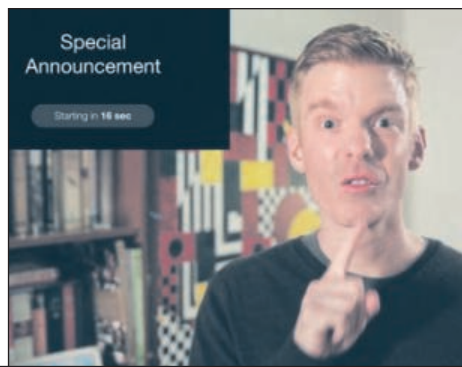




Rockets and robots



Tech solution benefits deaf and speech impaired



Read to Write programs aid adult literacy



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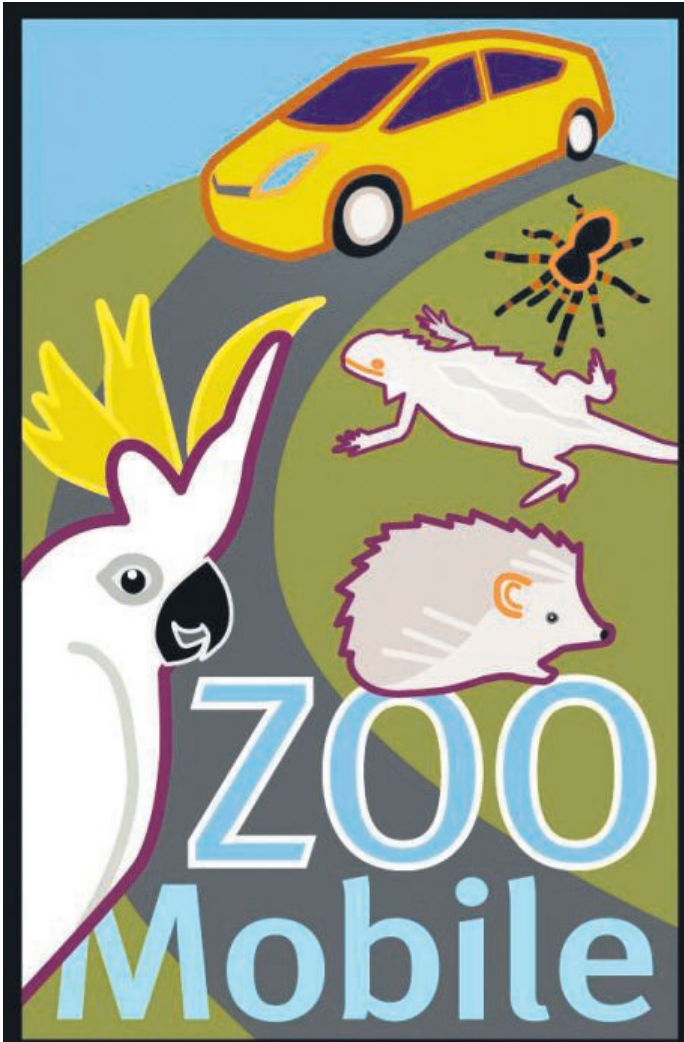
It's all happening at the zoo

BY DAVID R. NEWMAN
PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE OAKLAND ZOO

Nestled in the hills above Oakland, at the base of Knowland Park, lies the Oakland Zoo, an extraordinary place filled with natural wonders. A place where elephants roam freely across an African Savanna. Where white-handed gibbons swing gracefully around a lush, tropical island, and American alligators bask side by side with intrepid turtles.

Home to over 700 native and exotic animals, the Oakland Zoo was established in 1922 by

Continued on page 17



A train ride through time

BY ROBBIE FINLEY
PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAN LEANDRO HISTORICAL RAILWAY SOCIETY

Railroads are much more than just modes of mass transportation. Their steel tracks crisscross throughout the greater Bay Area, the State of California, and the entire nation, connecting cities and towns in more ways than one. The rich history of railroads helped create the Bay Area as we all have come to know it. Since 1988, the San Leandro Historical Railway Society (SLHRS) has preserved this history with its museum and expertly crafted model railroads based in a former Southern Pacific railroad depot.

"California is absolutely drenched in railroad history," said SLHRS historian Pat LaTorres. The society, sole tenant of the depot, currently has a roster of 25 members and a number of associates. First started as a model railroad club, SLHRS grew out of a shared love of railways and the desire to preserve local history found in longstanding members such as LaTorres, who has been with SLHRS since its beginning. "San Leandro has had seven different railroads in the area," LaTorres said of the extensive history between the city and the industry. He continued, "In 1988, we got the keys to the depot from Southern Pacific," adding, "[then] we moved the

Continued on page 6



Anticipation The Art of Dmitry Grudsky

SUBMITTED BY SEEMA GUPTA

February 3. The public is invited to meet the artist and enjoy his work at a reception on Friday, January 12.

Olive Hyde Art Gallery opens its doors for the New Year to the very first exhibit of 2018. Anticipation: The Art of Dmitry Grudsky begins on January 5 and will remain on display through

With a master's degree from the Tashkent Art Institute in Uzbekistan, Dmitry Grudsky has been teaching and creating environmental art for the

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Norris Falls, a portion of the SLHRS outdoor G&O garden railroad, for G and O scale trains, both electric and live steam powered.

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Is Pain Keeping You From Achieving Your New Year's Resolution?

Physical Therapy Can Help You Get Moving

The new year is a good time to get moving. But, exercising can be difficult when you suffer from aches and pains. If pain is keeping you from achieving your New Year's resolution, you may want to consider physical therapy. "Pain can be a barrier to a more active lifestyle," says Sharmi Mukherjee, director and lead physical therapist at the Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center. "If it hurts to move, it makes it harder to exercise or do the physical activities you enjoy. Physical therapy can ease pain and improve flexibility, balance and range of motion, which can improve your overall quality of life." The Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center (WORC) is staffed by highly trained physical therapists who are skilled at providing the latest techniques for alleviating pain caused by a medical condition, illness or injury. So whether you are in pain due to arthritis or other medical conditions, or you

wrenched your back overdoing it at the gym, physical therapy can help you get moving again.

Before any treatment, physical therapists at the WORC first do a comprehensive evaluation to determine what a patient's condition is and if there are any underlying issues that need to be addressed by a physician or other health care provider, Mukherjee notes. Therapists also need to understand the root cause of any pain, to develop an effective treatment plan.

Just for You

"Each treatment plan is specifically designed to meet your individual needs," she adds. "The goal is to get people back to their previous level of functioning. That might mean being able to return to a sport or physical activity they enjoy, or it could mean getting back to work. For some people it might mean being able to perform everyday tasks like making the bed or getting dressed. Reducing chronic pain



Don't let pain keep you from achieving New Year's resolutions. Highly trained physical therapists at the Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center can provide the latest techniques to alleviate pain so you can get moving in the new year.

and improving mobility can be life changing."

Therapists work with rehab patients to help reduce their pain, increase strength and flexibility, and improve range of motion using a variety of techniques. In addition to guiding patients through a physical routine, they may use ultrasound, electrical stimulation, cup therapy or manual techniques to reduce pain, swelling and scar tissue.

The exercise routines use a variety of equipment, including an upper body exerciser for

warmups, recumbent and upright stationary bicycles, treadmill, therapeutic exercise balls, as well as other stretching and strengthening gym equipment. Yoga postures may also be incorporated.

Pain in the Neck

Chronic neck and back pain are common complaints among adults and can get in the way of regular activities. Mukherjee explains that to reduce chronic pain, including neck and back pain, there is evidence that shows physical therapy can be an effective

alternative to long-term use of prescription pain medications or even surgery. Physical therapists can develop a plan that may include manual therapy, flexibility and strengthening exercises. They can also provide tips for taking better care of your back and neck like improving posture and techniques for lifting and moving without straining your back.

"Chronic neck and back pain do not need to get in the way of an active lifestyle," Mukherjee

Continued on page 5

InHealth broadcasts on Comcast Channel 78 in Fremont, Newark and Union City and online at www.inhealth.tv



The full schedule of InHealth programs listed below can also be viewed in real time on the Washington Hospital website, www.whhs.com

	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	1/2/18	1/3/18	1/4/18	1/5/18	1/6/18	1/7/18	1/8/18
12:00 PM - 12:30 AM	Updated Treatments for Knee Pain & Arthritis	Diabetes Matters: Managing Time with Diabetes	Nerve Compression Disorders of the Arm	Sports Medicine Program: Exercise & Injury	Deep Venous Thrombosis	Voices InHealth: Demystifying the Radiation Oncology Center	New to Medicare? What You Need to Know
1:00 PM - 1:30 AM	11th Annual Women's Health Conference: Patient's Playbook	(Late Start) Mindful Healing	The Patient's Playbook Community Forum: Getting to the No-Mistake Zone	Strengthen Your Back! Learn to Improve Your Back Fitness	Keeping Your Heart on the Right Beat	Palliative Care Series: Palliative Care Demystified	Sports Medicine Program: Nutrition & Athletic Performance
2:00 PM - 2:30 AM		Snack Attack		Get Back On Your Feet: New Treatment Options for Ankle Conditions		Stop Diabetes Before it Starts	
2:30 PM - 3:00 AM	Inside Washington Hospital: The Green Team	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017	Learn About the Signs & Symptoms of Sepsis	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017	Raising Awareness About Stroke	(Late Start) Diabetes Matters: Living with Diabetes	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017
3:00 PM - 3:30 AM	Family Caregiver Series: Tips for Navigating the Health Care System		(Late Start) Learn More About Kidney Disease			Latest Treatments for Cerebral Aneurysms	
3:30 PM - 4:00 AM	Not A Superficial Problem: Varicose Veins & Chronic Venous Disease		Minimally Invasive Options in Gynecology			Don't Let Hip Pain Run You Down	
4:00 PM - 4:30 AM	Diabetes Matters: The History of Diabetes		Reach Your Goal: Quit Smoking			Colon Cancer: Prevention & Treatment	
4:30 PM - 5:00 AM	(Late Start) National Hospital Rating Systems for Quality & Patient Safety	Respiratory Health	(Late Start) National Hospital Rating Systems for Quality & Patient Safety	Pain When You Walk? It Could Be PVD	National Hospital Rating Systems for Quality & Patient Safety	Learn If You Are at Risk for Liver Disease	National Hospital Rating Systems for Quality & Patient Safety
5:00 PM - 5:30 AM	Arthritis: Do I Have One of 100 Types?		Minimally Invasive Surgery for Lower Back Disorders				
6:00 PM - 6:30 AM	Community Based Senior Supportive Services	Eating for Heart Health by Reducing Sodium	Symptoms of Thyroid Problems	Low Back Pain	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017	(Late Start) Family Caregiver Series: Panel Discussion
6:30 PM - 7:00 AM		Good Fats vs. Bad Fats					
7:00 PM - 7:30 AM	Diabetes Matters: Gastroparesis	Shingles	Kidney Transplants	Kidney Transplants	11th Annual Women's Health Conference: Heart Health Nutrition	Weight Management: Stopping the Madness	(Late Start) Preventive Health Care Screening for Adults
7:30 PM - 8:00 AM	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 13, 2017						
8:00 PM - 8:30 AM		Obesity: Understand the Causes, Consequences & Prevention	Relieving Back Pain: Know Your Options	Prostate Cancer: What You Need to Know	(Late Start) Alzheimer's Disease	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes: Is There an App for That?	(Late Start) Palliative Care Series: Interfaith Discussions on End of Life Topics
8:30 PM - 9:00 AM	(Late Start) Understanding Mental Health Disorders						
9:00 PM - 9:30 AM	Palliative Care Series: Palliative Care Demystified	(Late Start) Diabetes Matters: Straight Talk About Diabetes Medications	Superbugs: Are We Winning the Germ War?	Digestive Health: What You Need to Know	Learn the Latest Treatment Options for GERD	Family Caregiver Series: Caregiving From A Distance	Sports Medicine Program: Why Does My Shoulder Hurt?
9:30 PM - 10:00 AM							



Making New Year's Resolutions for 2018? Don't Forget Basic Health

OK, the December holidays are behind you, and now it's time to start thinking about your resolutions for 2018. Spend less money? Maybe cut back on screen time? Slow things down and enjoy family and friends a bit more? And then, there are the perennials—resolutions that can affect our basic health. Lose weight. Exercise more. Stop smoking.

Why are these so hard to keep or maintain? Pavani Kuruma, MD, Family Medicine physician at the Washington Township Medical Foundation shared her thoughts. She said that part of the problem is the cycle of early success followed by disappointing plateaus. She suggests a physician can help get things back on track. Dr. Kuruma also shared ideas on some basic health resolutions that should be added to our list.

Weight loss

“People often see some improvement in the beginning with their plan and methods for weight loss, but then they hit a wall and their progress slows,” said Dr. Kuruma. “This could cause them to drop their resolve; physicians try to help re-build that resolve. I can talk to them and see if there is something they are not doing right. This can mean evaluating their food choices, portion sizes and

number of meals a person is eating per day. We get things moving forward again.”

Exercise

Of course, a resolution to lose weight often goes hand-in-hand with exercise—a big impact on our basic health. “If exercise is not helping the way it should, I talk to patients about their regimen,” Dr. Kuruma said. “They may be focused just on cardio and not on strength and balance. A physician can evaluate a total exercise program to ensure someone has a varied program that provides maximum benefit.”

Quit smoking

Fewer people smoke these days, and that's a great thing. But there are still those who struggle with this very difficult journey, and physicians like Dr. Kuruma can help.

“I usually see that patients have motivation to stop smoking, but it's such a strong addiction that we may have to try multiple solutions,” explained Dr. Kuruma. “For instance, if a patient tells me that nicotine patches aren't working, we can always suggest other options. We know that if patients maintain the commitment, they can succeed. Our doctors are here not only to encourage success, but also to help with alternative and safe methods for ending the habit.”

Preventive health care

“I think everyone, no matter what their age is, should put preventive care on their list of resolutions,” said Dr. Kuruma. “This is something many of us overlook, but it's a great habit to get into.”

So, what does a preventive care resolution look like?

“Basically, patients tend to see doctors only when they have health problems,” Dr. Kuruma explained. “With a resolution for preventive care, they make an appointment for an annual physical with their primary care doctor, even when feeling OK. This appointment will include risk-related screening tests for various potential health conditions, especially those that have a higher incidence with age, such as high blood pressure or osteoporosis. The doctor can also ensure a patient is up-to-date on all-important immunizations.”

“We also recommend that young adults have an annual preventive care visit. This could detect early signs of things to start taking care of, including screening for high cholesterol.”

A medication checkup

Dr. Kuruma also reminds patients their medication routines need reviewing.

“Sometimes, patients think that just taking their required medication is enough,” said Dr. Kuruma, “but they need to see their doctor to be certain their condition is getting better and the medication is working as intended. This resolution could require an exam and some blood work. Occasionally medications need adjustment, and it's best to know these things as early as possible.”

And does the physician giving this great advice make her own resolutions? “I always make a New Year's resolution to maintain my daily exercise,” Dr. Kuruma emphasized, “and I've been mostly successful. Some days are harder than others due to a busy schedule, but I'm happy to say it happens most of the time.”

If you need help finding a primary care physician, visit the Washington Township Medical Foundation website at www.mywtmf.com and click on the tab for “Your Doctor.”

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- February 15:** Women's Heart Health
- March 15:** Prioritizing Your Life — It's Time to Get Organized
- April 19:** Reclaiming Your Confidence: Body Image and Self Esteem
- May 17:** Stress Management: Secrets Every Busy Woman
- June 21:** Throw on Your Athletic Shoes and Let's Get Moving (includes approximately 1.5 mile walk and guest presenter)

Third Thursday evening of each month, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Washington Women's Center conference room, suite 145
Washington West,
2500 Mowry Ave., Fremont

Call (510) 608-1301 to register or for more information.

Stay connected to Washington Hospital through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Watch InHealth Channel videos, learn about upcoming events and seminars and see what's happening at your community hospital.

Tech solution benefits deaf and speech impaired

By VICTOR CARVELLAS
PHOTOS COURTESY
OF CONVO

In September of 2017, a mountain lion chased two deer onto the athletic field of the California School for the Deaf (CSD). An unusual occurrence to be sure, but a potentially dangerous one for anyone considering going outside. In an institution where audible alerts are of little use, how best to warn members of the danger and to stay indoors?

building and inform them to shelter in place, which is a sketchy solution to be sure.”

In 2014, CSD sought a partner to develop an emergency alert system for the school. Ultimately, the video relay service provider, Convo, agreed to work with CSD, and during the summer of 2015, Convo engineers and designers developed an alert system from the ground up.

“This wasn't an off-the-shelf product,” says Bernstein, “Convo and CSD worked together to develop it. It had never been done



Photo by Victor Carvellas

Believe it or not, up until just a few years ago, the answer would be to send a runner to each CSD classroom and convey the news via American Sign Language (ASL). Obviously, that's an inefficient system that puts one or more individuals at risk. In the case of more serious threats such as an armed intruder, the potential for disaster is huge.

“One time, a few years ago,” says CSD's Dean of Students, Ethan Bernstein, “a guy was shooting up into the air with a gun down at the corner, and Fremont PD came here and said we should shelter in place. We had no real electronic communication then—people had to walk to each

before. This school was a pilot, but the system is now being implemented in other deaf schools. It was a pilot and now it's a model.”

The ConvoAnnounce system that resulted from the collaboration puts a large video screen in every classroom, office, and dorm room at the school. Not only is it good for signed announcements and public address situations, it uses flashing red screens and large block text announcements that indicate the type of danger, whether the school is in lockdown, whether evacuation is necessary, and much more. Any staff supervisor can access the system from

environment—an ecosystem—that helps those people as individuals, populations, and communities find resources, find each other, and find fulfillment, best assists its constituents in being self-reliant. “We know firsthand what a positive deaf ecosystem can do for our community,” says Hanaumi, “It creates opportunities, increases choices, encourages collaboration, and fosters connection.”

to signal when call is coming in, or, has been missed. Not only did Mozzarella's answered-call rate shoot to 95 percent, the overall effect is visually appealing as well.

Looking back, an emergency alert system for the deaf seems pretty common sense. But as Hanaumi explains, “Prior to [ConvoAnnounce] there just wasn't enough of a market out there to foster the development of technology.”



any screen to deliver a preset announcement or create a new one to fit the situation.

Most hearing people have probably not heard of a Video Relay System (VRS) of the kind that Convo operates. A VRS allows deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired people to use a video terminal to use sign language, which an interpreter then communicates verbally with the hearing party. Convo was in a unique position to provide a solution, not only because of its experience as a VRS, but also because it is a deaf-owned and signing-centric company. As brand coordinator Leila Hanaumi explains, “Who knows the deaf community and its challenges better than people who live the experience everyday?”

Convo develops its technology based on the core concept of the deaf “ecosystem.” That is, in any natural system, individuals, populations, and communities benefit from existing mechanisms of resource procurement and usage. For the deaf, hard of hearing, and speech impaired people that Convo serves, an

In that vein, the company has recently introduced an app (for iOS and Android) that not only makes it easy for signers to communicate with each other and to the hearing via VRS, but also provides videomail and an extensive directory of deaf-owned and deaf-friendly services. As Hanaumi says, “what makes this directory so special—and there have been other efforts to do the same thing—is that we consider regular maintenance and updating of it part of our job description.”

Another of Convo's success stories is Mozzarella, a deaf-owned pizzeria belonging to Melody and Russ Stein in San Francisco. Even though they used an online reservation service, people were calling the restaurant, and the VRS and visual alert system in place wasn't working well—50 percent of calls were lost.

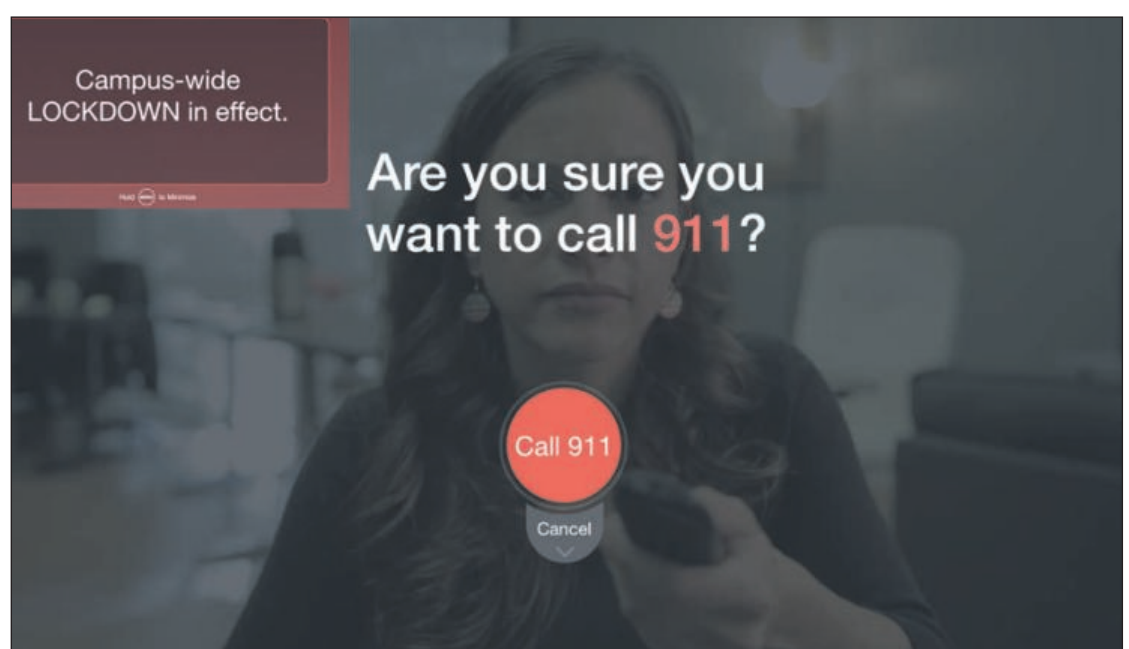
In response, Convo developed Convo Lights. The alert system uses Philips Hue LED colored lights placed strategically throughout out the store along the ceiling, under the shelving, by the oven, and in the kitchen

“If you look at the history of technology,” she continues, “it always is based on auditory culture—Alexa and Siri, for example—so there is a barrier to the deaf community's access to those technologies. Then, a company like ours invents a sort of equivalent tech before the next round of innovation and equivalency development begins again.”

In 2009, Convo was a start-up with less than 10 employees. Today, it is one of the largest deaf-owned companies in the world with around 250 employees. The company's success represents the unique alchemy that occurs when a company and its clients share both a similar culture and a “can-do” attitude.

Incidentally, the mountain lion was never found and the deer, presumably are still living peacefully somewhere in the foothills of Fremont.

For more information, contact (510) 629-5622, support@convorelay.com, or visit www.convorelay.com.



Continued from page 2

Is Pain Keeping You From Achieving Your New Year's Resolution?

Physical Therapy Can Help You Get Moving

says. "Physical therapy can also help reduce the pain, stiffness and weakness that many people associate with aging."

Research shows that improvements in strength and physical function are possible even after age 60 with an appropriate exercise program. Strength training, where muscles are exercised against resistance that gets more difficult as strength improves, has been shown to prevent frailty.

So if one of your New Year's resolutions is to get moving, but

pain is holding you back, contact the WORC. You don't need a physician's referral to be treated at the center.

For more information about physical therapy services or to make an appointment, call (510) 794-9672 or visit www.whhs.com/oprehab. To learn about other programs and services at Washington Hospital that can help you stay healthy, visit www.whhs.com.

Rockets & Robots

SUBMITTED BY CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER

Chabot Space & Science Center's schedule of public events and activities for January and February 2018 will kick off the new year with two First Fridays evenings, rockets, robots, Romantic Valentine's Day missions to Mars, the Bay Area International Children's Film Festival, continuing Artists in Residence Program, Project Create and more.

