



South Pacific

SOUTH PACIFIC OPENS
FRIDAY AT WESTMINSTER
AMPHITHEATER 2



Raider Report

OAKLAND NATIVE MARSHAWN
LYNCH BRINGS BEAST MODE
BACK TO THE BAY AREA 9

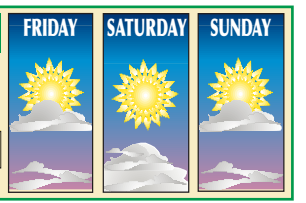
WEEKEND WEATHER

WARM Breezes keep
temps down

HIGHS: 75-80

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

LOWS: 57-62



San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 27 • NO. 31

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2017

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Night Out in the Neighborhood

Firefighters Steve Hickey and Brian Centoni chatted with Greta Velazquez and Shirley Beal at the Floresta neighborhood National Night Out party at Floresta Park on Tuesday evening. Across town and all over the country, neighborhoods held the National Night Out get-togethers to meet neighbors and first-responders.

Ballots Sent Out For School Parcel Tax

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The ballots have been sent out for the special mail-in election for a parcel tax that the San Leandro School District is asking voters to pass.

The parcel tax, Measure B, would double the cost and extend the life of a current parcel tax on homeowners in the district.

As proposed, Measure B would be assessed at \$78 annually per parcel for a period of 14 years, which would bring in a total of about \$1.5 million annually to the district beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.

The original parcel tax was passed narrowly by 66.75 percent of voters back in 2012 (a two-thirds majority was needed) and assessed at \$39 per parcel annually. That tax is set to end in 2018. The new measure, if passed, would extend its life another 14 years.

Larry Tramutola, the consultant the district hired to help pass the tax, said that seniors over the age of 65 are more likely to vote in mail-in elections. Seniors are also eligible to be exempted from paying the tax, so they could vote it in and not have to pay.

Because the new tax would be an extension and not an entirely new tax, senior citizens who have applied for a previous exemption from paying the tax will still be exempt if it passes.

Kevin Collins, assistant superintendent for the school district, said the district made sure that the exemptions could be

rolled over in order to make things more convenient for seniors.

Seniors who have not yet filed for an exemption may do so, but the property tax rolls for

see *BALLOTS*, page 5

County Supes Vote For More Pot Shops

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The Alameda Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to allow up to five medical marijuana dispensaries in the unincorporated areas of the county – one more in the western part of the county to join the two that are already open in Ashland and Cherryland, and two in the eastern part of the county.

By a 4-0 vote with Supervisor Keith Carson absent, the Board of Supervisors changed an existing ordinance in order to allow the additional dispensaries, as well as the sale of edible marijuana products and deliveries of marijuana by licensed stores.

The ordinance also allows for up to six permits for cultivation

see *POT*, page 5

Water Pollution Control Plant to Go Solar

By Amy Sylvestri
San Leandro Times

The City of San Leandro has received the largest grant given out by the California Energy Commission this year, which will fund energy efficiency projects at the Water Pollution Control Plant.

The Californian Energy Commission gave San Leandro \$2 million in grant funding to build a 1-megawatt solar power system at the plant, located at 3000 Davis Street.

The grant will also help pay for the installation of an new automation system and LED lighting at the plant.

The Water Pollution Control Plant's enterprise fund will provide matching funding for a total of nearly \$4 million in "green" upgrades, according to Debbie Pollart, the city's Public Works director.

see *SOLAR*, page 16



TIMES FILE PHOTO BY AMY SYLVESTRI

The City of San Leandro's water pollution control plant, a big power user, will be able to get a good part of its electricity from solar power in the future.

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

PETS

Hayward Animal Shelter to host special adoption. **Page 2**

CRIME

Two suspects arrested for shooting. **Page 3**

SPORTS

Dodgers finish season on winning note. **Page 9**

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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.



San Leandro Times

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

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Newspaper
Publishers
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Pets of the Week



Muffins



Gladys

The Pets of the Week at the Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, are Muffins the kitten and Gladys the dog.

Muffins is a 3-month-old who gets along with kids, cat-friendly dogs, and cats. While a bit independent, she's super playful.

Gladys is a sweet 10-year-old gal who has a lot of pep. She enjoys having her fur stroked and going for walks. Best in an adult home.

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

Hayward Animal Shelter to Host 'Hot Paw-gust Nights'



Bea Arther



Creamsicle



Mora

The Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, will host its annual "Hot 'Paw'gust Nights Pet Adoption" – and classic car show – on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., sponsored by the Hayward Animal Shelter volunteers.

Cats, kittens, dogs, puppies,

bunnies, and Guinea pigs are available for adoption.

An adoption fee of \$20 includes spay/neuter, vaccinations and microchip.

The car show runs until 3 p.m. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/haywardanimalshelter.

South Pacific Opens Friday At Woodminster Amphitheater

Woodminster Summer Musicals presents *South Pacific*, the Tony-award winning Rodgers and Hammerstein classic, Aug. 4 through Aug. 13 at Woodminster Amphitheater in Joaquin Miller Park on Joaquin Miller Road in the Oakland hills.

Performances are August 4 (opening), August 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, and 13, all at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available by phone at 531-9597, online at www.woodminster.com, or in person at Woodminster Amphitheater 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, or at the box office before any performance. Ticket prices range from \$31 to \$64, with discounts for seniors, students, and groups.

South Pacific tells the story of a group of American servicemen and women on a Pacific island during World War II, and their interactions with each other and the residents of the island.

Shortly after the conclusion of WWII, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, already hugely successful with *Carousel* and *Oklahoma*, set out to write a popular musical that would also send a strong progressive message about racism.

Using James Michener's Pulitzer-Prize winning *Tales of the South Pacific* as inspiration, they succeeded so well that *South Pacific* still has an important and relevant message today.

South Pacific has a compelling plot and some of the most memorable songs in musical theater history, including "Bali Ha'i," "Some Enchanted Evening," "Younger Than Springtime," "You've Got To Be Carefully Taught," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out Of My Hair,"



PHOTO BY NATALIE FONG

Edward Hightower as Luther Billis performs the hilarious "Honey Bun." Edward was honored with a Theatre Bay Area award for his performance as Lord Farquaad in Woodminster's 2016 production of *Shrek the Musical*.

and many more.

"After *Mamma Mia*, it may seem like our season is taking a more serious turn with *South Pacific*," says director Joel Schlader. "This is a show with a lot of depth and texture or it wouldn't still be a musical theater standard almost

70 years after its original Broadway opening."

Schlader said the show has also survived because it has humor and heart and it's vastly entertaining. It's a war story, but it's about characters the audience will root for and enjoy.

Veterans Resource Center Provides Assistance on Jobs, Civilian Life

The Veteran's Resource Center (VRC) at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., helps veterans as part of the statewide program "Veterans Connect @ the Library."

The VRC serves veterans in our community by providing assistance through trained volunteers who can connect veterans

and their families to benefits and resources.

The center also provides access to books, DVDs and pamphlets on various topics, including veterans benefits, registration with the CALVET program, registration with Federal e-benefits, transitioning from military to civilian life, finding jobs, surviving change and managing post-traumatic stress disorders.

Veterans can make an ap-

pointment to meet one-on-one with a Volunteer Benefit Coach by leaving an appointment request at the library or via email to sanleandrovrc@gmail.com or by calling 577-3993 and leaving a voicemail.

If you are veteran or know a veteran who can benefit from this program, please contact the VRC or pass this information on to them.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACFD

Car Fire at Costco

Alameda County firefighters extinguished a car fire in the parking lot of Costco at 1900 Davis Street on July 26 just before 1 p.m. The fire was put out quickly and there were no injuries to the two occupants of the car or the firefighters, according to the Alameda County Fire Department. The cause of the fire is not known at this time.

No Injuries as Fire Displaces Family And Pets on Marina Boulevard

A fire was sparked near an RV on the 2100 block of Marina Boulevard on July 29, at just before 3 p.m.

No one was injured and firefighters prevented the blaze from spreading to a nearby two-story apartment complex.

When firefighters arrived, they saw a large column of smoke

and a tree in flames. The fire spread to three adjacent backyards but did not damage other structures.

The fire was put out within 15 minutes of firefighters arriving on the scene, according to the Alameda County Fire Department.

The RV sustained water and smoke damage from the fire.

A family of four (one adult and three children) who lived in the RV were displaced and given assistance from the Red Cross.

Firefighters rescued four guinea pigs and two dogs from the fire.

The cause of the fire is undetermined at this time, according to the fire department.

DA Tells Parents to ASK About Guns

Children across the Bay Area often visit the homes of their friends and neighbors. In these homes, children can be put at unnecessary risk for serious injury or death by unsecured guns.

In order to raise awareness of this issue in the community, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office has partnered with the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the American Academy of Pediatrics in the ASK (Asking Saves Kids) Gun Safety Campaign.

In America, one out of three homes with children has a gun, and nearly 1.7 million children live in a home with a loaded, unlocked gun. Each year, thousands

of kids are killed and injured as a result.

The ASK Campaign promotes a simple idea that has the potential to save lives. Parents ask all sorts of questions before their children visit other homes. They ask about pets in the house, discuss allergies and internet access, and parental supervision. ASK encourages parents to add one more question to this conversation: "Is there an unlocked gun in your house?" It's a simple question, but one that has the power to save a child's life.

For more statistics and in-

formation, visit the DA's gun safety page at www.alcoda.org/resources.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Two Shooting Suspects Arrested Following Search

San Leandro police used their SWAT team, K9 units, and a helicopter to search for two suspects in a shooting last week, and eventually located and arrested the men after and hours-long search of the area.

Shots were fired around 2:30 p.m. on July 27 near the intersection of Davis Street and Douglas

Drive, according to Lt. Issac Benabou of the San Leandro police.

Police say that two suspects, whose names have not been released, shot into a vehicle and injured two people.

The victims' injuries are not considered life-threatening and they were treated at the scene.

Officers set up a perimeter in

the area and ordered a shelter in place for residents of Arthur and Midway avenues, Jean Way, and North Boulevard, telling them to stay inside of their homes during the search.

