

WEEKEND WEATHER

Cloudy Partly cloudy

HIGHS: 75-91

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

LOWS: 48-57

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 36 • NO. 12

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY SLHS DRAMA DEPT.

Larry Young as Sebastian and Catherine Budge as Ariel along with the ensemble of 9th to 12th grade students at San Leandro High School rehearse *The Little Mermaid*, opening on Friday night.

Little Mermaid Opens Friday at SLHS

Students at San Leandro High School will bring the magic of the ocean to the stage with their upcoming production of *The Little Mermaid*, opening this Friday night.

Performances will be held at the San Leandro Arts Education Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave., on Friday and Saturday nights, March 20, 21, 27, and 28, at 7 p.m., and Sunday afternoons, March 22 and 29, at 1 p.m.

Audiences are encouraged to buy discounted tickets online at www.sanleandropac.com, as prices will increase at the door.

The beloved musical tells the story of Ariel, a young woman determined to discover who she truly is and find the courage to use her own voice.

Along the way, the story highlights the power of friendship through loyal companions like Flounder, Sebastian, and *see MERMAID, page 11*



City Council Cancels Marina Deal

Council votes to terminate deal with Cal Coast to develop the marina that was 15 years in the making

By Ruben Banuelos
San Leandro Times

The City Council voted to cancel a part of an old deal with Cal Coast for the development of the San Leandro Marina shoreline project at its March 9 meeting.

The council voted 5-0 to cancel the deal that was 15 years in the making, with one council member, Dylan Bold, recusing himself.

The long delayed plan was to turn the former marina into an aquatic park with kayaks and other water activities, along with building housing, a hotel and a market.

The council terminated the elements of the deal for a hotel, apartments, restaurant and market. The details for public parks and other city work remain.

The project had been delayed for years. Construction was supposed begin by December 2024. The city *see MARINA, page 12*

Police Arrest Pair For Armed Robbery In Washington Manor

Two suspects robbed a food delivery driver of his cell-phone on Pepperdine Street in Washington Manor on the night of February 13.

One of the suspects tried to drive away in the victim's vehicle, but wasn't able to put it in gear because the victim still had the key fob, according to San Leandro police. Both suspects fled the scene in the 14700 block of Pepperdine in their own car just after the robbery at 10:20 p.m. San Leandro police said they later arrested one suspect, which led to the arrest of a second suspect last Thursday, *see ARRESTS, page 5*

East Bay Park District Buys Hayward Shore Land from HARD

The East Bay Regional Park District has acquired approximately 77 acres of shoreline property from the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (H.A.R.D.).

The park district said in a new release the purchase strengthens its long-term efforts to restore vital marsh habitat, prepare for sea level rise, and secure permanent public access along the San Francisco Bay Trail at Hayward Regional Shoreline. The property was originally donated to H.A.R.D. in 1980 by the Leslie Salt Company. The property is part of a broader regional legacy of

“The property lies within the Restore Hayward Marsh area.

converting former industrial salt ponds and landfill areas into restored wetlands and public open space.

The park district said the transfer continues that legacy by unifying stewardship under the park district and aligning management with regional *see LAND, page 11*

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 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. at 2600 Teagarden St., San Leandro. For more information, call Zaira Duncan at 667-3522.



San Leandro Art Association Names Paula Greer January Artist of the Month



PHOTO COURTESY SAN LEANDRO ART ASSOCIATION

Paula Greer's painting won her the art association's artist of the month award for January.

San Leandro Art Association members bring a piece of artwork to share and display to the SLAA's monthly meetings at the Main Library on the second Tuesday of the month.

Members and the community participate in each meeting and vote for their favorite piece of art. The winner receives a \$25 check and a ribbon.

The January 2026 winner was Paula Greer for her amazing "Tulips" rendered in colored pencil. Congratulations to Paula.

Adult Ed. Center To Host Job Fair

The San Leandro Adult and Career Education Center and Rubicon Programs of Hayward will host a Job and Resource Fair on Friday, March 27, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., bringing together local employers, training programs, and community organizations to support job seekers and adult learners.

The job fair is free and open to the community and there's plenty of parking. Explore career pathways, learn about educational programs, and connect with hiring employers and valuable community resources.

Meet with representatives from a variety of industries, receive information about job openings and training programs, and access resources that support careers, education, and personal growth.

Announcements

Author Talk with Jen de Oliveira at the San Leandro Main Library

Author Jen de Oliveira will read from her popular Reggie: Kid Penguin graphic novel series on Saturday, March 28, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. She will share insight into how she creates her books, including a drawing demonstration. There will be a drawing to win a copy of Jen's books. Light refreshments served. Best for ages 4+.

Conversations by Women for Women: The Process of Getting Older

Connect with other women 50 and older in a safe, welcoming space to share and discuss the challenges and experiences of later life on the first Monday of the month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. All people 50+ are welcome to join the conversation.

FLEX Rides Program Informational Session

Learn about the City of San Leandro's FLEX Rides Transportation Service for residents age 50 and older on Tuesday, March 24, at 1 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. Whether you're new to the program or are a returning member in need of review, come to this information session.

Senior Clipper Card Sign up & Wheelchair Marking And Tether Strap Program

The AC Transit's Accessible Services Department will issue Clipper Cards for ages 65+ (cards issued with no cash value) on Tuesday, March 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd. AC Transit will also provide a free service for marking and installing tether straps on mobility devices. Please 510-891-7113 for more information about how you can get your mobility aid marked or tethered.

All Saints Episcopal Church Holy Week & Easter Sunday Services

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro, will hold a potluck supper with a reliving of the Last Supper on Thursday, April 2, at 6 p.m. The church will hold a Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. The Great Easter Vigil will be held on Holy Saturday, April 4, at 8 p.m. On Easter Sunday there will be masses offered at 8 a.m. (traditional spoken with no music) and 10:15 a.m. (contemporary with hymns and choir). No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey you are welcome at All Saints.

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*Previous members of 12 months or less are not eligible for this promo. (Not to be combined with any other offers. All club features are included) in your monthly dues except for babysitting, swim lessons, massage and personal training.