\$5 First Friday: Rockets and Robotics
Friday, Jan 5
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Admission: \$5

Blast off for a focus on rocket science and learn what it takes to launch a rocket into space, operate a robot, and even how to make a rocket from things found in the average kitchen. Meet local rocketeers and shake hands with Chabot's own robot, Fritz. In addition, Chabot Artist in Residence Cere Davis will bring her Water Organ to Chabot. This quirky, kinetic piece will explore how magnetized vessels create a chorus of sounds as they move through water in what she playfully calls "meditative Koi pond behavior."

The Curious Lens Participatory Exhibition Opening Tuesday, Jan 16

See what happens when you step back and see the world through another person's eyes. Chabot's new Curious Lens photo exhibition, where visitors respond to topics intended to spark their photographic creativity and share their photographic views on our ever-changing world. This month's prompt: So many aspects of our modern lives are shaped by technology. Do you find it all intriguing, funny, thought-provoking, alarming?

Total Lunar Eclipse
Wednesday, Jan 31
3:00 a.m. – 6:30 a.m.
Free, Weather Permitting
The observatory deck opens at

3 a.m. in the early morning hours of the 31st for viewing as the "Blue Moon" turns red in this total lunar eclipse. A lunar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes through the shadow of the Earth. Bring binoculars, blankets, and warm clothes. The total lunar eclipse starts to occur at 3:48 a.m. PST. Totality begins at 4:51 a.m. and ends at 6:07 a.m.

Imagination Playground in Discovery Lab

(On loan from Habitat Children's Museum)

Through Sunday, Apr 29

Imagination Playground is an interactive, transformable exhibit that prompts children to manipulate their environment and create a play space of their own with varied sized and shaped loose parts. The exhibition includes foam bricks and cylinders, chutes and channels, and are easy to stack, line up, and move around. Children enjoy an endless variety of play patterns including construction, pretend play, role-playing, and inventing their own games. Most importantly, they are deeply engaged, active and have hours of fun. Imagination Playground addresses a broader spectrum of play needs through opportunities for fantasy play and socio-cooperative play, in addition to more traditional running, jumping and climbing. This exhibit is intended for our younger Chabot visitors (ages 0 – 5).

Chabot Space & Science Center is open Wednesday – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. with \$5 First Fridays the first Friday of every month, 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$14 for children 3 – 12 (under 3 free), and \$15 for students (13 – 18 or college ID)/seniors (65+). Memberships are available. For updates and more information, visit www.chabot.space.org.

Chabot Space & Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd, Oakland
(510) 336-7300
www.chabot.space.org
Admission: \$18 adults, \$15 seniors/students, \$14 youths

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A train ride through time

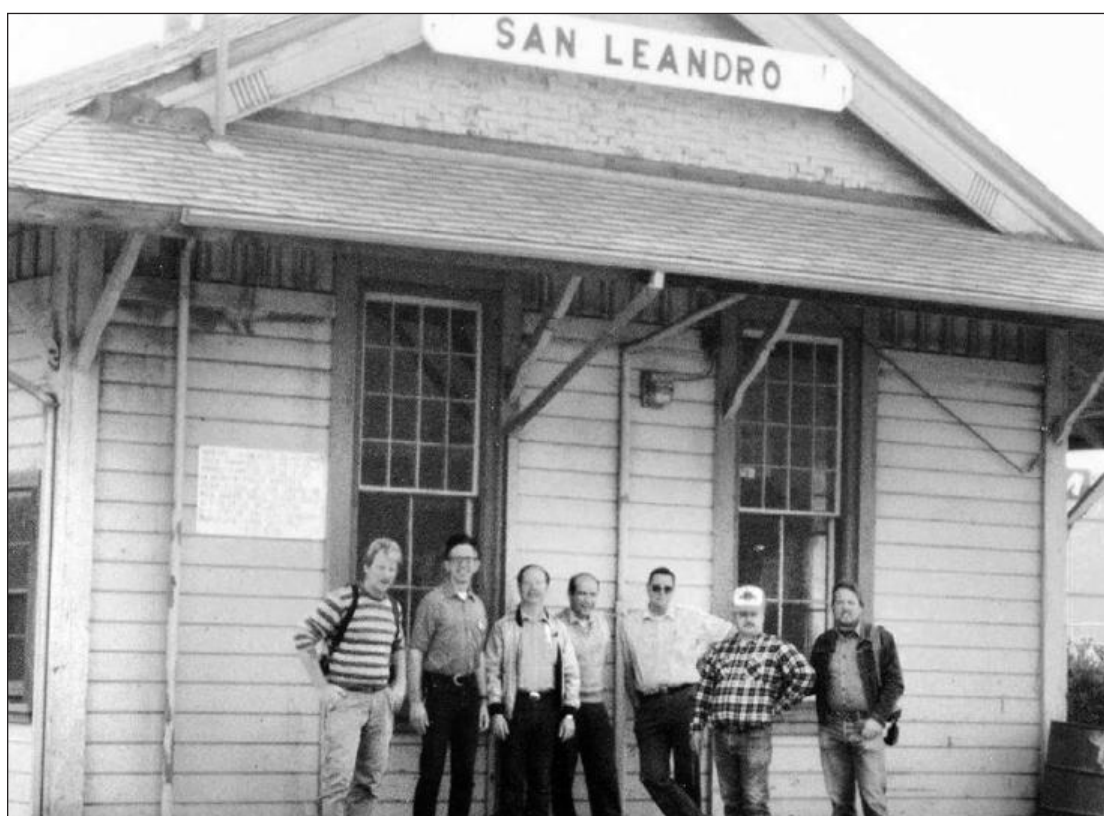
building from its original location in December 1988 to its current location in the San Leandro city park.”

Depot hours are every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., and Tuesdays from

there'd be farms and ranches all along the highway. The railroads were built for the area,” LaTorres said. Once San Leandro's depot was open for business, it became a hub of activity for the agricultural and industrial industries based in the East Bay

display is in the outdoor garden area, modeled in the G gauge & O gauge scale layout, which contains an interactive children's layout that allows people to operate the trains and become a model conductor. Decorations outside change with the seasons.

The depot could not continue to preserve this fascinating aspect of the East Bay's history without the generosity and assistance of the public. “We are a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, so we ask for any donations people might have: old railroad books, tools, collections... if dad was a



November 1987: Chris Maik, Peter Garrison, Robert Nicol, Bill Alexander, Charles Heimerdinger, John Carbino, and Pat LaTorres.

7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Throughout the year, they also open for special events. “Part of the commitment we made to the City is to be open a certain number of hours a week and to do two shows a year... Our two big shows are the Open House just before Christmas and then one at the beginning of summer.”

In addition to activities at the depot, society members participate in Operation Life Saver, an outreach program at local schools to educate students about safety around train tracks. The program was started by major U.S. railroad companies in cooperation with various state Departments of Transportation. “We go into middle schools and address all of the sixth-grade history classes,” LaTorres said. “We've been doing this for well over 10 years now, [we discuss] proper track crossing techniques. We stress how to avoid the tracks.”

The depot building itself has a storied history in the East Bay. Built in 1898 by the Southern Pacific Railroad, it was a larger, more functional replacement depot for San Leandro's original depot erected nearby in 1865. “The local farmers said, ‘We need a bigger facility to ship our product out,’” LaTorres explained, adding, “After all the lobbying, the City built the depot.” Depots were essential to getting the agricultural product out of the area and to vendors. “All up and down the East Bay,

during the turn of the 20th century. “We can stand on the front porch of the depot at its current location and see where it was,” LaTorres noted, continuing, “It was fortuitous that we managed to get everything to come together. The City gave us 12 months to get the depot restored and occupied. We had 18 months to restore the building and get a certificate of occupancy. It was a lot of long nights.”

Besides over 100 years of history, the depot currently houses a museum dedicated to the local railway history, as well as elaborate, intricately detailed indoor and outdoor model railroads. “The HO scale model inside the depot models the railroad from San Leandro to Donner Summit,” LaTorres explained. HO scale in model railroading is 1:87 in size and the most popular scale in model railroading around the world. The second complete model

model railroader, anything that's donated to us, we'll give a form for a tax write off. It's fully deductible,” LaTorres explained. The depot itself, a historic landmark, requires meticulous upkeep to preserve it for future generations.

The San Leandro Historical Railway Society is located at 1302 Orchard Avenue, and is open every Saturday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., and every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Admission is free. To learn more about the San Leandro Historical Railway Society, visit www.slhrs.org.

San Leandro Historical Railway Society
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Saturdays:
 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
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Moving day, December 11, 1988: The depot moves down Davis Street to its new location in Thrasher Park.



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ARTICLE AND PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY DIONICIA RAMOS

Three students from the Mt. Eden High School Instrumental Music Program were recently accepted into the 2018 National Honor Band of America and a fourth was accepted to the National Honor Orchestra of America.

Axel Garcia (trombone) and Diego Alfaro (trumpet) represent the top 12 young musicians in the U.S. for their chosen instrument, while Hammaad

Hassan (percussion) represents the top eight. All three were selected for the National Honor Band. Meanwhile, Edwin Ramos, a violinist, will join the National Honor Orchestra — an honor he has received for two years in a row. All four students are juniors at Mt. Eden High School in Hayward.

As part of the honor ensemble, the students will perform on a national stage at Music for All National Musical Festival set for March 15-17 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Kevin and Earl Cato are the respective band and orchestra

directors for Mt. Eden High School and are proud of their students' accomplishment. "The accepted students are a great example of the many dedicated and talented members of our wonderfully extraordinary visual and fine arts programs at Mt. Eden High School," they said in a joint statement. "Truly, they're a testament that hard work, perseverance, and persistence will assist you in achieving your goals." The brothers have seen their Mt. Eden students selected for honor ensembles for ten consecutive years.



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BUSINESS

How technology can keep your home safe from hackers

BY ANICK JESDANUN
ASSOCIATED PRESS
TECHNOLOGY WRITER

More people are getting voice-activated speakers and other smart devices for convenience and security. But doing so could also be giving hackers a key to their homes.

Many devices from reputable manufacturers have safeguards built in, but those can't guarantee against hacks. Gadgets from startups and no-name brands may offer little or no protection. Before buying one, here are some risks to assess.

Listening in

Speakers with built-in microphones are increasingly popular. Devices such as Amazon's Echo and Google Home let people check the weather or their personal calendar with simple voice commands. Beyond that, many smart TVs and TV streaming devices now have voice-activated functions, often for playback controls and video search. Many newer toys also come with a microphone, so kids can talk to them and get canned responses.

Many of these devices are constantly listening for your commands; when they receive them, they connect to corporate servers to carry them out. What if you're having private conversations at home? Are they getting sent over the internet, too?

In some cases, sound recordings will only leave home when you trigger the device. You might have to speak a command phrase like "OK Google" or press a button to get the device's attention. Check before buying to make sure a product includes such safeguards.

Some gadgets go further. Smart speakers, for instance,

typically have a mute button to disable the microphone completely. Amazon says its mute function involves disconnecting the circuit, so that hackers cannot override the intent.

But there's no easy way for consumers to verify manufacturer promises, such as Amazon's assertion that the Echo never transmits recordings to the cloud unless it's been activated. That's where it helps to stick with reputable brands, as their reputations are at stake if they're caught in a lie. Bigger companies can also quickly fix security holes that crop up.

Missteps are still possible, even with reputable brands. One of the WikiLeaks disclosures alleged that the CIA commandeered some Samsung smart TVs as listening devices even when the TV appeared to be off. And beware of internet-connected toys as manufacturers frequently rush their products to market, sometimes skimping on privacy features in the process. (You can check online to see if other parents or consumer groups have identified problems.)

One more catch: Voice commands sent over the internet are typically stored indefinitely to help manufacturers personalize their services (and, potentially, advertisements). These voice snippets may include music or conversations in the background. They can be sought in lawsuits and investigations. Reputable brands let you review and delete your voice history; be sure to do so regularly.

Watching you

Online security cameras such as the Cam IQ, from Google sibling company Nest, let you check in on your pets or kids when you're not home. They also typically store video online, so

you can see if your housekeeper cleaned the kitchen last week. Some services routinely send video to online storage; others do so only when triggered by a sound or motion.

If you want to be very careful, you might want to turn the camera to face the wall when you're home. You might also want to turn off the microphone, since it could capture background conversations. Or just unplug the camera altogether ... though you'll also have to remember to reconnect it when you leave.

Along similar lines, consider covering up the front-facing camera on your laptop with opaque tape unless you need it regularly for video chats. Laptops aren't supposed to send video unless you activate an app that needs it, but malware has been known to activate the camera remotely.

Digital trails

Smart locks let you unlock doors with an app, so you can let in guests even when you're not home. Burglars might try to hack the system, though it's often easier for them to just break a window.

Some rental properties are also turning to smart locks to control access. When you move out, the landlord can automatically disable your digital key. But these systems also let landlords track your whereabouts and those of your guests. If you create a guest key that's used daily, for instance, the landlord might suspect you have an unauthorized occupant.

Even if you own the home, these keys can leave a digital trail. In a child-custody dispute, for instance, your ex might subpoena the records to learn that you've been staying out late on school nights.

Caregiver support workshops planned

SUBMITTED BY FRISHTA SHARIFI

The city of Fremont Family Caregiver Support Program is pleased to offer an eight-session educational workshop designed to provide training, education, support, and resources for Family Caregivers of the Tri-City.

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 January 17: Caregiving 101
 January 24: Normal Aging and Ways of Improving Memory
 January 31: Caring for Loved Ones with Alzheimer's and Memory Problems
 February 7: Caring for Loved ones with Parkinson's Disease
 February 14: Stress Management for Caregivers
 February 21: Communication Strategies
 February 28: Taking Care of Yourself
 March 14: Caregiving and Forgiveness

Preregistration is preferred, but you may sign up on the first day, January 17, 2017. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate professional caregivers at these workshops.

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Revenue hit predicted for California's medicinal pot market

**By JOHN ROGERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS**

When Elias Zaldivar was an 18-year-old college freshman and decided he was in the market for marijuana, he knew just how to get it, and it didn't involve canvassing the corridors of his campus in search of that stoned-out dude who sold pot from his dorm room. Instead, he went straight to a doctor.

On a busy Hollywood street, Zaldivar quickly located a clinic specializing in medicinal pot referrals. He video-conferenced with a doctor from the waiting room and, following their 10-minute chat, a receptionist handed him an official-looking letter with an embossed gold seal that allowed him to buy medical marijuana at any California dispensary.

Zaldivar, now a 21-year-old mixed martial arts coach, has renewed his medical marijuana recommendation each year since, always using the same health claim. He still chuckles while recalling what he explained to the doctor to get him to issue him that first prescription: "I told him I had anxiety."

In the two decades since California became the first state to allow cannabis for medicinal use, it's been an open secret that pretty much anyone who wants marijuana at just about any time can find a doctor who will recommend it for almost any reason.

Technically, the doctor doesn't provide a prescription but a "letter of recommendation," because it's illegal for a physician to prescribe a substance banned by the federal government, no matter what state law says.

Once that recommendation is secured, a person can also apply for a state-issued medical marijuana card that, although not required, is more convenient to carry to a dispensary and, in the eyes of some holders, gets them taken more seriously as people who need pot to stay healthy.

Although some doctors who take the examination process seriously charge far more, the fees at most of the in-and-out-the-

door-in-10-minutes places is about \$40. Now, with recreational marijuana becoming legal in California for anyone 21 and over, some people will be tossing their state-issued cards.

Revenue from the sale of medical marijuana is expected to drop from an estimated \$2 billion in 2016 to about \$1.4 billion next year, according to a study published in 2017 by the University of California Agricultural Issues Center. At the same time, according to the study, the legal sale of recreational marijuana should bring in more than \$5 billion as recreational pot captures about 62 percent of sales, while the black market retains about 30 percent.

Already Zaldivar and others say they see the market forces at work. In the months leading up to legal recreational pot sales, they've noticed many of the heavily guarded medical dispensaries they frequent are letting them stroll in without their state-issued IDs.

"As they've gotten closer and closer to being legalized, they are not even asking for the recommendation letters anymore," said 22-year-old Adam Salcido, who works for a company that helps put on popular events like Hempfest and Cannabis Cup. He got his medical marijuana card to treat stomach problems he said he's suffered since childhood, and plans to keep it for now.

Like Salcido, many people do use marijuana to treat serious medical problems.

"Some physicians, like myself, who see mostly very ill patients — such as those with epilepsy, cancer and other serious conditions — will likely not see a drop-off as we are involved in managing the cannabis treatment, not only providing a letter for access," said Dr. Bonni Goldstein, a pediatrician who began treating both children and adults with cannabis 10 years ago after she saw its medical benefits.

One age group caught between medical and recreational marijuana are those 18 to 20. Medical is legal for anyone 18 and older, so some in that range are likely to continue

providing fictitious health conditions so they can get a state medical card and "legally" buy pot.

There also could be a financial incentive for some to seek a medical card even if they don't have a health problem because medical marijuana will be taxed at a lower rate than recreational marijuana. However, for a casual user, the cost and effort needed to get the card probably won't be worth the savings.

But as the movement away from dispensaries continues, and as some dispensaries simply morph into full-service pot stores, selling things like candy bars, cannabis-infused wine, pre-rolled joints for the on-the-go crowd, and munchies for the stoned set, some physicians say it's likely to put the squeeze on those pot doctors who have grown accustomed to just skyping their patient-physician consultations and emailing their prescriptions, or rather, recommendations.

"You really have physicians following two paths here. On one path are those physicians who continue to practice quality medicine, and on the other, are those who just see this as a way of making a lot of money," said Dr. David Bearman, who has been prescribing medicinal marijuana almost since California legalized it in 1996.

He was inspired in part to be a co-founder of the American Academy of Cannabinoid Medicine to separate doctors like himself from the guy he saw put a girl in a bikini outside his clinic with a sign announcing medical marijuana cards were available there for only \$39.99.

"This is why the legalization of cannabis for recreational use is so important," said Goldstein, who like Bearman consults with patients face-to-face for an hour or more and only after they've provided medical records proving they have a serious condition she believes cannabis can help alleviate.

"Let the medical patients be medical," she added, "and let the recreational users use it recreationally."

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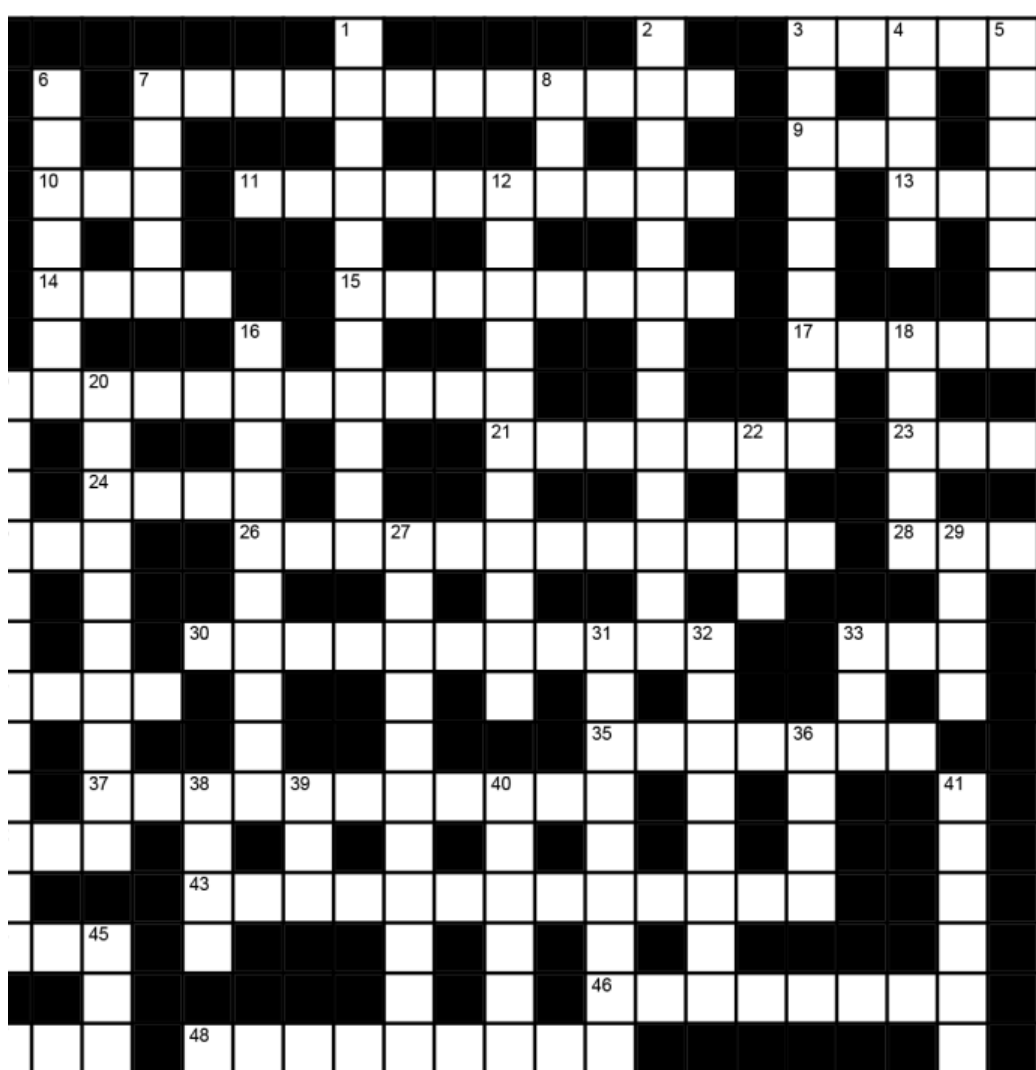
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- Across
- 3 Needed? (5)
 - 7 Kind of memory (12)
 - 9 "Dig in!" (3)
 - 10 Big ___ Conference (3)
 - 11 Appeal (10)
 - 13 Musician (slang) (3)
 - 14 Creep (4)
 - 15 Christmas card activity (8)
 - 17 Pigeon's perch (5)
 - 19 '70s high tech desk items (11)
 - 21 Clearly (7)
 - 23 Drink from a dish (3)
 - 24 Bonkers (4)
 - 25 "___ bad!" (3)
 - 26 Pocket square (12)
 - 28 Half a dozen (3)
 - 30 Clear necessity for autos (11)
 - 33 Horton heard one (3)
 - 34 "Do ___ others as..." (4)

- 35 Handiest (7)
- 37 Kind of order (11)
- 42 Blue hue (3)
- 43 Description of California weather (13)
- 44 Assent (3)
- 46 Ramses is an ancient one (8)
- 47 Check for accuracy (3)
- 48 Three-way affairs (9)

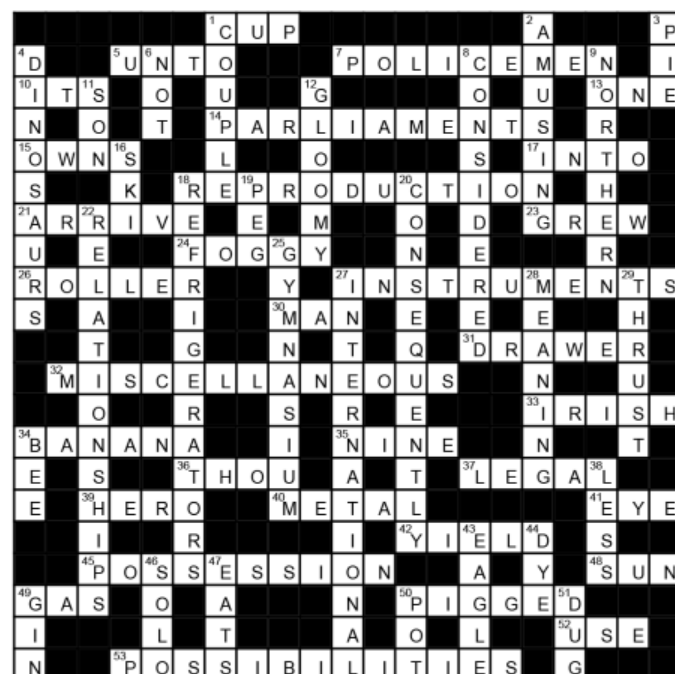
- Down
- 1 Essay (11)
 - 2 Identified (13)
 - 3 With custom features (9)
 - 4 Patek Philippe product (5)
 - 5 When the sun shines (7)
 - 6 Pine wine (7)
 - 7 Pre-exam feeling, maybe (5)
 - 8 The "p" in m.p.g. (3)
 - 12 Creating a mood (11)

- 16 Blackout need (10)
- 18 Guys' partners (5)
- 19 Without interruption (12)
- 20 Kind of rat (10)
- 22 "Hogwash!" (4)
- 27 Narrative of characteristics (11)
- 29 "Pumping ___" (4)
- 31 Tongues (9)
- 32 Hardly (8)
- 33 Is past (3)
- 36 Neck and neck (4)
- 38 "___ here" (4)
- 39 Free from, with "of" (3)
- 40 David, "the sweet psalmist of ___" (6)
- 41 Said of satire (6)
- 45 "A jealous mistress": Emerson (3)

Sudoku:

Fill in the missing numbers (1 – 9 inclusive) so each row, column and 3x3 box contains all digits.