The suspects were located and arrested and police announced that the shelter in place order was lifted at around 8:30 p.m.

East Bay Park Lifeguards Compete

Last month, the East Bay Regional Park District hosted and participated in the United States Lifesaving Association Regional Championships at Shadow Cliffs in Pleasanton. East Bay Regional Parks lifeguards and rescuers beat Sonoma County Parks in the competition.

The top-scoring man was Erik Clemensen from Cull Canyon Park in Castro Valley and the top-scoring woman was Andie Lindeman from Contra Loma Park in Antioch.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EBRPD

Cell Phone Safety on BART

BART has launched a public awareness campaign to help prevent cellphone thefts.

BART police say there has been a recent decline in cellphone thefts following a sharp spike at the beginning of the year. After a peak in March of 58, there were 44 such thefts in April, 28 in May, and 27 in June.

BART has launched a public awareness campaign to ensure riders know these thefts are taking place and encourage riders to be aware of their surroundings. The campaign includes announcements on trains and in stations encouraging riders to keep phones secure, especially near train doors and while waiting on platforms.

Lifeguards from the East Bay Regional Park District recently beat their counterparts from Sonoma County in a life-saving skills competition.

FREE Community Health Fair

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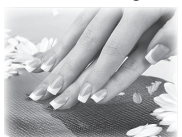
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- Basic Pedicure & Manicure:\$30/person
- Gel Manicure (Shellac Manicure):\$25/set

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NEIGHBORS



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

Tough Road

It's getting so rough out on the roads you sometimes feel like Charlton Heston in the chariot race in Ben Hur. These spikes seemed to be plastic, not steel, on the wheels of a modern-day Roman Legionnaire who may not know that the chariot driver Messala with spikes on his hubs wound up destroying his own chariot.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

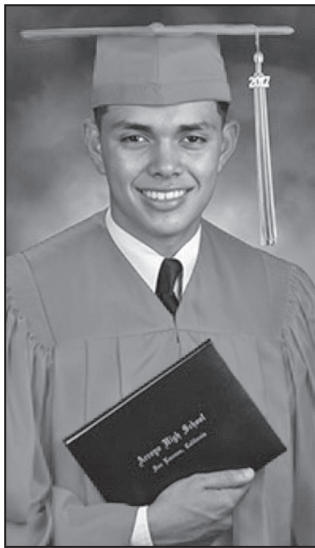
Arroyo High School graduate **Jose Antonio Ayala** won a \$10,000 college scholarship from Operating Engineers Local 3. Ayala, the son of Local 3 member **Antonio Ayala**, has excelled academically, ranking as one of the top 20 students in his graduating class.

He accomplished this while playing for the varsity soccer team, coaching Pee Wee soccer and participating in extracurricular activities that included

TechBridge, an on-campus organization that helps incoming freshmen with science.

Ayala plans to study civil engineering at Stanford or the University of California, Berkeley.

"I believe his continual drive to be a better, improved version of himself will serve Tony greatly..." said Arroyo High School teacher Samved Sangameswara. "I believe he has the intangible qualities that will allow him to thrive."



Arroyo High School graduate **Jose Antonio Ayala**.

Joshua Weible of San Leandro was among those who earned dean's list recognition at George Fox University for the spring 2017 semester.

Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or more hours of graded work to earn a spot on the dean's list. Joshua Weible is a junior majoring in elementary education.

Pepperdine University student **Payton Silket**, a native of San Leandro, has been named to the Seaver College Dean's List for the Spring 2017 semester.

In order to earn Dean's List honors, students must be in the upper 10% of their class and maintain a 3.5 or better grade point average. This year **Payton Silket** is one of only 286 students to receive the honor.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

❖ **South Pacific at Woodminster Amphitheater**
Woodminster Summer Musicals presents *South Pacific*, the Tony-award winning Rodgers and Hammerstein classic, on Aug. 4 through Aug. 13 at Woodminster Amphitheater in Joaquin Miller Park on Joaquin Miller Road in the Oakland hills. Performances are Aug. 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, and 13, all at 8 p.m. Tickets are available by phone at 531-9597, online at www.woodminster.com, or in person at Woodminster Amphitheater 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, or at the box office before any performance. Ticket prices range from \$31 to \$64, with discounts for seniors, students, and groups.

❖ **Arsenic and Old Lace**
The San Leandro Players present *Arsenic and Old Lace*, through Aug. 13, at the San Leandro Museum/Auditorium, 320 West Estudillo Ave. in San Leandro. Performances are on Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.; and Fridays at 8 p.m. on Aug. 4 and Aug. 11. *Arsenic and Old Lace* by Joseph Kesselring, directed by Mark O'Neill is one of America's funniest murder comedies, as a household of zany relatives and sidekicks bring insanity and mystery to the stage. Tickets are \$20 general, and \$15 seniors, TBA members, under 12, and students. For more information and tickets, call 895-2573. Order tickets online at www.slplayers.org.

❖ **Hayward Animal Shelter**
The Hayward Animal Shelter, 16 Barnes Court in Hayward, will host its annual "Hot 'Paw'gust Nights Pet Adoption" – and classic car show – on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., sponsored by the Hayward Animal Shelter volunteers. Cats, kittens, dogs, puppies, bunnies, and Guinea pigs are available for adoption. An adoption fee of \$20 includes spay/neuter, vaccinations and microchip. The car show runs until 3 p.m. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/haywardanimalshelter.

❖ **San Leandro Readers Roundtable**
The San Leandro Readers Roundtable meets Saturday, Aug. 5, at 2 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. to discuss *The Turner House* by Angela Flournoy, the story of a large and complicated Detroit family. Everyone is welcome, and all books discussed are available for purchase at the library's Book-tique bookstore.

❖ **San Lorenzo Community Church**
August is music month at the San Lorenzo Community Church, 945 Paseo Grande in San Lorenzo. Performances start at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 6, with the music from *South Pacific*, on Sunday, Aug. 13, *Oliver*, on Sunday, Aug. 20, *My Fair Lady*, and Aug. 27 *Sound of Music*. Please join us. All are welcome.

❖ **New Shoes for School Drive**
City Councilman Lee Thomas and the San Leandro Education Foundation are having the 3rd Annual New Shoes for School Drive through Aug. 6 to collect new shoes and gift cards for the upcoming school year. Donations can be dropped off in San Leandro during business hours at the Converse Store, 1247 Marina Blvd.; the Bal Theatre, 14808 East 14th St.; Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Bancroft Ave.; or Gregori Group Real Estate 555 Dutton Ave. For more information, contact Lee Thomas at 577-0603 or LThomas@sanleandro.org.

❖ **Kiwanis Club of San Leandro**
Join the Kiwanis Club of San Leandro for weekly meetings. The first Tuesday is for socializing. Dinner is open menu and starts at 5:30 p.m. The

following Tuesdays, second through the fourth or fifth, are luncheons and are from 12:10 to 1:30 p.m. and will have a speaker. All meetings are held at The Englander, 101 Parrett Street in San Leandro.

❖ **Watercolor Artist Demonstration**
Ron Pratt well known watercolor artist and teacher will demonstrate watercolor painting at the next meeting of the San Leandro Art Association on Tuesday, Aug. 8, at 7 p.m. in the San Leandro main library, 300 Estudillo Ave. Admission is free.

❖ **Davis Street Annual Health Fair**
The Davis Street Resource Center, 3081 Teagarden Street in San Leandro will have its 3rd Annual Health Fair on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join in this event featuring a farmers market, complimentary medical and dental screenings, lunch, community resources, games, prizes and fun for the whole family.

❖ **Community Impact Lab Gala**
Community Impact Lab will hold its First Annual Benefit Gala and Silent Auction on Saturday, Aug. 12, at 6 p.m. at the Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro. Join in on this fun-filled evening of delicious bites, dancing, and giving. Dress for the occasion is semi-formal. Entertainment for the evening will be the Cal Alumni Big Band. The silent auction will feature a variety of items: furniture, swimming lessons, wine tastings and tours, ballet tickets, concert tickets, financial planning, and more. Tickets for Tapas, drinks, and dancing start at \$100 and can be purchased at www.CILgala.eventbrite.com. For more information or to donate to the silent auction, email Christina@communityimpactlab.org or call 876-1543. Community Impact Lab strives to be a force for action and to expand opportunities for everyone, especially women and children.

❖ **Davis Street Backpack & Shoe Drive**
The Davis Street Resource Center, 3081 Teagarden Street in San Leandro needs your help collecting new shoes, backpacks and supplies for 300 plus low income and homeless children. New shoes needed include girls sizes 10 to 12, womens sizes 4 to 14, boys sizes 10 to 12 and mens sizes 5 to 13. Drop off all items at Davis Street Resource Center, open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call Kristal at 347-4620 ext. 163 or email kgonzalez@davisstreet.org.

❖ **Sons In Retirement Meetings**
Sons In Retirement (SIRs), an organization of retired men, meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Wedgewood Center at Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Dr. in Oakland. Happy Hour starts at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. Great guest speakers. Guests are welcome. Come and meet new friends. For more information, call MEL at 357-0601.

❖ **Alta Mira Club Tea & Fashion Show**
The Alta Mira Club, 561 Lafayette Ave. in San Leandro, presents "Have Bag Will Travel, 100 Years of Fashion," tea and dessert, followed by a fashion show to support Alta Mira scholarships on Monday, Aug. 21, at 11:30 a.m. The program features a museum collection of antique gowns and accessories modeled by volunteers from Goodwill Industries of the Greater East Bay. Tickets are \$25. For reservations, email Nancyfong@aol.com or call 483-1018.

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.

HOROSCOPE by Salomé

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ARIES (March 21 - April 19): A turn in a relationship upsets the amorous Arian, who is puzzled by Cupid's romantic antics. Be patient and considerate. The confusion soon will sort itself out.



