



Caliban
kicks off
2017
concert
series

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Celebrating
Martin Luther
King, Jr. – Idealist
and pragmatist

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Renowned
children's
recording
artist offers
workshop

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Art & work can save us: Soulciety's visionary youth programs

BY PHILIP KOBYLARZ
PHOTOS COURTESY OF SOULCIETY

Children of today live in a vastly different world. It is one filled with endless distraction, narrowing economic opportunity, and with the recent turn of events, political

uncertainty. What young people find essential is grounding and stability, and the Tri-City area has an incredible organization to promote this.

Soulciety is a non-profit created in 2008 that focuses on creative development by channeling young people into the workforce. Their concentration is on internships and

future successful pathways so that young people can survive on a living wage while they do what is often forgotten in our society: discovering their passion in life. At any given time, they serve approximately 180 enrollees and provide services for another 300. They also feature a career

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Concerts treat community to 'Song and Jazz'

SUBMITTED BY
VICKILYN HUSSEY

The Great American Songbook meets the great German Leider in Music at the Mission's "Song and Jazz: Schubert to Ellington"! Immerse yourself in Schubert, Kern, Gershwin, Ellington and the dazzling, rarely performed virtuoso work for double bass and baritone voice, Mozart's "Per Questa Bella Mano," at an elegant Tuscan villa in Milpitas overlooking the bay. The concert on Sunday, January 15 is part of The Salon Series presented by Music at the Mission.



"The Salon Series was originally conceived as a gathering of friends around music, inspired by the musical gatherings (salons) of composer Franz Schubert," explained Bill Everett, bassist and Artistic Co-Director of Music at the Mission. The tradition of serving an array of wines and delicious hors d'oeuvres is also a convivial part of The Salon Series.

"While Mozart and Schubert seem far from Gershwin and Ellington, when hearing them side by side in a small intimate setting, the universality of their music is very clear." The program also demonstrates the incredible

versatility and appeal of artists Autris Paige, César Cancino, and Bill Everett. "There are few performers who are equally at home in the classical and popular world, and Autris is one of them," Everett said. "He has performed at the Metropolitan Opera, and he has performed with Ray Charles on Broadway. That is a unique combination."

For many years, César Cancino was the musical director and pianist for Teatro Zinzanni, a European style circus-cabaret in San Francisco, and

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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,” said 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 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 Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center 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 said. 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 added. “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 and improving mobility can really 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. They may use ultrasound, electrical stimulation, and other methods to reduce pain, swelling, and scar tissue, in addition to guiding patients through a physical routine, Mukherjee explained.

The exercise routines use a variety of equipment, including recumbent and upright stationary bicycles, an upper body exerciser, therapeutic exercise balls, and a treadmill, as well as other stretching and strengthening equipment.

Pain in the Neck

Chronic neck and back pain are common complaints among adults and can get in the way of regular activities. Mukherjee said there is evidence that shows physical therapy can be an effective alternative to long-term use of prescription pain medications, and even surgery, to reduce chronic pain, including neck and back pain. Physical therapists can develop a plan that might include manual therapy, flexibility and strengthening exercises, and/or electrical stimulation. 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 don’t need to get in the way of an active lifestyle,” Mukherjee said. “Physical therapy can also help reduce the pain, stiffness and weakness that many people associate with aging.”



If pain is keeping you from achieving your New Year's resolution, you may want to consider physical therapy. The Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center is staffed by highly trained physical therapists who are skilled at providing the latest techniques for alleviating pain so you can get moving in the new year.

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



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	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	1/3/17	1/4/17	1/5/17	1/6/17	1/7/17	1/8/17	1/9/17
12:00 PM 12:30 PM 12:30 AM	Eating for Heart Health by Reducing Sodium	Sideline'd by Back Pain? Get Back in the Game	Learn About the Signs & Symptoms of Sepsis	Inside Washington Hospital:The Green Team	Learn About the Signs & Symptoms of Sepsis	Sports Medicine Program:Youth Sports Injuries	Diabetes Matters: Healthy or Hoax
1:00 PM 1:00 AM	Good Fats vs. Bad Fats		Diabetes Matters: Understanding Labs to Improve Diabetes Management	Community Based Senior Supportive Services	Urinary Incontinence in Women:What You Need to Know		Kidney Transplants
1:30 PM 1:30 AM	Arthritis: Do I Have One of 100 Types	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 14, 2016			The Weigh to Success	Relieving Back Pain: Know Your Options	
2:00 PM 2:00 AM	Voices InHealth: Bras for Body & Soul		Latest Treatments for Cerebral Aneurysms	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 14, 2016			Voices InHealth: Healthy Pregnancy
2:30 PM 2:30 AM		Alzheimer's Disease			Learn About Nutrition for a Healthy Life	Voices InHealth: Cyber-bullying - The New Schoolyard Bully	
3:00 PM 3:00 AM	Your Concerns InHealth: Decisions in End of Life Care		Low Back Pain	Dietary Treatment to Treat Celiac Disease			Preventive Healthcare Screening for Adults
4:00 PM 4:00 AM		Family Caregiver Series: Legal & Financial Affairs			Learn If You Are at Risk for Liver Disease	Getting the Most Out of Your Insurance When You Have Diabetes	
4:30 PM 4:30 AM	Not A Superficial Problem:Varicose Veins & Chronic Venous Disease		Nerve Compression Disorders of the Arm	What You Should Know About Carbs and Food Labels			Diabetes Matters: The Diabetes Domino Effect:ABCs
5:00 PM 5:00 AM		Learn How to Eat Better!			Family Caregiver Series: Recognizing the Need to Transition to a Skilled Nursing Facility	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 14, 2016	
5:30 PM 5:30 AM	Hip Pain in the Young and Middle-Aged Adult		Keys to Healthy Eyes	Raising Awareness About Stroke			Learn Exercises to Help Lower Your Blood Pressure and Slow Your Heart Rate
6:00 PM 6:00 AM		Voices InHealth: Healthy Pregnancy			Diabetes Matters: Monitoring Matters	Diabetes Matters: Strategies for Incorporating Physical Activity	
6:30 PM 6:30 AM	Family Caregiver Series: Tips for Navigating the Healthcare System		Diabetes Matters: Ready, Set, Goal Setting	Diabetes Matters: Understanding Labs to Improve Diabetes Management			How Healthy Are Your Lungs?
7:00 PM 7:00 AM		Don't Let Back Pain Sideline You			Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 14, 2016	How to Prevent a Heart Attack	
7:30 PM 7:30 AM	Women's Health Conference: Can Lifestyle Reduce the Risk of Cancer?		Voices InHealth:The Greatest Gift of All	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes Chat			Learn If You Are at Risk for Liver Diseases
8:00 PM 8:00 AM		Crohn's & Colitis			Superbugs:Are We Winning the Germ War?	Take the Steps:What You Should Know About Foot Care	
8:30 PM 8:30 AM	Dietary Treatment to Treat Celiac Disease		Family Caregiver Series: Fatigue and Depression	Voices InHealth: The Legacy Strength Training System			
9:00 PM 9:00 AM		Minimally Invasive Options in Gynecology			Inside Washington Hospital: Implementing the Lean Management System	Inside Washington Hospital: Patient Safety	
9:30 PM 9:30 AM	Crohn's & Colitis		Voices InHealth: Washington's Community Cancer Program	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes Chat			Learn More About Kidney Disease
10:00 PM 10:00 AM		Dietary Treatment to Treat Celiac Disease			Family Caregiver Series: Fatigue and Depression	Take the Steps: What You Should Know About Foot Care	
10:30 PM 10:30 AM	Minimally Invasive Options in Gynecology		Inside Washington Hospital: Implementing the Lean Management System	Inside Washington Hospital: Patient Safety			
11:00 PM 11:00 AM		Crohn's & Colitis			Voices InHealth: Washington's Community Cancer Program	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes Chat	Learn If You Are at Risk for Liver Diseases
11:30 PM 11:30 AM	Dietary Treatment to Treat Celiac Disease		Family Caregiver Series: Fatigue and Depression	Take the Steps: What You Should Know About Foot Care			
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Your New Year's Resolutions for 2017

Don't Forget Basic Health

OK, so you've tucked away the holidays and laid out your resolutions for 2017. Spend less money? Maybe cut back on screen time? Slow things down and enjoy family and friends a bit more?

And then, 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, and that 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 progress slows," said Dr. Kuruma. "This could cause them to drop their resolve, and we try to help. 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 – and our doctors are here not only to encourage success, but also to help with alternate 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 age and 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 even 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 check-up

It's something Dr. Kuruma witnesses often. "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."

All great advice from a physician who likes staying true to her primary resolution, one she keeps at the top of her list every year.

"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 such a busy life, but I'm happy to say it happens most of the time."

Happy New Year from Washington Hospital Healthcare System.

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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continued from page 1

Art & work can save us: Soulciety's visionary youth programs



fair each spring to further brighten outlooks and to promote opportunity.

Initially founded as an arts organization, Soulciety has produced dozens of theatrical works, art events featuring performance, and workshops of an educational nature. They have brought the community together with children, artists, educators, and those willing to give their time and effort to foster creativity to inspire young people on their paths to self-discovery. They have put on performances at Chabot College and the Herbst Theatre in San Francisco. Backed by grants from various donors like the National Endowment for the Arts and Kaiser, they have an established history of channeling the goodwill of others to those in need.

Beyond our borders, their international concentration is located in the Philippines. The organization's mission is geared towards improving rural and impoverished communities through the cultivation of the arts, employment development, and aid programs for children throughout many provinces of the island nation. Director of Operations Aaron Horner stressed that there is a current need for "newer used computers" that will be put to use for the betterment of those they serve and these communities as a whole.

The problem in Hayward and the San Leandro area is especially pronounced. Children with little structure or the opportunity offered to the more affluent often find themselves descending into gang life, homelessness, incarceration, foster

care, and the inability to enter into educational venues that lead to self-improvement. Soulciety concentrates its efforts on South Hayward and the Ashland/Cherryland districts where there are thousands of at-risk children who need direction and a helping hand. Often, their organization is the only hope for a way out of the cycle of poverty and hopelessness that is the stark reality in a culture divided between the haves and have nots.

Theirs is a two-pronged deployment with programs at the Ashland Center in San Leandro and headquarters on Ruus Street in Hayward. They feature a Youth Employment Program (YEP) for 11-17 year olds and a REACH Rescue EMT (Emergency Management Technician) program for 18-24 year olds in addition to a Subsidized Wage Employment Program. YEP is concentrated on education and job-skills, one of the most successful programs in Alameda County. The REACH Ashland Youth Center, surrounded by other service providers, gives those in need an immersive environment of local support. Paid apprenticeships are offered to radically change the physical and spiritual landscape.

Soulciety's two arts programs, Empower and the Unincorporated Project, are



vehicles that promote theatrical production and the creative need for expression. Unincorporated will feature events along East 14th Street and Mission in Ashland that will transform sites of urban blight into artistic celebration. The productions, in the form of pop-up shows, will be based on life stories that reflect the challenges many have faced and conquered. Funded by the NEA's "Our Town" grant, this project is currently in the works.

Their Bridge Program was created to provide aid and education to youths in rural areas of the Philippines. Partnering with Oakland's The Stride Center, a school for IT training, and in conjunction with LBC, the world's largest Filipino shipping company, refurbished computers are sent overseas for much-needed computer labs. They also support a Performing Arts program for these children, often their first access to creative outlets.

The founder of this vast undertaking is Ron Carino. He recruited his friend Aaron Horner as the one responsible for making dreams do-able. Both were born and bred in Hayward and here they saw skyrocketing crime rates and unacceptable levels of juvenile delinquency. At the same time, they recognized Hayward as place full of artistic voice: a city full of musicians, writers, painters, and dancers. They channeled their expertise and love of the arts into Soulciety, working diligently towards the goal of making our world a better place for all.

For more information, call (510) 481-4500 or visit <http://soulciety.org/>.





Chabot Space & Science Center dives into oceans

SUBMITTED BY
SHERYL STUART

Chabot Space & Science Center will host an evening of ocean-themed fun on Friday, January 6 starting at 6 p.m. This month's \$5 First Friday will be a night all about the ocean. The band Shark Alley Hobos will serenade visitors with sea shanties, and Oakland children's author of "The Dolphins of Shark Bay," Pamela Turner, will give a book talk about why dolphins are smart and the tool-using dolphins of Shark Bay, Australia. A screening of "Sanctuary in the Sea" will be followed by a talk on sharks and sanctuaries by David McGuire, Director of Shark Stewards. Chabot's own Sam Bell will share her underwater adventures as a maritime archaeologist. Ocean-themed activities, plus dancing, planetarium shows and telescope viewing will round out the full evening at the Center.

Schedule:

Shark Alley Hobos

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Join the Sea Shanty band the Shark Alley Hobos as they sing ballads of the sea! Drawing upon timeless sea ballads, modern day spirits-inspired sing-a-longs, and original songs of wanderlust and debauchery, the Shark Alley Hobos will have you shivering your timbers and raising a glass to good friends and good times.

"Sanctuary in The Sea" Film with a talk on Sharks and Sanctuaries by David McGuire of Shark Stewards

7:00 p.m.

Shark Stewards is a Bay Area nonprofit dedicated to restoring ocean health by saving sharks from overfishing and the shark fin trade, and protecting critical marine habitat through marine protected areas and shark sanctuaries.

Why Are Dolphins Smart?

Talk by Pamela S. Turner, Author of "The Dolphins of Shark Bay"

7:00 p.m.

We all know dolphins are smart. But why are dolphins smart? Dive into the true lives of bottlenose dolphins with author

Pamela S. Turner. Turner will give us a behind-the-scenes look at the work of scientist Dr. Janet Mann and the amazing tool-using dolphins she studies in Shark Bay, Western Australia.

Diving in Saipan – Maritime Archaeology Talk by Sam Bell

8:15 p.m.

We tend to think of archaeologists as digging in dirt, but vast amounts of cultural material lies beneath the waves. Dive deep into the study of underwater WWII aircraft in Saipan (located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands) and find out what archaeology can teach us about these sites.

Ocean Interactive Activity Area

6:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Learn about your favorite marine life and take a deep dive into our oceans through interactive activities and talks with local community organizations that work to make sure our oceans thrive.

Dance Party in Beyond Blast Off with Interstellar Space DJs: Yo! Santos & miz-iggy

6:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Telescope Makers Workshop

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Planetarium

Show schedule available at the door.

Telescope Viewing

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Admission to the Center and all activities is \$5 per person. Members are free. Tickets may be purchased in advance online at www.chabotspace.org.

\$5 First Friday

Friday, Jan 6

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

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www.chabotspace.org

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Newark schools need solutions from parents, teachers and students before developers

Newark Unified School District ("NUSD") recently presented a 2030 strategic facilities plan prepared by Dutra Cerro Graden to the public. Despite its name, it only details a seven-year roadmap suggesting ideas such as selling off public land and rebuilding facilities.

First of all, the plans sound like an excellent idea—if you are a real estate developer. But for the rest of us, residents and former and current students of Newark, eliminating open space and playfields at the Junior High, McGregor and Musick doesn't sound all that great. I support getting more money for the district, but money does not last forever. Obviously, some of our school buildings are in need of repair, but I would hope the district would pursue with more urgency issues such as the quality of education at Newark public schools.

For instance, wouldn't allowing teachers to have more time to spend with students and parents, rather than have constant meetings with administration, be a cost-effective way of improving our schools?

In eighth grade, I had Ms. Hallford for English, who offered one of the most rigorous classes throughout my education in Newark. Despite having served thirty years as an excellent English teacher and department head, she was forced to resign because of a power struggle with administration. Shortly after, Fremont's School District told her they would pay her double what Newark was paying her and she was hired on the spot. How many other first-rate teachers have been driven away by our district and administration?

As a sophomore at Memorial, I had Mr. Pangburn for chemistry. I believe he had even then already been teaching for decades there. Unlike Ms. Hallford's classes, his was not so rigorous. Students could do whatever they wanted and I personally did not learn much at all. A year or two later, a fight broke out in his class, which got posted on YouTube. Presumably, the only reason he was forced to resign was because of the video, even though this was but one example of many classes, including AP classes, that demonstrated a distinct lack of discipline.

This issue has continued years after I have graduated from high school. One teacher who I will not name but is currently employed by NUSD also allows his students to do whatever they want in his class. Despite serious concern from other teachers in the department, administration has just decided to let him have a number of second chances.

Who is accountable for ensuring students are getting everything they can from their classes and thus averting parents from otherwise considering private schools?

Frankly, one can surely understand my skepticism when a real estate developer is telling Newark that pricy new buildings are what our district needs to become award winning, premiere and innovative. Our students and residents need more open space and playfields, not less. But even more so, they need solutions crafted by parents, teachers and students before those from real estate developers.

**Ricardo Corte
Newark**

Hobbs Hearing Date Moved

SUBMITTED BY SHAPE OUR FREMONT

A last-minute change in the Hobbs Residential proposal to build 56 houses on a hillside property along Mission Boulevard will move the date for the Fremont Planning Commission hearing to January 26, instead of January 12. Details of the change are not yet available.

Emails regarding this proposal may still be sent to Bill Roth in the Fremont Planning Department at broth@fremont.gov not later than January 18.

For more information about the development, go to www.ShapeOurFremont.com

Snort among barks: Amy the pig excels in dog agility class

AP WIRE SERVICE

KENT, Wash. (AP), Feb 12 – One student in a suburban Seattle dog agility class is drawing a lot of attention, and not just for her athletic skills. Amy is a pig.

Amid the barking of corgis, collies and Labradors, visitors will sometimes hear a snort. And there's Amy, jumping through the hoop, balancing on the teeter-totter, retrieving the dumbbell and zipping through the play tunnel.

Lori Stock owns 5-month-old Amy and says her

indoor pig is a quick learner and very motivated by food rewards.

KOMO reports (<http://is.gd/pawibB>) that Amy has already graduated from puppy manners class and has moved on to agility and obedience at the Family Dog Training Center in Kent.

Training center president Kathy Lang says that's a first, though she recalls a pygmy goat did attend several training classes.

Information from: KOMO-TV, <http://www.komotv.com/>



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Leftover Christmas trees a treat for Oakland Zoo Animals

SUBMITTED BY ERIN HARRISON, OAKLAND ZOO

The holidays were a hit for the animals at Oakland Zoo with gifts pouring in from the public and surplus Christmas trees donated by local Christmas tree farms. Instead of Christmas trees going to landfills, the trees have been filling animal habitats as enrichment. Leftover trees are used to create sticky snacks, fun furniture, perfect hiding places, and smelly scents that animals enjoy.

Elephants, giraffes, zebras, camels, and goats especially like the tree branches as an appetizer, while baboons and otters prefer hunting through pine needles for a game of find the hidden treats.

Zoo animals also received other gifts donated from an Animal's Wish List put together by zoo keepers at internet retailer Amazon.com. These included puzzle-feeders, balls and other items for the enjoyment of Sun bears, tigers, zebras, baboons and chimps.

"The elephants and other animals at Oakland Zoo will be spreading the holiday cheer far past New Year's Day as they enjoy the scrumptious taste of a noble or Douglas fir," said Gina Kinzley, Co-Elephant Manager at Oakland Zoo. "While elephants may enjoy the taste, other animals use the trees for furniture or hiding places as well as an air freshener. Over the years, the elephants have gotten picky, and prefer to dine on noble firs," she added.

The Oakland Zoo is home to more than 660 native and exotic animals. The zoo offers many educational programs and kid's activities for science field trips, family day trips and birthday parties.

Nestled in the Oakland Hills, in 500-acre Knowland Park, the Zoo is located at 9777 Golf Links Road, off Highway 580. For details, visit the zoo's website at <http://www.oaklandzoo.org>.



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Fremont Elks Lodge and Home Depot create Garden of Heroes



SUBMITTED BY JOAN WHITE

In November, members of the Fremont Elks Lodge and Team Depot, employees of 10 Home Depot stores, partnered to create, cleanup and improve common area gardens at the Livermore VA Hospital.

Twice a year, Team Depot takes on a community service project for which they provide all materials and tools needed. In looking for a non-profit to partner with on the Livermore VA Garden of Heroes project, the Fremont Elks lodge was

chosen because the lodge is committed to improve lives of veterans.

Team Depot broke up into groups that laid down mulch on pathways and around trees, placed garden art pieces near the entrance, and planted flowers and fruit trees. Several benches were assembled, planter boxes built and an American flag was woven into fencing.

Fremont Elks Lodge 2121, continues, in the spirit of its motto, "Elks Care, Elks Share," expanding its involvement with community service and "paying it forward."

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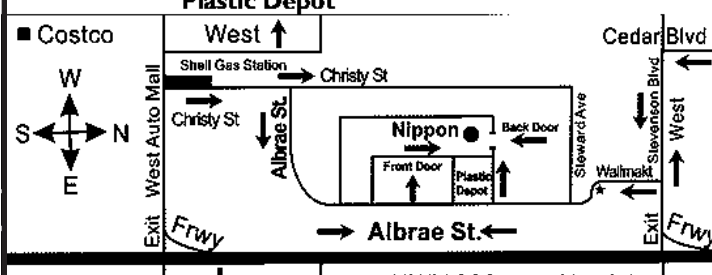
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BUSINESS

Humanoid robot Pepper
is amusing, but is it practical?

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

SAN FRANCISCO (AP), While merrily chirping, dancing and posing for selfies, a robot named Pepper looks like another expensive toy at a San Francisco mall. But don't dismiss it as mere child's play.

Pepper embodies the ambitions of SoftBank Robotics, an Asian joint venture formed by a trio of major technology companies that's aiming to put its personable robots in businesses and homes across the U.S. over the next few years.

If the technology advances as Softbank Robotics hopes, Pepper could become a playmate, companion and concierge. It could eventually respond to voice commands to retrieve vital information, make reservations and control home appliances that are connected to the internet.

That's the theory, anyway. For now, Pepper is more amusing than practical, Forrester Research analyst J.P. Gownder says. For instance, Pepper has been directing shoppers to stores in the mall through text messages because it still isn't advanced enough to say them out loud. And Pepper still has trouble understanding what people are asking, requiring shoppers to type in their requests for mall directions on a tablet mounted on the robot's chest.

SoftBank is trying to improve Pepper's capabilities by focusing first on the business market — retailers, hotels, auto dealerships and even hospitals. SoftBank hopes to use those environments to learn more about what consumers like and don't like about Pepper and, from that, teach it more tasks, said Steve Carlin, the venture's general development in North America.

The recently launched test runs in Westfield Corp.'s malls in San Francisco and Santa Clara, California, mark the first time that Pepper has made an extended appearance in the U.S. The robots began appearing just before Thanksgiving and will stick around through mid-Febru-

ary. Carlin says about 300 to 500 people per day engaged with Pepper during its first month in the San Francisco mall. During a recent visit, kids flocked around the 4-foot-tall humanoid as it spoke in a cherubic voice that could belong to either a boy or girl.

Westfield views Pepper as a way to make shopping in the mall more entertaining and enjoyable at a time when people are increasingly buying merchandise online. Three Peppers are sprinkled in heavily trafficked areas around Westfield's San Francisco mall and the two more are in the Santa Clara center. If all goes well, Westfield also plans to bring Pepper to its New York mall at the World Trade Center and Garden State mall in Paramus, New Jersey.

"We put her in our (human resources) system and have given her a name tag," says Shawn Pauli, senior vice president for Westfield.

Pepper got its start two years ago in Japan before expanding into Europe. In those two markets, more than 10,000 Peppers are already operating in grocery stores, coffee shops, banks, cruise lines, railway stations and homes. Most of the robots are in businesses. SoftBank hasn't disclosed how many have been sold to consumers.

