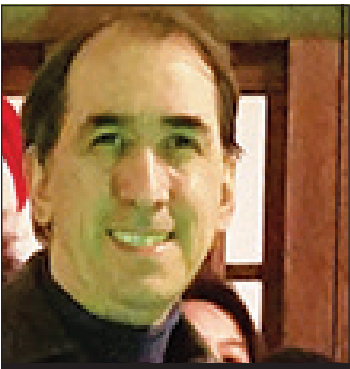




Las Posadas tradition celebrates diversity of local community

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Moreau Catholic earns first-ever trip to CIF State title game

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Bay Philharmonic delivers two holiday performances

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Climate action plan will march forward with passage of green goals

CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS SOLAR AND BATTERY MICROGRID PROPOSAL FOR CRITICAL SERVICES

By **PANASHE MATEMBA-MUTASA**

The Fremont City Council on Tuesday, Dec. 3 unanimously passed a motion to adopt a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Ava Community Energy to install solar panels and battery storage systems at six municipal facilities. This initiative is part of the city’s ongoing efforts to provide clean energy and reduce utility costs under its Climate Action Plan, “My Climate Ready Fremont.” The solar and battery systems will provide backup power during grid outages, potentially delivering hours of emergency energy and ensuring critical services remain operational.

“This project is likely to become a model for similar projects in the state and around the country,” said Dan Schoenholz, community development director for the City of Fremont.

Fremont’s Climate Action Plan, dubbed My Climate Ready Fremont, focuses on achieving carbon neutrality and enhancing community resilience to climate change. The plan outlines priority actions such as increasing renewable energy use, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency across municipal operations. The adoption of a PPA with Ava Community Energy is expected to advance the city’s goals of becoming greener.

Phase one of the project includes equipment implementations at the Age Well Centers at Lake Elizabeth and in South Fremont, and is expected to be completed by April 2026. Phase two entails installations at Fire Stations 1 and 9, the Family Resource Center, and the Tri-City Volunteers Food Bank. A project completion date has not been established for Phase 2, but it is expected that finalization of this second phase will trail the first phase by one to two years.

Under the PPA, the city would host the systems while Fremont-based developer Gridscape Technologies would install, operate and maintain the equipment. The agreement outlines no upfront costs to the city, with fixed energy rates that are projected to save Fremont nearly \$900,000 over 25 years compared to current electricity expenditures.

The mayor and six council members expressed their optimism over the possibilities of this new resolution.

“We’re proud to be one of the pioneers in this area,” Mayor Lily Mei said.

www.fremont.gov/about/sustainability/my-climate-ready-fremont



Fremont City Council passed a motion to adopt a Power Purchase Agreement to install solar panels and battery storage systems at six municipal facilities. Photo by Stephanie Uchida



Leased with small businesses, Capitol Square is part of Fremont’s master plan for a walkable central downtown. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida

Capitol Square sale shows Fremont district’s viability

FULLY-LEASED DOWNTOWN RETAIL SPACE GAINS NEW LONG-TERM OPERATORS

By **STEPHANIE UCHIDA**

The vision for the Fremont Downtown has been the same from day one: a vibrant, walkable downtown with new homes and a variety of retailers. Now the vision exists in reality, with the sale of the Capitol Square retail space to Mike Atkar, Kulwinder Atkar and the Atkar Family Trust for \$12.6 million. (This is according to documents filed on Nov. 15 with the Alameda County Recorder’s Office.)

Chris DeHann, vice president for Sares Regis Group of Northern California, explained that this step indicates the health of the retail space. Sares Regis, TMG Partners and Summerhill Homes developed The Locale, a mixed-use development and one of the first completed projects in Fremont’s downtown masterplan. “[The small business tenants are] invested in the community and looking to stay longterm, and they now have an operator that specializes in operating retail centers.” David Cropper, who worked with TMG Partners during the Capitol Square project, also shared insights on the process.

DeHann expands on the role of developers versus operators. “Someone needed to go out there and take the risk to put in new space when there was nothing really else around it. Now that we’ve taken that first step, it’s given other groups like Fremont Bank...the confidence to go out and invest in building along Capitol Avenue.”