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): It's a good time for travel-loving Taureans to take off for fun-filled jaunts to new places. And don't be surprised if Cupid tags along for what could be a very eventful trip.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): You appear to be of two minds about continuing a relationship that seems to be riding roughshod over your emotions. A frank talk could help you decide one way or the other.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Stepping back from a relationship problem provides a fresh perspective on how to deal with it. Meanwhile, watch your words. Something said in anger now could backfire later.



LEO (July 23 - August 22): A changing situation makes the Big Cat uneasy. But hold on until things settle down around the 5th. Meanwhile, continue your good work on that still-unfinished project.



VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22): A decided improvement in a workplace situation results in an unexpected, but very welcome, added benefit for everyone. Personal relationships also improve.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - October 22): Money matters remain a bit unsettled but soon will ease into the kind of stability you appreciate. Meanwhile, an expanding social life offers a chance to make new friends.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): Use an unexpected roadblock in your monetary dealings to reassess your financial plans and make changes, if necessary. It soon will be smooth sailing again.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Aspects of love are strong for both single and paired Sagittarians. Professional dealings also thrive under the Sag's clever handling of difficult situations.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Set a realistic goal and follow it through to completion. Remember: You're more likely to impress the right people with one well-done job than with lots of jobs left undone.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): You like to plan ahead. That's fine. But be prepared to make some changes because of an unsettled period that influences your aspects through the 5th.



PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): A brief phase of instability affects your usual work cycle. Use the time to catch up on chores around the house or office. Things settle down soon after the 5th.

Pot: Public speakers, politicians on opposite sides of the fence on pot

continued from front page
of marijuana in indoor growing operations and greenhouses.

The ordinance has been in the works for over a year. In a series of public meetings, many area residents spoke out against it, asking why the unincorporated areas had to bear the majority of the cannabis business.

Others accused Supervisor Nate Miley of spearheading the ordinance because he received \$60,000 in campaign donations from groups involved in the marijuana business.

The ordinance was vehemently opposed by the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC), which sent multiple recommended changes to the ordinance back to the Board of Supervisors on two separate occasions, including a provision that tax money gained from the sale of pot go directly to the Sheriff's Office for enforcement. None of the MAC's recommendations were included in the final draft of the ordinance.

The MAC had said repeatedly that they felt ignored by the county during the creation of the ordinance.



TIMES FILE PHOTO

The new county ordinance will allow more permits for the cultivation of marijuana, even though California is producing many times more than what is legally sold in the state, leading to the conclusion that much of the pot is going to illegal sales.

"It's clear to me that this (public meeting) is an exercise for the public and the supervisors are going to do what they want," said MAC member Ken Carbone in June.

The Sheriff's Office also sent recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, including a request that there be no increase in the number of dispensaries in the county and that there be no

cultivation, sale of edibles, or deliveries. Those recommendations were also turned down by the board.

"I respect law enforcement, but that doesn't mean I'll always

agree with them," said Miley of the suggestions from the Sheriff's Office.

At Tuesday's meeting, public speaker Vicki Stadelman said she believed that medical marijuana can help sick people, but there is no need to grow pot in Alameda County when Sonoma, Monterey, and other counties already have enough of the crop.

"Marijuana is helpful to patients with some medical conditions," said Stadelman. "But there is no need for Alameda County to get involved in the cultivation business other than the dollar sign."

California marijuana producers are growing up to eight times the amount pot that is consumed in the state, according to Hezekiah Allen, the director of the California Grower's Association. In a recent *Los Angeles Times* article, Allen said that the surplus will cause some growers to sell their crop illegally out of state.

Stadelman also questioned the value of an ordinance that allows edibles and other products which aren't held to any standards about content and potency.

"We have regulations for aspirin, beer, and cigarettes, but no standards for cannabis," said Stadelman. "If you are going to treat this as a reputable industry, then there ought to be standards."

In the end, the Board of Supervisors voted to pass the ordinance with little discussion. Though Supervisor Miley did note that he had been supportive of medical marijuana ever since he saw that Californians – particularly Alameda County residents – supported Proposition 215 in 1996 which made medical marijuana legal in the state.

"There have been countless meetings and it has been a lot of work," said Miley of the new ordinance. "I think we've gone about this in a very methodical, rational, careful, not-rushed approach."

The locations of any additional dispensaries or cultivation sites have not yet been determined, though they would have to be at least one mile away from other cannabis dispensaries, including ones in cities such as San Leandro. Conditional use permits will also be required before any shops are opened.

Ballots: Over 300 seniors applied for exemption

continued from front page
this year have already closed. So the exemption would not go into effect until the next fiscal year – which begins July 1, 2018.

The application to be granted a senior exemption can be found on the school district's website, www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us or by calling (800) 273-5167. Applicants will be required to show proof of ownership, residency, and age.

Collins estimated that only about 300 to 350 seniors have applied for exemptions.

"That's not a ton for a city this size," said Collins.

The district has successfully passed several other revenue measures in the past decade. Last November voters passed Measure J1, a \$104 million bond that has property owners pay \$36 per \$100,000 of their assessed property value.

San Leandro residents are currently paying for school bonds in the form of the \$109 million

Measure B bond, which has been assessed at \$39 per \$100,000 of property value and Measure M, a \$50 million bond assessed at \$25 per \$100,000 of property value.

Seniors cannot be exempted from paying for bonds.

Some of the bond debt comes from high-interest Capital Appreciation Bonds (CABs). Those CABs have interest rates of up to five times the principal of the loan, though the district has since refinanced a small portion of its CABs.

The district's total outstanding bond debt is \$325 million and \$181 million of that is principal. Of that, the current debt from CABs is \$91 million, and \$27.5 million of that is principal, the majority is interest due to the high rate.

It's those other financial measures that has at least one senior set against voting for the parcel tax exemption.

Norma Rugg knows she could get an exemption, and is looking

“Until the school board shows me they can manage their money better, I will vote no.”

— Norma Rugg

at getting one, but says she can't support giving the district more money when she believes public money hasn't been handled responsibly in the past.

"That (the CABs) makes me angry," said Rugg. "That makes me say that they aren't managing money well. If you can't afford something, don't get it. Until the school board shows me they can manage their money better, I will vote no."

But the school district says the tax money will be important to retain highly qualified teachers and staff members and support library services and other pro-

see **BALLOT**, page 14

THE TIMES CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- 1 Do something
- 4 Apparel
- 8 Crockpot creation
- 12 Thickness
- 13 Radius neighbor
- 14 Head
- 15 Bribe
- 16 Paper quantity
- 17 Hebrew month
- 18 Cosmetic item
- 21 "Of course"
- 22 Young fellow
- 23 "Ivanhoe" author
- 26 Rarin' to go
- 27 Vagrant
- 30 Aesopian also-ran
- 31 Foundation
- 32 Foundation
- 33 Ram's partner
- 34 Plague
- 35 Tier
- 36 Spread seeds
- 37 Household member
- 38 Paperwork specialists
- 45 Met melody
- 46 Annoys
- 47 Have a bug
- 48 Volition
- 49 Reebok rival
- 50 Masseur's workplace
- 51 Gotta have
- 52 FBI employee
- 53 Evergreen type

DOWN

- 1 Church section
- 2 Satiated
- 3 Sort
- 4 Structure on a tank
- 5 Spreads for bread
- 6 Chew away at
- 7 Tried
- 8 Shell out
- 9 Body powder
- 10 Needle case
- 11 Healthy
- 19 Computer unit
- 20 Dine
- 23 The lady
- 24 Cornfield call
- 25 Tramcar load
- 26 Driver's license datum
- 27 Fundy, for one
- 28 Work with
- 29 Mal de
- 31 Pete Weber's game
- 32 Dog owner's chore
- 34 Luau treat
- 35 Diminish
- 36 Burn with steam
- 37 Authentic
- 38 Chess piece
- 39 Ontario neighbor
- 40 Cleo's water
- 41 Proper companion?
- 42 Uncomplicated
- 43 Mature
- 44 Deli salad

ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

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AUTOMOTIVE

Ford C-MAX Flaunts 500-mile Range

By Steve Schaefer
San Leandro Times

The hybrid vehicle segment is now old enough that some models have been around for quite a while. Toyota's Prius — the name many associate with the word "hybrid," is nearly 20 years old, and is currently in its fourth generation. The Ford C-MAX is getting long-in-the-tooth, but it is practically unchanged.

There's a lot to like with the C-MAX. Being originally a European minivan, now built for us in Wayne, Michigan, it's a bit more compact than an American-size van, and has satisfying ride and handling, despite a rather large turning radius. You feel in control, sitting up high and perusing traffic through an expansive windshield.

I've tested three C-MAXes in the past — the first one nearly five years ago. The 2017 models are nearly identical, with

just some minor grille and tail-lamp tweaking. This year, the new Titanium series replaces the SEL; it includes 17-inch machined aluminum wheels, leather-trimmed seats, and a 10-way power passenger seat with lumbar support.

As before, you can choose the Hybrid or the Energi version. My tester, in this case, was the Hybrid, so all its electricity came from regenerative braking. Simply press the brake — or roll downhill — and the car charges its lithium-ion battery backup.

That means you can drive in pure EV mode part of the time during commutes or short trips in town, but the car normally shifts automatically between the 2.0-liter engine and the electric motor, depending on driving conditions. The Energi model comes with a plug and a larger lithium-ion battery, so it acts like a pure EV more often, supplying that smooth, silent propulsion so welcome in EVs.

The engine/motor combina-

tion is good for 188 combined horsepower and 129 lb.-ft. of torque, so the car moves along OK but you won't be beating any other all-electric vehicle off the line.

Hybrids help the gas engine work a lot less, so you get much better fuel economy. There is no gasoline-only C-MAX in the U.S. to compare it to, but the same drivetrain is used in the Ford Fusion. Comparing Fusions, the gas model earns 21 City, 31 Highway, and 25 Combined while the Hybrid model gets 43/41/42 respectively. That's a significant difference.

My Ruby Red Tinted Clear-coat tester's official scores were 42 City, 38 Highway, 40 Overall. Emitting 222 grams of CO2 per mile, it's essentially half a car, and gets a commendable 8 for Smog and 9 for Greenhouse Gas from the EPA.

