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EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS... **10**

WEEKEND WEATHER
COOL Sunshine returns on Sunday
HIGHS: 57-62
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 42-47

FRIDAY
Sun

SATURDAY
Sun

SUNDAY
Sun

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 27 • NO. 48

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

White House Christmas

Auto upholstery man Larry Arnold likes to customize cars and he pulled up this week with what he calls his White House Christmas tree atop a 1974 Cadillac hearse that he just found at a used car lot and decorated for President Trump. Arnold says he gets lots of reactions cruising around town in his latest vehicle.

Elderly Care Center Opens on Fairway

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

A new center is about to open in San Leandro that helps at-risk seniors live at home, rather than at a nursing home.

The Center for Elders Independence held a ribbon cutting on Nov. 16 to tout their new state-of-the-art PACE Center on Fairway Drive near the Kaiser Hospital. The new facility at 1850 Fairway Drive will provide a geriatric medical clinic and day center services with a capacity to serve 500 seniors in San Leandro and neighboring communities.

"As the population ages, demand is growing for our holistic model of care that provides solutions for seniors who have multiple health challenges," said Linda Trowbridge, CEO of the

Center for Elders' Independence.

When seniors with health challenges have transportation, home care, healthy food, a place to exercise, new friends and social activities, they do better, Trowbridge said. The center coordinates these services in its health plan, known as PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly).

Although every senior enrolled in PACE meets the requirements for nursing home care, 96 percent continue to live in their communities, said Trowbridge.

When the center begins its services, seniors who are eligible would enroll in CEI's PACE health plan. In the spring, CEI see *CENTER*, page 2



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Linda Trowbridge, CEO of Center for Elders' Independence, flanked by center Director Michelle Taylor Lagunas, and founder and former CEO Peter Szutu, displays a resolution from state Assemblyman Rob Bonta at the celebration of San Leandro's new senior health center.

Commission Deadlocks on Apartment Plan

Estudillo Estates homeowners rail against apartment expansion

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The city's Planning Commission deadlocked last week in front of a packed house at City Hall on a vote on a controversial apartment complex.

Developer Tom Silva purchased the medical building at Bancroft and Estudillo avenues and plans to turn the property into an apartment building.

Right now, the site at 1388 Bancroft Avenue is zoned for up to 31 units. But Silva wants the Planning Commission to change the zoning on the parcel and submitted plans for a 73-unit, 47-foot tall building with double-decker car stackers in the parking lot.

Estudillo Estates neighbors in attendance opposed the plan. Some in the audience applauded those who spoke out against the project and laughed mockingly when others expressed support.

At the Nov. 16 meeting, two out of the seven Planning Commission members – Ken Pon and Esther Collier – were absent. Pon said he was on a long-planned trip to Taiwan that couldn't be rescheduled and Collier didn't respond to inquiries about her absence.

A third member, Tony Breslin, recused himself as he owns property nearby and felt it was a conflict of interest.

With only four voting members left, there was just enough

for a quorum – and after over three hours of discussion and public comments, the Planning Commission was stuck at a 2-2 vote on the project.

With no majority vote, a de-see *DEADLOCK*, page 10

Cop Charged For Sex With Police Explorer, 17

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Former San Leandro police officer Marco Becerra has been charged by the Alameda County district attorney's office with statutory rape after allegedly having a relationship with a 17-year-old girl in the department's Explorers program for young people interested in law enforcement careers.

Becerra, 26, resigned from the force on Oct. 25 after he confessed to having three sexual encounters with the girl in September and October. He faces three felony counts of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor.

An investigation from the see *CHARGED*, page 11

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

PETS

Anchovy and Andy are available at Hayward Shelter. **Page 2**

NEWS

Laptop snatched from coffeehouse customer. **Page 3**

INQUIRING

What did you want to be as a kid? **Page 11**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

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

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



Pets of the Week



Anchovy



Andy

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Anchovy the kitten and Andy the kitten.

Anchovy is a sweet, calm 6-month-old kitten who's easy-going and enjoys the company of other cats. He has luxurious long fur just waiting to be brushed and petted. Anchovy is neutered and ready to go to his loving, forever

family.

Andy, a 3-month-old, lived on the mean streets for his first 2 months. With no positive human contact, he was fearful of people. Volunteers gave him extra TLC and within a month, he's blossomed into a sweet boy.

For more information on Anchovy or Andy, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 293-7200.



PHOTO COURTESY CENTER FOR ELDERLY INDEPENDENCE

The new PACE center includes an exercise room, computer room and private family meeting rooms.

Center: Need for adult care center

continued from front page
plans to offer eligible seniors adult day health care services as a stand-alone option.

San Leandro has lacked a care center for the elderly with Alzheimer's or other impairments since St. Peter's Adult Day Care Center on Broadmoor Boulevard closed eight years ago.

The new facility also features a state-of-the-art geriatric clinic with six exam rooms for medical and mental health services, mod-

ern fitness gym for rehabilitation and exercise, a group activity center and computer lab, an outdoor courtyard and private family meeting rooms.

The dining room is designed to be more like a restaurant with culturally appealing food choices, and features a demonstration kitchen to allow seniors to be involved in food preparation.

The center will open in about a month, at first serving 140 seniors who are currently

going to CEI's other facilities in Oakland. The center in San Leandro has the capacity to serve 500 seniors.

San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter welcomed the center to San Leandro, saying that the city has been in need of such a center since St. Peter's center closed several years ago.

"Growing demands on limited resources make organizations like CEI more essential than ever," Cutter said.

San Leandro Times

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

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Meet Your Hindu Neighbor in San Lorenzo

Eden Area Interfaith Council in conjunction with Badarikashrama presents Meet Your Hindu Neighbors at the San Lorenzo Library, 396 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo,

on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The talk will cover origins, beliefs, values, practices of Hinduism, questions and answers. Snacks. Free, open to all.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

Firing Up a Feast

The B-shift firefighters at Alameda County Fire Department Station 9 on Estudillo Avenue and Station 10 on Williams Street made a feast on Thanksgiving Day and thankfully didn't start any fires of their own.

DA Settles Suit Against DirecTV

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley recently announced a \$9.5 million settlement with DirecTV, over the television satellite company's illegal disposal of hazardous waste.

The suit alleges that DirecTV's California facilities unlawfully disposed of large volumes of hazardous waste—including batteries, electronic devices, and aerosols.

On Nov. 22, the Alameda County Superior Court signed a final judgment incorporating the terms of the settlement.