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MARCH 27

SUPPORTING EDUCATION IN SAN LEANDRO

www.sledfund.org/events

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 Port of Oakland, Martin Vitz, Waste Management
 Estudillo Estates Neighborhood Association, Flores Optometry, Friends of Chabot College, IBEW Local 595, Kate & Simon Miller
 Sarah & Bob Bailey, Louis Heystek, Robin & Lance James, Tricia & Fred Reichert, Jill & Alan Stowe, Litha & George Zuber

Community Calendar

Pershing to Speak at the Alta Mira Club

The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro will showcase San Leandro resident artist Suzanne Pershing's kick-off of her newly published book: Chlorophyll the Tooth Fairy (not a children's book) on Saturday, March 21, at 1 p.m. No charge for admission. This is Suzanne's mom's story written by Suzanne and beautifully illustrated by world famous abstract artist Roy DeForest. See the original art that was featured on PBS's Antiques Road Show and hear how this book came to reality. Refreshments served, RSVP to nancyfong@aol.com or leave a message at 510-483-1018. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase to benefit scholarships.

San Leandro High United Parents Crab Feed

San Leandro High School United Parents will host Crab Feed & More on Saturday, March 21, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club, 2200 San Leandro Blvd. Includes Dungeness crab, pasta, meatballs, salad French bread, BYO butter, seasoning, etc. Pre-sold tickets only. No tickets at the door. Visit <https://forms.gle/fXkDzQuaieikPYGE7> for tickets. For questions or to pay by check, email slhsunitedparents@gmail.com.

First United Methodist Labyrinth Prayer Gathering

First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave., will hold Labyrinth Prayer Gatherings on Thursdays at 10 a.m. through April 2. All are welcome.

First United Methodist Church Senior Citizens Exercise and Meditation

First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Ave. in San Leandro, invites senior citizens to a free program of seated exercise and meditation, followed by conversation and table activities accompanied by tea and healthy snacks on Tuesday mornings through May 19 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Nurture your body, mind, and spirit while building community. Meet in Hale Hall which is entered from Bancroft Avenue. All are welcome, non-denominational, no charge. For more information, call the church office at 510-483-0606.

Kids' Easter Craft Party at Creekside Church

All kids and their friends and families are invited to Creekside Community Church's annual Kids' Easter Craft Party on Saturday, March 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 951 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro. Kids will make Easter crafts and enjoy treats. Free and open to the entire community. All children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, visit www.creeksidecommunity.org.

St. John's Church Easter Bake Sale

St. John's Catholic Church, 264 E. Lewelling Blvd. in San Lorenzo will hold an Easter Bake Sale on Saturday, March 21, from 3 to 7 p.m.; and on Sunday, March 22, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Sunday enjoy a continental breakfast. For more information, call the church office at 510-351-5050.

Lose Weight by Joining TOPS

Resolved to lose weight in 2026? Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for the support you need to start your weight loss journey. TOPS is a non profit weight loss support group that meets on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. (doors open at 8:45 a.m.) at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St. in Castro Valley. For more information, contact Linda Brooks at 510-461-3894. Join us for fellowship and support. What do you have to lose?

Hill and Valley Club Bunco Madness

The Hill and Valley Club will present Bunco Madness on Saturday, March 21, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the clubhouse, 1808 B Street in Hayward. Your \$25 ticket includes Bunco and lunch, as well as door prizes and Bunco prizes. Make reservations by March 14. For more information or to make your reservation, email emailpkeathley@icloud.com or call Pat Keathley at 510-461-1321. Proceeds from this event benefit the club's Pennies for Kids project, which purchases new school clothes for children in need.

Scholarship Foundation to Host Fund-Raising Dinner

The San Leandro Scholarship Foundation (SLSF) is hosting its annual Fund-Raising Dinner & Auction to benefit graduating seniors on Thursday, April 16, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14, St. in San Leandro.

The social mingling and silent auction will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by San Leandro High performing arts students.

The keynote speaker will be Caity Ware, producer and executive assistant at Playtone, an American film and television production company. Caity was a member of SLHS Class of 2003.

The SLSF is a local non-profit that awards scholarships to local graduating seniors who attend college, university or a trade school.

This year's dinner celebrates the 100th Anniversary of San Leandro High School in our community.

For more info about the dinner, email Chad Pennebaker at sanleandrosf@gmail.com or call 510-289-9225.

Friends of the Library to Hold Gift Shop Bazaar

The Friends of the San Leandro Library will host a Gift Shop Bazaar on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Shop one-of-a-kind discounted gifts - jewelry, scarves, collectible McDonald's Happy Meal toys, gift books, and more.

Find a little something for your loved ones or treat yourself and help your library thrive. All proceeds benefit the San Leandro Library's programs and services. Credit cards accepted.

McCalley to Speak to CV Democratic Club

AC Transit Board Member Murphy McCalley will be the featured speaker at the Castro Valley Democratic Club meeting on Tuesday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m. at 18330 Redwood Road in Castro Valley. (The CV Women's Club). For more information or for the Zoom link, call Pat Payne at 510-427-5261.

Kindfulness Meditation

All are welcome to the Kindfulness Meditation on the First and Third Friday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Wellness Center at All Saints Church, 911 Dowling Blvd. in San Leandro.

St. John's Church Easter Bake Sale

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Countdown to College: Introduction to Scholarships

Learn how to navigate the college scholarship landscape and identify opportunities that align with your goals on Saturday, March 28, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The workshop will be led by Rebecca Lippman, an experienced advisor and scholarship expert.

I.D.E.S. St. John Spaghetti Lunch & Bingo

I.D.E.S. St. John, 1670 Orchard Ave. in San Leandro, will host a Spaghetti Lunch & Bingo on Saturday, March 21, at noon. Tickets are \$15 which includes lunch and four Bingo cards. Extra Bingo cards for 25 cents. For tickets call, Janet Re at 510-483-1132, or Willie Calvo at 510-207-6326.

More Events

Ken Seideman Jazz Trio to Play on Saturdays

The Ken Seideman Jazz Trio will perform on Saturdays in March from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on - March 21, and March 28 - at the Cordial Wine Bar & Bottle Shop, 3295 Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley. The trio plays jazz, rock, blues and reggae. Ken Seideman on piano and synthesizer, Ed Molyneaux on bass and vocals, and Tim Caldwell on drums. For reservations, call 510-876-3368.