Years of experience can be a good thing. The bugs are worked out, some updates are applied, and everything's familiar. The C-MAX, in the lower SE level trim, though, seems a little old now. It came with a metal key, which I had to take out of my pocket, insert into the ignition, and turn to start the car. That felt like grabbing a vinyl LP and dropping the needle down for some music. The center dash screen, although it has the latest (and much improved) Ford Sync interface, is very tiny, so what are usually four tabs on the touch screen are rendered as separate strips below the screen. Of course, there's no keyless access from outside, so you need to take



With C-MAX Hybrid, the lithium-ion battery is recharged when the gasoline engine is in operation. Further, regenerative braking can recapture more than 90 percent of the braking energy that would otherwise be lost, using that power to help charge the battery.

out the fob and press a button.

Ford has moved its interior design language forward, but the C-MAX has the look of a 10-year-old model inside, with edgy, aggressive shapes that have been banished from newer models.

You still get the tools you need to drive efficiently. The instrument panel lets you view your fuel use history, and provides three horizontal bars that tell you how well you've been driving for Acceleration, Braking and Cruising. You can also elect to view the Efficiency Leaves, which grow lush when you're motoring cautiously and wither away when you press too hard on the accelerator.

The left panel gives you choices of how you view the interplay between the engine and the motor, as well as a way of seeing whether your behavior is charging or discharging the bat-



Imagery of green leaves gives the driver information about overall driving efficiency.

tery. There's also a Brake Coach, so you can learn how well you're regenerating power. I scored 100 percent sometimes, which gave me some satisfaction. This data helps you learn to drive more efficiently, but you can apply the techniques in any car.

Thanks to its efficient package, the C-MAX flaunts a driving range of more than 500 miles, a

welcome benefit for long trips.

The Ford C-MAX still provides an alternative to other hybrids, but there's lots of competition now, including the stylish and trendy Kia Niro, among others. With a slew of fresh products on the way, Ford will be in great shape in this segment in the future. For now, The C-Max is a golden oldie.

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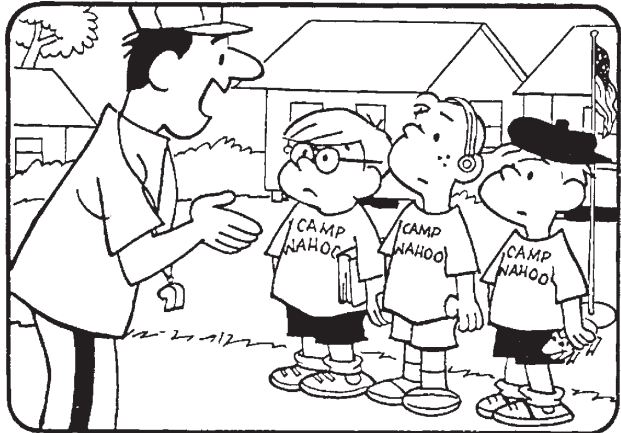
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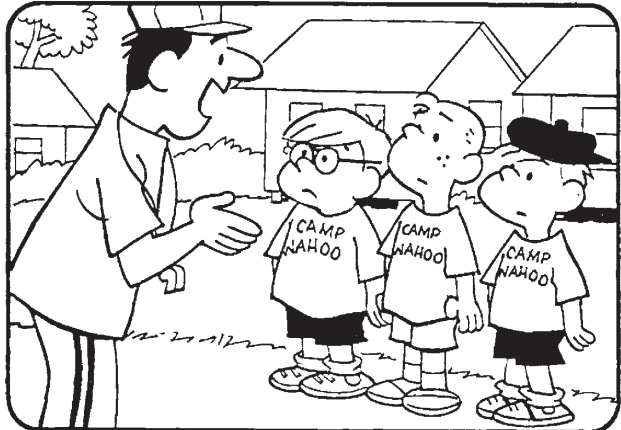
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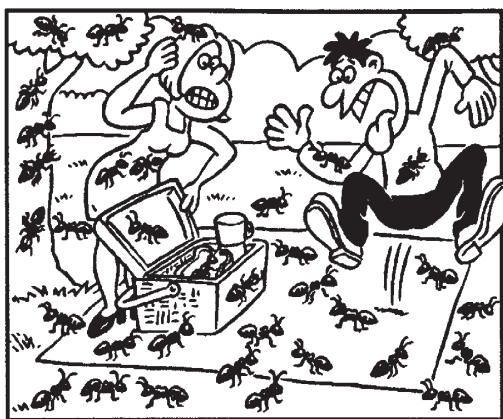
BY
HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Whistle cord is shorter. 2. Frog is missing. 3. Book is missing. 4. Headset is missing. 5. Flagpole is missing. 6. Stripe is different. 7. Book is missing.



UNINVITED GUESTS! See if you can correctly count the number of party crashers at the above picnic. Your time limit is 30 seconds.

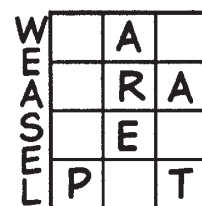
Answer: We counted 35. Did you get the same?

IT'S SINK OR SWIM with this AlphaMath puzzle. You must replace the letters on the boat with the digits 0 through 9 so that you will have a correct addition problem. Try to get the highest possible total.



Our Answer: B=5, O=7, A=3, T=0, L=4, E=1, K=2, D=9, U=8, N=6, S=6 (5730 + 4132 = 9862.)

FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "WEASEL." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds.



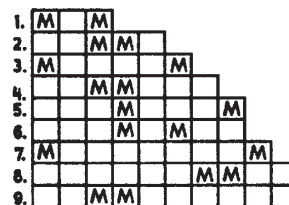
Answers: (Across) Was, era, eel, pat. (Down) Weep, area, sea, salt.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

M-AND-M WORDS!

You'll be hip if you can hop onto the words in our quiz. To the left is room for nine words, each of which contains two M's. We give you the M's plus plenty of hints to help you fill in the missing letters.



Illustrated by David Coulson

1. How you keep a secret.
2. A burglar's tool.
3. An educational building.
4. A good place to nap.
5. A deception or swindle.
6. One who steers a ship.
7. A large, stately tomb.
8. A board game.
9. A large, deadly fish.

Answers: 1. Mum. 2. Jimmy. 3. Museum. 4. Hammock. 5. Flimflam. 6. Helmsman. 7. Mausoleum. 8. Backgammon. 9. Hammerhead (shark).

SENIORS

Low-cost Plans Available to Seniors with Smartphones

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

There are several great low-cost deals for older smartphone users who are looking to save some money by paring down their bloated cell phone plan. Here are three good options to consider.

• Republic Wireless

If you're an Android smartphone user, Republic Wireless (RepublicWireless.com) offers one of the cheapest deals available for light data users.

Republic uses a mixture of Wi-Fi and cellular networks — Sprint and T-Mobile specifically — to transmit calls, texts and data. This patented technology automatically offloads as much as possible to Wi-Fi when available, so you'll consume less data than you would with traditional carriers.

Republic's no-contract service plans with cellular data start at only \$20 per month for unlimited talk, text and 1 gigabyte (GB) of data. If you need more data, their \$30 per month plan gets you 2GB, and \$45/month buys you 4GB.

How much data do you need?

The best way to find out is to check your current phone bills. The average smartphone owner uses between 2GB to 3GB of data each month, but most older smartphone users use less than 1GB.

To use Republic you'll need a compatible Android phone (you can't currently use Apple iPhones), or you can buy a new phone through the company. It currently offers eight Android phones with prices starting at \$99.

• Consumer Cellular

Another excellent low-cost option for lighter data users, and one that caters to older adults is Consumer Cellular (ConsumerCellular.com, 888-532-5366).

Rated the number-one wireless service by Consumer Reports seven years running, Consumer Cellular offers a variety of "pay for what you need" talk-and-connect plans that let you choose exactly what you want.

Their talk plans start at \$10 per month plus 25 cents per minute used for infrequent callers, or \$15/month for 250 minutes, \$20/

month for 1,500 minutes, and \$30/month for unlimited minutes.

And their connect plans for text messages and cellular data run \$2.50 per month for 300 texts and 30 megabytes (MB) of data, \$5/month for 2,000 texts and 200MB of data, \$10/month for unlimited texts and 500MB, \$20/month for unlimited texts and 1.5GB, \$30/month for unlimited texts and 3GB, and \$40/month for unlimited texts and 5GB.

Consumer Cellular, which offers 5 percent monthly fee discounts to AARP members, also lets you bring your own smartphone by offering free SIM cards. Or, you can purchase a wide variety of Android and Apple iPhones along with the senior-friendly Doro 824 SmartEasy for \$100.

• Lifeline Program

If your income is low enough, another option to check into is the Lifeline Assistance Program. This is a federal program that provides a \$9.25 monthly subsidy that could go towards your smartphone service.

To qualify, you'll need to show



There are many low-cost options for seniors who regularly use smartphones.

that your annual household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines — which is \$16,281 for one person, or \$21,924 for two. Or, that you're receiving certain types of government benefits, such as Medicaid, food stamps, SSI, public housing assistance, veterans pension or survivor's pension benefit, or live on federally recognized Tribal lands.

To apply, contact a wireless

provider in your area that participates in the Lifeline program. Visit LifelineSupport.org or call 800-234-9473, and ask for an application form.

Be sure to check all wireless providers in your state because some offer better services — like a free smartphone, monthly talk-time minutes, unlimited texting and some cellular data — than others.

Send your senior questions to:

Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org.



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

How Much Can We Leave to Our Children Free of Taxes?

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

Q My wife and I were wondering how much we could leave to our children free of any gift or estate tax?

A The answer may surprise you. A married couple can actually transfer to up to \$10,980,000 to their children, free of any gift or estate tax (in 2017).

You can either do so by either making lifetime gifts, or by leav-

ing it to them as an inheritance. You can actually mix-and-match: you can gift a portion of this exemption amount to them during your lifetimes by way of gifts, and the balance upon death by way of your will or trust.

