

BRIGHT IDEAS

PAGE 7

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 40

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

WEEKEND WEATHER

WARM

Partly cloudy with declining temps

HIGHS: 75-80

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110

LOWS: 55-60

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Barber Shops Open Again

Barber shops were allowed to reopen in Alameda County last week, including the Pelton Center Barber Shop in downtown San Leandro. Longtime barber Choi has chairs outside for waiting customers to maintain social distancing as she gives Jeff Perkins a haircut on Tuesday. Choi also said she wants to thank an anonymous customer who left her an envelope with a generous donation that's helped her pay bills and reopen her shop.

Simon, Bammer Vie for District 4 Council Seat

Bammer wants city to annex San Lorenzo; Simon's run spurred by police killings

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

San Leandro voters have a choice between two candidates looking to fill the City Council seat in District 4, held for the past eight years by Councilman Benny Lee.

Chris Bammer and Fred Simon have put their hats in the ring as the city faces several problems, including recovering financially from the downturn due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and easing tensions between law enforcement and residents.

District 4 covers the Washington Manor neighborhood, the southwest part of town. Along with citywide issues, the new representative will need to work closely with their own neighbors who are concerned about a proposed 39-unit, three-story townhomes at 903 Manor Boulevard, site of the former Manor Bowl.

Supporters point to much-needed housing in San Leandro. Critics say the construction would decrease surrounding property values, increase traffic, and overcrowded schools.

To help educate voters, the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce hosted a virtual chat with each candidate last Tuesday. Questions ranged from their decisions to run and their priorities, to what each candidate might do

with a potential \$1.7 million that the City Council voted on in June to reallocate from police coffers to be applied elsewhere.

see COUNCIL, page 12

Council Okays Bancroft Apartments

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

San Leandro City Council this week approved an amended proposal to allow construction of a 3-story apartment building at 1388 Bancroft Avenue.

In a 4-1 vote, the Council agreed to allow 42 units at the 45,000 sq. ft property between Estudillo Avenue and Joaquin Avenue. The two- and three-bedroom layouts are designed for families with children or working professionals.

The four council members voting yes were Mayor Pauline

see APARTMENTS, page 12

Downtown BofA Temporarily Closed

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Customers of the downtown branch of the Bank of America were surprised this week to find the bank closed.

Bank of America said it's a temporary closure due to staffing shortages during the pandemic, and the branch will reopen by next week.

"I was there Monday at the bank opening time and I was upset, and so were others," said Dennis Hollenbeck of San Leandro.

Customers used the ATMs on the side of the bank at 1400 East 14th St., but people walking up to the front door found it locked.

A sign taped to the door said the branch was closed temporarily. This branch is always busy, so

the closure will no doubt affect a lot of people. During the pandemic, the line at the bank often goes around the corner.

The Bank of America has had to take many steps during the pandemic, said a bank spokeswoman, who said the branch will reopen this weekend.

One step "has been to briefly close some financial centers when staffing is not sufficient for all centers to remain open," said Colleen Haggerty, Bank of America's senior vice president for media relations. "This happens as we continue to reassign employees considered high risk to do jobs they can do from home, and when employees unexpectedly need to

see CLOSED, page 4



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

A customer arrives at the downtown Bank of America on Tuesday morning and finds the door locked and the bank closed. Bank of America says the branch on East 14th Street will reopen by next week.

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



San Leandro Times

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

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Call for Artwork for Japanese American Commemorative Marker

By Winda I. Shimizu
Special to the Times

The City of Hayward has released a Call for Art to select a companion artwork to the Japanese American Commemorative Marker approved by the City last year.

The Hayward Heritage Plaza Public Art Initiative Committee is looking to select an artwork and interpretive art piece that can beautify the Hayward Heritage Plaza, communicate meaningful content, preserve an often-forgotten history, and demonstrate respect for the Japanese American community past and present.

The design and construction of the selected artwork must

include the 600 names of the Japanese Americans who, during World War II, were transported from Watkins Street in downtown Hayward to the Tanforan Detention Center for several months and later to an incarceration camp.

To submit your artwork for consideration, visit www.hayward-ca.gov/business/doing-business-with-hayward/artist-all-call. The deadline for submission is Saturday, October 31.

Winda I. Shimizu is Hayward Arts Council Executive Director and member of the Heritage Plaza Public Art Initiative Committee.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES PHOTO BY DOROTHEA LANGE

The Mochida family was one of the 161 families taken by bus to the Tanforan Detention Center. The Mochida children ages 3 to 17 were U.S. born citizens. Military-issued identification tags labeled both family members and luggage. Dorothea Lange took this photo in Hayward on May 8, 1942.

Learn About the Flying Boat

The Oakland Aviation Museum, 8252 Earhart Road in Oakland, invites the public to join in a fun program "Not so Silent Solent Flying Boat," an outdoor walk-around tour, led by Docent Eulanna Allan, on Saturday Oct. 3, at noon.

This is an outdoor event

only, indoor exhibits are closed. Alameda County Health directive requires masks and social distancing at all times.

Admission rates: Adults \$15, seniors \$12, military and teens \$10, kids 5-12 year old \$8, and free admission for kids 4 and under.

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Chapo



Pablo

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are a pair of brothers, Chapo and Pablo.

Chapo is a 4-year-old male who loves going on walks. He's pretty laid back and takes treats gently from your hand. He would like to go to a home with older children, other dogs okay too.

Pablo is a 4-year-old male

who loves playing with toys, especially tennis balls. He loves getting attention and pets, and enjoys walking with his brother, Chapo. He would like a home with older children, other dogs okay too.

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



WE BELIEVE: "It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth... and the right of every child to be born."

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Tips for Safeguarding Against Covid this Halloween

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Trick-or-treating will take on a whole new look and feel this year because of Covid-19. But parents can take precautions to reduce the risk of passing the virus from one person to another.

The Alameda County Public Health Department on Monday issued new guidance on keeping households safe against the coronavirus during Halloween and Dia de Los Muertos celebrations.

Among the safest activities recommended are practicing traditions on a small scale and with the people you live with. Decorating at home, carving pumpkins, virtual costume contests, or holding a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search are recommended. For those who want to go outside, health officials say visiting an outdoor pumpkin patch or participating in a neighborhood outdoor car or bike parade are great as long as distance precautions are taken.

Participating in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are

lined up for families to grab and go is considered safe. However, Public Health says hosting a trunk-or-treat where treats are

or movie night where people are distanced more than 6 feet apart and are wearing masks is great. Haunted houses or indoor mazes for anyone outside of your family are not allowed in the county.

