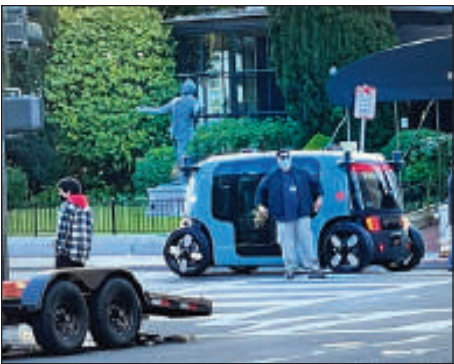




A good week for robotaxis?

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December 29, 2020

Vol. 18 No. 51

Where's the Water?

BY DAVID R. NEWMAN
PHOTOS COURTESY OF ACWD

What a year it has been. From a global pandemic to wildfires sweeping across the state, 2020 has been one crazy ride. As we all look forward with hope and optimism to better times in 2021, there are still issues we should be concerned about, one being the lack of rainfall. What effect is this dry weather having on the environment and on water rates for East Bay residents?

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), most of the Western half of the continental U.S. is currently experiencing a drought, and conditions are expected to worsen this winter. On December 17,

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An inside look at new *box art*

BY STEPHANIE GERTSCH

"That was my goal – to have art by the community, for the community, in the community." – Susan Longini, Fremont boxART! Program Manager

It started as a way to combat graffiti. Ugly, gray, and taking up space on many street corners, traffic signal control boxes are a ubiquitous target. But rather than punishing offenders or setting up barriers, cities around the Bay Area – and beyond – are taking a different approach. Namely: What if these guerilla artists were onto something? What if control boxes were an ideal canvas for community expression?

Fremont's first painted box debuted in October of 2014. "There seems to be a certain respect, so that once a box is painted the chances of it being tagged reduce about 95 percent," says Susan Longini, manager of Fremont's boxART! Program. A UV paint-resistant coating helps the art stay up longer. However, there were a few bumps in the road. Recalls Longini, "The first year the police department got a lot of phone calls saying, 'People are tagging in broad daylight!' Then they would see that it was developing into a beautiful piece of art. And now people are so excited about it they look for it."

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Kindness box, Liberty/Walnut



Chabot Space & Science Center rings in new year with virtual *Balloon Drop*

SUBMITTED BY MARY CATHERINE FRANTZ

During this daytime New Year's Eve celebration, celebrate midnights around the world with a colorful virtual balloon spectacle. Continuing a 20-year Bay Area tradition, the original Balloon Drop at Chabot Space & Science Center returns virtually with a colorful daytime countdown.

When it's 12 p.m. in Oakland, it will be 2021 somewhere on the planet. To mark the occasion, Chabot will ring in the New Year with a Virtual Balloon Drop New Year Celebration. The event will include exciting STEM activities, a dance party, a family-friendly toast and the classic live balloon drop spectacle.

Chabot's Balloon Drop began as an approach for families to celebrate the New Year without keeping children awake past their bedtimes. Keeping the party fun and safe for learners of all ages, Chabot's Virtual Balloon Drop New Year Celebration will be hosted on Zoom this year, starting at 11 a.m. "As the oldest balloon drop celebration in the Bay Area, this tradition is one of the most magical events that Chabot hosts. Our goal is to make it happen for the hundreds of families that spend New Year's with us every year," said Visitor Experience Director, Liz Austerman.

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Keeping Students Safe, Engaged and Learning During Online School

Online education has challenges for students and parents alike. Local physician offers practical tips to help.

With the shelter-in-place mandate last March came the temporary closure of Bay Area elementary, middle and high schools. In order to safely continue educating children during the COVID-19 pandemic, local school districts instituted distance learning in August which will resume in January after the holiday break. Attending school via computer comes with unique challenges for students and parents, but with some planning, patience and the following practical tips, we'll all get through this together.

Before the pandemic, students were accustomed to stimulating school days full of physical, social and mental pursuits, like interacting with friends and teachers, playing at recess, exercising in PE, working together in groups, doing hands-on arts and crafts and science projects, and participating in afterschool sports and clubs. In addition to missing out on these important interactions, children are now faced with unprecedented issues that come with distance learning. These include frustrating technology challenges, distractions around the house, and the struggle to find balance in their school and home life.

“Issues we are seeing in many children during this time of distance learning include increased irritability, anxiety and depression that stifle the learning process,” said Harpreet Singh, MD, board-certified family medicine physician with Washington Township Medical Foundation. “There are several things parents and guardians can do to help children manage the challenges of online school to create a supportive environment that is conducive to learning at home.”

Time management and sticking to a schedule are critical to success while distance learning, but these are skills that many school-aged children have not yet learned. It is important for parents to help their children set up a structured school day at home that includes regular breaks from the screen to rest their eyes, opportunities to get out of their chair to move and stretch, and set times for snacks and lunch so they stay energized and nourished during the day.

Dr. Singh recommends students have a designated spot in the home for online school and studying. This allows them to separate themselves from the computer so

they can get refreshed with some fun, exercise or downtime during breaks between classes, at lunchtime, and after the school day before they return to their computer to study or do homework.

Students are not as accountable at home as they are when sitting in front of their teachers in physical classrooms and can lack motivation when they feel online schooling gets tedious or boring. It's important to give children positive feedback when they stay engaged during the school day. “Setting up a reward system with small goals and incentives can help keep children motivated and focused while they are distance learning,” said Dr. Singh.

Lack of socialization and the absence of playtime with friends has been one of the most detrimental factors during the pandemic, as it can lead to depression and feelings of isolation in school-aged children. One way to connect them with others and add some fun into their routine is by scheduling virtual board game dates, craft projects, dance parties or social Zoom calls with friends or out-of-town family members in the evenings or on weekends.

This keeps children socially and creatively engaged and gives them something to look forward to while they are relegated to the home for remote learning.

The ongoing coronavirus crisis has been a tough time for children and adults alike. Parents are having to manage the challenges of work and their own lives while supporting their children who are distance learning from home. Dr. Singh's message to parents during this time is to make sure to take time out for self-care, maintain your exercise regimen, keep up with friends and loved ones by phone or video conferencing, and don't ignore mental and health care issues that may arise.

Dr. Singh is a Fremont native and Washington High School graduate who returned to serve his home community after completing medical school and residency. For more information on Dr. Singh and his family medicine practice or to schedule an appointment with him, call 510.248.1720 or visit www.mywtmf.com.

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



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

	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	12/29/20	12/30/20	12/31/20	1/1/21	1/2/21	1/3/21	1/4/21
12:00 PM 12:00 AM	Medicare Open Enrollment: What You Need to Know		Diabetes Matters: Diabetes Complications and Amputation	Intro to Radiation Oncology Therapy		Ortho Overuse Injuries: Prevention and Treatment	WHHS Fremont Bank: Staying Healthy In 2020
12:30 PM 12:30 AM				Diabetes Health Fair 2019: Diabetes & Stroke: What's the Connection?			
1:00 PM 1:00 AM	Metabolic Disorders	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Gastrointestinal Disorders	How to Prevent Financial Elder Abuse/Fraud	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Early Detection and Prevention of Female Cancers	Weight Management: Stopping the Madness
1:30 PM 1:30 AM							
2:00 PM 2:00 AM	Don't Let Hip Pain Win		Mental Health Education Series: Mental Wellness			Preventive Care: What You Need To Know	
2:30 PM 2:30 AM	Active Living: Yoga Exercises	Diabetes Matters: Asian Fusion	Solutions for Weight Management	Anxiety: Stop Negative Thoughts			Mental Health Education Series: Understanding Mood Disorders
3:00 PM 3:00 AM	Diabetes Matters: Latin Foods	Aortic Valve Disease: Treatment Options Including TAVR					
3:30 PM 3:30 AM	Chronic Kidney Disease: FAQ	Updated Treatments for Knee Pain & Arthritis	11th Annual Women's Health Conference: Patient's Playbook		Caregiver Series: Caring for Someone with Dementia or Other Medical-Related Memory Loss	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Strategies to Reduce the Risk of Cancer Recurrence
4:00 PM 4:00 AM							
4:30 PM 4:30 AM	Vitamins & Supplements: How Useful Are They?	Sports Medicine Program: Why Does My Shoulder Hurt?	Caregiver Series: Codependency and the Caregiver	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Women's Health Conference: Reclaiming Your Confidence		Sidelined by Back Pain? Get Back in the Game
5:00 PM 5:00 AM			How to Talk to Your Doctor		Diabetes Matters: Dining Out Around The World	Caregiver Series: Securing Care Preferences Through AHCD	
5:30 PM 5:30 AM	Mental Health Education Series: Family Support	Colon Cancer	Advancements in Lung Cancer Detection and Treatment		Women's Health Conference: Women & Stroke: Are You at Risk?	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes & Eyes	Preventive Screenings: When and Why are They Important?
6:00 PM 6:00 AM		Hernias: Causes Symptoms and the Latest Treatment Options	Family Caregiver Series: Mindfulness Meditation for the Caregiver	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes Conversations	Healthy Gut, Healthy You	FB Live: Staying Fit While Working From Home	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020
6:30 PM 6:30 AM							
7:00 PM 7:00 AM	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Peripheral Vascular Disease: What You Need to Know		Keeping Your Brain Healthy	Women's Health through the Years: Screening is Key to Aging Well	How To Stop Disease Before It Starts	
7:30 PM 7:30 AM							
8:00 PM 8:00 AM		Diabetes Matters: Filipino Food Made Healthy	Washington Township Health Care District Board Meeting December 9, 2020	Food Pharmacy: Prescription for Colon Health	Diabetes Health Fair 2019: Diabetes and Foot Care	Suffer From Sinus Problems?	
8:30 PM 8:30 AM	Sick Feet?						
9:00 PM 9:00 AM		Mental Health Education Series: Anxiety Disorders		How to Sleep Your Way to Better Health	Understanding HPV: What You Need to Know	Diabetes Matters: Asian Indian Cooking	Advance Care Planning: Five Wishes
9:30 PM 9:30 AM	Endometriosis: Causes, Symptoms, Diagnosis and Treatment				Learn the Latest Treatment Options for GERD	Women's Health: Planning for Pregnancy	
10:00 PM 10:00 AM		Strategies to Help Lower Your Cholesterol and Blood Pressure	Laugh without Leaking: Understanding Female Urinary Incontinence	Diabetes Matters: Exercise IS Medicine	Women's Health Conference: Quality of Life Before and After Cosmetic Surgery	Healthy Eating: Prescription for Health	Diabetes Matters: Heart Healthy Eating
10:30 PM 10:30 AM	Diabetes Matters: Italian Foods				FB Live: Maintaining Your Mental Wellness During the COVID-19 Pandemic		
11:00 PM 11:00 AM	Shoulder Pain: Causes and Treatment Options	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes and Your Heart	Mental Health Education Series: Understanding Psychotic Disorders	Hepatitis B and Liver Cancer: Prevention and Treatment	Wound Care: The Latest Treatment Options	Oh My Aching Feet! Recognizing Common Foot and Ankle Problems	Family Caregiver Series: Understanding Healthcare Benefits
11:30 PM 11:30 AM	Fall Prevention	FB Live: Noontime in the COVID-19 Kitchen		Diabetes Health Fair 2019: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes	Family Caregiver Series: Managing Family Dynamics in Caregiving	Diabetes Matters: Diabetes and Kidney Health	Women's Health: Depression, More Than a State of Mind
							FB Live: Reduce Your Risk When Phasing Out of Shelter In Place



Not Exactly Feeling Joy to the World Right Now? Steps You Can Take—Start 2021 on a Positive Note

“It is possible to feel joyful in spite of everything that is going on today,” says Victoria Leiphart, MD. “Start by cultivating gratitude, which can open you up to joy.” Dr. Leiphart, a board-certified gynecologist at Washington Township Medical Foundation, facilitates Washington Hospital’s Women Empowering Women discussion series on women’s issues. She has spent decades helping her patients live their healthiest and best lives.

For many, finding things to be grateful about over this past year may be challenging. “All of us have lost things as a result of the pandemic. The most unfortunate among us have lost family and friends, employment, or our homes,” says Dr. Leiphart. Nevertheless, she encourages people to focus on what makes them grateful. These can be simple, daily things, like the sound of a child laughing or the furry companionship of a favorite pet. For Dr. Leiphart, what fills her with appreciation and joy is being outdoors. She is grateful for her regular walks through her neighborhood, where she can feel the sun and fresh air and can exchange greetings with neighbors.

Dr. Leiphart is quick to point out that the benefits of gratitude are supported by science. Numerous studies have concluded that people have the capacity to increase

their level of gratitude, which in turn has been shown to improve health, lower pain, and increase happiness.

“The studies are pretty clear that people who score higher in gratitude have better health,” notes Dr. Leiphart. “Feeling grateful improves mood, sleep, and even cardiovascular function.”

Dr. Leiphart describes a study done with patients suffering from chronic pain who were asked to keep a diary for a set period of time. Half of the patients were told to record what they felt grateful for each day. The other half were told to record their daily burdens. At the end of the study, the gratitude group reported feeling 10 percent less pain and more motivated to exercise. Another study she cites showed that patients who kept a once-a-week gratitude journal saw a 10 percent reduction in their blood pressure. A similar study showed a 30 percent reduction in depression among patients who kept a weekly gratitude journal. Other studies have shown that practicing gratitude can reduce PTSD and anxiety.

“In one of my favorite studies, participants were asked to keep a daily gratitude journal for one week, recording what they felt grateful for each day. At the end of the

week, participants were found to be 2 percent happier than before—which doesn’t sound like much,” Dr. Leiphart says. “However, after a month, those same participants, regardless of whether they continued journaling or not, reported being 5 percent happier. And after six months, they were 9 percent happier—after just that one week of journaling.”

The amazing thing about gratitude, points out Dr. Leiphart, is that it can be increased with practice. Feeling grateful becomes easier and more fulfilling over time. “You don’t have to write in a journal every day. You could do it just once a week. Or not write at all and instead set time aside, perhaps first thing in the morning or last thing at night, to think about the things that make you grateful,” she explains. In this way, gratitude can become a habit.

Another study that Dr. Leiphart likes to reference asked participants to write and personally deliver a letter to someone in their life that they had never properly thanked before. “If you really want to boost your gratitude score, consider fully thanking someone in a letter or in person,” she says.

Inspired by the study, she contacted a college professor who had had enormous influence on her nearly 35 years prior. She began by sending an email, and eventually the two were able to meet for lunch. Dr. Leiphart shares, “I told her how much it had meant to me to have her believe in me, and believe that I could go to grad school and do whatever I wanted. It meant the world to her—and to me—that I was able to express to her how grateful I felt.”

Another personal step you can take to bring about greater peace of mind is to forgive people who have hurt you. “Forgiveness is another important part of taking care of your mental health,” says Dr. Leiphart. Forgiveness is similar to gratitude in that it acknowledges and brings into greater focus how people and their actions have affected us. The reason to forgive someone is to allow yourself to let go of the anger and hurt a person caused you. “Anger and resentment can be like poison,” she says. “But they are like drinking poison yourself and expecting it to make the other person sick. You do not need to forgive someone to make them feel better—forgive someone because you deserve to have peace within yourself. It allows you to move on”

Practicing gratitude could be the reset you need for the New Year. One of the most important pieces of advice Dr. Leiphart gives to her patients right now is to keep working on maintaining social connections. “Make staying in touch with people a priority,” she suggests. “And particularly, stay in touch with people in your life who have an attitude of gratefulness. If you are around people who express gratitude, it is easier to have those feelings yourself.”

As part of the Women Empowering Women series, Dr. Leiphart will be giving a short online lecture followed by a one-hour open discussion titled “Fighting the Pandemic Blues,” at 7 p.m. on Jan. 21, 2021. To learn more about Washington Hospital’s Health & Wellness seminars or to register for the Women Empowering Women series (every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.), call 800.963.7070.

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An inside look at new *box art*



sponsored HERS Breast Cancer Foundation Box, Civic Center/Walnut

There are 180 city-owned boxes in Fremont that are eligible for art; boxes owned by companies such as PG&E are not included in the program. The impact goes beyond simply deterring graffiti. “It gives people as they go along driving or walking, it will put a smile on their face a little bit. It changes your day. It gives a sense of pride in community.”

Before new box art goes up, Fremont puts out a call for artists on a theme. For example, 2020’s (the seventh so far) was “Kindness.” Artists are everyone from paid professionals to students earning volunteer service hours (with supplies provided by the city). Some boxes are sponsored by community members. It takes a bit of logistical maneuvering to decide what goes where, but boxes fit their environment. Longini explains, “There’s a range of work out there, some that are obviously elementary school but still completely charming. Those I try to put residential areas because those are where people have their families. The more commercial areas need more sophisticated work generally.”

Longini praises the creativity in the Kindness boxes, all done by students. “The kindness comes from everything from being kind to the environment to being kind to animals to being kind to each other.” Like every other project, boxART! overcame challenges in 2020, taking a break over the summer because of difficulties coordinating student teams safely during the pandemic.

2020 has seen sponsored boxes as well. One on Walnut Avenue and Civic Center Drive is hard to miss. To honor HERS Breast Cancer Foundation, Hayward muralist Suzanne Gayle created a vibrant pink design that raises awareness of those affected by breast cancer. The location in the middle of several medical offices is key, says Longini. “When I’ve been there, people who are walking by from Kaiser or from one of the medical buildings stop and say how they love this box and relate to it.”

Another new box on Walnut and Gaulladet Drive also addresses inclusion, redefining the audience for box art. Inspired by a box near California School for the Deaf, which has a message in ASL, community sponsor Ron Shore wanted a similar box for the School for the Blind. Artist Birva Nayak created a design both visual and tactile, with colorful birds and flowers with raised edges, and words in braille. Longini says, “She was able to create

a box that the blind community can appreciate and partake in. Because one of the problems with all these other wonderful boxes is that they can’t see them. But this box is literally for them.”

Finally, four boxes being completed in December 2020 were designed in collaboration with the Washington Township Museum of Local history. Using a vinyl wrap, which prolongs the lifespan of the art, they will be placed around the downtown area. “I hope that people can learn that Fremont has a very rich history,” says Longini. “This is an easy way to see it because it will be right there. You get your coffee at Peer’s and walk out: ‘Oh there’s a box.’”



Kindness box, Mission/Nursery

The winter 2020 boxes may be the last new additions you see for a while. This year, the city cut all nonessential projects, including boxART! However, as the program is only a tiny part of Fremont’s budget, Longini and box art fans hope it can be brought back soon. “It’s the most bang for the buck that you can get in Fremont,” she says. “It’s a very low-cost program and yet it’s out there for everybody to see.”

This is the first of three boxART! articles. The next will feature artist Suzanne Gayle, and the third will be about the Fremont history boxes.

Learn more about the program here:
<https://www.fremont.gov/2063/BoxART-Program>.

sponsored School for the deaf box, Stevenson/Gaulladet



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Chabot Space & Science Center rings in new year with virtual *Balloon Drop*

The virtual celebration allows for attendees to participate in the festivities from home. Guests will receive a STEM Activity Kit with materials to complete engaging science challenges from Nano@Stanford, Stanford XLab teams and Chabot's own Galaxy Explorers.

The virtual celebration allows for attendees to participate in the festivities from home. Guests will receive a STEM Activity Kit with materials to complete engaging science challenges from Nano@Stanford, Stanford XLab teams and Chabot's own Galaxy Explorers. STEM Activity Kits include materials to make your own catapult, create planet models, experiment with magnets and try a balloon drop engineering challenge. The final countdown will include a special toast for the whole family, as well as a dance party. At 12 p.m., Chabot will ring in the new year with a colorful live balloon drop. Virtual Balloon Drop New Year Celebration will crown a year of online STEM programming at Chabot Space & Science Center. Chabot has offered more than 75 free virtual programs since the Center closed

for general admission in March due to the COVID-19 crisis. "Now more than ever, we realize the importance of science during this crisis," said Austerman, "We are seeing a real need for fun and accessible STEM programming. Virtual programs have been a great opportunity to learn with our community and provide a platform for science." Weekly virtual programs have included Virtual Telescope Viewings, Live Science! Shows, historic launch watch parties, as well as many workshops and talks by local scientists. As a vital resource for families and teachers especially, these events have been viewed more than 200,000 times. Chabot Space & Science Center plans to reopen in June 2021, and is committed to offering accessible virtual

STEM learning opportunities while preparing for reopening. Tickets for the Virtual Balloon Drop New Year Celebration include admission to the virtual event, STEM activity kits, party items and shipping. Ticket prices are \$20-\$50, with a discount for Chabot members.

Virtual Balloon Drop
Thursday, December 31
11 a.m. – 12 noon
Via Zoom
<https://chabotspace.org/>
Tickets: \$10

Code Ninjas center reopens

SUBMITTED BY BROOKE BEWAK

Say "video game" and your kids are bound to stop and listen. The Code Ninjas learning center that reopened at 46525 Mission Blvd., Ste. 710, will serve the local area by teaching children computer coding and problem-solving skills while having fun building video games. They are currently offering in-person and virtual coding opportunities.

To ensure the safety of all Ninjas, parents, and Senseis, Code Ninjas is taking extra precautions. The center will be thoroughly cleaned routinely, on a daily basis by employees. Devices, tables, door handles, bathrooms, and other frequently-used surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day. In addition, student workspaces and equipment, including computers, monitors, and mice will be cleaned between every student session. There will be an increased distance between individual student workstations in the

dojo, as well as careful monitoring and enforcement of no-contact interactions. The Fremont location is owned and operated by local entrepreneur Jennifer Nie. Along with a teaching certification, Nie has a Master of Education and Master of Arts degree in linguistics. Her son's interest in coding and games prompted her to search for educational and productive activities in STEM-based education. This is her first Code Ninjas location, with plans to expand in the future. For more information about the Fremont Code Ninjas location, please call (510) 400-1466, email fremontca@codeninjas.com or visit <https://www.codeninjas.com/locations/ca-fremont>. or follow them on Facebook

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www.fremontartassociation.org





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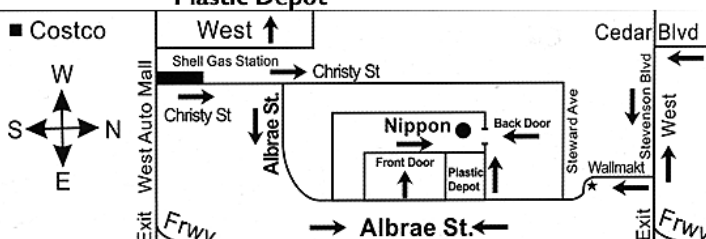
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A good week for robotaxis?

