



The Fremont Nutcracker is back!

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Moreau Catholic wins NCS Championship

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Newark holds open studios with holiday boutiques

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Union City weighs future of Historical Museum building

DESPITE NECESSARY RENOVATIONS, CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS SPACE FOR MULTI-USE COMMUNITY HUB

By PANASHE MATEMBA-MUTASA

Union City officials are considering the future of the city-owned building at 3841 Smith Street, which formerly housed the Union City Historical Museum. The City Council received a report on November 26, 2024, detailing potential uses for the site and outlining necessary repairs to make it suitable for occupancy.

According to city manager Joan Malloy, the building, originally a fire station, has been closed since March 2020 due to COVID-19 and significant water damage from a leaking roof. The damage led to mold and mildew issues, prompting safety concerns. Additionally, the museum's operations were severely affected by the deaths of its founder, Myrla Raymundo, in 2021, and president, Domingo Filardo, in early 2024.

The Union City Chamber of Commerce and the Washington Township Museum of Local History have partnered to propose repurposing the site into a multi-use community hub. Their vision includes a revitalized museum honoring local history, alongside a space for business engagement and economic development activities. The partnership aims to foster community connection while boosting local economic activity.

"We're excited about the prospect of opening the museum," said Washington Township Museum of Local History's collections manager Patricia Schaffarczyk.

If approved, the Washington Township Museum would manage the museum operations, while the Chamber of Commerce would sponsor events and use the space as an office. Both organizations have requested a nominal lease, similar to what the Washington Township Museum pays in Fremont for a comparable site.

Despite partial repairs, including roof and front room renovations, the building requires



The Union City Historical Museum has been closed since March 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. Photo by April Ramos

continued on page 16



Officials inspect the PG&E gas pipeline protective apron over Alameda Creek near Sunol. Photo by California Trout

New Alameda Creek project boosts fish access

THANKS TO A \$4.3 MILLION GRANT, THE LAST FISH BARRIER WILL BE REMOVED FROM ALAMEDA CREEK

By ROB KLINDT

A collective cheer is in the air as many environmentalists, wildlife enthusiasts, Alameda County officials and residents celebrate news that funding to remove the last man-made barrier to fish passage in Alameda Creek has been secured.

Claire Buchanan, Bay Area Senior Project Manager for California Trout (CalTrout), a non-profit agency focused on ensuring healthy waters and resilient fish populations in the state, said a new \$4.3 million grant will be used to lower a PG&E gas pipeline that spans the creek about 12 miles upstream from the creek's terminus into the bay. Known as the Sunol Valley Fish Passage Project, it is the last of 16 fish passage projects in the Alameda Creek watershed completed in the last 20 years.

Urbanization in the lower 12 miles of the creek in the Fremont area has choked portions, preventing native Chinook salmon and steelhead from traveling to upstream watersheds to spawn. Previous large fish passage projects on the creek include the installation of fish ladders at the Fremont BART station weir and at the inflatable bladder dams near Niles, both done by the Alameda County Water District (ACWD).

Years of preparation

"This project has been in the works in some way shape or form since about 2012," Buchanan said, adding that the grant is from NOAA Fisheries, a federal agency focused on natural resource conservation. "We at CalTrout only got involved in July of last year when the project was already at 65% design," Buchanan noted. As lead agency on this latest project CalTrout was tasked

with coordinating the efforts of other project partners and for navigating permit processes and lining up grant applications. The grant came through in October.

In addition to ACWD, other partners on the project working under the umbrella of Alameda Creek Fisheries Work Group, include Alameda Creek Alliance, Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Zone 7 Water District, Alameda County Resource Conservation District, Trout Unlimited and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Alameda Creek flows from Packard Ridge in the Diablo Range east of San Jose, for about 40 miles until it reaches Fremont where the lower 12 miles of creek are guided through a flood control channel into San Francisco Bay. The upper watershed is more untouched by development and suitable for fish spawning.

Sinking the pipeline

The PG&E pipeline, built in 1963, spans the creek near the Highway 680 overpass in Sunol Valley and is topped by an erosion control apron built from concrete and rock that protrudes above the water. This creates a barrier preventing salmon, lamprey and other anadromous fish—which spend part of their lives in both fresh and salt water—from easily reaching the upper watershed.

Work on the project will start in June 2025 when fish traffic is lower and continue through October. The project will sink the pipeline between 17 and 20 feet below the creek level and remove the erosion control apron to allow easier passage to upper portions of Alameda Creek.

While PG&E is paying the lion's share of work to move the pipeline, additional funding was needed for supplemental work to complete the project. Buchanan said the last chunk of cash—the \$4.3 million grant—is dedicated to revegetation and regrading after the PG&E work is done.

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Crippsmas Place spreads holiday cheer and raises money for charities

MORE THAN 70 HOMES LIGHT UP WITH DECORATIONS AND CARTOON DISPLAYS AT CHRISTMAS

By CALLIE YUAN

Crippsmas Place, a tradition that began out of Robert "Spider" Cantley's backyard in the late 1960s, has now turned into a highly anticipated event attended by thousands. For almost 40 years, Cantley and his neighbors decorated their surrounding neighborhood with lights and grand cartoon displays as a fundraiser in memory of his mother who was lost to Leukemia. In 2004, Cantley retired, and a group of neighbors led by Kate Amon formed the Crippsmas Club to take over the event.

In addition to the original Leukemia-Lymphoma Society organization they donated funds to, the Club added five more charities: H.E.R.S. Breast Cancer Foundation, Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments, Adopt an Angel, Ohlone Humane Society's Wildlife Rehab Center and Fremont Family Resource Center. Vice President Thomas Sharp has lived at Wellington Place and contributed to the event for more than 30 years. "We've had people bringing their grandchildren to the event that they participated in when they were children," Sharp said, "It's a very big tradition in some families."

The event started in Cripps Place and has now expanded to the adjacent area, Wellington Place, where more than 70 homes decorate with lights and displays each year. The Crippsmas Club begins planning operations at the beginning of the year, and the organization is mainly neighborhood-based. Most of the setup is done by neighbors themselves on their properties. For elderly people with difficulties preparing displays, local volunteers are recruited from places such as American High School. Last year, the Crippsmas Place event fundraised around \$20,000 for local charities. Volunteers walked around with donation buckets and candy canes to sell along the streets, and the contributions were donated to their six main charities.



Festive lights and popular characters make the neighborhood sparkle. Photo courtesy of Thomas Sharp

continued on page 10

Ring in a Healthier 2025 with Essential Health Screenings and Immunizations

Local physician will discuss age-based recommendations at online seminar

Washington Township Medical Foundation (WTMF) internal medicine physician, Hanisha Geedipally, MD, is bringing her passion for patient education to a Washington Hospital Healthcare System (WHHS) Health & Wellness Seminar on Jan. 8, 2025. At the 5 p.m. program, “New Year, New You: Essential Health Screenings for Every Age,” Dr. Geedipally will share information about key health screenings and immunizations that are recommended for adults at every stage of life, from young adulthood through the senior years.

“Every person needs to be screened for different things at different ages,” Dr. Geedipally explained. “Immunizations need to be repeated at different ages as well. The best way to begin the year on a healthy footing is to see your primary care provider and review all your health information, including which screenings and immunizations are current and which need to be updated.”

Dr. Geedipally believes preventive care is worth its weight in gold. “It’s much better to be proactive in taking care of your health than to deal with preventable illnesses,” she said. “And for diseases such as cancer and diabetes, the earlier these are diagnosed, the better the prognosis will be.”

Many people think once you begin screening for certain diseases, such as cancer, you will continue to be screened forever. That’s not the case. “Just as screenings for some diseases begin at a certain age, patients will ‘age out’ of some screenings,” Dr. Geedipally noted. “It doesn’t mean you can’t be screened if your health condition calls for a test, but some screenings carry risk and we weigh the



increased risk to health over the benefit. If the risk is greater than the benefit, we wouldn’t test. We also take family history and risk factors into consideration.”

The same applies to immunizations. Many vaccines given to children are not carried forward into adulthood at the same frequency. They may stop during middle adulthood, then resume for senior citizens. Timing is key. “It’s important to have these conversations with your primary care provider,” Dr. Geedipally stressed. “A pediatrician will have a schedule for children from birth to age 18. From 18 through the end of life, an internal medicine or family practice physician will take over that role with an entirely fresh schedule. Staying on top of when these screenings and immunizations are due is part of the partnership we have with our patients and leads to the best health care outcomes.”

The combination of age, family history and risk factors determine how health screenings are scheduled. “Screenings

for children generally focus on growth, development, vision, hearing and immunizations,” she explained. “For my adult patients,” she continued, “we begin with a conversation to educate them about how their risk factors and lifestyle influence my recommendations. Then we schedule screenings, discuss the results and move forward to a healthier future.”

For young to middle-aged adults, Dr. Geedipally focuses on risk factors for chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, specific cancers, blood pressure and cholesterol levels. She adds screenings for age-related conditions including osteoporosis (every two years) and cognitive decline (annually) for older adults. She also recommends a yearly skin exam to check for signs of skin cancer. Comprehensive eye exams are recommended every one to two years, depending on circumstances. For example, diabetic patients should have an annual eye exam while other patients can go two years between exams.

“Beginning in their early 20s, every man and woman should have a comprehensive physical exam where we check blood pressure and body mass index, do a cardiovascular evaluation, and screen for depression or other mental health issues,” Dr. Geedipally explained. “Then,

every two to five years, they should have a blood sugar test and a cholesterol check. Beginning at age 45, men and women should be screened for colon cancer. Around age 50, we add a bone density test and, if their risk factors warrant, a low-dose lung CT scan to check for lung cancer. We screen our older patients for dementia and Alzheimer’s during their annual physical beginning around age 60.”

Men and women also need specific screening for specific cancers. Women should have their first pap test in their early 20s, continuing them every three to five years thereafter, even after they’ve gone through menopause. Young women should perform monthly breast self-exams and begin screening mammograms at age 40. Young men should perform a testicular self-exam monthly, augmented by a testicular screening exam during their annual physical. Unless warranted by family history or other risk factors, prostate specific antigen (PSA) screening should begin by age 50.

Dr. Geedipally explained her approach to helping her patients maintain or regain their physical health also includes annual vaccines. “Everyone over age 18 should annually receive the flu vaccine and the COVID-19 vaccine,” she said. “Starting at age 50, we add the shingles vaccine, given in two shots six months apart, that remains potent throughout the rest of your life. At age 65, we also recommend a pneumonia vaccine and the single-dose respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine.”

To learn more about Dr. Geedipally, visit <https://www.mywtmf.com/find-a-doctor/hanisha-geedipally-md/> or scan the below QR code.



“Every person needs to be screened for different things at different ages.”
—Hanisha Geedipally, MD



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Diabetes: Understanding and Controlling Complications

Prasad V. Katta, MD, MRCP
Endocrinologist



Diabetes: Understanding and Controlling Complications

Diabetes complications reach much further than low blood sugar levels. Find out how to control other complications and maintain overall health. This is a special presentation of our Diabetes Matters program.



Coping with Grief and Bereavement During the Holidays

Neeru Kumar, MD
Psychiatry



Coping with Grief and Bereavement During the Holidays

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.

Explore how grief can impact our mental health during the holiday season and strategies for coping.



Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work

Prasad Katta, MD
Endocrinology



Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 9 a.m.

Join Dr. Prasad Katta as he explains how you can incorporate GLP-1 medications into your diabetes management plan.



Living With Serious Illness: Understanding Palliative Care

Krishna Suri, DO
Palliative Care Medicine



Living With Serious Illness: Understanding Palliative Care

Navigating a serious illness can bring new challenges for patients and loved ones. Dr. Krishna Suri explains what it means when palliative care is offered.



Managing Diabetes

Thomas Collins-Pallet, MD
Family Medicine



Managing Diabetes

Given the prevalence of diabetes in our community, many households have felt the impact of this condition. Dr. Thomas Collins-Pallet hosts a conversation on how diabetes can be managed through lifestyle changes and medication.

