



Get to the Root

CARROTS TASTE GREAT IN BAKED FOODS
AND IN COOKIES AND CAKES..... 4

WEEKEND WEATHER
RAIN Rain thru Sunday
HIGHS: 54-56
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 41-47

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 34 • NO. 9

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

Year of the Dragon

The Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco is one of the biggest celebrations of Asian culture outside of Asia. A big crowd came to see the parade on Saturday evening, lining the sidewalk on Market Street, up past Union Square and then onto Grant Avenue.



Speedway Gas Station Manager Killed

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

A 78-year-old service station manager was killed in an altercation with another man at the Speedway Gas station on East 14th Street and Bancroft Avenue last Thursday, according to police.

The manager of the gas station and convenience store, Wadih Badran, was pronounced dead at the scene.

"It appeared the suspect shoved the victim into a stationary pole, which caused traumatic injuries to the vic-

tim, resulting in his death," said Lieutenant E.A. Teng of the San Leandro Police Department.

Police arrived at the gas station just after noon on Feb. 22. Emergency calls said an employee was seriously injured. Officers found the store manager deceased and the suspect gone.

The gas station remained closed over the weekend and was open again on Tuesday.

see **MANAGER**, page 11



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

The manager of the Speedway gas station at East 14th and Bancroft was shoved into a pole and died.

Council Picks Viveros-Walton To Dist. 1 Seat

District 1 City Council seat needed to be filled by Feb. 29

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro City Council unanimously appointed Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton to the District 1 City Council seat at a special meeting on Tuesday.

Viveros-Walton will be sworn in at the March 4 council meeting and will sit with her fellow council members that night and engage in city business, according to City Clerk Kelly Clancy.

Viveros-Walton's term expires on December 31. But she can run for the same seat in November, potentially extending her term to the end

of 2026.

Viveros-Walton replaces Celina Reynes, who resigned from the City Council at the end of 2023. Reynes endorsed Viveros-Walton earlier this month.

During public comment, more than a dozen speakers, including the CEO and president of the Chamber of Commerce, Emily Greigo, praised Viveros-Walton for her community work and endorsed her as the top choice.

Mayor Juan González acknowledged the other 17 ap-

see **VIVEROS-WALTON**, page 11

Two Killed on Miramonte Avenue

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Alameda County Sheriff's Department deputies are investigating a double homicide following an altercation near an apartment on the 2000 block of Miramonte Avenue and Foothill Boulevard on Saturday afternoon.

The sheriff's office has not

yet released the names of the victims.

Deputies responded to a report of a shooting in the area on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 3:30 p.m. They found a man in his 30s outside the complex who had been shot, unresponsive, and lying on the sidewalk.

Deputies tried to revive

see **MIRAMONTE**, page 5

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38,500 EVERY THURSDAY
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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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Scouts Install Little Libraries at Urban Farm

By Jennifer J. Petrick
Special to the Times

An urban farm project worked with Scouts BSA Troop 708 to enhance an urban farm with three “little free libraries” and supplies of donated books.

Troop 708 in Castro Valley, which includes scouts from San Leandro and San Lorenzo, built the little libraries and installed them earlier this month at Acta Non Verba Youth Urban Farm Project (ANV) at City Slicker Farms on Peralta Street in Oakland. ANV is a nonprofit organization that teaches children about the importance of growing food at its working farm.

Eagle Scout candidate Dillon McVeigh developed, planned, and provided leadership to others during his community service project.

Several steps were involved in developing the project. During a summer job assignment at the site for FunFlicks outdoor movies,

McVeigh learned of the site’s need. After gaining approval of his Eagle Scout Service Project proposal, McVeigh organized a book-drive through his school and troop. He then managed a fundraising effort and purchased Little Free Library kits and supplies.

Meantime over 250 donated books were sorted into categories focusing on children, nature, and science, with the remainder to be donated to Alameda Free Library.

McVeigh then solicited fellow scouts and high-school volunteers for the painting, installation, and assembly of the libraries.

Under the leadership of McVeigh, fellow volunteers managed to complete the project on a Saturday that just so happened to coincide with a brief break in the winter rain cycle. The two dozen volunteers finished the project, producing wonderful additions to the urban farm.

The newly installed librar-



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER PETRICK

Troop 708 Eagle Scout Candidate Dillon McVeigh and Tony “Chicago” Bennett of City Slicker Farms celebrate completion of a Scout Service Project.

ies stood fast through the next day’s heavy rainstorm.

ANV strengthens young

people’s understanding of nutrition, food production, healthy living, and the natural environment, and strengthens their ties to their community.

There are five scout troops, plus three linked girl troops in Castro Valley, and more units in San Leandro and the surrounding areas, all part of the Golden Gate Area Council, (formerly known as San Francisco Bay Area Council). To find out more about scouting, enter your zip code at: BeAScout.org. All youth ages 11-17 are welcome. Chartered by Castro Valley Rotary since 1955, Troop 708 meets Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 2490 Grove Way in Castro Valley.



The scout project resulted in three little libraries with books focusing on children, nature and science that were installed at the Acta Non Verba Youth Urban Farm.

Bay-O-Vista

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Community Calendar

San Leandro Toastmasters to Meet

San Leandro Toastmasters invites everyone to a Hybrid Open House on Thursday, Feb. 29, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., or through Zoom (email SanLeandroTM@gmail.com for the link). Toastmasters is a supportive, fun environment to flex your public speaking and leadership skills. Unleash your potential as a communicator and leader.

How the Cannery Shaped San Leandro

Learn "How the Cannery Shaped San Leandro" at the San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., on Saturday, March 2, from 1 to 2 p.m. or 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Also, you can create a strawberry jam to take home. This program is for ages 10+, adult supervision is required. Registration is required for either time slot, spaces are limited. Visit: <http://tinyurl.com/slcanery> to register for either time slot. Email historymuseum@sanleandro.org if you have any questions.

Castro Valley Orchestra Free Concert

Castro Valley Orchestra will perform a free concert on Sunday, March 3, at 2 p.m. at Grant-Miller Mortuary's historic chapel at 2850 Telegraph Ave., in Oakland. There is parking in the back of the building. The orchestra will perform works by Faure, Warlock, Jacob, and Ewazen.

SL High United Parents Crab Feed

The San Leandro High School United Parents will host a crab feed on Friday, March 9, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 2200 San Leandro Blvd. Tickets are \$70. Order by March 1. (www.32auctions.com/SLHSUPCrabFeed2024) Pre-sold tickets only. No-host bar and dessert bar, raffle, auction items. All proceeds fund programs directly supporting students. For more information or if you need to pay by check, email slhsunitedparents@pirates@gmail.com.

Books Inc. Warehouse Sale

Books Inc., 2483 Washington Ave. in San Leandro, will hold a Warehouse Sale on Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. New books will be on sale for \$5 to \$10, and gifts and games at up to 70 percent off.