BY STEVE CROWE

In a normal week, Boston Dynamics being acquired by Hyundai Motors for nearly \$1 billion would be the biggest story. But this time it has been anything but normal.

The week of December 6 was arguably the best week ever for the development of autonomous vehicles. Robotaxis, in particular, marked new milestones. Waymo has officially opened up its robotaxi service to the general public in the Chandler, Arizona area. Similar to how Uber works, anybody can download the Waymo One app and hail a ride in the Alphabet unit's robotaxis. Hopefully this allows Waymo to expand the service into new areas.

Across the world, other leading companies are starting to be test robotaxis on public roads without human safety drivers behind the wheel. AutoX and Cruise began fully driverless tests in Shenzhen, China and San Francisco, respectively. AutoX will have remote operators standing by, while Cruise will have an employee sitting in the passenger seat with access to an emergency stop button. Some are criticizing Cruise for starting with less congested neighborhoods at night, but, hey, you gotta start somewhere.

And a few months after its robotaxis arrived in Beijing, Baidu received permission to test vehicles on the road without safety drivers. The tests haven't begun yet, and Baidu will have remote operators on standby. This is the first time China's capital city has issued such a permit.

The week kicked off with Aurora's acquisition of Uber's Advanced Technologies Group. As part of the deal, Uber will invest \$400 million into the Silicon Valley company that was co-founded by Chris Urmson, who used to lead Google's self-driving car project. The deal is a certainly a head-scratcher as Uber's self-driving unit has been troubled from the start. But if things progress perfectly, Aurora could supply its driverless technology to the world's largest ride-hailing fleet.

Zoox, which was acquired earlier this year by Amazon for \$1.2 billion, will unveil the vehicle soon. Not much is known about the vehicle at this point, but it appears to have bus-like sliding doors and four center-facing seats. Keep an eye out for more information about Zoox.

Steve Crowe is Editor of The Robot Report and co-chair of the Robotics Summit & Expo. He can be reached at scrowe@wtwhmedia.com.



A leaked photo of Zoox's new robotaxi in San Francisco. Credit: Reddit

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SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Ask Rusty – Should a Working Widow Claim Now or Wait?

Dear Rusty: My husband died 13 years ago at age 50. I am now 64, never remarried, and work full time making a healthy income. I have never claimed any of his benefits. What are my best options?

BY CERTIFIED SOCIAL SECURITY
ADVISOR RUSSELL GLOOR ASSOCIATION OF
MATURE AMERICAN CITIZENS

Dear Working Widow: You have several options available as both a widow and a worker entitled to your own Social Security benefit.

1. You could collect a reduced survivor benefit (only) from your deceased husband and allow your own SS benefit to grow to a larger amount. At age 70, your own benefit will be about 29% more than it will be at your full retirement age, or FRA, which is 66 years and 4 months (your own benefit stops growing at age 70). If you take your survivor benefit now, since you are claiming it before you reach your FRA it will be reduced by about 11% from the amount your husband was eligible to receive at his death. But at your FRA your survivor benefit would reach the maximum of 100 percent of what your husband was eligible for at his death.

2. If your survivor benefit from your husband at your FRA will be more than your own benefit will be at age 70, you should strive to maximize your survivor benefit by waiting until your FRA to claim it. You can find out what your survivor benefit will be by contacting Social Security. They can also tell you what your age 70 benefit will be, but you can get that too by creating your "My Social Security" account, which is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

3. If your own benefit at age 70 will be your highest benefit, you should strive to maximize your personal benefit by claiming your survivor benefit (only) first, as described in 1. above, and delaying the claim for your own benefits until age 70.

But here's a big red flag: Since you still work full time at a "healthy income," be aware that if you claim any SS benefit before you have reached your full retirement age, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn before they take away some of your benefits. The earnings limit for 2021 will be \$18,960 (changes annually) and if you are collecting early SS benefits of any type and exceed that limit, they

Signed: Working Widow

will take back benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (half of what you exceed the limit by). The earnings test is in effect until you reach your full retirement age, after which there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn while collecting benefits.

So, what is your best option, considering the above? Well, if your earnings from work are substantially more than the annual earnings limit, you may find that you will not receive any benefits, even if you were to claim. That's because they will "take back" benefits by withholding your future Social Security payments until they recover what you owe. For example, if your annual earnings are \$60,000, you would exceed the limit by about \$41,000, which would mean you would need to repay them \$20,500. If your monthly SS benefit was about \$1500 (about average), they would withhold benefits for about 14 months to recover what you owe, meaning you wouldn't be getting any SS benefits while you were earning that much money. Thus, you may find your best option right now is to wait until your FRA to claim any Social Security benefits.

In the interest of full disclosure, there are some nuances related to the earnings limit. The limit is higher, and the penalty less punitive, in the year you reach your FRA (during the months before you reach your FRA). And while you may gradually recover withheld SS retirement benefits starting at your FRA, survivor benefits withheld before your FRA may not be fully recovered, depending upon how long after your FRA you collect them.

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Christmas Tree Composting Guidelines

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF FREMONT

City of Fremont's Environmental Services Division is encouraging residents to compost their Christmas trees this holiday season. From December 28, 2020 through January 8, 2021, single-family homes can place their Christmas trees in the gutter on collection day. Trees over 6 feet tall should be cut in half before being placed in the gutter. Alternatively, residents can also cut the tree into pieces and place them in the green organics cart with the lid closed on collection day.

If living in a multi-family complex, residents are encouraged to contact their property manager to

learn how trees can be properly composted. Trees are only compostable if they are free of all decorations, tinsel, nails, and tree stands (including wooden stands nailed to the bottom of the trunk). As a last resort, trees with flocking or decorations that cannot be removed can be cut into pieces and placed in the black garbage cart on scheduled collection days.

For more information, visit www.fremont.gov/133/Environmental-Services or call the city's Environmental Services Division at (510) 494-4570.

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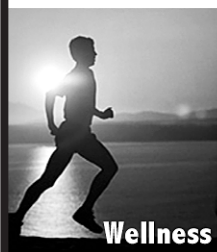
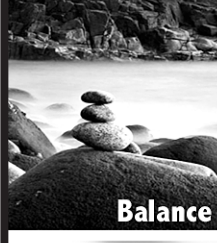
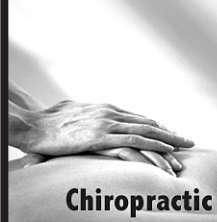
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Grants available to help small businesses, non-profits

SUBMITTED BY JEFF BARBOSA

California small business owners and non-profit agencies can apply for some of the \$500 million in California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program funds the state is offering beginning Wednesday, December 30, according to Senator Bob Wieckowski, D-Fremont. The formal application period continues through January 8, 2021.

“Small businesses are the lifeblood of our communities,” Wieckowski said. “They often are the gateway to employment for young workers, provide badly-needed jobs and often build long-lasting ties to their neighborhoods by partnering with a variety of civic organizations and groups. Non-profits provide critical services that are heavily relied upon by many community members. That’s why the legislature is partnering with the governor to assist companies and non-profits during this COVID-19 pandemic. This financial assistance during these hard times will allow us to not only protect lives, but more people’s livelihoods too. As we wait for additional federal financial assistance, these grants will provide critical help for companies.”

To learn details about the program, companies and non-profit agencies can visit the Relief Grant Program webpage at www.CAReliefGrant.com. The program is administered through the California Office of the Small Business Advocate at the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development for small businesses impacted by COVID and the health and safety measures. The funds will be distributed through established networks of Community Development Financial Institutions. The grants will be from \$5,000 up to \$25,000.

This is the first round of grants. Approval notifications will begin on January 13. Applicants that are not chosen in the first round, do not need to reapply and will be automatically rolled over to the second round. Owners of multiple businesses or locations will be considered for only one grant for the business with the highest revenue.

California is home to more than four million small businesses that employ almost half of the state’s total workforce and more than seven million workers.

Tesla seeks to sell \$5B in stock; CEO Musk moves to Texas

BY MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Tesla said Tuesday it is looking to raise up to \$5 billion in capital through a stock offering. The announcement came on the same day CEO Elon Musk said he has moved his home to Texas from California.

The stock sale is the second for the electric-vehicle and solar-panel company in three months. In September, Tesla said it planned to sell up to \$5 billion worth of common shares just one day after a 5-for-1 stock split took effect.

Musk told The Wall Street Journal in an interview Tuesday that he has moved to Texas, saying that California has taken innovators for granted.

He also could be moving because Texas has no income tax. Musk's 18% stake in Tesla is worth billions.

The newspaper didn't say where he had moved in Texas, but it's likely to be close to Austin, where Tesla is building a new factory. SpaceX, another Musk-led company, has operations nearby. Musk told the newspaper he's been working on the move for months.

Musk had threatened to relocate Tesla's Palo Alto, California, headquarters and future manufacturing to Texas earlier this year during a high-profile spat with county officials over whether Tesla's San Francisco Bay Area factory should stay closed due to coronavirus restrictions.

On the stock offering, Tesla Inc. said in a regulatory filing that the sales would be made “from time to time.” The stock will be sold through 10 different brokerage houses, and each will get up to a 0.25% commission.

Wedbush's Daniel Ives said in a client note that the current move makes sense given the strong rally in the company's shares and investors' keen interest in the electric vehicle market.

AP Auto Writer Tom Krisher contributed from Detroit.

New Rotary chapter focuses on global betterment

SUBMITTED BY MARGUERITE PADOVANI

The Rotary Club of Silicon Valley for Global Impact, formed in May of 2020 has a distinct focus: the environment, education, human values and the world. The non-governmental organization (NGO) has bridged together the values and passion of Rotary International: Service Above Self and the Art of Living. Community members are also engaged in service projects around the world.

“By bringing together Rotary’s historic humanitarian contributions coupled with these organizations, we hope to inspire a movement of citizen action to overcome the challenges for the betterment of the communities we serve,” said Ramesh Hariharan, Past District Governor, District 5170.

“So much work is being done around the world to make our communities more resilient to the volatile nature of the world we live in, and our goal is to bring the like-minded leaders leading these efforts to come together and become stronger together,” said Ravi Pathak, club president of Rotary Club of Global Impact. “Building a coalition of various humanitarian NGOs as part of Rotary’s values of service above self will strengthen the efforts of these initiatives,” he added.

The club meets virtually and is comprised of volunteers and members from other organizations including:

- Overseas Volunteers for a Better India (OVBI)
- Care for Children (CFC)
- SKY School of International Association for Human Values (IAHV)

The club charter is to build a coalition for healthy and resilient communities to address the issues of environment, poverty and human values through community engagement. Club committees are already doing significant work through their own existing NGOs:

- Environment & Water -- OVBI Water led by Satej Chaudhary
- Transform rural India from the state of water poverty to water plenty by 2030
- Schools and Education -- Care for Children led by Vijay Srinivasan
- Improving access to free education for underprivileged/at-risk children worldwide
- Youth Service -- IAHV SKY School Program led by Priya Mayureshwar
- Reduce stress and develop resilience and compassion among youth worldwide
- Community Impact -- led by Pooja Gupta
- Creating impact in the local community in the areas of Environment, Youth, Education and Mental Health

For more information about The Rotary Club of Global Impact, including meeting times, visit <https://rotaryclubofsvfgi.org/> or email Club Secretary, Dolly Parikh at dolly.parikh@gmail.com.

U.S. airport traffic rising despite holiday travel warnings

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE - AP BUSINESS WRITER

More than 1 million people have passed through U.S. airport security checkpoints in each of the past two days in a sign that public health pleas to avoid holiday travel are being ignored, despite an alarming surge in COVID-19 cases.

It marks the first time U.S. airports have screened more than 1 million passengers since Nov. 29. That came at the end of a Thanksgiving weekend that saw far more travel around the country than had been hoped as the weather turned colder and COVID-19 cases were already spiking again.

Now, hospitals in many areas are being overwhelmed amid the largest outbreak of COVID-19 in the U.S. since March, when most Americans were ordered to stay home and avoid interactions with other households.

The seven-day rolling average of newly reported infections in the U.S. has risen from about 176,000 a day just before Thanksgiving to more than 215,000 a day. It's too early to calculate how much of that increase is due to travel and gatherings over Thanksgiving, but experts believe they are a factor.

Although lockdowns are no longer in effect in many parts of the country, stay-at-home orders have returned in some areas in effort to contain the virus. Nearly 99% of California's population of roughly 40 million people, for instance, has been told to remain at home except for essential work, shopping, and exercise.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued an advisory declaring “postponing travel and staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.”

Nevertheless, about 1.07 million people passed through the security checkpoints at U.S. airports on Friday and again on Saturday, according to the Transportation Security Administration. Saturday's volume was down 57% from the same time last year, the smallest year-over-year decline in daily traffic at U.S. airports since Nov. 22 as people began their Thanksgiving getaways.

If that early trend continues, U.S. public health officials fear it will lead to more superspreader events as people unwittingly transmit the virus to family and friends while gathering indoors for holiday celebrations. Health officials note the upcoming holiday period from Christmas to New Year's Day covers a longer timespan than the Thanksgiving break.

Even more travel is expected as Christmas draws closer. AAA projects about 85 million people will travel between Dec. 23 and Jan. 3, most of them by car. That would be a drop of nearly one-third from a year ago, but still a massive movement of people in the middle of a pandemic.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Secrecy by city council
hurts the public

Members of the Fremont city council can bring forward a handful of “referrals” during their term in office. Referrals are one of the few ways they can advance a political agenda to influence policy. Given how few there are, referrals are not made lightly. Recently, there was a referral that put lease negotiations at Mission Peak on the agenda. The lease would need council approval in any event, so this appears to be an act of political theater at the behest of anti-park activists.

Council members appear eager to draw a curtain of secrecy over the negotiations. One council member stated that providing guidelines to staff in a public meeting would show “all the cards in our hand” to those on the other side of the table, referring to (EBRPD) as opponents.

Why would our politicians want to veil the lease negotiations in secrecy? They mention that residents are concerned about crime, though the crime rate near Mission Peak is among the lowest in the city. Some of the most vocal residents live behind gates with their own private security force. Council members also mention environmental impact, though hundreds of houses have been built in the neighborhood since the park was established in 1978. Council members say they are concerned

about the lease price and terms of payment, though the last lease was for 25 years free of charge.

Mission Peak remains the city's number one visitor attraction, top-rated on Yelp and TripAdvisor. Over 150,000 visitors trek to the summit each year and patronize city businesses. Why would the city council look this gift horse in the mouth?

Should the lease negotiations fail, the city might have to operate the 900-acre parcel on its own. The city has blocked public access to nearby open space and parks. For example, the city owns 500 acres at Rancho Higuera, of which 9.5 acres is a historical park open to the public by appointment. The rest is inaccessible. Will the city block access to Mission Peak, like they do at Rancho Higuera? We think these public lands should be available to the public for walking and cycling.

Elected officials should not pander to anti-park activists. The city should collaborate with the park district, to benefit all members of the public. The city should treat the regional park district as a valued partner, not as an opponent in a secretive real-estate transaction. EBRPD manages thousands of acres in Fremont, including Mission Peak, Vargas Plateau, Quarry Lakes, Ardenwood, and Coyote Hills. Except for the privileged, gated community near Mission Peak, residents across the city welcome EBRPD.

william yragui
Mission Peak Conservancy

Amazon's Zoox
unveils autonomous
electric vehicle

AP WIRE SERVICE

An autonomous vehicle company acquired this year by Amazon has unveiled a four-person “robo-taxi,” a compact, multidirectional vehicle designed for dense, urban environments.

The carriage-style interior of the vehicle produced by Zoox Inc. has two benches that face each other. There is no steering wheel. It measures just under 12 feet long, about a foot shorter than a standard Mini Cooper.

It is among the first vehicles with bidirectional capabilities and four-wheel steering, allowing for better maneuverability. It has a top speed of 75 miles per hour.

The vehicle is being tested in the company's base of Foster City, California, as well as Las Vegas and San Francisco, Zoox said Monday.

Zoox, based Foster City in Silicon Valley, was founded in 2014 and acquired by Amazon in June. It operates as an independent subsidiary at Amazon.

Take advantage of student loan breaks before 2020 ends

AP WIRE SERVICE
By RYAN LANE OF NERDWALLET

Talk of student loan forgiveness has borrowers looking forward to 2021. But many already benefited from some unprecedented events in 2020:

- An administrative forbearance has paused most federal loan payments interest-free since March.
- The forbearance has also halted collections on defaulted loans.
- Interest rates fell to historic lows.

It's unclear how long these breaks will last. If you're in good financial shape, here's how to take advantage of them while you can.

MAKE A LUMP-SUM PAYMENT

The current student loan forbearance is scheduled to end Jan. 31. All borrowers should have a plan for repayment by that point.

If you'll be able to afford your pre-pandemic payment amount, consider putting extra money toward your loans now.

Student loan payments must first cover outstanding interest. But with those charges paused since March, a lump-sum payment would put a direct dent in what you owe.

“By and large, the majority of students will not have any sort of interest accrual,” says Stacey MacPhetres, senior director of education finance at Bright Horizons, which provides workplace employee services, including education advice.

One exception could be recent college graduates whose loans have yet to enter repayment. Those could have multiple years of accrued interest.

For example, say you took out \$5,500 in unsubsidized loans at 4% interest freshman year. Four years later, those loans could have accrued close to \$900 in interest to be added to your principal balance when your grace period ends. If you pay that interest off before then, you'll stop future interest from growing on a bigger balance and pay less overall.

MacPhetres says the “fervor” around forgiveness has some borrowers balking at extra payments. But there are no guarantees that debt will be canceled.

“Unless something happens, you will be expected to go back into repayment,” she says.

If your payments will be too expensive, reach out to your servicer about options like income-driven repayment.

GET OUT OF DEFAULT

Federal student loan default has consequences like wage garnishment and loss of tax refunds and Social Security payments. These actions are also scheduled to restart in February.

To avoid collection activities, address defaulted loans as soon as possible. You have two primary options to do this: consolidation and rehabilitation.

Federal student loan consolidation can pay off your defaulted loan and replace it with a new one. This can quickly fix a de-

fault if you choose an income-driven plan for your new loan.

“If the borrower thinks they might be subject to a Social Security offset or a tax offset, speed might be important,” says Persis Yu, director of the nonprofit National Consumer Law Center's Student Loan Borrower Assistance Project.

Rehabilitation takes at least nine months of on-time payments and returns your defaulted loan to good standing. This removes the default from your credit report, but not the late payments leading up to it.

Months spent in the current administrative forbearance count toward rehabilitation. If that break is extended through September, as some lawmakers have proposed, that could cover the entire rehab process if you enroll by the end of 2020.

With both options, Yu says to ask yourself, “Is now a good time to take this step?”

It won't be if you can't afford payments and default again. An income-driven plan could help, but Yu says those payments aren't always affordable. A tool like the Department of Education's Loan Simulator can help you estimate potential costs.

REFINANCE PRIVATE LOANS

Refinancing replaces your student loans with a new loan from a private lender. Don't refinance federal loans until it's clear whether the administrative forbearance

will be extended.

But private student loans don't qualify for that benefit and refinancing them could save you money.

“With interest rates so low, most private student loan borrowers are able to lower that interest rate pretty significantly,” says Jared Andreoli, a certified financial planner and president of Simplicity Financial in Milwaukee.

For example, refinancing a \$10,000 private loan from 10% to 5% interest would decrease your monthly payments by \$26 and save you \$3,130 overall, assuming a 10-year repayment plan.

You'll need a FICO credit score in at least the high 600s and steady income to qualify for refinancing. Refinance private loans as soon as you, or a co-signer, meet those qualifications.

While the Federal Reserve has indicated interest rates will remain low, Andreoli says that doesn't mean refinancing rates will keep falling.

“If people are holding out for a lower rate,” he says, “now is the time to act.”

This article was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Ryan Lane is a writer at NerdWallet. Email: rlane@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @ryanhlane.

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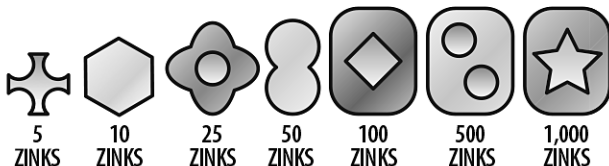
A VISIT TO PLANET MOOLAH

On the Planet Moolah, the money doesn't look like ours. But the inhabitants have their own money and they use it the same way we do to pay for stuff.

Zeekor and Stasko are traveling to the Supply Station to do some shopping. They'll need your help to figure out what things they can afford to buy. They'll also need your help counting out the money to pay.



Here is what money looks like on Planet Moolah. They don't have paper money. Instead, Moolahians use metal coins in different shapes. Below each coin, its value is shown.



