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**MILD** Sun shines brightest on Sunday

HIGHS: 62-67


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

LOWS: 40-45


FRIDAY



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



# San Leandro Times

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

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SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

McKinley Elementary School students expressed good wishes last Thursday in front of the school to everyone passing by.

## McKinley Kids Say Howdy

McKinley Elementary School students waved and bid good wishes to passersby last Thursday in front of the school on East 14th Street.

The resource class students in grades kindergarten through fifth held signs and called out a “hello” to everyone going down the street on the final day of the Kindness Project to spread good vibes through the community.

“The students are learning that it makes people feel good and you also feel good

yourself,” said special education teacher Joey Chapman.

The school invited parents and other relatives and a San Leandro police officer who all took part in waving and greeting people passing by.

A grade-schooler sprang forward to retrieve an item a grownup had dropped on the sidewalk.

“You dropped your pen,” he said, holding out the ballpoint pen, and putting to practice the lesson learned.



## Over 500 Kids to Get Bikes on Saturday

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

San Leandro police officer Louie Brandt is helping hundreds of San Leandro kids have a happy holiday season again this year – raising thousands of dollars for the “Bikes for Tykes” program.

Brandt hit the pavement and solicited donations from San Leandro businesses, raising over \$25,000 to buy 520 bikes for the kids in the Davis Street Family Resource Center’s various charitable programs.

So this Saturday, Davis Street’s headquarters on Teagarden Street will look a lot like the North Pole, as volunteers give the bikes out to families just in time for Christmas.

This is Brandt’s ninth year playing “Santa Louie” and he says it’s always gratifying to see the kids get their new toys.

“Everyone is so generous to help make this happen,” said

see *BIKES*, page 5



PHOTO BY AMY SYLVESTRI

Officer Louie Brandt organizes the annual Bikes for Tykes.

## Developer Withdraws Plans For Apartments

Plans for 73-unit building pulled after opposition from Estudillo Estates homeowners

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The developer behind a controversial plan to build a five-story, 73-unit apartment complex on the corner Bancroft and Estudillo avenues has withdrawn his proposal to the city’s planning department.

Tom Silva rescinded his application for the development on Tuesday, according to Tom Liao, the City of San Leandro’s deputy community development director.

Silva purchased the partially-occupied medical office building at 1388 Bancroft Avenue in February of 2016 and proposed building the apartments. He needed approval of the city’s Planning Commission in order to have the parcel rezoned to accommodate 73 units.

Under the current zoning for the 1388 Bancroft Avenue parcel, Silva would be allowed to build up to 31 apartments. While there is no proposal on the table now, some number of apartments will likely be built on the site eventually.

If Silva submits a new proposal to the city with 31 units or fewer, he won’t need approval from the Planning Commission, but he would need to get a conditional use permit for multi-family housing from the city’s Board of

Zoning Adjustments.

Last month, a standing-room-only crowd attended a Planing Commission meeting

see *APARTMENTS*, page 14

## SLZ Schools Looking at Parcel Tax

By Amy Sylvestri  
San Leandro Times

The San Lorenzo Unified School District is considering a parcel tax in the face over \$3 million in budget cuts for the next school year.

It’s early yet, as the San Lorenzo School District Board of Governors has yet to vote on putting the tax on an upcoming ballot. It would likely be on the November 2018 ballot, according to San Lorenzo School District Superintendent Fred Brill.

Brill says they haven’t yet chosen an amount or length for the tax and San Lorenzo is one of three Alameda County school

see *TAX*, page 9

### INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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## MEETING SCHEDULES

### CITY COUNCIL

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

### SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



## Pets of the Week



JuJu



Amos

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are JuJu the kitten and Amos the dog.

**JuJu** is a 7-month-old who likes cat treats and chin scratches. While a bit shy when she first meets you, she quickly warms up with a little TLC, and purrs when you give her behind-the-ear rubs.

**Amos** is a quiet boy, who'd

do best in a relaxing home.

He loves long walks and is still learning new sounds so he sometimes pauses and head tilts at new noises.

Okay with kids 13 years and older.

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



Employees at Unleashed by Petco in San Leandro pose for a photo with Sue Reale, third from left, who wrote the winning essay.

## San Leandro Times

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

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## 'Home for the Holidays' Pet Adoption in Hayward

Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, will host its Home for the Holidays Pet Adoption this Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with cats, kittens, puppies and bunnies.

Free adoptions to all qualified homes, sponsored by Santacon-hayward.com. Includes spay/neu-

ter, vaccinations and microchip.

There will also be a holiday bake sale, and great raffle prizes at this adoption, sponsored by the Hayward Animal Shelter Volunteers.

Photos with Santa are \$10 from noon to 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit the animal shelter and the Cops for Kids Toy drive.



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## Petco Awards Grants For Winning Pet Stories

Each year the Petco Foundation invites people to share their stories about how an adopted pet changed their lives, and a story by a local woman resulted in large grants to a couple of local animal service organizations.

Petco awarded the grants at a ceremony on Nov. 29 at the Unleashed by Petco store on

Lewelling Boulevard, near Bay-

fair in San Leandro.

Petco store employees were on hand as a check for \$50,000

*“My kidney donor saved my live. In turn, we saved the lives of two puppies.”*

— Sue Reale

was handed to the Friends of Oakland Animal Services, and another \$15,000 was given to Cat Town of Oakland, as part of the Petco Foundation's Holiday Wishes campaign.

The Petco Foundation gave the awards based on essays submitted from people who adopted a pet. The winning essay by Sue

Reale told the story about how she adopted her dog Chipper from Oakland Animal Services when she was recovering from kidney transplant surgery.

She named him Chipper because he's such a chipper guy. Her kidney donor also decided to adopt Chipper's sibling at the shelter.

Later, Reale checked with the shelter and found out that both dogs happened to be born on Jan. 12, 2017, the same day she had the transplant surgery.

The winning stories can be read on the Petco Foundation's website: [petcofoundation.org/holidaywishes](http://petcofoundation.org/holidaywishes).

The Petco Foundation invests approximately \$30 million in lifesaving animal welfare organizations each year. Funds are raised \$2, \$5, \$10 at a time online and at checkout in Petco stores.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

## Boat Sinks at Marina

A boat docked at the San Leandro marina sank last Sunday afternoon, according to the Alameda County Fire Department. No one was injured when the 60-foot boat sank and the cause of the incident is still under investigation. The boat leaked diesel fuel and firefighters set up a boom around the vessel to contain the fuel and skimmed the diesel off the water.

## Man Escapes Police Custody, Hit By a Car on I-580 and Recaptured

On Dec. 7, a man escaped from the John George Psychiatric Hospital on Fairmont Drive and allegedly committed a carjacking and assault before Alameda County Sheriff's Deputies were able to get him back into custody.

Dorian Mulder, 24, of San Leandro was in a locked inpatient psychiatric ward when he somehow escaped and went down hill to the nearby Fairmont Hospital where he jumped into a parked car with a 15-year-old sitting in the passenger seat, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the San Leandro police.

Mulder started the car, but the teen tried to stop him and Mulder crashed the car into a garbage truck in the parking lot.

Mulder then fled on foot and approached a senior citizen who was near his car. Mulder fought the man for his keys and bit the man on the arm.

Mulder then fled on foot toward I-580. Deputies searched

the area and located him hiding in a homeless encampment under a freeway overpass.

When the police confronted him, Mulder jumped into traffic and was struck by a car traveling at 65 miles per hour.

"Mulder, amazingly, was thrown into the air but got back up and fled again," Kelly said.

Mulder then ran across the freeway.

Police used a thermal scanner to locate Mulder and found him

hiding in the bushes along the freeway and took him into custody using a police dog.

Mulder suffered a broken arm and other injuries from the collision and is in the hospital.

After he is released, he will be booked into Santa Rita Jail and he faces multiple charges including kidnapping, carjacking and assault, Kelly said.

The victims of Mulder's assaults were treated for their minor injuries.

## Man Arrested for Series Of Car Break-ins at Marina

San Leandro police say a Sacramento man is responsible for a series of auto burglaries at the marina last month.

On Nov. 18, eight parked cars were broken into during the day at the marina. Witnesses reported seeing a suspect smashing windows of cars and taking things from the vehicles. One witness took cell phone photos of the suspect and his getaway car.

On Nov. 20, a car was broken into in the parking lot of the Greenhouse Marketplace and credit cards were stolen.

During the course of both

investigations, the suspect was identified as Jacob Owens, 21, according to Lt. Isaac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

Owens was seen on surveillance footage using the victim's credit card after the burglary at a nearby gas station, Benabou said.

On Dec. 5, Owens and his vehicle were located in Sacramento by police in that city. San Leandro Police detectives went to Sacramento and took custody of Owens.

When arrested, Owens was in possession of multiple burglary tools and stolen items from mul-

tiples cases, Benabou said. Owens subsequently confessed to the detectives regarding the burglaries he committed at the marina and shopping center.