SOUL Line Dancing - New Class Alert

The City of San Leandro's Human Services Department will host a new class with NFL Raiderette Alumni Lori Hurley to teach SOUL Line Dancing for men and women 50+ on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 East 14th St. Drop-in at \$10 per class. Register online at sanleandrorec.org or stop by the San Leandro Senior Community Center to register. Use course code 27085 for February classes.

Wildlife Watercolor Paintings at the CV Library

Acclaimed local artist Rita Sklar will have a show of her award-winning watercolor wildlife paintings at the Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave., through March. See Oryx, Iguana, Zebras and more. Included will be two of her

View the Women's History Month Tiny Art Show

View the Women's History Month Tiny Art Show at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Art work will be on display through April 1. Thank you to patron submitted through April 1. Thank you to art inspired by women artists the San Leandro Art Association to highlight and celebrate women creatives. Get in-

spired, learn about women's history and enjoy the talent in our community. Art work will be on display through April 1. Thank you to patron submitted through April 1. Thank you to art inspired by women artists the San Leandro Art Association to highlight and celebrate women creatives. Get in-

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A roast leg of lamb is budget-friendly and can feed a crowd.

of spring cooking that dates back to ancient times and is rooted in a number of religious traditions.

It is the most popular meat consumed worldwide, but in this country it still ranks below beef, pork and poultry.

Lamb is simple to cook. One way to prepare leg of lamb is by sprinkling the outside with granulated garlic, black pepper, leaf thyme and a little rosemary; another way is with a Dijon mustard sauce. The lamb is baked at about 350°F for 30 minutes to the pound.

Probably the worst thing people do to lamb is overcook it or to smother it in mint jelly.

Lamb should not be cooked past an internal temperature of 150°F. Mint jelly overpowers the taste of the meat. Instead, try serving lamb with Mint Sauce that's much lighter than the jelly.

Health-wise, lamb contains very little marbling, so the fat can easily be trimmed. It has about the same number of calories as beef and it is high in B vitamins, niacin, zinc and iron.

MARINATED LEG OF LAMB

- 2/3 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup wine vinegar
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, slivered
- 1 teaspoon ginger spice

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 (4- to 5-pound) leg of lamb

In bowl, combine oil, vinegar, onion, garlic, ginger, salt and pepper and mix well. Pour over lamb in shallow dish and refrigerate 6 hours or overnight, turning lamb occasionally. Drain lamb, reserving marinade, and place meat on rack in shallow roasting pan.

Roast at 325°F for about 2-1/2 hours or until done as desired, basting frequently with marinade. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

more sugar or vinegar as needed.

LAMB SHANKS WITH LENTILS

- 1 pound dried lentils, rinsed
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 sprigs thyme or 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 bottle red wine
- 4 lamb shanks
- Salt and pepper to taste

Heat oven to 400°F. Combine first 7 ingredients in roasting pan or casserole and stir; bring to a boil on top of stove, then nestle lamb shanks among lentils, cover pan and put in oven. Lower heat to 350°F and let cook, undisturbed, for about an hour. Uncover and stir lentils gently; season with salt and pepper. Recover and cook about an hour more, until lentils are very tender and meat

begins to pull away from bone. Don't worry about overcooking the lentils. When lamb is tender, uncover pan, raise heat to 400°F and cook for another 15 minutes, just to brown top of shanks a bit. Makes 4 servings.

LAMB CHOPS WITH ROSEMARY

- 4 (1-1/2 inch thick) lamb chops
- 1-1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon minced rosemary leaves
- 2 teaspoons minced parsley
- 1/4 cup red wine
- 3 tablespoons butter
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Brown chops in hot oil in large skillet. Turn heat to low and cook to desired doneness, about 7 minutes on each side for medium. Remove to warm platter.

Add rosemary, parsley and wine to skillet, heat to boiling and reduce slightly. Add butter and stir in. Return lamb to pan and coat with sauce. Season to taste with salt and pepper and serve at once. Makes 4 servings.

LAMB STEW WITH DILL

- 2 pounds boneless lamb from shoulder or breast, cut into roughly 1-1/2 inch chunks
- 8 shallot, peeled
- 12 very small new potatoes, washed

- Salt and pepper
- 2 carrots, diced
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- 8 scallions, trimmed and cut into 2-inch sections
- 1/2 cup snipped dill leaves (or more, to taste)
- Lemon wedges

Put lamb in a broad skillet over high heat; let sear, undisturbed, about 2 minutes, or until underside is nicely browned. Stir and add shallots and potatoes. Cook a couple of minutes longer, and add salt and pepper and a cup of water. Stir, scraping bottom if necessary to loosen any meat bits that are sticking.

Turn heat to low, cover and simmer about 45 minutes, stirring once or twice.

Uncover and add carrots; stir once, re-cover and let simmer about 15 minutes more, or until lamb and potatoes are tender.

Uncover, add peas and scallions. Raise heat to boil away excess liquid. Taste and adjust seasoning.

Serve garnished with dill and accompanied by lemon wedges. Makes 4 servings.

LAMB CHOP & MUSHROOM SKILLET

- 8 lamb chops, about 2-1/2 pounds
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Flour
- 8 ounces mushrooms, sliced
- 6 green onions, sliced
- 4 medium cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 cup beef broth
- 1/2 cup red wine (such as pinot noir)

Sprinkle lamb chops with salt and pepper. In a large skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Lightly coat chops with flour; place in hot skillet.

Sear until well browned, turning once. Remove to a plate and set aside. Reduce heat to medium.

To the skillet add the mushrooms, green onions, garlic, and butter. Cook the vegetables, stirring, for 4 minutes. Add beef broth and red wine and simmer until reduced by about 1/3.

Add lamb chops, cover skillet, and cook for about 15 to 20 minutes, or until lamb chops are done as desired. Serves 4.

