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FRIDAY **SATURDAY** **SUNDAY**

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 28 • NO. 17

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASWAT CHOIR

The Aswat Men's and Women's Choir will give a performance at the Main Library.

Arab American Choir to Sing on Saturday

In celebration of Arab American Month, the Aswat Men's and Women's Choir will give a free performance on Saturday at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

Aswat is an ensemble for classical and folk Arabic music. It performs Muwashahat (Arabic poetry, sung in the tradition of Andalusia, Spain) as well as traditional and

contemporary songs from the Arab World.

Aswat has achieved a professional level of competence and has made appearances in numerous colleges, universities, festivals and conferences in the Bay Area.

The group consists of 20 singers and musicians from different parts of the world and welcomes anyone who is interested in Arabic music. Aswat is part of Zawaya, a

non-profit forum that provides instruction and presentation of all aspects of the Arabic culture.

Zawaya is a non-profit organization that seeks to contribute to the multicultural discourse of the Bay Area with the Arab arts. Zawaya means "aspects" or "corners," suggesting the many art forms to be discovered and enjoyed in Arab culture.

Council to Lower Appeal Fees

Recent cases of \$6,000 to appeal bring light on cost

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Recently, a San Leandro resident filed an unsuccessful appeal against the construction of a large apartment complex project at a personal cost of nearly \$6,000. That drew attention to just how costly getting your voice heard by the city could be.

Some council members say the price is too high and now the City Council is considering the cost of what San Leandro charges to participate in government.

But the planning department says that the appeal fee is appropriate and is only there to cover the costs of the staff time it takes to go through the process.

The city's current fee to appeal a decision to the City Council is a \$5,300 deposit plus a non-refundable \$534 City Clerk filing fee.

This week, the City Council's Rules Committee (made up of Mayor Pauline Cutter and councilmen Pete Ballew and Lee Thomas) began preliminary discussions about whether the city charges too much.

But the same City Council voted unanimously just last year in May of 2017 to raise the appeal to the \$5,300 deposit, up from \$2,000. That action was part of a larger group of general fee hikes that was approved all together without individual discussion of the appeal fees.

"A \$2,000 deposit wasn't enough, we were going way over that," said city planning manager Andrew Mogensen, who added a recent appeal cost the city

see FEES, page 15

City Manager Investigation In Progress

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

Over four months after it began, the investigation into the alleged misconduct by City Manager Chris Zapata is still in progress.

"Unfortunately, there is nothing to report," said assistant city manager Eric Engelbart on Wednesday. "The City Council hasn't received anything from the investigator yet."

In early December, the city received a letter from an attorney representing Davis Street Family Resource Center CEO Rose Padilla Johnson alleging that Zapata sexually harassed her at a series of one-on-one meetings in her car in the Foster's Freeze parking lot.

see INVESTIGATION, page 9

Swalwell Calls for Assault Gun Ban

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Congressman Eric Swalwell called for a ban on all assault rifles at a town hall meeting in San Lorenzo on Saturday.

The congressman didn't just stop at banning the sale of the weapons that fire bullets at a rapid rate, but getting rid of all the ones that exist in the country.

"I think the American people are willing to sell a of a couple of F-35s (jet fighters) to buy back every assault weapon in the country," Swalwell said. "We can't just ban future sales, we need to go to the heart of the problem."

Swalwell added that he wanted to assure hunters and gun

collectors that he favors a ban on the rapid-fire assault weapons only, not to ban other guns.

The congressman's remarks came at a town-hall meeting in the Arroyo High gym on Saturday afternoon with around 200 people in attendance. He spoke for half an hour before taking questions on a wide range of topics from health care to Russian hackers.

A woman who said she was a grandmother said something has to be done about guns, and Swalwell replied that it's something society can't accept.

The automobile industry see SWALWELL, page 5



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Congressman Eric Swalwell meets with constituents at Saturday's town hall meeting in the Arroyo High School gymnasium.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

NEWS

Third fatality on Doolittle Drive. Page 3

NEIGHBORS

Host an exchange student from Spain this summer. Page 4

FLOWERS

Dahlia gardeners to show their stuff on Saturday. Page 9

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

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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Pets of the Week



Jingle



Quincy

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are Jingle the bunny and Quincy the dog.

Jingle is a sweet, young bunny with soft fur. She doesn't mind being handled and loves to have her ears and back stroked. She also loves hay, greens and an occasional piece of carrot.

Quincy is a happy-go-lucky 2-year-old who's okay with all handling. He enjoys being around people and readily engages in play. He also loves toys. Quincy is neutered and ready to go home.

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

Buon Tempo Club Dinner

The Buon Tempo Italian/American Club is having a family dinner on Tuesday, May 1, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Hall in Transfiguration Church, 4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley. Chef John Tandi and his crew will serve a five-course family-style

dinner of pasta pesto/chicken. Everyone is welcome. Happy hour is at 6:30 p.m. The dinner is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday, April 27, by calling 483-6929. For more information, go to www.buontempo.org.

Correction

The April 19th publication of the San Leandro Times newspaper erroneously ran an incorrect ad for Antonio & Alexia Carde-

nas (Re: 1617 Regent Drive, in San Leandro). We regret this error and apologize for the inconvenience.



Cinco de Mayo Celebration Coming To the Marina Community Center

The City of San Leandro's 20th annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration, which will take place on Friday, May 4, at 6 p.m. at the Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd.

The free fiesta will feature mariachi music, regional Mexican Aztec dances, and theatrical performances by the Ballet Folclórico Costa De Oro.

Children will have the opportunity to make traditional Mexican arts and crafts. Spanish translation, and an ASL sign language interpreter will be available. Light refreshments will be served and photo booth pictures will be available for purchase.

"San Leandro is one of the most diverse cities in the United States, and this event represents yet another great occasion for us to celebrate that diversity," said Mayor Pauline Cutter. "These types of city-sponsored activities always provide a fun, family-friendly opportunity for the public to come out and spend time with their neighbors and fellow community members."

This event is made possible by the City of San Leandro and donations from several local businesses and individuals, including The Optimist Club of San Leandro, Ballet Costa de Oro, A Time to Remember Photo Booths, Los Pericos, and Roccab's Café and Deli.

San Leandro Downtown Association presents



A Fun, Free, Family Bike Ride!

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www.BikeSL.org

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+
Raffle

Route #1 to Lake Chabot

Check-in 9:00 a.m.

START at 9:30 a.m.

A challenging mountain bike ride geared toward more experienced riders.

Route #2 to Marina Park

Check-in 9:30 a.m.

START at 10:30 a.m.

A flat ride on city streets, escorted by San Leandro police. Suitable for families.



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A non-profit CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER helping women to identify life-affirming resources and receive guidance in planning for her and her baby's future.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

Retired Firefighters Get Together for Lunch

The Alameda County Fire Department and the Alameda County Fire Fighters Association recently held their annual retirees' lunch and want to extend a huge thank you to all of the retired and current personnel who were able to attend. Special thanks to event coordinators Sue Bornemann (Beville), Ryan Nishimoto and Armigh Carrizalez, Station 25 crews, the ACFD Administrative Headquarters team, reserve firefighters, Chaplain Rufus Watkins, and the on-duty crews.

Don't Treat Roads Like Trash Cans

The California Highway Patrol put out an interesting statistic last week in honor of Earth Day. Last year, the CHP issued more than 3,000 citations for littering throughout the state and fines start at \$100 and go all the way to \$1,000.

