



**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
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 Prepare for Sunday winds  
 HIGHS: 60-65  
 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110  
 LOWS: 42-47

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

# San Leandro Times

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

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

City Councilman Victor Aguilar had a contractor move his fence back away from the sidewalk since the Board of Zoning Adjustments denied his request to allow it.

## Councilman's Fence Now Okay

By Jim Knowles  
San Leandro Times

City Councilman Victor Aguilar has moved his fence back from the sidewalk.

Everything's kosher now. Nobody can complain. Not even his opponent in the last election, Lee Thomas, who alerted City Hall that Aguilar's fence was out of compliance.

"Well, somebody can still complain, but the fence now complies with the city ordinance," Aguilar said.

Aguilar said he got the permission of all his neighbors before building the fence on the side of his corner lot on Monterey Boulevard. But the fence was 3 feet from the sidewalk and that's against the rules for

the height of the fence.

The 6-foot fence with a 1-foot lattice on top, is now moved back 10 feet from the sidewalk. So it complies with the rules, and no variance is required.

The whole thing – building the fence, moving it back, plus the landscaping and

see FENCE, page 8

## Voters to Decide On Measure N School Bond

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

San Leandro residents will decide on a proposed \$198 million school bond issue, Measure N, on the March 3 primary ballot.

If passed, Measure N will build new classrooms and labs at the high school, replace portable classrooms and modernize older classrooms at elementary and middle schools, renovate athletic fields at the middle schools, replace deteriorating roofs and windows on schools, and build a new gymnasium at the high school.

Measure N follows bond measures passed in 1997, 2006, 2010 and 2016 that totaled about \$317 million.

Aging school kitchens at the high school and both middle schools would be remodeled and air-conditioned. All three schools would get new intercom and bell systems.

Muir Middle School is proposed to get security fencing from the bond issue, while Bancroft Middle School would get a redesigned school entry.

The planned improvements include the elementary schools. New roofs are planned at several elementary schools, along with drinking stations, classroom upgrades, additional classroom technology and new lunch areas.

Several elementary schools are getting new blacktop play areas, and some with older kitchens will have their kitchens remodeled. HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) systems will

be added to kitchens at schools where this has not already occurred.

Measure N would add \$45 per \$100,000 of assessed value in property taxes, so the owner of a San Leandro home assessed

see MEASURE N, page 14

## Cutter to Chair County Transit Commission

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) unanimously elected City of San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter as its January meeting.

The Alameda CTC manages the county's 1 percent transportation sales tax, \$200 million per year, that funds transportation projects in Alameda County.

Cutter has been a member of the commission since 2012, and its vice chair since 2018.

The 22-member commission is made up of representatives from the 13 cities in Alameda County, the county board of supervisors, and representatives from BART and AC Transit.

The chair and vice chair are

see CUTTER, page 14

## Security Lights Kept Neighbor Awake

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

David Ford wanted bright, sunny relations with his neighbors on Doolittle Drive, but not at night.

After a year of complaints to managers of the apartments next door, and then to City Hall, Ford and his wife finally got burglar lights pointed away from their upstairs bedroom, which had been brightly illuminated at night.

"The lights were horrendous, absolutely horrendous," Ford said.

He got that problem solved, but now his downstairs living room and patio are lit up.

Ford lives with his wife in a single-family house across a parking lot from the Doolittle Apartments at 2011 Doolittle Drive. Apartment residents' cars were getting broken into, and the apartment building's owners installed the burglar lights about a year ago.

The lights originally sat on top of the two-story apartments, and brightly lit up Ford's bedroom along with the parking lot.

Ford said he had asked the property managers to turn down the lights shortly after they were installed, and they told him they had. His bedroom remained

see LIGHTS, page 16



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

David Ford in front of his house on Doolittle Drive, with the Doolittle Apartments in the background.

### INSIDE YOUR TIMES

#### ART

Adult school watercolor students show their work. **Page 2**

#### HOUSING

New affordable senior apartment building opens. **Page 3**

#### RECYCLING

Program recycles 5 million mattresses. **Page 8**

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Auto .....	6
Calendar .....	4
Classified Ads .....	12
Crime .....	3
Crossword .....	13
Homes .....	10
Home Services .....	12
Inquiring Reporter ...	15
Letters .....	15
Lifestyle .....	7
Obituaries .....	14
Seniors .....	9

## MEETING SCHEDULES

### CITY COUNCIL

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

### SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



## San Leandro Times

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

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## News Briefs

### Senior Clipper Club Workshop In Castro Valley

A free Senior Clipper Card Workshop will be held on Monday, Feb. 10, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Kenneth Aitken Senior Center, 17800 Redwood Road in Castro Valley. The Senior Clipper Card gives Bay Area Residents age 65 and older fare discounts on over 27 Bay Area transit agencies, including BART, AC Transit, Muni, the ferry and more. To sign up for the Senior Clipper Card at this workshop, bring your driver's license or passport. To reserve your space or for more information, call 510-881-6738.

### SL Garden Club Meeting

The San Leandro Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Alta Mira House, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro. The business meeting begins at 10 a.m., followed by a speaker at 11 a.m. Jolene Adams, past president of the American Rose Society, will talk about roses and answer questions. All are welcome. The San Leandro Garden Club is in its 55th year of promoting gardening and providing community support, and meets every third Thursday of the month from September to June. For more information, call Carla Francis at 510-582-5288.

### Auditions for *The Man Who Came to Dinner*

Auditions for San Leandro Players Spring production of *The Man Who Came to Dinner* will be held on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 24 and Feb. 25, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. Ensemble cast, no pay, non-AEA. M-F, all ages and ethnicities encouraged. Rehearsals will be evenings Monday through Thursday, beginning on Monday, March 2. Open auditions; appointments possible. Performances will be on weekends from April 18 to May 17.



'Yosemite Reflections' by Ann Schmidt and watercolors by other artists will be on display at the Main Library through March 27.

## Adult School Art Students Showing Watercolors at the Main Library

The San Lorenzo Adult School Watercolor Class, Studio 820, will exhibit students'

watercolor paintings at the San Leandro Main Library from Feb. 1 to March 27.

There will be a reception on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Many of the artists are long-time residents of San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Hayward and Fremont, and many of their original watercolor paintings will be for sale.

## Speaker to Talk Fishing at Luncheon

SIR Branch #26, an organization of retired men, meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Fairview Event Center at Metropolitan Golf Course, 10051 Doolittle Drive in Oakland.

Social Hour starts at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. Alan Blavins will be the speaker on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Blavins' topic will be about his fishing experiences around the world while fishing for rare and monstrous fish.

Sponsored guests are welcome to come to the luncheon. To become a sponsored guest, call Ken at 510-537-4804, as soon as possible, to request that you want to attend the February luncheon.

The cost of the lunch is \$26, payable in advance. Checks should be made payable to: "SIR Branch #26."

To receive a refund, the last day to cancel is noon on Sunday, Feb. 9. For more information, call Ken at 510-537-4804.

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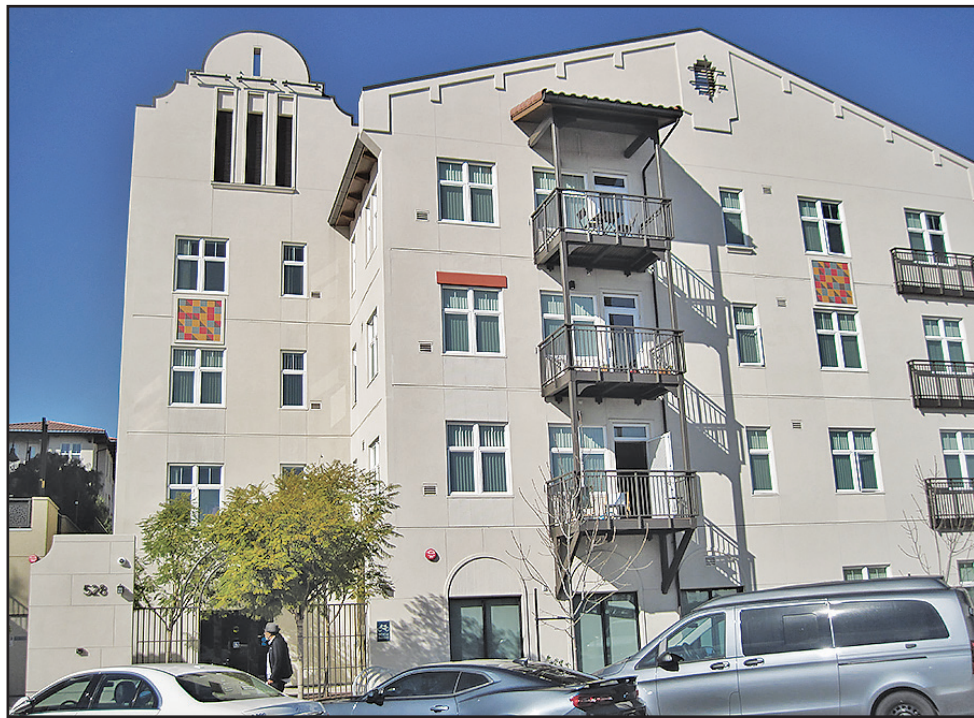


PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

La Vereda at 528 West Juana Ave., which opened Jan. 31, provides 85 units of affordable housing for low-income senior citizens.