Other Video Topics:

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- Stroke Awareness
- Washington Township Health Care District monthly board meetings

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For more information or to register for events, call 800.963.7070 or visit whhs.com/events.

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PART TWO OF A TWO-PART SERIES ON OSTOMY

The Day that Changed a Fremont Resident’s Life

Patient Doing Well After Emergency Colostomy Surgery at Washington Hospital



Carole Sorenson credits her supportive family for getting her through a medical crisis.

Editor’s Note: This is the final article in a two-part series on ostomy.

Carole Sorenson of Fremont calls it the day that changed her life. The retired electronics saleswoman woke up one morning last year doubled over in pain.

When she arrived at the Washington Hospital Emergency Department, she immediately had tests. Carole had diverticulitis (inflammation) of both the small and large intestine, with perforation and abscess, and needed surgery. This serious colon problem was a total shock to her, as she never had pain or symptoms.

“The doctor told me that I could either have the surgery or I could die,” recalls Carole of her August 2023 procedure. “I had no choice,” she says. By that evening, Carole had a colostomy, an artificial opening made in her body to divert feces and allow her colon to heal.

A Temporary Colostomy

General surgeon Kranthi Achanta, MD, created Carole’s opening, called a stoma, to allow waste to collect in a pouch outside the body. Carole’s colostomy is temporary and can be reversed after her colon heals.

She is among the estimated 1 million people in the United States living with an ostomy, according to the United Ostomy Association of America. In addition to a colostomy, which refers to the colon, similar surgeries include an ileostomy, pertaining to the small intestine (ileum); and urostomy, which diverts urine out of the body.

Washington Hospital Healthcare System is among the few hospitals in the region that offers comprehensive ostomy services for patients living with

a colostomy, ileostomy or urostomy, according to Thuy Vo, a nurse practitioner (NP), certified by the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society. Vo is one of two NPs staffing the ostomy program of the Washington Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine. In addition, five specialty nurses are certified and trained in ostomy care at both the Hospital and an outpatient ostomy program at 39141 Civic Center Drive.

Carole was hospitalized for about a week, and says having a colostomy was overwhelming. “It was one day that changed my life,” she explains. “When I woke up from surgery, all I remember is that I had a lot of doctors and nurses explaining the surgery, and what I would have to do to care for myself.”

She credits the Hospital staff and team at the outpatient ostomy program for her recovery. Once a week after discharge, Carole visited the outpatient program to learn how to care for her ostomy. Patients have to empty the pouch daily and change it twice weekly, keep the site clean, and maintain a good attitude.

“My husband helped me a lot,” notes Carole. She has recently had to manage more on her own since her husband fell and had hip replacement in October. “We’ve had a lot of Washington Hospital visits lately,” Carole says. “They’re really very good there.”

Care at the Outpatient Ostomy Program

Carole visited the outpatient ostomy program for four consecutive weeks following the surgery. “The team there was so friendly. I barely sat in the lobby for a

moment before they had me in a room. They were very nice.”

While the emergency experience was daunting, Carole says she pressed on with a good attitude, something the ostomy team says is essential to healing. “To be honest, I didn’t look at the site for three months,” Carole explains. Patients often have a hard time accepting the reality of a stoma, according to Vo. “It can be very depressing for people to wake up from surgery and see a hole in their stomach,” she notes. “We ease patients into it and hold their hand. We’re there for counseling and education.”

Carole is preparing to schedule her colostomy reversal, which removes the stoma and pouch, and allows the colon to function normally again. Her husband’s hip rehabilitation has delayed scheduling. She says, “I’m a little apprehensive to go back in the hospital. Besides having a baby, I’ve never felt that sense of helplessness. The surgeon said I can set it up when I’m comfortable doing so.”

Complex Surgery

Ostomy surgery is complex. Patients are usually very sick, and many have colon cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, colitis, and birth defects. While that wasn’t the case for Carole, she says that care of the pouch was a learning experience. Dietary restrictions were also challenging, including avoiding soda that can cause gas in ostomy patients. “I miss 7UP,” Carole says with a smile. But aside from some challenges, she says she’s doing well.

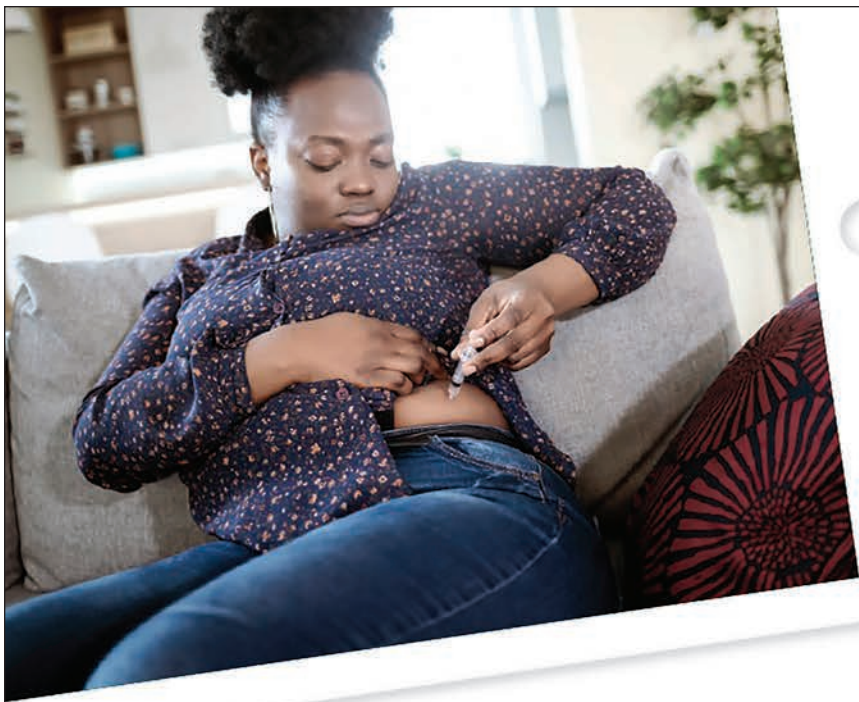
“I’m getting stronger,” she shares, “and that’s good because I can take care of my husband who needs a little help now.” The

couple recently took a trip to their cabin in Lake Tahoe, the first in several months, and they look forward to more outings. Carole is especially thankful for the care she received at the Hospital. She adds, “The staff paid close attention, and took good care of me. Everyone knew me by the time I left.”

Carole continues, “Having a good attitude is what really helped me. I constantly said to myself, ‘You’re going to get better, you’ll be OK.’ It’s all about your mental state. When you get down, you stay down, and I wasn’t going to let that happen. My husband also kept it positive. I’m doing better and keeping my mind in the right place.” Her advice to others who may be facing an ostomy is simple, “Be strong.”

In addition to the ostomy program, the Washington Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy, a simple but effective treatment providing patients with pure oxygen inside a pressurized chamber.

The outpatient wound clinic, which treats hard-to-heal ulcers, diabetic and gunshot wounds, and other types of injuries, is open Monday through Friday. The outpatient ostomy clinic is open on Fridays. For more information, call 510.248.1520. Visit whhs.com/Wound or scan the below QR code.



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Wednesday, Dec. 18
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Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work

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Letter to the Editor

Abandoned vehicle



September 13, 2024, I reported to various Fremont city personnel, vehicles parked in front of fire hydrants nightly without enforcement, abandoned vehicles creating a lack of parking promoting the above.

I pointed out specific fire hydrants that were missing blue road marking reflectors and the city installed new reflectors immediately.

However, as I pointed out these abandoned vehicles were somewhat obvious with their registration stickers expired, I was chastised by city staff for suggesting the city of Fremont was obligated to honor state law and city staff forbid me from mentioning expired registration tags.

Attached are photos of the number one listed abandoned vehicle with a garden of weeds growing next to it, a gutter several inches deep in muck along a street swept by a city street sweeper weekly. And as reported due to the lack of parking and parking enforcement a scofflaw parked directly in front of the fire hydrant.

Since my initial report, I have noticed there is a complete absence of no parking signs listing the dates and times of street sweeping throughout the city, making the money spent on street sweeping itself a complete waste of city funds.

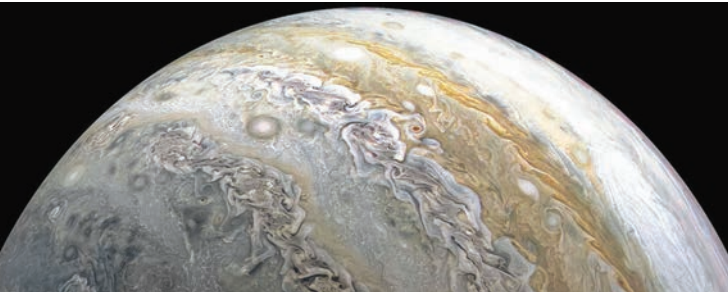
I urge the city council to address this issue as it is multifaceted whereas street sweeping, no parking days signs and enforcement will automatically rid the city streets of abandoned vehicles thereby reducing parking in front of fire hydrants as the intended parking along the streets would be available.

Shawn Owens
Fremont

December’s Night Sky Notes: Spot the King of Planets



Look for Jupiter near the Eye of the Bull, Aldebaran, in the Taurus constellation on the evening of December 15, 2024. Binoculars may help you spot Jupiter’s moons as small bright star-like objects on either side of the planet. A small telescope will show them easily, along with Jupiter’s famed cloud bands. Credit: Stellarium Web



NASA’s Juno mission captured this look at the southern hemisphere of Jupiter on Feb. 17, 2020. This composite of four images was captured by the JunoCam imager and assembled by citizen scientist Kevin M. Gill. Credit: NASA, JPL-Caltech, SwRI, MSSS; Image processing by Kevin M. Gill, © CC BY

By **DAVE PROSPER**
UPDATED BY
KAT TROCHE

Jupiter is our solar system’s undisputed king of the planets! Jupiter is bright and easy to spot from our vantage point on Earth, helped by its massive size and banded, reflective cloud tops. Jupiter even possesses moons the size of planets: Ganymede, its largest, is bigger than the planet Mercury. What’s more, you can easily observe Jupiter and its moons

with a modest instrument, just like Galileo did over 400 years ago. Jupiter’s position as our solar system’s largest planet is truly earned; you could fit 11 Earths along Jupiter’s diameter, and in case you were looking to fill up Jupiter with some Earth-size marbles, you would need over 1,300—and that would still not be quite enough! However, despite its formidable size, Jupiter’s true rule over the outer solar system comes from its enormous mass. If you took all of the planets in our solar system and

put them together, they would still only be half as massive as Jupiter all by itself.

Jupiter’s mighty mass has shaped the orbits of countless comets and asteroids. Its gravity can fling these tiny objects towards our inner solar system and also draw them into itself, as famously observed in 1994 when Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9, drawn towards Jupiter in previous orbits, smashed into the gas giant’s atmosphere. Its multiple fragments slammed into Jupiter’s cloud tops with such violence that the fireballs and dark impact spots were not only seen by NASA’s orbiting Galileo probe but also by observers back on Earth!

Jupiter is easy to observe at night with unaided eyes, as well-documented by the ancient astronomers who carefully recorded its slow movements from night to night. It can be one of the brightest objects in our nighttime skies, bested only by the Moon, Venus, and occasionally Mars, when the red planet is at opposition. That’s impressive for a planet that, at its

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closest to Earth, is still over 365 million miles (587 million km) away. It’s even more impressive that the giant world remains very bright to Earthbound observers at its furthest distance: 600 million miles (968 million km)!

While the King of Planets has a coterie of 95 known moons, only the four large moons that Galileo originally observed in 1610—Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Calisto—can be easily observed by Earth-based observers with modest equipment. These are called, appropriately enough, the Galilean moons. Most telescopes will show the moons as faint star-like objects neatly lined up close to bright Jupiter. Most binoculars will show at least one or two moons orbiting the planet. Small telescopes will show all four of the Galilean moons if they are all visible, but sometimes they can pass behind or in front of Jupiter or even each other. Telescopes will also show details like Jupiter’s cloud bands and, if powerful enough, large storms like its famous Great Red Spot, and the shadows of the Galilean moons passing between the Sun and Jupiter.