"Parties are also high-risk because mixing among people who don't live in the same home introduces more opportunities for the virus to pass from one person to another," said Public Health spokesperson Neetu Balram. "Candy shouldn't be eaten while outside the home because that would require both removing the face mask and touching wrappers."

Public health officials suggest avoiding wearing a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe.

The guidance comes as Alameda County was given Red or "Substantial" health status last Tuesday. The status means the county has improved its average between 4 to 7 new cases for every 100,000 people with a positive testing rate of 8 percent or less.

Covid Cases:

**Castro Valley
Confirmed Cases – 538**

**San Leandro
Confirmed Cases – 1,161**

**Alameda County
Confirmed Cases –
21,240
Deaths – 406**

**California
Confirmed Cases –
805,263
Deaths – 15,608
(as of Sept. 28)**

handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots is prohibited.

Having a very small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade



ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPT. PHOTO

4-Wheel-Drive Fire Fighting Machine

To help fight wildfires and get to off-road locations, this new truck has been added to the array of Alameda County firefighting equipment. The Ford F560 crew cab Skeeter is housed at Station 6 on Crow Canyon Road. It can "pump and roll" 400 gallons of water and has a foam pro system. It's secondary to the main engine, which carries more hose and water. The new truck is good for 4-wheel driving and remote access, according to fire department spokesman Brian Centoni.

Help Provided for Energy Bills

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides federally funded assistance in managing costs & savings associated with home energy bills, energy crises, and weatherization and energy-related minor home repairs.

Alameda County has received

\$1.3 million in supplemental funding to prepare for and respond to home energy needs surrounding the national emergency created by the coronavirus pandemic.

Priority funding will be given to households with members who

received unemployment benefits anytime after January 2020.

If you or someone you know needs assistance or more information regarding eligibility, call Spectrum Community Services at 510-881-0300 or visit www.SpectrumCS.org.

Hayward Extends Moratorium on Business Evictions

The Hayward City Council voted last week to extend, through the end of January 2021, an emergency moratorium that bars evictions of commercial tenants for nonpayment of rent because of the pandemic.

The action amends a moratorium that was scheduled to end this week prohibiting evictions of both residential and commercial tenants, as well as homeowners, in which coronavirus was a factor in failure to make rent or mortgage payments.

The amended extends Hayward's eviction protections for commercial tenants only. A state-wide moratorium on residential evictions had already been en-

acted in August which also ends on Jan. 31.

Nothing in the ordinance relieves commercial tenants of an obligation to pay rent, and unpaid

back rent still accumulates. It bars evictions only while the moratorium is in place and during a 180-day repayment period following the moratorium's expiration.

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Closed: Bank spokeswoman says branch will reopen by next week

continued from front page

stay home temporarily to help with family members."

The sign on the downtown branch's door directed customers to two other Bank of America branches in San Leandro – Bayfair and on Marina Boulevard. But that wasn't convenient for at least one customer.

"I rode the bus, I'm disabled, so now I have to find another bus," said bank customer Evelyn Moore who walked up to the bank with a cane. "When it's closed, it's a real inconvenience."

"And this is essential," Moore added. "It's something you have to have."

Another customer who arrived at the downtown Bank of America said she came there because the Marina Boulevard office had such a long line.

A customer said he couldn't get cash from the ATM on Monday, but BofA spokeswoman Haggerty said on Tuesday that the four ATMs at the bank were operating normally.

During the pandemic, the bank has experienced unprecedented levels of use due to the bank servicing unemployment cards for both customers and non-customers, Haggerty said.

"When it's closed, it's a real inconvenience ... and this is essential."

— Bank of America customer Evelyn Moore

So the Bank of America has increased ATM maintenance to keep up with the demand.

Haggerty reminds customers that they can access their accounts online, use the ATMs, or visit the other branches that are within two miles. A branch

locator tool can be found at bankofamerica.com and a phone number for information is 866-834-9286.

CNN reported in July that the Bank of America announced deposits made on mobile devices are outpacing those made at branches for the first time.

As more people take to mobile banking, the big banks have been able to reduce the number of branches they operate, reducing expenses.

Bank of America has over 4,000 branches, but that number is 1,700 fewer than it had in 2008, according to a CNN report.

Traditional banks are also facing increased competition from companies such as Amazon, Apple and Facebook which have been expanding into financial services – and those companies don't have the expense of operating brick-and-mortar banks.

Bank of America has responded by investing in mobile banking and launching new mobile banking apps.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Bank of America customers used the ATMs on the side of the downtown San Leandro branch this week, but customers walking up to the front entrance found the door locked and the bank closed.

PG&E to Provide New Alerts Before Shutting Off Power

As Northern California continues to be bombarded by dangerous wildfire conditions, PG&E is enhancing notifications to its customers with more detailed information about when power is expected to go out during a Public Safety Power Shutoff, commonly referred to as a PSPS event.

Whenever possible, an ini-

tial Watch notification will be sent two days in advance of a potential power shutoff, followed by an additional notification one day before the potential PSPS, notifying customers of the possibility of a blackout in their area based on weather forecasts.

Warning Alert

A PSPS Watch will be up-

graded to a Warning when forecasts show that a shutoff will be needed, and that it is going to happen soon. Whenever possible, these Warning notifications will be sent four to 12 hours before the shutoff occurs.

Both notifications are tied to weather forecasts, which can change rapidly. They will be issued by automated calls, texts

and emails.

The alerts have been enhanced since last year, tested with customers, and adjusted based on their feedback.

Enhancements include providing your address so you'll know you're getting the accurate information for your home, the date and time when power is estimated to be shut off, and when it

is expected to be restored.

When power is turned off, PG&E will provide updates to customers at least once a day until power is restored.

Customers are encouraged to update their contact information and indicate their preferred language for notifications by visiting www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts or by calling 1-800-742-5000.

Alta Mira Open House

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host an open house on Sunday, Oct. 11, from 2 to 5 p.m. Tour the historic Ygnacio Peralta House and hear a presentation about the house and the recently restored stained glass windows. Social distancing and masks required.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

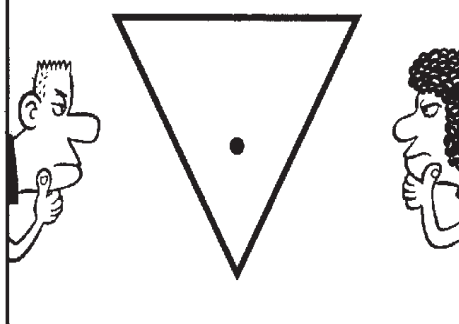


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bear has been added. 2. Window is wider. 3. Parts are longer. 4. Flowers have been added. 5. Bushes have been added. 6. Tree has additional limb.

OPTICALS



IN THE TRIANGLE ABOVE, is the dot closer to the top line, the bottom point, or the middle?

