Music Teacher's Unpleasant Confrontation in SL Children's Library

Editor:

 My mother and I went to the San Leandro Main Library on Feb. 14. My mother was looking at children's books in the children's library. My mother said that a man that was not a librarian or library staff came up to her while she was reading and searching for children's books and demanded that she leave the children's library so his daughter could use the computer that my mother was using.

 When my mother was trying to explain that she is searching for children's books, the man became belligerent and raised his voice. My mother, who is 64 years old, became afraid and tried to leave the children's section of the main library.

 This man blocked my mother from perusing the children's books and was very rude and angry.

 My mother was doing nothing wrong. My mother is a piano teacher and was looking for children's books.

—**Edwin Freeman, Jr.**

San Leandro

Accuses City, State, Federal Officials of Undermining the Ballot Box

Editor:

 Everybody knows by now that Medical Marihuana is a scam.

 Tents are set up in a park in Oakland or San Francisco, these characters line up and in 10 minutes they come out with a doctor's certificate.

 It's mainly for this reason that the majority of the citizens of California said *no* to the legalization of marijuana two years ago. But Washington, Sacramento and San Leandro City Hall have a penchant for undermining, sabotagging and chipping on our decisions in the ballot box, as they have done with our votes, twice, against gay marriage; our vote against Affirmative Action and our vote against services for illegals.

 San Leandro is contributing to the undermining with a special curriculum for LGBTQS in the schools; with creating all kind of special programs for "minorities" and by hiring contractors who employ illegals to work in our streets.

 All categories of crime went up in San Leandro last year; City Hall's solution is to legalize

criminal activity; this is also the policy in Washington and Sacramento.

 Unwilling and unable to control inmigration, Obama proposes to legalize illegals who usurp our jobs. Sacramento sees education levels plummetting, its solution is to eliminate tests and algebra.

 Marihuana is illegal under Federal law; I,certainly hope that the Feds indict the City oficials who implement the ordinance.Their main argument for it is “revenue”; if that’s a valid reason, then why not legalize robbery? There are, at least, 20 cities that ban clinics and growers,180 in the state, including Hayward, Fremont, Emeryville,etc., but San Leandro city officials choose Oakland as their model: There were 131 murders in Oakland last year. The only purpose of the meeting called by the city is to push its own agenda, not to listen to the people.

—**Leo T. West**

San Leandro

Applauds Senate for Renewal of Demestic Violence Law

Editor:

 I applaud the United States Senate for passing the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act which will give American Indian and immigrant women and gays and lesbians equal access to anti-domestic violence programs. It also will shield millions of women from abuse and reduce the national rates of domestic violence.

 When the Violence Against Women Act was being renewed last year, it was passed in the Senate in a bi-partisan majority but failed in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives.

 It is shameful that House Republicans are putting political ideology over women's lives.

Now that the Senate has once again passed the act, let's hope that the House will follow through.

—**Billy Trice, Jr.**

Oakland

Lent – an Opportunity to Adopt a Meat-Free Diet

Editor:

 During Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, Christians abstain from meat and dairy products in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days of fasting before launching his ministry.

 Devout Christians who observe meatless Lent help reduce their risk of chronic disease, as well as environmental degradation and animal abuse.

 Dozens of medical reports have linked consumption of animal products with elevated risk of heart failure, stroke, cancer, and other killer diseases. A 2007 U.N. report named meat production as the largest source of greenhouse gases and water pollution.

 Undercover investigations have documented farm animals being beaten, caged, crowded, deprived, mutilated, and shocked.

 Lent offers a superb opportunity to honor Jesus' powerful message of compassion and love by adopting a meat-free diet for Lent and beyond.

It's the diet mandated in Genesis I-29 and observed in the Garden of Eden.

 Every supermarket offers a rich array of meat and dairy alternatives, as well as the more traditional vegetables, fruits, and grains. Entering "vegetarian" in your favorite search engine provides lots of meat replacement products, recipes, and transition tips.

—**Kurt Champler**

San Leandro