



Serious as a...

HEART ATTACKS ARE MORE LIKELY TO OCCUR IN WINTER; PROTECT YOUR HEALTH 8



Full Court

SAN LEANDRO LOSES IN CLOSE GAME TO EL CERRITO ON PIRATES HOME COURT 9

WEEKEND WEATHER
MILD Highs remain in the low sixties
HIGHS: 58-63
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 42-47

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 28 • NO. 2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Digging It

A crew that doesn't mind working in a little rain dug a trench on Washington Avenue this week to install a conduit for an underground cable.

Zoning Board OK's Apartments Close to BART

62-unit apartment building okayed at San Leandro Blvd. and Parrott

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Last week, the City's Board of Zoning Adjustments unanimously approved Eden Housing's proposal to build a 62-unit apartment building at 1604 San Leandro Boulevard, across from the San Leandro BART Station.

The 5-story building will have 22 studio apartments, 22 one-bedroom units, and 18 two-bedroom units. There will be four floors of living space above a parking garage and at its highest point the building will be 60-feet tall.

There are plans for a 5,500-square-foot outdoor courtyard, a community room for residents, vegetable planters, and a barbecue.

City planner Andrew Mogensen said a handful of neighbors spoke out against the project, mainly citing parking concerns, but the city has had a high-density "transit oriented development" plan in place for that area for over a decade now.

The new apartments are in line with the city's stated goal of building higher-density housing near the downtown area and within walking distance of BART and AC Transit.

A 2015 state law mandates that there must be one parking space per two units of affordable housing in proximity to a transit hub. For this project that means

31 parking spaces, which is what Eden Housing has planned for.

"There was concern from neighbors about parking," said Mogensen. "But the state law

see APARTMENTS, page 5

MLK Day Forum on Race and Speech

The San Leandro social justice group Unity in the Community will host a program on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day focusing on the First Amendment and race.

Speakers will be on hand for the workshop, "Hiding Racism Behind the First Amendment: Free Speech or Hate Speech?" on Monday, Jan. 15, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 E. 14th St.

Alan Schlosser, senior counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Northern California will be the keynote speaker – followed by a panel discussion with Derrick "DB" Bedford, author and emotional in-

see MLK, page 16

How Do You Know a Driver Sees You When You Start to Walk Across the Street?

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

You're about to step off the sidewalk and cross the street.

You remember the old adage: make eye contact with the driver, so you know that they see you before you step in front of a car.

But how do you do that when so many cars have tinted windows?

A lot of cars these days have their driver's side windows darkened. All you see is a blackened window. Do you step in front of a 4,000-pound motor vehicle when the driver could be looking the other way, or at their phone?

To not be able to see the driver puts a person walking in

see TINT, page 16



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

More cars today have tinted windows making the driver invisible.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

PETS

Giselle is one easy-going cat.

Page 2

NEWS

Pile of recycled metal catches on fire.

Page 3

MUSIC

Women's chorus to hold open rehearsal.

Page 16

38,500 EVERY THURSDAY
THE LARGEST FREE-DELIVERED NEWSPAPER IN THE EAST BAY

Auto	6
Health & Fitness	8
Calendar	4
Classified Ads	12
Crime	3
Crossword	11
Homes	10
Home Services	12
Inquiring Reporter	15
Letters	15
Lifestyle	7
Obituaries	14

San Leandro Times

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

EDITORIAL

Fred Zehnder
Editor and Publisher

Jim Knowles
Managing Editor
jimk@ebpublishing.com

Amy Sylvestri
City Editor
amys@ebpublishing.com

Steve Schaefer
Auto Editor

PRODUCTION

Howard Morrison
Manager

Greg Benson
Art Director

Moxie Morrison
Assistant

OPERATIONS

Claudette Morrison
Business Manager

ADVERTISING

Display Advertising

Claudette Morrison

Classified Advertising
Patrick Vadnais

HOW TO REACH US

San Leandro Times
2060 Washington Ave.
San Leandro, California 94577

Office hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Office: (510) 614-1555

Newsroom: (510) 614-1557

Sports: (510) 614-1561

Advertising: (510) 614-1555

Classified: (510) 614-1558

Fax: (510) 483-4209

Email: jimk@ebpublishing.com

www.ebpublishing.com



California
Newspaper
Publishers
Association
member

©2018 East Bay Publishing Corporation

Pets of the Week



Butterscotch



Giselle

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Butterscotch the bunny and Giselle the cat.

Butterscotch is a gentle and easygoing Dutch bunny who's looking for a loving family to call his own. He enjoys following you around the house and doesn't mind having his silky fur brushed. He's neutered.

Giselle is an affectionate, soft ball of fur with a cute squeaky meow. This adorable Calico loves to be held and given attention. She's easygoing and would be a wonderful addition to a loving family.

Chamber to Host Business Awards Celebration

San Leandro Chamber of Commerce will host its Business Awards Celebration, "Spotlight San Leandro: A Maker City," on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. Tickets are \$125, and tables are \$2,000.

VIP wine reception, hosted bar and hors d'oeuvres, nightcap and networking. Semi-formal attire. For tickets, go to sanleandrochamber.com.

Correction

The story in the Jan. 4, 2018 issue, "Pot Shop Approved Two Years Ago in San Leandro Still Hasn't Opened," mistakenly said that former City Councilwoman Diana Souza works for Blum, but Souza has never worked for Blum. Her son works for Blum and she is listed as a potential advisory board member for Blum when the dispensary opens in San Leandro.



State Assemblyman Rob Bonta helps pass out food baskets with Davis Street CEO Rose Johnson, Gordon Galvan, and Alameda County Fire Department spokeswoman Aisha Knowles.

Davis Street Hands Out Food Baskets To Over 1,000 Families in Need

The Davis Street Family Resource Center resembled the North Pole on Christmas Eve as more than 100 staff and volunteers from throughout the community handed out food baskets and toys to 1,005 families in need.

Setting up for the 47th Annual Davis Street Holiday Basket Program began at 6:30 a.m. on Dec. 22 to prepare for the 1,005 families enrolled in the program. Families received a basket

containing a complete holiday meal, including a turkey, fresh produce and all the fixings. Children enrolled in the program received new toys or gift cards thanks to the community.

Alameda County Fire Department, California Highway Patrol, San Leandro Rotary Club, Give Something Back, Assemblyman Rob Bonta, and other community volunteers distributed food and toys to families in need. With the donation of over 700 toys from

BART, Davis Street was able to provide food and toys to 1,005 families including 215 seniors and 1,803 children.

"For over two decades, the Alameda County Fire Department has ensured local children get new toys, said Davis Street CEO Rose Padilla Johnson. "Rising housing costs is just one reason families turn to us for help. This year we served families who were once donors—that says a lot."

We're Great At Fixing Back Pain...

Ignoring it can mean that it's just going to get worse. Here's what you need to know:

What kind of back pain do you have?

1 - It's A New Experience

Congratulations, it's your first time. At the moment it's worrying. If it's number 4 from below it might even be a bit terrifying. If you ignore it, it can eventually turn into number 2, 3 or even 4. This is a good time to nip the problem in the bud.

2 - It's An Old Persistent Ache

A bit like an annoying relative, you don't like it very much but you've learned to put up with it. You probably can't be bothered to do much about it or you already would have. It's usually at it's worst when you're sitting. You're slowly losing mobility but it's been with you for a long time and you'll probably wait till you can't move before deciding to do something about it. Do you really want it to get to that point?

3 - It's Sheer Agony When You Have It, But It Comes And Goes

It might just be once a year, or maybe a bit more, but every now and then your back turns your world upside down.

This kind of back pain is usually accompanied by excruciating muscle spasms. After a week in bed, on the sofa or on the floor you normally get your life back. This problem will usually become more frequent and severe as you get older.

4 - I've Bent Over And Now I Can't Straighten Up

You tried to pick up a paperclip or tie your shoelaces and now you're stuck. It would be funny if it didn't hurt so much. If you don't mind the people living with you putting your socks on then everything is fine. Very often this type of back pain is also accompanied by pain, numbness or tingling of the leg, foot or toes too.

What can you do when you suffer with back pain?

1 - You Can Ignore It

A surprising number of people will choose this route. Sometimes the pain will go away by itself even though the problem will remain. The body is good at adapting to things and compensating for problems. Often though, this approach can lead to further problems later on and you could end up being a number 3 below...

2 - Soothe It Or Mask It

We've become very good at covering up problems with drugs, heat packs, ice, sprays, lotions, massage and dozens of other methods. And although this does offer temporary relief it does nothing to solve the problem. Yes, over time the pain can go permanently but just like option number 1 that's because of adaptation and compensation, not because the problem has been solved. The most worrying aspect of this approach is that some of the commonly used drugs can cause serious damage.

3 - Wait For Something To Break

Some people will go through many cycles of feeling okay and then living with pain. For many, these cycles of pain get worse, but despite the warning signs that the problem is worsening some people choose to wait until something serious goes wrong.

4 - Fix It

Some people don't just want to get out of pain but they also want to get rid of the problem for good. This is possible with the right approach since the tissues of the body have an inbuilt innate healing mechanism. It's the same mechanism that's healed your skin every single time you've cut yourself. With specific stimulation of the tissues causing your back pain it's possible to get them to heal again just like your skin does. If you choose this option you will have long lasting relief and the problem is unlikely to return again.

We're Great At Fixing Back Pain, And All It's Associated Problems.

Won't You Let Us Help You?

Find Out How To Make Your Back Pain Go Away For Just \$20

Cut This Voucher Out And Save \$80

Call (925) - 255 5805 NOW (Quote: BOS37BP3)

And For Just \$20 (normally \$100) You Will Get A Comprehensive Consultation And Examination To Pin Point The Cause Of Your Back Pain.



4847 Hopyard Rd
Suite 1
Pleasanton, CA
94588

We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Pleasanton, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your back pain and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area actually causing the problem; this means superior long-term results for most people. Back pain and its many associated problems may not have to drag you down for the rest of your life. Call (925) 255-5805 NOW, we're ready to help you.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

Alameda County firefighters worked for over two hours to put out a fire at Alco Metals early last Friday morning.

Fire at Alco Scrap Metal Facility

Alameda County firefighters worked for over two hours to extinguish a blaze that started shortly before 5 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 5 at Alco Iron and Metal at 1091 Doolittle Drive.

Using a crane, firefighters were able to contain the fire to a scrap metal pile that was about

20-feet tall, according to the ACFD.

Firefighters worked with Alco employees for over two hours to separate the contents of the pile in order to get to the origin of the fire. The cause of the fire is undetermined. There were no reports of injuries.

A two-alarm fire broke out at Alco this past July, which took firefighters more than 5 hours to extinguish. Noxious fumes from that fire spread for miles. Alameda County Fire Chief David Rocha said that the ACFD has been called to Alco at least nine times over the past three years.

Sheriff Warns of 'Swatting'

An Alameda County Sheriff's Office's dispatch operator received an anonymous "swatting" 911 call on Thursday, Jan. 4 at 8:45 p.m. The caller said a suspect had three hostages and was in possession of an assault rifle at a home on Grove Way in Castro Valley.

The caller demanded that paramedics deliver \$15,000 to the address or the hostages would be killed, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Similar demands and threats occurred last year directed at the same address. It was determined that a former resident was targeted after a dispute with others while playing video games.