Fremont’s Downtown Community Plan aims into a 110-acre space bordered by Walnut and Mowry Avenues, Paseo Padre Parkway, and Fremont Boulevard, an official heart for a city that originally incorporated out of five individual townships in 1956. According to the city website, it also represents an “Opportunity Zone” where developers and investors can receive federal tax credits for their projects.

In a press release, City of Fremont’s economic development director Donovan Lazaro shared, “The forward-thinking development team behind Capitol Square bought into the community vision before anyone else was willing to, setting the bar for future projects and proving that there is demand from both retailers and residents for a vibrant, walkable and urban mixed-use district.”

According to David Cropper, the city also invested in the space by narrowing the wide Capitol Avenue to two lanes with street parking along the sides and adding trees and EV parking stalls. Although flexible zoning allows for parking garages along with taller buildings, so far there’s no garages or designated retail parking—because existing lots and repurposed street space have sufficed.

While the overall plan for downtown has stayed the same, some details are flexible. “I like to say we leased up the center twice actually,” DeHann says. “Before Covid there was a lot of activity in the fitness space. We had one mix of retail tenants, and then Covid happened. Since then the retail world has gone a lot more experiential. We see things like the Food Hall, which we’re really excited to have. That would have been a fantasy before Covid for us.”

The Food Hall, which held its grand opening the Saturday before Thanksgiving, shares a dining space among food vendors for Korean fast food, mochi donuts and coffee.

DeHann continues, “I do think the Capitol Avenue project represents a new wave of what people want in retail. It’s walkable, it’s smaller local businesses. It’s less of the big box shopping centers that you see in Fremont and other cities up and down the coast. In that respect it’s on trend, and clearly so because we were able to lease it up with basically all small businesses. We’re really proud of that.” Among the businesses are Banter Bookshop, Deka Lash, and Din Ding Dumpling House.

What of the Hub, just across Fremont Boulevard? First, the Kimco-managed shopping center is also looking to

Fremont’s fire chief joins state advisory council

AFTER SERVING IN OAKLAND AND FREMONT, ZORAIDA DIAZ JOINS STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

By **ROELLE BALAN**

Fire safety is important, especially in California where wildfires happen often. One local leader in Fremont is helping to make fire safety a priority in the state.

The State Board of Fire Services appointed Fremont Fire Chief Zoraida Diaz to their 18-member advisory board on Oct. 31, 2024.

She became part of the state board after being nominated by the California Fire Chiefs Association. The process to become a member of the state board includes an application, an interview process by the California State Governor’s Office, and an appointment after being selected. Her first meeting was on Nov. 5, 2024 where she was sworn-in.

The purpose of the State Board of Fire Services is to address anything related to fire protection and prevention. The biggest issue is wildland fires, which Diaz said are a year long event.

“Fire season used to be a small period of time but there’s been occasions in which there’s been large wildland fires like in November and December,” Diaz said during a Zoom interview. “Now we consider it a year round concern.”

The state fire board is responsible for developing technical and performance standards for firefighters across the state. Diaz said the fire board accredits curriculum for when an organization wants to create a local fire academy and establishes policy for the California Fire Service certification system.

Chief Diaz began her career in firefighting at the age of 36. She was recruited by the Oakland Fire Department, which had a local Black Firefighters Association chapter. The purpose of the organization is to diversify the fire service.

After she was recruited she took classes and learned everything about being a firefighter. She then took an exam to work at Oakland Fire Department, the only department she applied for.

“I felt like that’s the place where I really wanted to work. And I felt welcomed



Chief Zoraida Diaz began her career in fire fighting at age 36. Photo courtesy of Fremont Fire Department.

continued on page 5

continued on page 4

Managing Screen Time During the Holidays

Local Pediatrician Shares Timely Tips



Families can create a media plan to schedule screen time.