"This is a major bust in a chronic crime occurring at our Marina," said Benabou. "We know that Owens is not solely responsible for all the burglaries that have occurred at the Marina, but he is clearly responsible for many of them."

Owens has been charged with auto burglary and fraud for using a victim's stolen credit card. His next court date is scheduled for Jan. 9.

## Felony Charges in Woman's Death

The Alameda County District Attorney's office has charged the man who crashed his car into a toll booth on the Bay Bridge last week with seven felonies.

Daniel Berk, 32, has been charged with gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated in the Dec. 2 crash which killed Si Si Han, 46, of San Lorenzo. Berk also faces six counts of driving under the influence with a specific allegation of causing great bodily injury to six other people in vehicles involved in the collision.

According to authorities, Berk's license had been suspended in 2012 for failure to appear in court and reinstated just five

months before the fatal crash.

Han was a native of Myanmar who moved to America and

settled in San Lorenzo in 2002.

She was married and mother to a 10-year-old daughter.

## Get a Photo with Santa at The Firehouse on Estudillo

Wear your favorite sweater and visit Santa in San Leandro to help support the Alameda County Firefighters Holiday Toy Drive.

This Tuesday, Dec. 19 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., bring a new, unwrapped toy or gift card valued at \$10 or more, or make a \$10 donation and you will receive a printed photo with Santa on an antique fire engine at Alameda County Firehouse number nine,

450 Estudillo Avenue.

Firefighters will also be sharing holiday fire safety tips and emergency preparedness information and there will be holiday treats including hot chocolate and cookies to enjoy.

All proceeds support the Alameda County Firefighters Holiday Toy Drive which helps grant wishes to children and families in need in San Leandro.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

D	I	A	L	D	E	B	T	H	I	M
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## Photos with Santa

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### Comic & Toy Show:

Saturday, December 16, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Take a photo with costumed Star Wars characters in exchange for a donation to "Be the Match" from 1-4 p.m.

### Holiday Story Time:

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Red Cross Blood Drive:

December 21 & 26 from 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Call 1-800 RED CROSS to schedule an appointment

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\*Performers begin in center court. Some will stroll the center





# NEIGHBORS



Dorothy and Ken Wright celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in November.

## Happy Anniversary Dorothy & Ken Wright

Dorothy and Ken Wright celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently. They were married in Toronto, Canada on Nov. 29, 1957. The couple was blessed with three children and six grandchildren. Their son Larry and his wife Kim live in Mission, B.C.; their daughter Donna and her husband Mark live in Palm Desert, California; and their son Darren and his wife Nancy live in San Ramon, California. Dorothy's brother Bob and his wife Anne were married in December of 1957. So both couples combined have 120 years of marriage. "So," Ken asks, "who says marriages don't last?"

## IN THE SERVICE

U.S. Air Force Airman Zachary S. Mark graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Mark is the son of Nemcy Mark of San Lorenzo. He is a 2016 graduate of Arroyo High School, San Lorenzo.



U.S. Air Force Airman Zachary S. Mark.

### HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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**ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** Start preparing now to make sure you get the credit you're due for all that effort you put in to get that project off the ground. A new challenge emerges after the 15th.

**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** You're still charging full steam ahead on the job — and that's fine. But take time to share the joy of preparing for the upcoming holidays with folks you love.

**GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** A former detractor resists joining your ranks just yet. Give him or her time to learn more about what you're doing. Meanwhile, devote more time to friends and family.

**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** Be careful not to be goaded into a tiff by someone who might be looking for a fight. Remain cool as you make your exit. Be assured that others will rally to your support.

**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Kudos on getting the well-deserved Lion's share of the rewards for a job well-done. Now you can take a breather from your workaday duties and spend time with your family.

**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** You enjoy a quick spurt of renewed energy just in time to meet that upcoming deadline. A potentially romantic situation looms. How it develops will be up to you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Watch out for distractions that could cause delays and leave you running twice as fast to finish your work by the 15th. Then go ahead and have fun.

**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** You might prefer to work on current tasks on your own. But be open to a potentially useful suggestion from someone who admires you and wants to help.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** Avoid rushing full gallop into that volunteer project without knowing what's expected of you. Take things a step at a time as you begin to find your way.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Good news: You should begin to feel more comfortable expressing your emotions. This will go a long way in helping you with that personal situation.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** An old friend gives confusing signals. Best advice: Don't assume that things will necessarily work themselves out. Ask questions and demand straight answers.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** A new relationship needs time to develop. Be careful not to let your emotions flood your natural sense of caution. Meanwhile, check out that new job offer.

## WATCH BATTERIES DONE RIGHT

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

❖ **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.

❖ **Holiday Open House at Casa Peralta**  
Everyone is welcome to attend a free merry and traditional holiday celebration at the Casa Peralta, 384 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro on Saturday, Dec. 16., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The historic Casa will be will be decked with holiday décor. There will be plenty of cookies, music, hot chocolate, and other treats to share with family and friends. Docents will be available to share the Casa's history. The San Leandro History Museum next door will also offer free holiday craft making and a showing of the films *The Muppets Christmas Carol* at 11:30 a.m. and *A Christmas Carol* at 2 p.m.

❖ **Christmas lunch**  
The International Christian Center, 562 Lewelling Blvd. in San Leandro, will host a free Christmas lunch, including a raffle and a toy and coat giveaway, on Saturday, Dec. 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

❖ **Christmas in Oz Chanticleers Theatre**  
The East Bay Children's Theatre and Chanticleers Theatre are pleased to announce *Christmas in Oz*, through Dec. 17, at Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Avenue in Castro Valley. Book, music and lyrics by Ron Lytle. It's Christmastime again and somewhere in Kansas, Dorothy is lonely for her friends back in Oz. So with the help of kindly Mister Tinker, she builds a magical wish machine and returns to the Emerald City. But the holly is quickly stripped off when a sassy sorceress named Nefariosa kidnaps Santa Claus. Performances are on Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 7 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$20 for students and seniors over 60. For more information, call 733-5483.

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

❖ **Holiday Concert at Morrisson Theatre**  
The Morrisson Theatre Chorus, under the musical direction of César Cancino, will present its Holiday Concert, *Special Songs for a Special Time of the Year*, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec 21, 22 and 23 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 24 at 1 p.m. at the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward. The concert will feature a

selection of classical sacred works, popular holiday songs and jazz, as well as audience sing-a-long pieces. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for under 30/over 60 and \$12 for youth/student. For tickets, go to [www.dmtonline.org](http://www.dmtonline.org) or call the box office at 881-6777. The box office is open Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

❖ **Christmas Concert and Dinner**  
Badarikashrama, 15602 Maubert Ave. in San Leandro, will host a free Christmas Concert and an International Vegetarian Dinner on Monday, Dec. 25, at 3 p.m. Items from many cuisines and vegan items. All are welcome. Reservations suggested, but no one turned away. For more information, call 278-2444.

❖ **I.D.E.S. of Alvarado St. Crab Feed**  
I.D.E.S. of St. John will have its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., the raffle at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$25 for persons under 12. Dinner will include hot and cold crab, pasta, salad, garlic bread and desert. For tickets call, Willie Calvo at 207-6326, John Santos at 992-9985, and Frances Leite at 886-1568. The door prize is a 32 inch flat screen TV.

❖ **Lego Brickshow at Principled Academy**  
See a giant Lego display at the Lego Brickshow 2017 through Jan. 7 at the Principled Academy, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro, on the second floor. The display is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Cost is \$2. All proceeds go to The Principled Academy 7th and 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.

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

❖ **Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge Crab Feed**  
Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge 6-61 presents its annual crab feed on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 1808 B St. in Hayward. No host bar and raffle begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., raffle at 8:30 p.m. Early bird payment must be postmarked by Dec. 16. Make checks payable to Sons of Norway and send to Aunda Arndt, 1016 Apache St., Livermore, CA 94551. Cost is \$50 for Adults, \$17 for children 12 and under. For more information, email [aja469@hotmail.com](mailto:aja469@hotmail.com) or call 925-548-0292.

❖ **San Leandro Art Association Exhibit**  
Original paintings by The San Leandro Art Association artists are on display and available for sale through Feb. 8 at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13900 East 14th St., in the three activity rooms and in the hall lobby.

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



## Bikes: Kiwanis Club supplies bicycle helmets

continued from front page

Brandt. "When you see the looks on their kids' faces it's worth all the effort."

Davis Street program coordinator Kristal Gonzalez agrees. She organizes the lottery that selects which kids are lucky enough to get a bike. Over 1,600 children are enrolled in Davis Street's programs.

"It's a lot of work, coordinating who gets what bike, the ages of the kids and all that, but it's great when it all comes together," said Gonzalez.

Just getting the bikes from Walmart where they were purchased and assembled to Davis Street is a big group effort.

On Wednesday morning Brandt, a few fellow San Leandro police officers, and other volunteers piled hundreds of bikes into a moving van to bring them over to Davis Street.

One such "elf" was Kiwanis member Bob Fairbach, who at age 81 still wasn't afraid to haul bikes two at a time into the truck. The Kiwanis Club of San Leandro chipped in \$4,000 so every kid who gets a bike will also have a helmet.

