



WOMEN *in* BUSINESS

PAGES
6 & 7

WEEKEND WEATHER
WARM Morning clouds to sunny afternoons
HIGHS: 68-73
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
LOWS: 55-60

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

San Leandro Times

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

VOL. 30 • NO. 43

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

SAN LEANDRO • CALIFORNIA

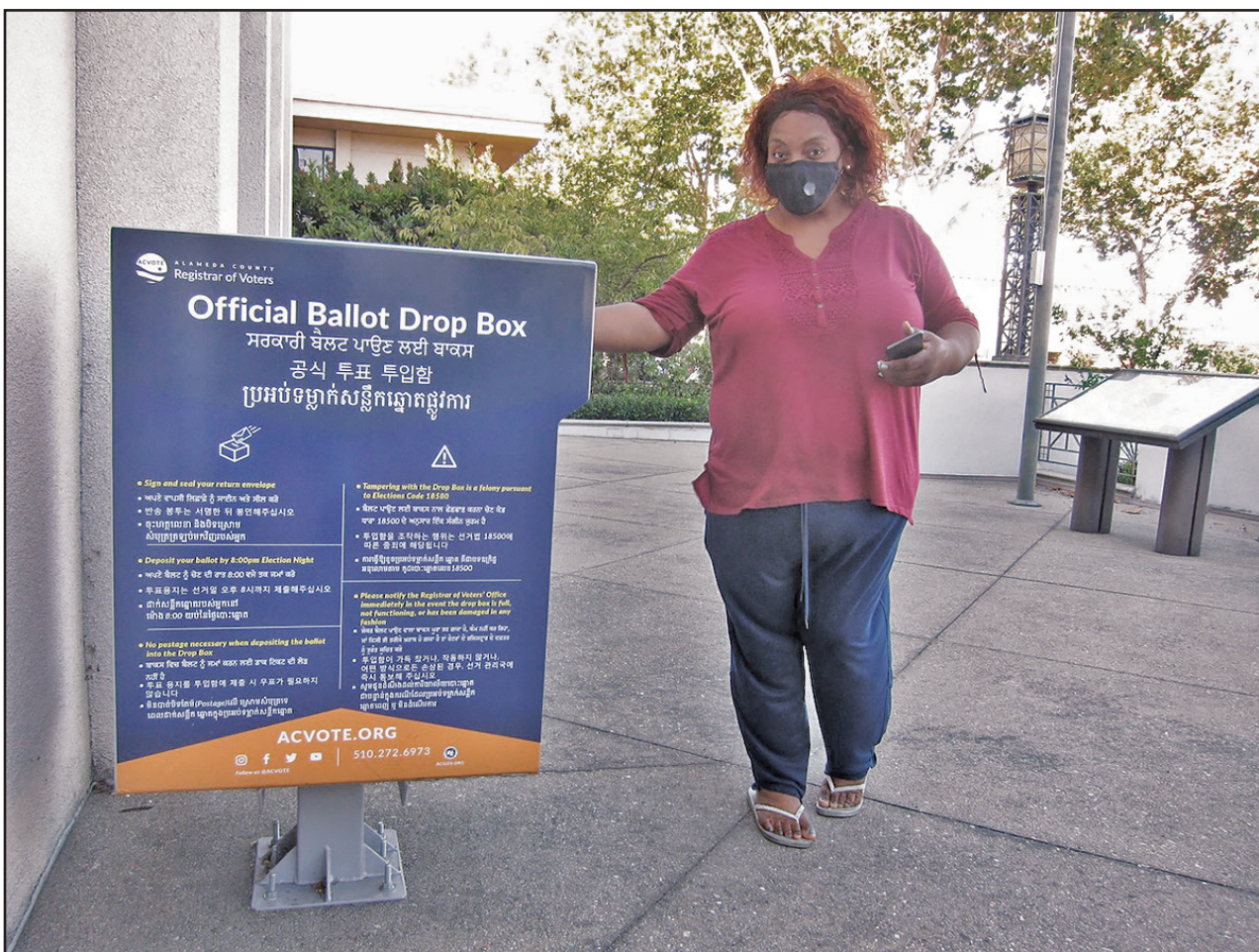


PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES

The Votes Are Coming In

Demetrice McCardell of San Leandro dropped off her ballot into the ballot box at City Hall last week. This year could set the record for the most people voting, both in Alameda County and across the nation.

Public Schools Hold Off on Return to Class

Superintendent says steps to opening must be deliberate

By Michael Singer
San Leandro Times

Public Schools in Castro Valley and San Leandro say now is not the time to move boldly back into the classroom.

The boards of both districts last week put off even announcing when students would come back, despite grades 5 and younger being cleared for in-person instruction.

Alameda County last week announced it is in the Orange Tier of the state's color-coded four-tier "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." The level was achieved because the County suppressed enough new Covid cases and saw fewer positive tests over a two-week period. Earlier this month, public health officials granted schools permission to return younger grades to the classroom without petition if they met guidelines and contingency plans.

The San Leandro Unified School District Board of Education revealed the results of its Family Survey. With 2,820 responses of approximately 5,600 households, more than half of those responding said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the distance learning program, the amount of time that teachers dedicated themselves to the program, and the ability of their students to stay on top of coursework.

The majority said stress and anxiety about the pandemic have

contributed to fears of returning to class. Some 54 percent said they were unlikely to send their students to in-person instruction any time soon.

see SCHOOLS, page 4

NAACP Speaks To San Leandro

By Jim Knowles
San Leandro Times

Those signs around town, "San Leandro Stands Against Hate," don't have everybody convinced.

"When I see those signs, I have to ask myself, what does that mean?" said Alanda Johnson, a civil rights activist and member of the South Alameda County NAACP.

Johnson pointed out a San Leandro woman recently posted racist anti-Asian fliers on people's front doors in a San Leandro neighborhood. She said San Leandro has a slogan, "Proud of our past, looking to the future,"

see NAACP, page 3

Rallies Continue for Steven Taylor

By Mike McGuire
San Leandro Times

Some one hundred demonstrators held a rally, march and vigil in San Leandro demanding justice for Steven Taylor on Sunday, Oct. 18, the six-month anniversary of his shooting death by police at the Walmart on Hesperian Boulevard.

Several speakers at the 4 p.m. rally held in front of San Leandro High School, including Taylor's grandmother Addie Kitchen, called for the convictions of the police officer who shot Taylor, and for the removal from patrol duty of the officer who Tased him just after he was shot.

The police officer who shot Taylor, Justin Fletcher, has been indicted for voluntary manslaughter, and has resigned from the department. Officer Stefan Overton was not charged and



PHOTO BY MIKE MCGUIRE

The rally for Steven Taylor marched from the high school to the police station.

remains on the force.

Speakers also called for better training for San Leandro's police in dealing with mental health incidents, and for the city to back

up its official support for Black Lives Matter with concrete steps.

Several speakers who are students in San Leandro High School's Social Justice Academy

decided the limits on free speech by youth speaking on the Taylor shooting at San Leandro City Council meetings. Students say

see TAYLOR, page 4

INSIDE YOUR TIMES

NEWS

Veterans overhaul memorial in Castro Valley. **Page 2**

FOOD

Many spices go well with pumpkin recipes. **Page 5**

OPINION

Letter writers in high gear as election nears. **Page 15**

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Business.....	6
Classified Ads	12
Crime	3
Crossword.....	13
Homes	10
Home Services	12
Letters	15
Lifestyle	5
Obituaries.....	14
Seniors	8



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Project Literacy Training Tutors for Reading Program

San Leandro Public Library's adult and family literacy program, Project Literacy, is seeking volunteer literacy tutors for the online tutoring program.

Find out how you can help others in your community learn to read by attending Project Literacy's Online Tutor Orientation on Zoom on Wednesday, Oct. 28,

from 4 to 6 p.m.

The two required trainings will take place on Zoom on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. to noon; and Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information or to register, please call 510-577-3944 or email avelasquez@sanleandro.org.

Aviation Museum Halloween

The Oakland Aviation Museum, 8252 Earhart Road in Oakland, will present a fun program 'Storytime and Sidewalk Chalk Drawing - Halloween theme' with docent Eulanna Allen on Saturday Oct. 31 at 11 a.m. Cos-

tumes optional. Alameda County Health directive requires mask and social distancing at all times. Admission: adults \$15, seniors \$12, military and teens \$10, kids 5 to 12 year old \$8, kids 4 and under no charge.

Correction

In the story last week on candidates running for the Eden Township Healthcare District board, the first name of candidate Winny Knowles was misspelled in a caption. Clarifying the recap of her nursing career in the article, she worked four decades at Kaiser Hospital in Hayward,

followed by working as a lactation consultant at Kaiser Hospital San Leandro until her retirement in 2016. Her advocacy for a dedicated pediatric unit in the planning of Kaiser's since-completed San Leandro hospital was not specifically for a pediatric surgery unit.

CV Veterans Memorial to Be Rededicated on November 11

Over five years ago the veterans of Castro Valley realized that they were running out of space to honor veterans at the local Veterans Memorial located at the Castro Valley community Park located on Lake Chabot Road at Quail Ave., and so a new adventure was undertaken.

This dream will be fulfilled this November 11 on Veterans Day, thanks to the dedication of the Castro Valley community, organizations, families and the veterans who have defend our country past, present, and future.

The new improvements are six new benches – three honoring medal of honor recipients, and three more in the upper section honoring those who have received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart, along with



Pearl Harbor survivor Mickey Gantich with his photo on the new and improved Veterans Memorial in Castro Valley.

five new granite stones honoring veterans.

The Castro Valley veterans invite you to join them on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. for

the Veterans Day services and rededication.

For more information, contact VFW commander Stephen West at 510-432-4346.