Answer: The dot is in the middle, halfway between the top line and the bottom point of the triangle.

FARMER BROWN'S BARN! Farmer Brown paid 20 workmen \$2,000 to put up a new addition to his barn. Each Master Carpenter made \$300, each Apprentice Carpenter made \$150, and each helper made \$50. How many of each were included in the team of 20 workmen?

Answer: 2 Master Carpenters, 5 Apprentice Carpenters and 13 helpers. (Total salaries came to: \$600 + \$750 + \$650 = \$2,000.)

THE FIVE-LETTER WORD POWER GRID! Each of the five words needed to fill in our "word power grid" contain the same five letters. We give you one of these letters and plenty of hints below.

- Costs per units of service.
- Weights to deduct.
- An intent gaze.
- Expression of emotion.
- Type of flower

Answers: 1. Rates. 2. Tares. 3. Stare. 4. Tears. 5. Asier.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A PERCEPTION TEST

First, try solving the problem presented on the right. After solving it (?), cut out the paragraph and paste it on a piece of cardboard. On the back of the cardboard, paste the answer given below the paragraph.



AN ODD PARAGRAPH

What is particularly unusual about this paragraph? You won't find many paragraphs similar to it. In all probability you will not find out what is so unusual about it right away, but if you look at it and study it for long, it may dawn on you. If you should find out what is odd or unusual, don't say what it is until I ask you; if you can't find out, look on the back of this paragraph. Don't look at my solution until you fail to find out what is odd about it. I could throw you a hint, but I won't!

Answer: You won't find an "e" in the entire paragraph.

LIFESTYLE



Pasta, Plain and Simple

Versatile pasta is one of the best bets for a quick, informal supper. Not only easy to prepare, it also helps tip the nutritional balance in a healthful direction.

Pasta contains almost no fat and a plain cup of cooked pasta has about 5 grams of protein, but only 160 calories.

Cook pasta according to package directions in boiling water, leaving plenty of room for it to move around as it boils. To prevent sticking, add a splash of olive oil to the water, then drop the pasta in slowly. Do not cover or it will boil over.

BAKED RAVIOLI

- 2 (25-ounce) packages frozen cheese ravioli
- 4 (14.5-ounce) cans diced tomatoes with juice
- 4 (8-ounce) cans tomato sauce
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup water
- 16 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cloves garlic, minced

In a medium stock pot combine the diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, chopped onion, Italian seasoning, salt and water. Stir in the minced garlic in quantity desired. Allow mixture to simmer for 2 hours. If sauce seems dry add additional water.

In large pot of boiling salted water cook the ravioli until done. Drain. In a 9x13-inch pan layer sauce and cooked ravioli. Top with grated Parmesan cheese and grated mozzarella cheese.

Bake in a preheated 400°F oven for 30 minutes, or until light golden brown. Let cool 15 minutes before serving. Yields 6 to 8 servings.

PASTA WITH KALE, BACON & SUN DRIED TOMATOES

- 8 ounces small-shaped pasta

- 5 cups prewashed kale
- 2 slices bacon
- 1/4 cup oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, drained and roughly chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 3 large garlic cloves, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 ounce Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, shaved
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

Cook pasta in boiling water 8 minutes or until almost tender. Add kale, and cook 2 minutes. Drain in a colander over a bowl, reserving 1/2 cup cooking liquid.

While pasta cooks, fry bacon in a large skillet over medium-high heat 4 minutes or until crisp. Remove bacon from pan with a slotted spoon; crumble and set aside.

Reduce skillet heat to medium-low. Add sun-dried tomatoes, crushed red pepper, and garlic to bacon drippings and cook 1 minute, stirring frequently. Add pasta mixture, reserved 1/2 cup cooking liquid, black pepper, and salt to pan; toss to combine.

Top pasta mixture evenly with bacon and cheese; drizzle evenly with lemon juice. Serves 4.

ITALIAN SPAGHETTI WITH MARINARA

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons minced parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

- 3-1/2 cups cooked tomatoes
- 1 green pepper, minced
- Dash of red pepper
- 8 ounces spaghetti, cooked according to directions
- Freshly grated Parmesan or Romano cheese

Simmer all ingredients about 1 hour in a heavy skillet. Pour sauce over hot, drained spaghetti on a hot platter. Sprinkle with grated cheese. Serves 6 to 8.

PASTA WITH OLIVES & SAUSAGE

- 1 cup chopped yellow onion
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3/4 pound low-fat Italian turkey or chicken sausage
- 2 teaspoons chopped garlic
- 1 teaspoons crushed red pepper, optional
- 1 (28-ounce) can diced tomatoes in juice
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 1 cup drained large black ripe pitted olives
- 1 dried bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 teaspoon each dried rosemary and oregano
- 1 pound farfalle (butterflies), penne or other pasta
- Finely shredded Parmesan

In large saucepan, cook onion in olive oil over medium-low heat until soft, stirring occasionally. Remove sausage from casings and crumble into pan. Add garlic and crushed red pepper. Increase heat to medium-high; stir and cook until sausage is brown. Stir in tomatoes with liquid, olives, tomato paste and

herbs. Bring to boil, cover, reduce heat and simmer gently 15 to 20 minutes.

Cook pasta in 6 quarts boiling, salted water just until tender. Drain well. Turn pasta into serving bowl and toss with sauce. Top with cheese. Makes 4 to 6 servings

Red Wine Sauce: If desired, add 1/2 cup red wine after browning sausage. Simmer 5 minutes, then proceed with recipe as directed.

Note: If using regular sausage, drain off excess fat after browning. Two teaspoons Italian herb seasoning can be used instead of basil, rosemary and oregano

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU PASTA

- 8 ounces uncooked medium egg noodles
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups low-fat milk, divided
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1-1/2 cups shredded Jarlsberg cheese
- 2 cups chopped cooked boneless chicken breasts
- 1 cup frozen peas, thawed

- 1 cup diced deli ham
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

Cook noodles according to package directions.

While noodles cook, lightly spoon flour into a dry measuring cup, and level with a knife. Combine flour and 1/4 cup milk in a heavy saucepan, stirring with a whisk until smooth.

Place the pan over medium heat; whisk in 1-3/4 cups milk and mustard. Cook 6 minutes or until mixture begins to thicken, stirring frequently.

Reduce heat to low. Add the cheese, stirring until melted. Stir in the chicken, peas, ham, and black pepper.

When hot, serve over noodles. Serves 4.