Carlin acknowledges the U.S. will be a tougher market to crack than Japan, where he says consumers tend to embrace new technology more quickly.

In addition, Pepper's price is likely to be out of reach for most consumers. The robot currently sells for about \$2,000; a three-year subscription covering software upgrades, insurance and technology support increases the total to \$18,000 to \$20,000.

Softbank Robotics is controlled by Japan's Softbank Group, a technology conglomerate that recently pledged to invest \$50 billion in U.S. startups. A remaining 40 percent stake is equally owned by China's Alibaba Group, Asia's e-commerce leader, and by Taiwan's Foxconn, which assembles Apple's iPhone and is

considering a U.S. expansion.

Despite its pedigree, Pepper already lags behind a cruder-looking robot that home improvement retailer Lowe's has been testing as a way to help shoppers find merchandise in its sprawling stores, Gownder says.

The “LoweBot,” a box-like machine on wheels, began patrolling a San Jose, California, store last month and will begin showing up in 10 other stores in the San Francisco Bay area in early 2017. If all goes well, it could become a fixture in all of Lowe’s stores.

Gownder gives LoweBot the early edge over Pepper because Lowe's machine has a detailed database of the store's inventory, enabling it to quickly determine if something is in stock and then guide shoppers to the aisle where the requested item is located.

"While Pepper offers a lively, appealing interface, it remains to be seen whether it will fill the role that retailers want," Gownder says. "Does it have enough intelligence to answer customers' questions effectively?"

While LoweBot is a one-trick pony, focused on retail tasks, SoftBank's ambitions with Pepper are greater. Pepper has enough artificial intelligence to recognize smiles and frowns, helping the robot understand the mood of a person interacting with it. But it also tends to lock its electronic eyes on someone standing in front of it and continue to follow people as they look away while ignoring the next visitor.

A recent visitor to the San Francisco mall, Sharif Ezzat, noticed some of Pepper's shortcomings and concluded that the robot is still a long way from having mass appeal. "I can't see it right now, but I can see where it's going," Ezzat said of Pepper's potential.

Chaz MacSwan, a puppeteer in San Francisco, was more impressed. "Look at the joy it's bringing to people, especially the kids," MacSwan said. "I'd love to have one, especially if it could clean the carpets."

Popular mobile game 'Pokemon Go' lands on Apple Watch

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP), The popular mobile game “Pokemon Go” is now available on the Apple Watch, squashing rumors that the game’s maker was scrapping such plans.

The game involves catching digital pocket monsters in an augmented-reality version of your surroundings. The Apple Watch version will let you discover nearby Pokémon and collect special items, such as potions, from nearby “PokeStops.” But once you encounter a Pokémon, you will need to use your iPhone to catch it.

Still, the Apple Watch should make it easier for players to log their steps (needed to advance in the game and to hatch new Pokemon out of eggs), and to avoid walking around with their phones held out to search for nearby monsters.

“Pokemon Go” was a huge success when it came out in July. It’s not clear how the Apple Watch version will do, especially now that it’s too cold in much of the Northern Hemisphere to be outside catching Pokemon. Plans for the watch version had been announced at Apple’s iPhone launch event in September.

The game's maker, Niantic, hasn't announced any plans for Android Wear and Samsung Gear smartwatches.

Pay to rise for millions as 19 states increase minimum wage

BY DAVID KLEPPER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Millions of workers across the U.S. will see their pay increase as 19 states bump up their minimum wages as the new year begins.

California, New York and Michigan are among the states with increases taking effect in early January.

Massachusetts and Washington state will have the highest new minimum wages at \$11 per hour. California will raise its wage to \$10.50 for large businesses.

New York state is taking a regional approach, with the wage rising to \$11 in New York City, \$10 in its suburbs and \$9.70 upstate.

Voters in Arizona, Maine, Colorado and Washington approved increases in this year's election. Seven other states are automatically raising the wage based on indexing.

New York City fast-food worker and labor organizer Alvin Major says the increases will help many workers get by.

‘Beyond Bling’: Exhibit of jewelry made from unusual stuff

By SOLVEJ SCHOU

LOS ANGELES (AP), A brooch in the shape of a dung beetle, made out of a gray metal teaspoon. A bracelet resembling a koi fish, with scales of glistening red, white and blue thumb tacks. An enormous yellow, black and white statement necklace made entirely out of tiny Lego pieces.

These and other 20th and 21st century works in the exhibit “Beyond Bling: Jewelry from the Lois Boardman Collection,” at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, are not only created from unusual materials, using creative techniques; they’re each whimsically unique.

The exhibit features 50 pieces by jewelry designers from the United States, Europe, Australia and New Zealand from the 300-piece collection recently donated to the museum by Boardman, a Southern California collector.

“The unifying element of all the pieces is that they all seem to express an idea, and not just adorn a body,” said Bobbye Tigerman, the exhibit’s co-curator. “These jewelers are making things that are reflecting political ideas and personal experiences, and not just reflecting wealth and status.” The exhibit runs until Feb. 5.

The rings, bracelets, necklaces and brooches on display combine precious materials such as gold and silver with non-precious materials such as feathers, leather, glass and plastic.

A 1969 red-white-and-blue Plexiglas breastplate by the late East Coast jeweler Carolyn Kriegman has saucy, bright-red stars covering the chest. Swiss jeweler David Bielander’s 2007 “Dung Beetle” brooch — which Bielander created by bending and slicing a spoon — and his 2013 thumb tack-decorated “Koi” bracelet imaginatively use everyday materials.

Dutch artist and jeweler Paul Derrez’s 1985 “Pebble Collar” is made out of potato-size ovals of cork, lightly spray-painted pink and strung with a red cotton cord.

For his striking 2010 “Smoky Quartz on Countersink Nail” ring, Swiss jewelry designer Bernhard Schobinger shoved a nail he forged out of white gold through a large quartz stone faceted like a diamond, but intentionally chipped and imperfect, said Tigerman.

“The idea of avant-garde jewelry is not new. As far back as the 19th century, people were experimenting with unconventional materials,” she said. “In the 1960s, (artists in) the U.S., Germany and other countries took it to a new level. The exhibit documents that shift, beginning in the ‘60s and continuing to today.”

San Francisco jewelry artist Emiko Oye, 42, patterned her bold 2008 “Maharajah’s 6th” Lego necklace after French jeweler Louis Boucheron’s diamond-and-emerald necklace for an Indian Maharajah in 1928. She first started making Lego-based jewelry in 2007 after visiting a new Lego store and getting hooked on the Danish toy building bricks.

Boucheron’s use of white platinum, and his departure from flat, two-dimensional jewelry design, inspired her, Oye said. She used hundreds of Lego pieces from donated sets as well as used, rare, vintage pieces from collectors. She started by taking Boucheron’s original sketch of his necklace, enlarging it and putting it on her wall. Then she traced over the drawing, and used it like a map.

“I dumped all the white, black and yellow Legos on the floor and started to play, to see what shapes could mimic the design of the original necklace,” she said. “One thing I love about using Lego is how it reaches every part of the social spectrum — male, female, old,

young — and across cultures. It’s a great way for people to connect with the jewelry.”

On a recent day at the exhibit, museum goers excitedly milled around Oye’s necklace. Others gravitated to a wall of beautifully strange, sculptural brooches and items, including German jewelry artist Gerd Rothmann’s “Die Goldene Nase” nosepiece, cast in gold from Boardman’s own nose.

“This exhibit elevates what we do as crafts artists,” Oye said. “People have no idea you can make jewelry from these materials, such as thumb tacks and Legos, as art.”

Sandra Enterline, 56, a jeweler in San Francisco, began making jewelry in high school before going to art school to learn jewelry as a craft. Her 1998 “Queen Bee” brooch is fabricated out of 18-karat gold, on a bed of real flower pollen, with a real queen yellow jacket fixed in the center and covered by a dome of low-magnifying glass.

She originally created the brooch for a 1998 traveling exhibit honoring then U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who loved brooches.

“I was thinking about Madeleine, because she was the queen bee,” Enterline said. “Contrasting the fragility of the bee with the gold shows the brooch’s high-low value. The bee is on the same type of pin you would have in a butterfly collection.”

For those interested in making jewelry using unusual materials, Oye and Enterline recommended amassing a collection of interesting items, and taking a basic jewelry-making workshop. Most of all, have fun!

“Go into your kitchen junk drawer. Get a glue gun, get some wire, get some pliers and start playing,” said Oye. “I would collect board games, and all the little colorful pieces that came with them.”

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Ga. man's wallet found, returned after 24 years

AP WIRE SERVICE

ACWORTH, Ga. (AP), A Georgia man who lost his wallet while waterskiing in North Carolina now has it back — 24 years later.

Burton Maugans of Acworth tells WSB-TV (<http://bit.ly/15H6V3J>) that he received a call from a stranger who knew his age, his name and his birthdate. Maugans says he realized fairly quickly the stranger had found his wallet because it’s the only one he’d ever lost.

The Georgia man says he was 18 when he went into the water with his wallet and it disappeared somewhere near Holden Beach in North Carolina. North Carolina resident Jim Parker found it recently and searched the Internet for its owner.

The wallet arrived in the mail in Georgia on Thursday. It still contained Maugans’ high school identification from 1987, a library card and even an old bank card.

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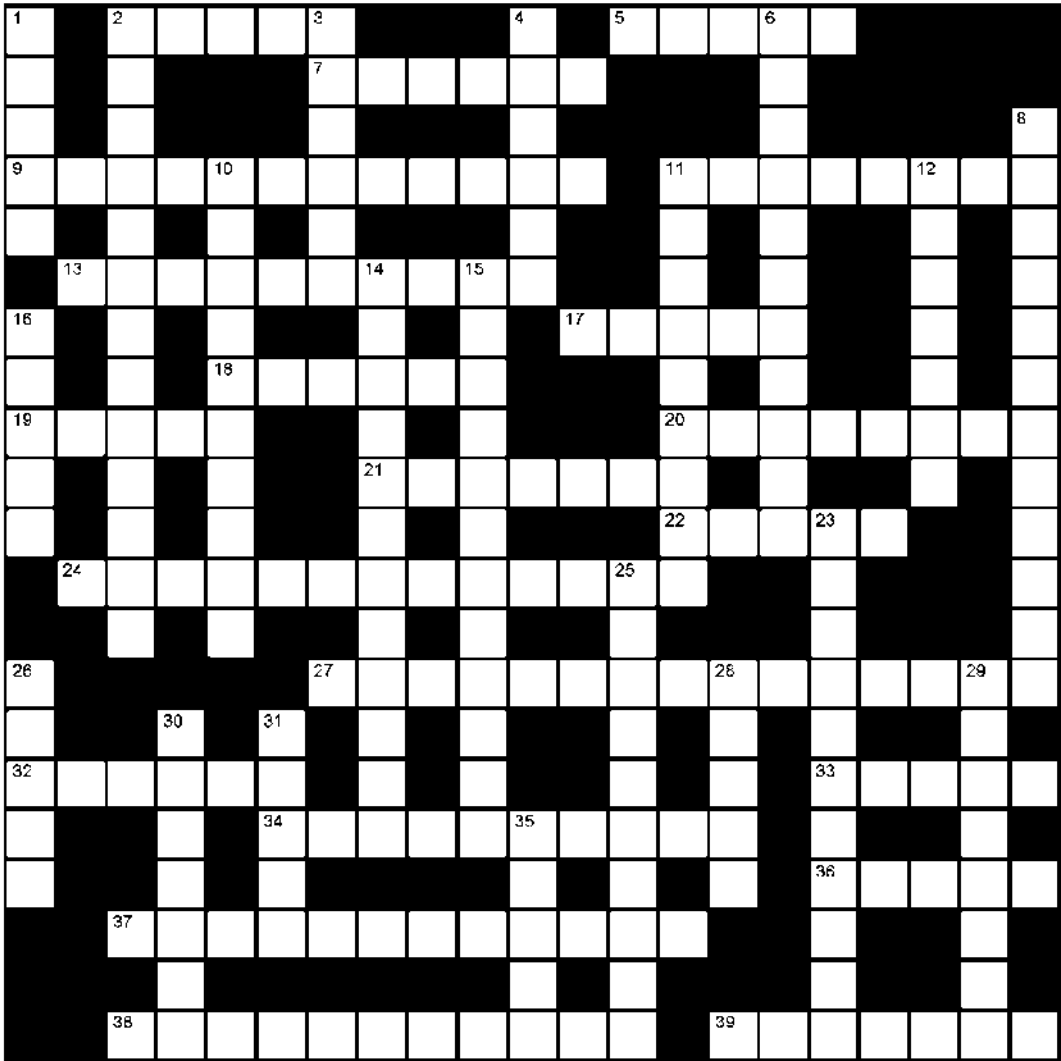
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Crossword Puzzle B 3811



B 38012

Across

- 2 Accessory (5)
- 5 Sandwich alternatives (5)
- 7 What "this" is not (6)
- 9 Engulfing (12)
- 11 Longitude complement (8)
- 13 A voice crying in the _____ (10)
- 17 Clemson athlete (5)
- 18 Less taxing (6)
- 19 Easter contests (5)
- 20 Names (8)
- 21 Wolves' specialty (7)
- 22 Pharaoh's land (5)
- 24 Large set to fill a shelf (13)
- 27 Traits (15)
- 32 _____ lucida (6)
- 33 Genius (5)

- 34 Members of the Dow represent these (10)
- 36 Gets licked (5)
- 37 Plate type (12)
- 38 Nursery sights (11)
- 39 Mineral instantiation (7)

Down

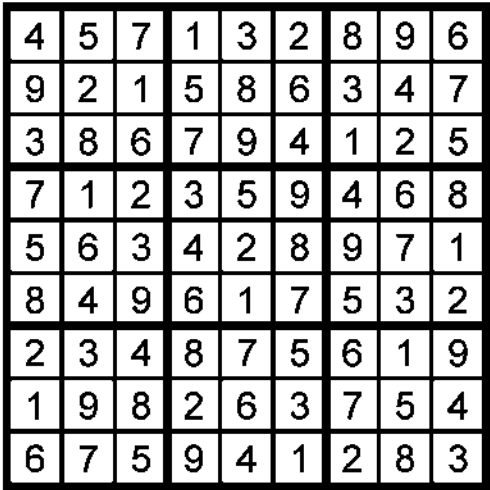
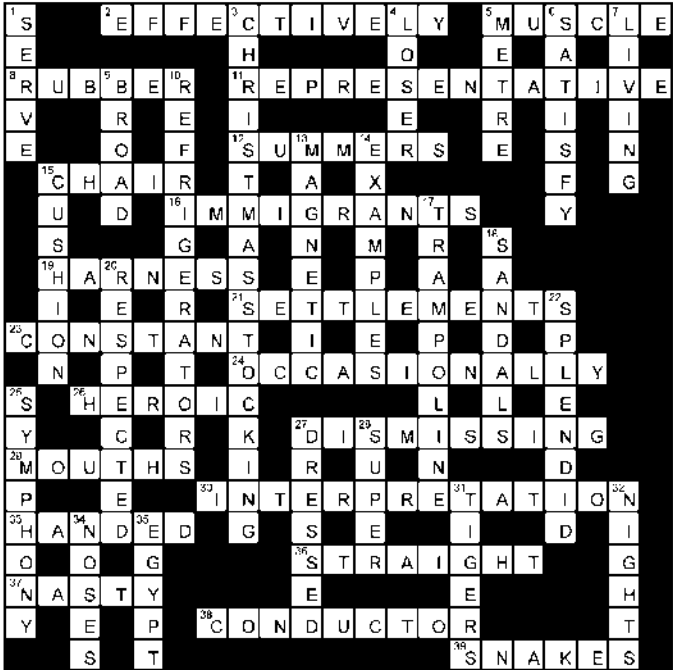
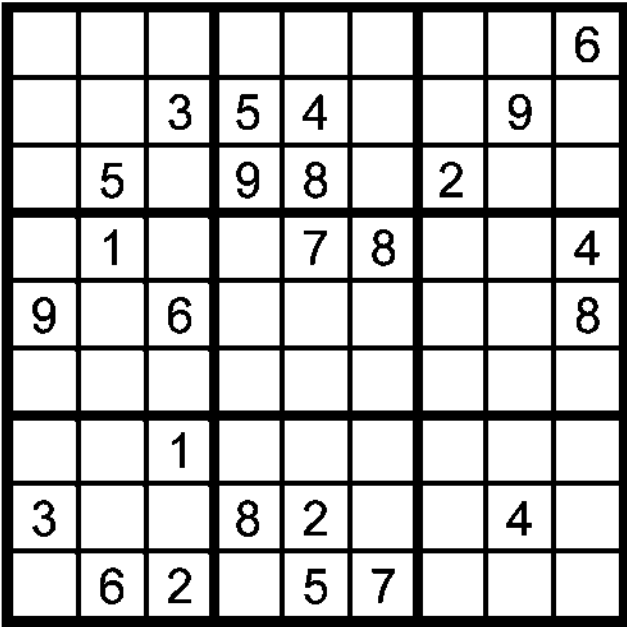
- 1 Bush-league (5)
- 2 Operating under a hypothesis (13)
- 3 Enter the picture (6)
- 4 Hang outs (6)
- 6 Activity with 37 across (11)
- 8 Girls' school authority (12)
- 10 Woden's calendrical memorials (10)
- 11 Pascal and

BASIC (9)

- 12 Removing a tether (7)
- 14 Area (12)
- 15 Their seeds are external (12)
- 16 Contents of some urns (5)
- 23 Potentiality (11)
- 25 Exercises (10)
- 26 "I give up!" (5)
- 28 Bring up (5)
- 29 Needed characteristics, qualities or standards (8)
- 30 Educator (7)
- 31 You might, at certain sights (5)
- 35 Varieties (5)

Sudoku:

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



Tri-City Stargazer FOR WEEK: JANUARY 3, 2016

Aries the Ram (March 21-April 20): Mars, the god of war and your avatar in the zodiac, begins this year in the laid back sign of Pisces. The pace is slow until it moves into your personal sign on January 28. At that point you will sense a new surge of power and self-confidence. You will have a strong urge to escape whatever contains you on February 23—27. Bow to the authorities between the end of May and mid-July. They are bigger than you are. Give special interest to health issues during September and October. Use caution October 11 through the 19th as accidents are possible. Love life reverses or decelerates early March through April, but returns to an improved normal in May. Avoid making big decisions while Mercury is retrograding in your sign between April 20 and May 14th. Starting in September, you will have benefits connected to insurance, stocks, partner's resources, taxes, and/or estate matters. You likely will make an important decision about partnership(s) in November or December.

Taurus the Bull (April 21-May 20): Venus, your avatar in the zodiac, begins the year in romantic and artistic Pisces. Near the end of January she moves into a sign that causes you to feel cautious and hesitant about all her interests. "Something" just doesn't feel quite right in a relationship and by March, you

will be certain that you need to depart a situation so you can give it more thought. Near the middle of April the cause of your reticence becomes clear. You likely will give that thing or person a wide berth until the beginning of June, when you feel more sure of yourself. In October Jupiter moves into your 7th house of partnerships/clientele. Jupiter is known to make improvements in whatever sector he travels. It is likely you will make one or more decisions about partnerships near the beginning of October. A new relationship at that time will have a rocky start, but things become much smoother in November. In December you will be especially conscious of expenditures and debts. You may prefer to set aside extravagance for the 2017 Holiday Season and that is appropriate for you. Ignore the internal critic who chastises you for living a leaner season.

Gemini the Twins (May 21-June 20): You begin this year with Mercury, your ruling planet, in retrograde motion, so you will enjoy a pause in activity while you continue to ponder your life and your investments. Mercury turns direct on January 8, giving you the sense that you can move forward again. The week following March 19 will be intense. Between May 16 and June 6 you may prefer to be solitary and quiet. Your attention shifts once again near the sum-

mer solstice to things financial. Use caution with tools and machinery from June 28 to July 4. Between July 23 and September 20 you are focused on home, property and family. Repairs are necessary, perhaps even in relationships. The last Mercury retrograde for you is in the sign of partnership(s), whether marital or business. You may feel the need to review old issues together. The Other may have circumstances that cause you to slow down and wait for him or her to make a decision. Between January and September Jupiter, the planet of expansion is traveling in your house of fun, play, gambling, lovers, and children. In October it moves to the territory of work and routine. Both of these areas will be improved through the year.

Cancer the Crab (June 21-July 21): We cannot look at Cancer without giving thought to this year's eclipses. The Full Moon eclipse on February 10 shines a spotlight on your financial affairs. If there are errors in calculation, they will be discovered, or perhaps a new resource becomes available. Later in February, the New Moon eclipse occurs in the house of your travel plans, education, church affiliations, publication and legal affairs. This suggests the beginning of new ideas or plans in one of these areas. On August 7 there will be a Full Moon eclipse in your solar 8th house of in-

vestments, shared resources, inheritance, debt and money owed to you. Then the New Moon Eclipse occurs in your 2nd solar house of financial resources on August 21. The revelations of the Aug. 7 eclipse may send you back to study and refine your spending habits. Jupiter, the planet of expansion and improvements, spends the first 9 months of 2016 in your house of living quarters, family matters and property. In October, Jupiter moves its spotlight to your solar 5th, bringing a note of creativity, fun and play into your life for a full year. Those who want to have children likely will be given that gift. Saturn continues in the house of work and health. It demands that you focus attention on each of these through the end of the year.

Leo the Lion (July 22-August 22): You begin the year in a work mode. Now is the time to start a diet or exercise routine. It calls for reorganization of your schedule but you will probably

choose to do so anyway. The month of February constellates around dealing with debt, investments, and finances (or other material things) that you share with others. An unusual total eclipse of the Moon occurs in your sign on February 10. This is a time of revelation, whether personal or public. The time of late March and early April may bring art, beauty, or a new love into your life. Give yourself time for reflection and solitude beginning with the Summer Solstice until near your birthday in August. The month of August is intense with a new Moon eclipse in your sign on August 21st. That symbolizes the dawning of a new thought, plan, or idea. For the month between August 22 and September 22 your attention is likely to be focused on organizing your finances and putting accounts in order. Between the end of October and mid-November you will be attending to home and family matters. Jupiter, the planet of expansion and general good for-

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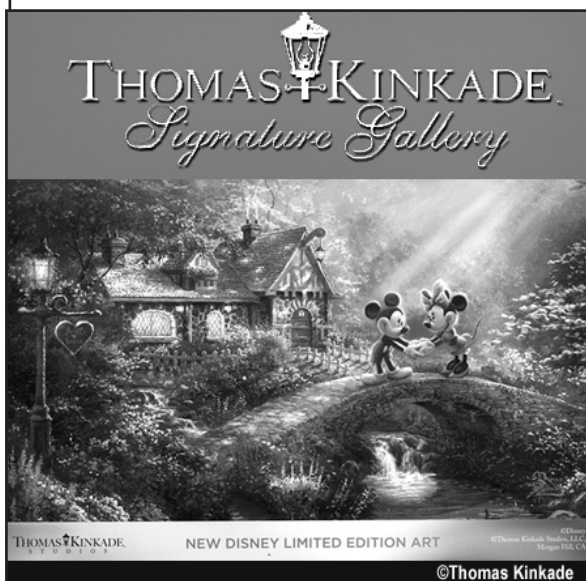
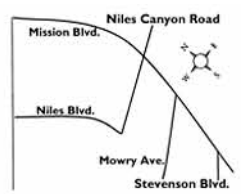
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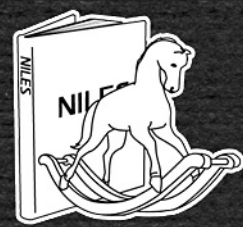
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tune, is in your solar third house of communications, siblings, and short distance travel. In October it begins a year long trek through your house of home, family and property.