"My office is dedicated to enforcing laws that protect the environment," said O'Malley in a written statement. "Any company doing business in Alameda County and in California must abide by these laws. The illegal disposal of hazardous waste pollutes our

soil and our water and can be harmful."

Additionally, DirecTV will be required to hire an independent auditor to perform three audits of DirecTV's compliance with the terms of the judgment.

The settlement and final judgment follow an extensive investigation including a series of inspec-

tions of dumpsters belonging to DirecTV facilities.

The inspections revealed the company was routinely sending hazardous waste to local landfills.

During the relevant period of the investigation, DirecTV operated 25 facilities in California, and all facilities were unlawfully disposing of waste.



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Man on the Run from Armed Robbery Charge Found in SL

A fugitive who escaped from a courthouse in the South Bay earlier this month was found at the Fairmont Inn at 16320 Foot-hill Boulevard in unincorporated San Leandro.

John Bivins, 47, was arrested by U.S. Marshals on 9:30 a.m. on

Nov. 26.

He and fellow-fugitive Tramel McClough, 46, both of East Palo Alto, escaped their restraints at a hearing at the Santa Clara County Courthouse in Palo Alto on Nov. 6 and fled through an unguarded door.

They had been set to stand trial for the armed robbery of a Verizon store in Sunnyvale that happened last February.

McClough was captured on Nov. 21 at a gas station in Stockton. Bivins was with McClough at the time, but managed to escape capture in an SUV despite California Highway Patrol officers shooting at him.

Bivins could face more state and federal charges, including attempting to escape, being a felon in possession of a firearm and attempted murder of a federal agent.

McClough faces life in prison on a charge of robbery with a gun and nine additional felonies, in addition to previous convictions.

Marquita Kirk, 44, of Sunnyvale, and Rene Hunt, 54, of East Palo Alto were arrested in connection with the escape, authorities said.

Cops Nab Laptop Thief

A man had his laptop snatched from the table in front of him while he was at the Starbucks at 11057 MacArthur Boulevard last week.

On Nov. 20 at around 4:20 in the afternoon, the computer was stolen and the suspect fled the coffee shop and hopped in a waiting car, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

A witness was able to copy down the suspect's license plate and, once police arrived, the

suspect vehicle information was given to detectives who began searching the area.

The suspect vehicle was located in Oakland and four juveniles were detained.

During the investigation, the victim's laptop was found inside of a backpack that one of the teens was wearing.

A 16-year-old male juvenile suspect was arrested and the laptop was returned to the victim.

Police say laptop cable locks are a good preventative tool.



CITY CORNER

CURRENT ISSUES AND INFORMATION FROM THE CITY OF SAN LEANDRO

COMMUNITY MEETING

Come share your thoughts and ideas on what outdoor activities are important to you at the San Leandro Shoreline.

Tuesday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.
at Garfield Elementary School

The City of San Leandro is seeking community input on the design and use of the park land associated with the Shoreline Development. The Shoreline Development is a master plan for the San Leandro Shoreline, which includes a hotel, restaurants, housing, parking structure, and other community amenities.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please visit www.sanleandro.org to provide input electronically.

For more information, contact Recreation Supervisor, Jasmine Bateson at (510) 577-6081 or jbateson@sanleandro.org.

Photos with Santa

In Center Court • November 24 to December 24

Live Holiday Performers, Every Saturday
through December 23, 1-3 p.m.*

Santa's Workshop:
Free crafts for children!
December 9, 1-3 p.m.

Holiday Story Time:
Tuesday, December 19,
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Donate to the Salvation
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to win a \$250 gift card
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*Performers begin in center court.
Some will stroll the center



NEIGHBORS



Redwood Christian seniors Skyler Gallarzan and Alex Williams signed their letters of intent in front of their family, friends and student body.

Redwood Christian Seniors Receive Division 1 Athletic Scholarships

In a special assembly at Redwood Christian Middle and High School, senior athletes Skyler Gallarzan and Alex Williams signed NCAA letters of intent to commit to playing their sports (rowing and baseball, respectively).

Redwood Christian Schools held a special assembly to celebrate these two scholar athletes as they signed their intent letters in front of their family, friends, teachers, coaches and the entire Redwood Christian Middle and High School student body.

Gallarzan and Williams both received offers to participate in Division 1 athletics.

Gallarzan was offered a partial scholarship and a position on the rowing team at Loyola Marymount University.

Williams was also offered a partial scholarship and position on the Stanford baseball team.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ Chanticleers Theatre

Christmas in Oz
The East Bay Children's Theatre and Chanticleers Theatre are pleased to announce *Christmas in Oz*, through Dec. 17, at Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Avenue in Castro Valley. Book, music and lyrics by Ron Lytle. It's Christmastime again and somewhere in Kansas, Dorothy

is lonely for her friends back in Oz. So with the help of kindly Mister Tinker, she builds a magical wish machine and returns to the Emerald City just in time for the big holiday celebration. But the holly is quickly stripped of its jolly when a sassy sorceress named Nefariosa crashes the party and kidnaps Santa Claus. Performances are on Fridays at

8 p.m., Saturdays at 7 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$20 for students and seniors over 60. For more information, call 733-5483.

❖ BAL Theatre

A Christmas Carol
The BAL Theatre and the San Leandro Players present Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*, a live radio show adapted by Anthony E. Palmero on Saturday, Dec. 16, at 2 and 7 p.m. at the BAL Theatre, 14808 E 14th St. in San Leandro. Doors open at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. for music and Santa photos. Tickets cost \$10, children under 12 are free and may be purchased at the BAL Theatre online box office at: www.slplayers.org, the Davis Street Resource Center or the Boys and Girls club. Proceeds from this performance benefit the Davis Street Resource Center and the Boys and Girls club.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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- ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** Your work on a recent job assignment is impressive and is sure to be noticed. Meanwhile, expect to receive news about an upcoming holiday event you won't want to miss.
- TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Saving the world one person at a time is what you were born to do. So accept it when people ask you for help, especially during the holiday season.
- GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** Now that you've resolved all doubts about an important decision, you can surprise a lot of people by defending your stand with your strong and well-reasoned arguments.
- CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** The holiday mood stirs your need to nurture everyone from the family cat to great-grandma. But don't overdo it, especially with teens, who like to feel grown up.
- LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Enjoy basking in the warm love of family and close friends. But don't fall into a prolonged catnap yet. There's still much to do before you can put up your paws and relax.
- VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Avoid pushing others to work as hard as you do on a common project. Instead, encourage them to do their best, and they might well reward you with a pleasant surprise.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Like the sensible Libra you are, you no doubt started your holiday shopping already. But be careful to keep within your budget. Shop around for the best buys.
- SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Love and friendship remain strong in your aspect over the next several days. This is a good time to develop new relationships and strengthen old ones.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** A beloved family member has news that will brighten your holidays. Also expect to hear from friends who had long since moved out of your life.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Family and friends are in for a surprise when you accept the need to make a change without being talked into it. (Bet it surprised you, too — didn't it?)
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** Restoring an old friendship might not be as easy as you hoped. You might want to explore the reasons for your former buddy's reluctance to cooperate.
- PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** Your party-going activities pick up as the holiday season takes off. Enjoy your plunge into the social swim as you make new friends and renew old friendships.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ San Leandro Readers Roundtable

