



# City Manager's Weekly Update

Week ending July 22, 2011

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 7/25** Rules and Communications Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Sister Cities Gallery
- 7/25** City Council Closed Session, 6:00 p.m., City Manager's Large Conference Room
- 7/25** City Council Work Session, 6:30 p.m., Chambers
- 7/25** City Council Special Meeting, 8:00 p.m., Chambers



**To: City Council**  
**From: Lianne Marshall, Interim City Manager**

The Council may find of particular interest the summary of the Shoreline Development Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and their recommendation regarding this important project. Also of note is the impressive array of activities offered by our library.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### Broadband Strategy Update (reminder)

- Tuesday, **July 26, 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.**, Davis Street Transfer Station Education Center, 2516 Davis Street
- As part of the City's Broadband Strategy, the City will hold the second of two workshops for business owners, property owners, and real estate brokers on July 26 to gain feedback on the availability of broadband services.
- In addition, businesses are encouraged to complete a short online survey at [www.sanleandro.org/broadband](http://www.sanleandro.org/broadband). Please distribute this link to any and all San Leandro businesses and commercial property owners and encourage them to take the survey. Information received will assist us in identifying areas and issues that need be addressed.
- Information regarding the workshops and survey have been distributed to the community via [press releases](#), a Chamber public service announcement, listing as a [City News item](#) on the City's home page, and as the lead article in the City's July [Community Development Update](#). Meeting information can also be found on the City's web calendar.
- The goal of the Broadband Strategy is to ensure that San Leandro is well positioned to attract and retain high-tech and data intensive businesses.

### San Leandro Teen Police Academy Graduation

- Thursday, **July 28, 6:00 p.m.**, City Council Chambers
- Next Thursday, the Police Department will graduate its first-ever Teen Police Academy, with 17 teens completing the program.
- The class started on June 21, meeting twice weekly from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Each session started with physical training, in traditional military style similar to a true Police Academy, with plenty of push-ups and yelling, and a half mile run each day. The students were provided instruction in the areas of recruitment, ethics, report writing, narcotics and drug awareness, juvenile crimes, rank structure, patrol functions, gangs, and exercises with the SWAT team, a Motorcycle Officer, and a K-9 Officer.
- All of the instructors have been Police Department personnel.

- On Thursday, the instructors will take the class to an Oakland A's day game, where they will be provided a tailgate lunch, followed by the graduation at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.
- The students were provided with a uniform for the Academy (cargo pants and an Academy t-shirt), and the entire Academy was free of charge for the students, funded through Asset Seizure funds.

#### Retail Star Competition at Bayfair Center

- Saturday, **July 30, 4:00 p.m.**, Bayfair Center
- The third annual Retail Star competition will conclude with the announcement of this year's winner at a ceremony at Bayfair Center on July 30. The event will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Level (near Macy's and the security office, entry 5) and attendees are asked to R.S.V.P to Sarah Skotvold at sskotvold@mms.com or 357-6000 by Thursday, July 28.
- For this year's competition, Bayfair Center is looking for the next, great Retail Star in food service. Contestants are competing for a grand prize including free rent for a year, a built-out location in the food court, and a large cash prize to support start-up costs. Five finalists presented detailed proposals to the judges (including one staff member from the City's Office of Business Development) on July 16.
- In related news, Community Development staff is presently working with Bayfair to process building permits for build-out of two spaces in the food court, including the future home of the Retail Star winner.

#### Free Family Movie Night

- Wednesday, **August 10, 8:30 p.m.**, Washington Manor Park
- Join the San Leandro Recreation and Human Services department for an outside showing of the family friendly movie "RANGO!" Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and snacks, as well as your friends and neighbors! Showtime is at 8:30 p.m.

#### Summer Reading Program Carnival (invitation attached)

- Saturday, **August 13, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, Main Library Plaza
- The San Leandro Public Library Summer Reading Program Carnival will be held August 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The carnival is for children who have completed the summer reading program and their families.
- The event is sponsored by the Friends of the San Leandro Library.
- If you would like to attend, please notify Yolanda Carrasco.

#### All Employee Barbecue and Service Awards

- Thursday, **September 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, Marina Community Center
- The Council is invited to attend the annual All Employee Barbecue on September 15. This event will also include the presentation of employee service awards.
- Please let Yolanda Carrasco know if you would like to attend.

## Council Information

#### Farmers' Market Opportunity

- Councilmembers are invited to work the Farmers' Market information booth any Wednesday afternoon or evening through October 19. This is a fabulous opportunity for you to connect with the community in a relaxed environment and enjoy Downtown San Leandro.
- We suggest that you arrive around 5:30 p.m. when the market starts hopping and that you wear a City Council shirt and/or name badge.
- Please contact Caryn Wegerbauer at [cwegerbauer@sanleandro.org](mailto:cwegerbauer@sanleandro.org) or 511-3313 to sign up as booth space is limited.

### San Leandro Crossings Development Update

- An update on the progress of the San Leandro Crossings proposed Phase 1 development of 100 affordable rental units, 200 market rate rental units and BART replacement parking adjacent to the Downtown BART Station had been slated for the July 25 Council Work Session, but has been postponed until after the August City Council recess. The project developers are still BRIDGE Housing Corporation for the affordable housing, and Westlake Development Partners for the private market rate/BART replacement parking.
- This item was postponed because of the need to update financial analyses by both project developers to reflect the changing housing market and to wait for published guidelines from the State Housing and Community Development Department in late July regarding extension requests for use of Proposition 1C funds. The San Leandro Crossings project received \$24.5 million in Proposition 1C grant funding in 2008, so the final State guidelines will be important in revising the planned development timeline if necessary. City/Redevelopment Agency staff has continued to meet with BRIDGE Housing and Westlake regularly since late 2010 to move the development forward.