Offenders are also often punished with community service hours picking up trash. And, the DMV says that if you're caught littering from your car, those convictions will show up on your driving record.



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Unity Church of San Leandro

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11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your San Leandro Home for Sale

San Leandro - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away alto-

gether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-844-767-8796 and enter 2003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of John Adams RE/MAX Accord DRE#01293867. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2018

Stretch of Road on Doolittle Drive Proves Fatal a Third Time

A woman was killed in a multi-vehicle collision on Doolittle Drive, near Langley Street last Wednesday at around 10:30 a.m. This particular intersection near the Oakland airport has been the site of three fatal incidents in the past 16 months.

In January of 2017, a cab driver lost control of his car and went into the water and was killed. A month after that, a Hayward man died when his car left Doolittle Drive at the same spot and landed upside down in the waters of the Martin Luther

King, Jr. shoreline.

Oakland police are investigating last week's crash. The dead woman was identified by the Alameda County Coroner's Office as Kristle Jimenez, 32, of Alameda. Three other were injured but are expected to survive.

DA Settles Environmental Lawsuit Against Costco

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley announced recently that her office, settled a \$500,000 consumer protection action against Costco and a coffee company headquartered in Roseville, which does business as San Francisco Bay Gourmet Coffee and the Rogers Family Co.

The settlement was based on allegations that the companies sold plastic coffee pods, labeled with untrue and misleading marketing claims, including statements related to biodegradability and compostability.

"California consumers try-

ing to help reduce the problem of plastic waste in landfills are often misled to believe that plastic products labeled as 'biodegradable' will break down in municipal trash," said O'Malley in a written statement. "But most landfills prevent biodegradation. In order to prevent misleading consumers, the Legislature banned the sale of plastic products labeled with language implying they will biodegrade."

Plastic waste can take up to 1,000 years to decompose, depending on the environment in which it is disposed. Landfills

tend to mummify trash rather than biodegrade it, since decomposition requires sunlight, moisture, and oxygen.

California law imposes an outright ban on the sale of plastics labeled "biodegradable." The legislature found such claims are inherently misleading.

San Francisco Bay Gourmet Coffee's plastic coffee pods and the plastic bags containing the pods were labeled as biodegradable, despite the legal ban. The company also marketed the pods as compostable when they had not met compostability standards.

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NEIGHBORS



Students from Spain will be spending a month in the Bay Area this summer to experience life with a host family in an American home.

Host Families Wanted for Exchange Students This Summer

An exchange student program is looking for more host families to house 25 students from Spain who are coming to the Bay Area this summer.

Have a fun experience with your family learning about another culture, language and make a new lifelong friend.

The students will stay for four weeks, June 29 through July 27. The students range in age from 14 to 17 and will have their own spending money and insurance.

Host families provide one student with their own bed, a place to keep belongings and meals. The students speak English and want to experience life in an American home. It's not necessary to speak Spanish to be a host family.

The 25 students in the group will go on three excursions each week to Great America, Alcatraz, UC Berkeley, sailing, an Oakland A's game, and other attractions. The excursions are all paid for by the program, as well as their ground transportation. Host families are welcome to join the students on any of the excursions at a discounted rate.

Meet other host families at the Host Family Orientation before the students arrive. An effort will be made to place students according to age, gender and interests.

To be a host family or for more information on this cultural experience, call EMY program coordinator Jan Garcia at 749-7061 or email garciajpuccini@aol.com.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

HOROSCOPE by Salomé
 © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You've set a fast pace for yourself. But as you approach your goal, you might want to slow down a bit in order to take time to reassess your situation and make changes while you can.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Patience continues to be a virtue for the Divine Bovine. So as eager as you might be to get things moving, remember that time is on your side. Make good use of it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) There's a wee bit of uncertainty in the early part of the week. But things clear up as more facts come to light. Spend quality time this weekend with family and friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An old friend's return could open new possibilities for both of you. But don't let yourself be rushed into anything. There could be some factors you haven't yet explored.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This week offers a challenge you're raring to take on. And while eager to get started, do so slowly so that you can focus those sharp Cat's Eyes on every detail.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Put your skepticism aside and listen to advice from colleagues who've been where you are now. What they say could be helpful as you get closer to a decision.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A family matter might again require your reassuring touch. Handle it, as always, with kindness and fairness, even if some of your kin prove to be especially difficult.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your ability to tackle even the most intricate details of a project is likely to impress some very important people. A relative shares news later this week.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The Archer's aim might be focused on the big picture this week, but don't overlook checking for those details you might have missed.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might feel awkward asking for assistance, but who would refuse the charming Goat's request? Do it, then go ahead and enjoy a musical weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Pour some cold water on that simmering misunderstanding before it boils over. The sooner things settle, the sooner you can move ahead with your plans.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You're in a highly productive period, which you feel can go on forever. But you could be courting exhaustion. Take time out to relax and restore your energies.

SL Players Present
Death by Design
 The San Leandro Players present *Death by Design*, a comedy/mystery with surprising twists, running through May 6 at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Show times are Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus two Friday shows at 8 p.m. on April 27 and May 4. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, students. For more information or reservations call 895-2573 or online at www.slplayers.org.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ Viewing of *An Inconvenient Sequel*
 The San Leandro Democratic Club and Our Revolution San Leandro will host a viewing of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power* today, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The guest speaker will be Chris Tiedeman, California Environmental Protection Agency deputy secretary of law.

❖ 2018 FESCO Shuffle Walkathon
 Join FESCO (Family Emergency Shelter Coalition) in its efforts to end family homelessness in Alameda County by attending the 21st Annual FESCO Shuffle Walkathon on Saturday, April, 28, at the San Leandro Marina Park, 14001 Monarch Bay Drive in San Leandro. Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m. at the Seagull Picnic Site and the walk begins at 10 a.m. You can walk as a team or as an individual in this family-friendly, dog-friendly event along this beautiful path. Come and enjoy morning refreshments, lunch, entertainment and a drawing. Sign up to walk or to donate at www.firstgiving.com/21524/21st-annual-fesco-shuffle.

❖ San Leandro Historical Society Talk
 The San Leandro Historical Society will host a talk on Saturday, April 28, from 2 to 3 p.m. at The Little Brown Church on the grounds of Casa Peralta, 384 W. Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. City of San Leandro Watershed Coordinator Susan Levenson will give a free presentation on the history, secrets and current state of the 48-square-mile San Leandro Creek watershed, "A Pictorial Journey through the San Leandro Watershed."

❖ Aswat Men's and Women's Choir
 In celebration of Arab American Month, the Aswat Men's and Women's Choir will give a free performance on Saturday, April 28, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Aswat is an ensemble for classical and folk Arabic music. It performs Muwashahat (Arabic poetry, sung in the tradition of Andalusia, Spain) as well as traditional and contemporary songs from the Arab World.

❖ Annual Dahlia Tuber and Cutting Sale
 San Leandro Dahlia Society will host its Annual Dahlia Tuber and Cutting Sale on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to noon at Root Park, 1033 East 14th St. in San Leandro. For spectacular summer color, it's time to plant dahlia tubers or cuttings (small plants). Dahlias come in many sizes, shapes, and colors (except blue). Try different ones. Many dahlia lovers will be there to answer questions about planting. More information is available at: sanleandrodahliasociety.org or SLDS.club.

❖ PhotoCentral Spring Exhibition
 Hayward Area Recreation District's PhotoCentral, 1099 E St. in Hayward, presents the Annual PhotoCentral Spring Exhibition, opening with a reception on Saturday, April 28, from 2 to 5 p.m. and running through June 11. The upstairs gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the downstairs gallery hours are Monday 5 to 10 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, please contact PhotoCentral at 510-881-6721 and info@photocentral.org.