The San Leandro Readers Roundtable will meet Saturday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. and discuss *The Zookeeper's Wife*, Diane Ackerman's true story about the keepers of the Warsaw zoo who saved hundreds of people from Nazi capture. All are welcome, and all books discussed are available for purchase in the Library's Book-tique bookstore

❖ Breakfast with Santa

The Principled Academy, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro will host Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Photos with Santa, pancake breakfast, crafts, a LEGO show and a play area, and a raffle. For more information, call 351-6400. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$7 for children, free for 2 and under.

❖ Soroptimist Annual Holiday Boutique

Soroptimist of the East Bay will have its 13th Annual Holiday Boutique on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hill and Valley Club House, 1808 B St. in Hayward. with crafts, Gift Items, jewelry, photography, hats, stained glass, and much more. Lunch and refreshments will be available. All proceeds support the goal of Soroptimist – improving the lives of women and girls. For more information, call Donna Whitehouse at 924-7622 or email rambos-mom@comcast.net.

❖ Corvallis School Holiday Boutique

Corvallis School, 14790 Corvallis St. in San Leandro, will have its annual holiday boutique on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lots of homemade crafts and goodies at reasonable prices. Help needy families by bringing in a toy, canned food item, or clean used coat. Door prize every half hour. New vendors are welcome. For more information, call Corvallis School at 317-4901.

❖ St. Gerard Women's Club Bake Sale

The Members of St. Gerard Women's Club of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 264 East Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo, will hold a Christmas bake sale and raffle beginning after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Dec. 2, and after all the Masses starting at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3, with a continental breakfast. Lots of great baked goods, raffle prizes and a trinkets & treasures booth. For more information contact the bake sale committee chairpersons: Evelyn McMillen at 481-2467 or Cheryl Hoffmann at 278-2906.

❖ Creekside Church Craft Show

Creekside Community Church, 951 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro, will have its 14th Annual Craft Show on Friday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with 30 artists, raffle, food and drinks for sale and plenty of parking. A chili cook-off on Friday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for a \$5 donation. Ten percent of proceeds from the craft show benefit the Mercy Brown Bag program, Seniors Helping Low-Income Seniors with Groceries.

❖ Saint Leander Pancake Breakfast

Saint Leander School will have its 10th annual pancake breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Ryan O'Connell Hall. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door. Photos with Santa Claus are \$5.

❖ The Diabetes Support

The Diabetes Support group will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 4 p.m. at Carlton Plaza Senior Living, 1000 East 14 St. in San Leandro. Dr. Pereria is scheduled to speak about dealing with emotions while living with a chronic disease". All those with a chronic illness and their significant others are invited to attend. There is no admission fee. This is a community service. For more information, call Amber Bennett at 636 0660.

❖ Carlton Senior Living Holiday Boutique

Carlton Senior Living, 1000 East 14th St. in San Leandro, will host their Annual Holiday Boutique on Thursday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Local vendors and artisans with gifts, crafts treats, and hot cocoa will be served. For more information, call 636-0660.

❖ Smalltown December Gathering

The Smalltown December Gathering will be on Friday, Dec. 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. at 22222 Redwood Road in Castro Valley, highlighting the work of ABO Comix, No Walls Collective, poets from Lyrical Opposition, and band The Straight-Ups. Connect with your community, hear from local artists and advocates, and experience the developing narratives of your neighborhood. Check www.smalltownsociety.com for more information.

❖ All Saints Winter Wine & Dine Gala

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will host a Winter Wine & Dine gala on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5 to 9 p.m. World cuisine, fine wines, belly dancer, silent auction and raffle. Tickets: adult \$45/\$55 (wine/no wine), children \$15. Limited to 125 people, so get tickets now at tinyurl.com/winedine2017.

❖ Holiday Tea at the Alta Mira Club

You are cordially invited to the Lucille Kline Holiday Tea at the Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, on Saturday, Dec. 9, at noon. Tickets are \$25. For reservations call Linda Klass by Dec. 4 at 914-5684.

❖ Hearing Loss Association Meeting

The Hearing Loss Association will meet on Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Oakland Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Fabiola Bldg., 3801 Howe St., lower level, room G26. Refreshments are at 9:30 a.m. with the program starting at 10 a.m. Holiday potluck and social, is the Holiday theme. Please bring a potluck snack and also plan to share any funny or surprising experiences caused by our "silent disability." Parking is free in the old garage across from Howe Street. For more information, email athos.artist@att.net or call Kay at 886-4717.

❖ Estudillo Estates Holiday Stroll

Come for activities, an art show, giveaways and holiday cheer at the Estudillo Estates Holiday Stroll and Charity Gift Drive on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 3 to 6 p.m. on MacArthur Boulevard between Dutton and Estudillo avenues. The event is kid friendly and open to the public. Donate new toys, clothes and blankets for local kids through the San Leandro Davis Street Resource Center. Collection boxes will be available at participating businesses on Dec. 9. Look for free samples, food tasting, demonstrations, art show, kids activities, beer and spirit tasting and more.

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

REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Proposed Tax Reform Hurts Homeowners

Most people I know would support a simpler tax system.

Let's face it: while the current system provides employment for a veritable army of accountants and taxation attorneys, there are so many layers, complexities and loopholes that most normal folks have no idea what is actually in the tax code.

While many like the idea of incentives bolstering economic growth and are enamored by the concept of a medical system that actually works, they do not want increases added to their current tax burden. Additionally, they do not want to lose benefits they currently depend upon.