This comes as a surprise to many couples, who mistakenly believe that they are limited to gifts of \$14,000 per year per child. Not so. The \$14,000 per year Annual Exclusion Amount ("AEA") is merely the amount that each of you may gift annually to as many individuals as you wish, without the need to file a gift tax return.

If you were so inclined, you and your wife could each make a \$14,000 gift to every single person

in your neighborhood without the need to file a single gift tax return!

More realistically, married couples typically prefer to leave their assets to each other, first, and then to their children.

Under tax laws signed by President Obama in 2010 and 2013, each person has an exemption from the federal estate tax of more than \$5 million. This exemption adjusts each year based upon inflation.

For an individual dying in 2017, that exemption is now \$5,490,000. If a married person dies without using his entire exemption, the unused portion may be timely claimed by his surviving spouse, who thereby preserves it

for later use to combine with her own exemption.

The deceased spouse's unused portion is called the Deceased Spouse's Unused Exclusion Amount ("DSUEA" for short).

This transferability of the DSUEA to the surviving spouse is called "portability." In essence, the unused portion of the first spouse's exemption may be "ported," or transferred, to the surviving spouse, assuming a timely election is made by the survivor.

Example: Bob and Sue have an estate worth \$9 million. Bob dies in 2017 and leaves everything to Sue. Everything passes to Sue without tax under the Unlimited Marital Deduction available to transfers between spouses. So Bob's entire DSUEA is therefore unused.

Sue's CPA helps her make a timely election to claim Bob's DSUEA by filing a Form 706 Estate Tax Return.

For simplicity, assume Sue also dies in 2017 and that her estate is then still worth \$9 million. Her es-

tate would then be entitled to all of Bob's unused DSUEA, plus her own exemption, so she could then leave \$5,490,000 + \$5,490,000 = \$10,980,000 to their children, estate tax free.

This plan completely tax shelters the estate passing to their children. Caution: if Sue does not make a timely election to port Bob's DSUEA, then the excess value of her estate above \$5,490,000 would be subject to estate tax, at the very hefty rate of 40%, resulting in an estate tax of over \$1.4 million.

"By combining your exemptions via a timely election after the first death, you and your wife can minimize, or even eliminate, estate tax for your children.

Note: The ability to port over the DSUEA is more complicated if the survivor later remarries, but even then there are planning options to minimize tax."

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

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PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

A San Leandro Dodger fielder makes a play in a game earlier this season.

Dodgers End Season on Winning Note

The San Leandro Dodgers went 4-1 over the past week and finished the season with a respectable 21-18 record, after beating the Blankenship Bulls, 7-3, on Sunday at San Leandro Ballpark.

In Sunday's game, the Dodgers benefited on a double by Mike Pulido and a pair of singles by both Zion Michael and Cameron Weatherford. Pudilo also pitched six innings, and Joshua Romero pitched an inning in relief.

The previous day, Saturday,

the Dodgers split a double-header against APS Blue. In the first game, Weatherford threw a 1-hitter in a 5-0 shutout. The Dodgers got a pair of singles by Noah Amaral and Zion Michael, and a single and double by Jakob Bouhuys.

The second game was a hitters contest, as APS Blue went on the attack for a 11-9 win. Zion Michael and Jacob Gurule gave up 11 hits, but the Dodgers did well at the plate themselves with Zion Michael hitting a 3-run homer and Noah Amaral hitting a

pair of singles.

Last Thursday, the Dodgers went on the attack in a 13-5 win over BAB Baseball. Jakob Bouhuys had four hits to go 4-for-4, and Mike Pulido hit a pair of singles.

Last Tuesday, the Dodgers beat Dawgs, 4-2, as Noah Amaral doubled and pitched six innings, striking out seven batters.

Dodgers coach Bill Brause and the rest of the team thanked the families and fans for their support this season.



PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

No Welcome Mat for Pigeons

Juan Arreola puts up wire mesh to keep out the pigeons under the eaves that cover the sidewalk in the Downtown Plaza this week. Apparently, the anti-pigeon campaign at the BART station has worked so well that the birds moved a couple blocks over to the plaza.

Summit to Focus on Disabled

Allen Temple Baptist Church, 8501 International Boulevard in Oakland, will host a Persons with Disabilities Ministry Summit on Saturday,

Aug. 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. to provide awareness of resources available to the disabled community.

This event will provide a

wealth of information for people with disabilities. Speakers from over a dozen social service agencies and organizations will be on hand.



PHOTOS BY GREG BENSON

Oakland Raiders quarterback Derek Carr energetically shares some insights to the delight of his new running back Marshawn Lynch at the first day of training camp in Napa.

Beast Mode Reboots in Napa



■ BY GREG BENSON

San Leandro Times

Simmering under a sweat-soaked hoodie, Marshawn Lynch reboots the fearsome phenomenon known as Beast Mode — now serendipitously shrouded in silver and black.

Lynch is back at home on the football field after a one-year retirement from the game. The Oakland Raiders, in need of a power back to replace the departed Latavius Murray, engineered a trade with the Seattle Seahawks to bring Lynch back into action.

An Oakland Technical High School star and Cal Berkeley standout, Lynch is ready to summon Beast Mode for his hometown team.

Flanked by loyal fans and legendary Raiders alumni, Lynch appeared happy and heartened to be back on the field. His teammates and coaches share in the excitement of Lynch's return and the talent he brings to the table.

"When I think of Marshawn, I think of passion because he's a very passionate player," said Oakland Raiders head coach Jack Del Rio. "Everything has been really outstanding with him, and him joining us and fitting in with our guys. I think they love him, we love having him, so it's great."

Quarterback Derek Carr anticipates a full-on display of Beast



Newly acquired Oakland Raiders running back Marshawn Lynch stretches out with fellow teammates on the Redwood Middle School field adjacent to the Napa Marriott.

Mode come game time. "He's going to run through some people's faces. I think that's what he's going to do," said Carr. "That part of the game is fun to him. I tend to like to slide or go over people, and he likes to go through them."

The most incredible display of Lynch's Beast Mode abilities has to be the relentless fourth-quarter rush through New Orleans Saints defenders in the 2011 NFL Wild Card playoff game in Seattle. Lynch shredded the Saints, tossing off nine would-be tacklers, to score a 67-yard touchdown. The crowd jumping up and down in the stands reportedly registered on a nearby seismograph, providing the impetus for the naming of the play "Beast Quake".

In his 10-year career, Lynch has amassed over 9,000 rushing yards and 74 touchdowns. He is a five-time Pro Bowler, having been named to the team in four straight seasons from 2011-14, and enters this season with the NFL's most rushing TDs since 2011, despite missing all of last year.

While not expected to hit full power in the preseason, Lynch and the Raiders will face the New York Jets for the home opener on Sunday, Sept. 17.

So, stock up on your Skittles, Raiders fans — the preferred "power pill" of Beast Mode — and get ready for what promises to be a full-on display of football's finest here in Oakland and throughout Raider Nation.

REAL ESTATE GALLERY



The Law of Expansion

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

A family of four called, wanting to move up. "We've outgrown our existing home," they said. "We need more space, but we're not sure we can afford larger digs."

After touring through their 1,500-square-foot, 3-bedroom, 2-bath house, I sat down with them at their kitchen table.

"I have some good news and some bad news," I stated. I had worked with them a few years back helping them move from a 2-bedroom condo into their current home.

"The bad news first: I've run the

numbers and you're currently not in a position to buy a larger home."

"We figured as much," agreed the wife. "But we can't understand something. We fit perfectly in the condo — it was tight at times, but we all had enough room. Soon after moving here, we totally ran out of space."

"I'm afraid you've run into a Universal Law," I explained. "It frequently catches people off guard."

The law? "Your stuff will expand to fill all available space." It's actually a corollary of Parkinson's Law which states, "Work expands to fill the time available for its completion."

The principle is simple: When people live in smaller homes, they understand that space is limited so they buy small-scale items or hold off on frivolous purchases. They look forward to the day when they get a bigger home so they can buy the things they feel they need or deserve.

Once in the larger space, they fail to effectively plan the space and act accordingly. This failure means their new home is quickly filled with "stuff" that takes up all available space.

We are a society obsessed with gathering possessions, many of which we seldom use and don't really need. Paradoxically, those who learn to live with less frequently lead less stressful lives.

"Now the good news," I said. "You don't need a bigger home — just better manage the space you have."

Since another universal law is: "Money disappears at the rate you get it", effective planning and budgeting means living comfortably with less and investing money that might have been spent on a larger home and more belongings.

My opinion? People who live comfortably within their means and invest wisely are often more fulfilled as their investments can open many other doors. Since money is actually a tool — learn to use it wisely.

Carl Medford is a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams Realty. This article is sponsored by the Central County Marketing Association.

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When to Pick a Peck of Peppers

Q I finally planted several Jalapeño Peppers and I've been pleasantly surprised on how well they have grown but disappointed that the flavor has been quite mild instead of hot. My wife thinks I picked them too soon. What do I need to do to increase the heat?

A Your wife is correct. You're harvesting the peppers too early. When mature, Jalapeño Peppers should be three inches long and two inches wide. The color will cycle from a green to a darker almost blackish green color. Some varieties of hot peppers do turn a blackish red.

If left on the plant long enough, all the varieties will turn a red color. Red Jalapeños have a wonderfully sweet/hot taste.

Once you think maturity has been reached, harvest a few and check their flavor. If the taste is suitable, then you'll know you can pick the rest when they reach that stage. If they're not quite spicy enough for you, wait a few more days and try again. You'll need to keep trying the peppers

at different stages until the taste suits you.

The Scoville Heat Unit Scale measures the spicy heat or pungency of each pepper variety. This scale runs from 2,500 to over 5,000,000. Jalapeño Peppers are around 10,000 while the Ghost Pepper is over a million.

In addition, geography plays a role, as mature chili peppers are more intense the closer they're grown to the equator. Hence, a mature Jalapeño Pepper growing in Orange County will be hotter than those in San

Jose or Portland, Oregon.

Jalapeño Peppers sold locally are not being grown in the Bay Area. They're probably from Southern California or Mexico.