		1			9			7
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Tri-City Stargazer FOR WEEK: JANUARY 3 - JANUARY 9 2018

The Year 2018 Part II: Sun Sign Forecasts

[The following has been edited for space. For the full projections, visit <http://www.horoscopesbyvivian.com>]

Aries the Ram (March 21-April 20): Mars is your planetary avatar. You begin the year in the sign of Scorpio which lends much power and authority to your actions. You will probably be involved in a project requiring the use of your large muscles or supporting one or more people who can't fight for themselves. Between Jan. and Oct. you will enjoy gifts and benefits from those who appreciate your spirit. Saturn in your 10th solar house brings a change in your work or profession. You may decide to begin a new direction in your life or will be taking on significantly more responsibility in the current work.

Taurus the Bull (April 21-May 20): This year the planet Uranus enters your sign and will be with you for a seven-year stint. Are you restless? Wishing for a break from the routine of your life? You may or may not recognize it, but Uranus will help you break free of fears that have chained you to the old grind. Saturn moves into your 9th sector, suggesting that you will begin in some type of educational program. Another option that Saturn has is to steer you into travel for career purposes.

Gemini the Twins (May 21-June 20): Disclosure of old family secrets that alter your perception of self may occur during the next seven-and-a-half years. You develop much greater awareness of the unconscious and your interest in alternate forms of healing intensifies. Episodes of intuition or psychic awareness are likely to increase. Saturn in Capricorn requires you to focus on the consequences, responsibilities and liabilities of sharing resources with others. There may be work related to managing your own finances or those of someone else. You likely will feel the need to clarify and legalize matters concerning your estate. You have

two plus years to accomplish this, so don't panic about time.

Cancer the Crab (June 21-July 21): The next two years will draw attention to your partnership(s). This is a time to rethink your significant other and re-decide to remain together. For some, you will feel drawn to enter a stronger, contractual relationship beyond that which you now have. There may be signs of dissolving commitments for those already married. What you need is a new or improved purpose together that may reignite the original spark. The eclipse seasons are focused in Feb. and August. For Cancerians, these eclipses point toward your financial houses.

Leo the Lion (July 22-August 22): January is a time in which you regroup after the holidays and put your routines back in order. This is an annual ritual for you. On Jan. 31, there is a full moon eclipse in your sign which will bring attention to your relationships. It will be a supermoon, called so to recognize its close proximity to the earth. This emphasizes its meaning. You could fall into a battle of wills there, but the ideal solution is to work toward a meeting of minds through looking openly at the facts and arriving jointly at a peaceful negotiation.

Virgo the Virgin (August 23-September 22): Over the next seven years you will be experiencing a rapidly expanding world view. This may come about through travel, higher education or attraction to people who hail from an altogether different environment. You may feel the need to explore alternative religions or philosophies. This is the time for intentional application of your creative energy and to take steps toward manifesting your dreams of fulfillment. Something deep inside you, no more than two

years in your consciousness, wants to be expressed. It requires devotion on your part.

Libra the Scales (September 23-October 22): Your income is sustained most of this year via investments, increase in partner's income, insurance or money that comes from resources such as social security, annuities, and sale of property. Meanwhile Saturn will ground you by bringing your attention to mundane property matters and the need to focus on your health and well-being. It is important to strengthen your core muscles. Aging family members may require your attention. Jupiter entered your second sector of resources and self-worth in Oct. 2017. It will remain there through Oct. 2018, shining a spotlight on taxes, inheritance, investments, insurance payoffs, and partner's income.

Scorpio the Scorpion (October 23-November 21): As you begin 2018, you have Mars and Jupiter in your sign. This signifies a time of new beginnings, elevated hope, and renewed interest in your spiritual life which began in Nov. 2017. Saturn's entry to your solar third house puts emphasis on writing, communications, siblings, roommates, vehicles, and short distance travels. You will be giving these matters more serious attention through this year and 2019. You may already be aware of changes occurring in your primary relationship(s). Scorpio is often anxious about alterations and will hold onto the known for too long. In May this becomes too big to ignore and it represents a fresh wave of the future.

Sagittarius the Archer (November 22-December 21): Take especially good care of your health in all areas. There is likely to be a need for you to step up your daily health care

routines. This may have recently come to your attention. At the same time there could be a shift in your job tasks or location. By November you may feel better than you have in a long time after adopting better health patterns. Mars, the warrior god, enters your sign toward the end of Jan. and will be with you for five weeks. This will enhance your body energetically and assist you to take on big physical initiatives. Your income may be less plentiful this year.

Capricorn the Goat (December 22-January 19): This year and the next will mark a period of major change in your life. In time you will see it as a significant turning point for the better, although in the short perspective it may appear to be merely challenging. You are just beginning a redesign of your identity and that cannot happen overnight, so don't be impatient with yourself. Follow the open pathways. Some doors may shut, but it is all in the purpose of your cosmic direction. Just put one foot in front of the other and take the next best step. Think of yourself as The Goat, climbing a mountain.

Aquarius the Water Bearer (January 20-February 18): You are beginning a two-year hiatus. It could be compared to a sabbatical from human political life. If you are employed,

you are likely to be moved to a position of less influence. The interesting twist here is that you honestly are relieved, even though your ego may be bruised. You'll feel better if you recognize that changes which move you to the background are inevitable now. They are mainly due to circumstances around you. Don't try to regain the control of the old days. You will waste energy and be frustrated. Let go with grace and move forward with work in the background. Mars begins a retrograde sequence in your sign from late May through Sep. During that period it is best for you to make no assertive or aggressive moves

Pisces the Fish (February 19-March 20): Your income will be altered this year by the summer toward greater stability. Your mind opens to a new level of understanding. You may experience increased intuition and "psychic downloads" of information that you could not otherwise know. Your interest in your spiritual life became more prominent in the fall of 2017 and continues into the fall of 2018. Travel, whether that be in person or on the internet, is emphasized throughout this year. In May there will be changes and increased emphasis in the areas of siblings, neighbors, roommates, and possibly your vehicle.

Are you interested in a personal horoscope?
 Vivian Carol may be reached at (704) 366-3777 for private psychotherapy or astrology appointments (fee required).



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Shape Our Fremont

Developers ask for General Plan Amendments

Three General Plan Amendment (GPA) Screening Requests are tentatively scheduled to go to the Fremont Planning Commission in January and the City Council in February. Each involves a proposed change to the land use designation of one or more properties in order to use the land for a different purpose than originally intended.

Amending the General Plan for a specific development proposal is a major change, and the request has to undergo a

other existing commercial operations, including Glacier Ice Company, which is across the street.

Although all of the proposed project will be market-rate housing, the developer claims it "will be Fremont's most affordable market-rate housing project." Over 80 percent of the apartments will be studio and junior one-bedroom units with 480 to 700 square foot floor areas that will rent for an initial estimate of \$2,050 to \$2,400 per month. According to the developer, these units "will serve primarily singles and couples making \$84,000 to \$98,300."

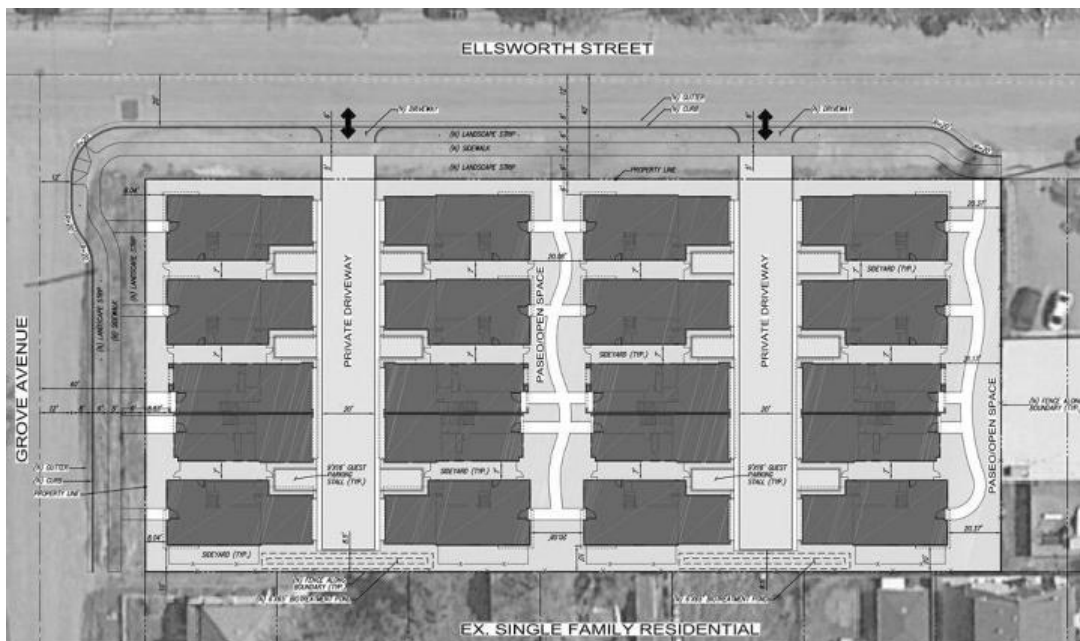
The reason the proposal requires a GPA is the General Plan clearly states that residential uses such as this project are not

part of a mixed-use development with some commercial space, which the developer says is not viable for the property.

Osgood

The final GPA request is from the Betchart Family Trust to remove four properties they still own from the Irvington BART Station Special Study Area on Osgood Road and designate the land as Medium Density Residential in order to develop the area with 99 condominium/flats, which the owners are contemplating building.

The major issue is that the properties are where Fremont plans to build the Irvington BART station. Representatives of the family trust point out that Fremont has stated it does not



LINCOLN RESIDENTIAL GPA: PRELIMINARY PROJECT LAYOUT

screening to determine if the City even wants to consider it before the developer is allowed to submit a formal application for the project. This screening is not an approval or disapproval of either the General Plan Amendment or the project itself—it's just an indication the City is willing to consider making the change. Comments from Fremont residents are part of the screening process and are welcome and encouraged.

Here are the three latest GPA Requests: Ice House Terrace

By far, the biggest proposal is Robson Homes' request to change the land use designation of two lots at the corner of Ice House Terrace and Fremont Boulevard from Regional Commercial to Urban Residential in order to build 141 market-rate apartments in several three-story buildings. The land is near Home Depot on Auto Mall Parkway and is surrounded by

allowed in areas designated for Regional Commercial.

Lincoln Residential

Robson Homes is also requesting a GPA to change the land use designation of two vacant properties on Ellsworth Street in Mission San Jose from Town Center Commercial to Medium Density Residential in order to build 20 market-rate townhouses. The project site is located across from the post office and is surrounded by a mix of one-story commercial buildings and one-and two-story residences.

The townhouses in the interior of the project will be a full three stories with those around the edges being two-and-half stories. Eight will be attached duplexes, and the rest will be detached standalone units.

A GPA is required because the current Town Center Commercial designation would allow residential units only as

intend to use city funds to buy the properties and cannot guarantee if the station will actually be built.

What do you think?

Residents should ask whether it is in the best interests of Fremont to consider such changes to the General Plan. Do we need to make a change at all, or is the current land use designation just fine? Would the proposed use fit with the surrounding area? Is it the kind of use you want to have there, or would it be out of place and cause problems?

Residents may express their comments and concerns about any of these proposed General Plan Amendments to City Staff Planner Wayland Li at wli@fremont.gov

To learn more about all proposed housing developments and related issues in Fremont, go to www.ShapeOurFremont.com

Jobless rates fell in 24 US states

BY JOSH BOAK
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

Unemployment rates dropped to record lows in Alabama, California, Hawaii, Mississippi and Texas in November.

The Labor Department's report on state unemployment released Friday showed rates fell in 19 other states, a positive sign for U.S. economic growth. Over the past 12 months, 27 states

have added payroll jobs. Job totals have essentially been unchanged in 23 other states.

During the past year, the largest absolute gains were in Texas, where the number of jobs climbed 330,600. California was second in job additions with 288,300. These states also led in month job gains. Alaska and North Dakota shed jobs between October and November.

Hawaii reported the lowest seasonally adjusted

unemployment rate at 2 percent. The unemployment rate was below 2.7 percent in Nebraska, New Hampshire and North Dakota. In total, 17 states have unemployment rates below this national average of 4.1 percent.

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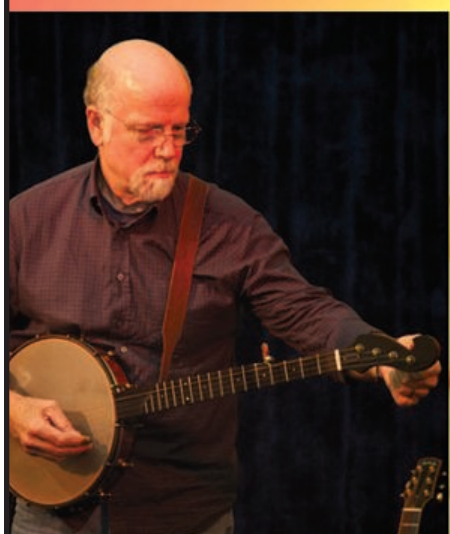
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Scratchboard Artist to show techniques

SUBMITTED BY GAIL NOETH

Shone Chacko, a graphite, charcoal and scratchboard artist, will demonstrate his art techniques at the next meeting of the Golden Hills Art Association in Milpitas.

Chacko is mostly self-taught and learned his art from a variety of sources including online instruction, combined with extensive practice and trial-and error. To keep his focus on art, in 2016 he completed a challenge to do a painting every day for a year.

The meeting is open to the public and is starts at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4 in the Community Room at the Milpitas Police Department, 1255 N. Milpitas Blvd. Guests can meet Chacko and see him demonstrate his art technique at 7:45 p.m. Admission is free.

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7 p.m.

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Home & Garden

Pallet projects deliver creative crafts



ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY DANIEL O'DONNELL

There is a trend for restaurants, coffee houses, and retail clothing stores to use repurposed materials for their decor. Reclaimed barn wood planks are used for decorative walls, burlap coffee bags are sewn into curtains and furniture upholstery, and salvaged ceramic tiles are laid to create one-of-a-kind decorative floor patterns. Competition makes it hard for a homeowner to get reclaimed materials for do-it-yourself projects without having to purchase them. But there are exceptions. One of them is the wide availability of wooden pallets.

There are thousands of wooden pallets used in the transportation of materials and merchandise every day. Many are never reused. They are hauled away and chipped into mulch or used as fire wood. Some companies are beginning to use corrugated paper pallets that are recycled similarly to cardboard, or

have switched to reusable standard-sized, heavy-duty plastic pallets. Even so, there are still plenty of opportunities to find wooden pallets that can be used for a wide range of creative projects.

Wooden pallets are not all created equally. They are made from different types of wood, have different densities, textures, colors, grain patterns, and differ in the number of natural imperfections such as knots. There are also a wide range of sizes and weights to choose from. The range of different pallets gives every project its own personality.

Finding a free pallet is not difficult. Most shops will allow someone to take one or two. Finding one with specific characteristics is a bit harder and can take time. Hobbyists on Craigslist often have specific types of pallets listed. Small businesses are more likely to allow someone to take a pallet because they probably do not have a contract with a hauler. Businesses that have dry goods

shipped to them are more likely to have clean, undamaged pallets.

Avoid pallets from pesticide or chemical processing companies and ones labeled "hazardous" or stamped with MB. Methyl bromide is a pesticide that is

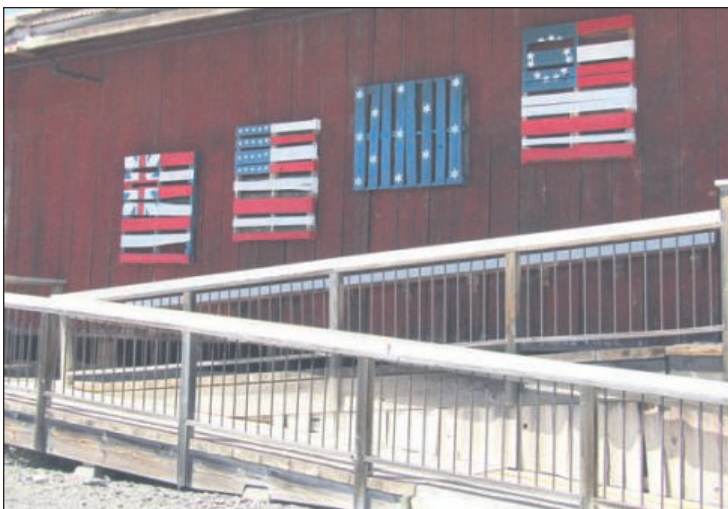
appearance has the potential of an unseen nail sticking up or frayed wood that can cause splinters. Eye protection is necessary whenever cutting or sawing is involved as small wooden splinters, pieces of nails, or staples fragments can be launched into the air. A dust mask should be used whenever sanding. Any other tools needed will depend on the scope of the project.

Dismantling a pallet and salvaging the boards to work on woodworking crafts is a great way to up-cycle something that would have otherwise been discarded. The sky is the limit on potential projects. There are hundreds of different types of pallet projects that can be created for inside the home or around the garden by using the intact pallet as the foundation for the art composition or furniture piece.

Interior pallet projects are usually more time intensive and take more skills to accomplish because there is a higher standard for indoor furniture and decor. There is a pallet design for every

for the garden. Some are uncomplicated and quick to make. A pallet compost bin does not require sanding, many cuts, or painting but is comparable in function to any that can be purchased. Other projects can range from simple construction to detailed assembly and elaborate artistry. A wooden pallet tool rack and potting table project can have a basic appearance or a colorfully dramatic presence. Pallet patio furniture does not need to be complicated if covered by large cushions and bright pillows. The same furniture when sanded, etched with artwork, and painted or stained will not need anything to hide its appearance.

There are plenty of websites dedicated to creating wooden pallet projects. One of the most comprehensive is 1001 Pallets (www.1001pallets.com). The site offers photographs, ideas, design plans, local sources to acquire pallets, links to purchase tools, woodworking tutorials, submissions of completed projects, and



hazardous to humans and may have been sprayed on pallets originating in Asia. Pallets from restaurants and grocery stores with food or oil stains should not be used. Food stains have the potential for unpleasant smells or can support mold growth.

The tools needed for a pallet project will vary. Gloves are the only consistent tool needed for every job, including collection. Every pallet regardless of its

type of furniture that exists. Pallets can be made into bed frames, bookshelves, sofas, and coffee tables. They can also be made into a wide range of decor items as well, including wine racks, wall facades, and cup holders to name a few. If the proper tools are used and patience is exercised, then it is likely that the design chosen will deliver an exceptional creation.

There are plenty of worthwhile decorative and functional wooden pallet projects

general information about pallets and the history of the industry.

Creating a piece of furniture or a work of art by repurposing a wooden pallet not only leaves someone with a magnificent object, but carries the weight of having accomplished something to be proud of.

Daniel O'Donnell is the co-owner and operator of an organic landscape design/build company in Fremont. www.Chrysalis-Gardens.com

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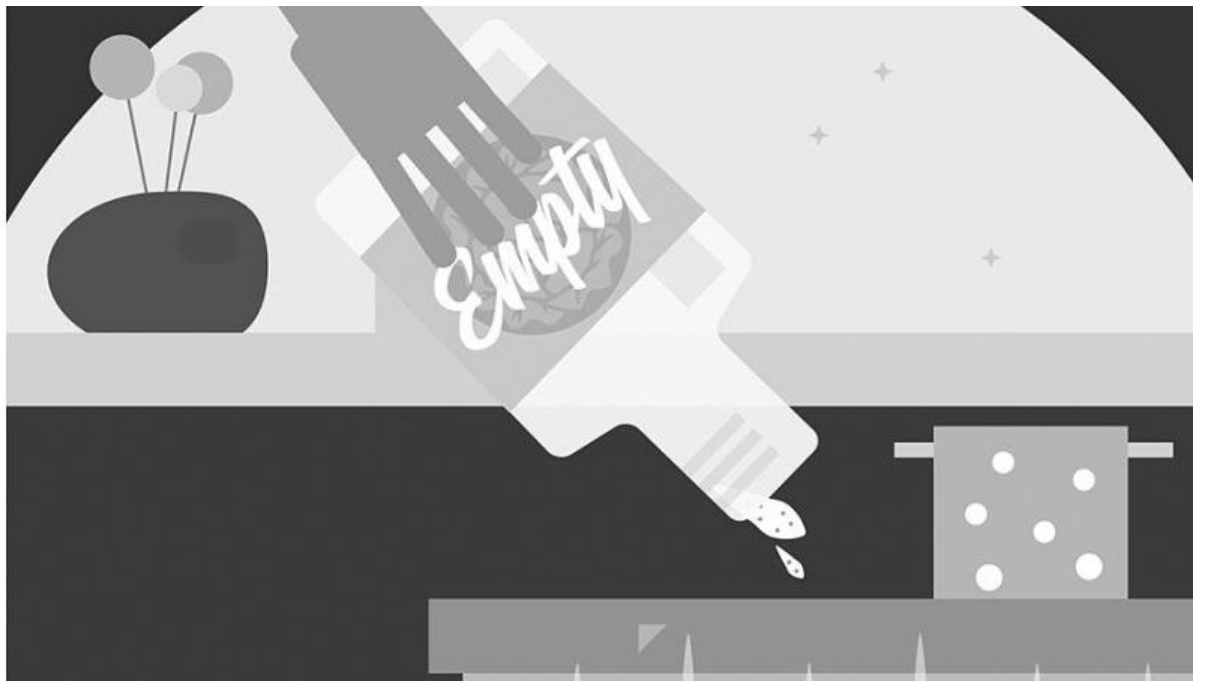
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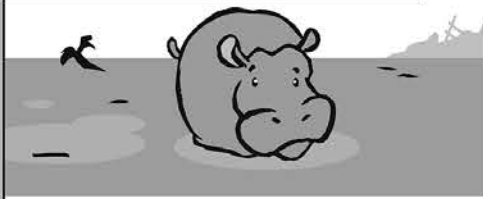
Owen and Mzee: A Most Unusual Friendship (A True Story!)

Hi there! My name is Mzee. I'm about 130 years old (I don't bother to keep track of my birthdays anymore). Here's the story of how I met my best friend named Owen.



World News Tribune Herald
TSUNAMI'S MASSIVE DESTRUCTION
Back in 2004, there was a terrible tsunami that caused unbelievable damage and loss of life in Southeast Asia and Africa. Your parents probably read about it.

In Kenya, a baby hippo was left stranded on a coral reef. He was too tired and frightened to get back to shore by himself. Hundreds of villagers and visitors worked together to rescue the young hippo.



A man named Owen Sobien was able to tackle the slippery hippo long enough for others to drape a net over him. The hippo was named Owen in his honor.



Owen was moved to Haller Park, Kenya, where I live.
Now, I've always preferred to be by myself. But Owen just kept following me around.
If I walked away, he'd follow me. At first, I felt a little embarrassed and annoyed when he would crouch beside me like a baby hippo does with its mom.
But Owen was a nice enough kid. And without a mother, he needed someone to show him how to find food, so I did.



People wonder why we became such close friends. Some think it's maybe because my round shell looked a little like another hippo to Owen. What do YOU think?