Pepperdine University Singing Program for High Schoolers

The San Leandro Church of Christ will host a free digital tour stop for the a capella singing group "Won by One" from Pepperdine University, on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 6 to 7 p.m. The pro-

gram is for middle or high school students interested in Pepperdine University, or for adults looking for inspiration.

The zoom event includes a concert, games and prizes for 7th

through 12th graders, information on Pepperdine University, and a devotional message from Jeff Walling. Contact Woody and Judy Square at woodysquare@sbcglobal.net for the zoom link.

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NAACP: As a kid pastor knew of imaginary line

continued from front page
and said, "Well, I have to ask myself, 'What past is that that you're so proud of?'"

Johnson was one of five speakers from the NAACP who spoke to the City Council at its Oct. 12 meeting, the second of two sessions the council scheduled on systemic racism.

The NAACP speakers at the virtual meeting included two Alameda County deputy district attorneys, a Baptist pastor, an entrepreneur, and Johnson, who is the communications manager at the NAACP chapter. The speakers didn't soft-pedal the issues. They pointed out some of San Leandro's shortcomings in a constructive manner.

Don't rest on your laurels just on the fact that San Leandro is now a diverse city, a couple of speakers said. San Leandro is no longer 99 percent white, but just having different ethnic groups in the same city doesn't mean everything is equal.

San Leandro is just over 10 percent Black.

"But if you were one of 10 people in a room would you think that's a diverse room," said Anthony Woods, youth pastor at Palma Ceia Baptist Church.

Nearly 72 percent of Black students in San Leandro public schools scored below the English literacy standards, and 86 percent



Alanda Johnson

scored below the math standard. Black people are being arrested at a much higher rate than the rest of the population, Woods pointed out.

To help make a point, the NAACP members showed a few videos where Attorney General William Barr and Vice President Mike Pence said that they don't believe systemic racism exists in this country.

"If the head of the Justice Department doesn't believe systemic racism exists, then it's going to be very difficult for anyone else to believe it does," said Woods. "And if two high ranking officials don't believe systemic racism exists, it appears to be a judgement that it does not exist."

One roadblock to addressing racism is that when someone criticizes America, it's portrayed as unpatriotic.

Colin Kapernick knelt during the National Anthem to call atten-

tion to police shootings of Black people. But that was portrayed by some, including President Trump, as showing disrespect for the flag and the country.

"It's hard to talk about systemic racism because many people equate that to a lack of patriotism," Woods said. "It's the idea that if you talk about the shortcomings of the American system that you somehow don't love the country."

Woods said that many men in his family served in the military, including his great-grandfather who was in World War I. From talking to these relatives, he heard one thing they all bring up.

"Each one I've spoken to in my lifetime would always say to me that when they got back from the war this country would let them know, in no uncertain terms, that we were not equal, that we could not go and live where we wanted to live," Woods said.

"Here it is that our government was formed for the purpose of insuring our fundamental rights, and then it's seen as unpatriotic to talk about those things for which the country was formed and created," Woods said.

Lamont Allen, an entrepreneur and NAACP member, said he could have become a victim of police violence himself. He recalled being stopped by the police who were looking for someone.



Anthony Woods

"I'm 5 foot 7," Allen said. "The suspect was 6 foot 3. And I was detained. But I knew what to do and what to say so I wouldn't be hit upside the head with a billy club."

Woods said he remembers growing up "right across the line" on 98th Avenue in Oakland.

"We always called 105th Avenue the Imaginary Line," Allen said. "That if you stepped across it, something bad was going to happen."

Woods said both of his parents worked – his father at the post office and his mother at International Harvester. Yet they struggled to get their children out of the neighborhood they were in.

"I'm not afraid to say that some of those scars I experienced I'll never get rid of, I'll always struggle with," Woods said. "All I want you to do is take note of the weight of your decisions. We're praying that you do what's right."

News Briefs

Seven Receive County Arts Leadership Awards

Alameda County Supervisors honored the seven recipients of this year's Alameda County Arts Leadership Awards at a meeting this week.

The winners, selected by the Alameda County Arts Commission, are Jean Marie Durant, Ron Lytle, Michael Socrates Moran, Usha Shukla, Anuradha Suresh, and the team of Tetiana Taganska and Olga Tymoshchuk. For more information, please visit the Alameda County Supervisors' website at www.acgov.org/board.

Rotary to Host Drive-Through Cajun Shrimp Boil

Join the Rotary Club of San Leandro for a drive-thru Cajun Shrimp Boil and have a great meal served by Pinx Catering for \$45 on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 1933 Davis St, San Leandro, up ramp to the 2nd level. Pick up between 3 and 7 p.m. Sign up for a time slot through event website.

To buy tickets, sponsor the event, or donate, go here: <https://one.bidpal.net/cajunshrimpboil/ticketing>. Sponsors and auction items needed. You can find the different sponsorship levels here in our event webpage <https://one.bidpal.net/cajunshrimpboil/ticketing>.

SL Library Offering Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda Kits

Pick up a Window-Ofrenda kit at the San Leandro Main Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. during curbside pickup hours, Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Celebrate Dia de los Muertos with your community by making your window ofrenda and coming to the live Ofrenda demonstration with Rachel Palacios on Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. on Zoom: sign up at <http://bit.ly/slofrenda>.

Free and open to everyone looking to celebrate and honor in 2020. For more information, email LibraryInfo@sanleandro.org or call 510-577-3971.

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These improvements are made possible by the generous support of San Leandro voters through the approval of Measure N.



Taylor: Students say council meetings past midnight exclude them

continued from front page

they have been muted in the online meetings when they hit the two-minute limit for public comments.

"Some of our voices don't get heard until after midnight, and sometimes not then," said student Zeke Markham. He added that students have to get up early the next day for school, as the Council meetings are normally held on school nights.

"I shouldn't have to be here right now. But I know that bullets have no name on them," Markham said, adding that he is afraid for all Black citizens and for himself.

"The City Council keeps saying they can't do anything, but they can," said Adrielle Barrera, also a student in the academy.

Several speakers blamed Mayor Cutter personally for the slow pace of social justice efforts.

Markham said he wouldn't take her public support for Black Lives Matter seriously until she joined them in their demonstrations.

"The same students you take pictures with are the ones harassed by your police," said Jazlyn Magat, a senior in San Leandro High's Social Justice Academy.

Following the rally, demonstrators marched down Bancroft Avenue to the police station, next door to City Hall, for an hour-long vigil starting around 6 p.m. Many of the cars along East 14th Street honked their horns, presumably in support of the vigil.

Taylor, a San Leandro resident, was shot and killed on April 18 by police officer Justin Fletcher. Taylor had been acting erratically and advanced toward Fletcher near the checkout area holding a baseball bat.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley's office has charged Fletcher with voluntary manslaughter, saying he made no effort to de-escalate the situation and that only 40 seconds elapsed between Fletcher entering the Walmart and the fatal shooting of Taylor. Overton was not charged with any crime.

Fletcher's attorney has said that Fletcher's life was in danger, and that the officer had been backing up as Taylor advanced holding the bat.

Taylor's family has said he was having a mental health emergency that should have been met with de-escalation and mental health help, not the armed police response that led to his death.

The city has hired a third-party investigator to look into the incident to see if any further personnel actions or changes in procedures are needed.



PHOTO BY MIKE McGRATH

The rally for Steven Taylor started in front of San Leandro High on Sunday afternoon and then went down Bancroft Avenue and to the police station.

Schools: Reopening planned but coronavirus could become worse

continued from front page

Superintendent Michael McLaughlin said the board will take up the discussion at its Nov. 10 meeting.

"We've heard from parents about why we were not ready to reopen this month. And it's because we only got the approval recently. No public school I know of is ready to go," McLaughlin said during a presentation of the findings. "We have a laundry list of things we have to still do to prepare. We don't want to be the

Yo-Yo District where we open and then close and then open and then close. We want to be deliberate."

Castro Valley's school board voted on October 14 to postpone its decision on distance learning and its timeline for reopening until its first meeting scheduled for January 13. The board cited its work with the Alameda County Public Health Department and noted that teachers and staff have been working to provide the best possible instruction during dis-

"We don't want to be the yo-yo district where we open and then close."

— Superintendent Mike McLaughlin

tance learning.

For the time being, Superintendent Parvin Amandi said CVUSD opened a Support Hub on school sites for small cohorts of students who are experiencing challenges in accessing distance learning at home.

"We all recognize the need for social and emotional support and connection that students thrive on when they are in school," Amandi said in a statement. "We continue to look for ways to find opportunities that allow our students to

experience social connections and collaboration that help them grow."

Castro Valley has been asking for parent and student feedback about distance learning.

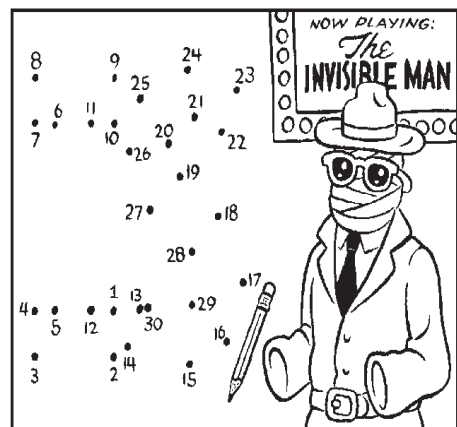
In other COVID-related news, Alameda Public Health revised its restrictions on live performances and arts-related events. Visual and performing arts camps for young people; dance, movement, and other fitness classes; and arts and culture museums all saw their

programs reinstated or a capacity increase.

Rachel Osajima, Director of the Alameda County Arts Commission, said that one in 10 jobs is part of the creative economy.