Hearing Loss Assoc. to Learn about Caption Glasses

The Hearing Loss Association of the East Bay will hold a hybrid meeting (in-person and Zoom) on Saturday, March 9, at 9:30 a.m. in the Oakland Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Fabiola Bldg., 3801 Howe St., Lower Level, Room G26. The presentation will be about the new hearing assistive technology. Riley Ellingsen, Co-founder and CEO of heARsight, will introduce us to new Augmented Reality glasses that will provide captions literally before your very eyes. RSVP at: <https://www.hearinglosseb.org/> and click on "Monthly Meeting." For more information, email info@HearingLossEB.org or call 510-684-1432.

Arroyo Athletic Boosters Crab Feed

Arroyo Athletic Boosters will hold their Crab Feed Fund-raiser on Saturday, March 16, from 4:30 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$75 for adults, \$50 for kids 6 to 12. All you can eat cold crab, salad, pasta, bread. Raffle Prizes, DJ, No-Host Bar. Tickets: <https://ahs.slzsd.org/apps/pages/arroyocrabfeed>

Alta Mira Club St. Patrick's Day Tea Dance

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a St. Patrick's Day Tea Dance featuring the Paul Price Society Orchestra on Sunday, March 17, from 3 to 5 p.m. Listen or dance to vintage music from 1890 to 1935. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Tickets are \$15. Green attire optional. For reservations, contact Grace Gallagher at gracegg@aol.com or 510-568-9322.

The Joy of Textile Art

Textile art by members of the African American Quilt Guild of Oakland is on display through April 9 at the Hayward Area Historical Society Museum, 22380 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. The display showcases a collection of 40 quilts by East Bay artists, as well as the culture, heritage, and traditions of African American quilting.

Become a Member of the Civil Grand Jury

The Civil Grand Jury in Alameda County acts as an arm of the superior court system and is tasked to examine and investigate any and all local government and public agencies that do business in Alameda County.

This includes county

and local government agencies, school districts and transportation and utility agencies.

The Jury ensures that these agencies are operating in the best public interest and in a fiscally responsible manner.

Jurors serve a one year

term beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the next calendar year.

They must be over the age of 18 and are residents of Alameda County for at least one year.

It is an excellent way to serve the citizens of Alameda

County and get a unique perspective of how our government agencies work.

To apply go to <https://grandjury.acgov.org/join-us/>, fill out an application form and sign by docuSign.

Application are due by April 1.

Age-Friendly Action Plan Survey

Want to help make San Leandro a great place to live a long and vibrant life?

The City of San Leandro's Senior Commission and Human Services Department (HSD) are encouraging all San Leandro residents, regardless of age, to complete a short age-friendly survey between now and April 12.

Age-friendly means a community that supports active aging, provides accessible infrastructure, promotes social

inclusion, and fosters intergenerational connections.

Your survey responses will help inform the priorities and specific projects in the City's first-ever Age-Friendly Action Plan. All completed surveys automatically enter you into a raffle to win a \$50 Visa gift card.

It only takes a few minutes to rank the Action Plan projects the City should prioritize first. You can even offer and rank your own age-friendly

project ideas.

To complete a survey, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N2MJGJL>. Email Mike King at mk.pearstreetconsulting@gmail.com, or visit www.sanleandro.org/agefriendly, with any questions, or for more information about the survey or Age-Friendly San Leandro.

SL Scholarship Foundation Fundraising Dinner

The San Leandro Scholarship Foundation is hosting its annual Scholarship Dinner and Silent Auction to benefit graduating seniors on Thursday, March 14, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. in San Leandro.

A social time and silent auction will begin at 6 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by students from the

San Leandro High School Orchestra, Jazz Band, and performers from Mamma Mia, and the keynote speaker will be Carolina Ixta, SLUSD teacher and award-winning author.

To donate or purchase tickets visit <https://www.sanleandrof.com> or for more information, contact Chad Pennebaker at sanleandrof@gmail.com, or 510-289-9225.

The scholarships go to local graduating seniors who are going to college or trade school.

Women's History Month Tiny Art Show at the Library

The San Leandro Public Library is celebrating Women's History Month this March by honoring women artists with their 3rd Annual Tiny Art Show.

Register at the Main Library information desk to receive a mini art kit and create your masterpiece inspired by a woman artist now through Feb-

ruary 29, while supplies last.

Kit includes a 3" x 3" canvas, paint and brushes along with some ideas to help you get started. Participants are invited to submit their work to be part of the show which will be up throughout March.

Visit the library's website for more information at sanleandrolibrary.org

Adults learn to read free!



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San Leandro Public Library
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- Flexible hours
- One-on-one tutoring
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Castro Valley Orchestra Concert



SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024

2:00 P.M.

Featuring

"Capriole Suite"

by Peter Warlock

"Masques et Bergamasques"

by Gabriel Faure

"Old Wine in New Bottles"

by Gordon Jacob

Admission is free but donations will be welcome.

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CASTRO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATION JOB FAIR

Saturday, March 16th
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Castro Valley High School, 19400 Santa Maria Ave.
CVUSD is seeking talented and diverse Education Staff at all levels, TK -12

- Speech and Language Pathologist
- TK-12 Classroom Teachers
- Bilingual (Spanish or Cantonese) Social Worker K-12
- Special Education Teachers: Orientation & Mobility Teacher VI • Resource Specialist SDC Mod/Severe, Mild/Mod, Moderate
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Questions? Contact Personnel: 510-537-3000 Ext. 1215
For more information and to apply:
www.EdJoin.org/CVUSD



Old-fashioned Carrot Cake with cream-cheese frosting

Rooting for Carrots

Carrots are one of those Plain-Jane, ho-hum vegetables that nobody gets excited about. But aside from being a very nutritious side dish, there may be no vegetable that rivals the carrot when it comes to adding flavor, sweetness and moisture to all manner of

baked goods.

CARROT & RAISIN SALAD

- 5 cups of shredded carrots
- 1-1/2 cups of celery, chopped
- 1-1/2 cups of mayonnaise.
- 3/4 cup of raisins.

- 3/4 cup of walnuts, chopped.
- 2 teaspoons of sugar.
- 1 teaspoon of mustard.
- 1/4 teaspoon of salt.

In a bowl, combine the carrots, celery, raisins and walnuts. Add the other ingredients and mix thoroughly. Serve on lettuce leaves. Yields 6 servings.

CARROT COOKIES

- 1 cup shortening
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cooked, mashed

- carrots
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Orange Icing: Juice of 1/2 orange (3 to 4 tablespoons)
- Grated rind of 1 orange
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1-1/4 cup sifted confectioners' sugar

Beat shortening; gradually add sugar, beating until light and fluffy. Add egg, carrots and vanilla, beating well after each addition. Sift together dry ingredients; stir into carrot mixture and mix well. Stir in chopped nuts, if using. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 350° for about 20 minutes. Transfer cookies to racks to cool.