Standards Link: Life Science: Animal patterns of behavior are related to the nature of their environment.

Hippo or Tortoise?

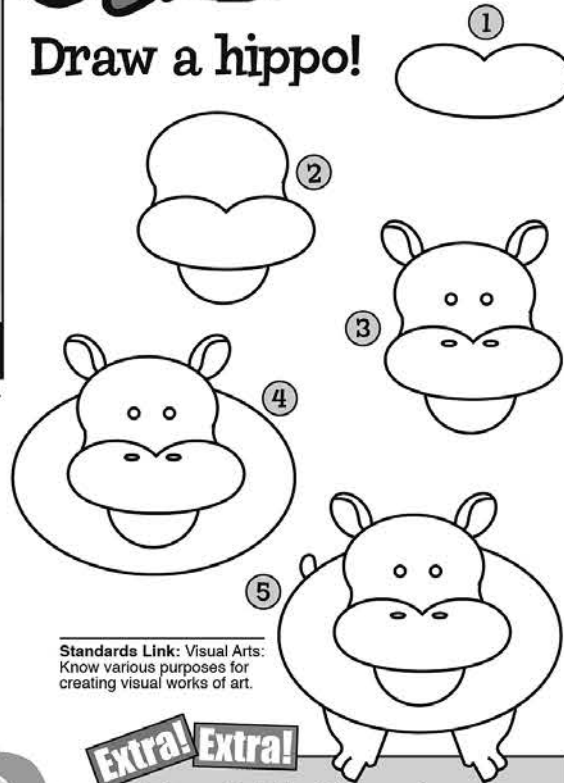
Do the math to find out which facts describe a hippo and which describe a tortoise. If the answer is less than 10, it describes a hippo. If the answer is more than 15, it describes a tortoise. If the answer is between 10 and 15, it is true for both hippos and tortoises.

- Lives to be 200 years old. $9 + 7 =$
- Lived with the dinosaurs. $19 - 4 =$
- Is an herbivore. $6 + 5 =$
- Likes to swim. $7 + 5 =$
- Its closest living relative is a whale. $3 + 6 =$
- Can run faster than a human. $4 + 3 =$



Standards Link: Number Sense: Add and subtract whole numbers.

Draw a hippo!



Standards Link: Visual Arts: Know various purposes for creating visual works of art.

Extra! Extra!

Friendship Search

- Look through the newspaper and find:
- a friendly face
 - a person acting like a friend
 - a nice thing to do for a friend
 - a word that describes you as a friend

Standards Link: Health: Know behaviors that communicate care, consideration and respect of self and others.

Kid Scoop Together: Family Time

Oops! Some words have fallen out of the story below. Use the words in the word bank to complete the story.

More about Mzee

Mzee is an Aldabra (al-DAH-brah) tortoise. The Aldabra tortoise is _____ found on the Aldabra Islands in the Indian Ocean. Today these _____ are home to about 150,000 of the tortoises.

The Aldabra tortoise is the largest _____ of tortoise in the world. A male can grow to be four feet in _____ and can weigh up to 550 pounds (250kg). One giant male at the Fort Worth Zoological Park weighs over 790 pounds (360kg)!

For the most part, the Aldabra tortoise is an _____. The tortoises will eat grasses, leaves and woody plant stems. Sometimes they will eat small bugs and even dead animals. In _____, they enjoy apples and bananas.

It is thought that _____ took Mzee from his island home to eat him. He may have reached Africa by escaping the ship or surviving a shipwreck.

WORD BANK
SAILORS SPECIES
LENGTH CAPTIVITY
ISLANDS USUALLY
HERBIVORE

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words.

What a Character!

Friendship is ...

... spending time together.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Unscramble the letters to find out what the word *hippopotamus* means in Latin.

ETWAR SHORE

Unscramble the letters to find out what Mzee means in Swahili.

SWIE DLO NMA

Standards Link: Reading: Read and follow directions appropriate to grades 1-5.

Kid Scoop Word Search

- FRIENDSHIP
- TSUNAMI
- HALLER
- MZEE
- TORTOISE
- CORAL
- SHORE
- OWEN
- SOBIEN
- CROUCH
- RESCUE
- TRAIT
- DRAPE
- BABY
- REEF

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

C F E S I O T R O T
R O O D R A P E T H
E W R R E E V S I C
S E E A L E U H A U
C N R C L N F O R O
U R Y B A B I R T R
E E Z M H F E E R C
F R I E N D S H I P
E N E N E I B O S D

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Rhyme Time

Look through the newspaper for pairs of words that rhyme. Use these words to write a little poem and give your poem to a friend.

Standards Link: Word Analysis: Identify words that rhyme; Writing Applications: Write various forms of genres including poetry; Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



What is as big as a hippo but weighs nothing?

ANSWER: A hippo's shadow.

Write On!

Best Friends

Who's your best friend? What makes a friend a best friend? Give examples of reasons this person is your very best friend.

Continued from page 1

It's all happening at the zoo

naturalist Henry A. Snow. After several site changes, the zoo landed where it is today, on approximately 50 acres of gently rolling terrain. And in 2018, the zoo will double in size to over 100 acres with the opening of a new expansion called the California Trail.

This new area is designed like a wild animal park, with walking paths meandering by expansive animal habitats housing species indigenous to California: grizzly bears, black bears, gray wolves, mountain lions, jaguars, bald eagles, American bison, and California condors.

While visitors need to wait until June to see these amazing creatures, they can hop on the newly opened gondola ride right now, which will whisk them up the steep terrain behind the zoo to the new site. At the top is a restaurant called the Landing Café, also currently open, where guests can dine on healthy meals while experiencing an amazing view of the Bay and beyond.

This is just one of the innovative new programs instituted by Joel J. Parrott, a veterinarian who became the executive director of the zoo in 1985. He is also president of the East Bay Zoological Society (EBZS), founded in 1936 by Henry A. Snow's son, Sidney, and has been managing the zoo as a non-profit since 1982.

In the 1980s, the Oakland Zoo was declared one of the 10 worst zoos in the nation by the Humane Society of the United States. Now it is considered one of the 10 best, with programs that have revolutionized the way zoos are run. Prime among these is their approach to elephant care, pioneering a gentler alternative to traditional methods. In 2014, Oakland became the second big city in the country (after Los Angeles) to ban the use of bullhooks (sharp metal weapons

that resemble fireplace pokers, commonly used in circuses to manage elephants).

According to Felicia Walker, Program Director of Education Training and Animal Ambassador Collection, "Using a bullhook on an elephant is a dominating type of management, so they're afraid of the human. At the Oakland Zoo, we're very adamant about animal welfare. We've instituted protective contact, where animals and humans have a space barrier or a physical barrier, so the animals have a choice if they want to participate in the training or not."

The Oakland Zoo also funds anti-poaching programs in Africa and has fought for legislation to ban ivory sales. Their expansive six-acre elephant enclosure is one of the largest in the nation. This focus on animal rights sees them accepting many rescue animals, including their four female tigers, sisters, who had been privately owned. Says Walker, "There are more tigers in the U.S. as pets than there are in the wild."

In 2012, the Oakland Zoo celebrated the grand opening of its 17,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art veterinary hospital, the largest wild animal veterinary facility in Northern California. The Oakland Zoo Biodiversity Center opened in 2013, and the Condor Recovery Center opened in 2014, all furthering the zoo's mission of conservation.

Another project initiated by Parrott is the Wayne and Gladys Valley Children's Zoo, a three-acre area that opened in 2005, which has been a huge hit with youngsters and parents alike. It is here where little ones can experience some of our planet's smaller critters, including insects in the Bug Room, and slimmer beasts in the Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Room.

Educating the public is at the heart of the zoo's mission. To help enable this, a newly renovated Education Center opened in 1999.



This is where Walker and her team of docents, team volunteers, and staff organize outreach activities. They provide classes, workshops, summer camps, birthday parties, tours, and more, for families and schools.

One of the more popular programs is the ZooMobile, which brings the zoo to you, whether you're at home, in a classroom, a library, a senior center, or at a festival or science fair. The Education Center has a special room for their ZooMobile critters, whose only public appearance is outside the zoo.

Tri-City Voice will be sponsoring ZooMobile visits to local libraries from January to March 2018 with the theme: Amazing Adaptations of Animals and Habitats. Come see some amazing animals, including snakes and parrots, and listen to education specialists talk about our furry, and not so furry, friends.

The ZooMobile's first stop will be at the Castro Valley and San Lorenzo libraries on Thursday, January 11, followed by Newark Library on Saturday, January 20. Visits will also be made in February and March at Fremont (Feb 3, March 18), Hayward (March 14, 16), Milpitas (February 18), San Leandro (March 30), and Union City (February 10). Contact libraries directly for more information and reservation requirements; visit www.aclibrary.org, www.hayward-ca.gov/public-library, www.sclcl.org/Locations/Milpitas, and www.sanleandro.org/depts/library/ for branches and phone numbers.

To learn more about the Oakland Zoo, visit www.oaklandzoo.org.

Tri-City Voice/ Oakland ZooMobile Visits:

Thursday, Jan 11
11 a.m.

Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave,
Castro Valley
(510) 667-7900
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/castro_valley

Thursday, Jan 11
4 p.m.

San Lorenzo Library
395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo
(510) 284-0640
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/san_lorenzo

Saturday, Jan 20
1 p.m.

Newark Library
6300 Civic Terrace Ave, Newark
(510) 284-0675
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/newark

Saturday, Feb 3
2 p.m.

Fremont Centerville Branch
3801 Nicolet Ave,
Fremont, CA 94536
510-795-2629
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/centerville

Saturday, Feb 10
1 p.m.

Union City Library
34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd,
Union City, CA 94587
(510) 745-1464
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/unioncity

Thursday, Feb 15
3 p.m. & 4 p.m.
Milpitas Library
160 North Main Street

Milpitas, CA 95035
(408) 262-1171
www.sclcl.org/Locations/Milpitas

Saturday, Mar 3
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd
Fremont, CA 94538
510-745-1400
TTY 888-663-0660

www.aclibrary.org/fremont

Wednesday, Mar 14
1:30 p.m.
Hayward Weekes Branch
27300 Patrick Ave
Hayward, CA 94544
(510) 782-2155

<https://www.hayward-ca.gov/public-library>

Friday, Mar 16
3:30 p.m.
Hayward Weekes Branch
27300 Patrick Ave
Hayward, CA 94544
(510) 782-2155

<https://www.hayward-ca.gov/public-library>

Friday, March 30
1 p.m.
San Leandro
300 Estudillo Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94577
(510) 577-3971

<https://www.sanleandro.org/depts/library>

St. Rose Hospital gives back to the community



SUBMITTED BY
GLORIA LARA

Every year during the holiday season, St. Rose Hospital is proud to partner with the Angel Tree Program and The Salvation Army on various community service projects.

The Angel Tree Program gathers wish lists from local children and teenagers, and this year, St. Rose Hospital doctors and staff donated to more than 100 families in the community to ensure parents would be able to provide new clothes and toys for their children at Christmas.

Also in the spirit of giving, St. Rose Hospital Nurse Leadership partnered with the Hayward Rotary Club along with the Hayward Fire Department to collect new and clean socks for

Ruby's Place and Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS), both local non-profit shelters in the Hayward area.

Every day, the hospital's emergency department serves patients wearing the same pair of socks they had on when leaving the hospital. The lack of clean socks contributes to the growing number of foot and leg wounds medical personnel see every day. Nurse Leadership works collaboratively to help improve patient outcomes and continue to strive to provide quality health care to the community with respect, compassion and professionalism.

We are glad to be able to spread holiday cheer to make the season brighter for all in our community. Thank you to everyone that participated!

Milpitas Fire Chief Retires

BY RHODA J. SHAPIRO

Fire Chief Robert Mihovich, who has served Milpitas' Fire Department for 37 years, officially retired on December 30. At the City Council meeting on December 19, the City of Milpitas honored Mihovich, known affectionately as Chief Mo, with a Proclamation; in it, he was recognized for devoting his time and energy to a variety of projects, including the creation of Santa Clara County's Overhead Incident Management Team and the Hazardous Material Response program.

Among his accomplishments, Mihovich is most proud of the Supplemental Transport Ambulance Resources program (known as STAR car) that he worked to establish. He says this program will help to deliver better Emergency Medical Services to Milpitas residents, and quicken the time it takes to arrive at someone's home.

One of the things that Mihovich loved most about his job?

"To be able to create what I only had a vision of before. As a Battalion Chief, I wanted to do this and do that," said Mihovich. "And once I became Chief, I realized I could do more. I just needed to secure funding and get things moving. The STAR Car was something in my mind for a long time but in my prior position, I couldn't do it. We're probably six months out before that comes to completion."



Mihovich started out as a Firefighter Mechanic back in 1980. After serving as Battalion Chief, Fire Captain, and Duty Chief, Mihovich, a San Francisco native, was promoted to Fire Chief in 2014.

When asked what he'll miss most about his work, he immediately mentioned the ones who have served next to him for all these years. "I will miss the people most," said Mihovich. "The crews, the camaraderie... having a cup of coffee with friends in the morning."

Mihovich plans to spend his retirement traveling, golfing, working on his house, and hanging out with friends. But he doesn't plan on slowing down anytime soon.

"I'll be a busy guy. I'm that type of person anyway," said Mihovich. "I was super busy here [at the department], and when I go home, it'll be no different. It'll just be a different set of things I'll be working on."



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Broadway West Theatre Company Presents
Chipping Cleghorn Gazette
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED
Adapted by Leslie Darbon • Directed by Mary Galde and Jim Woodbury

Mauris id tellus pharetra, commodo massa vel, euismod lectus. Phasellus vestibulum nulla a dolor auctor, vitae publinar lacus hendrerit. Pellemesque varius pretium pretium. Sed lobortis cursus lectus, et convallis magna dignissim vel. Donec varius suscipit consectetur. Nunc fermentum dictum posuere. Vestibulum ut efficitur arcu, quis commodo massa. Cras porta ac massa eget pellentesque. Quisque arcu

A murder is announced and will take place on Friday, October the thirteenth at Little Paddocks - at six-thirty P.M. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

ac lorem pretium, eu pellentesque urna porta. Proin vel elit molestie, aliquam risus sit amet, sodales orci. Curabitur euismod mi at mauris porta, in ultricies orci congue. Integer ac nisl vitae nibh mattis suscipit.

Suspendisse elementum risus vitae nisi condimentum dictum. Suspendisse et mi pellentesque, egestas risus eu, bibendum tortor. Nam vitae turpis eu nibh luctus aliquam ut quis ante. Curabitur bibendum congue justo. Aliquam convallis, eros

January 12 - February 10

January 12 - February 10
8 pm Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays
12:15 pm Sundays, Jan 21

(Continental Brunch followed by show at 1 pm)

3 pm Sunday, Jan 28, Feb 4

- \$27 General Admission*
 - \$22 Srs/Students/TBA
 - \$20 Thursdays, Jan 18, Feb 1, 8
 - \$15 Bargain Saturday, Jan 13
 - \$10 Bargain Thursday, Jan 25
- (no reservations - first come, first seat)

Reservations: 510-683-9218

Tickets are available on our website www.broadwaywest.org

Broadway West Theatre Company
PO Box 14007, Fremont, CA 94539
Theatre location - 4000-B Bay Street, Fremont



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Jax is a very handsome and laid back 3 year old boy. He landed at the shelter when his family moved and couldn't take him.



Jax is a quiet and calm love bug. He lounges on his bed waiting and hoping for you to come and pet him. This sweetheart has easy to care for short orange and white fur. He's neutered and ready to go home with you. More info: Hayward Animal Shelter. (510) 293-7200.

Baxter arrived at the shelter as a scared, emaciated pup. Given time to rest, heal, and gain some weight, he's fast becoming a sweet and curious dog. While still a bit timid in new surroundings, just reassure him and he's OK. Fine with other gentle, calm dogs. Good with kids 13 yrs+ and adults who will help him blossom even more. info: Hayward Animal Shelter. (510) 293-7200.



ENRICH YOUR LIFE - BECOME A VOLUNTEER!
Hayward Animal Shelter
 www.facebook.com/haywardanimalshelter
 510-293-7200
 16 Barnes Court (Near Soto & Jackson)
 Hayward
 Tuesday - Saturday 1pm - 5pm

\$ = Entrance or Activity Fee
 R= Reservations Required
 Schedules are subject to change.
 Call to confirm activities shown in these listings.



CONTINUING EVENTS

Saturday, Sep 16 - Sunday, Jan 7

B is for Bird
 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Captivating photography of birds
 Opening reception Sunday, Sept 17 at 2 p.m.
 Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
 4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward (510) 670-7270
 www.haywardrec.org

Tuesday, Nov 28 - Friday, Feb 9

Favorites from the Sew 'n Sews
 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Colorful quilt show
 John O'Lague Galleria
 777 B Street, Hayward (510) 538-2787
 www.haywardartscouncil.org

Thursday, Nov 30 - Friday, Jan 5

Nordic 5 Arts
 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Scandinavian visual arts
 PhotoCentral
 1099 E St., Hayward (510) 881-6721
 www.photocentral.org

Thursday, Dec 2 - Saturday, Jan 13

Nordic 5 Art Works
 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Scandinavian inspired visual arts
 Opening reception Saturday, Dec. 2 at 1 p.m.
 Adobe Art Center
 20395 San Miguel Ave., Castro Valley (510) 881-6735
 www.adobegallery.org

Monday, Jan 8 - Thursday, May 24

Pre-College Bridge Program - R
 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Math and English assistance for adults
 Intended for transfer to Ohlone College Free tuition, materials, support services
 Must attend entire session
 Application deadline Friday, Dec. 15
 Fremont Adult School
 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont (510) 794-2538
 www.fremont.k12.ca.us/page/30129

Fridays, Jan 5 thru Jan 26

Nature Detectives \$
 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Children discover animal habitats
 Ages 3 - 5
 Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
 4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward (510) 670-7270
 www.haywardrec.org/hayshore.html

Fridays, Jan 5 thru Jan 26

Toddler Ramble \$
 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Science experiments for kids ages 1 - 3
 Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
 4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward (510) 670-7270
 www.haywardrec.org

Thursday, Jan 5 - Sunday, Feb 3

Anticipation: The Art of Dmitry Grudsky
 12 noon - 5 p.m.
Whimsical, dreamlike mixed media
 Olive Hyde Art Gallery
 123 Washington Blvd., Fremont (510) 791-4357
 www.olivehydeartguild.org

Arts & Entertainment



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Friday - January 5
RAY CHARLES PROJECT
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Saturday - January 6
ENVIVO BAND



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 Year-round
 Bonde Way at Fremont Blvd., Fremont
 (510) 909-2067
 www.fremontfarmersmarket.com

Bayfair Mall Saturdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Year-round
 Fairmont and East 14th St., San Leandro
 (925) 465-4690
 www.cafarmersmkts.com

Kaiser Permanente Fremont Farmers' Market Thursdays
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Year-round
 39400 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont
 800-949-FARM
 www.pcfma.com

Kaiser Permanente San Leandro Wednesday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 June 11, 2017 to December 31, 2017
 2500 Merced St, San Leandro
 www.cafarmersmarkets.com

Irvington Farmers' Market Sundays
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Year-round
 Bay Street and Trimboli Way, Fremont
 800-949-FARM
 www.pcfma.com

MILPITAS: Milpitas Farmers' Market at ICC Sundays
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Year-round
 India Community Center
 525 Los Coches St.
 800-949-FARM
 www.pcfma.com

Niles Farmer's Market Saturdays
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Year-round
 Niles Town Plaza
 37592 Niles Blvd., Fremont
 www.westcoastfarmersmarket.org

NEWARK:

Newark Farmers' Market Sundays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Year-round
 NewPark Mall
 2086 NewPark Mall, Newark
 1-800-897-FARM
 www.agriculturalinstitute.org

Hayward Farmers' Market Saturdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Year-round
 Hayward City Plaza
 777 B. St., Hayward
 1-800-897-FARM
 www.agriculturalinstitute.org

UNION CITY:

Kaiser Permanente Union City Farmers' Market Tuesdays
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Year-round
 Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices
 3553 Whipple Rd., Union City
 800-949-FARM
 www.pcfma.com

South Hayward Glad Tidings Saturdays
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Year-round
 W. Tennyson Rd. between Tyrell Ave. and Tampa Ave., Hayward
 (510) 783-9377
 www.cafarmersmarkets.com

Union City Farmers' Market Saturdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Year-round
 Old Alvarado Park
 Smith and Watkins Streets, Union City
 800-949-FARM
 www.pcfma.com

Tuesday, Jan 9 thru Thursday, Mar 1

Citizenship Class \$R
 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Discuss American Government
 Prepare for interview test
 Fremont Adult School
 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont
 (510) 793-6465
 www.face.edu

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, Jan 3 Wednesday Walk
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Leisurely 3 mile walk to butterfly site
 Ardenwood Historic Farm
 34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
 (510) 544-2797
 www.ebparks.org

Wednesday, Jan 3 Hikes for Tikes \$R
 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
 Children explore the park
 Ages 2 - 5
 College Heights Park
 27020 Fielding Dr., Hayward
 (510) 670-7270
 www.haywardrec.org

Thursday, Jan 4 Golden Hills Association Meeting
 7 p.m.
 Scratch board artist demonstration
 Monthly meeting open to all
 Milpitas Police Station
 1275 N. Milpitas Blvd, Milpitas
 (408) 263-8779

Thursday, Jan 4 Karaoke Night
 8:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
 Sing along with Knight Sound Entertainment
 Bistro 880
 39900 Balentine Dr., Newark
 (510) 413-2300
 http://bistro880.com/event/

Friday, Jan 5 Five Dollar First Friday \$
 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 Create rockets, operate robots
 Chabot Space & Science Center
 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland
 (510) 336-7373
 www.chabotspace.org

Friday, Jan 5 Live Mariachi Music
 7 p.m.
 Enjoy traditional Mexican music
 Mexico Lindo
 33306 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City
 (510) 471-4525
 www.mexicolindorestaurantbar.com

Friday, Jan 5 Live Dance Music \$
 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
 Featuring Fantasy Band
 Bistro 880
 39900 Balentine Dr., Newark
 (510) 413-2300
 http://bistro880.com/event/

Saturday, Jan 6 - Sunday, Jan 7 Monarchs and Milkweed \$
 10:30 a.m.
 Search for caterpillars and butterflies
 Ardenwood Historic Farm
 34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
 (510) 544-2797
 www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 6 - Sunday, Jan 7 Discovery Days
 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Hands-on exploration and crafts
 Parent participation required
 Coyote Hills Regional Park
 8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont
 (510) 544-3220
 www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 6 Stewardship Day - R
 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Volunteers weed and clean up trash
 SF Bay Wildlife Refuge
 1 Marshlands Rd., Fremont
 (510) 792-0222 x 361

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TUESDAY: TACO

WEDNESDAY: TORTAS

THURSDAY: BURRITOS

FRIDAY: All BEER half price

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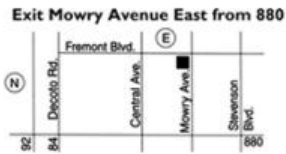
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Saturday, Jan 6 Nature Walk for Health
 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 Enjoy guided tour of wetlands
 SF Bay Wildlife Refuge
 1 Marshlands Rd., Fremont
 (510) 792-0222

Saturday, Jan 6 Monarch Butterfly Walk - R
 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.
 Docent led walk and butterfly discussion
 Viewing site not open to the public without a reservation
 San Leandro Marina
 13801 Monarch Bay Drive, San Leandro
 (510) 577-6085
 sanleandrobutterflies@earthlink.net

Saturday, Jan 6 Monarchs for Kids \$
 11 a.m. - 12 noon
 Interactive puppet show about butterfly life cycle
 Ages 3 - 6
 Ardenwood Historic Farm
 34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
 (510) 544-2797
 www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 6 Dance Class Extravaganza
 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Free trial session, folk, Bollywood, Kathak
 India Community Center
 525 Los Coches Street, Milpitas
 (408) 934-1130
 www.IndiaCC.org