With technology evolving so rapidly, there is great concern about the amount of time children and adolescents spend every day looking at digital screens, like smartphones, computers and television. This topic is especially timely during the holidays when kids have time off school. In addition to them filling free time with digital media at home, they may receive technology gifts like smart toys, video games and computer tablets. How does screen time affect young people? How much is too much? And what can you do to minimize the time your children spend in front of screens? A local pediatrician provided answers to these questions and shared sage advice for parents to manage screen time during the holidays.

Screen Time Tips and Guidelines

“The American Academy of Pediatrics says there should be zero screen time for children under the age of 2, unless it is video chatting with out-of-town family members,” advised Rishika Singh, MD, a board-certified Washington Township Medical Foundation pediatrician. “From ages 2 to 5, about one hour a day should be the limit, and after age 5 they recommend no more than two hours daily. Of course, children may be exposed to

screens at school for educational purposes, but I tell parents to limit recreational screen time, like TV or video games, to one or a maximum of two hours,” she said.

Dr. Singh recommends parents create a plan to set expectations with their children on how much time will be spent on digital media. The rest of the time should be scheduled to participate in sports or hobbies, play boardgames together, or spend time outside. She refers parents to HealthyChildren.org where they can type, “Family Media Plan,” into the homepage search bar. Here, they will find an interactive online tool that helps set media priorities that matter most to the family. The plan can be customized to each family’s needs and includes tips to make it work. A plan can also include the option to save the plan and return to make updates or changes as needed.

“It is important to consistently talk with your child about what they may be exposed to on social media and reiterate that not everything they see online is true or real,” explained Dr. Singh. “Adults also spend a lot of time looking at their smartphones, so I also remind parents they are role models for their children when it comes to screen time. When you are

all home at the same time, have everyone put their phones down, turn off the television and spend time talking or doing something together. During the holidays, you can decorate, wrap gifts or go for a walk together. Also, do not allow devices at the dinner table and consider having an ‘Electronic Free Sunday,’ or another designated time each day or week when electronic devices are shut off.”

Excessive Online Effects

Dr. Singh points out some of the negative effects that too much time consuming digital media has on children and teenagers, including:

- Depression and anxiety in teenagers, which is being reported in epidemic proportions.
- Time away from other important activities that are important to the development process, such as arts and crafts, in-person socializing, and outdoor recreation.
- Less patience and shorter attention spans, since young people find real life less stimulating and lacking the instant gratification they get on the internet.
- Body image issues for teens (both girls and boys) due to their exposure

“It is important to consistently talk with your child about what they may be exposed to on social media.” –Rishika Singh, MD

to heavily curated and often unrealistic beauty standards presented on social media platforms. This can contribute to feelings of inadequacy and dissatisfaction with their own bodies.

We should not be concerned about all digital media content children are consuming, reminds Dr. Singh. There is good educational content on television channels like PBS, YouTube channels that provide useful information about their hobbies, and Pinterest sites to browse and post about their various interests. “Consuming digital content is not always a bad thing unless a child, or adult for that matter, spends too much time in front of a screen when they could be socializing, exercising or doing something else productive. Everything in moderation,” Dr. Singh concluded.

For more information on Rishika Singh, MD, scan the QR code below.



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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.

Coming Soon!

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

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

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

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:

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

Events Information
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PART ONE OF A TWO-PART SERIES ON DIABETES

