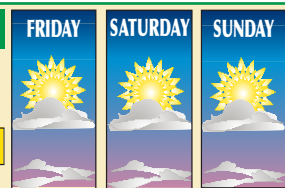


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CLASS OF 2020

5

WEEKEND WEATHER
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LOWS: 51-57



San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 23

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2021

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

Dozens of Stores Cleaned Out by Looters



Santiago Cortez cleans up on Monday morning at the Converse store in Marina Square after many stores in the center, and all across town, were looted the night before.

PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Stores across town emptied;
Dodge dealer loses 70 new cars

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Larry Allphin spent Monday morning cleaning up the broken glass from his windows and display cases at his downtown jewelry store.

Allphin was just one of several dozen shopkeepers repairing damage from the night before. From downtown San Leandro to Marina Square and from Westgate to Bayfair – looters smashed windows and hauled away merchandise by the armload on Sunday night.

At least Allphin's loss was mainly broken glass. The Nike store and Guess at Marina Square were totally cleaned out.

"There was no significant loss," said Allphin, who seemed relaxed considering the circumstances. "The jewelry was in a secure location, so it's not as bad as it could have been."

After smashing the main window to gain entry, somebody used a potted plant to smash his display case, Allphin said. He's hoping it's covered by his insurance.

"I don't know if there's a civil unrest clause in my insurance policy, I'll have to see," said Allphin.

Allphin was lucky compared to the downtown video game store, Game Stop, on East 14th Street where looters stole all the merchandise.

Looting across the country started in Minneapolis after a 46-year-old African-American man, George Floyd, was choked to death by police and re-ignited the country's historical problem of violence against black people.

**Marina Square Hit Hard,
Dodge Dealer Loses 70 Cars**

At Marina Square, employees arrived on Monday morning to see the parking lot littered with merchandise, apparently dropped

see **LOOTERS**, page 4

Curfew Ordered, Stores Boarded Up

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

A curfew was ordered on Monday along with an announcement to stores to board up their windows in expectation of more looting that night, but Monday night turned out to be relatively quiet.

Curfew orders were issued on Monday by both Alameda County and the City of San Leandro, in the wake of mass looting on Sunday night.

The county imposed a curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. until Friday, June 5. But the city curfew was even stricter – 6 p.m. (now 8 p.m.) to 5 a.m. until Monday, June 8.

Residents are directed to stay home during the curfew hours, except for emergency responders and health care providers, or those seeking urgent medical

see **CURFEW**, page 10

Vigil Held in Memory of Steven Taylor

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

A peaceful group held a vigil for Steven Taylor in downtown San Leandro on Monday, followed by a march to City Hall.

The time of the vigil was moved from 6 p.m. to 4 p.m. after City Hall imposed a 6 p.m. curfew. But the vigil was anything other than the looting the night before that city officials feared happening again.

Several speakers, including Taylor's friends and relatives, recalled the 33-year-old Taylor as a caring guy with a good sense of humor.

Taylor was shot and killed by police at the Walmart on Hesperian Boulevard on April 18 as he was wielding a metal baseball bat and didn't put it down when police ordered him to do so, and a taser had little effect.

Taylor was having a mental see **VIGIL**, page 3



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Speakers remembered Steven Taylor at a vigil held downtown on Monday.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

NEWS

City Council town hall will be on Zoom. **Page 2**

SCHOOLS

Check out San Leandro High's 2020 graduates. **Page 5**

CLASSIFIEDS

Find what you need in the classified ads. **Page 8**

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MEETING SCHEDULES

CITY COUNCIL

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

SAN LEANDRO SCHOOL BOARD

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



Pets of the Week



Harper



Beethoven

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter are Harper the kitten and Beethoven the dog.

Harper is a rambunctious, 4-month-old kitten with expressive green eyes. She loves to play with toys and watch chirping birds through the window. She would be a wonderful addition to your family.

Beethoven is a 5-year-old St. Bernard who thinks he's a lap dog. He does well with dogs and cats. He's a loving, mellow dog who needs to be with a family who's home and includes him in all their activities.

For more information on Harper or Beethoven, call the Hayward Animal Shelter at 510-293-7200.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Friday Night Vigil

Molly Almeida, Bryan Azevedo, City Councilwoman Corina Lopez and Maureen Forney came to Root Park on Friday evening to hold a vigil for George Floyd who was killed by Minneapolis police. A few more people arrived later in the evening. The vigil was small but lots of passing drivers tooted their horns in support.

San Leandro Times

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Weekly Online Theater Classes Begin Today

Here's your chance to grow as a performer or technical artist via Zoom!

Las Positas College Theater Arts in Livermore will begin an inspiring summer of workshops this evening with talented, motivated people in the theater.

The series will allow students in high school, college, or the community the chance to explore

a range of topics with theater arts professionals who are ready to share their expertise.

The "Master Class" instructors have worked — or are currently working — with Berkeley Rep, ACT, Cal Shakes, On the Town and Lion King (Broadway), and other organizations.

Students will develop skills in see *CLASSES*, page 3

City Council to Host Meeting on Zoom

The next City of San Leandro town hall meeting will be on Zoom and include a discussion of the city's response to the Covid-19 emergency.

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter and San Leandro City Council members Deborah Cox, Ed Hernandez, and Corina Lopez invite the community to a Town Hall meeting scheduled for Monday, June 8, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The council members represent districts 1, 2 and 5 in the eastern portion of the city.