MACARONI & CHEESE PRIMAVERA

- 1/2 pound shell macaroni
- 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/4 cup diced green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup diced carrot
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon dried basil
- Pinch ground anise seed

- 2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup frozen baby peas
- 6 ounces ricotta cheese
- 6 ounces shredded Cheddar
- 6 ounces shredded Mozzarella
- 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon freshly grated Romano cheese
- 1 egg, beaten
- Salt and pepper

Cook the macaroni in plenty of boiling salted water according to directions. Drain and cool under cold running water.

Sauté the red and green bell peppers and carrots in the olive oil until softened. Do not let them brown. Add the basil, anise and garlic and sauté another minute. Remove from heat and stir in the parsley and defrosted peas.

Toss the vegetables with the macaroni, ricotta, Cheddar, mozzarella, Parmesan, Romano, egg, and salt and pepper to taste in a large casserole. Pack down.

Bake for 25 minutes in preheated 350°F oven. Serves 4.

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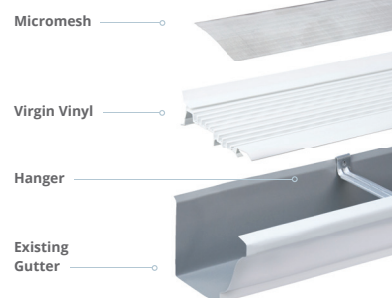
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By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Closings Frequently Delayed - Closing Checklist for Sellers

Getting a home under contract is one thing – closing on time is something else altogether. Truth is, a significant part of a Realtor's commission is earned during escrow solving problems threatening to derail or delay transactions.

Due to current rock-bottom interest rates, lenders are clogged with refinance applications. Although lenders insist purchases have priority over refinances, we are seeing significant appraiser delays visiting properties and lenders getting funds to escrow on time. Consequently, delays have become the new reality causing concern, frustration and anger for sellers hoping to close and get to the next phase in their lives.

As the closing draws near, sellers need to be aware of the following:

- Solidify the closing date. Late closing dates add confusion – the better you plan for delays the easier it will be. Confirm that your moving company has flexibility. If you are relocating directly to a subsequent purchase, they need to be kept in the loop to coordinate escrows.
- Confirm rent back (if applicable). Buyers are eager to get

into their new home as soon as possible, so solidify when you can vacate.

- Ask about leaving building materials. Fresh paint, flooring and materials leftover from upgrading your home are often welcomed by buyers. Verify before leaving, and *do not* leave garbage.

- Reroute your mail. Use the post office's Change of Address kits and do them in advance so everything is in place.

- Change your mailing address on online retailer websites. It can be frustrating if parcels get delivered to your old address.

- Leave a welcome package. This includes keys, remote controls, appliance manuals, instructions on operating house systems and more.

- Thoroughly clean the home. Covid-19 has elevated the level of cleanliness expected by buyers. If cleaning is not your forte, hire a cleaning company to come in after you leave.

- Vacate on time. If the contract states the buyers have possession by 2:00 p.m., that means you are out and cleaning finished by 2:00 p.m.

- Turn off utilities. Do it after receiving confirmation of recording. If you turn them off early, it can be tricky if you

need them back on for a few more days.

- Cancel your homeowner's insurance. Do not cancel your insurance until you are certain you no longer own the property.

Plan everything carefully and, even if the closing is delayed, you should be good to go.

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

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Roses Will Grow Back Over Time

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

My husband cut off an old rose bush. All that's left is a 12-inch high, six-inch diameter trunk with two to three branches below the cut. How do I prune the healthy new shoots, and is it possible to restore it to its former self?

Roses will take a lot of abuse even from a chain saw. It will take several growing seasons, but you should be successful in reestablishing the plant. That being said, your efforts may be a waste of time, but you'll need to wait until the next set of flowers

I'm assuming this was a named variety and had to be

growing from a rootstock that is a different variety. What I'm concerned about is that the pruning point was below the bud union. The bud union is where a desirable variety is budded on to a rootstock. If the cut was below this point, the desirable pink variety is gone forever.

The rootstock produces long, rapidly growing shoots that have a cherry red flower. This flower has nine to ten petals and is about the size of a silver dollar. I'd cut off any of the red flowering shoots and cultivate the desirable pink ones.

I'd encourage the new growth by feeding it often until next October. Besides being a heavy feeder, roses like plenty of water. After the rainy season concludes, you should water two to

three times a week, depending on the temperatures and daily with temperatures over 90°F.

Pruning roses is a year-round activity. Anytime you remove a spent flower or pick fresh ones, you're pruning. The lateral shoots are located in the leaf buds below the pruning points. This is where a leaf attaches to a stem. These growth buds accelerate when the stem above is cut and results in a new flush of flowers.

Except for this winter, give your rose a severe pruning during the winter months. Besides reducing the bush's overall height, remove any dead wood and eliminate the rubbing and crossing branches.

The rest of the year, you're shaping the plant. This is done after each flush of flowers. At

this time next year, you'll be surprised at how much your bush has recovered. To monitor the progress, use your smartphone or digital camera to record the progress throughout the year.

I had a sod lawn installed four months ago. Is it too late to fertilize it?

No, it's not too late to feed turf. One application in the fall as late as Thanksgiving is sufficient.

Contrary to public opinion, fall is the most crucial time of the year to feed grass, not in the spring. It's in the fall and early winter months when the new grass plants are formed. Another benefit is that the grass remains green during cold temperatures and doesn't turn that ugly yellow/brown color. From January through June, feed every eight to ten weeks, depending on the fertilizer, and skip the months of July and August.

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.



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1247 Benedict Court	94577: \$663,500 3 BD - 1,491 SF - 1955
15057 Dewey Street	94579: \$670,000 3 BD - 1,020 SF - 1950
1253 Lillian Avenue	94578: \$670,000 3 BD - 1,317 SF - 1947
1330 148th Avenue	94578: \$690,000 2 BD - 1,592 SF - 1939
927 Figueroa Drive	94578: \$710,000 3 BD - 1,195 SF - 1955
1723 Vining Drive	94579: \$725,000 3 BD - 1,470 SF - 1956
1209 Breckenridge St	94579: \$735,000 3 BD - 1,207 SF - 1958
16317 Ridgehaven Drive	94578: \$757,000
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318 Melven Court	94577: \$805,000 2 BD - 1,110 SF - 1928
16333 Ridgehaven Drive	94578: \$806,000
22 Sunnyside Drive	94577: \$810,000 2 BD - 1,192 SF - 1927
140 Begier Avenue	94577: \$900,000 3 BD - 1,266 SF - 1940
737 Cary Drive	94577: \$920,000 3 BD - 1,588 SF - 1936
951 Collier Drive	94577: \$1,160,000 4 BD - 2,313 SF - 1936
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Now that you have your checklist, it's time to roll up your sleeves while it's still nice outside. Whether you're a DIYer or prefer hiring a professional, crossing these projects off your to-do list will help ensure you're safe and secure before temperatures drop.

