



Visit to the Bat Cave

A YOUNG BRIAN COPELAND
CAN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN
BATMAN CALLED 5



Family Fortune

FIND HOW YOU CAN CASH
IN ON YOUR FAMILY'S
UNCLAIMED MONEY 9

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range in the high 50s
HIGHS: 75-80
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 55-60

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 27 • NO. 29

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

A developer plans to build a 7-story apartment building and parking garage just south (to the left) of the OS/soft office building seen here near the San Leandro BART Station.

7-Story Apartment Building Okay-ed

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Westlake Development plans to build one of the tallest buildings in San Leandro at its tech campus property near the San Leandro BART station.

The City Council approved plans Monday for a 7-story, 85-foot-tall building with office space on the ground floor and apart-

ments on the upper six floors.

When the City Council first approved Westlake's tech campus in 2014, there was a provision that residential units could be added at a later date and now the council has given that approval by an unanimous vote at its meeting on Monday night.

The plan includes up to 13,000-square-feet of office space on the ground floor

and 197 units of housing on the upper six floors, a roof garden, gym, fire pit, and other amenities at 601 Parrott Street, south of the existing parking structure.

The plans submitted by Westlake show a modern looking apartment building with lots of steel, glass, and cement. One notable feature is a "puzzle lift" in the parking

see BUILDING, page 8

Police Looking At Pot Work as Murder Motive

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Police are currently investigating a teen's legal work with a medical marijuana dispensary as a possible motive for his murder in the unincorporated area earlier this month.

Manuel Romero, 19, was killed in unincorporated Hayward on the 2100 block of Hill Avenue – which is about one mile south of Grove Way – at around 10:20 p.m. on July 8, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

When deputies arrived, they found Romero suffering multiple gunshot wounds and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

Kelly said that Romero had recently moved into an apartment near the area where he was shot dead. Romero worked delivering legal medical marijuana for a dispensary in San Francisco but it is unknown whether he was working at the time of his death or whether his killer was aware of his occupation.

"It's absolutely an angle we are looking at," said Kelly.

Romero's family has set up a fundraising page in order to pay for his funeral expenses (www.gofundme.com/ManuelRomero). They describe him as a loving son, grandson, brother, and friend who was building a life with his long-time girlfriend.

Romero played Little League in Hayward and frequented the Tennyson skate park where he was known to friends by the nickname "Gerbs."

Kelly said that authorities are looking at Romero's business and other possible motives but could not release any further details to see MOTIVE, page 8

Worker Crushed at Metal Plant

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

An employee was crushed to death by equipment that fell off a forklift at Alco Metals on Doolittle Drive on June 30, according to authorities.

Albert Anaya of San Lorenzo died from his injuries at Eden Hospital in Castro Valley shortly after 1:30 p.m., according to Alameda County Coroner's Office.

Anaya, 62, received multiple blunt force injuries from a piece of metal processing equipment that fell off a forklift at the Alco Metal & Iron Company, according to Frank Polizzi, a spokesman for the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Polizzi says that OSHA is in the process of investigating the incident. OSHA usually takes six months to make a ruling in an investigation and issue any citations, Polizzi said.

see DEATH, page 15

Dead Bird Found with West Nile Virus

First indication of West Nile virus in Alameda County for 2017

A dead bird tested positive for West Nile virus, Alameda County's first indication of active virus transmission this year, said the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District.

The bird was collected from the City of Oakland and tested at the District laboratory on July 17.

The District is greatly increasing surveillance and larval control efforts throughout the

area with the positive West Nile virus detection. Every effort is being made to locate areas of standing water where mosquitoes may breed, including catch basins, storm drain systems, and swimming pools.

Neglected swimming pools continue to be a mosquito breeding issue in Alameda County. If you or anyone you know has an unmaintained swimming pool please inform the District so the proper treatment can be made.

"West Nile virus is endemic to Alameda County," says Laboratory Director Eric Haas-Stapleton, PhD. "We will continue to eliminate mosquitoes that spread the virus, but we need the public to help by reducing mosquito breeding sites. Dump and drain or tightly cover containers that have standing water to reduce mosquitoes around your house and workplace."

As of July 14, California has had 71 dead birds, 17 sentinel

chickens, 681 mosquito samples, and 4 humans test positive for West Nile virus. The positive number of humans is higher than this time last year.

Reduce the risk of contracting mosquito-borne diseases by following these guidelines:

- Dump or drain standing water on your property because that is where mosquitoes develop.

- Dawn and dusk is when mosquito activity peaks, limit see WEST NILE, page 14

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

COMMUNITY

Boys & Girls Club honors longtime directors. Page 2

NEWS

City Council changing relocation ordinance. Page 14

SPORTS

Washington Manor team heads to regionals. Page 16

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| Home Services | 12 |
| Letters | 15 |
| Lifestyle | 7 |
| Obituaries | 14 |
| Seniors | 8 |
| Sports | 16 |

San Leandro Times

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Club Leaders Were Members Themselves as Kids

Boys & Girls Club honors Ivan Cornelius, Bob Duey and Mike Miraglia for their service

The San Leandro Boys & Girls Club recently honored three members of its board of directors, Ivan Cornelius, Bob Duey and Mike Miraglia, who have reached milestone years of service to the Club.

Ivan Cornelius was asked to join the Boys & Girls Club board in 1997 by Bob Duey but Cornelius agreed to join the board only if Duey agreed to join San Leandro Rotary Club. So, the deal was struck and both Rotary and the Boys & Girls Club have benefited from their service ever since.

Cornelius served as Boys & Girls Club board president from 2006 to 2008 and has served on many committees including chairing the Property Committee which is currently spearheading the club's capital campaign to completely renovate the Boys & Girls Club facility on Marina Boulevard.

In addition to serving on the board for 20 years, Cornelius was a member of the San Leandro Boys Club when he was growing up.

Duey has been on the board for 25 years and was also a mem-

ber of the San Leandro Boys Club growing up. Duey, Cornelius and Duey's twin brother, Dick, spent a lot of time at the club back when it was just a little shack on Davis Street. Duey credits the club for teaching him how to compete, be successful and motivating him to go to UC Berkeley, where he and Dick Duey played football on the Bears' Rose Bowl team of 1958.

Dick Duey also had 25 years on the Boys & Girls Club board, and got Bob involved on the board in 1992. Bob Duey became board president in 1997 and remained president until June 2000. He is currently the club's treasurer.

Mike Miraglia became a board member 35 years ago in July 1982. The Club was lot different back then. It was still a Boys Club serving boys only. The Marina facility was the only program site.

The Boys & Girls Club's first school site program at Hillside School was still 15 years away from opening and the total club budget was about \$250,000. Currently, in addition to the Marina Boulevard site, the club runs



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SAN LEANDRO BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

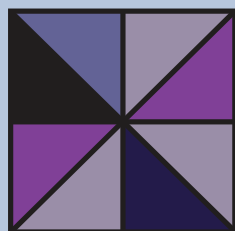
San Leandro Boys & Girls Club directors Ivan Cornelius and Bob Duey (along with Mike Miraglia who wasn't able to attend the ceremony) were honored for their contributions toward the success of the club.

after-school programs on eleven other school sites in San Leandro and San Lorenzo with a budget of nearly \$3 million.

Miraglia became board president in July 1995 and became a

board member of the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club Foundation that same year. In July 2005, Miraglia became president of the Foundation and continues to serve in that position to this day.

These three dynamic men have not only served the Boys & Girls Club, but the entire San Leandro community for decades and the club is proud to honor them for their service.



San Leandro City Council

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Vice Mayor Lee Thomas, District 3

Deborah Cox, District 1

Ed Hernandez, District 2

Benny Lee, District 4

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Pete Ballew, District 6

City Manager Chris Zapata

To receive City Council and Commission agendas and meeting materials, press releases, quarterly newsletters and City sponsored information, you can subscribe at sanleandro.org/mycity.

For more information, contact Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton, Communications and Community Relations Manager at 510-577-3372 or swalton@sanleandro.org.

Para Asistencia en Español
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(510) 577-3372



Washington Manor Park To Get Summer Make Over

**Build Day is Saturday, August 5th
8:00am - 3:00pm**

In partnership with the San Leandro Police Officers' Association and Alameda County Firefighters Local 55, the City will make improvements to Washington Manor Park through a grant from KaBoom!, a national nonprofit dedicated to bringing play to those who need it most. Washington Manor Park is the third local park to receive improvements thanks to the generous contribution of Kaiser Permanente and community volunteers.

Enjoy The Summer In San Leandro!

Our Summer Activities Guide has fun activities for residents of all ages: Farmers' Market, family movie nights, senior trips, and much more. Don't miss out on an opportunity to learn something new, meet new friends, and get involved in the community. The Summer Guide is available in print at city facilities and on the Recreation Department webpage.



MySL: Customer Service Website and App

Residents can now report potholes, broken streetlights, graffiti and more, via MySL, our new customer service mobile application & website!

Step 1: Download the app available on iTunes and Google Play. Search for "City of San Leandro" or visit www.my-sl.city

Step 2: Create your account. You can also submit anonymous requests.

Step 3: Select your issue from the drop down menu, attach a photo (if applicable) and click "Submit"

New Minimum Wage Requirements Effective July 1st

Beginning July 1, 2017, employers who operate a business or non-profit in the City must pay each employee a wage of not less than \$12 per hour (with limited exceptions). This requirement applies to all local employers regardless of the number of employees. Visit: www.sanleandro.org/minimumwage for more information.

| Minimum Wage | Effective Date |
|----------------|----------------|
| \$12/hour..... | July 1, 2017 |
| \$13/hour..... | July 1, 2018 |
| \$14/hour..... | July 1, 2019 |
| \$15/hour..... | July 1, 2020 |

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(Non-Emergency).....(510)577-2740
Library Services.....(510)577-3970
Public Works.....(510)577-3440
Recreation & Human Services....(510)577-3462



PHOTO COURTESY OF ACSO

Ducklings Rescued

Talk about teamwork – Alameda County Sheriff's deputies, Alameda County firefighters and San Lorenzo citizens worked together last Wednesday afternoon at around 5:30 p.m. to save a mother duck and her nine babies that were trapped in a storm drain on Grant Avenue.