Based on the suspicious nature of the call, deputies believed it was likely a swatting call and were able to deem the scene safe without high risk tactics. Nobody was injured. An investigation is ongoing but it

will be difficult to track down the hoax caller, Kelly said.

The dangerous trend called swatting has been in the news recently after a man in Kansas was killed by police officers responding to a hoax 911 call. It is a deceptive tactic used by a caller to alert law enforcement of a violent crime in progress at an unknowing persons home or business, says Kelly.

The hoax calls involve de-

scriptive details of active shooting, hostage taking and release for ransom. The callers come across as real in order to get an emergency tactical response. The prank has been associated with online gaming as a way to get back at a rival. It's an illegal and extremely dangerous practice.

This is a good opportunity for parents to have a conversation with children about online gaming safety, Kelly said.

Female Inmates Sue County Over 'Inhumane' Treatment

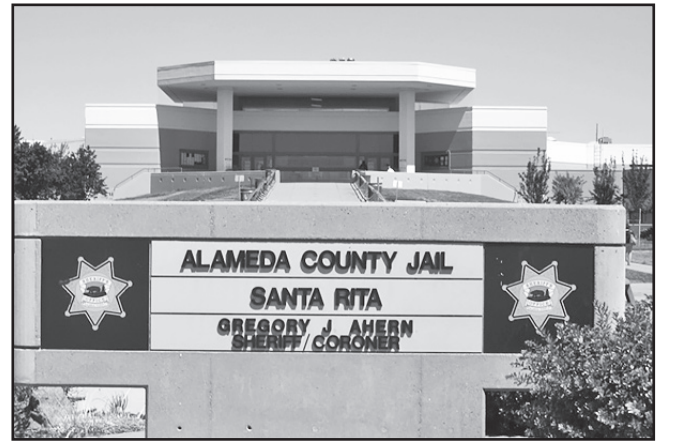
Six women who are current and former inmates at Santa Rita County jail have filed a lawsuit against the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, claiming that they were coerced into abortions and treated inhumanely while incarcerated.

In a federal lawsuit filed last week, the women say some female inmates suffered miscarriages and one woman was forced to give birth alone in a solitary confinement cell.

The Alameda County Sheriffs Office denied allegations that any deputies would coerce inmates into having an abortion.

"We would never condone or influence patients to terminate a pregnancy," Sgt. Ray Kelly said at a press conference last week.

Kelly confirmed that a female



inmate gave birth alone in her jail cell.

Kelly said the woman was initially taken to Highland Hospital in Oakland and misdiagnosed with false contractions, and then taken back to Santa Rita, where

she gave birth.

Kelly said there were no reported miscarriages in the jail within the past two months.

The plaintiff's include three women who are currently pregnant and incarcerated.

Man Convicted of Child Molestation

A 22-year-old man was convicted of continuous child molestation of a boy who was 5 years old when the abuse began, the district attorney's office announced last week.

Edgar Emmanuel Hernandez, 22, of San Jose, was convicted of six counts of oral copulation with a child under 10 years old and three counts of engaging in a lewd act with a child under age 14.

The district's attorney's office says that the abuse began when the boy was 5 years old and happened at the boy's home in Hayward, prosecutors said. The abuse happened repeatedly and regularly for over a year.

Hernandez had access to the young boy because he was in a relationship with the boy's mother, prosecutors said.

CALICO, an organization specializing in interviewing children who have been abused, helped prosecutors get the conviction, prosecutors said last week.

A child is taken to CALICO on Estudillo Avenue as one of the first steps of the criminal investigation process after his or her case is referred to the group by the police or social services.

The center sees about 800 Alameda County children each year, some as young as 2-years-old.

The boy was interviewed by

CALICO in January of 2016. After telling them the details of the abuse, Hernandez was arrested at his home in San Jose that same month.

The case was prosecuted by deputy district attorney Tim Wellman of the DA's Sexual Assault Unit.

Hernandez is expected to be sentenced on Feb 9.

How to Stay Safe This Winter

With more cold nights in the forecast this week Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) urges customers to be cautious when heating their homes.

Electric heating devices such as space heaters are a home fire hazard when not properly used or monitored.

Fuel-burning appliances, such as gas furnaces, stoves and water heaters, can increase the risk of carbon monoxide, a toxic gas, when they are not working properly.

PG&E Gas Service Representatives will test carbon monoxide detector batteries and expiration dates, relight furnace pilots, and check gas stoves, fireplaces and water heaters at no cost to the customer.

PG&E encourages customers to schedule free gas appliance safety checks through the company's customer service helpline at 1-800-743-5000.

If you detect carbon monoxide in your home, you should get out immediately and call 911.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

O	W	N	S	A	N	D	A	F	R	O
S	E	E	O	B	O	E	C	L	A	P
L	E	A	P	A	R	A	M	O	U	N
O	P	R	A	H	F	O	R			
			M	I	C	A	A	N	G	S
P	A	R	A	S	O	L	S	S	O	L
E	R	A	T	O	T	A	L	B	A	R
A	C	N	E	P	A	R	A	D	I	G
S	H	I	R	T	R	I	D	E		
			S	I	R	D	E	C	O	R
P	A	R	A	C	H	U	T	E	A	L
A	L	O	T	E	M	I	R	P	I	E
R	I	T	Z	A	P	E	S	S	O	D

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Our last sale received 30 offers and closed in 10 days!



Lovewell Team

(#00689931 & #01912817)

"Lovewell Team" is a dynamic, award-winning Real Estate team Call 510-351-5555 or visit us at www.Lovewellteam.com — A team you can love and trust — Re/Max Accord Castro Valley

GRAND OPENING SPECIAL!

15% OFF • Costume Jewelry • Clothes • Shoes & Handbags • Housewares

Many Gift Ideas! High Quality! Good Prices!



Discover the Treasures Within

Mon-Tues-Wed-Fri-Sat & Sun 11am-6pm/Closed Thurs 14815 E 14th St., San Leandro • 510-957-5369

O'BRIEN AFTER-HOURS URGENT CARE

NEW EXTENDED HOURS: M,T,TH,F 10AM-9PM • W 6-9PM • S/S 2-6PM

Private, Personal Care (We don't store your records on the internet) Sorry, no insurance contracts

20100 Lake Chabot Road • Castro Valley

510-914-0854

Across the street from Eden Hospital

Add the Perfect Accent to Your Home!

These cottage-style accent consoles feature classic louver paneled doors and a flat-paneled drawer. The units are offered in either antique white or black finish, each featuring brushed nickel knob hardware and ball bearing side glides.



"Make your house a Dupree's home"

Dupree's FURNITURE

EASY LAYAWAY & FINANCING AVAILABLE

43 Years Experience 1900 E. 14th St. • San Leandro 357-3000

www.Duprees-Furniture.com

OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-6PM • SATURDAY 10AM-5PM • CLOSED SUNDAY

NEIGHBORS

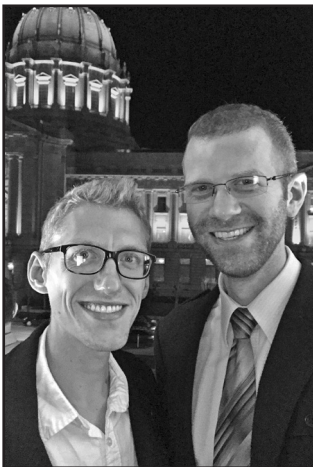


Art On Display

“Trompe l’oile” by San Leandro High art student Shannon Dao is just one of the works that went on display in December in the lobby of the SLHS Performing Arts Center. The theater classes performed one-act plays in the Black Box theater on the day of the reception for the art show on Dec. 19 – a day of theater, art, and music all together.

Reverend Justin Cannon And Max Parker Are Engaged

The Reverend Justin Cannon and Max Parker became engaged on Dec. 15 in Point Reyes, California. Justin is the son of Nancy and Richard Cannon of Lexington. Max is the son of Tom Martincello of Cotati, California, and Terri Parker of Santa Rosa. Justin is an Episcopal priest and rector of All Saints in San Leandro, California, while Max works as an estimator for a landscape company near Berkeley. The couple resides in Oakland, California.



Reverend Justin Cannon and Max Parker.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

- ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** Shutting people out to avoid distractions, even under a deadline, can cause hurt feelings. Instead, return calls and emails, and explain why you need a zone of privacy for now.
- TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Although your keen Bull's eyes usually can discern what's fact from what's faux, that upcoming decision will need really solid data before you can risk a commitment.
- GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** As your confidence grows, you should be able to work toward your goals with more enthusiasm. Open your mind to suggestions. Some of them might even work for you.
- CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Recon necting with someone from your past stirs up that old sense of adventure. But before you do anything else, be sure to get answers to those still-lingering questions.
- LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Some people might resent the way you plan to resolve a difficult situation. But your commitment to making tough but fair decisions soon wins you their respect and support.
- VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Mixed signals could be causing that vexing workplace problem. Before you choose to leave the project, ask for a meeting so you can get things out in the open.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Your good intentions could backfire if you're not careful with other people's feelings. Try using persuasion, not pressure, to get others to see your side of the situation.
- SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** Your dedication to finishing the task at hand is laudable. But be careful not to overdo the midnight oil bit. Take time for relaxation with someone very special.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Although your intuition will help you make some tough choices in the first half of the month, you'll need more facts to back up your actions later on.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** All that hard work and research in the workplace finally pays off as you hoped it would. Ignore comments from jealous types who are out to get the Goat riled up.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** An unfair decision creates unnecessary problems. But avoid anger and move carefully as you work this out. Expect to get support from an unlikely source.
- PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** A fuzzy financial vista persists until midmonth, when things begin to clear up. You'll also gain a better perspective on how to handle those pesky personal problems.

WATCH BATTERIES DONE RIGHT

ALLPHIN JEWELERS

Since 1923

155 Parrott Street
San Leandro • 357-3442

Wednesday-Friday 11am-5pm
Saturday 11am-4pm

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ Hearing Loss Association Meeting

The Hearing Loss Association will meet on Saturday, Jan. 13, 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. Vance Deatherage from DCARA, San Leandro, will discuss “Cued Speech” or “Cued Language” a shortcut system for LipReading/ SpeechReading, and which may appeal to those who have struggled to learn an entirely new language. 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.

❖ SL Boys & Girls Club Crab Feed

The San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 401 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro, will host its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 13. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, which includes all-you-can-eat crab, pasta, salad and French bread. Live entertainment by Curtis & Nikkole. The event is assigned seating only and always sells out so purchase tickets early. For tickets or more information, call Bob Glotch at the Boys & Girls Club between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-5581. Proceeds support the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, which provides educational and enrichment after-school programs for 1,200 children per day at 12 sites an San Leandro and San Lorenzo.

❖ Bird Walk at Hayward Shoreline

Who is the Mini-Me of the Goose World? Find out during the bird walk on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, 4901 Breakwater Avenue in Hayward. Meet at the West Winton trailhead. For ages 12 and up. Cost is \$8 per person. For more information, call 670-7270 or visit www.haywardrec.org.

❖ Civil Rights Documentary

The Castro Valley Community Alliance will screen the documentary film about the civil rights struggle, *A Time of Justice*, on Sunday, Jan. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave. in Castro Valley.

❖ Martin Luther King, Jr. Honored

San Leandro students will perform speeches, essays and poems honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, Jan. 15, at 10:30 a.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. There will be refreshments served, and crafts for children.