A Fall Maintenance Checklist

Although the East Bay will still have a few more hot days, winter is right around the corner. So use the good weather to take care of this fall maintenance checklist:

Porch, Deck, Patio

- Reset exterior light timers
- Put away outdoor furniture and grilling equipment
- Repair cracks in concrete walkways and replace loose bricks
- If the deck has been stained within the past three years, apply clear water-repellent sealer containing a preservative

Roof and Gutters

- Look for loose, damaged or missing shingles, tiles or shakes. Loss of the colored granules on asphalt shingles is a sign of aging.

- Clean gutters and check for leaky seams, unsecured hangers and improper drainage of downspouts. Make sure they direct runoff water away from the foundation for a minimum of 3 feet.

- Check the flashing around the chimney or where a roof meets a wall

- Check the chimney of loose mortar and caulk. Have the chimney cleaned and inspected by a professional.

Exterior Walls

- Check for missing or loose siding.
- Caulk joints and minor cracks.
- Look for deteriorating finishes. Minor problems can be patched to preserve the wood.

Yards

- Trim broken or diseased limbs on trees. Look for possible splitting of heavy limbs from tree trunks.

Windows and Doors

- Check for air leaks. Add weather stripping as needed.
- Clean and lubricate window channels for smooth sliding.

Heating System

- Clean permanent furnace filters, replace disposable filters. Do this monthly during the heating season.

Attic

- Look for signs of roof or flashing leaks on rafters and insulation.
- Check vent openings for nest or other blockages.

Home Improvement Projects That Will Lower Utility Bills

Hundreds of millions of people have sheltered in place as governments issue executive orders to help slow the spread of the coronavirus. As a result, many homes are becoming a fortress against the virus, a makeshift school, an office outpost and a daycare facility.

As homeowners continue to spend more time at home with the appliances and lights on, they are looking for ways to optimize the efficiency of their homes.

The typical U.S. family spends at least \$2,200 a year on home utility bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. On average, that's 7% of a consumer's annual income. Utilities that used to be considered "optional," such as Internet and mobile phone service, are now considered essential during the coronavirus era, adding additional expense to a family's monthly budget.

So where can a homeowner look to cut back?

When thinking of a smart home, some people might just think of cool, connected gadgets that make life easier or more convenient. However, many smart-home solutions are becoming part of sustainable living, and they can save you money along the way.

Here are four ways you can introduce smart-home solutions into your daily life, reducing the monthly strain of high utility bills.

Don't sacrifice efficiency for comfort — automate thermostats

Homes are a source of comfort and the temperature of your home should help you achieve that feeling. However, heating and cooling can account for nearly half of a family's monthly utility budget.

A smart thermostat, like the Honeywell Home T9 thermostat, can reduce this cost by tailoring to your temperature preferences during the day and at night.

By adding smart room sensors to your most popular rooms, you

can deliver the right temperature to the right room at the right time. Look for trusted brands that are Energy Star certified. You'll be doing your pocketbook and the environment a favor.

Sign up for rebates

When a sudden heat wave or cold snap hits a large swath of the country, air conditioning systems and heaters in houses, apartments, hospitals and office buildings all crank on at once, and utility companies go into overdrive trying to meet their clients' demands.

This kind of short-term increased demand puts a strain on the electric grid and can even become a public safety hazard if overloaded systems crash just when consumers most need them. To prevent this, utility companies implement a variety of voluntary energy-saving programs (known in the industry as demand response, or DR) that incentivize consumers to reduce their energy use during periods of peak demand.

Many utility companies offer a rebate for joining energy savings programs that connect to smart thermostats. You can search for rebates at Resideo.com/rebates.

Light up the room, but only when you're in it.

Parents can often tell the exact path their children have taken based on what lights have been left on throughout the house.

Turning off lights is an easy thing to forget, even as adults. We've all accidentally left that closet light or bedroom lamp on all day. Consider installing automated and motion-activated lighting solutions. With easy DIY installation, a weekend lighting project can give you long-term energy savings. Interested to know how much energy and cost are associated with running various home appliances? You can find an energy calculator at Energy.gov.

Get to know your water usage

Most of us don't think twice when turning on the faucet, flushing the toilet or running a warm bath, which takes energy to heat. Water is our planet's most precious resource, but it's something we take for granted because it's available at the turn of a tap. Monitoring and being aware of your water footprint can help reduce your monthly bill, while reducing strain on water supplies. For example, your money goes down the drain when dishes are washed by hand — using up to 27 gallons per load — instead of using an Energy Star certified dishwasher that can use as little as three gallons per load.

Smart washing machines can help you optimize your laundry preferences — and can find the right wash cycle and water-temperature preferences suitable for that load.

Do You Use Old Heating Equipment?

It is estimated that nearly half of all heating and cooling equipment in U.S. homes never performs to its advertised capacity and efficiency due to incorrect installation, according to U.S. government statistics.

And if you have an older system that was built before current efficiency standards, you could be spending more than needed on heating your home.

If you need to replace your system, be sure to have it properly installed by a professional, certified by North American Technician Excellence (NATE), the nation's largest independent, nonprofit certification body for heating and air conditioning technicians.

Beyond having an efficient heating system properly installed, there are several other steps you can take to make your home cool-weather friendly:

- Clean heating filters. Check them every couple of weeks and change them at least twice in the season, or as directed by the manufacturer.

- Turn down the thermostat or install a programmable thermostat to regulate temperature.
- Clean the furnace area. Don't keep chemicals or cleaning products near a heater, and don't store anything next to it that could impede ventilation.
- Keep vents and returns free of any obstructions.
- Dry air feels cooler than moist air, so install a humidifier. A simple humidifier may make

the home feel five degrees warmer than a home with dry air.

- Look into geothermal heating systems. By using the earth's natural heat, these systems are among the most efficient and energy-conserving heating and cooling technologies currently available.

To find a qualified local contractor who employs certified technicians, look for the NATE logo or go to HVACAdvice.com.



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Castro Valley Women's Club Donates To Local Charities and Scholarships

The Castro Valley Women's Club has donated a total of \$19,000 to the following groups and charities which serve the local community: Alameda County Food Bank, Building Futures, CVHS Madrigals, FESCO, Memorial Donations, Mosaic Project, Operation Dignity, Penney Pines, Ruby's Place, Spectrum Community Service and Sulphur Creek Nature Center.

A donation of \$7,900 to SOS/ Meals on Wheels included funds

of \$3,300 (thank you to all the businesses and the community for supporting the 7th annual Holiday Boutique), matching funds of \$2,500 from the Modern Woodman Society, and \$2,100 in kind volunteering.