Virgo the Virgin (August 23-September 22): Mercury, your avatar among the planets, has been retrograding since mid-December, so you have experienced a slower holiday season than many. You may be reflecting upon your relationship to a lover or a child. After January 8 life begins to resume normal speed. The week following March 19 is likely to be intense, with concerns over taxes, debts, or money that comes from joint resources. That could be related to partner's income, pensions, or insurance payoffs. Between March 23 and May 5 it is best not to initiate new legal, educational or publishing matters. Wait out that time to see if those issues will resolve themselves. If they are not resolved, work on those with gusto between May 16 and June 6. Use caution with tools and machinery from June 28 to July 4. On July 25th Mercury enters your own sign of Virgo and remains there essentially through Sep 29. It will go through an entire retrograde cycle during this period. Be prepared to accept that time as indecisive, especially with long term planning. The last Mercury retrograde period begins in mid-November. and continues through the end of the year. That will be a time of attention to home, property, and family. Jupiter has expanded your financial resources since Sep of 2016 and this will continue until Oct. 2017.

Libra the Scales (September 23-October 22): Jupiter, the original Zeus, is firmly in your sign until Oct. He tends to lighten any load, and soften bur-

dens. He is a carrier of good fortune as well. You may already be involved in a new relationship and it is likely to continue. Venus, the original goddess of love, romance and the arts, is your planetary avatar. She begins the year in your work or daily routine, bringing positive experiences to that area. During February through May she goes through a retrograde cycle. During those months you or your partner may be in a questioning period. This is meant to give both of you some time to evaluate how to make the relationship better. Some may even separate for a time to reflect before coming together later in June. In October your income or other resources will show signs of improvement. You may also begin a new relationship which is mutually beneficial. If not a new relationship, it will be a fresh beginning. The wrinkles will be worked out by Nov. Save money for upcoming repairs to your aging home or vehicle in 2018.

Scorpio the Scorpion (October 23-November 21): Mars, the Warrior god, is one of your ruling planets and it begins the year in your 5th house of romance, children and creativity. Near January 11 you likely will have a bright idea in one of these areas. Health matters become important between January 27 and March 9. Matters of partnership are prominent March 9 through April 20. You have challenges between April 21 and May 30. You want to tell your troubles to others, but it is a bad idea to do so. The Powers That Be are stronger than you until mid-August. Then you may get a lucky break and be in the right place at the right time late August, and early September. In September and October you likely will be offering yourself as a caretaker for an-

other. Beginning October 10 for one year Jupiter enters your sign, lightening your load and relieving your anxieties. From October 22 through the end of November your best results will occur by waiting. On December 9, your ruling planet enters your sign and you will have a burst of energy and self-confidence.

Sagittarius the Archer (November 22-December 21): You have one more year of serious work on your new identity. Saturn has been in your sign for one-and-a-half years. Two-and-a-half years is a long time, but you are re-creating yourself and that requires effort and energy, and multiple beginnings. It is not the type of thing that can be managed briefly. One piece of the puzzle began with a challenging launch in August, 2016. During January 2017 it comes to a turning point. You likely will decide to pour more effort into the project or let it go entirely in favor of some other, easier approach toward your goal. If you choose to remain with it, you will see results by the end of May. That is another turning point, requiring you to pour on the effort once again. It requires considerable tenacity to keep it afloat and many would not do it. You have considerable support through friends and allies. There will likely be a surprising event early in March with an extra boost of help. You will discover a high-tech program or gadget in May that will ease the burden of your journey. By the end of 2017 you will see the new identity emerging. Mercury will retrograde in your sign during November and December and require you to add the finishing touches. This project may be among those hardest in your lifetime, but it is well worth it to become your own person.

Capricorn the Goat (December 22-January 19): During December of 2016, Mercury was retrograding in your sign. That phenomenon often represents a feeling of difficulty concluding anything. During January there will be a slow move toward better motion and accomplishments. Saturn, your ruling planet, continues for one more year in your 12th house, suggesting that you may still be in the quiet zone. Two years out of every 24 is a time for a metaphorical sabbatical. Your ambitions may not yet be rewarded at this time. During this period (2016-2017) attempts to achieve recognition are thwarted. Rest now and don't abuse yourself because you can't "get ahead." In November and December of 2017 you will experience a crack in the shadows which will grow to a fresh start in the winter of 2018. Be patient and you will feel better at that time. Meanwhile, take this time to reflect upon what mountain you want to climb next.

Aquarius the Water Bearer (January 20-February 18): In August of 2016 you may have taken on a major responsibility at your work or in the community around you. At the time you did not know the depth of the challenge or you might have bypassed it. However, you are not a quitter, so if you adopt a responsibility you generally will see it through to its end. This project likely has one more year to the finish line, so you must pace yourself. A Full Moon eclipse on February 10th brings a time of illumination over any marital or partnership situations. Then the answering eclipse of August 7 helps you resolve your personal issues in the same relationship(s). You will see the situation more clearly and will be better able to

discuss it after that. There is likely a surprising twist or shift near March 2 that alters your plans with regard to transportation, the law, communications, education and publishing. A wish may be fulfilled. During 2018 you will move into a situation that is more solitary and allows you greater quietude than you have had in a long time.

Pisces the Fish (February 19-March 20): Mars, the Warrior god, is your companion for all of January. You may use it to take initiatives beyond your normal reticent self. It is also a great starter signal for a new exercise routine. Jupiter, one of your ruling planets, spends much of this year in the sign of Libra. This brings partnership(s) of all kinds to the fore. It suggests the sharing of resources with others for whom you care. The Full Moon Eclipse in your sign occurs on February 10, symbolizing revelations, whether public or private. Your work and health will be the subject. Financial surprises may happen in March and September. That may or may not be favorable. Income continues to be up and down. Don't allow anyone to sell you something too good to be true. Don't mix water and electricity, especially between August and October. Note that there will be a new moon eclipse in your sign on February 26. This signifies the beginning of new creativity for those in Pisces. It begins in the unconscious and may not surface until a few months go by. Saturn continues for another year in your 10th house of life direction. If you love your work, there will be more of it. If you are weary with it, then you may decide to do something else by the end of 2017.

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continued from page 1

Concerts
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Jazz'

toured extensively with Joan Baez as her musical director
and pianist. Most recently, he was Musical Director/Pi-
anist for "Life Without Makeup" starring Rita Moreno.

In addition to Music at the Mission, Everett has
performed with highly regarded ensembles throughout the
Bay Area and currently serves as Principal Bassist of
Symphony Silicon Valley. He was also Principal Bassist of
the San Jose Symphony and spent three years as an acting
member of the San Francisco Symphony.

The Song and Jazz: Schubert to Ellington program
includes Franz Schubert's "An die Musik" and "Erlkönig,"
William Purcell's "Music for Awhile," Duke Ellington's
"In the Beginning, God," Jerome Kern's "Ol' Man River,"
Moses Hogan's "My Good Lord Done Been Here,"
George Gershwin's "I Got Plenty O' Nuttin'," and
W. A. Mozart's "Per Questa Bella Mano."

In addition to The Salon Series Song and Jazz:
Schubert to Ellington on January 15, Music at the
Mission will host a Free Community Concert, "Song and
Jazz, Abridged" on Thursday, January 12 at The
Dominican Center in Fremont. Enjoy a sampling of jazz
and classical music with Everett, Paige, and Cancino while
you wait out the weekday traffic. Tickets are not required.
Directions to The Dominican Center and a campus map
are available at www.msjdominicans.org.

Music at the Mission Song and Jazz: Schubert to
Ellington tickets are only available in advance through the
Music at the Mission website at www.musicatmsj.org. The
Salon Series concert address in Milpitas will be provided
upon ticket purchase.

Song and Jazz, Abridged
Thursday, Jan 12
5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The Dominican Center
43326 Mission Cir, Fremont
Free
Song and Jazz: Schubert to Ellington
Sunday, Jan 15
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Milpitas (address provided upon purchase)
(510) 402-1724
info@musicatmsj.org
www.musicatmsj.org
Tickets: \$55

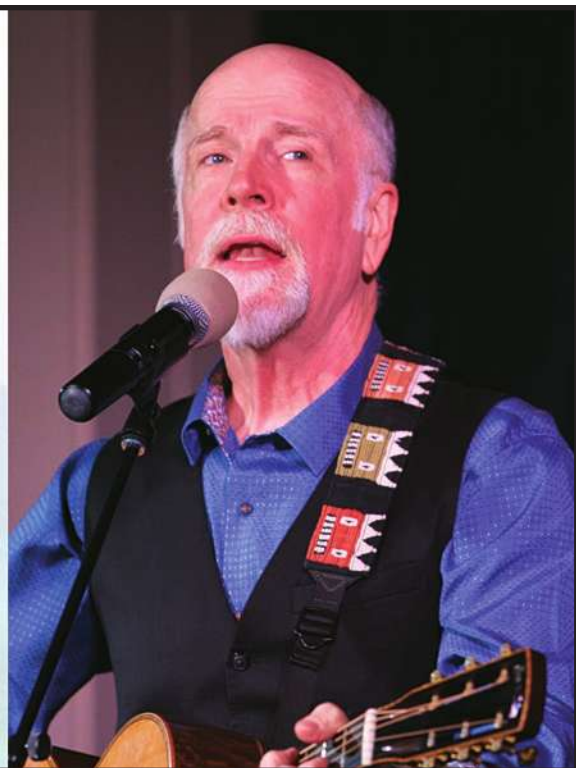


Bill Everett, bassist and Artistic Co-Director of Music at the Mission.
Photo by James Sakane.

John McCutcheon Concert



Monday, Jan 16
7:30 p.m., doors open at 7:00p.m.
St. James' Episcopal Church
37151 Cabrillo Terrace
Thornton Ave at Cabrillo Terrace,
Fremont
(510) 797-1492 ext. 4
events@saintj.com
Tickets: \$27 adults, \$15 children 12 and
under, 5 and under free



Home & Garden

NEW PLANTINGS FOR A NEW YEAR

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY
DANIEL O'DONNELL

There are very few New Year's resolutions that come to fruition immediately. Most take dedication, persistence, and hard work to eventually achieve a goal. If adding color and drama to the garden is on this year's list of intentions, then consider planting a Leucadendron or Protea. Planting one with red-tipped leaves, bright yellow and pink variegated foliage, or large stunning flowers will immediately transform a colorless winter garden into something noteworthy and make next year's resolution list one goal shorter.

Plants have scientific classifications based on their similar characteristics. The first plant classification is Kingdom. This includes all plants. Then the groupings get smaller and smaller as the plants' characteristics become more defined. The last four groups of plant classifications in descending order are Family, Genus, Species, and Variety or Cultivar.

Protea is both a family and a common name of a group of evergreen flowering shrubs and trees. Leucadendrons are a colorful genus in the Protea family. Pollen fossils from different plants in the Proteaceae or their ancestors can be traced back anywhere from 75 million years ago to 300 million years ago, making them one of the oldest flowering plant families.

There are over 300 types of Proteas, including Leucadendrons, native to South Africa. A

smaller number of native species can be found in Australia, South America, and Eastern Asia in areas with similar climates. Most Proteas and Leucadendrons like a dry summer, wet winter, and mild temperature climate. This makes them ideal plants for most regions in the Bay Area.

Proteas and Leucadendrons can be purchased in Fremont from Dale Hardware's nursery department or Regan Nursery, or from Evergreen Nursery in San Leandro. Usually, each of the nurseries will have at least one or more types in stock and sometimes other varieties can be ordered on request. The California Protea Association (www.californiaprotea.org), a nonprofit company that promotes and assists cultivators, sellers, and purchasers of Proteas grown in California, also has a list of growers and contact information.

The best time to plant Proteas and Leucadendrons in this area is late October through February. They prefer full sun, well-draining low-nutrient soil, and good air circulation. Planting them with the crowns an inch or two above the ground level can prevent the roots from getting too wet. A layer of mulch can help regulate the ground temperature from severe winter cold snaps, but it should be thin enough to allow the ground to dry out between waterings.

A new plant will need supplemental water for approximately three years until established. It will adapt beyond that to the natural wet winter, dry summer California climate

cycle, unless there are drought conditions that limit winter and spring rainfall. Occasional supplemental summer watering will not harm the plant and will be required if the leaves begin to brown and dry out. Proteas and Leucadendrons do not need fertilizing. They have adapted to survive in soils low in nutrients. A thin yearly application of organic compost will not over fertilize them and can help keep the soil porous.

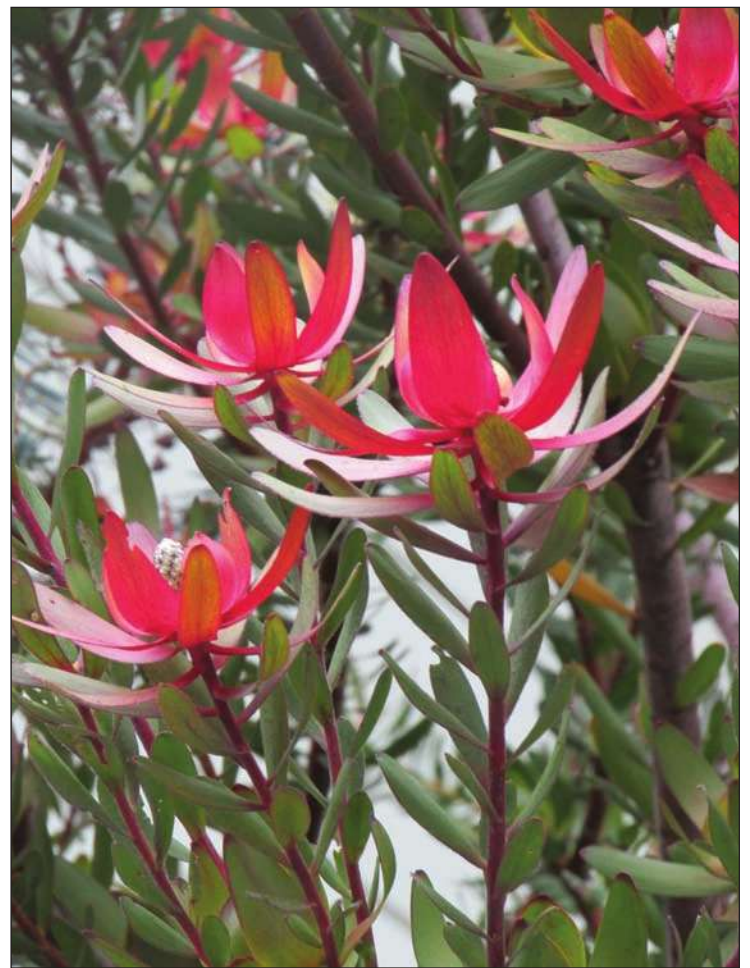
Proteas and Leucadendrons, in addition to adding color and remarkable flowers to an outdoor landscape, can be cut just above where the stem begins to be used in indoor floral arrangements. All leaves below the waterline should be stripped off. They offer flowers and foliage that stay fresh and vibrant much longer than many other plants. So much so, that adding a small amount of bleach to the vase might be needed to prevent algae from growing. The water should be changed weekly and the arrangement should be placed in a bright location for longevity.

Proteas are usually chosen for the shape and color of their flowers. Some striking examples are:

—Protea "Grandicolor," a medium to large shrub with blue/gray foliage and cone-shaped pink flower buds that turn cream when opened exposing magenta centers. They make excellent wedding bouquets.

—Protea aristata has soft pine needle-like leaves and a majestic, inverted cone-shaped flower that fades from a dark maroon outside to a crimson and pink center.

—Leucospermum "Flame



Giant" is from another genus found in the Protea family. It is also referred to as a Pincushion Protea because of the bright orange and red stamens with yellow tips, giving the appearance of a pincushion.

Leucadendrons are commonly used for their foliage color. Some colorful options are:

—Leucadendron "Jester" that has bright pink and lime colored leaves with dark green centers.

—Leucadendron "Safari Sunrise" has green leaves that develop into bright red bracts at the top of the brilliant red stems.

—Leucadendron "Silver Tree" is a stunning soft silvery grey tree that can grow up to 40 feet tall.

Planting a Protea or Leucadendron will not only spruce up and add color to a garden for a fresh start this year, but will provide interest all year long and over many new years to come.

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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Sign up for PGE Energy Alerts

SUBMITTED BY TAMAR SARKISSIAN

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) announced that residential customers have a new way to take control of their energy bills this winter. With PG&E's Energy Alerts, customers can better manage their energy usage and budgets.

"Our customers asked for a solution to help them budget for their energy needs and we listened. The Energy Alerts program is designed to be an easy-to-use tool that lets customers stay on top of their energy use in any given month," said Laurie Giammona, Chief Customer Officer of PG&E Corporation.

Sign up PG&E's Energy Alerts in less than five minutes:

1. Go to pge.com/energyalerts
2. Set your personal budget threshold to get an alert when your bill is forecast to exceed your threshold.
3. Choose to receive your energy alerts via email, text or phone call.

Here are more ideas to help you stay warm and safe this winter:

Get started with an online account: Sign up to access Your Account at pge.com to stay on top of your energy usage and choose rate plan options that work best for you and your family. Contact our dedicated rates hotline at 1-(800) 743-0514 with questions.

Find ways to make your home more efficient: Take a free online Home Energy Checkup. Answer some questions about your home and learn how much you spend on heating, cooling, hot water and more. Get customized tips to make your home more efficient and cut back on energy costs.

Shop for money saving products: PG&E Marketplace is a one stop shop for energy saving appliances and consumer electronics, plus rebates. Customers can receive rebates up to \$500 on electric water heaters and \$200 on gas water heaters.

Save energy and money with solar water heating - PG&E rebates and federal tax credits make solar water heating a good option to reduce your water heating bill by up to 80 percent and help the environment.

For more tips on saving energy this winter, visit www.pge.com/winter

Oregon court reverses DUI conviction of wheelchair user

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP), The Oregon Court of Appeals has reversed the conviction of a wheelchair user who had been found guilty of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

James Greene of Waldport was arrested in November 2012 after entering a crosswalk in a motorized wheelchair and striking the side of a moving pickup. Police determined he was impaired by alcohol and drugs, and a jury convicted him of drunken driving.

In his appeal, Greene argued that he should have been considered a pedestrian, not subject to the DUI law.

The state disagreed, pointing to a law that treats motorized wheelchairs like bicycles when they are driven on bike lanes.

In its opinion Thursday, the Appeals Court decided legislators only intended to have wheelchairs treated like bicycles in that narrow circumstance, and users should be considered pedestrians when in a crosswalk.

Union City students shine in First Lego League tournament



Left to right: Deepa Pulickal, Rayna Arora, Jayden Pulickal, Sean Lee, Nimar Arora. Photo courtesy of Geeta Arora.

SUBMITTED BY GEETA ARORA

With a team name like Fire Breathing Rubber Duckies, what could go wrong? Students from Itliong-Vera Cruz Middle School in Union City were among dozens of participants in the 2016 Animal Allies Challenge tournaments sponsored by the First Lego League (FLL). The theme of the science and technology event was improving interaction between humans and animals and included three challenge components: The Robot Game, The Project and Core Values.

At the qualifying tournament held November 20 at Play Space in San Jose, the team started slowly, but picked up steam as members progressed through each task. Team members included Rayna Arora, Sean Lee and Jayden Pulickal. Coaches were Nimar Arora, Deepa Pulickal and Charlene Chen. Team members competed again December 18 at the East Bay Championship at Newark Memorial High School in Newark.

For the project, teams had to identify an existing problem of human-animal interactions, do research to better understand the problem, and work with experts in the field to present a potential solution. In the beginning round at the qualifier, the robot game missions didn't work as well as the Union City team expected, but they didn't lose hope and performed well in later robotics rounds.

The Robot Game is set on a game table with each team's robot required to complete specific tasks that simulate a real life situation. Each team built and programmed a robot to accomplish as many tasks as possible in head-to-head competition with other teams. Some robot missions for the Animal Allies theme included milking cows, interacting with a service dog for blind people on a busy street, collecting food from a refrigerator and distributing it to animals, and beekeeping. Each team is given three runs in the robot game, the highest score is counted.

To lighten the mood, team members came up with a funny team cheer as they waited for the qualifier to wrap up. In a surprising turn of events, the team cheer won an impromptu award for best team cheer based on audience applause. The team also won the Kids' Choice award for the Best Team Cheer at the East Bay Championship.

The project chosen by team members for a process to improve animal-human interaction was centered on saving earthworms. The team experimented and put together a cost-effective, neem-oil based pesticide which can kill pests but not harm earthworms. They also suggested solutions so earthworms were not harmed while tilling the farm, based on their own experiments in their backyards. They presented their solutions to composting experts and got great feedback. The team performed well under pressure and on all counts, including robot game, project and core values.

Team members worked over many weeks to develop their robots, attachments, and programming, in order to accomplish their missions, while focusing on learning about human-animal interactions and coming up with creative project solutions. Their hard work paid off as the team advanced to the Northern California Championship Round of the First Lego League, and later performed well in the East Bay Championship event.