PET PROJECT

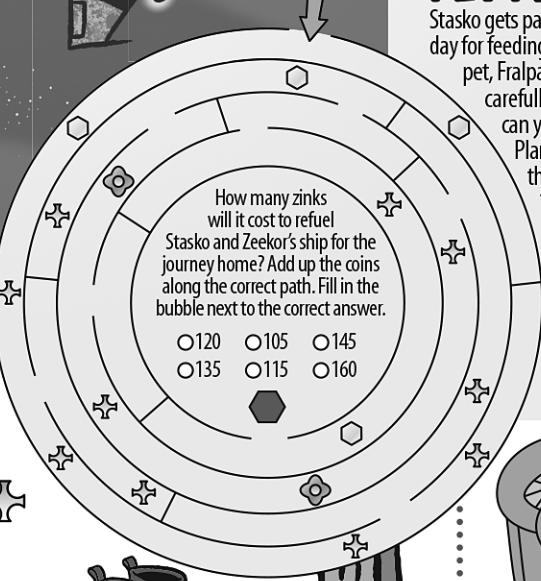
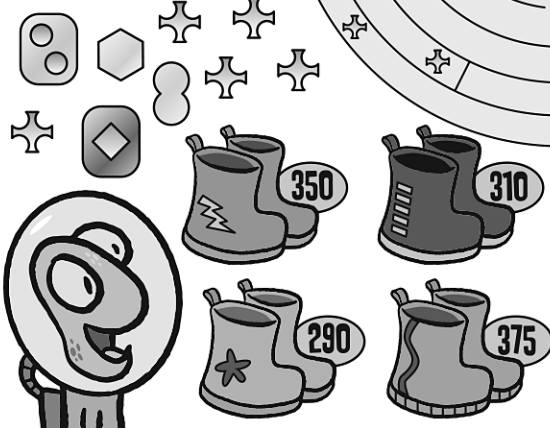
Stasko gets paid 130 zinks each day for feeding her neighbor's pet, Fralpar. While she is carefully feeding Fralpar, can you circle some Planet Moolah coins that add up to 130 zinks? Have a family member check your math.

There's got to be easier ways to make money!



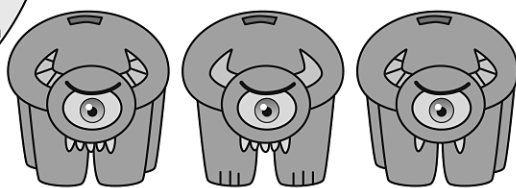
FANCY FOOTWORK

Zeekor and Stasko need new boots. Add up all the money they have saved and circle the two pairs of boots that cost exactly that much.

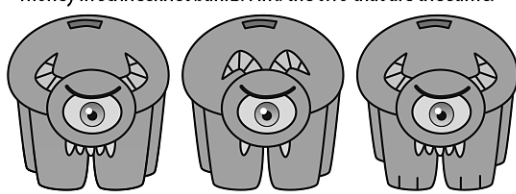


How many zinks will it cost to refuel Stasko and Zeekor's ship for the journey home? Add up the coins along the correct path. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- ☐ 120 ☐ 105 ☐ 145
☐ 135 ☐ 115 ☐ 160

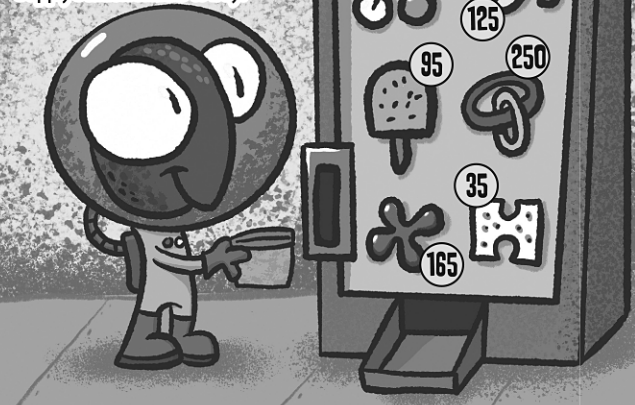


Do you have a piggy bank? Kids on Planet Moolah save their money in sneekleket banks. Find the two that are the same.

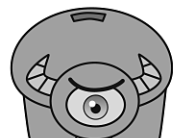
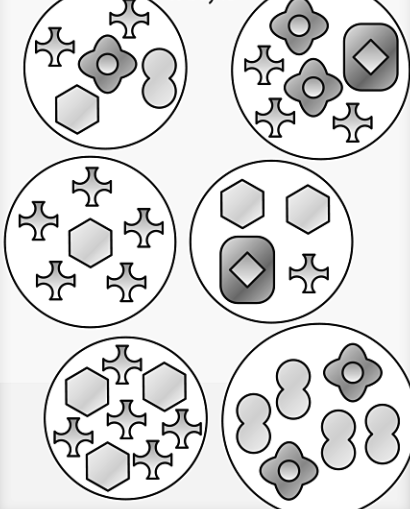


SNACK ATTACK

Zeekor is ready for a tasty snack. But he needs your help sorting his money before he decides which of these out-of-this-world Supply Station snacks to buy!



Draw a line from each snack in the vending machine to the circle that contains that exact amount of Planet Moolah coins needed to buy it.



Extra! Extra! Wants and Needs

Look through the newspaper to find examples of things people NEED to survive. Then find examples of things you WANT but don't need. Cut them out and glue them onto a poster showing Needs and Wants.

Standards Link: Social Science: Students understand basic economic concepts.

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For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

Kid Scoop Together: Shopping List

Zeekor made a list of things his mom asked him to buy. She gave him 1,000 zinks. Add up the cost of the items on the list. Then write a new list to spend as close to 1,000 zinks as possible without going over that amount.



4 VISION SHADERS _____
8 POWER CELLS _____
1 COMMUNICATOR _____
10 SOCKS _____
2 HELMETS _____
TOTAL: _____

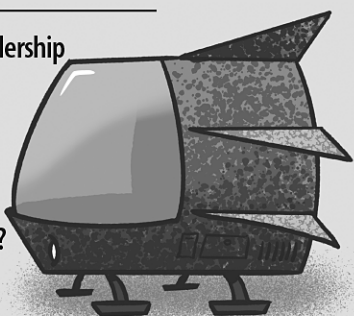
VISION SHADERS _____
POWER CELLS _____
COMMUNICATOR _____
SOCKS _____
HELMETS _____
TOTAL: _____

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Stasko would love to buy a new Supernova Ultra ship. It costs 12,000 zinks. After giving the dealership 2,000 zinks, she has to pay it off in monthly payments.

1. How much would she have to pay per month to completely pay for the ship in 50 months?

2. Or, if Stasko gave the dealership 5,000 zinks for the first month's payment, and made payments of 500 zinks per month, how many months would it take to pay for the ship?



Double Double Word Search

CAREFULLY MOOLAH VENDING MONEY SNACK COINS BANKS PAID FIGURE KIDS BOOTS BUY PATH VALUE OUT

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



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

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

It Pays to Share

Newspapers often report on people sharing with others. Look for one or more articles about people donating or raising money for a good cause. List the time, talent and/or money that was donated to this cause.

Standards Link: Reading comprehension.

What kind of star wears sunglasses?

ANSWER: A movie star.

Write On!

Why have a piggy bank?

Do you have a piggy bank? If so, why? If not, why not?

Park It

SUBMITTED BY
NED MACKAY

Looking Forward

As we bid a not especially fond farewell to Year 2020, we can look forward with cautious optimism to better times in 2021.

In the East Bay Regional Park District, there are some good things coming. The newly restored Bay Point Regional Shoreline in East Contra Costa has opened and is well worth checking out. Planning continues for the opening of Concord Hills Regional Park (which will likely be renamed), with first public access possible later in 2021.

The district’s 2021 budget funds some other major projects

too, including opening of Brickyard Cove in McLaughlin Eastshore State Park, the new Dumbarton Quarry campground at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont, Lone Tree Point extension of the San Francisco Bay Trail, and the remodeled Rocky Ridge Visitor Center at Del Valle Regional Park south of Livermore.

Another big project in 2021 is restoration of McCosker Creek in Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve in the Oakland Hills. The creek is being freed from culverts, creating new habitat for a variety of animals and plants.

These and other projects can be viewed in the 2021 budget posted at the park district website, www.ebparks.org.

Of course, much depends on defeating the pandemic. For the present, COVID-19 restrictions remain in place at the park district. All visitor centers, water fountains (except bottle fillers),

campgrounds and reservable facilities are closed.

Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont, Ohlone Wilderness in southern Alameda County, and the Botanic Garden at Tilden Regional Park near Berkeley remain closed. However, Sunol Regional Wilderness in southern Alameda County and Round Valley south of Brentwood have now reopened. Remember that dogs are not allowed in Round Valley, because it’s habitat for the rare and endangered kit fox.

All the inter-park trails are open, from the Marsh Creek Regional Trail in Brentwood to Alameda Creek Trail in Fremont. Trails within the parks are open as well. Because walking and riding the trails has become a major recreational activity due to restrictions on other forms of diversion, please observe posted trail rules and exercise common courtesy.

The district asks visitors to wear masks, especially in places such as gates and narrow footpaths where six feet of social distancing is difficult. Bring your own water, pick up after your dog, and pack out your trash.

Since the pandemic situation is constantly changing, it’s a good idea to check the park district website before you go, in order to determine the status of any restrictions. You can click on “COVID-19 Closures” at the top of the home page. While you’re at the website, download a map of the park you’re planning to visit.

While you are out in the parks, look for seasonal changes in the natural world, whose cycle continues regardless of the pandemic.

For instance, winter rains will bring beautiful, tiny, bell-shaped flowers to the manzanita bushes. Manzanita is present in almost every regional park, but the flowering is especially noticeable

on the Chaparral Loop Trail at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve in Antioch.

Another later winter bloomer is Indian Warrior, a magenta-colored plant that grows underneath the manzanita, deriving nourishment from the manzanita roots. A good place to see it in profusion is the Manzanita Trail and Manzanita Loop at Sobrante Ridge Regional Park in El Sobrante.

Winter is a great time to explore the regional parks and other open space, as what we hope will be abundant rainfall brings the grasses and flowers back to life. But however you spend your time as 2020 ends and 2021 arrives, here’s wishing everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Impromptu Concert

SUBMITTED BY JOSHUA SHI, PRESIDENT OF
MSJ IMPROMPTU

MSJ Impromptu is a music club for students at Mission San Jose High School. Our club’s goal is to use music to serve the local community. Members of Impromptu, performing on instruments or voice, volunteer their time to the local area with student-arranged performances. During the pandemic, we have moved our concerts online to encourage students to continue practicing and to share their musical talents.

For the past 10 years, local seniors have loved it when Impromptu musicians came together to perform live monthly concerts. The joy seniors get from seeing high schoolers give back to their communities is an unparalleled experience that MSJ Impromptu has been



proud to provide for both seniors and students. However, this year we had to accommodate the pandemic and move online to create monthly virtual concerts.

Although most seniors are living independently at home during the ongoing pandemic, they are still at the highest risk of infection. Social distancing from your elderly loved ones is the best defense, but this isolation comes with a consequence. Keeping seniors engaged is on all of us, now more than ever. Music is a great way to ease stress, keeping their minds stimulated. Music brings us together no matter where we are.

This year in an hour-long concert, 22 high school musicians have come together to perform a wide variety of



music from eras ranging from Classical to Jazz, featuring instruments such as voice, piano, strings, brass, percussion, and marimba. This special Christmas concert video is dedicated for all the seniors and families. We understand the difficulty of distancing during the pandemic and wish to connect with you through music. Wherever you are, all of us here from MSJ Impromptu hope you have a Merry little Christmas.

Here is the link to our video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQIFsIxX-zE>
<https://msjimpromptu.com>

Appointment of Superior Court Judges

SUBMITTED BY GOVERNOR’S
PRESS OFFICE

On December 8, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the appointment of 12 California Superior Court judges including three in Alameda County.

Alameda County Superior Court judges:

Sharon L. Djemal of Berkeley, 51, has been program director of Consumer Justice Clinic at the East Bay Community Law Center since 2014, where she was supervising attorney from 2000 to 2014. She was a Soros Justice Fellow at the Urban Justice Center from 1998 to 2000. Djemal earned a Juris Doctor degree from Columbia Law School. She fills the vacancy created by the retirement of



Sharon L. Djema

Judge Wynne S. Carvill. Djemal is a Democrat.

Keith Kern Fong of Oakland, 58, has served as a law clerk for the Honorable Sandra Brown Armstrong at the U.S. District



Keith Kern Fong

Court, Northern District of California since 2009. He was senior counsel and associate at Kerr & Wagstaffe LLP from 2002 to 2009. Fong served as a law clerk for the Honorable Sandra



David A. Pereda

Brown Armstrong at the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California in 1992, from 1993 to 1998, and from 2001 to 2002. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California,

Davis School of Law. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Ronni B. MacLauren. Fong is a Democrat.

David A. Pereda of Oakland, 42, has served as special counsel at the Oakland City Attorney’s Office since 2018. He served as an assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of California from 2016 to 2018 and as a deputy city attorney at the Oakland City Attorney’s Office from 2013 to 2016. Pereda earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Jon R. Rolefson. Pereda is a Democrat.



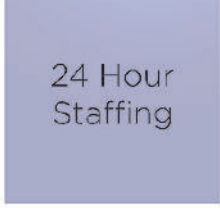


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Home & Garden

Favorite Projects of 2020

By Anna Jacoby

As we near the end of this most challenging year, I wish to convey my gratitude to all the wonderful people I work with every day – general contractors and their crews, tile installers, window covering installers, countertop fabricators, electricians, framers, dry wallers, painters, plumbers, cabinet makers, furniture movers and assemblers, and of course my assistant, who helps me in countless ways, and also, my vendors for plumbing, appliances, flooring, tile, draperies, and furnishings, and most of all, the clients who continued to hire me for design work.

The pandemic made everything more complicated this year, so thanks to all for your patience as we navigated through the new state-mandated protocols, delays, and extended lead times. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Despite the pandemic, home renovations seemed more popular than ever. As you might have expected, with people at home more, things that bothered them about their homes came to the forefront. I received many calls for home offices, kitchen and bath remodels, and whole-house updating. In this column, I would like to highlight a few of my favorite projects from 2020.

Family Friendly Home Office

We finished the project in February, right before the initial shelter-in-place. Who knew it would become so necessary to have a space like this? Ample work space for two, plus a place for the family to hang out with books or the TV, make this room the most popular in the house.

What I love about it:

- The fun orange accent color in the doors and wall. I love bright, vibrant colors, and so do these clients. A home office can and should be a space you enjoy spending time in, so do not be afraid to add color.

- The custom-made, super functional cabinets. These were designed for the specific needs of this family. Everything has a place to live, so clutter can be kept to a minimum.

Lighter, Brighter, Updated Kitchen

With just a little bit of reconfiguring, this kitchen became more functional. More counter space and more efficient



storage made a big difference. The white cabinets and updated lighting really brightened up the whole space. And the new color scheme was a hit too.

What I love about it:

- The countertops. This client was willing to trust me and to take a risk on the navy blue quartz countertops. Hadley, a new color from Cambria, was not one I had used before in a project, and I was dying to try it. I love all shades of blue, particularly navy, and, knowing that this client also liked blue, I suggested it to her. To my delight, she loved it also, and the result is beautiful and striking. I love the contrast of the dark blue against the white cabinets, and the marble tile backsplash



- The silver glass subway tile on the bathtub. Tiling the tub apron is a great place to add some accent color and texture. It is an unexpected and fun element.

There were several other beautiful projects and lots of nice clients to work with in 2020. Definite silver linings during this crazy year. Here's to brighter days ahead for all of us in 2021.



Anna Jacoby is a local Certified Interior Designer.

Contact her at 510-378-6989 or info@annajacobyinteriors.com
You could also visit her website at www.annajacobyinteriors.com



THE ACWD CONNECTION

Annual Main Cleaning Program Set to Begin

ACWD is scheduled to clean a selection of water mains in the city of Fremont, and all dead-end mains in the Tri-Cities to improve water quality and remove sediment buildup in pipes. This is part of the vital service provided by ACWD to ensure that all customers receive high quality water.

Cleaning will occur at various locations throughout the service area from January through June 2021; Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. (excluding holidays).

To find out if, and when the water main on your street will be cleaned, please visit www.acwd.org/maincleaning or call our Operations Department at **510.668.6500**. Any program updates and future notifications will be posted on the Main Cleaning webpage.

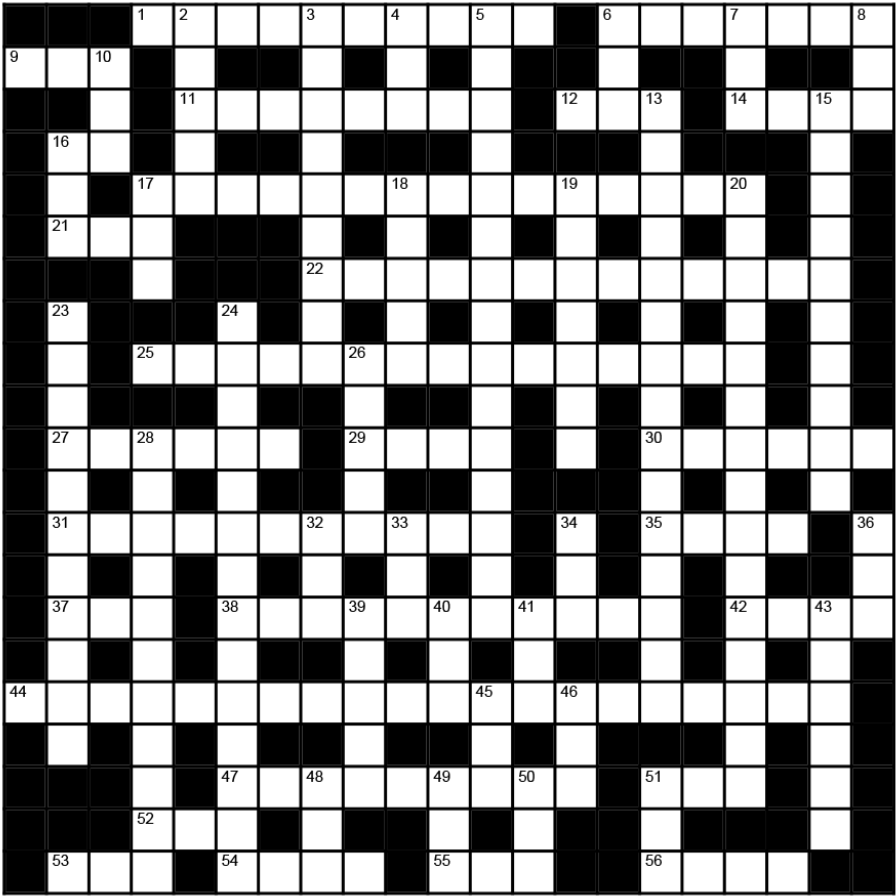


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Mind Twisters

Crossword Puzzle



- Across

1

Infatuated with (5,5)

6

Feminine (7)

9

Attention getters (3)

11

Groom (6-2)

12

Where: Lat. (3)

14

Part of a nuclear arsenal, for short (4)

16

... (2)

17

Actually (2,1,6,2,4)

21

Patriot's org. (3)

22

Shabby (13)

25

Exactly correct (4,2,3,6)

27

Go at it (6)

29

"Dies ____" (4)

30

Heavy metal (6)

31

Hard stuff (5,6)

35

"Not to mention ..." (4)

37

Mork's planet (3)

38

NASA concern (5,6)

42

Blockhead (4)

44

Batting order? (4,4,3,2,3,4)
- 47

Deleted (6,3)
- 51

Mail abbr. (3)
- 52

Antipoverty agcy. (3)
- 53

Bit of paronomasia (3)
- 54

Sgts., e.g. (4)
- 55

La lead-in (3)
- 56

Lacking (4)

Down

2

Puts on the line (5)

3

"Amen!" (3,4,2)

4

Buzzer (3)

5

Capital (5-4,6)

6

Part of WWW (3)

7

"____ was saying ..." (3)

8

"Dee-lish!" (3)

10

Sauce source (3)

13

"Beats me" (1,6,3,1,4)

15

Amateurish (4-6)

16

AOL rival (3)

17

Afr. nation (3)

18

Namely (2,3)

19

Chump (7)

20

High ground (3,8,4)

23

Wet blanket (5,6)

24

Trick (4,1,4,3,2)

26

Small antelope (5)

28

Put (5,6)

32

____ mater (brain cover) (3)

33

Literary monogram (3)

34

Hebrew letter (3)

36

Born, in bios (3)

39

Colgate rival (5)

40

Corn site (3)

41

Grass part (3)

43

Sea anemones, e.g. (6)

45

Spanish bear (3)

46

Big banger (3)

48

"Was ____ blame?" (3)

49

Criticize, slangily (3)

50

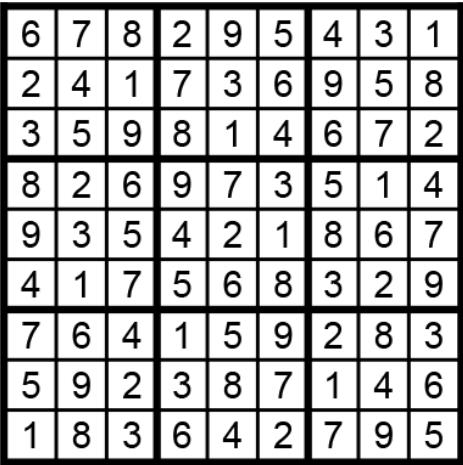
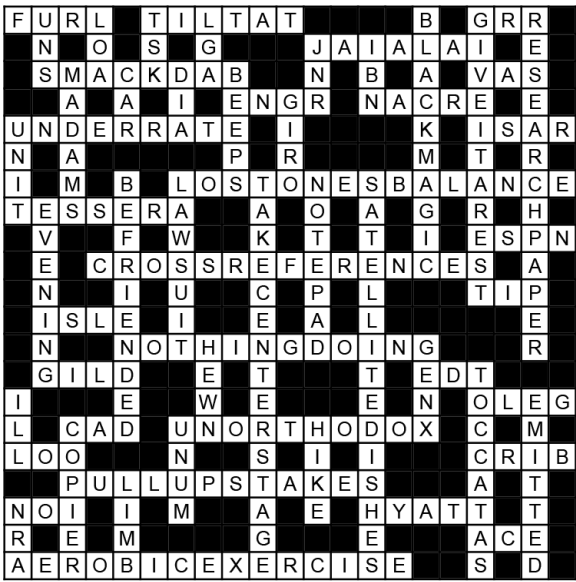
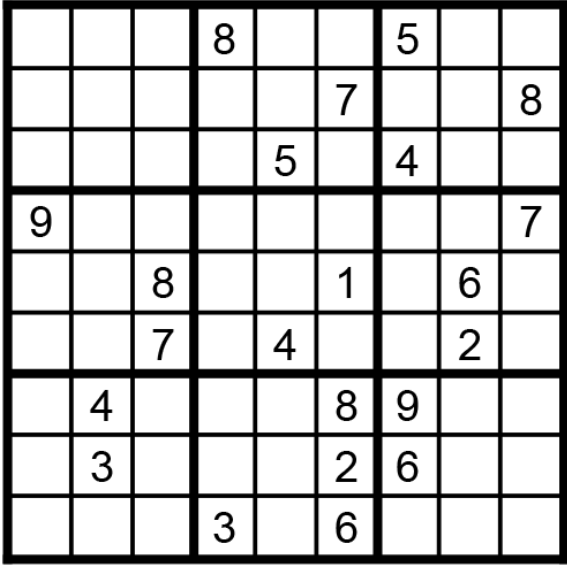
www.yahoo.com, e.g. (3)

51

E.R. personnel (3)

Sudoku:

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



Tri-City Stargazer FOR WEEK: DECEMBER 29, 2020

All Signs: It is the last week of 2020, which means we can say goodbye to a harrowing, hellish year. As we do so, the Sun and Mercury are in Capricorn. Venus is in Sagittarius, and Mars has only 10 days left in Aries. Warmest wishes for a Happy New Year to everyone!