Every year the club gives three scholarships totaling \$3,000 to outstanding students

from Castro Valley High School. The following students received \$1,000 each: Lindsey Shak, studying aerospace engineering; Marin Ruiz, studying neuroscience; and Weiwei Lian, studying biology.

Women are invited to join the club. See castrovalleywomensclub.weebly.com for details.

Power Shutoff Won't Affect Water Service

The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) has stationed 40 portable generators and pumps at critical facilities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties to keep water flowing during PG&E preemptive power outages expected this fall.

The emergency equipment will remain in place through the fire season to maintain reliable water service for East Bay communities and fire departments during Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).

PG&E implements these power outages to prevent its equipment from igniting wildfires during high risk periods.

When fire danger is high, EBMUD fills neighborhood tanks so they are at maximum capacity for

customers and firefighters.

EBMUD's wastewater facilities at the foot of the Bay Bridge are also ready for any PSPS and can use onsite generators to treat and discharge wastewater safely.

While EBMUD doesn't anticipate water service disruptions, it will notify and ask customers in areas affected by PSPS to temporarily stop outdoor water use and minimize indoor use to preserve supplies.

EBMUD recommends that all residents store back-up water supplies to prepare for earthquakes, storms and other emergencies.

To learn more about how to store emergency water visit ebmud.com/waterstorage.



PHOTO BY ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Alameda County Firefighters Fighting California Blazes

More than two dozen Alameda County firefighters helped fight some of the 27 wildfires across California in the worst fire season in the state's history.

They joined over 18,000 firefighters on the front lines of the blazes that have killed at least

29 people. Alameda County has also deployed four fire engines and other heavy equipment to the Creek, North Complex and Glass fires in Sonoma and Napa counties, while maintaining full firefighting strength here at home.

As of Tuesday, more than

80,000 residents were forced to evacuate their homes, as flames incinerated some 3.8 million acres and an untold number of houses and other structures.

Weather conditions improved on Tuesday, but California is still in the peak of its wildfire season.

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LOCAL DEATHS

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Alma Lenters Drown

Alma Lenters Drown passed away Sept. 16, 2020, 44 days short of her 101st birthday. She had been a San Leandro resident continuously since 1943 and a very active member of the First Presbyterian Church for nearly eight decades.

Alma is survived by her adult children, Derk (Carol) Lenters, John (Dena) Lenters, Susan (Bill) Galstan, and James (Laura) Lenters, as well as by ten grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Born in Bellwood, IL, Alma met and married Donald Lenters, a Navy reservist, in 1940. He was activated when WWII began and served as a chief petty officer in the South Pacific. The couple moved to San Leandro where Donald worked with local firms. Unfortunately, he died suddenly in 1963. In 1981 Alma married Harold Drown, a retired Presbyterian minister, who also predeceased her.

A bundle of energy in a small package, she was the first to raise her hand to volunteer when help was needed, and she assisted in many church and community events and social activities. Alma was known as a great homemaker and in addition to being a good cook and baker, took special pride in her home on Dowling Boulevard and its garden, noted for its roses and sweet peas. During her working career, she served as an executive secretary at International Paper Company and other local firms.

Blessed with a good sense of humor, Alma enjoyed practical jokes and the antics of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, while dealing with life's challenges with a focused determination. She is remembered fondly by all who knew her.

A private internment will be arranged and a celebration of life will be scheduled when COVID restrictions allow. Donations are preferred made to First Presbyterian Church San Leandro or VITAS Hospice, 670 N. McCarthy Blvd. Ste. 220, Milpitas, CA 95035.

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LOCAL DEATHS

Dolores Satterfield Johnson

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Dolores Satterfield Johnson, a resident of San Leandro CA, on August 28, 2020 at Sonoma, CA.

Born on September 30, 1929 in Fort Smith, AR to Agnes Douglas Broom and Daniel Boone Satterfield, the family moved to Oakland, CA in 1942.

Soon Dolores met Maurice Anthony Johnson. They married after his military service on November 30, 1947.

She is survived by three children, Maurice, Steven and Nancy (Cooper), and by eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Dolores was an awesome wife, mother and friend to anyone who knew her. She will be greatly missed by all.

A private burial was held for her on September 9th at Chapel of the Chimes, Hayward, CA.



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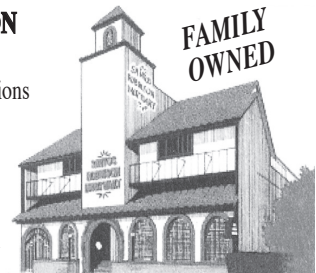
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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): A workplace change doesn't seem to have turned out quite as you'd hoped. Never mind: Just treat yourself to a healthy dollop of that Aries self-confidence, and you'll soon view things differently.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Some of the support you might have hoped for in a difficult situation might not be there. But you have the strength to rely on your own capabilities if you must. Good luck.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): A disagreement with a longtime friend can be painful, but it also can be a learning lesson. Insist on a full and complete airing of views. You'll both come away the better for it.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): A stalled relationship can be restarted with some give and take on both sides. And while it could take more time than you expect, don't rush it. Be patient, and let it happen naturally.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): An opportunity to move a long-stalled project from concept to construction might be opening up for the Big Cat. Meanwhile, be prepared to spend more time dealing with family matters.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Use your Virgo organizational skills to line up support to help you deal with a sticky workplace problem. A personal matter also might be helped with friendly intervention.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Trying to resolve a workplace problem with a longtime associate can be difficult. Consider bringing in an impartial third party to help you both reach a mutually acceptable solution.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): This is a good time to assess your current career situation. Consider whether you have a chance to move up where you are now, or if you should look elsewhere.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): With education being a dominant part of this week's aspect, one of the things you might want to think about is taking courses to enhance your career opportunities.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): You might have a problem trying to stay focused on a matter you'd rather not deal with. But the sooner you do, the sooner it will be resolved and out of the way.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): An unforeseen complication creates a difficult problem. But things get resolved once you use your ability to turn negative situations into positive experiences.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): The Pisces penchant for doing the right thing at the right time helps you deal with a particularly troublesome situation. Consider your best option, and act accordingly.

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.

Pandemic Risk

Editor:

I am sorry Ute Anderson ("Wants Businesses Open," Letters, Sept. 24), but this letter is going to read rather harsh. But we can't open up. Your logic is flawed and here is why.

Dividing the known cases to date by population can give a very raw indication of risk but you forget about the time factor. Infected population number has gone up while the county population has stayed relatively the same since Feb. 2020. Thus, by your risk calculation you are now 20,000 times more at risk than that time in February when we only had one case. You don't understand risk calculations.

To help you understand the complexity of the risk you must consider virulence, method of transfer, and lethality of the virus as well as density of infection.