## La Vereda Senior Housing Opens

By Mike McGuire  
San Leandro Times

Affordable housing for seniors in San Leandro got a boost last Friday with the grand opening of La Vereda, 85 units at 528 West Juana Ave., across the street from San Leandro BART.

Tenants had begun moving in before the official opening, though, according to BRIDGE Housing Vice President for Communications Lyn Hikida.

La Vereda's 85 units were rented out almost immediately when they became available. Some 2,200 people applied for the 22 units not reserved for referrals from the Alameda County Housing Authority, while that agency worked from its own list of people needing housing. The wait list was capped at 400 households, Hikida said, and no more applications are currently being accepted.

The project was built by the nonprofit BRIDGE Housing in partnership with BART, which owns the land. It is one of a number of housing developments recently built adjacent to BART stations in an effort to help with the Bay Area's housing shortage. These include the adjoining Alta Marea building, which offers affordable family housing, that opened in 2017.

Seniors had to make less than half the area median income to apply for La Vereda, according to Hikida.

"We were glad we could help people stay in the community who'd lived here for years," Hikida said.

**"We're thrilled to celebrate these new homes."**

— Cynthia Parker

kida said.

But she said that more than the affordable rents attracted tenants to the building.

"There's a very congenial sense of community there," Hikida said. Just inside the lobby, there is seating, a community kitchen and a TV area, and people like to gather there, she said.

"They're all meeting each other and enjoying each other's company," she added.

Speakers at the ribbon-cutting included San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter, La Vereda residents Darleen and Paul Gutierrez, BART directors Rebecca Saltzman and Robert Raburn, BRIDGE housing vice president Brad Wilbin, and leaders of county agencies and of US Bancorp, which helped provide financing. Master of ceremonies was project manager Jeremy Vieira from BRIDGE housing.

The Gutierrezes, who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, said "Thanks to everyone who helped bring La Vereda to life. Please know that you made things better for a lot of people."

"We're thrilled to celebrate these new homes for seniors and the last phase of this transit-oriented development," said Cynthia Parker, President and CEO of BRIDGE Housing.

"At a time when the housing shortage is impacting people and cities everywhere, we and our partners are proud to deliver affordable homes with transit connections, proximity to jobs and community-serving spaces that benefit residents and neighbors alike."

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## POLICE & FIRE

### SL Solar Firm Settles National-Origin Bias Suit

Barred Indian, Middle Eastern customers

San Leandro-based solar and home energy company Fidelity Home Energy, Inc., and its successor NorCal Home Systems, Inc., will pay \$350,000 to a former employee and hire a consultant to resolve a national origin discrimination lawsuit, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) announced today.

According to the EEOC's lawsuit, within her first week as a telemarketing supervisor, the former employee learned that all potential customers perceived to be Middle Eastern or Indian were to be rejected for sales appointments for home energy systems.

EEOC charged that the former employee, who is of Afghan descent, observed supervisors flagging these individuals' records in an internal database and placing them on the "do not call" list. The employee was forced to turn away any such potential customers almost daily and to direct her subordinates to do the same.

Ultimately, as EEOC charged, the distress of having to discriminate against would-be customers, particularly those of her own national origin, compelled the employee to quit after only a few weeks. In her resignation, she explained, "It makes me sick to know that we refuse to service a particular ethnicity of people. We literally go out of our way to single them out."

The alleged conduct created a hostile work environment in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits employers from discriminating based on national origin. The EEOC filed suit in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California [Case No.

3:19-cv-01231] after first attempting to reach a pre-litigation settlement through its voluntary conciliation process. The lawsuit was litigated by EEOC Senior Trial Attorney Ami Sanghvi and Trial Attorney James H. Baker.

Under the three-year consent decree, Fidelity and NorCal will provide \$350,000 in damages to the employee and hire an EEO consultant to help revise NorCal's EEO policies and procedures, investigate employee complaints of discrimination, and ensure that managers, supervisors and employees are trained on their EEO rights and obligations. NorCal must also revise its databases to remove any ability to screen entries by race, ethnicity or national origin, and must post a notice to employees about the consent decree.

"Combatting all forms of workplace harassment remains a top priority of the EEOC's 2017-2021 Strategic Enforcement Plan. This past year, over

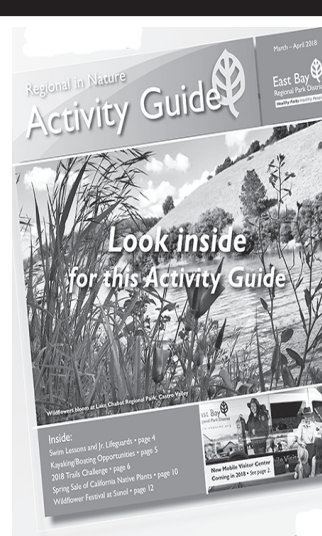
7,000 charges alleging national origin-based harassment were filed with the agency," said EEOC San Francisco District Director William Tamayo. "We commend NorCal for working to ensure that discriminatory practices do not continue."

Trial Attorney James H. Baker stated, "The former employee was faced with an unacceptable choice: continue to reject customers based on national origin or quit her job. He added, "Discriminatory conduct directed at third-parties, including co-workers or customers, can result in a hostile work environment claim for protected employees under Title VII."

Fidelity Home Energy, Inc. was a family-owned and operated business providing homeowners with energy-efficient products and in-home installation services. Last year, Fidelity's CEO dissolved Fidelity, and continued the services it provided as NorCal Home Systems, Inc.

This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the East Bay Regional Park District March-April 2020 Activity Guide.

If your copy of the Times does not include the EBRP Activity Guide, call 510-614-1555 or stop by the Times office (2060 Washington Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to obtain one.



### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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# NEIGHBORS



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

## Relief for Busy Off-Ramp?

The off-ramp from I-880 onto Beatrice Street in Washington Manor backs up all the way back to the freeway during commute hours. But Caltrans says it's working on it.

Caltrans says they currently have a \$3.5 million dollar project to improve the southbound Interstate 880 Washington Avenue off-ramp in the city of San Leandro. The project proposes to add

an additional lane to the southbound off-ramp, which will reduce traffic queues backing up to the freeway and provide a modest improvement to traffic congestion for motorists.

The project is currently in the design phase and is scheduled to start construction in spring 2021 with completion by winter 2023, according to Caltrans.

—By Jim Knowles

## SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

Northeastern University recognizes those students who distinguish themselves academically during the course of the school year. San Leandro resident **Wanjiku Githere**, a Northeastern University stu-

dent majoring in behavioral neuroscience, was recently named to the university's Dean's List for the Fall semester, which ended in December 2019.

To achieve the dean's list

distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality point average of 3.5 or greater out of a possible 4.0 and carry no single grade lower than a C- during the course of their college career.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### ❖ Chanticleers Theatre Steel Magnolias

Steel Magnolias opens at the

Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave. in Castro Valley, on Feb. 7 and runs through March 1. The

show plays on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 to \$27 and may be purchased online at [chanticleers.org](http://chanticleers.org) or by calling 510-SEE-LIVE (510-733-5483). Group discounts also available. *Steel Magnolias* is a stage play by American writer Robert Harling, a comedy-drama about the bond among a group of Southern women in northwest Louisiana. The title suggests the female characters are as delicate as magnolias but as tough as steel. The magnolia specifically references a magnolia tree they are arguing about at the beginning. Harling based this play on his experience with his sister's death. Director, actor, and designer spanning four decades in West Coast theatre, Kendall Tieck will make his Chanticleers Theatre directing debut with *Steel Magnolias*.

## READ & RECYCLE!



## HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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**ARIES (March 21 - April 19):** Your natural Arian leadership qualities make you the person others will follow in tackling that important project. But don't get so involved in the work that you neglect your personal life.



**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** Aspects favor sorting through your possessions, both at work and at home, to start giving away what you don't use, don't need or don't like. Relax later with someone special.



**GEMINI (May 21 - June 20):** The issues are not quite as clear as they should be. That's why you need to avoid getting involved in disputes between colleagues at work or between relatives or personal friends.



**CANCER (June 21 - July 22):** You'll get lots of support from others if you own up to your mistake quickly and include a full and honest explanation. Learn from this experience so that you don't repeat it.



**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** There might be some early confusion over a major move, whether it's at work or at home. But once you get a full breakdown of what it entails, it should be easier to deal with. Good luck.



**VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22):** Creating order out of chaos, even in the most untidy spaces, should be no problem for organized Virgos. So go ahead and do it, and then accept praise from impressed colleagues.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22):** Whether it's for business purposes or just for leisure, a trip might be just what you need right now. You would benefit both from a change of scenery and from meeting new people.



**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** While things generally go well this week, a romantic situation seems to have stalled. But you can restart it if you want to. Then again, maybe this is a chance to reassess the situation.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21):** A meeting that was promised quite a while back could finally happen. So be sure you're prepared with everything you'll need to make your case sound convincing and doable.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** A workplace blunder could create a problem down the line unless you deal with it right now to see how and why it happened. Don't be surprised at what you might learn.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18):** This is a good time to re-sort your priorities and see if adjustments are called for. Be honest with yourself as you decide what to keep, what to discard and what to change.



**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20):** Letting yourself be bathed in the outpouring of love and support from those who care for you will help you get through a difficult period sooner rather than later. Good luck.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Calendar Items is Friday for the Following Week



### ❖ Personal Computer Users Group

Personal Computer Community users group ([www.pcc.org](http://www.pcc.org)) will hold its monthly meeting Friday, Feb. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 28924 Ruus Road in Hayward. Judy Taylour of the Association of Personal Computers Users Group (APUCG) will be presenting. For more information, visit [www.pcc.org](http://www.pcc.org) or call 510-278-5192.