Sketching the positions of Jupiter’s moons during the course of an evening—and night to night—can be a rewarding project! You can download an activity guide from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific at bit.ly/drawjupitermoons

Now in its eighth year, NASA’s Juno mission is one of just nine spacecraft to have visited this impressive world. Juno entered Jupiter’s orbit in 2016 to begin its initial mission to study this giant world’s mysterious interior. The years have proven Juno’s mission a success, with data from the probe revolutionizing our understanding of this gassy world’s guts. Juno’s mission has since been extended to include the study of its large moons, and since 2021 the plucky probe, increasingly battered by Jupiter’s powerful radiation belts, has made close flybys of the icy moons Ganymede and Europa, along with volcanic Io.

What else will we potentially learn in 2030 with the Europa Clipper mission? Find the latest discoveries from Juno and NASA’s missions to Jupiter at science.nasa.gov/jupiter/

*Originally posted by Dave Prosper: February 2023
Last Updated by Kat Troche: November 2024*

This article is distributed by NASA’s Night Sky Network (NSN). The NSN program supports astronomy clubs across the USA dedicated to astronomy outreach. Visit nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov to find local clubs, events, and more!

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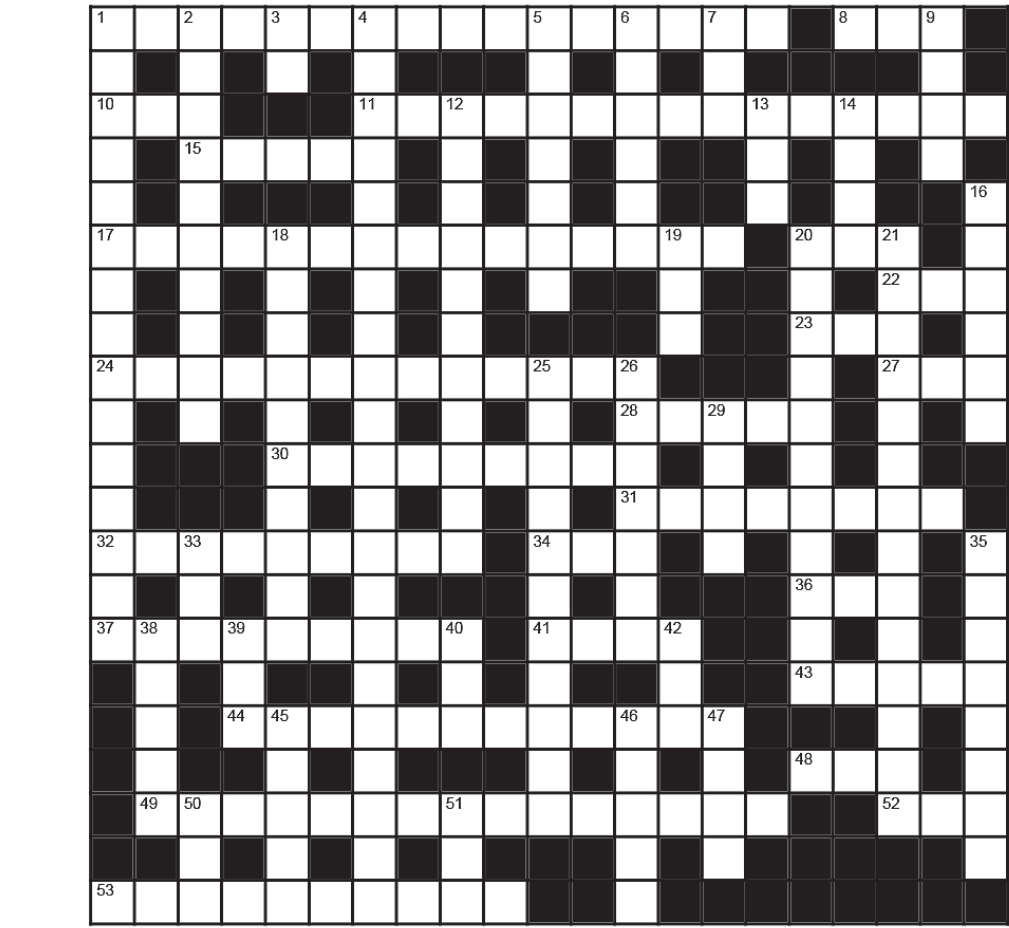
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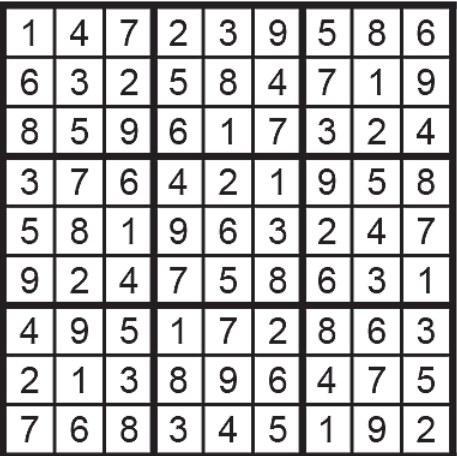
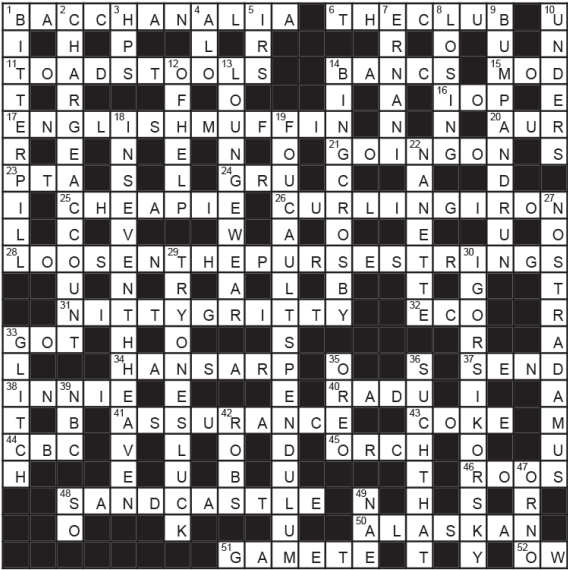
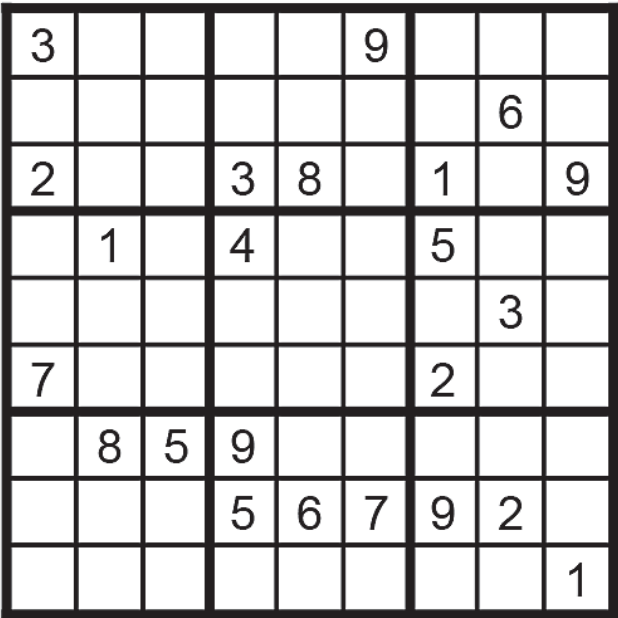
Crossword Puzzle



Across		44	Handy periodical holder (8,4)	25	Section of a clothing store.
1	TOEFL, for example (12,4)	48	Driller's deg. (3)		(5-2-4)
8	Teaching deg. (3)	49	Time piece? (8,7)	26	1889 statehood achievers, with
10	Camera operators' org. (3)	52	County units: Abbr. (3)		"the" (7)
11	Chillwave supergroup? (7,3,5)	53	Cutting-edge product (1-4,5)	29	Ices (4)
15	Poker Flat chronicler (5)			33	Computer image file type (3)
17	Red Sox #8 (4,11)	Down		35	Daydreamer (8)
20	Map abbr. (3)	1	Philatelist's pride (5,10)	38	Bug sci. (5)
22	"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" librettist	2	Graceful river spanner (4,6)	39	Around the 30th: Abbr. (3)
	Burrows (3)	3	Execute (2)	40	Magician's name ending (3)
23	Iranian desert, Dasht-e ____ (3)	4	Pro-few's-ness? (7,14)	42	Org. headed by Carolyn Lerner
24	Like pickpockets (5-8)	5	Ties up (7)		(hidden in PROBOSCIS) (3)
27	Expert finish (3)	6	Champagne salutes (6)	45	"Great" or "Little" Bahamas
28	D' ____ (at first): Fr. (5)	7	[not my error] (3)		island (5)
30	Churchill Downs, e.g. (9)	9	Geological formation. (4)	46	Hypothetical particle (5)
31	Authorized (8)	12	Like Mr. Magoo (11)	47	Hawaiian taro (4)
32	Imminent (2,3,4)	13	Govt. agency (3)	50	In the year before Christ: Abbr.
34	"Are we there ____?" (3)	14	Beat badly (4)		(3)
36	Insemination alternative: Abbr. (3)	16	Dominant ideas (6)	51	Building plot in S. Africa. (3)
37	Ancient Egyptian queen (9)	18	Time not long past (10)		
41	____ buco (4)	19	'-- Nidre' (3)		
43	Bucket wheel (5)	20	Curse (11)		
		21	*Tongass in Alaska is the largest		
			one (8,6)		

Sudoku:

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



Tri-City Stargazer FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2024

All Signs: You might feel you're making slow progress while issues from the past keep popping up. This is because five planets are retrograde: Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune. Mercury is retrograde until December 15. This is why you're misplacing items, cancelling appointments and reservations or having car problems. Granted, it's easier to finish old business. But, now hear this: This week Mars goes retrograde until Feb. 23; and this will really slow things down! People will feel frustrated and impatient. But it will "reveal" secrets from the past.

Aries the Ram (March 21-April 20):

You have a strong desire to travel; however, duties and responsibilities might make this impossible. If you can't travel, seek out other ways to satisfy this urge. Take a course. Explore a new hobby. Be a tourist in your own city. Many of you are also dealing with some kind of a replay with your kids. The upside is that perhaps tackling whatever arises again is an opportunity to deal with it better. Encounters or news about old flames are also likely. Some might rekindle an old romance.

Taurus the Bull (April 21-May 20):

Financial issues about shared property, taxes, debt, inheritances and insurance matters can be dealt with and wrapped up quickly. Meanwhile, plans for renovations or changes at home are going slow and meeting with obstacles. An old family drama might be resurrected because some detail is "revealed." On the upside, your appreciation for the arts and beauty is heightened. You might be able to travel for pleasure. Some of you might explore a new romance with someone "different." Whatever happens, keep an eye on your bank accounts because something could catch you off guard.

Gemini the Twins (May 21-June 20):

It might be tough to accomplish things lately. (Your life is two steps forward and one step back.) Meanwhile, close relationships are tense. This might involve parents, bosses or authority figures. Ex-partners and ex-spouses might be back on the scene, which is always challenging. The good news is that gifts, goodies and favors can come

your way! Romantic intimacy will be rewarding and cozy. Although it's hard to move forward in many areas, this is an excellent time to ask for loans or mortgages. Old business can be wrapped up quickly.

Cancer the Crab (June 21-July 21):

You might be frustrated this week, because in one way, you're in work mode. You have a lot on your plate that you want to get done. However, obstacles are stopping you. And finances might be disappointing. Checks in the mail are late. Moneymaking ideas might not work out, or they're slow. Meanwhile, goofy errors, missed appointments, delayed shipments and equipment breakdowns are also maddening. Fortunately, relations with spouses, partners and close friends are warm and supportive! In fact, you might be introduced to someone who is unusual.