"Arts organizations are essential to our community and are an instrumental part of rebuilding our economy," Osajima said.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors is expected to proclaim support of October as National Arts and Humanities Month.



"WHAT IS ALWAYS INVISIBLE, yet never out of sight?" Connect the dots and find out.

Answer: The letters "I" and "S" are always in "sight" and also in "invisible."

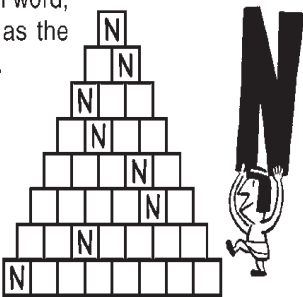
ANOTHER EGGTRAORDINARY PUZZLE! Would farmer Brown prefer to have six dozen dozen eggs or a half dozen dozen eggs?

Answer: Six dozen dozen would = $6 \times 12 \times 12 = 864$ eggs, while a half a dozen dozen would = $1/2 \times 12 \times 12 = 72$ eggs.



THE 'N' PYRAMID! Pictured at right is a word pyramid. Each word, as you go down the pyramid, contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the N's. Here are some hints from the top down.

1. Symbol for nitrogen (given).
2. One of.
3. To complain constantly.
4. A small fly.
5. A representative.
6. Act of consuming.
7. A wine identifier.
8. To find one's way.



The words are: N, an, nag, gnat, agent, ealing, winlage, navigate.



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CARE
FARE
FIRE**



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In this type of puzzle you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. In our example we changed CAMP to FIRE in four moves. See if you can change the following five words in four moves.

1. SEEK to FIND
2. WILD to TAME
3. MOON to BEAM
4. PART to TIME
5. FILE to RASP

ANSWERS: 1. SEEK, SEED, FEED, FEND, FIND, 2. WILD, WILE, TILE, TALE, TAME, 3. MOON, MOAN, MEAN, BEAM, 4. PART, PARE, TARE, TAME, TIME, 5. FILE, RILE, RISE, RASE, RASP.

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FINANCIAL CREDIT



LIFESTYLE



PUMPKIN & SPICE

For the past few weeks we've all been bombarded with pumpkin-spice everything. And for good reason. All of our favorite spices — cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, allspice, cloves, mace — can be combined to enhance the mild, delicate flavor of pumpkin in all kinds of delicacies.

SPICY PUMPKIN BREAD

2/3 cup vegetable oil, plus extra for greasing pan
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 cup solid-pack canned pumpkin
1/3 cup dark corn syrup

1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1-1/2 cups flour, plus extra for preparing pan
1 teaspoon baking soda
2-1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup chopped walnuts
1/2 cup dried currants
Butter, optional

Beat oil, eggs and sugar with electric mixer until thick and flowing, about 1 minute. Add pumpkin, corn syrup and vanilla and mix well.

Combine flour, baking soda, cinnamon, allspice, salt, walnuts and currants in medium bowl. Add to pumpkin mixture and mix well.

Pour into buttered and floured 9x5-inch loaf pan. Bake at 350°F until dark brown and toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, about 1 hour, 10 minutes.

Cool in pan 5 minutes. Turn onto wire rack to cool completely. Cut into thin slices and serve with softened butter if desired. Makes 12 to 16 servings.

Note: For best flavor and texture, make this bread a day or two ahead, wrapped in foil and kept at room temperature.

PUMPKIN GINGERBREAD

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup whole-wheat flour

1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
3/4 cup butter or margarine
2 large eggs
1 can (1 pound) pumpkin
1/2 cup light molasses
1/4 cup milk
1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
Whipped cream

In a large bowl, stir together flours, sugar and spices. With a pastry blender or your fingers, cut or rub in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. Set aside 2/3 cup of the mixture.

In a small bowl, beat eggs, pumpkin, molasses, milk and baking soda to blend. Add to dry ingredients and stir until just evenly moistened.

Pour into a greased 8- by 12-inch baking pan. Sprinkle with reserved flour mixture.

Bake in a 350°F oven until top is firm to touch, about 50 minutes. Cool slightly.

Serve gingerbread warm, adding whipped cream to taste. Serves 8 to 10.

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

2 pounds cream cheese
1-1/2 cups sugar
3 eggs
1 cup whipping cream
2 (15-ounce) cans pumpkin
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
Graham Cracker Crust
Sour Cream Topping

Blend cream cheese with sugar until smooth. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating until blended. Add whipping cream, pumpkin, vanilla and spice, blending thoroughly.

Pour into Graham Cracker Crust. Bake at 300°F for 1-1/2 hours or until cake sets.

Remove and let rest 10 minutes, then pour Sour Cream Topping over cheesecake. Cool thoroughly before removing from pan. Chill. Makes 1 (10-inch) cheesecake.

Graham Cracker Crust

1 teaspoon soft butter
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1-1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup melted butter

Brush 10-inch springform pan with soft butter. Mix crumbs, cinnamon, sugar and melted butter. Press onto bottom of pan.

Sour Cream Topping

1 pound sour cream
1/2 cup sugar

2 teaspoon vanilla

Blend sour cream, sugar and vanilla until smooth.

QUICK PUMPKIN CUPCAKES

1 (18.25 oz.) package spice cake mix
1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin
3 large eggs
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup water
1 (16-oz.) container cream cheese
Assorted sprinkles

Preheat oven to 350°F. Paper-line or grease 24 muffin cups.

Blend cake mix, pumpkin, eggs, vegetable oil and water in large mixer bowl until moistened. Beat on medium speed for 2 minutes. Pour batter into prepared muffin cups, filling 3/4 full.

Bake for 18 to 23 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Spread cupcakes with frosting. Decorate as desired. Makes 24 cupcakes.

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OCTOBER 2, 2020
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County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 573422
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): MINASFCONCIERGE, located at 113 Rantoul Circle, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Minakshi Norman, 113 Rantoul Circle, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Minakshi Norman
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires OCTOBER 2, 2025
OCT 22, 29, NOV 5, 12, 2020
295-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 573003
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 17900-17930

The name of the business(es): Con Fuerzas, located at 1399 Leonard Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Heidi Torres, 1399 Leonard Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Heidi Torres
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 16, 2025
OCT 1, 08, 15, 22, 2020
287-SLT

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FILED
SEPTEMBER 09, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572749

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

The name of the business(es): Bodii Language, located at 1511 163rd Avenue #29, San Leandro, CA 94578, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tiana Scott, 1511 163rd Avenue #29, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Tiana Scott

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 09, 2025

OCT 1, 08, 15, 22, 2020
288-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572994

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

The name of the business(es): PIRTEK SFO, located at 1997 Burroughs Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Currid Family Corporation, 3676 Hillsbough Drive, Concord, CA 94520. This business is conducted by a corporation. This business commenced N/A. /s/ The Currid Family Corporation

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

OCT 1, 08, 15, 22, 2020
290-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 572824

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

The name of the business(es): Rossco Electric, located at 714 Woodland Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shawn Williams, 714 Woodland Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Shawn Williams

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

OCT 08, 15, 22, 29, 2020
286-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 573307

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

The name of the business(es): AVJP Janitorial Services, located at 747 Lewelling Blvd., SPC #47, San Leandro, CA 94579, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Esperanza P. Hernandez, 747 Lewelling Blvd., SPC #47, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced N/A. /s/ Esperanza P. Hernandez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

OCT 15, 22, 29, NOV 05, 2020
290-SLT

FILED
SEPTEMBER 23, 2020
MELISSA WILK
County Clerk
ALAMEDA COUNTY
By-----, Deputy
FILE NO. 573215

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

The name of the business(es): Silver Lane Antiques, located at 1280 Benedict Ct., San Leandro, CA 94577, in Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mary Moore, 1280 Benedict Ct., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. This business commenced 5-9-11. /s/ Mary Moore

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on date indicated by file stamp above.
Expires SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

OCT 15, 22, 29, NOV 05, 2020
294-SLT

Boys & Girls Club Renovation Moving Along: Reopening Scheduled for January

Vision is becoming reality in 2020 as the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Leandro hits the 70 percent completion benchmark on its \$10 million renovation of the 401 Marina Boulevard, San Leandro building.

The \$10 million renovation on the Boys & Girls Club of San Leandro building is coming along and has reached the 70 percent completion mark.

The construction work had to close for almost two months earlier this year because of the pandemic. But it has since moved ahead rapidly following all Covid safety protocols, said club CEO Bob Glotch.

The renovation is scheduled to be completed at the end of January on the building at 401 Marina Blvd.

Glotch said that to date, 100 percent of the renovation work has been completed on plumbing, seismic strengthening, fire sprinkler installation, roof insulation, masonry and much more. The Capital Campaign

team, headed by Glotch, meets regularly with its administrative team, architects and contractor to keep the project moving on multiple fronts – structural work, framing, signage, interior finishes including flooring and millwork, and exterior work.

With a lead gift from the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation and the Club's own Foundation, the Vision 2020 Capital Campaign has garnered foundation, government, corporate, business and individual support, Glotch said. Once completed, the building will become both a dedicated teen center and community hub.

The building will house a state-of-the-art tech center, smart city maker space, music studio, visual arts room, teen lounge, teen program space, conference room, completely refurbished kitchen, renovated gym, new conference room, offices, new community hub, and an outdoor green space and gardens. The club will rent some spaces of



Construction was halted for two months by the pandemic but the work has since resumed.

the building for outside events when club programming is not taking place.

While building renovations have been going on, the club has transitioned its programming to a virtual club offering a wide variety of extended learning enrichment activities from science projects to cooking classes with Ghirardelli Chocolate Company volunteers to physical fitness,

Glotch said.

The club has worked closely with both the San Leandro and San Lorenzo Unified school districts to support their efforts with students.