Take Ebola. I guarantee if we had a case in Alameda County you'd be shaking in your shoes. Ebola is highly virulent and upwards of 60% lethal. Blood drips from your eyes! No walking around for 15 days spreading the virus. This is why Ebola barely makes it out of the village. But you can't catch Ebola unless you physically touch the ill or dead person/fluids/blood, and it also acts fast. Only 11 cases in USA since 1979 and that's because we flew those people home to treat them.

In contrast, COVID-19 appears to be highly virulent (bad) and transfers by breathing/droplets in the air (very bad), and is slow to show symptoms (bad). Death rate is near 1.6% in Alameda County so better (by your numbers) but still 6 times worse than seasonal Flu so bad. At 1.6%, if the virus spreads to all San Leandro, expect one person per street to be dead.

COVID-19 should scare you because you can catch it just by breathing normally while standing and minding your own business. The 7 dead in Maine stemming from that 65-person wedding is not Trumpian fake news and they didn't even get to dance with the bride.

After months of scientists telling you why you must stay home, wear a mask, etc., I don't understand why you are asking the San Leandro Times editor for medical advice. Listen to the experts (#standwithfauci). Glad I read your question and there's your answer. Any other science questions I can answer for San Leandro?

—John Clouston
San Leandro

Apartment Plan Needs More Parking Spaces

Editor:

A few months ago, Mr. Silva exited the city council meeting holding his tail between his legs when his pie in the sky apartment plan was kiboshed for being too large for the property. He is now proposing 42 apartments that will be two or three bedrooms and said this will include 58 parking spaces. He also wants to include five off street parking spaces that are not part of the property. What was he smoking when he came up with that comment?

According to the National Multifamily Housing Council, there should be 1.66 parking spaces for a two bedroom apartment and 2.0 spaces for a three bedroom apartment.

Using this recommendation and assuming that half are two bedroom and half are three bedroom, there should be 77 parking spaces not 58. It's time to include the parking space ratio when considering the number of proposed apartments as parking in the immediate area is all ready very tight.

—Brent Heath
San Leandro

More Townhouse Concerns

Editor:

Why would City Council members deny the community more time to work out concerns over the new 3-story townhome development at the former Manor Bowl site? Neighbors have concerns such as the development being 3 stories (not fitting into our Manor community), privacy of these units looking into back yards of long-time residents, parking and traffic that would be added to the already well-traveled Manor Blvd. (which is already in very poor condition).

We were asking for additional time to speak with the developer regarding our concerns since most of us weren't even aware of this development being in progress until news of it appeared on "Nextdoor."

When it comes time to vote in November for our City Council, know who you are voting for. We need Council members who will support the community and listen to resident's concerns no matter what the issue. Azevedo and Simon have been listening and are what we need in San Leandro.

—Larry Smith
San Leandro

Endorsements Favor Incumbents

Editor:

It is the endorsement season for politics. Over the coming weeks, you will see lots of politicking about who has whose endorsement. Endorsements in of themselves can help a candidate get their message out and let voters know what other groups think about a candidate. That can be a good thing.

However, the endorsement process favors the incumbent for a number of reasons. This makes it incredibly hard for a new candidate because the process is not uniform, consistent, or in a few cases, equitable. There are many clubs, associations, and groups. Each with its own set of rules, processes, and schedules for candidates.

As a new candidate, I've found the process to be at times difficult and other times quite wonderful. I am grateful to have had an opportunity to share our vision for schools. I appreciate all of those who support our desire to improve our schools by supporting my candidacy.

However, I want to be very clear. I am running for families. I am running for the parents who are trying to balance providing for their family while at the same time trying to ensure their child gets a quality education. I am running for

the teachers who are working overtime to learn new techniques and methods for teaching our children due to distance learning. I am running as a father of three children going to school today. I am running for you.

So when you see endorsements in this political season remember to choose a candidate that is running for you, and not for the political upside.

—Richard D. Chennault
San Leandro

Teacher Won't Vote for VV

Editor:

As a public school teacher, I generally favor bond measures and parcel taxes earmarked for education and other social needs. I believe, as citizens, we have a responsibility to provide the services necessary to attain a good quality of life in our city.

However, I cannot in good conscience vote for Measure VV, the proposed transfer tax on the November ballot. The city lacks credibility to effectively manage these monies. While I am painfully aware of the projected, multi-million dollar budget shortfall, I believe we will be in much better shape in the long-run if we demand discipline and accountability from our civic leaders in the short term.

This measure has been pitched to us as "fixing potholes" and "supporting police." While I wish the San Leandro Police Department was as efficient and effective as the Public Works Department, unfortunately SLPD is a bloated organization that consumes more than a third of the city budget. Our Streets Boys do a miraculous job of maintaining our roadways on a shoestring budget, planning strategically, and working creatively to fix priority needs.

The Boys in Blue have a history of harassing the homeless, brutalizing people during traffic stops, and killing people (three in a little more than a year).

The police earn a premium salary, which further costs us down the road in pensions. Add to that amount, settlements the city pays out for police abuses.

Let the City Council and SLPD earn new revenues. How about some leadership? Freeze salaries; do not extend Tudor's contract. Use the new Budget Advisory Task Force to tighten your belt. (When last I looked in June, SLPD was trying to pile-on \$1.7 million dollars in supplemental funds.) Re-allocate social services from the SLPD "plate" to more cost-efficient, professional service providers. Cut unnecessary line items, such as maintenance of the BearCat tank. Trim expensive training programs. Reduce the budget via attrition by way of retirements.

They've got some "nerVVe" requesting more money until they have first taken these practical steps.

—Douglas Spalding
San Leandro

Applauds Margaret Myers Story

Editor:

Thanks for the wonderful news story about Margaret Myers, who looked out her San Leandro window and saw the swastika painted on a utility box. Her Jewish father was killed by the Nazis in 1942 and her first husband was Black.

Myers, who is 87, knows discrimination first hand. Your should receive recognition for this prize-winning story.

—George Z. Banks
San Leandro



INQUIRING REPORTER

Hope to go back to the movies?

— Asked downtown

I miss the enjoyment and fun of going to the movies with family. It's a big family thing when we go to the movies at Southland or in Hayward.

Debbie Parks
San Leandro



I'm a TV guy. It's a lot easier and a lot closer and the popcorn is cheaper at my house.

Juan Alvarez
San Leandro



Not really. I would like to but I don't trust people to stay home if they're sick. It seems like an unreasonable risk. I feel sorry for the movie theaters, though.

Michele Minsuk
San Leandro



Absolutely not. I'm 72 years old and we watch movies on TV at home. I miss it, though. Maybe we'll go when the virus is gone.