MINT SAUCE FOR ROAST LAMB

- 1 cup very finely chopped fresh mint leaves, washed, dried
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 4-6 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 1-3 tablespoons white wine vinegar

Combine sugar with 1/4 cup of balsamic vinegar and 1 tablespoon of white wine vinegar in a small nonreactive saucepan with 1/4 cup water. Heat over medium-low heat until the sugar dissolves, 2 to 3 minutes. Pour over mint and toss well. Add sugar if necessary.

Spring for Some Lamb

Although high-quality California lamb is available year-round, sales more than double this time of year as families gather for Easter and Passover feasts. A culinary bridge across cultures, lamb is a common staple

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Unity Church of San Leandro

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San Leandro Senior Community Center
13909 E. 14th St., San Leandro

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SENIORS

A.I. Is Killing Us

By *Bella Comelo*
Special to the Times

I dread calling my pharmacy as much I dreaded the python that lived in the vicinity of my outhouse in India.

When I call the pharmacy, the Virtual Assistant will first ask for my date of birth and then comes the three standard questions. If the answer to the

“There is no human interaction, and old folks need human touch, a human voice.

three questions is not what I want, the Virtual Assistant will go on repeating the same questions and I'm doomed.

Sometimes I scream so loudly (Live Person, live person please!) at the Virtual Assistant that my neighbor thinks I am having a good fight with my son and comes to the fence to eavesdrop. What a mess.

For older folks, dealing with A.I. is very stressful. They cannot speak to a live person in the pharmacy or many places they call. If they could speak to a live person, they would have been able to vent

about their different aches and pain and feel better.

These Virtual Assistants are detrimental to the health of old folks. There is no human interaction, and old folks need human touch, a human voice to feel safe and loved.

Social isolation is a big factor that deteriorates the health of the elderly. They feel lonely and it bothers them that no one cares about them.

Also, scammers make use of A.I. to scam seniors of their hard-earned money. Family members should warn their old parents and old relatives not to answer calls that they do not recognize and not to click on unknown links.

A.I. is the ability of technology to do some functions like humans. Virtual Assistants like Siri and Alexa can respond to certain commands. It is intriguing.

A.I. Eliminating Jobs

Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) has wiped out many jobs that were done by humans – jobs in customer service, data entry, translators, copywriting and stenography.

Car dealership personnel jobs are also being eliminated. A.I. voice agents and chatbots are handling appointments, inquires about pricing and reducing personnel who deal with car sales.

Globally, an estimated 300 million full-time jobs will be eliminated by A.I.

In their younger days, old folks loved to go shopping in malls and try out new clothes, jewelry and have a delightful time just walking around and window shopping. Now everything you need is online

and big stores are closing. The pleasure of shopping is gone.

If you want to return an item, you have to deal with A.I. again and it takes a while before you get to a live person.

Robot Waiters

The hotel industry will also be affected by A.I. in future. I had the pleasure of going to

“Social isolation is a big factor that deteriorates the health of the elderly.

an Indian restaurant in Dublin, California. The waiter came to take my order, but after a little while, I was served by a robot, who came out carrying my dish.

It was amusing and something new that I experienced. In the future, maybe robots will be able to cook a meal too.

The jobs that may not be eliminated by A. I. are jobs in health care – doctors, nurses, counselors and therapists. Skilled workers like plumbers, carpenters and electricians, and in education – teachers and coaches.

We cannot predict what more A.I. will be able to do. Hopefully Grok will be friendly to the seniors in future.

Arrests: Police track down two suspects after armed robbery on Pepperdine Street

continued from front page
March 12.

Police said they utilized public safety camera searches, and detectives from the Crimes against Persons Unit were able to develop leads on the suspect vehicle.

This led to the identification of 18-year-old Angel Ureno-Vega of Hayward as one of the robbery suspects, police said. Ureno-Vega was

arrested on February 24 at his workplace in San Leandro.

A search warrant executed on his car yielded a Glock handgun matching the description of one used during the crime, police said.

Police conducted forensic analysis of Ureno-Vega's cell phone which led detectives to identify 19-year-old Alexis Cisneros-Robles of Hayward as the second suspect in the

armed robbery.

On March 12, San Leandro Police Department detectives conducted a surveillance operation and took Cisneros-Robles' into custody in Castro Valley.

The police department said this case not only highlights the tenacity of the investigators but also demonstrates the efficacy of technology available to help solve cases.



PHOTO BY YON HARDISTY

Past grantee ForestR worked with Boy Scout Troop 722, represented here by Eagle Scout Ronan Wilfong, to restore Sage Park at the Castro Valley Library and educate the public about the importance of stormwater pollution prevention.

Apply for Clean Water Grant

Up to \$6,000 per project from county program awarded to protect our creeks and bay

The Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program is now accepting applications for its 2026 Community Stewardship Grants.

The program is offering up to \$6,000 per project to support community-based initiatives that prevent stormwater pollution and promote the health of local watersheds.

Stormwater pollution happens when rainwater washes litter, motor oil, pet waste

and other contaminants from streets into storm drains that flow directly to creeks, wetlands and the San Francisco Bay.

Projects must be implemented within Alameda County, and the application deadline is May 4.

Eligible applicants include teachers and student groups, youth organizations, community and environmental groups, homeowner associations and non-profit

organizations.

Proposed activities can range from litter cleanups, creek restoration and wildlife habitat enhancement projects to art and multimedia projects, community outreach events and more. Creative and innovative ideas wanted!

To learn more, including projects funded in the past, and to download the application materials visit www.cleanwaterprogram.org/grants.

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REAL ESTATE GALLERY



REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



How the Iranian War Could Impact Real Estate

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

As the war against Iran enters its third week, there is genuine concern as to what effects it will have on the residential real estate market. Here are key concerns:

The war is limiting access to middle east oil supplies.

The war has definitely curtailed the flow of oil through the straight of Hormuz, through which a substantial portion of the world's oil and gas supplies usually flows from Gulf refineries. Whenever we see limits placed on the supply of any resource such as oil, prices go up, a fact we are already seeing locally.

As prices rise, so do inflation fears.

As the probability of inflation increases, treasury yields increase, resulting in higher mortgage rates. Earlier this year rates had fallen below 6% for the first time since 2022. As the conflict began, the bond market reacted to the risk of rising inflation, inching rates upwards to the low 6%.