CASTRO VALLEY TOTAL SALES: 10						
Highest \$: 800,000		Median \$: 565,000				
Lowest \$: 410,000		Average \$: 603,300				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
22466 Cameron Street	94546	549,000	3	1546	1951	11-09-16
21071 Gary Drive #112	94546	410,000	2	1118	1980	11-09-16
1741 Knox Street	94546	675,000	3	1520	1948	11-15-16
3492 Northwood Drive	94546	800,000	3	1918	1952	11-15-16
3669 Parsons Court	94546	754,000	4	2000	1956	11-10-16
4807 Proctor Road	94546	495,000	2	988	1941	11-14-16
17073 Sabina Court	94546	680,000	3	1242	1960	11-15-16
4263 Shamrock Way	94546	680,000	3	1199	1958	11-15-16
19733 Spruce Street	94546	565,000	2	1234	1959	11-15-16
20563 Yeandle Avenue	94546	425,000	2	1259	1977	11-15-16

FREMONT TOTAL SALES: 36						
Highest \$: 2,388,000		Median \$: 850,000				
Lowest \$: 275,000		Average \$: 891,625				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
37615 3rd Street	94536	520,000	2	765	1906	11-10-16
37311 Aspenwood Common #202	94536	340,000	1	714	1985	11-09-16
38623 Cherry Lane #211	94536	311,000	-	623	1974	11-10-16
4066 Grama Terrace	94536	585,000	4	1390	1972	11-15-16
143 Kerry Common	94536	872,000	3	1664	1988	11-09-16
3674 Oakwood Ter#102	94536	350,000	1	714	1984	11-10-16
3518 Pepperwood Ter #311	94536	436,000	1	936	1985	11-15-16
3467 Pinewood Terr #101	94536	540,000	2	1083	1986	11-09-16
37472 Willowood Drive	94536	766,000	3	1167	1955	11-10-16
4485 Cahill Street	94538	650,000	3	1233	1955	11-14-16
4851 Coco Palm Drive	94538	650,000	3	1097	1964	11-10-16
41353 Ellen Street	94538	1,090,000	4	2571	1961	11-15-16
5501 Reseda Circle	94538	275,000	3	1117	1994	11-09-16
39254 Sundale Drive	94538	705,500	3	1078	1963	11-15-16
47121 Bennis Terrace	94539	575,000	2	926	1987	11-14-16
345 Castro Lane	94539	2,388,000	5	3690	1999	11-10-16
2451 Corriea Way	94539	1,105,000	2	1306	1972	11-10-16
45027 Cougar Circle	94539	1,585,000	4	2743	1989	11-15-16
921 Covina Way	94539	960,000	2	1010	1969	11-10-16
48927 Ebony Terrace	94539	1,060,000	3	1835	2008	11-15-16
109 Emory Common	94539	1,588,000	-	-	-	11-10-16
43775 Greenhills Way	94539	1,750,000	4	2622	1988	11-10-16
47442 Hoyt Street	94539	1,325,000	3	1234	1961	11-14-16
150 Quinault Way	94539	1,200,000	4	1896	1977	11-15-16
670 Sammie Avenue	94539	1,080,500	3	1462	1962	11-15-16
229 St. Phillip Court	94539	1,280,000	3	1298	1959	11-10-16
1204 Sunrise Drive	94539	545,500	4	2052	1987	11-10-16
34128 Bowling Green Com	94555	525,000	2	988	1970	11-14-16
3249 Lake Arrowhead Ave	94555	899,000	4	1818	1976	11-09-16
33239 Lake Oneida Street	94555	810,000	4	1651	1969	11-15-16
4399 MacBeth Circle	94555	850,000	3	1380	1984	11-15-16
3019 Paine Court	94555	980,000	4	1710	1971	11-14-16
34817 Powder River Place	94555	940,000	4	1830	1973	11-15-16
34416 Ramsgate Place	94555	783,000	4	1400	1969	11-15-16
34499 Salinas Place	94555	889,000	3	2073	1977	11-14-16
34653 Wells Avenue	94555	890,000	3	1603	1980	11-15-16

HAYWARD TOTAL SALES: 27						
Highest \$: 800,000		Median \$: 545,000				
Lowest \$: 340,000		Average \$: 554,019				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
22542 Amador Street #4	94541	540,000	3	1468	2010	11-10-16
22882 Arnold Court	94541	439,000	3	1023	1949	11-14-16
716 City Walk Place #2	94541	489,000	2	1361	2001	11-10-16
3306 D Street	94541	750,000	3	2048	2015	11-10-16
2302 Morrow Street	94541	650,000	4	2110	2013	11-10-16
1082 Old Oak Lane	94541	590,000	3	1919	2010	11-15-16
427 Palmer Avenue	94541	550,000	3	1726	2012	11-14-16
1217 Richard Place	94541	374,500	2	980	1935	11-15-16
3074 Chronicle Avenue	94542	674,000	3	2352	1991	11-10-16
695 Bristol Drive #378	94544	361,000	2	878	1988	11-14-16
308 Carmar Street	94544	535,000	3	1056	1960	11-15-16
629 Carmar Street	94544	525,000	3	1597	1956	11-15-16
25505 Compton Ct #101	94544	545,000	3	1705	1990	11-09-16
161 Cypress Loop	94544	606,000	-	-	-	11-10-16

24691 Lyell Way	94544	565,000	3	1082	1952	11-10-16
27761 Pensacola Way	94544	510,000	3	1264	1954	11-10-16
25495 Southwick Dr #111	94544	460,000	2	1130	1991	11-09-16
1578 Welford Circle	94544	650,000	5	2255	2004	11-14-16
24155 Alberta Court	94545	730,000	5	2891	1978	11-15-16
25181 Copa Del Oro Dr #123	94545	340,000	2	865	1991	11-15-16
2048 Everglade Street	94545	495,000	3	1000	1955	11-14-16
1985 Florida Street	94545	460,000	3	1000	1955	11-10-16
28024 Sandlewood Drive	94545	655,000	4	1852	1975	11-15-16
2404 Sleepy Hollow Ave	94545	565,000	3	1260	1959	11-15-16
2629 Spindrift Circle	94545	800,000	3	2402	2004	11-10-16
1403 West Street	94545	600,000	3	1227	1956	11-10-16
24330 Wilding Way	94545	500,000	3	998	1951	11-10-16

MILPITAS TOTAL SALES: 11						
Highest \$: 1,025,000		Median \$: 780,000				
Lowest \$: 398,500		Average \$: 762,500				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
416 Dempsey Road #218	95035	398,500	2	842	2007	12-05-16
1662 Kennedy Drive	95035	529,000	3	1122	1972	12-05-16
1228 North Park Victoria Dr	95035	1,025,000	3	2148	1984	12-02-16
1175 Park Willow Court	95035	780,000	3	1146	1962	12-05-16
183 Silvera Street	95035	830,000	3	1253	1959	12-06-16
198 Silvera Street	95035	741,000	3	1266	1959	12-05-16
1199 Torres Avenue	95035	800,000	3	1398	1971	12-02-16
1855 Trento Loop	95035	845,500	3	1633	2016	12-05-16
1861 Trento Loop	95035	928,500	3	1882	2016	12-05-16
1862 Trento Loop	95035	755,000	2	1584	2015	12-02-16
1870 Trento Loop	95035	755,000	2	1584	2015	12-02-16

NEWARK TOTAL SALES: 6						
Highest \$: 860,000		Median \$: 660,000				
Lowest \$: 410,000		Average \$: 646,000				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
7503 Birkdale Drive	94560	685,000	4	1464	1965	11-10-16
36513 Bottle Brush Ct	94560	660,000	4	1230	1978	11-15-16
39843 Cedar Blvd #125	94560	480,000	2	1071	1986	11-15-16
35674 Farnham Drive	94560	860,000	3	1538	1969	11-14-16
39121 Levi Street	94560	781,000	4	1519	1979	11-09-16
6141 Rockrose Drive	94560	410,000	4	2423	1966	11-10-16

SAN LEANDRO TOTAL SALES: 14						
Highest \$: 888,000		Median \$: 581,500				
Lowest \$: 347,000		Average \$: 609,607				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
1736 Astor Court	94577	850,000	4	3496	1987	11-10-16
377 Best Avenue #C	94577	775,000	8	3677	1963	11-09-16
1400 Carpentier St #217	94577	347,000	2	968	1983	11-10-16
716 Dolores Avenue	94577	590,000	3	1443	1954	11-09-16
981 Dowling Boulevard	94577	680,000	3	1217	1927	11-10-16
2472 Harborview Drive	94577	791,000	3	2169	1961	11-09-16
1409 Pearson Avenue	94577	581,500	3	1484	1943	11-10-16
1380 Wainwright Ave	94577	575,000	2	1403	1943	11-09-16
1299 144th Avenue	94578	380,000	2	820	1944	11-15-16
1470 153rd Avenue	94578	423,000	1	616	1939	11-09-16
1176 Elgin Street	94578	464,000	3	1168	1996	11-10-16
14991 Portofino Circle	94578	620,000	3	1582	1984	11-10-16
2019 Orion Court	94579	888,000	4	2820	1998	11-15-16
995 Purdue Street	94579	570,000	3	1376	1951	11-09-16

UNION CITY TOTAL SALES: 10						
Highest \$: 1,285,000		Median \$: 730,000				
Lowest \$: 615,000		Average \$: 810,150				
ADDRESS	ZIP	SOLD FOR	BDSSQFT	BUILT	CLOSED	
2502 Begonia Street	94587	667,500	3	1382	1971	11-10-16
32480 Carmel Way	94587	942,000	4	2577	1997	11-09-16
35007 Clover Street	94587	630,000	3	1382	1971	11-10-16
4910 Colusa Street	94587	765,000	4	1409	1984	11-10-16
368 Florence Street	94587	730,000	3	1430	1965	11-14-16
4484 Niland Street	94587	1,285,000	5	3160	2007	11-10-16
2509 Stanford Street	94587	700,000	3	1340	1964	11-10-16
1057 Tourmaline Ter	94587	615,000	3	1431	2007	11-14-16
987 Westgard Street	94587	860,000	5	2688	2004	11-10-16
107 Windflower Lane	94587	907,000	3	1867	1998	11-10-16

Home Sales Report

A Home for the Holidays

SUBMITTED BY LAUREN BURCH

A local family who have been living out of their car for over a year will have a home just in time for the holidays.

The Martin family (we're using a different name to protect their privacy) lost their home over a year ago, and have been living out of a car ever since. Although Mr. Martin works two jobs, it wasn't enough to cover living expenses for the family of six.

The family became part of CAREavan, a program created by Union City's Community and Recreation Services Department to give homeless families a safe place to park their cars and sleep for the night. The program, which also offers access to facilities, laundry, showers, and meals, was started in partnership with the Union City Kids' Zone, Union City, and several nonprofits and churches in May 2016 to help similar families who have children attending school in NHUSD.

When a mobile home owned by Union City recently became available, city staff realized this could become a permanent home for the Martins. The Central Park West home has three bedrooms and two bathrooms, making it large enough to accommodate the two parents and four children.

The mobile home needed some upkeep, so recent graduates from the Cypress Mandela program volunteered their time and training to repaint, install new flooring and cabinets, renovate the bathrooms, and more. Program volunteers spent over 10 days in total working on the Central Park West home.



Kids' Zone and Compassion Network have contributed home goods, furniture, and household supplies, as well as nonperishable food to stock the kitchen. Other community members who wished to stay anonymous donated additional furniture and home goods.

Thanks to these generous donations, the Martins have a fully furnished home with affordable rent They received



keys to their new home on Saturday, December 24, just in time for the holidays.

Major funding was provided by the City of Union City, and by Home Depot. Labor was provided by Cypress Mandela and the City of Union City's Community and Recreation Services department. Home goods, furniture, and household supplies provided by Kids' Zone and Compassion Network.

New wedding trends: CAMPGROUNDS, BUBBLES AND FOOD TRUCKS

BY BETH J. HARPAZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

If your idea of a wedding involves throwing rice and eating a slice of white, three-tiered cake, you've got some catching up to do.

These days, guests blow bubbles or light sparklers instead of throwing rice. Trendy couples are getting married in barns and campgrounds, and they're hiring food trucks for dinner and serving doughnuts for dessert.

And how did anyone get married before the internet? From Pinterest inspiration to emailed invites and hashtagged photos, everything but the "I do" can be digital.

We got input from more than 100 sources — including wedding planners, hotels and caterers, newlyweds and guests, websites, magazines and Mindy Weiss' "The Wedding Book" — to compile the following look at what's new in weddings.

The ceremony

Instead of a printed program, look for chalkboard signs telling you where to go, what to do and when.

Online certification and relaxed legal requirements for officiants in many states means it's much easier for couples to have friends or relatives perform their ceremony instead of a minister or justice of the peace.

Why make a mess throwing rice? These days, newlyweds are feted by bubbles or sparklers distributed to guests beforehand.

Dogs are on planes, in stores and everywhere else, so why shouldn't they walk down the aisle with their owners?

Couples are also inviting those nearest and dearest to join them at the altar regardless of gender. A bride can have a male friend by her side and a groom can have a female friend. Some even call them bridesmen and groomsmails.

For Jewish weddings, the signing of the traditional marriage contract, called a ketubah, is now often as elaborate as the wedding ceremony. What used to be a private signing with a couple of witnesses might now involve speakers, photos and a contract that's a commissioned work of art rather than a simple document.

The setting

Beaches and gardens have been popular alternatives to hotel ballrooms for a while. But venue options are getting even more rustic. Barns are a big trend, as are campgrounds where guests bunk for the weekend and line up for grub in the dining hall.

These relaxed, semi-outdoor settings also lend themselves to weddings that feel more like summer camp or bar mitzvahs than formal occasions. Think scavenger hunts, trivia games, color war, campfires, singalongs, volleyball, bocce, croquet and glow necklaces for dancing in the dark.

Food

Anything goes as fun alternatives to staid seated dinners: wedding brunches, food trucks, vegan and

gluten-free spreads, barbecues, cheese trays, oyster bars and sliders. Multicultural menus include make-your-own taco bars and sushi stations. And with guests wandering around nibbling this and that, assigned seats can be replaced by a mix of informal tables, chairs, stools, counters, sofas and picnic tables.

Booze trends include craft beer and signature cocktails.

Some couples still want that three-tiered cake, but lots of wedding desserts are going rogue. Cupcakes were the darling alternative a decade ago, but today's trendy sweets include milkshakes, gourmet doughnuts, s'mores, pies, churros, candy buffets and make-your-own ice cream sundae bars.

There's also a "naked cake" craze — filling between the layers but no frosting!

Technology

Pity the baby boomers who had to plan their weddings back in the Stone Age.

Today's couples need Pinterest, Instagram and Etsy for inspiration, the WeddingWire database for vendors and WeddingHappy for planning help. They may reject paper invitations in favor of emails. Directions, schedules and other FAQs can be found on personal wedding websites.

Digital registries are no longer limited to individual retailers. Amazon has a wedding registry, MyRegistry.com allows you to aggregate products from any number of retailers, and Zola offers a curated selection of products from various brands. Couples with enough towels and silverware might prefer donations toward a honeymoon via sites like GoFundMe or HoneyFund.com.

What's that you're mumbling about writing a check? Stop living in the 20th century!

For photos, the happy couple will provide a custom hashtag to make it easy to find all the Facebook, Instagram and Twitter posts, and they may also ask you to upload your images to a website like WedPics.

Are you ready for the wedding video shot by drone? Or are you still trying to wrap your head around weddings that are livestreamed or Skyped for those who can't be there in person?

And what's that in the side of the wedding gown? A pocket? Of course! The bride needs to keep her cellphone handy. Because if there were ever a day for selfies and Snapchat, this would be it.

Of course there are anti-cellphone couples too. They might ask guests to please put cellphones away to reduce distractions during the ceremony. This policy also prevents you from posting pics that aren't as flattering as the ones shot and edited by a professional photographer.

Flowers

Floral arrangements are trending green and wild — eucalyptus, pine boughs and holly berries, wildflowers in jam jars, plants instead of cut flowers and environmentally friendly succulents.

Some brides may still toss the bouquet to all the single ladies, but many have tossed that tradition into the garbage.

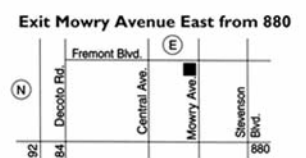
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Oliveira Food Drive Doubles Last Year's Results

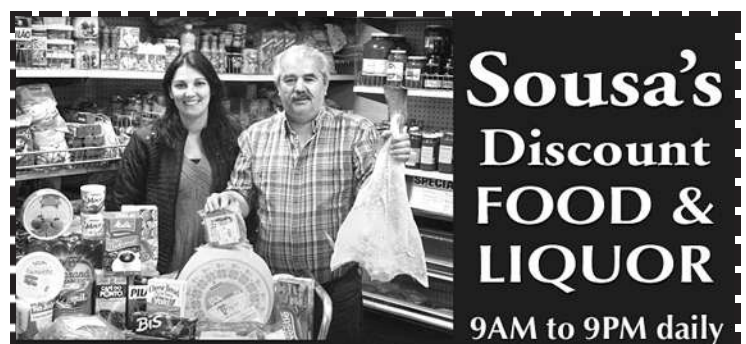


Oliveira students celebrate their successful 2016 holiday food drive

SUBMITTED BY BRIAN KILLGORE
FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

To say it was a smashing success would be an understatement. In just over a week, students participating in the second annual holiday food drive at Oliveira Elementary filled eight drums with food items to double donations from the previous year.

The event was coordinated by the school's Oliveira Ambassador Council.



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Caliban

kicks off 2017 concert series

SUBMITTED BY
BRASK HOUSE CONCERTS

Brask House Concerts starts their 2017 season with the Celtic music of Caliban. "With the exception of last years Tempest show, Caliban has been our opening show since we started at Mission Coffee back in 2006," said organizer Wayne Brask.

Caliban is a traditional Celtic duo and a subset of the band Tempest, both led by Lief Sorbye. After leaving Norway, Sorbye joined with Paul Espinoza and Margie Butler to form Golden Bough in 1980. They toured Europe and America for eight years, produced six CDs and formed a friendship that continues today. They still get together and do reunion shows occasionally.

Sorbye left Golden Bough in 1988 to form Tempest and the classic Celtic subset Caliban. Tempest is not your normal Celtic Band – they are a rock Celtic band, and when Sorbye wants to get back to his musical roots he plays as Caliban with noted fiddler Kathy Buys.

Buys brings her international award-winning playing to the Tempest-Caliban stage. Her experience performing world-fusion music with high-energy dance bands combined with

many years of playing Irish traditional music in America and Ireland makes her a perfect fit for Caliban.

Since its formation, Caliban has delivered a globally renowned hybrid of high-energy fusion of Irish reels, Scottish ballads, Norwegian influences, and other world musical elements. The last 28 years have seen the San Francisco Bay Area-based act release 15 critically acclaimed CDs, and play more than 2,000 gigs. They have also enjoyed an evolving lineup that's enabled musicianship and creativity to rise with each new member.

Caliban presents a delightful eclectic blend of music on fiddle and octave mandola, filling a set with spirited dance tunes and spellbinding ballads. Their

repertoire consists of Celtic and British material, traditional American songs, and tunes from Sorbye's native Norway. Featuring tight vocal harmonies and great instrumental skills, their show has a lively feel and a contagious sense of humor.

Caliban
Saturday, Jan 7
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



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Clementine is a gentle 3 year old female orange tabby. She has a calm, laid back disposition and enjoys meeting new people and being the center of attention. She'll chat with you, meowing happily to attract a scratch behind the ears or a treat from your hand. Info: Hayward Animal Shelter. (510) 293-7200.



Cherie is a 7 year old spayed Chihuahua mix. She's a friendly, mellow gal who just wants to hang out with her person. She loves sitting on your lap or cuddling in your arms. She isn't very interested in toys or treats. She's OK with kids 7 yrs and older. Info: Hayward Animal Shelter. (510) 293-7200.

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



CONTINUING EVENTS

Friday, Oct 8 - Sunday, Jan 8
Impressed with Wax Exhibit
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Paintings and sculpture created with hot wax
Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward
(510) 670-7270
www.haywardrec.org

Friday, Nov 18 - Friday, Jan 27
A Woman's View of the World
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Reception: Friday, Dec 2
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Various artworks by American Pen Women
John O'Lague Galleria
Hayward City Hall
777 B St, Hayward
(510) 538-2787
www.haywardartscouncil.org

Wednesday, Nov 30 thru Sunday, Jan 8
Local Botanical Beauties, Then and Now \$
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Watercolor exhibit of plants and landscapes
Artist reception: Friday, December 2 at 5:30 p.m.
Hayward Area Historical Society Museum
22380 Foothill Blvd., Hayward
(501) 581-0223
www.haywardareahistory.org

Wednesday, Jan 4 - Monday, Jan 31
Nancy Benton Painting Showcase
5 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Series of acrylics portraying human condition
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151 Washington Blvd., Fremont
(510) 474-1004
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Thursday, Jan 6 - Sunday, Feb 11
Beautiful Transformations Exhibit
12 noon - 5 p.m.
Photography by Yao-pi Hsu
Artist reception Friday, January 6 at 7 p.m.
Olive Hyde Art Gallery
123 Washington Blvd., Fremont
(510) 791-4357
www.olivehydeartguild.org

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Jan 10 thru Mar 2
Citizenship Class \$R
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www.fremontfarmersmarket.com

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3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

May thru October
Capital Ave. between Liberty St.
and State St.
www.westcoastfarmersmarkets.org

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

Irvington Farmers' Market

Sundays

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Year-round
Bay Street and Trimboli Way,
Fremont
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

HAYWARD:

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

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

SAN LEANDRO:

Kaiser Permanente San Leandro

Wednesday

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

June 11, 2014 to
December 31, 2014
2500 Merced St, San Leandro
www.cafarmersmarkets.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

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

Bayfair Mall

Saturdays

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Year-round
Fairmont and East 14th St., San
Leandro
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UNION CITY:

Kaiser Permanente Union City Farmers' Market

Tuesdays

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

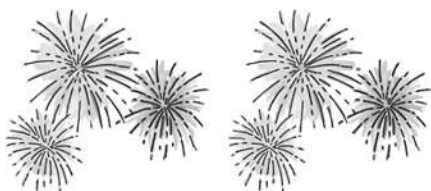
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www.pcfma.com

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Union City
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Tuesday, Jan 3

Stroke Prevention Series – R

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Minimize risk factors for stroke
Washington Hospital
2500 Mowry Ave., Fremont
(800) 963-7070
www.whhs.com/seminars

Wednesday, Jan 4

Meet a Muslim

7 p.m.
Question and answer session
Milpitas Library
160 North Main St., Milpitas
(408) 262-1171
www.sccl.org

Thursday, Jan 5 - Sunday, Jan 8

Animal Feeding \$

3 p.m.
Check for eggs and bring hay to live-stock
Ardenwood Historic Farm
34600 Ardenwood Blvd.,
Fremont
(510) 544-2797
www.ebparks.org

Thursday, Jan 5

Diabetes Matters – R

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Mindful eating for 2017
Washington Hospital
2500 Mowry Ave., Fremont
(800) 963-7070
www.whhs.com/seminars

Friday, Jan 6

Nature Detectives \$

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

Friday, Jan 6

Toddler Ramble \$

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Young children discover nature
Ages 1 – 3
Hayward Shoreline Interpretive
Center
4901 Breakwater Ave., Hayward
(510) 670-7270
www.haywardrec.org

Friday, Jan 6

\$5 First Friday \$

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Ocean-themed activities and fun
Chabot Space & Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd, Oakland
(510) 336-7373
www.chabotspace.org

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11am-9pm
Fri-Sat
11am - 12noon
Sun
10am-9pm

Friday, Jan 6 - Saturday, Jan 7

Build a Better Birdhouse Battle

Fri: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sat: 12 noon - 2 p.m.
Handmade birdhouses
Artwork display and silent auction
Sun Gallery
1015 E St., Hayward
(510) 581-4050
www.sungallery.org

Saturday, Jan 7

Caliban \$

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Classic Celtic duo
Mission Coffee Roasting Co.
151 Washington Blvd. Fremont
94539
(510) 623-6920
www.BraskHouseConcerts.com
www.fremontcoffee.com
www.tempestmusic.com/html/caliban.html

Saturday, Jan 7

Monarchs for Kids \$

11 a.m. - 12 noon
Interactive butterfly puppet show
Ardenwood Historic Farm
34600 Ardenwood Blvd.,
Fremont
(510) 544-2797
www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 7

Make Your Own Butterfly \$

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Fun and easy butterfly craft
Ardenwood Historic Farm
34600 Ardenwood Blvd.,
Fremont
(510) 544-2797
www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 7 - Sunday, Jan 8

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 & Sunday, Jan 7 & 8

Kingian Nonviolence

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Two-day workshop on conflict reconciliation
East Point Peace Academy
111 Fairmount Ave, Oakland
(510) 500-7853
eastpointpeace.org/event/intro-kingian-nonviolence-oakland-3

Saturday, Jan 7

Microhike

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Investigative hike in search of insects
Ages 6+
Coyote Hills Regional Park
8000 Patterson Ranch Rd.,
Fremont
(510) 544-3220
www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 7

For the Bay Volunteer Project – R

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Pick up trash and clear debris
Ages 12+
Coyote Hills Regional Park
8000 Patterson Ranch Rd.,
Fremont
(888) 327-2757
www.ebparks.org

Saturday, Jan 7

Nature Walk for Health

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Guided 1.3 mile tidelands hike
SF Bay Wildlife Refuge
1 Marshlands Rd., Fremont
(510) 792-0222



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Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. *Idealist and pragmatist*

BY VICTOR CARVELLAS

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly... Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

In April of 1963, while sitting in the Birmingham city jail, King took a few minutes to respond to his critics, clergy who resented his status as an "outsider" and called the demonstrations he led in that city "unwise and untimely." In his famous Letter from Birmingham Jail, King gently but sternly reminds his detractors, however, that they have been sidetracked. In their concern over policies and methods, in their efforts to avoid repercussion, they had become more concerned about the consequences of the demonstrations (non-violent thought they were) than the racist and unjust circumstances that brought them about.