Leo the Lion (July 22-August 22):

Life is a mixed bag for you right now. With fiery Mars in your sign, you're proactive, ambitious and energized. But this week Mars will go retrograde in Leo, which will make you feel less motivated. All your actions will feel like they require more effort. You might encounter delays and obstacles. You'll have less physical energy. Old tensions might resurface with spouses, partners and close friends. This means you have to practice patience. It's curious: You have strong social ambitions right now, but some are thwarted. Fortunately, work colleagues are supportive.

Virgo the Virgin (August 23-September 22):

Home and family are your main focus because relatives are popping out of the woodwork. Plus, you

have ambitious plans to tackle jobs and repairs you've been meaning to get to for a while. Unfortunately, when Mars goes retrograde this week, everything will seem more bother than it's worth. Well, not everything. You will enjoy fun socializing! That's why if you can, meet a friend for lunch or dinner. However, be patient with partners and spouses because power struggles and annoyances will be hard to avoid.

Libra the Scales (September 23-October 22):

Life has been busier lately. At the same time, it's been tough meeting your deadlines. Short trips and conversations with others, plus reading and studying are things you want to do, but the world keeps interfering with your plans. You want to see friends and groups but it's too difficult to make happen. One thing is certain: You're enjoying being at home and making it more beautiful. In fact, you might introduce something unusual or high tech to where you live. Make the effort to invite one person over for a brief visit.

Scorpio the Scorpion (October 23-November 21):

You're concerned with money, cash flow and earnings right now. However, Mercury retrograde, which is taking place in your Money House, will delay earnings coming to you. You might have increased costs related to your kids, or with social outings, vacations or the arts. In fact, you might be so busy with your social life that you're hemorrhaging money. You also feel disillusioned with your work. You can't drum up enough interest to do something to dazzle anyone. One reprieve: you're charming and diplomatic right

now! Furthermore, you love your daily surroundings.

Sagittarius the Archer (November 22-December 21):

With the Sun still in your sign, you are blessed with more charisma and energy to deal with everyone. Having said that, however, this week, difficulties at home, perhaps with a parent or an authority figure might create challenges. On top of this, Mercury retrograde is taking place in Sagittarius, which creates silly errors and delays! Plans related to travel, publishing, the media, medicine and the law are on hold. Stay calm and carry on. Fortunately, your ability to earn money is still solid. And you're enjoying buying beautiful things for yourself and loved ones.

Capricorn the Goat (December 22-January 19):

Life is a bit of a struggle for many people because Mars is going retrograde until February next year! For your sign, this is going to bring up old business related to inheritances, shared property, taxes, debt and insurance. In fact, a secret from the past might be "revealed." Therefore, go with the flow. Anything else will only frustrate you. Fortunately, Venus in your sign makes you charming and friendly with everyone. Shop for wardrobe items because you will like what you see in the mirror.

Aquarius the Water Bearer (January 20-February 18):

Friends and interactions with clubs and organizations continue to be on your mind. You might have difficulties dealing with an older person who is more experienced. Meanwhile, you will run into friends from your past because of Mercury retrograde. This might be the reason that many of you

will have difficulties dealing with spouses and partners. Possibly, something from your past will be revealed and this could create a problem. (You like to stay friends with your old lovers. Not everyone understands this.) Time alone in pleasant surroundings with fun snacks will be your guilty pleasure.

Pisces the Fish (February 19-March 20):

You might find that dealing with parents, bosses and supervisors is a strain this week. Whatever the case, don't push anything. For one thing, your energy at work is flagging. You can't get excited about what it is you're supposed to do. By contrast, you're happy to socialize with friends. In fact, for some of you, a friend might become a lover. You're also happy to entertain at home. Do whatever you can to trick yourself into maintaining the bare minimum at work because you can't blow that.



By Georgia Nicols
www.georgianicols.com.

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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. tcv@tricityvoice.com



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(Gift card donations also accepted)

OR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024
BAY BOMBS SHOW AND SHINE
10 AM - 4 PM
JAMES LOGAN HIGH SCHOOL
Meyers Dr. PARKING LOT
@Bay Bombs Show & Shine
Free admission with new unwrapped toy or a \$10 donation

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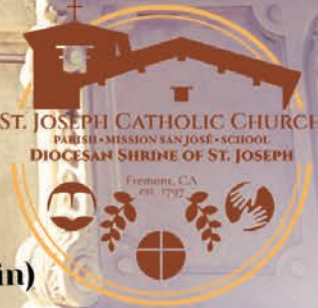
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Sun 8AM, 10AM, 12PM, 3PM (Vietnamese), 5PM (Mandarin)
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California Nursery Garden Club
honors long-time volunteer

Submitted by
BRENDA NIXON

The California Nursery
Garden Club recently
honored long-time volunteer
Judy Silberman for her
commitment and dedication
to the display gardens at
the California Nursery
Historical Park. The Park,
located in Niles, houses
five gardens, including the
Shade Garden, which was
designed and developed
by Ms. Silberman over
her more than two decades
of service. Approximately

thirty-five guests celebrated
at the Vallejo Adobe,
including members of
the Garden Club, Ms.
Silberman's family,
members of the Friends
of Heirloom Flowers who
garden at Shinn Park, city
employees, and community
members. Refreshments
were generously donated
by Laurel Beebe, owner
and operator of Oh, Cake
Catering.
The Adobe was
decorated with flower
arrangements and displays
created by gardeners from

both California Nursery
Garden Club and Friends of
Heirloom Flowers. Parked
outside the Adobe was the
1934 Ford Phaeton owned
and provided by Gary Mills,
advertising The California
Nursery Company, on
whose property the Adobe
now sits. Linens and
glassware were provided by
Wendy Winsted.
Speakers included
Peggy Cassity, local
historian Janet Barton,
Wilma Spillers,
Joanne Dean, and
Brenda Nixon, members of

California Nursery Garden
Club, and Denise LePielbet
from Friends of Heirloom
Flowers. In addition,
Irene Jordahl and
Rico Lardizabal presented
a certificate and gift from
the city of Fremont. Ms.
Silberman was also
awarded a pair of gold
gloves and a golden Hori
Hori gardening knife
from the garden club. Ms.
Silberman's contribution
to the beautification and
sustainability of the garden
deserves the thanks of her
community.



After over 20 years of volunteering, Judy Silberman was honored with a party at the Vallejo Adobe at California Nursery Park. Photo courtesy of Peggy Cassity



Parked outside the Adobe was the 1934 Ford Phaeton advertising The California Nursery Company, owned and provided by Gary Mills. Photo courtesy of Peggy Cassity



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Newark holds open studios with holiday boutiques

LOCAL ARTISTS OFFER DEMOS, STUDIO TOURS AND ORIGINAL ART



Adriane Dedic makes her textile art by layering small pieces of fabric to create whimsical designs. Photo courtesy of Adriane Dedic



Glass artist Emelie Rogers creates stunning glass sculptures. Photo courtesy of Adriane Dedic



Fiber artist Helen Nielson’s purses range in size from small clutches to tote bags. Photo courtesy of Adriane Dedic

Submitted by
ADRIANE DEDIC

Simone Archer and Adriane Dedic started the annual Newark Artists Open Studios event 23 years ago and always look forward to sharing their techniques, displaying their newest art, and offering unique gift items for the holiday season including jewelry, handmade purses, fashion scarves, decorative ceramic tiles, glass platters, vases and gift sets. In 2024, glass artist Emelie Rogers will also be at Dedic’s studio, while fiber artist Helen Nielsen will be at Archer’s studio. On Dec. 7 and 8 from 11am to

4pm, locals are invited to enjoy holiday cookies and hot cider as they browse the array of art and chat with the artists. Adriane Dedic displayed her textile art at the de Young Museum in San Francisco in 2023. At first glance, her art looks like a painting but she actually collages small pieces of fabric to create whimsical or figurative designs. Her award-winning Klimt-inspired textile collages are filled with metallic gold and jewel toned fabrics. She also has her favorite designs on fashionable long silky scarves, pillows, tote bags and marble coasters.

At her studio, Simone Archer’s will fire fused glass jewelry and ceramic pieces on her kiln. She will share secrets of her plein air painting, a technique that allows her to be immersed in the natural landscape and lose all sense of time, whether in local vineyards, the streets of Niles, or on the coast listening to powerful rushing waves. Her collection of iridescent glass jewelry and colorful ceramic wall tiles makes for wonderful holiday gifts. Award-winning glass artist Emelie Rogers will display her stunning glass vases, platters and decorative

pieces at Dedic’s studio. Rogers uses copper, enamels and powdered glass to create eye-catching images of sea turtles, mermaids, and exotic flora and fauna. Using metal inclusions, she creates shimmering effects on her glass plaques, wall art, and centerpieces that are in both private and public collections. She has applied her designs to small glass trays that work perfectly for soap, candies or assorted teas. In addition, Emelie has wonderful glass holiday ornaments as well as gorgeous dichroic jewelry. Fiber artist Helen Nielson will be at Archer’s studio

with handmade fabric purses and wallets made of colorful fun prints including flowers, turtles, abstracts and snowmen. The purses range in sizes from small to large and even over the shoulder style. Fabric wallets also easily fit in a purse to hold credit cards, driver’s license, money and small items. This is the perfect opportunity to chat with artists behind the scenes, and to choose a unique artist designed gift item, a beautiful décor piece, or brighten a home with a new work of art. This annual event is free and open to the public.

**Newark Open Studios
Saturday, Dec. 7
Sunday, Dec. 8
11am - 4pm
36541 Cherry St.:
Artists Simone Archer,
Helen Nielsen
35911 Ruschin Dr.:
Artists Adriane Dedic,
Emelie Rogers
www.myartiststudio.com**

Home & Garden

Growing moth orchids for months of beauty

ORCHIDS ARE BEAUTIFUL AND EASY-TO-CARE-FOR PLANTS



Orchids benefit from 12 - 14 hours of sunlight per day and weekly watering. Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com



The moth orchid, also known as phalaenopsis orchid, provides months of exotic blossoms with minimal care. Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com



Group orchids and other indoor plants so that as one loses moisture, the others receive humidity. Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com



Place pebbles in a saucer under the orchid and allow water to collect to boost humidity. Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

By MELINDA MYERS

Add exotic long-lasting orchid blossoms to your indoor garden. These living bouquets provide months of beauty with minimal care. Just provide the proper growing conditions and success is sure to follow.

The moth or phalaenopsis orchid is the one best adapted to your home environment, making it the easiest to grow. It thrives in the same temperatures as people with night temperatures in the 60s and 70 to 80 degrees during the day. However, avoid hot and cold air drafts that can stress the plants and cause bud and flower drop.

Moth orchids are epiphytes, growing on but not parasitizing trees and other plants. They obtain water and nutrients from the air, rainwater and plant debris that

accumulate in their environment. They can be mounted on a board but usually are grown in an orchid mix made of peat, fir bark and perlite. This or a similar combination retains water while providing needed drainage.

Place your plant in a bright location near an east-, west- or slightly shaded south-facing window. Your orchid will do best when it receives 12 to 14 hours of sunlight daily. Enlist the help of artificial lights if your orchids are struggling when natural light, especially during winter, is insufficient. Newer full-spectrum LED lights are more affordable, require less energy and are longer lasting than the grow lights of the past.

Give your orchid a good watering about once a week with room temperature water just as the planting mix starts to dry. Pour off

any excess water that collects in the saucer. Don't allow orchids to sit in water and don't water too often as this can lead to root rot and death of your plant.

Fertilize actively growing and flowering plants every third or fourth watering. Use an orchid plant fertilizer according to label directions. Skip winter fertilization if temperatures are cooler, sunlight is limited, and the plants are not putting on new growth.