The Zoom video and phone conferencing information for the town hall meeting is located on www.SanLeandro.org under "Latest News."

The agenda for the June 8 meeting will start with brief updates from the mayor and council members on the city's response to the coronavirus emergency and on current projects.

There will also be time for public questions and comments. A staff contact list will be available at the conclusion of the

meeting for follow up comments or questions relevant to specific city departments.

"The first six months of 2020 have been challenging locally and globally," said Mayor Cutter. "My colleagues on the City Council and our staff look forward to hearing from the public about what we can do to further support the community."

Interpretation services for the hearing impaired or language translation is available when requested at least three working days before the meeting.

For more information, contact Paul Sanftner, Communications & Community Relations Manager at psanftner@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3372.

Another meeting for the council districts in the western portion of the city will be held on June 13.

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Vigil: Steven Taylor's mother and grandmother attend the vigil

continued from front page

health crisis and the situation should have been handled without the use of lethal force, speakers said. That message has also been presented to the San Leandro City Council at a meeting shortly after the shooting.

"I can't be the only one crying every night for someone I will never see again," said Monique Swain, one of the speakers to step up in the Downtown Plaza on Monday. "Steven loved and he never hated. He didn't deserve that. Nobody deserves to take his last breath on the floor surrounded by people who don't even know him."

"I'm tired of being afraid," Swain added.

The vigil for Taylor followed the death of another black man, George Floyd, who was choked to death by police in Minneapolis

on May 25.

A downtown barber spoke next.

"I knew Steve. We should always keep his name alive," said Tyrod Sampson, a barber at Harrison Brothers Barber Shop in downtown San Leandro. "He used to bring me candy bars. Steve is looking down on us and he loves us because Steve is a loving dude."

Another person spoke about Taylor and brought up another police shooting in San Leandro last June that he said was also a man of color having a mental health crisis.

Police shot and killed Anthony Gomez, 56, on Martin Boulevard after Gomez had a dispute with a neighbor where he was carrying a machete. Police confronted Gomez on his mother's porch. Gomez stood up suddenly

in a stance as if he had a weapon, which turned out to be a piece of wood, when he was shot.

"In the last year, the San Leandro Police Department has killed two men in a mental health crisis," said Douglas Spalding, a public school teacher.

Spalding said there were many police around Gomez, so they could have found a way to resolve the dispute without killing him. He said, in the case of Taylor, that he was shot within one minute of police arriving.

Both shootings of Gomez and Taylor are under investigation by the San Leandro police and the District Attorney's office.

The vigil of about 150 people peacefully marched down East 14th Street to City Hall. More than one speaker said they wanted to meet with Mayor Pauline Cutter but she has avoided them.

But at the City Council meeting later that evening, the council directed the city manager to send a letter to the state attorney general seeking an independent investigation into the death of Steven Taylor.

The council also decided to form an advisory board on equity and race, and will schedule a public meeting for a discussion on the issue.

The crowd listened to a few more speakers on the steps of City Hall and one man led the group in a chant, calling out Steven Taylor's name. The vigil ended



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

The vigil for Steven Taylor walked from downtown to City Hall where speakers called for city leaders to address racial prejudice and the use of lethal force when someone is having a mental health crisis.

before the 6 p.m. curfew.

"It just makes me know they haven't forgotten Steven," said

Addie Kitchen, who is Steven Taylor's grandmother. "There's so much going on and I had felt I hadn't done enough, and it makes me realize how much he was loved."

Chanticleers Postpones Season

Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley has rescheduled its remaining productions for the current season to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Bridges of Madison County," previously rescheduled to open this fall, will now be presented from April 16 through May 16.

"Mamma Mia," previously rescheduled to open in February 2021, is now set for July 16 through Aug. 15, 2021.

"The Foreigner," which was scheduled to open this July, will now be presented Oct. 15 through Nov. 7, 2021.

The new schedules are pending approval by the royalty houses and the situation with the coronavirus.

"The health and safety of the entire Chanticleers' family — audience members, staff, creative teams, performers, and volunteers — are of the utmost importance to us," said Chanticleers' Board President Jacklyn L. Wilferd. "All theatre companies are struggling to get back on our feet and we all need your support now more than ever."

Classes:

continued from page 2

such areas as dance from Ashley Cowl, advanced prop-making from Anders Hudson, casting from Janet Foster (Casting Director of A.C.T.), playwriting from Stephanie Neuerburg, and musical theater audition cutting from Alysha Umphress plus many others.

The workshops will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursdays, June 4 through Aug. 20. The registration fee is \$15 per session. Space in each class is limited to ensure equitable access to the expert instructors.

Tickets are available at positascollege.edu/theater and close by 10 a.m. the morning of each Thursday event.

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Looters: 'I was told police were around but I guess they were stretched pretty thin'

continued from front page

by the looters, or the stuff they couldn't squeeze into their cars.

"I picked up Nike shoes all over the parking lot this morning," said Santiago Cortez, who works with Universal Site Services, hired to clean up the center.

Cortez shoveled broken glass off the sidewalk in front of the Converse Clearance Store, and put up plywood where the windows were.

"The boss called me this morning and said bring some

plywood," Cortez said. "But the San Leandro Home Depot was closed because it was looted, too, so I had to go to Hayward."