"The outpouring of support is



PHOTO BY AMY SYLVESTRI

**Volunteers from the Kiwanis Club, Davis Street Family Resource Center, and the San Leandro police loaded up a truck with hundreds of bicycles for the annual Bikes for Tykes giveaway. Volunteers are wanted to distribute the bikes this Saturday morning.**

amazing every year," said Brandt. "Everyone wants to help and it really is a community effort."

The bikes will be picked up

this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and if you want to volunteer to help hand out the bikes, just show up at Davis Street.

Davis Street is still accepting donations for their toy drive and turkeys and other food for their holiday basket program.

You can drop off toys at the Davis Street Family Resource Center at 3081 Teagarden Street or visit [www.davisstreet.org](http://www.davisstreet.org) for more information.

## Building Futures Asking for Gifts for Families in Shelters

Help Building Futures make this winter special for individuals and families re-gaining their lives after homelessness and family violence.

Building Futures' annual Holiday Drive provides new gifts for the women and children living at the San Leandro Shelter, Sister Me Home Domestic Violence Safe House, Midway Shelter, Bessie Coleman Court, as well as the women, men, and families served through its housing assistance programs and domestic violence intervention services.

Contributions directly benefit community members in crisis. Your generosity and kindness will help support over 300 children and adults.

Items needed for children include pajamas, slippers, educational toys, and multi-racial dolls and action figures. For teens, Building Futures seeks art supplies, sports equipment, and gift cards (\$25 or less) to retailers like Target, Old Navy, Walmart, or for activities like the Alameda Theatre, Century and Regal Theatres.

For our adult clients, pa-

jamas, slippers, bath and body kits, and gift cards to retailers like Safeway, FoodMaxx, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, and gas stations are needed. For all clients, the most needed items are new socks, bras, and underwear of all sizes.

Please bring unwrapped gifts before Dec. 15 to Building Futures' office, 1395 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, email Kaeleigh Thorp at [KThorp@bfwc.org](mailto:KThorp@bfwc.org), or call 510-357-0205 ext. 205.

Looking to make a tax-deductible monetary gift? Please mail or bring to 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. Donors may also make secure online gifts at [www.bfwc.org](http://www.bfwc.org).

With the help of the community, Building Futures helps individuals and families rebuild their lives after homelessness and family violence, through emergency shelters, housing programs, and domestic violence intervention and education. Building Futures website is: [www.bfwc.org](http://www.bfwc.org).

## Holiday Open House at Casa Peralta

Everyone is welcome to attend a free merry and traditional holiday celebration at the Casa Peralta, 384 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro on Saturday, Dec. 16., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The historic Casa will be well be decked with holiday décor.

There will be plenty of cookies, music, hot chocolate, and other treats to share with family and friends. Experience a fascinating part of San Leandro history, the world of the Peralta land grant family, and their descendants.

Docents will be available to

share the Casa's history.

The San Leandro History Museum next door will also offer free holiday craft making and a showing of the films *The Muppets Christmas Carol* (11:30 a.m.) and *A Christmas Carol* (2 p.m.).



## Holiday Food Drive for Local Families

The Lovewell Team with Re/Max Accord will be gathering up food again this year in partnership with the Alameda County Food Bank, to aid those in need. Lovewell team members have distributed 1,000 Food bags to the Bonaire area in San Leandro for its second annual food drive, and will be going back on Saturday, Dec. 16, at 8 a.m. to pick up bags in the Bonaire area. The Lovewell Team are also inviting residents that miss the pickup to drop off food (canned food, non-perishables) to its Castro Valley Office at 3327 Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley throughout the month of December, or call 351-5555 and they can pick it up.

San Leandro Times

PRESENTS

# The Senior Guide



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## AUTOMOTIVE

## Toyota C-HR Raises the Fun Factor

By Steve Schaefer  
San Leandro Times

**R**emember Scion? The junior, fun brand in the Toyota family was supposed to be where young people made their connection with Toyota. It was born because back in 2003, some folks at Toyota believed that the youth of America saw Toyota was too old and stodgy.

In 2017, Scion is gone. The brand died when it received too little exciting new product, and, more importantly, when Toyota's leadership figured out that young people were buying Toyotas after all.

You can acquire three former Scions rebadged as Toyotas—the Corolla iM, Mazda-sourced Yaris iA, and 86 sports coupe (formerly FR-S). And the car that was originally meant to be the new Scion compact crossover has become the Toyota C-HR.

The design theme is called “Distinctive Diamond,” and in-

deed there are many edges and surfaces all over the multifaceted body, especially looking at the side profile. Numerous diamond shapes appear inside the car, too, on the dual-zone climate controls, speaker surrounds, and the black headliner. However, the overall effect of the body design is more stimulating to the eye than the more restrained interior.

Standard features include a leather-wrapped steering wheel, electric parking brake (takes up less room), and “Sport Fabric-trimmed” bucket seats with “sport bolsters,” which are adjustable six ways.

This “urban-dwelling crossover” borrows some of the street style of the Nissan Juke, which is itself slated for an update, having spent the last several years shaking up traditional car design. C-HR stands for “Coupe-High Rider.” Make of that what you will.

My sample vehicle sported the two-tone paint you get when you order the R-Code option. The Radiant Green color, mixed with

Iceberg (white) on the roof and mirrors, keeps things lively, and is only available as a two-tone.

My tester was the XLE model. There's also a Premium version that gets additional safety and styling updates, along with illuminated vanity mirrors and more seat adjustment choices. You enjoy the safety of Blind Spot Monitor and Rear Cross Traffic Alert, two features that are increasingly available standard on modern cars. In the Premium version the front seats are power adjustable and heated, and you get smart key with push-button start.

Whichever model you pick, it's a 3,300-pound car motivated by a 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine driving the front wheels. It churns out 144 horsepower and 139 lb.-ft. of torque through a continuously-variable transmission (CVT). CVTs aren't designed for sportiness, but this one, called a CVT-i-S, lets you select Sport mode and use paddle shifters to pick seven pre-selected “ratios.” That mitigates some of the oddness of the CVT sound, as it searches for the ideal ratio, but it may lower the efficiency. At least it's more fun.

EPA numbers are 27 City, 31 Highway, and 29 Combined. I accumulated 26.3 mpg. Green scores are only a 3 for Smog and a better 6 for Greenhouse Gas.

The C-HR receives two Toyota-first features: Driver Distraction Secure Audio and Brake Hold Function. The first limits the menus you can view on the screen while moving, complying with driver distraction guidelines issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).



The all-new 2018 Toyota C-HR represents a leap forward in design, manufacturing and engineering for Toyota.

Brake Hold keeps the brakes on slightly when the car is still, even if you reduce pressure on the pedal. That keeps you from rolling inadvertently, I guess. A full-electric car can do that already.

The C-HR is not big, but with a rear hatch and 36.4 cubic feet of cargo room with the split rear seats folded, you can do a lot with it.

The driving experience is what you'd hope for and expect from a smaller, tauter vehicle. I wouldn't call it memorable, but it is based on the new TNGA C platform. This fresh chassis design combines a low center of gravity with high strength and low weight, so it makes for a better handling car. In fact, Toyota tested this car on the famous Nürburgring Nordschleife, where companies take their supercars. No information on its score, but it does give the C-HR some bragging rights.

Things like variable electronic power steering can make a dif-



The diamond pattern influences the designs of the climate controls, speaker surrounds and black headliner.

ference. It changes the amount of assist depending on your speed, so you can park easily while getting more feedback out on the highway. A new double-wishbone, multi-link rear suspension isn't the kind of thing you'd necessarily find on such an affordable car.

Pricing starts at \$23,460 for the XLE and jumps to \$25,310 for the Premium. My XLE tester ran \$24,969 with a few options, including the two-tone paint.

The would-be Scion C-HR is aimed at customers who want to have fun, stand out a bit in traffic, and don't have lots of money to spend. That means the car is playing its role now, regardless of the brand or the badge it wears.

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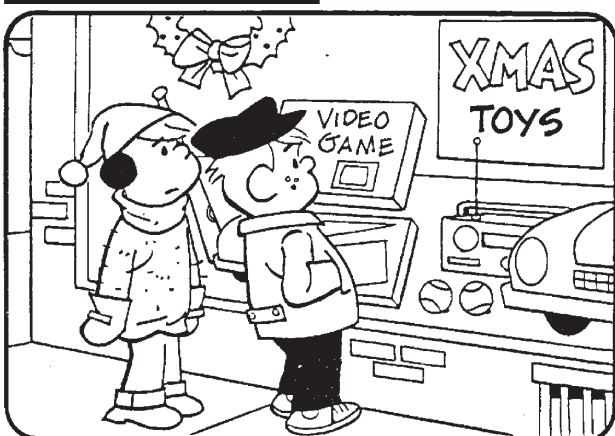
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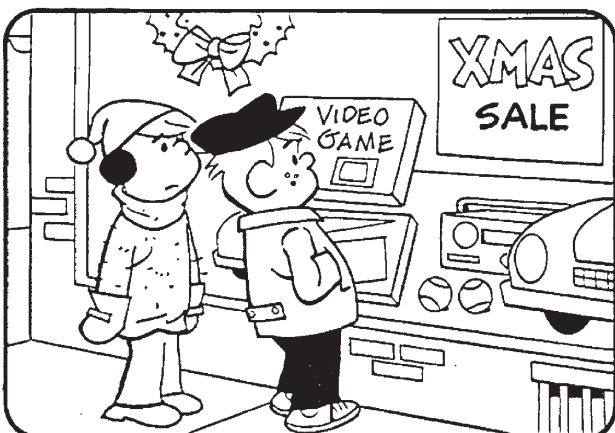


## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Tassel is shorter. 2. Curts are missing. 3. Baseball bat is missing. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Sign is different. 6. Antenna is missing. 7. Sunshade. 8. Palletes.