For the icing, combine juice and orange rind with butter; stir in sifted confectioners' sugar until desired spreading consistency is reached. Add more juice or confectioners' sugar as needed.

Ice cookies with Orange Icing while still warm.

CARROT-PINEAPPLE BARS

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose unbleached flour
- 1/4 cup quick-cooking oats
- Topping: 1 cup drained crushed pineapple
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon rind

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg, well-beaten
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 1-1/2 cups finely shredded carrots
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350°F. Cream butter with brown sugar, then stir in the flour and oats; mix until crumbly. Press over the bottom and up the sides of an 8-inch square pan. Prick with a fork. Bake for 15 minutes, or until golden.

To make the topping while the crust is baking, mix together the pineapple and lemon rind; set aside. Mix together the sugar, egg, melted butter, carrots and nuts.

Remove the crust from the oven and spread the pineapple over it. Spread the carrot mixture over the pineapple and return to the oven. Bake for 20 minutes longer.

Cool on a rack, then cut into bars. Yields 12 to 16 bars.

BUTTERED CARROTS

- 1 pound carrots, trimmed and scraped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 tablespoon finely chopped parsley

Cut the carrots into very thin slices. Place them in a small skillet and add salt, pepper, sugar, water and butter.

Cover the pan and cook over medium heat, shaking the skillet occasionally. Cook

about 8 minutes until the carrots are tender, the liquid has disappeared, and the carrots are slightly glazed. Take care they do not burn. Sprinkle the parsley over them and serve. Yields 4 servings.



OLD-FASHIONED CARROT CAKE

- Butter, for pans
- 2 cups flour, plus more for pans
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups vegetable oil
- 3 cups grated carrots
- 1-1/2 cups chopped pecans
- Frosting: 2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 stick salted butter, room temperature
- 1 (16-ounce) box powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour 3 (9-inch) round pans; Line bottom of the pans with parchment paper.

In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt. Add eggs and vegetable oil. Using a hand mixer, blend until combined. Add carrots and pecans, if using.

Pour into pans. Bake for approximately 40 minutes.

Remove from oven and cool for 5 minutes. Remove from pans, place on waxed paper and allow to cool completely before frosting.

For the frosting: Add all ingredients, except nuts, into a medium bowl and beat until fluffy using a hand mixer. Stir in the nuts. Spread frosting on top of each cake layer. Stack the cakes on a serving plate and serve.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Attorney for Successor Trustee,
BETTY WONG

Case No. RP23143941

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(PROBATE CODE
SECTION 19003 et seq)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PROBATE DIVISION - BERKELEY COURTHOUSE

In re the POLLY F. WONG and SHU K. WONG
REVOCABLE TRUST (the "Trust") created
September 21, 2001 as amended by Polly F. Wong
and Shu K. Wong as Settlers/Trustees,
Decedents.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the creditors and contingent creditors of the above-named Decedents, that all persons having claims against the Decedents are required to file them with the Superior Court located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, California 94704 and mail or deliver a copy to Betty Wong as Successor Trustee of the Trust dated September 21, 2001 as amended wherein the Decedents were the Settlers in care of Law Office of Kristina E. Rubio, 1177 Branham Lane, #408, San Jose, California 95118 within the later of four (4) months after the date of the first publication of the notice to creditors or, if notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, sixty (60) days after the date this notice is mailed or personally delivered to you. A claim form may be obtained from the court clerk. For your protection, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.

LAW OFFICE OF KRISTINA E. RUBIO

Dated: May 17, 2023

Kristina E. Rubio

By: Kristina E. Rubio, Esq.
Title: Attorney for Successor Trustee, Betty Wong

Public Notice

San Lorenzo USD Public Hearing on Trustee Voting Areas

As part of the transition to a by-trustee area election system by the San Lorenzo Unified School District, the District's Governing Board will hold a public hearing to receive community comments and public testimony concerning proposed trustee voting area plans. The proposed trustee voting area maps are/ will be available for viewing on the District's website, and updated as necessary, at least 7 days prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will be held during a Governing Board meeting on March 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., located at the District Office Boardroom, 15510 Usher Street, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 or via Zoom by visiting www.slusd.org/apps/pages/boardmeetings, then scrolling and clicking "Agenda" next to "March 5, 2024." A Zoom Webinar link will then appear at the top of the page for virtual participation.



San Lorenzo Unified
School District

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

W	A	R	M	I	D	S	P	E	E	K
A	C	A	T	C	R	U	R	A	S	H
D	A	N	K	N	E	S	S	I	S	A
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A	R	E	A		U	R	I	O	V	E
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PHOTO COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff's deputies found one man dead of gunshot wounds on the sidewalk and two other men shot in an apartment nearby.

Miramonte: One gunshot victim survives, two killed by gunfire

continued from front page

him, but he succumbed to his injuries and died at the scene.

Deputies later found two other men suffering from gunshot wounds located in a nearby apartment, according to Lt. Ty Modeste of the Alameda County Sheriff's Department. Life-saving measures were performed on

both men before paramedics arrived and transported them to Eden Hospital.

"One victim is a 55-year-old male who sustained non-life-threatening injuries," Lt. Modeste said. "The second victim was a male in his 30s who was critically injured and later died at the hospital."

Investigators are working

with the family to sort out the details of the shooting, which they have determined resulted from a family disturbance, according to Modeste.

Anyone with additional information regarding the incident is asked to contact investigators at 510-667-3636 or the anonymous tip line at 510-667-3622.

HEALTH & FITNESS

16 Brilliant Things I Came Up with About Fitness

By Mitch Rothbardt
Special to the Times

A few weeks ago, my family and I went to the Leshner Center in Walnut Creek to see a touching play called "Every Brilliant Thing." In it, the main character starts a list of everything that makes him happy so he can cheer up his depressed mother. If you have a chance to see it, I would recommend it.

In that spirit, I thought I would write 16 brilliant things about fitness. These are in no particular order.

- 1.) The idea that anyone can feel better.
- 2.) The resilience and empowerment it brings.
- 3.) Puppies and kitties (maybe this isn't about fitness, but it always applies.)
- 4.) The empowering feeling of being able to do something you couldn't do before.
- 5.) The rush you get when you finish a good workout.
- 6.) That feeling in your hamstrings when you get straight leg deadlifts just right.

7.) That feeling in your core when you get "dead bugs" just right (an exercise done on your back).

8.) When you figure out another piece in the puzzle that is your body and how it moves.

9.) Dumbbell curls.

10.) The thrill of knowing you are still capable of surprising yourself.

11.) Discovering how to deal with failure.

12.) The kind of laughter that only comes after giving

every single thing you have.

13.) Tomorrow's workout.

14.) Doing something good for yourself.

15.) Being out of breath for a good reason.

16.) Better bone density.

What are your brilliant things about fitness? Drop me an email and let me know.