As rates rise, affordability decreases.

As we saw in 2022 when rates first started climbing, rising mortgage rates push monthly payments higher, effectively reducing home-buyer purchasing power. Homes a buyer might have been able to afford short weeks ago may now be out of reach.

Stock market volatility is introducing uncertainty.

The increasing prices of

oil and gas, while boosting treasury yields, are causing concern in the stock market, pushing values down. Those buyers who were relying on stock portfolios or retirement funds to provide their downpayment may not be able to secure the funds required for an immediate purchase.

Volatility weakens consumer confidence.

The immediate effect for some buyers and sellers is to put their planned transactions on hold until confidence has been improved. As a result, we could easily see a dip in overall sales volume and, if the situation continues for a while, a lowering of home prices as well. All of this comes on the heels of hopes that 2026 would be the year we transition out of the depressed real estate market we have endured the past almost four



Ox-eye daisy

When in bloom, it's easy to see why this European native was introduced in the U.S. as a garden and florist ornamental in the 1800s.

It now threatens as an invasive species in the wild. It is commonly found along roadways or spread across fields, meadows and lakeshores. Once established, it can spread rapidly by means of roots and seeds, crowding out native plants. The end result is of use to few wildlife species.

Source: www.nps.gov - Brenda Weaver



RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

- 2011 West Ridge Court #12 94546: \$699,000 [2 BD - 1,440 SF - 1977
- 15922 Wellington Way 94578: \$822,000 [4 BD - 2,035 SF - 1947
- 20089 Emerald Court 94546: \$925,000 [4 BD - 1,468 SF - 1950
- 2940 Somerset Avenue 94546: \$1,000,000 [4 BD - 1,861 SF - 1948
- 18201 Lake Chabot Road 94546: \$1,111,500 [3 BD - 1,901 SF - 1965
- 4604 Lawrence Drive 94546: \$1,190,000 [3 BD - 1,709 SF - 1956

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$925,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$1,330,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,450,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,270,142

SAN LEANDRO

- 400 Davis Street #103 94577: \$350,000 [2 BD - 1,224 SF - 1982
- 749 Woodgate Place 94579: \$415,000 [2 BD - 1,169 SF - 1975
- 653 Fargo Avenue 94579: \$500,000 [3 BD - 1,509 SF - 1948
- 1246 Aileen Street 94577: \$780,000 [3 BD - 1,008 SF - 1943
- 15596 Tilden Street 94579: \$890,000 [3 BD - 1,666 SF - 1958
- 1205 Amber Court 94577: \$1,100,000 [4 BD - 1,742 SF -]
- 1884 Lanier Avenue 94579: \$1,125,000 [3 BD - 2,078 SF - 1958
- 2266 Harborview Drive 94577: \$1,200,000 [3 BD - 1,865 SF - 1960

TOTAL SALES: 9
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$620,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$867,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,150,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$858,333

SAN LORENZO

- 1844 Via Natal 94580: \$840,000 [3 BD - 1,196 SF - 1955

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$662,500 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$755,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$888,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$755,071

HAYWARD

- 2363 Arf Avenue 94545: \$570,000 [2 BD - 988 SF - 1970
- 864 Lester Avenue 94541: \$630,000 [3 BD - 1,292 SF - 1950
- 314 Sparling Drive 94544: \$705,000 [3 BD - 951 SF - 1950
- 1120 Holmes Way 94541: \$715,000 [3 BD - 1,921 SF - 1979
- 24545 Leona Drive 94542: \$727,500 [5 BD - 1,819 SF - 1947
- 1781 B Street 94541: \$745,000 [3 BD - 1,561 SF - 1905
- 27493 Orlando Avenue 94545: \$835,000 [3 BD - 1,815 SF - 1955
- 24282 Willimet Way 94544: \$840,000 [3 BD - 1,152 SF - 1955
- 620 Chevy Chase Way 94544: \$890,000 [4 BD - 1,876 SF - 1958
- 24920 Soto Road 94544: \$890,000 [5 BD - 2,388 SF - 1962
- 27480 Calaroga Avenue 94545: \$920,000 [3 BD - 1,119 SF - 1955
- 2472 Bradford Avenue 94545: \$930,000 [3 BD - 1,468 SF - 1958
- 1525 Middle Lane 94545: \$1,250,000 [4 BD - 2,244 SF - 2016

TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$450,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$775,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,750,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$819,714

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A	1-4	1-4	14582 Outrigger Drive	\$599,000	2/2	United Brokers	Tere/Danielle	(408) 828-3897
A	1-4	1-4	2515 Galleon Place	\$719,900	3/2.5	United Brokers	Tere/Danielle	(408) 828-3897
A	2-4	2-4	584 Eleanor Place	\$850,000	3/2	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555

CITY GUIDE

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How to Remove Aphids in the Spring

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Every year, we notice aphids on our flowering plum tree. I've read that ants carry aphids, but I have never seen any ants around these trees. What can I do to prevent the aphids?

Also, the tree is struggling. Half of the tree has finished flowering, while the other half is still bare, and the branches are brittle. Can this tree be saved, and will pruning help?

The aphid problem is easy to solve. Once the leaves begin to emerge, be on the lookout for any leaves that are curling. The leaf curl is caused by the insect and is also found on cherries and apples.

Aphids multiply quickly as reproduction is stimulated by the plant juices they're feeding on. Also, they don't need to mate with a male.

When you see the curly leaves, spray the plum tree with the non-toxic insecticidal soap, making two applications a week apart. Then, pick off the curly leaves and dispose of them the best you can.

This should protect the trees from further damage for the rest of the year. Otherwise, repeat the application of insecticidal soap as needed.

Aphids are present year-round, but they are most active in spring with new growth. They are common problems on many plants. Roses are vulnerable in spring, while camellias can become problematic in fall.

Aphids are mobile and can move without ants. With ants, you should apply Pest Barrier or Tanglefoot to the trunk. Pest Barrier and Tanglefoot are non-toxic, sticky resins that prevent ants from climbing into the tree's canopy.

Your main concern should be the tree's health. The section that has not leafed out and is

brittle is probably dead. If it has not leafed out by Memorial Day, I'd remove it.