### Letter to Congress Regarding COPS Funding (attached)

- Chief Spagnoli was alerted that Federal funds for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program had been targeted for elimination. We contacted Len Simon and asked how we can send a message to Congress about the importance of this funding source for our Police Department.
- Len let us know there will be an amendment to restore the COPS funding, and his office will be working with Congressman Stark's office on the amendment. Stark has strongly backed efforts to undo some of the cuts being made by the new majority.
- Len asked that we provide him with a description of how the City has implemented the COPS funding from last year, in the form of a statement from the Mayor. The attached message was sent to Len this week.

## **Council Follow-up**

### Library Outreach Efforts (staff report and information attached)

- Library staff has compiled a listing of outreach efforts the Library Department offers to the San Leandro community.

### City Website Focus Group

- At the January and February meetings of the City Council Rules and Communications Committee, discussion was had regarding getting community input on the City's website. Consensus was reached to ask a subcommittee of the Branding and Marketing Committee to review the website and provide input to City staff regarding improvements that could be made.
- Seven of the Branding and Marketing Committee members have agreed to participate in a Website Focus Group. They are Arlene Lum, Debra Lambert, Johnny Ng, Dan Dillman, Paul Woycheshin, Tim Holmes, and Corina Lopez.
- The Focus Group will meet with staff on Monday, August 29, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Sister Cities Gallery to provide their input, observations and suggestions for ways to improve the website, all with the understanding that there is no identified budget to make any substantive changes. It will be determined at that time whether the group needs to meet again or is able to accomplish the task in one meeting.
- If you know of any other members of the community who may wish to participate in the discussion, please have them contact Kathy Ornelas at 577-3358 or [kornelas@sanleandro.org](mailto:kornelas@sanleandro.org).

### Downtown Parking Community Meeting

- Attendance was low at Tuesday night's downtown parking meeting; however, the feedback received was valuable.
- Residents and a business owner provided input on numerous parking issues including parking time limits in the garage and on surface lots, garage hours and rates, homeowner parking challenges in restricted commercial areas, and event parking.
- Based on input received and continued research and analysis, staff will report our findings to the Business and Housing Development Committee in the future. Should the report include recommendations for changes, additional community meetings will be held. Major changes to parking will be brought to the City Council for consideration.

### Shoreline Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Approves Recommendation for Development (Aquatic Park & Discussion Plan 8 attached)

- On Wednesday night, after more than two and a half years of work and commitment, the Shoreline CAC approved a motion to support Discussion Plan 8 for the land-side development at the Shoreline and recommended the City maintain the boat harbor for as long as feasible, then move to the Aquatic Park alternative.
- The recommended conceptual master plan, Aquatic Park and Discussion Plan 8, is attached for your information.
- Last fall, the CAC completed their initial mission of working with Cal-Coast, the developer, on a master plan for the land-side development at the Shoreline. In April 2011, at the request of the Council, the CAC began working with Cal-Coast to evaluate the results of a Financial Feasibility study to determine if projected revenue from the land-side development could cover the capital and on-going costs of transitioning the boat harbor basin into a Marina Park with fewer boat slips or an Aquatic Park with no boats.
- The CAC did an impressive job working through the many details of this complex development project. Although there was general agreement that having boats at the Shoreline would be desirable, the CAC recognized there was insufficient revenue to dredge and operate a boat harbor. Therefore, the recommendation for the harbor basin includes direction to operate the boat harbor for as long as feasible and transition to the Aquatic Park alternative should additional revenue not be found.
- This concludes the responsibilities of the CAC; however, it is likely that as issues arise in the future we may choose to call upon their expertise.

## **News Articles of Interest**

### Redevelopment Lawsuit Filed (article attached)

- On Monday, July 18, the League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Association, along with the cities of San Jose and Union City, filed a lawsuit in State Supreme Court against the State for its raid of Redevelopment funds. The lawsuit claims that AB x1 26/27 violates Proposition 22, the constitutional amendment passed by a majority of voters in November 2010.
- The suit includes a request that the court issue a stay so that the legislation is not enacted until a decision is made on the legal challenge. A ruling on the issue is also requested by August 15, 2011, prior to the October 1, 2011 deadline of when redevelopment agencies that do not take action and agree to pay the ransom will be dissolved.

### Oakland Tries Smaller, Closed-Loop Pot Farm Permits (article attached)

# One World, Many Stories

**You and your family are cordially invited  
to the 2011 San Leandro Library  
Summer Reading Program Carnival**

**Generously Sponsored by the  
Friends of the San Leandro Library**

**Saturday, August 13, 10am to 2pm  
San Leandro Main Library Plaza**

*Check in at the Carnival info. desk for your name badge and ticket(s) for a complimentary lunch*



## **Entertainment Schedule**

**11:00am • Music from around the World with Gary LaPow  
12:00pm • Comedy & Magic with Daffy Dave!  
1:00pm • Mariachi music by Mariachi San Jose**

## ***And don't miss...***

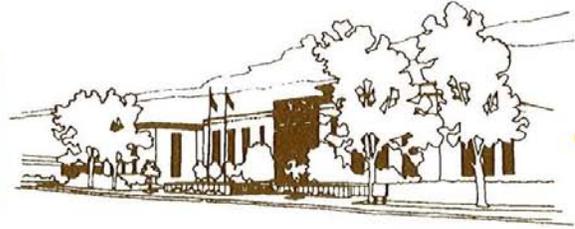
Petting Zoo • Pony Rides • Balloon Sculptures and Airbrush Tattoos •  
Face Painting • East Bay Regional Parks Mobile Aquarium • Free hotdog lunch & popcorn!

**Thank you to the organizations who provided generous coupons  
for our summer reading program finishers!**

Chabot Space and Science Center • Children's Fairyland • Fresh Choice  
Hometown Buffet • Lawrence Hall of Science • LEGOLAND • Lindsey Wildlife Museum  
Museum of Children's Art (MOCHA) • Oakland Zoo • Round Table Pizza • Togo's

## City of San Leandro

Civic Center, 835 E. 14th Street  
San Leandro, California 94577



Office of the Mayor 510-577-3356  
FAX 510-577-3340

July 20, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Thanks to the Federal Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program, the City of San Leandro has been able to increase crime fighting and improve crime prevention efforts in our community. Due to the economic downturn in our area, a number of these programs were at risk of ending because of budget restrictions.

