

## City of San Leandro

Civic Center, 835 E. 14th Street  
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www.sanleandro.org



# SAN LEANDRO NEWS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### *San Leandro Officials Present Awards to Community Leaders*

At their December 5, 2011 City Council meeting, Mayor Stephen Cassidy and members of the City Council will be presenting District Leadership Awards and Mayor's Awards of Excellence to eight community members, chosen for their contributions toward the betterment of San Leandro.

"The City Council and I come in contact with so many residents and business owners over the course of a year who all truly care about our community and put that caring into action by giving their time and energies to making San Leandro the best it can be," said Mayor Cassidy. "It would be wonderful if we had an unlimited supply of awards to present each year. But, this year each of us has named someone who has gone above and beyond in their contributions to our community."

#### Chad Pennebaker – Mayor Stephen Cassidy's Award of Excellence Recipient

Chad Pennebaker's involvement in the community as a long time resident is extensive, especially in support of youth and education. He has been a member of the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation for eight years and Foundation President for the past six. The Foundation grants \$125,000 a year to San Leandro High School graduates to assist with the costs of continuing their education. As a member of the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce, he is part of the Careers in Industrial Technology program to encourage students to learn more about careers in industry. For 18 years, he has been active in the Northern California Youth Leadership program, and is a 20 year member of Kiwanis Club of San Leandro, serving as the advisor for San Leandro High School's Key Club.

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Dr. J. Patrick Kennedy, OSIsoft, LLC. – Mayor Stephen Cassidy’s Award of Excellence in Business

Dr. J. Patrick “Pat” Kennedy is a San Leandro resident and President and founder of OSIsoft, LLC, one of the City’s largest employers. He is leading the effort to implement San Leandro Dark Fiber, a project to install a fiber optic loop of approximately ten miles through several areas of the city. The fiber system, known as “Lit San Leandro,” will provide an opportunity to revolutionize San Leandro’s digital infrastructure, positioning the City to be a major player in the high-tech and clean-tech economies. As President of OSIsoft, LLC, Pat and the company have been strong financial supporters of numerous community organizations, including the Davis Street Family Resource Center, the Alameda County Food Bank, and San Leandro Toys for Tots program. He encourages his employees to, and they follow his example, donate money and volunteering time in food banks across the nation and the world. He also welcomes his employees to use up to 24 hours per year to participate in local charity work to better the communities where they live and work.

Deborah Cox – District 1 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Vice Mayor Michael Gregory

Deborah Cox is a Co-Founder and President of the San Leandro Education Foundation. A strong believer in public education, she has been a board member and president of the parent groups at Roosevelt Elementary and Bancroft Middle Schools. She served at the President of the Estudillo Homeowner's Association for four years, is on the boards of California Conservatory Theater, Leadership San Leandro, and PACE. She has been a member of the San Leandro Human Services Commission for the past four years and actively supports many of the local non-profit agencies in San Leandro. Deborah was the Co-Chair for the Yes on Measure A San Leandro School District Parcel Tax campaign and continued on as Co-Chair of the Measure B \$109 million school bond campaign that was passed by the San Leandro voters in 2006. She serves as the chairman of the Measure B/Measure M Citizens Oversight Committee.

Charles Gilcrest – District 2 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Councilmember Ursula Reed

Charles Gilcrest is a lifelong San Leandro resident and has been active in the community in a

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variety of ways, including past service on the City's Human Services Commission and Board of Zoning Adjustments. He served for eight years as the Chair of the Joint Project Area Redevelopment Advisory Committee which advised the City on commercial, residential and transportation projects. He has been the president of the Business Association of South San Leandro for the past four years, and since 2008 has been president of the Halcyon-Foothill Neighborhood Association. He is a Board Member and Treasurer of the Davis Street Family Resource Center, and actively volunteers his time for numerous community events and education fundraising projects.