Consequently, there is a groundswell of opposition to the cur-

rent tax reform bill (HR 1, passed by the House of Representatives 11/16/17) which will have a significant negative impact on homeowners across the nation.

The Senate version, currently being worked on, is no better.

After examining the Senate proposal, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) affirms it is as harmful as the House bill, stating, "The Senate's proposal, much like the House bill ... creates significant headwinds for homeowners and homebuyers, while providing only a temporary cut for middle class homeowners."

Unlike the House bill, the Senate chose to eliminate all state and local taxes (SALT) including state and local income and sales taxes as well as state and local real es-

tate taxes. This change will make it more difficult for homeowners to itemize their mortgage interest and when they do, they will face a much lower benefit from homeownership. In a perverse way, only those who can afford very expensive homes will be able to benefit from the real estate provisions of the tax code."

In response, David Stark, Public Affairs Director, Bay East Association of Realtors explains, "NAR's analysis of the Senate tax reform package revealed the following attacks on home ownership:

- Reduces the benefits of the mortgage interest deduction;
- Increases the time homeowners must live in their homes to qualify for the capital gains tax exemption;
- Eliminates the interest deduction on all home equity loans;
- Eliminates the deduction for all state and local taxes including property taxes and
- Eliminates the deduction for moving expenses with an exemption for military families."

With California hit extra hard due to our high average incomes and stratospheric housing prices, Realtors in Alameda County are

continued on next page

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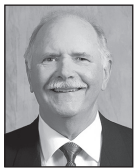
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Reduce Hardwood Scratches and Dents

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

Whether it's just a few scratches or some serious dents, hardwood floors can be challenging to maintain.

The easiest way to reduce those scratched areas by the front door is to consider buying a large mat to cover that area so that outside dirt and sand will land on the mat and not scuff up the floor's finish.

For other minor surface

scratches, you can use a stain marker (available at home-improvement and flooring stores) in a matching color. A video by The Rosebud Company (rosebudfloors.com/hardwood-floor-videos/) shows a couple of ways to blend in the color, particularly by blotting the marker on a cloth and then rubbing the cloth over the scratch to more seamlessly blend it in.

For small dents where the wood is compressed downward slightly, you can try a couple of methods.

On unvarnished floors, you can try to steam out the dent. (Always test this method first in an inconspicuous area, and don't do it if the finish in the test area turns white or very cloudy.) Take a clean, lint-free cloth and a steam iron. Spritz a bit of water direct-

ly onto the dent, place the cloth on top, and with the iron on its maximum setting and the steam turned on, press it over the cloth and move in a small circular pattern for about a minute. Lift up the iron, check under the cloth, then repeat the steps.

A second method, particularly if you're worried about ruining the floor finish, is to cover the dent with wood putty and stain to match. Apply the putty one small amount at a time, smoothing it completely into the depression, until it's filled and flush with the surrounding floor. Then use a stain marker in a color matching the wood — either apply directly to the putty or blot a cloth with the stain and dab or rub into the putty and surrounding area. Allow the area to dry, undisturbed, for at least a day.

If the scratches and dents are deep and numerous, or if the wood is seriously damaged, warped or splintered, bring in a wood flooring professional to evaluate the problem and provide an estimate for repairs. Wood floors can have a lot of impact on a house's value, so take care of them and get professional help for a complex job.

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Plant Garlic from Seed... or Clove

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q I've had poor luck growing garlic. The cloves are small while others never develop or rot away. What can I do to improve my success?

A Garlic sets, along with onions and shallots are planted in the fall and winter months. You can harvest those planted in mid-September through Thanksgiving in June with the late January through February plantings later in the summer.

The key to successfully growing garlic is the soil preparation and planting certified seed garlic and not those found at a supermarket.

Seed garlic is available at your favorite garden center. It looks just like the supermarket garlic, but it's different. Supermarket garlic was grown for consumption, and not to be replanted. The variety may not be suitable for this area.

When planted, the harvested cloves are undersized, and the yield is inconsistent. Also, they're sprayed with a retardant

to reduce sprouting, which explains why some cloves never develop.

Seed garlic produces large, full-size cloves and is variety specific for our area. Garlic needs drainage to prevent the cloves from rotting; so generously amend your soil with organic matter or compost.

The soil microbes then convert the organic matter into plant nutrients. I'd also add an organic vegetable food at planting and use a minimal amount of animal manure.

Soak the cloves for five minutes in one part Clorox to 10 parts water, to help with the rotting issues, and remove any flower shoots.

Garlic grows from individual cloves broken off from a garlic set or bulb. Plant the cloves with the root end facing down. Each clove will multiply in the ground, forming a new bulb that consists of 5 to 10 cloves.

The cloves are planted two inches deep, in rows, four to six inches apart, and you space the rows a foot apart. If it's too muddy to plant, I'd then consider using containers.



Grow garlic with broken off cloves from a set or bulb.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional and Senior Gardening Professional at Sloat Garden Centers. His web address is www.dirtgardener.com. Email questions to dirtgarden@aol.com or go to [Facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero](https://www.facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero).

Mortgage Rates Hold Steady

Average long-term fixed mortgage rates dropped slightly last week after the latest jump, according to Freddie Mac's weekly nationwide survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 3.92 percent, down from a week earlier when it averaged 3.95 percent. A year ago at

this time, the 30-year rate averaged 4.03 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate loans averaged 3.32 percent, up from 3.31 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.22 percent last week up slightly from 3.21 percent.

Taxes: Contact Representatives

continued from previous page rallying to the current legislation.

Additionally, NAR has issued two calls-for-action, encouraging Realtors and homeowners to contact their representatives.

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.