## FRUIT MARKET



OUR CIRCUS MONKEY finds gold at the fruit market! Can you correctly count all of the bananas pictured above? You have 30 seconds.

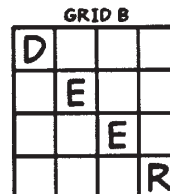
Answer: 58 bananas (did you count the one in his hand?)

FIND THE HIDDEN CITY in this man's sentence! (You'll also find it in Spain and Ohio.)

Answer: Toledo ... Tonto led o only ...

THEY WORK ONE DAY A YEAR FOR SANTA! To the right 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. Get data from disk.
2. Animal homes.
3. To eliminate; delete.
4. To gain from work.
1. To confront boldly.
2. To dispatch.
3. Your usual food and drink.
4. Just barely avoided.



Answers: 1. Read-dare. 2. Dens-sand. 3. Edit-diet. 4. Eam-near.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

1.	B					S
2.		I				R
3.			G		E	
4.				W	L	
5.				Z	O	
6.			Z		R	
7.		U				D
8.	P					S

Illustrated by David Coulson

### FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework picture on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

#### DEFINITION:

1. Where the gunfighters hide.
2. Modern jazz devotees
3. A quarrel or dispute
4. Without imperfection.
5. Loudly proclaimed
6. North American vultures
7. Awning or billed cap
8. Handy paint holders

#### ANAGRAM:

- sand + bald  
rest + ship  
gram + tune  
saws+ fell  
laze + bond  
razz + buds  
dune + sash  
lest + tape

Answers: 1. Badlands 2. Hipsters 3. Argument 4. Flawless 5. Blazoned 6. Buzzards 7. Sunshade 8. Palletes.



# HEALTH & FITNESS

## Flu Vaccinations: Though Effectiveness May be Down CDC Says Get Your Shot

While this year's flu vaccine may not be as effective as in years past, the federal Centers for Disease Control recommends that most people should get a flu shot now if they haven't already gotten one this season.

Even an imperfect vaccine can help prevent or lessen the severity of illness, according to the CDC.

How well the vaccine works can depend in part on the match between the vaccine virus used to produce the vaccine and the circulating viruses that season. It's not possible to predict what viruses will be most predominant during the upcoming season.

While vaccine effectiveness can vary, recent studies show vaccine reduces the risk of flu illness by about 40% to 60% among the overall population during seasons when most circulating flu viruses are like the vaccine viruses.

Flu vaccination has important benefits, according to the CDC. It can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations.



cination, or vaccination with a particular vaccine, include a person's age, health (current and past) and any relevant allergies.

Flu shots are approved for use in pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions. There are flu shots that also are approved for use in people as young as 6 months of age and up.

The CDC recommends use of the flu shot (inactivated influenza vaccine or IIV) and the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). The nasal spray flu vaccine should not be used during 2017-2018.

### People who cannot get a flu shot:

- Children under the age of 6 months old
- People with severe, life-threatening allergies to flu vaccine or any of its ingredients

### People who should talk to their doctor before getting the flu shot:

- People who have an allergy to eggs or other vaccine ingredients
- People who have ever had Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)
- People who are feeling ill.

—Centers for Disease Control

Except for those listed below, everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season. Vaccination to prevent influenza is particularly important for people who are at high risk of serious complications from influenza.

Different flu vaccines are approved for use in different groups of people. Factors that can determine a person's suitability for vac-



## A Great Meal Is About How You Eat – Not What You Eat

By Jane Bernard  
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

A great meal is less about what you eat than how you eat it – it's something I call "intuitive eating" that's aimed at improving every dining experience – and making for a healthier diet along the way.

It's simple. Focus on one meal at a time to get the most pleasure and nutrition from your food. Notice what you see, smell and taste. Check in with your body to see if you're really hungry.

Although you might find yourself shedding a few pounds, intuitive eating isn't necessarily about losing weight. It's about getting more pleasure out of your meals – and getting more pleasure from the people you have meals with.

Here are a few exercises that can help turn you into an intuitive eater:

- Smell food before putting it in your mouth. Nearly everyone has memories tied to the aroma of food. Does it smell inviting? Greasy? Fresh? Bad?

If the food doesn't smell right, it isn't. Let your nose protect you and help guide choices.

- Taste food as you chew. Too often people don't really take time to enjoy the taste. They wolf down their food so they can move on to whatever is next on their agenda.

Tasting food helps your body relax and digest more efficiently, and it's good for overall health.

- Be thankful for your meal. Your body will relax and you will get more nourishment.

- Give your stomach time to inform your brain. It takes 15 minutes before your brain gets the message that you've eaten.

That's no doubt one reason people over eat. They don't give their body time to get the message that

they are getting full before gulping down even more food. Take time to have conversations when you eat and you will eat less – and enjoy the meal more.

Eating is a necessity of life, but there's no need to rush things. Eat just enough to feel good and trust that hunger will return and another meal will be found.

## Health Spotlight: Juvenile Batten Disease

The calendar features entire weeks, or even months, that draw attention to diseases such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease.

But comparatively little notice is paid to juvenile Batten disease, a rare, fatal, inherited neurological disorder.

That may be about to change.

"Families of children with juvenile Batten disease are working tirelessly to let everyone know how devastating this disease can be and to help raise money to find a cure," says Mary Beth Kiser, president and CEO of the Beyond Batten Disease Foundation ([www.beyondbatten.org](http://www.beyondbatten.org)), a non-profit that is one of the leaders in that effort.

"Most Americans probably never heard of juvenile Batten disease. But for the families who face it, it is devastating."

Children with the incurable disease usually start to show symptoms between ages 5 and 10. They suffer progressive vision loss, commonly followed within a couple of years by seizures and, as time passes, the loss of motor functions and speech. Psychosis can appear at any time in the disease.

The children can expect to die prematurely, usually in their late teens or early 20s.

Here are just a few facts about juvenile Batten:

- There is more than one form of Batten. Juvenile Batten is just one form of the disease. Two other classic forms are infantile and late infantile.

Infantile Batten shows up around 12 months. Children die around age 4. Children with late infantile Batten begin showing symptoms about age 4. They typically die when they are about 8 to 10 years old.

Adult Batten shows up when

people are 25 to 43 years old. Those with adult Batten have a normal life span. The various forms of the disease occur in about two to four out of every 100,000 live births in the United States.

- How it is treated. No specific treatment is known that can halt or reverse the symptoms of any form of Batten disease. However, seizures can sometimes be reduced or controlled with anticonvulsant drugs, and psychiatric and motor problems can be managed with medication as they arise. Physical therapy and occupational therapy may help patients retain motor functioning as long as possible.

- Research and the quest for a cure. Medical researchers are hard at work seeking a cure. In the

meantime, progress is being made on research into a treatment that would slow the progress of the disease, buying time for juvenile Batten patients until that cure is found.

Kiser says the foundation is involved in a massive fund-raising effort to help hurry along the research for that treatment by getting it through an expensive validation and development process so that it can receive FDA approval for clinical trials.

"The families of children with juvenile Batten are determined to fight back against this disease and to bring awareness to the effort to find a cure," Kiser says. "But for each of these families, it's a battle with a deadline. They don't have much time."

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# Tax: District needs to see governor's state budget before deciding

continued from front page  
districts which don't currently have a parcel tax.

San Lorenzo is looking to find funding in some way or another, said Brill.

At a school board meeting next week, the task force will make its recommendations about where to cut.

Brill blames the state budget for letting down students.

"It is tragic that California is the sixth largest economy in the world, and yet we are 42nd in per student public funding, compared to other states in the country," said Brill.

According to the National Education Association, California ranks 22nd in spending per student.

But Brill and others in education use figures which are adjusted for the cost of living in each state. The California Budget and Policy Center ranks California 42nd in per students spending when cost of living adjustments are made.

Governor Jerry Brown must

present a budget proposal in January which will let local school districts have a better idea about their budget for next year. After

**“Our students deserve a world class education.”**

— San Lorenzo School District Superintendent Fred Brill

that preliminary state budget is posted, the individual districts will make their decisions.