Some storekeepers were aware on Sunday that there might be trouble from chatter on social media, which the looters apparently use to mobilize.

The store burglar alarm went off at 7:30 p.m. Sunday and the motion detectors indicated people were in the store, said William Curtis, manager of Skechers in Marina Square. Curtis lives in

Napa so he didn't come down till the next morning.

"I was told that the police were around, but I guess they were stretched pretty thin," Curtis said.

Skechers wasn't totally cleaned out like the Nike store but it still took a loss, in addition to the large front windows.

"I haven't done inventory yet, but a lot of socks, I'd say 500 units of socks were stolen and 300 units of apparel – t-shirts, jogging pants, hoodies, jackets," Curtis said.

The Dodge dealership across the street on Marina lost an estimated 70 cars, including many \$80,000 Chargers after looters found the keys inside the building. Videos on social media show the new Chargers burning rubber as they peel out of the lot.

Marina Square

Littered with Jewelry

The Marina Square parking lot was even littered with jewelry early Monday morning, said Jennifer Ray of San Leandro, a customer who came to see what happened.



PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

The Nike store at Marina Square was empty of merchandise after the looting.

"Clothes from Ann Taylor were strewn all over," Ray said. "It was devastating. Nike is

wiped out. So is Guess, and that's my favorite store. "I found a bat and a hammer,"

Ray added. "They just left the evidence right here. I showed it to a police officer."



A rock in a store may have been used to break a window.

San Leandro High School

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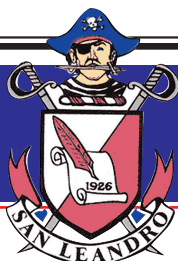
You did it!

On behalf of the City of San Leandro, we wish all of our graduating seniors the very best of success as you pursue the next chapter in your lives. Always remember, there is no limit to what you can achieve through hard work and perseverance.

You are our future leaders, and you make us proud!

With warm wishes,

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Vice Mayor Pete Ballew
Council Members Victor Aguilar, Deborah Cox,
Ed Hernandez, Benny Lee & Corina Lopez



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REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



COVID-19 Opening the Door for Potential Lawsuits

When I bought my first California home, the contract was one page. Today the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) residential contract is 10 pages with six pages of disclosures tacked on. Additionally, sellers are required to provide over 70 pages of disclosures.

While the witticism is, "Every paragraph in the contract and disclosures has been added as the result of a lawsuit," it is no laughing matter.

Litigation between a buyer and seller is never a desirable outcome and primary amongst the functions of Realtors is to ensure transactions close without the need to meet again in court.

In fact, the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice of the National Association of Realtors includes the statement: "When representing a buyer, seller, landlord, tenant, or other client as an agent, Realtors

pledge themselves to protect and promote the interests of their client."

It goes without saying that there are those in the legal profession who opportunistically seek to file lawsuits on behalf of those whom they perceive have been harmed in some way. While barratry per se is illegal, "ambulance chasers," as their nickname indicates, seek opportunities in disasters and other circumstances that have caused personal harm.

COVID-19 is no exception and the lawsuits have already started pouring in.

With the potential of legal action in mind, C.A.R. has crafted extensive documentation designed to protect both buyers and sellers in the midst of this pandemic. It is critical that both buyers and sellers follow the rules as outlined in the COVID-19 disclosures and do not attempt to take shortcuts or circumvent the necessary steps.

For those looking to sell their homes, an addendum to the listing agreement has been added that delineates the level of access a seller is willing to provide during the crisis and necessary steps required to adhere to the California Departments of Public Health (CDPH) and Industrial Relations (Cal/OSHA) COVID-19 Directives for showing properties.

There is also a new 8-page "Coronavirus Property Entry Advisory and Declaration" (PEAD) that must be signed by buyers, sellers and both sets of agents prior to allowing access to any home for sale. It includes

Real Estate Best Practices Guidelines and Prevention Plan for Showings During COVID-19 - Stage 2 Expansion.

While no one likes filling out forms, it is important to follow C.A.R. rules. At the end of the day, the goal is simple: stay healthy and out of court.

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.

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What's Eating My Strawberries?; Hedges

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Times

Something is eating my strawberries and it's not snails or slugs. They carve out a hole in the berry just before the berries are ripe. What is it and is there a safe pesticide that I can use?

The primary suspects for this type of problem would be sowbugs. Snails and slugs feed on the foliage of strawberries and leave the fruit alone. Sowbugs are a grayish-colored bugs that roll up into a ball when you touch them. They're usually considered a beneficial insect as they feed and break down decaying organic matter.

But they are a problem with strawberries, pumpkins and all types of melons as they invade

the bottom or sides of the mature fruit where it comes in touch with moist soil.

This contact causes the skin to deteriorate or decay and provides an entry point. With strawberries, the easiest way to control sowbugs is to lift the berry clusters up off the ground. The berries dry quickly as moisture evaporates from the air circulation. The dry surface prevents any deterioration so there is no entry point for the sowbugs.

Paper Dixie Cups or irrigation clips are two easy methods of raising the clusters. With melons and pumpkins, straw is used to keep them high and dry.

A second pest is earwigs, which feed at night and hide during the day. They attack the sides and top of the berry.