Thankfully, in the past year the San Leandro Police Department has been able to retain its innovative Crime Free Multi Housing Officer, and crime in our multi-housing communities is down significantly as a result of this program. The officer assigned to this program as a result of the COPS program also works with targeted businesses to address crime problems specific to the business community.

The department has also been able to reinstate an additional bicycle patrol officer in our downtown area, as well as in and highly travelled pedestrian areas. The impact is significant. The department now can offer 7-day-a-week bicycle officer coverage, and provide a greater police presence at events like the Farmers' Market and in the downtown shopping plaza.

The department has also been able to reinstate an additional Tactical Unit (TAC) Officer to assist with specific crime trends and in-progress crimes. TAC Officers can leave the jurisdictional boundaries of San Leandro in order to quickly investigate in-progress crimes where information leads them to suspects possibly living in or visiting locations which are outside of San Leandro. This position also allows the department to focus on crime trends and patterns, and address those types of crime issues that would not normally be addressed with lower staffing resources.

As Mayor of San Leandro, I ask that you do everything possible to sustain the vitally important COPS Program in the 2012 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill. Funding for Police Officers through the COPS Program has been a critical component of crime prevention and crime suppression efforts in communities throughout the nation, San Leandro included.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Cassidy  
Mayor  
scassidy@sanleandro.org  
www.sanleandro.org



## CITY OF SAN LEANDRO

### STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** July 21, 2011  
**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** David R. Bohne, Library Services Director  
**SUBJECT:** LIBRARY OUTREACH EFFORTS

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At a recent Library/Historical Commission meeting, Library Commissioner Jennifer Heystek requested a listing of outreach efforts the Library Department offers to the San Leandro community. Library staff prepared a Library Activities report for the Commissioners. The Commissioners have reviewed this report and would like to share this information with the City Council. The list is attached. While it is extensive, it is not inclusive of everything we do as a department, but rather highlights those efforts we make to attract new patrons as well as to provide specialized services to those who may need them. It does not include “basic” library services such as circulation, readers’ advisory, reference, materials selection, collection maintenance, et cetera.

Despite recent severe budget reductions, the Library continues to provide a broad range of services to our residents. Staff works very hard to be inclusive in its collections and programs. Outreach to all of our residents is an on-going concept which has been implemented for decades, consistent with the resources available to us as a department.

Statistics show an average **monthly** attendance at the Main Library of over 60,000. The Library is your “Destination for Exploration and Discovery.”

Attachment

## San Leandro Public Library Your Destination for Exploration and Discovery

### Library Activities

#### Children's Services Division

##### Storytimes:

- **Babies N' Toddlers Storytimes.** Babies N' Toddlers Storytimes for children up to age 3 are held on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Designed for babies and toddlers, this storytime is for the child and parent or caregiver to participate together. There are picture books, songs, finger plays, and playing with educational toys.
- **Pre-School Storytimes.** Pre-School Storytimes for children from 3-5 are held on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 pm, and in the evening to accommodate working parents at 7:00 pm. Pre-School storytimes emphasize kindergarten readiness, getting into the reading habit, and arts and crafts. Some topics include stories from around the world; healthy habits; the alphabet; colors; shapes; animals; numbers; friendship; sharing; science; multicultural themes; food; and much more.
- **Bilingual Storytime.** Volunteers from the community present this bilingual Spanish/English storytime during the summer. Stories, songs, and finger plays are in Spanish and English.

**Bilingual Materials.** There is a large selection of bilingual Spanish/English and Chinese/English bilingual books and materials in the Children's Room.

**Bibliographies.** The Children's Division provides printed bibliographies on all topics including multicultural books such as celebrating African-American culture; Latino Culture, Asian American Culture, Native American Culture, chapter book series, classic tales, books for kids with special needs, beginning to read books, easy readers, trucks, dinosaurs, trains, princess stories, superheroes, friendship, art, and so many more. Some are bilingual Spanish/English.

**Dial A Story.** Storytime is available 24 hours with the Library's Dial-A-Story. Patrons may call 577-6067 and hear Miss Kelly, our children's librarian, tell a story by telephone or speaker phone. There is a new and exciting story each week.

**Virtual Storytimes online.** Click on to [www.sanleandrolibrary.org](http://www.sanleandrolibrary.org)., children's page, and you can see and hear stories told by Miss Kelly and Miss Tina.

**Children's Computers.** There are nine computers in the Children's Room with educational, age-appropriate software loaded for children to use while visiting the San Leandro Main Library.

**TumbleBook Library.** Tumblebooks are animated, talking picture books and early readers offered free on the Library's website. The TumbleBookLibrary provides enrichment to students who are reading independently with a variety of high interest material. It also provides support to students who require skill building with a variety of quizzes and games. TumbleBooks may be found on the Library's website by going to [www.sanleandrolibrary.org](http://www.sanleandrolibrary.org).

**Homework Websites for Kids.** The Library recommends selected websites for kids to go to which are excellent resources, legitimate, and safe. Such resources include topics covering Visual and Performing Arts, Social Studies, Science, Math, Reading/Language Arts, Health, and General Homework Help. Examples are Fact Monster, Kidsclick, CyberSleuth Kids, Cybrary, CaliforniaMissions, ArtsConnected, BookAdventure, and Kids InfoBits.

**Parents Shelf.** There is a section in the Children's Library where parenting materials are shelved together for the convenience of parents. Included are books and materials on topics such as helping your child with homework; raising children; parent/child activities; baby basics; communicating with your child, plus weblink sites such as ReadingRockets.