King never lost sight of the big picture, nor wavered from his commitment to every particular goal. The future he dreamt was not a color-blind world, but one that acknowledged our differences and welcomed, even demanded, the contributions from all members of society. In his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, King evokes the biblical prophets, those interpreters of the Divine vision, by summoning a simple yet powerful image. "One day," he thunders, "right there in Alabama little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers." In that single sentence, he conjures a world not merely of tolerance but of universal love.

What sets King apart as a memorable leader is not simply his brilliance, his gift for oration, his compassion or his integrity and strength of character, but a remarkable double-edged ability to fix upon a grand vision while accomplishing specific tasks. It is his vision, in fact, that provides the context for his actions and gives them meaning. Yes, there is meaning enough in what he accomplished: in 1955 he orchestrated the Montgomery Bus Boycott ignited by Rosa Parks's defiance, which finally forced the transit authority to change its policy; he led the August 1963 March on Washington, which led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and his March on Selma the next year led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Still, for King these were only steps along a path with a greater purpose. God, for King, was Truth and Right incarnate who had come in the form of a man to provide us an example, and the only example required on which to build a foundation.

Born January 15, 1929, King was assassinated April 4, 1968 at the age of 39 in Memphis, Tennessee. There was much controversy over turning his

birthday into a national holiday (now celebrated on the third Monday of January). Originally

ing of volunteer service cleaning up Alameda's shorelines. Efforts will be focused on the Main



Photo courtesy of nwnoticias.com

proposed by U.S. Representative John Conyers (D-Michigan) and U.S. Senator Edward Brooke (R-Massachusetts) in 1979, opponents who believed another paid federal holiday was too expensive voted it down. In 1980 the King Center turned to the public, collecting six million signatures on a petition to Congress, but Senators Jesse Helms and John Porter East (both R-North Carolina) still fought against the holiday, questioning whether King was important enough to be so honored; Helms even suggested in a filibuster that King was a communist. In 1983, however, Representative Katie Hall of Indiana proposed legislation to create the holiday, which passed the House of Representatives in a veto-proof margin of 338 to 90. On the strength of that vote, Ronald Reagan, opposed to the holiday himself on cost concerns, signed it into law in 1983, with the first federal observance coming three years later.

We, ourselves, do not often consider the importance of Big Question issues. We do not, as a rule, model our lives on perfect paradigms. We tend to focus on our daily lives and our personal goals. Abstracts and ideals operate at best at the background level. King realized, however, that without the concern for the Absolute, without seeking a world that works for everyone, without a concern for abstracts like capital-letter concepts like Compassion, Justice, Love, and Unity, any achievement, no matter how momentous, falls short of its potential for reaching and changing the most lives, both now and into the future. As proof that his idealism still lives, citizens across the United States will celebrate his vision for all people this Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 16. Below are a few opportunities to participate.

Alameda:

Join the Alameda Public Works Department for a morn-

ing of volunteer service cleaning up Alameda's shorelines. Efforts will be focused on the Main

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service – Alameda Shoreline Cleanup
Saturday, Jan 14
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Estuary Lot west of the Linear Dog Park
Main St at Navy Way, Alameda
(650) 438-8780 – Rachel Campos
rcampos@alumni.haas

Hayward:
Join the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration at Chabot College's Reed L. Buffington Performing Arts Center. Those in attendance will hear Freddie M. Davis and Carol Ruth Silver, Sisters in the Struggle.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration
Monday, Jan 16
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Reed L. Buffington Performing Arts Center
Chabot College
25555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward
(510) 723-6976
<https://www.chabotcollege.edu/events/celebrating-mlk-guest-speakers/>
Free (parking fees may apply)
Newark:

The Afro-American Cultural and Historical Society Inc. presents the 40th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration observance. This year's theme is "Changing Lives and Transforming Communities through Dr. King's Philosophy of Non Violence." Keynote speaker is Rev. Clarence Johnson with singing by the Mills Grove Christian Church Choir of Oakland. Participants include Rev. Garrett

Yamada; Honorable Karen Monroe, Superintendent of Education for Alameda County; Katherine Jordan and Angel Heart of Bethel Baptist Church of Union City, and many more. Call Jean Ficklin (510) 793-8181 to confirm attendance

AACHSI Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration
Sunday, Jan 8
First Presbyterian Church
35450 Newark Blvd, Newark.
(510) 793-8181
Free
Oakland:

The East Bay Regional Park District celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. with a "Day of Service" that continues King's vision of

Kingian-nonviolence-oakland-3
Free

San Jose:

The African-American Community Service Agency presents the 37th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Luncheon at the Holiday Inn San Jose – Silicon Valley. This year's keynote speaker is Rev. Dereca Blackmon. She has a distinguished history of leadership and service in local and national organizing efforts on subjects as diverse as ethnic studies and police accountability. Mistress of Ceremonies is Mrs. Kari Hall of NBC Bay Area. This year's Iola Williams Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Mrs. Queen Ann Cannon.

Martin Luther King Luncheon
Monday, Jan 16
10:00 a.m.: Vendor displays open
12:00 p.m.: Luncheon
Holiday Inn San Jose – Silicon Valley
1350 N 1st St, San Jose
(408) 292-3157
www.sjaacsa.org/mlkluncheon
Cost: \$75 general admission, \$45 students/youth (17 and under)

San Leandro:

Every year, the City of San Leandro honors the legacy of Dr. King by hosting an oratorical contest and poetry slam featuring San Leandro High School students. Students enrolled between the 3rd and 12th grades will perform original or well-known speeches and poems commemorating the birthday of this great American leader and his lifelong work toward equality and peace.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
Monday, Jan 16
10:30 a.m.
Senior Community Center
13909 E 14th St, San Leandro
(510) 577-3462
Free
Union City:

The Union City Library invites parents and school-aged kids ages five and up to come out and hear stories and create craft projects centered on the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Stories and Crafts at the Library
Saturday, Jan 14
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Union City Library
34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd, Union City
(510) 745-1464
Free; no registration required

solidarity, improving lives, bridging social barriers, and moving our country closer together. People from all walks of life are encouraged to work mutually in bringing about a better community.

Volunteers will help restore Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Grove and MLK, Jr. Damon Marsh by cleaning and removing invasive plants in order to support and care for wildlife and their natural habitat. We welcome children to participate, but ask that those under 16 be accompanied by one chaperone for every 20 kids.

MLK, Jr. Day of Service
Monday, Jan 16
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
MLK, Jr. Memorial Grove
MLK, Jr. Damon Marsh

See Website for registration and directions:
<http://www.ebparks.org/about/getinvolved/volunteer/mlk-day-of-service>

Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation. Come join us for this two-day workshop which will provide participants an introduction to the philosophy of Kingian Nonviolence. These trainings are transformational experiences that have helped thousands of people from around the world understand the depth of the philosophy of nonviolence, and learn to begin to bring the practices into their lives and their work. The seminar uses role playing, small group activities, readings, video presentations, mini-lectures and discussions to explore principles, strategies and the history of non-violence. Whether working for social change, trying to deal with the conflicts in your personal life, our workshops can teach you new skills and perspectives.

Kingian Nonviolence
Saturday & Sunday, Jan 7 & 8
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
East Point Peace Academy
111 Fairmount Ave, Oakland
(510) 500-7853
eastpointpeace.org/event/intro-

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Library Volunteers Boost our Communities

BY BLAINE WENTWORTH

As the Fremont, Union City and Newark (F.U.N.) libraries join many others for an end of the year reflection, it is certainly easy to recollect unexpected developments, locally, nationally and globally. But at this time of year I'd rather focus on the impressive number of volunteers that gave their time to build a more knowledgeable and inspired community.

At the Union City Library, Homework Center volunteers contributed over 1000 hours of tutoring for approximately 100 students. During the Summer Reading Game, you probably encountered one of the hundreds of tween and teen volunteers that spent the summer assisting younger children with registering for the game, spinning the wheel, and stamping reading logs. A number of programs in the library such as Book Club, Lawyer in the library, the Bookmobile, and Social Justice Services, have numerous volunteers from different backgrounds who donate their time to make these programs available to the public.

Many of us fear that the growing socioeconomic divide will have unacceptable consequences for our ability to sustain a thriving community. Fortunately, the generations affected by this problem, Millennials and Z's, are actively working to correct it. As just one example of this, two high school students

spent their summer at Fremont Main Library providing academic enrichment by preparing junior high students for the upcoming school year. The Guidance, Practice, and Acceleration (G.P.A.) program (<http://gpa-enrichment.weebly.com>) promoted skills to analyze data in Earth and Life Sciences, to accurately and fluently comprehend fiction, essays and other written works, and how to cite credible sources.

The ability to read, write, speak and listen is essential for a literate, informed citizenry. Alameda County Library understands this and offers the Reading Buddies program to assist youth in effectively increasing their literacy level. The program is one-on-one reading designed for children grades one to six, but also helps new English speakers improve their language skills by reading to a teen volunteer. Enrolled children meet in a group setting with their assigned teen volunteer once a week throughout the school year (excluding breaks and holidays). At the Newark Library, Reading Buddies has become the "it" program and has raised so much interest that there is now a waiting list. (If any high school students are seeking to improve their own communication skills by assisting the youth in their community by developing literacy skills, please contact the Newark Library.) This program is also currently offered at the Union City Library and will

be coming to Fremont in 2017.

Those who frequent the Centerville Library might have noticed science experiments being conducted on the patio, in the courtyard, and in the community room. This science camp was made possible by the efforts of The Golden Experiment (<http://www.goldenexperiment.org/>) an organization founded by two recent high school graduates of Mission San Jose. The purpose of the Golden Experiment is to help young minds discover their innate love for science. Curiosity-based activities are designed to encourage creativity and the exploration of questions they have about the world. The four-week camp culminated in a Science Fair at the Fremont Main Library.

All of these achievements can be credited to efforts of teenagers in the Tri-City community; 2017 promises many more noteworthy endeavors. The Union City Library will offer public speaking, coding, podcasting, translating and transcribing programs. These programs complement those of the Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.), which include the flourishing shelving, computer tutoring, book reviewing, and reading buddy programs. We invite community input on ideas for new programs. With that in mind, think about your own skill-set and what you might be able to contribute to the community; or, let us know what skills or knowledge you would like to acquire from the library.

- F.U.N. libraries are proud of their volunteers and grateful for the thousands of hours of service in fulfillment of the public's needs. From all of us at the Alameda County Library, we wish the community a happy holiday season and a fruitful 2017!

Centerville Library
3801 Nicolet Ave., Fremont 94536
510-795-2629

Fremont Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont 94538
510-745-1400

Irvington Library
41825 Greenpark Dr., Fremont 94538
510-608-1170

Newark Library
6300 Civic Terrace Ave., Newark 94560
510-284-0675

Niles Library
150 I St., Fremont 94536
510-795-2626

Union City Library
34007 Alvarado-Niles Blvd., Union City 94587
510-745-1464

Storied Streets exposes homelessness

SUBMITTED BY REVEREND JEFFREY SPENCER

"Storied Streets," an intimate look at how individuals cope with the challenges of homelessness, launches a new year of Second Saturday Documentaries at Niles Discovery Church in Fremont. The 1:30 p.m. showing, on Saturday, January 14, is free and open to the public.

Louis Chicoine, Executive Director of Abode Services, will moderate discussion. Abode Services is a non-profit that secures permanent homes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties.

Starting in 2011, recent film school graduate Jack Robbins and several friends traveled from

Los Angeles to New York, visiting 13 cities to dig deeply into the stories of people who live homeless every day. They used unobtrusive cameras and cell phones to film frank conversations.

There is the story of the high school student, abandoned by his mother in ninth grade, who lived under the school bleachers and continued to go to school with no one the wiser about his situation. Another story is that of a man who cannot bear to lie down on the ground, so he has slept upright on public transportation for 20 years. The subjects are articulate, while the stories are poignant and sometimes hopeful.

Robbins released his film in 2015 with a little help from Executive Producer Susan Sarandon, award-winning

actress, political activist and his mother.

The Second Saturday Documentary Series is co-sponsored by Niles Discovery Church and the San Jose Peace & Justice Center. For more information, call (510) 797-0895 or visit www.nilesdiscoverychurch.org

Storied Streets – Homelessness Film
Saturday, Jan 14
1:30 p.m.
Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd, Fremont
(510) 797-0895
www.nilesdiscoverychurch.org
Free



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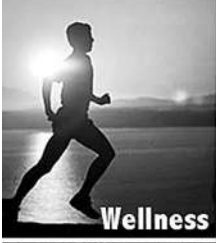
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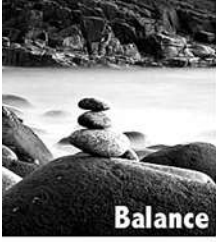
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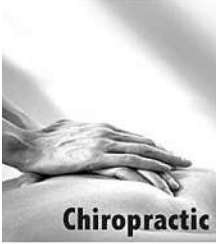
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SPORTS

CSUEB Basketball Receives Votes in National Coaches Poll

SUBMITTED BY STEVE CONNOLLY

Following its best start since joining the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA), the Cal State East Bay men’s basketball team received a vote in this week’s National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Division II Top-25 Rankings.

This marks the first time the Pioneers have appeared in the NABC national poll since re-joining NCAA Division II in 2009. The team has an overall record of 9-2 heading into this weekend’s road trip, matching its win total from the 2015-16 season.

CSUEB is one of seven West Region schools to receive top-25 votes this week, four of which are from the CCAA. Cal Baptist, San Francisco State, Western Washington, and UC San Diego are all ranked in the top 25. Chico State received five votes, while the Pioneers garnered one.

The weekly NABC Top-25 poll is voted on by two head coaches from each of the eight regions in Division II.

Cal State East Bay closed out the calendar year last weekend with a difficult pair of games, as the Pioneers visited Humboldt State (7-4, 2-3 CCAA) Friday night, followed by Sonoma State (6-4, 2-2 CCAA) on Saturday night.

ICC takes 38 medals in table tennis

SUBMITTED BY RAJUL SHETH

The India Community Center table tennis teams took a total of 38 medals at the 2016 US Open Championship, including 9 Gold, 14 Silver and 15 Bronze medals. The event was held in Las Vegas from December 12 – 17.

Gold Medals

Bob Chen and Tao Wenzhang: Men’s doubles
Wei Dianren: Men’s singles – 21 years and under
Sung Rachel: Cadet girls singles
Nikhil Kumar: Boys singles – 13 years and under
Giri Swathi: Girls singles – 11 years and under
Jindal Priyan: U 1800 rating juniors
Sampat Dhruv: U 1500 rating adults
Sahil Puri and Gopalan Rishikumar: U 4200 doubles
Pinili Kenneth: Liha Sandpaper RR

Silver Medals

Bob Chen: Men’s singles
Rachel Sung: Junior girls singles
Shah Manush: Cadet boys singles
Godhwani Aditya: Boys singles –13 years and under
Rachel Sung: Girls singles – 13 years and under
Kumar Nikhil: U 2700 rating
Sung Joanna: U 2250 rating
Ved Sheth: U 2000 rating Div A
Avi Gupta: U 1800 rating juniors

Jindal Priyan: U 3700 junior doubles
Alton Wang and Pradyuman Vijayakumar: U 2700 junior doubles
Sampat Dhruv: U 2700 adult doubles
Saju Neha: U 2100 rating women’s singles
Pinili Kenneth: Open Sandpaper RR

Bronze Medals

Zheng Pu: Men’s singles – 21years and under
Kumar Nikhil: Cadet boys singles
Saito Ayane: Cadet girls singles
Maruthapandian Lavanya: Girls singles – 13 yrs and under
Ava Fu: Girls singles – 13 yrs and under
Ved Sheth: Boys singles – 11 years and under
Tsao Darryl: Boys singles – 11 years and under
Liu Dan: U 2700 rating
Deb Ishana: U 2400 rating
Mahendrakar Ishaan: U 1650 rating
Satyakal Rishab: U 1650 rating
Tsao Darryl: U 1500 rating juniors
Alton Wang: U 1300 rating juniors
Sampat Dhruv: U 1300 rating adults
Mangeshkar Varun: U 1000 rating juniors

ICC Programs

The India Community Center offers classes and summer camps in Art, Chess, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, and Bollywood Dancing. Go to indi-acc.org and register today to grab your spot. Look for early registration discounts.

2016 women’s water polo All Nor Cal Teams selected

SUBMITTED BY TIMOTHY HESS

Tahnee Trew of Delta College and Hannah Zari of American River have been named NorCal MVPs for 2016. The title of NorCal Coach of the year has been awarded to Nathan Varosh of Delta College.

First Team All Nor Cal

1. Tahnee Trew, Delta College #6
2. Jeannette Saldana, Sierra #11
3. Hannah Zari, American River #7
4. Megan Plank, Sierra #9
5. Michaela Smith, Delta College #13
6. Katelyn Traut, Delta College #3
7. Carissa Johnson, Sierra #10
8. Chelsea Frye, American River #11
9. Annika Ericson, Santa Rosa #8

10. Kendall McCarrick, West Valley #1
11. Erin Hepner, Foothill #5

Second Team All Nor Cal

12. Brittany Smith, Delta College #2
13. Trinity Gerome, Ohlone #9
14. Shannon Sullivan, Foothill #4
15. Aneesha Nagra, Fresno #3
16. Hayle Dutton, American River #4
17. Meghan Hayward, Sierra #4
18. Kate Allan, Delta College #7
19. Hannah Groteguth, Merced #4
20. Bailey Beanland, Las Positas #1
21. Amy Tolbertson, Ohlone #2
22. Analise Alforque-Acevedo, Foothill #15

Park It Docent opportunities at Big Break

BY NED MACKAY

If you're interested in learning more about the fascinating California Delta, then sharing your knowledge with others, Delta Docent training will soon begin at Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley.

Docents help the staff naturalists at Big Break in preparing program materials and working with the public. The training highlights Delta ecology, presentation skills and local history. No prior experience is necessary.

There'll be an optional docent orientation from 11 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Jan. 15. The training is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on three Sundays: Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5. Two additional optional trainings will be from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 1, and at a time to be determined on Feb. 21.

All meetings are at the Big Break Visitor Center, which is at 69 Big Break Road, off Main Street in Oakley. For information, contact Nichole Gange, docent coordina-

tor, at ngange@ebparks.org, or 888-327-2757, ext. 3053.

While we're at Big Break, the visitor center has a **Delta Discovery program for all ages from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday.** Drop by to learn about the Delta through lots of hands-on arts and crafts activities.

Or you can help the center staff test the Delta water from 9 to 10 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday. The test results go into a regional database used by researchers, scientists and water managers.

East Bay Regional Park District visitor centers will step out into the new year with lots of interesting programs.

Let's start with Tilden Nature Area near Berkeley, where **"Stories by the Fire"** is a series of nature tales told by the fireplace at the Environmental Education Center. It's from 11 to 11:30 a.m. every Saturday in January and February.

"Talk With The Animals" is from 11 to 11:30 a.m. every Sunday in January and

February, showcasing a different Little Farm animal each week. On Jan. 8 the spotlight is on tortoises.

Naturalist Trent Pearce will be leading mushroom walks from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sundays, Jan. 8, 15, and 22. His walk on Jan. 8 will start at the Environmental Education Center. Subsequent walks will be at Sobrante Ridge and Redwood Regional Parks. Both the center and the Little Farm are at the north end of Tilden's Central Park Drive.

Trent also plans some early evening newt safaris at Tilden from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sundays, Jan. 8, 15 and 22. The group will walk on South Park Drive to document migrating newts. Bring a flashlight and meet Trent at the Botanic Garden, which is at the intersection of South Park Drive and Wildcat Canyon Road. Rain will not deter Trent.

For information on all these Tilden programs, call 510-544-2233.

It'll be campfire time during Family Nature Fun, scheduled from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday

and Sunday, Jan. 7 and 8, at Crab Cove Visitor Center in Alameda. Learn how to build a fire, then drink some cocoa and sing campfire songs.

Family Nature Fun is in session every weekend at Crab Cove. After that, it's fish feeding time from 3 to 3:30 p.m. at the center's large aquarium, which contains all kinds of fish from San Francisco Bay.

Another recurring program at Crab Cove is "Storytime and Nature Fun, from 11 to 11:30 a.m. every Sunday. The kids can meet characters including the Lorax, hermit crabs and Swimmy the Fish, then make crafts, watch videos or go on nature scavenger hunts.

Crab Cove is at the end of McKay Avenue off Alameda's Central Avenue. For information, call 510-544-3187.

Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont hosts Discovery Days, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday at the visitor center. You can arrive at 10:30 for an introduction to the topic of the

week, or drop in later to join ongoing activities.

Naturalist Francis Mendoza will host programs about the Ohlone people and culture from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 and Feb. 19. The programs are a discussion of values including generosity and fairness, held by the Native Americans who first inhabited the area, and which still resonate with their descendants today. The program is designed for ages eight and older.

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

Naturalist Michael Charnofsky will lead a Saturday Stroll from 10 a.m. to noon on Jan. 7 at Leona Canyon Regional Park in Oakland. It's a moderate, four-mile walk through a canyon leading to a panoramic view and a frog pond. Meet at the Canyon Oaks Drive parking area off Keller Drive. For information and directions, call 510-544-3187.

THE ROBOT REPORT

BY FRANK TOBE

More than 145 vendors filled the exhibition hall at the recent Beijing World Robot Conference. The international event, sponsored by Beijing City, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, and the China Association of Science and Technology, offered guests a run-down of the breath of China's fast-emerging robotics industry.

The conference was separated into international and domestic industrial robots, and service and special purpose robots. In the main forum, 45 sessions comprising individual and panel presentations took place in the main auditorium with seating for 1,000 over three of the five days of the event. Rodney Brooks described how collaborative robots are helping bring flexibility to electronics manufacturing; KUKA's Bernd Liepert described how manufacturing benefits through the use of robotics; and IBM's Grady Booch and many others discussed the future of AI in relation to

robots, manufacturing, self-driving cars and cloud processing and connectedness; to name just a few of the Western speakers.

The audience consisted of business executives, government personalities, academics of all types and from all across China, Korea, Japan and the EU, robot manufacturers and their sales staffs, and, particularly on the weekend, whole families - from children to their great grandparents.

A variety of contests and challenges focused on young people peppered the event: an unmanned driving challenge, an underwater robot competition, a RoboCup Challenge of robots playing soccer, and a youth challenge to work with other kids to get a robot to shoot hoops. There was even Star Challenge, a reality show about robotic startups and their key people that will soon be broadcast on Chinese satellite and network TV.

Most of the WRC reviews that appeared in Chinese and international media emphasized the abundance of human-like robots such as JiaJia, a super realistic robot capable of micro facial expressions and basic conversation, from the University of Science and Technology of China.

Business executives from companies that were users or candidates to use robots in their businesses were exposed to a wide range of applications and uses throughout

the conference and by demonstrations on the exhibition floor. The conference program was forward-looking and addressed subjects such as Russian and Israeli co-operative partnerships, healthcare and surgical developments, collaborative robots, self-driving vehicles, drones, and research challenges that must be met for the industry to progress and succeed.

About 40 percent of the robots on display at the show were industrial, while the rest were service and specialized robots.

According to the China Robot Industry Association, 68,000 industrial robots were sold in China in 2015, up 20 percent compared to the same period of 2014. China accounted for about a quarter of robot sales globally in 2015, making the country the biggest market for industrial robots for three consecutive years. 32,996 industrial robots were manufactured in China last year, up 21.7 percent year on year.