If they continue to be too mild, then you should plant another more intense variety next year.

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

RECENT HOME SALES

San Leandro

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
| 249 Accolade Drive | 94577 | \$683,000 | 4 BD - 1,627 SF - 2002 |
| 352 Accolade Drive | 94577 | \$675,000 | 3 BD - 1,599 SF - 2002 |
| 1340 Carpenter Street | 94577 | \$488,000 | 2 BD - 990 SF - 1940 |
| 400 Davis Street #107 | 94577 | \$475,000 | 2 BD - 1,728 SF - 1982 |
| 1249 Kelly Avenue | 94577 | \$555,000 | 3 BD - 1,140 SF - 1942 |
| 14011 Seagate Dr #235 | 94577 | \$480,000 | 2 BD - 1,033 SF - 1985 |
| 1204 Vistagrand Drive | 94577 | \$795,000 | 3 BD - 2,206 SF - 1959 |
| 1473 Vistagrand Drive | 94577 | \$975,000 | 3 BD - 2,532 SF - 1959 |
| 798 Moraga Drive | 94578 | \$630,000 | 3 BD - 1,108 SF - 1954 |
| 1718 Sidney Avenue | 94578 | \$638,000 | 2 BD - 1,486 SF - 1945 |
| 720 Fargo Avenue #2 | 94579 | \$389,000 | 2 BD - 840 SF - 1965 |
| 740 Fargo Avenue #6 | 94579 | \$363,000 | 2 BD - 840 SF - 1965 |
| 690 Fargo Avenue #7 | 94579 | \$365,000 | 2 BD - 1,020 SF - 1965 |
| 1220 Georgetown Avenue | 94579 | \$580,000 | 3 BD - 1,459 SF - 1951 |
| 15605 Hebron Court | 94579 | \$615,000 | 3 BD - 1,419 SF - 1959 |
| 14331 Juniper Street | 94579 | \$480,000 | 3 BD - 1,076 SF - 1952 |
| 15280 Laverne Drive | 94579 | \$655,000 | 3 BD - 1,401 SF - 1957 |
| 1033 Lewelling Boulevard | 94579 | \$800,000 | N/ABD - 2,871 SF - N/A |

TOTAL SALES: 18
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$363,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$975,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$597,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$591,167

San Lorenzo

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
| 17473 Via Alamos | 94580 | \$240,000 | 2 BD - 885 SF - 1948 |
| 16177 Via Del Robles | 94580 | \$650,000 | 3 BD - 1,240 SF - 1955 |
| 57 Via Hermosa | 94580 | \$630,000 | 3 BD - 1,451 SF - 1951 |
| 17289 Via Melina | 94580 | \$550,000 | 3 BD - 1,031 SF - 1951 |
| 17113 Via Pasatiempo | 94580 | \$250,000 | 2 BD - 1,468 SF - 1947 |

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$240,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$650,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$550,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$464,000

Castro Valley

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 17705 Almond Road | 94546 | \$1,072,500 | 4 BD - 3,159 SF - 1955 |
| 2731 Barlow Drive | 94546 | \$908,000 | 4 BD - 2,000 SF - 1960 |
| 18767 Brickell Way | 94546 | \$832,000 | 3 BD - 1,808 SF - 1951 |
| 19204 Center Street | 94546 | \$450,000 | 1 BD - 728 SF - 1946 |
| 20677 Forest Avenue | 94546 | \$660,000 | 2 BD - 1,066 SF - 1941 |
| 3644 Lorena Avenue | 94546 | \$535,000 | 1 BD - 1,248 SF - 1993 |
| 20031 Lorena Place | 94546 | \$530,000 | 2 BD - 1,258 SF - 1981 |
| 19310 Parkway Road | 94546 | \$700,000 | 2 BD - 1,579 SF - 1969 |
| 19318 Parkway Road | 94546 | \$775,000 | 3 BD - 1,499 SF - 1968 |
| 4976 Proctor Road | 94546 | \$735,000 | 2 BD - 1,123 SF - 1952 |
| 18817 Sandy Road | 94546 | \$635,000 | 3 BD - 1,217 SF - 1947 |
| 5342 Briar Ridge Drive | 94552 | \$591,000 | N/ABD - 1,572 SF - 1978 |
| 6420 Ridgewood Drive | 94552 | \$960,000 | 3 BD - 2,256 SF - 1990 |

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$450,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,072,500
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$700,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$721,808

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An Exhausting Proposition

By **Samantha Mazzotta**
Special to the Forum

If your bathroom is completely fogged up when you get out of the shower — even when the exhaust fan is running — you may wonder what's the point in having a bathroom exhaust fan if it doesn't clear the air?

The exhaust fan serves a good purpose. It draws moist air out of the bathroom, minimizing damage to wallpaper, baseboards, the ceiling and anything else that isn't sealed against water.

However, if a "fog" lingers for

more than five minutes after a shower, the fan isn't doing its job.

The problem could be a blocked exhaust duct, an ailing fan motor or a unit that's not large enough to clear the entire room. In every case, the unit is not pulling enough air out of the bathroom.

If cleaning the unit doesn't help, consider replacing it.

Switch off the unit at the circuit box, then remove the front grille.

Remove the mounting screws and pull the fan out. Disconnect everything and set it aside.

Next, measure the fan's wall or

ceiling cavity and the square footage of the bathroom, as well. Purchase a fan that works best for the room's square footage. Make sure the new fan's exhaust port matches the size of the old exhaust port.

Install the new fan in the old cavity and test the household wiring to make sure the power is off before attempting to connect them. Then, follow the manufacturer's instructions to hook up the wires. Connect the vent hose, replace the grille cover and switch on the power at the circuit box.

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| A | — | 12-3 | 1904 Bancroft Avenue | \$549,976 | 2/1 | R.E. eBroker Inc. | Antonio Cardenas | 510-326-4263 |
| C | 1:30-4 | 1:30-4 | 21940 Nugget Canyon Road | \$619,000 | 3/2.5 | Coldwell Banker | Laurie Pfohl | 510-851-3551 |
| C | — | 1-3 | 20950 Manter Road | \$995,000 | 5/3.5 | J. Rockcliff Realtors | Kristy Peixoto | 925-251-2536 |
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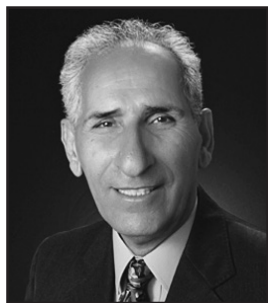
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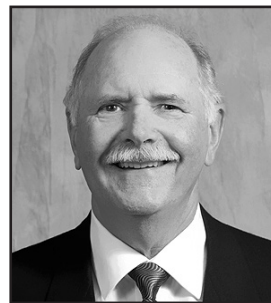
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LOCAL DEATHS

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BRANDT, Dolores Josephine Saiz ENRIGHT, Justin M. FRANCIS, Roderick Keith MURPHY, Michael Conrad PETTINGER, Molly Patricia

■ **Justin M. Enright**, a resident of San Leandro, passed away at the age of 34. Justin was a graduate of San Leandro High School. A Memorial Service for Justin will be on Friday, August 11, at Santos-Robinson Mortuary, 160 Estudillo Ave., in San Leandro beginning at 10:30 a.m.

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Michael Conrad Murphy

1984 - 2017

Michael, beloved son to Steven and Cathy Murphy, beloved brother to Windy Taylor and Stephanie Murphy, leaves behind his nephew, Nicholas Murphy; niece, Monica Murphy; and beloved brother-in-law, Mike Taylor. He was endlessly energetic and always building and creating projects from the ground up. He was always compassionate and willing to lend a helping hand. He was actively pursuing a Chemical Engineering degree and best known for his love of building cars.

A celebration of his life will be held at Chapel of the Chimes at 5 p.m. on Friday, August 4.

Roderick Keith Francis

Sunrise, January 4, 1956 — Sunset, July 16, 2017

Roderick departed this life on July 16, 2017. He was preceded in death by his father, Leon Francis. Family members left to cherish and honor his memory are his loving wife, Zina Fierro-Francis; his mother, Marie Francis-Hilliard (husband Parnell Hilliard); his daughter, Elise Francis; stepdaughter, Sabrina Aranda; stepsons, Joseph Wilkins (fiance, Veronica Vargas), Ronald Aranda (fiance, Monica Da La Cruz); extended son, Bobby Stark (partner, Nadia Vieira); 3 grandchildren, Liliana Aranda, Ronald Aranda III and Amara Stark; his brother, Darryl Francis (wife, Kim), and their children; his niece and nephew, Lauren and Jeremy Francis; his stepbrother, Greg Hillard (wife, Christine); stepsister, Angela Hilliard; and a host of other relatives and friends.



Dolores Josephine Saiz Brandt

Dolores Josephine Saiz Brandt, age 79, died on Sunday, July 16, 2017 at her home in San Leandro, California. She was born on November 6, 1937 in Santa Fe, New Mexico to Felicitas Baca and Epimeno Saiz. Dolores attended Laredo Military Academy in Santa Fe, New Mexico for grammar school. At the age of 9, her mother brought her and her sister Mabel to California.



Dolores attended Castlemont High School in Oakland, CA. in 1955 and she excelled in synchronized swimming. In 1956, she met Louie Norman Brandt Jr., who was recently discharged in 1955 from the U.S. Army in the Korean War and shortly thereafter they married on June 15, 1957 in Oakland CA, at St. Louis Bertrand Church by Father Coleman. They had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2017.

Dolores worked at Pacific Bell in the 1950's and early 60's as a telephone operator as well as in the cafeteria at Bishop O'Dowd High School in 1979-1980. After going to school to become an (LVN) License Vocational Nurse, she worked as the charge nurse during the swing shift at Jones Convalescent Care Home for 17 years, retiring at age 61. In retirement, Dolores was a volunteer at the San Leandro Library teaching others to read, to write and to speak Castilian Spanish as well as English. She enjoyed swimming and playing tennis at the Bay O' Vista Swim Club in San Leandro. Dolores enjoyed helping others in need by providing home-made meals to others who were ill and she was generous to those needing assistance. She enjoyed cooking and trying new recipes. She loved subscribing to a variety of magazines and reading the magazines from cover to cover.