**Family Fun Nights.** Family fun nights bring together families and their children for an evening of education and entertainment. Recent family fun nights include Lunar New Year lion dance; Black History celebration with hambone body drumming; Puppet Company presents Perez & Mondinga, a Mexican fable; Wild Things Inc. presentation of North American wildlife; a puppet show of Little Red Riding Hood; a spectacular juggling show with Daniel DaVinci; a Kid's Concert with Abby and the Pipsqueaks; a Rocking' Reptiles Show; Mexican music, dance and storytelling with Duo Cascada de Flores; a ventriloquism show; and Lawrence Hall of Science Presents science experiments, plus much more.

**Dia de los ninos/Dia de los libros.** Day of the child/Day of the Book

This is an annual program with fun activities celebrating the magic of books and family reading. This year's Dia had stories in Spanish and English, a sing-along with Mr. Kyle, an arts and crafts project with a loteria board, and an appearance by a Hispanic author, Hector Viveros Lee. Every child is given a book for Day of the Child/Day of the Book.

**Paws to Read.** Children work on their reading skills by reading aloud to certified therapy dogs. The concept behind this is that dogs will not judge you, correct you, scold you, or speed you up. It helps children improve their reading skills without comment and judgment. The dog's trainer is present and available to assist a child as needed.

**Friday Family Matinees.** Family movies are shown in the Library's auditorium during the summer, sometimes during the week and sometimes on weekends. Movies are selected for family viewing and many times because they are books made into movies, or award winners.

**Summer Reading Program.** Over 4,000 children join the Library's Summer Reading Program each year. This year's theme is "One World, Many Stories," about world stories and travel, and the places that reading can take a child. The Summer Reading Program is a fun way for children to stay engaged in reading and learning over the summer. Children who complete the summer reading program will be invited to the Summer Reading Carnival sponsored by the Friends of the San Leandro Library. The carnival will draw over 3,000 people for a day of entertainment, food, and fun for the entire family.

**Little Listeners Summer Reading Ride.** New this year is a babies and toddlers special summer reading program for parents and caregivers to read to their young ones. Parents and their children who participate in this program will enjoy a special toddler music concert, get a free board book, and free passes to local attractions.

**Teacher Support Services.** The Library offers many services for San Leandro teachers, including free Library cards, class visits, Library tours, homework support, books and materials for educational, cultural, and information purposes. The San Leandro Library works in partnership with local schools to provide Library services and materials to supplement the changing needs of teachers and students in the community.

Children's Division staff supports teachers from the community by assisting with "ready to go Books in a Box." Teachers may call the children's desk and request books be held aside for topics they are teaching at school. Our professional librarians will make the selections and have books ready for the teacher to come by and pick up.

Each year, the Library offers an orientation to Library services for all teachers from San Leandro and schools in San Lorenzo serving San Leandro residents. Both public and private school teachers are invited to the orientation.

**Teachers' Shelf.** A section in the Children's Library is devoted to curriculum support materials for teachers and a multitude of teacher resources on all different topics for teachers and parents to check out. Also included are oversized "Big Book" copies of selected picture books that are especially useful for reading to large school groups.

**School Tours.** The Children's librarians host every school in San Leandro for tours of the Main Library/or Branch Libraries all year round. Children are issued Library cards and encouraged to use the Library with their families.

**School Assemblies.** Each year in May and June, our children's staff visits each public and private school in San Leandro and selected schools in San Lorenzo to encourage children to join the summer reading program and continue the reading habit all summer long. They present a Summer Reading Program skit and pass out Library information for teachers, students, and their parents. In May 2011 staff performed skits at 4 elementary schools attended by 1,414 students and an outreach at Bancroft Middle School attended by 275 students.

## Teen Services Division

There is a designated teen area located next to the Children's Library. Classics and Teen reading materials are separated out for the young adults. Included is a special area devoted to magazines, paperbacks, graphic novels, fiction, nonfiction, and media.

**Teen Advisory Group (TAG).** The TAG is comprised of teens in grades 8-12 who advise the Library on books and materials they would like to read and programs they would like to participate in. They also publish a semi-annual newsletter for teens which include book reviews, upcoming teen activities, and volunteer opportunities.

**Sneak Peek Reviewers Club.** This teen club meets once a month, reads preview copies of teen/young adult books provided by U.S. publishers, and sends feedback directly back to the publishers. They help to influence the young adult book market. This book club is for grades 8-12. Members nominate books for the Teen's Top Ten Reading List and 25 best teen books written for the year for the American Library Association. The club is one of only fifteen clubs selected in the nation to receive this distinction and honor.

**School Library Journal Reviewers.** School Library Journal (SLJ) is the world's largest review of books, multimedia, and technology for children and teens. Our Sneak Peek Reviewers Club has been selected to be featured reviewers for young adult materials from June 2011 to May 2012 for SLJ. The club would even be paid \$150 per month for six to eight reviews per month. The money they earn will go towards teen programs and supplies this coming year.

**Teen Summer Reading Program.** This year's Teen Summer Reading Program is called "You are Here." Teens sign up to read 10 books during the summer and receive an invitation to the after-hours teen party at the end of summer. They are also eligible to win prizes. Last year we had over 400 teens participate in the Summer Reading Program.

**Afterschool Gaming @the Library.** On early dismissal day, each week the Library hosts teens at an afterschool gaming program, where they can play games on the Library's PlayStation or Xbox systems.

**Teen International Night.** This is an annual teen event where teens enjoy international food, games, and multicultural performances.

**Teen Activities.** Examples of Teen Activities:

- **Book Swap and International Treat Tasting.** Teens bring their gently used books, comics, and Manga and trade them for books they haven't read before.
- **Babysitting Workshop.** Staff from Eden Medical Center teaches this class for babysitting basics.

- **Create Your Own Blog.** Teens learn to create their own blog and publish their writing on the Internet.
- **International Crafts.** Teens learn to make multicultural crafts from around the world.
- **Essence of Break Dancing.** Class on Break Dancing taught by San Leandro High School volunteers.
- **Recycled Crafts.** Teens learn to make crafts such as paper bead necklaces, and mini marble magnets with recycled paper.
- **Percy Jackson & the Olympians Party.** Olympic games to celebrate the release of the movie version of *The Lightning Thief*.
- **Malin Alegria, Mexican American author reads from her teen book--Estrella's Quinceanera.**
- **Teen Job Bound Workshop.** Preparing teens to write resumes, fill out job applications, and interview effectively.
- **Teen Job Fair.** This program, co-sponsored by the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce, has now been discontinued due to lack of funding.
- **Teen Read-In and Pajama Party.** Teens read for 3 hours straight during Teen Read Week.