❖ Celebrate Children's Day/Book Day
 Celebrate Día /Celebremos Día on Saturday, April 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., as it hosts the annual Día de los niños/Día de los libros (Children's Day/ Book Day) celebration. At 2 p.m., Grammy-award winning, bilingual singer 1-2-3 Andrés will perform a concert with music that gets kids singing and dancing in Spanish and English. His performance will be followed

by a craft activity, and all families attending will receive a free book. This event is free and open to families with children of all ages. For more information, call 577-3960.

❖ San Leandro Parkinson's Support Group
 The San Leandro Parkinson's Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m. at the San Lorenzo Community Church at 945 Paseo Grande. There will be an open discussion. For more information, call Lona White at 276-3119.

❖ Stephen Ministry Caregiving Workshop
 Redwood Chapel Community Church, 19300 Redwood Road in Castro Valley, will host a Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop on caregiving skills from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 5. The cost of this workshop is \$15 per person or \$50 for a group of four or more from the same congregation. For more information or to register, contact Stephen Ministries at (314) 428-2600 or visit www.stephenministry.org/workshop.

❖ Retro Juke Box Band at SL Library
 In celebration of Older Americans Month, the Retro Juke Box Band will perform at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., on Saturday, May 5, from 2 to 3 p.m. Admission is free. Retro JukeBox Band is a top dance band with an immense repertoire covering multiple genres including timeless 1920s to 1960s jazz, blues, Motown and retro versions of today's hits. For more information, call the information desk at 577-3971.

❖ Oro Loma Sanitary District Open House
 Learn about the services and meet the staff at the Oro Loma Sanitary District open house on Saturday, May 5, (rain or shine) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2600 Grant Ave. in San Lorenzo. See how the pipes, pumps and equipment are maintained, tour the plant and displays, and introduce young people to great career opportunities, a fun and informative day for everyone.

❖ Bike San Leandro
 Bicyclists will roll en masse on Sunday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. as BikeSL (Bike San Leandro) comes back for its ninth year. This year's ride will start and end at Casa Peralta, 384 Estudillo Ave. Over 150 bicycle riders are expected to make the family trek to the San Leandro Marina and back, or the advanced trek to Lake Chabot and back. Registration starts at 9 a.m. for all. The advanced bike ride to Lake Chabot will leave at 9:30 a.m. and the family bike ride to the San Leandro Marina and back will leave at 10:30 a.m.

❖ 71st Annual Spring Rose Show
 Hundreds of blooms from local gardens will be on display at the East Bay Rose Society's 71st Annual Spring Rose Show on Sunday, May 6, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Oakland. Admission is free. Come talk to the growers, ask questions of trained rosarians, purchase rose plants, bid in a silent auction and vote for the people's choice winner.

❖ Alameda County Food Bank Drive
 Paramedics Plus wants you help to fill an ambulance with food to deliver to the Alameda County Food Bank. The emergency medical service for the county, will host a food drive during the month of May. The goal is to fill 96 boxes of food – 192 cubic feet inside an ambulance. A donation of non-perishable food can be dropped off at the Paramedics Plus office at 575 Marina Blvd. in San Leandro on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during May.

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

Swalwell: Housing prices prove to be a tough topic to tackle

continued from front page

equipped cars with air bags and other features to make sure there were fewer deaths, so the gun industry should do the same, Swalwell said.

The Democrat from California's 15th Congressional District said he wants national health care.

"We need Medicare for everybody," said Swalwell who presents himself as someone who can work well with both Republicans and Democrats in Congress.

On sanctuary cities, Swalwell said he prefers the term "safe cities," saying that people are safe knowing that they're not going to be deported if they get pulled over.

"I don't think our police officers want to be turned into border patrol agents," Swalwell said.

A man asked about climate change and alternative energy,

and Swalwell replied that the key to green energy is tying it to new jobs. People aren't going to be for something that threatens their jobs.

The third-term congressman said the Democrats made a big mistake when they just opposed the Keystone Pipeline to carry oil from Canada. Just being against something won't work, unless you have an alternative plan that will create jobs, he said.

But the alternative energy plan won't happen unless somebody steps up, he said, suggesting that the oil lobbyists and money have an influence on Congress.

"To be 100 percent renewable energy, you can only do that if you are bold enough to do it," Swalwell said. "It's dirty money in politics that's just as dirty as the oil it comes from. Strip away the money."

Swalwell said he favors a dis-

closure act that tells all shareholders of stock what campaign contributions the company makes.

On Russian influence of the 2016 election, Swalwell sounded convinced of collusion with the Trump campaign, which Trump denies.

Swalwell said Trump has invested heavily in Russia and the Russians invested a lot in Trump, and added that the Russian hackers "delivered the goods."

Responding to a question about rent control, Swalwell said he understood how, in our economy, market forces are at work, but something seems wrong when rent increases much more than other costs. He said he was afraid that for future generations starting a family, buying a house would be out of the question.

But then, as he addressed the question of housing costs, Swalwell swung over to student loans, saying he's introduced legislation to reduce interest on student loans to zero. And he's working with Republicans to en-



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Residents came to the Arroyo High gym to listen to Congressman Eric Swalwell on Saturday and meet him after the talk.

courage employers to contribute to student loan debt.

It appeared the entire crowd

was made up of Swalwell fans. There wasn't a word of disagreement, a debated point, or a tough

question. Whether that's good news or bad news is the only question.

Opening Reception at Photo Central

Hayward Area Recreation District's PhotoCentral, 1099 E St. in Hayward, presents the Annual PhotoCentral Spring Exhibition, opening with a reception on Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. and running through June 11.

The event is free and the public is invited.

This eclectic group show is an annual event for PhotoCentral and features a wide variety of works from over 50 artists. Come see over 150 inspiring works! Vote on your favorite pictures.

Award, prizes, fun and gorgeous photography. Celebrate this annual PhotoCentral exhibition with us and take home some great art and memories.

The upstairs gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the downstairs gallery hours are Monday 5 to 10 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment.

For more information, please contact PhotoCentral at 510-881-6721 and info@photocentral.org.



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Saturday, May 19

Neighborhood Cleanup Day

EVENT FEATURES

Citywide Garage Sale ~ 8am - 1pm
Host a garage sale at your home. The City will provide free advertising, including a map and listing in the May 17 edition of the *San Leandro Times*.

Spring Cleaning Event ~ 10am - 3pm
Bring appliances, mattresses, electronics, scrap metal, clean wood/yard trimmings, tires household batteries and fluorescent lamps. Residents may also drop off cell phones, chargers, CDs, DVDs and audio and video tapes for recycling.

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE

You can sign up online or complete and submit this form by May 9th to receive free garage sale advertising and/or access to the recycling event.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____


Signature: _____ Date: _____

I would like to participate in:
(check all that apply)

☐ Citywide Garage Sale

☐ Spring Cleaning Event

SUBMIT TO: City of San Leandro Recycling Program
14200 Chapman Road
San Leandro, CA 94578
Web www.RecycleSanLeandro.org **Phone** (510) 577-6026
Email Recycle@SanLeandro.org



HEALTH & FITNESS

Sleep Tips to Stay Safe and Productive at Work

It's time for America's workforce to wake up.

If you are one of the tens of millions of adults sleeping fewer than seven hours each night – the amount recommended by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine – you are likely jeopardizing performance, increasing accident risks and putting everyone in danger during commutes.