❖ Kiwanis Club Annual Crab Feed

The Kiwanis Club of San Leandro is hosting its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 20, at the Boys and Girls Club, 401 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. and dancing is from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$50, purchase them early for seats are reserved. For more information and tickets, call Terri Neumann at 895-4425.

❖ Meeting of the East Bay Rose Society

The East Bay Rose Society will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lake-side Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland. The speaker will be Master Rosarian, Joe Truskot. He has been recognized as an outstanding consulting Rosarian and has grown over 500 different varieties of roses in his Salinas garden. Learn how to keep your roses well fed. Learn what to feed roses and when.

Find out the advantages and disadvantages of both synthetic and organic fertilizers. Come and enjoy snacks, meet people who talk roses, and enjoy the show. For more information, visit www.eastbayroses.org.

❖ San Leandro Democratic Club

The San Leandro Democratic Club is having its 2018 election of officers. Members in good standing can vote or submit their name for an office position on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

❖ SL Business Awards Celebration

San Leandro Chamber of Commerce will host its Business Awards Celebration, “Spotlight San Leandro: A Maker City,” on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. Tickets are \$125, and tables are \$2,000. VIP wine reception, hosted bar and hors d’oeuvres, nightcap and networking. Semi-formal attire. For tickets, go to sanleandrochamber.com.

❖ Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge Crab Feed

Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge 6-61 presents its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 1808 B St. in Hayward. No host bar begins at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., and raffle at 8:30 p.m. Make checks payable to Sons of Norway and send to Aunda Arndt, 1016 Apache St., Livermore, CA 94551. Cost is \$50 for Adults, \$17 for children 12 and under. For more information, email aja469@hotmail.com or call 925-548-0292.

❖ St. James Lutheran Church

St. James Lutheran Church is observing its 90th anniversary in 2018. In celebration of the anniversary, church volunteers, nicknamed “Brew Crew,” are inviting commuters in cars and on foot “to stop by for a free cup of coffee, a treat, a smile and God’s blessings on the third Thursday of each month in 2018 between 7:30 and 9 a.m. on the sidewalk in front of the church at 993 Estudillo Ave. The first coffee offerings of the new year will be Jan. 18 and Feb. 15. Communion is held at the church every Sunday at 10 a.m. For more information about St. James Lutheran Church visit www.stjamessl.org or call 895-2286.

❖ American Sign Language Classes

American Sign Language classes will begin on Monday, Jan. 22, at the DCARA Deaf Community Center, 1550 San Leandro Blvd., just across the street from the San Leandro BART Station. The level one class meets on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. and runs six weeks. The enrollment fee is \$130. The money goes to classes goes to support services for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late-Deafened and DeafBlind (D/HH/LD/DB) community. For more information and to register for the class, visit: dcara.org/ASL.

❖ SL Rotary Endowment Annual Crab Feed

The San Leandro Rotary Endowment is having its annual Crab Feed on Saturday, Jan. 27, at the San Leandro Boys and Girls Club, 401 Marina Blvd. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner, starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person and may be purchased by visiting www.sanleandro-rotary.org or by contacting Aisha Knowles at 828-9199. Proceeds from the event support local service projects and non-profit organizations such as the Rotacare Clinic at the Davis Street Family Resource Center, Meals on Wheels and the San Leandro Education Foundation.

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.

Apartments: County-wide need for 60,000 more affordable units

continued from front page
supersedes any city ordinance.”

The land is zoned for a maximum density of 46 units, but because the project is designated

“*I’m asking people to consider...if a large building went up right on their property line.*”

— Jim Blaine

for low-income housing, the city allows a “density bonus” of 35 percent so 62 units are allowed.

The proposed San Leandro Boulevard apartments would be designated for households with incomes that are 50 to 80 percent of the county’s median income.

In San Leandro specifically, there is a need for at least 770 new low-income units in the next three years. Countywide, there needs to be 60,000 more affordable units created by 2021.

Eden Housing specializes in affordable housing and housing for seniors and people with disabilities. Eden currently has 516 affordable housing units in San Leandro.

Jim Blaine, who lives next door to the site, opposed the project, saying that the tall building will block out the sun from his home. He also said he felt that the city “rubber stamped” the project without proper consideration.

Blaine, who has lived in his home for six years, says she “took a chance” that a large apartment building wouldn’t be built next to him and didn’t realize that the zoning allowed such a project.

“I’m asking people to con-



A 5-story apartment building will be built at the corner of San Leandro Boulevard and Parrott Street.

sider what it would be like for them if a large building went up

right on their property line,” said Blaine. “It’s very frustrating.”

Mogensen says there’s no time line currently in place as to when construction on the new apartments will begin.



San Leandro Firm Pyro-Comm Wins Nor-Cal Safety Award

Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California (ABC NorCal) announced Pyro-Comm Systems, Inc. of San Leandro as among its twenty-five 2017 recipients of its Safety Training Evaluation Process (STEP) Awards.

These awards recognize Northern California member companies and industry leaders who have implemented world class safety programs in their companies.

“We are proud to salute these and other amazing leaders within our industry who have gone above and beyond the call to ensure the safest, healthiest and best possible industry standards for their employees, customers and workplace,” said ABC NorCal President & CEO Michele Daugherty. “Safety is paramount. These companies are committed to making the well-being of their workforce Priority One as they grow and serve our com-

munities.”

Other East Bay companies awarded by ABC NorCal are RK Electric, Inc. of Fremont, Hayward Electric Company, Inc. of Hayward, Robert A. Tucknott & Associates, Inc. of Livermore, Helix Electric, Inc. of Oakland, Avalon Bay Communities, Inc. of San Francisco, and WE Lyons Construction Co. of Walnut Creek.

Pyro-Comm Systems is one of the premier fire alarm companies in California. The company’s focus is providing quality installations and service to contractors, end-users, and property managers. Many of the employees have more than 20 years of service.

Pyro-Comm Systems has been involved in the design, engineering, and installation phases of Fire/Life Safety, Healthcare Communications, Security Intrusion, Voice & Data, CCTV and Access Control Systems on thousands of projects with

Owners, Engineers, Developers and General Contractors. From design, engineering and code consulting, Pyro-Comm Systems provides “value added” services to Professional Engineers & Architects, Developers, Contractors, and End Users.

About ABC Nor Cal:

ABC NorCal represents nearly 500 companies, both large and small, across Northern California, and trains nearly 360 apprentices each year through its state and federally approved apprenticeship programs.

Apprentices come from all walks of life – some are fresh out of high school, some are starting a second career and some are desiring a fresh start. They emerge from the programs as journeymen with a good-paying job and the skills and training that can take their career in many directions. It is truly a path of endless opportunities.

City Council to Hold Planning Session on Jan. 20

The City Council’s annual planning session will be on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East

14th St. The meeting will also include opportunities for public comments and questions.

Other agenda topics will include an in-depth overview

of city finances, a review of accomplishments over the past year, along with updates on various major projects and policy initiatives.

OVER 60,000 FULL-COLOR COPIES PUBLISHED 4 TIMES A YEAR

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

22,500 Delivered to Castro Valley homes, businesses and newsracks

COUPON PRICE INCLUDES 4 COLOR PROCESS!

Expand Your Coupon Market and Reach Over 60,000 Readers!

\$mart \$hopper Coupons

COMPARE OUR VALUE WITH OTHERS AND YOU’LL FIND NO MATCH!

SIZE: 3 COLUMNS X 2 INCHES

San Leandro Times

38,500 Delivered to San Leandro homes, businesses and newsracks

\$140

PER RUN IN THE CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

\$170

PER RUN IN THE SAN LEANDRO TIMES

\$250

PER RUN IN BOTH NEWSPAPERS

UPCOMING COUPON SCHEDULE FOR 2018

JAN. 31 & FEB. 1 • DEADLINE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

APRIL 25 & 26 • DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 19

JULY 25 & 26 • DEADLINE: THURSDAY, JULY 19

OCTOBER 24 & 25 • DEADLINE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

CALL YOUR ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE FOR MORE INFORMATION

CLAUDETTE MORRISON • 510-912-1490

LINDA NAKHAI • 510-915-1513 OR MARY FLORENCE • 510-861-3270

CASTRO VALLEY FORUM

DELIVERED TO OVER 20,000 HOMES — TOTAL CIRCULATION 22,500
2060 Washington Avenue • San Leandro, California 94577 • (510) 614-1555 • FAX (510) 483-4209

San Leandro Times

DELIVERED TO OVER 30,000 HOMES — TOTAL CIRCULATION 38,500

AUTOMOTIVE

Lexus Brings Luxury to Hybrid Market

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

The Lexus ES sedan has been the brand's entry point for a quarter century. Now, you can get your luxury blended with efficiency in hybrid form.

It's well known that hybrids combine a gas engine with an electric motor, and the ES 300h gets its 200 horsepower that way. The 2.5-liter Atkinson-Cycle four-cylinder engine is mated to a high output permanent magnet electric drive motor. With 156 lb.-ft. of torque, the smooth, quiet system pulls the 3,682-pound large-mid-size sedan from zero to 60 mph in a refreshing 8.1 seconds. You won't beat a Corvette off the line at a stoplight, but this car is no slug, either. And, it gives you 40 miles per gallon Combined (40 City, 39 Highway) per the EPA while doing it. I averaged 33.1 mpg during my test week.

The ES 300h is not a plug-in vehicle, so you don't have to

do anything to benefit from the blended powertrain. The battery charges up as you slow down and brake, regenerating electricity. The fuel savings come from the engine working less.

The hybrid ES shows little on the outside to distinguish it from the regular model. You'll note a subtle trunk lip spoiler and blue hybrid badges. One thing you won't see is the exhaust. The car uses gasoline, but Lexus hid the pipe. Sneaky?

As a hybrid, the car earns high EPA environmental ratings, with an 8 for Smog and 9 for Greenhouse Gas. Its powertrain emits 223 grams of CO2 per mile — about half that of a normal car.

As a Lexus, the ES provides a cushier experience than the more utilitarian Prius, and exceeds the new Camry Hybrid, itself a posher entry now. The car comes in one well-equipped form, but you can add option packages, such as the Premium Package my Atomic Silver test car had. For \$730, you'll enjoy memory for the driv-

er's power seat, outside mirrors and steering wheel; lovely wood interior trim; and remote keyless memory. There are also the Luxury and Ultra Luxury packages, both worth exploring.

The nicest option in my tester, though, was the Mark Levinson Premium Audio system with navigation (\$2,590). With 15 speakers and 835 watts of power, you'll be tempted to just keep driving around, or park and not leave the car when you arrive at your destination. That's definitely a commute enhancer.

As a luxury vehicle, my car flaunted a beautiful leather and wood steering wheel. I discovered that it was a \$450 option, and well worth having. Your hands are on the wheel pretty much all the time, so it's a high-use benefit. Other extras on my car included blind-spot monitoring with cross-traffic alert (\$500), a boon for helping prevent accidents. I also enjoyed having the power rear sunshade (\$210); rear seat riders would be the beneficiaries, though.

The ES offers touch-sensitive reading lamps, a feature you may not notice but which evokes the feeling of luxury.

Lexus gives you four driving modes, accessed through a dial. Normal balances the hybrid to blend the engine and motor for pleasant driving. Sport leans towards performance, with later upshifts — and a red instrument panel. Eco is the opposite, designed for best achieving maximum efficiency. The EV setting lets you lock in electric-only driving for a short distance, under certain conditions.