Sluggo Plus is an organic, bait to controls a range of problems

in edible including earwigs, sowbugs snails and slugs. It's a granular bait that's easily sprinkled throughout the strawberry patch and reapplied with each crop. With melons and pumpkin, it is reapplied monthly.

Another option for controlling earwigs is trapping. In the evening hours, set out moistened tubes of rolled-up newspaper. Earwigs will them as hiding places when daylight arrives. In the morning, dump the contents into a pail of soapy water and set out new traps in the evening.

My Wax Leaf Privet hedge is constantly plagued with Bermuda Grass that is invading from my neighbor's yard.

The foliage is close to the ground and dense, so I do not want to use Round Up. Is there a way to control the grass without harming the privet hedge beside hand pulling it?

You can control unwanted Bermuda Grass, along with crabgrass,

and foxtails, with Grass Getter from Monterey Lawn and Garden or Ortho Grass-B-Gon.

Both of these products are selective herbicides that control weedy grasses without injuring, desirable broadleaf plants such as hedges, shrubs, fruit trees, ornamental ground covers including junipers and some edibles.

Read the label carefully to be sure you understand how it is to be applied and the limitation with certain plant species. That be said, privet is a listed species. You get the best control when the Bermuda Grass is actively growing, May through October. I'd apply the herbicide with a tank sprayer to avoid have the spray drift, and reapply as necessary.

Buzz Bertolero is an Advanced California Certified Nursery Professional. The Dirt Gardener's website is www.dirtgardener.com and questions can be sent by email to buzz@dirtgardener.com



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Clean Your Home's Windows Inside and Out

By Samantha Mazzota
Special to the Times

Q I'm pretty regular about cleaning my windows on the inside, but I've never cleaned the outside of the windows, and they're getting pretty grungy. The first floor shouldn't be a problem, but what about the upstairs windows? Also, is there a faster way to clean than with paper towels and spray cleaner?

A "Fast" depends on just how grungy the outside of the windows are, but I can get you to "effective and efficient" which will make the task of cleaning windows easier.

On a side note, spring and fall are great times to clean the outside windows, if you don't do them more frequently. These are typically the seasons when screens are replaced with storm windows and vice versa, and while dual screen-storm windows are more common, it's still a good guideline to follow.

First, inspect all your home's windows to make sure they're undamaged, including storm windows and screens. Next, remove screens or storm windows and place them on a clean, sunny spot of the driveway or walkway to be cleaned.

Take a look at the home's windows from the inside. Newer double-hung windows can be unhooked and either lifted out of the frame or swung inward to access the outside of the glass. Older windows are sometimes held in the frame by a thin strip of wood, which should be carefully removed. Then the bottom sash can be lifted out of the frame. Being able to swing out or remove the bottom sash makes cleaning the outside of upstairs windows easier and much safer than climbing a ladder to reach them.

To clean windows, brush away loose dust and debris first. Then fill a bucket with warm



water and mild detergent. Place a waterproof liner (like a tarp or sheet of plastic) underneath the window to protect the floor and walls.

Wear rubber gloves to keep your hands clean. Dunk a clean sponge in the soapy water and wash the windowpanes, repeating as necessary to remove built-up dirt. Once the window is clean, grab a lint-free cloth, a chamois or for a really

old-school way to dry a window, some newspaper. Dry the glass completely; for your final pass, wipe back and forth, then straight up and down, to minimize streaks.

I usually start cleaning the outside of windows first. Yes, it grunges up your water and sponge faster, but it also gets the hard work out of the way first. I can clean the sponge and refill the bucket for the inside of the

windows.

Finally, clean the screens and storm windows that were set aside, brushing away cobwebs and loose dirt before using soap and water. Close up all of the windows and reset either the screens or storm windows, ready for the next season.

Home Tip: Avoid drying windows in direct sunlight, as the glass is more likely to streak.

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• Flowers

Root wood cuttings of azalea, chrysanthemum, carnation, fuchsia and hydrangea. Choose growth that is somewhat wood, not still bright green and pliable. Cut a 5- or 6-inch piece, strip all but the tiny young leaves at the top of the cutting and place it in light, sandy soil or potting mix up to the bottom leaf. Sprinkle foliage and thoroughly wet the soil mixture. Provide filtered light in a sheltered location and keep the soil mix moist until the roots are established, usually about a month. Then they can be transplanted to the garden.

• Vegetables

Feed tomatoes with a fertilizer rich in phosphorus (the middle number, such as 5-10-5 or 5-10-10). Stake or cage the plants. Tomatoes allowed to sprawl will generally produce more fruit, but some of it is likely to rot on the soil.

Some gardeners plant herbs, marigolds and allium in the vegetable garden to help repel insects.

• Spraying

When spraying plants for insects and diseases, be sure to spray the underside of the leaves where pests usually concentrate. Bugs on bushes and shrubs can often be effectively removed with a strong spray of water from the garden hose.

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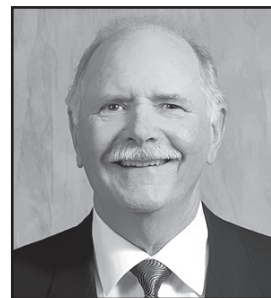
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LEGAL NOTICE

FILED
APRIL 27, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 570102

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es):
(1) Fam-It (2) Every Day Free Item located at 828 Begonia Dr., San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Jonathan Chew (2) Ching Yee Chew, 828 Begonia Dr., San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a married couple. This business commenced N/A.