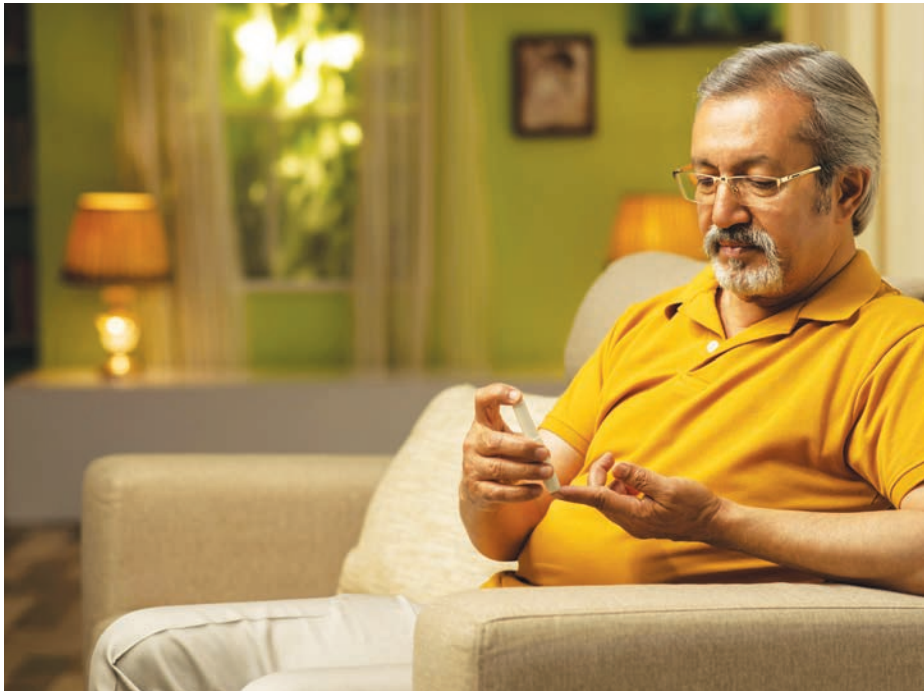
Diabetes 101: Causes, Symptoms and Management

You don't cure diabetes, you manage it

The World Health Organization has called diabetes the greatest epidemic in human history. Consider these facts from the American Diabetes Association: In the United States, one in three people have been diagnosed with prediabetes and one in 12 have been diagnosed with diabetes. Diabetes is the third highest risk factor globally for premature death.

It's a very complicated disease, noted Washington Township Medical Foundation endocrinologist Jean Huang, MD. She explained that diabetes is actually a group of diseases (type 1, type 2, prediabetes and gestational diabetes) that affect how the body uses blood sugar (glucose) as fuel. During digestion, the body breaks food down into glucose that goes into the bloodstream. At the same time, the hormone insulin is released by the pancreas into the bloodstream. Insulin's job is to regulate glucose levels by moving it from the bloodstream to cells throughout the body to be used for energy. This works smoothly for most people, but not for people with diabetes, where glucose is prevented from entering the cells, leading to high blood sugar levels.

Type 2 is the most common form of diabetes, affecting nearly 95% of people dealing with the disease. Patients with type 2 diabetes either don't produce enough insulin, can't use what is produced effectively, or their cells become resistant to insulin. This form of diabetes is often linked to such factors as being overweight, leading a sedentary lifestyle, having a family history of diabetes and belonging



to one of several ethnic groups (including Asians, Hispanics and African Americans) that have a high predisposition to develop the condition.

While diabetes is a disease without a cure, Dr. Huang is helping her patients learn to manage their diabetes to lead full lives. In her Fremont practice, she uses a comprehensive, holistic approach. Dr. Huang is passionate about helping her patients find the right path to manage the disease.

"I work collaboratively with my patients," Dr. Huang said. "I teach them about the impact diabetes has on various body systems. It can lead to high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease and stroke, and can cause serious damage to blood vessels, eyes, kidneys and nerves. Because of the potential for whole-body damage from diabetes, comprehensive management is very important in treating these patients."

For new patients, Dr. Huang begins by explaining lab test results. Many come in

expecting medication, but she uses her first consultation to learn about their lifestyle as well as ethnic and cultural background.

"We talk about their diet, how much exercise they get and what kind of exercise they participate in," Dr. Huang said. "And, because nearly 75% of the Tri-Cities population has an ethnic predisposition for diabetes, I ask them if anyone in their family has diabetes and what their ethnic and cultural background is. It's important that I understand what their lives are like as we work together to manage their disease."

Type 2 diabetics typically struggle with their weight, so Dr. Huang's comprehensive approach starts by introducing dietary changes. That could include replacing high calorie or high carb snacks with fresh fruits or vegetables or setting new times for meals. She works with patients to set small, realistic goals for sustainable weight loss and increased exercise.

"We talk about what a healthy diet looks like and how they can have one

and still have the foods they enjoy," she said. "If they avoid a soda at lunch, skip a mindless snack, or add 15 minutes of walking to their daily schedule, it can have a long term positive effect."