**Teen Volunteers.** Each year over 150 teens volunteer at the Library donating thousands of hours to assist staff. They assist with the Summer Reading Program, shelve books and materials, work on special assignments, do data entry, assist at Storytimes and other Library programs, and sometimes translate for Library patrons who don't speak English.

**Homework Resources.** Teens can go online and connect to live Homework Help with live tutors from 1:00-10:00 pm for math, social studies, and English. They can also IM (instant message) a librarian for assistance.

## Adult Services Division

The Adult Reference Division provides service to the general public at the Library's Information Desk. They answer over 125,000 reference questions annually. All librarians who work at this desk hold a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from an accredited university. This division oversees the activities of the Electronic Learning Center, Reference Information Desk, the San Leandro History Room, and the Casa Peralta.

The Main Library has 74 computers available for the public to use. All computers are connected to a printer. The first 10 pages of printing are free. Additional pages cost 15 cents each. Computers are reserved using the computer reservation station.

**Computer Workshops.** Monthly computer workshops aimed at teaching basic computer literacy skills are taught by Reference staff. All workshops are held in the

Electronic Learning Center at the Main Library. Classes taught are Basic Computer Skills, Introduction to the Internet; Advanced Internet Searching, and Email Basics.

**Computer tutoring.** Free computer tutoring with a volunteer computer docent who will review email basics, internet basics, and basic computer skills is offered four times a week on a first-come, first served sign-up basis.

**Special Needs Services.** The Library is 100% ADA accessible. There are computer stations for people with disabilities or in a wheel chair. Equipment include ergonomic chairs, a special mouse for people with wrist issues, a larger computer screen for the visually impaired, a book magnifier reader station, and a Scan-A-Book unit that scans a book and reads the material aloud into a headset. The Library also has a fairly large collection of large-type books, and audio books for the visually impaired.

**Lawyer in the Library.** The Lawyer in the Library program offers free legal assistance. The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Bar Association, the Legal Aid Society of Alameda County, and the Asian American Bar Association. There are two Alameda County attorneys who volunteer at the San Leandro Library. The program is offered monthly. The attorneys see approximately 8-12 clients an evening.

**Adult Readers Roundtable.** This book discussion group meets the first Saturday of the month at the Main Library. The group is self coordinated with rotation of book club members as discussion leaders. Books are purchased through the Friends of the Library bookstore. Average attendance is 15 members.

**Adult Summer Reading Program.** This year's adult Summer Reading Program is Nomads Discover Novel Destinations. Adults can read up to two books each week and then be invited to the Summer Nomad Grand Finale--a celebration for readers. Last summer, there were close to 400 adult readers enrolled.

**San Leandro Reads.** This is an annual summer program for adult readers. It is usually tied to reading a selected book, attending a coordinated activity or event, and taking a related field trip. This year's selection is a mystery book: The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency. In addition to reading the book, San Leandro Reads members will see the movie with the same title, attend an evening of lively African music, and top it off with a visit to Safari West, an exotic animal safari in nearby Santa Rosa.

**Author Visits.** Over the years, we have had many author visits. We will kick off the Summer Reading Program with mystery writers from Sisters in Crime, Penny Warner and Diana Orgain.

**Creative Writing.** This is an adult writing class taught by Terry Ross, who is a professional writer and editor. The class meets twice a month. Students pay a nominal fee of \$5.00 per class.

**Needle Crafters.** Library volunteers host this semi-monthly program on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Participants bring their knitting, crocheting, embroidering, quilting, and

cross stitching to work on while discussing books they have read. There are about 40 people who come regularly.

**Lunar New Year Program.** This is an annual program sponsored by the City of San Leandro, and held at the Library. Included are multi-ethnic performances, lion dancing, martial arts, folk dancing, music and magic. Food is sold by a local Asian restaurant. The Asian Community Cultural Association of San Leandro provides free craft materials and demonstrations of Asian arts and crafts.

**Black History Program.** This annual program sponsored by the City of San Leandro, and held at the Library in the month of February. Some examples of Black History Programs include Onye African drummer; Diane Ferlatte, African American storyteller; and a John Waller Film Documentary.

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration.** This program is held every other year and is sponsored by the Friends of the San Leandro Library. Usually includes Irish dancers and music, and a corned beef and cabbage dinner.

Please note that **Cinco de Mayo** and **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** celebrations are hosted by the City of San Leandro but coordinated by the City's Recreation Department, and not the Library. However, during that time period, the Library does story times and arts and crafts to reflect the holidays.

**Heritage Faire.** This annual event has been hosted by the Library and features multicultural entertainment, food, and arts and crafts. This year's event was tied with our Summer Reading Program kick-off. Entertainment included Taiko Drums; Ballet Folklorico Costa de Oro; African American Onye Music; Niosha Persian Dance; and Magic Mike. The Arts Council of San Leandro and the Asian Community Cultural Association provided free international arts and crafts for the children.

**Music Concerts.** The Library will host a variety of music concerts throughout the year. We have had Hawaiian Concerts, Portuguese Concerts, the International Youth Choirs, Variety Shows, GirlFriendz Group, and What's Up Big Band. We have also held outdoor summer concerts featuring the U.S. Air Force Band, the Walnut Creek Community Band, the Hayward Community Band, Swing Fever, Singers Cathi Walkup and Shanna Carlson; plus more.

**Murder Mystery at the Library.** This is potentially an annual affair. The Library teams up with the San Leandro Players to act out a murder mystery at the Library. The program usually includes a light dinner, solving the murder mystery, and author visits.