Getting enough sleep every night is key to improving productivity, safety and quality of life. Here are some tips to make sleep work for you.

Don't Burn the Midnight Oil

Working late nights might impress your boss, but restricting your sleep can lead to trouble making decisions, solving problems, controlling emotions and more, severely affecting your productivity at work.

The National Safety Council reports that workers who sleep fewer than six hours cost employers six days a year in productivity.

Sleep for Safety

Workers who sleep less than six

hours per night are also at higher risk for injury, according to the Sleep Research Society. Cognitive and motor performance impairments caused by sleep deprivation are comparable to drinking alcohol.

If you make it a daily priority to recognize the signs of fatigue before, during and after work, and refuse to drive drowsy, you can reduce the risk of serious injury for yourself and others. This may be especially true if you work a job that involves manual labor or heavy machinery.

Strategies for

Non-traditional Work Hours

Some of the more high-risk professions involve working irregular hours. Shift workers – who can be nurses, law enforcement officers, emergency responders, transportation operators and more – work overnight or early morning hours with irregular or rotating shifts, causing upheaval in the body's circadian rhythm and natural sleep/wake cycle.

Studies show that shift workers may sleep up to four fewer hours

per night than those working traditional hours, increasing the risk for injuries, accidents and drowsy driving. The CDC reports that serious long-term health problems are a concern, too.

However, there are ways for shift workers to combat this problematic sleep schedule.

Tips for 'Wake Time'

- Avoid exposure to sunlight if you need to sleep during the day, and wear sunglasses if you must go outside.
- Use moderate amounts of caffeine in the early part of your shift.
- Use public transportation, rideshare or take a cab, or arrange rides from friends or family after a work shift.
- Take a 20- to 30-minute nap during a work break or before a night shift.
- Get help from a sleep specialist to reinforce your body clock with strategically timed bright light therapy.

Tips for 'Sleep Time'

- Avoid caffeine and alcohol in the hours before you go to bed.



- Plan for any major changes in your shift schedule by altering your sleep time a few days in advance.
- Try to keep the same schedule on workdays and days off and create an effective "wind down" routine before going to bed.
- Keep your bedroom at a cool temperature, turn off all electronics and only do relaxing activities like

reading or journaling.

Use the National Healthy Sleep Awareness Project's bedtime calculator, which helps you find your ideal bedtime based on when you need to wake up for work – even if that's in the middle of the night.

Getting at least seven hours of sleep isn't just a matter of feeling alert for productivity and safety on

the job; it's a necessary component of good health and well-being. If you're having trouble sleeping, you should talk to your doctor, who may refer you to a board-certified sleep medicine physician at an accredited sleep center for help.

For more information, go to www.sleepeducation.org.

—BrandPoint

Simple Ways to Jump-Start Fitness Goals

Fitness is central to your well-being and ability to enjoy life to the fullest, however it's easy to get stuck in a rut. How do you find new interest and motivation so you're ready to maximize the warm weather months?

Dan Gaz, physical activity and assessment program manager at the Mayo Clinic, says there are many things people can do to get a jump-start on their health and wellness.

"Fitness doesn't have to be complicated or boring," says Gaz. "There are many creative ways to implement fitness activities into your life that are both fun and invigorating."

Gaz suggests five simple ways to get a jump-start on summer fitness and energize your workout routine:

• Try Something New

Gaz says getting outside your comfort zone can be beneficial to your health. "Trying something new helps keep your fitness plan fresh. Plan a visit to the local farmers market to pick up produce. Sign up for a 5k run, or look at your local community education or rec center class catalog and sign up for activities. The social dynamics of these types of events benefit mental as well as physical health."

• Get Outside

Just getting outdoors is rejuvenating, says Gaz.

"Taking a walk is a nice change of pace that is good for the body and mind," he says. You can go for a walk, run or take a stroll around a local park. Just being outdoors shakes things up and you may find higher levels of energy as you

breathe in the fresh air."

Plus, getting a daily dose of vitamin D from the sun does the body good.

• Bring Friends

"It's no secret when you work out with other people they tend to hold you accountable, but there's also more benefit than just that," says Gaz. "When you take an exercise class, join a running club or biking group, you may end up pushing yourself harder."

"The people next to you become your exercise advocates and suddenly, you'll have the desire to keep up and do more. This can accelerate reaching your fitness goals."

• Rethink commuting

Anything you can do to break up the monotony of sitting is a good thing. Try being creative in commuting and how you travel throughout the day.

"If possible, walk or bike to work or the grocery store, Gaz says. "You can also take the bus, get off a couple blocks early and walk the rest of the way. A little planning ahead of time can help you accomplish multiple things at once: You're getting exercise, completing an errand and reducing your carbon footprint."

• Be Purposeful

"You may only have a few minutes a day to dedicate to exercise, but that doesn't mean you can't make a big impact "Being purposeful with your choices is important," says Gaz. "For example, use intervals in your workout routine to maximize outcomes. If you enjoy walking, do a brisk 30 or 60 seconds, then walk slower for the same period of time before pushing yourself again. This type of interval training is simple, yet highly effective. It works similarly for other activities like swimming, biking and running."

More tips about improving your health with creative approaches to exercise are available at healthyliving.mayoclinic.org.

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Man Found Dead of a Stroke In Thrasher Park Bathroom

A homeless person was found dead in a restroom at Thrasher Park on Monday afternoon. Police say the man passed away of natural causes and no foul play is suspected.

The Alameda Coroner's Office identified the man as

Darrell Parker, Jr., 60, and said his preliminary cause of death was an intracerebral hemorrhage, or stroke, and confirmed that the cause of death was natural.

A passerby found Parker in the bathroom at around 5

p.m. at the park, located at the intersection of Davis Street and Orchard Avenue.

"Someone called in for a medical and he was found dead on arrival," said Lt. Isaac Benabou of the an Leandro police.

Help Fill an Ambulance with Food

Paramedics Plus wants you help to fill an ambulance with food to deliver to the Alameda County Food Bank.

The emergency medical service for the county, will host a food drive during the month of May.

The goal is to fill 96 boxes

of food – 192 cubic feet inside an ambulance.

A donation of non-perishable food can be dropped off at the Paramedics Plus office at 575 Marina Boulevard in San Leandro on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during May.

View 'Truth to Power' Tonight

The San Leandro Democratic Club and Our Revolution San Leandro will host a viewing of Al Gore's "an inconvenient sequel: Truth to Power" on Thursday, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. The guest speaker will be Chris Tiedeman.

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Dahlia Society Sale Saturday

San Leandro Dahlia Society will host its Annual Dahlia Tuber and Cutting Sale on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at Root Park, 1033 East 14th St. in San Leandro.

For spectacular summer color, it's time to plant dahlia tubers or cuttings (small plants).

Dahlias come in many sizes, shapes, and colors, except blue.

Try different ones. Many dahlia lovers will be there to answer questions about planting. More information is available at: sanleandrodahliasociety.org or SLDS.club.

Investigation: Attorney still looking into Foster's Freezegate

continued from front page

Before those allegations were made public weeks later, Zapata sent out an email on Jan. 16 preemptively denying any wrongdoing and countering that Johnson and her colleague Gordon Galvan attempted to bribe him in order to receive a lucrative medical marijuana permit from the city. He said Johnson's claims were made in order to ruin his reputation.

Shortly after that, the City Council put Zapata on paid administrative leave and on Dec. 22 the council hired Karen Kramer, an attorney who specializes in workplace investigations, to make a determination in the case.