Saturday, Jan 6 Budding Birders
 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
 Bird watching activities for kids
 Ages 7+
 Coyote Hills Regional Park
 8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont
 (510) 544-3220
 www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 6 Duck Walk
 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Docent led talk and hike
 SF Bay Wildlife Refuge
 1 Marshlands Rd., Fremont
 (510) 792-0222



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ProgramAssistant@DriversForSurvivors.org

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 4th Annual Black and White Ball Saturday, April 7, 2018
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Saturday, Jan 6

Jolly January Jumpers \$R
11 a.m. - 12 noon
Kids discover jumping animals
Short hike for ages 3 - 5
Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward
(510) 670-7270
www.haywardrec.org

Saturday, Jan 6

Winter Rose Pruning Event
10 a.m. - 12 noon
Beginners welcome
Refresher class for all
Regan's Nursery
4268 Decoto Rd., Fremont
(510) 797-3222
regan@reannursery.com

Saturday, Jan 6

Live Dance Music \$
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Featuring Centsation Band
Bistro 880
39900 Balentine Dr., Newark
(510) 413-2300
http://bistro880.com/event/

Saturday, Jan 6

Caliban Live \$
7 p.m.
Celtic rock music
Mission Coffee Roasting House
151 Washington Blvd., Fremont
(510) 474-1004
www.fremontcoffee.com

Sunday, Jan 7

Marvelous Monarchs \$
12:30 p.m.
Discover the butterfly life cycle
Ardenwood Historic Farm
34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
(510) 544-2797
www.ebparks.org

Sunday, Jan 7

Native California Plant Uses
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Discuss plants for food, medicine, tools
Coyote Hills Regional Park
8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont
(510) 544-3220
www.ebparks.org

Sunday, Jan 7

Sleep In and Take a Hike
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Brisk 3 mile hike
Ages 15+
Coyote Hills Regional Park
8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont
(510) 544-3220
www.ebparks.org

Sunday, Jan 7

Birding for Beginners
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Discover winter birds
Sunol Regional Wilderness
1895 Geary Rd., Sunol
(510) 544-3249
www.ebparks.org

Sunday, Jan 7

Dan and Laurie's Broadway Afternoon \$
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Duet performs My Fair Lady and Oklahoma hits
Thornton Jr. High
4357 Thornton Ave., Fremont
(510) 793-5683
www.luv.org

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Sunday, Jan 7

Mexican Trio
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Live music
Mexico Lindo
33306 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City
(510) 471-4525
www.mexicolindorestaurantbar.com

(510) 544-3249
www.ebparks.org/register

Sunday, Jan 7

Rose Pruning Class - R
9:30 a.m.
Hands-on demonstration
RSVP by 1/5
Dale Hardware
3700 Thornton Ave, Fremont
(510) 797-3700
www.dale-hardware.com

Monday, Jan 8

Milpitas Rotary Club Meeting
12 noon - 1:30 p.m.
Discuss construction of backyard homes for teachers
Dave and Busters
940 Great Mall Dr., Milpitas
(408) 957-9215
http://www.clubrunner.ca/milpitas

Monday, Jan 8

Bingo Luncheon \$
12 noon
Food, raffle and bingo
Eagles Hall
21406 Foothill Blvd., Hayward
(510) 584-1568

Monday, Jan 8

Outdoor Discoveries: Trip Around the Sun \$R
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Playful science for home school kids
Ages 4 - 8
Sunol Regional Wilderness
1895 Geary Rd., Sunol

Thursday, Jan 11

Tri-City Voice/Oakland Zoomobile
11 a.m.
Amazing Adaptations of Animals and Habitats
Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave, Castro Valley
(510) 667-7900
TTY 888-663-0660
www.aclibrary.org/castro_valley

Thursday, Jan 11

Tri-City Voice/Oakland Zoomobile
4 p.m.
Amazing Adaptations of Animals and Habitats
San Lorenzo Library
395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo
(510) 284-0640
TTY 888-663-0660
www.aclibrary.org/san_lorenzo

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

Alameda County
Renew books by phone
(510) 790-8096
For more information about the Bookmobile call **(510) 745-1477** or visit **www.aclibrary.org**.
Times & Stops subject to change

2:30 - 3:00 Graham School,
36270 Cherry St., NEWARK

Monday, Dec 25
No Service - Holiday

Tuesday, Dec 26
No Service - Holiday

Wednesday, Dec 27
No Service - Holiday

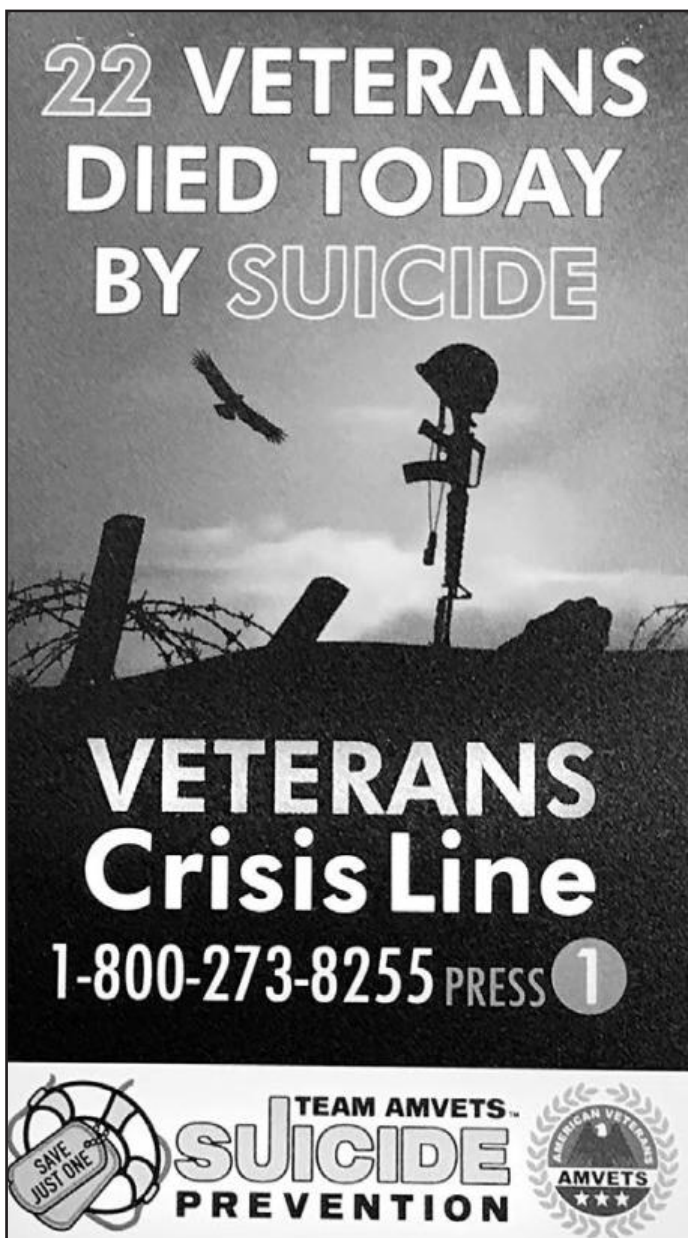
Tuesday, Dec 19
4:45 - 5:30 Baywood Apartments, 4275 Bay St., FREMONT
5:50 - 6:30 Jerome Ave. & Oholones St., FREMONT

Milpitas Bookmobile stops
Renew books by phone
(800) 471-0991
For more information **(408) 293-2326 x3060**

Wednesday, Dec 20
1:00 - 2:00 Del Rey School, Via Mesa & Via Julia, SAN LORENZO
2:30 - 2:55 Eden House Apartments, 1601 165th Ave., SAN LEANDRO
3:30 - 4:00 Baywood Court, 21966 Dolores St., CASTRO VALLEY
6:00 - 6:30 Camellia Dr. & Camellia Ct., FREMONT

Wednesday, January 3
1:45 - 3:00 Foothill School, 1991 Landess Ave., MILPITAS
3:30 - 4:00 Friendly Village Park, 120 Dixon Landing Rd., MILPITAS

Thursday, Dec 21
12:30 - 1:00 Stellar Academy, 38325 Cedar Blvd., NEWARK



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SUICIDE PREVENTION

Lifelong best friends discover they're really brothers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two Hawaii men who grew up as best friends recently learned that they're really brothers and revealed the surprise to family and friends over the holidays. Alan Robinson and Walter Macfarlane have been friends for 60 years. Born in Hawaii 15 months apart, they met in the sixth grade and played football together at a Honolulu prep school. Macfarlane never knew his father, and Robinson was adopted. Separately, they sought answers about their ancestry.

Macfarlane turned to family history and DNA-matching websites after unsuccessful searches on the internet and social media. Honolulu news station KHON-TV reported. "So then we started digging into all the matches he started getting," said his daughter, Cindy Macfarlane-Flores. A top match -- someone with identical X chromosomes -- had the username Robi737. Robison's nickname was Robi and he flew 737s for Aloha Airlines, Macfarlane-Flores said. It turned out Robinson used the same

website to find answers about his family. They later learned they have the same birth mother. "It was a shock," Macfarlane said. They revealed the relationship to friends and family during a party. "It was an overwhelming experience, it's still overwhelming," Robinson said. "I don't know how long it's going to take for me to get over this feeling." They have plans to travel and enjoy retirement together. "This is the best Christmas present I could ever imagine having," Robinson said.

Read to Write programs aid adult literacy

BY MARGARET THORNBERRY

Imagine finding yourself in a foreign country, where you may be able to keep up your end of a conversation, but can't read a street sign or a menu – perhaps even the alphabet in use is unfamiliar to you. How do you become familiar with the written language of your new home? If you or anyone you know is not fluent in written English and you live in Alameda County, look no further than the Adult Literacy program, Write to Read, available through the Alameda County Library.

Write to Read classes are usually free, and class materials, such as books, are also provided. Classes are open to native English speakers who wish to upgrade their reading and writing skills, as well as to second language learners. In-person classes are staffed by volunteer tutors who have completed training or by credentialed teachers. Students range in age from teens to older adults, and programs are available to all residents of Alameda County, including unincorporated areas.

You might picture a room full of students from outside the USA, sounding out the letters and words that will enable them to read BART signs, help them pass DMV tests and even understand rental agreements and ballot initiatives. While you wouldn't be wrong, this is only a tiny fraction of what Write to Read offers. For example, you could earn an accredited High School diploma via Career Online High School through Write to Read. This is not a GED, but an authentic diploma with a focus on eight different job skills areas, taught online by credentialed teachers. Students in



Arwyn Moore, Literary Specialist with Adult Literacy Write to Read, shows some of the books available to the program

this program can also apply for a scholarship to cover the modest cost of the online classes.

There are many Write to Read programs to select from, with new classes starting throughout the year. In addition to the High School diploma program, Write to Read offers:

–Basic Literacy for Adults, held at Fremont and Union City libraries during evening hours to accommodate working students. These are taught by credentialed teachers.

–One-on-one tutoring offered to those fluent in spoken English who would like to improve their reading and writing skills.

–Computer Lab, which provides training in basic computer skills, as well as access to dozens of online library resources for learners and job seekers.

–Life Skills & Citizenship classes for beginning and intermediate second language learners. Citizenship Preparation for those with intermediate



Literacy Clerk Rachel Parra

English skills, includes: Civics: History and Government, English Skill Development, and Preparation for the Naturalization Test.

–Job Skills tutoring is focused on serving adults in the unincorporated areas of Alameda County.

–Book Club/Reading Club is a program for adults fluent in spoken English who are interested in developing stronger conversational skills, and enjoy reading an interesting book and discussing it in a small group. The books are provided.

The book selected by the students in tutor Estela Yap's current Reading Club group is "The Girl with Seven Names" by Hyeonseo Lee, the first-person story of a young woman who escapes from North Korea, leaving her brother and mother behind. This is a powerful and well-written story, and the subject is a good choice for this class, which includes students from Russia, China, Japan, Latvia, and Taiwan. Reading Club classes are informal and small, with discussions of vocabulary words, reading comprehension exercises, students reading aloud

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

The Girl with Seven Names

Escape from North Korea

'Against all odds she escaped, survived and had the courage to speak out'
Samantha Power

in turn around the table, discussion of the plot and characters, and conjectures about what is yet to come.

Speaking with Adult Literacy Program Director Dr. Luis Kong, it's easy to see that he and his staff are very proud of Write to Read, as well they should be! Not only do these programs offer outstanding learning opportunities for volunteer tutors and their students, a number of helpful partnerships have been developed with organizations such as California's Employment Development Department (EDD) and Mercy Housing, Inc., making the services of the Adult Literacy program even more comprehensive and helpful. Student author writings have been collected and published for the Learning Together Celebrations, and Dr. Kong is looking forward to holding a graduation ceremony for those students who achieve their goal of obtaining a High School diploma through the Career Online HS program. Under the guidance of the Adult Literacy staff, Write to Read is not just a series of classes, it is a learning community.

To learn more about Alameda County's Adult Literacy, a wealth of information is available at <http://guides.aclibrary.org/literacy>. Brochures and class schedules are available at the Fremont Main Library (2400 Stevenson Boulevard) and the Adult Literacy staff can be reached at (510) 745-1480, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Write to Read

Adult Literacy Program

Classic Celtic Duo opens 2018 concert season

SUBMITTED BY BRASK CONCERTS

Traditional Celtic music with a touch of Norway rings in the new year at Mission Coffee as Brask Concerts presents Caliban on Saturday, January 6.

Caliban is the contemporary subset of the Celtic rock band Tempest, both led by Lief Sorbye. Sorbye has been a leader in the Celtic music scene since 1980 when he co-founded Golden Bough. In Caliban, he is joined by noted fiddler Kathy Buys, whose talents are known in the Bay Area as well as in Ireland. The duo plays traditional Celtic music, a delightful eclectic blend of sound on fiddle and octave mandola, filling a set with spirited dance tunes and spellbinding ballads.

Don't know about Caliban? Don't know the music of Tempest? Then you must not go to the annual Scottish Games at the Pleasanton County Fairgrounds; they have

been playing there for years! The band has also performed at the Starry Plow in Berkeley and toured the U.S.A. many times, with a number of shows at the Philadelphia Folk Festival, as well as performing in Ireland and Sorbye's native Norway.

Not only is Caliban playing their opening show in Fremont, but Tempest has just finished their 30-year anniversary CD "Thirty Little Turns" in reference to trips around the sun, a favorite reference of Sorbye's. He and Buys will tell you all about it at their show on the first Saturday of 2018. The official release party will be Saturday, February 24 at the Palms Playhouse in Winters, but who wants to wait to order their new CD? Pre-sales at the Fremont Caliban show is the way to go.

So, grab your kilt once again and come enjoy the globally renowned hybrid of



high-energy fusion of Irish reels, Scottish ballads, Norwegian influences, and other world musical elements that is Caliban.

Caliban
Saturday, Jan 6
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Mission Coffee Roasting Co.
151 Washington Blvd, Fremont
(510) 623-6920

www.braskhouseconcerts.com
www.fremontcoffee.com
www.tempestmusic.com/html/caliban.html
Tickets: \$15 at the door

Classifieds Deadline: Noon Thursday
(510) 494-1999 | tricityvoice@aol.com

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 Work site/apply: CGUCPA, LLP, 4032 Clipper Ct, Fremont, CA 94538.

Procurement Specialist. Job site: Fremont, CA.
 Send resume to: Sparqtronics Inc. 5071 Brandin Ct. Fremont, CA 94538

Senior Product Engineer (Master's + 2 yrs exp) sought by Futuris Automotive (US) Inc. in Newark, CA. Send resume to: Vivian Lee, HR Mgr, Futuris, 6601 Overlake Pl., Newark, CA 94560 or fax (510) 771-2381.



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Ex-spouse benefits and how they affect you

BY MARIAELENA LEMUS,
 SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Just like during tax season, it is good to have all the information you need early so you can prepare and get any money you are due.

If you are age 62, unmarried, and divorced from someone entitled to Social Security retirement or disability benefits, you may be eligible to receive benefits based on his or her record. To be eligible, you must have been married to your ex-spouse for 10 years or more. If you have since remarried, you cannot collect benefits on your former spouse's record unless your later marriage ended by annulment, divorce, or death. Also, if you're entitled to benefits on your own record, your benefit amount must be less than you would receive based on your ex-spouse's work. In other words, we will pay the higher of the two benefits for which you are eligible, but not both.

You can apply for benefits on your former spouse's record even if he or she has not retired, as long as you divorced at least two years before applying. If,

however, you decide to wait until full retirement age to apply as a divorced spouse, your benefit will be equal to half of your ex-spouse's full retirement amount or disability benefit. The same rules apply for a deceased former spouse.

The amount of benefits you get has no effect on the benefits of your ex-spouse and his or her current spouse. Visit Retirement Planner: If You Are Divorced at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse.html to find all the eligibility requirements you must meet to apply as a divorced spouse. Our benefits planner gives you an idea of your monthly benefit amount. If your ex-spouse died after you divorced, you may still qualify for widow's benefits. You'll find information about that in a note at the bottom of the website.

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse.html today to learn whether you're eligible for benefits on your ex-spouse's record. That could mean a considerable amount of monthly income. What you learn may bring a smile to your face—even on tax day!

SPORTS

Senior softball players sought



SUBMITTED BY
ROBERT ASKEY

Get those softball gloves oiled and ready, it's almost time to hit the field and fill up the bases. But, more players are needed, and age is an asset.

A senior slow-pitch co-ed softball league, sponsored by the Hayward Area Recreation District (HARD) wants to add more players to its roster for the 2018 season.

The league is divided into three age divisions: 50-plus, 60-plus and 70-plus comprised of four to eight teams with a minimum of 15 players. Games are played Tuesday, Wednesday

and Thursday mornings usually starting around 9:30 and finished before noon.

The 2018 season will run from March through September finishing with playoffs based on season standings.

Anyone who is interested in playing should attend practice on Tuesday mornings during February at the Castro Valley field off Castro Valley Road in Castro Valley. Games will be played at the Alden E. Oliver Sports Park 2580 Eden Park Place, Hayward.

A general meeting for players is set for 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25 at the San Filipe Community Center, 2058 D Street,

Hayward. Admission is free.

More details about the league are available by calling Mike Carroll at (510) 531-8075 or John Ironsides at (925) 548-1094. Player applications can be downloaded from the league website at www.hardseniorsoftball.com.

HARD Senior Softball
General meeting for players
Thursday, Jan. 25
1 p.m.
San Filipe Community Center
2058 D St., Hayward
Free
www.hardseniorsoftball.com

Lady Cougars advance to finals

Women's Basketball

SUBMITTED BY
TIMOTHY HESS AND
COACH DARRYL REINA

Opening Round:

The Newark Memorial Lady Cougars rolled to a 60-28 win over the Lady Eagles of Los Altos High School in the opening round of the annual Newark Optimist Club Holiday Basketball Classic on Thursday, December 28, at the Newark Memorial High School Event Center. Senior Haylee Nelson led the way with a game-high 25 points and grabbed 18-rebounds. Senior teammate Taty Tai scored 12 first-half points in the victory.

Semi-Finals:

Continuing their quest for the championship, the Newark Memorial High School Lady

Cougars varsity basketball team defeated the Burlingame Lady Panthers 48-35 on December 29th in a semifinal game of the annual Newark Optimist Club Holiday Basketball Classic.

The Cougars were led by senior Haylee Nelson who scored a game-high 26-points, sophomore guard Rylee Sarasua who scored 8 points; senior Kylie Chan and junior Emily Sunada each hit 2 three-point field goals in the victory.

Championship Game:

The Lady Cougars (9-0) met the San Ramon Valley (Danville) Lady Wolves (8-2) in the Championship Game on Saturday night, December 30. Trailing by as many as 12 points in the early going, the Cougars outscored the Wolves 18-7 in the second-quarter to take a 30-28 half-time lead. San Ramon Valley

took a 2-point lead into the final quarter and sealed the win, making 6 of 8 free throws down the stretch. The Cougars outscored the Wolves (9-2) from the field 49-46.

Newark Memorial senior Haylee Nelson led all-scorers with 26-points, and grabbed 15 rebounds. Senior Kylie Chan added 12 points, and freshman Maleia Colker scored 11 points, including three second-half 3-point FG's. Haylee and Kylie were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Next: The Lady Cougars (9-1) host Presentation High School (San Jose) Lady Panthers (10-0) on Wednesday, January 3, with the JV contest to begin at 5:30 pm, and the Varsity game to tip-off at 7:00 pm in the Event Center.

GO COUGARS!



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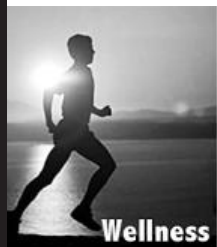
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Park It

BY NED MACKAY

Trails Challenge 2018

With the new year comes a new challenge in the East Bay Regional Parks: the 2018 Trails Challenge, to be specific. This will be the 25th year of the challenge, which is a free, self-guided program offered by the district in partnership with Kaiser Permanente and the Regional Parks Foundation.

Free printed guidebooks and T-shirts will be available starting Wednesday, Jan. 3 at participating Park District visitor centers or the district administrative offices on Peralta Oaks Court in Oakland. Pick up a guidebook and shirt while supplies last, or download the guidebook from the website, www.ebparks.org, and you're ready to go.

The guidebook offers descriptions for excursions in 20 regional parks or trails, ranging from easy to challenging.

There are trails open to hikers, bicyclists, dogs and equestrians, and many are wheelchair accessible. To complete the challenge, hike any five of the trails or 26.2 miles of trails by Dec. 1, 2018. Send in your trail log (honor system) to the district reservations department and receive a commemorative pin, while supplies last.

This is a great way to explore regional parks that are new to you; and, the guidebook contains lots of useful information about how and where to enjoy outdoor recreation.

So what else is going on? Well, there's a 'Foray into Fungus' from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Jan. 6 at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve in Antioch, led by naturalist Kevin Dixon. It's a search for mushrooms in the greening hills. There's a wheelchair accessible program followed by an optional, less accessible guided walk.

Then on Sunday, Jan. 7, there's a hike from 10 a.m. to noon with naturalist Eddie Willis to see Rose Hill Cemetery, where many of the early coal-mining pioneers are buried. If it has

rained, the road to Rose Hill may be muddy.

For either of these programs, meet the naturalist in the parking lot at the end of Somersville Road, about 3.5 miles south of Highway 4 in Antioch. For information, call (888) 327-2757, ext. 2750.

Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley has two programs that meet every Saturday and Sunday.

'Testing the Waters' is from 9 to 10 a.m. Using state of the art instruments, you can help the staff test Delta water for dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity and other properties. Results are sent to a database for use by researchers, scientists and water managers.

Then from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the naturalists offer 'Delta Discoveries.' Drop in any time during those hours for hands-on arts and crafts activities that showcase the Delta's natural history.

Big Break is at 69 Big Break Road off Oakley's Main Street. For information, call (888) 327-2757, ext. 3050.

The Over-The-Hills Gang is an informal group of hikers aged

55 and older who enjoy outdoor exercise, history, and nature exploration.

Naturalist 'Trail Gail' Broesder will lead the gang on a hike from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Carquinez Regional Shoreline in Port Costa. For information and directions, call (510) 544-2233.

At Tilden Nature Area near Berkeley, there's a mushroom walk from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6, led by naturalist Trent Pearce. No collecting, it's prohibited in the regional parks. Tilden is also planning a fungal fair on Feb. 4. More about that in a future column.

And, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 6, interpretive student aide Brianna Contaxis-Tucker will show how to create a nature log, a way to set down your observations and artwork as you experience the park.

Tilden also has fireside story time from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. every Sunday, with lore about farm animals, insects, and nature in general. For all these programs, meet at the Environmental Education Center at the north end of Tilden's Central Park Drive. Call (510) 544-2233.

Crab Cove Visitor Center in Alameda has story time from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. every Sunday through February. There are stories for kids, then activities such as craft making or a scavenger hunt.

And from 2 to 3 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday, it's family nature fun time, with a new topic each week. Mammals will be the focus on Jan. 6 and 7.