2018 SPRING BASEBALL ONSITE REGISTRATION

CASTRO VALLEY INDEPENDENT SPORTS LEAGUE

Tuesday, December 5th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
at Mountain Mikes Pizza
20261 Patio Dr., Castro Valley
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registrar@cvisportsleague.org

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RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

1725 Estudillo Avenue	94577: \$1,100,000 3 BD - 3,584 SF - 1992
163 Euclid Avenue	94577: \$665,000 3 BD - 1,334 SF - 1945
2021 Eveleth Avenue	94577: \$620,000 3 BD - 1,431 SF - 1952
231 Kenilworth Avenue	94577: \$715,000 3 BD - 1,381 SF - 1923
598 Pala Avenue	94577: \$648,000 3 BD - 1,536 SF - 1953
725 Rodney Drive	94577: \$785,000 3 BD - 1,570 SF - 1936
373 Williams Street	94577: \$500,000 4 BD - 1,653 SF - 1900
1510 136th Avenue	94578: \$415,000 2 BD - 811 SF - 1970
1641 138th Avenue	94578: \$625,000 3 BD - 1,640 SF - 1947
1646 164th Avenue	94578: \$155,000 2 BD - 1,165 SF - 1980
16108 Berkshire Road	94578: \$580,000 2 BD - 969 SF - 1948
15956 East 14th Stree	94578: \$373,000 2 BD - 918 SF - 2008
2451 Easy Street	94578: \$810,000 4 BD - 2,561 SF - 1949
13553 School Street	94578: \$670,000 3 BD - 1,282 SF - 1958
15068 Churchill Street	94579: \$838,000 3 BD - 1,020 SF - 1949
14329 Elm Street	94579: \$599,000 3 BD - 1,516 SF - 1952

TOTAL SALES: 16
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$155,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$636,500**
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,100,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$631,125**

Castro Valley

19173 Center Street	94546: \$835,000 3 BD - 1,744 SF - 1942
4400 Gem Avenue	94546: \$610,000 3 BD - 827 SF - 1949
4372 James Avenue	94546: \$855,000 3 BD - 1,595 SF - 1946
20187 Normandy Court	94546: \$770,000 4 BD - 1,460 SF - 1957
5070 Rahlves Drive	94546: \$725,000 3 BD - 1,238 SF - 1953
2568 Somerset Avenue	94546: \$775,000 3 BD - 2,542 SF - 1986
17760 Trenton Drive	94546: \$799,000 3 BD - 1,744 SF - 1962
5836 Alderbrook Court	94552: \$975,000 3 BD - 1,870 SF - 1984
4169 High Ridge Place	94552: \$840,000 3 BD - 2,217 SF - 1968

TOTAL SALES: 9
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$610,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$799,000**
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$975,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$798,222**

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ACROSS

- 1 PC alternative
- 4 Like omelettes or quiche
- 8 Secondhand
- 12 Have bills
- 13 Color quality
- 14 "The Thin Man" heroine
- 15 Hotel personnel
- 17 Cole Porter's "Let's ___"
- 18 Willingly
- 19 From then on
- 20 Jousting garb
- 22 Hunk of soap
- 24 Slender
- 25 Starving
- 29 Encountered
- 30 Bullwinkle's foe
- 31 Greek vowel
- 32 Ran through, in a sense
- 34 Unclear image
- 35 Black
- 36 Exhausted
- 37 Fragment
- 40 Mediocre
- 41 Actress Gilpin
- 42 Noble
- 46 "___ go bragh!"
- 47 Sandwich treat
- 48 Science room
- 49 Rugged rock
- 50 Salamander
- 51 List-condensing abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Horde
- 2 Shock and ___
- 3 Pen pal?
- 4 Old number?
- 5 Blunder
- 6 Economist's stat
- 7 "Of course"
- 8 Victoria's Secret wares
- 9 Any time now
- 10 Idle or Clapton
- 11 Social engagement
- 16 Friend of Dorothy
- 19 Vail gear
- 20 Charitable donations
- 21 Stench
- 22 Mariah or Drew
- 23 In the thick of
- 25 Place setting component
- 26 Squalid site
- 27 Needle holder
- 28 "Phooey"
- 30 Flex
- 33 Electrician's job
- 34 Spill the beans
- 36 Apportion
- 37 Blueprint detail
- 38 Frau's mate
- 39 Met melody
- 40 Huffed and puffed
- 42 Triumphed
- 43 Before
- 44 Scoundrel
- 45 Leno's employer

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

OPEN HOMES

NO OPEN HOMES FOR
DECEMBER 2ND & 3RD

CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDRMS/BATHS	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
H	1-4	1-4	3177 Oakes Dr.	\$749,000	3/2	Berkshire Hathaway	Brent Team	510-333-9404
C	—	1-3	4455 E. Castro Valley Blvd.	\$899,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Kristy Peixoto Team	925-251-2536
C	—	1-4	4205 Danielle Way	\$1,195,000	4/3.5	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Lisa Ferraris	510-304-1271

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

CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = SAN LORENZO • BW = BRENTWOOD • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DANVILLE • E = EMERYVILLE • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD • K = BERKELEY • L = LIVERMORE
N = NEWARK • O = OAKLAND • P = PLEASANTON • PH = PLEASANT HILL • S = SHEFFIELD VILLAGE • SR = SAN RAMON • U = UNION CITY • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA



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Police Secretly Recorded License Plates at Highland Hospital

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

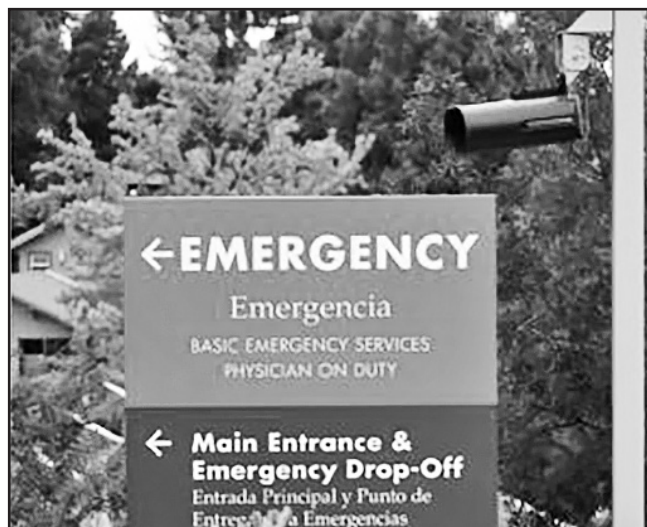
Cars that pull into the Highland Hospital emergency room have their license plate numbers photographed and that information is sent to a database which is accessed by police.

San Leandro resident and privacy-rights advocate Mike Katz-Lacabe discovered a license plate reading camera at the entrance of the Oakland hospital. He says it interferes with patient rights and sets a dangerous precedence in police surveillance.

But law enforcement officials say the camera isn't meant to spy on innocent people and is a tool to help solve serious crimes.

Katz-Lacabe discovered the existence of the camera during one of his periodic Public Information Act requests, this one to the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC).