/s/ Jonathan Chew, Ching Yee Chew
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.

Expires APRIL 27, 2025

MAY 14, 21, 28, JUNE 04, 2020
265-SLT

Curfew: Downtown boards up after City Hall issues warning

continued from front page

care, traveling to and from work, and news media.

Additional law enforcement personnel were activated to maintain patrols, according to city officials.

Oakland Mayor Libby Schaff said that the city's curfew was issued with awareness that curfews have been used to block protests, especially during the Civil Rights movement.

City Hall sent out an ominous announcement on Monday on social media. It recommended retail businesses to board up their front windows "as soon as possible today." The message added a suggestion to close early to get employees home and block all entryways with non-flammable material.

Many businesses followed suit. Downtown, the Fremont Bank, Baskin-Robbins, and Taqueria Los Pericos, Safeway, CVS – among many others – completely boarded up their windows.

But that left another problem. Where do you find plywood?

The Home Depot on Davis Street was closed after being looted Sunday night, so some people went to the Home Depot in Oakland or Hayward for their plywood.



PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

Teresa Lawrie unloaded plywood at the Sons of Liberty Alehouse in Washington Plaza on Monday afternoon after the city and county issued the curfew order.

But at the Sons of Liberty Alehouse in Washington Plaza, owner Tom Lawrie still found a local source for plywood.

"Larson Lumber – shop local!" Lawrie exclaimed.

The restaurant and alehouse just re-opened for take-out last

Friday before the curfew order came down.

Lawrie, his wife Teresa and the rest of the crew, hauled the teak outdoor furniture inside the restaurant, too.

On Monday morning there was a little relief among shop-

keepers. But the plywood was staying up on some banks and other businesses. CVS was boarded up and temporarily closed.

Nation's hamburgers was boarded up, but still open. That's good, because if Nation's isn't essential, what is?



Many shops downtown, including Los Pericos Taqueria and Baskin-Robbins boarded up their windows this week.



Alameda County Fair to Hold Virtual Fun Run

The Alameda County Fairgrounds and Sunflower Hill will hold a virtual "Fun Run, Sun's Out, Fun's Out," a 5K or 1-mile walk/run to support a great cause.

Even though the charity run cannot take place on the

Fairgrounds to kick off the 2020 Fair which has been canceled, members of the community are still encouraged to take part at their own pace. Choose your own local trail.

Proceeds will benefit Sunflower Hill, an organization

that helps to create spaces where adults with developmental disabilities can thrive in their own community.

The Fun Run is for all abilities and ages; participants may walk or run. Adult registration is \$25; children age 17 and

younger are \$10. Register at alamedacountyfair.com.

Each registration includes one free single-day admission to the 2021 Fair. Participants are able to choose their distance, trail, and date. The Virtual Fun Run will occur

between June 19 and June 28, 2020.

On top of the free general admission ticket for the 2021 Fair, each participant will receive free virtual classes before the event from Joya and Dragonfly Yoga + Wellness.

Runners and walkers are encouraged to download their own Race Bib, Finisher Certificate and a DIY Medal.

Inspirational Signage will be available for download to help motivate participants through their distanced run.

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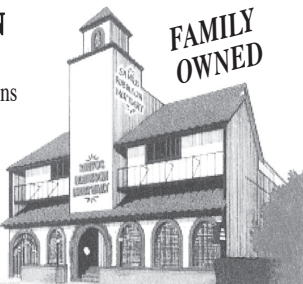
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LOCAL DEATHS

Mary Maxine (Max) Roberts

Mary Maxine (Max) Roberts died Monday May 11, 2020 at the age of 96 of natural causes.

She was the youngest of three sisters, preceded in death by Berta Fay Roberts Gleason and Vera May Roberts Orndorff. She will be buried with her parents Lora Grow and Charles Roberts in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, Napoleon, Indiana.

Max was born in Napoleon and graduated from Napoleon High School. After her mother died in 1945 she moved to California to join her sister Vera, whose husband was stationed at Alameda. As an independent and self confident woman she stayed in Oakland and the East Bay area for the rest of her life. She liked to say that her profession was as a "stripper," a Lithographic Stripper in the printing industry. She was a member of the Graphic Communication International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

She is survived by five nieces and nephews; Brad, Sarah, Vicki, Lori and Kevin and her biological daughter Lisa.

She will be remembered as a feisty and spirited woman and a loving aunt who was elegant, stylish and cosmopolitan; in many ways our "Auntie Mame".

Exact dates for funeral and memorial services are still being planned.



SAN LEANDRO TIMES OBITUARIES

may be submitted online at ebpublishing.com, emailed to obits@ebpublishing.com or faxed to 510-483-4209. Please include your phone number. A fee will apply depending on the length. A photo can be added for an additional cost. For assistance, call Patrick at 510-614-1558.

Patricia Ruth Richardson

Patricia Ruth Richardson was called home to heaven on April 28, 2020. Our loving mother was born in New Mexico in 1941 and moved to the Bay Area in 1942. She is survived by her younger sister, 4 children, 13 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren.

We love you tender ... RIP.



Craig Michael Gonsalves

Craig Michael Gonsalves, a resident of Castro Valley, passed away at his home on April 28, 2020. Born on April 5, 1955, he was a retired UPS driver who had a route in Downtown San Leandro for many years. He is survived by his sister, Linda Fino and her family. There will be a private burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward where he will be laid to rest with our Mom and Dad.