Mitch Rothbardt is the owner and head trainer at Castro Valley Fitness. He can be reached at Mitch@CastroValleyFitness.com.

MARCH 3RD, 2024

LIMITED
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Pets of the Week



Copper

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are a dachshund mix and a pair of poodles.

Copper is a 2-year-old dachshund mix. He's a skinny boy dealing with a poor start at life. Copper seeks attention and enjoys



Benny and Lenny

interaction from everyone.

Benny and Lenny are a bonded pair of male poodles at 2 years old. They rely on each other for different things, one likes to play with humans and the other wants to play with toys.

To meet or adopt Copper or Benny and Lenny, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Get Ready for March Madness

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

Statistics reveal that online dating app activity increases. First appearing in 1995, online dating apps have soared in popularity from “cheesy” to “essential.” In fact, latest figures reveal that over 30% of couples get started on a dating app and of those who connect, close to 70% end up in a relationship. While Match.com produced the first dating app, in 2012 Tinder changed the game by adding the “swipe left – swipe right” feature that has not only become mainstream on dating apps but has become part of our vernacular.

Ironically, selling a home is very similar to online dating. Just like dating apps, online real estate portals also see an increase in traffic heading into February.

Just like dating apps, many real estate apps also have the ability to like properties that fit your criteria and dismiss those that do not.

Buyer habits have changed considerably with the advent of online real estate portals like Realtor.com, Homes.com and Zillow. Instead of getting in their cars and heading out looking for open homes, buyers now sit on their sofas with their mobile devices, put their criteria into the apps and begin looking at the homes that appear. If they like what they see in any specific profile, they will then make plans to visit in person by either contacting their real estate agent or showing up at an open house. It is important to understand that they will never visit homes they do not like.

Research shows that sellers have between 7-10

seconds on online portals to make a positive impression. If a buyer likes what they see in those initial moments, they will stay focused on your property and spend more time looking at the pictures, reading the property characteristics and, hopefully, set an appointment to view the home in person.

With this in mind, it is important for sellers to understand the importance of maximizing their properties to get the best possible results online. In the same way a dating profile should have a good picture and detailed information, homes that make an impression online are those that have been upgraded and then marketed with staging, professional pictures, 3D tours, comprehensive, well-written comments and more.

Looking for a “sweet-heart buyer” to make an offer? Take the time to set the stage for success and you could end up in a winning relationship!

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.

The Garden Bug

Late winter garden tasks



Preparing for spring gardening can include taking a soil sample to your county extension office (or purchasing an at-home testing kit) to learn what nutrients may need to be purchased and integrated into your soil before planting.

Treading across the earth while it is still wet can lead to soil compaction; this impedes root growth and affects water drainage during the growing season. Plan walkways throughout your planting areas using stones, mulch or gravel.

If soil “heaving” has exposed your in-ground perennials and bulbs and temps are still very cold, protective mulch should stay in place over them and may need to be supplemented. – Brenda Weaver

Source: thespruce.com

Mortgage Rates Continue to Rise, Nearing Seven Percent

Strong incoming economic and inflation data has caused the market to re-evaluate the path of monetary policy, leading to higher mortgage rates. Historically, the combination of a vibrant economy and modestly higher rates did not meaningfully impact the housing market. The current cycle is different than historical norms, as housing affordability is so low that good economic news equates to bad news for homebuyers, who are sensitive to even minor shifts in affordability.

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RECENT HOME SALES

Home sales information is compiled and provided by CalREsource and includes Bedrooms, Square Feet and Year Built when available

Castro Valley

2690 Watson Street 94546: \$820,000 [3 BD - 1,104 SF - 1948
21270 Sweet Lane 94546: \$837,000 [3 BD - 1,015 SF - 1954
4175 Berdina Road 94546: \$881,000 [2 BD - 902 SF - 1940
6445 Boone Drive 94552: \$1,250,000 [3 BD - 1,852 SF - 1986
2491 Irma Way 94546: \$1,300,000 [3 BD - 1,996 SF - 1952
7522 Denison Place 94552: \$1,750,000 [4 BD - 2,690 SF - 1999]
TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$820,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,065,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,750,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$1,139,666

Hayward

26088 Kay Avenue #211 94545: \$425,000 [2 BD - 840 SF - 1985
797 Sageleaf Court 94544: \$565,000 [4 BD - 1,312 SF - 1980
421 Bartlett Avenue 94541: \$600,000 [2 BD - 1,423 SF - 1947
164 Newton Street 94544: \$620,000 [3 BD - 1,070 SF - 1952
682 Bluefield Lane 94541: \$650,000 [3 BD - 1,150 SF - 1957
2705 Arf Avenue 94545: \$657,500 [3 BD - 1,254 SF - 1971
25889 Bryn Mawr Avenue 94542: \$685,000 [2 BD - 888 SF - 1951
2195 Oak Creek Place 94541: \$700,000 [2 BD - 1,488 SF - 1978
22877 Arnold Court 94541: \$745,000 [3 BD - 1,023 SF - 1949
22828 Optimist Street 94541: \$800,000 [3 BD - 1,587 SF - 1950
27936 Candlewood Place 94545: \$819,000 [3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1955
24836 Oneil Avenue 94544: \$860,000 [5 BD - 2,062 SF - 1920
108 Sunswep Court 94544: \$880,000 [4 BD - 1,855 SF - 2019
22635 Myrtle Circle 94541: \$1,052,000 [4 BD - 1,607 SF - 2016
30559 Vanderbilt Street 94544: \$1,085,000 [3 BD - 1,392 SF - 1958
3161 Bridle Drive 94541: \$1,400,000 [4 BD - 2,684 SF - 1959
25199 Campus Drive 94542: \$1,450,000 [3 BD - 2,031 SF - 1977
2764 Shellgate Circle 94545: \$1,487,500 [4 BD - 2,452 SF - 2003
29953 Sugar Maple Court 94544: \$1,650,000 [4 BD - 2,785 SF - 1998
2724 Spindrift Court 94545: \$1,850,000 [3,651 SF - 2005]

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$425,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$809,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,850,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$949,050

San Leandro

13840 Samoa Road 94577: \$860,000 [4 BD - 1,493 SF - 1961
2069 Vestal Court 94577: \$950,000 [5 BD - 1,825 SF - 1945
821 Crocus Drive 94578: \$1,168,000 [2,741 SF - 1979]

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$860,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$950,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,168,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT \$992,666

Not Unusual for Strawberry Leaves to Turn Reddish in Winter

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Some of my strawberry leaves are a reddish maroon color, while others are still green. Do I need to do anything? Also, the soil pH is too high at 7.0. How much gypsum should I add to lower the pH of a planter box that is 4'x 6'x 1' deep?