Crab Cove is at the end of McKay Avenue off Alameda's Central Avenue. Call (510) 544-3187.

At Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont, Discovery Days are in session every Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Come to the visitor center at 10:30 for an introduction to the topic of the week, or drop by anytime during the day for nature exploration and craft activities.

Coyote Hills is at the end of Patterson Ranch Road off Paseo Padre Parkway. Call (510) 544-3220.

This is just a sample of the many activities planned in coming days in the regional parks. Check the website, www.ebparks.org, for complete listings.

Student athletes make honor roll

SUBMITTED BY
STEPHEN CONNOLLY

Officials from the athletics department at California State University East Bay (CSEB) recently announced that 90 student-athletes have been named to the 2017-18 Fall Quarter Athletic Director's Honor Roll for achieving at least a 3.5 grade point average during the most recent academic quarter.

This marks CSUEB's third Athletic Director's Honor Roll under recently appointed Director of Athletics Jason Carmichael, who began his tenure with the Pioneers last February. Seventy-five student-athletes were honored on the inaugural list for Winter Quarter 2016-17, followed by 86 award winners in the Spring.

This fall's total is the highest yet, with 15 student-athletes claiming the honor for the second time and 23 picking up their third straight acknowledgment. Of the 90 Pioneers with at least a 3.5 GPA, 17 earned a perfect 4.0 mark.

CSUEB's student-athletes collectively achieved a Spring

Quarter GPA of 3.22, the department's highest since re-joining Division II. And for the first quarter in school history, every single team posted at least a 3.0 grade point average.

All 13 of CSUEB's programs (combining cross country and track) were represented on the athletic director's honor roll. The swim team led the way with 11 award winners, followed by women's soccer and baseball with 10 each. The volleyball, water polo, and men's cross country and track squads boasted nine honorees apiece, followed by men's soccer with seven, women's cross country and track with six, women's basketball with five, softball and men's golf with four, and men's basketball and women's golf with three.

2017-18 Fall Quarter Athletic Director's Honor Roll recipients
*two-time honoree
**three-time honoree

Baseball

- Paul Bryniarski
- Matt Cantelme**
- Brennan Carey
- Dakota Conners
- Jacob Eder
- RJ Hanson

- Raymond Jones
- Stas Kuntz
- Steve Robinson
- Mark Trujillo

Men's Basketball

- Jordan Baler*
- Patrick Marr**
- Justin Vigil

Women's Basketball

- Kayla Blair
- Chloe Kellum
- Madison Schiller**
- Faith Turner

Men's Cross Country and Track

- Pedro Cruz**
- Mitchell Hogle
- Zach Kanlong**
- Luke Laehy*
- Chris Lessard**
- Miguel Morales*
- Leo Skellenger**
- Israel Sotelo*
- Alberto Venegas*

Women's Cross Country and Track

- Makenna Duda
- Katherine Embody**
- Jodi Go
- Andrea Romero**

- Taryn Stevenson
- Samantha Valencia

Men's Golf

- Chris Carney**
- Jonathan Mulvany*
- Greg Smith
- Chase Wickman

Women's Golf

- Jamie Enseki
- Hafsa Khan
- Sienna Starck**

Men's Soccer

- TJ Butler
- Jonathan Cuevas
- Juan Diego Escalante
- Carter Magee
- Evan Sanchez*
- Jared Simarago
- Argenis Torres

Women's Soccer

- Payton Cahalan
- Kaleigh Doyle
- Ina Gonzalez
- Miranda Gonzalez*
- Janelle Herrera*
- Jordan Lemieux
- Megan Massone**
- Kiret Pattar
- Allison Smith**
- Bri Vallente

Swimming

- Claire Beaty**
- Laurel Carpenter
- Madison Chase**
- Elizabeth Cocker**
- Kali Kearns
- Allie Klinger
- Miranda McDonnell*
- Sofia Moufarraj
- Shelby Parker**
- Cassidy Waters*
- Victoria Zukeran*

Volleyball

- Courtnie Ayers
- Brandi Brucato**
- Kayla Burroughs*
- Katie Ireland*
- Audrey Lamoureux
- Kiki Leuteneker**
- Kathy McKiernan**
- Julie Navarro**
- Deja Thompson

Water Polo

- Ivanna Anderson
- Beverly Ayers**
- Cheyenne Brady**
- Maeve Flynn
- Brooke Hodgkinson
- Skyler Ramirez
- Brittany Smith
- Gina Sorensen
- Adrien Van Dyke

Mayor creates Comprehensive Homeless Strategy

BY RHODA J. SHAPIRO

Homelessness is an issue that weighs heavily on Milpitas Mayor Rich Tran's mind. At the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, he has served as a medical Social Worker for the past three years. He works in the Emergency Department, where he interacts with scores of homeless people weekly; some greet him by name.

"We can't ignore folks struggling in Milpitas," said Mayor Tran. "Me, growing up here... my family struggled. And it was the community, the village, that raised me and helped my family out. It's that same concept I'd like to bring to City Hall in terms of a Comprehensive Homeless Strategy."

The first Milpitas High School graduate to be elected mayor, Tran is unique as a public servant in terms of his proximity to the homeless population. He sees the day-to-day struggles that people on the streets endure. This has driven him to do all he can to



ease and eradicate homelessness in Milpitas.

"The school district just did research that showed there were around 130 students in Milpitas that had non-permanent housing. Folks are doubling up; they're living in cars, they're living in hotels. That's 130 out of 10,000 students. That hurts my heart so much. And those are just the ones accounted for."

A lack of affordable housing options, coupled with the high cost of living in the Bay Area, has left Santa Clara County residents with few options; Mayor Tran's Comprehensive Homeless

Strategy includes a host of proposals to help families that need support during hard times.

"I'd like to see places of worship have a Conditional Use Permit, so that registered Milpitas Unified School District (MUSD) students and their families can reside at our places of worship for up to 30 days," said Mayor Tran. "I feel like in 30 days, the right community resources or social services can be applied, and maybe folks in tough situations can transition into something better."

Along with this idea, the mayor's plan also includes ideas

like hiring someone full-time to address homelessness, as well as easing regulations for "granny units," which are add-on residential structures. He'd also like to collaborate with nonprofits like Downtown Streets Team, which is leading the way in terms of arming homeless individuals with the resources to rebuild their lives.

"In Milpitas, we're down to about 66 homeless individuals," said Tran. "But that's 66 too many. I think we can be a leader in the county if we can get that number down."

At a City Council meeting held in November of 2017, Mayor Tran was set to deliver his homeless strategy presentation, until Councilmember Bob Nuñez expressed disinterest in hearing it, accusing Mayor Tran of making a "bid for attention for re-election." Nuñez added an item onto the Consent Calendar that would approve four hours of City staff time, enabling the staff to do research and prepare their own strategy, preventing Mayor Tran from delivering his own presentation.

"In politics, they try to chop you down. It happens everywhere. I was shocked when

that happened. I still wanted to present it. I had put in so much work... hours. I'm here every night until 12 a.m. or 1 a.m. It's like finals week of college every day. It's been like that every day for a year," said Mayor Tran, who later found out that not allowing him to give his presentation was against procedures outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.

Mayor Tran, who is running for re-election in 2018, seems energized by continuing the work he started when he first took office. His vision is one of inclusion, whereby all residents of Milpitas feel heard and valued. He calls his office "the People's House," and invites residents to visit and voice their concerns. His motto "Milpitas Families First," which he ran on during the election in 2016, is still central in his decision-making process.

In City Hall, from the window of Mayor Tran's office, he can see Milpitas High School, along with the home he grew up in, and the home he lives in now.

"I used to ride my bike across this whole valley and say 'hi' to people," said Tran. "It's pretty cool that my view now is where I grew up. I'm just thankful for the opportunity to serve."

City Council/Public Agency MEETINGS

Readers are advised to check websites for special meetings, cancellations, minutes, agendas and webcasts

CITY COUNCILS

Fremont City Council
1st/2nd/3rd Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
City Hall, Bldg A
3300 Capitol Ave., Fremont
(510) 284-4000
www.fremont.gov

Hayward City Council
1st/3rd/4th Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
City Hall, second floor
777 B Street, Hayward
(510) 583-4000
www.ci.hayward.ca.us

Milpitas City Council
1st/3rd Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
455 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas
(408) 586-3001
www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov

Newark City Council
2nd/4th Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.
City Hall, 6th Floor
37101 Newark Blvd., Newark
(510) 578-4266
www.ci.newark.ca.us

San Leandro City Council
1st/3rd Monday @ 7 p.m.
835 East 14th St., San Leandro
(510) 577-3366
www.sanleandro.org

Union City City Council
2nd/4th Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
City Hall
34009 Alvarado-Niles Rd.,
Union City
(510) 471-3232
www.ci.union-city.ca.us

WATER/SEWER

Alameda County Water District
2nd Thursday @ 6:00 p.m.
43885 S. Grimmer Blvd., Fremont
(510) 668-4200
www.acwd.org

East Bay Municipal Utility District
2nd/4th Tuesday @ 1:15 p.m.
375 11th St., Oakland
(866) 403-2683
www.ebmud.com

Santa Clara Valley Water District
2nd/4th Tuesday @ 6:00 p.m.
5700 Almaden Expwy., San Jose
(408) 265-2607, ext. 2277
www.valleywater.org

Union Sanitary District
2nd/4th Monday @ 7:00 p.m.
5072 Benson Rd., Union City
(510) 477-7503
www.unionsanitary.com

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Castro Valley Unified School Board
2nd/4th Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.
4400 Alma Ave., Castro Valley
(510) 537-3000
www.cv.k12.ca.us

Fremont Unified School Board
2nd/4th Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.
4210 Technology Dr., Fremont
(510) 657-2350
www.fremont.k12.ca.us

Hayward Unified School Board
2nd/4th Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.
24411 Amador Street, Hayward
(510) 784-2600
www.husd.k12.ca.us

Milpitas Unified School Board
2nd/4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
1331 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas
www.musd.org
(406) 635-2600 ext. 6013

New Haven Unified School Board
1st/3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m.
34200 Alvarado-Niles Rd.,
Union City
(510) 471-1100
www.nhusd.k12.ca.us

Newark Unified School District
1st/3rd Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
5715 Musick Ave., Newark
(510) 818-4103
www.newarkunified.org

San Leandro Unified School Board
1st/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
835 E. 14th St., San Leandro
(510) 667-3500
www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us

San Lorenzo Unified School Board
1st/3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 p.m.
15510 Usher St., San Lorenzo
(510) 317-4600
www.slzsd.org

Sunol Glen Unified School Board
2nd Tuesday @ 5:30 p.m.
11601 Main Street, Sunol
(925) 862-2026
www.sunol.k12.ca.us

Government Briefs

City Council summaries do not include all business transacted at the noted meetings. These outlines represent selected topics and actions. For a full description of agendas, decisions and discussion, please consult the website of the city of interest: Fremont (www.fremont.gov), Hayward (www.hayward-ca.gov), Milpitas (www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov), Newark (www.ci.newark.ca.us), Union City (www.ci.union-city.ca.us).

Detainees learn of bail alternatives

SUBMITTED BY
JAVIER AGUIRRE

The County of Santa Clara will launch its multi-lingual “No Cost Release” media campaign, informing individuals detained in jail and awaiting trial of their free alternatives to paying for bail. The ‘No Cost Release’ message will be spread via video, public-access television, a web page, posters, and brochures inside jails and in the community. This media will inform detainees of their free pretrial release options, rights to free criminal defense attorneys, and access to free reentry services. This is a collaborative effort between the County of Santa Clara Offices of Pretrial Services, the Public Defender, the Sheriff and Reentry Services.

The County of Santa Clara is one of 20 jurisdictions across the country to be awarded an Innovation Fund grant by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to design and test innovative local justice reforms for safely reducing jail usage, as well as racial and ethnic disparities in their local justice systems. Until now, only information regarding commercial bail bonds and private criminal defense attorneys has been available inside the County jails. Detainees and their families were largely unaware of the free services that exist.

“Many defendants who are low risk to public safety remain in jail solely because they can’t afford to pay bail,” said Dave Cortese, President of the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors. “Detaining a significant number of people who could otherwise be safely supervised in the community is not only detrimental to defendants, it’s costly for the County.”

In California, approximately 62 percent of the jail population is in custody pretrial. The Office of Pretrial Services estimates the cost of pretrial supervision at about \$15 per day, compared to \$159 for jail confinement. The County’s independent Audit Management Division estimates that, from July 1 to December 31, 2011, releasing those who qualified for own recognizance release saved the County \$31.3 million in detention costs.

Pretrial officers are available in jail after booking to interview detainees about their eligibility for release on their own recognizance (O.R.), or for the Supervised Own Recognizance Program

(S.O.R.P.). But often detainees or their relatives, unfamiliar with these options, pay bail to get out of jail. And because bail is set without regard to a defendant’s ability to pay, that represents a greater burden for poor defendants than wealthier ones. Defendants or their families who use a bail agent are typically charged a 10% fee, which is a percentage of the actual bail amount. This money is non-refundable, even if they are found not guilty or the charges are not filed.

“As S.O.R.P. releases have increased substantially over the last 15 years, statistics show that pretrial misconduct rates and failures to appear in court have remained steady or improved,” said Aaron Johnson, Director of the Office of Pretrial Services. “Unnecessarily incarcerating individuals who are low risk to public safety, puts those individuals at higher risk of needing public support going forward.”

“Serving time in jail negatively impacts people in a variety of ways,” said Molly O’Neal, Chief Public Defender for the County of Santa Clara. “It jeopardizes their employment, which can result in them losing their housing, it impacts their children and other dependent family members, and it hinders their ability to work effectively with an attorney to develop their defense. Further, being in jail imposes an artificial incentive to plead guilty in order to get out, regardless of guilt or innocence,” O’Neal said.

Research shows that people being detained in jail also have higher rates of being convicted, are less likely to have their charges reduced, and are more likely to be sentenced to jail or prison with longer sentences than released defendants—even when the seriousness of the charge and the defendants’ criminal histories are equal.

“With our ‘No Cost Release’ campaign, we intend to increase equity for low income and homeless individuals in a criminal justice system currently weighted in favor of those who can afford commercial bail and private legal defense,” said Javier Aguirre, Director of the County’s Office of Reentry Services. “And once released from custody, we want to ensure that residents are aware of the multitude of supportive services available at the County’s Reentry Resource Center.”

City of Fremont Marijuana Guidelines and Registration Requirements

SUBMITTED BY FREMONT PD

On November 8, 2016, California voters passed the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA), legalizing non-medical use of marijuana by persons 21 years of age and over, and the personal cultivation of up to six marijuana plants. Under the AUMA, a state regulatory and licensing system was established to govern the commercial cultivation, testing and distribution of non-medical marijuana, and the manufacturing of

non-medical marijuana plants. With the passage of AUMA, the City of Fremont was required to amend the Zoning Ordinance to address non-medical marijuana activities.

On June 6, 2017, the Fremont City Council amended the City of Fremont’s Marijuana Regulation Municipal Code Section 18.190.307. The amendments allow possession, transportation and cultivation of marijuana to the extent expressly authorized under State law, and bans all other marijuana activities not expressly authorized under State law.

TAKES FROM SILICON VALLEY EAST

Keep manufacturing ownership local

BY ALISON LINGANE

While name brands like Tesla Motors help raise the profile of manufacturing in our regional economy, manufacturing has long been a driver of our economic development.

The reality is that manufacturing accounts for 21 percent of our regional GDP and provides 108,500 jobs across the Bay Area. These are solid middle-class jobs that are a part of the Inclusive Economy we want to see in our region: jobs that pay well, that have professional advancement opportunities, and are generally accessible to people without a four-year college degree. We’re thrilled to see the increased focus on regional manufacturing on many fronts, and salute SFMade’s Bay Area Manufacturing Initiative (<http://bayareamfg.org>), a three-year project to facilitate the creation of a well-defined and interconnected regional manufacturing ecosystem. The City of Fremont was one this initiative’s four founding cities (the others being San Francisco, San Jose, and Oakland) and has made manufacturing the backbone of its economic development efforts.

We also know that the success of manufacturing doesn’t rely solely on the manufacturing companies themselves. A well-functioning ecosystem of supply chain, transportation, and warehousing companies helps manufacturing businesses connect with both their customers and suppliers. This cluster effect keeps the whole engine of manufacturing churning and enables companies to grow together.

The Silver Tsunami

What we don’t hear as much about is the silent risk of the Silver Tsunami. Much like a blood clot whose risk builds as arteries become clogged, the Silver Tsunami of retiring baby boomers is an issue that will creep up on cities if preventive actions aren’t taken. Boomers (those born between 1946-1964) own nearly half of all businesses with employees in the nine county San Francisco Bay Area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Solano), including an estimated 3,680 manufacturing businesses, and 1,200 transportation and warehousing companies. Cities and regions need to understand the risk of these companies not being retained locally, either because they quietly close down, are sold to out of area buyers, or simply don’t have a succession plan as the owner retires.

Fremont’s Proactive Approach

Fremont is taking a very proactive look at this issue, given

the importance of this sector—manufacturing jobs represent nearly one in four of all jobs in the city. The Bay Area nonprofit Project Equity (www.project-equity.org) performed an analysis for Fremont to quantify the number of manufacturing and supply chain companies that are 20 years or older—a good indication that they need succession planning—and the impact if these businesses are not retained.

Manufacturing and supply chain companies in the City of Fremont that are 20-years-old and over:

- Represent 38 percent of the City’s manufacturing and supply chain businesses
- Employ an estimated 12,000 individuals
- Have provided the City with business tax of \$1.2 M over the past 10 years

Local Ownership Over the Long-term

Keeping privately held companies locally owned over the long term is a critical component of any economic development strategy, and crucial for manufacturing. One challenge is that increasingly, the next generation does not want to take over their parents’ companies. Since only an estimated 20 percent of businesses put on the market ever sell, we need more strategies for business succession. The good news is that there is an approach that can provide similar benefits to family succession: employee ownership.

Employee ownership may be unfamiliar to many, but it brings numerous benefits, the most important of these are keeping companies locally rooted, providing quality jobs and strengthening companies for the long-term. It also offers a ready solution to the potentially negative impact of the Silver Tsunami on our local economies: buyers for your business are right there under your nose—the very employees who helped you build the company.

Project Equity debunks a lot of the myths about employee ownership on its website, www.project-equity.org/business/myths. The bottom line is that with the right supports in place, these transitions can be very successful and compare favorably from the business owner’s perspective to other succession options.

Fremont has partnered with Project Equity to shine a light on the need for smart succession planning to retain manufacturing, supply chain, and logistics companies, and to develop an effective strategy to engage with their legacy businesses.

Local ownership of our manufacturing cluster is important to our region’s future. Let’s make sure the Silver Tsunami doesn’t put us at risk.

The amendments also provide reasonable regulations pertaining to the personal cultivation of marijuana, including the establishment of a local registration requirement through the Fremont Police Department. A prohibition of outdoor cultivation and other measures was adopted to protect adjacent properties from cultivation in a manner that would create fire hazards, visual blight, unpleasant odors, excessive energy use, and other objectionable impacts. Fremont Police Chief Richard Lucero has established an annual registration procedure for the personal cultivation of marijuana within City of Fremont limits. No person shall commence or continue to cultivate marijuana within the City of Fremont without first registering the site of the cultivation. Registration requires name, address, contact information, age verification and property owner verification and/or notification. To read the City of Fremont guidelines and to register, please visit www.fremontpolice.org/marijuanaregistration.

OPINION



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What's Happening's Tri-City Voice is a "newspaper of general circulation" as set forth in sections 6000, et. seq., of the Government Code, for the City of Fremont, County of Alameda, and the State of California.

What's Happening's TRI-CITY VOICE™

What's Happening's The Tri-City Voice is published weekly, issued, sold and circulated in and from Fremont, Newark, Union City, Hayward, Milpitas and Sunol and printed in Fremont, California. The principal office of Tri-City Voice is at 39737 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Ste. B, Fremont, CA 94538. William Marshak is the Publisher

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WILLIAM MARSHAK

Auld Lang Syne

With that in mind, the last year has seen significant growth and change in the Southeast Bay Area. Gaining in notoriety and perceived importance to the health of the Bay Area and the State of California, it is apparent that growth of industry and population in our area not only brings economic advantages, but adverse impacts as well. The gold rush of exorbitant housing costs filling city coffers is offset by the woes of urban crowding – traffic, frustration, crime – as well. With the influx of new workplace opportunities comes the challenge of housing and transportation. Without firm plans to address both issues, our cities will ultimately fail in their responsibility to provide constituents with clean, safe and affordable living spaces.

As election season begins, those in office and others vying for space in the limelight of elected positions should be prepared to respond to challenges of the future with due respect for the past. Too often, vision is firmly fixed on a possible future without adequate respect for its foundation. Communication and transportation corridors are critical elements to allow “smart growth” minimizing the strain of overcrowding of living spaces and connection with work, recreation and essential services. As each bit of vacant or underutilized land is consumed, how are these issues addressed? Or are solutions simply assumed in the name of progress and hope for future advancements?

For those of us living in the present, future and past loom large since we are asked to deal with both simultaneously. Pointing to a world of driverless, flying cars and whiz-bang technology may ultimately solve some challenges, but conversion takes time and residents need intermediary solutions as well. For instance, modes of transportation may evolve over time, but traffic congestion and safety are contemporary problems. Fremont's Vision Zero planning has made strides in neighborhood safety by rerouting app-assisted commuters and addressing bicycle safety lanes, but significant zoning changes to

accommodate residential development needs to be closely examined for flawed reasoning.

Pressure for more housing – affordable (?) and market rate - has skewed regulations and influenced traditional considerations and, at times, common sense. Examples of rampant, barely regulated growth are visible within sight lines and around the state. Will our cities sacrifice their integrity and basic sense of community for a buck here or there? Will our educational systems be prepared and, in turn, prepare us for technological advances while retaining a broad appreciation and understanding of the world around us? Will an emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education obliterate the “A” (the Arts) and let the STEAM out of our lives?

As we – elected officials, staff, businesses and residents – grapple with these issues, it is heartening to know that within our communities, a solid foundation exists. Hardened by resolve and fortitude, a significant cadre of citizens give their time and resources to ensure the survival of core values and our true wealth - natural and historical resources, and humanity. Service clubs, a myriad of volunteers, nonprofit organizations and many who donate to them, illuminate the depth of this commitment to ourselves and neighbors. As Burns put it...

*And theres a hand my trusty friend!
 And give us a hand o thine!
 And well take a right good-will draught,
 for auld lang syne.
 ...we'll take a cup o kindness yet, for
 auld lang syne.*

Happy New Year

William Marshak
 PUBLISHER

Scottish poet Robert Burns, provided the ultimate toast of the New Year with his famous poem, known primarily in its melodic version, often sung as the clock strikes midnight on the cusp of January. Lyrics, described as “an old song of the olden times,” collected by the Scottish poet and submitted to the Scottish Musical Museum in 1788, expressed remembrance of the past, recognizing an inevitable arrival of the future.

Translated as “old long since”, “long, long ago”, “days gone by” or “old times”, it doesn't necessarily welcome the new year, rather toast the past and remind us of friendships and common experiences that bind us. A review of the past year in local politics can also give pause to honor the past and remember not only the foibles but also the diligence and work required of good representation by elected officials and staff.

Without the gratuitous “thank you” given at council meetings to almost every staff report, it is important to recognize the time and effort given by all in local government to further the common good. Performance reviews of all staff including department heads and top management has hopefully been an exercise of constructive criticism that reveals not only strengths, but exposes weaknesses and areas of concern to create more cohesive and sustainable organizations. When compliments are gratuitous and vapid, little is accomplished and evaluations lose their value. But assessments of past actions, if balanced, can become a solid foundation for future growth and prosperity.