Former AC Transit Exec Guilty of Fraud

On June 22, a jury found former Chief Financial Officer of AC Transit Lewis Green Clinton, Jr.

Sentence in 1990 Murder

A San Leandro woman and her ex-husband have been sentenced to 15-years-to-life for a murder that took place almost 30 years ago in Castro Valley.

Cheryl Ann Drace, 61, and William DeVincenzi, 53, stabbed and beat Drace's previous ex-husband Stephen Rudiger near Chabot Regional Park on Dec. 27, 1990.

But the crime went unsolved for more than 20 years, until DNA evidence led to their arrests and Drace, a former nurse, was taken into custody at her home on Bancroft Avenue.

guilty of grand theft, money laundering, tax evasion and perjury.

In addition to being the former CFO of AC Transit, for many years Clinton was the president of certain non-profit corporations associated with the Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland.

In early 2013, one of those non-profits was unable to make its payroll.

An ensuing investigation revealed that between 2007 and 2013, Clinton, 60, had embezzled \$590,000 from those corporations. He spent the money on house loans, travel, car expenses and a variety of lifestyle items, according to the Alameda County District Attorney's office.

When Clinton was arrested in April 2014, he had been AC Transit's CFO for six years and made \$263,000 per year. He was on paid administrative leave

from the time of his arrest until he retired in November of 2014.

Clinton is scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 8.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Man Used Internet to Lure Robbery Victims, Cops Say

An Oakland man faces charges including robbery, grand theft, and illegal use of a firearm after allegedly committing a series of street robberies in San Leandro in May and June.

Devon Craft, 31, was arrested on July 11 for the crimes, according to the San Leandro police.

Craft is accused of luring male victims to the 1100 block of Jefferson Street by making arrangements for prostitution via the "Backpage" app.

Once the victim arrived, police say that Craft would brandish a firearm and rob them of their valuables.

At least three victims reported the crimes to authorities but more people may have fallen victim to the scheme, police said.

Craft is currently being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail at Santa Rita jail in Dublin and is scheduled to appear at the Schenone Hall of Justice in Oakland on July 25 to enter a plea.

Cell phone records were obtained that directly associated Craft's cell phone with the Backpage.com application used by the victims, police said.

Craft was arrested in Oakland and had been living with his girlfriend at an address in San

Leandro near the location of these robberies.

Alameda County District Attorney charged Craft with three counts of armed robbery and an addition gun enhancement charge as a parolee.

"Our detectives and patrol officers did an excellent job investigating these cases that lead to the identity of the suspect", said Lt. Isaac Benabou. "Sophisticated suspects use third-party smart phone applications to conceal their identity. Regardless of the reason why the victims came to the area, it was important that this suspect was caught."

Students Arrested for School Burglaries

Two boys were arrested for allegedly burglarizing Washington, Roosevelt, McKinley, Jefferson, and Wilson elementary schools between May and June, police say.

The two 13-year-olds, one from San Leandro and one from Oakland, are accused of stealing iPads and laptops.

On July 11, the teens were arrested after police were able to identify a fingerprint at one of the crime scenes as belonging to a one of the suspects, a Bancroft Middle School student, according

to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

The second suspect, also a student at Bancroft Middle School, was located at his home in Oakland.

A search of the boy's home revealed numerous items belonging to the San Leandro Unified School District, all stolen in these burglaries.

"We are extremely pleased to have made arrests in these cases and return the items to the classroom," said Lt. Benabou. "It's unusual for us to arrest such

young suspects responsible for a series of burglaries. These are brazen acts, and we hope that their arrests will prevent this behavior in the future."

Polcie say the names of the teens are not being released because they are juveniles.

The investigation into these cases is ongoing as additional suspects may be involved and many stolen items are still outstanding, Benabou said.

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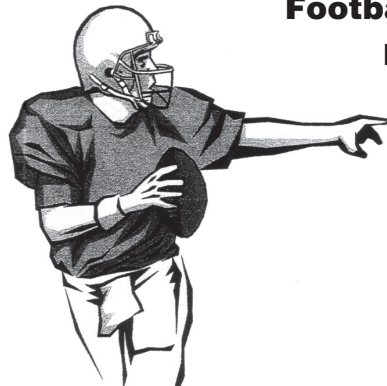
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San Leandro Crusaders



The Crusaders Youth Football Program is Now Recruiting Football Players & Coaches!



Boys and Girls between the ages of 7 through 14 can tryout for the program beginning July 31.

SIGN-UPS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

JULY 11, 14, 15, 18, 21

TIMES FOR SIGN-UP ARE:

Weekdays: 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Saturdays: 3:00 - 4:30 PM

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Weights for Football Players

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| Scouts | 7 to 9 years | 45 to 85 Lbs. |
| Jr. Peewee's | 8 to 10 years | 55 to 95 Lbs. |
| Peewee's | 9 to 11 years | 70 to 110 Lbs. |
| Jr. Midget's | 10 to 12 years | 85 to 125 Lbs. |
| Midget's | 11 to 14 years | 100 to 150 Lbs. |

To Sign-up you must have your child's ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE. Also you will be given our medical card for your child's proof of PHYSICAL. There is a \$60 NON-REFUNDABLE SIGN-UP FEE. Cash, ATM & Credit Cards Only. No Personal Checks. For more information, visit www.SLcrusaders.com

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NEIGHBORS



Check out the Azevedo Little Library

Bryan Azevedo and his family invite everyone to stop by and see their Little Library at 963 Dillo Street in San Leandro. Azevedo said the Little Library is stocked up with books, and in this hot weather, he's stocked up on bottled water, too.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

❖ Chanticleers Theatre

Elvis Has Left The Building runs till July 23 at the Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley. Jacob Russell-Snyder directs this comedy taking you back to December 20, 1970 and to the disappearance of Elvis Presley. No one, not even his wily manager, "The Colonel,"

knows of his whereabouts. Hijinks abound as the Colonel takes desperate measures to replace a man who is irreplaceable. General admission is \$25; admission for seniors (60+), students and military is \$20. For more information or tickets, call SEE-LIVE 733-5483 or go to chanticleers.org.

❖ San Leandro Players

The San Leandro Players present *Arsenic and Old Lace*, till Aug. 13, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Performances are on Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.; and Fridays at 8 p.m. on Aug. 4 and Aug. 11. *Arsenic and Old Lace* by Joseph Kesselring, directed by Mark O'Neill is one of America's funniest murder comedies, as a household of zany relatives and sidekicks bring insanity and mystery to the stage. Tickets are \$20 general, and \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, and students. For more information and tickets, call 895-2573. Order tickets online at www.slplayers.org.

❖ Morrisson Theatre

The Morrisson Theatre Chorus, 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward, presents *Summer Concert: Flavors of Latin America* on Friday and Saturday, July 21 and 22, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, July 23, at 2 p.m. The summer concert, directed by Cesar Cancino, will feature the lively, tropical, and romantic rhythms of Latin America. Tickets are \$18 for adults; \$15 for H.A.R.D. area residents, under 30, over 60; and \$12 for youth and students. The box office is open Tuesday through Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m. and can be reached at 881-6777. For more information and tickets, visit www.dmtonline.org.



HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Aspects favor socializing with family and friends, but an irksome workplace situation could intrude. No use grumbling, Lamb. Just do it, and then get back to the fun times.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): There's still time for you Ferdinands and Fernandas to relax and sniff the roses. But a major work project looms and soon will demand much of your attention through the 24th.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): Your enthusiasm persuades even the toughest doubters to listen to what you're proposing. But don't push too hard, or you'll push them away. Moderate for best results.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Your energy levels are rising, and you feel you can handle anything the job requires. That's great. But don't isolate yourself. Keep your door open to your workplace colleagues.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): A workplace change could lead to that promotion you've been hoping for. But you'll have to face some tough competition before the Lion can claim his or her share of the goodies.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): Your rigidity regarding a difficult workplace situation could be the reason your colleagues aren't rushing to your assistance. Try being more flexible in your demands.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): That uneasy mood could be your Libran inner voice reminding you that while it's great to be with your new friends, you need to take care not to ignore your old ones.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): A sudden spate of criticism could shake the Scorpion's usually high sense of self-confidence. Best advice: You made a decision you believed in — now defend it.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Your reluctance to help restart a stalled relationship could be traced to unresolved doubts about your partner's honesty. Rely on a trusted friend's advice.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): The capricious Sea Goat is torn between duty and diversion. Best advice: Do both. Tend to your workaday chores, then go out and enjoy your well-earned fun time.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Cutting back on some of your activities for a few days helps restore your energy levels. You should be feeling ready to tackle your many projects early next week.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): A co-worker might be secretly carping about your work to mutual colleagues. But associates will come to your defense, and the situation will ultimately work to your advantage.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ Art and Music at Zocalo Coffeehouse

There will be a reception at Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro tonight, Thursday at 7 p.m. for singer and songwriter Rebecca Parks. While she performs folks can also view the San Leandro Art Association exhibit. This will be a good opportunity to come and meet the artists. Admission is free.

❖ I.D.E.S. of Saint John Barbecue & Bingo

I.D.E.S. of Saint John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will host a barbecue ribs and bingo luncheon on Saturday, July 22. Lunch is \$15 and will be served at noon and will also include linguica sandwiches, chips, salad and 4 bingo cards. A raffle will be at 2 p.m. Bring canned for for the canned food drive. For more information, call Helder Quadros at 357-5846 or Willie Calvo at 635-6326.

❖ Family Movie Night

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and snacks, and enjoy the free movie *Finding Dory* on Wednesday, July 26, at 8 p.m. at Halcyon Park, 1245 147th Ave. in San Leandro. The movie reunites the friendly-but-forgetful blue tang fish Dory with her loved ones, and everyone learns a few things about the true meaning of family along the way.

❖ Kiwanis Club of San Leandro

Join the Kiwanis Club of San Leandro for weekly lunch meetings on Tuesday, from 12:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Englander Sports Pub and Restaurant, 101 Parrot Street, San Leandro.

❖ San Leandro Democratic Club

The San Leandro Democratic Club will meet on Thursday, July 27, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Guest speaker District Attorney Nancy O'Malley will speak about human trafficking.

❖ San Leandro Toastmasters

The San Leandro Toastmasters meet on Thursday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The group fosters improved communication and public speaking. All levels of speakers from novice to seasoned are welcome.