It's not unusual for strawberries to turn a maroon color during winter. It's caused by cool temperatures that stop the plants from actively growing. With overcast and cloudy days, the green pigment in some plant leaves is curtailed, so another color is visible. This is referred to as plant genetics. Green is the dominant gene color, while red/maroon and yellow/gold are resistive genes. Ivy is another example of this. The leaves will turn green again as the days get longer and warm-

er. If the foliage remains reddish or turns a brilliant orange-red by April, I suspect a nitrogen deficiency. Strawberries are not heavy feeders, but they do like applying a complete fertilizer before flowering or after fruiting. EB Stone Organics, Fruit, Berry, and Vine Food or similar fertilizer is ideal for fruit trees, berries, and fruiting vines. With Everbearing varieties, I'd make an application three times a year after each harvest. I make my first application now if the plants were not fed last year. With June-bearing varieties, an annual application is necessary after fruiting.

Gypsum does not affect the soil pH, but it does help improve drainage. You change the pH with a soil acidifier such as Soil Sulphur, Aluminum Sulfate, or pH Adjustor to lower the soil pH. The amount will vary with each product. In addition, the nursery professional at your favorite garden cen-

ter can recommend one. Strawberries have a pH below 6.5.

Note: The soil pH refers to the acidity or alkalinity of a soil. The pH scale runs from 1 to 14 to 7.0, being neutral. Any soil below 7.0 is acid, while those above 8.0 are classified as alkaline.

I planted primroses last fall, and they have done wonderfully through the winter. The flower cluster used to be just above the foliage, but they're much taller and flopping over now. Why does this happen?

A. This is a common complaint with Pacific Hybrid English Primroses. The stretching is a genetic characteristic that occurs as the days get longer, so it can't be prevented. You avoid the problem by planting the dwarf or 'Acaulis' varieties. With dwarf prim-

roses, the flowers are not borne in a cluster on a single stem. Instead, each flowering floret is supported by a stem that isn't affected by the day length, so they'll always stay just above the foliage. Dwarf primroses are subject to a gray mold called Botrytis

during wet, damp periods. The disease discolors and wilts the new shoots and leaves, usually covering them with fuzzy mats of gray or brown spores as they decay and drop. You can't prevent the disease, but dry conditions, good air circulation, and plant

grooming after each wet period halt the spread.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com, and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com.

WEEKEND GARDENER

March Jobs

Take time to get caught up on the chores you skipped during the rainy days. Yellow oxalis plants are blooming all over the East Bay. Pull them while the soil is still very moist, being careful to remove the root. Oxalis often break off at the soil line and will be up again before you know it. And don't forget those snails and slugs. The recent rains brought them out in force. Hand pick them in the evening, or use copper barriers or crushed eggshells around newly transplanted flowers and vegetables.

Strawberries

Remove strawberry blooms through May to concentrate the plant's energy into big, sweet berries.

Roses

Check roses and trees for suckers, those little shoots that grow from the rootstock. Cut them off with shears or a spade, since they sap the plant's energy.

Wildflowers

Wildflowers still can be sown and are excellent for erosion control on hillsides in the East Bay.

HELP CREATE A PLAN FOR SAN LEANDRO'S ECONOMY (COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2)

AYUDE A PLANIFICAR EL FUTURO ECONOMICA DE SAN LEANDRO (TALLER COMUNITARIO #2)

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(社區研討會 #2)

Which strategies should be prioritized over the next five years?

Your feedback will help improve San Leandro's Economic Development Strategy for job and business growth, retail and restaurant businesses, commercial development, and other important issues.

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3/13/2024
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City of San Leandro's Home Earthquake Strengthening Course

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

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

When: March 7, 12, 14, and 19
This is a four-day course.

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

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

Cost for City of San Leandro Residents:

\$30.00 for single / \$35.00 for couples

Cost for Non-Residents / Unincorporated

San Leandro: \$50.00 for single / \$60.00 for couples

Class size is limited.

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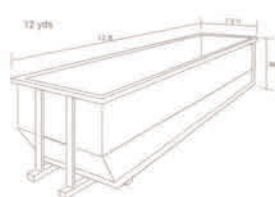
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FILED
MELISSA WILK

December 27, 2023
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603028

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

The name of the business(es):
H & L Home Decor, located at 14315
Washington Ave, San Leandro, CA
94578, Alameda County, is hereby reg-
istered by the following owner(s): Pro
Kitchen & Bath Supplies LLC, located at
14315 Washington Ave, San Leandro,
CA 94578. This business is conducted
by a Limited Liability Company. This
business commenced N/A
/s/ Bing Jian Zhang
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires December 26, 2028
FEB 08, 15, 22, 29 2024

FILED
MELISSA WILK

January 10, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603289

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

The name of the business(es):
Crafty Hanako, located at 1008 Cumber-
land Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579,
Alameda County, is hereby registered
by the following owner(s): Justine Dal-
ipe, located at 1008 Cumberland Ave-
nue, San Leandro, CA 94579. This busi-
ness is conducted by An Individual. This
business commenced 01/10/24
/s/ Justine Dalipe
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires January 09, 2029
FEB 08, 15, 22, 29 2024

FILED
MELISSA WILK

February 02, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603789

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

The name of the business(es):
Rocky's Charcoal Drill, located at 300 W
Estudillo Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577,
Alameda County, is hereby registered
by the following owner(s): Demetrio
Mertinez, located at 1990 Hillsdale
Street, Hayward, CA 94541. This busi-
ness is conducted by An Individual. This
business commenced N/A
/s/ Demetrio Mertinez
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires February 01, 2029
FEB 08, 15, 22, 29 2024
1091- SLT

FILED
MELISSA WILK

February 02, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603796

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

The name of the business(es):
Gms Cleaning Services, located at
1664 Maubert CT #10, San Leandro,
CA 94578, Alameda County, is hereby
registered by the following owner(s):
Gabriela Mondragon Soto, located at
1664 Maubert CT #10, San Leandro,
CA 94578. This business is conducted
by An Individual. This business com-
menced N/A
/s/ Gabriela Mondragon Soto
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires February 01, 2029
FEB 08, 15, 22, 29 2024
1085- SLT

FILED
MELISSA WILK

January 17, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603413

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

The name of the business(es):
Cutie On Duty Cleaning Services, lo-
cated at 15375 Tropic Court #31, San
Leandro, CA 94579, Alameda County,
is hereby registered by the following
owner(s): Gia Channel Lucas, located
at 15375 Tropic Court #31, San Leandro,
CA 94579. This business is conducted
by An Individual
This business commenced N/A
/s/ Gia Channel Lucas
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires January 16, 2029
FEB 22, 29 MAR 07, 14, 2024

FILED
MELISSA WILK

January 16, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 603364

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

The name of the business(es):
Adepa's Kitchen, located at 21070 Royal
Avenue, Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda
County, is hereby registered by the fol-
lowing owner(s): Josephine Adutwum-
waah, located at 21070 Royal Avenue,
Hayward, CA 94541. / Jennifer Asuma-
tse Ampong located at 2153 Alameda
Ave Apt B Alameda, CA 94501 This
business is conducted by Co-partners.
This business commenced 01/16/2024
/s/ Jennifer Asumatse Ampong
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires January 15, 2029
FEB 08, 15, 22, 29 2024