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.

A Letter from the City Council

Editor:

We have heard from so many of you who are experiencing sadness, frustration, anger, and despair. We are in the midst of one of the most challenging periods for San Leandro.

The killing of George Floyd is just the latest reminder of the systemic racism that plagues our society. We express solidarity with those who have peacefully protested and are seeking justice for African Americans and communities of color.

Black Lives Matter

It is also painfully clear that San Leandro is not immune or isolated from nationwide issues.

We recognize that the officer-involved shooting of Steven Taylor brings the issue home. Our hearts are with the Taylor family and all those who have been impacted.

As leaders in this community, we pledge to treat these challenges as an opportunity to be better together. It is easy to criticize the protesters or police, or seek out only those opinions that we agree with. We must unite behind this pain we feel and shift the paradigm.

In the days, weeks, and months to come, we pledge to do the following:

- We will continue to ensure transparent investigations of alleged misconduct and use of force by the police and take appropriate action.
- We will continue to release body camera footage as quickly as possible.
- We will expand our investment in efforts to address mental health in our community.
- We will support our Police Department in ongoing efforts to keep us all safe while continuing to enhance collaborative partnerships between the community and law enforcement.
- We will engage in the difficult but necessary conversations about equity, race, privilege, and injustice, including the formation of a community advisory committee.

San Leandro experienced civil unrest that threatened our sense of community and security. Combined with the unprecedented pandemic, we are all suffering and facing uncertainty. Some have lost loved ones to COVID-19 and others have lost their business or livelihood. San Leandro has been damaged, but we are not defeated.

No one is immune from implicit bias. We all have baggage. We all have blind spots. Only by acknowledging these shortcomings, can we begin to overcome them. We ask you all to join us on this journey.

With humility, hope, and determination,

—Pauline Russo Cutter, Mayor

—Pete Ballew, Vice Mayor

District 6

—Deborah Cox, Councilmember

District 1

—Ed Hernandez, Councilmember

District 2

—Victor Aguilar, Jr., Councilmember

District 3

—Benny Lee, Councilmember

District 4

—Corina López

Councilmember, District 5

'We Must Be Better'

Editor:

Can we make it a social requirement to raise our kids with anti-racism lessons? Can we make anti-racism as important to us as learning to read?

We have lectures and classes around how to raise children with healthy relationships with technology. Can we do that with anti-racism?

What is Black Life worth here in San Leandro? Can we be as angry about the regular lynching of black people as we are about having to shelter in place, the looting, or the riots? Can we call out racism with the same passion we have for proper face mask wearing? Can we work to dismantle white supremacy with the same relentlessness that we talk about our hope of a Trader Joe's going into the old CVS building?

We need to stop making excuses and rationalizing the inhuman treatment of Black people. We need to stop just putting the racism problem on law enforcement.

If black families are having "the talk" with their littles, we not-black families need to have the "not-black talk" with our own children, our friends, our leaders about our responsibility to be anti-racist. We need to learn how we weaponize white supremacy, how white supremacy is used on our behalf, and how our behavior can be much like that of Amy Cooper... the only difference is no one is recording us.

Black Lives Matter. We *must* be better humans. We absolutely can be better allies.

—Gloria Strohm
San Leandro

'We Will Rise Above This'

Editor:

As a 40-year resident of San Leandro, it pains me to see my city hurt as much as it has the last few days. It is in turmoil like the rest of our nation, but I have faith we will rise above this.

Do not get me wrong, we are not in a good spot. Our race issues are still being swept under the carpet and I am sometimes left to wonder if we are much better off then we were when I was a child. I do know that as a base, our citizens have never been better. Yet, we still lack thoughtful leadership from our Mayor and City Manager.

If this cannot change, our city will never change. In these last 48 hours, they have both been obscenely quiet and speaking behind their podiums at a city council meeting is nowhere near enough. I am sorry they were not speaking up immediately and that they were not out trying to calm the protesters and rioters.

Where I did see leadership was with our San Leandro Police Department and I want to thank them. I am not sure I agree with some recent actions —

and more needs to be discovered on these — however, in the last two days, I have seen them drive up and down my street tirelessly, as they go off to, and return from, calls. I live on one of the avenues that leads into the police station and I am grateful and appreciative, beyond words, of the support and protection then have provided our city, in impossible times.

San Leandro is a wonderful, diverse, and kind community. I hope that the small businesses that were attacked can survive because this, on top of over 2 months of closure or minimal business, must be overwhelming. I hope our leadership can step up and prove me wrong. And I hope our community can unify to support our neighbors, to face the challenges we have together, and that we improve upon our history.

—MaryAnn Frates
San Leandro

Reducing Racial Tensions

Editor:

At a Unity in the Community a few years ago that was attended by two San Leandro Police Officers, I suggested that the SLPD and the San Leandro Times work on a project, maybe in the comment section with anti-racist comments by police officers and the public.

I also that same year spoke at the city council mentioning a NPR story about a police force in a Florida city that reduced racial tension through having a civil rights course for police officers.

This might have saved a life in the recent Walmart tragedy.