Improve the environment even more by increasing the humidity around the plant. Group them with other orchids and indoor plants. As one plant loses moisture, or "transpires," the others will benefit from the increase in humidity. Plus, you'll create a beautiful display while improving the growing conditions.

Or increase the humidity around your plants with humidity or gravel trays. Place pebbles in

the saucer and set the pot on top of the pebbles. Allow excess water to collect in the pebbles below the pot. As the water evaporates it increases the humidity around your plant. It also eliminates the need to pour off the excess water that collects in the saucer.

You won't need to repot your orchid for quite a while. Wait to repot it until it is done blooming, the potting mix has broken down or the plant becomes pot bound. This is usually about every 18 to 24 months.

Enjoy a second flush of flowers with cool nights and proper post-flowering care. Leave the flower stem intact and the plant may produce a second flush of smaller blooms at the tip of the stem. Or you can cut the flower stem back between the second and third node from the bottom. For the best rebloom and to allow the plant to replenish energy spent on

flowering, prune the flower stem back to about one-half inch above the leaves and enjoy a second flush of flowers in about a year.

And if reblooming your orchid is too much work, treat it like a long-lasting bouquet. And if you can't stand to toss or compost it, give it to an avid gardener. There's always someone willing to adopt and try to rebloom your plant.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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Arts & Entertainment

Continuing Events:

Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays Oct. 14 – Dec. 20

EnhanceFitness Fall Prevention Course \$R

9:30am - 10:30am
Exercises to build strength and balance in adults ages 65+
Ralph & Mary Ruggieri Senior Center
33997 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City
510.876.8809
spectrumcs.org
Suggested donation for 10-week course: \$54

Mondays and Tuesdays

Practice Your English at Fremont Main Library

Monday: 7pm - 8pm (starting 11/4)
Tuesday: 4pm - 5pm
Practice English with tutors.
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont
aclibrary.org

Mondays and Thursdays

Food Garden Volunteer

9am - 12pm
Learning from experienced gardeners.
LEAF CR Stone Garden
55 Mowry Ave., Fremont
volunteer@fremontleaf.org
Volunteer agreement form is required.

Tuesdays

East Bay Games Meet

6pm - 10pm
German/Euro style board games and card games.
Swiss Park
5911 Mowry Ave., Newark
510.936.2523
meetup.com/east-bay-games
sfdavidkaye@yahoo.com

Tuesdays

East Indian Seniors R

2pm - 4pm
Anyone who is retired and of Indian origin or interested in Indian culture is welcome to join us.
Age Well Center at Lake Elizabeth
40086 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont
510.790.6606
Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the month

Tuesdays

Music and Storytime

11:30am - 12pm
Join us for stories, music, and movement. For babies, toddlers, kids, and preschoolers.
Cherryland Community Center
278 Hampton Road, Hayward
510.626.8522

Tuesdays

Comfort & Joy Ukulele R

1:30pm - 3pm
A group of ukulele players with volunteer leaders to prac-

tice familiar songs as well as learning new.

Age Well Center at Lake Elizabeth
40086 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont
510.790.6606

Thursdays

Historic Days

10am – 4pm
Ride a narrow-gauge train, tour the beautifully restored Patterson House Museum.
Disabled accessible. Ardenwood admission fee applies.
Ardenwood Farms
34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
510.544.2797
Drop in program

Thursdays

Family Board Game Night

3:30pm - 5:30pm
Play together with family and friends, or make some new friends at the library.
Centerville library
3801 Nicolet Ave., Fremont
510.795.2629
Board games will be provided.

Thursdays

The Peaceful Poets

5pm - 8pm
Join a Milpitas-based group of writers and appreciators of poetry.
Milpitas Public Library
160 N Main St., Milpitas
408.262.1171
For teens, adults, and seniors.
Last Thursdays of the month

Thursday, Nov. 7 - Saturday, Dec. 14

Connecting Cuts Exhibit

Witness the art of Bay Area artists' papercutting, intricate designs created by carving shapes in positive and negative space into paper.
Gallery hours: Thur - Sun; 12pm - 5pm
Olive Hyde Art Gallery
123 Washington Blvd., Fremont
510.791.4357
olivehydeartguild.org

Thursdays and Saturdays

Story Time

10:30am - 11am
Picture book story time
Banter Bookshop
3768 Capitol Ave. Ste. F, Fremont
510.565.1004
bit.ly/3VFpbpc

Saturdays

Laugh Track City R\$

8pm
Series of improvised games and scenes
Made Up Theatre
4000 Bay St. suite B., Fremont
(510) 573-3633
madeuptheatre.com

Saturdays

Free Beginner Pickleball Lesson

12pm - 2pm
Free pickleball lesson taught by a USPA professional.
Hall Memorial Park
304 La Honda Dr, Milpitas (408) 586-3210
Drop-in. Weather permitting.

Saturdays

Teen Cohort for Outdoor Education R\$

10am – 4pm
Meet new friends, build outdoor skills, and get to know your community
Ashland Community Center
1530 167th Ave., San Leandro
Noel Munivez: 510.317.2303
munnn@HaywardRec.org

Sundays

Farmyard Games

1pm
Try your hand at classic American pastimes including stilts, sack races, and the potato-spoon race. Drop-in program; Ardenwood admission fee applies.
Ardenwood Farms
34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont
510.544-2797

Sunday, Dec. 1 – Monday, Jan. 14

Life is a Joy Exhibit

11am – 4pm
Portola Art Gallery presents "Life is a Joy - New and Recent Works Inspired by Tomorrow and Yesterday," expressive oil paintings by award-winning artist Marsha Heimbecker of San Mateo.
Portola Art Gallery
75 Arbor Rd., Menlo Park
www.portolaartgallery.com
650.321.0220

Sundays - Saturdays

Recreational Swim \$

12:30pm - 5pm
Attractions may vary.
Silliman Activity and Family Aquatic Center
6800 Mowry Ave., Newark
510.578-4620
bit.ly/3nxo0is

Sundays

Larry "O" Teen Workshop

10am - 12pm
Used bikes, bike parts for sale and bike repair. Donation accepted.
Larry Orozco Teen Workshop
33623 Mission Blvd., Union City
510.675.5487
www.unioncity.org/723/Larry-O-Teen-Workshop
RobertS@unioncity.org
Second and fourth Sundays of the month

Mission San Jose Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting

Saturday, Dec. 7

5pm
Mission Courtyard
43571 Mission Blvd., Fremont
www.msjchamber.org/christmas-tree-lighting
Hayward Light up the Season

Saturday, Dec. 7

5pm
City Hall Rotunda Plaza
777 B St., Hayward
www.hayward-ca.gov
Pacific Commons Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec. 8

5pm
Pacific Commons, next to Market Broiler
43406 Christy St., Fremont
www.pacificcommons.com

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

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Dec. 3

A Journey Through Color

1:35pm
Student led art exhibit featuring works of art, live music from student bands and snacks for purchase.
Moreau Catholic High School
Ivaldi Student Center
27170 Mission Blvd., Hayward

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Karaoke for a Cause

7pm
Giving Tuesday fundraiser for the nonprofit theatre company with a holiday-themed twist. Get you (or a singer of your choice) a spot on the holly jolly performer's list.
Dirty Bird Lounge: Bird of Paradise Room
926 B St., Hayward
Plethos.org

Tuesday, Dec. 3 – Thursday, Dec. 5

Illuminating the Historic Mansions

5:30 – 7:30pm
The annual H.A.R.D. Holiday Lights event will illuminate three treasured landmarks, offering three nights of community celebration where each mansion lighting will feature its own unique charm
12/3: Mt. Eden Mansion – 2451 W Tennyson Rd., Hayward
12/4: McConaghy House – 18701 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward
12/5: Meek Mansion – 240 Hampton Rd., Hayward
haywardrec.org/calendar

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Free Music and Movement

3:30 – 4:30pm
Join the singing, dancing and rhythmic movement for ages 5-10 with Music for Minors.
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont
Register at: tinyurl.com/mvnnkurw

Saturday, Dec. 7

Believe Holiday Boutique

9am – 3pm
American High School
36300 Fremont Blvd., Fremont
Ahsboutique.weebly.com

Saturday, Dec. 7

Analysis and Impact of the 2024 Election

10 – 11:30am
San Jose State Political Science Professor Larry Gerston discusses the impact of the latest election.
Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Saturday, Dec. 7

San Leandro Library Cookbook Sale

10am – 3pm
Hundreds of books featuring cuisines from around the world will be featured. It's great time to start your holiday shopping.
San Leandro Main Library
300 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro

Saturday, Dec. 7

Ballet Petit Nutcracker

2pm & 7pm
Join in the local holiday tradition to watch the 46th annual Nutcracker performance.
Chabot College Center for the Performing Arts
25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward
www.balletpetit.com
Tix: \$23 - \$30

Saturday, Dec. 7 - Sunday, Dec 8

Newark Open Studios

11am - 4pm
Enjoy holiday cookies and hot cider and browse the array of art and chat with the artists.
36541 Cherry St.: Artists Simone Archer, Helen Nielsen
35911 Ruschin Dr.: Artists Adriane Dedic, Emelie Rogers
www.myartistsstudio.com

Saturday, Dec. 7 - Sunday, Dec. 8

Yoko's Nutcracker Ballet

Sat: 2pm & 7pm
Sun: 2pm
Fremont Opera and Yoko's Academy of Dance & Performing Arts are joining forces to present Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet."
The Smith Center at Ohlone College
43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont
www.fremontopera.org
510.659.6031
Tickets: \$30 – \$45

Sunday, Dec. 8

FAA holiday open house

1pm – 3pm
Meet the artists who show their works at the gallery shows and start holiday shopping with unique art pieces made by local artists.
Fremont Art Association Gallery
37697 Niles Blvd., Fremont
www.fremontartassociation.org

Tuesday, Dec. 10

Smart Start: Teen Driver Program

6 – 8pm
CHP officers will discuss traffic collision avoidance techniques, collision causing factors, driver/parent responsibilities, and seatbelt usage.
Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley
510.667.0660
nsilva@aclibrary.org
www.aclibrary.org

Friday, Dec. 13

Snacks with Santa

5:30 – 7:30pm
Have hot cocoa and cookies, and maybe get photo with Santa himself. This event is open to children 12 years and younger.
31600 Alvarado Blvd., Union City
\$15 resident, \$25 non-resident
Vanessam@UnionCity.org
510.675.5491

Friday, Dec. 13 – Sunday, Dec. 15

Douglas Morrisson Holiday Concert

Fri - Sat: 8pm
Sun: 2pm
This unforgettable night of uplifting music is sure to raise spirits and spark the holiday mood. Don't miss this night of glorious music and fun.
Douglas Morrisson Theater
22311 Third St., Hayward
510.881.6700
haywardrec.org/theater
Tickets available online only

Saturday, Dec. 14

Tri-City Volunteer Toy Party

8am
TCV distributes toys to 600 families. Receive gifts or volunteer.
Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont
tcvfoodbank.org
volunteer@tcvfoodbank.org

Saturday, Dec. 14

Life is a Joy Exhibit Reception

1 – 4pm
Portola Art Gallery presents "Life is a Joy - New and Recent Works Inspired by Tomorrow and Yesterday," expressive oil paintings by award-winning artist Marsha Heimbecker of San Mateo.
Portola Art Gallery
75 Arbor Rd., Menlo Park
www.portolaartgallery.com
650.321.0220

Saturday, Dec. 14 - Sunday, Dec. 15

Navidad en Mexico

Sat: 7pm
Sun: 2pm
Ballet Folklórico Mexicano de Carlos Moreno. Mariachi Colima and special guest singer Nina Hernandez
San Leandro Performing Arts Center
2250 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro
balletfolkloricomexicano.org
510.924.7849
Tickets: \$50

Tree Lighting Calendar

By STAFF

While East Bay residents are decorating and putting up their Christmas trees, cities and shopping centers are doing the same, with official tree lightings where people gather for caroling, hot chocolate, visits with Santa, and of course the lighting of a majestic community tree.