ABANDONMENT FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NUMBER. 559072

The following person has abandoned
the use of the fictitious business
name:
Gms Cleaning & Landscaping Services
at 1664 Maubert CT #10,
San Leandro, CA 94578.
Full name of registrant is:
Gabriela Mondragon Soto
at 1664 Maubert CT #10,
San Leandro, CA 94578.
The Fictitious Business
Name Statement
Gms Cleaning & Landscaping Services
was filed on 05/13/2019 in
the county of Alameda.
Original File Number 559072.
I declare that all information in this
statement is true and correct.
(A registrant who declares as true
information, which he or she knows to
be false, is guilty of a crime).
This statement was filed with the
County clerk of Alameda County on:
top right stamp date. NOTICE - This
fictitious name statement expires five
years from the date it was filed on, in
the office of the County Clerk. A new
Fictitious Business Name Statement
must be filed prior to that date. The
filing of this statement does not of
itself authorize the use in this state of
a fictitious business name in violation
of the rights of another under federal,
state or common law (see Section
14400, et seq., B&P Code.) This
statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on
02/02/2024

JAN 08, FEB 15, 22, 29, 2024
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FILED
MELISSA WILK

February 15, 2024
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 604085

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

The name of the business(es):
1. Cal Marine Electronics Recreational
Marine 2. Cal Marine Electronics, lo-
cated at 673 Via Mirabel, San Lorenzo,
CA 94580, Alameda County, is hereby
registered by the following owner(s):
Hensley Serenity Valley Inc., located
at 673 Via Mirabel, San Lorenzo., CA
94580. This business is conducted by a
Corporation, This business commenced
1/29/2024
/s/Stephen Hensley
This statement was filed with the Coun-
ty Clerk of Alameda County on date in-
dicated by file stamp above.
Expires February 14, 2029
FEB 29 MAR 07, 14, 21, 2024
1099- SLT

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This issue of the San
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If your copy of the Times does
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Regional in Nature
Activity Guide
MARCH - APRIL 2024

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OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

Prop. 1 Is Not Solution For Homelessness

Editor,

I am writing to urge my neighbors to vote no on Prop. 1. Our state needs real solutions—and increased resources—for the homelessness and housing crises. Despite its many promises, Prop. 1 does not increase funding for services and is not a solution to homelessness. It would cut existing, life-saving, community-based mental health services, many of which prevent homelessness.

The League of Women Voters of California, ACLUs across the state, Disability Rights California, and many others oppose this proposition. Please vote no on Prop 1.

Sarah Marxer
San Leandro

A Better Way to Finance Housing for Homeless

Editor,

Proposition 1 which combines financing low-income housing and mental health services in one proposition should not be approved in its current form. Not all people who are in need of low-income housing are mentally challenged (see kevinfandler.com). Both housing and mental health needs would be better served by separating their financing. It would be far less costly to finance low-income housing through a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) which would offer U.S. Treasury bill holders an extra 2% interest in exchange for stock in the NIB. The NIB would then use this capital to provide loans for affordable housing without saddling taxpayers with the long-term interest payments that Proposition 1 does.

This is exactly how the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC), the last NIB we had during the Great Depression and WW2, helped millions of returning veterans purchase housing after WW2. How to bring this about? Representatives Huffman, Pelosi, Mullen, Eshoo, Ro Khanna, Thompson, and DeSaulnier should join Representatives Lee, Swalwell, Garamendi, Lofgren and Panetta and sign on as co-sponsors of HR4052, a Bill in Congress that would provide enough financing (\$720B over 10 years) to build 7 million affordable

housing units without adding to tax bills or the deficit.

Don Siefkes
San Leandro

Grateful for School Bond Measures

Editor,

All three of my children have attended San Leandro public schools since they were in kindergarten. We are lucky enough to live in the only Oakland neighborhood that is included in and pays property taxes to San Leandro Unified school district. My oldest child is currently a senior at San Leandro High School and is preparing to attend college next year.

Over the last 12 years my children have seen the benefits of facility improvements of the past bond measures. The courtyards at Bancroft Middle School and San Leandro High School have been remodeled, new classrooms were built to replace deteriorating portables, and air conditioning was installed in all of the schools. My family and I are so grateful to the voters for passing the bond measures that have improved the quality of education for all of the students that attend our neighborhood schools. It shows that the community believes in investing in their community.

All students deserve to learn in schools that are clean, updated, and safe. My children will probably graduate before they see the benefits that Measure J will deliver, but I will be voting YES to continue the positive momentum that SLUSD has been able to make with the support of the community.

Lesley Feikert
Sheffield Village, Oakland

Supporting Measure J

Editor,

I am a parent of a second grader at Roosevelt Elementary here in San Leandro, and my younger child who will be enrolling in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) in August. I care deeply about the future of our community's schools. That is why I am supporting Measure J.

California has expanded TK age eligibility so that all 4-year olds would have access to public education. This is great, but now districts across California are scrambling

to find extra space that meets the building requirements for this age. In order to make TK a success, we need Measure J to build TK classrooms. As private childcare becomes unaffordable for many working families, this becomes even more important.

I work for SF schools, where staff shortages force us to rely on substitutes. Shirley Chisholm Village, San Francisco's answer to educator housing, will have 135 rental units to keep educators and staff in the community. Measure J would allow the San Leandro school district to address the housing crisis that many of our talented educators and staff experience. Measure J will help the district recruit and retain staff who will live and work in San Leandro.

San Leandro has a long history of supporting its children and schools. Let's continue that legacy on March 5th.

Karissa Yee Findley
San Leandro

Why Ballot Question Isn't Impartial

Editor,

The San Leandro Unified School District's Measure J garnered the lowest score for accuracy and impartiality of all nine measures evaluated by the review panel because the neutral evaluators found much essential information to be missing, and there was an excess of extraneous fluff.

In particular, it was misleading because the opening language implies that there was no increase in taxes to repay \$174 million in bonds, which of course, is incorrect.

The district's response also states that there were not enough words available because of the 75-word limit to add additional information about existing bond obligations. This is easily countered by the fact that too many words were consumed by unnecessary details on all the specifics of building repair where the bond proceeds may be spent, like repairing roofs and plumbing. The public knows enough about building maintenance to not need the padding.

Further words were wasted with "cannot be taken by the state". That's unnecessary and doesn't happen. The state is the principal funding source for schools.

Hopefully, local agencies will learn to be fair and accurate in the future since they now know that their ballot language will be reviewed and rated by the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Association.