### ❖ Tai Chi Class at Manor Library

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a Tai Chi class on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Manor Library, 1241 Manor Blvd. in San Leandro. Learn Chen Style Tai Chi Quan taught by Jerry Ren. Beginners are welcome. No registration required, open to the first 30 students. For more information, call 510-577-7971.

### ❖ Crab Feed at Hayward Veterans Hall

Silver Oak High School Public Montessori Charter of Hayward is having a crab feed on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Hayward Veterans Hall, 227373 Main St. in Hayward. All-you-can-eat crab, salad, spaghetti, garlic bread and dessert, and two drink tickets for beer, wine soft drinks or water. Silent auction and raffle. Tickets are \$50. Early-bird special until Jan. 25 is \$45. For tickets, go to Eventbrite and enter Silver Oak High School.

### ❖ All Saints Episcopal Church Crab Feed

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd, San Leandro, will hold its 47th Annual Crab Feed on Saturday, Feb. 8. The social hour starts at 5 p.m. and dinner is at 6 p.m. Come for the crab along with a raffle, silent auction and entertainment. Tickets are \$50 for adults, \$35 for youths age 9 to 14, and \$10 for a pasta dinner for children 8 and under. Call Joy Korst for tickets at 510-407-4859. Limited number of tickets at the door, so call first.

### ❖ Watercolor Class & Reception

The San Lorenzo Adult School Watercolor Class, Studio 820, will exhibit students' watercolor paintings at the San Leandro Main Library through March 27. There will be a reception on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. Many of the artists are longtime residents of San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Hayward and Fremont, and many of their original watercolor paintings will be for sale.

### ❖ Meeting of the Art Association

The San Leandro Art Association's monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Snacks and beverages will be served at 5:45 p.m., short meeting will start at 6:15 p.m., and a free art demonstration begins at 6:35 p.m. The demonstrator for February, Sandra Jones, an award-winning figurative artist, will demonstrate some of her fine art techniques. She works in pastel, charcoal, oil and acrylic. Members will also display artwork for the Artist of the Month Contest. The public is welcome to come to this free event.

### ❖ League of Women Voters Open House

The League of Women Voters Eden Area will have an open house, on Tuesday, Feb. 11, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Castro Valley Public Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave. Everyone is welcome. This event will be part of the year-long celebration of the National League of Women Voters 100th anniversary. The open house will feature speakers on league history, voting history, a celebration of members, information for those thinking of becoming members, en-

tertainment, food, games, and prizes. For more information, contact the Castro Valley Library, the cosponsor for this event.

### ❖ SLZ School Meeting

San Lorenzo Unified School District will host a town hall meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of San Lorenzo High School, 50 E. Lewelling Blvd., to provide information and gather questions and feedback regarding the state of the school district. All are invited and encouraged to participate.

### ❖ Un-Valentine's Day Mini-Golf

The San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., invites everyone 18 and over to an Un-Valentine's Day Mini-Golf after-hours event on Friday, Feb. 14, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Bring your friends or come alone. Mini Golf will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free. Pizza will be served while supplies last. Board games and video games will also be available. For more information, call the Library Information Desk at 510-577-3971.

### ❖ Our Lady of Grace Polenta Dinner

Our Lady of Grace Church Hall, 3433 Somerset Ave. Castro Valley, will host the Italian Catholic Federation Polenta Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 15. Doors open at 6 p.m. Salad, polenta, sausage, bread, dessert, wine, soda and coffee. Entertainment and raffles. Price \$35 per person or \$250 for a table of eight. Reservations and payment required in advance. Deadline is Feb. 10. Send one check with the names of those at your table for 8 to; Lisa Crudo, 3718 September Court, Castro Valley, CA 94546, the same for individual reservations. For more information, call Lisa at 510-861-9835.

### ❖ Mystery Tea at the Alta Mira Club

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Mystery Tea with prominent mystery writers Janet Finsilver, Cindy Sample and Simon Wood on Monday, Feb. 17, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets to the tea luncheon, followed by the speakers, are \$20. Limited seating. For reservations, call 510-483-1018 or email [Nancyfong@aol.com](mailto:Nancyfong@aol.com).

### ❖ Income Tax Preparation

Trained AARP volunteers will be on hand to prepare income tax returns for low and moderate income individuals and families, with emphasis on serving those over 55 years of age. There will be two locations, the San, Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St., Tuesdays until April 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd., Thursdays until April 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Membership in AARP in not a requirement. To schedule your appointment, call 510-577-3462 or visit us in person at any of our community centers.

### ❖ Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9601

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9601 invites veterans and active military to meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 22737 Main St. in Hayward. For more information, visit [www.vfw9601.org](http://www.vfw9601.org).

### ❖ San Leandro Toastmasters

The San Leandro Toastmasters meet on Thursday nights from 6:45 to 7:45 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.

## Lunch Menu at The Senior Center

Lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services

A low-cost senior lunch provided by Spectrum Community Services is served on weekdays at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th St.

Everyone age 60 and up can have lunch. A suggested donation is \$3.75, but no one is refused for lack of funds. (\$10 for those under 60.)

Call 24 hours ahead to reserve a lunch (1-510-825-9793) or sign up at the Senior Center.

The menu for lunch next week, Feb. 9 to Feb. 14, is:

Monday – Holiday, no

lunch served.

Tuesday – Hearty beef stew, vegetable medley salad, whole wheat rolls, oranges.

Wednesday – Chicken salad with raisins over romaine lettuce, tomato and cucumber, hearty vegetable soup, whole wheat rolls, fruit mix.

Thursday – Turkey and spinach lasagna, tossed vegetable salad, whole wheat rolls, apples.

Friday – Valentines Day! Chicken Dijon, mushroom barley soup, broccoli, brown rice, grapes, chocolate pudding.

## UCSB Swimmer Emily Ward Named Athlete of the Week

UC Santa Barbara swimmer Emily Ward was named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Athlete of the Week for the last week of January.

The San Leandro native had standout performances in two meets against UNLV in which she picked up five wins. In a non-traditional meet, Ward helped the Gauchos win two relays, finishing the last leg of the 400 Medley Relay in 51.44 and the third leg of the 200 Mixed Gender Free Relay in 23.76.

Ward and the Gauchos will compete in the MPSF Championships in Los Angeles later this month.



Emily Ward, who grew up in San Leandro, was recently named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Athlete of the week for her wins on the UC Santa Barbara swim team.

## Survey to Study East Bay Wildfire Evacuation Plan

Researchers from the UC Berkeley are conducting a study to better understand the public's wildfire evacuation decision-making as well as the public safety power shutoff (PSPS)

events by the PG&E this past October.

The UC team is asking residents from Castro Valley and other East Bay communities to fill out a survey about their

choices in a future wildfire evacuation.

The team is also interested in analyzing travel patterns following the recent PSPS events. The goal is to develop strategies

that can assist agencies across California in preparing for future wildfire events.

The survey is available online at: [http://bit.ly/eastbay\\_wildfire\\_survey](http://bit.ly/eastbay_wildfire_survey).



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

## Eucalyptuses Cut Down on Floresta

Two eucalyptus trees were cut down on Floresta Drive near Corvallis School two weeks ago. Altogether four trees were taken down, just as preventive maintenance, said Debbie Pollart, public works director for the City of San Leandro. The trees are very big and they were leaning quite a bit.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

**Barry Lamont Thompson**  
Case Number:  
RP20050801

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Barry Lamont Thompson**.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by **Michael Herrera, Sr.** in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that **Michael Herrera, Sr.** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

**A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 18, 2020, 9:31 a.m., Dept. 201, at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.**

**IF YOU OBJECT** to the granting of the petition you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

**IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent**, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the **later** of either (1) **four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

**YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court.** If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner: Rachael N. Phillips  
Law Offices of Ann Marshall Robbeloth  
31 East Julian Street, San Jose, CA 95112 (408)371-5206

**LEGAL 0219-SLT RP20050801 02/06/20, 02/13/20, 02/20/20**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Concrete Rock Stamp Rental and More located at 16530 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wendy Karina Nunez, 424 Pacifica Ave., Baypoint, CA 94565. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Wendy Karina Nunez  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 22, 2025

**FEB 06, 13, 20, 27, 2020**  
**0218-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): (1) The Rangis - Harrington Group (2) Chelsea Rangis Realty (3) Urbia Homes + Money located at 4767 Mira Loma St., Castro Valley, CA 94546, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Suksadachanh Rangis, 4767 Mira Loma St., Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Suksadachanh Rangis  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires DECEMBER 18, 2024

**JAN 16, 23, 30, FEB 06, 2020**  
**0208-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Pediatric Language Therapy Associates located at 2242 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Claire Ibrahim, 8033 Earl St., Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Claire Ibrahim  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 30, 2025

**FEB 06, 13, 20, 27, 2020**  
**0221-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Aleyda's House Cleaning located at 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aleyda Revelo Rivera, 1531 48th Ave., Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 01/09/2020.