The Lexus ES 300h conveys its hybrid identity through design cues, including a trunk lip spoiler, hidden exhaust and blue hybrid badges.

I tested the EV setting during a slow section of my commute and it worked fine. However, when I moved past 25 mph, it automatically shut off. Later, I tried it again and got a "Hybrid Battery Low" message. Like so many electronically controlled devices, the car knows best for normal driving, but having these options gives you a little more sense of control.

The ES 300h drives like a traditional sedan, isolated and smooth. It's packed with the modern electronics we all need for entertainment, connection and safety.

You'll be safe in the ES 300h. The Lexus Safety System+ helps prevent accidents with High-Speed Dynamic Radar Cruise control, which tracks the car in front of you and adjusts your speed automatically. The Pre-Collision System with Pedestrian Detection uses radar and a camera to warn you of a possible collision



Lexus fills the spacious ES 300h cabin with a long roster of available amenities.

and even brake automatically if needed.

Pricing is straightforward, starting at \$42,795, but you can easily push it upward with packages. My tester came to \$48,415, but the nearly \$6,000 worth of extras made it feel like a more luxurious and special ride.

Hybrids are a good step to-

wards the future, and Toyota/Lexus knows how to make them. Until all-electric vehicles take over, it's the best way to "have your cake and eat it too" in the world of cars. The ES 300h offers traditional luxury and performance with a vast assortment of electronic safety, performance, environmental and safety features.

CALL FOR YOUR WINTER AUTO CHECK-UP

FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR

Your Dealer Alternative • Serving San Leandro Since 1970

We Service All Foreign & Domestic Makes

DORALS
Auto Repair

QUALITY
FACTORY SCHEDULED
MAINTENANCE

2000 MERCED ST. • SAN LEANDRO • 352-4221

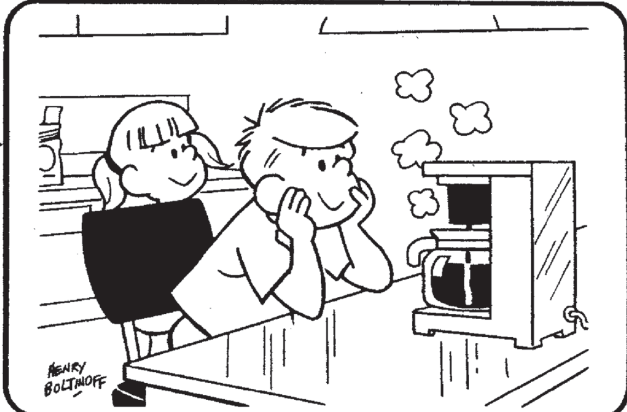
MON-FRI • 8:30-5:30 / SAT BY APPT. ONLY

www.doralsautorepair.com

ASE Certified, BBB Member, AAA Approved

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Girl has a ponytail. 2. Shirt has a stripe. 3. Chair is different. 4. Coffee pot is different. 5. Cabinet is missing. 6. Box on counter is different.



HIDDEN IN THE ABOVE FRAME is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it counterclockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the second "I" on the left-hand rail: "Imitation is the sincerest flattery."

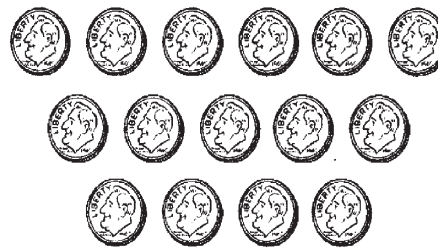
DON'T LET THIS ONE BOX YOU IN! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. A short distance.
2. Placed a bet.
3. Carries electricity.
4. Allows both genders.

GRID A				GRID B			
S				P			
	A				I		
		N				L	
			D				E



Illustrated by David Coulson



LET'S PLAY THE ANCIENT GAME OF "NIM"!

This game goes back thousands of years and is usually played with coins, sticks, buttons, etc. To play, you lay out 15 coins in three

rows of six, five and four. Each player, in turn, can remove one or more coins from any of the rows. He can even remove all the coins in a row if he wants to. Play goes back and forth until only one coin remains on the table. The player who is forced to remove this coin is the loser. While the rules are simple, you'll find that the game is a lot of fun.

A DRIVE-IN DIVERSION! To solve this problem, you must replace the letters printed on the bag with the digits 0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Can you get a higher total than we did?



Our answer: C=9, A=0, R=2, H=8, O=7, P=4, F=1, D=6. (902 + 874 = 1776).

Answers: 1. Step-pets. 2. Laid-dial. 3. Line-Nile. 4. Coed-code.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Reduce Your Risk of Heart Attack

While death from heart attack is highest during the winter, you can protect heart health with diet, exercise and taking prescribed medication.

■ The Problem

Juggling all the extra pressures of a busy holidays can wreak havoc on your healthy eating and exercise habits, but it's one of the most dangerous times to lower your guard. Research shows deaths from heart attacks peak during January.

"Changes in diet and alcohol consumption; stress from family interactions, strained finances, travel and entertaining are all possible reasons for the increase in heart attacks during the holidays," says Dr. John Osborne, a preventive cardiologist for State of the Heart Cardiology.

■ A Solution

If you've had a heart attack, it's especially important to maintain a healthy diet, stick to an exercise plan and take medicines as prescribed.

About 20 percent of heart

attack survivors over the age of 45 will have another heart attack within five years of their first.

"Making lifestyle changes can be difficult," adds Osborne. "Many of my patients use mobile apps that provide education and electronic reminders to help stay focused on how to protect their heart health and minimize risks."

One such app is My Cardiac Coach, a free and easy-to-use mobile app developed by the American Heart Association that empowers people to take control of their heart health using interactive tools to learn about their condition, track medications and closely monitor any changes.

■ One Man's Story

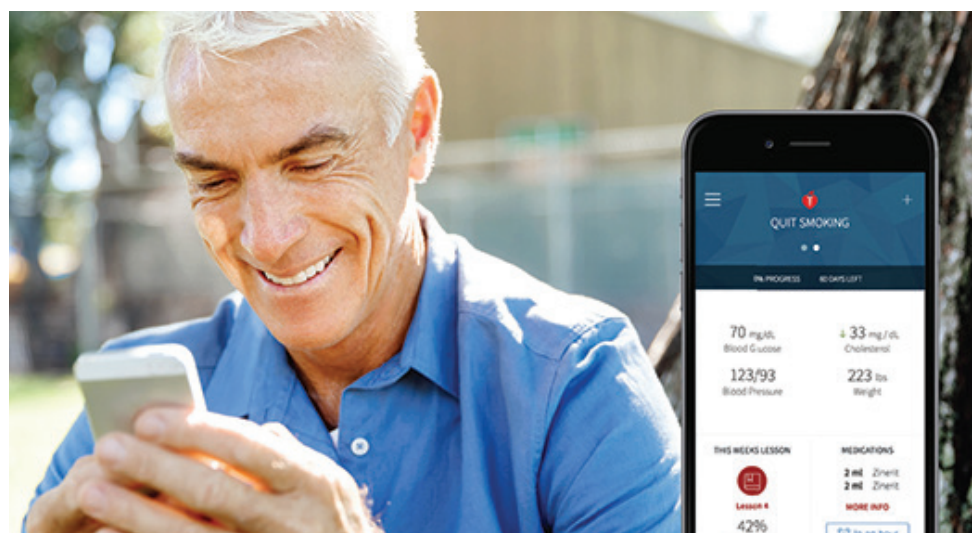
For example, Lex Roulston overhauled his diet and increased exercise after having a quintuple bypass surgery in 2001, since all five of his coronary arteries were blocked.

Roulston said he "never thought about what he ate or worried about his health," and that his bypass surgery "was a big

wake-up call" to take his health seriously and protect his heart health.

Roulston, now 84, relied on in-person resources through a cardiac care program following his bypass surgery, but said mobile tools such as My Cardiac Coach can provide the support, as well as access to medical information, that proved so crucial as he made significant lifestyle changes.

"It's just another tool to help you make a lifestyle change," said Roulston, who, with his wife, funded the Lex and Eileen Roulston Lifestyle Change Initiative in Florida. "Having the tools to support you makes it a lot



While heart attack risk is highest in winter, maintaining a healthy lifestyle is a good idea all year.

easier to make changes, especially as you face challenges."

■ Learn More

For further facts about My Cardiac Coach and to download the app for Apple or Android mo-

bile devices, go to www.heart.org/MyCardiacCoach.

— North American Precip Synd., Inc.

Reduce Your Exposure to Radio Frequency Energy from Cell Phones

ted from cell phones.

Although the scientific community has not reached a consensus on the risks of cell phone use, research suggests that high, long-term use may impact your health.

Cell phones emit radio frequency energy when they send and receive signals to and from cell towers. Some scientists and public health officials believe this energy may impact human health.

"Although the science is still evolving, there are concerns among some public health professionals and members of the public regarding long-term, high

use exposure to the energy emitted by cell phones," said State Public Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith. "We know that simple steps, such as not keeping your phone in your pocket and moving it away from your bed at night, can help reduce exposure."

Cell phone use has increased dramatically in recent years. About 95 percent of Americans now own a cell phone, and 12 percent rely on their smartphones for everyday internet access.

In addition, the average age when children get their first phone is now just 10 years old, and a ma-

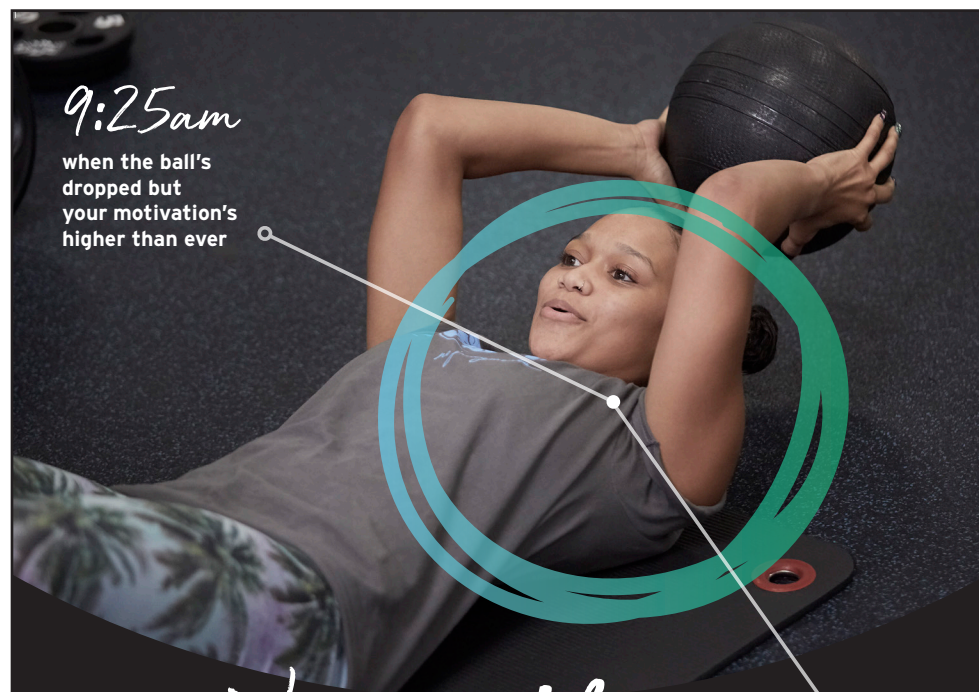
jority of young people keep their phones on or near them most of the day and while they sleep.