Mike Focha
San Leandro



Sure, why not? I think it's ridiculous that everything is closed down. There will be fewer people at the movie theater so it will be more fun.

John Rhodas
San Leandro



Apartment: Expensive apartments gets okay from council

continued from front page

Cutter and Council members Corina Lopez, Deborah Cox, and Pete Ballew. Victor Aguilar voted no, Benny Lee abstained, and Ed Hernandez was absent.

Mayor Cutter asked the City Planning Department to revisit the issue of parking to incorporate complaints by neighbors that the intersection would be too congested because of the apartments.

The common sticking point expressed by Councilmen Aguilar and Cox was the impact of traffic and parking in the area. The plan before the council called for a total of 63 parking spaces, 58 on-site (including three chargers for electric vehicles), and five off-site parking spaces. Silva said that the proposed parking spaces would not be contingent on renting at the property, sometimes called "unbundling." The arrangement, however, would be critical towards GreenTRIP certification, an environmental designation with financial implications.

During three hours of public comment and debate, various

groups including current and former students of Bancroft Middle School as well as the Estudillo Estates Neighborhood Association expressed concerns about the project's impact on traffic congestion and the safety of pedestrians.

"I am glad that the council is recording this meeting because we can use this to stand witness to the first student who gets hit by a car... and we can say, 'I told you so,'" said Maurice, an Estudillo Estates resident. "We can't even provide parking for the teachers at Bancroft Middle School. To approve the project would just be dangerous. We support new housing but this would hurt the local community."

The vote came to the council approved by the Planning Commission and Community Development Department but was held for a final review following a request by the council to reduce the number of rental units to alleviate traffic and parking congestion in the area. The mayor deferred the final decision on parking and traffic to a working group within the

Planning Commission with input from the neighborhood.

The other main concern by the council was the lack of affordable units. Eden Realty's Silva said the two-bedroom options would likely start in the \$4,000 per month range with three-bedroom units in the \$4,700 range.

While the developer originally proposed only two below-market-rate units, the approved plan by the council calls for two affordable units at 100 percent of the market rate at the site, two comparable units at 120 percent of the market rate in the city, and the developer to pay \$134,000 apiece to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) as compensation.

Councilman Aguilar said he

was a bit offended by the lack of affordable housing in the plan.

"I could not afford even your least expensive option on my salary," Aguilar said.

Silva did not indicate whether he would officially agree to the Council's vote. State laws have given more power to developers to build larger projects recently as part of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. The City Manager's office said San Leandro is currently in compliance with its state-mandated goals for affordable housing, but not for market-rate or above moderate-income housing. If a city fails to provide more housing after 2023, the state can intervene and force a community to build housing without much review at



TIMES FILE PHOTO

An apartment building will be developed at the site of the medical office on Bancroft Avenue.

the local level.

If Eden Realty moves forward with the construction, Silva

said he has already committed to using local union labor to help build on the parcel.

Council: Both want improved social services

continued from front page

Both men said they would use the money to improve city social services and ensure open dialogues with community outreach leaders.

Bammer is an automotive detail technician who said he got involved in local politics after he had an issue with the San Lorenzo Unified School District, where his children attend school. (Washington Manor is in the San Lorenzo school district, though it's in the city of San Leandro.) The Washington Manor resident also said he wanted to run because he didn't want Simon to run unopposed.

Bammer says his platform includes annexing unincorporated areas Ashland, Cherryland, and San Lorenzo into San Leandro. Putting all schools in San Leandro city limits under the control of the San Leandro School District, and providing more options and resources to the homeless population in the area.

"I've been going to the City Council for about three years



Fred Simon

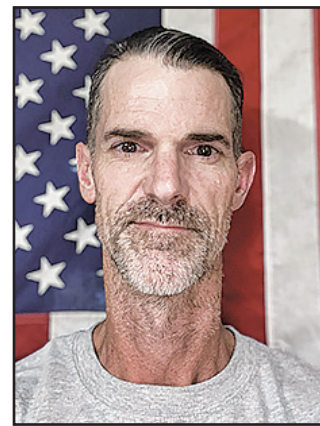
now trying to get some help with the homeless encampments that are directly behind my business," Bammer said during the Chamber meeting. "It's very very disheartening that the city officials can't work with the state officials to figure out a solution. I understand that homeless people don't...they refuse the help that's offered to them, but as a business owner and as a resident, I'm asking for help from the city for this problem. They're not

helping the homeless. They're not helping the businesses. So that's a problem to me that I want to see get fixed."

Simon is a civil engineer with more than 20 years of engineering experience in the Bay Area. Simon was elected to the Ora Loma Board in November 2018, and is a resident of the Heron Bay neighborhood. In 2014, Simon publicly threw his support behind installing gates on streets leading into the neighborhood to reduce crime and limit the number of people passing through in search of the watershed trails.

Simon says he stands on a platform to, "invest in community equity and quality of life, increase economic opportunities, expand senior and youth services, end homelessness and reduce crime." He says he also supports the arts, improving streets, and bringing in new business and sustainable housing, and building community equity and quality of life.

"This is a big driver on why I ran," Simon said during the Chamber meeting. "I always



Chris Bammer

wanted to run for City Council, but was never really sure when the time was quite right. However, with the killing of George Floyd as well as Stephen Taylor here in San Leandro, that really motivated me to jump in and start my city council career a bit earlier than expected."

Bammer is endorsed by former San Leandro mayor John Faria. Simon is supported by California State Assemblymember Rob Bonta.

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County Clerk
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By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572989

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
(1) Sun Roofing (2) Sun Builders, located at 884 Barri Drive, San Leandro, CA 94578, mailing address P.O. Box 4295, San Leandro, CA 94578 in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Robert Lee Otterson, 884 Barri Drive, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Robert Lee Otterson
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

SEPT 24, OCT 1, 08, 15 2020
285-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572824

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Bossco Electric, located at 714 Woodland Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shawn Williams, 714 Woodland Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Shawn Williams
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

SEPT 24, OCT 1, 08, 15 2020
286-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 573003

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Con Fuerzas, located at 1399 Leonard Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Heidi Torres, 1399 Leonard Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Heidi Torres
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

OCT 1, 08, 15, 22, 2020
287-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 09, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572749

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
Bodii Language, located at 1511 163rd Avenue #29, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tiana Scott, 1511 163rd Avenue #29, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ Tiana Scott
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 09, 2025

OCT 1, 08, 15, 22, 2020
288-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572994

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
PIRTEK SFO, located at 1997 Burroughs Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Currid Family Corporation, 3676 Hillsbough Drive, Concord, CA 94520. This business is conducted by a corporation. This business commenced N/A.
/s/ The Currid Family Corporation
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
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