/s/ Aleyda Revelo Rivera  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 9, 2025

**JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020**  
**0210-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Safe Transportation Service located at 1215 Asbury Ct., San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Fayeze Aldahmi, 1781 Aulsebrook Ave., Oakland, CA 94621 and (2) Muneer Alkabsh, 1215 Asbury Ct., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by Co-partners. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Fayeze Aldahmi, Muneer Alkabsh  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 15, 2025

**JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020**  
**0213-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Hallibron located at 16077 Ashland Avenue, #355, San Lorenzo, CA 94580, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cornor Alexander Jr., 16077 Ashland Ave., #355, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Cornor Alexander Jr.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 15, 2025

**JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020**  
**0211-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): "E" and "L" Property located at 862 Evergreen Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Christine Soledad Ortega Max (2) Edwin Stanley Barahona, 862 Evergreen Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. This business commenced 01-16-20.

/s/ Christine Soledad Ortega Max, Edwin Stanley Barahona

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires JANUARY 16, 2025

**JAN 30, FEB 06, 13, 20, 2020**  
**0215-SLT**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Gabriella Gutierrez, CSR 9024 located at 1128 Billings Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gabriella Gutierrez, 1128 Billings Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Gabriella Gutierrez  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires DECEMBER 31, 2024

**JAN 23, 30, FEB 06, 13, 2020**  
**0212-SLT**

# AUTOMOTIVE

## Farewell to My Chevy Bolt EV

By Steve Schaefer  
San Leandro Times

**O**n January 4, I said goodbye to my Chevrolet Bolt EV. After three years and 26,490 miles, the lease was up.

With its 238 miles of range, my Bolt could handle almost anything, including the 165-mile round trip to visit my granddaughters. It proved to be exactly what I needed and wanted. The Bolt is spacious for 4 or 5 passengers and the hatchback folds down easily to carry lots of gear, including an upright bass. The high roof means abundant headroom.

Like other EVs, the Bolt accelerates quickly, hitting a respectable 6.3 seconds zero-to-sixty—as quick as a Volkswagen Golf GTI. The 960-pound battery means a low center of gravity, for stable handling.

And it does it all virtually silently. All you'll hear is a very low hum from the motor, and wind and tire noise are muted. And, without reciprocating pistons, there's no vibration.

Electric cars don't use normal transmissions, since electric motors deliver maximum torque from the first moment they start spinning. The Bolt has an "L" (Low) setting on the one-speed transmission's lever. The "D" (Drive) setting feels like a normal automatic transmission, but in L, when

you lift off the accelerator, the car slows down quickly. This "one-pedal driving" means you can barely use the brakes most of the time, and regenerative braking charges up the battery.

My Bolt didn't use one drop of gasoline for three years! I plugged it in at work at first and installed a Level 2 (240-volt) charger in my garage last year.

The Bolt embodies all the strengths and weaknesses of EVs. The obvious strengths are the low carbon impact, quick acceleration, and quiet operation. There's essentially no service, either, except tire rotations. There are a lot fewer moving parts to have problems. And with regenerative braking, the brake pads last practically forever.

The most significant weakness is range. Although today's EVs easily top 200 or even 300 miles between charges, it still takes time to charge, and you may not be able to find a public charger when you need one. I expect the charging problem to be solved as charging stations proliferate and fast charging gets really quick.

Another issue with EVs is that initial purchase or lease costs are higher, mainly because batteries are still expensive. My upper-level Bolt Premier with options carried a sticker price of nearly \$44,000. I did get \$5,500 in rebates and financing assistance, but still not cheap. However, if you

look at the total cost of ownership over several years, EVs come out ahead, with much cheaper fuel (electrons) and virtually no service required.

A third concern is choice. The Bolt has company now, but there still is no all-electric pickup truck, for example. In the next few years, manufacturers will fill their lineups with many more EV and hybrid models, from hatchbacks to sedans to SUVs.

The only notable problem with my Bolt happened when my car's battery suddenly charged only to about 100 miles and not the normal 200+. I complained to my dealer, but they were unresponsive. I tried F.H. Dailey Chevrolet in San Leandro, closer to home, and they checked with GM headquarters and did a battery swap for me, at no charge.

I valued the Bolt for giving me a way to experience the EV life firsthand, so I could share my knowledge in my columns and blogs. I participated in events, such as National Drive Electric Week and Earth Day events in April. And as an electrified car advocate, I began phasing out gasoline-only test cars in 2018.

I considered buying my car at the end of the lease or getting a new car, but I wanted to lower my monthly costs. So, I researched used EVs, and ended up buying a little Fiat 500e, for just \$10,000 (under \$200 a month) from Rose Motorcars in Castro Valley.



On January 4, I said goodbye to my Chevrolet Bolt EV. After three years and 26,490 miles, the lease was up.

I'll miss some of my Bolt's features. The Fiat doesn't have high-regeneration one-pedal driving. My Bolt's inside rearview mirror was a video camera. And, the multi-camera backup system provided a birds-eye view of my car to aid parking. My Bolt had Apple CarPlay, so I could play my music and set up a map destination and project it onto the dash screen. I'll miss the verbal texts (through Siri) too.

I liked the styling of the Bolt—inside and out. Apparently the gently sweeping interior was designed by a woman—unusual in the industry. The use of white accents gives it a certain sparkle. I loved the rich blue exterior paint.

The Bolt was designed by GM Korea, the former Dae-

woo, but it's built in Michigan. The LG battery is Korean, as well.

I will continue testing every new EV I can get, but I'm

going to miss my Bolt.

Steve Schaefer lives in Castro Valley. He has been reviewing new cars in the Times for 28 years.



Saying "hello" to my leased Chevrolet Bolt for the first time on Jan. 8, 2017.

### HOCUS-FOCUS

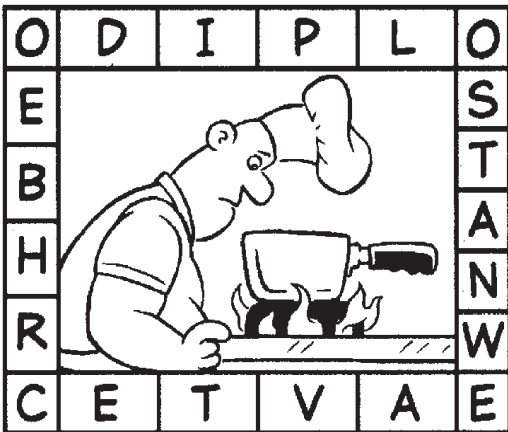
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Apron is longer. 2. Earuffs are removed. 3. Fence is shorter. 4. Door window is lower. 5. Footprint is missing. 6. Bow is added.



**HIDDEN** in the above frame is a proverb. Find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Starting with the "A" on the right vertical column: "A watched pot never boils."

**FIND A CERTAIN 10-digit number:** The first digit must be the same as the number of 0s in the entire number, the second digit must be the same as the number of 1s in the entire number, and so on through the 10th digit.

**SAY "A"!** As you go down the pyramid, each word contains the same letters as the word above it plus a new letter. We give you all of the A's. Here are some hints, from the top down.

- 1) Highest grade (given).
- 2) In or near.
- 3) A color.
- 4) To be opposed.
- 5) Big person.
- 6) Position of a scale.
- 7) Rodent-hunter's activity.
- 8) Getting dressed.

The words are: a, at, tan, anti, giant, rattling, rattling, rattling, rattling.

### Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

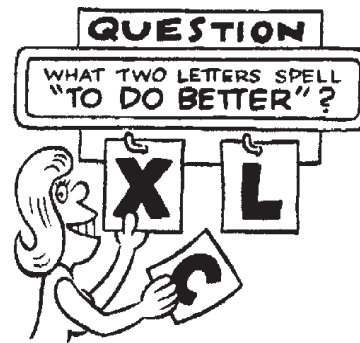
KNOW YOUR ALPHABET!

SEE IF you can answer the following questions by using just two letters from the alphabet.

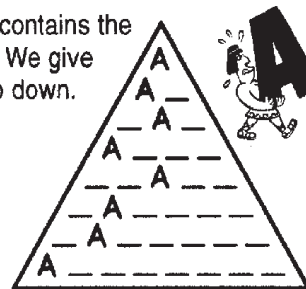
WHAT TWO LETTERS SPELL...

1. a winter condition?
2. a kind of pepper?
3. to rot away?
4. overindulgence?
5. a climbing plant?
6. a literary composition?
7. how a dieter feels?
8. aesthetic pretensions?
9. no matter which?
10. an English county?

1. IC (icy). 2. KN (cayenne). 3. DK (dark). 4. XS (excess). 5. IV (ivy). 6. SA (essay). 7. MT (empty). 8. RT (arty). 9. NE (any). 10. SX (Essex).



Illustrated by David Coulson



## LIFESTYLE



## Rx for the Sneezing, Sniffing Season

Hopefully, most of us won't catch the flu this year even if we didn't get a shot. But with these icy nights you might very well be in line for that other malady – the common cold.

When you're sneezing and sniffing, whether it's the flu or a cold, nothing picks up your spirits like a steaming bowl of chicken soup.

Like your grandmother said, "It couldn't hurt!"

There are dozens of excellent recipes for chicken soup. If your granny didn't give you hers, try one of these.

chicken breast

- 1 1/2 cups egg noodles
- 1 cup sliced carrots
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- salt and pepper to taste

In a large pot over medium heat, melt butter. Cook onion and celery in butter until just tender, 5 minutes. Pour in chicken and vegetable broths and stir in chicken, noodles, carrots, basil, oregano, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes before serving. Yields 6 servings.

thick slices

- 4 fresh thyme sprigs
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 quarts chicken stock,
- 8 ounces dried wide egg noodles
- 1-1/2 cups shredded cooked chicken
- Salt and freshly-ground black pepper
- 1 handful fresh flat-leaf parsley, finely chopped

Place a soup pot over medium heat and coat with the oil. Add the onion, garlic, carrots, celery, thyme and bay leaf.