**Movies at the Library.** The Library hosts a variety of movie nights and matinees entitled Pulp to Pics (movies based on books). We've also held sing-along movies. Prior to budget reductions, the Library hosted outdoor summer movies for the community.

**Other programs.** Examples of previous programs. You can Cook by Martin Yan; Shakespeare Plays; San Jose Opera; Michaan's Auction Free Appraisals; Home Cooking on a Budget; Eco-Friendly Landscaping; Get Healthy with Chris LaLanne; 1906 Earthquake lecture; Mary Pleasant, mother of Civil Rights in California; Legacy of the Nisei Veterans; John Muir Impersonator; Jack London Impersonator; Eugene O'Neil Specialist; Aging Artfully; California Native American Storytelling Festival; Film Tribute to Fred Korematsu; Urban Farming; Power Selling on EBay, plus more.

**Bibliographies.** Librarians produce Library bibliographies on topics such as How to Reach your Public Officials, Employment Web Links, Genealogy Web Links, California One Stop Career Centers, Volunteer Web Links, Using the Dewey Decimal System, Latino/Hispanic Authors, Asian Authors, Black Authors, and a variety of subject bibliographies to assist Library patrons.

**Foreign Language Materials.** The Library maintains a fairly large collection of Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese foreign language and bilingual materials in the Adult Section and Children's Library.

**Government Documents.** The San Leandro Public Library is a selective Federal Depository Library for documents published by the U.S. Superintendent of Documents. This prestigious designation gives the community access to thousands of government publications, both in print and electronically. The basic depository collection includes the United States Code, the Code of Federal Regulations, the Congressional Record, and the Federal Register. Additionally, the Library's depository collection includes books and pamphlets on a variety of subjects such as health, employment, Social Security, business, history, and travel. The collection also has many maps, including California topographic maps and maps showing various countries.

## Digital Branch Library

The Digital Branch Library is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, via the Internet at [www.sanleandrolibrary.org](http://www.sanleandrolibrary.org).

Library patrons may check the Library's online catalog, renew Library materials, place holds on books, access all the Library's online services, and sign up for E-Newsletters, all from the comfort of their home or office.

**Live Homework Help** is available through the Library's service with Tutor.com. Students get free online help from live tutors from 1pm to 10pm daily through the Library computers or their own computers at home. Subjects include math, social studies, science, and English.

**Online Resources.** Some Online Resources include:

- Infotrac; Informe; Newsbank; for Magazine and Newspaper Articles
- Novelist; What Do I Read Next?; Literature Resource Center; for Books and Literature

- Small Business Collection; General Business File ASAP; for Business
  - Nursing and Allied Health Collection; Health Reference Center Academic; for Health
  - American History Online; Ancient and Medieval History Online; for History
  - Student Resource Center, Infotrac, Kids InfoBits; for Homework Help
- Plus more...

**Powersearch.** PowerSearch gives patrons fast access to over 60 million resources that are not available through Google and other public search engines.

**Bookletters.** Library patrons may sign up to receive E-Newsletters with information on new best sellers; new nonfiction; new fiction; new books on television; new romances; new mysteries, new science fiction; new business books; new science and nature books, plus much more.

**Author Directory.** Library patrons can access an author directory online with author interviews and title listings.

**Best Seller and Awards.** Library patrons can access a comprehensive list of all Best Sellers and Book Awards.

**IM a Librarian.** Patrons may instant message a librarian with short reference questions. Log on to the Library's webpage and type questions in the "Ask a Librarian" IM box.

## Branch Libraries

**Manor Branch Library.** Over 12,000 people go to the Manor Branch monthly. The new Manor Branch, which opened in 2007, was funded by the California Library Bond Act of 2000 and the City of San Leandro. This neighborhood branch serves over 28,000 residents, and 9 public and private schools.

Activities at the Manor Branch Library include:

- Weekly storytime features the best in children's books, songs, and arts and crafts activities.
- Typical Family Programs include:
  - Sing-Along with Octopretzel. Octopretzel is an interactive and engaging singing and dance group.
  - East Bay Vivarium Traveling Reptile Program. Meet critters like a tarantula, a scorpion, salamanders, frogs, and lizards.
  - Fratello Marionettes Perform. This puppet show includes classic fairytales and a music score.
  - Global Art Party. Celebrate with tons of fun arts and crafts activities and games.
- Teen Programs include teen movies, teen gaming, Manga drawing,

The Branch will host summer reading program for Toddlers, Children, Teens and Adults.

**Mulford/Marina Branch and South Branch Libraries.** Both branches have limited hours and limited collections. Hours have been reduced at both branches. Summer Reading Programs for Toddlers, Children, Teens and Adults are available at each branch.

## Other Areas

### San Leandro History Room

The San Leandro History Room in the Main Library has a collection of more than 7,000 books on California, Alameda County, and San Leandro History. The most impressive acquisition is a historical file of over 2,500 photographs of San Leandro History dating back to the late 1800s. The room also contains historical local maps, pamphlets, newspaper clippings and documents from the City of San Leandro.

The historical photograph collection is available for Reference use in the San Leandro History Room or in digital format accessed at the Library's website [www.sanleandrolibrary.org](http://www.sanleandrolibrary.org)

**San Leandro History Room Tour.** Tours of the history room may be arranged with the librarians. Many school children tour the history room to learn about San Leandro history, see the collection, and view the displays.

**History Room Volunteers.** Trained volunteers help to keep the San Leandro History Room opened for the public twice a week. They also assist our librarians with history research.

### Project Literacy

Project Literacy is a Library-based volunteer organization offering free, confidential, one-on-one tutoring to English speaking people, age 16 and over, who are lacking in sufficient reading and writing skills to manage adequately in their home, work, and community lives. Volunteer tutors receive training which emphasizes a student-focused approach that allows the student to learn what he/she wants to know at his/her own pace. There are over 175 volunteer tutors matched with 175 students who donate their time and talents for at least 2-4 hours per week all year round.