Some patients are able to manage their diabetes through diet and exercise alone. Others may be more insulin resistant and need medication to help them lower their blood sugar levels. For these patients, Dr. Huang notes new diabetes medications, including semaglutide GLP-1 agonists such as Ozempic, Mounjaro and Wegovy, can help with both blood sugar control and weight management.

"These medications can help tune down the 'food noises' people deal with – the kind of thing where you are thinking about what you're going to eat all the time," Dr. Huang explained. "These medications help patients become more aware of their eating habits and allow them to see food as fuel, rather than as a reward."

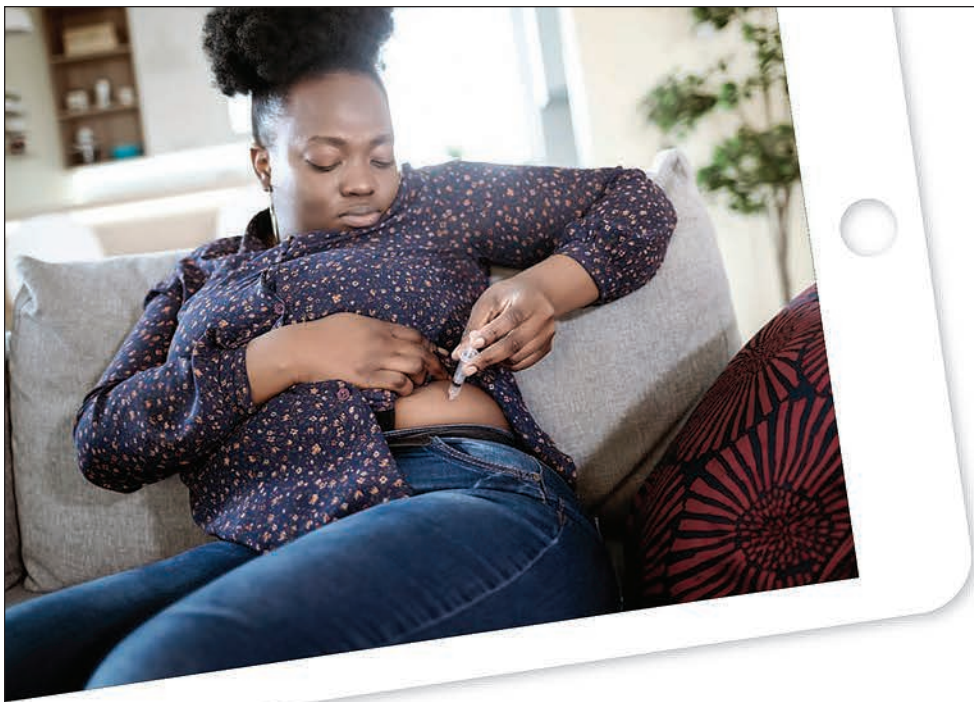
The GLP-1 medications offer patients the extra boost they may need to get their diets under control, lose weight and keep it off while they also function to help prevent or control other issues in addition to diabetes.

"We've seen a reversal of diabetes in some patients who have lost significant amounts of weight through the use of these medications, together with comprehensive lifestyle changes and meal planning," she noted. "Some no longer have to take blood pressure or high cholesterol medications. It's important to empower my patients and give them tools to manage their disease, because it's ultimately their fight. I'm there as a teacher, coach and cheerleader."

For more information on Dr. Jean Huang, scan the below QR code or visit <https://www.mywtmf.com/find-a-doctor/jean-huang-md/>. Washington Hospital offers outpatient diabetes education and management services. For more information, see whhs.com/Diabetes.



"It's important that I understand what (patients') lives are like as we work together to manage their disease."-Jean Huang, MD



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Wednesday, Dec. 18
9 a.m.

Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work

Join this seminar to learn about glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) medications and how they relate to diabetes management. While many people are talking about the weight loss benefits, learn how these medications work for patients with diabetes. What are the potential benefits and considerations for incorporating them into your diabetes management plan?