The council has said they will not be commenting on the matter until the independent investigation is completed and the report



Rose Padilla Johnson



Chris Zapata

is given to them.

"The City of San Leandro does not tolerate nor condone harassment of any type," said

Mayor Pauline Cutter in a written statement at the time of Zapata's suspension. "It also believes in due process."

Castro Valley Toastmasters Meet Weekly

The Castro Valley Toastmasters welcome everyone who wants to improve their communication skills in a friendly

supportive atmosphere to their weekly meetings held every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 21966 Dolores Street in Castro

Valley.

For more information call 566-9761 or go to <http://961.toastmastersclubs.org/>.

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Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Anxiety Prompting Attempts to Time the Market

A seller called and said, "We've been watching the market and think that, since the bubble is about to burst, we need to sell."

That same week a buyer commented; "Since the market will collapse soon, we will wait to buy until after the fall."

Although one was selling and the other buying, they both had one thing in common.

They were trying to time the market.

It's not a new idea – whether stocks, bonds, commodities or houses, investors are always trying to time the market. The concept is simple: buy low, sell high. Problem is, it is extremely difficult to

do and most people miss the mark.

A simple exercise demonstrates this: get a pen, piece of paper and an accomplice. Draw a line downward on the page and suddenly reverse, drawing up. The moment you reverse, have your accomplice yell, "NOW!!" By the time they respond, you are already part way back up the page. They missed the bottom.

Try again, this time going UP. When you reverse downward, they again say, "NOW!!" No matter how fast they are, they will again miss the exact moment of the redirection.

It's the same with any commodity. No matter how much research you do, at the end of the day, the best you can do is make an educated "guess." Sometimes you will get it right and sometimes ... not so much.

This is evidenced by the scores of buyers who insisted the mar-

ket would collapse years ago and therefore refused to buy. In the meantime, the market has continued to climb and many can no longer afford to get in. Even when the market *does* reverse, it may never again go as low as it was when they made their decision to wait it out.

The idea of timing the market is usually founded on the fear of losing money. Many lose sight of the fact that, at the end of the day, the primary goal of home ownership is to have roof over your head, not to score big on your home as an investment. If you manage to make money on your home, that's a bonus.

In reality, as long as you have a roof over your head and can afford the payments ... that is what really matters. Time in the market instead of timing the market.

And, incidentally, the current market is *not* a bubble.



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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.

RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

1326 Ardmore Drive	94577: \$915,000	[3 BD - 2,667 SF - 1957
109 Dabner Street	94577: \$570,000	[2 BD - 992 SF - 1898
493 Dolores Avenue	94577: \$766,000	[3 BD - 1,314 SF - 1900
285 Elsie Avenue	94577: \$659,000	[3 BD - 1,228 SF - 1946
730 Oakes Boulevard	94577: \$1,004,000	[3 BD - 2,476 SF - 1941
1222 Seeley Street	94577: \$367,000	[3 BD - 1,026 SF - 1951
2077 Washington Ave	94577: \$372,500	[2 BD - 888 SF - 1984
1221 136th Avenue	94578: \$625,000	[3 BD - 1,638 SF - 1950
1470 164th Avenue	94578: \$680,000	[3 BD - 1,564 SF - 1963
15956 East 14th Street	94578: \$415,000	[2 BD - 918 SF - 2008
935 Figueroa Drive	94578: \$710,000	[3 BD - 1,435 SF - 1955
1554 Oriole Avenue	94578: \$600,000	[7 BD - 2,133 SF - 1951
1644 Oriole Avenue	94578: \$610,000	[2 BD - 1,022 SF - 1946
14068 School Street	94578: \$665,000	[3 BD - 1,376 SF - 1956
15482 Blue Heron Court	94579: \$690,000	[3 BD - 1,321 SF - 1999
15452 Heron Drive	94579: \$740,000	[4 BD - 1,651 SF - 1998
1136 Mersey Avenue	94579: \$650,000	[3 BD - 1,096 SF - 1950
1146 Mersey Avenue	94579: \$679,000	[3 BD - 1,148 SF - 1950
1936 Vining Drive	94579: \$740,000	[3 BD - 1,524 SF - 1958
14647 Wiley Street	94579: \$675,000	[3 BD - 1,492 SF - 1951

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$367,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$670,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,004,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$656,625

Castro Valley

19527 Center Street	94546: \$1,000,000	2 BD - 1,259 SF - 1925
2303 Farley Street	94546: \$800,000	3 BD - 996 SF - 1948
17370 Robey Drive	94546: \$660,000	3 BD - 1,307 SF - 1948
2742 Sydney Way	94546: \$758,000	4 BD - 1,635 SF - 1952
2845 Sydney Way	94546: \$875,000	4 BD - 1,856 SF - 1992
17793 Vineyard Road	94546: \$719,000	3 BD - 1,427 SF - 1957
2537 Watson Street	94546: \$620,000	2 BD - 1,016 SF - 1948

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$620,000 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$758,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,000,000 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$776,000



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Free Trees for Alameda County Residents

In celebration of National Arbor Day this Friday, PG&E is partnering with The Arbor Day Foundation to provide free trees for some residents in Castro Valley, San Leandro and San Lorenzo. Alameda County, specifically those in San Lorenzo, San Leandro and

Castro Valley.

The free trees for PG&E customers are available through Energy-Savings Trees, an Arbor Day Foundation program that helps conserve energy and reduce energy bills through strategic tree planning.

The free trees will be available to the first 625 customers who sign up.

Customers can order a free tree by visiting www.arborday.org/pge. An online tool helps customers estimate the annual energy savings that will result from planting trees in the most strategic location near their homes or businesses.

Tree species available are But-

tonbush, White Fringe tree, Redbud and Cornelia Cherry Dogwood. The tree will be delivered in the mail free of charge.

Customers living in High Fire Threat Districts or near powerlines should plan before you plant to avoid future conflicts with power lines.

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Classic Discoloration of Leaves Caused by Thrips

By Buzz Bertolero
The Dirt Gardener

Q What is causing the leaves on my Viburnum to have a silvery cast with black specks? Someone has suggested that thrips are the problem?

A Yes, this is a classic case of thrips. Thrips are small insects that have sucking and rasping mouth parts. They attack the mature growth, where they strip away the green chlorophyll layer of a leaf, leaving a silvery cast behind.

They can damage a portion or the entire leaf surface, and you'll find black specks on the under side of the leaves. There was a time when thrips were only a problem with roses and gladiolus. They would cause color breaks or streaks in the flower petals. Today, it is much more of a problem on ornamentals as they're attacking a wide variety of shrubs such as azaleas, rhododendrons, photinias, and lilacs.

Thrips can also be a problem on blueberries, grapes, apples, citrus and other edibles but not normally in the home garden as yet.

Horticultural Oil is the organic control. It will take several applications as you can have up to eight generations per year. I've



found that the Bayer Advanced Garden Tree & Shrub Insect Control is an easier solution in controlling this problem.

The Tree & Shrub Insect Control is a non-organic, systemic that provides an extended period of protection. One application is good for a year, and it is applied to the roots and not sprayed on the plants. It controls the thrips plus many other insects the feed on Viburnum.

With any of the controls, you should feed the infected plants to encourage new growth as the damaged leaves will not turn green again. If the damage is limited to a few isolated spots, another option is to prune off the damage. The over all look of the plant will improve with the new growth.

Q I have a mature Bing cherry tree that hasn't produced cherries in the last three years. I don't believe pollination is an issue as I've seen lots of bees when it was blooming. What has happened?