Check the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Leandro website (www.bgcsl.org) for news both on the building renovation and programs and projects available to youth in our community.

Supervisors Vote For Resolution to Support Reparations

By Nate Miley
Special to the Times

At its Oct. 6, meeting, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a resolution co-sponsored by Supervisors Nate Miley and Keith Carson which sought support of community reparations for African Americans.

The board of supervisors will be developing an action plan to help manifest this resolution into a reality. This resolution builds upon a previous resolution, approved by the board in 2011, which formally apologized for the enslavement and racial segregation of African Americans.

The resolution approved last week was developed in response to the transformative social change echoing across the nation, and reaffirms the 2011 Resolution.

Both Resolutions offer an official apology and remorse

for the enslavement, segregation, and discrimination of African Americans. With the most recent action, the board of supervisors further detailed the oppressive and lasting effects of racist local policy, including loss of economic stability and gain, comparably worse medical outcomes and life expectancies, and psychological suffering.

Last week's affirmation calls on all cities, law enforcement agencies, organizations, institutions and individuals across the country that have advanced and benefitted from racial inequity to join in apologizing for complacency as well as call for them to combat racism and discrimination by initiating policy and providing funding for community reparations.

It ends with a promise to see REPARATIONS, page 7

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Diana Redding
Attorney-at-Law

I practice law in the areas of Estate Planning, Probate, Trust and Conservatorships and offer practical advice to assist my clients including seniors, people who require Special Needs Trusts and young families. I provide a free initial half-hour consultation which can be in person or by phone.

I attended Golden Gate University in San Francisco, where I received my J.D., M.B.A., and L.L.M. degrees. I hold a black belt in Karate and I'm an avid runner.

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Tianne Rinetti-Vittoria
REALTOR® / Owner

Rinetti & Co. Realtors, opened its door's in 1970. We are celebrating 50 years of serving our friends, our neighbors, and what has become our family of clients for all of those years. It is quite a privilege to continue to honor what my Dad started so long ago. It is a business that I have been exposed to all my life but only learned to love and appreciate for the past 21 years since I joined the family business. Helping others with the difficulties of selling their home, guiding buyers through stressful market conditions, navigating, negotiating and helping clients through the process from beginning and beyond has always been my passion and pride. Here's to many more years of loving what I do!

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Rose Gate Memory Care Covid Free for 190 Days

The staff at Rose Gate Memory Care in downtown San Leandro celebrated 190 days Covid free. Kati Knox, administrator and owner, received on behalf of Rose Gate the 2020 Dunlap Award, given by The Kiwanis Club of San Leandro for outstanding service to the community.

Comedian Iliza Shlesinger Coming To County Fairgrounds

Comedian Iliza Shlesinger will hit the Alameda County Fairgrounds' drive-in theater with Iliza's Comedy Tailgate Tour on Friday, Oct. 23, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Shlesinger is one of today's leading comedians with a legion of fans who create and wear their own Iliza inspired swag to her shows.

Socially distanced and safe in their cars, fans will catch every second of Iliza's set in real time through their car radio. Tickets on sale now at www.iliza.com.



Reparations: Miley

continued from front page

take steps beyond an apology by creating an action plan to specifically address legislative, social, and economic inequities faced by African Americans.

"I am proud and humbled that the board of supervisors supported this Resolution to better address the history of racial inequality and

inequity in our county and across our country," said Supervisor Miley. "I hope this marks the first unified public step on a focused, intentional road towards deep systemic change."

Nate Miley is a member of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors representing District 4, which includes Castro Valley.

Church to Host Drive-By Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31

The San Leandro Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur Blvd. in San Leandro, will host a free drive-through, no contact trunk-or-treat event Halloween night on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Here's how it works: Arrive at the parking lot off of Lewis Avenue behind the church. Enter the parking lot and drive slowly through the route marked off with orange cones while you're greeted by costumed church members

and decorated cars. Stop near the exit and pop your trunk to receive a treat bag for each child in your car. After remotely closing your trunk (or someone can close it for you), drive out through the exit onto Lewis Avenue.

No walk-ups and no one will be allowed to exit their vehicle. Drop by for a safe and fun experience. Email Woody and Judy Square at woodysquare@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Police Arrest Two Men in Assault near Bay Fair BART

BART police arrested two men for a sexual assault near the Bay Fair BART Station just after midnight on Saturday.

BART said an 18-year-old woman was abducted on Bay Fair BART property near Hesperian Boulevard at about 12:20 a.m. The woman told police she was grabbed and taken in a car to a

nearby location where she was sexually assaulted in the car. She said then the men took some of her property before forcing her out of the car.

BART police on Monday arrested two men for the assault. Police said both are residents of the unincorporated part of Alameda County.

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Michelle Miller is a Broker with Compass and a 31-year veteran of the real estate industry. She has represented clients all over the East Bay in hundreds of transactions. Michelle built a large foundation of clients through her professionalism, integrity and an unfailing commitment to always put her client's first. Michelle says that "When you love what you do it doesn't feel like work. Even though it's stressful at times, helping buyers and sellers navigate their way through the challenges of an ever-changing marketplace is very satisfying." Michelle lives in San Leandro where she serves on her neighborhood association board (EENA), is a monthly supporter of the local schools and contributes part of every transaction to a variety of organizations.

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Women In Business

The next section will run on Wednesday, March 17 (in Castro Valley), and Thursday, March 18, 2021 (in San Leandro). Call 614-1555 to reserve your space today.



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SENIORS

Recognize, Stop Elder Abuse

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

Elder abuse is a big problem in the United States that has escalated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the National Council on Aging, as many as 5 million seniors are victims of abuse each year, but studies suggest this crime is significantly under-reported. Only 1-in-14 cases of elder abuse ever get reported to the authorities because victims are usually too afraid, too embarrassed, too helpless or too trusting to call for help.

The term “elder abuse” is defined as intentional or negligent acts by a caregiver or trusted individual that causes or can cause harm to a vulnerable senior.

Elder abuse also comes in many different forms: emotional, psychological, physical or sexual abuse, abandonment, neglect and self-neglect, and financial exploitation.

Those most vulnerable are seniors that are ill, frail, disabled,

socially isolated or mentally impaired due to dementia or Alzheimer’s disease.

It’s also important to know that while elder abuse does happen in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, the vast majority of incidents take place at home where the senior lives. And tragically, the abusers are most often their own family members (usually the victim’s adult child or spouse) or caregiver.

How to Recognize Abuse

So, how can you tell if an elderly relative or friend is being abused, and what can you do to help?

A change in general behavior is a universal warning sign that a problem exists. If you notice that your relative or friend has become very depressed, withdrawn or gets upset or agitated easily, you need to start asking questions.

Here are some additional warning signs on the different types of elder abuse that can help you spot a possible problem.

Physical or sexual abuse: Sus-

picious bruises or other injuries that can’t be explained. Sudden changes in behavior (upset, withdrawn, fearful). Broken eyeglasses. Caregiver’s refusal to allow visitors to see an elder alone.

Neglect or self-neglect: Weight loss, poor hygiene, unattended medical needs, and unsanitary, unsafe living conditions.

Emotional or psychological abuse: The senior is extremely upset, agitated, withdrawn, unresponsive, fearful or depressed, or demonstrates some other unusual behavior.

Financial exploitation: Missing money or valuables. Unexplained withdrawals from bank accounts, or transfers between accounts. Unauthorized use of credit, debit or ATM card. Unpaid bills despite available funds. Checks written as a loan or gift. Abrupt changes in a will or other documents.

For more tips on how to recognize the warning signs of abuse during the pandemic, see the National Center on Elder Abuse website at [NCEA.acl.gov/Resources/COVID-19.aspx](https://www.ncea.acl.gov/Resources/COVID-19.aspx).

What to Do

The best ways to help stop elder abuse is to be in touch and keep the lines of communication open. If you suspect any type of abuse or neglect in your relative’s or friend’s home, report it to your local protective services agency.

Adult Protective Services is the government agency responsible for investigating elder abuse cases and providing help and guidance. Call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 to get the agency contact number in your area or visit [NCEA.acl.gov/Re-](https://www.ncea.acl.gov/Re-)



sources/State.aspx.

The agency will ask what you observed, who was involved, and who they can contact to learn more. You don’t need to prove that abuse is occurring; it is up to the professional.

Or, to report suspected abuse in a nursing home or assisted living facility, call the local Long-Term Care Ombudsman – see [LTCumbudsman.org](https://www.ltcumbudsman.org) for contact information.

If, however, you feel the per-

son is in immediate danger, call 911 or the local police for immediate help.

Send your senior questions to: *Savvy Senior*, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](https://www.savvysenior.org).

A Comfy Nest for Winter

By Matilda Charles
SENIORS NEWSLINE

Since it looks like this terrible coronavirus isn’t going away soon, we might as well take a few steps to make our lives more comfortable over the winter. Here are some ideas:

- Investigate a new wireless router to speed up your Wi-Fi connection, especially if you have multiple devices that put a drag on your connection. Be sure it’s at least Wi-Fi 5, not Wi-Fi 4. The newest, Wi-Fi 6, is top of the line.

- Buy a warm fleece blanket, one-person size, for watching TV at night. These 50x70 throws are just the right length.

- Consider getting a Kindle, with a free three-month subscription to Kindle Unlimited.

- If you have someone who can deliver and assemble it, an outdoor propane grill can be a bit of summer fun during the cold winter.

- Keep an eye on sales if you need an additional pot for the extra cooking you’re doing. Stores like Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond have curbside delivery, so if you

pay online you don’t have to go in the store. Get freezer bags to store individual portions you can pull out and heat up without cooking every day.

- Splurge on one good, thick sweater or zip sweatshirt to wear in the house.