The Family Literacy Program provides monthly storytimes, free children's book distribution and parent literacy workshops at the Main Library and at community outreach sites which serve parents and their children ages 0-4. Family Literacy clientele include teen mothers, low-income childcare and early education providers, CAL-WORKS single parents and low literacy parents. Current outreach sites are Jefferson School, Madison School, Hillside School, San Lorenzo Manor; Cal State East Bay Infant Center and Teen Parent Program, San Leandro Adult School, and Even Start.

A very important project of the Library, Project Literacy is a grant-funded program with funding from the Braddock Foundation, Kaiser Community Benefit Fund, and the

California State Library. At one time, the program received \$30,000 from the City's Community Development Block Grant Fund, but that funding ended in 2009. Project Literacy is staffed with just one Literacy Coordinator and an 8 hour per week assistant, serving over 1,000 clients and their families.

**Trivia Bee.** The Trivia Bee is Project Literacy's annual fundraiser now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year. This year's event will be held October 21, 2011 at the Marina Community Center. The challenge is to sign up at least 30 teams of three players each to play trivia and raise money for Project Literacy. Sponsorship of a team is \$350, which also includes 3 dinner tickets. Dinner tickets are \$25 each. Teams in the past have included the Mayor and City Council, City Commissioners, Project Literacy students and tutors, Friends of the San Leandro Library, clubs and organizations, businesses in town, and private individuals. We need the Commissioners to assist that day, and prior to the Trivia Bee, to recruit teams, sell dinner and raffle tickets, solicit raffle prizes, and be on a volunteer committee. This is the Library's only fundraiser for the year. It is estimated that the fundraiser will bring in approximately \$14,000 net.

**Casa Peralta.** The Casa Peralta was built in the early 1920s and is owned by the City of San Leandro, and administered by the Library. The Casa was home to members of the early pioneer Peralta Family. The Casa Peralta is opened to the public on Saturday and Sundays, from 11am to 3 pm. Volunteer docents give free tours of the house. The house is on the list of California Historical Places. Teachers may schedule tours of the Casa Peralta during the school year. The City maintains the house and the gardens. The Little Brown Church sits on the grounds of the Casa Peralta and is owned by the San Leandro Historical Society.

**San Leandro History Museum.** The museum is currently closed. Programs at the Museum included rotating art exhibits, theatre presentations, and the unique and very popular children's educational program where children from local schools visited and toured the historical museum, dressed in period costumes, and enjoyed a "living history" program. There were two programs. The third grade program was exploring San Leandro History, and the fourth grade program was learning first hand about the Ranchos of San Leandro. Each program included scripts, costumes, and activity stations.

Although the museum is closed, currently, the **San Leandro Players** rehearse and perform at the San Leandro Museum Auditorium throughout the year.

## Entrepreneurial Spirit

**Meeting Rooms.** The Main Library has meeting rooms for community use and for rental. The large rooms are the Karp, Estudillo, and Carnegie Hall or Lecture Hall. The smaller rooms are Mary Brown, Trustees Room, Conference Room B and Conference Room C. Rental fees are determined by group eligibility and the facility used. Over 8,000 people a month use the meeting rooms.

**Bookmark Café.** The Bookmark Café is a nice amenity for the Main Library. The Café is designated a heat and serve facility, which means no cooking may be done in the Café. It is open mainly as a convenience to our Library customers who are here for hours studying or reading. The Bookmark Café serves coffee, pastries, and light snacks. It is self-supporting.

**Friends of San Leandro Library.** The Friends of the San Leandro Library is a dynamic group of enthusiastic people who share a belief that a strong public library is essential for a thriving community. As a non-profit organization, the Friends promote community support and use of the Library. They operate the Friends Gift Shop and BOOKtique totally with community volunteers. Besides receiving revenue from the Gift Shop and BOOKtique, they raise money by holding semi-annual book sales that are well attended, and selling memberships. The Friends of the Library provide financial assistance to enrich the Library's collection, sponsor educational, cultural and author events, sponsor the annual Summer Reading Program Carnival, provide scholarships to encourage youth to volunteer at the Library, and give many hours of volunteer service to benefit the Library. Last year, the Friends of the San Leandro Library donated over \$50,000 to the Library. There are currently over 400 paid members supporting the organization.

**Grants.** The Library endeavors to write and support grants for literary, cultural, and informational purposes. The following grants were received this past fiscal year:

- **California of the Past.** \$5,000 from the California State Library to record the stories of Nisei Internees at Japanese American Internment Camp. The final deliverable is a professionally produced 60 minute film featuring 12 Nisei internees. The stories will be available online.
- **California Civil Liberties Public Education Program.** \$23,000 to record the stories of Nisei Veterans who served in the United States Military or Military Intelligence Service during World War II. The final deliverable is a professionally produced 90 minute film which features 10 veterans, plus 8 hours of film telling their full stories. The stories will also be available online.
- **The Big Read.** \$17,500 to produce a community-wide read of The Joy Luck Club. The Library organized and completed 18 programs, 17 book discussion groups, a kick-off event with actress Tamlyn Tomita, and a finale program with prominent author/illustrator Belle Yang. The Big Read took place over a three month period. San Leandro Library was one of only 75 libraries in the nation to receive this grant.
- **Kaiser Community Benefit Program.** \$15,000 to Project Literacy for a Literacy, Food & Fitness program for Project Literacy preschool children and their parents. This program involved monthly health and fitness storytime and parenting workshops for Literacy students and their families.
- **California Council for the Humanities.** \$6,000 for 10 teens to produce graphic novels about growing up in San Leandro. The title was My Town, My Life, My Story. Teens created their graphic novels, which were then laminated, collated, printed, and bound. The final deliverable was a published book for each teen participant.

- **California State Library.** \$42,800 for Project Literacy to teach reading and writing skills to English speaking adults and Families for Literacy Program.
- **Braddock Foundation.** \$15,000 in support of Project Literacy's Families for Literacy Program.