Washington Hospital Tree Lighting

Thursday, Dec. 5

5:00 - 6:30pm
Washington West, Anderson Auditorium
2500 Mowry Ave., Fremont
www.whhs.com/upcoming-events

Milpitas Tree Lighting

Thursday, Dec. 5

7pm
Civic Center Plaza

457 E. Calaveras Plaza, Milpitas
www.milpitas.gov/1104/Recreation-Community-Services
It's a Wonderful Night
Friday, Dec. 6
5:30pm
W. Juana Ave., San Leandro
Between East 14th St. and Washington Ave.
downtownsanleandro.com/holiday/

Castro Village Tree Lighting

Friday, Dec. 6

6pm
Castro Village Shopping Center (Near Loard's Ice Cream)
Castro Valley Blvd. at Santa Maria Ave., Castro Valley
castrovillage.com

City of Newark Tree Lighting

Friday, Dec. 6

7pm
Newark Civic Center
37101 Newark Blvd., Newark
www.newark.org

Mission San Jose Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting

Saturday, Dec. 7

5pm
Mission Courtyard
43571 Mission Blvd., Fremont
www.msjchamber.org/christmas-tree-lighting
Hayward Light up the Season

Saturday, Dec. 7

5pm
City Hall Rotunda Plaza
777 B St., Hayward
www.hayward-ca.gov
Pacific Commons Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec. 8

5pm
Pacific Commons, next to Market Broiler
43406 Christy St., Fremont
www.pacificcommons.com

Correction

The article "Fremont teens work on Gun Smoke report," which ran on page 16 of the November 26, 2024 issue of Tri-City Voice contained several errors. We apologize for the confusion.

The subheader should read "Guns returned to TV following strikes, but

audiences preferred shows without guns."

The second paragraph should reflect that Shiven Patel and Esha Ambre led the research project and worked with other members of Project Unloaded's Youth Council.

Nina Vinik is the President and Founder of Project Unloaded.

FAA Holiday Open House



At the open house, shopping includes handmade pieces including jewelry, ceramics, wooden items and hand-dyed clothing. Photo courtesy of Susan Helmer

Submitted by
SUSAN HELMER

The Fremont Art Association (FAA) members, their families and friends and the public are all invited to the free FAA open house on Dec. 8. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the artists who show their work in the gallery, and artists are able to interact with the other artists showing at the gallery.

Start holiday shopping with unique handmade pieces for sale made by local artists at the gallery at affordable prices. Gallery gift items include jewelry, ceramics, wood turned items, hand dyed clothing, knitted and crochet accessories, plus fabric dolls, and even Christmas ornaments. For generous gift givers, the gallery has a wonderful selection of oil, acrylic and water color paintings.

FAA holiday open house

Sunday, Dec. 8

1pm – 3pm

Fremont Art Association Gallery

37697 Niles Blvd., Fremont
www.fremontartassociation.org

Birth

LIFE CORNERSTONES

Marriage

Obituaries

For more information
510-494-1999
tcv@tricityvoice.com



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Phillip A. Walden
Resident of Fremont
August 25, 1936 – November 21, 2024

Henry Emmanuel Hall
Resident of Newark
April 26, 1993 – November 22, 2024

Greg Reyes
Resident of Union City
January 4, 1953 – November 24, 2024

Dawn J. Scott
Resident of Fremont
May 16, 1943 – November 22, 2024

Paul A. Rogers
Resident of Fremont
December 24, 1944 – November 7, 2024

Reuel V. Bundang
Resident of Hayward
January 21, 1936 – November 19, 2024

Gloria A. Nite
Resident of Fremont
September 20, 1936 – November 20, 2024

Chris West
Resident of Fremont
February 16, 1966 – October 31, 2024

Rick Maddock
Resident of Fremont
October 27, 1951 – November 17, 2024

Richard W. Kendrick, Jr.
Resident of Tracy
August 14, 1956 - November 13, 2024

Augusto I. Mendioro, Jr.
Resident of Fremont
January 30, 1960 – November 13, 2024

Ronald W. Cambra
Resident of Fremont
July 22, 1950 – November 9, 2024

Marjorie M. Pine
Resident of Discovery Bay
February 21, 1928 – November 5, 2024

Gregory Brahaney
Resident of Fremont
December 7, 1951 – November 2, 2024

Muniratanam Naiker
Resident of Redwood City
July 22, 1952 – November 3, 2024

Gloria J. Contreras
Resident of Fremont
April 28, 1943 - November 2, 2024



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Pandit Chandramouli Narayansastri
Resident of Livermore
June 2, 1966 – November 26, 2024

Alicia Cuenca
Resident of Fremont
May 20, 1930 – November 26, 2024

Theresa Jeevamathi
Resident of Fremont
December 12, 1934 – November 23, 2024

Alkesh Desai
Resident of San Jose
May 28, 1959 – November 23, 2024

Shirley Dewan
Resident of Newark
December 5, 1938 – November 22, 2024

Om Sharma
Resident of Dublin
October 25, 1943 – November 22, 2024

Cleotilde Manuel
Resident of Fremont
April 4, 1936 – November 20, 2024

Jyotsna Patel
Resident of San Francisco
January 7, 1945 – November 20, 2024

Bhag Singh Ahuja
Resident of Fremont
February 8, 1940 – November 20, 2024

Praneetha Veldurthi
Resident of Livermore
November 25, 1993 – November 20, 2024

Abilash Seshadri
Resident of San Francisco
June 24, 1991 – November 19, 2024

Erlinda De Guzman
Resident of Fremont
February 3, 1944 – November 19, 2024

Ajit Kulkarni
Resident of India
August 20, 1955 – November 17, 2024

Le Ja Chua
Resident of Martinez
August 5, 1933 – November 16, 2024

Hardev Grewal
Resident of Hayward
April 3, 1929 – November 16, 2024

Prabhakar Pamula
Resident of Fremont
July 18, 1961 – November 15, 2024

Faramarz Azadan
Resident of Fremont
June 28, 1950 – November 11, 2024

DAWN J. SCOTT
May 16, 1943 – November 22, 2024



Dawn J. Scott, 81, of Fremont, CA, passed away on November 22, 2024 from complications after a two-year battle with endometrial cancer. Dawn was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend to many.

Dawn was born on May 16, 1943, to John and Betty Perona in Oakland, CA. Dawn grew up in Walnut Creek with her two brothers Johnny and Robert. She went on to study education at San Jose State University. After graduating, she began a long career in teaching and worked as a reading specialist in Fremont and Monterey for K- 3rd grade. She obtained her Master's in Reading Education in 1999 from Cal State Hayward.

In 1975, Dawn met her future husband, Lieutenant Commander Gary H. Scott, a US Navy officer from Quincy, Illinois. They met and married at Trinity Lutheran Church in Monterey, CA. They had four children and were married for 37 wonderful years.

Dawn was predeceased by her husband Gary in 2013. She is survived by her children Celesia Ventura (Rich), Benjamin Abbott-Scott (Jennifer), Aimee Campos (Miguel), and Jonathan Scott (Janessa); grandchildren Andrew Jester, Isabella Hendricks, Taylor Hendricks, Samantha Jester, Colin Abbott-Scott, Cole Ventura, Lily Campos, Emily Abbott-Scott, Gabby Campos, Gwendolyn Abbott-Scott, Oliver Scott, Evelyn Scott.

Dawn retired from Fremont Unified School District in 2008. She was an active member at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. She volunteered her time tutoring children in the community, the California Retired Teachers Association, Creative Circle craft group, IWML, and Piecemaker's quilting club. She loved to travel and was an incredibly talented artist, crafter, quilter, gardener, and painter. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and community.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church or the Alameda County Food Bank.





**Celebrate
a life
well lived**



Call or email for details:
Lynda at 707.353.1148
or LifeTributes@Weeklys.com
tricityvoice.com/obituaries

Capture the essence of a departed family member with an obituary in the pages of our papers. Your tribute will appear perpetually on our website, and that of our partner, Legacy.com. We can write a tribute that embodies the spirit of the deceased, or we can publish one you provide us.



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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.
tcv@tricityvoice.com

EarthTalk

Climate Refuges



The devastating flooding in Asheville, North Carolina has made people question just which types of places are the best climate refuges. Credit: Bill McMannis, FlickrCC.

By **ISABEL EDDY**

Dear EarthTalk: Have extreme weather events in places like Asheville, NC made people rethink where they consider to be good “climate refuges” as

the world warms? – K.L., Raleigh, NC

The concept of the “climate refuge,” or a location relatively unaffected by extreme weather phenomena, arose in response to the

growing frequency of tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, droughts and other disasters. According to the Global Climate Resilience Ranking, the U.S. has one of the world’s largest numbers of these “refuges” as a result

of the nation’s geography and ability to efficiently protect and rebuild assets and infrastructure.

Experts have long predicted that these least climate-affected communities lie in the

interior Northeast, Midwest and Rust Belt. Yet many have also viewed areas in the inland South as meeting the qualifications of climate refuge. However, these communities have increasingly dealt with their own disasters. Vermont, ranked at the bottom of the climate risk index, is still recovering one year later from the Great Vermont Flood of 2023 which caused several fatalities and roughly \$2.2 billion in damage.

In late September 2024, mudslides in the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina took dozens of lives and caused horrific damage. Asheville, NC, one of the hardest hit cities, has been one of the many “refuge” destinations for Americans moving inland from coastal areas, citing rising sea levels and heightened insurance costs as affecting their decision.

As the reach of disasters grows, experts push for investment into the states comprising the Rust Belt, interior Northeast and northern great plains. These fairly temperate states are located far from warming oceans, and are ideal geographically. However, there are other challenges to these “havens.” Much of the Rust Belt struggles with high poverty rates and would require significant aid and investment to support a large population influx. But as the effect of extreme weather

in the South, West and exterior Northeast regions have escalated, so has federal and private investment. In late September, the Energy Department closed a \$1.52 billion loan to revive the shuttered Palisades nuclear plant in Michigan. And the tech giant Micron Technology Inc. opened a 2022 chip plant in central NY, creating an anticipated 50,000 jobs.

The increasing reach of natural disasters across the U.S will likely shift the public’s idea of a “climate refuge” upwards and inwards. But while these regions may offer greater refuge from climate-impacted disasters, the idea of a completely immune “haven” is unrealistic as proven throughout the past decade. Even the most isolated high-elevation community van be impacted by extreme weather.

CONTACTS: Why these ‘climate haven’ cities aren’t yet ready for more extreme weather events, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/science/why-these-climate-haven-cities-arent-yet-ready-for-more-extreme-weather-events>.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

continued from page 1

Union City looks for grants to repair the Historical Museum

an estimated \$150,000 to meet building codes and ensure safety. Immediate priorities include installing a new heating and ventilation system, repairing electrical systems and addressing ADA compliance issues. Further upgrades, such as new windows, bathroom fixtures and exterior repairs, are also recommended.

The City Council will decide whether to pursue a lease agreement with the Chamber of Commerce and the Washington Township Museum or explore other uses. Alternatives include leasing the building to a commercial tenant or

converting it into city offices or a rental facility.

The council will also determine the level of investment to make the building usable. Staff has recommended immediate cleanup efforts, potentially involving volunteers and local historians to assess and preserve remaining historical artifacts.

While the cleanup is expected to cost less than \$10,000, the broader renovation could require additional funding. City staff will explore grants to offset costs and provide a detailed financial plan if the Council moves forward with

the Chamber and Museum proposal.

The proposal has garnered support from local residents who value the preservation of Union City’s history. A September 2024 community meeting at Old Alvarado Park expressed enthusiasm for reestablishing the museum.

The City Council’s decisions in the coming months will determine whether the site becomes a renewed historical and community hub or is utilized for other purposes.