"Hopefully that brings some good news," said Brill. "Our students deserve a world class education."

Brill says that despite the reserves, the district is currently about to be in deficit spending and will need to make reductions in the next school year.

The district budget for this school year is \$120 million and they expect \$125 million in expenditures, due to declining enrollment numbers as well as increases pension costs.

Brill said that if cuts aren't made, up to \$5 million the district currently has in reserves will be eliminated in 2018-2019 and things will get worse each year thereafter. They don't want to make big cuts all at once, so they created the 24-member budget task force including administrators, students, parents, teachers, and other concerned parties to make smaller cuts.

The San Lorenzo Budget Task Force will present its priority cut list to the Board of Education at a special meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. at the district office, 15510 Usher St. in San Lorenzo. The school board will make their final decision on reductions in January.



TIMES FILE PHOTO

The San Lorenzo school board will meet on Tuesday to discuss next year's budget. A 24-member budget task force will present their list of recommendations about possible cuts on Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. at the district office, 15510 Usher Street in San Leandro.

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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



### Lack of Inventory Reverses Holiday Norms

Heading into the Holiday Season, we are seeing a pattern develop that is quite unusual for this time of year.

Normally, buyer activities slow mid-December as everyone begins focusing on family, friends and holiday festivities. Some sellers, aware of holiday patterns, choose to wait to list homes until January. Others with homes currently on the market make their homes temporarily unavailable, thinking no one will be out looking for new digs at this time of the year.

While it's true some sellers don't want their homes invaded once

presents start piling up around the tree, those assuming buyers have stopped looking would be wrong this year.

A perfect storm of events has kept the market sizzling — I personally know many buyers out looking now.

There are several reasons buyers are still actively searching.

First, with continuing record-low inventory numbers, a substantial group have been trying for months to nail down homes with no success. Desperate to get properties of their own, they do not care that it is the holiday season.

Spurred on by historical statistics showing fewer buyers and lower prices in December, they are out looking hoping that the odds might finally tip in their favor.

A second group are looking for homes to purchase and convert to rentals to meet needs emerging from the fire-related home losses in Sonoma and Napa Counties.

With an extreme shortage of rentals in the fire-ravaged areas, rent prices are rocketing skywards. Some fire victims, discovering they cannot secure rentals in the northern counties because of a lack of available units or rents higher than their insurance allowances, are looking here in the Bay Area.

As sellers keep their homes off the market during December, it further depletes the available housing supply. It is not the only reason for low inventory, however.

First, during the economic collapse, builders stopped building, resulting in a dramatic 5-year gap in the housing supply line. Second, it is almost impossible for sellers to move up because of the inability to find replacement homes at reasonable prices. Third, some sellers have decided to sit tight as their equity surges upward.

Consequently, we are seeing higher-than-average numbers of buyers at a time when inventory is lower-than-average.

The result? Sellers active NOW are reaping huge rewards. Since inventory normally jumps in January, you might consider getting a holiday bonus ... by hitting the market NOW.

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.

Call for a private appointment!

**Dave Adams**  
510-637-8136

dave@daveCadams.com  
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510 W Merle Court, San Leandro • \$583,000

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The holidays are upon us, but before you know it Spring will be here!  
If you, or someone you know, is considering selling their home,  
now is the time to start planning. Give us a call!

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## Decorate for Christmas Safely

This is the time of the year when people are decorating their homes and businesses for the holiday season.

While holiday lighting truly adds to the season, it can also significantly increase the potential for fire risk, injury and electric shock if the proper precautions aren't followed while decorating.

Adding to possible safety risks, older, non-energy-efficient lighting can severely impact customers' power bills.

To ensure that customers remain safe throughout the holiday, PG&E offers the following safety tips that customers can use as they decorate for the season:

#### • Use LED Holiday Lights

• Light-Emitting Diode (LED) lights consume 75 percent less energy than traditional incandescent lights, helping customers save money on their power bills during the holiday season.

• LED lights produce almost no heat, making them safe to touch,



**Check all light strands for cracked or broken plugs, frayed insulation or bare wires.**

greatly reducing the risk of fire.

• LED lights are also break resistant and shock resistant.

#### • Avoid Electric Hazards

• Look up and live! Before climbing ladders to string outdoor lights, check for overhead power lines nearby.

Be especially aware of lines over your roof and lines attached to your home. Look up before raising ladders and other tall objects.

Keep at least 10 feet away from overhead lines at all times.

• Never place yourself or any object such as a string of lights in a position that risks contact with a power line—the result can be fatal.

• Before stringing lights on outdoor trees, make sure tree limbs haven't grown into or near power lines. Branches, entire trees and even the ground adjacent to a tree can become energized when trees contact power lines.

#### • Prevent Fire Hazards

• Avoid overloading extension cords and wall sockets by follow the manufacturer's limits for the number of light strings that can be safely connected together.

• Check all light strands for cracked or broken plugs, frayed insulation or bare wires. Worn cords can cause fires, so discard damaged sets of lights.

• Don't place cords under rugs, furniture or other appliances. If covered, cords can overheat or become frayed, increasing the risk of fire

• Always turn off decorative lights — indoors and outdoors — when leaving the house and before going to bed

• Do not place your holiday tree near a heat source such as a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, making it more susceptible to fires caused by heat, flame or sparks.

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**Rj**



Matt Jones



John Chovanes



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# Transplant Roses Now, They Can Take It

By Buzz Bertolero  
The Dirt Gardener

**Q** Is this a good time to transplant several mature hybrid tea roses from one area of my garden to another? Should it be done before or after they've been pruned or does it matter? Also, can I plant new roses in the same spot?

**A** Most gardening books recommend transplanting roses while they are dormant; however, with our mild temperatures, roses never go completely dormant. It is also not unusual for them to have buds and blooms, although the foliage looks crummy.

The ideal window to relocate or transplant roses, along with other landscape shrubs and conifers, is from Thanksgiving through mid-March. Typically, most gardeners wait until after the holidays to transplant.

You can prune before or after as it doesn't matter. I'd prefer to prune them back first, so there are fewer branches and thorns to get in the way by reducing the height and sides.

Roses have an extensive spreading root system, so you're going to leave some behind so that you may bare root the plants.

The lack of soil now is not a problem because of the cool conditions.

You can also spread this task over several days or weekends. Once out of the ground, you can store them above the ground by covering them with a tarp or plant them in temporary containers. Roses survive beautifully after being treated roughly.

When you're ready to replant, avoid a common mistake of planting them too deep. The top of the first root should be at or near the soil surface. All too often, the bushes are planted up to the bud union. The bud union is the area where the desirable rose variety is budded to the



The ideal time to relocate or transplant roses is from Thanksgiving through mid-March. Most gardeners wait until after the holidays.

rootstock, and that should be above ground.

The distance between the roots and the bud union varies greatly with each bush.

Problems can develop from the poor drainage from our clay soils and the constant moisture from frequent waterings.

I'm not aware of any issues that would prevent you from planting a new rose in the old location(s). The new roses for 2018, along with many of your old favorites, will arrive at your favorite garden center later this month.

**Q** This summer, I planted three large Coleus plants in pots in partial shade. Should I take them inside for the winter, or will they survive outside?

**A** Coleus is one of those plants that adapt to indoor and outdoor conditions. They will survive the winter outside as long as the temperatures stay above 40°F. However, they grow best indoors in a room with lots of direct or indirect light.



To be on the safe side, I'd move them indoors now and then back outdoors in early March after the danger of frost has passed. At that time, I'd prune off 50 percent of the growth and fertilize with Osmocote or other similar time-released fertilizer to encourage lateral growth.

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



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BRE# 01221481

## RECENT HOME SALES

### San Leandro

351 Accolade Drive	94577: \$650,000	3 BD - 1,460 SF - 2002
1233 Aileen Street	94577: \$578,500	3 BD - 1,135 SF - 1943
935 Begier Avenue	94577: \$800,000	2 BD - 1,738 SF - 1938
713 Callaway Street	94577: \$805,000	4 BD - 2,646 SF - 2004
1132 Carpentier Street	94577: \$217,000	2 BD - 1,182 SF - 1983
905 Frederick Road	94577: \$479,500	3 BD - 933 SF - 1942
840 Glen Drive	94577: \$700,000	4 BD - 1,797 SF - 1957
1468 Jean Way	94577: \$450,000	2 BD - 840 SF - 1942
276 Joaquin Avenue	94577: \$599,000	3 BD - 1,330 SF - 1924
436 Lewis Avenue	94577: \$200,000	2 BD - 798 SF - 1923
3881 Carmel Way	94578: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,096 SF - 1923
14978 Fjord Street	94578: \$472,000	N/A BD - 1,608 SF - 1978
16931 Los Reyes Ave	94578: \$585,000	4 BD - 1,506 SF - 1945
16011 Maubert Avenue	94578: \$1,730,000	11 BD - 4,413 SF - 1953
458 Olive Street	94580: \$540,000	3 BD - 1,168 SF - 1947
14857 Sylvia Way	94578: \$345,000	3 BD - 1,393 SF - 1946
15679 Anchorage Drive	94579: \$680,000	5 BD - 2,251 SF - 1998
15212 Farnsworth Street	94579: \$658,000	2 BD - 1,594 SF - 1950