❖ Painting Workshop at Manor Library

Paint a masterpiece using fruits and vegetables at the *Garden Buddies*: fruit and veggie art workshop on Saturday, July 29, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Manor Branch Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. Best for ages 3 and older. Register on or after July 15. Dress for mess or wear an apron from home. For more information or to register, call 577-7971.

❖ San Leandro Art Association Exhibit

Paintings by members of the San Leandro Art Association will be on display through July 31, at Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro.

❖ Hayward Area Historical Society

The Hayward Area Historical Society (HAHS) presents *Unmentionable: The Indiscreet Stories of Artifacts* through October at the HAHS Museum of History and Culture at 22380 Foothill Blvd. in Hayward. This original exhibition explores all the unusual, icky, scandalous, disturbing, awful, discriminatory artifacts in the HAHS collection. The artifacts in this exhibition tell some not-so-great, but very important sto-

ries. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

❖ Davis Street Backpack & Shoe Drive

The Davis Street Resource Center, 3081 Teagarden Street in San Leandro needs your help collecting new shoes, backpacks and supplies for 300 plus low income and homeless children. New shoes needed include girls sizes 10 to 12, womens sizes 4 to 14, boys sizes 10 to 12 and mens sizes 5 to 13. Drop off all items at Davis Street Resource Center, open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call Kristal at 347-4620 ext. 163 or email kgonzalez@davisstreet.org.

❖ 34th Annual National Night Out

St. John's Catholic Church, 264 East Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo will host a party for the 34th Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1, from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at. Help strengthen a stronger relationship with the community and the Sheriff's Office. Get to know your crime prevention unit. For more information, call Deputy J. Delgado at 260-9916 or by email JDelgado@acgov.org.

❖ Truth Thursdays

The San Leandro Improvement Association hosts Truth Thursdays on the fourth Thursday of the month July 27, under the "Truth Is Beauty" statue at the OSIsoft building on the San Leandro Tech Campus, 1600 Alvarado St. Food trucks, beer, wine, and live entertainment will be on hand from 5 to 9 p.m. Bocce ball and other recreational games will be played out on the grass.

❖ 4th Sunday Breakfast for Veterans

American Legion Post 117 hosts breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. every 4th Sunday of the month, except on holiday weekends, at the San Leandro Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1105 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro. The menu will be eggs-to-order, bacon/sausage, hash browns, toast and coffee. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for veterans, and all others. All donations benefit American Legion veteran programs.

❖ Diabetes Support Group

The Diabetes Support Group will meet the first Wednesday of every month, starting Aug. 2, at Carlton Senior Living 1000 East 14th St. in San Leandro. All are welcome and admission is free. For more information, call Amber at 636-0660 or email abennett@carltonseniorliving.com.

❖ San Lorenzo High Class of 1967 Reunion

San Lorenzo High School Class of 1967 will celebrate its 50th class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Wedgewood Wedding and Banquet Center (formerly Willow Park) in Castro Valley. Invitations are being sent to all the classmates on the mailing list. For more information, or if you're not on the mailing list, call Glenda Smith Fore at 703-0933. No tickets accepted at the door.

❖ San Leandro High Class of 1987 Reunion

San Leandro High School Class of 1987 is having its 30th reunion on Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Dublin, 6680 Regional St. in Dublin. See old friends and raise a glass to our class. Early-bird ticket pricing is available until March 1. For more information and tickets, go to www.nationalreunions.com or call

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.

Batman and Me: Copeland Visits Stately Wayne Manor

By Brian Copeland
Special to the Times

Brian Copeland of San Leandro, an actor, comedian, author, playwright and TV and radio talk show host, wrote this piece just after Adam West died on June 9.

Back in 1980 when I was a 15 year old high school kid, I wrote for a little weekly paper in San Leandro called, *The Observer*. I didn't get paid, but I got to see my stuff in print and they'd run pretty much anything I wanted to write.

I was a fan of old television so I used the column as a vehicle to get interviews with the stars of my all-time favorite shows. I'd call SAG, get the name of an agent or publicist and request an interview.

Usually, they thought it was cute that a teenager remembered them (I focused on the stars of shows from the '50s and '60s, figuring my odds were better) that they almost always said yes. It was in that way that I met and became friendly with Jack Kelly (*Maverick*), Ray Walston (*My Favorite Martian*), Dwayne Hickman (*Dobie Gillis*) and Adam West.

I had grown up with the mod, campy take on Batman from the 1966 TV show. It premiered on ABC when I was 2 and was constantly on the air in reruns

“The next morning before school, I dialed the number and held my breath.”

throughout my childhood.

Like all boys of my generation, I jumped around the living room with a towel around my neck as a cape, throwing punches at an invisible Joker as imaginary POWS, BIFFS and BAMs materialized around me in glorious technicolor. Adam West was on my dream list to interview. I was a comic book fanatic (still am) and he was one of my heroes.

One morning in early 1980, I got hold of his publicist's info, called and explained that I was a high school kid who wanted to interview Mr. West. I was told someone would check with him and get back to me.

Usually, this meant that an assistant or secretary would reach out and, if my request was granted, either arrange a phone call or, on rare occasions, an in-person chat provided I could get to Los Angeles.

That night when I got home, there was a note on my bed in my 14-year-old sister Tracie's hand-



Adam West invited the young journalist Copeland from San Leandro to come to Hollywood for an interview.

writing. “Adam West called.”

“Quit messing with me. It's not funny,” I said.

“I'm not,” she protested. “He called. He was really nice. He sounded just like Batman on the phone.”

I checked the number and, sure enough it was an LA area code.

The next morning before school, I dialed the number and held my breath. It rang a few times and a voice that sounded like it should have intoned, “Yes, Commissioner?” answered.

I explained what I wanted. He was, like my sister had said, very nice.

“Why don't you come to my home?” He said. “We can talk here?”

Oh my God!! I've been invited to Wayne Manor!

We picked a date and I made a plane reservation.

That day at school, I told my friend Mike, my best friend in my class and a fellow Batman fanatic, what had transpired. Adam was his hero too.

“You *have* to come with me!” I said.

It took some doing but his folks let him go. A few weeks

later, we were off. Two 15 year olds (me on only my second plane ride ever) flying across California, unsupervised to go to Batman's house.

I had a distant cousin in LA

“Oh, my God! I've been invited to Wayne Manor!”

who's home we had planned to stay at for a few days, but changed our minds when we heard it was in a bad area of town. So instead of going there and dropping off our luggage (yes, we brought suitcases) we took a taxi to Mr. West's home in Pacific Palisades.

We rang the bell and his wife, a lovely French lady, answered the door with Adam on her heels.



Brian Copeland was a high school kid when he crossed his fingers and called for an interview with Adam West.

I laugh like hell every time I think of the looks on their faces opening the door of their multimillion dollar house to see two teenagers on their porch with suitcases.

We were led into his beautiful garden, complete with koi pond, where Adam signed autographs for us and his wife served lemonade.

I never got to the interview because Mr. West had something else in mind. He told us that in about a month, Warner Brothers was going to hold a big

press conference in New York to announce a Batman feature film. His management had approached the producers (Jon Peters, if I remember correctly) and inquired about Adam reprising the role. They weren't interested.

At that time, there had been a major PR nightmare over the film, *The Legend of the Lone Ranger*, when the owner of that property got a cease-and-desist order against Clayton Moore, the TV Lone Ranger from the '50s, prohibiting him from wearing the

Ranger mask in public.

Even though the show had been off the air for decades, Clayton (who I got to know later, but that's a different story) continued to wear the costume visiting hospitals and children's homes. Ripping off his mask did not sit well with the public and they retaliated by not buying tickets to the new movie. Adam thought he might be able to use that experience to his benefit.

“At this press conference,” he

see BATMAN, page 8

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AUTOMOTIVE

Kia Cadenza Hits a Higher Note

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

Kia, like a brand chasing success, has diversified over the years. In 2013, the Korean brand introduced the Cadenza in the United States — a large sedan with big intentions.

Kia and Hyundai are siblings, so you'd expect the Cadenza would be part of the other brand, with a musical name that syncs up with the Sonata, but the new full-size Cadenza is actually a generous step up from the Optima, its popular midsize entry.

There are many good reasons to step up to the Cadenza. Significantly refreshed styling starts with a handsome face, featuring the tiger nose grille. The second-generation Cadenza benefits from being based on Chief Design Officer Peter Schreyer's signature philosophy of "the simplicity of the straight line," a view that positively influenced Audi design for years. This new car was styled at

Kia's California design studio, with American tastes in mind.

Lower and upper trim models receive different grille textures, so you can keep up with the Joneses more precisely. The face on my test car, a Limited top-level model, wore the "Intaglio" grille, which looked, in its concave glory, a little like the latest Volvos. The lower-level grille is called "Diamond Butterfly, which sounds like a 1960's rock band. My Limited flaunted 19-inch Dark Satin Alloy wheels for a trendy look, especially against Snow White Pearl paint.

This large sedan offers 107.8 cubic feet of comfort and convenience versus 104.8 cubic feet for the large-midsize Optima. It also stretches 4.6 inches longer. It's slightly wider and lower than its predecessor. Other dimensions are similar to the Optima, so the real difference, beyond plushness, lives under the sculpted hood.