Michael Henn
Piedmont
Michael Henn is a board member, Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Association

House Rules Violate Constitution

Editor,

At the Broadmoor Plaza senior housing facility in San Leandro, run by a corporation called HumanGood, which is an oxymoron in practical terms, protections provided by tenants' laws and, even constitutional protections are abolished by so-called "House Rules".

Management attempts to run the facility like a prison camp and senior citizens are their inmates. The "House Rules" allow management to arbitrarily write up tenants for "violations" and, then, target tenants, who dare to challenge the rules, for eviction or the threat of eviction. Also, there's a constant intrusion in tenants' lives with the so-called "inspections." Maintenance is lacking, among other kinds of neglect.

The corporation has its lawyers, and political influence, senior citizens are defenseless. The city of San Leandro should be addressing the situation in these senior housing facilities that can ignore existing protections for tenants and even the Constitution of the United States.

Leo T. West
San Leandro

Welcomes New Police Chief

Editor,

Congratulations to San Leandro's new Police Chief Angela Averiett, who will make history as this city's first female Black police chief.

I'm proud that our city is breaking barriers and achieving progressive goals despite the threat of the return of Donald J. Trump, a man who hates women, Blacks and progressives.

George Z. Banks
San Leandro

Clear Choice for District 1 Councilmember

Editor,

Anyone who has seen the Feb.13 Council meeting when candidates were interviewed to appoint a successor to Celina Reynes will be struck by the political maneuvering that was evident. Equally obvious was that only one candidate demonstrated her readiness to hit the ground running and join the council as a fully competent and knowledgeable colleague - Sbeydeh Viveros Walton. She was poised, prepared, did her homework, showed the critical thinking skills needed to address complex issues, and understands how local government works.

While other candidates were personable, cared about the city and touted their volunteer community service, that is not enough. We do not need a neophyte who depends on other City Council members for direction.

Celina Reynes' endorsement of Sbeydeh as the candidate

who most reflected the values and issues she ran on should count for something, too, out of respect for the overwhelming support she received from voters in her district. In the face of such a clear choice, if the council punts on 2/26 and forces us all to bear the costs of a special election that will be the height of irresponsibility.

Bob Bailey
San Leandro

City Council Should Pick Viveros-Walton

Editor,

Everyone in San Leandro should pay attention to the absurdly irresponsible direction that our City Council is headed.

As you reported in your Feb. 15 issue, the mayor and City Council have not yet reached a decision on who to appoint to fill the vacant District 1 seat until the voters have a chance to elect a longer-term candidate this fall. If they are unable to agree, the city will be forced to spend \$1 million that it does not have on a special election.

Despite the lip service that our city leaders give to the importance of fiscal responsibility, Council Member Aguilar is already calling to "let the voters decide."

I urge all San Leandrans to watch just a few minutes of each candidate interview (available at bit.ly/D1interviews); you will see that one candidate clearly outshines the others by leaps and bounds – and that candidate is Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton. Mayor Gonzalez and Council Members Azevedo, Simon, and Aguilar have either abstained from voting on Viveros-Walton's appointment or outright rejected her. Why? Unclear. But it sure looks like self-serving political gamesmanship is more important to them than doing the right thing.

San Leandro deserves better. Mayor Gonzalez and Council Members Azevedo, Simon, and Aguilar – if you do not begin to negotiate in good faith with your colleagues, we will vote in replacements for you that will.

Jessie Rubin
San Leandro

City Council Should Use Ranked-Choice Voting

Editor,

If you listened in to the Special Meeting February 13, 2024, you know the Mayor and Councilmembers failed to secure enough votes for one candidate to replace the vacated Council seat for District 1. Am I the only one wondering why rank choice voting is ok for the residents to elect Councilmembers though not good enough for the Councilmembers to vote on appointment?

Diana Souza
Cameron Park

Viveros-Walton: Council seat filled

continued from front page
plicants who were qualified to become council members but did not make the finalist list.

"There's significant support from highly qualified people in the community," González said. "However, I received a large number of

"I received a large number of comments from the community for one candidate in particular.

— Mayor Gonzalez

comments and support from the community for one candidate in particular... more than all the other candidates combined. And I think part of our job here as a council is representing the will of the community, and so, for that

reason, I will be nominating Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton."

Viveros-Walton moved to San Leandro in 2015 with her family and has 17 years of leadership experience. She serves as chair of San Leandro's Library-Historical Commission, represents the East Bay on KQED's Community Advisory Board, and serves as membership chair for UC Berkeley's Chicanx Latinx Alumni Association.

Viveros-Walton is a founding member and current East Bay Women's Political Alliance vice chair. She recently completed her 5-year tenure as president of the Peralta Colleges Foundation where she led the creation of a scholarship endowment for community college students in Berkeley, Oakland, and Alameda.

In her application, Viveros-Walton noted her vision for San Leandro is, "a place where we build our sense of belonging and pride. A 'people first' city where everyone sees themselves reflected in their government, public, and community spaces."



Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton was chosen by the City Council on Tuesday night to fill the District 1 seat.

East Bay Cities, Including San Leandro, Join Up to Fight Crime

Mayor Gonzalez says residents are feeling crime

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

A coalition of East Bay cities and law enforcement agencies have joined forces to fight personal and property crime.

At a press conference on February 14, San Leandro Mayor Juan González joined representatives from Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office to announce the collaboration. The cities agreed to share data and technology and create a real-time crime center using cameras throughout the county.

They will also meet every three months to work on policies that will fight car break-ins, store thefts, and armed robberies, which remain high in the area.

"It is personal," Mayor González said during the press conference in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn & Suites on Hegenberger Road in Oakland. "When I hear families tell me, 'Juan, I am afraid to take my kids to a store because I don't want to see my children

seeing adults walk out with merchandise showing no remorse.'"

Oakland saw a 21 percent increase in violent crime and a 38 percent spike in robberies last year, according to Oakland Captain Casey Johnson of the Oakland police. Some of the hardest hit areas are on Hegenberger Road in Oakland and all along the Interstate 80 corridor in the East Bay.

"The perpetrators of crime aren't constrained by jurisdictional lines," Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin said during the press conference. "They don't stop when they get to a city's borders. That means we cannot stay siloed – we have to work across jurisdictions."

Already the anti-crime coalition is seeing results. Berkeley police say they teamed up with the CHP in the arrest of two men suspected of multiple organized retail theft-related crimes from Apple Stores in the cities of Berkeley and Emeryville between November 27 and February 7.

The collaboration also comes at a time when California Governor Gavin Newsom authorized sending 120 CHP officers to Oakland to reduce crime. A recent five-day operation by the CHP resulted in 71 arrests, 145 stolen vehicles recovered, and several guns seized, officials said at the conference.

Newsom is also sending a handful of lawyers to Alameda County to assist with District Attorney Pamela Price's new Organized Retail Crime Alameda (ORCA) prosecution unit.



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FAMILY OWNED

Manager: No suspects

continued from front page

The site was cordoned off with yellow tape over the weekend and a private security officer was posted near the building. Friends of Badran left a memorial on the pavement including flowers and candles.