Cook and stir for about 6 minutes, until the vegetables are softened but not browned.

Pour in the chicken stock and bring the liquid to a boil. Add the noodles and simmer for 5 minutes until tender. Fold in the chicken, and continue to simmer for another couple of minutes to

heat through; season with salt and pepper.

Sprinkle with chopped parsley before serving. Serves 4.

## GINGER CHICKEN SOUP

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 3 tablespoons fresh ginger, grated
- 2 quarts chicken broth
- 2 medium parsnips, peeled and chopped
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and chopped
- 2 stalks celery, thinly sliced
- 1 medium turnip, peeled and chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 2- to 2-1/2-pound rotisserie chicken
- 1/2 cup frozen peas
- 4 scallions, sliced

Heat the oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the onion, garlic, and ginger and cook, stirring, until fragrant, 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the broth. Stir in the parsnips, carrots, celery, turnip, and 1/2 teaspoons salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until the vegetables are tender, 15 to 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, using a fork or your fingers, shred the chicken meat, discarding the skin and bones.

Add the chicken, peas, and scallions to the saucepan and cook until heated through, 3 to 4 minutes. Serve with hot biscuits or crackers.

Yields 6 servings.

## LEMON CHICKEN &amp; RICE SOUP

- 6 cups chicken broth
- 1 chicken bouillon cube
- 1/3 cup rice, uncooked
- 1/3 cup carrot, diced

## CRISPY PARMESAN SOUP CROUTONS

- 5 slices white or whole-wheat bread
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/4 cup freshly-grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano, crumbled
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme, crumbled

Remove crusts from bread. Cut remaining bread in cubes.

Melt butter with olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add garlic and sauté for about 1 minute.

Remove pan from heat and add bread cubes, stirring until well coated with butter mixture. Cool slightly.

Combine Parmesan, oregano and thyme in a heavy plastic or paper bag. Add bread cubes and toss to coat evenly with cheese mixture.

Spread bread cubes in even layer on ungreased jellyroll or other baking pan. Bake at 300°F for 35-40 minutes or until lightly browned and crisp, stirring occasionally.

Cool then place in freezer storage bag and freeze until needed.

## QUICK CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 4 (14.5 ounce) cans chicken broth
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can vegetable broth
- 1/2 pound chopped cooked

## OLD-FASHIONED CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 medium carrots, cut diagonally into 1/2-inch-thick slices
- 2 celery ribs, halved lengthwise, and cut into 1/2-inch-

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- We emphasize spirituality more than religion.
- We believe there are many paths to God.
- We show you how to transform your life through practical spiritual principles.
- Everyone is welcome.

www.unitysanleandro.org

SUNDAY 11:11 A.M.

## Unity Church of San Leandro

Meeting at 13909 E. 14th St. • San Leandro • 510 483-2132

## KIM BROS. JEWELRY • 357-4069

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WELLNESS  
CENTER

*The Wellness Center is a ministry of All Saints Episcopal Church committed to nurturing healing and wholeness of mind, body, and spirit.*

- |       |               |                                                                                  |
|-------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MON   | 10:00-11:15am | Extra Gentle Yoga<br>(Suggested donation: \$15/student)                          |
| TUE   | 12:30-1:30pm  | Centering Prayer*                                                                |
| WED   | 10:45-11:45am | Bible Study*                                                                     |
|       | 12:00-12:45pm | Celtic Earth Mass*                                                               |
|       | 7:00-8:15pm   | Yoga for EveryBODY<br>(Suggested donation: \$5-15)                               |
| THURS | 12:00-1:00pm  | Christian Meditation*                                                            |
|       | 2:00-3:30pm   | Qigong (Donation: \$5-15)                                                        |
| SAT   | 7:00-9:00pm   | Sacred Circle Dance<br>(2nd & 4th Saturdays only,<br>suggested donation: \$5-10) |

Asterisks \* denote free activities.

Donations benefit the ministry of All Saints, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.  
Logo designed by rawpixel.com / Freepik

All Saints Episcopal Church  
[www.saintsalive.net/wellness](http://www.saintsalive.net/wellness)

## LOST CAT

Gray + white male cat  
Missing since January 8  
Assumption Parish  
neighborhood.  
Please call with any  
information.

510-530-3510

CELL: 510-520-7626



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# SENIORS

## Post-Holiday Concerns: Tips for Transitioning an Aging Loved One to Assisted Living

By Kathy Stewart,  
Vice President Nursing and  
Care at Aegis Living  
Special to the Times

The holiday season is a special time for us to come together with family and friends. And as our loved ones grow older, it's often the time when we recognize that they need extra support.

You may have found that your mom or dad was no longer able to keep up with daily household tasks or suddenly required more hands-on assistance due to physical or even cognitive limitations. You could feel concerned about leaving them alone after the holidays yet not sure what to do next.

The first thing I often recommend to families is to evaluate if their loved one's needs are being met.

Is the house clean?  
Are they eating well?  
Are they able to get around?  
Are they social or do you fear they may be isolated?

Do they have signs of memory loss?

If answers to any of these questions raise concerns, it is likely time to begin preparing for a transition. Here are a few tips that will help get you and your family off on the right foot.

Determine What is Most Important. When thinking about what may be best for your fam-

ily, take an inventory of what matters most to you and your loved one. Proximity to family? Having an active social life with frequent activities? What type of environment would make your loved one feel most at home?

Review Their Financial Reality. Look at your loved one's retirement savings, Social Security, pensions, home equity and other assets and income. What can they afford based on their current monthly living expenses? Do they have long-term care insurance? What debt do they need to pay off? Are family members planning to help financially with this next phase? This reality check will

confirm what options you can consider together.

Begin Researching Your Options. Once you've determined what's most important and you have a budget in mind, you can start researching your options. You may consider having your mom/dad/loved one move in with you or another close family member. If your loved one has an active social life and has more limited needs, in-home care might be appealing. If you feel your loved one could benefit from hands-on care and an active, social community while maintaining some independence, assisted living may be the best fit.

Engage Their Care Team –

It is never too early to engage your loved ones' medical providers. I have found that a trusted, third party resource is helpful in these situations – not only does the provider know your parent well, but he/she can provide an objective and informed recommendation to your family. And when the time is right, this person may help you start the conversation about a transition.

Prepare Those Important Documents – Even if you aren't sure when you may want to make a transition, you can get your paperwork in order right away. All too often, families wait until a crisis hits and they are left overwhelmed with

these details. Things you could begin gathering now include: an emergency information sheet, an Authorization to Release Confidential Information form, house pharmacy form, copies of photo ID and Medicare card, and a copy of their living will. To help ease the burden, Aegis Living offers a preparedness toolkit and has contacts at each local community at the ready to help families plan for what's next, no matter what path they may take.

Most importantly, remember you aren't alone. Engage professionals to help guide you and your loved during this time of change to ensure a smooth transition for all.

## Do I have to File Taxes this Year?

By Jim Miller  
Special to the Times

Whether or not you are required to file a federal income tax return this year depends not only on how much you earned last year (in 2019), but also the source of that income, as well as your age and your filing status.

Here's a rundown of this tax season's IRS tax filing requirement thresholds.

For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2019 gross income – which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits, unless you are married and filing separately – was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you may not have to file. But if it's over, you will.

- Single: \$12,200 (\$13,850 if you're 65 or older by Jan. 1, 2020).

- Married filing jointly: \$24,400 (\$25,700 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$27,000 if you're both over 65).

- Married filing separately: \$12,200 at any age.

- Head of household: \$18,350 (\$20,000 if age 65 or

older).

- Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child: \$24,400 (\$25,700 if age 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with information on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the "Tax Guide for Seniors" (publication 554) or see [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf).

### Check Here, Too

There are, however, some other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirements.

For example, if you earned more than \$400 from self-employment in 2019, owe any special taxes like an alternative minimum tax, or get premium tax credits because you, your spouse or a dependent is enrolled in a Health Insurance Marketplace (Obamacare) plan, you'll need to file.

You'll also need to file if you're receiving Social Security benefits, and one-half of your benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest exceeds \$25,000, or

\$32,000 if you're married and filing jointly.

To figure all this out, the IRS offers an interactive tax assistant tool on their website that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you're required to file, or if you should file because you're due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

You can access this tool at [IRS.gov/help/ita](https://www.irs.gov/help/ita) – click on "Do I Need to File a Tax Return?" Or, you can get assistance over the phone by calling the IRS helpline at 800-829-1040.

You can also get face-to-face help at a Taxpayer Assistance Center. See [IRS.gov/localcontacts](https://www.irs.gov/localcontacts) or call 800-829-1040 to locate a center near you.

Even if you're not required

to file a federal tax return this year, don't assume that you're also excused from filing state income taxes. Check with your state tax agency before concluding that you're entirely in the clear. For links to state tax agencies see [Taxadmin.org/](https://www.taxadmin.org/) state-tax-agencies.

### Tax Preparation Help

If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can get help through the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (or TCE) program. Sponsored by the IRS, TEC provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call 800-906-9887 or visit [IRS.treasury.gov/freetaxprep](https://www.irs.gov/treasury.gov/freetaxprep) to locate a service near you.

Also check with AARP, a

participant in the TCE program that provides free tax preparation at more than 4,800 sites nationwide.