While Optimas offer three levels of four-cylinder power, ranging from the 2.4-liter,

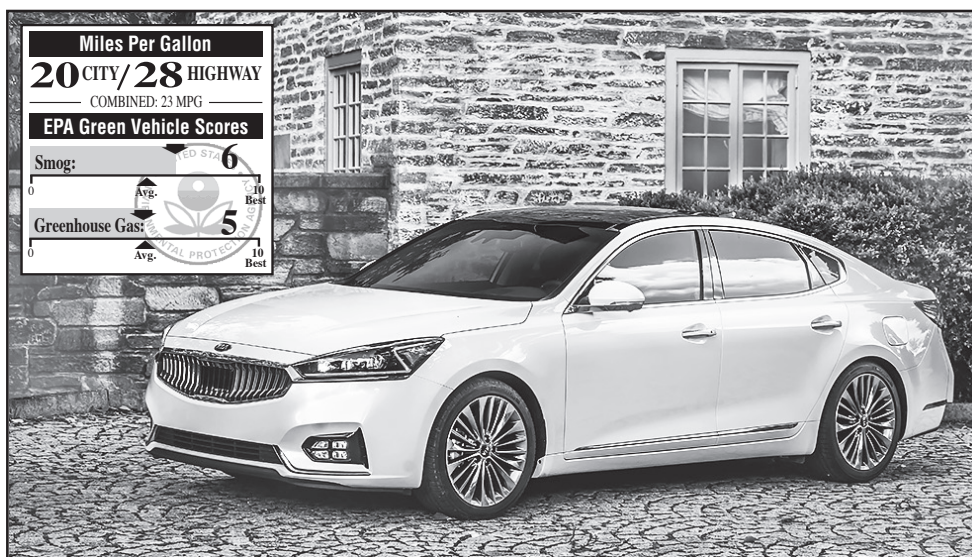
185-horsepower standard engine to the 2.0-liter, 245-horsepower turbo, all Cadenzas boast a 3.3-liter V6 with 290 horsepower and 253 lb.-ft. of torque. Power flows through an eight-speed automatic, with sixth a perfect 1:1 ratio and gears 7 and 8 overdrives, for higher economy and enhanced quiet on the highway.

The EPA has bestowed ratings of 20 City, 28 Highway, and 23 Combined on the Cadenza. I achieved an average of 21.3 mpg. Green scores are 6 for Smog and 5 for Greenhouse Gas, typical for a 3,770-pound vehicle with a big V6.

Part of presenting yourself as a near-luxury car is in the trimmings, and the 2017 Cadenza offers plenty, especially in Limited trim. My tester featured a stunning White Interior Package, including Nappa leather in an appealing quilted design on the bolsters. Accented in black, it pops to the eye, and my chair was supremely comfortable. The suede headliner felt premium, too. The center-mounted analog clock featured white numerals on black to fit right into the design.

Much of what separates upper-level cars from regular ones is electronic safety and entertainment equipment. While many cars have blind spot warning systems, the Cadenza's new Smart Blind Spot Detection System can tell if you're inadvertently drifting towards a vehicle next to you and brakes the opposite side front wheel to help you maintain a safe distance.

Additional safety features include Advanced Smart Cruise



The second-generation Cadenza boasts a stronger body structure and powertrain enhancements along with a more engaging driving experience than before.

Control with stop-and-go functionality, Forward Collision Warning, Autonomous Emergency Braking and Lane Departure Warning. How's that for safety? There are now nine airbags, too, up from eight.

One of my favorite new Kia/Hyundai features is Smart Trunk. Just walk up with the key in your pocket and in about three seconds, the trunk pops up automatically. I also like the power rear sunshade, which gives the car a luxurious feel.

As you'd hope for in a significantly updated model, the Cadenza is simply better built. The company uses more than 50 percent Advanced High Strength Steel for a stiffer but lighter body structure. There's more aluminum in there, too, for a lighter chassis. For a quieter ride experience, there's much more insulation, including a full floorpan undercover, which not only mutes road noise but improves the car's



The interior of the 2017 Kia Cadenza is thoughtfully redesigned with higher quality materials than the preceding model and higher levels of craftsmanship throughout.

aerodynamics, too.

The Cadenza rides with the smooth but firm feel of a Mercedes-Benz more than a bargain transport device. Extras like the head-up display with not only mph but turn-by-turn directions are a plus. And, with the Limited, you get the Harman Kardon 12-speaker, 630-watt audio system. Sometimes it was an effort to force myself to leave this mobile concert hall when I arrived at

work in the morning.

Choose from three levels — Premium, Technology and Limited. Prices start at \$32,890 for the Premium and work up to \$45,290 for the Limited like mine. My car came with no additional options, and didn't seem to need them.

While Kia isn't widely known or considered as a builder of large, luxurious sedans, that could change once the word gets out on the new Cadenza.

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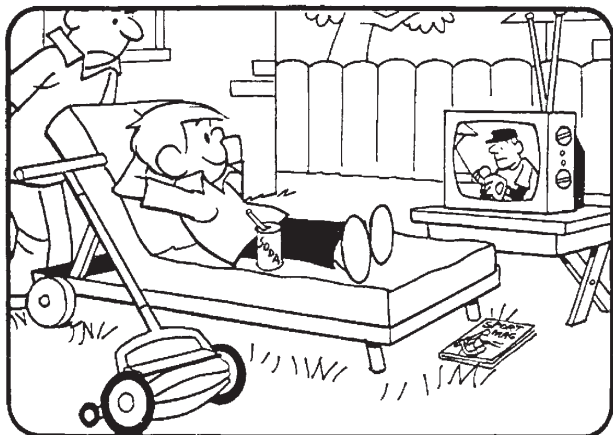
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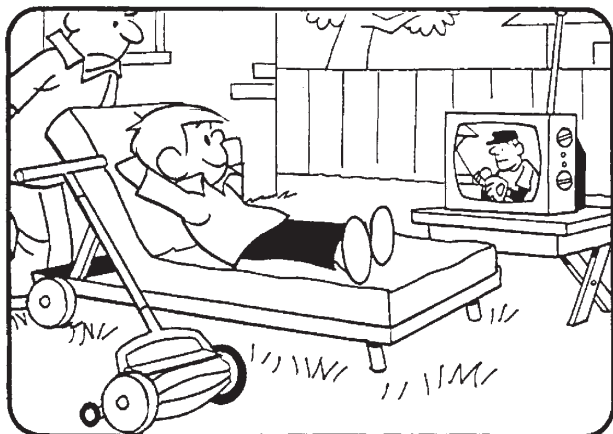


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Wheel is different. 3. Can is missing. 4. Fence is different. 5. Antenna pole is missing. 6. Magazine is missing.

Riddle Card

1. Why is a star like an old barn?
2. When does a man have to keep his word?
3. What is it that you break when you name it?
4. What is the last thing you take off before going to bed?
5. Why does a freight car need no locomotive?



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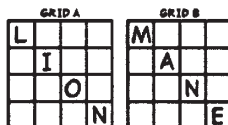
Answers: 1. Both contain R, A, T, S. 2. When no one will take it. 3. Silence. 4. Your feet from the floor. 5. Because the freight makes the cargo.

FIND THE HIDDEN STATE CAPITAL in this lad's complaint!

Answer: The state capital is ... S A L E M ... (Oregon).

SEE IF YOU CAN TAME THIS ONE! 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. Grows on trees.
2. Found on old radios.
3. Type of light.
4. Sharp cutting edge.

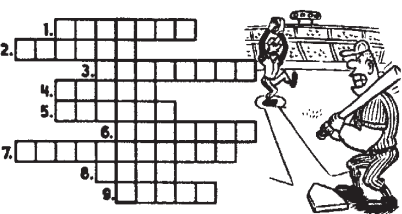


Answers: 1. Lime-mille. 2. Dial-laid. 3. Neon-none. 4. Keen-knee.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A DUEL IN THE SUN!



Batter up, or should I say, puzzlers up! This problem deals with the sport of baseball, and in particular, pitchers and batters. In our puzzle grid there is room for nine words or phrases associated with the game. The hints below should help.

1. Total paid attendance.
2. A fisherman might use this pitch.
3. A virtuous time at bat.
4. Number of balls and strikes.
5. Comes before releasing the ball.
6. An illegal pitch.
7. A dancing pitch.
8. As good as a hit.
9. A pitcher's territory.

There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly find all of the words asked for, the letters in this frame, top to bottom, will spell out what every batter wishes for.

Answers: 1. The gate. 2. Sink. 3. Sacrifice. 4. Count. 5. Windup. 6. Spitter. 7. Knuckle ball. 8. Walk. 9. Mound. What every batter wishes for is a "grand slam."

1. Unit of measurement.
2. Placed on the table.
3. Not any.
4. Part of your leg.

Building: Plans for a hotel in the future

continued from front page

garage which can fit 22 cars in the footprint of six parking spaces by stacking them on top of each other in a metal grid similar to what's seen in big cities like San Francisco.

"It's pioneering," said Westlake Urban managing director Sunny Tong.

Additional parking for residents will be available in a new parking garage to be built next to the current parking garage for an additional of 229 spaces.

The first phase of the tech campus opened in late 2016 along with the installation of the "Truth is Beauty" statue with plans for multiple phases. These new apartments are another phase and construction will begin in the spring of 2018, according to Westlake Urban.

The units will be market priced in the \$2,000 to \$3,000 range for studio, 1 and 2 bedroom units ranging from 472 to 1,337-square-feet, and will likely open in 2020. There is no affordable housing in the project, since that is required by city law only on for-sale housing, not rental.

Tong said that, if things go



Westlake Urban presented this artists rendering of the proposed apartment building.

well, he'll be back in front of the City Council this time next year asking for approval to build a hotel on the tech campus.

"This is not the end of the line, this is the beginning of a bigger project," said Tong.

At 85-feet, these new apartments will be taller than the nearby Marea Alta apartments or even the Kaiser Hospital. Similar multi-story apartment buildings are in the early stages of devel-

opment near the Bayfair BART station as well.

Areas around BART stations are about the only place left where apartments aren't blocked by homeowners. When a developer tried to build a five-story apartment complex on Estudillo Avenue last year, nearby residents got up-in-arms.

Former mayor Stephen Cassidy opposed the building on Estudillo at that time, and in

the public speaking portion of Monday's meeting, he thanked the council for placing a large apartment building downtown and away from single-family homes to "preserve our residential neighborhoods."

"It's wonderful to see this (project) advance and to see a private company (Westlake Urban) have so much confidence in our community," said Cassidy.

Crusaders Football To Host Open House

The San Leandro Crusaders youth football and cheer teams will celebrate their 50th season with an open house this Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. at Burrell Field, 2432 Teagarden

St. in San Leandro.

Meet the coaches, staff and families, learn more about the program and its history, and prepare for the kickoff of the 2017 season.

Motive: Hope to solve

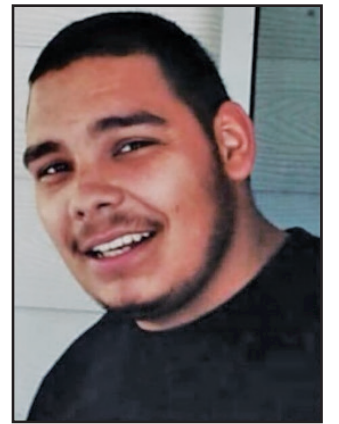
continued from page 5

the public at this time.