The Union City Historical Museum has been closed since March 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. Photo by April Ramos

Union Sanitary District proposes new rates

Submitted by **MICHELLE POWELL**

Union Sanitary District (USD) is proposing rate increases over the next five years to continue funding capital projects required by new state nutrient regulations for the San Francisco Bay and to support reliable and robust operations for the next 40 years. The District recently mailed notices of a Jan. 27, 2025 Public Hearing on the proposed rate changes to all property owners in Fremont, Newark and Union City.

The proposed increases range from about \$25 to \$27 each year for single-family residences, which are the majority of USD’s customers. The current annual rate for single-family residences is \$611.58. If approved, the rate would increase to \$636.03 starting in July of 2025.

The proposed rates are based on the results of a comprehensive study of the cost of providing sewer service from July 2025 through June 2030 pursuant to governing law in “Prop 218” (California

Constitution Article XIII(D), Section 6). The study and supporting documents can be found on the District’s website at unionsanitary.ca.gov/ssc.

In July 2024, the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) adopted new, more stringent nutrient reduction requirements for all 37 Bay Area wastewater facilities. USD had anticipated the potential for these new regulations as far back as 2015 as it began evaluating its future infrastructure needs. These deliberations led to undertaking the Enhanced Treatment and Site Upgrade Program (ETSU), the largest capital improvement project in District history, with a total project cost of \$509,511,993. Construction began in 2022 and is scheduled to be completely operational by 2030. This undertaking makes USD an early adopter of nutrient removal technologies. Acting early allowed USD to secure low-interest loans from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State which significantly lower

the District’s interest expense and allow USD to minimize rate increases.

Prior to the Public Hearing, the District will hold a community meeting at 6:30pm on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025 at the Fremont Main Library. Staff will present information about the proposed rates and the services USD provides to the Tri-Cities. “All community members are invited to attend,” said General Manager Paul Eldredge. “We hope everyone takes the opportunity to come see what is happening at USD and to get updates on the San Francisco Bay Third Watershed Permit and construction activities at the wastewater treatment plant.”

USD’s mission includes protecting public health and the environment through its stewardship of wastewater infrastructure in Fremont, Newark and Union City by collecting, treating and returning to the environment on average 23 - 25 million gallons of wastewater daily. The District maintains a large number of facilities and equipment, including more than 839 miles of

sewer lines, seven pump stations, and the buildings and equipment at its 33-acre wastewater treatment plant in Union City. “The cost of operating and maintaining these facilities continues to rise significantly every year, often outpacing inflation,” said Eldredge. “USD will continue to seek cost saving and other measures to keep increases as low as possible.”

Union Sanitary District operates a 33-million gallon per day wastewater treatment facility in Union City and provides collection, treatment and disposal services to a population of over 342,000 in Fremont, Newark and Union City.

For more information about Union Sanitary District’s Notice of Public Hearing, contact General Manager Paul Eldredge at (510) 477-7500 or visit the District’s website at unionsanitary.ca.gov/ssc.

Water rate increase community meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 14
6:30pm
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont



Now... What...?

Submitted by **ANDREA SCHACTER, League of Women Voters-Fremont, Newark, Union City**

Now that the 2024 election is over, what does it all mean for the country, region, state and cities, for our individual lives and the lives of fellow Americans?

The League of Women Voters-Fremont, Newark and Union City, along with the American Association of University Women-Fremont Branch, is proud to welcome San Jose State University Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Larry Gerston. He will analyze the election results, share his insights and answer our questions.

Professor Gerston is a distinguished scholar, author

and media commentator, having written more than a dozen books, numerous journal articles and more than 150 op-ed pieces for major California newspapers. Additionally, he is a frequent on-air political analyst on local, state and national levels. It is timely that just a year ago, Professor Gerston published his book, *Trumpism, Bigotry, and the Threat to American Democracy*.

This free program is open to all community members.

Lecture and Q&A from Larry Gerston
Saturday, Dec. 7
10:00 - 11:30am
Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Honor Roll

Palmer College of Chiropractic West Campus
Summer 2024 Dean's List
Christina Landreth of Milpitas

Ballet Petit Nutcracker

THE BAY AREA TRADITION STARTED SMALL AND BECAME AS CLASSIC AS ITS INSPIRATION



The Nutcracker ballet debuted in St. Petersburg Russia in 1892. Courtesy of Ballet Petit



The Nutcracker came to America in 1944. Courtesy of Ballet Petit



Thousands of young dancers have danced with Ballet Petit over the years. Courtesy of Ballet Petit



This year is the 46th Ballet Petit Nutcracker. Courtesy of Ballet Petit



The production has 160 performers. Courtesy of Ballet Petit

Submitted by
PEGGY PEABODY

Fans of Ballet Petit’s holiday event await the return of its 46th Annual Nutcracker on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2pm and 7pm at Chabot College Center for the Performing Arts. This once-small annual event, today is a standing tradition for many families in our local community.

Grandparents, parents, friends and children of all ages mark their calendars for the first Saturday of December each year to enjoy this holiday classic. Ballet Petit has hosted audience members who have returned annually, for over

30 years! This is a wonderful testimonial to how Ballet Petit has continued to share its production with the public for 46 years.

Ballet Petit’s audience continues to grow as people continue to discover the delight of enjoying this holiday show. There is a certain magic that happens when people sit and gather in a dark theatre, with hundreds of others. There is nothing quite like a live performance, the very existence that only happens at that moment in time, during that show.

The ballet, *The Nutcracker*, is a staple in the classical ballet world. This ballet was first performed in 1892 at the

Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg, Russia. This future holiday classic arrived in the United States in 1944, with its first performances danced by the San Francisco Ballet (SFB), right here in the Bay Area. This production was staged by then SFB Artistic Director, Willam Christensen. Ballet Petit, Artistic Director, Peggy Peabody actually danced in this same production in the 1970s, when she was a student dancer!

As happens in the ballet world, as dancers grow up in the ranks of ballet schools around the world, in 1978, now “Miss Peggy” felt something was missing on her first holiday not performing in *The*

Nutcracker. She took action to rectify this empty feeling. The result was the emergence of Ballet Petit’s first *Nutcracker* in 1978, a simple show with a small cast, very different from the full stage production of today. That early production set in motion 46 years of annual shows, with constant growth and development.

Since then, thousands of young, local dancers have graced the Ballet Petit stage to bring this delightful show to the delight of thousands in the audience.

Today, Ballet Petit’s Nutcracker lists a cast of 160 dancers in over 300 costumes. Woven throughout the production

are long standing traditions blended with a constant effort to keep the production fresh and ever-evolving.

If you have never experienced Ballet Petit’s Nutcracker, this year is a perfect time to set aside a couple of hours on Saturday, Dec. 7. Enjoy the music, the stage lighting and the common experience with others in the community. Marvel at the growing Christmas tree, the beautiful costumes, the talented and delightful dancers. Wonder how the snow falls, how the fog envelopes the stage, and more. This is a perfect way to kick off the holiday season, as many have over the years.

Tickets are available through www.purplepass.com. You can also access the links by visiting www.balletpetit.com and clicking to get to the Purple Pass links.

Thank you for supporting local artists. Community events make a positive impact on us all, on stage and in the audience. Happy Holidays.

Ballet Petit Nutcracker
Saturday, Dec. 7
2pm & 7pm
Chabot College Center for the Performing Arts
25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward
www.balletpetit.com
Tix: \$23 - \$30

Tri-City football season in review

A LOOK BACK AT HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS’ SEASON RECORDS



The Irvington Vikings saw one of their most promising seasons in recent years. Photo by Neel Bhimani

By NEEL BHIMANI

The 2024 high school football season has come to an end, leaving behind a season full of memorable moments and surprises. Heading into the season, there were many questions surrounding teams entering new eras, such as James Logan, Irvington and Kennedy. Meanwhile, for Washington, Newark and American, the season offered a clearer picture of their established identities and the strengths they brought to the field.

James Logan

James Logan had a season full of ups and downs, but ultimately ended on a positive note. The Colts finished 4-7 overall, but went 4-2 in league play, earning them a spot for a playoff game. Although their playoff run was cut short by a 34-0 loss, simply making a playoff game was a big success under first-year head coach James Barnes. Reflecting on the preseason, coach Barnes had emphasized, “This year, we want James Logan to play fast while also controlling the flow of the game.” While there is room for improvement,

the Colts demonstrated the discipline and conditioning that coach Barnes aimed for, setting a solid foundation for future growth.

American High School

American High School’s 2024 season marked significant improvement compared to their winless campaign in 2023. After a tough 0-6 start, the Eagles finally broke through with a hard-fought victory over San Lorenzo, a win that was long overdue and injected much-needed confidence into the program.

Despite the 1-9 record on the season, the Eagles are trending upwards and hope to see even more wins in the future. During the preseason, assistant head coach Rueben Rodriguez stated that the team’s adversity only strengthened them. This was evident throughout the year as the Eagles battled in many close games, laying the groundwork for brighter days ahead.

Irvington High School

The Irvington Vikings saw one of their most promising seasons in recent years, finishing 6-4 overall. After an impressive 6-0 start, the team struggled in the final stretch, ending the season with four consecutive losses. Despite the struggle at the end of the year, the season showed significant progress for the program. Head coach Anthony Jackson’s motto, “Accept the challenge” stuck with the team as they worked to redefine their identity. With a strong coaching staff and the experience gained this season, Irvington is positioned for an even brighter future.

Kennedy High School

For Kennedy High School, the 2024 season fell short of expectations after a strong 7-3 season the previous year. The

Titans struggled to find their rhythm, finishing 3-7. However, they did end the season on a high note with a commanding 32-12 win over Irvington. Head coach BJ Hagood, who described 2024 as a “rebuild year,” remained optimistic, stating, “I thought we grew a lot as a young team.” With many unknowns surrounding this team going into the season, coach Hagood is still content with the progress made throughout the year.

Washington High School

Washington High School faced a challenging season, finishing with a 3-7 record. A strong opening win against Novato High School showed the team’s potential, but the team struggled defensively down the stretch, giving up over 40 points in each of their last three games. Despite these setbacks, there were lots of bright spots on the offensive side of the ball, giving the Huskies a solid foundation to build on in the future.

Newark Memorial High School

Newark Memorial High School enjoyed a successful season, finishing 6-5 and earning a playoff berth. The Cougars overcame an early 1-2 start, closing the regular season with an impressive

5-2 run. This strong finish was just enough to get Newark Memorial into the playoffs, where their season was cut short with a 43-23 loss to Miramonte High School. In the offseason, assistant head coach Abdul Harris said, “We don’t make excuses, we make examples.” That mindset was evident throughout the season, as the Cougars battled in every game, turning challenges into opportunities. With this foundation, Newark Memorial looks poised to build on its momentum in the seasons ahead.

Each team entered the 2024 season with its own set of goals. Some were focused on making a playoff run, while others aimed to rebuild and get their programs back on track. While all teams differed in their goal, the fuel behind their drive was the same— a deep passion for the game and a chance to proudly represent their school. Whether striving for playoff glory or overcoming adversity, the dedication and heart shown by each team made the 2024 season a memorable chapter in Tri-City football.