- Think about getting an air cleaner for inside the house to clean up dust mites, stale air and pet dander. Be cautious about the price of replacement filters.

- And don’t forget to stock up on batteries!

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SENIORS

Creating an Online Memorial For a Departed Loved One

Q: My mother passed away last week, and because of the coronavirus we didn't have a funeral. I would like to create some type of online memorial for her so family and friends can express their condolences and share their stories. What can you tell me about making an online memorial for my mom?

By Jim Miller
Special to the Times

A: Creating an online memorial for your mom is a great idea and one that's become increasingly popular in the age of COVID.

Thousands of families have created them for their departed loved ones, especially those who didn't have a proper funeral because of the pandemic. Here's what you should know.

• What is an Online Memorial?

An online memorial is a website created for a deceased person that provides a central location where their family and friends can visit to share stories, fond memories, photographs, comfort one another and grieve. The memorial can remain online for life, or a specific period of time, allowing people to visit and contribute any time in the privacy of their own space.

Online memorials started popping up on the Internet in the late 1990s but were created primarily for people who were well known. But now, these sites are for anyone who wants to pay tribute to their departed loved one and ensure they will be remembered.

Content typically posted on an online memorial includes a biography, pictures and stories from family and friends, timelines of key events in their life, along with favorite music and even videos.

Another common feature is an online guestbook where visitors sign their names and write tributes to the departed.

Online memorials can also direct visitors to the departed person's favorite charity or cause to

make a donation, as an alternative to sending funeral flowers.

Some online memorial sites today even offer virtual funeral/event capabilities as a replacement for an in-person funeral. And they'll help you get the word out by offering invitations and RSVP tracking.

• Top Online Memorials

To make an online memorial there are a wide variety of websites available that make it easier than ever to create a thoughtful, personalized profile for your mom to celebrate and honor her life, and the process of creating it can be very satisfying.

You also need to know that some online memorial sites are completely free to use, while others offer a free and a paid version that provides additional features.

Some of the best sites that offer both free and paid options are MyKeeper.com (free or \$75) and iLasting.com (free or \$49/year or \$99 for a lifetime membership).

Or, if you're interested in one that's completely free to use,

some top options are Gatherin-Us.com (they do charge for virtual events), Memories.net, InMemori.com and WeRemember.com.

• Memorialize Facebook

If your mom used Facebook, you can also turn her profile into a memorialized account for free when you show proof of death. This option will let your mom's family and friends share stories, photos or memories to celebrate her life, with the word "Remembering" shown next to her name.

Once her account is memorialized, the content she shared is still visible on Facebook to the audience it was originally shared with, however, her profile will not show up in public spaces such as people she may know, ads or birthday reminders.

In addition, you can also request a Look Back video, which is a short video created by Facebook highlighting your mom's pictures and most liked status messages.

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



Adverse Tax Consequences of Giving Property to Your Child

Q. I am thinking about giving my home to my son now, so that probate can be avoided and my affairs simplified when my time comes. Any comment as to whether this plan makes sense?

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

A. Caution: Giving your home to your son during your lifetime can have adverse tax consequences.

Example: Assume that you purchased your home many years ago for \$50,000, and suppose it is worth \$750,000 today. If you give it to your son during your lifetime, he "steps into your shoes" and the IRS will treat the home as if your son had acquired it for \$50,000. This is called "carry over basis."

If he then sells the home for \$750,000, he will be obliged to recognize the \$700,000 difference (\$750K - \$50K) as capital gain and pay tax accordingly. This could result in a whopping tax bill for him and actually lessen the net value of your gift.

True, there would be some relief from this tax situation if your son moved into the home and lived in it for at least two years before sale. In that event, he would be entitled to exclude a part of the capital gain, i.e. \$250,000 if he is then single and up to \$500,000 if married. However, this two-year principal residence requirement is often impractical if your son already owns a home, and even more impractical for parents who have more than one child to whom they wish to give their home.

By comparison, if you hold the home until your death and pass it to your son as an inheritance, this tax problem can be avoided. The IRS will then treat the home as if your son had acquired it at its date of death value.

In tax parlance, the home's tax basis would be "stepped up" to its market value at the date of your death. Example: if it is worth \$950,000 at your death and your child then sells it for \$950,000, his capital gain would then be "0" and no tax would be due. Quite a difference!

In your situation, you may wish to consider a Living Trust, which would accomplish your objective of avoiding probate while simultaneously obtaining the favored tax treatment which accompanies transfers upon death.

This arrangement would also allow you to retain home ownership in case you later need to obtain a reverse mortgage to help with your future long-term care expenses.

Sometimes parents who have received long term care benefits from the Medi-Cal program, consider a gift of their home in order to avoid a Medi-Cal recovery claim after their passing. However, if that is the motivation, there are ways to both avoid a recovery claim while still preserving favored tax treatment. If this is a concern, professional guidance from an attorney knowledgeable in Medi-Cal planning is extremely important.

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



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REAL ESTATE REALITY

By Carl Medford, CRS
Special to the Times

GUEST COMMENTARY



Record Low Interest Rates Not Necessarily Good

Listening to a buyer recently, I heard them complaining about interest rates. "We can't get a 2.5% rate," they were stating. "We think rates should be lower." I happened to be chewing at the time and almost choked.

I have been around long enough to have witnessed rates over 18%. To put that into perspective, a buyer currently looking to buy a \$600,000 home with 20% down and an interest rate of 3.25% would have a monthly payment of \$2,088.00 and need to be earning \$82,331.00 a year to qualify.

That same buyer looking to buy an identically priced home in 1981 would be looking at interest rates of 18.25%. Their monthly payment would be \$7,332 and they would need to be earning \$235,000 a year to qualify.

For those of us who actually had mortgages back in the day,

we are grateful beyond belief for today's unprecedented low rates. I was also building homes in the early 1980s and the only construction loans available had rates of 24.5%.

So record low rates are a good thing, right? In some ways, yes. They allow buyers with lower incomes to get into properties they would otherwise never be able to purchase. Consequently, today's record low rates are propelling a mass of homebuyer wannabes into the market to try to grab their slice of the American homeownership pie.

All of which brings up a significant problem: there are not enough homes available for them to buy.

In a classic supply and demand scenario, as hordes of buyers have descended on the limited numbers of available listings, multiple offers have ensued pushing prices higher. Consequently, home prices in Alameda County have jumped 22% since 01/2020.

While good for sellers, it is bad news for buyers. A home that would have cost a buyer \$600,000 at the beginning of the year is now priced at \$730,435 and instead of requiring an income of \$82,331 to qualify, buyers now need to earn \$102,229 to buy the same house.

Bottom line, lower rates are affecting housing affordability.

The short-term solution would be to build more homes. Unfortunately, increased building regulations and escalating costs have slowed new home

starts to a crawl.

Further complicating things, lower rates have flooded lenders with purchase and refinancing applications, effectively clogging the pipeline and slowing transactions. While a blessing in many ways, lower interest rates have a dark side as well.

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

880 Juana Avenue • San Leandro • \$964,000

Custom built in 1925 in the Spanish Mediterranean style, this charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home has been lovingly maintained by the same family for almost 30 years. From the moment you walk in the front door, you'll notice the abundant natural light and a feeling of spaciousness. The approx. 2,280 sq ft of excellent entertaining flow starts with a large eat-in kitchen featuring built-ins, granite counters and lots of cabinet space. The wide central hall is an unexpected surprise and leads to the family room and the wonderful backyard beyond. The great separation of space between the 4 bedrooms (includes a primary suite) creates all kinds of possibilities. Working from home? extended family? Additional amenities include a basement with interior access, an extra long driveway and a detached workshop and storage outbuilding.

For more information, contact **Michelle R. Miller, Associate Broker, Compass** at 510-701-3442. DRE# 01012751



COMPASS

Powdery Mildew, Not White Flies

By Buzz Bertolero
Special to the Forum

My pretty hibiscus plants are almost covered with a white sticky, flimsy netting-like substance. A few years ago, we were told it is white flies and to use neem oil. My son tried using the oil, but it didn't help that much. I think we didn't do it correctly or not enough. Is there an excellent homemade remedy we can use?

White flies do not produce a white sticky, flimsy netting-like substance. They're found on the underside of a host plant's leaves causing them to turn yellow. When distributed, white flies fly off in mass and get their name from their color. So the original diagnosis was incorrect.

Although, neem oil is a recommended control, powdery mildew or spider mites are the primary suspects.

Powdery mildew is an airborne disease that coats the foliage with a white film. Spider mites produce a white netting usually found on the undersides of the leaves.

So from your description, I'm going with powdery mildew as your problem. It attacks a wide range of plants, especially those in the afternoon shade with poor air circulation.

Moist air from the marine influence is also a cause as the leaves stay moist after the sun goes down. It's continuously a summertime problem.

There are several organic controls for mildew. They include baking soda, horticultural oil, and neem oil. Again, these are only controls and do not eradicate the problem. You'll need to make frequent applications to keep the mildew under control.

Unfortunately, the final solution may be to replace the plant with those that will cope with this location.

Can I divide an old rhubarb plant?

Absolutely. Dividing rhubarb is the primary method of propagating it.

Rhubarb should be divided every four to six years or when the stalks begin to thin out. It's recommended to divide the



clumps in the late fall or early spring.

You first cut the foliage off at the ground, weeks beforehand. With a shovel or a garden fork, the clump is dug up, and the dirt is washed off, exposing the root tubers and crown.

With a sharp knife, segment the root tuber, including a portion of the plant's crown. Select the largest tubers with three to four eyes for transplanting and discard the rest. The eyes are the pink buds located at the top of the roots.

It's not necessary to transplant them right away. Bareroot rhubarb clumps are planted in February through early March. Those dug up in the fall can be stored in a dry

location until your ready to plant.