"Children's brains develop through the teenage years and may be more affected by cell phone use," said Dr. Smith. "Parents should consider reducing the time their children use cell phones and encourage them to turn the devices off at night."

The new Public Health guidelines include practical steps both adults and children could take to reduce exposure to radio frequency energy from cell phones:

- Keep the phone away from the body
- Reduce cell phone use when the signal is weak
- Reduce the use of cell phones to stream audio or video, or to download or upload large files
- Keep the phone away from the bed at night
- Remove headsets when not on a call
- Avoid products that claim to block radio frequency energy. These products may actually increase your exposure.

— California Dept. of Public Health



#WhatsYourCrunchTime?

Just \$10.95/mo & enrollment specials!

Sign up in-club or at CrunchSanLorenzo.com by 1/31.

BRING THIS IN FOR A 3-DAY FREE TRIAL!

awesome classes • tons of weights • Zumba® • yoga • personal training
tanning & HydroMassage® • TRX® suspension training • #NOJUDGMENTS

177 Lewelling Blvd • San Lorenzo, CA • 510.924.4200

Monthly pricing applicable to the Base membership. Amenities and pricing vary by membership level and location. Guest pass valid by first time guests and must be used for consecutive days before 1/31/2018. Some restrictions and additional fees may apply. See club for details. © 2018 Crunch IP Holdings, LLC



On Sale in January!

25% OFF

HEALTH UNLIMITED
— NATURAL FOODS —

San Leandro
182 Pelton Center
(510) 483-3630

Castro Valley
3446 Village Dr.
(510) 581-0220

Protein Powders

Since 1969

Garden of Life

You're invited!

American Health Education

OPEN HOUSE

New year, new career! Visit our school to learn about our 2018 EMT, Nursing, Fire and American Heart Association training programs.

- ✓ Tour facility
- ✓ Meet program leaders
- ✓ Enter our raffle
- ✓ Enjoy refreshments

AMERICAN HEALTH EMT EDUCATION INTERN

When: January 16, 2018, 6-8 p.m.
Where: 6761 Sierra Ct., Suite G, Dublin
Contact: 800-483-3615
AmericanHealthEducation.com

San Leandro Basketball Falls to El Cerrito in Close Game

By Andrew Joseph
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro High basketball team lost, 71-63, in a close-scoring home non-conference game against the El Cerrito Gauchos on Tuesday evening.

"We hang our hat on our defense", said San Leandro head coach Darnaryl Stamps. "Tonight we gave El Cerrito a couple baskets that we shouldn't have given them."

The Pirates' defensive standing was established before the half, as the Pirates went into the 3rd quarter down by 4 points, at 33-29.

"We started getting steals in the first half, started pressuring the ball when on defense, that led to us going on offensive runs," said senior San Leandro point guard Chris Bramah. "Coach Stamps told us at halftime to bring more intensity."

Consistency on offense was the focus needed to close out the game's victory, as turnovers became a deciding factor in San

Leandro's loss against a 7-10 Gauchos team that is heading into a matchup Thursday against the 8-4 St. Patrick-St. Vincent Bruins.

"We could have gotten back in the game," said Bramah. "We lost because we all made bad mistakes at crunch time."

The Pirates fall to 6-7 after back-to-back losses since their last win on Jan. 5 ending in 66-62 against Central in Fresno, while El Cerrito was able to respond after losing their last game 81-71 against Jesuit.

"If we continue to play as a team throughout the whole game we will have a better shot at winning," said Pirates sophomore Junior Maile. "It's league time now, so we have to prepare for the all the schools who are coming next. I think tonight prepared us a lot, mentally and physically."

Bramah finished the game with a team high 15 points, Maile added 11 points, and sophomore



PHOTO BY ANDREW JOSEPH

Senior Pirates point guard Chris Bramah takes command of the San Leandro offense in the third period.

San Leandro High Basketball Schedule

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	FIELD
Fri. Jan. 12	7 p.m.	Berkeley	Berkeley
Sat. Jan. 13	7:30 p.m.	Menlo-Atherton	Chabot
Fri. Jan. 19	7 p.m.	Mt. Eden	SLHS
Fri. Jan. 26	7 p.m.	Bishop O'Dowd	SLHS
Sat. Jan. 27	7 p.m.	Oakland Tech	SLHS
Fri. Feb. 2	7 p.m.	Piedmont	Piedmont
Fri. Feb. 7	7 p.m.	Berkeley	SLHS
Fri. Feb. 9	7 p.m.	Mt. Eden	Mt. Eden
Tue. Feb. 13	7 p.m.	Bishop O'Dowd	O'Dowd
Fri. Feb. 16	7 p.m.	Piedmont	SLHS

Ciri Sawyers scored 8 points.

San Leandro needs to win their next two games to get over the .500 mark before taking on Melo-Atherton at the Annual Chabot Showcase this Saturday in Atherton.

"We're a young team," said Coach Stamps. "We will bounce back from this game."

San Leandro travels to Berkeley High on Friday for a 7 p.m. game against the Yellowjackets.

Alameda LAFCo Accepting Applications for Public Member

Alameda LAFCo is accepting applications for Public Member. The Alameda Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is accepting applications for the public member seat.

The deadline for filing an application is Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. The Commission will review each application and supplemental questionnaire and expects to conduct interviews the week of Feb. 19.

LAFCo is responsible for coordinating logical and timely changes in local governmental boundaries, conducting special studies that review ways to reorganize, simplify and streamline governmental structure, and establishing planning spheres of influence (SOIs) for each city and special district within the County.

The Commission has seven regular voting members (two county members from the board of supervisors, two city members selected by the Mayor's Conference, two special district members selected by the independent special districts; and one public member) and four alternate members (county, city, special district and public).

LAFCo is governed exclusively by state statutes and its own policies and procedures. It is neither subject to nor under the control or authority of the county board of supervisors, any city council or special district board of directors.

The public members represent all Alameda County citizens in an objective and impartial manner. Applicants must be

residents of Alameda County, and cannot be a current board or council member, officer or employee of Alameda County, a city or special district in Alameda County.

Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every odd month (January, March, May, July, September and November) at 2 p.m. in Dublin. The appointment term is 4 years. Commissioners receive \$100 stipends per meeting.

If you have questions or would like a copy of the application mailed to you please contact LAFCo at 271-5142 or Sandra.Hou@acgov.org.

For more information about Alameda LAFCo or to download the application, visit the website at www.acgov.org/lafco.

San Leandro Times

PRESENTS

The Senior Guide



The bi-monthly Senior Guide is one of the San Leandro Times' most popular Advertising sections. The San Leandro area's sizeable senior population always makes this guide a great advertising vehicle.

CIRCULATION • 37,500

**DEADLINE FOR SPACE RESERVATIONS:
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018, AT NOON**

NEXT SECTION WILL RUN ON JANUARY 18, 2018

For more information, call:

Claudette Morrison 510-912-1490

San Leandro Times

2060 Washington Avenue • San Leandro, California 94577
FAX (510) 483-4209 (510) 614-1555

REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Buyer Love Letters Win the Day

Before fax machines and email, buyers and sellers would meet in person

With the current hot market, buyers are struggling to find a competitive edge to get their offer accepted.

We recently wrote an offer for a family that had a fixed budget and were unable to write a non-contingent offer. Imagine our delight when our offer was accepted in a multiple offer situation. As I thanked the listing agent, she said;

"It was your buyer's letter to the sellers that won the day."

It's not the first time I've seen this. One of our sellers recently accepted a buyer's offer based on the accompanying let-

ter. They were concerned that those buying their home would fit the neighborhood.

With this in mind, they looked at all the offers (6 in total) and chose the buyer they thought would fit best — ironically, it was not the highest offer nor did it have the best terms.

Bottom line, the letters provided by buyers can make a huge difference in the way a seller accepts the winning offer.

Buyer letters are not without some controversy. Some listing agents believe that the only items germane to an offer are the price and terms.

Understanding that a buy-

er may attempt to sway a seller with their letter, I've known listing agents who actually exclude any cover letters when submitting the offers to the sellers. Personally, I believe the letter is a fundamental part of the offer and needs to be included along with everything else, regardless of any effect it may have on a seller.

Historically, agents and sometimes the buyers had an opportunity to meet in person with the listing agent and the sellers to present their offer. This practice provided direct communication and allowed the buyer to have a voice in the process.

With the advent of faxes, agents started faxing offers to listing agents. The standard practice today is to email offers, thus eliminating any personal contact. In the absence of contact, buyers have turned to letters to communicate their feelings to the sellers.

We encourage letters. Sellers need to know how buyers feel about their home, and I welcome the chance for sellers to know as much as possible about the individuals hoping to buy their home.

I've visited a home after entering escrow and seen my buyer's letter taped to the refrigerator. It's a great point of connection and, in this crazy market, a chance for a buyer to win the day.

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.

Mortgage Rates Drop Down

Average mortgage rates started the New Year by dropping, according to Freddie Mac's nationwide survey.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 3.95 percent, down from the last week of 2017 when it averaged 3.99 percent. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 4.20 percent.

Fifteen-year mortgages averaged 3.38 percent, down from 3.44 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.45 percent last week, down from the previous week when it averaged 3.47 percent. A year ago at this time, the 5-year ARM averaged 3.33 percent.

Sales ~ Property Management ~ Leasing



581 E. 14th St. • San Leandro • 632-1234
www.deadrich.com CBRE #00360465

The VAROS Team

People & Experience
You Can Trust



Wenona Martinié
510.514.2771
CalBRE 02007360



Jeff Mihaly
510.501.0415
CalBRE 01337310



Sean Walsh
510.338.7144
BRE# 01993112



Terry Martinez, Broker
510.772.3746
CalBRE 01726031



If you, or someone you know, is considering selling their home, now is the time to start planning. Give us a call!

1031 MACARTHUR BLVD. • SAN LEANDRO



Cute & Cozy home with open space out your back door.

- Two bedrooms, with remodeled bath and kitchen
- Handsome wide plank hardwood floors; new paint inside and out
- Newer dual-paned windows
- Wood-burning fireplace
- Backyard with patio, mature trees and work space.
- Zoned for San Leandro schools
- Walk to public transportation with direct service to SF and BART
- Minutes to Lake Chabot Park



MARVIN
GARDENS
REAL ESTATE



Coming Soon!

149 Marlow Dr., Oakland Offered at \$649,000

Charming two-bedroom home on a tree-lined street in highly desirable Sheffield Village. Tastefully remodeled and updated. Enjoy three neighborhood parks with tennis and basketball courts. Large lot with direct access to open space trails for dog walking or sunset strolls. Pack up your clothes, this home is move-in ready!

For more information contact

Greg Novak (DRE# 01721382)

510.472.4770

Greg@MarvinGardens.com

www.149Marlow.com

www.GregNovakRealtor.com



Hitting a Concrete Wall?

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

Q I have a dry basement that I turned into an extra workspace and play area. The outer concrete walls are covered by a layer of wallboard with little or no space between. I'd like to hang pictures and a whiteboard in this area, but I am afraid of drilling through the concrete. How can I accomplish this?

A Drilling into concrete isn't impossible — special masonry drill bits are available — but you're right to be cautious about drilling holes in the walls of a dry basement. However, you do have options outside of drilling into the mortar.