Lee Thomas – District 3 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Councilmember Diana Souza

Lee Thomas has been an active member of the Floresta Homeowner's Association for more than four years and currently serves at its President. Demonstrating his leadership in the community, he has consistently shown a desire to be engaged in the community of San Leandro, and works to make a positive difference. Lee is currently representing Council District 3 on the City's Board of Zoning Adjustments and prior to that served on the City's Human Services Commission. He also serves on the Shoreline Development Citizen's Advisory Committee that will help to shape the future of San Leandro's shoreline, and is actively involved in the San Leandro Education Foundation.

Marti Lantz – District 4 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Councilmember Joyce Starosciak

Marti Lantz has been the President of the Washington Homeowners Association WHOA President for the last three years, having revived the organization after a period of inactivity with regular monthly meetings, semi-annual newsletters, and a scholarship program. She served on the Association's Board for many years prior to becoming President. She was President of the PTA at Corvallis Elementary School and also served on the Arroyo High School PTA. She currently serves as a substitute teacher for the San Lorenzo Unified School District, and is a Regional Director with Naval Sea Cadet Corp, having been involved with the Cadet Corps for over 15 years and attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander in that organization.

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Anna and John Tandi – District 5 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Councilmember Pauline Cutter

Anna and John Tandi have lived in San Leandro for more than in 55 years. They work as a team and as individuals in their volunteering, and have taught not only their daughters but grandchildren as well to volunteer. Over their years of service to the community together or individually, they have been involved in: the St. Leander Church and the school's PTG and Dad's Club; Anna was an art teacher at the Washington Elementary School GATE program and has been a Board Member of the Friends of the San Leandro Creek for 15 years; both volunteered for the Farrelly Pool Swim Team; John has been a member of the Buon Tempo Club, the Elks Club, and the Moose Club, and was influential in having a bocce ball court built at Toyon Park.

Carole Rinaldi – District 6 Leadership Award Recipient Selected by Councilmember Jim Prola

Carole has served as a District 6 Library-Historical Commissioner for almost six years – two as Chair. She fought hard to save the Mulford-Marina Branch Library from being closed. She was Marina Faire Homeowner's Association President for five years and remains active in the Association. She was on the West San Leandro Advisory Committee and Eden Road Advisory Committee, and is currently serving on the Shoreline Development Citizen's Advisory Committee that will help shape the future of San Leandro's Shoreline. As the coordinator of Leadership San Leandro for nearly 15 years, she has worked to help many Leadership graduates and residents become City Board, Commission and City Council Members.

A cake and coffee reception for these award recipients, as well as five City Board and Commission members who are receiving City Term of Service Awards, will be held in the Sister Cities Gallery of City Hall at 6:00 p.m., before the City Council meeting on December 5.

For more information, contact Community Relations Representative Kathleen Ornelas at (510) 577-3358 or [kornelas@sanleandro.org](mailto:kornelas@sanleandro.org).

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### About San Leandro

Among the best cities in the Bay Area to live, raise a family, and operate a business, San Leandro is a city of nearly 85,000 residents centrally and strategically located in one of the most dynamic regions in the world. The city maintains a safe, small town feel where neighbors care for each other, while offering a wide range of shopping, dining, recreation, family activities, miles of shoreline, and easy access to nearby regional parks and nature areas. Over the past decade the community has invested more than \$250 million in renovating and modernizing its public schools and building state-of-the-art facilities for students, including a performing arts theater and 9th grade campus. San Leandro's entrepreneurial spirit and large commercial, technological, manufacturing, and clean business base, along with its close proximity to the Oakland International Airport and the Port of Oakland and service by two BART stations, rail and two major highways, make the city a prime location for businesses seeking to expand or establish their operations.

For more information on the City of San Leandro and its programs and services, visit the City's website at [www.sanleandro.org](http://www.sanleandro.org). To register to automatically receive press releases, meeting agendas or other electronic notifications, go to <http://www.sanleandro.org/portal/default.asp>.

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