—Craig Williams
San Leandro

Happy Birthday, Rosie

Editor:

Please tell Mary Torres that I truly enjoyed her story ("97-Year-Old Rosie the Riveter Takes on DMV," Page 1, The Times, May 28). I'm glad she persisted with the DMV and got her license without having to use the computer. Hopefully, she didn't have to spend 7-and-a-half hours there like I did on a recent visit.

Yes, Mary did provide "a little spark" for us living during these strange times of this pandemic — something positive to celebrate. From a fellow Pennsylvania native, I wish Mary a belated Happy Birthday.

—Gail Husson
San Leandro

More Surveillance Cameras

Editor:

In 2018, the Police Department wanted to install "public safety cameras" to help solve crimes and the City Council turned down the request. Let's review the facts. Total crimes increased 19% between 2015 and 2019. In 2018, the total number of crimes reported in San Leandro was 4,085 and in 2019 the number was 4,575, an increase of 12%.

For the first four months of 2020 the total increased 12% over 2019. Do you see where we're headed? What's really scary is that robbery, assault and auto theft are up 47% over 2019.

The Police Department is now once again requesting the installation of 10 new cameras and upgrading another 12. The Police believe that "the more surveillance there is, the lower crime is" and they point out the fact that only

20% of suspects arrested for robberies and or burglaries live in San Leandro.

I'd be willing to bet that they're not coming from Piedmont. I think its rather ironic that Mike Katz-Lacabe, who works with the Oakland Privacy Group, is against the cameras, but lives in San Leandro and not Oakland.

Talk about not getting your priorities in order, the cost of the cameras and upgrades is the same amount of money (\$135,000) that the City Council approved to spend on the question mark sign at the library.

I would be willing to pass around a petition that San Leandro adopt a slogan that was first coined by Allen Funt, "Smile, You're On Candid Camera!"

—Brent Heath
San Leandro

'Goodbye' to Democratic Nirvana

Editor:

Over the past several months, the Times has published numerous letters expressing disdain for President Trump. I am not surprised by the animosity. As a percentage of registered voters, Alameda County has the second highest Democratic voter registration in the state. For the most part, the various authors are preaching to the choir.

The latest letter by Mr. Pitcaithley ("The Untouchable President," Letters, May 28) was a rambling diatribe lacking any specificity to his assertions of wrongdoing. More accusations that could best be described as "glittering generalities" of Trump derangement syndrome.

Joe Biden appears to be having cognitive difficulties as to what particular day of the week it is and at times where he is geographically. One has to wonder if what ails Mr. Biden is contagious? Could it be that Mr. Pitcaithley has been stricken with the same malady? His complaints that he rails about Mr. Trump are a better fit for Mr. Trump's predecessor.

In any event, I am certain there is someone in the employ of "Visiting Angels" that could help organize, direct, and proofread Mr. Pitcaithley's future letters to the editor.

In closing, I am saying "goodbye" to this version of Democratic Nirvana, Alameda County and San Leandro. I am picking up all my chips off the table, sold my house, and will be a resident of another state within two weeks. I will be joining three other members of my San Leandro High School graduating class who have made the same decision in the last year.

—Sebastian Bufardec
San Leandro

Open Letter to Paul Sanftner

Editor:

I was referred to you by city staff as the appropriate person to respond to questions regarding the "survey" that the city of San Leandro recently mailed to residents and posted on various social media.

My questions are intended as a reply to the request for citizen input on budget priorities in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. In that spirit, I formally request answers to the following questions:

- 1) What were the design and printing costs of the survey mailer?
- 2) To how many households was the survey mailed and what was the cost of postage?

3) In addition to the post office, through what other media was the survey distributed?

4) What is your best estimate of the staff time/cost to design, distribute and promote the survey and to tabulate the results?

5) When will the survey findings be shared with citizens and the city council, including data on how many surveys were completed? Thank you for your attention to this matter.

—Bruce Goddard
San Leandro

City's 'Social Media Barrage'

Editor:

Unless I missed it, there has been no mention of the social media barrage the City waged on us recently.

In order to get responses to yet another survey asking for residents to rate their priorities in spending, I'd like to know how much money was spent on consultants and advertising. Amazingly, no priority was offered for marketing, consultants or surveys. I'm guessing that would be because they already know where that would land.

Can't wait for the survey to ask whether we'll vote for a 2% raise on our property taxes or a 1% raise in our utility taxes.

I know it's a hard decision to furlough employees, but I think many San Leandro taxpayers are living in that reality already, and they don't have a pension to look forward to.

—Carol Kane
San Leandro

Open Letter to City Mgr. Jeff Kay

Editor:

You thank us for "Staying 'Home,'" that is "home detention," while you follow the directives of an inept governor and county supervisors imposing a police state to further your political agendas.

You need our "input" to impose more taxes while the citizens are being left with no services. Your survey asks opinions on library and senior services. There hasn't been any for the last three months.

You want more of citizen's money to waste it in your art projects, rainbow crosswalks, murals or question marks, all essential to demonstrate your incompetence.

You say that you "tightened your belts..." in an effort to maintain the quality of life here in San Leandro."

Whose "quality of life?" You and most city employees keep on receiving your paychecks while the city doesn't even sweep the streets, on top of all of the restrictions imposed on citizens.

Mr. Kay, you shouldn't be that cynical. Don't count on your assumption that all of San Leandro citizens are idiots. Open the government and all of the city's services. Don't try to be even more obnoxious than the governor.