The new plants should be spaced every three to four feet, and the holes should be generously amended with soil amendments or compost. Rhubarb is a heavy feeder, so feed frequently, March through September, with an organic fertilizer for shade-loving plants.

The edible portion is the vegetative stalk. You would harvest the new Rhubarb in the second season after planting.

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



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Home Cleaning: Tips for Tackling your Mess Nemesis

You know it has to get done, but you just don't want to. It's been on the to-do list for far too long. You may try to ignore it, dodge it or even cover it up. It's your mess nemesis - your least-favorite cleaning task - and you're dreading having to tackle it.

Not all cleaning is equal. While some people enjoy cleaning more than others, everyone can agree that not all cleaning tasks are created equal. In fact, 88% of American adults have a least-favorite cleaning task, according to a new survey from the makers of the home cleaning brand CLR® (pronounced "CLear"). When asked to liken their least-favorite cleaning task to a person, 33% of Americans said it's like a scam caller. When asked to choose between activities, almost half (43%) would rather go to the dentist than handle their least-favorite cleaning task.

Cleaning during quarantine pandemic and the extra time people are spending at home, messes are more frequent and can quickly become bothersome. The frequency of cleaning has increased for most Americans over the past several months, but Americans are, understandably, split on their level of cleaning productivity during this time: 53% have tackled a cleaning task they've been avoiding for years during the pandemic and 42% have avoided at least one cleaning task during the pandemic.

Tips for conquering a mess nemesis

Whether it's soap scum, mildew, rust, stinks, stains or spills, it's time to show your mess nemesis you mean business. Follow these tips to get the job done right:

Set a date: It's easy to keep avoiding tasks you loathe, so set

a time for when you plan to focus on cleaning and be specific. For example, 10 a.m. Saturday you're finally giving the boot to that lime and calcium buildup on the shower door. Put on some cleaning clothes, play some motivational music and focus on getting the job done once and for all.

Stock ample supplies: Stock necessities such as sponges, scrubbers and rags before diving into any cleaning mission. Having the right supplies for the specific job makes tasks simpler. Use proper cleaning formulations for your task, such as the CLR line that has products designed to get rid of the grime in virtually every area of the home, from the kitchen and bathroom to the patio, garage and beyond.

Follow directions and use safer products: Always follow the directions on any product to ensure you get the results you want without making

the mess worse or damaging the items. What's more, use products that clean effectively without unnecessary use of harsh chemicals. Many of the CLR products are approved by the EPA Safer Choice Program, meaning they're recognized as a safer alternative to traditional cleaning options that rely on the use of harsh chemicals to be effective, such as bleach. Look for the EPA Safer Choice label on the front of the product.

Rally the troops: Whether it's a big mess that requires multiple sets of hands or a tough mess that requires a few people strategizing, help can make a big difference. Even if you need to focus on the mess nemesis while other people handle regular household chores, this can keep things moving forward thanks to teamwork. Get your partner, spouse, kids or roommates in on the action.

- Brandpoint



Vegetables

Harvest winter squash and pumpkins when the vines are dry and the rinds are hard. Cut the stems rather than breaking or tearing them, and leave 2 inches of stem attached to the squash. Let them cure in a dry, well-ventilated area at room temperature for two weeks. Squash and pumpkins should keep for about six months.

Ground Cover

Now is the time to plant new ground covers from six-packs or flats. The root systems will become established over the fall and winter months allowing growth to accelerate in spring.

Vegetables

Transplant artichokes, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, ornamental cabbage, rhubarb and established herbs such as comfrey, sage and thyme. All of these should mature before the first frost and will overwinter nicely.

Flowers

Most perennials can be transplanted, or divided and replanted. To divide, use a spade or sharp knife to separate the large clumps. Discard the old, unproductive sections. Trim the foliage of young growth to 4 or 6 inches. Dig in compost, replant and water to settle the soil.

Cooler Weather Jobs

Use nitrogen in your compost pile to keep it working the lower fall temperatures. Snails and slugs are in abundance after drizzly damp days. Hand pick them from plants, using a flashlight at dusk.

Another Record Low for Mortgage Rates

Long-term mortgage rates hit another record low last week for the tenth tenth time this year, according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 2.81 percent last Thursday, the lowest rate in the survey's history which dates back to 1971. A year ago at this time, the 30-year interest rate averaged 3.69 percent.

Fifteen-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 2.35 percent, down from 2.37 percent from the previous week. And five-year hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 2.90 percent, slightly up from 2.89 percent a week earlier.

"Low mortgage rates have become a regular occurrence in the current environment," said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's Chief Economist. "As we hit yet another record low, the tenth record this year, many people are benefitting as refinancing activity remains strong."



The ghost plant

Monotropa uniflora lacks chlorophyll pigments and appears white. It grows in the decaying debris of dark, dense-growth forests across the Northern hemisphere. Each stem bears a single delicate flower that hangs downward, which protects its pollen from the rain and lets insect pollinators access it. The clear fluid from its stems has been used to treat eye problems, skin problems, seizures and pain by native Americans and traditional medicine practitioners. - Brenda Weaver

Source: medium.com

RECENT HOME SALES

Castro Valley

21712 Ada Street	94546: \$480,000 2 BD - 905 SF - 1948
20638 Maria Court	94546: \$690,000 2 BD - 1,266 SF - 1992
21767 Dolores Street	94546: \$705,000 2 BD - 1,236 SF - 1948
1829 Riverbank Ave	94546: \$715,000 3 BD - 1,174 SF - 1947
22063 Betlen Way	94546: \$762,000 3 BD - 1,322 SF - 1954
19226 San Miguel Ave	94546: \$780,000 3 BD - 1,195 SF - 1949
21311 Kahlert Street	94546: \$799,000 3 BD - 1,301 SF - 1959
20376 Summerpark Pl	94552: \$849,000 4 BD - 1,666 SF - 1998
18455 Hastings Way	94546: \$860,000 3 BD - 1,540 SF - 1950
22019 East Lyndon Loop	94552: \$920,000 3 BD - 2,328 SF - 1998
18444 Magee Way	94546: \$950,000 3 BD - 1,383 SF - 1952
19511 Heyer Heights	94546: \$1,025,000 4 BD - 2,043 SF - 1996
3572 Jerald Court	94546: \$1,120,000 3 BD - 1,312 SF - 1954
22838 Rancho Palomares Pl	94552: \$1,280,000 4 BD - 2,560 SF - 1996
18725 West Cavendish Dr	94552: \$1,280,000 2,292 SF - 1978
TOTAL SALES:	15
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$480,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,280,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$849,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$881,000

San Leandro

1900 Joan Drive	94578: \$185,000 5 BD - 2,254 SF - 1957
15837 Maubert Avenue	94578: \$200,000 2 BD - 960 SF - 1938
14101 East 14th Street	94578: \$350,000 1 BD - 642 SF - 1986
1575 166th Avenue	94578: \$443,000 3 BD - 1,400 SF - 1943
2481 Marina Boulevard	94577: \$535,000 3 BD - 988 SF - 1943
477 Nabor Street	94578: \$628,000 2 BD - 1,256 SF - 1947
15072 Fleming Street	94579: \$650,000 2 BD - 821 SF - 1948
14995 Portofino Circle	94578: \$680,000 3 BD - 1,582 SF - 1984
244 Best Avenue	94577: \$705,000 2 BD - 1,193 SF - 1925
855 Evergreen Avenue	94577: \$730,000 2 BD - 1,176 SF - 1948
3973 Monterey Blvd	94578: \$730,000 3 BD - 1,096 SF - 1954
456 Linnell Avenue	94578: \$740,000 3 BD - 1,212 SF - 1952
1648 Lanier Avenue	94579: \$750,000 3 BD - 1,107 SF - 1957
16829 Selby Drive	94578: \$891,000 3 BD - 1,371 SF - 1955
1801 Astor Drive	94577: \$1,280,000 4 BD - 3,301 SF - 1958
TOTAL SALES:	15
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$185,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,280,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT:	\$680,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT:	\$633,133

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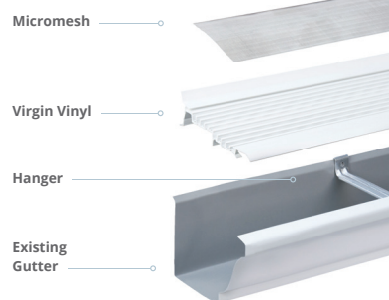
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LOCAL DEATHS

Leonard Francis Boiteux

February 23, 1924 ~ July 22, 2020

Leonard Boiteux born February 23, 1924 in Oakland, CA to Carmel and Louis Boiteux. After graduating from St. Elizabeth High School, he attended the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York and later was a U.S. Merchant Marine officer assigned to the Atlantic and Pacific theaters during WWII.

After the war, he met the love of his life, Velma Salentine. They settled in San Leandro where they had three children: Steve Boiteux (Jeanie), Sue Cheek (Kevin), and Loraine Farmer (Joe); six grandchildren: Nicole Dion (Loren), David Boiteux (Alicia), Lidia Granneman (Adam), Lauren Cheek, Diana Boiteux (Justin Tabor), and Kelly Cheek (James Cutler); and six great-grandchildren.

Len enjoyed dancing, playing bridge, telling jokes, hiking, golfing, his Society of Port Engineers buds, friends from Assumption Parish, the Salentine Clan and family gatherings at those famous champagne brunches, chicken barbecues, Black Angus dinners and of course Fentons Creamery. He is preceded in death by his wife, Velma, who passed away after 65 years of marriage. Len worked at Pacific Far East Lines in San Francisco and American President Lines in Oakland.