Dolores and Norm loved to travel to other countries sightseeing the historical attributes and beauty of Greece, Spain, France, Gibraltar, Israel, Turkey, Canada, Alaska, Baja Mexico and Hawaii. Dolores was a dedicated mother and housewife, putting her family above all else. Her family will miss her great cooking, especially making chili and homemade tortillas.

Survivors include husband Louie Norman Brandt Jr., of San Leandro, CA, and four children including Michael Brandt of San Leandro, CA, Lawrence (Erin) Brandt of Windsor, CA, Terri (Greg) Stiner of Livermore, CA, and Louie (Breyana) Norman Brandt, III, of Danville CA. Besides 4 children and 10 grandchildren, Mom is also survived by several nephews and nieces, Cousin Connie Smith from Santa Fe, New Mexico and Brother Ed (Sandy) Saiz, of Auburn CA, and preceded in death by her sister Mabel Barber, parents and beloved paternal grandmother Cecilia Saiz who helped raise her, Mabel, and Ed in New Mexico until the age of 9 when she moved to California with her mother, Mabel and later Ed.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, August 11, 2017, at 11:00 A.M. at the Church of the Assumption, San Leandro, CA. There will be a lunch reception in the church hall following the mass. The interment will take place at the Veteran's Administration Sacramento Valley National Cemetery under the direction of the Veteran's Administration in Dixon CA. The family wishes to express special thanks to Kaiser's Health care workers and her family for their loving care over the last few years. Special thanks also to the Alameda County Fire Department and San Leandro Police Department for services rendered during medical emergencies. Donations can be made to the American Heart Foundation.

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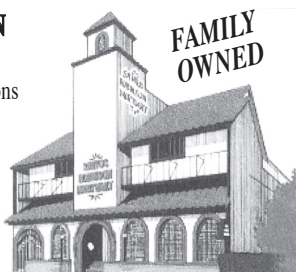
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Molly Patricia (Murphy) Pettinger

Molly Patricia (Murphy) Pettinger, born April 12, 1921, in Winona, Minnesota, second of four children of Molly and Leo F. Murphy, died June 16, 2017 in Portland, Oregon. She was 96 years old.

Molly graduated from St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota, where she was recruited to work as a secretary at Seagram's distillery operations in Louisville, Kentucky. At Seagram's, she participated in a rotation system — moving among departments, learning the entire distillery business. Two years later, she studied merchandising in New York City while selling part-time on Macy's Flying Squad. Later, Molly was employed as a Publicity Assistant at Shulton's Old Spice.

Molly returned to Seagram's for three years before joining the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times advertising department as a copywriter. Five years later, based on little theatre experience, she became a recreation leader for U.S. Army Special Services stationed at Toul Engineer Depot in northwest France, a 24-hour IBN operation staffed by draftees. While in Europe, Molly bought a used car and visited 19 European countries and learned to ski in Switzerland and Austria.

After 14 months in Europe, Molly returned to the Courier-Journal and Times, at its request, but to the promotion department. Provoked by a remark from a department head that "it's too bad you don't wear trousers, or you'd be running this place," Molly quit two weeks later and moved to California. Her job search took from Labor Day to Thanksgiving until she landed as advertising promotion director at The Call Bulletin, an afternoon paper in San Francisco. Molly's seven years of service at Louisville newspapers qualified her for Newspaper Guild scale wages, satisfying her desire to receive pay equal to men.

Molly married William (Bill) B. Pettinger in October 1960 and retired because of motherhood in 1961. A year later, she accepted a part-time publicity job at Mt. St. Joseph's Home for Girls, which she held for 12 years. After her husband became fatally ill with Lou Gehrig's disease, with which he struggled for 30 years, she became a secretary at Zellerbach Paper Company, and two years later copywriter for its business products catalog. The sale of Crown Zellerbach Corporation in 1985 ended her business career.

Molly and her family moved from San Francisco to San Leandro in 1966 where she lived until relocating to Portland in 2012 to be close to her son's family. In San Leandro, Molly was active in the League of Women Voters, served a term on the city's Library Board and another term as trustee for the Catholic Voice.

Her husband, Bill; brother, Leo (Bud) F. Murphy Jr., and his wife, Mary Kelley Murphy; and her sisters, Roseana Kronick and Kathleen Komarek preceded her in death. Her son, Mark of Portland, Oregon, and his sons, Ryan and Christopher (CJ), as well as many nieces and nephews survive her.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 5, at St. Leander Church in San Leandro. Burial is at 11 a.m. on Monday, August 7, at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno.

Donations may be made in Molly's memory to: St. Catherine University in St. Paul, MN; the Sisters of the Holy Names in Marylhurst, OR; the Society of Jesus (Jesuits West).



San Leandro Student Selected for Entrepreneurship Summer Program

Angelo Belenson of San Leandro has been named a 2017 Citi Foundation Entrepreneurship Fellow, a summer leadership development and internship program for Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) alumni, selected through a competitive application process.

Citi Foundation Entrepreneurship Fellows serve as role models to young people in NFTE summer programs and demonstrate how the entrepreneurial mindset can serve them in giving back to their communities, while supporting their educational and career paths.

Angelo Belenson, NFTE Citi Foundation Entrepreneurship Fellow, is a student at Chabot College in Hayward. He studies Japanese and International Business to reach his goal of introducing NFTE programs in Japan. He participated in NFTE throughout high school at the San Leandro High Academy for Business and Finance.

Through the NFTE curriculum, he studied Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Business Operations and Finance and participated in many NFTE events including the World Series of Innovation and the Moody Innovation competition. This summer, Angelo will be a mentor at the Bay Area BizCamp.

NFTE BizCamps are offered free of charge to students, ages 13 to 18, from under-resourced communities. Mechanics Bank is the San Francisco Bay Area community partner, and BizCamp is sponsored by Citi Foundation.

Teenagers will learn how to develop their entrepreneurial mindset, the way entrepreneurs recognize opportunities and overcome obstacles. Students are challenged to create ambitious yet practical plans and encouraged to use their entrepreneurial mindset to dream big and know they can accomplish anything.

BizCamp activities include the NFTE curriculum covering



Angelo Belenson

topics such as return on investment, supply and demand, opportunity recognition and marketing. Guest speakers include business professionals who bring the outside world to the BizCamp setting, and field trips include meetings with entrepreneurs at their workplace.

NFTE BizCamps are supported by the Citi Foundation as part of its Pathways to Progress global expansion to prepare urban youth for today's competitive job market. Thousands of students participate in this initiative led by the Citi Foundation designed to help young people become career-ready through first jobs, internships and leadership and entrepreneurship training.

Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) is an international nonprofit that activates the entrepreneurial mindset in young people and builds their knowledge about business startup. Students acquire the entrepreneurial mindset (e.g., innovation, self-reliance, comfort with risk), alongside business, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), and presentation skills—equipping them to drive their best futures in the 21st Century. NFTE focuses its work on under-resourced communities, with programs in 22 locations in 9 countries. For more information, visit nfte.com, like NFTE on Facebook at [Facebook.com/nfte](https://www.facebook.com/nfte), or follow NFTE on Twitter at @NFTE.

Ballot: Ballots mailed

continued from page 5

"Even though this local parcel tax is less than 1 percent of our budget, it is essential funding to support our core academic programs in math, science, technology and the arts, and to maintain manageable class sizes," wrote Superintendent Mike McLaughlin in a letter to the community. "Every penny benefits San Leandro children."

The district also promised annual independent audits to make sure there is fiscal accountability.

A ballot will automatically be mailed to all registered voters who live in the San Leandro School District.

The ballots must be returned to the Registrar of Voters' office no later than 8 p.m. on Aug. 29 via mail or in person at the Registrar's office, 1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1, Oakland, CA 94612.

If you do not wish to turn in a mail-in ballot, you can vote in person from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 29 at San Leandro City Hall, 835 East 14th Street.

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.

Urges 'Yes' on B — Essential for Maintaining and Improving Schools

Editor:

As a 19-year resident of San Leandro and parent of two students in the San Leandro School District, I urge all of my neighbors, friends and fellow San Leandrans to vote "YES" on Measure B.

This parcel tax extension is essential to maintaining and improving curriculum, libraries, classroom size, textbooks and instructional materials, and funding for art and music programs.

The rather modest amount (just \$78/year) will make a big difference for a chronically underfunded district that has been making great progress. Just one example? San Leandro is one of the only districts in California to show an improvement in the achievement gap between white students and students of color with significant gains in CAASPP test scores for students of color.

To me, this represents a major step in the right direction for San Leandro schools. Even if I did not have students in the district, I would want to see such positive results continue and grow — better schools absolutely contribute to strong communities (and higher property values, too!)

While very few people relish the idea of more taxes, it's important to remember that parcel taxes such as these give us the opportunity to put tax dollars to more efficient use locally and keep the benefits within our own community. For those citizens concerned about how the money is used, please consider joining the Independent Citizens' Oversight committee for Measure B.

Please vote "Yes" on Measure B — ballots due August 29!

— **Kate Miller, President**
United Parents (SLHS) Co-Chair

Time to Rescind 6% Utility Tax on PG&E Residential Electricity Bills

Editor:

As was stated on last week's front page ("Pot Shops Delay Opening Until Later This Year," *The Times*, July 27): "Pot stands to be a cash crop for the dispensary operators and the city..." amounting to \$500,000 annually in tax.

I was wondering what the city would do with all of this additional revenue since the mayor's letter in the same issue of the paper indicates that everything is fine in the city.

Before the pot money-hungry politicians at city hall decide how to spend the new revenue (e.g. on pay raises, beautifying projects, more street "bumps" etc.), I, as a taxpaying citizen, would like to make a serious suggestion: Why not rescind the Utility User Tax on residential electricity bills. This tax which appears on every residential PG&E bill at the rate of 6 percent is unfair in this electronic age.