Light objects that won't bear extra weight can be attached to the wall using an adhesive product like the Command series of



picture hangers. These have the added benefit of not marring the wallboard even when the adhesive is removed later. They're available at home-improvement and office-supply stores.

For a more secure attachment, place small picture-hanger hooks into the wallboard using the smallest nails available. The items being

hung should be less than 5 pounds and not hold any extra weight -- so a shelf or a cork board laden with notes might not hold up.

For heavier objects, or if you want shelving near your workspace, you'll have to get more creative. If there is a little space between the wallboard and the concrete, you can drill a hole and place expansion bolts, which pop open behind the wallboard to keep the bolts in place. Toggle (or Molly) bolts will work if there is about an inch of space between the concrete and the drywall.

Because the bolts are not anchored in studs, you should brace the shelf or picture with extra expansion bolts on the bottom, continued on next page

RINETTI & Co.

COMING SOON

Bay-O-Vista single-level home with hill views.

3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2,000+ Sq. Ft.

Contact Perry & Tianne for additional details.

1103 MACARTHUR BLVD. • SAN LEANDRO • 510-568-6171 • WWW.RINETTI.CO.COM

SELL YOUR CAR OR TRUCK NOW!

Advertise your vehicle for 3 weeks in the San Leandro Times and 3 weeks in the Castro Valley Forum for only...



GREAT DEAL!

\$35

10 words maximum
(\$1.00 for each additional word)

This offer is for private party ads only (no dealers). Items must be priced and only one item may be listed for sale. You may change the asking price at anytime (no other changes are allowed). You may cancel your ad at anytime (there are no refunds available on this \$35 special). Other restrictions may apply. For more information call Patrick at 614-1558.



Village Properties
& ASSOCIATES

PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT &
REAL ESTATE SALES

Sam & Jessica
Medina

510.481.8400

"Your Neighbor & Realtor!"

Tree Rose Invades Walkway; Divide Your Chokes

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q The bottom branches of my tree roses have extended into the walkway. I'd like to minimize the interference by pruning them back. How far back can they be pruned?

A Tree roses are pruned just like bush roses with one exception, there is a fair amount of bending over with bush roses while you'll remain upright with a tree rose.

The first thing you need to do is locate the bud union. The bud union is the location where the named rose variety is attached or budded onto a rootstock. With tree roses, you'll have several bud unions. The first one is near the ground while the second one forms the straight stem and resembles a broomstick.

The desired variety is budded three to four feet off the ground at the top of the bud. You must identify this point before pruning to avoid cutting off the valuable and irreplaceable portion of the rose.

The shoots that develop below the bud unions should be removed

periodically throughout the year, as it is sucker or rogue growth. This growth is typical with all budded roses.

With the intruding lower branches, it's a judgment call on your part as to how far back to prune them. It can be 12 inches to several feet depending on the situation.

Usually, roses are pruned to an outside bud, so the new canes or growth form a circle that grows away from the center of the bush. In this case, you can deviate from that and select those buds that'll grow laterally to either the left or right.

You'll find the growth buds where a leaf is or has been attached to a stem and is usually a red color. Repeat this throughout the year when you remove spent flowers.

It might be helpful to take a few digital pictures before and after. This will allow you to review what you did so you can repeat or modify things in the future.

Q How do I go about dividing my artichoke plant? I planted one several years ago, and it's massive now.



A mature artichoke plant can be divided into three or more parts to then be replanted.

A Dividing an artichoke plant is not that difficult. You'll need a shovel to dig up the clump, and an ax or pruning saw to segment it.

A mature artichoke plant is divided into three or more parts depending on the size replanted. If you can't accommodate all the plants, save the biggest and give the others away.

Next, amend the new planting hole(s) with generous amounts of homemade compost or soil conditioner.

Artichokes are planted in the full sun or afternoon shade in the warm inland areas. The clumps are

divided every three to four years to keep the production high.

Besides planting them in the ground, artichokes make an excellent container plant. The silver-gray foliage is a colorful backdrop on a deck, patio or balcony. You can also add pansies, violas, alyssum or marigolds for additional color.

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).

RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

1277 Amber Court	94577: \$720,000	4 BD - 1,742 SF - N/A
13517 Aurora Dr 103	94577: \$525,000	3 BD - 1,189 SF - 1982
13315 Doolittle Drive	94577: \$673,000	3 BD - 1,408 SF - 1947
977 Dowling Boulevard	94577: \$670,000	2 BD - 1,086 SF - 1925
170 Dutton Avenue	94577: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,800 SF - 1926
2044 Evergreen Avenue	94577: \$730,000	3 BD - 1,732 SF - 1954
1488 Gardner Boulevard	94577: \$575,000	3 BD - 1,104 SF - 1943
575 McKinley Court	94577: \$776,000	2 BD - 1,645 SF - 1941
812 Odonnell Avenue	94577: \$570,000	3 BD - 1,473 SF - 1951
1718 138th Avenue	94578: \$767,000	5 BD - 2,076 SF - 1947
1638 164th Avenue	94578: \$395,000	2 BD - 1,162 SF - 1980
2200 166th Avenue	94578: \$760,000	4 BD - 3,115 SF - 1991
16016 Cambrian Drive	94578: \$735,000	3 BD - 1,214 SF - 1955
1090 Dillo Street	94578: \$555,000	2 BD - 1,417 SF - 1948
16837 President Drive	94578: \$445,000	3 BD - 1,920 SF - 1978
2541 San Leandro Blvd	94578: \$421,000	2 BD - 982 SF - 1980
14970 Western Avenue	94578: \$635,000	3 BD - 1,464 SF - 1946
15072 Crosby Street	94579: \$530,000	2 BD - 1,183 SF - 1948
15445 Heron Drive	94579: \$730,000	4 BD - 1,651 SF - 1999
15357 Inverness Street	94579: \$635,000	4 BD - 1,166 SF - 1955
1465 Manor Boulevard	94579: \$745,000	4 BD - 1,749 SF - 1954
15423 Marne Street	94579: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,419 SF - 1958

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$395,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$776,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$635,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$626,909

San Lorenzo

1233 Bockman Road	94580: \$682,500	N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
1233 Bockman Road	94580: \$713,000	N/A BD - N/A SF - N/A
835 Bockman Road	94580: \$597,500	3 BD - 1,068 SF - 1947
540 Doane Street	94580: \$565,000	3 BD - 1,014 SF - 1950
15748 Paseo Del Campo	94580: \$691,000	3 BD - 1,671 SF - 1944
16005 Via Arroyo	94580: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,260 SF - 1946
1855 Via Carreta	94580: \$730,000	3 BD - 1,351 SF - 1953
16126 Via Media	94580: \$630,000	3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1944
16061 Via Pinale	94580: \$640,000	3 BD - 986 SF - 1944
16145 Via Pinale	94580: \$655,000	3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1944
17525 Via Primero	94580: \$631,000	3 BD - 1,000 SF - 1944
15690 Wagner Street	94580: \$622,500	3 BD - 1,059 SF - 1951

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$565,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$730,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$635,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$646,458

Concrete: Drill sturdy bolts into joists

continued from previous page
pounds. If you're planning to add shelving to hold books, consider using a freestanding bookshelf instead of a weight-bearing shelf.

Another option for heavier items is suspending them from the ceiling. Try locating the ceiling's framing material or the floor joists

using a stud finder, and drill sturdy bolts or hooks into the joists.

Home Tip: Even "dry" basements can have high humidity or be vulnerable to seepage through the masonry foundation, so consider using a dehumidifier to improve air quality.

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.



Antonio & Alexia Cardenas
"Realtors in Motion"
Ballroom Dancers
"The Agents with the Visual Tours"
(510) 326-4263
Visit us @
www.ListedbyAntonio.com
R.E. eBroker Inc. • A Virtual Real Estate Brokerage

Robert Jones and Associates
Selling San Leandro Since 1964 • www.RobertJonesandAssociates.com





Big or Small, We Sell Them All!
142 JOAQUIN AVE. • SAN LEANDRO • 357-0120

"Integrity, Experience, Results"

Alliance Bay Realty

Nasser Haghighi
510-415-1612
"San Leandro Resident Since 1976"
nasserhag@att.net



BRE# 01221481

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13			14				
15			16			17				
18			19							
20			21		22			23	24	25
			27	28		29	30			
31	32	33				34				
35				36		37				
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
			45				46	47		
48	49	50	51					52		
53					54			55		
56					57			58		

ACROSS

- Gymnast's surface
- Expert
- Pops
- Brewery output
- Sleep phenom
- Unmoving
- Rotating part
- Reason to call 911
- Pump up the volume
- Heathen
- Lumber
- Run-down horse
- Blue hue
- Toss in
- Political refugee
- Groan-inducing, maybe
- Take as one's own
- Overacted
- Lingerie item
- Church section
- ___ Khan
- Traditional tales
- Pilfered
- Chum
- Too thin
- Storm center
- Automaton
- A Kennedy
- Sinbad's bird
- Lessen
- One or more
- Pismire

DOWN

- Colorful parrot
- Texas mission
- Beat
- Get ready, briefly
- Order back
- Last letter
- Autograph
- "A Chorus Line" song
- Lair
- Joan of ___
- Pigs' digs
- Anger
- "Inferno" writer
- Type of wave
- Swelled head
- Dada artist
- Say it's OK
- Easter buy
- Scratch
- Shell game item
- Diamond arbiter
- Phone bk. info
- Facts
- Whalebone
- Must, jocularly
- Met performance
- Silk alternative
- Vote for
- Locale
- Vortex
- Mound stat
- Unruly bunch
- Lawyers' org.
- Barracks bed

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

OPEN HOMES SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JANUARY 13TH & 14TH

CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDRMS/BATHS	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
A	1-4	1-4	227 Castro St.	\$399,000	2/2	Berkshire/Hathaway	Cathy Brent Team	381-1065



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

FAX YOUR OPEN HOME LISTINGS 24-HOURS A DAY
483-4209 CONTRACTED DISPLAY ADVERTISERS RECEIVE OPEN HOME LISTINGS AT NO CHARGE. CALL PATRICK AT 614-1558 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



All real estate advertised in the San Leandro Times is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, marital status, national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The San Leandro Times will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate that is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

We Specialize in Residential Roofing

Lobbyist Gives City Council Report From Washington

City-hired lobbyist tells council breaking federal law can hinder access to federal funds

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

These are strange days in Washington D.C. and that uncertainty affects San Leandro, too, said lobbyist Len Simon, speaking to the City Council on Monday night.