—Leo T. West
San Leandro



Send a Letter to the Editor
Letters@ebpublishing.com

SENIORS

Senior Q&A: How Can I Make the Most of Telehealth Appointments?

Q: I manage a large doctor's clinic that treats hundreds of seniors each month. We are moving to more telehealth visits to help keep our patients safe at home during the coronavirus pandemic, but this new way of seeing a doctor is befuddling to many of our elder patients. Can you educate patients on how to prepare for a telehealth appointment?

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times



A: I'd be happy to help! To help keep patients safe and at home during the coronavirus crisis more and more doctors and other health care providers are turning to telehealth (a.k.a. telemedicine) appointments, which are remote e-visits using a digital communication device like a smartphone, tablet or computer.

Although telehealth has been around for a few years now, recent updates to regulations and a surge in demand has made it the easiest way to get many different types of medical care.

Most telehealth appointments today tend to be primary care or follow-up visits that can assess symptoms or check on people who have had a medical procedure.

Telehealth also works well for some specialties like dermatology or mental health care (counseling/therapy) services.

So, what can patients expect from a telehealth visit, and how should they prepare?

The first step is to call your doctor's office to find out whether telemedicine visits are available and whether you will need to set up an account or install special software on your computer, phone

or tablet.

Until recently, doctors were required to conduct telehealth visits through platforms such as Doxy, Thera-Link or MyChart that were compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA.

But some of those requirements have been relaxed in the current crisis, so many providers are using popular apps such as FaceTime, Skype and Zoom to conduct visits.

Once you know what technology you will be using, get familiar with it. You don't want to spend the first 10 minutes of your visit trying to figure out how to unmute the audio.

For older patients that aren't familiar or comfortable with technology, ask a relative or friend with a smartphone, tablet or laptop to assist you.

Take the time to clarify the purpose of the televisit before it begins. Prioritize a written list of three or four issues you want to discuss with your doctor and make a list of the medicines you're taking, along with the dosages.

Also, have relevant medical devices or logs on hand, such as a penlight or smartphone flashlight for viewing a sore throat,

a blood-pressure cuff and thermometer (or recent readings), blood-sugar logs if you're diabetic or a food log if you have gastrointestinal problems.

If you've received medical care at different places, such as an urgent care facility or another doctor's office, have your latest medical records with you during the telemedicine visit.

Wear loose clothing that will allow you to show your medical provider what is concerning you.

The length of the appointment may depend on the problem. A routine visit could be very quick, while others, such as a physical-therapy appointment, may last as long as a session at a clinic. Waiting rooms are sometimes replaced by virtual waiting rooms.

Before the visit ends, make sure you know the follow-up plan. Do you need to schedule an in-office visit, fill a prescription or get a referral to a specialist?

Right now, Medicare and Medicaid are covering the cost of telehealth visits (see medicare.gov/coverage/telehealth for details), and most private insurers are following suit.

If, however, you don't have a primary care physician or need urgent care, you can get help through virtual health care service like Doctor on Demand (doctorondemand.com) or TeleDoc (teladoc.com).

These services currently do not accept original Medicare, but they may be covered by private insurers including some Medicare Advantage plans – be sure you check.

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

A representative payee is a person or organization appointed to receive funds for someone, who is unable to manage their own money or pay their own bills.



Name Social Security Rep Payee in Advance of Need

Q: I hear that there is some news from Social Security, in that it will now allow recipients to name a Representative Payee in advance of actual need. Is this important and do you know about it?

By Gene L. Osofsky, Esq.
Special to the Times

A: Yes, and it is considered a major change for Social Security. So, first, let's address what a Representative Payee is:

In the Social Security system, a representative payee is a person or organization appointed to receive funds for someone, who is unable to manage their own money or pay their own bills.

A representative payee (RP) would have the power and the responsibility to manage those funds for the beneficiary's benefit, whether they be Social Security Retirement, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Special Veterans Benefits.

The RP is essentially a fiduciary for the beneficiary and must be careful about handling the beneficiary's money, must keep good records, and make annual accountings to social security as to how the money was spent.

Up until now, anyone could apply to be the RP for a beneficiary who was deemed unable to manage his or her funds, which could encourage "bad actors" to get involved.

Further, there was no mechanism for a competent recipient to make an advance designation as to who should be his or her RP. In this respect, the situation has always been very unlike the advance designation that one could always make in one's estate planning documents as to who would his or her Trustee, Executor, Agent Under Financial Power of Attorney, and Agent for Health Care.

But now you can! This new right stems from the "Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018", and now allows you to choose an individual to manage your benefits whom you know has genuine concern for your well-being, should the need later arise.

The advance designation can be made by competent adults and emancipated minors. You may select up to three individuals, in

the order that you designate.

If the need later arises for an RP, social security will contact those individuals on your behalf, but will still verify that they are suitable to serve. In addition, Social Security will send an annual reminder to you of your designations, so that you can update their identities and contact information as necessary.

You can make an advance designation in one of the following ways:

- 1) Online using your personal "mysocialsecurity" (www.ssa.gov/myaccount);
- 2) By telephone at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778);
- 3) In Person by going to your local field office, but only after it reopens following the COVID-19 closures.

So, along with your estate planning designations, you can now also do so as to your social security benefits. This is an important change for social security. Further, the process on line is simple and can usually be completed in less than 10 minutes.

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

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