Prasad Katta, MD
Endocrinology

whhs.com



If you cannot join live, the presentation will continue to be available on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

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A vibrant purple poster for the Ohlone College Flea Market. At the top, 'Ohlone College' is written in a purple, arched font. Below it is a cartoon illustration of a green, alien-like creature with large eyes and antennae, holding a guitar. To its left is a shopping cart filled with various items, including a clock and a basket. To the right of the creature is an orange circle containing the text 'Second Saturday of Every Month' in white. The words 'FLEA market' are written in large, bold, purple letters. Below this, 'THIS SATURDAY' is in large white letters, followed by '9:00am - 3:00pm' in white. A green banner contains the text 'Returning strong after an 8-year hiatus!' in white. Below this, a list of items is shown: 'FOOD ■ CRAFTS ■ ART ■ COLLECTIBLES', 'ANTIQUES ■ LOCAL VENDORS', and 'INFORMATION BOOTHS AND MORE...'. The phrase '...all in a family-friendly environment!' is in white. At the bottom, a green banner reads 'FREE ADMISSION and FREE "EARLY BIRD" PARKING (before noon)'. The Ohlone College logo is in the bottom left, and the website 'www.ohlone.edu/Flea-Market' is in the bottom center. A QR code is in the bottom right.



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Candlelight vigil
honors those
who died while
homeless



At the ceremony, names were read of those who died while homeless in 2024. Courtesy of Chris De Benedetti

INTERFAITH CEREMONY INCLUDED CALL TO ACTION

Submitted by
CHRIS DE BENEDETTI,
Communications Manager,
Abode Services

On Dec. 2 Abode Services joined co-hosts St. James' Episcopal Church and Tri-City Interfaith Council for their 11th annual Candlelight Vigil, which was held at the church. More than 60 people attended the interfaith ceremony that memorialized individuals who have passed away this year while experiencing homelessness.

Reverend Lori Walton, Rector of St. James' Episcopal Church, served as emcee. Other speakers representing various religious faiths included Reshma Inamdar, president of Tri-City Interfaith Council and board member of Abode Services and Abode Property Management; as well as leaders representing the Sikh, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist faiths.

“Far too many of our neighbors suffer on our streets because they lack the most basic [necessities],” Walton said. “This vigil is about raising awareness about

our responsibility, individually and civically, to care for and recognize the humanity of all our neighbors. This is just one small step towards creating the type of compassionate, supportive society in which we all deserve to live.”

The names of people who passed away while experiencing homelessness last year in Alameda and Santa Clara counties were read by Darrian White, chair of Abode Services Board of Directors, and Katie Fantin, Abode Services' vice president of programs in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties.

The candlelight vigil ended with a call to action from Vivian Wan, Abode Services' chief executive officer. "In times like these, when there are rough waters ahead, I call upon our leaders to remind us that we must sustain hope and use our circle of influence to encourage dignity and forge solutions that really end homelessness, not just empty actions that shuffle our fellow humans around," Wan said. "Let's all imagine a world where everyone can find safe and affordable housing in their community, realizing that we all are better off when we do so."

For more information, visit
abode.org.

continued from page 1

Fremont fire chief's career takes her to state fire safety board

because I was being recruited and kind of mentored to be successful in the process,” Diaz said.

Diaz was hired and has worked in Oakland for 17 years. She worked every position until she became an Assistant Chief.

Diaz said the former Fremont Fire Chief saw her potential in becoming a lead firefighter when he was part of a series of panels with her. “[He] saw that I had the skillset,” Diaz said.

The Fire Chief made a recommendation for her to apply for an open position as Deputy Chief of Operations in Fremont, and she was hired. She then was appointed by the city of Fremont as Fire Chief after the previous chief retired. She has been the fire chief of Fremont for over a year and is the city's first female chief.

Diaz became a firefighter after a 15-year career as a social worker in New York City. She was born and

raised in Harlem, New York and moved to California around the year 2000. She has been combating fires for 21 years.

Diaz said the career switch was vital in her life because she was able to take care of her parents before they passed away.