Aries the Ram (March 21-April 20): Well, it is so rare that your ruler Mars would be in your sign for six months like it has been this year. In one way, it boosted your energy and gave you an enormous drive and determination. However, when it went retrograde, it created indecision and negative factors in your life. In 10 days, this will be over. Meanwhile, the Sun and Mercury are at the top of your chart making you look wonderful to others, especially bosses, parents, and important people.

Taurus the Bull (April 21-May 20): It's not surprising that fiery Mars is entering your sign in 10 days to boost your energy and give you lots of drive for about six weeks. The reason this makes sense is because you are entering such a powerful year! A year where you will be recognized for your achievements. Meanwhile, this week, you need a change of scenery and would love to travel or do something different. Physical intimacy will be affectionate.

Gemini the Twins (May 21-June 20): As this year ends, relations with others are delightful and warm because fair Venus is opposite your sign. Venus makes you patient and tolerant. Once you appreciate what someone else is going through, you have a better understanding of them and therefore, sympathy for what they are dealing with. This week your focus is on the wealth and

resources of your partner and others. Your emotions are intense.

Cancer the Crab (June 21-July 21): For the last six months, Mars has been at the top of your chart arousing your ambition. No matter what you have been undergoing, you have had a fierce determination to continue the fight. However, from September to mid-November when Mars was retrograde, you might have felt confused about your life direction. Right now, relations with coworkers are smooth. With the Sun opposite your sign, you will continue to need more sleep for the next three weeks. This also gives you more objectivity in your closest relations.

Leo the Lion (July 22-August 22): Venus is travelling through the most fun part of your chart. Venus is a very social influence - you want entertaining diversions and fun times. It will improve relations with kids as well as your own creative output. It favors romance and socializing with others because you feel there is no need to pretend to be what you are not. You are someone who values your integrity. You will begin your new year strong because Mars will be at the top of your chart in 10 days, and this will arouse your ambition as never before.

Virgo the Virgin (August 23-September 22): The planets are supportive to you now. Venus encourages

home entertaining and enjoying times with family. Or you might prefer a quiet time at home with yummy food and drink. In addition, the Sun and Mercury are in the most playful part of your chart, which means you want to escape on a vacation, enjoy social diversions, explore the entertainment world, and have fun with kid's activities. Mars is currently heightening your sex drive. All in all, you are blessed.

Libra the Scales (September 23-October 22): You wind up this year with a focus on home, family, and perhaps home repairs. Certainly, family discussions are taking place. Fortunately, with Venus in your House of Communications, you will be tactful, diplomatic, and charming. For the last six months, fiery Mars has been opposing your sign. This has tested your patience with partners and close friends. In 10 days, when Mars moves on, all your relations with others will improve.

Scorpio the Scorpion (October 23-November 21): Even though this year is winding down, you are winding up! You are so busy! Reading, writing, studying, appointments, phone calls, Zoom sessions, small trips, and other demanding errands have given you full schedule. Many of you will attract money to you. Furthermore, Mars is in a part of your chart that is helping you to work hard. Your busy pace will continue right into the

beginning of 2021. Next month, you can have a breather and focus on home and family.

Sagittarius the Archer (November 22-December 21): You often have big plans and ideas. This week, most of your ideas relate to money, earnings and what you plan to do with your possessions. These are fitting considerations as this year ends because it's time to take stock. Many of you will be have residential moves in the next two years and possibly even a job change. With Venus in your sign now, everyone loves you. Get ready to work hard in January when Mars moves into your House of Employment.

Capricorn the Goat (December 22-January 19): This continues to be a strong time for you with the Sun, Mercury, and Pluto in your sign. You make a great impression on others and can attract people and favorable situations to you. This good fortune will last until January 19. It is a good idea to think about ways to boost your earnings because this will be possible for you in the year ahead when you will get richer. The conflict, tension, and chaos that you have felt on the home front will diminish in two weeks.

Aquarius the Water Bearer (January 20-February 18): For the last six months, fiery Mars has been in your House of Communications, which makes you identify strongly with your opinions. In fact, you identify so strongly with your ideas that you

have been more inclined to be argumentative. This can trigger conflicts with people whom you encounter daily. But it has helped you to sell yourself even if at times, it's got you in trouble. You'll be glad to know that in 10 days everything will return to normal – whatever that is.

Pisces the Fish (February 19-March 20): You are popular and will stay popular for the next three weeks. Enjoy hanging out with others, especially younger people. Friendships are especially important to you now. In addition, you'll find that this is a great time to cooperate with others and work in tandem with them. With Venus high in your chart, it's easy to get along with bosses and VIPs. For the last six months, Mars has heightened your interest in business, earning money plus shopping. In 10 days, Mars will leave your Money House and move into your House of Communications, which will make you busy, assertive, and much more confident.



By Georgia Nicols
www.georgianicols.com.



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This material is based on work supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under FHIP Grant FE01180031

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- Veteran/Military Status
- Sexual Harassment
- Racism
- Religious Discrimination
- Disability Requests

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continued from page 1

Where's the Water?

the U.S. Drought Monitor (a weekly assessment of drought conditions run by several federal agencies) released a map showing most of Northern California in a Severe to Extreme Drought.

Globally, 2020 has been one of the warmest years on record, according to NOAA. Climatologists cite climate change as the main factor behind this heat, with global warming causing more extreme weather events, such as the dry conditions and strong winds that fueled the California wildfires. Scientists are also predicting a fairly strong La Nina this winter, meaning less rain than usual throughout the Southwest region.

What does all of this mean for East Bay residents? Well, the outlook is not as bleak as it may sound, according to Robert Shaver, General Manager for the Alameda County Water District (ACWD). "First of all, we're not using the D-word right now. In Northern California, we have either dry years or wet years, and it's all pretty variable. We plan for that. The last few years have certainly been on the dry side, but it's not critical yet."

Water is distributed in California through a complex network of water utilities, roughly divided by region. ACWD, which services Fremont, Newark, and Union City, is just one of 537 special districts that own and operate public water systems throughout the state. Water services are also run by cities, counties, public utilities, mutual water companies, and mobile home parks. They all work together to bring clean drinking water to our homes.

Surprisingly, the lack of rain does not significantly impact water rates. Says Shaver, "Over the past 70 years our ratepayers have invested in a diversified portfolio of water sources. If one of our sources is not having a great year, we have other sources available to us." ACWD currently has three primary sources of water: State Water Project (SWP), San Francisco's regional water system (including the Hetch-Hetchy Aqueduct), and local supplies (including runoff from Alameda Creek and treated water from the Niles Desalination Facility).

Water, like any other commodity, can be bought and sold, transferred and banked. During dry years, about 20% of ACWD water comes from Kern County through the SWP, an extensive collection of 700 miles of canals, pipelines, reservoirs and hydroelectric power facilities, making it one of the largest water delivery systems in the world. Critical to the success of the SWP is runoff from the Sierra Nevada mountains, as snow melts and flows in to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. During dry years, snow and rain decrease, giving less supply. But Shaver assures East Bay residents that their water supply is fine. "Our water supply is arguably more reliable than many other places in California."

According to Shaver, water rates have nothing to do with weather. "Like all government agencies, ACWD has long term pension and retiree liabilities that we're addressing. The Board of Directors is interested in getting that liability off the books." Other factors include an aging infrastructure and retaining employees in a region where cost of living has skyrocketed.

In a December 10 meeting, the ACWD Board of Directors voted 3-2 to forgo a proposed water rate increase of 2%. Said Board President Aziz Akbari, "The ACWD Board recognizes the effects the pandemic has on our customers, and our community, during these unprecedented times. We felt the right thing to do, at this time, is to hold off on a rate increase. It's a way to express to our community that we truly are in this together." A rate increase of 3% was proposed for 2022.

Providing safe drinking water to a population of over 350,000 during a pandemic is not a responsibility ACWD takes lightly. Says Shaver, "Our operating expenses are fixed and there are only a few things we can cut to lower costs. But one thing we will not do is make a change to anything that could negatively impact the water quality. We're very cognitive, each and every day, that we're dealing with human health and safety."

Water utilities are also concerned with balancing the needs of people with the needs of the environment. Global warming is transforming our planet, and we need to be prepared. Says Shaver, "We know we need to be sustainable and good stewards of the environment, because environmental protection is consistent with protecting water quality as well."

Understanding how our water supply works can be daunting, but utilities like ACWD are working on our behalf. Board meetings are open to the public, so you have a concern, attend a meeting (currently on Zoom) or join a water conservation group. It's up to all of us to preserve what we have for future generations. After all, water is life.




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The Tri-City Voice welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Only the writer's name will be published. Letters that are 350 words or fewer will be given preference. Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and style.

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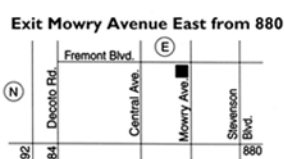
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\$ = Entrance or Activity Fee
R= Reservations Required
Schedules are subject to change.
Call to confirm activities shown in these listings.

CONTINUING EVENTS

Monday – Saturday

Free COVID-19 Testing

M-F: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Sa: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Drive through, drop-in, and walk-up testing by appointment

Bay Area Community Health

39500 Liberty St., Fremont

(510) 770-8040

<http://bach.health/covid/>

Mondays and Wednesdays Parenting During COVID R

Tue: 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wed: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Virtual support group to help families cope with challenges encountered during COVID

To register:

www.fremont.gov/3060/Caregiver-Support

Support

(510) 574-2100

Tuesdays

Free Virtual Sing-Along

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Zoom choir meeting hosted by Mission Peak Chamber Singers

<https://www.chambersingers.org/>

Contact: info@chambersingers.org

Wednesday - Saturday

Free COVID-19 Testing

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Drive through and walk-up testing by appointment

Make appointment at: <https://ac.fulgentgenetics.com/>

Glad Tidings Church

1000 Glad Tidings Way, Hayward

Wednesdays and Sundays

McNevin at The Mudpuddle

6 p.m.

Dinner time tunes, oddservations, and bad jokes

Via Facebook Live:

www.facebook.com/mudpuddlemusic

Thursdays

First Presbyterian Church of Newark Virtual Youth Group

6:30 p.m.

Youth and young adults, students welcome

Contact: brian@newarkpres.org

Zoom Meeting ID#

www.newarkpres.org

Thursdays, January 14 - March 4

Life Review Group

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Life is a journey. Explore the story of your life

1-800-260-0094/ jwolfinger@crisis-support.org

Sundays

Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church Family Service

10 a.m.

Via ZOOM

For link, call (510) 471-2581

<https://sacbc.org/>

Sundays

First Presbyterian Church of Newark Virtual Sunday School

11 a.m.

Sunday School, Ages K – 6th grade

Contact: office@newarkpres.org

Zoom Meeting ID#

www.newarkpres.org

Saturdays

Virtual Telescope Viewing R

9:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Free on Facebook Live

Join resident astronomers live from Chabot's observation deck

<https://chabotspace.org/calendar/>

Saturdays

Online Comedy Shows R\$

8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Made Up Theatre's interactive comedy has gone to YouTube!

<https://madeuptheatre.com/upcoming-shows/online-shows/>

Arts & Entertainment

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www.HaywardAnimals.com

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Rex is an 11th month old male who grew up on the streets of Hayward. He has discovered he prefers indoor living and enjoys lounging on his bed while making googly eyes as his favorite people. To adopt Rex call the Hayward Animal Shelter (510) 293 – 7200.



Sunny is a 1 year old female kitty who loves food and is very social! She will lean in for head scratches while making air biscuits.

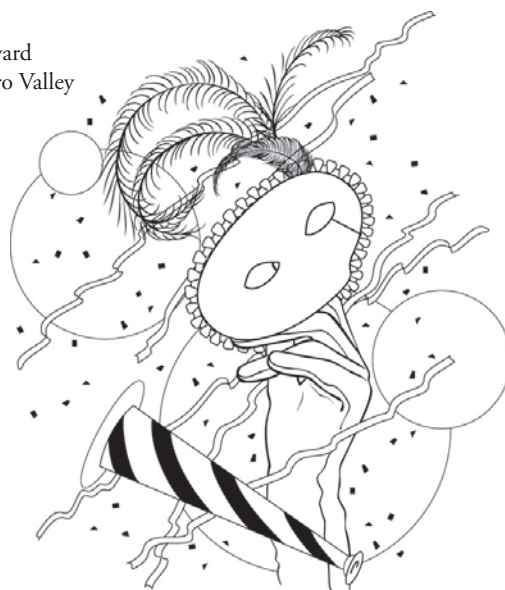
To adopt Sunny
call the Hayward Animal Shelter (510) 293 – 7200.

Sunday, November 29 – Saturday, January 16

FirstPres Advent StoryWalk

Follow a guided trail featuring laminated pages of a children's Christmas book

FirstPres Church Hayward
2490 Grove Way, Castro Valley
<https://bit.ly/2IRU78a>



Farmers’ Markets

CASTRO VALLEY:

Castro Valley Farmers' Market
Saturdays
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Castro Valley Bart station lot off of Redwood Road
equipped to accept EBT and Market Match funds to CalFresh customers.
uvfm.org

FREMONT:

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

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

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

HAYWARD:

Hayward Farmers’ Market
Saturdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Year-round
Hayward City Plaza
777 B. St., Hayward
415-472-6100
www.agriculturalinstitute.org

SAN LEANDRO:

Bayfair Center
Saturdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Year-round
15555 East 14th Street
San Leandro
(925) 465-4690
www.cafarmersmkts.com

Kaiser Permanente San Leandro
Wednesday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Year-round
Merced St and Fairway Drive
www.pcfma.org

Downtown San Leandro
Wednesdays
4 - 8 p.m.
March 27 - October 9
Parrott Street and East 14th Street
San Leandro
www.pcfma.org

MILPITAS:

Milpitas Farmers’ Market at Great Mall Parking Lot
Sundays
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Year-round
GREAT MALL
882 Great Mall Drive., Milpitas
800-949-FARM
www.pcfma.org

NEWARK:

Newark Farmers’ Market
Sundays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Year-round
NewPark Mall
2086 NewPark Mall, Newark
415-472-6100
www.agriculturalinstitute.org

UNION CITY:

Kaiser Permanente Union City Farmers’ Market
Tuesdays
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
April 9 - November 12
Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices
3553 Whipple Rd., Union City
800-949-FARM
www.pcfma.org

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

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about the Bookmobile call
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mobile
Times & Stops subject to change

Tuesday
4:30 – 5:20 Weibel School,
45135 South Grimmer Blvd.,
FREMONT
5:50 – 6:40 Booster Park,
Gable Dr. & McDuff Ave.,
FREMONT

Wednesday
12:45 – 2:15 Glenmoor School,
4620 Mattos Dr., FREMONT
6:00 – 6:30
Camellia Dr. & Camellia Ct.,
FREMONT

Thursday
11:30 – 12:30 Our Lady of
Grace, 19920 Anita Ave.,
CASTRO VALLEY
2:15 – 3:15 Cherryland School,
585 Willow Ave., HAYWARD

Monday
1:45 – 2:45 Delaine School,
34901 Eastin Dr.,
UNION CITY4:15 – 4:45
Contempo Homes,
4190 Gemini Dr., UNION CITY
5:15 – 6:45 Forest Park School,
Deep Creek Rd. & Maybird
Circle, FREMONT

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

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

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For more information
(408) 293-2326 x3060

Wednesday
1:50 – 3:00 Foothill School,
1991 Landess Ave., MILPITAS
3:30 – 4:00 Friendly Village
Park, 120 Dixon Landing Rd.,
MILPITAS

UPCOMING Events

Thursday, December 31
Virtual Balloon Drop \$R
11 a.m. – 12 noon
Dance party, STEM activities and traditional balloon drop
Via Zoom
https://chabotspace.org/
Tickets: \$10

Thursday, January 21
Electric Vehicle Financial Incentive Clinic
7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Discover the many financial assistance programs available
https://bit.ly/3h1jgKz

Saturday, January 23
Diamonds in Education Virtual Telethon
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Comedian Kabir “Kabeezy” Singh, auctions, and award presentations
Via Facebook Live and YouTube
www.diamondsineduction.com
www.nhsfoundation.org

Thursday, February 4
AMC Online Math Contest \$R
For Fremont students. Deadline to apply is 1/5/21
https://bit.ly/3ntTS2D

Wednesday, February 10
AMC Online Math Contest \$R
For Fremont students. Deadline to apply is 1/11/21
https://bit.ly/3nyTAre

College scholarships applications available

TAMAR SARKISSIAN

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) recently announced that scholarship applications are now being accepted for college-bound high schoolers as well as current college and continuing education students with a primary residence that is a PG&E customer in Northern and Central California. To be considered for a scholarship, you must submit applications by Friday, February 12, 2021.

More than 120 awards totaling nearly \$300,000 are being made available through PG&E’s employee resource group (ERG) and engineering network group (ENG) scholarships. These scholarships are awarded annually to help offset the cost of higher education. ERG and ENG scholarship winners will receive awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,000 for exemplary scholastic achievement and community leadership.

PG&E’s ERG and ENG scholarships are available through these groups:

- Access Network (individuals with disabilities)
- Asian
- Black
- Latino
- Legacy (tenured employees)
- MEENA (Middle East, Europe, and North Africa)
- National Society of Black Engineers (STEM career employees)

- NuEnergy (newer employees)
- PrideNetwork (LGBT employees)
- Samahan (Filipino)
- Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers (STEM career employees)
- Veterans
- Women’s Network

“Many of our ERG scholarship recipients are the first in their families to attend college. They will be tomorrow’s leaders and innovators. Our ERG scholarships take on even more importance this year because some of our applicants could have experienced financial challenges due to COVID-19. We’re proud to invest in these promising young people,” said Mary King, PG&E, vice president of human resources and chief diversity officer.

For more information, including criteria and applications, visit PG&E’s website - www.pge.com/en_US/residential/in-your-community/education-programs/grants-and-scholarships/scholarship-opportunities/scholarship-opportunities.page.

PG&E College Scholarship
Deadline: Friday, Feb 12, 2021
www.pge.com/en_US/residential/in-your-community/education-programs/grants-and-scholarships/scholarship-opportunities/scholarship-opportunities.page

Fremont ranks high in annual dog park report

SUBMITTED BY
REBECCA BULLIS,
TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

A new report issued by the Trust for Public Land (TPL) ranked Fremont as 17th out of 100 of the largest U.S. cities by population for dog parks. Released December 18, the annual TPL report calculates rank based on the number of dog

parks for every 100,000 residents. The Central Park Dog Park, located on the edge of Central Park on Stevenson Boulevard, includes an artificial turf area for large dogs and a separate natural turf area for smaller dogs. Park amenities include lighting, benches, shade structures and drinking fountains for both dogs and their owners.

“Dog parks enrich our communities for dogs and caregivers alike,” said Diane Regas, president and CEO of TPL. “By providing a place for our canine friends to get outdoors, cities are also providing a place for neighbors to gather and

connect. During the pandemic, providing these avenues for community connection is more important than ever.”

Boise, Idaho topped the list for the second year in a row with six dog parks available per 100,000 residents. Laredo, Texas was the most improved, moving from 84th to 32nd in the rankings.

The TPL is a national leader in providing guidance to municipalities on how to successfully build a dog park. For more information and other park data see the 2020 ParkScore® Index on the TPL website at <https://www.tpl.org/parkscore>.

Holiday travelers expected to stay close to home

SUBMITTED BY AAA NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Because of public health concerns, officials from AAA Northern California expect the vast majority of the general public to stay home over the year-end holidays. AAA anticipates at least 34 million fewer travelers compared to last year’s holiday season. However, as many as 84.5 million people may still travel from December 23 through January 3, down at least 29% from last year.

“With COVID 19 cases steadily increasing this month, the expected continued rise will prompt some would-be travelers to not follow through with upcoming travel plans,” said Sergio Avila, AAA Northern California spokesperson.