To locate an AARP Tax-Aide site call 888-227-7669 or visit [AARP.org/findtaxhelp](https://www.aarp.org/findtaxhelp). You don't have to be an AARP member to use this service.

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

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# REAL ESTATE GALLERY



## REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS  
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



## Home Prices Off to a Great Start in 2019

I'd like to rewrite Dina Washington's memorable song, "What a Difference a Day Makes". I would change the timeframe to a year and modify the lyrics to, "What a difference a year made, eight thousand sixty little hours, brought the buyers and sunshine, where sellers once felt pain ..."

I know, it is a bit stilted, but you get the idea.

It goes without saying that January 2019 was not fun for sellers. Finishing off an 18-month slide, prices bottomed out last January before starting to see a slow recovery.

Now that we have finished out January, 2020, it is a bit easier to see a trend towards recovery. Pundits predicted that we would see an uptick in 2020, and, if January's Central County numbers are any indication, I would say they were right.

Interestingly, 2020's number

of actual sales was not as high as last January (which may be an indicator of less available inventory this year).

The only city in the positive, with January 2020 sales exceeding those of January 2019, was Hayward, up 19.44%. Castro Valley was down a mere 3.23%, while San Lorenzo saw a dip of 21.05% and San Leandro topped the board with a decrease 23.08%.

While numbers of homes sold was down, the real news here is the dramatic increase in prices.

Castro Valley was at \$778,031 in 2019, which rose to \$886,882 in 2020, an increase of 13.99%. San Leandro, at \$615,942 in 2019, climbed to \$682,186, up 10.75%. San Lorenzo, which saw a January 2019 average of \$574,994, jumped 18.88% to \$683,533. Hayward saw the lowest gains of \$5.40%, up from \$663,645 to \$699,481.

While it is too soon to tell if these trends will continue on into 2020, it signifies a great beginning to a new decade. These numbers are not isolated – we are seeing increases across the Bay Area as buyer confidence seems to be surging. We are also seeing a reemergence of multiple offers, helping propel prices higher.

With the increasing prices we have also seen a corresponding decrease in the average days on the market. Whereas last January had a Central County average of 32.75 days, it has decreased to 26.75 days.

Normal markets begin climbing in January and peak in May – if that is the case in 2020, we can expect to see some significant gains in home prices as we get further into the year.

Data provided by Bay East Association of Realtors.

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.



## Can a First Time Home Buyer Buy A Property With Bay Views and in a Great School District?

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## Expand Your Edible Garden Indoors

By Melinda Myers  
Special to the Times

No matter the season, size of your garden or climate, you can inject homegrown flavor into your meals. Just clear a shelf, countertop or windowsill and get busy planting herbs, greens and even tomatoes to enjoy year-round.

For quick results, grow microgreens. These nutrient packed edibles are ready to harvest in as few as 10 days. Plant microgreen seeds in a quality potting or seed starting mix. A recycled fast food container or other shallow pot with drainage holes works well. Plant the seeds according to label directions, moisten the soil and place in a warm location. Keep the soil moist and move to a sunny window or under artificial lights as soon as sprouts peak through the soil. Then break out the scissors and start harvesting when the second set of leaves appears. Use microgreens on salads, sandwiches, soups or as a snack.

Replace those underutilized appliances cluttering the counter with an under the cabinet LED light garden like the Bamboo Mini LED Grow Light Garden. You'll be able to grow and harvest your own herbs and greens right in the kitchen for easy access. The LED lights will

also help brighten the room – a welcome addition to any dreary winter day.

Purchase plants or start herbs from seeds in individual pots or a container large enough to hold several plants. Select herbs you and your family typically use for seasoning. Basil, chives, sage, parsley, and oregano are a few of the easier herbs to grow. Just harvest a few leaves or sprigs as needed for some homegrown flavor.

Boost the vitamins, minerals and fiber in your meals with leafy greens. Plant an indoor garden of leaf lettuce, spinach, arugula, baby leaf kale and beet greens. A self-watering pot with a built-in overhead light like the Gardener's Revolution® Light Garden Kit ([gardeners.com](http://gardeners.com)) makes it easy to grow a variety of greens at the end of a counter, next to a desk or anywhere you have a few square feet of space.

Harvest greens regularly to keep the plants producing. You'll enjoy the convenience and have no excuse not to boost the flavor and nutritional value of your meals.

Reserve a space in front of a sunny window to grow a tomato or pepper plant. Expand your growing options and ensure a bountiful harvest by supplementing natural daylight



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY

with artificial lights. Start with compact tomato and pepper varieties that require less space. You will probably need to start plants from seeds when growing these vegetables outside the normal outdoor gardening season. Once the plants start flowering, you will need to lend a helping hand. Give the stems a shake for pollination and eventually fruit formation to occur.

Reduce maintenance and the mess with self-watering containers. These planters have reservoirs that hold water that moves into the soil via wicking systems. This provides the plants with a constant supply of water while extending the time between watering. Plus, the self-contained watering setup minimizes the risk of water getting on your floor.

Start plans for your indoor edible garden with a walk

around your home to identify potential growing spaces. Then develop a list of favorite herbs, greens and vegetables you and your family enjoy. Match the space to your favorites and invest in plants and resources that fit your gardening goals and help ensure success. Then start growing and enjoying the benefits of fresh, homegrown produce all year long.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardeners Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

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## Be Proactive with Whiteflies

By Buzz Bertolero  
Special to the Times

**Q** I had a severe infestation of whiteflies last year. Can I spray a dormant spray to prevent them from returning?

**A** Whiteflies are a summer pest that plague vegetable gardens, evergreen shrubs, and herbicides plants such as escallonias, pyracantha, geraniums, and fuchsias.

They are a serious problem on tomatoes, squash, peppers, eggplant, melons, and pumpkins.

It's beneficial to make one application of an oil spray to evergreen shrubs during the winter months. It will clean up the over-wintering whiteflies, however, it will not eradicate the problem from returning.

Whiteflies are mobile, so they can migrate in from other yards.

The population starts slowly, and they build up rapidly when the temperatures warm up.

When temperatures are over 85°F, whiteflies can complete

a generation in as little as 18 days.

You must be proactive before this happens. It's very difficult to control whiteflies once the population explodes. The first thing you need to do is to be diligent in looking for them early on.

In April, place several yellow sticky traps in the area where they were a problem last year. The adults are attracted to the color yellow and are then caught when they land in the clear sticky resin. The traps monitor the activity and level of adult whiteflies in your garden.

Once I see whiteflies in the

traps, I start looking at the underside of the leaves of the host plants. Early on, you can just pick the infected leaves off and discard them. When the population starts to build up, you spray with an oil product.

The best time of the day to spray is in the early evening just before the sunset. Your goal is to keep the population at a manageable level, so you need to be pro-active all summer long.

The biggest mistake in a vegetable garden is waiting to do something. By mid-summer, when the population is huge, your alternative is to dig the vegetable plants up and discard



them.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advance California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is [www.dirtgardener.com](http://www.dirtgardener.com) and questions can be sent by email to [buzz@dirtgardener.com](mailto:buzz@dirtgardener.com) or on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero](https://www.facebook.com/Buzz.Bertolero)



### Sowing Seeds

It's not too early to sow some flower seeds outdoors, including cosmos, sweet alyssum, sweet peas, California poppies and larkspur. Start seeds indoors in flats for summer vegetables, including tomatoes, squash and peppers.



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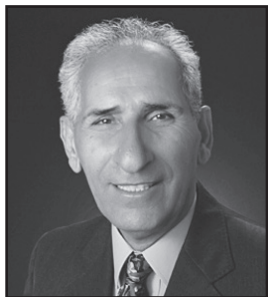
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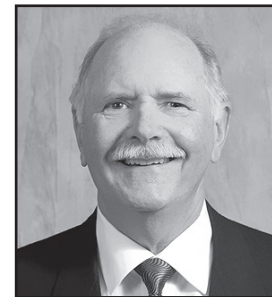
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47					48							
49					50				51			

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12 Place for sports reporters  
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35 Bacchanalian blast  
36 Yonder  
37 Hallux, more commonly  
40 That girl  
41 Superfood berry  
42 Mexican miss  
47 Showroom sample  
48 One of three rulers  
49 Paradise  
50 Tree fluid  
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2 Raw rock  
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6 Opposed  
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**ANSWERS ON PAGE 3**

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## Cutter: Various transportation projects on the table for 2020

continued from front page

ected to serve a one-year term.

The commission elected Emeryville Councilman John Bauters as its new Vice Chair.

"I am so pleased to be elected to serve as chair of the Alameda County Transportation Commission," said Cutter. "It is an honor to lead Alameda CTC in partnership with my colleagues, as we continue to drive forward transportation excellence with acclaimed projects and programs throughout Alameda County."

Cutter's priorities for 2020 and beyond include:

- Advancement of high profile multi-jurisdictional, multimodal corridor improvements
- Improving transit options throughout the county to provide a reliable and connected system
- Ensuring safe mobility options for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Pushing forward rail strategy in partnership with other agencies, importantly the County-wide Rail Safety Enhancement Program
- Expansion of model educational and supportive programs like Safe Routes to Schools and the Affordable Student Transit Pass program



**Mayor Pauline Cutter will chair the county transportation commission.**

- Closing gaps in the trails network
  - Expansion of express lanes
- Cutter talked about the many projects going into construction this year, including:
- 7th Street Grade Separation East project, which is part of the Global Opportunities for the Port of Oakland (GoPort) program, that will realign and replace the existing railroad underpass and multi-use path along 7th Street between Interstate 880 (I-880) and Maritime Street.
  - State Route 84 (SR-84) Widening and SR-84/I-680 Interchange Improvements project

that will widen and conform SR-84 to expressway standards between south of Ruby Hill Drive and the I-680 interchange in southern Alameda County.