Moreau Catholic wins NCS Championship

MARINERS FOOTBALL MAKES HISTORY WINNING HAYWARD’S FIRST EVER NCS DIVISION 7 TITLE



Three years after head coach Keith Minor took over the football program, Moreau takes historic win. Photo by Andrew Joseph



After Moreau Catholic’s historic win they continue to the Division 7-AA regional finals on Dec. 6. Photo by Andrew Joseph



The win marks the first Division 7 championship in Hayward’s history. Photo by Andrew Joseph

By ANDREW JOSEPH

The Moreau Catholic Mariners football team beat the Ferndale Wildcats 21-19 in Hayward on Saturday, Nov. 30 in the North Coast Section (NCS) Division 7 Championship. The win marks the first Division 7 championship in the city of Hayward history just three years after new head coach Keith Minor took over the program. “The toughest team wins and we came out here proving that by persevering

and playing hard all night,” said coach Minor. “We just made history tonight and it took a lot of work to do that so hats off to our whole team and program for making this happen.” After receiving the opening kickoff, Mariners’ wide receiver Jalen Arnold ran 70 yards on their first possession for a touchdown to give Moreau an early 7-0 lead. Ferndale’s rushing attack on offense was their focus which helped them score their first touchdown in the first quarter. Moreau’s starting quarterback

Jeremiah Charles took command of the offense early, adjusting to cover three defenses that the Wildcats were playing. Arnold caught another pass from Charles in the second quarter, completed for another Mariners touchdown to go up 14-7 at halftime. “At halftime the message in our locker room was to just keep playing our game and we had the lead so we felt confident we would win,” said Charles. The Wildcats came out in the third quarter and put together a drive that resulted

in another touchdown, but after a point after attempt the Mariners held on to a 14-13 lead. Ferndale didn’t stop their consistent ground attack that proved to be effective all night. They scored a rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter to take their first lead of the night at 19-14. However, they missed a 2-point conversion to keep the Mariners lead heading into the final minutes of the game. Arnold came up big for the Mariners when he returned a kick 90 yards for his third touchdown of the night to retake the lead for

Moreau at 21-19 with eight minutes left in regulation. “Credit to our defensive line for coming through tonight especially on the forced fumble in the fourth quarter because we wouldn’t have won without Eric Fields making the hit to create that turnover,” said Arnold. Moreau’s defense was the deciding factor in this game because they were able to control Ferndale’s ground rushing offense. Ferndale was looking for a comeback on their last drive marching downfield finding themselves in the red zone when they

fumbled the ball and the Mariners recovered. The Mariners ran the clock out on that last possession to win the game. “We were 16-point underdogs and I love being the underdogs when people doubt you because we know our capabilities and came out here proving them wrong,” added Charles. “This win feels amazing right now.” Arnold scored all three touchdowns for Moreau to add to his 18 total touchdowns and 1,429 total receiving yards this season. He currently has multiple college offers to play football, including several Division 3 schools. Charles now has 2,483 total passing yards and 26 total touchdowns this season with a quarterback rating of 135.2 percent. Moreau advances to 8-4 overall to play San Jose’s Leland High School Chargers Friday, Dec. 6 at home in the Division 7-AA regional finals.

OPINION

Insider power grabs in the new DC

By DAN PULCRANO

The guardrails appear to be coming off longstanding practices that prevent governmental officials from participating in decisions in which they have a personal or financial stake.

President Biden's pardon of his son's conviction, for example, crossed that line. His



Dan Pulcrano, Publisher

decision was likely emboldened by the general deteriorating ethics climate in Washington, DC.

His predecessor pardoned associates Paul Manafort, Stephen Bannon and George Papadopoulos and his son-in-law's father, Charles Kushner. Those brazen moves demonstrated that there are few political consequences for ignoring normal protocols designed to prevent abuses of power.

What ethics provisions will be in place for new government cost-slasher Elon Musk, the world's

richest man, CEO of the Tri-City area's largest employer and self-described "First Buddy" to the incoming president?

Musk's businesses will be affected by government decisions, such as regulation of self-driving technology, labor law enforcement, NASA contracts with SpaceX—or tariffs on Chinese automaker BYD. That EV competitor sold a record 1.1 million vehicles last quarter, more than twice as many as Tesla.

Cronyism, self-dealing and purchased influence

affect the public welfare in many ways. Corruption and favoritism are paid for by people who can't buy favors—the rest of us, through our tax dollars. The influential, in effect, can take from the poor, the middle class or the non-connected wealthy.

It occurs under Democrats and Republicans. An independent, laws-based system provides checks and balances.

A split electorate provided a thin mandate for a cobbled-together collection of interests that range from

more conservative social policies to lower government spending and less restrictive business policies. It did not greenlight unregulated economic cronyism. That is not the American way.

As new policies are forged, transparency, avoidance of conflicts of interest and ethics compliance must remain in place. We must be watchful and ready to step forward and speak out when abuses of power occur.

Newark Memorial Cross Country team makes their mark at the State Championship

THE COUGARS END THEIR SEASON WITH STANDOUT INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES



Three Newark girls made it in the top 75 group. Photo by Todd Tokubo



Kenji Kawabata earned the 14th spot, clocking in with a time of 15:28.1. Photo by Todd Tokubo



Michael Tellez finishes his high school cross country career as the first Newark Memorial student to make it to three cross country State meets. Photo by Todd Tokubo

By APRIL RAMOS

After a historic North Coast Section (NCS) meet at Hayward High School, Newark Memorial High School, along with other surrounding tri-city area schools traveled to Fresno to compete in the CIF Cross Country State Championship.

Newark Memorial's head coach Tyler Jorgens, a Cougar alum himself shared, "Over the summer the NCS ranking had both of our teams ranked 7th, but internally we always believed we could be better

than that this year." At the Nov. 23 NCS meet, the team proved that their belief was in fact correct. The boys earned the fourth-place title in the Division 3 three-mile course, while the girls had a historic win being the first Newark girls' team to qualify for the CIF State Championship.

Jorgens added, "The kids really believed from the start that they could compete for a top four spot and qualify to state as a team. They did the work and it really paid off."

At the Fresno State Championship, the boys' team claimed the 20th spot

while the girls earned the 17th place.

Three runners on the girls' team were a part of the top 75 runners. Junior, Alice McCarty came in at the 54th spot with 19:01.0, seniors Grace Veloza and Rahwa Fekadu took 60th with 19:04.3 and 75th with 19:21.7, respectively.

Kaitlyn Chan was another important piece to the team's puzzle. As a sophomore, Chan's 21:01.7 time got her just over the 150 group with her 163rd place rank.

Winning the gold medal at the NCS meet,

Kenji Kawabata's win made for some high expectations at the State Championship, and he did not disappoint. Kawabata earned the 14th spot, clocking in with a time of 15:28.1. Michael Tellez crossed the finish line at 83rd place with 16:14.8. Cruz Villa came in right behind Tellez at 16:15.1. Both students have made a mark of their own. According to Jorgens, Tellez finishes his high school cross country career as the first Newark Memorial student to make it to three cross country State meets, and Villa had his best

race to date making him the third fastest freshman at the State Championship.

With so many young runners, the future for Newark Memorial's cross-country program looks bright. Jorgens shared, "I'm super grateful to our leaders for setting the culture and passing the torch on to the underclassmen. They made sure the team as a whole was ready to perform their best when the pressure was on at NCS and State."

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The Fremont Nutcracker is back!



The ballet features lavish costumes and staging, and 100 young dancers. Photo credit Lawrence Lai

Submitted by
DAVID SLOSS

Once again Fremont Opera and Yoko's Academy of Dance & Performing Arts are joining forces to present Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet." Since 2005, this annual Nutcracker has

been a much-loved and anticipated community event in Fremont. Presented at the Smith Center for the Performing Arts at Ohlone College on Dec. 7 and 8, this lavishly staged and costumed production features a cast of 100 children of all ages, from the youngest beginners to the



The Nutcracker Ballet staged by Yoko's Academy has been a tradition since 2005. Photo credit Lawrence Lai

most advanced and talented young adults.

Dancers from Yoko's Academy win prizes in national competitions year after year, and have performed in Japan, at the Super Bowl, and in London at the Olympics. A number of celebrities from the Fremont area, including Fremont Mayor Lily Mei, Mayor Elect Raj Salwan, City Council members Kathy Kimberlin and Yang Shao, and Councilmember Elect Yajing Zhang, will make cameo appearances in the Nutcracker as party guests. Former California State Senator Bob Wieckowski returns in his signature role as the mysterious magician Drosselmeier.

At all performances, a full symphony orchestra will

provide live music. David Sloss, music director of the Fremont Symphony from 1980 to 2012 and artistic director of Fremont Opera, will conduct the Fremont Opera Orchestra.

Appearing as the Grand Cavalier for the third time will be guest artist Zherlin Ndudi. Ndudi has been a principal dancer with the Phoenix Ballet and Ballet Arizona, and a soloist with Miami City Ballet. His professional ballet career has brought him to prestigious stages around the world, including in Poland, Japan, Norway, Germany, China, Switzerland, Latvia, Russia and the United States.

Yoko Young, who created this Nutcracker production in 2005, was a nationally recognized choreographer and teacher. As a prima

ballerina, she danced with the Tokyo Ballet Theatre and the Opéra National de Paris in France. She appeared as a dancer and actress in numerous films and television series in Japan and the United States. In 1993, she was appointed by the Governor of Saitama Prefecture, Japan, to be Cultural Ambassador to the World, representing 92 cities and over 6.5 million people. In 1995, she established her own studio, Yoko's Dance & Performing Arts Academy. Since then, her choreography has won numerous awards, and her students have won acclaim dancing in the United States, Japan and England.

Fremont Opera was founded in 2007 by Artistic Director David Sloss and General

Manager Barbara Sloss, establishing for the first time a professional, regional opera company based in Fremont, presenting outstanding young artists from the Bay Area and the nation. Its productions of *La Bohème*, *The Barber of Seville*, and *La Traviata* have drawn rave reviews from critics and patrons alike. Performances have featured 90 singers of all ages and 60 musicians from all over the Bay Area.

Yoko's Nutcracker Ballet
Saturday, Dec. 7: 2pm & 7pm
Sunday, Dec. 8: 2pm
The Smith Center at
Ohlone College
43600 Mission Blvd.,
Fremont
www.fremontopera.org
(510) 659-6031
Tickets: \$30 – \$45

Pantry distributes 70 Thanksgiving bags

SALAAM FOOD PANTRY BRINGS THANKSGIVING TO IRVINGTON FAMILIES



Volunteers hand-deliver Thanksgiving bags to Irvington families at Bridgeway Apartments. Photo credit: Owais Razi



Thanksgiving bags included stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread rolls, pies, green beans and cranberry sauce and more. Photo credit: Maryam Naseer



Volunteers donating blankets to Bridgeway Apartments residents. Photo credit: Owais Razi

Submitted by
MARYAM NASEER

On Monday, Nov. 25, over 35 underserved families in Irvington experienced the spirit of Thanksgiving thanks to a local nonprofit's compassionate initiative. Volunteers from Salaam Food Pantry hand-delivered 70 Thanksgiving bags—each family receiving two bags: one with a fresh halal turkey and the other with all the essential ingredients needed to prepare warm and traditional holiday meals.

The organization behind this initiative, Salaam Food Pantry is a lifeline for many underserved families in the Tri-City area, providing monthly food distributions that include essential non-perishable items and fresh produce. "Our goal is to service diverse underprivileged families and individuals in the Tri-City area," Founder Naseer Irfan said. By focusing on veterans, single parents and families struggling to make ends meet, the pantry ensures

that vulnerable community members receive consistent, high-quality support. Through its volunteer-driven approach and strong leadership, Salaam Food Pantry has become a reliable source of support and hope for the Irvington community and beyond.

The effort was made possible by a dedicated team of local volunteers, community members and partners who came together to ensure these families could enjoy a memorable holiday meal. Volunteers

began preparations in advance, contacting donors to source fresh halal turkeys and high-quality ingredients.

On distribution day, volunteers worked together to prepare and pack fresh onions, potatoes and other Thanksgiving essentials, then hand-delivered the completed bags. Each bag was filled with everything needed for a traditional Thanksgiving feast, including stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread rolls, pies, green beans and cranberry sauce. "I was able

to make a difference in my community and seeing how happy the families were made all the hard work worth it," shared volunteer Anam Ahamd. In addition to the Thanksgiving bags, families received brand-new blankets from a community blanket drive organized by Peace Terrace Academy.

Salaam Food Pantry plans to expand its holiday programs next year and aims to bring even more joy and support to needy families. This Thanksgiving program is a powerful example of how

community and compassion can make a meaningful difference in people's lives. "A lot of families can't afford [Thanksgiving groceries] for themselves, and you provide full Thanksgiving meals for them, and it's a blessing for all of us to be a part of that," expressed donation recipient Barbara Buar.