, trees, creeks, flowers, fruit, vegetables, and the returning Monarch butterflies. “Most of these were gleaned from community meetings in which memories of these places were shared,” Ghidini said in her artist’s statement for the project. Examples of the designs by Chinn and Ghidini and the other finalists are on the county website listed above. People are encouraged to submit comments on the artists’ proposals. The comment period closes on Jan. 26.

Send Your Sweetheart & Loved Ones a Special Valentine Message

Published in the February 12th issue of the Castro Valley Forum and the February 13th issue of the San Leandro Times!

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RONNIE, Andrew & Ashleigh

Happy Valentine's Day!

To the world's most terrific kids.

All our love, Mama and Denny

STYLE #1

Line of hearts • First line bold

Up to 20 words

♥

JOAN

Happy Valentine's Day To My Love

We'll Be Together Always — RJ

STYLE #2

Large heart • Short name on heart

Up to 10 words

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

TO MY VALENTINE

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

JOAN SMITH

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

ALL MY LOVE

ROBERT JONES

STYLE #3

All-cap message over large heart

Up to 10 words

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

JOAN SMITH

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Thank You For Being My True Love

For All These Years!

Your Sweetheart,

Robert Jones

STYLE #4

All-cap name with hearts

Up to 20 words

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