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Armando Tavares
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
February 15, 1952–December 28, 2017

George Sekovich
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
August 30, 1916–December 28, 2017

Linda Wang
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
April 15, 1951–December 28, 2017

Marie Louise Roth
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
September 22, 1920–December 27, 2017

Yoshiko Kimura Earl
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
February 29, 1936–December 25, 2017

Maud Gray Darrah
RESIDENT OF MENLO PARK
June 15, 1930–December 25, 2017

Frieda Mary Urquiza
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
July 15, 1926–December 25, 2017

Eunice Zoe Colwell
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
March 17, 1945 ~December 24, 2017

Cynthia B. Fisher
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
April 6, 1921 – December 22, 2017

Siok Choo Yeap
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
July 14, 1935–December 19, 2017

Elizabeth Deane Tweedle
RESIDENT OF HAYWARD
December 28, 1926–December 17, 2017

Merilyn Louise Lawrence
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
June 7, 1937–December 12, 2017

Debra Darlene Munoz
RESIDENT OF NEWARK
March 18, 1963–December 12, 2017

Francisco Gutierrez
RESIDENT OF NEWARK
July 25, 1983–December 11, 2017

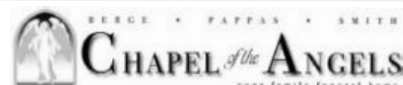
Sou Hing Chu
RESIDENT OF SUGARLAND
June 16, 1924–December 10, 2017

Alma Aurora Montemayor
RESIDENT OF NEWARK
February 1, 2017–December 8, 2017

Dolores Solorio
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
May 2, 1935–December 8, 2017

Frank James Silva
RESIDENT FREMONT
July 8, 1923 ~ December 8, 2017

Candice Yvonne Flores-Russell
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
October 12, 1959 ~ November 16, 2017



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Maria Monsalud
RESIDENT OF SUNNYVALE
December 6, 1934 – December 26, 2017

Ila Kohl
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
January 10, 1920 – December 25, 2017

Irene Seib
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
March 24, 1931 – December 26, 2017

Galen Brown
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
July 16, 1930 – December 26, 2017

Robert K. Bourdon
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
November 5, 1925 – December 24, 2017

Mulchand Thakur
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
September 10, 1932 – December 25, 2017

Veena Sahib Kaul
RESIDENT OF PLEASANTON
October 1, 1942 – December 24, 2017

Shirley Tutan
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
January 16, 1927 – December 23, 2017

Ralph Villescraz
RESIDENT OF HAYWARD
September 5, 1928 – December 22, 2017

Wunhao Fong
RESIDENT OF UNION CITY
August 13, 1944 – December 21, 2017

Erik Kaelin
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
February 10, 1971 - December 21, 2017

Brenton Dedrick
RESIDENT OF NEWARK
August 13, 1985 – December 20, 2017

Eva Poschmann
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
October 20, 1934 – December 20, 2017

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RESIDENT OF FLORIDA
July 2, 1933 - December 19, 2017

Anna Norris
RESIDENT OF MARTINEZ
May 20, 1926 – December 19, 2017

Owen Aurelio
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
March 11, 1951 – December 19, 2017

Takashi Fujiwara
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
August 22, 1947 – December 18, 2017

Mary Greenwood
RESIDENT OF FREMONT
April 9, 1931 – December 16, 2017

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RESIDENT OF FREMONT
August 29, 1929 – December 16, 2017

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Obituary

Anly Lee Frazee

November 7, 1933 – December 22, 2017



Our beloved Anly Lee Frazee, Wife, Mother, Grandmother "Granny", Great Grandmother and Friend passed away peacefully at the age of 84, on Friday December 22, 2017.

She was one of eight siblings born in Possum Creek, Arkansas to the parents of Mr. Willmer and Mrs. Mattie Lou McCuan. She was married to her loving husband Oscar Leon Frazee and moved to California in 1958 where they raised their family in Newark. Leon passed away at the early age of 48. Anly was a strong, caring, loving wife, mother and grandmother, who devoted her life to and instilled life lessons and moral values in her children and grandchildren.

She was mentally sharp and stayed current with Family and Friends. She enjoyed conversations, gardening, reading, playing games with friends and family and was famous for her delicious Rum Cake's. Her greatest enjoyment was her kids and grandkids.

She is now reunited with her Husband Oscar Leon Frazee, Parents; Wilmer and Mattie Lou, Sisters; Zula and Kathryn and Brother Gerald.

Anly was survived by her daughters; Karon LaRock and Doris Wolfsmith and Son Eric Frazee. Her Sisters; Betty, Wilma and Carolyn, Brother; Wayne, Grandchildren: JoAnn, Ken, Daniel, David, Angeliqe Sergio, Andrew, Nicholas, Jackson and Madison.

Great Grandchildren: Ben, Amy, Clara, Grant, Luke, Libby, Elle and Mia.

She will forever remain in our hearts.

Mrs. Frazee will be laid to rest next to her loving husband at Woodmen Cemetery in McCroy, Arkansas in the Spring of 2018.

Tri-City Cremation & Funeral Service
Newark, CA
510-494-1984

Obituary

Candice Flores-Russell

Resident of Fremont

October 12, 1959 – November 16, 2017

Candice Flores-Russell passed away November 16, 2017 at the age of 58.

A Memorial Service will be held at Fremont Memorial Chapel, 3723 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 10, 2018.

Fremont Memorial Chapel
3723 Peralta Blvd.
Fremont, California 94536



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tricityvoice@aol.com

Obituary

Marie Louise Roth

Resident of Fremont

September 22, 1920 – December 27, 2017

Marie Roth passed away in the comfort of her home on Wednesday, December 27, 2017, she was 97 years old. Born in Woodbridge, CA, to Charles and Emmeline Bechthold, Marie went to school in Oakland, CA, where she graduated from Holy Names High School in 1936 and Holy Names College in 1940.

From the start, her zeal for life was apparent. During WWII Marie worked as a civilian draftsman at the Alameda Naval Air Station and later began her 25 year teaching career for the Fremont Unified school district and retired as Art Director for Thornton Jr. High School. A dedicated artist, Marie developed a wide array of fine arts skills over the years which included pastel drawings, water color and oil painting, jewelry casting, beading, knitting and sewing. Marie performed and sung local on radio shows and was a member of Washington Township Country Club, Fremont Chorale and Holy Spirit Choir. She was also an avid and accomplished bridge player.



Predeceased by her husband of 60 years, John, Marie is survived by her children Kathleen Roth and Alan Roth, and grandchild, Julia Gualtieri.

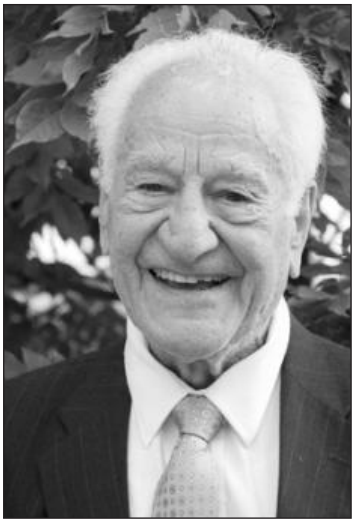
Services will be held at Fremont Memorial Chapel, 3723 Peralta Blvd, Fremont, with visitation at 6pm and a chapel service at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. Mass will be held at Holy Spirit Church, 37588 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, on Wednesday, January 3rd at 10:30 a.m. Burial to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 26320 Mission Blvd., Hayward.

Obituary

George Sekovich

Resident of Fremont

August 30, 1916 – December 28, 2017



enthusiastic participant at Fremont Senior Center activities.

Preceded in death by his beloved wife of 48 years, Marlys (1999), and his sisters, Angie, Mary, Rose, Sylvia, and Stella. George is survived by step-son Bruce Hodgkins (Jackie); grandchildren, Karen Dana (Guy), Kathleen Allen (David), David Hodgkins (Ping), Loraine Schroyer (John); great grandchildren, Phillip, Stephan, Annette, Leslie, Becky, Henry, Heather, & Robert.

Services for George will be held at Fremont Memorial Chapel, 3723 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, beginning with visitation from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2018, and a Chapel Service at 10:00 a.m. on January 9th with a reception immediately following.

Flowers are graciously accepted, as are donations to the Fremont Senior Center, 40086 Paseo Padre Parkway in Fremont.

Fremont Memorial Chapel
510-797-1900

Obituary

Ila M. Kohl

January 10, 1920- December 25, 2017

Ila Kohl, Fremont resident since 1966 and a clerk with the Newark Police Department from 1960 to 1975, passed away peacefully at her daughter Patricia's home in Santa Fe, New Mexico on Christmas day. Ila loved Christmas, her family, music and people. She had special affection for her former Vernal Avenue neighbors, her Sweet Harps harmonica group, and those at the Carlton Plaza, where she had resided for the past eleven years before her move to Santa Fe in July.

Her strong faith in god sustained her to her last breathe.

A vigil with Rosary will be held Friday evening at 6pm on January 12 at Chapel of the Angels, 42842 Fremont Blvd. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 13 at 11am at St. Joseph's Church, 43148 Mission Blvd. in Fremont, CA.



If desired, donations in Ila's name may be sent to Sister John Marie's Pantry, c/o St. Joseph's Church, 43148 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539.

Obituary

Richard Elmer Crippen

Resident of Fremont

April 14, 1931 – Dec. 1, 2017

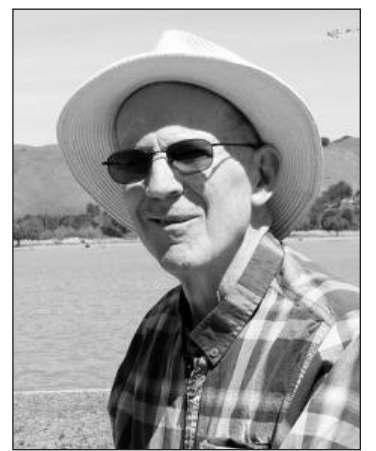
Richard "Dick" Crippen, 86, passed away December 1, 2017 in Fremont, CA. Dick was born April 14, 1931 in Snohomish, WA to Elmer and Helen Crippen. After graduating from Everett High School in 1949, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served in the South Pacific during the Korean War, where he learned his love for electronics.

After getting a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from UC Berkeley in 1958, Dick started his long engineering career in the Silicon Valley. He spent over 40 years in various roles at Fairchild Semiconductor and National Semiconductor. Dick held 8 patents in semiconductor technology.

Dick loved the outdoors – deer hunting in his early years,

camping and water skiing in his mid-years, and then hiking and walking in his later years. Lake Elizabeth and Alameda Creek in Niles Canyon, Fremont, were his favorite spots during the last 5 years. Dick volunteered in numerous organizations and churches, and always enjoyed attending football and basketball games at St. Francis HS in Mountain View.

Dick is survived by his wife Nancy of 60 years; children Jill Erickson of Fremont, CA, Michael Rand Crippen of Mountain View, CA, and Jacquelyn (Mark) Stamper of Tacoma, WA, grandson Christopher Erickson, and his brother Al Crippen of Everett, WA. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Ruth and



her husband Mark Martin, and sister-in-law Sandra Crippen.

A Celebration of Life will be held January 12, 2018 in Fremont, CA. Contact Fremont Chapel of the Roses (510-797-1900) for details.

County commission seeking public board member

SUBMITTED BY SANDY HOU

Officials from the Alameda Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) are seeking a civic-minded community member to fill a public member seat on the commission.

LAFCo is responsible for coordinating logical and timely changes in local governmental boundaries in Alameda County, conducting special studies that review ways to reorganize, simplify and streamline governmental structure, and establishing planning spheres of influence (SOIs) for each city and special district within the county.

The public members represent all Alameda County citizens in an objective and impartial manner. Applicants must be residents of the county, and cannot be a current board or

council member, officer or employee of Alameda County, a city or special district in Alameda County.

The commission has seven regular voting members (two county members from the Board of Supervisors, two city members selected by the Mayor's Conference, two special district members selected by the Independent Special Districts; and one public member) and four alternate members (county, city, special district and public).

The deadline to file an application for the public member seat is Friday, Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. The commission will review each application and supplemental questionnaire and expects to conduct interviews the week of Feb. 19.

LAFCo is governed exclusively by California statutes and its own policies and procedures. It is neither subject to nor under the

control or authority of the County Board of Supervisors, any city council or special district board of directors.

Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every odd month (January, March, May, July, September and November) at 2 p.m. in Dublin. The appointment term is 4 years. Commissioners receive \$100 stipends per meeting.

Anyone with questions about the position, or who would like to have a copy of the application mailed to them should contact LAFCo at (510) 271-5142 or send an email to Sandra.Hou@acgov.org. For more information about Alameda LAFCo or to download the application, visit their website at www.acgov.org/lafco.

BART cops use new program to assist the homeless

SUBMITTED BY BART

Jessica's 23 years on earth had brought her to this place: Civic Center BART Station, tired and hungry, at a decision point. She had no drugs in her possession, but was carrying clean needles like a talisman against the heroin that had torn apart her young life.

Her cheery Facebook account belied her real situation. On the pages were photographs of a young woman with a silly grin and big, brown doe eyes. She wrote of mundane things, like eating Cocoa Krispies and watching SpongeBob SquarePants, alongside milestones like entering college and starting a relationship.

But BART Police Officers Dave Touye and Eric Hofstein knew different. As beat cops in Zone 4, which includes the downtown San Francisco stations with the largest homeless populations, they had seen Jessica (a pseudonym to protect her privacy) nodding off into a heroin haze, becoming thinner, sicker, more vulnerable in the space of a few months.

Touye could have arrested her, but instead, he had something else to offer. Jessica became the first person sheltering in BART to be referred into a new pilot program called LEAD, for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion. Jessica agreed that day to go into the LEAD program, and had 30 days to meet with the caseworker. "She told me she was ready, she was willing," said Touye.

Modeled after a six-year-old Seattle program, LEAD focuses

on harm reduction rather than judgment or requiring total abstinence. It includes homeless people, law enforcement, public health care providers, social workers and others from the community—all partners in the process, rather than on one 'side' or another.

LEAD is paid for through a \$6 million grant from the Board of State and Community Corrections and has three main goals:

- Reduce the recidivism rate for low-level drug and alcohol offenders
- Strengthen collaboration across city and community-based partners
- Improve the health and housing status of participants

Unlike other programs before it, LEAD does not require drug abstinence or drug testing—it emphasizes the here and now. "What can we do to help you out today?" officers ask. The tone is more caring than judgmental.

This isn't however an automatic pass. The referred person has 30 days to do an intake with a case worker, who can help them with

job training, housing assistance, or addiction recovery when they are ready for it. Participation must be voluntary—BART officers record the conversations on their body-worn camera so they have the person's verbal agreement to participate. A person does not have to be homeless to participate in the LEAD program.

The situation is daunting. The same people account for many of the contacts. The week after Jessica's LEAD referral, Hofstein couldn't say for sure if she would follow through on her end to meet with the caseworker. "I saw her in the station again," he recalled, "but she skittered away."

Still, Jessica could be one of the lucky ones. She is young, her habits not yet hardened. Her mother writes heartbreaking pleas to the officers, asking them to look out for her daughter, and what she can send instead of money, fearing money would go to drugs.

The LEAD program is in its infancy; still, if successful, there is hope for Jessica. For all the Jessicas.



Left to right, BART Police Officers Eric Hofstein and Dave Touye

Continued from page 1

Anticipation

The Art of Dmitry Grudsky

community in and around the Bay Area for more than 25 years. His interest in art started early on. At the age of seven, his mother took him to an art studio, after which Grudsky began practicing art on his own. While at college he was exposed to a wide variety of artistic trends, building on a strong foundation in classical Western

and diplomacy to deal with clients.

During his school years, Grudsky studied oil painting, which he practiced for a long time. However, he associated oil painting with academic projects and felt constricted in his creativity. Experimenting with water medium lent him freedom



European art traditions with stylistic infusions from Asia Minor.

Success and fame did not come easy for Grudsky. After graduating from college, he worked full-time as a muralist for eighteen years before emigrating to the USA. He had to compete with highly established professional artists. In his own words, it was “challenging and exciting at the same time.” Starting from executing small commissioned projects, he gradually built up confidence and experience, while learning skills that weren't taught at school, such as work ethic, marketing,

and spontaneity. Grudsky still shares his knowledge of oil painting with his students, but now prefers to work exclusively in watercolor. With intensive training at school and over 40 years of experience under his belt, Grudsky has developed his own unique style of figurative paintings that exude a whimsical and dreamlike quality. He enjoys painting every minute that he has, for it gives him a chance to express himself “in manageable time.”

Mosaic projects require more time and consistency; hence, they are more suitable as a public art



medium. Although Grudsky studied mosaic, fresco, stained glass, and sculpture techniques in college, his current involvement with mosaic was a coincidence. His very first commissioned project just happened to be mosaic. “It wasn't the most glorious project,” he says, but it was the first one, and he was “so happy to get it done.” Grudsky explores new ideas and materials through mosaic. His three-dimensional forms are intriguing, as the light and shadows render special effects across the tiles, changing colors and shapes while you watch.

From the onset, creating sculptures for private commissions, public art, and community projects has been Grudsky's dream. His training was dedicated to achieving that goal. He has always been passionate about challenging and enhancing urban environment. Grudsky has often worked in collaboration with architects and other artists to design large-scale

public installations. He draws his inspiration from nature and combines it with modern abstraction, while integrating ancient Byzantine mosaic techniques – stained glass, mural painting, and relief – to produce works that are rich in texture. For Grudsky, “sculpture is a three-dimensional poem,” which communicates the feelings of people and place.

Over the years, he has participated in many local and national art exhibitions, and taught a variety of art forms to adults as well as children. His work is displayed nationally and internationally, and has been accepted into the Society of American Mosaic Artists' International Juried Show. His pieces are said to be “spare yet sophisticated, playful yet elegant.”

In 1992, Grudsky moved to the Bay Area to be with his family, who have long supported each other in their artistic endeavors. Both his wife and

daughter are musicians. Grudsky believes that “to succeed as an artist, you have to work hard, take a risk, challenge yourself,” which to him has brought satisfaction and appreciation.

We are very excited to bring you the inspiring mixed-media works of Dmitry Grudsky. Come experience the joy as we anticipate much art and beauty in the coming year!

Anticipation: The Art of Dmitry Grudsky
Friday, Jan 5 – Saturday, Feb 3
Thursday – Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.

Artist's Reception
Friday, Jan 12
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

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B.A., Humanities, Magna Cum Laude, Michigan State University

Juris Doctor, University of Illinois (7th in class)

Quoted by Ralph Nader in his book "No Contest" (1996)

Instructor Stanford Univ. Advanced Trial Advocacy 1995 - Present

Faculty, Santa Clara University School of Law 1987

Editor, University of Illinois Law Review

California Supreme Court Cases

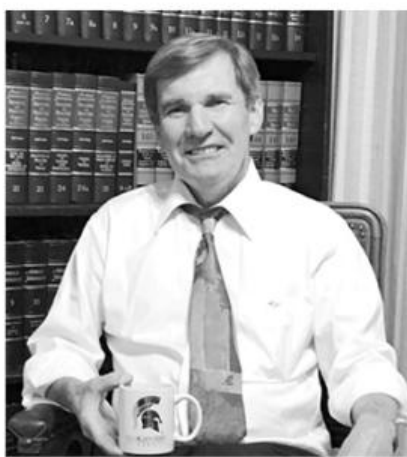
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BART Police Log

SUBMITTED BY LES MENSINGER

Saturday, Dec. 23

At 7:21 p.m. a BART police officer saw a male and female breaking into a car in the Bay Fair station parking lot in San Leandro. The suspects fled on foot, but the officer was able to apprehend the female. The male suspect was not located by other responding officers. The juvenile female

suspect was ultimately on suspicion of burglary, possession of burglary tools and attempted auto theft. She was turned over to her parents.

Tuesday, Dec. 26

At 5:30 p.m. Oakland Police arrested Kenneth Martin, 18, of Oakland, and two male juvenile suspects who were in possession of the vehicle reportedly stolen from the Bay Fair station in San Leandro. Detectives were notified, and the vehicle was towed and stored. The investigation is continuing.

Fremont Police Log

SUBMITTED BY GENEVA BOSQUES, FREMONT PD

Monday, Dec. 25

Officer Miller and Field Training Officer Franchi stopped a 37-year-old man on the railroad tracks near Ford Lane. The man was found to be on post-release community supervision for possession of stolen property and probation for resisting arrest. The man had a laptop computer that did not belong to him, a bag of methamphetamine and a pipe. He was booked on various charges. Police are trying to locate the owner of the laptop computer.

Officers responded to an address on Mission Boulevard on the report of an intoxicated man reportedly battering his adult daughter. Officers had been to the same residence the previous night for a disturbance. Officer Latimer arrested the man on suspicion of battery.

Several callers reported that a woman was standing in the middle of the roadway at Auto Mall Parkway and Fremont Boulevard. Several people tried to get the woman to move, but she refused. When arriving officers tried to get her to move, she began to fight. The woman was detained and found to have a misdemeanor warrant. She was placed on a mental health hold and will be charged with resisting arrest.

Tuesday, Dec. 26

A woman walking with her small child in the Sundale neighborhood reported that a male pushed her and snatched a gold chain from her neck. A short while later, Traffic Officer Ramsey located a male nearby who matched the suspect description. When the suspect saw officers, he started jumping fences in the neighborhood to get away. A perimeter was set, and after jumping several more fences, the suspect was arrested as he tried to flee eastbound across Fremont Boulevard at Stevenson Boulevard. One officer was slightly injured during this incident.

Wednesday, Dec. 27

At 4:54 p.m. officers were dispatched to a cellular phone store located in the 43300 block of Christy Street on the report of a shoplifting incident. The caller said a suspect reportedly stole four iPhone X phones and fled on foot. The suspect was described as a black man, about 20 years-old, last seen wearing a black hoodie, black beanie and blue jeans. The loss is valued at \$4,600. No video surveillance recording is available. Officer Davis is investigating.

Officer Gonzales was dispatched to the Safeway store on Mission Boulevard in the Warm Springs area on a report of two suspicious vehicles and males associated with those vehicles who were peering into other parked vehicles. When Gonzales arrived, he located one of the suspect vehicles but not the occupants. A check of the vehicle showed that it had been reported stolen out of Milpitas.

Union City Police Log

SUBMITTED BY LT. MATIAS PARDO, UNION CITY PD

Monday, Dec. 18

At around 1:45 p.m. Officer Olson met and spoke with four people during a security check at Seven Hills Park, 384 Florence Street. His investigation uncovered a large amount of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, prescription pills and marijuana, and evidence indicative of sales. Juan Gonzales-Lopez, 21, of Union City, was arrested on suspicion of possessing brass knuckles and for various drug-related offenses. Three other suspects, all 18-year-olds out of Union City and Santa Clara, were cited for various drug-related offenses.

At around 11:50 p.m. Officer Stange conducted a traffic stop near Regents Boulevard and Dyer Street. It was determined the vehicle was stolen from of San Jose. There were also stolen credit cards found inside the vehicle. Lauren Tampil, 25, of Morgan Hill, was arrested on suspicion of vehicle theft, the misappropriation of lost property, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

At around 6:45 p.m. Officer Olson located a vehicle that had been reported stolen in Union City earlier in the day. Richardo Velazquez, 30, of Hayward, was

arrested on suspicion of vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, and possession of burglary tools.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

At around 7:30 p.m. a suspect attempted to steal a laptop in the 32300 block of Alvarado Boulevard. The victim managed to hold onto the laptop, and the suspect fled on foot. The suspect was described as a black female, 16-18 years old, about 5-feet-9-inches tall and weighing about 165 pounds.

At around 9:30 p.m. a suspect in the Union Landing shopping center sprayed employees with a fire extinguisher before fleeing with shopping bags full of stolen items. The suspect was described as a black man in his late 20s to early 30s, between 5-feet-9-inches and 6-feet tall with a thin build. The case is under investigation.

Saturday, Dec. 23

At around 3:45 p.m. Officer Blanchard made a traffic stop in the 30100 block of Industrial Parkway. A probation search of the vehicle turned up three shaved keys. Eugene Roxas, 38, of Hayward, was arrested on suspicion of possessing burglary tools.