NCRIC is a database used by local and federal law enforcement



No one knew that the black object in the upper right was a camera that had been recording license plates for the police since 2014 at Highland Hospital.

agencies. Katz-Lacabe noticed that recordings from the Highland camera appeared on the NCRIC database, which can be accessed by agencies including the Ala-

meda County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The license plate reader au-

tomatically reads the plates on all the cars in the driveway at the emergency room of the hospital – about 25,000 per month – and the information is retained by the NCRIC for one year.

“Some privacy advocate people say any camera is Big Brother – that’s not true.”

— Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Dept.

Katz-Lacabe says that after he found out that data was coming to police from the hospital, he did more research.

“I did some digging and found out it was installed in 2014 during some construction,” said Katz-Lacabe.

Katz-Lacabe says the camera is registered under the sheriff's office, but Alameda County Sgt. Ray Kelly said that while his department does frequently use the images, the county General Service Agency installed the camera and oversees it.

“We’ve solved murders with that camera,” said Kelly. “There’s an average of 400 gunshot victims and 250 stabbing victims at Highland each year. A large percentage of those self-transport because an ambulance takes too long.”

Doctors are also required to report shooting and stabbing injuries, but Kelly said some victims can be uncooperative and the police can use the license plate readers to track down witnesses, suspects, and develop a case.

Kelly emphasized that his department is chiefly focused on violent crimes and does not question the immigration status of any of the victims it deals with. However, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office does turn over to ICE information about illegal immigrants in its custody and ICE can also access NCRIC without any involvement from the sheriff's office.

“Some privacy advocate people say any camera is Big Brother – that’s not true,” said Kelly. “We aren’t doing things like monitoring immigration status, we are trying to solve crimes. It (the camera) has been a very useful investigative tool that we use in violent criminal cases.”

Katz-Lacabe, who created the Center for Human Rights and Privacy, says that not only could the

camera have implications when it comes to patient privacy, its existence could dissuade people from seeking treatment in the first place.

“People who need medical

“People who need medical help shouldn’t have to fear arrest.”

— Mike Katz-Lacabe, San Leandro resident and privacy advocate person.

help shouldn’t have to fear arrest,” said Katz-Lacabe.

Katz-Lacabe says the Highland camera is the first one he has turned up at a hospital, but he did recently find out about some license plate readers at the MacArthur BART station parking lot.

When he approached BART officials about the policies behind the cameras’ use – where the data was being shared, how long it is retained – he was told they won’t be turned on until a policy is developed. But sure enough, data from the cameras showed up on one of his public information requests.

Katz-Lacabe went back to the BART officials who told him someone must have accidentally turned the cameras on. The next time Katz-Lacabe visited the MacArthur parking lot, the cameras had been removed.

“There are a lot of implications about our privacy,” said Katz-Lacabe.

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DEBONE, Michael ERICKSON, Naomi V

■ Naomi V. Erickson, of San Leandro, born September 21, 1930, passed on November 17, 2017. Visitation will be held on Thursday, Nov. 30, from 12 p.m. until 8 p.m., and a Chapel Service on Friday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro, (510) 483-0123.

■ Michael DeBone, May 5, 1931 - November 24, 2017, passed away peacefully on Nov. 24, 2017, at age

86. In lieu of flowers please make a contribution to your favorite charity. A Celebration of Life Memorial will be held at The San Lorenzo Home Owners Association building at 377 Paseo Grande in San Lorenzo on Monday, Dec. 4, from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

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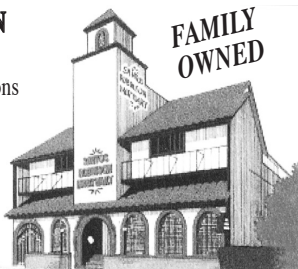
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Eli Anthony Tonini

Eli Tonini of San Leandro passed on November 16, 2017 in Oroville at age 95. He is survived by niece Janice Hill (husband Aaron), nephews John Pagano (wife Linda), Robert Pagano, grand-nephews Tyson Hill, Kevin Pagano (wife Cori).

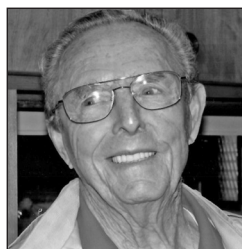
Preceding him in death were his wife of 60 years Theresa Elsie, Italian immigrant parents, Antonio and Rose Tonini, stepfather Frank Alasia, and sister Carol Tomicich (Trefon).

Eli was born in 1921 at home in Hayward. As a child he worked with his stepfather taking care of the rabbits and chickens at the California Home Rabbitry in Hayward during the depression. He graduated from Hayward High School in 1939. During World War II, Eli served for 3 1/2 years in the US Army with the 355th Bomber Squadron in the US and in Guam. He flew in B29's.

Eli lived in San Leandro for 63 years. He worked as Building & Grounds Supervisor for the San Lorenzo Unified School District for 35 years until his retirement in 1983. He was a member of the Buon Tempo Club, Columbo Club and San Leandro Branch of ICF. As an Oakland A's fan, he would be at the Coliseum for Wednesday afternoon baseball games. He was a caring man and a hardworking and devoted husband and a lover of plants who raised and shared beautiful orchids. His beloved dog, Tigee, was very special to him.

The family is most appreciative of the wonderful care that Eli received from Daniela's Country Home Care in Oroville for about 4 and a half years, Hayward Convalescent for 4 years and HomeAide Home Care.

Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 18 at St. Leander Catholic Church, 474 W. Estudillo Avenue, San Leandro. Inurnment will follow at 12:20 p.m. at Calvary Catholic Cemetery, 1100 Hillcrest Road, Hollister. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Alzheimer's medical research charity of your choice.



Martha Hernández

On November 28, 2017 we lost our mother, Nana, sister, and friend, Martha Hernández. She passed to heaven to be with her husband, Rudy, the love of her life, who predeceased her by thirty-five years.

Martha was a loving mother to her children, Sam Hernández and Maricarmen Hernández Ashmore, and was adored by her three granddaughters, Jeneen, Julie, and Larissa.

After her children were grown, Martha worked for 29 years as a bilingual educator for the Hayward Unified School District, bringing learning and laughter to generations of students. She also found great joy traveling to over sixty-five countries, and took pleasure in being a homemaker in her San Leandro home.

Born in Cuba to Spanish parents, Martha lived in Mexico City and Puebla until her marriage in 1947; subsequently, she moved with her husband to California, where she raised her family. Her early years gave her wonderful memories that turned into many amusing and entertaining stories.

Martha was generous, loving, sharp, fun, and good-natured. She was a very special woman, and will be greatly missed.