A Even with the bee activity being normal, cherry trees can fail to set fruit. Most cherries require a second tree for pollination as they are not self-fertile. Bing cherry needs Black Tartarian, or Van to set the fruit. Two Bing cherry trees will not work.

What has changed with your tree is that the pollinating variety, used by the bees, is missing. In previous years, a nearby cherry tree, either next door or up the street, would have pollinated

your tree. This tree has either died or been removed, so you're ending up with no cherries.

You'll have to plant a second tree, or you could graft a pollinator on to the original tree to produce your next crop of cherries. Those looking to plant new trees should look for Self-Fertile Bing or Stella. They do not require a second variety as they are self-fertile. Unfortunately, they can't be used as a pollinator.

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



RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

1364 Benedict Drive	94577: \$699,000	3 BD - 1,570 SF - 1941
1997 Charlotte Avenue	94577: \$500,000	3 BD - 1,028 SF - 1944
1011 Greenbrier Court	94577: \$785,000	3 BD - 1,775 SF - 2007
2096 Hillside Circle	94577: \$915,000	4 BD - 2,089 SF - 1975
868 Linwood Way	94577: \$720,000	3 BD - 1,355 SF - 1947
329 Suffolk Drive	94577: \$673,000	3 BD - 1,471 SF - 1943
2175 167th Avenue	94578: \$721,000	3 BD - 1,769 SF - 1977
301 Caliente Drive	94578: \$390,000	2 BD - 1,060 SF - 1980
16006 East 14th Street	94578: \$370,000	1 BD - 811 SF - 1987
15675 Liberty Street	94578: \$693,000	3 BD - 1,600 SF - 2014
432 Linnell Avenue	94578: \$663,000	4 BD - 1,278 SF - 1952
1932 Manchester Road	94578: \$525,000	2 BD - 1,520 SF - 1948
2016 Manchester Road	94578: \$785,000	2 BD - 969 SF - 1947
14702 Midland Road	94578: \$675,000	3 BD - 1,454 SF - 1948
16363 Saratoga Street	94578: \$388,000	2 BD - 947 SF - 1981
1432 Hubbard Avenue	94579: \$700,000	4 BD - 1,749 SF - 1953

TOTAL SALES: 16
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$647,500 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$900,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,065,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$868,700

Castro Valley

5072 Elrod Drive	94546: \$647,500	2 BD - 1,102 SF - 1949
18807 Sydney Circle	94546: \$910,000	4 BD - 1,901 SF - 1991
5728 Cold Water Drive	94552: \$821,000	3 BD - 1,944 SF - 1966
5644 Greenridge Road	94552: \$900,000	4 BD - 1,842 SF - 1960
7803 Pineville Circle	94552: \$1,065,000	4 BD - 2,340 SF - 1996

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$520,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$960,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$6,075,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$2,128,750

San Lorenzo

2134 Bockman Road	94580: \$755,000	3 BD - 1,269 SF - 1956
1376 Via Faisan	94580: \$760,000	4 BD - 1,414 SF - 1955
12723 Via San Ardo	94580: \$599,000	3 BD - 1,031 SF - 1951

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$599,000 **MEDIAN AMOUNT:** \$755,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$760,000 **AVERAGE AMOUNT:** \$704,667



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Rates Rise to 2018 High Mark

Average mortgage rates rose across the board last week, hitting new highs for the year, according to Freddie Mac's weekly nationwide survey.

Thirty-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 4.47 percent, up from 4.42 percent a week earlier. A year ago at this time, the 30-year rate averaged 3.97 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 3.94 percent, up from the previous week when it averaged 3.87 percent.

Five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.67 percent last week, up from 3.61 percent.

Borrowers may still have to pay exorbitant closing costs which are not included in the survey.

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A	1-4	1-4	14642 Outrigger Dr.	\$450,000	2/1	United Brokers RE	Tere Lee	510-305-8827
A	—	1-4	14844 Lark St.	\$550,000	2/1	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
C	1-4	—	22175 Dolores St.	\$559,000	2/1	Re/Max Accord	The Lovewell Team	510-351-5555
C	1-4	1-4	4238 Gem Ave.	\$650,000	2/1	J. Rockcliff RE	Kristy Peixoto	925-251-2536
S	2-4:30	2-4:30	11743 Cranford Way	\$849,000	3/2.5	Marvin Gardens RE	Greg Novak	510-472-4770
A	1-4	1-4	14879 Lark St.	\$000,000	3/2	Berkshire Hathaway	Cathy Brent	510-381-1065
D	1-4	1-4	4801 Valerio St.	\$1,195,000	4/2.5	J. Rockcliff RE	Lisa Ferraris	925-251-2583

CITY GUIDE

A = SAN LEANDRO • B = SAN LORENZO • C = CASTRO VALLEY • D = DUBLIN • F = FREMONT • H = HAYWARD • K = CONCORD
O = OAKLAND • P = PLEASANTON • S = SHEFFIELD VILLAGE • SR = SAN RAMON • W = WALNUT CREEK • Z = ALAMEDA



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City of San Leandro's Home Earthquake Strengthening Course

The City of San Leandro is again offering its nationally recognized and award-winning Home Earthquake Strengthening Course to homeowners. This is a "do-it-yourself" course geared towards owners of older, raised-floor homes. Homeowners will be shown how to identify and strengthen structural weaknesses in their homes. Upon completion of this four-day course, each homeowner will have a customized blueprint for their seismic project.

If you own a hillside home, please contact the Division of Building & Safety at (510) 577-3405.

When: May 3, 8, 10 and 15

This is a four-day course.

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Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

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SLHS Tennis Doubles Down on Mt. Eden

Pirates boys tennis team moves into a tie for first place with Arroyo in the WACC

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

The San Leandro High tennis team won in all the doubles matches on Tuesday to chalk up a 5-2 win over Mt. Eden.

San Leandro improved to an 8-5 record in the WACC Shoreline Division, tied for first place with Arroyo.

The Pirates No. 1 doubles team of Michael Huynh and Yuyi Cai won their match 6-2, 6-1 over Mt. Eden's Mahit Gupta and Julian Sanderson.

Huynh said that once he and Cai got their bearings they put the pressure on their opponents.

"We played slow at first but then we started playing more aggressive," Huynh said.

San Leandro's No. 2 doubles team of Jonathan Chen and James Huang had a tougher time, but pulled out their match, 6-2, 7-6, in a tie-breaker to decide the second set.

In No. 3 doubles, Nathan Yeung and Damon Pham of San Leandro beat Matthew Nguyen

and Johnny Giang, 6-2, 6-0.

In singles, San Leandro won one match on the court. Though the Pirates got a win in the No. 4 singles match by default since a Mt. Eden player was absent.

San Leandro No. 2 singles player Wesley Tat pulled out a

"I poured water on my head. I guess it woke me up a little bit."

— San Leandro High No. 1 singles player Ben Duong

win in a tie-breaker in the second set after his opponent Ajay Ralleta staged a second-set rally.

Tat won the first set and held a 5-2 lead in the second set, but Ralleta wasn't ready to give up. Before long the match was tied, 6-6, before Tat managed to pull out the win in the tie-breaker.

Tat said he started to coast a little with a 5-2 lead in the second set.

"It was 5-2 and when he came back I started to panic," Tat said. "Then it was 5-6 and then 6-6. But then I got focused in the tie-breaker."

In No. 3 singles, Allan Mercado of Mt. Eden beat Josh Rodriguez of San Leandro 6-2, 6-2.