**TOTAL SALES:** 18  
**LOWEST AMOUNT:** \$200,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$592,000  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT:** \$1,730,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$616,056

### San Lorenzo

988 Ferro Drive	94580: \$725,000	4 BD - 1,722 SF - 2000
15951 St. Johns Drive	94580: \$565,000	3 BD - 1,164 SF - 1954
17476 Via Estrella	94580: \$570,000	2 BD - 837 SF - 1948
17482 Via Melina	94580: \$525,000	3 BD - 1,031 SF - 1952
17246 Via San Ardo	94580: \$600,000	3 BD - 1,031 SF - 1950
1794 Via Sarita	94580: \$660,000	3 BD - 1,335 SF - 1952

**TOTAL SALES:** 6  
**LOWEST AMOUNT:** \$525,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$585,000  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT:** \$725,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$607,500

### Castro Valley

2459 Irma Way	94546: \$780,000	3 BD - 1,292 SF - 1952
18106 Vineyard Road	94546: \$835,000	3 BD - 2,400 SF - 1972
23010 Canyon Terrace Dr	94552: \$705,000	4 BD - 1,463 SF - 1996
17476 Columbia Drive	94552: \$938,000	3 BD - 2,006 SF - 1986

**TOTAL SALES:** 4  
**LOWEST AMOUNT:** \$705,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$807,500  
**HIGHEST AMOUNT:** \$938,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$814,500

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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47				48						
49				50				51		

### ACROSS

- 1 Piece of beefcake?
- 5 Chevy Equinox, for one
- 8 Competent
- 12 Stretch out
- 14 Hoofbeat sound
- 15 News correspondent
- 16 Golf target
- 17 Air safety org.
- 18 Big drip?
- 20 Get more magazines
- 23 In the twinkling \_\_\_ eye
- 24 Chopped
- 25 One with an exciting social life
- 28 "Absolutely"
- 29 Sand formations
- 30 Homer's interjection
- 32 Wasp's weapon
- 34 Culture medium
- 35 Jaromir of hockey
- 36 Odds' opposites
- 37 Fluffy dessert
- 40 "Hail!"
- 41 Mischievous tykes
- 42 TV host Jerry
- 47 Apportion (out)
- 48 Follow too closely
- 49 Organic compound
- 50 Hot tub
- 51 "Zounds!"

### DOWN

- 1 "For \_\_\_ a Jolly Good Fellow"
- 2 Last (Abbr.)
- 3 Neither partner
- 4 Stabbed
- 5 Long story
- 6 Salt Lake athlete
- 7 Fact-checker, often
- 8 Sore
- 9 United nations
- 10 Lounge about
- 11 Dueler's sword
- 13 Eat away at
- 19 Supermarket stack
- 20 Shaft of sunlight
- 21 Former mates
- 22 Birds' home
- 23 Title holder
- 25 Hints at
- 26 Advantage
- 27 Reddish horse
- 29 "CSI" collections
- 31 Day fractions (Abbr.)
- 33 Dutch river
- 34 Get back at
- 36 Satanic
- 37 Marceau's forte
- 38 Portent
- 39 Doing
- 40 Operatic solo
- 43 Drivel
- 44 Joke
- 45 Greek H
- 46 Scarlet

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

## OPEN HOMES

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> & 17<sup>TH</sup>



CITY	SAT	SUN	ADDRESS	PRICE	BDRMS/BATHS	REALTOR	AGENT	PHONE
H	—	1-4	481 Larchmont St.	\$545,000	4/2	RE/MAX Accord	Lovewell Team	351-5555
C	—	1-3	4455 E Castro Valley Blvd.	\$855,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Peixoto Team	925-251-2536
C	—	12-3	9150 Crow Canyon Rd.	\$1,250,000	3/2	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Peixoto Team	925-251-2536
O	—	1-4	680 Hiller Dr.	\$2,525,000	5/3.5	J. Rockcliff Realtors	Lisa Ferraris	304-1271

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

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



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# Hundreds of Wrestlers Compete At Annual Tourney

By Andrew Joseph  
San Leandro Times

Wrestling teams from over 30 high schools competed at San Leandro High on Saturday in the 18th annual Roger Briones Girls Wrestling Tournament.

Del Oro High of Placer County won the tournament with 177 points, Newark Memorial came in second with 136, Castro Valley earned third place with 128, and San Leandro High placed ninth with 76 points.

The tournament is known for being the most competitive, oldest, and largest girls wrestling tournament in the Northern California area. The tourney is named after Roger Briones, who died of cancer at age 51, a SLHS wrestling supporter who had three children all on the Pirates wrestling team.

His daughter Madeline Briones became a state and national champion.

"The importance of holding this tournament for these girls every year is to honor the parents who are there for their children who choose to play sports," said Lisa Briones, wife of the late Roger Briones.

San Leandro's star wrestler is junior Laila Thompson, who is the reigning 160 pound North

Coast Section (NCS) champion in wrestling, as well as a tri-athlete — being a member of the tennis team and the track & field team.

"Laila is in a different and tougher weight class this year," said San Leandro head coach George Zuber. "She has to get stronger and improve her wrestling skills not just to repeat as NCS champion, but beyond that in trying to be a state placer."

Thompson won a match against Newark Memorial's Isabell Anthony to qualify for the semi-finals in her 170-pound weight class. She won fifth place by a score of 13-4 by beating Mary Lubiens of Del Oro.

"I feel that placing at this tournament helps prepare for the NCS playoffs," said Thompson. "This is one of the biggest tournaments out there, it helps with rankings if you do well here. Advice my coaches have told me is to be more aggressive, have fun, and wrestle smart."

Other Pirates who placed fifth include senior Simone Humana in the 116 pound class, freshman Catherine Alfaro in the 126 pound class, and junior Jocelyn Salazar in the 160 pound class.

"I think it's really important for me to perform well at this tournament because this is my

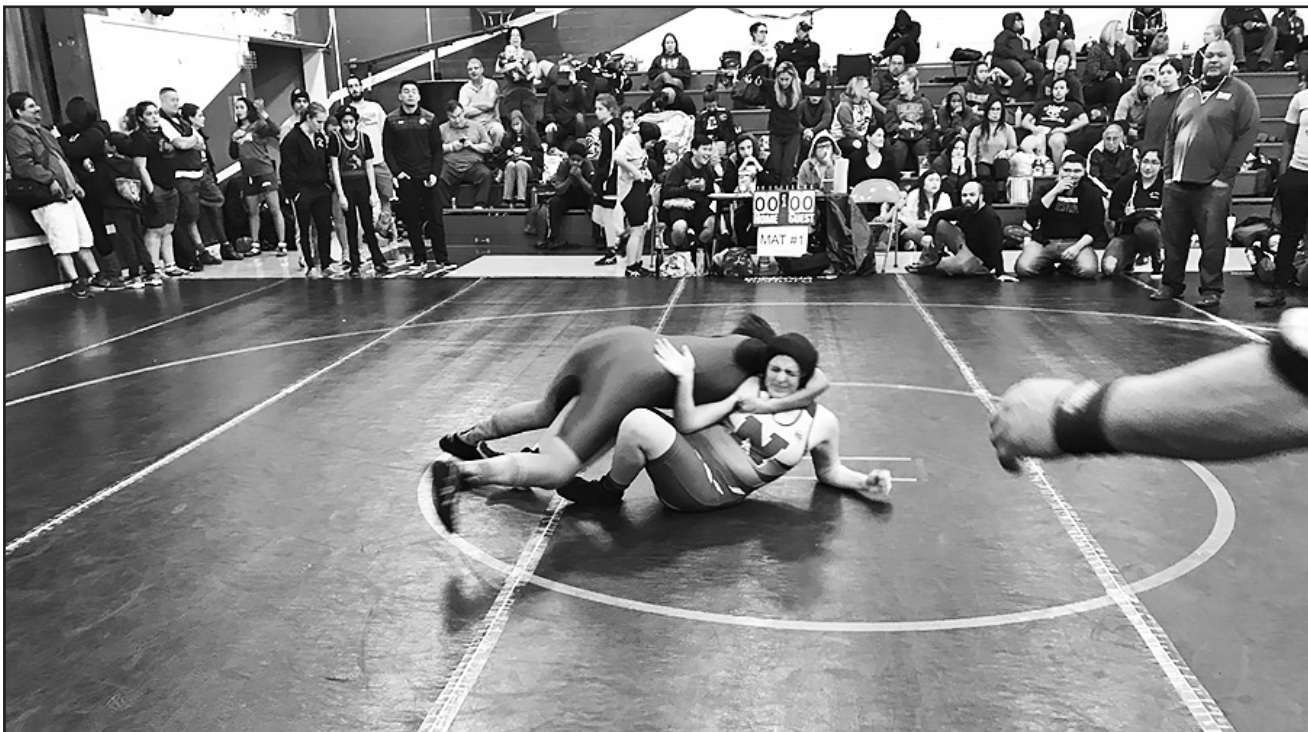


PHOTO BY ANDREW JOSEPH

San Leandro High wrestler Laila Thompson competes for the win against Isabell Anthony of Newark Memorial to qualify for the 170-pound semi-finals at the annual Roger Briones Wrestling Tournament held Saturday at San Leandro High School.

last year here being a senior," said Humana. "This is my home, this is my territory, so I have to defend it."