"I'm hopeful that we'll solve this one," said Kelly. "That being said, there is a lot of work to do."

Kelly said that the sheriff's department is following a number of leads and also working on getting a reward together for information leading to the arrest of Romero's killer.

Anyone with information about the shooting is asked to call the sheriff's office at 667-7721. The caller can remain anonymous.



Manuel Romero

Batman: Lasting memory of Batman

continued from page 5

said, "Warner Brothers is going to declare 1981 as 'The Year of the Batman' and announce the new movie. If you guys can go to New York and when they make this announcement, start yelling 'What about Adam West? If Adam West isn't Batman, I'm not going!' That would be a big deal."

Now, I knew doggone well my Grandma (who was my guardian) was not gonna allow me to fly to Manhattan. Mike's folks had to be convinced to let him come with me to L.A. No way were they going to let him go across the country. Plus, he wanted us to go on our own dime so his fingerprints wouldn't be on it.

"Now, I know you're thinking," he said. "'What's in this for me?' Maybe a part in the movie.

For every successful campaign there are rewards."

We chatted for an hour or so and then we piled into his Jeep, (he had two cars, a Ferrari and a Jeep. At school we told our friends he drove us in the sports car.) and he drove us to Greyhound where, star struck, we took the bus back to the Bay Area.

I talked to Adam a couple of times a week over the next month, trying to figure out how to break it to him that I wasn't going cross country for him, especially paid for with money that I didn't even have. The situation resolved itself when the whole press event ended up being changed and the movie wound up in development hell.

It would be nine years before the film finally hit the big screen with Michael Keaton as star. I stayed in touch with Adam over

the next couple of years until he packed up his family and moved to Idaho and we lost touch.

About six or seven years ago, I was checking into the Sheraton Universal when I look at the guest checking in next to me and it's Adam West. He was in town to record some voice over stuff for Family Guy. He remembered me. We had a good laugh over his attempt to get two kids to shill for him at Warner Brothers and we went our separate ways.

He was a good guy. A little egotistical. Notoriously cheap.

Years later when I told Yvonne Craig (Batgirl) the story. Before I finished, she said, "Let me guess, he wanted you kids to pay for it."

That said, he gave me one of the thrills of my life and I'll treasure the memory forever.

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Comment on the Proposal Designs for the Community Identifier Projects in Ashland/Cherryland & San Lorenzo!

View the proposals online or in-person and submit your comments!
Don't miss this opportunity! Comment period closes August 27th!
Your input is very important!

The Community Identifier Project involves designing and hand-painting the name of the community along with other simple design elements on freeway overpasses in Castro Valley, San Lorenzo and Ashland/Cherryland.

Ashland/Cherryland Proposal Display

(Ashland/Cherryland proposals only)

Tues, July 11, 7-9:30pm: Cherryland Comm. Assoc. Mtg.

Tues, July 18, 6:30-8:30pm: Ashland Comm. Assoc. Mtg.

Fri, July 28, 6-8pm: Eden Night Live

Wed, Aug 16, 4-7pm: Ashland Community Center

San Lorenzo Proposal Display

(San Lorenzo proposals only)

June 26 - July 26

San Lorenzo Library

Contact library for hours

ONLINE - View all of the Proposals and Submit Your Comments

Now through August 27, view the proposals for all 3 sites and submit comments online at: bit.ly/CIPProjectsPD

For more information, visit: Alameda County Arts Commission at www.acgov.org/arts ("What's New")

SENIORS

Claim Your Family's Unclaimed Money

By Jim Miller

Special to the Times

Forgotten or lost money is actually quite common in the United States.

According to the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators, there is around \$42 billion in unclaimed funds sitting in state treasuries and other agencies just waiting to be found.

These unclaimed funds are from accounts that are inactive or whose owners, or their heirs, cannot be located.

Unclaimed funds can include things lost or forgotten saving or checking accounts, stocks, utility security deposits, tax refunds, life insurance proceeds, un-cashed dividend checks, contents of safe-deposit boxes and more.

This typically happens because of a change of address (the own-

er moved), a name change (the owner got married or divorced), or the owner dies and the estate was unaware of the money or the heirs could not be located.

By law, companies and financial institutions that can't find the owner or their next of kin within two to five years must turn the property over to the state where it's held indefinitely.

It's very possible that your parents, or you, have some unclaimed money out there and you don't even know it.

To start your quest go to Unclaimed.org, which has links to all state programs that will let you to do a state benefits search online for free. Or, you can do a multi-state search in 40 states at MissingMoney.com.

Check every state in which your parents or you have lived, worked or conducted business.

Also, if you're married, make sure to check under your maiden name as well.

Every state can tell you immediately if you or your parents have some unclaimed money, as well as how to go about collecting it.

In addition to state treasuries, here are some other agencies that can help you find unclaimed money.

- **IRS:** Each year thousands of refund checks totaling millions of dollars are returned to the IRS by the post office. To look for lost Federal tax refund checks go to IRS.gov/refunds, or call 800-829-1954.

- **U.S. Treasury:** To find out if there are any savings bonds your dad didn't claim dating back to 1974, go to TreasuryHunt.gov. For older bonds or those still drawing interest use form 1048, which you can download at TreasuryHunt.gov/forms/sav1048.pdf, or call 844-284-2676.

gov/forms/sav1048.pdf, or call 844-284-2676.

- **Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation:** If your dad worked for a company that went out of business or ended its defined benefit pension plan, you may be entitled to some of his benefits.

To look for lost pensions, use the pension-search tool at PBGC.gov/search/unclaimed-pensions, or you can call 800-400-7242 and get help over the phone.

- **National Association of Insurance Commissioners:** To track down a lost or forgotten life insurance policy, the NAIC, an insurance regulatory support organization, offers a national policy locator service at Locator.NAIC.org.

- **PenChecks Inc. and Millennium Trust Co.:** To search for lost or forgotten retirement benefits or 401(k) funds left behind with an



There is around \$42 billion in unclaimed funds sitting in state treasuries and other agencies just waiting to be found.

old employer, go to UnclaimedRetirementBenefits.com and MTrustCompany.com/unclaimed-retirement-funds.

- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation:** To search for unclaimed bank accounts at firms that were shut down between January 1, 1989 and June 28, 1993 go to ClosedBanks.FDIC.gov/funds. State treasuries hold assets from shutdowns after 1993.

- **Social Security:** To find lost

Social Security benefits, including the \$255 death benefit, call 800-772-1213.



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

Trusts Are Still Useful If Estate Tax Repealed

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.

Special to the Times

Q I hear that the federal estate tax may be repealed during this administration. If that happens, will trusts still be a useful estate planning device?

A In a word, yes. But remember, the federal estate tax now only kicks in if your estate is valued at more than \$5.49-million at death (2017).

At this high threshold, 99% of Americans will never need to worry about the estate tax and so, as for them, the estate tax has already been "repealed." Yet trusts continue to be used as a common estate planning device and their utility has not diminished.

Here are some of the nontax benefits of creating a trust:

- **Avoiding Probate:** One of the great benefits of using a revocable trust, in preference to a will, is that a trust is designed to avoid probate.

In California, probate is a court proceeding whereby a judge oversees the settling of your estate. The process tends to be time-consuming, expensive and public.

By contrast, the postmortem settling of a trust is usually more expeditious, less expensive and private.

- **Management upon Disability:** If you were to become disabled, and unable to manage your assets, your designated successor trustee could step forward and manage them for you, and thereby avoid the need for a court created conservatorship, which is a more involved, expensive and public proceeding.

By contrast, a simple will would only kick in upon death, and therefore would not provide you any benefits for asset management during life.

Note: a comprehensive Durable Power Of Attorney would be another alternative to management of your financial assets in the event of disability; but the DPOA expires on death, making a trust the better option for uninterrupted asset management.

- **Protection from Creditors:** Certain types of trusts can protect your beneficiaries from creditors.

By way of example, if you had a child who was a spendthrift, you could appoint a trustee to manage that child's share of your estate in a "Discretionary Support Trust", which could remain in existence well after your demise. The trustee might be authorized to retain that child's share in trust and pay out only as much as necessary for his needs. Under that arrangement, your child's unpaid creditors would not be able to seize any part

of his share which remained in trust.

- **Provide for a Child with Special Needs:** If you have a child, or grandchild, with a disability who relies upon public benefits, such as Medi-Cal or SSI, you could leave his share in a "Special Needs Trust" ("SNT").

A SNT is a special trust designed to hold assets for the benefit of a person on public benefits in a manner that does not undermine his ongoing eligibility for those benefits. The trustee would then use the SNT funds to supplement your child's public benefits and thereby enhance his quality-of-life.

- **Avoid Medi-Cal Recovery:** Because of recent changes in the law, the estates of persons dying after Jan. 1, 2017, who have received Medi-Cal benefits during life, will no longer be subject to recovery (or "payback"), if their estates do not go through probate.

Since a trust is typically designed to avoid probate, holding

assets inside a trust can thus avoid Medi-Cal recovery and potentially save their estates many thousands of dollars.

A trust can be as useful today as in years past, and you should still give serious consideration to using it as part of your estate plan.

Gene L. Osofsky is an elder law and estate planning attorney in Hayward. Visit his website at www.LawyerForSeniors.com.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Sellers: Listen to the Pros

Mark Twain is said to have quipped, "When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

I look back on my teenage years and wish I could redo some decisions I've made. While 16, I bought my mom a jewelry box. I had limited funds, so I examined the options in the store and narrowed it down to two: a simple wood box or a larger, ornate cardboard version. I liked the larger one because, in my mind, it held more.

The woman behind the counter, however, told me that if

she was MY mom, she'd prefer real wood.

Needless to say, I bought the gaudy cardboard box. Upon presenting it to my mom, the look on her face said it all and, to this day, I've wished I'd listened to the woman behind the counter.

I've discovered "thinking you know better" is not just limited to teens. Seems it's a fundamental human trait. Even when surrounded by professionals who exist to help pave the way to the best possible results, we frequently ignore their advice because "we know best."