And in No. 1 singles, Austin



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

San Leandro No. 1 singles player Ben Duong hits a forehand in his match against Austin Ralleta of Mt. Eden on Tuesday.

Ralleta of Mt. Eden beat Ben Duong of San Leandro 6-0, 6-3.

Ralleta is a senior and one of the top players in the league, so Duong was pleased to improve his play and make Ralleta work to win the second set.

Duong found a technique to jump-start his game in the second set.

"I poured water on my head," Duong said. "I guess it woke me up a little bit. It opened my vision or something."

A lot of games went to deuce in the second set, too. Duong attributes that to playing more aggressively and charging the net. But Ralleta kept his cool under pressure to get the win.

"I just made fewer mistakes," Ralleta said. "I just tried not to force my shots and let him make

the mistakes."

San Leandro has just one senior and the rest are juniors this year, said Pirates tennis coach Lisa Maral.

"It's a deep team, no super-stars," Maral said. "They've all played together for the past three years, and they all encourage each other."



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

San Leandro No. 3 singles player Josh Rodriguez goes back to return a shot from Mt. Eden's Allan Mercado.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15			16						17			
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21	22				23		24					
25				26		27		28		29	30	31
32			33		34		35		36			
37				38		39		40		41		
				42		43		44		45		
46	47	48				49		50				
51					52		53				54	55
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

ACROSS

- 1 Restroom, for short
- 4 Back talk
- 8 Blunders
- 12 Yale student
- 13 Friends, old style
- 14 Manner of walking
- 15 Gut level
- 17 Sans siblings
- 18 Feline
- 19 Snake or lizard
- 21 Untamed horse
- 24 Apiece
- 25 Second person
- 26 Wheel center
- 28 Basic assumption
- 32 Piquancy
- 34 Afternoon beverage
- 36 Water conduit
- 37 Come in
- 39 Sprite
- 41 Stitch
- 42 Tin Man's need
- 44 Alt-rock band, Barenaked --
- 46 Cheesy paper
- 50 Make marginalia
- 51 Vivacity, musically
- 52 Hun opponent
- 56 Enthusiastic
- 57 Send forth
- 58 Fish eggs
- 59 Optimistic
- 60 Antitoxins
- 61 Agent

DOWN

- 1 Third O.T. bk.
- 2 Boxer Muhammad
- 3 Baron's superior
- 4 Draw
- 5 Melody
- 6 Celebrity
- 7 Drag (Var.)
- 8 Braggart's journey?
- 9 Hindu princess
- 10 Streamlet
- 11 Eyelid woe
- 16 Has the skill set
- 20 Coatrack part
- 21 Memory measure
- 22 Reddish horse
- 23 No longer stylish
- 27 Spelldown
- 29 Guests
- 30 Duel tool
- 31 Nightly telecast
- 33 Earth science
- 35 Every last crumb
- 38 Carnival city
- 40 Tex-Mex treat
- 43 18-Across' ennead
- 45 Follow relentlessly
- 46 Slope transport
- 47 Jason's ship
- 48 Life stories, briefly
- 49 Exemplar of thinness
- 53 Round Table title
- 54 Upper surface
- 55 "Yoo-hoo!"

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

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■ **FONZENO, Joy.**, 1926 ~ 2018, Joy passed away on April 18, 2018, 3 days shy of her 92nd birthday. She was a gentle, loving person, who will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

■ **PHELPS, George.**, a long-time resident of Mulford

Gardens passed away on April 13th, 2018 due to failing health. He is survived by his daughters Darla Phelps, Debbie Raack (Ron), granddaughter Barbara Lane (Steven), 3 great-grandchildren Shylo, Steven, and Allen.

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City to Charge Developers 'Impact Fee' to Fund Affordable Housing; But Fee Could Discourage Building

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

San Leandro is trying to figure out how much they can charge developers of new projects in town in order to fund affordable housing projects, but they don't want to set the fees so high that developers won't build in the city.

Tom Liao, the city's acting community development director says the city is attempting to achieve a jobs/housing balance – to bring in business but also have housing be affordable to the people who work for those companies.

Liao made a presentation to the City Council last week on the city's

"affordable housing nexus study."

"We want to come up with a fee that doesn't hinder residential development but is high enough to finance affordable housing in the community," said Liao.

San Leandro Already Has a Mandate for 15 Percent of New Housing to Be Affordable

The city is considering adding the "impact fee" charged on new construction that could be set aside for affordable housing. Additionally, San Leandro already has a mandate in place that 15 percent of new housing projects be set aside for affordable housing.

The fee would be paid to the city, held in trust, and eventually given to a non-profit affordable housing organization when they begin a housing development.

Liao said that the study showed feasible fees could range from \$42,800 for a single family home to \$36,500 per unit for a high-density apartment, but he added the city would likely recommend charging about half that to stay competitive.

The city would likely charge commercial development fees in the range of \$4 per square foot for an office to 50 cents per square foot for a warehouse,

so San Leandro could attract businesses. So for a 20,000 square foot office building it would be a fee of \$80,000.

"We are trying to develop an innovation economy; we don't want to obstruct that kind of growth," said Liao.

Council to Decide in the Next Few Months

If the city does decide to begin charging an impact fee, the final amount of the fees would have to be approved by the City Council after a se-

ries of planning sessions over the next few months.

One issue that will have to be resolved is what to do about the several large housing projects that have already been approved by the council but have yet to break ground.

Councilman Pete Ballew said that people in the development pipeline shouldn't be held to a brand new standard.

"It's like an ex post facto law and doesn't seem fair to me," said Ballew.

Fees: Cities vary widely on amount charged

continued from front page
\$11,600 in staff time.

The city adds up the total staff costs to process the appeal and deducts that from the deposit and whatever is left goes back to the appellant.

But Ballew said that even as a deposit, the fee was high and essentially prices many people out of even attempting an appeal.

Mayor Cutter agreed, saying that the city needed to lower the cost.

Mogensen said that the current filing fee is fairly average for what his department's costs tend to be during an appeal process.

Mogensen said that the city only gets around two to four appeals on City Council decisions per year, but believes that number will rise as more housing

developments are proposed in infill spaces and a "not in my back yard" mentality begins to be more prevalent in San Leandro and all over the Bay Area.

Mogensen says that San Leandro's appeal fees are "on par" with other East Bay municipalities, but everyone goes about setting the costs differently – some charge more if the appellant is the person who applied to begin the project, some do flat fees, some do deposits.

Newark only charges \$100 and Pleasanton charges just \$269 – refundable if the appeal is successful – to appeal a decision to the City Council. Albany charges \$597, Piedmont \$655.

Mogensen said those cities told him they rarely if ever see any appeals.

The process is more costly in other cities – Hayward charges a \$6,000

deposit, Fremont requires a \$3,000 deposit. Livermore charges \$3,600 non-refundable and Oakland's fee is a non-refundable \$1,900.

The Rules Committee members all indicated they would like to see San Leandro's policy change, but said they need more discussion before bringing the matter to the full council. It will likely be discussed again at a Rules Committee meeting the first week of June.

"Government sets the standards, but the government is also supposed to be of the people," said Ballew.

Ballew added that he'd like to see the appeal cost from those who were charged \$5,300 refunded to the appellants.

"That's not even a sneeze for the city budget when it comes to what's right," said Ballew.