This expectation is in line with Thanksgiving travel trends. AAA expected up to 50 million people would travel for the Thanksgiving holiday, which would have been a decline of 10% from 2019. While final Thanksgiving travel numbers are not yet available, AAA expects the drop to be closer to 15 to 20%.

The CDC urges the public not to travel for the year-end holidays, warning that travel increases the chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. For those who make the personal decision to travel, it’s essential to understand the risks and take steps to stay safe.

Know Before You Go:

- Plan ahead. Check with state and local officials along your route and at your destination to learn about local guidance and any restrictions that may be in place.

- Adhere to pre-and post-trip protocols. The CDC recommends taking a COVID-19 test one to three days before travel and another three to five days after your trip. Travelers should also reduce nonessential activities for seven days after their trip.

- Follow public health guidance. Consistent use of face masks combined with physical distancing and regular hand washing are strongly recommended to lower one’s COVID-19 risk. Be sure to pack face masks, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, and a thermometer to help protect and monitor your health while away from home.

- Verify before you go. Call ahead and ask about hotel safety precautions and procedures. If renting a vehicle, ask about their vehicle disinfection and sanitization process.

Road trips decline, but remain preferred method of travel

Many of those who decide to travel will do so by car, with road trips accounting for 96% of holiday travel. Up to 81 million will travel by car, a decline of at least 25% compared to last year. Air travel will drop by 60% seeing 4.1 million fewer travelers packing into airports than last year. All other modes of transportation will see a drop in travel by 87%.

AAA reminds those hitting the road to plan their route in advance and ensure their vehicle is ready for the road, to help avoid a breakdown along the way. AAA expects to rescue more than 905,000 people at the roadside this holiday season. Drivers on the go can easily request roadside assistance by downloading the AAA Mobile App at <https://calstate.aaa.com>.

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- Near 680/880/BART

39737 Paseo Padre Pkwy
Suite C1,
Fremont CA 94538

- 355 sq/ft
- One room office
- Common waiting area
- Near 680/880/BART

SIGMAWAYS BUILDING
39737 Paseo Padre Parkway,
Fremont, CA 94538

- 4997 sq/ft
- Ground floor
- Naming rights
- Five private offices
- Private restrooms
- Conference room
- Large open work space perfect for socially distanced cubicles
- Kitchen with running water
- Near 680/880/BART

EXECUTIVE I
2450 Peralta Blvd.,
Fremont, CA 94536

- Suite 211
- 948 sq/ft
- Three room office
- 2nd floor (no elevator access)
- Large open space perfect for socially distanced cubicles
- Free Conference room available
- Near BART

- Suite 222
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EARTHTALK

Trucking Goes Electric: Accelerating Toward A Greener Future

BY EMILY FOLK

The idea of an electric car isn't a new one. Some of the first vehicles ever invented were powered by electricity rather than internal combustion engines. While they didn't take off as quickly, the idea has always been there, just waiting for technology to catch up with our imaginations.

Choosing an electric vehicle over a more traditional option is a great way for the average consumer to shrink their carbon footprint and reduce their impact on the environment. Until recently, though, this technology has been limited to passenger vehicles. Advances through 2019 and 2020 have shown that this may be a viable option for larger vehicles, such as trucks.

Here are some reasons the trucking industry is considering going electric:

Reducing Fuel Costs

Fuel costs have always been one of the biggest expenses in the trucking industry. Even if contracts don't change, expenses vary depending on the price of oil at any given time. With freight trucks transporting roughly 80% of the cargo moved within the United States, those costs play an enormous role in efficiency and profit within the industry.

Instead of relying on fossil fuels, electric trucks get their power from the grid. There is some price fluctuation with coal-burning plants regularly changing the cost of

electricity based on fuel expenditures. However, the changes are dramatically less than they would be for a truck driver pulling up to the diesel pump every time they need to refill the tank.

Once you move beyond the initial investment that accompanies purchasing an electric truck, these vehicles may end up paying for themselves. This will be especially beneficial for small companies that often find themselves struggling to stay out of the red when fuel costs start to climb toward the stratosphere.

Contending with New Regulations

Advances in modern automotive technology have helped reduce emissions created by massive trucks. In fact, they dropped 40% between 2007 and 2017, according to the EPA. However, the trucking industry remains one of the largest creators of greenhouse gas emissions in the country. The Cleaner Trucks Initiative was introduced in 2018 to update the emissions standards for heavy freight trucks, something the organization hadn't done since 2001.

Rather than contending with the problem of retrofitting older trucks to meet new emissions standards, companies now have the option to choose electric vehicles to circumvent the need for compliance testing. This will make life easier for drivers and their employers alike.

This switch will also become vital as more cities start establishing low emission zones (LEZs) where traditional

freight trucks won't be allowed. While these are currently more common outside of the United States, we may start seeing them here in the future. LEZs are reducing air pollution in neighborhoods and cities by restricting the use of high-emission vehicles. These neighborhoods provide public transportation or redesign their streets so pedestrians and cyclists can move safely.

Electric Future for Trucking Industry

Electric freight trucks are expensive, but so too were electric passenger cars when they first started hitting the market. Now you can bring home an electric car or SUV for roughly the same price as its more traditional counterpart unless you're going for one of the really fancy options like a Tesla Roadster.

The future of the trucking industry will likely be steeped in electric vehicles, which will be a good change. These trucks will reduce emissions, make the sector more efficient and end up shrinking costs in the long run. That is something most people agree will lead to a better future for the industry and the planet, as well.

EarthTalk is produced by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss for the nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://lemagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Alameda County Reads 2021

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS SELIG

Alameda County Reads is our first county-wide reading program designed to inspire thousands of community members to read and discuss the same book. Together, we will celebrate reading a great book while building community through a thoughtful exchange of ideas. Our book selection is Eat Joy: Stories & Comfort Food from 31 Celebrated Writers edited by Natalie Eve Garrett. Our Kick-Off event on January 11, will open with a video of County Librarian Cindy Chadwick interviewing Natalie Eve Garrett.

After the Kick-Off, you can sign up online for a discussion and arrange to pick up the book at your local AC Library. Free copies of Eat Joy are available while supplies last. The celebration continues from February through April with many book discussion sessions and other special Alameda County Reads programs.

"The vision of AC Library is Kind, Connected Humans," said Deputy County Librarian Deb Sica. "In our

rapidly changing world, we know that it is more important than ever to build both human and humane connections with one another. AC Reads is our first One County, One Book Celebration! Bon livre, bon appétit!"

Alameda County Reads is generously funded by the Alameda County Library Foundation and the Albany, Castro Valley, and Fremont Friends of the Library.

Eight Alameda County Libraries will participate in Alameda County Reads:

- Albany Library**
1247 Marin Ave
510-526-3720
- Castro Valley Library**
3600 Norbridge Ave
510-667-7900
- Centerville Library**
3801 Nicolet Ave, Fremont
510-795-2629
- Dublin Library**
200 Civic Plaza
925-803-7252

- Fremont Main Library**
2450 Stevenson Blvd
510-745-1400
- Newark Library**
6300 Civic Terrace Ave
510-284-0675
- San Lorenzo Library**
395 Paseo Grande
510-284-0640
- Union City Library**
34007 Alvarado Niles Road
510-745-1464

About the Book

Eat Joy: Stories & Comfort Food from 31 Celebrated Writers is a collection of personal, illustrated stories and recipes by American literary writers. This collection offers insight into how food can provide comfort in hard times—whether the loss of a loved one, homesickness in a new place, or family breakups. The essays are divided into four themes: Growing Pains, Loss, Healing, and Homecoming.

COVID-19: Light at the End of Tunnel

By MADHVIKA SINGH

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on many aspects our lives – social, economic, and mental. While public health officials continue to stress the importance of measures like wearing masks and social distancing to contain the spread of the virus, hopes for an end to the pandemic have risen with the arrival of vaccines.

On December 11, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer/BioNTech, paving the way for the first batch of over 2.9 million doses to be made available across the country. On December 18, another vaccine from Moderna also got EUA from FDA. Officials intend to distribute about 5.9 million doses of the Moderna vaccine in its initial shipment.

In clinical trials, the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines were 95% and 94% effective, respectively, in preventing COVID-19. The clinical trials included over 35,000 participants each with representations from different ethnicities. Both vaccines are taken as two intramuscular injections, with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine taken three weeks apart and the Moderna vaccine taken four weeks apart.

Development of these vaccines within the span of a year was enabled by the use of messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) technology. These vaccines contain a small piece of the SARS-CoV-2 genetic material, the mRNA, which instructs cells in the human body to produce the virus’s distinctive “spike” protein. This protein is what the SARS-CoV-2 virus uses to attach to, and invade the human cells. This protein alone doesn’t cause the illness, but it’s presence inside the human body triggers an immune response against the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and prepares the body against any future invasion from the virus. Traditional vaccines required large-scale and time-consuming production of the weakened version of the virus or its protein fragment outside of the human body; mRNA-based vaccines allow that step to be bypassed.

Public health officials across the country are allocating the vaccine in phases in accordance with guidelines from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In the first phase, where the supply is expected to be limited, county and state public health departments are making the vaccine available to the “initial critical population” as defined by CDC, which includes frontline healthcare personnel, non-healthcare essential workers, adults with high-risk medical conditions and risk factors for severe COVID-19 illness, and people 65 years of age and older including those living in long term care facilities.

Alameda County Public Health Department’s (ACPHD) COVID-19 Vaccination Plan builds on CDC’s guidelines to ensure equitable access to the vaccine. ACPHD’s plan calls for using measures to ensure equitable access to the vaccine across communities, including the use of measures set by their Health Equity Team and incorporating input from their Community Advisory Group, population-specific resident groups, and clinical and community providers.

While it may be too early to declare success, arrival of these vaccines may be the harbinger of our return to normalcy as we prepare to ring in the New Year.

Information in this article is compiled from various public health agencies like ACPHD, CDC, FDA, in our effort to share the most objective and current information with our readers. As information about COVID-19 vaccination is evolving and changing rapidly, please reach out to your medical providers for individual questions and concerns as this is not intended to replace medical advice.

Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov> <https://covid-19.acgov.org> <https://www.fda.gov/>

St. Rose Hospital Medical Staff, Local First-Responders, Among First to be Vaccinated

SUBMITTED BY HAYWARD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

It was a historic, busy weekend over December 19-20 at St. Rose Hospital in Hayward as 2,000 members of its medical staff and local emergency service workers were inoculated against the COVID-19 virus by teams from the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency.

In addition to St. Rose physicians and nurses, vaccinations went to police, firefighters and ambulance workers. They got a card attesting that they received the vaccine.

“Our hospital is proud to play an important role with the county in providing our healthcare staff and first responders this vital and important life-saving vaccine,” said St Rose CEO Aman Dhuper. “This is a historic moment for our community, our hospital, our staff, and our county.”

California received 327,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and is inoculating health care workers who deal directly with COVID-19 patients. The vaccine needs to be given in two doses about three weeks apart, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The state could receive another 233,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine the week of December 21 and is in line to take delivery of 672,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine beginning Monday, December 21.

State Officials Announce Latest COVID-19 Facts

SUBMITTED BY CALIFORNIA DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The California Department of Public Health provided latest facts as of December 24, 2020 around COVID-19 including California reaching 2 million positive cases.

“Today [December 24, 2020] California hit a sobering milestone, we have surpassed 2 million COVID-19 cases. While this means we are leveraging our testing capacity, it is a reminder that this virus continues to spread through our communities,” said Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of California’s Health and Human Services Agency. “Hospitals are full, ICU beds are few, people are dying. The simplest thing we can do, but also the most significant, is to stay home. We are the first line of defense against this virus and we must act now.”

Due to high rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations impacting the health care system, California is under a Limited Stay at Home Order. The order applies to all counties that are currently under the Regional Stay at Home Order and those in Tier One (Purple) of the Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The Limited Stay at Home Order will expire after the Regional Stay At Home Order has been terminated in all regions of the state.

Based on current ICU data, four regions, San Joaquin Valley, Southern California, Greater Sacramento and the Bay Area are under the Regional Stay at Home Order. Based on current trends, it is likely that the Regional Stay at Home Order will extend for many regions in California. Regions must remain under the Regional Stay at Home Order for at least three weeks and shall continue until ICU capacity projections for four weeks from the day assessed are above or equal to 15%.

The earliest dates that regions may be eligible to exit are:

- San Joaquin: December 28
- Southern California: December 28
- Greater Sacramento: January 1
- Bay Area: January 8

Current available ICU capacity by region:

- Bay Area: 9.24%
- Greater Sacramento: 15.3%
- Northern California: 27.5%
- San Joaquin Valley: 0.0%
- Southern California: 0.0%

Holiday Tree Curbside Recycling Service

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF UNION CITY

All households in Union City are provided holiday tree collection recycling service at no additional cost. Things to keep in mind:

- Remove all decorations, tinsel, lights, and tree stands before placing your tree curbside for collection.
- Holiday trees exceeding 5 feet in length should be cut in half. Place half in your Organics cart and half on the curbside for collection.
- Holiday tree recycling service will be provided by Tri-CED Community Recycling on your regular collection day.
- Place your holiday tree curbside through Friday, January 29.
- Holiday trees can also be dropped off at the Tri-CED Community Recycling Buy-Back Center for no additional cost from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Suspect charged Michaela Garecht kidnapping, murder

SUBMITTED BY ALAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

Work by several Bay Area law enforcement agencies and the FBI to identify the suspect the 32-year-old missing person case of 9-year-old Michaela Garecht came to a conclusion on December 20 with the announcement of a suspect in the case.

On Monday, December 21 Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O’Malley filed a criminal complaint charging David Misch, 59, with the murder and kidnapping of Michaela Garecht on November 19, 1988, near a Hayward grocery store. The DA also alleges Special Circumstances in that Michaela was murdered in the course of a kidnapping, and the Special Circumstance of being convicted previously of murder.

Michaela was kidnapped after she and her friend rode scooters to the Rainbow Grocery on Mission Boulevard. They left the scooters outside while they entered the store to buy some snacks. Several minutes later when they came out, one of the scooters had been moved behind a car parked in a nearby space. When Michaela went to fetch the scooter, the driver of that car grabbed her as soon as



she walked past his door. He forced her into the front seat of the car. He backed out and sped south on Mission Boulevard.

Hayward Police Department never stopped looking for the man who kidnapped and killed Michaela. Around the 30th anniversary of her kidnapping, they once again scrutinized all evidence, leads and potential witnesses. Their current fingerprint examiner was provided names of persons of interest. Misch’s name was one of the names provided to her. She began comparing the fingerprints of the names given to her. She was able to match Misch’s fingerprints to those on the scooter. Their ability now to compare prints has been significantly advanced through software, technology and science.

For more than three decades, Michaela has never been seen or heard from, nor has her body or any of her remains been found. However, fingerprints found on the scooter she was riding at the time she was abducted matched Misch’s fingerprints. Further, eyewitness evidence places Misch in the immediate location at the time the kidnapping occurred.

“The kidnap and murder of a child is horrific. The pain to the family and friends is indescribable, especially when their child is not found. This crime shocked not just the local community, but the entire Bay Area and the nation,” said DA O’Malley. “I hope that today’s action and announcement will provide some comfort to Michaela’s family in knowing that justice will prevail, even after 32 years since this horrible crime.”

These charges come years of investigation led by the Hayward Police Department with the help of many local law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI. The tireless work of Hayward detectives, who never gave up on the case, enabled the DA’s office to file these charges.

Misch is currently facing other charges in Alameda County for the murder of two women in Fremont committed in 1986, and is also currently serving time in state prison for the 1989 murder of a woman in the Hayward area.

Essay contest lets students show their creativity

SUBMITTED BY DARRYL REINA

Newark Optimist Club is accepting submissions for its 2020-2021 Essay Contest for students. This year’s theme is “Reaching Your Dreams by Choosing Optimism.”

The contest is open to Newark, Fremont and Union City students who were under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2020, and have not yet completed secondary school or its equivalent. There is no minimum age.

The top-three winning essays will each receive cash prizes (\$200, \$100, \$50) and medallions. The first-place winning essay will advance to the District Level competition and have an opportunity to win a \$2,500 college scholarship.

“Students today have many new ideas about the world, our country, and their future,”

Contest Chairman Darryl Reina said. “As Optimists, it is our goal to encourage them and do what we can to bring out the best in each of them. This gives them an excellent opportunity to tap into their creativity, and pursue possible scholarships at the same time.”

Applications and official rules for the contest are available online at https://www.optimist.org/Forms/20-21_Essay_Application.pdf.

Completed essays and contest applications must be received by January 22, 2021. The essays and applications can be sent via email to Darryl Reina at darryl14r@aol.com or mailed to the Newark Optimist Club, P.O. Box 402, Newark, CA 94560. For more info: (510) 917-4060. Winners will be notified and recognized at an Optimist Club meeting on February 10.

OPINION



WILLIAM MARSHAK

Consequences

us. Resolutions to react to adversity with more composure and understand elements of divergent opinions with respect should be among the promises made to create greater harmony with family, friends and associates. Can this be the resolution that defies short-lived adherence?

Our tolerance for patience and respect of community health and welfare has been sorely tested by a pandemic that refuses to relent or acknowledge weak collective responses. On the political and social scene, virtual gatherings and meetings have, by necessity, replaced face-to-face encounters. The effect has been a reduction of community activity and oversight. With the advent of effective vaccines, this will change in 2021, but probably remain in place for at least the first quarter of the new year. Fortunately, through electronic means we can still communicate and most civic meetings are available for review at city websites. Hopefully, residents will continue to engage with each other and remain aware of proposals, changes and votes by their elected representatives.

We have all, at one time or another, suffered the consequences of fleeting attention to New Year resolutions. But, in the midst of a pandemic, the aftermath of an especially brutal campaign year and civil unrest, this may be a good

time to pay special attention to attitudes and introspection. Some New Year resolutions compare this moment to a new book, yet to be written; let's write a good one! Although only a tick of the clock's second hand separates the old year from the new, in that moment, we can all join a toast attributed to Oprah Winfrey... "Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

Tri-City Voice echoes the words of Albert Einstein: "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

William Marshak
PUBLISHER

The sound of this new year will be a collective sigh of relief as 2020 dwindles to its last few days. As another calendar year begins, although largely symbolic, it signals a renewal of purpose and intent to improve and excel beyond what has been. Many New Year toasts embody this rite of passage including the often-used Irish blessing, "May the best day of your past be the worst day of your future."

The famous American-born poet, T.S. Eliot, referenced a New Year with new beginnings: "For last year's words belong to last year's language, and next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning." And, for those who resolve every year to break old, undesirable habits, a humorous quip... "May all your troubles during the coming year be as short as your New Year's resolutions."

Through sincere and humorous toasts to an advanced number of the calendar, a change of attitude is requisite for many of

US, states crack down on scams bilking desperate Americans

BY MARCY GORDON
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Federal and state authorities say they are cracking down on a wave of illegal schemes that have proliferated during the pandemic and prey upon the desperation of people who have lost jobs in the outbreak's economic upheaval.

The scams have ranged from the work-from-home reselling of luxury products, to pyramid schemes soliciting cash and that play on cultural norms in immigrant communities, to fraudulent investment rackets promising quick profits.

Regulators on Monday unveiled what they are calling "Operation Income Illusion," a nationwide law-enforcement sweep targeting the scammers.

Especially vulnerable targets are seniors and retirees, immigrants, Black and Latino people, students and military families.

Reported losses to consumers from the schemes rose to the highest level on record in the first nine months of the year at more than

\$150 million, Andrew Smith, director of the Federal Trade Commission's consumer protection bureau, told reporters in a conference call.

"These scammers are taking advantage of a desperate situation to rip money from the hands of those who most need it," Smith said.

The FTC conducted the sweep along with nine states, federal prosecutors in Arkansas, Arizona and California, several local law enforcement agencies, and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

"There are people out there whose job it is to steal your money," Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh said on the conference call.

He said his office is seeing growing numbers of cases involving affinity fraud, a form of pyramid scheme in which consumers are urged to tap friends, family, and church and ethnic-community members for money in addition to their own payment. A scam promoting investments in bitcoin was among them, Frosh said. His office also has brought several cases against sellers of phony franchises.



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

What's Happening's **TRI-CITY VOICE**™

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

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The Fremont Discovery Shop will be closed from December 24th to January 6th. We will reopen on January 7th!

Thank you for all the support this year.
Happy holidays!

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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 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, 6th Floor
37101 Newark Blvd., Newark
(510) 578-4266
www.ci.newark.ca.us

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Government Briefs

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

Rebates available to weatherize your home

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF FREMONT

As the weather changes, are you having trouble keeping your home warm? It may be tempting to blame your furnace, but the culprit can also be the places around your home where heat can escape. The average

home has enough tiny cracks to add up to a hole the size of a hula hoop.

To help you weatherize your home and keep you snug this winter, BayREN Home+ program is offering rebates on home energy improvements, including energy efficient heating systems, heat pump water heaters,

heat pump dryers, insulation, air sealing, and duct replacement or sealing. Program benefits include cash rebates for your home improvements, plus certified contractors and support every step of the way. To learn more, visit www.bayrenresidential.org.

Temporary expansion of transitional housing and support

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF HAYWARD

On December 9, Hayward City Council authorized temporary leasing of hotel rooms to provide more transitional housing and support services for people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19.

The new Housing Navigation Center Hotel Annex Project is intended to increase by up to 35 people the city’s capacity to provide transitional housing beyond what already is available at the Hayward Housing Navigation Center.

The approval authorizes the expenditure of up to \$1.3 million for the Annex Project for a maximum of six months. It also grants emergency authority to the city manager to enter into lease agreements for hotel rooms and a new operating contract with Bay Area Community Services, the city’s nonprofit navigation center operator, to run the new program.

The Annex program will mirror Navigation Center programmatic offerings but will be housed at a local hotel to provide for isolated shelter for people experiencing homeless who also are considered at high risk of health complications if infected with coronavirus.