The "I know better" mindset is rampant in real estate. I'm continuously baffled by sellers preparing to sell their homes who are convinced they know

more than real estate professionals who sell homes every day for a living.

Frequently I hear sellers say "we will get our home ready and then we will call you." Although some sellers have a good idea of what should be done, many spend money on things that do not matter and often do not address items that are critical.

I frequently hear, especially regarding items such as carpet, "We don't want to spend money upgrading because buyers may have different tastes."

While I understand the logic, it's no longer valid. Buyers today want move-in-ready homes and will pay a premium for them. Spending upgrade dollars wisely can make you significantly more than the amount you spend. As to what the buyers may do after they move in? Quite frankly, that is none of your business.

Our advice? Hire a reputable, experienced professional with positive reviews, get them involved from the very beginning ... and do what they recommend.

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 at www.ccmgtoday.com.



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Find an Alternative Air Conditioner

By Samantha Mazzotta
Special to the Times

An evaporative cooler can be a cost-effective alternative to an air conditioner, but it's not always the best choice.

Also known as swamp coolers, evaporative coolers add humidity to the air in your house. They bring in air from the outside, pass it over water-soaked pads, and blow that humidified air inside.

If you live in a hot, dry climate, a swamp cooler can be a very efficient way to cool the house. In

hot, humid weather, not so much, because the air in the house is already humid.

Air conditioners work well in humid climates because they help remove some of that humidity from the air. While they're not dehumidifiers per se, the unit recirculates air in the room. As that air passes over the air conditioner's evaporator coil, the moisture in the air condenses and is drained from the unit, while the air is blown back into the room. That process helps cool the air and reduce mugginess.

Both units need regular maintenance: An evaporative cooler's pads need to be changed every few weeks while in use, and an air conditioner's filter needs to be cleaned or replaced each month in the warm season.

If you hate lugging window units in and out of the window each year, look into buying a portable air conditioner. These typically cost more than window units (sometimes twice as much for the same BTU level) but can be rolled from room to room as needed and stored out of the way when not needed.



Portable units cost more than window units but they can be rolled from room to room as needed and easily stored away.

Just remember that the portable unit's ventilation hose must vent outside, meaning the unit needs to stay near a window. And, you probably will need to empty the condensation tray regularly, in cheaper units.

A final alternative is natural ventilation. If you get cool nights or steady breezes, open windows in the early morning and late evening, and invest in heavy curtains to cover windows in which the sun shines during the afternoon. Add an electric fan to keep fresh air circulating constantly. In certain climates, this can give you a comfortable home except for the hottest, most humid days of the year.

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Peach Tree Needs a Trim; Ants or Aphids?

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q We have a massive, overgrown peach tree that has been ignored for years but it continues to produce. Its branches are twisted and falling into the neighbors' yards. We want to get it back in shape. When is a good time to trim and fertilize the tree?

A The traditional time to prune fruit trees is during the winter months when they're dormant. However, pruning during the late summer and fall is also being recommended.

The advantages of pruning in the summer and fall are comfortable temperatures and no mud. The biggest disadvantage is that the leaves get in the way of viewing the structure of the tree.

At this time, the trees are in the beginning stage of dormancy as the fruit has been harvested and they've stopped growing.

With overgrown fruit trees, the first priority is reestablishing the scaffolding and then the secondary branches within the canopy. Hence, fruit production is sacrificed.

I'd first remove all the dead wood, and all the crossing and rubbing branches, keeping those that add to the overall shape to

the tree.

With the flush of new growth next year, the process of reestablishing the tree structure begins. I wouldn't be afraid to remove or thin out any growth once you determine that they aren't going to be adding to the shape. It will take several growing seasons to accomplish this.

The severe pruning will eliminate the fruiting spurs but they'll return in a couple of years. Peaches produce their fruit on the second-year wood.

EB Stone Organics and Dr. Earth are two excellent granular organic fertilizers for fruit and nut trees. I'd make two applications starting in March/April and again in May/June.

The fertilizer should be evenly spread around the canopy and not piled at the trunk.

Overgrown fruit trees can be fixed but it will take time.

Q What can I do to keep the ants away from my artichoke plants? The leaves are covered with a sticky-looking substance and scores of dead ants.

A The dead bugs you're observing are not likely ants but aphids. Aphids produce the clear, sticky residue as they feed on the plants. Also,



The traditional time to prune peach, and other fruit, trees is during the winter months. However late summer and fall is also being recommended.

it's not unusual to find a black mold growing on it.

The residue from the aphids is a food source for the ants.

Although aphids move about on their own, ants have been known to ferry them around. Hence, when the aphids are active, you'll find ants.

The ants are not harmful to the artichokes.

You can control the aphids with Insecticidal Soap — one of many organic solutions used on edibles. Make repeat applications as necessary as the probability of them returning several times each year is very high.

I'd inspect the plants regularly for ants and/or aphids.

The ants should disappear on their own once the food source is no longer available.

To successfully grow artichokes, you'll need to feed them, give them plenty of moisture and keep the aphids under control.

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
| 1226 Amber Court | 94577 | \$730,000 | 4 BD - 2,091 SF - N/A |
| 934 Arthur Avenue | 94577 | \$540,000 | 3 BD - 1,231 SF - 1942 |
| 366 Bancroft Avenue | 94577 | \$525,000 | 2 BD - 944 SF - 1924 |
| 710 Biltmore Street | 94577 | \$800,000 | 4 BD - 2,646 SF - 2003 |
| 239 Foothill Boulevard | 94577 | \$503,000 | 2 BD - 864 SF - 1942 |
| 371 MacArthur Blvd | 94577 | \$480,000 | 2 BD - 898 SF - 1917 |
| 13170 Neptune Drive #1 | 94577 | \$550,000 | 4 BD - 2,356 SF - 1997 |
| 295 Oakes Boulevard | 94577 | \$785,000 | 3 BD - 1,418 SF - 1915 |
| 1595 Pierce Avenue | 94577 | \$640,000 | 4 BD - 1,424 SF - 1943 |
| 314 Aloha Drive | 94578 | \$610,000 | 3 BD - 1,078 SF - 1954 |
| 1166 Coburn Court | 94578 | \$510,000 | 3 BD - 1,461 SF - 1977 |
| 16659 Kildare Road | 94578 | \$775,000 | 3 BD - 1,659 SF - 1966 |
| 427 Lloyd Avenue | 94578 | \$540,000 | 3 BD - 1,402 SF - 1952 |
| 3731 Monterey Boulevard | 94578 | \$410,000 | 3 BD - 1,346 SF - 1954 |
| 14636 Saturn Drive | 94578 | \$636,500 | 3 BD - 1,330 SF - 1955 |
| 14912 Saturn Drive | 94578 | \$719,000 | 2 BD - 839 SF - 1954 |

TOTAL SALES: 16

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$410,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$800,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$580,000

AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$609,594

San Lorenzo

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------------|------------------------|
| 131 Loma Verde Drive | 94580 | \$344,000 | 2 BD - 814 SF - 1984 |
| 15627 Ronda Street | 94580 | \$1,060,000 | 8 BD - 3,548 SF - 1964 |
| 1238 Via Dolorosa | 94580 | \$623,000 | 3 BD - 1,239 SF - 1950 |
| 33 Via Hermosa | 94580 | \$630,000 | 3 BD - 1,077 SF - 1951 |

TOTAL SALES: 4

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$344,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,060,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$626,500

AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$664,250



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| 56 | | | | | 57 | | | | 58 | |
| 59 | | | | | 60 | | | | 61 | |

ACROSS

- 1 Speedometer stat
- 4 Puncturing tools
- 8 Into the sunset
- 12 Savings plan acronym
- 13 Biblical boatwright
- 14 Eastern potentate
- 15 Wanting company
- 17 One of the Jackson 5
- 18 Margery of nursery-rhyme fame
- 19 Played aloud, as a TV
- 21 Without a cent
- 24 Winter woe
- 25 Year, in Uruguay
- 26 Snitch
- 28 Square dance group
- 32 Rickey flavoring
- 34 Shrill bark
- 36 Genealogy chart
- 37 Put forth
- 39 Cookie holder
- 41 Coffee vessel
- 42 U.K. flyers
- 44 Burns or Browning
- 46 Serving piece
- 50 Astronaut Grissom
- 51 Floater
- 52 Boring
- 56 Con
- 57 Culture medium
- 58 Scratch
- 59 Uncategorized (abbr.)
- 60 Legislations
- 61 Early bird?

DOWN

- 1 Wire measure
- 2 Expert
- 3 Good-looking
- 4 "Jeopardy!" clue, e.g.
- 5 Court
- 6 Mary's follower
- 7 Ledge
- 8 Diving garb
- 9 Send forth
- 10 Location
- 11 Walked (on)
- 16 Corrode
- 20 Hearty brew
- 21 Hay bundle
- 22 Alternative to Windows
- 23 Rotation duration
- 27 Mahal
- 29 Macabre
- 30 Frau's mate
- 31 Camp shelter
- 33 Unsteady
- 35 Standard
- 38 Highlander's hat
- 40 Astaire's frequent partner
- 43 Of the unborn
- 45 Urban transport
- 46 Pull an all-nighter
- 47 Hindu princess
- 48 Little salamanders
- 49 Latvia's capital
- 53 Uncooked
- 54 Periodical, briefly
- 55 Work measure

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

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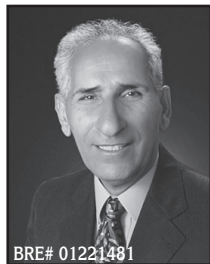
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MOVING SALE 7/22 & 7/23, 8am-3pm. Lot of tools, furniture, housewares, baby stuff, baby/adult clothing. 1041 Dillo Street (off Halcyon) San Leandro.

MULTIFAMILY GARAGE SALE Fri. 7/21, Sat. 7/22 & Sun. 7/23, 10am - 6pm. 426 Bradrick Drive, San Leandro. (see Craigslist)

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Council Making Slight Changes to Tenant Relocation Assistance Program

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The city's ordinance to provide one-time assistance to people who are priced out of their homes has been sent back to committee despite being passed by the majority of the City Council last month.

The ordinance was passed by a 6-1 vote in June. New ordinances are read out at the City Council meeting after they are originally passed. It's usually a routine matter, but at the July 3 meeting, the council sent the ordinance back to the Rules Committee for further consideration.