Len embraced life and met every day with a smile and positive attitude. He truly enjoyed everything from his last sip of a dry martini to each and every bite of Vel's German cooking. We learned the important stuff from him: Like a C- in penmanship still deserved a black-and-white sundae at Fentons, how to make an old fashioned, it's important to turn off your hearing aids when you don't want to listen, it's ok to fart in front of people as long as you walk away fast, and lastly, how to give a "real hug." He truly showed us how to live life! We miss you rappenecker.

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Barbara Randall Davis

May 8, 1936 ~ September 22, 2020

Barbara Randall Davis died peacefully in her sleep at her home in Rossmoor, California on September 22, 2020. She was 84 years old.

Barbara was a third generation Californian, born in Oakland on May 8, 1934, the only child of James J. Johnston and Enid M. Johnston, nee Jamison. Known as "Bobbie" since childhood, she was raised in Oakland. She attended Fremont High School before enrolling at U.C. Berkeley, where she met and fell in love with Richard "Dick" Randall. The young couple married in 1956 and, after a stint in the Army that took them to Fort Knox, Kentucky, they returned to the California Bay Area to start a family and contribute to their community.

Bobbie and Dick settled in San Leandro and quickly became active in civic life. Dick worked for the City of San Leandro throughout his entire career and ultimately became the City Manager. For Bobbie, taking care of others and devotion to family and friends were her guideposts. Early on, she dedicated herself to adoption, supporting The Children's Home Society where she also made lifelong friendships that continued throughout her life. She was active in PTA, scouting, and church activities. Bobbie started a weekly Seniors' lunch program at the United Methodist Church which she ran for eight years, serving thousands. In 1977, she was named Woman of the Year by the Soroptimists. Along the way, she cared for many ailing relatives and at the same time hosted elegant dinner parties and supported her husband in his work for the City of San Leandro. Bobbie was an attentive and engaged mother who had no greater joy than raising her two children, participating in school activities, and organizing family travel. She nurtured many friendships from every chapter of her life. After her beloved son and daughter were grown, Bobbie started an antique business that she enjoyed running for 14 years with one of those close friends. Retirement brought a new chapter with a move to Sonoma where she continued to volunteer for Hospice and other local causes. She was a proud member of P.E.O. and enjoyed entertaining at the beautiful home she and Dick had designed and built together. She devotedly cared for him until his untimely death from Parkinson's in 2003.

In 2006, Bobbie met longtime San Leandro resident Albert Davis at church, beginning a second chapter of unanticipated joy. They discovered many parallels in their lives, including attending Fremont High School, experiencing long happy marriages before losing a beloved spouse, living a few blocks from one another while raising families in San Leandro, and spending vacation time in Twain Harte. They quickly fell in love and married, enjoying 14 splendid years together, first in Sonoma and then in Rossmoor. Finding each other later in life, Bobbie and Al knew that their days together might be limited, and Bobbie embraced the mantra "let's hurry up and have fun!". They appreciated every day they had together and were an inspiration to those around them.

In addition to her husband Al, Bobbie is survived by her son, Dr. Jeffrey B. Randall, her daughter Jennifer "Jill" Gregori, and their spouses Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall and Wayne Gregori. She is also survived by her five treasured grandchildren Devan Gregori, Ben Gregori, Chloe Gregori, Richard Randall, and William Randall. Her warm, generous and compassionate spirit will live on in all who were touched by her.

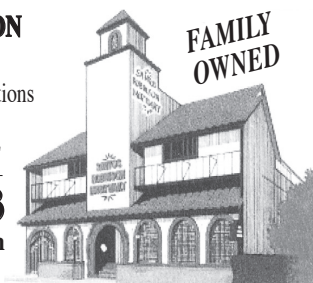
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Nina May Matulich

March 4, 1935 ~ September 19, 2020

Nina May Matulich passed away peacefully September 19th with her family at her side.

Born in Oakland to Adline and Haslip Weber, she ended up making San Leandro her home with her husband, George, raising her two children, John and Leslie. She also leaves behind her beloved granddaughter, Wynter.

Nina started her work career at Pitney Bowes, eventually moving to Bayfair Mall where she worked at Smith's Clothes and then onto Baron's Jeweler's where she worked for 17 years.

Nina had a charming personality and is loved by many. She will be missed but not forgotten.

Services are pending due to health restrictions.

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John Cornelius Brosnan

December 22, 1934 ~ September 30, 2020

John Cornelius Brosnan (aka Coach Brosnan), age 85, died peacefully at home in San Lorenzo on September 30, 2020 after a short illness. His three daughters and his favorite caregiver, Ngozi Eze were by his side.

Born in Oakland, California to John and Lea (Panconi) Brosnan, John grew up in San Leandro attending St Leander school and then St. Elizabeth High School in Oakland CA. There he met and fell in love with his wife Maureen. Upon graduation he joined the army and was stationed at the DMZ in South Korea. After his military service ended, he attended San Francisco State University on the GI bill where he played on the 1960 conference championship baseball team. He graduated with an MA in Physical Education and began teaching physical education (including driver training) at Castro Valley High School in 1962. It became his second home; he practically lived there until he retired in 1994.

John coached varsity football for his entire teaching career; it was his favorite thing to do. His grandfather told him "you can't make a living playing football" and that was all the motivation a stubborn kid needed. He served as the Trojans' Athletic Director for much of his career and he also coached some baseball and golf.

He was predeceased in June 2019 by Maureen, his loving wife of 62 years who attended every CVHS game he coached. She was his biggest fan. No one spent more time in the bleachers at Castro Valley High School than her!

John was also predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law, Emma and Jorge Orozco, and sister- and brothers-in-law Claire Noonan, James Smith and Dan Lydon. He leaves behind his brother Patrick (who worked the chain gang on the sidelines at every game) and sister-in-law Patricia Brosnan, and sisters- and brothers-in-law Rosemarie and John Smith, James Noonan and Patricia Lydon, and his lifelong best friend, Tom Davis. He also leaves his three wonderful daughters (who also attended almost every game and later brought grandchildren) and their spouses: Susan and Tom Gannon, Maureen (Mo) Brosnan and Kathleen and Richard Wood. He was a funny and loving "Papa" to five grandchildren, James Casarotti, Carrie Mendez (Manny), Kelsey Wood, Michaela Wood and Erica Alexander Brosnan, and three great-grandchildren, Hailey Aquino Casarotti, John Casarotti and Isabelle Mendez. He also leaves his many fantastic cousins, nieces and nephews, many of whom attended plenty of CVHS football games themselves, as well as a great number of lifelong friends and fellow coaches. And, his former football players, many of whom became friends for life.

There is so much more to say about him as he had many interests, such as reading and gardening and making beautiful stained glass lamps and windows, but he truly enjoyed coaching high school football with a bunch of boys and turning out men of good character who learned the valuable life lessons that playing football imparts. Guys all over Castro Valley and beyond still talk about their experiences with love and laughs.

A funeral mass will be held Friday, October 23, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 500 Fairview Ave. in Brentwood CA. 100 people are allowed inside and there are two large outdoor courtyards where mass is broadcast (bring a chair). Masks and Social Distancing required. Mass will also be live streamed at ihmbrentwood.com



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.

Editors Note:

No political attack letters will be published in next week's Times since there would be no opportunity for a response before the election.

Public Health System in Chaos

Editor:

Alameda Health Systems (AHS) is attacking its own frontline nurses and jeopardizing patient health and safety. For nearly two years of contract negotiations, nurses have called on the Alameda Board of Supervisors (BOS) to intervene on behalf of the residents of our county, the very people who elected them to office.

However, the BOS refuses to take measurable action. This complicity has led this public health system into complete dysfunction and chaos. Ultimately, patients and frontline nurses are suffering because our publicly elected officials have failed to prioritize the health of our community.

As a nurse at San Leandro Hospital, I am angry at AHS mismanagement make it impossible for nurses to provide the highest standard of care to our patients – those who are hardest hit by Covid-19 and largely marginalized people of color.

Nurses went out on strike last week because the public must know what is happening, and we refuse to be complicit in AHS's dysfunction which endangers us all.

AHS has repeatedly violated state-mandated minimum nurse-to-patient staffing ratios and failed to staff safely for the pandemic. In a time when infection control is of paramount importance, they have failed to provide optimal PPE or institute appropriate Covid protocols. ER staffing was cut at my hospital and Alameda Hospital. This at a time when our patients are much sicker and require more care (which requires more staff), not less!

When AHS rolled out a program at San Leandro Hospital to increase the number of psychiatric patients in the ER for medical clearance, we told management we needed more staff and more training. They didn't listen. Tragically, one of these patients escaped from the hospital because of insufficient staffing and later killed an innocent civilian. This could have been prevented had there been proper resources available for this patient.

Management is now retaliating against nurses for speaking out. It is unconscionable that nurses who are advocating on behalf of the community are being punished for seeking to create a safer health care system.

AHS is a public resource. We are essential workers calling on the supervisors to reassure direct management of AHS because our community and patients deserve better. All our lives depend on it.

—Lisa LaFave, San Leandro

No Room for Hatred

Editor:

I wanted to touch on the story "San Leandro Woman Disgusted By Spray

Painted Nazi Symbol" (Page 1, The Times, Sept. 24) that covered the painting (and repainting) of a swastika here in San Leandro. First, to echo a previous letter to the editor, I'd like to thank the Times for covering this story at all. I fear that many newspapers would overlook it as an unimportant or trivial issue.

That being said, I feel that the story left out an issue that is important to emphasize: like it or not, we have (neo-)Nazis in our community. It's all too tempting to disregard this graffiti as a one-off isolated incident, but it most certainly isn't. The very fact that it was repainted after being covered should be proof enough of that.