A memorial mass will be held Thursday, Nov. 30, at 10 a.m. at St. John's Catholic Church, 264 E. Lewelling Blvd., San Lorenzo.



Deadlock: 50 speakers

continued from front page

opinion on the development will now be continued to the Planning Commission's next meeting on Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Over 50 speakers took the podium at last week's meeting.

Silva had the support of several union representatives, who said the project would provide construction jobs. The Chamber of Commerce and Bill Mulgrew of the Rental Housing Association also supported the project for providing much needed housing in San Leandro.

At least one neighbor who lives on Dutton Avenue said he supports the project.

“It’s incredibly expensive to live in the Bay Area,” said Oren Hite. “The only solution is more housing. Put a building next to me, I don’t care. When I got my house, I promised myself that I would always fight for more housing.”

But most of the speakers opposed the project, including former San Leandro Mayor Stephen Cassidy who said that the project detracts from the “character” of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Others said the apartments will increase traffic, ruin views, and be conspicuously large in an area without a lot of tall buildings.

“It’s monstrously out of proportion with the area,” said speaker John Manuel, who said commercial buildings such as the General Foods plant should have been converted for housing.

The project site is nine-tenths of a mile from the San Leandro BART station, but many opponents said that was too far to walk so it shouldn’t be considered part of the transit-oriented development area.

Planning Commission member Richard Brennan questioned see DEADLOCK, page 12

Charged: 'Relationship consensual'

continued from front page

district attorney's office into Becerra's conduct began on Oct. 13 and was triggered by a notification from the Alameda County Social Services Agency, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

Becerra had been with the department for three years and was formerly a part of the Explorers program himself. The Explorers program is open to young people ages 14 to 19 who are taught by San Leandro police and attend an annual competition in Arizona.

Benabou said that the Explorers program has been temporarily

suspended, but will return at a future date to be determined.

Benabou said that the investigation revealed that all of Becerra's unlawful contact with the minor occurred while Becerra was off duty and that the relationship was "an isolated incident" between Becerra and the victim, with no other member of the Explorers or the department involved.

On Nov. 8, the district attorney's office filed criminal charges against Becerra.

Becerra's lawyer Michael Rains said that his client acknowledged that what he did was wrong, but Rains said that

the relationship was consensual.

In a written statement, San Leandro Police Chief Jeff Tudor said that Becerra's behavior doesn't reflect the rest of his department.

"I am upset and disappointed by the unethical and criminal behavior of one of our officers," said Tudor. "These actions are absolutely inconsistent with the ethical standards of the San Leandro police department and we will not tolerate this type of behavior. We are deeply concerned for the victim and her family, and we respect their concerns for maintaining privacy in this matter."

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.

Says Bancroft Apartment Complex Should be Rejected

Editor:

On November 16th, well over 100 members of the Creekside and Estudillo Estates community came to the Planning Commission meeting, and they expressed numerous sound, rational, and practical reasons why the proposal to change zoning to allow for a 70-plus unit apartment complex at 1388 Bancroft should be rejected.

Among the reasons presented were not only the zoning, but also the complex proposed was too big, too dense, too tall and too close to a school. It would add to the already excessive traffic. And, since they could not provide adequate parking, they would require lift devices to "stack" vehicles which would be unsightly, noisy, and would require tall fencing to hide.

Furthermore, this area is one of the prime neighborhoods in our city with homeowners who pay some of the highest residential property taxes and bring the value of the entire town up. To have such an oversized complex in this neighborhood would clearly make the area less valuable.

Our own city staff indicated that the complex would not comply on numerous points, and they recommended that the proposal not be approved. So why is the project still being considered?

Politics.

I observed both Silva and his architect "back slapping", cajoling, and schmoozing with the commissioners and the staffers. I found this disgusting, but I realized the extent of their influence when, at the end of the meeting, Commissioners Richard Brennan and Tom Baker, began their questioning and comments.

Their questions all focused on ways to get around the existing city plans and zoning restrictions. They did not acknowledge the community input, nor that there are other areas of the city where a complex like this could be built nearer to the city center and hub transportation. This proposal needs to be rejected.

—**Dr. Judith L. Seidmeyer**
San Leandro (30 year resident)

Says Bancroft Apartment Complex 'Must Be Built'

Editor:

There has been a lot of commotion among the NIMBYs because of the proposal to build a four story apartment complex at 1388 Bancroft.

Since the state, run by the Democrats, is not building housing and the city is not building housing, it is developers like Tom Silva and company who are going to do it, for profit. Certainly, Silva is not doing it for any philanthropic reason.

I've been very critical of Tom Silva for his role as Chair of the Rent Review Board and his opposition to the Tenant Relocation Assistance Program; however, in this occasion I support the building of the apartment complex.

The building will sit next to two very wide streets, like Bancroft and Estudillo, and it won't infringe on any body's property but the selfish NIMBYs want the privilege of living in a colonial town.

What's even more insulting, it's the fact that most of the preachers of political correctness, who talk about "inclusiveness," "diversity," "compassion" and so on, come from these areas of the city, but as soon as gardeners, painters, contractors and all of those who cannot afford to buy a house try to move into their neighborhood, their inclusiveness, diversity and compassion are gone. Hypocrites.

The apartment complex must be built; however the city must impose the condition that a good number of units be assigned for affordable housing.

—**Leo T. West**
San Leandro

Calls Climate Change 'Modern Day Henny Penny Fraud'

Editor:

It was 44 degrees this morning here in glorious San Leandro. Some writers in the San Leandro Times would have you believe the Earth is warming due to our burning of fossil fuel.

Brian Sussman, a former weather man for Channel 5 here in the Bay Area, has written a book

debunking the warming scam. Want facts? Check him out, as well as Chris Horner.

Many scientists have a vested interest in pushing the global warming scheme. They need grant money to continue studying in their field. What better way to get it than to claim there is a catastrophe which is going to kill us all. The old phrase is "Follow the money!"

Thousands of scientists have signed a letter disputing human-caused climate change, including the founder of Green Peace. Al Gore will not debate anyone because he knows he will be embarrassed. Do you know he is worth more than \$600 million due to his efforts in this hokum? He owns a company that trades in the carbon credit racket. Talk about a conflict of interest.

But we have all been bilked to pay carbon credits to solve the problem. "The sky is falling," Henny Penny said. This is our modern day Henny Penny fraud. Read these books and check out the facts. And to the writers in these pages who wrote that human-induced warming is real, ask them what their vested interest is.