- I-80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project, which will reconfigure the interchange, located in northwest Berkeley near its boundary with the City of Albany to improve navigation and traffic operations on Gilman Street to reduce congestion, shorten queues and improve safety, while also closing the gap in local and regional bicycle facilities between the Bay Trail and North Berkeley.

Alameda CTC implements the voter-approved Measures B and BB, as well as the Measure F vehicle registration fee, to improve transportation throughout Alameda County.

"Thanks to the voter-approved Measure BB, we are able to leverage those local dollars to support multi-modal transportation infrastructure in Alameda County, including to improve mobility and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, and enhance and support transit service, while also providing programs to our youth and seniors to make the county more livable and affordable,"



TIMES FILE PHOTO

**The Alameda CTC funds transportation projects throughout Alameda County.**

says Vice Chair John Bauters, a City of Emeryville Councilmember.

Alameda CTC plans, funds and delivers transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable

Alameda County. Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers the expenditure plan for the Measure B sales tax approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000 and the expenditure plan for Measure BB, approved by more

than 70 percent of voters in November 2014. For the 17th year in a row, Alameda CTC received a clean, unmodified opinion from independent auditors. Visit [www.AlamedaCTC.org](http://www.AlamedaCTC.org) to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on Facebook and Twitter.

## Measure N: State education bond on the March 3 ballot, too

continued from front page

at the city average of \$360,000 would see their taxes go up by \$162 a year.

Measure N has been endorsed by the San Leandro Teachers Association, the San Leandro Education Foundation, Mayor Pauline Cutter, former Mayors Ellen Corbett, Stephen Cassidy and Shelia Young, construction unions and the Alameda County Democratic Party.

The *East Bay Times*, however, in a Jan. 12 editorial advised a "No" vote on the measure, saying that the district has run up too much debt per child for its schools. The editorial pointed out that San Leandro's school debt would be a cumulative \$515 million, or \$58,000 per student, if this fifth bond measure in recent years passes. The editorial said San Leandro's needs were real, but they should be fixed at a more

gradual pace.

The school district's website has a school-by-school breakdown of what it plans to spend the bond money on, at <https://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us/Page/11542>.

### State Education Bond

Voters will also be deciding on a \$15 billion state education bond issue, Proposition 13, not to be confused with 1978's Proposition 13. In fact, backers of the earlier measure, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, are the main opponents of this one.

This year's Prop 13 would give \$9 billion to K-12 schools and \$6 billion to college and universities. However, the new Proposition 13 would be repaid out of the state's general fund.

Adding interest charged over



TIMES FILE PHOTO

**All the schools in the district, including Washington, will be upgraded if the measure passes.**

the life of the bonds, the total cost to repay the measure would be \$26 billion.

Proposition 13 is the only proposition on the statewide ballot on March 3.

### Also on the Ballot

Incumbent county supervisor Nate Miley is being challenged in District 4 by community activist Evelyn Goolsby.

Races for Congress and the state legislature are lightly contested. Incumbent Democratic Congresswoman Barbara Lee in the 13th District is opposed by teacher and software engineer Nikka Piterman, a Republican.

In the 15th District, Democrat Eric Swalwell, running for re-election to Congress after briefly running for president, is opposed by two registered Republicans, three fellow Democrats, and a candidate who does not state a party preference.

State Senator Nancy Skinner is unopposed for re-election in the 9th District.

Assemblyman Rob Bonta, a Democrat, is opposed by Republican Steven Slauson, an electrical contractor in the 18th District. In the 20th District, incumbent Democrat Bill Quirk is being challenged by Repub-

lican entrepreneur Son Nguyen, accountant Vipandee Bajwa, a Democrat, and by legal assistant Alexis Villalobos, a Democrat.

Three candidates are vying for the Alameda County Board of Education Ward 5 seat. Lisa Brunner is a retired aircraft electrician, Janevete Cole is a parent-educator, and Luis Reynoso is a business professor.

There are likewise three candidates for Alameda County Superior Court Judge #2. They are trial attorney Elena Condes, civil rights attorney Mark Fickes, and administrative law judge Lilla Szelenyi.

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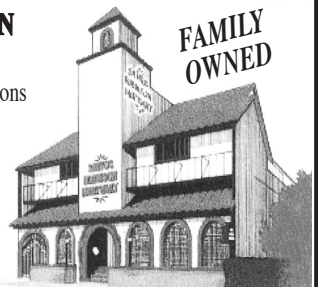
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FD 442

# BART Police Chief Stepping Up Officer Presence Onboard Trains

BART General Manager Bob Powers recently announced the hiring of Ed Alvarez as the transit system's new chief of police.

Alvarez, a 22-year veteran of the BART Police Department, is an East Bay native who has spent his entire law enforcement career moving up the ranks within the department.

The new chief was tasked with making immediate changes to increase officer presence on board trains and to reduce crime.

"We must do more to ensure all riders feel safe and to prevent crime on BART," said General Manager Powers. "Ed Alvarez brings the internal knowledge coupled with the creative thinking to better serve our riders, support our officers, and increase accountability without delay."

The appointment became effective immediately as did new deployment strategies that are responding to concerns voiced by riders.

Recently, a newly created team of 12 police officers began riding trains in pairs and walking platforms on nights and weekends.

The team will supplement a just-approved "ambassador program" which will begin on Feb. 10, utilizing unarmed police staff to prevent and de-escalate problems onboard trains.

The two programs will put 22 police staff aboard trains, representing a new shift in the deployment strategies of the police department.

Chief Alvarez is a first generation Mexican-American, fluent in Spanish, who grew up in Newark riding BART to A's games.



BART PHOTO

Ed Alvarez was announced as BART's new chief of police.

## Age Well, Drive Smart Class for Older Drivers

Older drivers are invited to hear about driving tips from a California Highway Patrol officer on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Eden Medical Center Conference Center (2nd Floor), 20101 Lake Chabot Road in Castro Valley. RSVP: 510-727-8485

Current data shows that there are more than 49.2 million licensed drivers aged 65 and older in the United States as of 2016.

Driving helps older adults stay mobile and independent. But the risk of being injured in a motor vehicle crash increases as you age. Nationally, an average of 712 older adults are injured every day in crashes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

You may be a good driver, but as you age you may begin to experience changes in function or medical conditions that

can affect your ability to drive safely and react to hazards. The good news is that there are steps you can take to help stay safe on the road.

- Monitor any changes, such as your vision or reflexes.
- Work with your doctor when age-related changes affect your driving.
- Refresh your knowledge of the rules of the road.
- Make changes to improve your health.



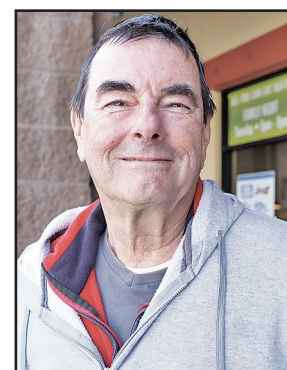
## INQUIRING REPORTER

Are you following Trump's trial?

— Asked around town last Friday

A little bit. I think the Republicans have very narrow vision, refusing to accept the evidence. They don't want to hear the truth. It's a huge threat to democracy. If allowed, it sets a bad precedent.

**Ron Creager**  
San Leandro

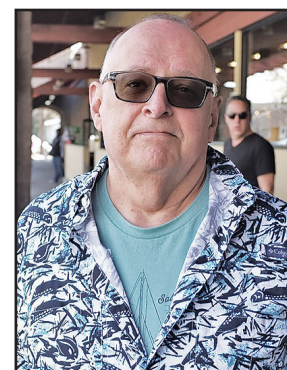


He won't be removed from office because he's doing a good job as the leader of America.

**Rene Amon**  
San Leandro

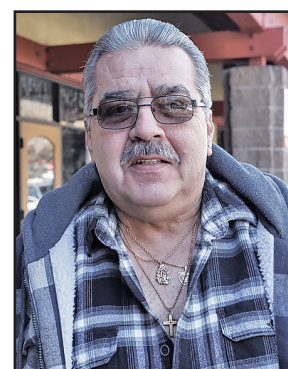
I think it's kabuki theater. How can you have a trial without any witnesses sworn in before the jurors?

**Leslie Tereck**  
San Leandro



I'm watching every day. He didn't cause a war. I don't think he has abused his power. I didn't vote for him but I think we should just move on to the next election and see what happens.

**Monty Perry**  
San Leandro



They should have witnesses. I'm going to read the book by John Bolton. It's history in the making. I've been watching it go down. We can only hope that Americans see it and it influences their vote in the election.

**Diane Goodman**  
San Francisco,  
works in San Leandro



## 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.

#### Plastics: Play by the Rules

Editor:

In your January 30 edition ("Alameda County Looks at Ban on Plastic Utensils," Page 1), you noted a new interest in single use plastic utensils and that the state is putting out a lot of rules covering SB 1383, the 2016 law.

What is not mentioned is the volume of garbage being buried in the state today is about the same now as it was 30 years ago (42 million tons) when the first waste reduction law (AB 939) was enacted in 1989.