China has set goals to be able to make in-country 150,000 industrial robots in 2020, 260,000 in 2025 and 400,000 by 2030 and Shenzhen-based Siasun Robot & Automation, China's largest domestic robot manufacturer, had the largest exhibition space to show their full range of robotic products.

In April, the Ministry of Industry, the Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Finance and other

ministries jointly issued a development plan for the next 5 years which included these goals and stressed the need for service robots as well as industrial ones, hence the emphasis at the show and in the conference program of the growing importance of non-industrial robots as consumer and entertainment products, social assistants and helpers and for all manner of use in business.

The Chinese government is determined to stimulate robot development. According to statistics released by the Qianzhan Industry Research Institute, China's domestic robot industry in 2015 was just \$243 million, albeit a year-over-year increase of 55 percent.

At the conference, Vice Premier Liu Yandong urged enhanced research and development of the industry. She said related policies should be improved, human resources should be developed, and global communication should be enhanced.

According to Ms. Yandong, the development of robotics technology plays an important role in supporting intelligent manufacturing, enhancing production efficiency and improving the people's well-being, which ushers in a new era of economic and social development.

Courtesy of The Robot Report. For more information, visit www.robotreport.com.

Dog missing from Pennsylvania found in Oregon

BY STEVEN DUBOIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A Jack Russell terrier that went missing from its Pennsylvania home has turned up at an animal shelter nearly 3,000 miles away.

A good Samaritan this month spotted the 7-year-old dog named Gidget wandering in the Portland suburb of Tualatin, and brought her to the Bonnie L. Hays Animal Shelter, said Deborah Wood, manager of Washington County Animal Services.

Wood said Wednesday that a microchip implanted in Gidget revealed that the owner lived near Philadelphia. Contacted by the shelter, the owner said her dog has been missing since April 22, two days after Easter.

It's a mystery how the dog arrived in Oregon. "She's never lived here; there is nothing that would bring her here," Wood said. "So a human somehow brought her here, but we don't know who or how."

Wood says Gidget was a little thin, but otherwise in good shape. She has regained some of the estimated five pounds she lost during her 4 1/2 months away from home.

"Her eyes are shiny and she's energetic and her fur looks great," Wood said.

The shelter and the owner are trying to figure out how to get the dog back to Pennsylvania. The owner doesn't have the money to fly out, Wood said, and the shelter doesn't provide transportation. Wood said perhaps someone traveling from Portland to Philadelphia would be willing to bring the dog with them.

"I kind of see this as a Disney story," Wood said. "And we are very committed to the happy ending that we'll figure out how to get her back to her home."

Wood said she wants to get the owner's permission before giving her name to reporters.

With the New Year comes change

BY MARIAELENA LEMUS
SOCIAL SECURITY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST IN SAN JOSE

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will see a slight increase in 2017. Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$127,200 from \$118,500. Of the estimated 173 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2017, about 12 million will pay more because of the increase in the taxable maximum.

Thresholds for benefits will change slightly next year including the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA), SSI Federal Payment Standard, and SSI Student Exclusion. Information about Medicare changes for 2017 are available at www.Medicare.gov. For some beneficiaries, their Social Security increase may be partially or completely offset by increases in Medicare premiums.

The Social Security Act provides for how the Cost of Living Adjustment is calculated. To read more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/cola.

Learn more about the resulting changes at our factsheet on the subject: www.socialsecurity.gov/news/press/factsheets/colafacts2017.pdf.

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).

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.
2441 I 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

Swalwell returns from Intelligence Committee trip to Japan and South Korea



Rep. Eric Swalwell (left, center), while visiting South Korea on a House Intelligence Committee trip last week, had breakfast with U.S. Ambassador Mark Lippert (right, center)



Rep. Eric Swalwell, while visiting South Korea on a House Intelligence Committee trip last week, had lunch with U.S. service members from Northern California.

SUBMITTED BY JOSH RICHMAN
PHOTOS COURTESY OF REP. SWALWELL’S OFFICE

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15) recently returned from a congressional delegation trip to Japan and South Korea, undertaken in his role as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Swalwell, who is the Ranking Member on that panel’s CIA Subcommittee, felt the visit was timely.

“With South Korea having just impeached its president, and with revelations that Russia committed cyberattacks to interfere with our 2016 election campaigns, this would be a prime time for North Korea’s rogue regime to rattle its saber,” Swalwell said. “North Korean aggression not only threatens our ally South Korea, but also our own homeland, given its nuclear capability. So this was an important time

to get on-the-ground updates about our affairs and interests on the Korean peninsula, as well as to visit with our troops serving there.”

After a stop at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Swalwell proceeded to Seoul for meetings with U.S. military officials; Mark Lippert, the U.S. Ambassador to South Korea; other U.S. diplomats and personnel; and South Korea’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He had lunch one day with service members who hail from California’s 15th Congressional District.

Swalwell also visited the Korean Demilitarized Zone, where he received an orientation briefing and met with service members.

This trip caps Swalwell’s first term on the Intelligence Committee, which has also included visits to Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Lebanon, Turkey, Ukraine, and Russia.

Senator Wieckowski to chair environmental committees

SUBMITTED BY DEREK CHERNOW

State Senate Pro Tem Kevin de Leon has appointed Sen. Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont) to chair the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy, and Transportation. Wieckowski will also serve on critical committees including Judiciary and Transportation and Housing.

“I am excited to continue my work on environmental stewardship, our court system, transportation infrastructure, and affordable housing,” Wieckowski said. “These policy committees also position me to play key roles in meeting the challenges facing Senate District 10, which has been the leader in growing California’s clean technology.”

During the 2015-16 legislative session, the Senate Environmental Quality Committee heard approximately 235 bills and held 15 oversight and informational hearings. These hearings examined climate adaptation, plastic bags, toxics, and drinking water among other important topics.

“I am looking forward to expanding my role in working towards a cleaner environment and a stronger economy,” Wieckowski said of his new and continuing Chairmanships. “Climate change will continue to be one of the most significant issues we tackle in the years ahead. California is as important as ever in creating sensible, sustainable policy that will protect our planet and public health.”

In 2015, Senator Wieckowski was a member of the Legislative Delegation to United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change in Paris, better known as COP 21. At COP21, Wieckowski joined representatives from around the world at panel discussions describing actions taken on climate adaptation. Climate adaptation panel topics included innovative decision-making tools to help finance adaptation efforts, advance environmental justice, and foster collaboration between government and the private sector to support climate resilient developments.

Wieckowski represents the 10th Senate District, which includes southern Alameda County and northeast Santa Clara County.

Swalwell praises enactment of Consumer Review Fairness Act

SUBMITTED BY JOSH RICHMAN

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15), on December 15, praised President Obama’s signing of the Consumer Review Fairness Act of 2016, to prevent companies from intimidating or silencing honest critics online. This bipartisan bill, introduced by Rep. Leonard Lance (NJ-07) and Rep. Joseph Kennedy III (MA-04), was based on another that Swalwell first introduced in September 2014 to prevent retribution for online reviews.

“I’m grateful that our bipartisan cooperation has brought stronger protections for American consumers,” Swalwell said. “Internet shoppers often rely on others’ reviews when making purchasing decisions, but that works only if consumers have access to all information including both positive and negative reviews. Companies can’t be allowed to bully customers who offer negative but honest assessments of products or services.”

This new law was based on Rep. Swalwell’s H.R. 5499, the Consumer Review Freedom Act of 2014— a narrow bill designed to outlaw non-disparagement clauses and empower the government to stop companies from using them while maintaining the ability of businesses to sue for traditional defamation. Rep. Swalwell and Rep. Darrell Issa (CA-49) introduced a bipartisan version, H.R. 2110, in April 2015; they became original cosponsors of this bill, H.R. 5111, in April 2016.

The Consumer Review Fairness Act voids any non-disparagement clauses in consumer contracts if they restrict consumers from publicly reviewing products or businesses in a negative manner and authorizes the Federal Trade Commission to take action against businesses that insert such provisions into their contracts. It also ensures companies still can pursue legal action against individuals who post false, defamatory reviews.

The House approved H.R. 5111 by voice vote on September 12; the Senate passed it by unanimous consent on November 28.

Volunteers sought for homeless count in Fremont

SUBMITTED BY THE CITY OF FREMONT

Volunteers are needed to hit the streets of Fremont soon as part of a homeless count event in conjunction with Alameda County.

The Jan. 31 event is part of a countywide effort called “Everyone Counts” which tries to gauge the number of homeless people in the county.

In Fremont, volunteers will work alongside formerly or currently homeless guides to count the number of homeless people living outdoors in the city. They also may conduct a survey questionnaire that provides data on the homeless population to help the county better serve the needs of homeless people. The time commitment is between 5 and 6 hours. Volunteers must be 18 or older and be able to walk up to three miles if necessary. There will be an hour of training provided at least a week prior to the count.

The counts are done every two years. The program’s mission is to end homelessness by emphasizing a coordinated, efficient regional response to the problem and making the best use of the county’s resources while attracting funding from federal, state and philanthropic sources.

For more information, or to sign up for the event, visit the Everyone Counts website at <http://everyonehome.org/everyone-counts>.

OPINION



WILLIAM MARSHAK

Roulette is a game of chance in which bets are placed on a particular color and number when a ball is propelled on a tilted track in a counter direction around a spinning wheel until it drops into a marked partition indicating the winning number and color. In the past, schemes by unscrupulous croupiers could manipulate the outcome and manage payouts. In Fremont, a similar game has been played several times when a councilmember has vacated their seat early, usually due to an election to Mayor prior to the expiration of a candidate's council seat. This is the situation now as Lily Mei assumes the role of Mayor and leaves a two year vacancy to be filled either by an expensive special election or selection by the existing council. A council selection is the preferred path. In the past, this roulette wheel decision has been marked by decidedly partisan politics; those selected filled a role predetermined by particular interests. However, this time the process promises to be a bit different.

Fremont Council Roulette

The usual line of succession through Planning Commission appointments and party politics has been disrupted. Now, those deciding through council action offer a clouded result. Newly elected councilmember Raj Salwan benefitted previously from a selection process favoring the "in group" and has strong ties to the Fremont Chamber of Commerce and its pro development lobby. Rick Jones, in midterm, almost always voted for proposed developments in the past. However, the other two council members – Vinnie Bacon and Lily Mei – are more moderate in their approach to development, often on the losing end of 3-2 votes. They have questioned the wisdom of unrestrained development and its effects on traffic congestion and schools. With a sizable constituency that propelled Mei to office of mayor and Councilmember Bacon's top vote for another term, the majority alliance [3 (Harrison, Chan, Jones) -2 (Bacon, Mei)] of old is no longer in play. This may tilt the council roulette toward someone unrestrained by the influence of powerful lobbies.

Bacon has consistently received top votes in his campaigns and returns for a second term favoring environmental concerns and moderate growth. He is often joined in his comments by the new mayor. This time the ball moving around the roulette wheel may not tilt in the same predictable path as in the past. A weighted vote to fill the council vacancy may still produce 3-2 votes as in the past,

but it could very well be in a different direction. Those applying for the vacancy are a mixed bag; some easily recognizable either from previous attempts to gain a council seat, others who have been in the background of partisan politics and others relatively unknown but with impressive credentials.

The method to fill the vacancy has not yet been fully established but as the sitting council comes to terms with the process, it will be very interesting to watch as political and economic interests work to influence the outcome. Many who have either been elated or dejected by previous council decisions will view the proceedings with high interest to see whether the next four years will continue to follow the direction of the previous council or move toward a different path. At this time, the croupier's call, borrowed from The Original Amateur Hour opening of "Round and round she goes, where she stops, nobody knows," has a ring of truth.

William Marshak
PUBLISHER

Japan zoo apologizes for naming newborn monkey Charlotte

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese zoo has apologized after receiving complaints over naming a baby monkey Charlotte for the newborn British princess.

The Takasakiyama Natural Zoological Garden said Thursday it was considering renaming the macaque. It was flooded with angry calls and emails Wednesday hours after announcing the name for its first monkey born this year, a tradition at the zoo run by the southern city of Oita.

Charlotte was the favorite in a public ballot, receiving 59 out of 853 votes before the female monkey was born Wednesday.

Votes for Charlotte surged after the British princess was named Monday and topped the ballot in the last three days of voting, which ran from March 27 to May 6.

Opponents largely said giving the princess' name to a monkey was disrespectful to British royals. According to zoo official Akira Asano, some of them said that the Japanese people would feel offended if a monkey were named after Japanese princesses.

The complaints originated in Japan. Asano said he was not aware of any complaints from British citizens. He said the zoo has also received support for Charlotte, and the views are now largely divided.

"We deeply apologize for causing trouble to many people over the naming of the first baby (monkey)," said a statement posted on the zoo website. "We take these opinions seriously."

Officials of the zoo and the city were still discussing what to do with the monkey's name. The zoo now plans to seek advice from the British Embassy before making a final decision, Kyodo News agency reported.

The embassy declined to comment, and Japan's foreign ministry said it was not involved with the issue.

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Ada L. Howard

RESIDENT OF STOCKTON

May 19, 1939 – December 14, 2016

Robert Campos

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

April 11, 1928 – December 15, 2016

Piedad “Polly” Gonzales

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

July 19, 1926 – December 23, 2016

Paul P. Manriquez

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

October 1, 1939 – December 25, 2016

Letao Wu

RESIDENT OF SAN JOSE

February 3, 1928 – December 25, 2016

Odette S. Barakett

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

May 4, 1924 – December 26, 2016

Theodore “Ted” Bernardi

RESIDENT OF UNION CITY

December 18, 1922 – December 26, 2016

Wiley L. Hall, Jr.

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

January 10, 1922 – December 26, 2016

Horacio L. Munoz

RESIDENT OF NEWARK

June 3, 1957 – December 27, 2016



Elsie B. Lujan

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

August 5, 1933 – December 18, 2016

Susanne M. Foreman

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

August 28, 1938 – December 19, 2016

I-Chun Chen

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

February 15, 1924 – December 18, 2016

Jeanne L Ristau

RESIDENT OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

September 13, 1956 - December 12, 2016

Robert Gallicano

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

May 15, 1937 – December 12, 2016

Chinnaswami Swaminatha

RESIDENT OF SARATOGA

November 22, 1938 - December 12, 2016

Lewis D. Lynn

RESIDENT OF TEXAS

August 10, 1943 - December 11, 2016

Sonny Rate

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

November 3, 1944 – December 11, 2016

Edna P. Swen

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

September 11, 1929 - december 11, 2016

Erdman G. Rath

RESIDENT OF FREMONT

November 3, 1944 - December 11, 2016

Tiffany Y. Yuan

RESIDENT OF SAN FRANCISCO, CA

February 27, 1991 – December 8, 2016

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Obituary

George E. Recinos

December 11, 1964 – December 20, 2016

Resident of Fremont

George E. Recinos was born December 11th, 1964 in San Miguel, El Salvador. He rested in to peace in Fremont, California on December 20th, 2016 at age 52. He is survived by his daughter Jessica Recinos, parents Jorge and Berta Recinos, and sisters Edda Rivera, Ana Recinos, and Roxanna Recinos-Serna.

George served in the United States Army, completed an associates degree, operated his own business installing fiber optics, and was a proud Knight of Columbus. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed everything from camping to tailgating for his beloved Oakland Raiders and A's. George enjoyed and excelled at barbecuing, and loved preparing summertime meals for family and friends.

He was an incredibly dedicated father who sought the best for his daughter, and as a caring son, brother and uncle, George expressed his love as a willingness to help no matter the circumstance.



Visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 28th, from 5-8pm with the Vigil beginning at 5pm at Fremont Memorial Chapel, 3723 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 29th, 11am at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 37588 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536. Burial will follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward, CA.

Fremont Memorial Chapel
510-793-8900

Obituary

Wiley L. Hall Jr.

January 10th, 1922 – December 26th, 2016

Resident of Fremont

Wiley L. Hall Jr., entered into rest on December 26th, 2016. Preceded in death by his loving wife, and his daughter. Loving father of eight children. Also survived by eleven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Wiley was proud to have been honorably discharged from the Army Air Corps in 1945.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, January 3rd, from 4-8pm with a Vigil at 6:30pm at Fremont Chapel of the Roses, 1940 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA

94536. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, January 4th, 10am at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 37588 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536. Burial will follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward, CA. The family prefers donations to the American Cancer Society.

Fremont Chapel of the Roses
510-797-1900

Obituary

Piedad “Polly” Vega Gonzales

July 19, 1926 – December 23, 2016

Resident of Fremont

Born on July 19th, 1926 in Miami, AZ, and entered into rest on December 23rd, 2016 in Fremont, CA at the age of 90. Survived by her children: Martha Reagor (Martin Reagor), Patricia Cater, Ralphie Gonzales, and Michael Gonzales; son-in-law Ronnie Cortez; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. Predeceased by her husband Refugio Gonzales; daughters: Gloria Cortez, and Nellie Brunette; and sons-in-law: Charlie Cater, and Edward Brunette.

Polly was a wise woman proud of her heritage. She lived for the love and respect of her children.

She favored her novellas and happily spent the day ensuring that her house remained tidy.

Her grandchildren fondly called her “Grandma Tortilla” as



she was known to be the best flour tortilla maker.

She had such love, kindness, and respect for people. An unkind word never passed her lips. She was a true angel to our family.

Married at the age of 16, she celebrated 74 years of marriage to her husband Refugio -- a WWII veteran, honored in 2010 with the Bronze Star Medal.

She was a pioneer with more history than will ever be known. She leaves a great legacy to the Gonzales family and will be missed but our hearts remained filled with her love.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 4th, from 5-8pm with a Vigil at 6:30pm at Fremont Chapel of the Roses, 1940 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, January 5th, 9:30am at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 37588 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536. Burial will follow at 1:30pm at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, 5810 Midway Rd., Dixon, CA 95620.

Fremont Chapel of the Roses
510-797-1900

Alameda Alliance for Health Improves Quality Scores by 12 Percent

SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE LEWIS

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) uses the Aggregate Quality Factor Score (AQFS) to rate the quality of Medi-Cal managed care plans throughout California, which is based on Health Care Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS). HEDIS indicates performance on the quality of care and service, including prevention and screening, chronic condition management, access and availability of care, and healthcare utilization. The DHCS recently published the Medi-Cal Managed Care Dashboard, which showed that Alameda Alliance for Health (Alliance) improved in quality significantly during the last year, attaining the highest movement by any managed care health plan in California.

In 2015, the Alliance had the third lowest overall HEDIS performance scores when compared to other Medi-Cal managed care plans in California. In 2016, the Alliance increased its overall score by 12% and moved from the forty-fourth to twenty-seventh place in California.

“The Alliance implemented a series of interventions throughout the last year, and partnered with community physicians to better collect medical record data, which is a leading factor in HEDIS,” said Alliance CEO Scott Coffin. “Our improvement provides evidence of the quality of services performed by our network of community physicians in Alameda County, and we are currently underway to further advance the quality of care for our members in 2017.”

Alameda County supervisors honor fire recovery effort workers

SUBMITTED BY GUY ASHLEY

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors took time December 20 to recognize the tireless efforts of emergency personnel and investigators who responded to the December 2 fire at a converted Oakland warehouse known as the Ghost Ship.

Thirty-six people died in the blaze in Oakland’s Fruitvale neighborhood. The fire triggered an extensive recovery effort in which first responders and investigative teams have worked around the clock, risking their own safety and facing extraordinary tests of composure.

Supervisors honored more than 300 County employees and Paramedics Plus contractors who participated in the recovery effort, bolstering the City of Oakland’s response to the fire. Assistance provided by County departments in the fire response covered a wide range of areas

and included:

Shoring up the damaged building so that rescue/recovery workers could perform their duties safely

Recovering and identifying those who perished, and notifying their families

Removing debris from inside the building and away from the site

Caring for the injured and assisting friends and families of those who perished

The Alameda County District Attorney’s Office continues to lead a Task Force investigating the possibility of criminal charges stemming from the fire. Some unsung heroes from the County’s fire response included:

More than 40 Behavioral Health Care workers who made themselves available 16 hours a day in the week following the fire to provide grief counseling and other support to the loved ones of those who perished; and

Crews from the Public Works Agency

that, in addition to shoring up the damaged building to make it safe for rescue workers, used a backhoe to knock out one of the smoking building’s cinderblock walls to provide safe and easy access for recovery crews.

“The tragic fire in Oakland reminds us all to stop and appreciate the work of our County employees who deal with extraordinarily difficult situations every day,” Haggerty said. “When we are met with catastrophic events such as the Ghost Ship fire, we ask these very same people to put their own lives on hold and to deal with the work that must be done – even though some of this work is unspeakably painful.”

The County’s response involved more than 200 employees from the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office alone. Sheriff’s personnel were on the front lines of the effort to recover bodies from the burned building and its Coroner’s Bureau

conducted autopsies and notified the families of those who perished in the fire.

Among many other duties, the Sheriff’s Office also set up a Family Assistance Center near the fire scene where families and loved ones from outside the area could gather and be provided with resources they needed in their time of need. Resources provided at the Center included counselors and chaplains who helped survivors with their grief and representatives from the American Red Cross who helped provide other assistance.

To make a donation to the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund, go to <http://acgov.org/government/news/disaster.htm>. Information about the Disaster Relief Fund also can be found on ACGOV Cares (<http://acgovcares.org/>)

Coke targets ‘foodies’ as more people move away from sodas

BY CANDICE CHOI
AP FOOD INDUSTRY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP), What beverage goes best with lobster rolls, a bagel sandwich stuffed with whitefish, or a bowl of ramen? Coke wants you to think of soda.

Coca-Cola is trying to sell more of its flagship beverage by suggesting the cola can accompany a wide range of meals, rather than just the fast food and pizza with which it’s a mainstay. It’s why a recent TV ad featured a young couple grabbing mini-Cokes while making paella, and why food bloggers were paid to post photos on Instagram of various dishes, paired specifically with glass bottles of Coke that might appeal to the aesthetic of “foodie” culture. One photo showed a bowl of chicken chili with the soda.

“The ultimate combination of two of my very favorites!” wrote the blogger, who has more than 53,000 followers. The caption disclosed that the post, which got about 430 “likes,” was a sponsored ad.

Although Coke has often been marketed as a good companion for food, the company is trying to make sure it isn’t left behind as American tastes evolve and people move away from traditional sodas. The world’s biggest beverage maker is particularly trying to update the drink’s image among people in their 20s and 30s who may associate soda mainly with places like McDonald’s and Domino’s.

“It’s an Amateur Move to Limit Coca-Cola to Fast-Food,” stated an online ad paid for by Coke on Vox Media sites. The post, which was designed to read like a news story, talked about famous food pairings and how tastes like Coca-Cola “go with everything.” A digital video series with Univision also showed people enjoying Cokes with a variety of meals, including sushi.

An internal briefing about the campaign with Vox obtained by The Associated Press said Coke “has long been associated with hamburgers, hot dogs and other classic American dishes,” but that the focus of the push was “sharing Coca-Cola with family over a healthy home-cooked meal.”

The briefing said the paid “influencers” who posted on social media should show dishes that are not “grossly unhealthy or over-indulgent.” Influencers submitted ideas for recipes and photos for approval. Among the pictures with Coke that made the cut: a poppyseed and chicken salad, steak with salsa verde and an herb-roasted chicken.

The push comes as Coke faces growing competition in the beverage aisle, as well as criticism over its marketing of sugary drinks. U.S. sales volume for regular Coke is down 14 percent over the past decade, according to the industry tracker Beverage Digest, while Diet Coke’s volume is down 29 percent.