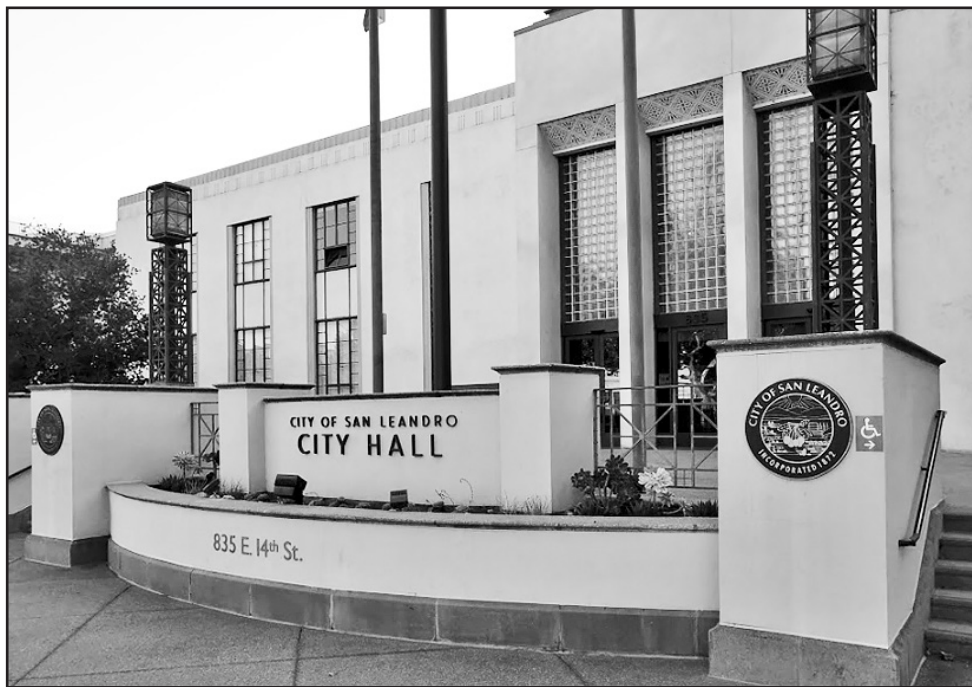
"These are extremely challenging times for city governments in Washington," said Simon. "Most of the fears we've had about the Trump administration have now been shown to be grounded in truth."

Simon has represented San Leandro and over a dozen other cities as a lobbyist in Washington D.C. since 1987, trying to get money for the city for various projects. The City of San Leandro pays Simon and Company \$35,000 annually.

On Monday night, Simon met with the City Council to discuss what's happening on a national level and to hear what the council wants him to concentrate on in the future.

Deputy City Manager Eric Engelbart says Simon has been successful in lobbying for San Leandro in the past, citing a \$250,000 federal grant for two campus police officers and a \$2.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce for the expansion of the Lit San Leandro fiber optic loop.

In the year ahead, Simon says a variety of federal grants will be up for grabs, including infrastructure projects and traffic



The city's lobbyist told the council they're doing a good job of putting San Leandro on the map as a tech city.

congestion alleviation.

But San Leandro may face a problem in its desire for federal money, while being out of compliance with federal law, said Simon.

The City Council declared San Leandro a sanctuary city last year, and approved marijuana sales, both of which are against federal law.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions recently sent letters to 29 cities asking them to prove they

will cooperate with federal laws regarding immigration enforcement. San Leandro so far hasn't attracted the specific attention of the attorney general, but could potentially do so.

Mayor Pauline Cutter said that so far San Leandro is "flying under the radar" on the sanctuary city issue. And none of the three city-approved pot shops have opened yet, so that hasn't attracted federal scrutiny.

"There hasn't been a chal-

lenge yet," said Cutter of federal inference on state marijuana law. "It's wait-and-see."

Simon said what's going on in the nation's capital now is like nothing he's seen during his career. He said that many of President Trump's appointees seem poorly suited for their positions.

"Having done this kind of work for a little bit, a fair comparison for the current administration isn't the Obama administration, it's Bush I or the son,"

said Simon. "And I'd say this administration falls far short of that standard."

Councilman Benny Lee called Simon's update "bleak," but Simon did say there was some good news. San Leandro's public relations efforts are paying off and the city is becoming more well known on the national-level, especially for promoting tech-

nology and the "smart cities" campaign.

"This council has done an excellent job of putting San Leandro on the map," said Simon.

Next up, Mayor Cutter will be traveling to Washington D.C. at the end of January for the Conference of Mayors, where she will chair the Women Mayors Leadership Alliance.

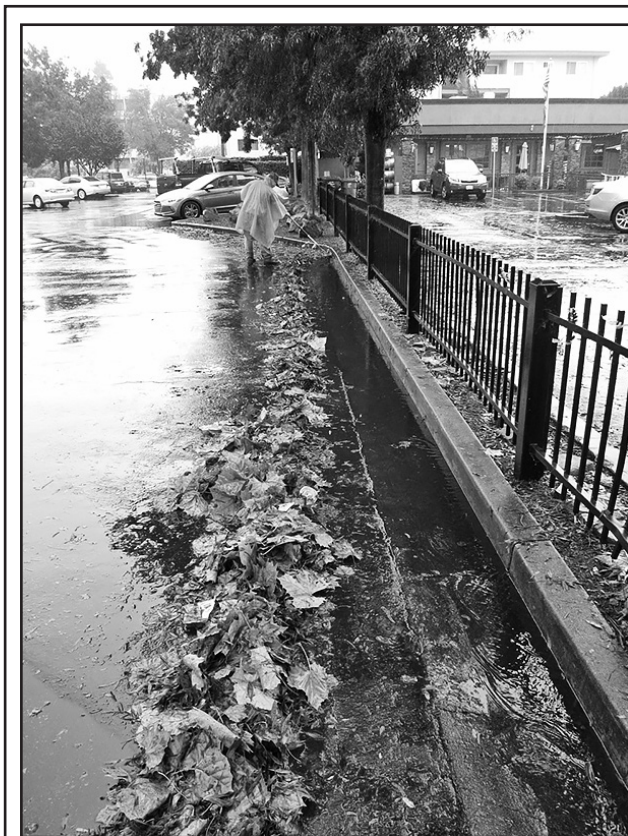
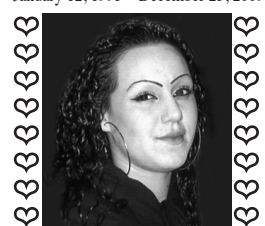


PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

RAIN & LEAVES: Raking leaves is great exercise and you don't even have to go to a gym.

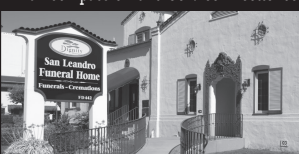
Vanessa Marie Hurtado

January 12, 1993 – December 23, 2009



Tomorrow is your 25th Birthday. We know God is holding you in his arms. Nothing will ever be the same without you. You left behind a precious little girl, Juliana, whom we will make sure will never forget her mommy. Forever our love, Mom, Juliana, Grandma Velma, Ray, little Daniel, Savanna, Sara and Aunt Lisa. We all love you!

Serving Families In Our Community
With Compassion and Service Excellence



San Leandro Funeral Home

407 Estudillo Ave.,
San Leandro, CA 94577
510.483.5300
www.sanleandro-fh.com
(Formerly Guerrero Mortuary)
Serving All Faiths
• Large Chapel
• Reception Room & Kitchenette



FD 442

LOCAL DEATHS

ARRIETA Erlinda L. CASTILLO JR., John MONTANELLI Gen

■ **Erlinda N. Arrieta** passed away on January 7, 2018 at age 64. Visitation will be held at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro today Jan. 11 from noon to 8 p.m. and also on Fri. Jan. 12 from noon to 8 p.m. with a vigil service beginning at 7 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be held on Sat. Jan. 13 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 2500 Bermuda Ave., San Leandro beginning at 10 a.m. Burial to follow at Chapel of the Chimes Cemetery in Hayward. Santos-Robinson

Mortuary, San Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

Leandro (510-483-0123, santos-robinson.com).

■ **John Castillo Jr.**, October 10, 1935 - January 3, 2018. Memorial services Sat. Jan. 13 at 11:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 307 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA. Reception following at the Folsom Community Center, 50 Natomas Street, Folsom, CA.

■ **Gen Montanelli** passed away on January 3, 2018 at age 86. She retired from Rago and Sons after 41 plus years. A Memorial service celebrating her life will be held on Sat. Jan. 13 at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro beginning at 11 a.m. Santos-Robinson Mortuary, San

SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. Brief death notices are published free. Longer-length notices, including pictures, are available for a fee. For further assistance, please call 510-614-1555.

SARA L. ENNOR LAWYER

- Wills & Trusts
- Benefits, ERISA
- QDROs

510-633-9985

SANTOS-ROBINSON MORTUARY

Supporting Local Churches and Families for Over 80 Years

FUNERAL AND CREMATION PROFESSIONALS

Traditional Services • Cremation Options
Pre-Arrangements

Serving All Faiths and Cultures

510-483-0123

www.santos-robinson.com
CALIC. FD-81



Library Adds 500 New Bilingual Books

The San Leandro Public Library has added more than 500 bilingual children's books to its collection, thanks to a grant from the California State Library.

New languages now available include Arabic and Tagalog, in addition to bilingual books in Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. With these additional books and languages, the Library now offers more than 3,000 children's books in foreign languages as well as over 5,000 books for adults in three languages: Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

A robust collection of children's bilingual books promotes family reading, literacy, and language skills.

According to both the San Leandro and San Lorenzo schools districts, the top five languages spoken at student's homes, other than English, are Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Arabic and Tagalog, said Library Director Theresa Mallon.

Children's books in all six

languages – English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog and Arabic – are available at all branches of the San Leandro Public Library.

The California State Library provided the San Leandro Public Library with \$7,500 to spend on these new bilingual books. The intent is to increase children's opportunity to learn English through reading with their native/preferred language included, and to engage parents who are more fluent in the native language in family reading.

California is home to more than 10 million immigrants and the latest available data show that nearly 27 percent of California's population is foreign born.

The California State Library, founded in 1850, is the central reference and research library for the Governor's office, Legislature, state employees, and the public. It promotes innovative library services by providing and managing state and federal funding programs.

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.

Sexual Harassment Not About Sex Appeal, It's About Power

Editor:

Your January 4, 2018 Letters to the Editor included Leo West's acerbic response to Lauren Sugayan's letter opposing Robert Johansen's appalling solution to sexual crimes.

While there were a total of four other letters shooting down Johansen's opinion, it's curious Mr. West called out just one — a woman in leadership, a woman who serves on the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. Frankly, when I read Ms. Sugayan's letter I felt she represented my own thoughts exactly — not only did she point out several key issues that women face today, I found her question asking The Times where its line is drawn (when publishing inflammatory letters) in this circumstance, reasonable.

In addition, I find Mr. West's statement: "most of the cases today are decades old allegations by women who'd use their sex appeal to escalate in whatever businesses they were in and now they are no longer desired," injudicious. Sexual harassment is not about sex appeal — it's about wielding power over those who have none.

Decades ago, I experienced sexual harassment in the workplace and reported the incident immediately to the personnel manager (this was before "Human Resources" departments existed). No significant course of action was taken despite having eye witnesses. I told the truth, yet my harasser was not disciplined or terminated, essentially the head of the division explained it would be easier to replace me than formally reprimand or fire and replace my harasser.

This was years before Anita Hill put a spotlight on workplace sexual harassment and employers could be found responsible for turning a blind eye for misconduct.

Many survivors—women and men—are finding power in numbers and no longer fearing reprisal. Instead of blaming victims, or labeling them liars, we should be applauding their courage.

—Luna Salaver
San Leandro

Solid Advice to Stop Predators: Organize!

Editor:

Robert Johnson's letter in the San Leandro Times on Dec. 14 ("Unsympathetic to Females, Males On Sexual Misconduct Claims") was yet another attempt to blame the victim.

Sarah Leonard wrote an article in the New York Times recently titled "Want to stop Predators? Organize." This is solid advice.

Organizing into democratic fighting unions in the workplace is an important first step in combating discrimination and predatory sexual behavior. Here is a clause in my former union's contract. The majority of this language came about after our 1985 strike long before gender discrimination became the issue it is today.

My union is Local 444, American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees.