Even if it wasn't, I know that I, and most likely many other readers, have had personal run-ins with neo-Nazis and white supremacists. This is a very real issue, and the fact that these individuals are bold enough to paint swastikas – such a recognizable and obvious symbol – rather than any of their more subtle coded symbols (of which there are many, a topic covered heavily in academic research including my own Bachelor's thesis) should be particularly concerning.

We as a community need to say that we will not tolerate Nazis and other white supremacists in our midst. With far-right tendencies and white supremacist ideology growing both nationally and internationally, now is the time to put our foot down. The Bay Area is made up of vibrant and diverse communities. There is no room for this hatred and intolerance here.

—J. Bixie Eutsler, San Leandro

Supports Yes Vote of Prop 15

Editor:

Prop.15, sometimes called Split Role, will be a very progressive step for California if it passes. The reform protects Prop.13 safeguards for homeowners but allows commercial property tax rates to rise according to commercial property values. In other states there is a higher tax for commercial property rates sometimes 2 or 3 times the rate of residential property, the logic being that almost all commercial property is for profit and almost all residential property is for shelter.

California's Prop 15 approach is more modest, its a flat rate for both commercial and residential, but would still raise \$8-billion to \$12-billion according to California Legislative Analysis Office. California schools are seriously underfunded going from the first in the country to virtually the the worst, since Prop. 13 went into effect. And there is a racist factor in the story as well.

Howard Jarvis the author of Prop.13 said he wasn't concerned about the effect Prop.13 had on public education because "public education only encourages the minorities."

Robert Reich, former Secretary of Labor under Bill Clinton, does a very good breakdown of how Prop.15 would work in 3 minutes if you Google "Make it Fair California, Robert Reich."

Most other industrial states have some form of Split Role, California is the richest state in the country and deserves a fairer form of commercial taxation for

both our schools as well as our cities. Please vote yes on Prop.15.

—Craig Williams, San Leandro

Lack of Communication on Trees

Editor:

Recently the residents of Estudillo Estates west of Bancroft woke up to find large white circles painted on mature curbside street trees in a concentrated five block area that includes Arbor Drive, Lee and Woodland Avenues. The painted circles indicate that there are 13 trees marked to be removed.

The decision to remove these trees has apparently been made without any neighborhood community input. I believe a better solution could be negotiated so that the majority of these trees will remain standing, continuing to bring welcomed shade, beauty and urban wildlife habitat to our city.

Sidewalk reparations underway are mostly the cause of the tree removal. However, if one walks down the sidewalks of creekside Glen Drive there are numerous examples where the city previously reconfigured the sidewalks around large tree trunks allowing them to thrive while providing beautiful shade to Glen Drive. Why is this sidewalk reconfiguration process not being considered for the trees along Arbor Drive, Lee and Woodland Avenues instead of cutting them down without community input?

I don't wish to create conflict with my neighbors most of whom are wonderful, caring and conscientious people. Certainly there are reasons such as invasive tree roots in sewer lines that may necessitate tree removals.

My issue is with the lack of communication and transparency from the city regarding such rash tree removal decisions without any community input. I seek community support in asking that the city immediately stop these tree removal plans and schedule community meetings allowing input from neighbors as to why so many trees suddenly must be removed. We need to explore alternative solutions to preserve these trees such as the sidewalk reconfigurations that are allowing the trees on Glen Drive to remain beautiful, shade providing and helping to make our neighborhoods a happier, healthier places to live.

—Robert Daniels, San Leandro

A Proud, Diverse Community

Editor:

I'm sure when most people think of a budget, they think of income and expenses. Paychecks, groceries, and rent. But when we talk about the budget of a city, we're looking at what kind of community we are investing in. Will it be one that is a representation of our values, or will it be one that only reflects our fears? Right now, our city government has allowed rampant cronyism and incompetence to give rise to corruption, fraud, and waste.

For too long we ignored the debts that racked-up through our history, from our time as a sundown town with cross-burnings as recently as 1989 to the increasing weight of police brutality and regressive toxic politics. It started long ago when our city chose bigotry over everything else.

Despite all this, we're a proud community of diverse people, filled by so many small miracles and surprises that they catch in your chest like monarch butterflies.

Despite the seemingly never-ending troubles facing us, I believe we have the power within us to rise up like the avatar

of our own wildest dreams. We just need to hold tight to that goodness buried beneath every wall we built thinking they would keep us safe, instead of trapping us inside with our fear. It's true we can't afford much these days, but hope is free and maybe, with just a little bit of it, we can free ourselves too.

—Stephen Michael Tow, San Leandro

Opposes Measure VV

Editor:

Vote NO on Measure VV. Before the pandemic, San Leandro's City Hall has increased taxes many times, increased expenses even more, and not attracted the right businesses to increase the tax base. They have wasted your hard earned tax dollars on severance payments to incompetents such as Chris Zapata, worthless public art in front of the library, and public polls for new taxes.

In May 2020 because City Hall took no decisive action to protect us, San Leandro was sacked and there was tens of millions in property damage, lost business sales and their employees were unemployed. Increasing taxes during the middle of a pandemic will scare off new businesses from investing in San Leandro and therefore fewer jobs will be created at a time when we need them.

Let's hold the incompetents in City Hall accountable by not increasing taxes and make them find other ways to cut costs in order to balance the budget. City Hall must do the hard work to Make San Leandro Great Again by focusing on public safety, improving the schools, creating a pro-business investment climate, and stop wasting your hard earned tax dollars.

—Ricardo Trigueros, San Leandro

Investing in Health & Safety

Editor:

With COVID-19 cases and deaths hitting record highs every day and Northern California fires creating unprecedented levels of unhealthy air quality, people are thinking about the safety and health of themselves and others more now than ever before.

Unfortunately, it is not surprising that COVID-19 is affecting low-income minority communities in the Bay Area and globally at disproportionately alarming rates. If we take a look throughout history, globally impactful diseases such as TB, malaria, and HIV/AIDS have taken the biggest tolls on poor and impoverished communities as well.

History has also taught us that when the U.S. gives aid to and invest in developing poor communities domestically and globally, overpopulation, corruption, and global conflict decrease, and the U.S. economy and national security strengthens. We must use history to dictate the future.

The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives need to support at least \$20 billion in the next emergency supplemental for the International Affairs Budget to fight COVID-19. These resources are required now to prevent COVID-19 from spreading future outbreaks, and the evolving secondary consequences of the pandemic. The proposed \$20 billion would also include resources for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, as well as life-saving anti-hunger and nutrition programs. Most importantly, this supplemental will help those in poverty, and protect the health, security, and economic interests of all Americans.

—Madison Coleman

The Borgen Project, San Leandro

Supports Simon for Council

Editor:

My name is Mike Sequeira, and I am writing in support of Fred Simon, who is running for City Council District 4.

I first met Fred and his oldest son in Spring 2012 as he was visiting Cub Scout Pack 556 as a pack for his older son to join. Later, I met his wife and the younger son.

I was the pack Committee Chairman for eight years. His oldest son (who began Cub Scouts in 1st grade) is now a high school freshman working his way toward Eagle Scout. Fred was a dependable and invaluable adult member of our pack as den leader for Tigers (Fall 2012) through Webelos (Spring 2016) shepherding boys through cub scout skills, and the value of serving and helping others. During that time he also worked on our yearly "Scouting for Food" food drives, taking the boys hiking on campouts, and participating in the annual San Leandro Veteran's Day Ceremonies. He was a living example of the Scout Oath.

I am 70 years old and have been a San Leandro resident for 63 of those years. I recognize that we have serious challenges facing San Leandro and I believe Fred's core value is helping others. This, and experience as a Senior Commissioner and Oro Loma Sanitary Board Member, provides Fred valuable insight, experience, and training to help our community overcome San Leandro's challenges. Please join me and my family in voting for Fred Simon for San Leandro City Council District 4.

—Mike Sequeira, San Leandro

Please Vote

Editor:

I dropped off our ballots at City Hall Monday morning about 30 seconds before they were collected. No, I did not take a picture, but I did thank the two people who were tending to the ballot collection boxes. This pandemic has me thanking people a lot because even the simplest acts seem heroic. Yet, there are serious ramifications of this disease that may take a long time to heal.

Lives have been lost and people struggle in isolation. As I drove to City Hall I noticed again the littered streets and shuttered businesses. I am certain there will be consequences for those who have had to go into early retirement. Babies are being born into a world where people are masked and children's play is restricted. The old and frail are sequestered from friends and family. We were already a nation who probably spent too much time in front of a screen, but now that time has doubled or tripled. However, I certainly give thanks for Zoom, and I know many of the people I worship with do as well. I am reminded that we humans can be surprisingly resilient.

While I almost always vote, I am embarrassed to admit that I have profoundly underestimated how difficult it is for some people to vote and to have their voices heard. I honestly believe I would have crawled to the ballot box if needed. No, I am not exaggerating, although I am certainly over-estimating the strength of my knees. However, and I am not sure why, my arthritic knee is in much better shape than it was before the pandemic took hold.

Please vote. Let us not let apathy and fear have their way. We can't afford to lose many more dreams.

—Rev. Sue Ann Yarbrough

Associate Pastor, San Lorenzo Community Church

Turn Your Old Mattress Into Something New



The Habitat for Humanity ReStore
9235 San Leandro Street, Oakland, CA 94603

Now offering \$3 cash or \$5 in-store credit

When you drop off your old mattress or box spring at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, the Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress program recycles it. The steel, foam, fibers and wood become something new like carpet padding, construction rebar, insulation or mulch. In return, you can use your cash or in-store credit for something new to you and support Habitat's mission to build affordable housing in the Bay Area.

\$3 cash or \$5 ReStore store credit provided per mattress. Maximum 5 units per vehicle per day. Voucher provided upon drop-off and must be redeemed same day. Offer only valid at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Oakland, CA.



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