Granted California has six or seven million more people than it did in 1990, but some analysts say we haven't broken the addiction to garbage-as-usual that surrounds us.

If your own carts play by the rules, look in your neighbor's. The invasive rules are local government's punishment for doing too little and too late to reduce waste.

—Arthur R. Boone, Oakland  
Principal, Center for Recycling Research

#### Appreciation for First Responders

Editor:

I would just like to take a minute to

say thanks to our firefighters, police, and all those that have served and are now serving our country.

I appreciate your time put in for my (our) safety, and making our country a safer place to live.

Please stay safe, and God bless you all!

—Phyllis Hanson  
San Leandro

#### The Deep State

Editor:

Yet another letter, filled with insults against His Excellency, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, is printed in the San Leandro Times.

A letter from Dwight Pitcaithley who can only express his views by resorting to a barrage of expletives. We've already seen these kind of letters from another of San Leandro's erudite scholars.

Pitcaithley writes: "The great comedian George Carlin once said, 'There's a bunch of dumb mother...(expletive) in this country'." "(expletive)"? You're on display.

While Democrats display their rage with their "impeachment" sham, Donald Trump gathers huge crowds who come to support and to listen to him. Meanwhile, in the House of Congress proceedings

we saw the Deep State on display: many foreign mercenaries, working for the U.S. Intelligence Services; people like Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman and his brother from Ukraine; Ambassador Yovanovitch, a Russian renegade; Fiona Hill, a British asset; Ambassador Sonland, from somewhere in Europe, etc. These people were supposed to work for the president.

There have been many Trojan Horses installed by the Deep State in the Trump administration to prevent the implementation of his electoral program of draining the swamp, withdrawing the troops from abroad and stopping the influx of illegal scabs. Yes, some of these Trojan Horses are in jail.

Let me tell the "progressives" what this "impeachment" is about: It is about the continuation of the Cold War with Russia, using the Ukraine, and other countries, as proxies. This is the policy you support.

—Leo T. West  
San Leandro

#### Drastic on Plastic

Editor:

They want to ban plastic, knives, forks and spoons.

Some call it bombastic, some call them buffoons.

If they ban all plastics from me and from you,

Will they ban our plastic credit cards, too?

—George Z. Banks  
San Leandro

PETS OF THE WEEK



Copper

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are best buddies Copper and Moose, the guinea pigs.

**Copper**, a reddish brown guinea pig, loves spending time with his good buddy **Moose**, a white and brown piggy. They love playing and chilling in their



Moose

guinea pig castle and burrowing in towels.

They also enjoy snacking on timothy hay, an occasional piece of fruit and playing in the water dish.

For more information on Copper and Moose, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.

# Nominate Someone for Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame

Nominations are being accepted for the Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame, honoring extraordinary women making a difference in the community.

Honorees will be celebrated at the 27th Annual Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 11, at the USS Hornet – Sea, Air and Space Museum, 707 W. Hornet Ave. in Alameda.

The deadline to submit a nomination is Feb. 7.

The Women’s Hall of Fame is accepting nominations in 13 categories: Business & Professions; Community Service; Culture &

Art; Education; Emerging Leader; Environment; Health; Justice; Non-Traditional Careers; Philanthropy; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; Sports & Athletics; and Youth.

Submit your nominations in any of these categories today. A nomination can be submitted online at <http://www.acgov.org/whof> where there is also more information about tickets and sponsorships that affords deserving youth the opportunity to attend the event.

More than 250 women have

been inducted into the Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame since its inception in 1993.

In addition to commending exceptional women leaders from Alameda County, the annual event raises funds for youth scholarships and supports local nonprofit community partners serving women, youth and families.

This countywide event is co-hosted by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. The Women’s

Hall of Fame is an annual event held to recognize outstanding women for their achievements and contributions, and to support community partners serving women and families in Alameda County.

The event is expected to sell out with more than 500 people present to recognize the achievements of our inductees and to contribute support to youth and community partners.

The next group of Women’s Hall of Fame inductees will be announced in early spring.

## Hayward Animal Shelter to Host ‘All Fur Love’ Pet Adoption on Saturday

Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court, Hayward, will hold its annual “All Fur Love” Pet Adoption Event and Fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dogs, puppies, cats, kittens, bunnies and Guinea pigs will be available. Assemblyman Bill Quirk will sponsor the pet adoptions and the Hayward Animal Shelter volunteers will be on hand.

Bring your favorite furry,



feathered, scaly friend to the photo, \$10 suggested donation. Valentine’s Pet Photo Booth Raffle prizes. You don’t need to be present to win.

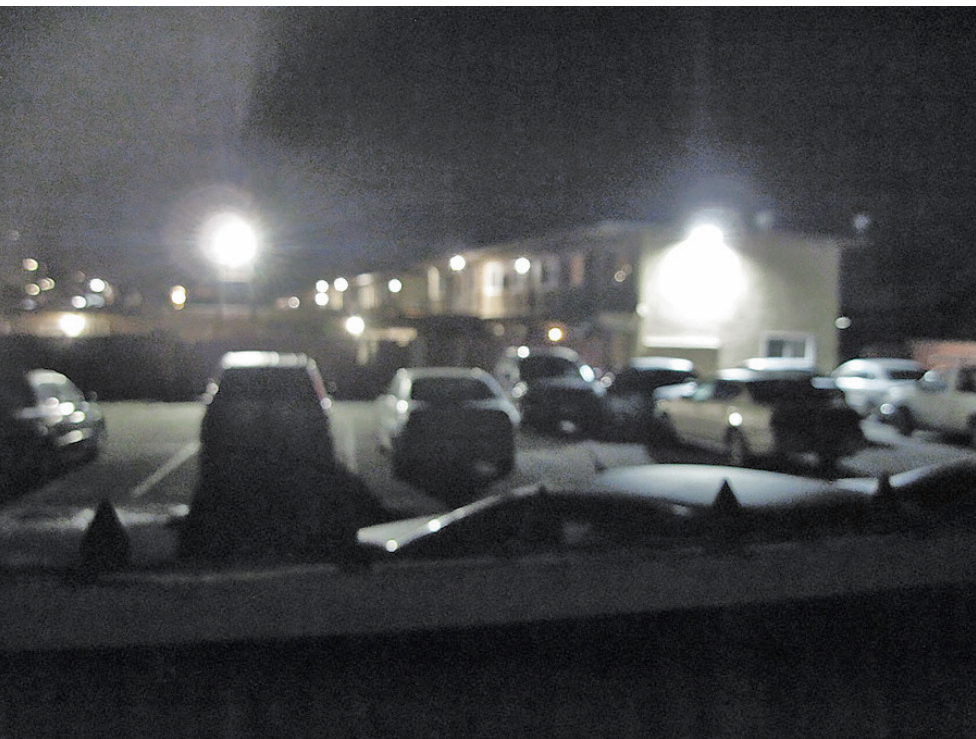


PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The security lights for the parking lot next door shined into the Ford’s bedroom, keeping them awake at night.

## Lights: Resident fought against blaring flood lights for a year

continued from front page

brightly lit, and even with heavy curtains the light still came in, he said. So Ford called City Hall.

For almost a year, two city departments tried to resolve his complaint without results, Ford said. And he said he couldn’t get a building inspector to come at night to see the problem.

There are some city ordinances on external lighting, but officials were not sure they applied to this case. Several city officials said that many

“The lights were horrendous, absolutely horrendous.”

— David Ford

disputes between neighbors had no specific law that applied, and were “civil matters” that the

property owners had to work out themselves.

The apartment building property managers, R.S. Properties in Fremont, did not return calls for comment.

A supervising building inspector visited the night of Jan. 14 and was dazzled by the brilliance, and told the apartment building’s owners to turn down one light, re-aim a second one and move a third.

The lights were moved or re-aimed. Ford had offered to let the apartment house owners put lights on his fence, facing away from his house toward the lot. The property owners took him up on it.

Now stray light coming from the side of the new fixtures is brightening Ford’s patio and living room downstairs.

He’s resumed his complaints to the property owner and the city.

Ford said, though, that a good night’s sleep upstairs is definitely easier.

### Send Your Sweetheart & Loved Ones a Special Valentine Message

Published in the February 12th issue of the Castro Valley Forum and the February 13th issue of the San Leandro Times!

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**DEADLINE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020 • 11AM**

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

**Ronnie, Andrew & Ashleigh**  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
To the world's most terrific kids.  
All our love, Mama and Denny

**STYLE #1**  
Line of hearts • First line bold  
Up to 20 words

**JOAN**

Happy Valentine's Day To My Love  
We'll Be Together Always — RJ

**STYLE #2**  
Large heart • Short name on heart  
Up to 10 words

**TO MY VALENTINE**  
♥♥ JOAN SMITH ♥♥  
ALL MY LOVE ROBERT JONES

**STYLE #3**  
All-cap message over large heart  
Up to 10 words

♥♥ JOAN SMITH ♥♥  
Thank You For Being My True Love  
For All These Years!  
Your Sweetheart,  
Robert Jones

**STYLE #4**  
All-cap name with hearts  
Up to 20 words

I am enclosing a check, for the total amount, made out to the San Leandro Times.  
Please charge my credit card. ☐ VISA ☐ MC

ACCT#: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK STYLE FROM ABOVE: ☐ #1 ☐ #2 ☐ #3 ☐ #4  
PRINT YOUR MESSAGE BELOW, ONE BOX FOR EACH WORD


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