—**Corey Anderson**
San Leandro

Claims Antarctic Ice, Polar Bear Population Both Increasing

Editor:

A) glaciers have both melted and grown throughout history. Nothing new occurring with them now.

B) Higher CO2 levels than now have been found in ice cores from hundreds of years ago – way before industrial age.

C) REAL science shows that temperature rises *first* and is then followed by a rise in CO2 - not the reverse.

D) Even if tiny temperature rises are true and not faked (as they are) do rational people use 3 warm years to predict the temperature 100 years from now?

E) The Big Light In The Sky controls the weather. We call it the sun.

F) Antarctic ice sheet is *not* shrinking but getting bigger.

G) More polar bears than ever.

H) Record Sierra snow last winter. Reservoirs filled. End of drought.

I) CO2 is less than 1/2 of 1% of so-called greenhouse gases. Water vapor is 95%+.

J) The sky is *not* falling.

—**Don J. Grundmann, D.C.**
San Leandro

NEWS BRIEFS

Corvallis School Holiday Boutique

Corvallis School, 14790 Corvallis St. in San Leandro, will have its annual holiday boutique on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lots of homemade crafts and goodies at reasonable prices. Help the needy families in our community by bringing in a toy, canned food item, or clean used coat. Door prize every half hour. New vendors are welcome.

Lenny Williams to Perform at SLHS

Keep Music Rockin' Foundation presents Holidays with Lenny Williams on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at the San Leandro High School Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave. The show includes former Tower of Power singer Lenny Williams, the final round of San Leand-

dro's Got Talent, and appearances by the SLHS Jazz Band and the Notables. For more information and tickets, go to keepmusicrockin.com/lenny.

Raiders Boosters Club

Raiders fans are invited to the 148th meeting of the Original Oakland Raiders Booster Club on Tuesday night, Dec. 12, at Ricky's Sports Theatre and Grill, 15028 Hesperian Blvd. in San Leandro. No host cocktails at 6 p.m., order dinner as you arrive, meeting at 7 p.m. Raffle tickets are \$5. Bring an unwrapped toy for club's annual toy drive.

San Leandro Democratic Club

The San Leandro Democratic Club will host its Second Annual Holiday Party on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. All are welcome.

INQUIRING REPORTER

What did you want to be when you were a kid?

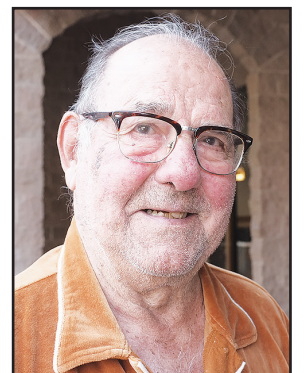
— Asked downtown

A ball player. To play for the Yankees.

A lot of kids who grew up here were drafted by the Yankees. I would have liked to play second base.

Frank Souza

Oakland,
born in San Leandro



I always wanted to be a nurse, and I wound up being a nurse. I work in the operating room. I just like meeting people and seeing people get better.

Sandy Fultz

Oakland



I wanted to be a police officer.

I saw a lot of crime and I wanted to help defeat crime. I became a housewife. With four children it's very busy.

Cathy Hernandez

San Leandro



I wanted to be a veterinarian. I like animals. I volunteered at an animal care clinic when I was 16, and then I went into office work.

Felicita Dominic

San Leandro



I wanted to be a doctor, because I wanted to make people better. I am helping people, because I'm a union rep. I help workers.

Simone Williams

San Leandro



Tree Lighting to Kick Off Friday's Downtown Festival

Horses and carriages, musicians, and Santa Claus are on the way for the annual downtown "It's a Wonderful Night" holiday celebration on Friday, Dec. 1.

The tree lighting at 5:30 p.m. will start off the night in the Downtown Plaza near the intersection of Estudillo Avenue.

"It's A Wonderful Night" will feature holiday entertainment, dancers and singers, holiday games, cookie decorating, interactive arts and crafts for kids, holiday movie showings, and horse-drawn carriage rides.

The San Leandro Improvement Association (SLIA) will



feature a row of artificial holiday trees donated by the SLIA that will be decorated by local San

Leandro schools, lining the pathway from Washington Avenue to East 14th Street.

Once the Christmas tree is lit, families will be able to take photos with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus in the plaza. Holiday movies will also be playing outdoors all night to create a magical winter wonderland experience for neighbors and visitors of all ages.

"We are happy to create these social events in enjoyable public spaces where families and friends can make holiday memories together downtown," said Gordon Galvan, SLIA's president.



Davis Street Food Pantry gears up for the annual Holiday Basket Program.

Eden Donates to Food Pantry

By Emma Dugas
Special to the Times

Eden Medical Center is continuing a nine-year holiday tradition by donating \$12,500 to the Davis Street Family Resource Center Food Pantry which provides bags of food to those in need and new toys for children.

"Despite the upturn in the economy, it's clear how many people need our support," said Rose Padilla Johnson, Davis

Street's Chief Executive Officer.

In 2016 Sutter Health invested \$2,343,215 in Eden's service area which includes Castro Valley, San Leandro, Hayward, Cherryland, Ashland and San Lorenzo. That doesn't include staff volunteer hours or investments in medical facilities.

For 47 years, Davis Street, in collaboration with the Alameda County Fire Department, San Leandro Police Officers Association, local schools, clubs, faith-based communities, and businesses, has provided food baskets to more than 1,000 low-income families throughout Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Ashland, and Cherryland.

Last year the Holiday Basket

Program provided 1,008 families, including 200 seniors and more than 2,800 children, with a holiday feast; which included a turkey, fresh produce, seasonal goods, and new toys or gift cards for children.

Davis Street is currently accepting new unwrapped toys, canned food and monetary donations for the holiday basket program.

Drop off items at 3081 Teagarden Street in San Leandro Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. To make a donation online, visit www.davisstreet.org

Emma Dugas is Communications Coordinator for Eden Medical Center.

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Deadlock: Up in arms

continued from page 10

some neighbor's who said that the corner of Bancroft and Estudillo avenues is a quiet residential area. Brennan called it a "prime artery" as Estudillo Avenue is a freeway exit and several bus lines run down Bancroft Avenue.

"I understand why the neigh-

borhood might be up in arms but this isn't a purely residential area," said Brennan.

Most speakers said they support housing in general, but not at the Bancroft site.

"I'm not against housing, I'm against where it is located," said speaker Jeanne Romero. "It's a big, honking monolith there."

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