



*PHOTO BY JIM KNOWLES*

**A Lego world that Johannes van Galen created is on display this week.**

***By Jim Knowles***

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Somewhere in a whole Lego galaxy is a coal mine where a steam shovel digs coal from a mountain that travels by conveyor belts to a train that departs after its coal cars are filled.

That one small segment of the Lego display is powered by 11 little electric motors, created by Johannes van Galen, who's practically the Frank Lloyd Wright of the Lego world.

Van Galen has built a gigantic Lego display where jets and helicopters fly over cities and skyscrapers where people at their desks are visible through the windows, and it's all made with Legos, the little plastic building blocks for kids.

Van Galen started building with Legos when he was a kid in Denmark where Legos were invented. He still has a kid's imagination for creating, only now his Lego cities have grown to remarkable proportions.

The Lego world is on display through Sunday at the Bay Area Family Church, 2305 Washington Ave. in San Leandro from 1 to 8 p.m. for \$4 per person. All kinds of creations are part of the Lego display – built by van Galen and other members of the Lego group – from futuristic cities to prehistoric worlds, and people can make their own Lego creations.

For model train buffs, several Lego trains run through the exhibit emblazoned with Santa Fe, Amtrak and other railroad markings. The trains run through cities with authentic looking fire houses, post offices and McDonald's.

For more information, see [www.PlayBuildingBricks.com](http://www.PlayBuildingBricks.com).