The state does not impose sales tax on groceries because food is deemed essential for living. Electricity is now also an essential, as most people suddenly realize every time the "juice" goes out from the utility company.

And, its necessity for living will even become more important as more electric cars are sold. We do not live in the age of 50-plus years ago when electricity was a

luxury and an option for light to candles and lanterns. While I am making a guess, I would not be surprised to find out that the residential Utility User Tax generates less than \$500,000 per year.

Let's do something revolutionary at city hall. Rescind a tax that was imposed years ago when the city was truly hurting for revenue to keep things going. Then, all the taxpayers like myself can write letters to the city council thanking them for doing the unusual good.

— **George Tucker, San Leandro**

Accuses Mayor of Ignoring the City's Hundreds of Volunteers

Editor:

While I agree with the mayor for the most part about the great people who are members of the San Leandro city staff, she again simply ignored the hundreds of volunteers who work side by side with the staff.

These volunteers of all ages spend thousands of hours annually supporting and enlarging the work done by staff members. Yes, we are recognized once a year in May, and the mayor did attend this year's event briefly, but to issue a public statement like her letter without adding even one sentence (and no statistics) about the volunteers is poor judgement on her part.

This city could not run as efficiently and friendly as it does without ALL of the people who do the work.

— **Viola Walters, San Leandro**

Wants to See More 'Backbone and Determination' in City Leadership

Editor:

After reading Mayor Cutter's letter to the editor, you would think someone has been complaining about all the hard-working rank and file workers employed by the city, when nothing could be further from the truth.

I don't remember anyone ever complaining about our hard-working library staff or the permit department or pothole fillers. My criticism, along with so many others, centers around her weak and ineffective leadership and her enabling relationship with the city manager.

I'm amazed the city staff does as well as it does given the current management in place. It's not the staff's fault that endless meetings amount to nothing. It's not the staff's fault many of their managers need to be replaced. It's not the staff's fault that we are in this much debt. And, it's certainly not the staff's fault that all the promises of LIT San Leandro have not come true. The blame for all that falls squarely on management's shoulders.

Our new town motto is: "A town where kindness matters". And, I know that fits into Mayor Cutter's Mayberry view of the world, but I'm writing this letter as yet another "shelter in place" is in effect for yet another shooting in town after a car-jacking downtown a few days ago.

So, while Mayor Cutter holds onto her Pollyanna view of the world, I'd much rather see backbone and determination from our elected officials and managers. For instance, we still have no crime-reduction plan.

I'm grateful my grandparents instilled

19th-century values in me. Waste not, want not; a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush; and, most importantly, nice guys finish last. I'm really tired of San Leandro proving that.

— **Gary Langbehn, San Leandro**

Urges Ticketed Red-Light-Camera Motorists to Contest Violations

Editor:

I applaud Vice Mayor Lee Thomas for stating the truth about red-light cameras. They do not protect drivers.

In fact, in a NC study (*Urban Transit Institute, NC Agricultural & Technical State University, July 2004*), cameras were shown to increase accidents at intersections where they were installed.

The solution shown to be most effective in improving safety at signal intersections is to increase yellow light times. Even just one second longer has a dramatic effect.

Large ticket fines are put in place for revenue purposes, not to improve traffic safety.

The solution to fix the misuse of fines is for us, the residents, to take the time to fight every ticket we get. If just 10 percent of tickets are contested, the system will bog down under the paperwork, and the time that will have to be invested by the city and enforcement personnel and the city will not make any profit.

Traffic enforcement should be to maintain safety on the roads, not to raise money for the city and other entities.

— **Mary Matsushita, San Leandro**

Wants Rodeo Ordinance to Ban 'Cruel, Non-Sanctioned Events'

Editor:

Back in 1993, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors passed a rodeo ordinance banning both "horse tripping" and "steer tailing," the first such in the nation.

The ordinance needs amending to include other cruel and non-sanctioned events, e.g., "wild cow milking" (in which a cow was killed at the 2014 Rowell Ranch Rodeo in Castro Valley; another bloodied recently at the Livermore Rodeo); the children's "mutton busting" event (banned in New Zealand on the recommendation of the NZ Veterinary Association); and all animal "scrambles" (pigs, calves, chickens, et al.). None of these events are standard ranching practice, and are dangerous for all concerned.

Concerned citizens and local veterinarians are urged to contact the Board and ask that this issue be agendized: Wilma Chan, President, Alameda County Board of Supervisors, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612; tel. 510/208-4949. Other Board members are Scott Haggerty, Richard Valle, Nate Miley and Keith Carson.

As Tennessee Williams famously wrote, "Cruelty is the only unforgivable sin." It needs to stop.

— **Eric Mills, coordinator**
Action for Animals, Oakland

Says Animals and People at Risk From Commonly-used Herbicide

Editor:

The World Health Organization has warned that glyphosate, a key ingredient in Roundup, is "probably carcinogenic to humans," and California is adding the herbicide to its list of chemicals that can cause cancer.

According to the National Pesticide Information Center, the surfactants in Roundup may also cause toxic reactions in dogs and other animals who are exposed to it, including weight loss,

lethargy, excessive drooling, vomiting and diarrhea.

We don't have to put the health of our animal companions at risk. Improved soil health, plant nutrition and irrigation help combat weeds. Applications of vinegar and essential oils such as clove, orange and lemon have also shown promising results in controlling crabgrass, ground ivy and other weeds.

— **Craig Shapiro, PETA Foundation,**
Norfolk, Virginia

Calls on GOP and Trump to Work With Dems to Fix Obamacare

Editor:

Now that the Republicans' attempt to

repeal the Affordable Healthcare Law died in the Senate, they should work with Democrats to find ways to improve it. Just repealing it several times is shameful and it is disrespectful towards the majority of Americans who are benefiting from it.

It is also disrespectful towards American Indians around the country because the law also includes the Indian Health Services in which they can get health care. I urge Republicans in Washington D.C., which includes President Trump, to work with Democrats to fix some of the problems of the Affordable Health Care Law and make it better.

— **Billy Trice Jr., Oakland**

INQUIRING REPORTER

Scariest moment on a freeway?

— Asked at the Bancroft Safeway

I was going to work at Fairmont Hospital over the Dublin grade and it started hailing. I just took my foot off the gas and the car spun out. I made it over to the shoulder and I my knees were shaking. I called my husband and my hands were trembling. I made it to work and calmed down.

Joyce Carr
Oakland



It's not that scary, but somebody had a mattress on top of their car held on by a single bungee cord. It was bent back at a 90 degree angle about to blow off and we were right behind them.

Jackie Perl
San Leandro

A mattress fell off a truck right in the middle of the freeway. Cars were swerving around it. I slowed down first and went around, trying to let the cars behind me know that something was going on. The truck never even knew what happened.

Deborah Pegues
Oakland



When I sneezed and felt another sneeze coming on. I realized I would close my eyes if I sneezed and it scared the sneeze right out of me.

Phil Bacuyani
Sheffield Village



Going down 680 toward Pleasanton and a car came toward us going the other way, going down the wrong side of the freeway. I kind of froze. The car made a U-turn and took the exit. It was the craziest thing I've ever seen. My girlfriend and I just looked at each other and went, "What?"

Emmanuel Nava
San Leandro





PHOTOS BY JIM KNOWLES

Iron Work Goes Up Quickly

The iron is going up quickly at the San Leandro Tech Campus where Bigge Crane Co. of San Leandro is hoisting the beams. The photo at left was taken two weeks ago, on July 18, and the photo at right was taken this week. The 6-story office building under construction will be similar to the building next to it, the OSIsoft office building that opened last October.

Solar: The solar panels will likely be installed in the spring of 2018

continued from front page

The water pollution control plant processes wastewater for about 50,000 San Leandro residents through 125 miles of sewer lines which makes it the largest single consumer of electricity owned by the city.

A \$50 million remodel of the plant was completed in 2016 and there has been a desire for the solar panels, but the city wasn't ready for such a large additional project at the time, Pollart said. So the new grant money will allow the city to install the solar

panels that they wanted all along.

The city has been focusing on going green for some time now, Pollart said. Last year, San Leandro hired energy consultants Climatec to audit all city properties and see where improvements could be made.

This prompted a \$5 million project to convert streetlights to LEDs, upgrade heating and air conditioning in city buildings, and install "smart clocks" for the most effectively timed irrigation at city parks.

Pollart said the LED street

light conversion is over 85 percent completed and the other Climatec-recommended changes will likely be completed by October.

"The unique thing about this is the way it's being paid for – the (money saved from) energy savings will cover the costs," Pollart said.

Climatec also helped the city with the grant application to the state for the water pollution control plant, Pollart added.

The actual installation of solar panels or other plant upgrades won't be likely to start until next

year. The next step is the approval of the acceptance of the grant at an upcoming City Council meeting (the council is in recess for the month of August). Once approved, the rainy season will likely put off construction until spring 2018, Pollart said.

The water pollution control plant treats water for about 50,000 people. It underwent a \$50 million remodeling project which was completed in 2016.



TIMES FILE PHOTO

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Young Musicians Present Free Concert

Young Musicians Choral Orchestra (YMCO) will present its annual concert – YMCO Final Concert – with special guest, Kenneth Kellogg, on Friday, Aug. 4, at 7 p.m. at the San Leandro High School Performing Arts Center, 2250 Bancroft Ave.

The concert will feature the youth chorus and orchestra, small ensembles, opera musical theatre, solo performances, and a knock-out performance from Kellogg.

This concert is free and open to the public. Donations are accepted to continue educating our youth and gifting our community with an abundance of music.

Young Musicians Choral Orchestra was founded in 1968 as a summer outreach program. Under the leadership of Executive Director Daisy Newman, who took the helm in 2003, the program has become a national model, providing a rigorous and robust combination of musical training, academic reinforcement, and personal development for low-income children.

Join the Happy Stampers

If you like crafts, join the Happy Stampers who use rubber stamps to make greeting cards. The club meets on the second Monday of each month at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. For more information, call Janie at 483-0389.