City Holiday Closure

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF FREMONT

During COVID-19, many city offices are closed to the public or are operating at reduced physical staffing. As in years past, City of Fremont will be implementing a holiday closure for many non-public safety city services. Most city offices will remain closed from Thursday, December 24, 2020, through Friday, January 1, 2021. City holidays are observed on December 24, December 25, December 31, and January 1, 2021, while limited city services will be offered December 28, December 29, and December 30.

Offices taking part in the holiday closure and remaining closed due to the pandemic include:

- City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave, Building A and Building B (Administrative offices)
- Fire Administration, 3300 Capitol Ave Building A
- Development Services Center, 39550 Liberty St
- Maintenance Center, 42551 Osgood Rd
- All Community Centers and Recreation Buildings
- Age Well Center at Lake Elizabeth (formerly Fremont Senior Center)
- Tri-City Animal Shelter, 1950 Stevenson Blvd

During Holiday Closure:

- Parks and Recreation Registration Desk will be responding to calls (510) 494-4300 and emails for all recreation programs from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 28 to Wednesday, December 30.
- Parks and Recreation Division will offer camps and other programs at some facilities following our COVID-19 Safety Plan. Visit www.regerec.com/Start/Start.asp for details.
- Human Services will provide limited services for Youth & Family Services, Family Resource Center, and Healthy Start Program.
- Fremont police and fire departments will continue to provide public safety services.
- Afghan Elderly Association will provide limited services. Clients should contact their Health Promoter for additional info.
- Youth & Family Services will have on-call crisis counselors to respond to youth referred from the Alameda County Crisis Receiving Home.
- A minimum number of city staff will be available in an on-call status to provide emergency maintenance services, such as responding to storm-related issues.
- Regularly scheduled street sweeping will occur from Monday, December 28 to Wednesday, December 30 -- weather permitting. No street sweeping on city-observed holidays.
- Animal Field Services will be limited.
- On Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1, there will be no trash, recycling, and yard waste collection. Service will be delayed one day for customers serviced on Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1. Pickup will occur on Saturday. Call (510) 657-3500 for more information.
- Fremont Tennis Center will be open for public play -- weather permitting. There will be some limited holiday public hours; call (510) 790-5510 for more information.
- The Winter Shelter will operate within the Teen Center.
- Covia/Home Match will provide appointments by video call or phone. Call (510) 574-2173 for details.

For more information on the holiday closure, visit www.fremont.gov/2191/Holiday-Closure-2020 or call (510) 284-4093.

Temporary cap on fees charged by third-party food delivery companies

SUBMITTED BY LAURIE GEBHARD

To support Newark restaurants during COVID-19, Newark City Council adopted an urgency ordinance establishing a temporary 15 percent limit on fees charged to restaurants by third-party food delivery companies.

Take-out and delivery orders have been the primary sources of revenue for restaurants during the pandemic and continue to be vital to restaurant survival. Revenue from takeout and delivery is especially important this winter season when COVID-19 transmissions are rapidly rising, and outdoor dining is prohibited.

“Restaurants provide an important service in Newark. The majority are family run, representing years of investment and hard work. When their revenue is upended by a pandemic, our city and community can and will take action to help,” said Mayor Alan L. Nagy.

Currently, third-party delivery companies charge participating Newark restaurants fees as high as 30 to 33 percent of the purchase price for each order. Although the COVID-19 pandemic and shelter-in-place orders have resulted in a surge of take-out ordering, third-party delivery services are cutting deep into restaurant earnings. Temporarily capping the per-order fees will ease the financial burden on struggling restaurants, allowing them to provide an essential service to residents in Newark during this pandemic.

Under the ordinance, fees charged to local restaurants by companies such as Door Dash, GrubHub, and Uber Eats will be limited to 15 percent of the order starting December 10. The cap is scheduled to expire when the City of Newark Declaration of Local Emergency ends.

The urgency ordinance is supported by many local restaurant owners. Delivery service fees reduce revenue needed for business expenses. Before the pandemic, individuals dining-in constituted most of the revenue for businesses while individuals utilizing third party delivery platforms were generally a smaller percentage of orders.

The Newark urgency ordinance is similar to ordinances adopted by other cities such as Fremont, Hayward, and Dublin. Adopting the ordinance in Newark creates a level of uniformity for Newark restaurants and restaurants in nearby cities.

Contribute to the future of parks and recreation

SUBMITTED BY CITY OF FREMONT

City of Fremont is seeking community input to help update its Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The city has conducted extensive community outreach thus far, including interviewing community stakeholders, holding several virtual public input meetings, and sending out a statistically valid survey to randomly selected residents. This survey is now available online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/inventfremontparks.

The survey is asking Fremont residents what is important to include in the Master Plan and what the future of parks and recreation should include in the city. The Master Plan will provide guidance on how to meet the demands for future recreational, programming, environmental, and maintenance needs, as well as to establish priorities for facility improvements, future park and trail development, and land acquisitions.

The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes and will be available online until Sunday, January 17, 2021. The results will be available on the Invent Fremont Parks website - www.inventfremontparks.com/ - in the coming months.

Parks and Recreation Assessment Survey

Deadline: Sunday, Jan 17, 2021

www.surveymonkey.com/r/inventfremontparks

Vaccinations against COVID-19 begin in California

AP WIRE SERVICE

Vaccinations against COVID-19 began Monday in California amid a huge surge in infections and hospitalizations.

Intensive care unit nurse Helen Cordova received a shot of the Pfizer vaccine at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, who watched and applauded, tweeted that Cordova was one of the first Californians to be vaccinated.

The first shipments of the Pfizer vaccine left Michigan early Sunday for 145 distribution centers nationwide.

California’s initial batch was scheduled to total 325,000 doses.

The vaccine was sent to hospitals and other sites across the country that can store it at extremely low temperatures – about 94 degrees below zero. Pfizer is using containers with dry ice and GPS-enabled sensors to ensure each shipment stays colder.

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August 25, 1932 – December 24, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Jinghong Zhou
Resident of Fremont
January 5, 1939 – December 22, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Sally (Maria Del Socorro) Ramirez
Resident of Fremont
February 18, 1922 – December 20, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Ruby Lee Giddings
Resident of Fremont
January 30, 1925 – December 19, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Louie J. Solus
Resident of Fremont
February 3, 1933 – December 16, 2020
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Leonard Martin Pineda
Resident of Newark
November 6, 1945 – December 15, 2020
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Robert “Bob” Nelson Toegemann
Resident of Fremont
March 3, 1956 –December 15, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Bernice Macswain
Resident of Fremont
March 28, 1922 – December 14, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

Esperanza Eliza M. Atienza
Resident of Union City
March 12, 1929 – December 14, 2020
Fremont Chapel of the Roses

California to join federal antitrust case against Google

AP WIRE SERVICE

California is seeking to join the Justice Department in its antitrust lawsuit against Google parent Alphabet Inc., one of the state’s largest businesses.

State Attorney General Xavier Becerra filed the motion to join the case in federal court on Friday.

“Google’s anticompetitive behavior has unlawfully maintained the company’s monopoly on internet search and search-based advertising at the expense of consumers,” said Becerra.

The Justice Department sued Google in October. The case, filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., alleges that Google uses billions of dollars collected from advertisers to pay phone manufacturers to ensure Google is the default search engine on browsers. This, the lawsuit claims, harms consumers and stifles smaller rivals.

Eleven states, all with Republican attorneys general, joined the federal government in the lawsuit at the time. California is the first Democratic state announcing its intent to join the Justice Department’s case.

Along with the Federal Trade Commission and 47 other states and territories, Becerra also sued Facebook this week for allegedly violating federal antitrust laws by buying smaller competitors like Instagram and WhatsApp to maintain a monopoly. Also, this week, President-elect Joe Biden picked Becerra to be his health secretary.

Google, which is based in Mountain View, California, has until Dec. 18 to respond to the state’s motion.

The company said it is “confident” in its position and will continue to make its case in court.

“People use Google because they choose to, not because they are forced to, or because they can’t find alternatives,” it said in a statement.



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Rajaraman Arunachalam
Resident of Fremont
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Resident of Belmont
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Resident of Pleasanton
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Balasubramanian Narayanaswamy
Resident of Danville
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Bagyalakshmi Kolinjiwadi
Resident of Fremont
August 4, 1934 – December 19, 2020

Seiji Nakamoto
Resident of Fremont
August 2, 1931 – December 19, 2020

Ryan Averilla
Resident of Sacramento
November 25, 1994 – December 18, 2020

Fern Van Sickle
Resident of Castro Valley
September 28, 1918 -December 18, 2020

Dorothy DeBose
Resident of Oakland
November 30, 1941 – December 17, 2020

Aaron Langenbach
Resident of San Leandro
March 16, 1976 – December 17, 2020

Charlene Black
Resident of Fremont
August 14, 1935 – December 17, 2020

Stephen Nelson
Resident of Pleasanton
October 26, 1946 – December 17, 2020

John Leinweber
Resident of Newark
March 9, 1929 – December 17, 2020

Violeta Mielich
Resident of Newark
February 27, 1933 – December 14, 2020

Runxian Huang
Resident of Fremont
June 12, 1958 – December 13, 2020

Shankar Banerjee
Resident of Fremont
September 27, 1960 – December 12, 2020

Bette Barrett
Resident of Fremont
October 8, 1938 – December 11, 2020

Carlos Goulart
Resident of Fremont
January 5, 1962 – December 11, 2020

Josefina Nunez-Florencio
Resident of Newark
March 19, 1957 – December 10, 2020

Diep Hoang Phan
Resident of Fremont
November 5, 1957 – December 10, 2020

Haranatha Kancherlapalli
Resident of San Jose
February 7, 1935 – December 6, 2929

Seiji Nakamoto

1931-2020

In the early morning of December 19, 2020, Seiji Nakamoto passed away at home at the age of 89.

Seiji was born in Half Moon Bay, CA. on August 2, 1931. His parents were Toyokichi and Maki (Kawasaki) Nakamoto. He proudly served in the Korean War as Infantry and Intel T. Sgt. Seiji attended San Jose State University studying drafting. He was a draftsman working for himself for 30+ years. After marrying Emilie in 1956, they raised two sons—Jon and Jim in the Irvington and Mission San Jose districts of Fremont. He enjoyed his work, but more importantly, it allowed him to work from home and spend more time with his family. Seiji was very active in his sons' and grandson's lives. After retirement, Seiji and Emilie enjoyed traveling through different countries and taking cruises with their lifelong friends Ray and Lois Shiimoto. He was a member of the Southern Alameda County



Buddhist Church in Union City for many years. Seiji is survived by his wife of 64 years Emilie, son Jim (Sandy), grandson Nick (Ilze) and great-grandson Kristopher. He is survived by sisters Kinuko Yoshimoto and Haru Nakamoto. Seiji was preceded in death by son Jon (Katie Wigington), sister Tokie Kanazawa, and brothers Kurato and Kunio Nakamoto. He is remembered by his family as generous and thoughtful.

JOHN JAMES (JACK) LEINWEBER

March 9, 1929 - December 17, 2020

Jack Leinweber, 91, of Newark, California, passed away on December 17.

He is survived by his loving wife, LaVerne, of 67 years of marriage; son, Ken Leinweber; daughter, LeeAnn Plummer (preceded by Randy Plummer); daughter-in-law, Jerelyn Leinweber; granddaughter, Chrystal Sumner (John Sumner); granddaughter, Britney Leinweber; grandson, Johnny Leinweber; great-granddaughter,

Cora Sumner. He was preceded in death by his son, Gary Leinweber in 2012.

Jack and LaVerne considered their beautiful and talented children, grandchildren, and extended family members their greatest gifts in life. Jack will be deeply missed.

The family would also like to express their appreciation for the loving, professional nursing care Jack received at Washington Hospital.

Sally (Maria Del Socorro) Ramirez

Resident of Fremont
February 18, 1922 – December 20, 2020



Sally (Maria Del Socorro) Ramirez was born on February 18, 1922 in Sanger, CA and passed away on December 20, 2020 in Fremont, CA, at the age of 98.

Sally is survived by her beloved children Gloria Ann Saucier (Michael), and Robert Vincent Ramirez (Patricia). Loving grandmother to Erica Sklar, David Roetger (Melissa), Ryan Perry (Wendy), Lea Le Messurier, Gabriel Ramirez, Chase Ramirez (Danielle), Steve Saucier, and Michelle Saucier. Caring great grandmother to Zachary Dawson, Satchel Sklar, Noah Sklar, Jacob Sklar, Sierra Saucier, Karmyn Thompson, Kai Roetger, Marsonya Perry, Starla Perry, Skylar Perry, and Sunjay Perry; Jai Le Messurier, Gavin Le Messurier, and Kaiya Rose Ramirez. Sister-in-law to Salvador Paniagua, Sara and Tony Zendejas, Lupe Villareal, Louie Ramirez, Frances and Robert Squaglia. Loving aunt to many

nephews and nieces.

Sally is predeceased by her husband Robert G. Ramirez, sister Ruth Hernandez and brother Salvador Martinez, she was sister-in-law to Irene Paniagua, Dora and Albert Cuellar, Raul Villareal, Jessie and Louie Carrillo, Diana and Gonzalo Torres, and Richard Ramirez.

Worked for Hunts Cannery. Helper at Holy Spirit school offices for 21 years. She was a seamstress and also loved doing arts and crafts. She had a knack of preparing amazing homemade meals from scratch. She was a woman of faith who said her daily prayers morning, noon and night. She enjoyed her family above all, summer barbeque’s and playing bingo on Christmas. Service will be private, with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

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Penny Trant

Resident of Newark

March 2, 1957 – November 25, 2020

Penny Trant passed away on November 25th at home in Newark being held by many of those who loved her. This would be best written by my mom so the following was a note left in her bible.

Penny Trant lived and loved my family and my faith was so strong and it helped me through it all. My husband is my rock and my one true thing. My family is my hope and my everything. God has blessed me so much! 4ever and ALWAYS

Penny is survived by her husband of 44 years, Ken Trant Jr. She is also survived by her many children and grandchildren both by birth and by love, as well as her fur babies.



A silly-bration of her life will be held when appropriate. Hugggz

Twitter to start removing COVID-19 vaccine misinformation

BY BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Twitter said Wednesday that it will begin removing misinformation about COVID-19 vaccinations from its site.

It listed among posts that will removed those including false claims that the virus is not real, debunked claims about the effects of receiving the vaccine and baseless claims that suggest that immunizations are used to harm or control people.

Twitter said in a blog post that it will start enforcing the new policy next week. If people send tweets in violation of the rules, they will be required to delete them before they are able to tweet again. Before the offending tweet is removed, Twitter will hide it from view.

Twitter said that starting early next year, it may also label tweets that advance “unsubstantiated rumors, disputed claims, as well as incomplete or out-of-context information about vaccines” but that may not merit a removal under the new rules.

The new policy comes as the U.S. is beginning to roll out COVID-19 vaccinations in the largest immunization campaign in the country’s history. Vaccinations in other countries are also under way.

This while large swaths of people are hesitant about immunizations, and anti-vaccination groups and individuals peddle conspiracies on social media.

Facebook and YouTube have also announced they will remove misinformation about the vaccines.

The number of people who have died from the coronavirus in the U.S. passed a staggering 300,000 on Monday, according to Johns Hopkins University, with about 2,400 people now dying per day on average.

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Hayward’s accelerated minimum wage begins January 1

SUBMITTED BY HAYWARD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Hayward Chamber of Commerce is reminding members that beginning January 1 the local minimum wage goes to \$15 an hour for businesses with 26 or more employees and \$14 an hour for businesses with 25 or fewer employees.

The ordinance is an acceleration of both state and federal law. As of January 1, California law requires the minimum wage to be no less than \$12 per hour for businesses with less than 25 employees and \$13 per hour for businesses with 26 or more employees. The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour.

The Hayward City Council voted 4-3 last April 14 to move imposition of an accelerated minimum wage they originally scheduled for July 2020 to January 2021. Voting in favor of the change were Al Mendall, Mark Salinas, Elisa Marquez and Mayor Barbara Halliday. Most mentioned they did so “regrettably,” but felt it was necessary in order to save small businesses from the double blow of dealing with economic loss due to the pandemic and then facing a mid-year payroll spike.

“That vote, heroically cast, came at a time early in the pandemic when many Hayward businesses would not be able to withstand another economic blow,” said Kim Huggett, president and CEO of the Hayward Chamber of Commerce. “The mid-year increase would have meant some businesses that survived the initial economic shutdown would have had to close, decreasing tax revenue and adding to unemployment. It was an extraordinarily wise and courageous decision by those four council members.”

A survey of businesses circulated by the chamber and the city’s economic development division had an influence on the vote. City Economic Development Manager Paul Nguyen told the council that some businesses were on a “razor’s edge” for survival” He said the survey showed there are others who, “express doubt about the ability to come back.”

In the future, the city’s minimum wage will be adjusted beginning January 1, 2022, by the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward region. On January 1, 2023, small employers will be subject to a \$15 an hour minimum wage by state law and any future increase in accordance with the state minimum wage law.

In October, the city sent to all employers on the business license list a list of the new regulations and a bulletin announcing the adjusted minimum wage rate with a notice requiring that it be posted in a conspicuous place in the top three languages spoken in the city.

Of 100 cities located in the nine-county Bay Area, 25 have adopted a local minimum wage. Six of the 14 cities in Alameda County have a local minimum wage including Alameda, Berkley, Emeryville, Fremont, Oakland, and San Leandro. For more information on the City of Hayward’s minimum wage, go to the website: www.hayward-ca.gov/local-minimum-wage, e-mail MinimumWage@hayward-ca.gov or call the Economic Development Office at (510) 583-5540.

LETTERS POLICY

The Tri-City Voice welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Only the writer’s name will be published. Letters that are 350 words or fewer will be given preference. Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and style.

tricityvoice@aol.com

Diabetes care is crucial as patients age

SUBMITTED BY LINDA GOLDSMITH

Although diabetes impacts one in four (or 12 million) U.S seniors, the good news is that diabetes can often be managed successfully with attention to diet, medications, and exercise. The American Diabetes Association adds that “the key to living well into old age with diabetes is to make sure to get personal care that meets you where you are.”

That is exactly what 70-year old Victoria Gamez experienced when she came to the Center for Elders’ Independence (CEI) six years ago. She was despondent and in pain, and her blood sugar was so high that doctors refused to give her a much-needed knee replacement. After careful management of medications and nutrition at CEI, Gamez got her blood sugar under control and had the knee surgery. She regained the mobility she needed to function on her own at home, but even better, Gamez says, “the support I received at CEI gave me my life back. Now if my blood sugar goes out of control and I feel terrible, I’m not scared anymore. I know what to do and trust that CEI will support me.”

One of the reasons so many of CEI’s participants are seeing good outcomes around their diabetes is the value they put on caring for the whole person. Each participant has a highly personalized care plan that supports their medical, social, emotional, and nutritional needs. CEI seniors with diabetes and their families get support from a team of

physicians, nurses, dietitians, physical therapists, and home care workers who help them manage their progress.

While diabetes is a serious disease at any age, according to Dr. Lincoln Sison, a geriatric medicine physician at CEI, “some of the greatest challenges seniors have with diabetes can be forgetfulness and confusion. It takes a lot to constantly track blood sugar levels and take medications correctly. It can be difficult to manage diabetes on your own as you age.”

Sison points out that for elderly diabetes patients it is especially important to have personalized care goals. “At CEI we invite participants to take part in their care instead of telling them what to do. Our overall goal is to avoid too high or too low blood sugar levels, but we are sensitive to older adults and respect their wishes,” added Sison. “If a patient wants aggressive treatment, we will provide tighter control. But if they just want to be comfortable, we won’t control so aggressively. We’re here to encourage and support our participants, and we are getting good results.”

Jing Liu, Registered Dietician, is a vital part of the team that implements CEI’s personalized care plans for diabetes management. Making dietary changes is particularly challenging for seniors because they have lifelong habits. In addition, taste buds often change with age, and seniors want to add sugar (and salt) to bring the taste of food back to what they are used to.

Liu works within each person’s dietary preferences, boundaries and cultural nuances to help them understand how to reduce sugar intake and eat balanced meals. She recommends that in addition to choosing the right foods to eat, maintaining a consistent meal schedule of eating every four hours during the day and going no longer than 12 hours between meals at night is one of the most important ways to keep blood sugar levels stable. Meals at the centers are not just healthy but also tasty, using spices to enhance the flavor of the food. Participants are also shown how to make easy meals and healthy snacks at home. And if needed, CEI seniors with diabetes are supported by a home care team so that participants find it easier to make healthy choices all day.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), diabetes is a major contributing factor in strokes and heart attacks and can lead to complications such as nerve damage, kidney disease and vision loss. Diabetes is now the seventh leading cause of death in the country. Compounding the problem, more than a third of U.S. adults have prediabetes, and the majority don’t know it.

Now in its 37th year, CEI operates PACE centers in Oakland, Berkeley and San Leandro, as well as an Adult Day Health Centers in El Sobrante, all serving older adults in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. For more information about CEI, visit www.elders.org or call (510) 433-1150.

Information found in ‘Protective Services’ is provided to public “as available” by public service agencies - police, fire, etc. Accuracy and authenticity of press releases are the responsibility of

the agency providing such information. Tri-City Voice does not make or imply any guarantee regarding the content of information received from authoritative sources.



Fremont Police Log

SUBMITTED BY GENEVA BOSQUES, FREMONT PD

Saturday, December 19

• Officers responded to a report about a man exposing himself inside a Safeway store on Washington Boulevard in the Irvington area. A man identified by police as Lloyd Gant, 44, a transient from Fremont, was arrested.

Sunday, December 20

• A person flagged down officers in the

area of Fremont Boulevard and Chapel Way in the Irvington area to report a man nearby brandishing a knife and trying to steal a car. Officers contacted the victim and identified the suspect as Lance Anderson, 27, a transient from Fremont. While talking with officers Anderson was combative and made threats against them. He was arrested and booked into Santa Rita Jail.