"4.1.1. There shall be no discrimination of any kind by the union or the district (management) against any employee, to the extent the applicable law prohibits such discrimination, harassment, or disparate treatment, because of race, religion, color, creed, age, marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, physical or mental disability.

4.2. Harassment, Disparate Treatment and Inappropriate Behavior

4.2.1 In addition to behavior violative of Section 4.1.1 above the following behavior will not be permitted, tolerated or condoned:

Abusive, threatening or intimidating behavior, gestures or language."

—Richard Mellor

San Leandro

Retired Equipment Operator and
Shop Steward Afsme Local 444

Appreciating the Social Mores of Baby-Boomers' Coming-of-Age

Editor:

When I was a boy becoming a man in the late-fifties/early-sixties, women were supposed to be sexually pure and virginal until they got married. Just before the birth control pill liberated women from unintended pregnancy, a "good girl" said "no." But, teenagers still engaged in sex with each other, risky as that might be, for risk is not much of a deterrent to youth. How did a "good" young woman keep her good reputation if she had sex with a "good" young man?

The game was that she would say "no;" he would continue seducing; they would finally kiss, and she, overwhelmed by his romancing, would melt into his arms. We saw the game in countless mainstream Hollywood movies. The girl had plausible cover for her reputation by saying she had fallen in love with him. The guy gained the valued reputation of being a successful hunter.

Both men and women were oppressed by these role model expectations. As a young man, I felt that I was obliged to take the initiative and pursue a woman or remain solitary alone. No woman would have initiated a coffee invitation. Women had to dress and act provocatively around a man they were interested in to incite his pursuit. And her initial reaction to his pursuit would always start with a "no." Complicated game? Head-banging confusion!

So when Baby Boomer men get accused of inappropriate sexual misconduct — I'm talking about an extended embrace, not a forcible rape — one needs to appreciate the social mores from which they came of age. A few years later, those same men carried banners marching in favor of equal rights for women, but intimate, personal attitudes were slower to change.

I'm glad the change toward gender equality is continuing, even accelerating at this moment, but some good men are being discharged for relatively

minor infractions along with some beastly scoundrels. And some beasts, whose strategy is denial and denigration of accusers, continue to be given the highest public honors of the land. That just ain't right, nor is it just.

Let us note that Senator Al Franken did apologize to his first accuser, the lady in the flack jacket, years ago, immediately after it happened. He followed up with a written apology that she accepted and the incident was over. Now, years later, she is a Republican talk-show host and she re-opens the accusation? How many other accusers have been motivated by a Republican cabal to denigrate effective Democratic office holders?

—Bruce Joffe
Piedmont

Healthy Eating Resolution: Lose Weight While Saving Animals

Editor:

Has your New Year's resolution to eat healthier already fallen by the wayside?

Don't be discouraged if so — just try again. You can lose weight — and help save animals and the environment — by eating vegan foods rather than animal-based ones. Here are some easy ways to incorporate more tasty vegan foods into your daily routine:

- Choose veggie burgers instead of hamburgers, soy sausage rather than pork sausage, and curried chickpeas over chicken flesh.

- Enjoy popular vegan staples, such as black bean and corn chili, spaghetti and marina sauce, lentil and spinach soup, and stir-fried vegetables.

- Skip the bacon and eggs at breakfast, and have oatmeal with almond milk and apples, blueberry pancakes, tofu scrambler, or just fresh fruit and a green smoothie.

- Whip up some vegetable risotto, a vegan chicken pot pie, potato croquettes, or a beefless stew for a hearty — and nutritious — dinner.

See www.PETA.org for free vegan recipes, product suggestions, and tips on how to go vegan.

—Heather Moore, PETA Foundation
Norfolk, VA

Concerned Over Open-Pit Mining In Wisconsin

Editor:

The majority of Americans should be concerned about the situation towards the Menominee People who reside in Wisconsin.

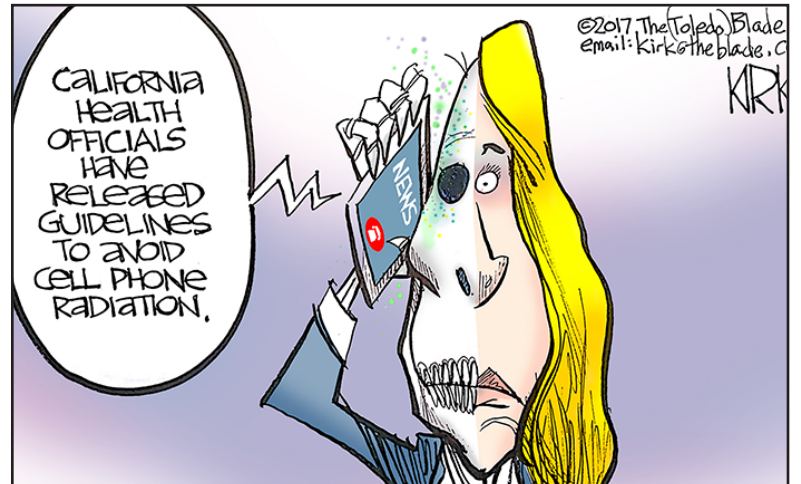
A mining company, Aquila Resources, wants to develop an open-pit mine near their homeland next to the Menominee River which stretches between Wisconsin and Michigan. The river is the largest in the Upper Peninsula.

It's watershed supports sturgeon spawning, small mouth bass, walleye, trout, and northern pike. There is also a travel corridor for the Menominee People.

Aquila Resources wants to damage it by developing the mine pit which can lower ground water levels around the mine and pollute up to 27 million gallons of fresh water per year. It can also devastates the cultural sites of the Menominee People such as burial mounds, garden beds and village sites.

I urge the majority of Americans to stop Aquila Resources from devastating the homeland of the Menominee People.

—Billy Trice Jr.
Oakland



INQUIRING REPORTER

Rather be in the spotlight or out of the spotlight?

— Asked around town

Probably out of the spotlight. There's less pressure and people aren't looking directly at you. I sing in a choir but I don't sing solo.

Toni Rossi

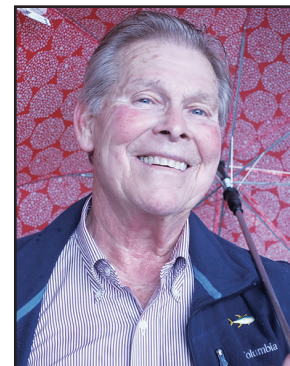
San Pablo,
works in San Leandro



I wouldn't mind being out of the spotlight, so I can be the stage manager and make sure the show runs smoothly so people will see a good show.

Richard Mercouris

San Leandro



Out of the spotlight. I enjoy doing what I do, but I'm a person who is behind the scenes making it happen. I enjoy song writing and writing poetry.

Rhonda Burl

San Leandro



In the spotlight — for the fame! Like being a voice-over guy for Pixar movies and things of that nature.

Oscar Warren

San Leandro



Out of the spotlight — 110 percent! There's too much scrutiny that comes with being in the spotlight. Without the proper training and education to know how to be in front of that many people, you'll look like a fool.

Cesar Moreno

Oakland





Harmony Fusion Chorus to Hold An Open Rehearsal Night in Hayward

Harmony Fusion Chorus, an award-winning women's a cappella barbershop show chorus, will host a special open rehearsal night to welcome new singers of all ages, backgrounds and cultures on Monday, Jan. 29, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Hill and

Valley Women's Club, 1808 B St. (925) 373-0210.

The chorus is open to singers of high school age and above and meets every Monday (except most holidays). For more information about the open rehearsal night, contact Joanne Morrison at

(925) 373-0210.

"We are looking to add to our chorus of women who love to sing and are enthusiastic about performing, competing and improving their vocal skills," says Joanne Morrison, membership chair. "If you have a

good ear for music, we want you. Sight-reading music is not required. We have many methods for learning our songs. We strive to expand the diversity of our chorus, reaching out to singers of all ages, ethnicity, and backgrounds."

MLK: Civil rights leaders and activists to speak on Monday

continued from front page
telligence consultant; civil rights movement leader and activist Norman K. Brown; San Leandro Police Department Captain Jamie Knox; civil rights attorney Pamela Price; and entrepreneur Aaron Brown. The moderator

will be Harold Dees with Village Connect.

Middle school-aged students to adults are encouraged to attend. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, email UnityintheCommunitySL@gmail.com.



MLK Day March Set For Hayward On Monday

The annual Martin Luther King Day celebration and march will be begin at Hayward City Hall Plaza, 777 B St., on Monday, Jan. 15, at 9:30 a.m.

The 9:30 a.m. gathering around Hayward City Hall will be followed by a march around downtown Hayward at 10:30 a.m. Music and closing remarks will be heard at 11:30 a.m.

This year's march is billed as "A New Poor People's Campaign." This is the fiftieth anniversary of the assassination of Dr. King. At the time of his death, he was working on a poor people's campaign to address issues of

poverty and economic justice. Now income inequality is greater than ever in this country.

Reverend William Barber of North Carolina has called for a new campaign to address these persistent issues.

After the rally at City Hall Plaza, there will be a march for through the streets of downtown Hayward.

The event is sponsored by the South Hayward Parish, an interfaith group working on issues of poverty and social justice in Hayward for more than 50 years as well as Eden Interfaith Council.

All are welcome.

San Leandro Students To Give Speeches on Martin Luther King Day

San Leandro students will perform speeches, essays and poems honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, Jan. 15, at

10:30 a.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St. There will be refreshments served, and crafts for children.

Tint: Enforcement of tinting law up to police departments

continued from front page
jeopardy, and that's why there is a law against tinting the front windows (the driver's side and passenger's side windows). It's okay to darken the backseat windows, but not the front ones.

But it turns out that law doesn't do much because more and more cars have tinted windows that hide the driver. Safety organizations and law enforcement don't exactly have window tinting as a top priority.

It is against the vehicle code to have the front driver side or passenger side windows tinted, said Chris Cochran, spokesman for the California Office of Traffic Safety.

"I agree it would be hard to catch the eye of someone behind a front driver side tinted window," Cochran said.

Cochran said that's about as far as his knowledge on the subject goes. He added that enforcement is up to each police department.

The National Safety Council said they aren't familiar with any studies on window tinting and pedestrian safety, and that accident reports don't track window tinting.

After asking their road safety

experts, the consensus was that window tinting was not an issue that the National Safety Council has been involved with, said the NSC's spokesperson Tatyana Warrick.

Law enforcement uses their own discretion when enforcing the laws, Warrick said. With pedestrian fatalities, the NSC looks at speed, distraction and impairment, which are also the primary causes of motor vehicle fatalities, she said.

But the National Safety Council has seen an influx of pedestrian and other "vulnerable road user" fatalities over the past two years, Warrick added. But it's not know if the increase is caused by tinted windows.

Police issue tickets for illegally tinted car windows, though it's difficult to determine just how often.

It would be hard to get the number of tickets written for tinted windows, said San Leandro police spokesman Isaac Benabou.

But it is a citable offense, he added.

"It's a violation of the vehicle code," Benabou said. "It's a citable offense. We do enforce it, but it would be up to the officer's discretion whether or not to issue a ticket."

Step Up Your Game!

Did you know that more people read the San Leandro Times and Castro Valley Forum every week than could fit in the Coliseum?



TOTAL CIRCULATION: 61,000



ADVERTISE TODAY • CALL 510-614-1555