Humana improved to fifth place in her class from last year's sixth place result.

"Since last year I've been working more on my conditioning, my shots, and my take-downs," said Humana. "To prep for this tournament we practiced a lot of hard drills repetitively to try

to perfect our technique, getting our mind in the right position, and gaining our confidence. I've been having to even eat a strict diet by eating clean, watching my weight, cutting weight, and also reminding myself to not make any assumptions about any opponents."

The turnout for the event was enormous as many parents, families, friends, and students came out to support the 32 schools who

participated.

"This is the largest group of girl wrestlers we've had in years and they are all very talented," said coach Zuber. "San Leandro has a long tradition of great wrestling and we are very honored to remember Roger Briones who had a long family history of wrestling."

"As a school we take a lot of pride in hosting this tournament. The medals we won today shows that our program can compete at the highest level."

The slogan for the tournament, printed on backs of sweatshirts being sold for event

fundraising, was "Girls Breaking Down Walls." In a sport dominated by boys, it is important to also honor the girls who work so hard every year to compete at a high level.

"There were a lot of girls who were on the team at the time when my daughter was wrestling, and a lot of them have gone on to be successful in their lives to become doctors, lawyers, and teachers," said Lisa Briones. "Work ethic and devotion learned while wrestling teaches them skills that other girls won't have without this experience."

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### Georgia Ann Nelson Barnes

July 10, 1931 - Nov. 20, 2017

It is with deep sorrow to announce the passing of Georgia. Born July 10, 1931 in Berkeley, California to Margaret Taylor Nelson and George F. Nelson. She graduated from Berkeley High School in 1949 and went on to graduate from San Jose State with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism.

Georgia married John B. Barnes in 1956 and moved to Belvedere, California and had two children, John Nelson Barnes and Rachel Mary Barnes Brownell.

Georgia was a counselor, and Board member for Horizon House and later became program director of Horizon House. In her retirement, she continued to serve as a counselor and program director for St. Mary's Center in Oakland, California where she created the "Recovery 55" program which is still in operation today.

She enjoyed traveling the world, going to the movies, and spending time with family and Friends.

She is survived by her son John Nelson Barnes, daughter Rachel M. Barnes Brownell, grandchildren, Corrine R. Watson, Rachel E. Draginoff, Robert J. Brownell, and her greatest joy, great grandson Austin D. Phillips. sister Sally Nelson Nichol, nieces Arianne Nichol and Kristine Ebersole.

Services will be held in January.



BARNES, Georgia  
HAACK, Rena

### Rena Lorraine Haack



Rena Lorraine Haack, of San Leandro, was born April 12, 1921 in Omaha, Nebraska. Born to Danish Immigrant parents, Lars and Magda Larsen. She passed November 10, 2017 at the age of 96.

Graveside service will be held on Monday, December 18, 12:30 p.m. at Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward.

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TIMES FILE PHOTO

Homeowners protested and plans for a 5-story apartment building was canceled on the site of a medical building at Bancroft and Estudillo avenues.

## Apartments: Canceled

continued from front page  
and dozens of people from the Estudillo Estates neighborhood called on the commission to reject Silva's plans.

Most neighbors said that they didn't like a large high-density project in their single-family home neighborhood and said it would increase traffic in the area.

The Planning Commission deadlocked and the matter was continued to this month's meeting

which was scheduled for today, Dec. 14, but has since been cancelled.

In 2016, Silva's first proposal for his property to build around 50 units was met with similar resistance from Estudillo Estates neighbors.

Silva had not return calls for comment by the Times' deadline, but Liao said that Silva did indicate to him that he would submit another application to the city in the new year.



# 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](mailto: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.

### Clarification on 'It's a Wonderful Night' Article

Editor:

We would like to thank you for your article carried in late November regarding all of the festivities planned and implemented by the San Leandro Downtown Association and the San Leandro Improvement Association for "It's a Wonderful Night, 2017."

We would like to clarify something for the record. It's a Wonderful Night is and has always been an event sponsored by the Downtown Association. The San Leandro Improvement Association voted to partner with the Downtown Association in 2015 to light our first holiday tree at Estudillo Plaza. We have always thought that Estudillo Plaza is the town center of Downtown, and it was the appropriate place for our tree lighting event. In 2016, we began Christmas Tree lane just north of Joaquin Plaza.

The carriages, the dance stage, the holiday festivities around Joaquin Plaza have always been done by the Downtown Association and they deserve the credit for this great annual event. We are happy to have partnered with them with our complementing the event this year with the 24 toy soldiers in Downtown, the tree lighting and the Christmas Tree lane.

Please make note of this as this is a key Downtown Association event annually.

—Gordon Galvan, President  
—Jackie Montero Flynn, Vice Pres.  
—Angele Sweet, Secretary  
—John Salvador, Treasurer  
—Dominic Li Mandri, District Mgr.

### City's Decision to Close Out Wells Fargo Bond Called 'Lame Brain'

Editor:

Well once again our city council has made another lame brain financial decision in 2017 by closing out our \$700,000 bond with Wells Fargo before coming up to its maturity date in January.

Do they really think that Wells Fargo noticed the \$286 loss (yeah, right) by terminating the bond early and saying that they did it to promote San Leandro values?

Has the \$700,000 bond been reinvested or is it just sitting around right now and earning zero interest for the city of San Leandro?

How could David Baum, our city finance director support this decision and go along with the whim of the city council? He should be fired for not doing the job he was hired to do, i.e. to make the right financial decisions and keep our city solvent.

The previous council switched from using Bank of America to Wells Fargo twelve years ago and this change has saved the city \$420,000 in fees. So now the city council needs to find a replacement for Wells Fargo to handle their daily business and now they have backed themselves into a corner as they can't choose any other bank that provided funding for the pipeline as this would throw their righteous values right out the window.

If the city council can't find another bank that will charge the same annual fees as Wells Fargo then all of them should be voted out of office as we

can't afford to keep them around.

—Brent Heath  
San Leandro

### SLHS Notables Earn Carnegie Hall Appearance: Donations Needed!

Editor:

This school year, we – the San Leandro High School advanced choir "Notables" – have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. After receiving the gold award for excellence at a choir festival, we were invited to perform at the legendary Carnegie Hall in New York City.

To have our very own San Leandro scholars perform at a venue with such prestige would put our city on the world stage.

So, as the holiday season approaches and the time of gifts and giving comes around, consider lending your hand to the future leaders of San Leandro with a donation to the San Leandro Notables. You can help make our dream come true with a donation to our Go Fund Me page online, or find us at our upcoming fundraisers around town.

Happy Holidays!

—Gordon Stanley (tenor)  
San Leandro

### Steps Needed to Reduce Incidence Of Mass Shooting in California

Editor:

The response from the authorities to the recent killing of six students at the Rancho Tehama Elementary school in California is alarming. Six students dead and the response from the authorities and others is that it could have been worse.

We have gotten so used to mass murders that when only six people are killed we are relieved and almost declare a victory.

They are correct when they say it could have been worse when you compare it to the 20 elementary students killed at Sandyhook school in Connecticut or the 58 people murdered at the concert in Las Vegas, but what kind of society are we when mass murder becomes acceptable.

In year 2015, 13,286 people were killed and 26,819 injured in the United States by firearms and little has been done to stop the killing.

It appears that as a nation, we have become inept and unwilling to end the killing even when our children's lives are on the line. Mass killing of children has become acceptable.

A nation that does not solve its present problems are sure to have more and bigger ones in the future. When mass murder becomes commonplace the collapse of a civil society can't be far behind.

Our shooting and killing problems are only going to get worse until we act to solve them.

We need to tell our elected leaders that one death is too many and we expect them to solve this problem.

We are not getting much leadership on mass murders from the Federal government therefore it is up to the States to solve the problem. I recommend that a California commission be instituted to find out why we have shootings and come up with recommendations on how to stop the killing.

One suggestion that I have is that because 90 percent of most shootings

are done by people with a high school diploma or less, we should ensure that everyone receives a quality education greater than a high school degree. Also because some people have guns because they fear others, by educating everyone that fear would dissipate and we would have fewer guns on the street. In addition our mental health facilities need to be enhanced to better identify those with mental problems.

I plan to write to my elected officials, how about you?

When society begins to accept the worse it becomes the worse. California can be the most progressive state in the union, we only have to think and act that way.

—Elie Parker  
San Leandro

### Unsympathetic to Females, Males On Sexual Misconduct Claims

Editor:

With all of these sexual harassment claims and misconduct in the news, I'd like to say that I am very unsympathetic to all the females out there, and even less so for the males. Here is a simple explanation about all this.