• Sometime between 5:41 p.m. and 5:49 p.m. suspects forced entry into the New India Bazar at 5113 Mowry Ave. in Central Fremont by throwing a rock through the front glass door.

• Patrol officers located a vehicle that

was associated to Ericka Hewitt, 23, of Fremont who was wanted on a federal firearms warrant. The warrant was from a September 21 DUI arrest by California Highway Patrol in Hayward. During that arrest she was found in possession of a loaded firearm despite being previously convicted of being in possession of a firearm. She was booked, then released on a “zero bail” citation. The Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) took over the investigation and partnered with the U.S. Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to get a federal firearm warrant through the US Attorney's Office.

When Hewitt’s vehicle was spotted December 20 by Fremont patrol officers, MCTF Detectives and ATF Agents responded to take over the surveillance. When Hewitt was seen walking toward the vehicle, she was detained and found in possession of another loaded handgun. She was arrested on her federal firearms warrant, as well as an additional charge of being a felon in possession of another firearm. Hewitt was booked at Santa Rita Jail pending transfer into federal custody.

Union City Police Log

SUBMITTED BY UNION CITY PD

Saturday, December 19

• At about 9:30 a.m. officers responded to the 4900 block of Antioch Street on a report of an assault. The victim told police he heard a loud banging noise and walked out of his residence to investigate and saw an unknown person standing next to his parked vehicle. Next, the victim recalled walking up to his driveway with a substantial cut over his left eyebrow which later required several stitches. The victim was unable to describe the suspect to officers.

Sunday, December 20

• At about 3:17 p.m. officers responded to multiple calls about a man punching and kicking his dog in the area of Alvarado Boulevard and Dyer Street. Arriving officers located the man, identified by police as Joshua Dreger, 33. He was arrested after being positively identified by witnesses. The dog was taken to a veterinarian for evaluation.

Arrest made in Newark shooting probe

SUBMITTED BY CAPTAIN JONATHAN ARGUELLO, NEWARK PD

In the early morning hours of Sunday, December 6, Newark Police Officers responded to a call from a man who said he had sustained a gunshot wound near the area of Thornton Avenue and Cedar Boulevard.

Upon arrival, just after 6:14 a.m., officers found a man who had sustained some type of wound to an upper extremity, and, with assistance from members of the Alameda County Fire Department, they rendered aid. The man soon taken a hospital with a non-life-threatening injury and released the same day. Newark Police Detectives responded to the incident, which was not believed to be a random act.

Detectives investigating the incident and determined there was no physical evidence of a shooting at the reported location. Based on additional evidence that contradicted the man’s statement, Major Crimes Gang Detectives were called to assist with the investigation. After further examination, detectives discovered the man was in possession a firearm, as well as a high-capacity magazine, and was making efforts to sell firearms online. During the investigation, the man ultimately admitted he accidentally shot himself, and fabricated the story of being a victim of a targeted shooting.

Major Crimes Detectives arrested the man, identified by police as Alejandro Rodriguez Nunez, 19, on an outstanding warrant for possession of stolen property. Rodriguez Nunez was later charged by the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office for making a false police report. At the time of the original incident, Rodriguez Nunez had a pending criminal case, stemming from an incident with the following charges: burglary, looting and carrying a loaded firearm.

BART Police Log

SUBMITTED BY LES MENSINGER AND BART PD

Friday, December 18

• At 8:27 a.m. a man identified by police as Michael Cortez, 41, of Union City was arrested at the Hayward station on a \$25,000 warrant for driving a vehicle without permission issued by Alameda Police Department, and another \$25,000 warrant for burglary issued by Fremont Police Department. He was booked into Santa Rita Jail.

Veteran fire department leader retires

SUBMITTED BY FREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT

In a statement issued December 20, Fremont Fire Department (FFD) officials announced that Division Chief Rick Cory has retired after 30 years of service.

FFD officials said Cory started his career with the department in January 1991 with an eagerness, enthusiasm and a passion for learning. In 1998 Cory was promoted to Captain and over the next decade he also served as a Staff Captain, Acting Battalion Chief, and Division Chief. He successfully led recruit academy activities, probationary evaluations, BART coordination drills, the Special Operations Task Force, and wildland training efforts. Cory received multiple commendations and accolades throughout his tenure in each rank for his consistent demonstration of professionalism, work ethic, and willingness to share his knowledge

Among the highlights of his career, Cory served as a member of the Urban Search and Rescue California Task Force 4 (USAR CA TF-4) and responded with a water rescue team to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. His passion led him to coursework and applied knowledge related to certifications at the Company Officer, Chief Officer, and Safety Officer level which led to him lending his talents to Urban Shield (Red Command), the East Bay Incident Management Team, and the development of the FFD Bike Medic program.



Felon Arrested with Rifle and Armor Piercing Ammunition

SUBMITTED BY GENEVA BOSQUES, FREMONT PD

On Monday, 12/21/20, Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) detectives were searching for a suspect wanted by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office for a felony warrant consisting of the following crimes: felony evading, possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of drugs, and possession of stolen property.

The suspect (43-year-old Ronnie Choate of San Leandro) had been previously arrested by FPD on 10/7/20 after being involved in a series of burglaries. At the time of his October arrest, Choate was found in possession of a loaded handgun. Choate was also suspected of burglarizing the Fletcher Jones Mercedes dealership in Fremont on 12/18/20.

On 12/21/20, at approximately 11:30 AM, MCTF detectives located Choate at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Union City. Additional detectives from the Special

Operations Division responded to assist. The team of detectives made contact with Choate as he was walking near the hotel lobby and detained him without incident. During a subsequent search of his vehicle, the following items were located: a loaded short barrel rifle with a 45 round-high-capacity magazine, armor piercing ammunition, suspected methamphetamine, identity theft material, and stolen property from the Fletcher Jones Mercedes burglary.

Choate was booked at Santa Rita Jail on charges of possession of a short barrel rifle, felon in possession of a firearm, possession of a high-capacity magazine, possession of armor piercing ammunition, possession of a controlled substance while armed, and possession of 10 or more identity theft victim profiles.

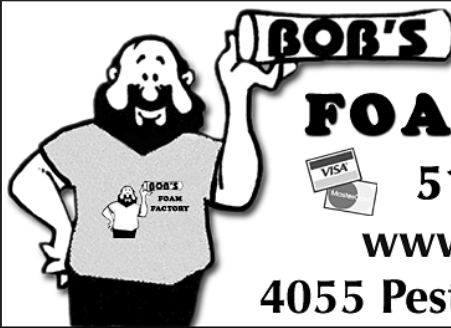
In Alameda County alone, Choate has numerous prior arrests for: battery with serious injury, possession of firearms, felony evading, possession of drugs for sales,

parole violations, burglary, possession of drugs, brandishing a weapon, resisting arrest, possession of stolen vehicles, and possession of stolen property.

Choate also has numerous separate convictions in Alameda County for: possession of a stolen vehicle & possession of stolen property 2016), possession of a stolen vehicle (2014), reckless driving (2014), possession of a stolen vehicle (2012), felony evading (2011), trespassing (2010), possession of a stolen vehicle (2003), and possession of a stolen vehicle & possession of stolen property (2003).

Choate has additional arrests and convictions in other counties as well. This incident is Choate’s 6th arrest in Alameda County since May 2020.

Choate’s arraignment is scheduled for 12/23/20 at the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin.



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Is Food a Problem For You? Try OVERTREATERS ANONYMOUS Do you eat when you're not hungry? Do you binge, purge or restrict? Is your weight affecting your life? No dues, no fees, no weigh-ins, no diets. All are Welcome www.oasaco.org or www.oa.org 510-449-7610	FREMONT COIN CLUB Established 1971 Meets 2nd & 4th Tues 7pm At the Fremont Elks Lodge 38991 Farwell Dr., Fremont Guests Always Welcome, Enjoy Show N Tells, Drawings Auction, Refreshments www.fremontcoinclub.org 510-366-1365	Niles Canyon Railway is offering special train rides only departing from Sunol Depot. Visit ncry.org to purchase tickets online 510-996-8420	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
Are you troubled by someone else's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups are here to help! Al-anon has but one purpose, to help families and friends of Alcoholics. We have Zoom meetings during the Shelter in Place. For a full meeting list, please visit http://alanond17@weebly.com You can also email easyduz@gmail.com or call us at 510.276.2270 for more info.		A-1 Comm. Housing Svcs. A HUD Approved Agency Credit and Money Mgmt. Workshop Presented on Zoom For dates, go to our website Please register at www.a1chs.org call 510.674.9227	
FAW Writers Salon 4th Monday of the Month Zoom Mtg 7:00-9:00 PM Contact Tony for link up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com Read, discuss or just listen Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry, Etc. cwc-fremontareawriters.org EVERYONE IS WELCOME!	LOVE to WRITE? WANT to WRITE? WRITER'S BLOCK? Fremont Area Writers (FAW) is here to HELP! Zoom meeting 4th Sat. of the month (off July & Dec) 2-4PM Great speakers! * All genres! *Critique groups available! Email scottfrombayside@yahoo.com for Zoom link before the meeting. Writers' Salon meets 4th Mon of the month (occasional exceptions) Join us via Zoom 7:00-9:00 PM Read, discuss or just listen. Email up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com Zoom link before the meeting. Everyone is welcome! www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org		A-1 Comm. Housing Svcs. A HUD Approved Agency 1st Time Home Buyers Workshop Presented on ZOOM Learn the process of homeownership. Down Payment Assistance Please register www.a1chs.org or call 510.674.9227
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dr. King’s legacy

First Presbyterian Church of Newark (FPCN) has been proud to serve as the host for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. commemorative event for well over a decade. I have also been personally honored to be a part of this yearly celebration. I believe that serving as the pastor at FPCN is in part due to the work and words of Dr. King.

As an Asian-American, I had been seen as a candidate to be an associate pastor or maybe the pastor of an ethnic (Asian) church. In other words, I was never considered to be qualified to be a pastor of a non-ethnic church. But eleven years ago, this mainly Caucasian church asked me to be their new pastor. It has been a wonderful experience for all of us. I am very grateful to this church, the diverse city of Newark, and Dr. King.

Every year when we celebrate Dr. King’s life, I am personally grateful for his wisdom, courage, and vision. He has made a difference in my life and ministry. I see his life continuing to challenge us to look beyond our ethnicity and to instead look at a person’s heart.

Rev. Garrett Yamada
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Newark

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Oregon sought local suppliers after scramble for equipment

BY ANDREW SELSKY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When the coronavirus pandemic hit, Oregon and other states had to scramble to get protective masks for front-line medical workers, often importing them from China amid intense competition for a dwindling supply.

Now, for perhaps the first time, the state can access them from its own backyard.

Lighthouse Worldwide Solutions, based in Fremont, California, this week sent Oregon its first shipment of 600 N95 masks, produced at its manufacturing facility in Medford, said Debbie Dennis, Oregon's chief procurement officer.

“To me, that's a really big deal because until now we have had to go overseas to try to purchase those items,” Dennis said in a phone interview. Masks produced by a U.S. company, 3M, were hard to get amid the demand, she added.

“I think having our own N95 supplier here in Oregon is pretty amazing,” she said.

Under the state's purchase order, Lighthouse is to provide 200,000 N95 masks per month for 12 months. They'll initially cost \$3.95 each but that should drop to around \$3.25 as manufacturing becomes more efficient, Dennis said.

Oregon officials said they learned early during the pandemic that they needed to look locally for connections in the state to help source increasingly scarce personal protective equipment and to make it.

“We have worked to ensure that Oregon does not again face the personal protective equipment shortages we did in the spring, when the national stockpile and available supply was quickly depleted,” said Gov. Kate Brown's spokesman, Charles Boyle.

With supplies from the strategic national stockpile being spotty, including masks with faulty elastic that could cause the straps to snap, Oregon had to quickly find large-volume sources to protect its doctors, nurses and other caregivers.

“It felt like overnight our supply chain became severely disrupted,” Dennis said. “t was almost like we woke up one morning and we were competing with every government and every hospital in the state, and the country, and in the world for the very same thing.”

Officials had to beware of fraud, and suppliers began demanding prepayment of 50% or even 100%, Dennis said.

Business Oregon, a state agency, took the lead in vetting the hundreds of companies that were offering personal protective equipment. The Oregon Department of Administrative Services, where Dennis heads a team of 60, handled procurement.

“If it was an Oregonian that we had a relationship with, that we knew, then we would kind of pay attention to that more than we would these cold e-mails that were coming in that we didn't know anything about,” Dennis said.

Data examined by The Associated Press showed that the state's largest personal protective equipment supplier has been Blackstrap Industries, selling \$26 million of masks. The Bend, Oregon-based company specializes in base-layer clothing and balaclavas used by skiers.

Blackstrap Industries' Facebook page is adorned with photos and videos of skiers. It also has branched out into protective masks for the general public.

Before the pandemic, an N95 mask that filters out tiny particles might have cost around 50 cents. This spring, states paid an average of \$3 each, according to the AP's analysis. Some states paid more than \$10 a mask to get them quickly.

On June 2, Oregon bought 5.4 million N95 masks from Blackstrap for \$6.5 million, according to the data obtained by AP. That's \$1.20 per mask.

The company was concerned that Oregon hospitals would run out of personal protective equipment and used its connections in China to source masks, Dennis said.

“A lot of Oregonians really just wanted to do what they could to take care of other Oregonians, and I think that Blackstrap is a good example of that,” Dennis said.

On March 27, Oregon purchased 1.5 million KN95 masks from Blackstrap for \$5.7 million, the data show. That's about \$3.80 per mask.

Blackstrap didn't respond to a request for comment.

Focus Industries Med became registered as a company with the Oregon secretary of state's office on April 1, and listed a Gold Beach, Oregon, address. The same day, the state purchased 1 million KN95 masks from Focus Industries, for \$1.99 apiece. The state wound up buying \$16 million worth of masks, gowns and gloves from Focus Industries Med.

Joshua Stout, listed as a company official, is an executive with Sant Pacific, a construction and real estate development company.

“When Josh realized what a huge need suddenly emerged, they quickly stood up a separate legal arm to their company, and that is what Focus Industries is,” Dennis said. She said Stout used Sant Pacific's wide network of overseas contacts to source personal protective equipment.

The state has spent a total of about \$125 million for protective equipment since the pandemic began, Dennis said.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF FREMONT PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FREMONT WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL. THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD VIA A TELECONFERENCE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M. THIS PUBLIC HEARING WILL NOT BE HELD IN-PERSON. A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE CITY HAS DEEMED IT NECESSARY IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO LIMIT THE ATTENDANCE OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES TO PREVENT OR MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19). ACCORDINGLY, SAID PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCING AND MADE ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONICALLY OR OTHERWISE ELECTRONICALLY TO IMPOSE AND PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20, AS AMENDED. INFORMATION ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE MEETING AGENDA POSTED ONLINE AT FREMONT.GOV/PLANNINGCOMMISSION AT LEAST THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

DUAL BRANDED WARM SPRINGS MARRIOTT HOTEL APPEAL – 44870 S Grimmer Boulevard – PLN2021-00095 - To consider a third party appeal of a Zoning Administrator approval of a Discretionary Design Review Permit and Modification of Zoning Standards to allow a seven-story, 394 room, 267,084 square-foot hotel building, associated parking garage and a bar and lounge, and also consider a request from the applicant for an amendment to the approved Discretionary Design Review Permit and Modification of Zoning Standards to allow a reduced scale project that includes a six-story, 359 room, 248,000 square-foot hotel building, associated parking garage and a bar and lounge, and to consider an exemption from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15332, Infill Development Projects, and a finding that no further environmental review is required pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 as the Project is consistent with the Warm Springs/South Fremont Community Plan for which a Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH#2013032062) was previously prepared and certified.

Project Planner – David Wage, (510) 494-4447, dwage@fremong.gov

* NOTICE *

If you challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing.

JOEL PULLEN, AICP, SECRETARY
FREEMONT PLANNING COMMISSION



CNSB#3426885

BULK SALES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (Secs. 6104, 6105 U.C.C.) Escrow No. 2020-12-14-PR

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 addresses of the seller are:
BONG SUN KIM DBA POKI RUN FREMONT,
2670 MOWRY AVENUE, 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 addresses of the buyer are:
YOUNG OG PARK AND YUSHAN YUAN, 20879
WILBEAM AVE., APT 5, CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546

The assets to be sold are described in general as: ALL ASSETS OF BUSINESS KNOWN AS POKI RUN FREMONT and are located at: 2670 MOWRY AVENUE, FREMONT, CA 94538

The business name used by the seller at that location is: POKI RUN FREMONT.

The anticipated date of the bulk sale is JANUARY 27, 2021 at the office of LAW OFFICE OF JUN HWAN KIM AT 1671 THE ALAMEDA, SUITE 307, SAN JOSE, CA 95126

The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is LAW OFFICE OF JUN HWAN KIM AT 1671 THE ALAMEDA, SUITE 307, SAN JOSE, CA 95126, and the last date for filing claims shall be JANUARY 26, 2021, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.

Dated: 12/16/2020
S/ YUSHAN YUAN AND YOUNG OG PARK,
Buyer
12/29/20

CNS-342772#

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG20082444
Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA
Petition of: MARY LOUISE SERNA for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Pettitioner filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
MARY LOUISE SERNA to MARY LOUISE MOROLES

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: 1/29/2021, Time: 11AM, Dept.: 17, Room: ---
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: TRI CITY VOICE

Date: NOV 25, 2020
JUDGE DESAUTELS
Judge of the Superior Court
12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12, 1/19/21

CNS-3427612#

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG20081997
Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA
Petition of: BARROW KWAN for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Pettitioner BARROW KWAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: BARROW KWAN to BARROW HON KAI KWAN

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: 1/22/21, Time: 11AM, Dept.: 17, Room: ---
The address of the court is 1221 OAK STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94544

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: TRI CITY VOICE
Date: DEC 02, 2020
Judge of the Superior Court
12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12, 1/19/21

CNS-3426591#

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso):
HG19040065

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): ADAN RIOS ZURITA, AN INDIVIDUAL AND DOES 1 TO 100
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): MENA FEKKY DAWOOD, AN INDIVIDUAL

NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you.

If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

[AVISO:] Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios en la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, 39439 PASEO PADRE PARKWAY, FREMONT, CA 94538

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): STEVEN DOUGLAS BARIO, ESQ., SBN200066, SWEET LAWYERS, LLP, 4590 MACARTHUR BLVD SUITE 650, NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660, 800-298-4894

DATE (Fecha): OCTOBER 23, 2019
CHAD FINKE, Clerk (Secretario), by MOLLY KAUTZ, Deputy (Adjunto)

12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5/21

CNS-3423509#

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG20078571
Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA
Petition of: LAKSHMI BALASUBRAMANIAN for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Pettitioner LAKSHMI BALASUBRAMANIAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
LAKSHMI BALASUBRAMANIAN to NITHYA PRABHAKARAN

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: 01-08-2021, Time: 11AM, Dept.: 17, Room: ---
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: TRI CITY VOICE

Date: OCT 13, 2020
JUDGE DESAUTELS
Judge of the Superior Court
12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20

CNS-3421567#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 575017
Fictitious Business Name(s):
2ND CYCLE HEALTH INSURANCE SERVICES,
3655 SANTA MARIA COURT, CASTRO VALLEY,
CA 94546, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
ELAINE WONG EAKIN, 3658 SANTA MARIA COURT, CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546
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/ ELAINE WONG EAKIN
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on DEC 04, 2020

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). 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12/21

CNS-3425418#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 574984
Fictitious Business Name(s):
BAY CARE CLEANING AND REPAIR SERVICES,
1161 CHOPIN TERRACE, FREMONT, CA 94538,
County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
ISGANDAR AGHAYEV, 1161 CHOPIN TERRACE APT 207, 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/ IZGANDAR AGHAYEV
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on DECEMBER 3, 2020

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). 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12/21

CNS-3425381#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 575096
Fictitious Business Name(s):
AMORE HOME HEALTH, 39420 LIBERTY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF FREMONT
ART REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ART REVIEW BOARD OF THE CITY OF FREMONT WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL. SAID PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY AT 3:30 P.M., ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021, AT WHICH TIME ALL PARTIES AND INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE VIA TELECONFERENCE TO PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20, AS AMENDED. INFORMATION ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE MEETING AGENDA POSTED ONLINE AT FREMONT.GOV/AGENDACENTER/ART-REVIEW-BOARD-1 AT LEAST THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

DOWNTOWN FREMONT ROTATIONAL PUBLIC ART PROGRAM (TEMPORARY INSTALLATION)

To provide direction on continuing the Downtown Fremont Rotational Public Art at Capitol Avenue and Fremont Boulevard within the Downtown Art District and to consider an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act, per CEQA guideline 15061(b)(3), General Rule, which states that where it can be seen with certainty that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment, that activity is not subject to CEQA.

Staff Liaison – Luciana Torres, (510) 494-4553, ltorres@fremont.gov

* NOTICE *

If you challenge the decision of the Art Review Board in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Secretary, Art Review Board at, or prior to, the public hearing.