OPINION

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and **must be under 300 words**. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. E-mail letters to: letters@ebpublishing.com or fax to: 510-483-4209, or send by mail to: The Editor, San Leandro Times, 2060 Washington Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

Wants a Shake-Up at City Hall Over City's Budget Shortfall

Editor:

The City of San Leandro will be \$4.4 million in the red for the 2017-2018 fiscal year (Page 1, The Times, April 12) and one of the excuses that the City Council states for the shortfall is the fact that three cannabis dispensaries did not open.

Well these fine establishments were only expected to bring in \$500,000 in revenue so what has the Council been smoking to think that this would put a dent in the shortfall?

I suggest we fire Finance Director David Baum as he has earned a big red "F" on his report card for allowing us to get into this mess and we should also fire City Manager Jeff Kay as he has also earned a "F" and he wants to spend \$50,000 to hire an outside consultant to address the problem.

It's about time we hire competent employees to run the City and address the City Council as the ones we have on board right now have flunked out big time in my book and would be better suit-

ed to working at one of the dispensaries once they open.

—Brent Heath
San Leandro

Calls for Support for Parcel Tax to Continue School Improvements

Editor:

There has been a quiet renaissance in the San Leandro public schools over the last 5 years.

The changes have been numerous and when taken as a whole, dramatic.

A partial list includes: increased Advanced Placement enrollment leading to a recent award by College Board naming SLHS a national leader (San Leandro Times, April 12), SAT testing for all high school juniors, ongoing improvements to each school's facilities, teacher-led staff development, the maintenance of a comprehensive Career Technical Education Program, state-of-the-art K-12 libraries, and technology improvements including bringing the ratio of computers to students from 1 to 40 to 1 to 1 in four years.

Not everyone may be aware of all

these improvements, but our district has grown by over 320 students in the last 2 years while neighboring districts have seen declining enrollment. Parents know good things are happening in our district.

The San Leandro Teachers' Association has worked collaboratively with district management to usher in these improvements. It has been a dynamic and exciting time of growth. We look forward to continuing the work of improving our schools for the children of San Leandro.

Our community has been very generous in passing construction bonds to support the building and upgrading of facilities. It now time for our community to consider supporting a modest parcel tax to insure that the trajectory of program improvement continues. San Leandro is one of the few surrounding communities that does not have a parcel tax.

Our neighboring districts understand that state funding for schools is inadequate. We have made huge strides, but it begs the question, what more could we achieve with greater community support? The answer is clear...a parcel tax would position us to build upon this renaissance and create more opportunities for the children of San Leandro.

—Jon Sherr

San Leandro Teachers' Association

INQUIRING REPORTER

How did you get interested in art?

— Asked at Artfest 2018 at the library

My dad. He was an artist who carved the wood for a furniture company. Whenever we did something wrong, he had us sit and listen to symphony music and he'd give us tables to draw on. We would draw everything in the room. I had four sisters and two brothers and art was instilled in all of us.

Rosemarie Ramos
Hayward



I started about 20 years ago. I didn't think I could do it. I went to a craft show and was talking to the students who did fine art and they said, "Oh, no, you can learn." I started taking classes at the San Lorenzo Adult School and now work in oil and pastels. It's a lot of fun and anybody can do it.

Barbara Andreassen
San Leandro



I was always interested, since the first grade. I went to a paint store when I was 12. I came back later and showed the painter what I had done and he said, "You've already passed me. You should take lessons from a real painter." So I did. I took lessons and learned the right techniques.

Estel Morgan
Castro Valley



My whole family are artists. My brother used to lie on the floor painting soldiers and I copied his work. My oldest brother got a scholarship to the University of Washington. I got married at 18 and had kids and took art classes at Chabot College. I had to go to work, but when I retired I started again.

Molly Dolly
San Leandro



As a kid I remember copying the comic strips. I grew up in Montana in the early '50s before TV. We had to entertain ourselves. It's almost as if I was born with a pencil in my hand. Over the years, I've lassoed artists and got them to show me how to do certain effects. Michael Grow, who had a gallery in Pelton Center, taught me how to draw.

John Ries
San Leandro



Local Pool Players to Compete In Las Vegas Tournament

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Several local pool players will be competing against thousands of players from all over the country in a big tournament in Las Vegas this weekend.

Players will be vying for thousands of dollars in prize money at the 2018 APA Poolplayer Championships and Showdown Series at the Westgate Resort & Casino through Sunday.

Among the competitors will be Craig Nicholson and Bob Soule III of San Leandro, Alex Almendral of San Lorenzo, and Robert (Poncho) Battinich of Castro Valley.

The players won local tournaments sanctioned by the American Poolplayer Association in 8-ball and 9-ball to advance to the tournament in Las Vegas.

Soule will compete in 8-ball doubles with his doubles partner Brad Ashmore. They regularly



Bob Soule of San Leandro (right) with his 8-ball doubles partner Brad Ashmore will compete in Las Vegas.

play 8-ball at the Valley Inn in Castro Valley.

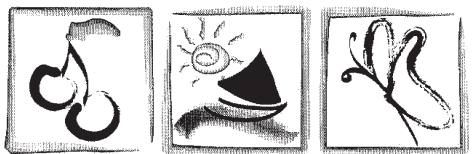
Nicholson plays at the Victorian on Washington Avenue in San Leandro. Almendral plays at California Billiards in Fremont, and Battinich plays 9-ball at the

Valley Inn.

Soule and Ashmore qualified by winning an APA regional playoff at California Billiards in Fremont. Soule made the same Las Vegas tourney a year ago.

"There were 200 to 300 pool tables in a big convention hall and a couple thousand players, so it's quite intensive," Soule said. "It's going to be a challenge to say the least, because it's going to be the best pool players in the country."

CITY OF SAN LEANDRO
RECREATION AND HUMAN SERVICES



CREATING COMMUNITY

This issue of the San Leandro Times contains the City of San Leandro Recreation and Human Services Department Summer Activities Guide.

If your copy of the Times does not include the Summer brochure, 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.

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Joe Rosenthal's photo of the Marines raising the American flag on Mt. Suribachi became one of the most recognized photos in history.

Veterans Center Presents Talk On Famous Iwo Jima Photo

The Veterans Resource Center of the San Leandro Public

Library will present, "Iwo Jima and the Photo that Changed America," a program on the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the battle's iconic photograph on Saturday, May 26, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Lecture Hall of the Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave.

A panel, including veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima, will discuss the battle and the famous photo, "Iwo Jima Flag Raising," taken by war photographer Joe Rosenthal, who would later become a photographer at the San Francisco Chronicle for 35 years. Rosenthal's photograph of six U.S. Marines raising the flag

atop Mt. Suribachi is one of the most recognized and reproduced photographs in history.

The 2-hour program is suitable for all ages and will begin with a short film. The panel will be moderated by Tom Graves, author and Chapter Historian of the Joe Rosenthal Chapter, USMC Combat Correspondents Association. A question-and-answer session will follow and everyone is invited to an ice cream social afterward.

For more information contact Addie Silveira at 577-3991 or asilveira@sanleandro.org or David Moragne at 577-3993.

Comedy-Mystery by SL Players at SL Museum

The San Leandro Players present *Death by Design*, a comedy/mystery with surprising twists, opening on April 7 and running through May 6 at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro.

Show times are Saturdays

at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., plus two Friday shows at 8 p.m. on April 27 and May 4.

Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, students.

For more information or reservations call 895-2573 or online at www.slplayers.org.

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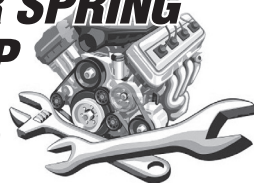
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