To Wall Street, Atlanta-based Coca-Cola emphasizes its array of beverages and investments in options like bottled teas that have bigger growth potential. And to public health advocates, the company has pledged it will market alternatives that would help reduce the number of calories people drink.

At the same time, Coca-Cola is trying to shore up its flagship brand in the U.S. The strategy has been to reposition Coke as a more premium drink with packaging like mini-cans and glass bottles. That dovetails with the company’s efforts to hitch the cola to a foodie culture that prizes photogenic qualities.

Stuart Kronauge, senior vice president of marketing for Coca-Cola North America, said the association between Coke and hamburgers and pizza is largely a result of where the drinks have traditionally been sold. She said the recent campaign is a way to update the company’s marketing, specifically among millennials, that says Coke goes well with food.

“We just want to make sure that we expand the sense of it,” she said.

Kronauge also noted that the ad campaign incorporated Coke Zero, which is made with artificial sweeteners, and Coke Life, which is made with stevia. Although Coca-Cola is shifting into marketing for the holidays, Kronauge said the company plans to return to the theme of Coke pairing well with different foods.

Ali Dibadj, a Bernstein analyst, said Coke’s association with foods like burgers and fries contributes to the drink’s unhealthy image.

“If they can break those bounds down and match it up with a Caesar salad or quinoa salad, maybe it breaks down the mental barrier,” Dibadj said.

People associate Coke with pizza and burgers because those pairings are now part of U.S. culture, but also because they actually go well together, said John Fischer, a professor of wine, beverage and hospitality at the Culinary Institute of America. He disagrees with the premise that Coke goes well “with everything,” as the Coke ad contends.

“Coke is a fairly powerful flavor -- it could obliterate more delicate flavors,” Fischer said.

Still, Fischer said people who don’t have established ideas about food and drink pairings might try out Coke’s claim and grow accustomed to having it with different foods. In that sense, he said, the company might try to “say it until it’s true.”

The Year in odd news: Wild turkey attack, dueling obituaries

BY BRUCE SHIPKOWSKI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRENTON, N.J. (AP), A letter carrier trapped inside his truck by wild turkeys, a man whose wife and girlfriend published dueling obituaries for him and a fantasy football player’s public march of shame were among the oddest stories from New Jersey this year.

Hillsdale police came to the letter carrier’s aid in February after seven turkeys accosted him. Two officers eventually were able to scare them off.

When Leroy Bill Black died in August, two versions of his obituary appeared together in a newspaper — one saying he was survived by his wife, the other by his girlfriend.

Angelo Boemio drew attention in September when he marched down a Toms River roadway wearing only pink women’s bikini bottoms and sneakers to mark his last-place finish in his fantasy football league.

Turkeys gone wild

Hillsdale police had to come to the aid of a letter carrier in February after seven turkeys accosted him.

The town’s postmaster initially told police “you’re not going to believe this” before providing details about the attack, noting similar events have happened before. The police officer who took the call sounded equally amazed.

Authorities say about seven turkeys accosted the letter carrier, but he wasn’t injured. Two officers scared off the turkeys so the letter carrier could continue his route.

Survived by ...

Two versions of a New Jersey man’s obituary appeared together in a newspaper in August — one saying he was survived by his wife, and the other saying he was survived by his girlfriend

The obituary with top billing in The Press of Atlantic City said Leroy Bill Black, 55, of Egg Harbor Township, was survived by his “loving wife” and a son. It did not list a cause of death.

The second announcement, right beneath the first one with the same photo of Black, said he was survived by his son, a host of siblings and his longtime girlfriend. It also said he died of lung cancer caused by fiberglass exposure.

Walk of shame

Angelo Boemio drew lots of attention in September when he marched down a road in Toms River wearing only pink women’s bikini bottoms and sneakers while hoisting a sign signifying his last-place finish in his fantasy football league.

The 42-year-old pizzeria owner strolled along Route 9 for 10 minutes on Labor Day, inducing hilarity and horror in pedestrians and motorists. Boemio said people honked their horns and a woman with four children in her minivan drove by five times as the kids laughed at his display.

Police also called his business to say they were getting calls from concerned citizens, he said.

The fantasy football league is made up mostly of pizzeria owners and adopted the shame-inducing statute two years ago to keep participants from losing interest once their teams had no shot of winning the league.

Sunrise viewer floats away

A man getting ready to watch the sunrise on a piece of plywood in a marina was swept out in June by the Hudson River current and wound up about 2 1/2 miles away, near New York’s Governors Island.

Jersey City officials say the man was sent drifting into the river on an 8-foot-long piece of plywood. They say he likely stayed on the wood because he didn’t want to jump into the water and lose his cellphone while swimming back. Instead, he stayed in the center of the plywood as it floated farther into New York Harbor’s heavily traveled commercial lanes.

The man, whose name wasn’t disclosed, was rescued unharmed about a quarter-mile from Governors Island, a 172-acre island in the heart of the harbor close to lower Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Guzzo said the man was very happy to see the rescue team and hugged them after he was pulled onboard.

Five second rule

Researchers at Rutgers University announced in September that it might be time to reconsider the five-second rule when thinking about eating food that has fallen on the floor.

Their study found bacteria can instantaneously contaminate food that falls on the floor.

Researcher Donald Schaffner said the five-second rule is a “significant oversimplification of what actually happens when bacteria transfer from a surface to food.”

His research isn’t the first to conclude that the favorite excuse for why that yummy snack that fell on the ground is still OK to eat is wrong. It did find that longer contact time means more bacterial transfer, but that the type of food and surface is just as, or more, important.

The Rutgers researchers tested watermelon, bread, bread and butter, and gummy candy

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Renowned children's recording artist offers workshop



SUBMITTED BY SHARON FILIPPI

Music For Minors II (MFMI) and Fremont Bank are sponsoring Charlotte Diamond in January with an adults-only teaching workshop. Diamond has been bringing children's music to the world for over 30 years. She is an internationally renowned, award-winning children's recording artist and educator, and inspires with multi-cultural and character-building educational music that touches and captivates the heart. Diamond will share her insights about working with children and show you how to teach her wonderful songs using sign language and props.

This workshop will be on Thursday, January 12 and is open to any adult wanting to attend – educators, parents, community members interested in children's music, one and all. The workshop is free to all teachers and principals who are associated with MFMI. If you have a docent at your school, then your teachers can attend the workshop for free. We have also made arrangements with Fremont Unified School District, New Haven Unified School District, and Castro Valley Unified School District that teachers can obtain continuing education credits for their attendance. If you are working at a private school without a MFMI docent, then the workshop will cost \$15.

Call (510) 733-1189 or e-mail sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net to reserve your seat. Those who don't sign up ahead can still attend that night and pay their \$15 onsite.

Musicshop by Charlotte Diamond
Thursday, Jan 12
7:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
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Faculty, Santa Clara University School of Law 1987
Editor, University of Illinois Law Review
California Supreme Court Cases

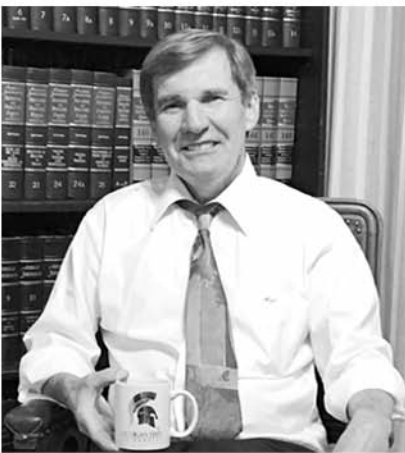
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Training police leaders – BART PD on
forefront with Safe Communities Institute

SUBMITTED BY BAY AREA
RAPID TRANSIT (BART)

New advances in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies and even other fields—like social services, schools and health providers—are helping BART Police create a safer system for riders. One impetus for that collaboration comes from the heart of a university-based training program called the Safe Communities Institute (SCI), which several BART PD personnel have attended. Lt. Terence McCarty, who oversees criminal investigations for BART PD, is a graduate of the program.

“You learn not to silo yourself, and to reach out to other agencies,” McCarty said, a practice that may sound common-sense but that historically has not always been the case in law enforcement. If



Sgt. Rick Martinez, Chief Kenton Rainey and Sgt. Ja'Son Scott at SCI graduation ceremony

you're a fan of Law and Order-type TV procedurals, you often hear officers from different precincts spar about who gets “the collar.”

SCI teaches just the opposite. “In the program, you see how

effective it is to collaborate with your other public partners,” McCarty said. Collaboration is one piece in a larger program for BART PD that goes well beyond state training minimums.

BART Police Log

SUBMITTED BY LES MENSINGER

Thursday, Dec 29

At 1:22 p.m. A victim reported that while aboard a Fremont-bound train a black male juvenile wearing a black sweatshirt snatched an iPhone 6 from the their hand and exited the train at the San Leandro station. The victim reported the theft

at the South Hayward BART station. The phone could not be tracked.

At 3:35 p.m. officers responded to a report of a man stabbing another man at the Bayfair station in San Leandro. The suspect was located and taken into custody. The injured man was taken to a hospital with non-life threatening injuries. A BART detective and an ID technician processed the crime scene

Fremont
Police Log

SUBMITTED BY
GENEVA BOSQUES,
FREMONT PD

Friday, Dec 23

At 10:34 a.m. Field Training Officer Taylor and Officer Berrier stopped a group of four transients near the trash dumpsters at the Safeway on Washington Boulevard in the Irvington district. Store management had repeatedly asked the group to leave and called police after the group refused to leave after a couple of days. A 54-year-old man and a 51-year-old woman were arrested on suspicion of trespassing and booked at Santa Rita Jail.

At 1 p.m. Officer Carter stopped a 30-year-old man from Milpitas in the 41000 block of Fremont Blvd. in the Irvington district. During a probation search it was determined the man was in possession of a controlled substance; he was arrested.

At 5:56 p.m. A citizen reported being shot at after being involved in a road rage incident. The suspect vehicle license plate was obtained and the vehicle was found at Club Sport in the Warm Springs district. After multiple interviews officers determined that a “road rage” incident took place near Pacific Commons. A firearm was pointed at the victim who then chased after the fleeing suspect vehicle. The occupants in the suspect vehicle were located and interviewed however no firearm was found. Several people were detained during the investigation. There were no injuries, nor was any evidence found of any shots being fired.

At 12:45 a.m. Officer Latimer conducted a vehicle stop in the area of Guardino and Red Hawk. The driver, a 32-year-old man from Hayward was arrested for the possession of brass knuckles. A search of the suspect's vehicle uncovered methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Also found in the trunk of the vehicle was an AK style rifle which was

taken for safekeeping.

Saturday, Dec 24

A Paving construction company on Central Avenue was burglarized sometime during the nighttime hours. The front chain link fence gate lock to the business was compromised, along with holes cut to the rear perimeter fencing for access. Taken: several vehicles, various roadway construction equipment and tools. Estimated loss was estimated at more than \$200,000. Estimated loss valued at over \$200,000.

At 6:32 a.m. Officer Richards investigated a vehicle vs. pedestrian visible injury collision which occurred at the intersection of Mowry Avenue and Civic Center Drive. The female pedestrian was determined to be at fault and suffered minor injuries.

At 11:50 a.m. loss prevention personnel at the Walmart store on Albrae Street called to report a man stealing merchandise and fleeing the store. Responding Officer Ehling spotted a suspicious person near the store that matched the description given to police. The suspect, a 27-year-old Fremont man, was in possession of the stolen property and was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting.

At 9:07 a.m. Officer Paiva accepted a citizen's arrest from Dale Hardware in the Centerville District for stealing merchandise. An 18-year-old Fremont man was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting.

At 1:44 a.m. officers were dispatched to the Walgreens store on Mowry Avenue to investigate a report of people causing a disturbance. Officer Gregory arrested a 21-year-old man from Oakland on suspicion of possessing illegal drugs.

Sunday, Dec 25

At 11:14 a.m. a caller reported to police that two men were trying to steal her car from the Dino's restaurant parking lot in the Centerville district. The reporting party's three sons detained the suspects until police arrived. Officer Paiva arrested a 35-year-old Fremont man on suspicion of trying to steal the

vehicle. The man was booked at Santa Rita Jail.

Officers were sent to check a suspicious vehicle parked in the area of Corte De Sol. Officer Gigliotti found the vehicle and its male occupant, a 54-year-old Fremont man. Officers determined the man had an outstanding no bail narcotics warrant out of Santa Clara and was in possession of illegal drugs. The man was arrested.

Monday, Dec 26

Security personnel at the Pacific Commons Target store attempted to detain a woman for shoplifting when a male accomplice pepper sprayed them. The suspects fled in a dark-colored SUV with a taillight that was out. Police described the first suspect as a black woman between 30 and 35-years-old, with blue hair, a black jacket, white shirts, black leggings and pink tennis shoes. The second suspect was described as a black man, 30 to 35-years-old, with a grey beanie, black jacket, white shirt, grey sweats and armed with pepper spray. Officer Burch was the case agent.

Tuesday, Dec 27

At 7:31 a.m., Officer Gonzales and Field Training Officer Ferrara conducted a warrant service at Motel 6 North on Fremont Boulevard. They arrested a 25-year-old San Pablo woman and a 23-year-old San Lorenzo woman on misdemeanor warrants.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

At about 2:10 p.m. patrol officers responded to a residential burglary report at the intersection of Paseo Padre Parkway and Durham Road. Residents of a private home returned to find the home ransacked and two male suspects inside. The suspects fled and brandished a firearm as they exited the house. A Fremont patrol officer saw the suspect vehicle as it fled the scene and began a pursuit. The officer followed the vehicle to the Hayward/Castro Valley area where it stopped and the suspects exited. Police officers, detectives and members of the Special Investigations Unit are actively searching for the suspects. There were no injuries.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BULK SALES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(SECS. 6104, 6105 U.C.C. & B & P 24073 et
seq.)ESCROW NO: 20095-PD
DATE: December 22, 2016

Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named seller that a sale that may constitute a bulk sale has been or will be made.

The individuals, partnership, or corporate names and the business addresses of the seller are:
Melvin Rabara, Myling Custodio Rabara and Miles Bistro, Inc
6052 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538
The individuals, partnership, or corporate names and the business addresses of the buyer are:

Absolute Telugu Cuisine LLC
6052 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538
As listed by the seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are:

Payaso Filipino Restaurant
The assets sold or to be sold are described in general as: **ALL FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, TRADENAME, GOODWILL, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, COVENANT NOT TO COMPLETE, ABC LICENSE & ALL OTHER ASSETS OF THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS: Miles Bistro AND ARE LOCATED AT: 6052 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538.**

The place, and date on or after which, the Bulk Sale is to be consummated: **Business & Escrow Service Center, Inc. 3031 Tisch Way, Suite 310 San Jose, CA 95128** on or before 1/20/2017. The last date to file claims is 1/19/2017, unless there is a liquor license transferring in which case claims may be filed until the date the license transfers.

BUYER'S SIGNATURE:
Absolute Telugu Cuisine LLC
By: Adike Nataraj, Managing Member
1/3/17

CNS-2961121#

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(U.C.C. § 6104, 6105)

ESCROW NO: 12509691-PC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to creditors of the within named seller that a bulk sale is about to be made of the assets described below.

The names and business address of the Seller(s) is/are: **Dragon B.B.Q. Express, Inc. 39486 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538**

The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: same as above
As listed by the seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are: None

The names and business address of the Buyer(s) is/are: **F&G Restaurant, Inc. 39486 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538**
The assets to be sold are described in general as: All stock in trade, furniture, fixtures, equipment and other property
And are located at: **39486 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538**

The business name used by the Seller(s) at those locations is: **Dragon BBQ Express**
The anticipated date of the bulk sale is: January 20, 2017
At the office of **Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520.**

The bulk sale **IS** subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. If so subject, the name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is as follows: **Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520 or E-Fax to 925-265-9040 or Fax 925-363-2276.**

The last day for filing claims shall be January 19, 2017 which is the business day before the sale date specified herein.

Dated: 12/5/2016

Buyer(s):

F&G Restaurant, Inc.
IS/ By: Wen Zhao Feng
IS/ By: Wan Chang Guan, President
1/3/17

CNS-2954470#

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG16843376

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
Petitioner of: Anita Balkumar for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner Anita Balkumar filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Anita Balkumar to Anita Kapoor
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing:
Date: 03/03/17, Time: 11:30 AM, Dept.: 24
The address of the court is 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Whats Happenings Trl City Voice - Fremont
Date: 12/22/16
Morris D. Jacobson
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2960997#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAMESFICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525447

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Dhillon Tire & Service, 37247 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Jaspreet S. Chugh, 37495 Birch St, Newark, CA 94560
Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 4-1-1997

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Jaspreet S. Chugh

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 13, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
1/13, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2961386#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525448

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Dhillon Auto Repair, 37247 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Jaspreet S. Chugh, 37495 Birch St, Newark, CA 94560
Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Jaspreet S. Chugh

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 13, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2961376#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525561

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Cartel Muscle Clothing, 28029 Colony Ct., Hayward, CA 94544, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Javier Romero, 28029 Colony Ct., Hayward, CA 94544
Business conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on n/a I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Ignacio J Romero

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 16, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2961303#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525738

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Little Steamers, 43531 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Edumax, Inc. 40963 Olmstead Ter, Fremont, CA 9453; California
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Jen Kweihwei, President

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 22, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2961298#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525765

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Peshawari Kababs, 33330 Alvarado Niles Rd Union City CA 94587, County of Alameda; 33330 Alvarado Niles Rd Union City CA 94587

Registrant(s):
Muhammad Daud Durrani, 4109 Broadmoor Court #337, Fremont CA 94538
Business conducted by: an individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Muhammad Daud Durrani

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 23, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/17

CNS-2960834#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525856

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Michelle Bakery & Catering, 22124 E Lyndon Loop, Castro Valley, CA 94552, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Min Min Ju, 22124 E Lyndon Loop, Castro Valley, CA 94552
Business conducted by: an individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Min Min Ju

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 20, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2959463#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525535

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Suja's Coffee & Tea, 3602 Thornton Ave, Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Bhoomi Incorporated, 3602 Thornton Ave, Fremont, CA 94536; California
Business conducted by: A Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/08/2016

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Mahesh Patel, President

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 15, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious

business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2959456#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525655

Fictitious Business Name(s):
East Bay Cleaners, 3546 Ellery Common, Fremont, CA 94538, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Kambiz Serpooh, 3546 Ellery Common, Fremont, CA 94538
Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Kambiz Serpooh

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 20, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2959430#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525631

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Shunda Automobile Repair Center, 36873 Fremont Blvd., #A, Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Gang Li, 40739 Max Dr., Fremont, CA 94538
Business conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on n/a I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Gang Li

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 20, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2958946#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525452

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Juniper Medical Supply, 338 Stonebridge Dr., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Maitrayee Bakshi-Banerjee, 338 Stonebridge Dr., Fremont, CA 94536
Business conducted by: an individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on n/a I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Maitrayee Bakshi-Banerjee

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 13, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2958456#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525593

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Dhanush Analytics, 775 Longfellow Drive, Fremont, CA 94539, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Analytix Tech, Inc., 775 Longfellow Drive, Fremont, CA 94539
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Kathleen L. Nielsen

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 19, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2958456#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525593

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Dhanush Analytics, 775 Longfellow Drive, Fremont, CA 94539, County of Alameda
Registrant(s):

Analytix Tech, Inc., 775 Longfellow Drive, Fremont, CA 94539
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Sheela Muley (Director)

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 19, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2958434#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525424

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Deadlines Marketing, 132 Buck Ct, Fremont, CA 94539, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Kathleen L. Nielsen, 132 Buck Ct, Fremont, CA 94539

Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/08/2016

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Kathleen L. Nielsen

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 12, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2958433#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT

File No. 525239

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Broadacren, 35632 Barnard Dr., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda

Registrant(s):
Brian Hu, 35632 Barnard Dr, Fremont, CA 94536

Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/1/2016

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ Brian Hu

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 6, 2016

NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement

PUBLIC NOTICES

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 5, 2016
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2954335#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 525155
Fictitious Business Name(s):
Screen By Mike, 33915 Frederick Ln, Fremont, Calif 94555, County of Alameda
Registrant(s): Miguel Loza, 33915 Frederick Ln, Fremont, Calif 94555
Business conducted by: An Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01-01-90
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [§1,000].) /s/ Miguel Loza

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 2, 2016
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2954324#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 524944
Fictitious Business Name(s):
W & W South American BBQ, 22580 Foothill Blvd., Hayward, CA 94541, County of Alameda
Registrant(s): W & W South American BBQ Corp., 22580 Foothill Blvd., Hayward, CA 94541; California
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on n/a
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [§1,000].) /s/ Guoyuan Wu Liang, CFO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 28, 2016
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2954313#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 525025
Fictitious Business Name(s):
Beauty Element, 3909 Stevenson Blvd., #A, Fremont, CA 94538, County of Alameda
Registrant(s): Karla Garcia, 4740 Dogwood Ave., Fremont, CA 94536
Business conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on n/a
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [§1,000].) /s/ Karla Garcia
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 29, 2016
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement

generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2954122#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 524784
Fictitious Business Name(s):
Shore Line Technology, 46734 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, County of Alameda
Registrant(s): Weintek HMI Corp., 46734 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, CA
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/01/2010
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [§1,000].) /s/ Bo Han Su, CEO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 18, 2016
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2953014#

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HERMAN DANIEL LEMA CASE NO. RP16-843169
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Herman Daniel Lema
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Beatris Bernstine, Luz Martinez, Linda Martinez in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
The Petition for Probate requests that Beatris Bernstine, Luz Martinez, Linda Martinez be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on Jan 25 2017 at 9:31 AM in Dept. 201 located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner: Mark L. Hirsch, 40815 Grimmer Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, Telephone: 510-659-8884 12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10/17

of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner: Daphne C. Lin, Esq., Trump, Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP, 2201 Walnut Avenue, Suite 200, Fremont, California 94538, Telephone: (510) 790-0900 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/17

CNS-2960243#

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF REX ALLAN MORGAN CASE NO. RP16843023
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Rex Allan Morgan
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Julie M. Rusch in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that Julie M. Rusch be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on Jan 30 2017 at 9:31 AM in Dept. 201 located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner: Mark L. Hirsch, 40815 Grimmer Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, Telephone: 510-659-8884 12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10/17

TRUSTEE SALES

T.S. No.: 2015-04947-CA A.P.N.:531-12-14
Property Address: 4757 Greer Court , Fremont , CA 94538
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a), 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 02/07/2005. 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: Emilio G. Devera And Grace R. Devera, Husband And Wife Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC Recorded 04/13/2005 as Instrument No. 2005145136 in book --- page--- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, Date of Sale: 01/24/2017 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 and other charges: \$ 80,116.47 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 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: 4757 Greer Court , Fremont , CA 94538 A.P.N.: 531-12-14 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. 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: \$ 80,116.47. 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 TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property. NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt incurred by the mortgagor, the sale price of the opening bid may be less than the total debt NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether 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.alisource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2015-04947-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 9, 2016 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 30 Corporate Park, Suite 450 Irvine, CA 92606 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <http://www.alisource.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. 12/27/16, 1/3, 1/10/17

PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 01/10/2017 at 12:30 PM, The Mortgage Law Firm, PLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 12/21/2006, as Instrument No. 2006465608, in book xx, page xx, of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Alameda County, State of California, executed by The Gregory Sr. and Teresta Lorenzana Living Trust, UTD January 10, 2006, Gregory Hizon Lorenzana Sr. and Teresta Mangindin Lorenzana Trustees and Noli G. Gonzales and Lilybeth L. Gonzales, all as Joint Tenants, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States), At the Fallon Street entrance to the County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612. All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State: REF. NO. 125602 BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE NORTHEASTERN LINE OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 397, LEADING FROM CENTERVILLE TO IRVINGTON, DISTANT THEREON NORTH 57° 17' 58" WEST 400 FEET FROM THE INTERSECTION THEREOF WITH THE SOUTHEASTERN BOUNDARY LINE OF THAT CERTAIN 10.19 ACRE TRACT OF LAND CONVEYED BY MANUEL S. PEREIRA AND GUITERIA E. PEREIRA, HIS WIFE, TO ROBERT E. SMITH, BY DEED DATED MARCH 4, 1884 AND RECORDED IN BOOK 265 OF DEEDS, PAGE 170, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORD, BEING A PORTION OF THE CERTAIN 10.19 ACRE TRACT OF LAND HEREINAFOVE REFERRED TO, APN 501-1635-012-02 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 38246 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said 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 said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, 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: \$864,416.63. 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 under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. Dated: 12/8/2016 THE MORTGAGE LAW FIRM, PLC Adriana Rivas/Authorized Signature 41646 Enterprise Circle North, Ste 228, Temecula, CA 92590 (619) 465-8200 FOR TRUSTEE'S SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 714-730-2727. The Mortgage Law Firm, PLC, may be attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained may be used for that purpose. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714) 730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site -www.servicelinkASAP.com- for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case: 125602. 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. A-4601623 12/20/2016, 12/27/2016, 01/03/2017 12/20, 12/27/16, 1/3/17

CNS-2955284#

Union City Police Log

SUBMITTED BY LT. MATIAS PARDO,
UNION CITY PD

Tuesday, Dec 20

At about 2:45 a.m. Sgt. Holt contacted a man who was sleeping in his vehicle with the engine running in the 2600 block of Decoto Road. Seen inside the vehicle was a sawed-off shotgun. Officers called to assist also found ammunition, a concealed dagger and drug paraphernalia inside the vehicle. The man, identified by police as John Alejandres, 39, of Union City was arrested on multiple charges.