LUCIANA TORRES
FREEMONT ART REVIEW BOARD



CNSB#3427698

STREET SUITE 155, FREMONT, CA 94538, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
NEXT LEVEL HOME HEALTH LLC, 1315 MT. PISGAH RD., WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596 (CALIFORNIA)

Business conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/01/2020

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/ RYAN FERNANDEZ
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on DECEMBER 8 2020

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). 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12/21

CNS-3425378#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 574742
Fictitious Business Name(s):
BAYLANDS BICYCLES, 161 I ST., FREMONT, CA 94555, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
ALBERT SAMSON, 4509 RODERIGO CT., 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/ ALBERT SAMSON
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOV 24, 2020

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). 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5/21

CNS-3422213#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 574523
Fictitious Business Name(s):
DESIGN MASTERS, 4444 CENTRAL AVE APT 207, FREMONT, CA 94536, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
CAROLINE HOSKEN MASTERS, 4444 CENTRAL AVE APT 207, 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/ CAROLINE HOSKEN MASTER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOV 16, 2020

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). 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20

CNS-3421588#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 574738
Fictitious Business Name(s):
ANGEL ISLAND SPA, 24463 MISSION BLVD, HAYWARD, CA 94544, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
KE WANG, 4017 DAVIS ST., 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/ KE WANG
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOV 24, 2020

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). 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20

CNS-3421573#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 574506
Fictitious Business Name(s):
SAFE DRIVERS SCHOOL, 38930 BLACOW RD.

SUITE E4, FREMONT, CA 94536, County of ALAMEDA

Registrant(s):
SUKHJIT SINGH, 32430 CELESTE CT., UNION CITY, CA 94587
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/ SUKHJIT SINGH
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOV 16, 2020

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). 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/20

CNS-3421006#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICES

Protocol and face coverings at all times and at all City buildings for all visitors and City employees. On Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 2:00 p.m., all bids will be publicly opened, examined and declared via teleconferencing and electronic means.

To attend the bid opening by web browser, please use the Zoom link below for video and audio: Topic: Jarvis Avenue Class II Buffered Bike Lanes, Project 1294

Time: Jan 26, 2021 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/935593438367?pwd=WXPCTFPsTFN4M2RmNWVhOUJkOU1uUT09>
Meeting ID: 935 9343 8367
Passcode: 039371

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 935 9343 8367
Passcode: 039371

In the event a new or updated COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order for Alameda County is issued preventing the delivery or opening of bids as prescribed above in this Notice To Contractors, alternative provisions will be made for bid submittals at the same time and location. Any such provisions will be made available to all plan holders with an Addendum. The improvements are generally described as follows:

Upgrade existing Class II bike lanes to Class II buffered bike lanes in both directions on Jarvis Avenue between Newark Boulevard and Gateway Boulevard. Installation of high visibility "green" pavement markings at all transition and conflict zones per the latest guidelines and recommendations developed by Caltrans, National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Installation of new vehicle detector loops at the intersection of Jarvis Avenue and Gateway Boulevard.

Provide labor, equipment, materials and services for traffic control; removing existing striping as necessary and installing new thermoplastic/paint pavement striping and markings; installation of new traffic signal detector loops; and other items of work necessary for a complete scheme of public improvements.

It is the City's intent to award the contract for this work on February 11, 2021. This project is partially funded with monies from the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) Measure B and the Rapid Response to Mobility and Pedestrian Grant Program. As stipulation of the Grant Program, all improvement must be completed by March 31, 2021.

Plans and Specifications for the work may be obtained in electronic (PDF) format from the City of Newark Public Works Department, free of charge, via e-mail delivery by calling Ms. Helen Gordon at (510) 578-4452 or by e-mail to helen.gordon@newark.org.

Information regarding obtaining Plans and Specifications or a list of plan holders is available by calling Ms. Helen Gordon at (510) 578-4452 or by e-mail to helen.gordon@newark.org. All technical questions should be directed to Ms. Trang Tran, Senior Civil Engineer, at (510) 578-4298 or by E-mail to trang.tran@newark.org. No pre-bid meeting is scheduled for this project. However, Bidders are strongly urged to visit the job site before submitting bids. Submission of a bid shall be considered as an acknowledgment of site investigation.

The Contractor shall possess a valid Class A or Class C-32 California Contractors license at the time of the bid opening. The Contractor must be properly licensed as a contractor from contract award through Contract acceptance (Public Contract Code § 10164).

The successful Bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond. Items of work in conjunction with this project are included in the proposal. Bids are required for the entire work described herein.

As of July 1, 2014, all Contractors bidding on this project are required to register with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and to pay the required annual fee. Under California Labor Code section 1771.1, as amended by SB 854, unless registered with the DIR, a Contractor may not bid or be listed as a Subcontractor for any bid proposal submitted for public works projects on or after March 1, 2015.

The City of Newark hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business and women owned business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, including a perception that the person has any of those characteristics or that the person is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of those characteristics in consideration for an award.

Pursuant to Section of 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing rate of wages in the county in which the work is to be done has been determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations of the State of California. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project. The Contractor and all subcontractors shall pay all their employees performing labor under this Contract salaries or wages at least equal to the general prevailing wage rates for the particular crafts, classifications or types of workers employed on this project. These wage rates appear in the latest Department of Industrial Relations publication. Future effective wage rates which have been predetermined and are on file with the Department of Industrial Relations are referenced but not printed in said publication, and are available on the internet at www.dir.ca.gov.

Dated: December 22, 2020
SHEILA HARRINGTON, City Clerk
City of Newark, Alameda County, California
Publish Dates: Tuesday, December 29, 2020
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
12/29/20, 1/5/21

CNS-3427098#

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CURB, GUTTER, AND SIDEWALK
REPLACEMENT PROJECT 1257

The City Council of the City of Newark invites sealed bids for the construction of public improvements for Curb, Gutter, and Sidewalk Replacement, Project 1257, City of Newark, Alameda County, California.

Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed opaque envelope. The envelope shall be sealed and clearly marked on its face with the Bidder's name, address and the notation "SEALED BID ENCLOSED, CITY OF NEWARK" with an identification of the PROJECT NAME, PROJECT NUMBER and BID DATE as identified on this Notice to Bidders. If the bid is sent by mail, the sealed bid envelope shall be enclosed in a separate mailing envelope/box. The mailing envelope/box shall also be clearly marked on its face with the notation "SEALED BID ENCLOSED, CITY OF NEWARK" with an identification of the PROJECT NAME, PROJECT NUMBER and BID DATE as identified on this Notice to Bidders. Mailed sealed bids shall be delivered to the office of the City Clerk of the City of Newark, 37101 Newark Boulevard, Newark, CA 94560, Attention: City Clerk, Sheila Harrington, before 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

The City Administration Building is currently closed due to a continuation of the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order for Alameda County. In-person delivered sealed bids will be received on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. only by the City Clerk inside the front entrance to the City Administration Building at 37101 Newark Boulevard, Newark, CA 94560. In compliance with current COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order for Alameda County, the City of Newark is strictly enforcing Social Distancing Protocol and face coverings at all times and at all City buildings for all visitors and City employees. On Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 2:00 p.m., all bids will be publicly opened, examined and declared via teleconferencing and electronic means.

To attend the bid opening by web browser, please use the Zoom link below for video and audio: Topic: Jarvis Avenue Class II Buffered Bike Lanes, Project 1294

Time: January 26, 2021 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/935593438367?pwd=WXPCTFPsTFN4M2RmNWVhOUJkOU1uUT09>
Meeting ID: 935 9343 8367
Passcode: 039371

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 935 9343 8367
Passcode: 039371

In the event a new or updated COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order for Alameda County is issued preventing the delivery or opening of bids as prescribed above in this Notice To Contractors, alternative provisions will be made for bid submittals at the same time and location. Any such provisions will be made available to all plan holders with an Addendum. The improvements are generally described as follows:

Remove and replace existing damaged concrete sidewalks, driveways, curb and gutter, valley gutter, and wheelchair accessible curb ramps; remove roots; root prune trees; and install root barriers at various locations within the City of Newark.

All contract work on streets identified as 2021 Asphalt Concrete Pavement Overlay shall be completed by Monday, April 19, 2021. All contract work on streets identified as Slurry Seal shall be completed by Monday, May 17, 2021. The City reserves the right to increase or decrease the work quantity from the project, if necessary, to stay within funding limitations at the sole discretion of the City Engineer. It is the City's intent to award the contract for this work on February 11, 2021.

Specifications for the work may be obtained in electronic (PDF) format from the City of Newark Public Works Department, free of charge, via e-mail delivery by calling Ms. Helen Gordon at (510) 578-4452 or by e-mail to helen.gordon@newark.org.

Information regarding obtaining Plans and Specifications or a list of plan holders is available by calling Ms. Helen Gordon at (510) 578-4452 or by e-mail to helen.gordon@newark.org. All technical questions should be directed to Ms. Trang Tran, Senior Civil Engineer, at (510) 578-4298 or by E-mail to trang.tran@newark.org. No pre-bid meeting is scheduled for this project. However, Bidders are strongly urged to visit the job site before submitting bids. Submission of a bid shall be considered as an acknowledgment of site investigation.

The Contractor shall possess a valid Class A or Class C-8 California Contractors license at the time of the bid opening. The Contractor must be properly licensed as a contractor from contract award through Contract acceptance (Public Contract Code § 10164).

The successful Bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond. Items of work in conjunction with this project are included in the proposal. Bids are required for the entire work described herein.

As of July 1, 2014, all Contractors bidding on this project are required to register with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and to pay the required annual fee. Under California Labor Code section 1771.1, as amended by SB 854, unless registered with the DIR, a Contractor may not bid or be listed as a Subcontractor for any bid proposal submitted for public works projects on or after March 1, 2015.

The City of Newark hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business and women owned business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, including a perception that the person has any of those characteristics or that the person is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of those characteristics in consideration for an award.

Pursuant to Section of 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing rate of wages in the county in which the work is to be done has been determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations of the State of California. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project. The Contractor and all subcontractors shall pay all their employees performing labor under this Contract salaries or wages at least equal to the general prevailing wage rates for the particular crafts, classifications or types of workers employed on this project. These wage rates appear in the latest Department of Industrial Relations publication. Future effective wage rates which have been predetermined and are on file with the Department of Industrial Relations are referenced but not printed in said publication, and are available on the internet at www.dir.ca.gov.

Dated: December 22, 2020
SHEILA HARRINGTON, City Clerk
City of Newark, Alameda County, California
Publish Dates: Tuesday, December 29, 2020
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
12/29/20

CNS-3427087#

CITY OF FREMONT
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fremont City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the following proposals. Said public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 19, 2021, Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Ave., Bldg. A, Fremont, CA, at which time all interested parties may attend and be heard:

STORMWATER ORDINANCE REPEAL AND
REPLACE AMENDMENT – City wide –
PLN2021-00110

Public Hearing (Published Notice) to Consider the Planning Commission's Recommendation to Adopt an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 18.210 Storm Water Management and Discharge Control) under Fremont Municipal Code Title 18 (Planning and Zoning) to Clarify and Enhance Definitions, Discharge Regulations and Requirements, and Enforcement Related to Obligations Under the Municipal Regional NPDES Stormwater Permit No. CA5812008, and to Consider an Exemption from the Requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Per, each as a Separate and Independent Basis, (1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) in that it can be Seen with Certainty that there is no Possibility that the Proposed Amendments will have the Potential of Causing any Significant Effect on the Environment, and are not Subject to CEQA Review, and (2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, as the Proposed Amendments are Consistent with General Plan Policies and do not Involve any Peculiar Significant Effects that were not Previously Analyzed or Discussed as Significant Effects in the Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) or the General Plan, with which the Proposed Amendments are Consistent.

MISSION HILLS SWIM AND TENNIS CLUB – 10
EAST LAS PALMAS AVENUE- PLN2020-00256

Public Hearing (Published Notice) to Consider Rezoning a 12.72-acre Parcel from Precise Planning District P-2010-256, and Approve a Conditional Use Permit to Allow Redevelopment of a Swim and Tennis Club in the Mission San Jose Community Plan Area, and to Consider a Finding that No Further Environmental Review is Required Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Preliminary Section 15153. The Project is Consistent with the City's Established by the General Plan for which an Environmental Impact Report (SCH#2010082060) was Previously Prepared and Certified, and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15163, as None of the Circumstances Requiring Calling for the Preparation of a Subsequent or Supplemental EIR Have Occurred.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, a publicly accessible location may not be provided for the public hearing. Information on how to participate virtually will be made available, at least 72-hours prior to the meeting, on the agenda posted online <http://fremont.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-4>. If you challenge any decision of the City Council in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

SUSAN GAUTHIER, CITY CLERK

12/29/20

CNS-3426650#

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MONTE CHARLES HERNANDIZ

CASE NO. RP20082447

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MONTE CHARLES HERNANDIZ.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by COLLEEN GAIL DE LA TORRE in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that COLLEEN GAIL DE LA TORRE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (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 as follows: 02/24/21 at 2:00PM in Dept. 201 located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704

MANDATORY REMOTE APPEARANCE: The Court requires all parties who wish to attend the hearing on the above date and time, including those who wish to state objections, to appear by audio or video technology. The parties should consult the court's website for the specific telephonic and video applications available. The parties may also contact the probate clerk in the respective department for information concerning remote appearances. Parties must be present at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled hearing time.

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.

In Pro Per Petitioner
COLLEEN GAIL DE LA TORRE
33413 RAILROAD AVE.
UNION CITY CA 94587
12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12/21

CNS-3426826#

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF

LEWIS Q. BRUNDAGE, JR.
CASE NO. RP20082730

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: LEWIS Q. BRUNDAGE, JR. A Petition for Probate has been filed by LEWIS BRUNDAGE, III in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.

The Petition for Probate requests that LEWIS BRUNDAGE, III 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 02/10/2021 at 9:45 A.M. in Dept. 202 Room N/A located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704.

MANDATORY REMOTE APPEARANCE: The Court requires all parties who wish to attend the hearing on the above date and time, including those who wish to state objections, to appear by audio or video technology. The parties should consult the court's website for the specific telephonic and video applications available. The parties may also contact the probate clerk in the respective department for information concerning remote appearances. Parties must be present at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled hearing time.

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.

Petitioner: LEWIS BRUNDAGE, III, 6151 JOAQUIN MURIETA #D, NEWARK, CA 94560-5414, Telephone: 925-286-8854
12/29/20, 1/5, 1/12/21

CNS-3426621#

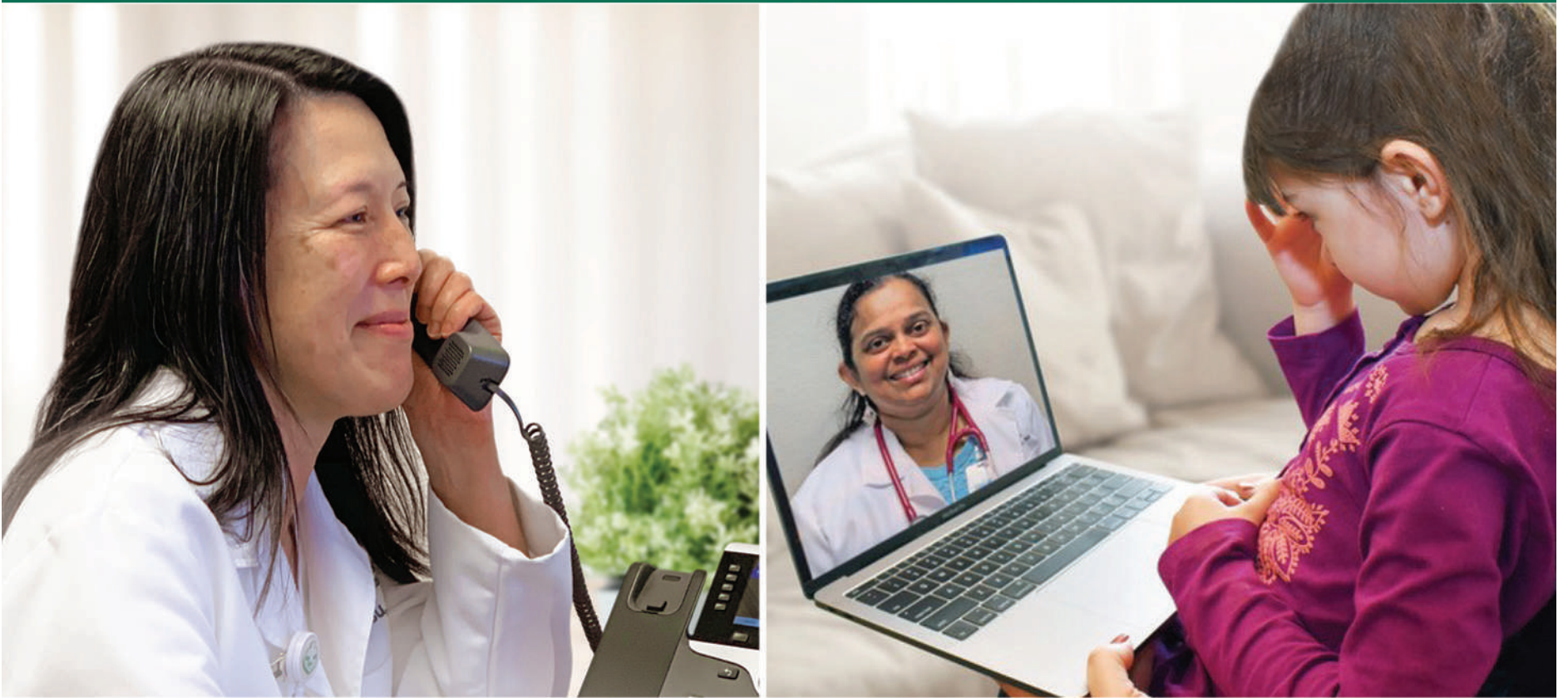
TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Title No. 8759085
ALS NO. 2019-4572 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT OF A LIEN, DATED 01/13/2020. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: On 01/20/2021, at 12:00PM, ASSOCIATION LIEN SERVICES, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to a certain lien, recorded on 01/15/2020, as instrument number 2020-009275, and thereafter amended lien dated recorded 3/25/2020, as instrument number 2020-0699113 of the official records of ALAMEDA County, California, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR LAWFUL MONEY OF THE UNITED STATES, OR A CASHIERS CHECK AT: At the Fallon Street emergency exit to the Alameda County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon St., Oakland, CA 94612. The street address and other common designations, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 114 Lurene Drive, FREMONT, CA 94539 Assessor's Parcel No. 513-0702-014 The owner(s) of the real property is purported to be: Homer John Lillie, Jr., and Margaret Ann Lillie, Trustees of the Homer John Lillie, Jr. and Margaret Ann Lillie Living Trust Dated November 19, 1990 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designations, 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 a note, homeowner's assessment or other obligation secured by this lien, with interest and other sum as provided therein: plus advances, if any, under the terms thereof and interest on such advances, plus fees, charges, expenses of the Trustee and trust creation of said lien. 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 \$18,844.10. Payment must be in cash, a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, or a check drawn on a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings & loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. The real property described above is being sold subject to the right of redemption. The redemption period with which the property may be redeemed ends 90 days after the sale. 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 obtain 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 the 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 in 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 regarding the trustee's sale or visit its website www.nationwideposting.com or call 916.939.0772 for information regarding the sale of this property. 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 website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the schedule sale. The beneficiary of said Lien hereto executed and delivered to the undersigned, a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell has been recorded. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the County where the real property is located. Date: 11/25/2020 Association Lien Services, as Trustee P.O. Box 64750, Los Angeles, CA 90064 (310) 207-2027 By: Megan Pamula, Trustee Officer NPP0372317 To: TRI-CITY VOICE 12/22/2020, 12/29/2020, 01/05/2021 12/22, 12/29/20, 1/5/21

CNS-3424865#

T.S. No.: 2015-05383-CA A.P.N.:543-0458-046-00 Project Address: 34329 Xanadu Terrace, Fremont, CA 94555 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR. NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 03/02/2006. 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: DALIA G VIRAY, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC, Deed of Trust Recorded 03/14/2006 as instrument number 2009-04328 in book ---, page --- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, Date of Sale: 02/09/2021 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: AT THE FALLON STREET EMERGENCY EXIT OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94612 Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 898,949.03 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE: All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as: More fully described in said Deed of Trust. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 34329 Xanadu Terrace, Fremont, CA 94555 A.P.N.: 543-0458-046-00 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 this lien, with interest and other sum as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 898,949.03. Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be 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: November 1, 2020 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 237 Ventura, CA 93003 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <http://www.alitsource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2020-01372-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: November 1, 2020 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 237 Ventura, CA 93003 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <http://www.alitsource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2020-01372-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: November 1, 2020 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 237 Ventura, CA 93003 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <http://www.alitsource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2020-01372-CA. 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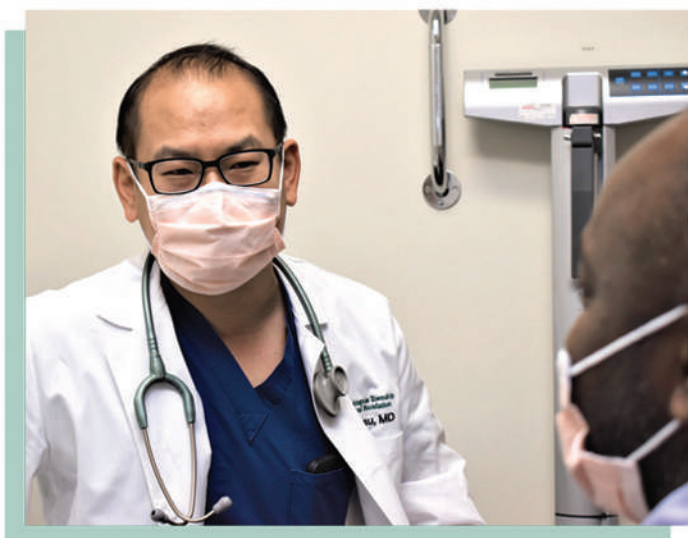
Don't Delay Your Care. It's Safe to see your WTMF doctor.



The doctor will see you *safely*, now.

We're taking every precaution to keep you safe:

- Mandatory screening, masking and temperature checks for all employees, physicians and patients
- Staggering schedules to ensure direct rooming and social distancing
- Avoiding the lobby and waiting areas
- Rigorous infection prevention and cleaning
- Using telehealth, virtual check-ins, and remote monitoring where possible
- Isolation of patients with flu or COVID-19 symptoms



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are our top priority.**

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