Sunday, Dec. 24

At around 5:45 p.m. Office Bellotti stopped to men who were seen near a vehicle with a stolen license plate. The vehicle was determined to be stolen out of Newark. Hayward residents Daniel Silva, 25, and Victor Sanchez, 37, were both arrested on suspicion of vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, conspiracy, and drug-related offenses

Suspicious death

SUBMITTED FREMONT PD

Detectives from the Fremont Police Department are investigating the Christmas Day death of a 47-year-old woman that has been deemed suspicious.

At 11:22 a.m. a caller to 911 notified police dispatchers about a woman with a visible head injury walking southbound on Fremont Boulevard, just south of Thornton Avenue. Responding officers found the woman near the Centerville train station already being treated for a head injury by members of the Fremont Fire Department. She was taken by ambulance to a trauma center.

Meanwhile, officers canvassed the area and spoke to several people living in nearby homeless encampments trying to find information about how the woman was injured and any potential witnesses. At 6:30 p.m. the Alameda County Sheriff's Office reported that the woman had died at the hospital. Medical personnel provided officers with additional information about the injury, which was described as head trauma, but they couldn't determine the cause of the trauma.

Because of the suspicious circumstances of the woman's death, the police department's Crimes Against Persons Unit took over the investigation. Detectives are working with the Alameda County Coroner to investigate the case and determine how the woman, described by police as a transient from Fremont, was injured. The investigation has been classified as a suspicious circumstance case.

The woman's next of kin has not been located and her name has not yet been released.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to contact Detective Craig Gaches at Cgaches@fremont.gov or call (510) 790-6900. Anonymous tips via text or on the web can also be sent to police. Please text Tip FremontPD followed by your short message to 888-777, or via the web by going to <https://local.nixle.com/tip/alert/6216337>.

California authorities seize pot from licensed company

By MICHAEL BALSAMO AND DON THOMPSON ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two employees of a Northern California business have been arrested and a large amount of marijuana has been seized despite it having a local pot license.

Joe Rogoway, an attorney for Old Kai Distribution, said Dec. 27 that the employees were transporting marijuana from a cultivator when they were pulled over by the California Highway Patrol. He says the company has a license from Mendocino County and was told it could operate legally.

The California Highway Patrol says it's illegal to transport marijuana without a state license, which was to take effect Monday, Jan. 1.

Authorities cited the driver and passenger for unlawful transportation of cannabis and unlawful possession for sale and seized about 1,900 pounds of pot. Rogoway is demanding the marijuana be returned and the charges be dropped.

PUBLIC NOTICES

T.S. No.: 2015-03848-CA A.P.N.:543-451-98 Property Address: 5468 Dekker Terrace, Fremont, CA 94555 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d). THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR. NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/15/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Trustor: RAY URBI AND GRACIAE V. URBI, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC Deed of Trust Recorded 08/24/2005 as Instrument No. 2005362360 in book ---, page --- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, Date of Sale: 01/29/2018 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: AT THE FALLON STREET EMERGENCY EXIT

OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94612 Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 879,785.07 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE: All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as: More fully described in said Deed of Trust. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 5468 Dekker Terrace, Fremont, CA 94555 A.P.N.: 543-451-98 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession,

or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust: The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 879,785.07. Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there

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your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site http://www.altisource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx using the file number assigned to this case 2015-03848-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: December 20, 2017 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 237 Ventura, CA 93003 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 http://www.altisource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx Trustee Sale Assistant WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1/2, 1/9, 1/16/18

CNS-3083627#

Acura MDX Hybrid - Powerful, more efficient flagship SUV

BY STEVE SCHAEFER

Hybrid vehicles are designed to improve upon gasoline-powered cars rather than replace them. The Acura MDX, a midsize, three-row crossover SUV, is no paragon of fuel efficiency on its own, but when you add an electric component to the drivetrain, it jumps up to earning the mileage of a compact hatchback, despite its bountiful power and hauling capacity—and mass.

Knowing that the action in the personal transportation business is in the crossover segment, Acura positions this hybrid as a flagship. While the Hybrid's engine drops from a 290-horsepower, 3.5-liter V6 to a 257-horsepower 3.0-liter one, adding in not one but three electric motors and a 1.3 kW lithium-ion battery pushes total output to a formidable 321 horsepower and 289 lb.-ft. of torque, making it the brand's mightiest SUV ever.

Acura's engineers tucked all this extra technology underneath the car, so passenger and cargo space is unaffected, and the extra couple of hundred pounds adds to stability with a low center of gravity.

The Sport Hybrid gets a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic with manual mode, like the one in the RLX sport hybrid sedan and the nine-speed version in the NSX. You get virtually instant gear changes, as the other clutch sets up the next gear before you select it. Without a torque converter, a dual-clutch transmission is more efficient. You can use steering wheel mounted paddles to pick your own gears to add to the sportiness.

The three motors are integrated tightly into the existing powertrain. In front, a 47-horsepower motor is part of the transmission. At the rear, twin 36-horsepower motors

sit where the differential for all-wheel-drive lives.

Acura's SH-AWD all-wheel-drive technology is a proven feature. The twin rear motors in this application use torque vectoring to affect handling in positive ways. For example, during turns, the outer wheel can be given more torque. All three motors regenerate electricity while braking to fill the battery for more EV driving.

The Hybrid MDX gets EPA ratings of 26 City, 27 Highway, and 27 Combined. The regular MDX achieves 18/26/21 respectively. Smog and Greenhouse gas numbers are both 6's, which is normal for 3.0-liter V6s. The 329 grams of CO2 emitted by this car is about three-quarters of what many standard vehicles put out, so there's some positive environmental impact.

Despite its size and height, electronic tuning and controls allow you to personalize the driving experience, so you can tackle interesting roads. While the standard MDX offers three preconfigured driving modes—Comfort, Normal, and Sport—the MDX Hybrid gives you a Sport+ mode as well. Each setting uses the car's electronic controls to enable more and more extreme modification to steering effort, throttle response, shock damping, shift points, and amount of torque vectoring to suit the driving conditions and the driver's taste.

Acuras have worn some aggressive faces in the last several years, but have toned that down recently to look less beaky. The new MDX design features the "Diamond Pentagon" grille, made up of tiny elements radiating away from the oversize Acura logo at the center. This is becoming the new face of the brand, scaled to fit each model. Knowing that they compete against models from BMW

and Mercedes-Benz with long-familiar visages, Acura has struggled to create a meaningful identity that sticks. This new look is easy to take, but time will tell.

Interiors are plush in an upscale way here, with the distinctive boldly carved dash and doors making every moment inside an Acura a stimulating experience. Materials rate above sister division Honda, as expected.

The MDX Sport Hybrid comes in two forms: Technology and Advance. The Advance incorporates the Technology package. Highlights of the Technology package include a navigation system with voice recognition, AcuraLink Communication System with Real-Time Traffic, the Acura ELS Studio Premium Audio System, a GPS-linked Tri-Zone Auto Climate System, Blind Spot Information System and Rear Cross Traffic Monitor, rain sensing wipers, and more. The

Advance brings in a surround-view camera system, leather sport seats, heated second-row captain's chairs, wood trim, rear door sunshades, and more amenities.

Prices start at \$53,915 for the Technology Package version. My White Diamond Pearl tester, an Advance model with no additional options, listed at \$58,975. The non-hybrid MDX starts at \$45,025, if you want the look and utility but not the hybrid performance.

As it has done for all its existence, Acura fights against the German luxury brands, as well as Lexus, Cadillac, Volvo, and the others. Honda can hope its customers will move upward into Acuras, part of the assignment for the founding Integra and Legend models. The MDX is an Acura perennial, and with crossovers hotter than ever, is a suitable flagship. The Sport Hybrid makes it just a bit more fuel efficient.



Over the past 25 years, Steve Schaefer has tested more than 1,200 cars and published a weekly story on every one. As a teenager, he visited car dealers' back lots to catch a glimpse of the new models as they first rolled off the transporter. He is a founding member of the Western Automotive Journalists.

Contact Steve at sdsauto53@gmail.com My blog for alternative vehicles: stevegoesgreen.com



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<p>Shinn House Mission Peak Heritage Foundation 1269 Peralta Blvd. Fremont Docents & Volunteers needed for Various Activities throughout the year. Free professional Docent Training. Please contact: Joan Serafino 510-795-0891</p>	<p>Fremont Cribbage Club Meets to play weekly, every Wed. We play a Cribbage Tournament starting at 6:25 pm at Round Table Pizza at 37480 Fremont Blvd., We welcome experienced player and will work with new players hoping to learn the game. email: Accgr43@gmail.com for more information</p>	<p>New Dimension Chorus Men's 4 Part Vocal Harmony In the "Barbershop" style Thursdays at 7pm Calvary Luther Church 17200 Via Magdalena SanLorenzo Contact: ndchorus.org 510-332-2481</p>	<p>Supporting the Fremont Symphony Orchestra for 50 years! FREMONT SYMPHONY GUILD To learn more about this group of music-lovers call 510-673-0085 or email blgorsuch@att.net</p>	<p>The Friendship Force San Francisco Bay Area Experience a country & its culture with local hosts; meet global visitors here. Japanese guests in 2017 Travel to Kenya in 2018 Many Bay Area social activities. www.fffba.org www.thefriendshipforce.org Call 510-794-6844 or 793-0857</p>
<p>TRI-CITIES WOMEN'S CLUB Meets on the third Tuesday Elk's Club on Farwell Drive 9:15 – Cards & Games 11:45 – Lunch 1:00 – Program & Meeting Group meeting monthly/bimonthly; marathon bridge, walking group, lunch bunch, rummikub group, pinochle group, bocce ball & book club. For more info, call 510-656-0162</p>	<p>St Vincent de Paul Thrift Store 3777 Decoto Road Fremont DONATIONS: Tues. - Sun. 10AM- 4:30 PM Clean, lightly used clothing. House-hold & furniture. No electronics or e-waste. VOLUNTEERS: Individuals & groups! COMMUNITY SPACE Call for info 510-792-3711 Fremont@svdp-alameda.org</p>	<p>HELP FEED THE NEED TCV Food Bank & Thrift Store (Tri-City Volunteers) looking for energized volunteers to help out in our Marketplace (Food Bank) and Thrift Store. Variety of tasks & shifts available Monday–Friday 7:30a–4:00p. For more information, visit www.tcvfoodbank.org email volunteer@tcvfoodbank.org.</p>	<p>SONS OF ITALY Social Club for Italians And Friends 1st Friday of month (No meetings July/Aug/Dec) 5:30 social hour 6:30 potluck dinner (\$5) Newark Pavilion - Bld. 2 (Thornton Blvd. & Cherry Blvd., Newark) Info: Gina 510-943-7403 www.giuseppemazzini.org</p>	
<p>Scholarships for Women Our Fremont Philanthropic Organization, PEO Scholarships for Women entering college, earning another degree or returning to school after 2+ yrs Low interest education loans Apply online: www.peocalifornia.org wordsmitt65@gmail.com for info</p>	<p>Are You Troubled By Someone's Drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen are here to help. Al-Anon has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics. We share our experience, strength, and hope. www.ncwsa.org for a meeting near you, or call 510-276-2270, or email Easyduz@gmail.com</p>	<p>Fremont Area Writers Like to write? Meet other writers? Get tips from speakers? Join us from 2-4pm every fourth Saturday except in July & December www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org</p>	<p>Students Looking for Scholarship Money? Enter Newark Optimist Essay Contest Topic: "Can Society Function Without Respect?" to enter: www.optimist.org January 26, 2018 Deadline Mail to: Newark Optimist Club PO Box 402 Newark CA 94560</p>	<p>Little Lamb Preschool Open House Sat. March 3 Drop-in Between 9-12pm Refreshments Meet the Teachers Visit the Classrooms Registration Info Available www.littlelambpreschoolbcc.org</p>
<p>Soiree Seniors For People Over 60 Many Activities Potluck Dinners, Dancing, TGIF's, Birthdays and more Call Dianne for information (510) 581-9008</p>	<p>Fremont Garden Club Join enthusiasts from Tri-City area Meets Feb. - Oct. 3rd Wednesday of the month at various locations Social time: 6:15 pm Presentation: 7-8:30 pm Annual dues: \$30 indi, \$50 couples Call Lynn: 510-604-8206 www.fremontgardenclub.org</p>			<p>Fremont Youth Symphony Orchestra Apply online for Audition http://fremontsymphony.org New Season starts on 9/11/17 Monday Rehearsals, 4pm-7pm First United Methodist Church 2950 Washington Blvd, Fremont youth@fremontsymphony.org or call (510) 936-0570</p>
<p>SparkPoint Financial Services for Low-Income Residents FREE financial services & coaching. SparkPoint Info Session 3rd Thursday, 6-7pm City of Fremont Family Resource Center To register, call 574-2020. Fremont.gov/SparkPointFRC</p>	<p>Attend Free Classes Become A Travel Trainer & teach others how to travel at wholesale Prices. Tax Benefits & Free Health Care Reserve your seating. Arleen 510 695 7278 insidertravel4u@gmail.com</p>			<p>Serious Mental Illness FREE 12 week course for caregivers of someone with a serious mental illness January 6 2018 9:00 - 11:30 in Fremont Registration required Contact: Joe Rose 510-378-1578 or Email: F2F@NAMIlacs.org http://www.NAMIlacs.org http://www.NAMI.org</p>

Randall Elementary offers dual language immersion program

BY RHODA J. SHAPIRO

As Milpitas' first and only school to offer a Dual Language Immersion program, Randall Elementary has created a vibrant, diverse community of students, parents, and educators.

On Friday, December 8, Randall hosted a tour for families interested in sending their children to a school where classes are taught in both English and Spanish.

"Milpitas is very diverse ethnically and linguistically. We started seeing people from all language backgrounds asking for a Dual Language program," said Principal Carlos Salcido. "We started to look around in the Bay Area, and we were among the few schools that didn't have a program. We asked ourselves: Why isn't our district offering

this kind of program to our students?"

For almost four years, Salcido has served as principal of Randall. Before that, he was principal at River Glen School in San Jose, that also had a Dual Language program. It was in 2016 when Randall's Dual Immersion program first started, offering Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten classes. This year, as students moved up a grade, Randall started offering Dual Immersion to First Grade as well. Fifty percent of Randall's student population is Latino, so diving in to a language program that was based in Spanish seemed like a perfect fit.

In order to have the right elements, a Dual Language Immersion Program must consist of students who are well-versed in

each language. At Randall, both Spanish speakers and English speakers attend across all five Dual Immersion classes. With this mix, students are able to learn from and support one another.

"The teachers are conscious of who their Spanish speakers and Spanish learners are. So they set up pairs to talk to each other. So you have a strong Spanish speaker and a Spanish learner. They purposefully set up the tables, the carpet time, so that the students can work with each other. There are a couple times during the day where the students choose where they go for spontaneous language. That's the beauty of two-way immersion. You have both language groups together, and they learn from each other," said Principal Salcido. "That social



Principal Carlos Salcido works with a student.

language becomes so strong in pushing both languages."

Randall's program has infused students with a deep appreciation for languages and other cultures. Kids are empowered to connect and to expand beyond what they're accustomed to. "One thing we didn't anticipate is empathy between the students," said Assistant Principal Olivia Contreras. "Some that already knew the Spanish language were helping and assisting. The culture within the classroom is empathetic. That's a beautiful thing I noticed."

With each new year, school administrators plan to add another grade level for Dual Immersion, which means that eventually the entire school will fall under that curriculum.

So, what happens to the teachers who don't speak Spanish and have no bilingual teaching credentials?

"There was this fear..." said Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Norma Rodriguez. "Because we started with TK and Kinder, and then we added First grade. And there was a fear that those teachers who speak only English who've been here forever would feel unwanted. But the teachers are excited about being a part of this. They say that Randall needs this program, that Milpitas needs this. They support the program. There's no division. There was a lot of intentionality in the way it was created."

As all grade levels transition to Dual Immersion classes, teachers at Randall will be granted first choice of any openings at other school sites. And teachers who are bilingual, but may not have a credential, are thinking of

getting it. They all realize that the appetite for Randall's new program is immense.

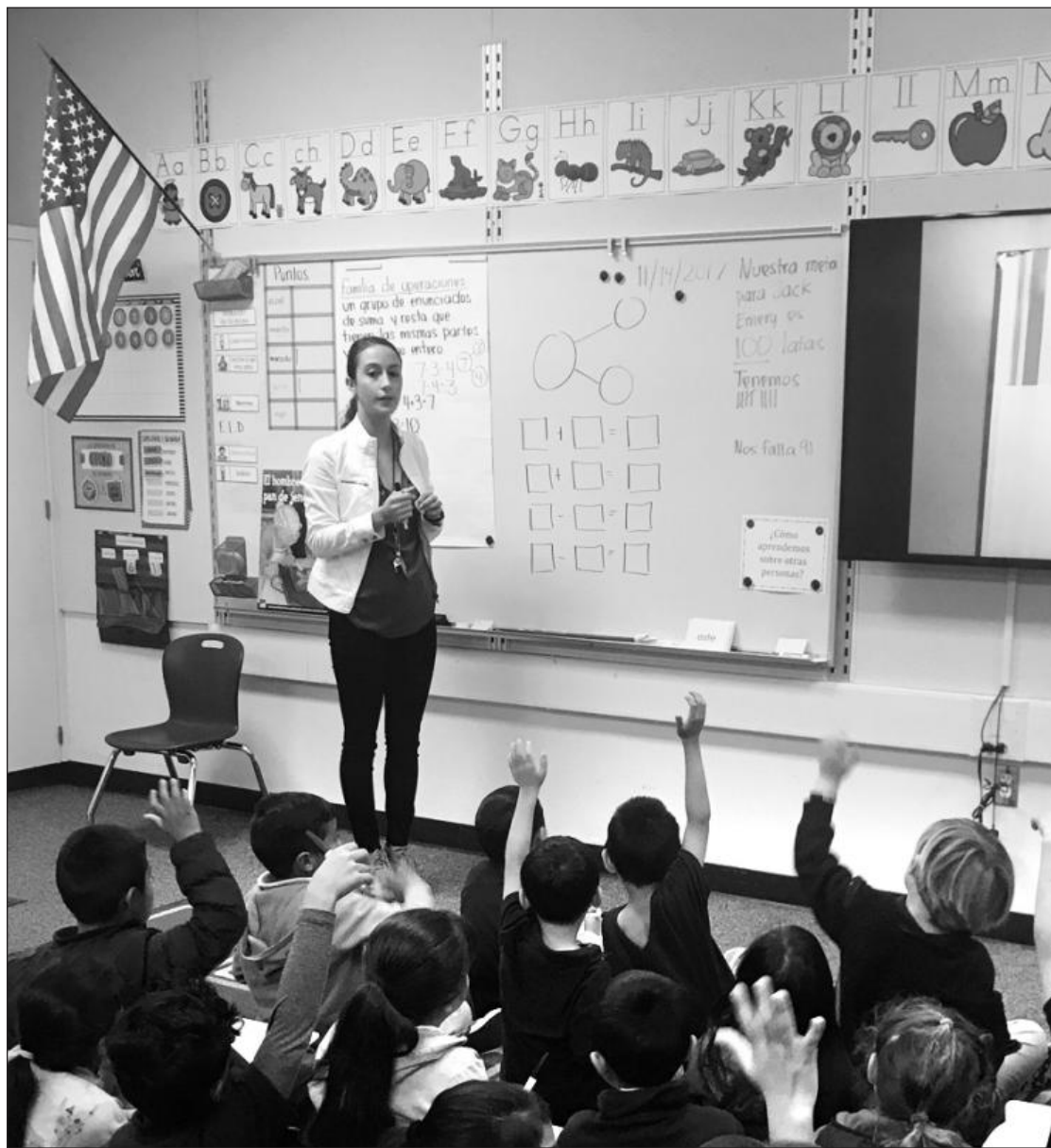
Naveen Ancha, who was born and raised in India, speaks five different languages. He brought his daughter Haraka, age 3, to Randall's Dual Immersion tour, hoping for her to nurture a love and understanding of different languages and cultures, as well. "I'm thinking of signing her up for TK in 2018," said Ancha. "And the reason is, the more languages they learn, the more it opens up their minds."

Studies have shown that Dual Immersion programs are of great benefit to a child's cognitive development. Ed Berbena, whose daughter Allison just turned 7, can attest to that. He has seen the ways in which his daughter has blossomed. Allison began Randall's Dual Immersion program in Kindergarten, and is now in First Grade. At a parent-teacher conference, Berbena was told by Allison's teacher that she was already reading at a level four — two levels beyond the norm for someone her age. Berbena was astounded.

"This has awoken my daughter to something I didn't know she had," Berbena said.

Assistant Superintendent Norma Rodriguez is thrilled about all the enthusiasm for Randall's program. "This program...all of this has been like a jewel waiting to be awakened and shown to the world," she said. "...now it's known that there's something great happening at Randall."

To learn more about Randall Elementary and Dual Language Immersion, go to: <http://randall.musd.org>



THE ROBOT REPORT

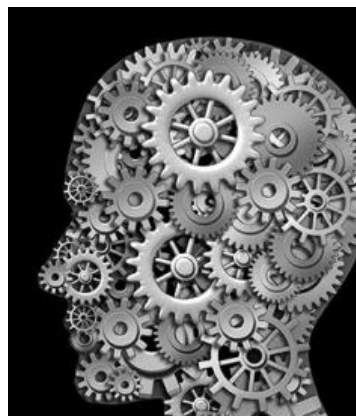
BY FRANK TOBE

There's a scare-tactic video going around on social media, and I wanted to weigh in on it — this video has gone from 500,000 views to almost 2 million in the past 10 days. As a matter of principle, I will not publish the URL to it. It presents a scary future in which killer robotic drones — controlled by any terrorist organization or government — run rampant.

The twin issues of killer robots and robots taking our jobs are the result of the two-edged blade of new technology, i.e., technologies that can be used for both good and evil. Should these new technologies be stopped entirely or regulated? Can they be regulated? Once you see a video like this one, one doubts whether they can ever be controlled. It's

fearful media that doesn't say it is fake until far beyond the irresponsible level.

Videos like this one — and there are many — are produced for multiple purposes. The issues often get lost to the drama of the message. They are the result of, or fueled by, headline-hungry news sources, social media types and commercial and political strategists. This shock video — fake as it is — is promoting a longer, more balanced documentary and non-profit organization on the topic of stopping autonomous killing machines. Yet there are other factual videos of the U.S. military's Perdix drones swarming just like in the shock video. Worse still, the same technologists that teach future roboticists at MIT are also developing those Perdix drones



and their swarming capabilities.

My earlier career was in political strategy and I know something about the tactics of fear and manipulation — of raising doubts for manipulative purposes, as well as the real need for technologies to equalize the playing field. Again, the two-edged sword.

Presently, we are under a very real threat militarily and from the cyber world. We must invest in countering those threats and inventing new preventative weaponry. Non-militarily, jobs are under threat — particularly

the dull, dirty and dangerous (DDD) ones easily replaced by robots and automation. In today's global and competitive world, DDD jobs are being replaced because they are costly and inefficient. But they are also being replaced without too much consideration for those displaced.

It's hard for me as an investor and observer (and in the past as a hands-on participant) to reconcile what I know about the state of robotics, automation and artificial intelligence today with the future use of those very same technologies.

I see the speed of change, e.g.: for many years, Google has had thousands of coders coding their self-driving system and compiling the relevant and necessary databases and models. But along comes George Hotz and other super-coders who single-handedly write code that writes code to accomplish the same thing. Code that writes code is what Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking fear, yet it

is inevitable and soon will be commonplace. Ray Kurzweil named this phenomenon and claims that the 'singularity' will happen by 2045 with an interim milestone in 2029 when AI will achieve human levels of intelligence. Kurzweil's forecasts, predicated on exponential technological growth, is evident in the Google/Hotz example.

Pundits and experts suggest that when machines become smarter than human beings, they'll take over the world. Kurzweil doesn't think so. He envisions the same technology that will make AIs more intelligent giving humans a boost as well. It's back to the two-edged sword of good and evil.

In my case, as a responsible writer and editor covering robotics, automation and artificial intelligence, I think it's important to stay on topic, not fan the flames of fear, and to present the positive side of the sword.



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