At around 5 a.m. Officer Cota was dispatched to the 100 block of Teddy Drive on a report of two suspects pulling vehicle door handles. He located one of the suspects nearby and determined that he was in possession of a gold bracelet that was stolen from a nearby vehicle. The bracelet was returned to the victim. Police arrested the suspect, identified as Jhayvee Arcaina Daily, 19, of Hayward, on suspicion of possessing stolen property.

Thursday, Dec 22

At around 3 p.m. Officer Leete was dispatched to the 1700 block of Decoto Road on the report of an armed robbery. The suspect approached the victim, brandished a semi-automatic handgun and demanded the victim's cell phone and purse, then fled on foot. The suspect was described as a black man in his 20s, 5-feet-11-inches tall with "afro" style hair

Sometime between 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec 22 and 5:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23 a large amount of copper wire was stolen from the 33400 block of Mission Blvd. Police are investigating.

Saturday, Dec 24

At around 1:15 p.m. Sgt. Holt and Officer Moreno saw a man in the area of Pulaski and Teddy Drives who matched the description of a suspect who recently stole a package from a nearby residence. A probation search on the man turned up multiple pieces of stolen credit cards and mail. Ernesto Munoz, 32, of Union City, was arrested on suspicion of possessing stolen property and two outstanding misdemeanor warrants.

Narcotics and identity theft suspect arrested in Milpitas

SUBMITTED BY
LT. JARED HERNANDEZ,
MILPITAS PD

In the early morning hours of Friday, Dec. 23 a Milpitas police officer spotted a BMW 325 sedan parked in a handicapped stall at a 7-Eleven store on South Abbott Avenue that was not displaying a handicap placard.

A computer check on the car showed the registered owner, Leah Kaye Costa, 45, of Sunol had a warrant out for her arrest. Assisting officers were called and waited for Costa to leave the store.

On her way to the car, officers noticed that Costa displayed symptoms of being under the influence. Costa was detained and subsequently arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance and the outstanding arrest warrant.

During a vehicle check officers found methamphetamine, a United States Postal Service master key, homemade postal keys and mail and checks belonging to various people throughout the Bay Area.

Costa was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail on suspicion of possessing narcotics, being under the influence of a controlled sub-

stance, identity theft and an outstand arrest warrant.



Leah Kaye Costa.
Photo courtesy of Milpitas Police

Burglar picks wrong target: Prosecutor's house

AP WIRE SERVICE

WACO, Texas (AP) Nine hours after his release from prison, Jonique Ramon Webster was back in custody again for trying to burglarize a Central Texas prosecutor's home.

Webster was given 40 years in prison Thursday for the June incident.

The Waco Tribune reported (<http://bit.ly/J9XSRH>) that Webster had just gotten off the bus in Waco after his release from state prison on a 10-year sentence for home burglary. According to court records, Webster was wandering around the city and picked the home of Gabrielle Massey, a McLennan County prosecutor.

A neighbor who felt uncomfortable called police, who caught Webster with \$20 in cash, car and house keys, a TiVo remote and a bicycle.

He later pleaded guilty.

Webster has several prior convictions on his record and won't be eligible for parole for 10 years.

Information from: Waco Tribune-Herald, <http://www.wacotrib.com>

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

10 lines/\$10/ 10 Weeks
\$50/Year

510-494-1999 tricityvoice@aol.com

Shout out to your community

Our readers can post information including:

Activities
Announcements
For sale
Garage sales
Group meetings
Lost and found

For the extremely low cost of \$10 for up to 10 weeks, your message will reach thousands of friends and neighbors every TUESDAY in the TCV printed version and continuously online. TCV has the right to reject any posting to the Community Bulletin Board. Payment must be received in advance.

Tri-City Bike Park

Community group of mountain bikers and BMX bikers.

Come enjoy this activity for adults, teens and toddlers. Help us get this park built! www.newarkparks.org

Payment is for one posting only. Any change will be considered a new posting and incur a new fee.

The “NO” List:

- No commercial announcements, services or sales
- No personal services (escort services, dating services, etc.)
- No sale items over \$100 value
- No automobile or real estate sales
- No animal sales (non-profit humane organization adoptions accepted)
- No P.O. boxes unless physical address is verified by TCV

Most Joyful Volunteer work
LIFE ElderCare – VIP Rides
Drive seniors to appts/errands
4 hrs/month
Flexible scheduling.
Call Valerie 510-574-2096
vdraeseke@fremont.gov
www.LifeElderCare.org

ABWA-Pathfinder Chap. American Business Women’s Assoc.
provides opportunities for women personally & professionally thru leadership, education, networking
Dinner Meetings: 3rd Wednesday each month. Spin A Yarn Rest.
(Fremont): 6:30-9:00 pm
Call Harriet 510-793-7465
www.abwa-pathfinder.org

League of Women Voters Fremont-Newark-Union City
www.lwvfnc.org
Free meetings to inform the public about local, regional and statewide policy issues.
Participate in non-partisan in-depth, discussions with guest speakers at our meetings.
All sites are wheelchair accessible

League of Women Voters Fremont-Newark-Union City
www.lwvfnc.org
Free meetings to inform the public about local, regional and statewide policy issues.
Participate in non-partisan in-depth, discussions with guest speakers at our meetings.
All sites are wheelchair accessible

Tri-City Ecology Center
Your local environmental leader!
Eco-Grants available to Residents & Organizations of the Tri-City area working on Environmental projects.
www.tricityecology.org
Office open Thursdays, 11am-2pm
3375 Country Dr., Fremont
510-793-6222

FREMONT COIN CLUB

Established 1971
Meets 2nd & 4th Tues 7pm
At the Fremont Elks Lodge
38991 Farwell Dr., Fremont
All are welcome, come join us
www.fremontcoinclub.org
510-792-1511

Hayward Art Council
22394 Foothill Blvd., Hayward
510-583-2787
www.haywardarts.org
Open Thurs. Fri. Sat. 10am-4pm
Foothill Gallery, John O’Lague Galleria, Hayward Area Senion Center Exhibit Hall, Alameda County Law Library
Hayward branch
All open to the public

Struggling with Mental Health Challenges? Get Support !
NAMI the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Alameda County offers free support groups and classes about living and coping with mental illness.
Contact Kathryn at (408) 422-3831
Please leave a message

Afro-American Cultural & Historical Society, Inc.

Sharing ur culture and history in the Tri-Cities and surrounding area
Meetings: Third Saturday
Except Dec & Feb
5:30pm Newark Library
510-793-8181 www.aachsi.com
We welcome all new members

Help with Math & Reading

You can make a difference by helping Newark children with Math and reading. If you can give one hour a week, you can give a life-long gift of learning to a child.
CALL Tom 510-656-7413
TKFEDERICO@SBCglobal.net

SAVE’s Restraining Order Clinics

Free for domestic violence survivors
Seeking protective orders
Locations: Fremont, Hayward & San Leandro Every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
Call SAVE’s 24-hr Hotline (510) 794-6055 for details
www.save-dv.org

Troubled By Someone's Drinking?
Help is Here!
Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups
No cost program of support for people suffering from effects of alcoholism
Call 276-2270 for meeting information
or email Easyduz@gmail.com
www.ncwsa.org

Fremont Area Writers

Like to write?
Meet other writers?
Join us from 2-4 p.m. every fourth Saturday except in July and December at DeVry University, 6600 Dumbarton Circle, Fremont.
www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org

Come Join Us Tri Cities Women’s Club
Meets on the third Tuesday
Elk’s Club on Farwell Dr.
9:30 – Cards, 12:00 – Lunch
1:00 – Program and Meeting
We also have bridge, walking, Gourmet dining groups, And a book club.
For info. Call 510-656-7048

Tri-City Society of Model Engineers

The TCSME located in Niles Plaza is currently looking for new members to help build & operate an N Scale HO layout focused on Fremont & surrounding areas.
We meet Fridays 7:30-9:30pm.
Please visit our web site: www.nilesdepot.org

FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY - FA

• Can’t control the way you eat?
• Tried everything else?
• Tired of spending money?
Meeting Monday Night 7pm
4360 Central Ave., Fremont
Centerville Presbyterian Church
Family Ed. Bldg. Room E-204
www.foodaddicts.org

FREE AIRPLANE RIDES FOR KIDS AGES 8-17

Young Eagles
Hayward Airport
Various Saturdays
www.vaa29.org
Email for more information
youngeagles29@aol.com

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Home or office decor. Great Gifts
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Mission Peak Fly Anglers Fishing Club
Meets 4th Wed. each month
@7pm - Silliman Aquatic Center
680 Mowry Ave., Newark
Call Steve 510-461-3431 or 510-792-8291
for more information
www.missionpeakflyanglers.org

Fremont Cribbage Club
teaches cribbage to new players & tournament cribbage to all players of any skill level every Tues.
6:15pm at Round Table Pizza
37480 Fremont Blvd., Centerville
Email:Accgr43@gmail.com
American Cribbage Congress
www.cribbage.org

Newark Demonstration Garden

Join a group of Newark residents to spearhead a demonstration garden in Newark. We're currently selecting a site.
We need your help!
Angela at
info@newarkparks.org
https://www.facebook.com/groups/NewarkDemonstrationGarden/

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Mini horse helps Douglas man cope with injuries

AP WIRE SERVICE
BY BRENDAN MEYER
CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE

DOUGLAS, Wyo. (AP), Malcolm Gray wheeled down the hallway of his trailer park home in Douglas, the only home in town with wheelchair accessible ramps and 30 hay bales on the front porch, the one with the backyard that lost its grass. He's a scrawny 44-year-old with a George Washington smile, plaid pajama bottoms and wiry glasses. Malcolm was once a Marine Corps mechanic. He once painted cars and worked on houses, was once the guy you called to fix problems. Before life in a wheelchair, before mandatory afternoon naps and daily doses of muscle relaxers and psychological pills, Malcolm once played soccer, once rode horses. Malcolm was once a Marine Corps mechanic. He once painted cars and worked on houses, was once the guy you called to fix problems. Before life in a wheelchair, before mandatory afternoon naps and daily doses of muscle relaxers and psychological pills, Malcolm once played soccer, once rode horses. Four years ago, Malcolm was nearly beaten to death by his roommate. Both were alcoholics. Malcolm awoke from his coma with a feeding tube in his stomach, holes drilled into his head and no recollection of the incident. He jumped out of his hospital bed, fell and broke his shoulder. His brain had forgotten how to walk. The roommate received 30 to 45 years in prison. Malcolm

received a lifetime confined to a wheelchair, a speech impediment, a debilitated left side and post-traumatic stress disorder. After the injury, Malcolm fell into depression. Five months ago, his wife, Heidi, noticed an increase in explosive anger. He wasn't socializing. He spent his days in front of the computer. His service dog, a black and white Great Dane named Shelby, was having health problems. Heidi was desperate for a solution. After weeks of research, she found one. Malcolm wheeled down the narrow hallway, through the kitchen and the living room, and opened the back door. "Daaaaaaanny," he yelled. The clickety-clats began, like a tap dancer prancing up the ramp. It took five seconds for the footsteps to reach the door. She had mocha hair and a dirty blonde mane, black marble eyes and long blonde eyelashes. Meet Danny Girl, Malcolm's service mini horse. Danny was born four years ago on a farm in Colorado, nearly one month before Malcolm's injury. Heidi found her with a quick Google search, and a few weeks after receiving permission from the city and landlord, Danny Girl was theirs.

She arrived in a truck at the end of July, a gray pinto, 31-1/2 inches tall, about 250 pounds. She stepped off the truck and immediately approached her new owner. "I'm thinking she sensed something was wrong with me," Malcolm said. Danny was not trained to be a service animal, but mini horses are quick learners. According to federal disabilities law, a service animal doesn't need a government license or certification. Instead, it must simply assist a person with a disability. Danny is potty trained. She watches NASCAR with Malcolm. She picks things up for him. Just a few weeks ago at a friend's house, she kept standing in between her owner and a stranger like a bodyguard. "I took it as her looking out for me," Malcolm said. The mini horse lives in a tiny house in the backyard. Heidi and her son built it with Malcolm's help. Danny sleeps on a bed of newspapers with the comics deliberately placed on top. Her diet is hay, along with any blade of grass she hasn't already eaten in the backyard. She has a pink and red toy ball that Shelby the Great Dane likes to steal, as well as a green water tank that Shelby likes to drink from. It took some time, but the two finally get along. "(At first, Shelby wanted) to play with Danny, but (Danny) didn't take it as playing," Malcolm said. "(Danny) reared up and blasted her one." Shelby lives inside the trailer home. She's taller than Danny. When released into the backyard, she sprints in all directions, jumping and practically tackling every person in her path, wiping slobber on shirts and pants along the way.

"For his PTSD, it's very hard for him to stand (Shelby's hyper-activity)," Heidi said. "(We) can't control something that big anymore," Malcolm added. Danny is docile. She rarely jumps, is calm and is expected to live until her 30s or 40s. "One service animal for the rest of my life is better than five dogs that unfortunately pass away," Malcolm said. "(Danny will) probably outlive me." Malcolm fitted Danny with a purple halter and a purple leash. The two moved their way down the hallway to the front door. The floor of the trailer house is rigged with shingles, wide strips similar to sandpaper, because Danny and her hooves slid like Bambi in the first few days. The two moved down the ramp, Heidi close behind carrying a walker. They met at Elkhorn Valley Rehabilitation Hospital in Casper, where she worked as a nurse. After Malcolm was relocated to a different hospital, they kept in touch. They grew close and Malcolm eventually proposed in a letter. "Screw it. Let's get married," read one of the lines. Once all three made it to the street, Heidi tied a belt around Malcolm's waist to keep him balanced. She tied Danny's leash to a handlebar on the walker. Malcolm stood, his legs shaking. He gripped the walker, taking 2-inch steps. The tremors in his legs intensified, but Danny was at his side, also taking 2-inch steps, never leading, always following. Their daily walk takes them from the vanilla dumpster to the speed bump, about 30 yards in total. If you stand too close to Malcolm, Danny will turn her head and stare you down.

Everybody in town knows the mini horse, especially the Douglas police. A few days after Danny's arrival, she jumped the fence in the backyard and roamed around town until a neighbor notified authorities. The Douglas Police Department Facebook page posted a picture with Danny from that night. "Night shift (equals) Bar fights, DWUI's, loud parties.... and the occasional 'horse whispering....'"the post said. The way Malcolm says "Danny" is endearing. He coos it, stressing the "Dan," ending with a whispered "E." His depression has drastically improved since a mini horse entered his life. "Just having her around has given me purpose," Malcolm said. After fully training Danny, Malcolm and Heidi plan to start their own mini horse training business. He wants to help others like him, even bring mini horses to hospitals to raise the spirits of patients. Following the walk, Danny helped Malcolm do the one thing doctors said he could never do again. Heidi removed the belt around his waist, and untied the leash. She positioned Danny perpendicular to his wheelchair. Malcolm grabbed a handful of mocha hair with each hand, pushed all his weight on her back, and stood. Cars drove nearby. A squirrel sat on his front porch. A squirrel crossed the street. It would only take a simple distraction for Danny, a slight movement in either direction, and Malcolm would topple to the ground. The mini horse didn't move.

—Information from: Casper (Wyo.) Star-Tribune,http://www.trib.com

Eden Health District allocates \$250K in grants

SUBMITTED BY
JONNIE BANKS

This is the time of year when we look to grant wishes to those we care about...a "season of giving." And it is no different for Eden Health District (EHD) that has, for more than 16 years, given more than \$12 million in health-related grants through its Community Health Fund Program to non-profit and government agencies advancing the health and well-being of District residents. The District has revised the program policy to provide the maximum funds for these grants that the District can provide, after operating expenses and reserves, enabling local organizations, to provide much-needed health care services to those within our communities. The following Community Health Fund Grants were approved by the EHD Board of Directors at the November 16 EHD Board meeting: \$15,000 - San Leandro Boys & Girls Club - Healthy Choices, Healthy Habits Program \$5,000 - Castro Valley Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9601 - Veterans Relief Fund \$20,680 - East Bay Agency for Children - Child Assault Prevention Program \$18,100 - Eden I&R - 2-1-1 Alameda County Communications Program

\$20,678 - George Mark Children's House - Pediatric Palliative Care \$20,678 - La Familia Counseling Center - Wellness First \$20,500 - Prevent Blindness, Northern California - "See Well to Learn" low-income preschoolers Program \$20,678 - Building Futures with Women & Children - Shelter/Support/Intervention for Residents Experiencing Homelessness & Domestic Violence \$25,000 - Cherryland Elementary/Hayward Unified School District - RAH! Raising Awareness about Health \$20,678 - La Clinica de La Raza - Comprehensive Health Services \$23,400 - Center for Elders' Independence - San Leandro PACE Day Center/Clinic \$15,000 - Mercy Brown Bag Program - Mercy Brown Bag Program at Hayward Senior Center \$24,608 - Alameda County Fire Department - All-Terrain Vehicle & Transport Trailer for Emergency Transport of Victims from Rural Areas Total: \$250,000 All non-profit organizations and government agencies serving the health needs of residents of the District are eligible to apply for EHD grants. For more information contact: Jonnie Banks at (510) 538-2031/ (510) 861-7613 or email: Jbanks66@sbcglobal.net

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Arbor Day poster and video contest set for California students

SUBMITTED BY
LYNNE TOLMACHOFF, CAL FIRE

In anticipation of California Arbor Week, March 7-14, Cal Fire and California ReLeaf are sponsoring poster and video contests for students throughout California to create original content that reflect promotes the theme, “Trees Are Superheroes.”

The poster contest is open to students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades, while the video contest is open to students in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Contest winners will receive \$100 and an award certificate. The winning poster artwork will be displayed on the California ReLeaf and Cal Fire websites, and at the California State Fair.

Entries must be submitted to ReLeaf by Feb. 14. Contest rules and educational materials for schools can be downloaded at <http://arborweek.org/for-educators/>.

Cal Fire and California ReLeaf are partnering to encourage cities, nature groups, schools, and youth organizations to celebrate California Arbor Week by planting trees in their communities. California ReLeaf works statewide to promote alliances among community-based groups, individuals, industry, and government agencies working to protect the environment by planting and caring for trees and the state’s urban and community forests.



“Trees are truly earth’s superheroes,” said Cal Fire Deputy Director Helge Eng. “They can combat the impacts of climate change and help provide cleaner air and water. Those are some real superhero powers.”

The goals of Arbor Week include educating Californians about trees, encouraging tree planting, teaching elementary school children the environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees, and protecting the state’s valuable natural resources.

“Trees are amazing superheroes for our cities and towns and perform many extraordinary feats every day to protect our communities,” said Cindy Blain, Executive Director of California ReLeaf.

Blain also cited the environmental and health benefits of trees: “They cool the air, clean the air, clean and capture rainwater, reduce our blood pressure and increase our mental concentration. All this is just another way of saying that trees keep our communities safe and make us healthier and smarter. Arbor Week is the perfect time to honor and recognize the trees - the superheroes we see every day.”

California Arbor Week runs March 7-14 every year to honor famed horticulturist Luther Burbank’s birthday and to raise awareness of the benefits of trees in our communities. More details about California Arbor Week can be found at <http://www.arborweek.org>.

The Sun: More Than an Average Star

BY LINDA HERMANS-KILLAM

There is one object in space that is more important to us on Earth than anything else in the universe. It is a bright star that lies at the very center of our solar system. That star is our sun. It is a huge ball of superhot gas, made up mainly of hydrogen and helium. The sun is by far the largest object in our solar system. The Earth orbits around our sun, and so do all the other planets, dwarf planets, moons, asteroids, and comets in our solar system.

The sun is really just an average star, like trillions of other stars in the universe. But to us, it looks so big and so bright! How can it be like the tiny points of light that we see in the night sky? It appears so much larger and brighter than other stars because it is much closer to us than any other star.

So how close is the sun? The sun is around 93 million miles (150 million km) from Earth. This is so far that it would take about 163 years to get to the sun

if you traveled at a speed of 65 miles per hour (104 km per hour)—the speed of a car on the freeway. That might seem incredibly far away. However, the next closest star to us is about 270,000 times farther away than this!

For the sun to appear so bright and feel so warm to us from such a distance, it must be very big and very hot. The sun is actually so big that 109 Earths could fit across it, and 1,300,000 Earths could fit inside it. The sun has around 333,000 times as much mass as the Earth, and contains 99.86 percent of all the mass in the entire solar system.

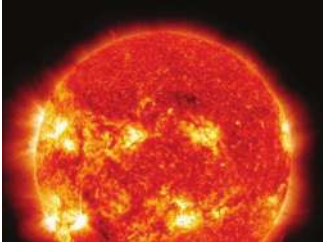
The sun is also incredibly hot, with a surface temperature of about 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit (5,500 degrees Celsius). The temperature at the center of the sun is even higher, where it reaches 27 million degrees Fahrenheit (15 million degrees Celsius). The extremely high temperatures and pressures in core of the sun force hydrogen atoms to smash together and form helium. Every second, 600 million tons of hy-

drogen are converted into helium. This creates an enormous amount of energy. This energy powers the sun and creates its light and heat.

The heat from the sun powers our weather and keeps us warm. Its light is used by plants to provide food for life on Earth. Plants also use energy from the sun to create the oxygen we breath. Without the sun, Earth would be a dark and frozen planet where no life could exist. So, the sun may be just an average star, but for us it is the most important star of all!

To learn more about how our sun compares to other stars, visit the NASA Space Place: <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/sun-compare/en>

The sun from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory. Image credit: NASA/SDO



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