If it weren't for social norms and social constructs, and political correctness, men would feel more comfortable approaching and dating women. There are so many rules, queues, body signals, body language, and talking to/dating women has become so surgical and complex. Just think of all the dating sites, dating forums, dating articles, tips, do's and don't's, its way too much to process and deal with. Also dating, mating, intimacy should not be like that, and not meant to be like that.

So for all the Roy Moore's, Ryan Seacrests, Harvey Weinstens, Charlie Roses, sorry society is not understanding you. Sorry that you have to leave your job without due process.

Let's tackle the issue of dating/sexual frustration, then at that point, we can and will begin to solve the problem and heal. Why are men accused of actions like this? If it's been going on for decades or centuries, why the urgency and why now? Why not 5, 10, 15, 50 years ago? No one wants to talk about stuff like that because it doesn't serve them well or they want to please and appease others.

Is complimenting a lady considered sexual harassment? Is asking them out on a date sexual harassment? Is hugging now an act of sexual harassment?

One thing that can and most likely will come out of this, is the suppression/self oppression of sexual desires and urges, in which case can lead to increased sexual misconduct. When we/men are unable to engage and express sexual/intimate behavior, and unable to touch, feel, hold, etc...there will be more people falling from higher positions and men acting out even more. Let's also talk about the women who barely dress and are somehow inviting sexual misconduct.

Why are we so hyper-sensitive? Why can't women give some men a chance, engage in a conversation and get to know them?

In short, women, please stop using your sexual allure/looks as leverage or a weapon to maintain control and control our emotions and affect our psyche? Another aspect of this, the psychological wars of men and women, withholding intimacy and love because of a power play?

Math problem: more women saying yes = no more sexual crime.

—Robert Johansen  
San Leandro

### Finds 'Comic Relief' in Letters From Climate Change Deniers

Editor:

Since the last Presidential election, seldom does a day go by that the news doesn't deliver some scary and/or depressing story about the latest example of insanity emanating from the present occupier of the White House. Watching the news these days is similar to watching a train wreck in slow motion.

The sixty-three million Americans who inflicted Donald Trump on the world owe all of humanity an apology.

However, the San Leandro Times has been providing a bit of much appreciated comic relief these last

couple of weeks. I am referring to the ridiculous ranting of the Climate Change deniers we have been subjected to recently.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Grundmann continue to regale us with baseless nonsense about Polar Bears and Henny Penny as the rest of the world has moved on from tired arguments as to what is happening to our planet and on to what if anything can still be done to slow or stop the warming.

So until the nation rids itself of the idiot now polluting 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, we will have to find escape in the weekly babblings.

—Vernon S. Burton  
San Leandro

## INQUIRING REPORTER

### What's your favorite Christmas memory?

— Asked downtown

With my grandmother and family when we were all having dinner. It was about five years ago in Turkey. Now I'm here and they're far away, but I'll be having dinner with my girlfriend and friends.

**Cagdas Kirmizi**  
San Leandro



I'm more of a Hanukkah girl, but I remember when my dad knew I was sad because Santa Claus wouldn't come. So he left a note saying that even though we were Jewish, Santa left a gift anyway because we were good kids. So we had both Christmas and Hanukkah.

**Cindy Edelson**  
San Leandro

My mother would start cooking days ahead and she would have the fireplace going and we would have turkey, sweet potatoes, greens. My brother and I would play in the kitchen with the turkey gizzards and start throwing them at each other and mom would say stop that. It was always a grand time.

**Joyce Sterling**  
San Leandro



When I was a little kid my grandmother would take me downtown to meet Santa Claus at Filene's Department Store in Boston. It was set up with little mario-nettes and all Christmassy. It was called The Enchanted Village and then you would go through and see Santa Claus.

**Matisse Michalski**  
San Leandro



My favorite memory is decorating the Christmas tree with my grandma and cousins since I was a kid. My grandma passed away but we're keeping the memory alive with my cousins, my aunts and uncle, and our kids, the next generation.

**Angelina Martinez**  
Oakland





## A Christmas Carol Movies To Screen at San Leandro Museum

The San Leandro History Museum, 320 W. Estudillo Ave., will screen two adaptations of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*, this Saturday at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

*The Muppet Christmas Carol* (1992, G, 1:25) will be shown at 11:30 a.m. in the morning and *A Christmas Carol* (2009, PG, 1:36) will be shown at 2 p.m.

Admission is free. Holiday art and craft stations will also be available.

*The Muppet Christmas Carol* was dedicated to the memory of

Muppets creator Jim Henson and fellow puppeteer Richard Hunt, who died during pre-production. In this classic story Kermit the Frog plays Bob Cratchit, the clerk of stingy Ebenezer Scrooge played by Michael Caine, while other classic Muppet characters weave in and out of this timeless story.

### Movie Features

**Gary Oldman, Colin Firth and Bob Hoskins**

The movie features supporting roles done by Gary Oldman, Colin Firth, Bob Hoskins, Robin Wright, and Cary Elwes. It is

Disney's third film retelling of *A Christmas Carol*.

Rotten Tomatoes states: "It may not be the finest version of Charles Dickens' tale to grace the screen, but *The Muppet Christmas Carol* is funny and heartwarming and serves as a good introduction to the story for young kids."

*A Christmas Carol* is a 2009 American, 3D computer animated, fantasy film written and directed by Robert Zemeckis.

Jim Carrey stars in multiple roles - Ebenezer Scrooge, and the three ghosts who haunt Scrooge.

Although it is a comedic film with contemporary songs, the film follows Dickens's original story closely.

The film was produced and directed by Brian Henson for Jim Henson Productions and released by Walt Disney Pictures.

In his review, Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun-Times gave the film four stars (out of four), calling it "an exhilarating visual experience."

## Washington, Wilson Win Healthy School Award

### Schools noted for healthy meals, and physical education

Washington and Wilson elementary schools in San Leandro were among the 33 California schools made the annual list of the nation's 323 healthiest schools.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation and Kaiser Permanente name "America's Healthiest Schools" based on the school's ability to meet a rigorous set of criteria—including serving healthier meals and snacks, getting students moving more, offering high-quality physical and health education, and empowering school leaders to become healthy role models.

Both Washington Elementary and Wilson Elementary in San Leandro won the Bronze Award.



Pictured from left to right are: Deanna Slaton, physical education teacher and district Wellness Committee member; Isabelle Wettergren, district representative, San Leandro Unified School District; and Joan Bonsey, teacher, Washington Elementary School.

## Church Invites All to Living Nativity Scene

The San Leandro Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro, invites everyone to come to the corner of MacArthur Boulevard and Lewis Avenue for a Living Nativity event on Friday, Dec. 22, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy cookies, caroling, and

hot chocolate while viewing live animals in a manger scene, sponsored by the San Leandro Church of Christ in partnership with Enchanted Ponies and Pets. Free parking in the parking lot in back of the church or along the street. Drop by for a few minutes.



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## Holiday Service Schedule

### DECEMBER 25 - 29, 2017

If your collection day is:	<b>Mon. 25</b>	Tue. 26	Wed. 27	Thu. 28	Fri. 29
Your holiday collection day will be:	<b>Tue. 26</b>	<b>Wed. 27</b>	<b>Thu. 28</b>	<b>Fri. 29</b>	<b>Sat. 30</b>

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** service during the week of December 25-29 will be one day late.

### JANUARY 1 - 5, 2018

If your collection day is:	<b>Mon. 1</b>	Tue. 2	Wed. 3	Thu. 4	Fri. 5
Your holiday collection day will be:	<b>Tue. 2</b>	<b>Wed. 3</b>	<b>Thu. 4</b>	<b>Fri. 5</b>	<b>Sat. 6</b>

**NEW YEAR'S DAY:** service during the week of January 1-5 will be one day late.

**Holiday Tree Collection** - On regular residential service days, from December 26 to January 31, place your holiday trees curbside. ACI will collect and compost them. Different trucks are used to collect the trees, so tree removal may occur earlier or later than your normal organics service.

### PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Place tree curbside on your scheduled collection day.
- Remove all decorations, lights and the stand.
- Cut tree in half if taller than 6'.
- Flocked and artificial trees cannot be composted. Place them in the garbage or schedule a special collection.



**Wrap It Up!** - Metallic wrapping paper, most ribbons and bows, cellophane, and polystyrene packaging are not recyclable through curbside collection.

### TRY THESE WASTE SAVING TIPS:

- Wrap gifts in reusable, recycled/recyclable, or compostable materials. (We used a cotton kitchen towel for the gift shown here!)
- Save and reuse ribbons, wrap, and other packaging.
- Donate packing peanuts to a local mailing or shipping store. Find locations at [www.StopWaste.org](http://www.StopWaste.org).



As a last resort, place non-recyclable packaging and wrapping materials in the gray cart, securing small items in a bag.

**Alameda County Industries wishes you the happiest of holidays and a prosperous 2018.**

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