The investigation is still ongoing, and no arrest has been made yet, said Teng.

"The incident appears to be isolated. We do not believe the suspect is an active threat to public safety," Teng said.

While officers have conducted many interviews, they ask anyone with information to call 510-577-3278 or send an anonymous tip to the San Leandro Police Department by texting TipSLPolice to 888777.

SLHS United Parents Crab Feed on March 9

The San Leandro High School United Parents will host a crab feed on Saturday, March 9, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 2200 San Leandro Blvd. Tickets are \$70. Order by March 1. (www.32auctions.com/SLHSUPCrabFeed2024)

Pre-sold tickets only. No host bar and dessert bar, raffle, auction items.

All proceeds fund programs directly supporting students. For more information or if you need to pay by check, email slhsunitedparentsipirates@gmail.com.

St. John's Church Bake Sale and Treasure Sale

St John's Church, 264 East Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo, will hold a bake sale and treasure sale on Saturday, March 23, from 3 to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be an assort-

ment of scrumptious baked goods as well as a raffle with prizes, trinkets and treasure sale. Continental Bbreakfast will be available on Sunday, March 24.. For more information, call St. John's Church Office at 510-351-5050.

May Chew Lim

May Chew Lim, a longtime resident of San Leandro, died peacefully in her sleep on February 18, 2024 at 92 years old.

May is survived by her siblings Alvin (and Ginger), Lillian, Elsie, and Sylvia; her children Tina (and Greg Chang), Laura (and Steven Chen), Harumi Lim, and Dale (and Chuck Lew); her grandchildren Sami, Roni, Amanda (and Yi), Megan (and Anthony), Grant, Melissa, John, and Julia; and many other relatives. Her husband John and son Gary preceded her in death.

A funeral service is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Friday, March 1, at Chapel of the Chimes in Oakland.

Ida T Bowers

August 13, 1934 ~ February 10, 2024

Longtime San Leandro Resident Ida T Bowers, (89) passed peacefully on Feb 10. She was preceded in death by her husband William C Bowers. He left this world Feb 20, 2016. They were married in 1951, had four children all attended local schools: Larry, Jim, Debbie (Morris), Sherri (Uejo), 10 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Her grandson Adam Bowers of Danville passed January 2023 at the age of 33 with an aneurysm. He was an organ donor, saving others. Ida leaves behind her sister Stella Barnhouse of Newark, 16 nieces and nephews. Sister Gloria Furtado of Livermore and brother Louis Guido of San Diego both passed early 2023 and her sister Nina Guido Mendoza died in 1994. Their father Frank Guido and mother Vints Prinzi Guido met & married in Sacramento, both immigrated from Italy. They settled in the East Bay. Memorial Service will be Friday, March 8th at 10am at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward with lunch following in Danville.



Candidates for State Senate Speak at Online Forum

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Voters in the 9th State Senate District, which includes San Leandro and nearby communities, might have become used to Nancy Skinner representing them in Sacramento, but term limits have tolled for her, as they eventually do for all men and women of the legislature.

Running to succeed her in a redrawn 9th Senate District are two officeholders well known in Contra Costa but less so here, Assemblymember Tim Grayson of Concord and San Ramon City Councilmember Marisol Rubio.

That district used to run along Interstate 880 from San Leandro north to Richmond, but now heads east from San Leandro and San Lorenzo through Castro Valley before heading north to include most Contra Costa County communities east of the hills.

Grayson and Rubio each

told voters February 13 why they would be the better choice for the job, in an online forum held by the League of Women Voters Eden Area and the Castro Valley & Eden Area Chamber of Commerce.

Many of their stands on issues are similar, and so are their lists of major issues, but their emphases and priorities differ.

On his campaign website, Grayson says "My top priority is to ensure better jobs, higher wages and more economic opportunity for Californians. It costs way too much to live and work in California."

It's not just the money that's a problem for families, according to Grayson.

"Californians spend too much time stuck in traffic and not enough time with their friends and families," he said.

Rubio's priorities include moving more resources toward the housing affordability crisis. She calls for more



Marisol Rubio

affordable homes for working families.

Right after that, Rubio wants to ensure that California has the most comprehensive reproductive health care laws in the country.

At the debate, Grayson's answers on several topics reflected his own experience as a business owner. He talked about removing government obstacles to solving problems.

While he still believes in government's power to help solve problems.

Rubio, for her part, said

many of the state's problems relate to poverty, and that its root causes should be addressed along with problems it helps create, such as crime and public safety.

Both told voters that their personal and career backgrounds would give them special insight into many key issues facing the state, from homelessness and housing to a state budget crisis to education to the environment to public safety.

Grayson is a general contractor familiar with housing issues, owns his own business so he knows those challenges. He's been a local official struggling to provide services while balancing budgets, and has faced similar issues as a current state assembly member from District 15, since 2017.

He is proud of his fights in Sacramento for green energy and jobs, for tenant protections, and against predatory lending. Closer to home in



Tim Grayson

Contra Costa County, he's pressured oil refineries over their pollution of neighborhoods.

Rubio is a city council member and former water board director. She is a scientist by training, who's familiar with using data to help solve problems. But, she says, it's why she became a scientist that gave her great empathy for the challenges many people face.

Rubio was shocked to find out as a young mother that her infant daughter had brain

cancer, with doctors urging hospice care for the time she had left. She instead educated herself in medicine and school resources to save her child and help her recover. When she needed to learn more, she went back to school.

Now she's a UC Berkeley-trained neurobiologist, and her daughter survived, with some lingering disabilities, to be a current student at UC Davis.

Rubio has also put her scientific background to use on behalf of the environment as a Bay Area and statewide leader of the Sierra Club.

Grayson and his wife have two grown children. He said he hopes the cost of living in the Bay Area doesn't prevent his children and future grandchildren from living in the area.

The forum is on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJy6zm0gduZYt-KXrORiOTvg>.



5 FACTS ABOUT MEASURE J

FACT #1

Measure J is a \$174 million bond measure that will **make essential improvements and renovations** to our public schools and **build affordable rental housing for teachers and staff.**

FACT #2

Measure J will **NOT** increase the property tax rate your household pays. It simply extends previously approved bond rates to make priority repairs and improvements to classrooms, school facilities, and instructional technology.

FACT #3

California does not fund school construction unless there is a match of funds by the local school district. **Without Measure J, San Leandro could lose out on obtaining state funds.**

FACT #4

Every penny from Measure J stays in San Leandro and cannot be taken away by the state or used for administrator or teacher salaries.

FACT #5

Measure J has **strict accountability provisions** including an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee and independent, annual audits to ensure all money is spent properly.

MEASURE J IS ENDORSED BY:



SAN LEANDRO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Info at www.MeasureJforSanLeandro.com

VOTE MARCH 5th!