Next, step back and assess what remains to decide whether it's worth saving or needs to be replaced. It will take several years for it to recover. Pruning will never cure what is ailing a struggling tree. It only improves the shape and form of plants.

If you decide to keep the tree, then remove branches that hinder the overall shape of

what's left. This is a decision you need to make. Next, fertilize with an all-purpose fertilizer to promote new growth and establish a regular watering schedule.

Finally, I recommend recording the tree's progress with a digital camera or smartphone.

Recently, I divided and replanted my agapanthus. Some of the roots are exposed, so I think

they're planted too high. Is it too late to trim some of the bottom of the root ball and/or replant them deeper?

It's not too late to replant the agapanthus. It will be several months before it gets too warm. You could do both: trim the roots or replant them. The choice is yours. That said, having some of the roots exposed at the soil surface isn't necessarily a bad thing.

Personally, I like to see the tops of the roots exposed, as I always make

sure they aren't planted too deep. Also, I would mulch the plants in May to shade the roots until a new canopy forms during the first growing season.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website can be found at www.dirtgardener.com, and questions can be directed to buzz@dirtgardener.com. Additionally, please modify your spam filter to ensure my reply is received.

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Misti Short Entrepreneur, Community Leader & Rotary Club President



Misti Short, owner of Classy Canine's Wiggle Rumps and Wiggle Rumps ReTail, is dedicated to enriching the lives of both pets and people. She champions education, community engagement, art, and local events like Dogs & Deputies. As President of the Rotary Club of Castro Valley (2025–2026), Misti is passionate about preserving the town's farming and ranching roots. Castro Valley remains a proud cowboy town at heart, and Misti works to honor that heritage while inspiring new generations to serve and grow together. Visit Wiggle Rumps ReTail—Castro Valley's favorite pet store—where every visit ends with a happy little wiggle!

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF AMERICAN SAMOA\ FAMILY, DRUG & ALCOHOL COURT DIVISION

NOTICE IS GIVEN to the above-named Respondent that a Petition is now before the High Court of American Samoa, to terminate your parental rights in a male child who was born on January 22, 2016, in Fresno, California. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this Notice, to which the Court may enter an order terminating your parental rights in said child. If you have any objections, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this Notice and file an objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TU'UINA ATU ia te oe o loo ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Maualuga o Amerika Samoa e faamuta ai ou aia faa-matua i se tamaiiti sa fanau o ia ile aso 22 o lanu-uari, 2016, i Fresno, Kalefonia. O lenei iloiloga e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulua'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga. Afai e te tete'e, ia faaulu se talosaga tete'e i le Faamasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulua'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga.

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED February 20, 2026
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 520985

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): San Leandro RV and Trailer, located at 15180 E. 14TH Street, Ashland, CA 94578. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew Robert Beyers located at 1423 E. 152ND Ave., Ashland, CA 94578. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 01/02/2016 /s/ Matthew Robert Beyers This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires February 19, 2031 MAR 19, 26, APR 2, 09, 2026

FILED February 27, 2026
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 620144

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Baycity Flooring, located at 1600 86TH Ave., Oakland, CA 94621. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nestor Gutierrez located at 1600 86TH Ave., Oakland, CA 94621. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced N/A /s/ Nestor Gutierrez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires February 26, 2031

FILED February 11, 2026
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 620792

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): MC Roofing, located at 18928 Thornbury Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Moi Cisneros, located at 18928 Thornbury Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by a Corporation. This business commenced 9/18/18 /s/ Moi Cisneros This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires February 10, 2031

LEGAL NOTICES

FILED February 27, 2026
MELISSA WILK County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 621158

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Just Jeff Cards, located at 15261 Inverness St., San Leandro, CA 94579. Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Justin M. Lewis, located at 115261 Inverness St., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by An Individual. This business commenced 1/8/26 /s/ Justin M. Lewis This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above. Expires February 26, 2031 MAR 12, 19, 26, APR 2, 2026 21350-SLT

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

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Chabad of San Leandro Invites Community to Passover Seder

As the festival of Passover approaches, the San Leandro community is invited to a joyous and meaningful Passover Seder on Wednesday evening, April 1, at 7 p.m.

This special gathering will bring together people for an evening filled with tradition, delicious food, and the timeless story of freedom.

RSVP Required – visit jewishsanleandro.com/seder2026.

Email chabadsleandro@gmail.com with any questions or for more information.

Passover is a celebration of liberation, commemorating the Israelites' journey from slavery to freedom. The Seder is a profound experience that

includes reading from the Haggadah, enjoying traditional foods such as matzah and bitter herbs, singing, and discussing the themes of faith, resilience, and unity.

At Chabad of San Leandro, the goal is to make this holiday accessible and inspiring for all, whether you're familiar with the traditions or experiencing them for the first time.

Expect a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all ages, delicious 4-course meal with all the symbolic foods, engaging storytelling and discussions about the meaning of Passover, lively songs and interactive participation, and a community experience filled with joy, con-



PHOTO COURTESY CHABAD OF SAN LEANDRO

Chabad of San Leandro will host a Passover Seder on Wednesday, April 1.

nection, and inspiration

If you are making your

own Seder at home but need

Shmurah matzah, grape juice,

wine, or other Passover items,

Chabad of San Leandro would

be happy to help make sure

you have everything you need.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and must be under 300 words. Letters can be edited for clarity or length. Letters are the views of the author and not necessarily the views of the newspaper or its advertisers. E-mail letters to: letters@ebpublishing.com or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Council Member Must Put Public First

Editor,

The recent resignation and guilty plea of former Council Member Bryan Azevedo have left a stain on our city's leadership. As the City Council moves to appoint a replacement for District 2, we must demand a representative who views public office as a service, not a business opportunity.

We see federal government officials and now local officials prioritizing personal gain, lining their own pockets through shady deals.

We need a council member who possesses true integrity and a deep awareness that they are there to serve the public, not their own interests.

The ideal candidate to fill this vacancy must also be someone who:

Values Council Rules: We need a member who respects the protocols and procedures that ensure our local government functions fairly and transparently.