**Adult Library Volunteers.** The Library has over 300 volunteers assisting staff: 175 volunteers in Project Literacy, 40 in the Library Gift Shop and Book Store, 60 General Library volunteers who work as Library Greeters, Library Book Shelves, Book Menders, Electronic Learning Center Computer Docents, History Room Volunteers, Casa Peralta Docents, Book Sorters, and Program Assistants.

6/2011



## Suit asks state Supreme Court to overturn state action targeting redevelopment agencies

*Lawsuit by the League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Assn. says move to dissolve redevelopment agencies unless they pay the state \$1.7 billion violates an amendment passed by voters last year.*

July 19, 2011 - By Patrick McGreevy, Los Angeles Times

A group representing Los Angeles and other cities asked the state Supreme Court on Monday to overturn action by Gov. Jerry Brown and the Legislature that will dissolve redevelopment agencies in California unless they pay the state \$1.7 billion.

The lawsuit filed by the League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Assn. alleges that the state action, taken to close a budget shortfall, violated a constitutional amendment approved by voters in November that prohibits the state from raiding local tax revenue.

"California voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 22 just eight months ago to stop state raids, shifts and diversions of local redevelopment funds," said Chris McKenzie, executive director of the League of California Cities, whose members include Los Angeles. "The governor and Legislature have blatantly ignored the voters and violated the state Constitution."

The lawsuit against the governor's budget director, Ana Matosantos, also requests the state's highest court to issue a stay by Aug. 15 to prevent the legislation from going into effect until the court rules on the merits of the legal challenge.

The budget approved by Brown last month threatens to dissolve the state's 398 redevelopment agencies, which use property taxes to improve blighted neighborhoods. The state agreed to allow new redevelopment programs to be created if the existing ones provide \$1.7 billion in local tax revenue by January.

The legislation would require the Los Angeles redevelopment agency to pay the state about \$100 million in January and then up to \$52 million annually or be faced with having to dissolve the agency and end its work.

State officials, including Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento), disputed the lawsuit's claims.

"The Legislature's actions are legal and balance redevelopment with other public priorities, including education," Steinberg said.

The Brown administration is also confident it will prevail, said H.D. Palmer, a spokesman for the Department of Finance. "Redevelopment agencies were created by an act of the Legislature in 1945, and they can similarly be dissolved by an act of the Legislature," he said.

The lawsuit was filed with the Supreme Court rather than a lower court because the deadline for paying the state is looming, therefore the legal issues need expedited action, according to the groups behind the challenge.

San Jose and Union City — which are named petitioners in the lawsuit — told the court in filings that they expect to be unable to make the payment. Los Angeles officials are crunching the numbers, said redevelopment agency spokesman David Bloom, and plan to report to the City Council on Aug. 3 about whether to agree to make the payments.

Christine Essel, chief executive of the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency, said Monday that she is hopeful the Supreme Court will recognize the importance of redevelopment to L.A.'s economic development efforts.

"It's important that we continue our work building a better, stronger city," she said.

# East Bay Express

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2011

## Oakland Tries Smaller, Closed-Loop Pot Farm Permits

[REGULATION & LEGISLATION](#) [David Downs](#) — Tue, Jul 12, 2011 at 1:02 PM

Oakland's pot farm permitting process is back again.

Today at 5:30 p.m. at Oakland City Hall, the Oakland City Council's Public Safety Committee plans to conduct a public hearing and vote on a proposal that would double the number of dispensaries from four to eight, as well as amend Oakland's embattled cultivation ordinance to make it compliant with state law.

**Under the cultivation amendments, each permitted farm must be in a “closed loop,” growing medical cannabis for a specific dispensary. Farms must not exceed 25,000 square-feet per location, and grow no more than six mature plants per patient in the collective.**



**DAVID DOWNS**

A medical marijuana bud flowers in an indoor grow room.

The amendments are based on advice from attorneys at law firm Meyers Nave. Council brought in the firm this year to offer advice after Oakland's City Attorney John Russo refused to help the council — citing the illegality of their original plan.

That 2010 plan — which included 100,000 square-foot, independent farms with no grow caps — drew rebuke from U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag, and Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley.

The rebukes indicated Oakland's original plan was not legal under state law, let alone federal law, and the Oakland City Council could be arrested, jailed, prosecuted and imprisoned. Their homes could be seized by the D.E.A.

Even if the new amendment aligns the city plans with state law, they'll be taking a risk, as are all medical marijuana users, growers, and collectives. On June 29, U.S. Department of Justice Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole sent out a [memo \[.PDF\]](#) to federal prosecutors **clarifying that state law will not shield those “facilitating ... multiple, large-scale, privately-operated industrial marijuana cultivation centers ... [with] revenue projections of millions of dollars”.**

Smoking pot, as well as selling, trafficking or growing it remains a federal crime under the **Controlled Substances Act**. **Oakland city staff states in their report, “Medical marijuana collectives proceed at their own risk.”**

By permitting industrial cultivation, the city hopes to ameliorate some of the **nuisances** caused by rampant indoor cultivation, staff states. Some indoor weed gardens have ruined housing, and they attract would-be robbers. The Oakland Fire Department responds to about one fire with a pot farm on site per month.

Separately, staff states that increasing the number of dispensaries to eight prevents market domination and adds dispensary diversity. Oakland has about 390,000 people in it and three operating storefront collectives. By contrast, San Francisco, has population of about 800,000 and 29 dispensaries. Oakland's dispensaries — which must operate as not for profit collectives or cooperatives — brought in \$28 million in sales in 2010. Sales increased 40 percent from 2008 to 2009.

Collectives of three or less people needn't apply for a dispensary or cultivation permit, under the ordinance.

Each dispensary may have eight ounces of dried cured cannabis per patient as well as six mature plants and 12 immature plants per patients.

License fees run \$5,000 per application, \$60,000 for a dispensary permit, and \$211,000 for a cultivation permit.

If the Public Safety Committee passes the amendments, they usually go to the full City Council. Staff estimates about 200 groups might apply for the dispensary and growing permits. Here is the **full agenda [.PDF]**, and the **staff report [.PDF]**.