"The majority of the council still felt there was room for refinement of the ordinance," said Tom Liao, the city's deputy community development director.

"The majority of the council felt there was room for refinement."

— Deputy Community Development Director
Tom Liao

The Rules Committee will once again discuss the proposed "tenant relocation assistance program" at its meeting this Monday morning, July 24 at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall, 835 East 14th Street.

The relocation program al-

lows tenants who are forced out of their homes due to rent increases of 12 percent or more in a year to receive "relocation assistance" in the form of being paid three months rent by their landlords.

Also under the ordinance, households with seniors over the age of 62, children under the age of 18, or someone with a disability would qualify for an extra \$1,000. The relocation assistance would be a maximum amount of \$10,000.

The creation of the ordinance has been going on for more than a year. Tenants say that the ordinance gives landlords a way of paying to get rid of them in order to replace them with tenants paying higher rents, which will enable landlords to easily recoup the costs of the relocation

assistance.

It's unlikely that the ordinance will change dramatically at the Rules Committee meeting but the meeting will include discussion of what to do about landlords who own small 2-to-4 unit complexes, according to Liao.

Originally, small property owners were going to be exempt, but the Rules Committee may word the ordinance so that people who own multiple 2-to-4 unit properties are included in the program.

After the Rules Committee is satisfied with the ordinance, it will return to the full City Council for consideration. Because the City Council is in recess for the month of August, the new ordinance won't be approved until at least September.

Pets of the Week



Yoder



Neko

The Pets of the Week from the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Yoder the dog, and Neko the kitten.

Yoder is a social, 4-year-old pup who loves being petted and getting rump scratches. He loves hanging out with his people. He's okay with kids of all ages.

Neko is a shy kitten who's hoping to find a family who will give him a little extra love to help him blossom into the sweet, playful kitten he truly is.

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

Correction

In the caption under the photo in the *Our Readers Remember* section in the story "Dambley Family Forms Lasting Friendships," (July 13, 2017) the caption should have said the photo was taken on the Castro family's porch, not the Dambley family's.

West Nile: Get mosquitofish for ponds

continued from front page

outdoor activities during this time.

- Defend yourself from mosquito bites by wearing long pants and long-sleeved shirts and apply insect repellent containing EPA-registered active ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

- Door and window screens should be in good repair with no tears or holes.

West Nile virus is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. There is no cure for West Nile virus.

Approximately one in five people who are infected with West Nile virus will develop symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, or rash. Less than one percent will develop a serious neurological illness such as encephalitis or meningitis.

Adults over 50 years old and people with compromised immune systems are at increased risk of serious complications. Anyone who develops symptoms should seek medical care immediately.

Horses are very susceptible to West Nile virus and vaccines are available. Horse owners are

advised to contact their veterinarians regarding timely vaccinations.

For information about mosquitoes, West Nile virus, or to request any of the District services visit www.mosquitoes.org or call 783-7744.

Residents can also request mosquitofish for their fish ponds, horse troughs, or neglected swimming pools at the District office, 23187 Connecticut St. in Hayward.

For information concerning West Nile virus symptoms, prevention or testing, call the Alameda County Public Health Department at 267-8001.



West Nile virus is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Less than one percent will develop a serious neurological illness.

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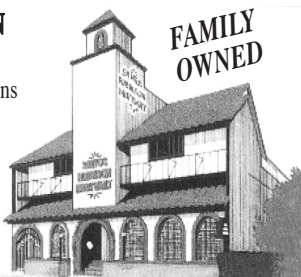
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AMO, Gene D.
HEASLEY, Mable "Mae" A.
TRUJILLO, Angelo Jr.

■ **Gene D. Amo**, a resident of San Leandro, passed away July 12, 2017. Gene's Funeral Liturgy was held on July 19 at St. Leander Church. Burial will take place

tomorrow, July 21, at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, California.

■ **Angelo Trujillo, Jr.** (November 23, 1944 – July 8, 2017), born and raised in San Leandro, and a graduate of San Leandro High School, passed away July 8, 2017. Internment will be on Tuesday, July 25, at 11 a.m. at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward.

Oakland Airport to Repave Main Runway

Oakland International Airport (OAK) announces that it has received \$37 million from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to rehabilitate the Airport's main runway.

The funds come by way of the FAA's Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which allocates federal funding to US airports. Runway 12-30 is OAK's main commercial air carrier runway, and the Airport last completed a runway pavement overlay in 2001. The runway is currently due for a new overlay to provide a safe operating surface for aircraft and to maintain aviation safety standards.

As Runway 12-30 is typically in service 24 hours per day, staff has conducted a planning process with airlines, air carriers, the FAA, and other stakeholders to develop a preferred short-duration, full-closure option to minimize impacts to air carrier operations. A portion of the funding will be used to convert an existing taxiway into a temporary

alternate runway, so that OAK's flight operations are maintained during the Runway 12-30 rehabilitation activities.

"Oakland International is in the midst of strong economic growth, with more destinations than ever in our 90-year history," said Bryant L. Francis, Port of Oakland Director of Aviation. "The upcoming rehabilitation of Runway 12-30 has been a collaborative effort with the FAA and is made possible by this significant grant award and the ongoing support of our congressional delegation. This critical project will ensure our primary air carrier runway remains functional and safe for all users."

In the last six months, OAK has welcomed both British Airways and Level – IAG's legacy and brand new low-cost carriers – and has announced or commenced new flights to Newark, Detroit, Baltimore, Puerto Vallarta and Los Cabos, Mexico; London, Copenhagen, Barcelona, and Rome.

Mable "Mae" A. Heasley

March 13, 1926 – July 14, 2017

Born and raised, and a resident of San Leandro, Mable "Mae" Heasley, the beloved wife of John A. Heasley, Jr. (deceased), is survived by her daughters, Susan Berget (John) of San Leandro, Sheryl Goulart (Anselmo) of Blackhawk and Sandra Nicholson of Tekoa, Washington. She also leaves behind her grandchildren, Patrick E. Berget, Ph.D (Ada), Stephanie Goulart and Troy Nicholson; and 2 great-grandchildren, Natalia and Evan Berget.

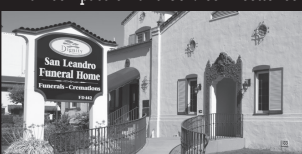
Mae married her high school sweetheart and they were inseparable. She was a homemaker that loved cooking, gardening, entertaining and weekly boating trips to Lake Berryessa. Mae was a very spiritual and positive role model. She was a nurturing person who loved to be surrounded by her family. She especially loved singing with her husband while he played the accordion.

The family will miss her deeply but will hold her memory close in our hearts and minds. Knowing she is at peace and once again with her beloved husband, John, gives us solace.

For information on dates and times of services, call Santos Robinson Mortuary at 510-483-0124.



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OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and **must be under 300 words**. 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.

Thanks from Police Chief Tudor for a Memorable United-4-Safety

Dear residents, business owners, and visitors of the San Leandro Community:

On behalf of the men and women of the San Leandro Police Department, I would like to say thank you to the San Leandro community for making United 4 Safety such a great and memorable event. This letter gives me great pride to express how grateful and appreciative we are to serve this diverse and supportive community.

Every single day members of the San Leandro Police Department respond to numerous emergencies and requests for help. We too often see the worst of our community's problems and Saturday, July 8, 2017 was an opportunity for all of us to engage in a positive environment, get to know one another, and see San Leandro thrive.

We were honored to spend five great hours interacting with you, laughing with you, and listening to you. As I walked around the event, I saw smiling faces, happiness, and observed the start of new relationships and enhanced friendships. At every corner I turned I was impressed by the energy, determination, and understanding which only strengthens our community.

Relationship building is the fundamental principal and is something that we can all participate in to eliminate the negativity and deficiencies that impacts all of us. This past Saturday, I observed the community uniting. Once again, thank you for allowing us to serve and to be a part of your lives.

—Chief Jeff Tudor
San Leandro Police Department

Upset with Opponents of Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council

Editor:

Not long ago I submitted a Letter to the Editor urging the people in unincorporated San Leandro (Ashland), Hayward (Cherryland and Hayward Acres), and San Lorenzo to vote "Yes" on the survey being mailed out by the County Planning Department.

Since that time some of our residents have posted "Vote Yes on EMAC" signs on their front lawns. I am sorry to report that someone has made it their business to trespass onto private property and steal some of these lawn signs.

My list of suspects is a very short one. It's very sad that someone has to resort to this kind of unfair tactic because they fear losing something that they really don't even have: control of the direction and the future of our community.

I believe that if they had been involved in the decade-long process that brought about the proposal of an Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council, they would have joined us in this effort.

This same process enabled the Fairview district to officially get their MAC last week *without* having to take a survey. And since Castro Valley has already had a MAC for 36 years, we are now the *only* unincorporated urban area that does not have one.

Some "big fish in a little pond" are content to maintain the status quo, as ineffective as it has been. The vast ma-

jority is not satisfied with the state of our community. Don't let the fear-mongers derail our chance to have local representation like a city council.

Over 7,000 more surveys are being sent out now because none were sent to apartments, and the Chinese language version had the wrong due date.

If you need a duplicate survey to vote for this, please call 510-670-5400 to get a duplicate. Let's do this!

—Keith Barros
San Lorenzo

City Officials Should Take a Stroll Down East 14th To Davis Street

Editor:

Does O.C. Jones get paid a daily rate per foot of sidewalk and street that is torn up, with a bonus paid for corners that are blocked off?

Why don't the city planners and someone from the Public Works Department take a stroll down East 14th Street to Davis Street to see what a mess pedestrians have to deal with?

I have nothing against development and improvement. However, I am hoping that those responsible can come up with a procedure to complete one project before bringing out the jackhammers to start another.

—Jeff Sturm
San Leandro

Accuses City of Stalling on Tenant Issues

Editor:

A couple of weeks ago the San Leandro Times published an article stating that the City Council had passed the Tenant Relocation Assistance Program (TRAP), which is completely incorrect, but no retraction has been issued. The ordinance is not in effect. The TRAP was brought back to the City Council meeting of July 3, in order to further water down its content.