Respects City Staff and other Council Members: Our city employees work hard for San Leandro, so should council members. They deserve a colleague who treats them with professional respect, not someone who uses their position to bully or bypass established processes and plays the victim card when called out.

Ends the Gaslighting: The culture of manipulation—both between council members and toward the public—must end. We deserve someone who speaks with honesty.

San Leandro is at a crossroads. We can either appoint another individual who will continue the pattern of self-interest, or we can select a person of character who will work tirelessly for our residents.

Let's ensure the next person to sit on that council is someone we can actually trust to follow the rules, respect the community, and make San Leandro better.

Peggy Fischer
San Leandro

Costs Come Back To Us

Editor,

A few weeks ago I wrote that San Leandro doesn't have a revenue problem — it has a trust problem. After reviewing the city's recent budget workshop presentation, that concern hasn't gone away.

The slide deck presented to the City Council makes one thing clear: the financial issue being discussed is largely a future projection, not a current crisis. The city's own numbers show the budget roughly balanced today, with projected gaps appearing in coming years.

The same presentation also shows San Leandro maintaining substantial reserves — well above the city's own policy targets.

None of that means the city shouldn't plan responsibly for the future. But it does mean the situation deserves a careful conversation, not a rush to the ballot box.

Yet the work plan presented to the council already lists a "new revenue measure on the November 2026 ballot" as "on track." In other words, the discussion now appears less about whether taxes are necessary and more about which tax might be easiest to pass.

That's why the city is now polling residents about a parcel tax, vacancy tax, business license tax, and utility tax.

Each one is framed differently. One sounds like it

targets empty homes. Another sounds like it targets businesses. A utility tax sounds small when described as a percentage. But eventually all of these costs work their way back to the same place: the people who live here.

Businesses pass costs on to customers. Property taxes influence rents. Utility taxes show up directly in monthly bills.

The idea that someone else will pay is comforting, but it rarely turns out that way.

If City Hall wants the public's support for any new revenue measure, it should start by rebuilding trust. Residents deserve a clear explanation of the city's spending choices, long-term forecasts, and priorities before being asked to approve another tax.

Until then, voters should be skeptical of any proposal that promises to tax "someone else."

Because in the end, it almost always comes back to us.

Chris Langsdale
San Leandro

Aging Gracefully

Editor,

I read Bella Comelo's article about the pleasure of growing old (Feb. 19, 2026) with great pleasure and interest. I am living in Ochsenhausen, a small town in the south of Germany.

Growing old in Germany is not so different from the United States, but compared

to San Leandro, Ochsenhausen is very small so that most of the daily necessities like grocery shopping, going to the doctor and to the pharmacy can be done on foot.

You usually meet someone you know and then have a little chat. If I am in a hurry, I take the car so that I meet fewer people. The city and various associations offer courses for example, for physical activities, music or languages.

I participate in a language course for French and one for English. And every second week I am doing my

exercise in a fitness room together with other elderly people. That's always quite entertaining.

I try to walk at least 45 minutes every day, rain or shine. Unfortunately, our weather here is not as nice as that in San Leandro. Besides these activities, my friends and I sometimes meet to have cake and coffee in the afternoon, a German tradition.

Edelgard Ferus
(mother of Martin who is married to Bella's youngest daughter)
Ochsenhausen, Germany

Obituaries

Celebrating the life of

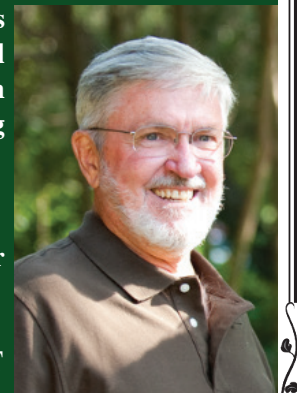
James Michael Bolar

August 31, 1945 ~ March 31, 2025

We welcome friends and family to a casual gathering where we can honor Jim by sharing memories and stories together.

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Mermaid: With lively songs the show explores bravery to explore your dreams

continued from front page

Scuttle, who support Ariel as she navigates the challenges of growing up and following her heart.

Beyond its colorful characters and lively songs, the production explores themes that resonate strongly today: the importance of acceptance, the bravery it takes to pursue your dreams, and the joy that can come from community and connection.

In a time when many people are seeking moments of hope and togetherness, the show offers audiences a performance filled with love, laughter, and uplifting energy.

San Leandro High School's talented student performers and production team invite the community to dive under the sea and celebrate a story that reminds us all how powerful friendship, courage, and joy

can be.

Directed and produced by SLHS drama teacher Marissa Muterspaugh, assistant direc-

“The production explores themes that resonate strongly today.

tor Tyler Silva, choreography by Dallis Wright-Morash, vocal direction by Kimberly Braun with lighting by Riley Richardson, costumes by Lisa Claybough, (assisted by Ren Geiselhart), technical direction by Jesse Vail, and theatre management by Dustin Brown.



PHOTO COURTESY SLHS DRAMA DEPT.

The cast of San Leandro High School will present *The Little Mermaid*, opening on Friday night and continuing through this weekend and next.

Land: Park district to carry out restoration and stewardship

continued from front page

restoration and climate adaptation goals.

The Acquisition is Funded Through Measure WW.

The agreement transfers the property to the park district and protects a segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail. This segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail has been open to the public, but with these durable property rights granted to the district, that segment of trail is now protected in perpetuity.

H.A.R.D., a long-time partner with the Park District in shoreline protection, will retain ownership of approximately five acres that house the popular Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, ensuring continued educational and recreational use.

Supporting the Restore Hayward Marsh Project

The newly acquired property lies within the footprint of the Restore Hayward Marsh project, aimed at adapting the marsh landscape to rising sea levels while enhancing wildlife habitat and maintaining public recreation.

Planned restoration activities include levee improvements and breaches, creation of new bird nesting islands, and improved tidal channel circulation.

Ownership of the property will give the Park District to carry out restoration con-



The East Bay Park District bought the land that was donated to H.A.R.D. by the Leslie Salt Co. in 1980.

struction, manage long-term stewardship, and coordinate closely with partners such as the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, which monitors western snowy plover nesting in nearby habitats.

“This acquisition allows us to take a major step forward in protecting and restoring the Hayward Marsh while ensuring continued public access to one of the Bay Area’s most important shoreline corridors,” said Max Korten, East Bay Regional Park District’s Acting General Manager. “By consolidating land ownership, we can better manage habitat, improve resilience to sea level

rise, and support wildlife and visitors alike. We are thankful for our longstanding partnership with H.A.R.D. and their role in helping to support this acquisition.”

The East Bay Regional Park District is the largest regional park system in the nation, comprising 73 parks, 55 miles of shoreline, and over 1,330 miles of trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and environmental education. The Park District receives an estimated 30 million visits annually throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Computer Basics for Beginners Course

The San Leandro Adult & Career Education Center, 1448 Williams St., is offering a free 8-week computer course for low-income residents of unincorporated Alameda County and San Leandro.

Learn how to use a computer, email and the internet, plus online safety, word processing, video calls and more.

The class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 to 3 p.m., starting on April 13. Extra help is available on Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

For more information, visit or call 510-667-6287.

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The San Leandro Art Association Hosts Art-Making Gathering on Third Saturday

The San Leandro Art Association invites San Leandro residents to the Third Saturday free art-making on Saturday, March 21, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro, 180 Estudillo Ave.

Bring supplies for a small art project you’re currently working on—or to start something new. (Please note: no oil paints.) SLAA will also have a limited selection of art supplies available to share. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Email contact@sanleandroart.org to RSVP or direct questions

These gatherings are designed to foster creativity in a social, supportive environment, and to connect with others who share a love of making art in all its forms.

San Lorenzo Basketball Chalks Up Historic Season

By Andrew Joseph
San Leandro Times

The San Lorenzo Grizzlies basketball team won the Western Alameda County Conference (WACC) Shoreline League title and earned a trip to the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) state playoffs in Division 2.

This is the first time since 2017 that San Lorenzo won the league title and the first time ever winning with an undefeated record in league play.

"I got emotional and shed tears when we won league this season because this is the school that molded me when I played here," said San Lorenzo head coach Toby Merchant. "To come back here and over achieve expectations means the world to me especially to do this with my son (who plays on team)."

After starting the season 1-5, San Lorenzo turned things around and finished the season on a 13-2 winning streak. After beating Arroyo 77-56, San Lorenzo was crowned WACC Shoreline League champions and advanced to the NCS playoffs.

The Grizzlies beat Heritage at home 65-55 and then went on the road to beat Cardinal Newman 59-48. After losing 57-49 to Saint Mary's at the Division 2 level they entered the Division 3 NorCal CIF bracket. They travelled to

Albany High and won, 62-60, then beat Venture Academy on the road in Stockton in the Division 3, Round 2.

The Grizzlies' season ended with a 62-73 loss to Natio-

"We're going to be back even better next year and go on another big run, so this is just the beginning."

— San Lorenzo guard
Ronnie Selleaze

mas High in Sacramento.

Overall against the odds San Lorenzo had a very successful season and the only way to go is up. The Grizzlies will be playing in Division 1 next year, as they announced the advancement last week in a proud moment for the team.

The Grizzlies finished this season 20-12 overall and 10-0 in WACC Shoreline league play. First year head coach Toby Merchant brings about



PHOTO BY ANDREW JOSEPH

San Lorenzo guard Ronnie Selleaze (#4 yellow jersey) hits a 3-pointer against Tennyson earlier this season.

a certain enthusiasm in the community around this boys basketball team. He is a proud alumnus of San Lorenzo High School and his son Toby Merchant, Jr. plays as a point guard for the Grizzlies.

San Lorenzo guard Ronnie

Selleaze had a breakout year averaging a team high 24.8 points per game, 3.5 steals per game and 10.1 rebounds per game.

"It's an honor to be a leader on such a great team this season," said Selleaze. "We're going to be back even better next year and go on another big run so this is just the beginning."

The Grizzlies will make another run next season with this valuable playoff experience. San Lorenzo will also have a full offseason of preparation with Selleaze since he had to sit out the required first 10 games as a new transfer student this year.

Selleaze will be a senior next year and Merchant, Jr. will be a junior so the expecta-

tions are high that the strength of this returning young core will make another run for the CIF state title.

"This school saved my life," said coach Merchant. "This season was a great accomplishment for me and everyone who has ever gone to school here because San Lorenzo has a lot of pride in representing their community."

Marina: Developer said he wanted to finish the project and the council is making the wrong decision

continued from front page
maintains that Cal Coast didn't obtain the permits in a timely manner, despite the city sending default notices.

The city issued warnings in early 2025. City officials say Cal Coast had time to resolve issues such as acquiring permits for tree removal, demolition, grading and flood protection — but they did not.

Cal Coast's president, Ed Miller, spoke at the meeting. But Miller said his company had spent \$24 million, and \$10 million paid to the city was part of that. "I've been here for 16 years," he said. "I'm 72. I don't quit."

Miller requested a private conversation with city leaders to resolve the issue.

Miller said there are always delays in large projects. He said there were significant setbacks in the project — one

of which was after a report came out about sea-level rise and all of the plans had to be scrapped. New plans had to be drawn up with all the projects moves farther inland.

Miller said he's committed to getting the project finished and he told the City Council that he believed they would be making a the wrong decision to cancel the deal.

Nevertheless, the council didn't see it that way.

One resident, Douglas Spalding, said: "Give it up, man... The marina is a good place for a park. It's a bad place for more buildings. It sits on 60 feet of mud... it floods."

Another speaker also referred to sea-level rise and said the project shouldn't be built that close to the water.

But the centerpiece of the whole project was to be an aquatic center at the former

marina for recreation and small boats such as kayaka.

The project began its planning in 2008. It faced difficulties like lawsuits, delays in COVID and adaptations to accommodate rising sea levels. This decision was made for the city to now search for new partners for housing and the hotel, city staff said.

The public park and other improvements can proceed. The full plan included about 491 homes (some of them single-family homes already sold in 2022), a 210-room hotel, and a 9-acre public park. No new timeline was set at the meeting.

This move clears the way for the city to move forward with public shoreline improvements while looking for new development partners for the private portions of the long-stalled project.

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