This ordinance is being taken to the same path of the Rent Review Board ordinance that, when the City Council stopped tinkering with it, it became an useless piece of paper; more than a year was spent in that process. So useless is the Rent Review Board ordinance that the Rent Review Board hasn't held a hearing in quite some time. The tenants know that they can't expect any help from it.

Then, the City Council formed the Rules Committee to discuss the TRAP; the committee held meetings for another year, while the landlords kept on evicting tenants and jacking up the rents. The majority of the Council members are introducing amendments suggested by the landlords; the most servile to these interests are Benny Lee, Lee Thomas and Corina López; there's not even the pretense of impartiality.

The stalling is by design: Almost three years of meetings have discouraged most tenants, who no longer believe that they are going to get any relief from this City Council and, therefore, no longer attend the meetings.

Meanwhile, the landlords come out in force with their lawyers, Rental Housing Association officials and the smaller vultures for dramatics. They are so

emboldened that the real estate mogul, Silva, even threatened the City with a lawsuit if the landlords don't get their way.

The bigger picture here is that we live in a state ruled by the Democratic Party that's not interested in building housing or putting obstacles to the landlords' greed and, least of all, in passing a state-wide Rent Control law: Capital rules.

—Leo T. West, San Leandro

Red-Light Cameras Just send Ticket Revenue Out of Town

Editor:

Does anyone else object to the red-light cameras in San Leandro?

My husband and I were so happy to finally buy a townhouse here and were welcomed about a month later buy a \$500 red-light ticket. Yes, I ran the red light. I was not endangering anyone in any way. I saw the video. I paid the fee.

I emailed the San Leandro City Council and Lee Thomas was the only one who responded and wanted to talk to me and my husband. He agrees that it does not protect anyone or help driving safety. In fact, San Leandro doesn't even get any of the huge amount of generated. Just the other day, my husband and I saw 2 different cars do the same thing I did!

—Kim Loisel
San Leandro

Wants to See Healthier Farm-to-Table Restaurants in San Leandro

Editor:

San Leandro has many great qualities, one of them being the sense of community for students of all ages.

With the amount families present in our community, I feel it is to the benefit of our society that we take measures to encourage living a healthier lifestyle.

One of these ways is through more healthy restaurants in the area. If we had more vegan, gluten-free, and farm to table restaurants along our streets, it would encourage others to get out to eat more at places with food that is nutritious as well as flavorful. If there is not potential of opening new local businesses in the near future, we could start by opening a whole foods or Sprouts or even another health food store that has options for people of all lifestyles.

I have many food allergies that have caused me to live a much healthier lifestyle, starting with my diet. Over the years I have found myself along the journey to good health and I love encouraging others to take the lead to their own health, but it's not as easy as it seems. Taking the lead to our health in San Leandro would be much easier with direct access to healthier foods in our community.

—Christian Paulisich
San Leandro

Calls EBMUD's Water Rate Hike "Outrageous"

Editor:

It is outrageous that the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) board of directors raised the water rate up to 19% when the majority of residents in both Alameda and Contra Costa County are consuming more. For the board to say that they need those rates for other projects is shameful.

They could to find so other ways to get funding instead of punishing the customers for more money. Water is life and it should not have to be for profit.

—Billy Trice Jr.
Oakland

Heart-Broken to Read About Terminally Ill Child in Brit Hospital

Editor:

I was extremely heart-broken to read the article from the Bay Area News Group "Terminally Ill Child at British Hospital."

Baby Charlie, an 11-month-old, son of Chris Gard and Connie Yates, suffers from a genetic disease which damaged his brain and his ability to breathe. He is reported to be in a very critical condition.

This piece of news aroused the attention of the world, including our president and Pope Francis. Both of

them offered to help.

I absolutely agree with Pope Francis' statement that we should respect baby Charlie's parents' rights to treat their son. These rights are protected to varying degrees by the Constitution. On the other hand, the ruling of Britain's Supreme Court to allow baby Charlie to die in his best interest really puzzles me.

Let us pray that our president and Pope Francis would give "hope" to the parents of baby Charlie so that he may receive the most appropriate medicinal care.

—Alfred Kwok
San Leandro

Help Homeless Children with Supplies for School

You can help homeless children strive for a successful school year by donating to Building Futures' annual Back to School Drive through Aug. 14.

Building Futures is collecting school supplies for children in its shelters, housing, and domestic violence outreach and intervention programs.

School supplies are needed for children of all ages, with an emphasis on backpacks. Your generosity will support the children of our community, and equip them with the proper resources they need to get a strong and positive start this school year.

Collection bins are located at the Manor Branch Library (1241 Manor Blvd.), Zocalo Coffeehouse (645 Bancroft Ave.), Floresta Dental (579 Floresta Blvd.), Church of Christ (601 MacArthur Blvd.), and Starbucks (1209 Marina Blvd., #1209).

School supplies can also be taken directly to Building Futures' administrative office, 1395 Bancroft Ave., open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

For more information, contact Kaeleigh Thorp at 357-0205 ext. 205 or kthorp@bfwc.org. To learn more about Building Futures, visit www.bfwc.org.

Lee Thomas Launches 3rd Annual Shoe Drive

City Councilman Lee Thomas and the San Leandro Education Foundation are having the 3rd Annual New Shoes for School Drive through Aug. 6 to collect new shoes and gift cards for the upcoming school year.

Donations can be dropped off in San Leandro during business hours

at the Converse Store, 1247 Marina Blvd.; the Bal Theatre, 14808 East 14th St.; Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Bancroft Ave.; or Gregori Group Real Estate 555 Dutton Ave. For more information, contact Lee Thomas at 577-0603 or LThomas@sanleandro.org.

Last Weekend to Catch Elvis Has Left the Building

The Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, presents the comedy *Elvis Has Left the Building*, through July 23.

Curtin time is 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and twilight matinees on Sundays at 6 p.m. (No show on July 2).

General admission is \$25; admission for seniors (60+) students and military is \$20. On Bargain Night, July 1, all tickets are \$18. For tickets, call SEE-LIVE (733-5483) or go to chanticleers.org for

reservations/tickets.

See Elvis Presley's personal manager, "The Colonel" Tom Parker become frantic as he struggles to pay off a gambling debt to a mobster and Elvis' concert appearance is how he had arranged to pay off his debt and escape harm's way.

Elvis Has Left the Building is a farce/comedy written by Duke Ernsberger and Virginia Cate. Chanticleers Theatre's production is directed by Jacob Russell-Snyder.

Death: OSHA investigating

continued from front page

A call to Alco was referred to the company's in-house counsel and Chief Operating Officer Michael Bercovich, who did not respond by the time the paper went to press on Wednesday. The San Leandro police also did not immediately respond to requests for information about the incident.

Alco was also the scene of an unrelated two-alarm fire on July 11 that prompted a "shelter in place" order by the Alameda County Fire Department for San Leandro residents west of I-880 due to acrid fumes from burning metal on the site. Firefighters remained on the scene of the fire for over 12 hours putting out hotspots.

Learn How County Government Works At Citizens Academy

The Alameda County Citizens Academy is accepting applications for the 2017 class this fall.

The Citizens Academy is a 6-session interactive program that provides insight to county services and operations and offers opportunities for civic engagement in the county.

This will be the 17th year that the county has offered this free program to adults who live, work, or own a business in Alameda County. The Academy will convene for six Wednesday evening sessions, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., between Sept. 20 and Nov. 8.

The Citizens Academy includes tours of key county facilities, demonstrations of specialized equipment and hands-on exercises that illustrate how Alameda County provides vital government services.

Through interactive presentations involving county leaders, the Citizens Academy helps

people learn about the workings of Alameda County and acquire knowledge about how to increase civic involvement.

Participants learn about the wide range of services provided by Alameda County, its mission, and the budget development process.

The sessions allow Academy members to develop their public speaking skills and network with others in the community. The Academy also provides a great opportunity for county officials to hear from the people they serve.

Space is limited. To complete an online application, go to <http://www.acgov.org/academies/citizens/>. The application deadline is August 4.

Selections are made on a first-come, first-served basis, though the location of an applicant's home or workplace may be considered in order to provide countywide representation.



Manor Babe Ruth Wins State Tourney

The Washington Manor Senior Babe Ruth 18u team won the NorCal state championships last week and are heading to the regional tournament in Utah that starts today. Washington Manor is scheduled to play tonight at 7 p.m. at the Babe Ruth League Pacific Southwest Regional Tournament in Taylorsville, Utah. Washington Manor won the state tourney last week by beating teams from Hayward, Oakland, Sacramento and Mountain View.

Volunteer Help Needed At Building Futures

Building Futures, which helps Alameda County residents build a future free of homelessness and family violence, is seeking volunteers for administrative tasks on an occasional basis.

Your help is needed during business hours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Service opportunities are intermittent and scheduled as-needed.

Administrative tasks include assistance with mailings – folding letters, stuffing envelopes, applying postage and address labels, sorting donations, miscellaneous clerical tasks, making phone calls, and data entry.

To volunteer or for more information, email Lorie at lcourtis@bfwc.org or call 924-3092.

Cutter Elected Vice Chair of Mayor's Group

San Leandro Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter was elected Vice Chair of the United States Conference of Mayors – Women's Leadership Alliance.

This unique national caucus was founded in 1983 by then-Mayor Dianne Feinstein of San Francisco, a long-time champion of women's rights.

The Women's Leadership Alliance is dedicated to developing involvement and leadership potential for women mayors within the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM).

In addition to supporting



Mayor Pauline Cutter was elected vice chair of the Conference of Mayors – Women's Leadership Alliance.

women mayors, the Alliance brings women leaders together to magnify their voice within the Conference and create a dialogue regarding policy issues that are of importance to women.

"From equal pay to access to affordable health services, we will work to continue to raise awareness on these very important issues and work for gender equality for the women of tomorrow," noted Mayor Cutter. "And of course, as I undertake the efforts of the Alliance, I am inspired by the example and

ongoing work of one of our nation's great public servants who I am proud to call my senior United States Senator, Dianne Feinstein."

Mayor Marilyn Strickland of Tacoma, Washington is the incoming president but will depart office at the end of this year. The election occurred during USCM's Annual Meeting that took place in Miami Beach from June 23rd to June 26th.

For additional information, please contact Eric Engelbart, Deputy City Manager at ceengelbart@sanleandro.org.

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