"This career has given me the knowledge to be able to, as a paramedic, take care of my older parents especially when they were transitioning," Diaz said. "And that is a gift that I will forever appreciate, having the opportunity to serve in the fire service."

Diaz said her parents played an important role in supporting her career in firefighting. While she was training in the fire academy her father stayed with her for six months to help with preparing her meals, doing the laundry and cleaning the house. Her mom attended all her job title promotion ceremonies.

“What the fire service has done for me on a personal level is that it has given me the opportunity to live and own a home, to take care of my parents,” Diaz said.

Right now she is focused on mentoring other firefighters. “Giving other people in the fire service who seek mentorship from me, the opportunity to develop themselves professionally, is what I really enjoy at this point of my career.”

The fire department is hosting a free event on Dec. 14 called “Hot Cocoa & Cookies with Santa” from 10am - 1pm. Besides the hot cocoa and cookies, the event will also include crafts, safety tips and a photo op with Santa in front of the department’s antique fire engine.

Hayward celebrates Beautiful Yard winners

CONTEST ENCOURAGES HOMEOWNERS TO ADOPT SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING

By **PANASHE
MATEMBA-MUTASA**

The City of Hayward has crowned its 2024 Beautiful Yard Contest winners, showcasing residents' efforts to maintain sustainable, visually appealing landscapes. Monica Gloria claimed first place, followed by Mary Jane in second and Jamie Mejia in third. All three winners were recognized for cultivating "Bay Area-friendly yards" that embody environmentally conscious landscaping practices.

“We’re proud to collaborate with residents who share our vision for a cleaner, greener Hayward,” said Tom Ferreira, a member of the Keep Hayward Clean and Green Task Force, the initiative’s sponsor.

The contest encourages homeowners to adopt sustainable landscaping by focusing on criteria such as cleanliness, water conservation, native plants and overall aesthetic appeal. Yards must be free of debris, well-maintained and designed to support the local ecosystem.

The contest began in March, with nominations rolling in during the subsequent months. Homeowners who were nominated received an official letter explaining the program and how to accept their nomination. Once accepted,

a task force member delivers a #HaywardBeautiful yard sign for display.

In October, the Keep Hayward Clean and Green Task Force reviewed all nominated properties and selected the winners. The first, second and third place winners got \$200, \$150, and \$75 gift cards, respectively.

Keep Hayward Clean and Green hosts a variety of events throughout the year, including contests, monthly clean-ups and yard assistance programs for seniors. For more info, visit hayward-ca.gov/khcg/hayward-beautiful-yard-contest.

continued from page 1

Downtown Fremont retail spaces purchased



Fremont Food Hall, which held its grand opening November 23, 2024, contains three cafes with shared dining space. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



City of Fremont converted Capitol Avenue into a two-lane road with street parking and landscaping down the center. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida

develop, as part of Fremont’s City Center Community Plan, adding mixed-use retail and housing. In the meantime, a thriving Capitol Square will give adjacent retail a boost as well. “Retail is synergistic,” DeHann says. “People love to be around other retailers.” One concern locals may have as the downtown moves forward

is the presence of homeless people—unavoidable when the city’s Housing Navigation Center is behind City Hall, just a block down Capitol Avenue. DeHann shares that there were complaints of nuisance and loitering when the buildings were still empty. But those have subsided as the shopping center became more

lively. He says, “The more active use in the area, the less problems of vacancy we’re seeing.” When the space is bustling and well taken care of, hopefully that will encourage all residents to show courtesy to each other. A few businesses are still pending for Capitol Square, such as Pints of Joy, an ice cream shop with both standard and Indian cuisine-inspired flavors—such as salted guava. But there’s much to experience already. “We’re thankful for the tenants who raised their hand and took a risk to be the first to open on Capitol Avenue,” says DeHann. “Now that the center is fully leased, open and operating—we’re starting to see Yelp reviews pour in—it’s getting crowded which I will say is a good thing because it means there’s tons of customers. It’s just a joy to see. The fruition of 10 years of work and investment.” www.fremont.gov/government/departments/economic-development/local-economy-overview/employment-hubs/downtown-and-city-center/pintofojoy.com

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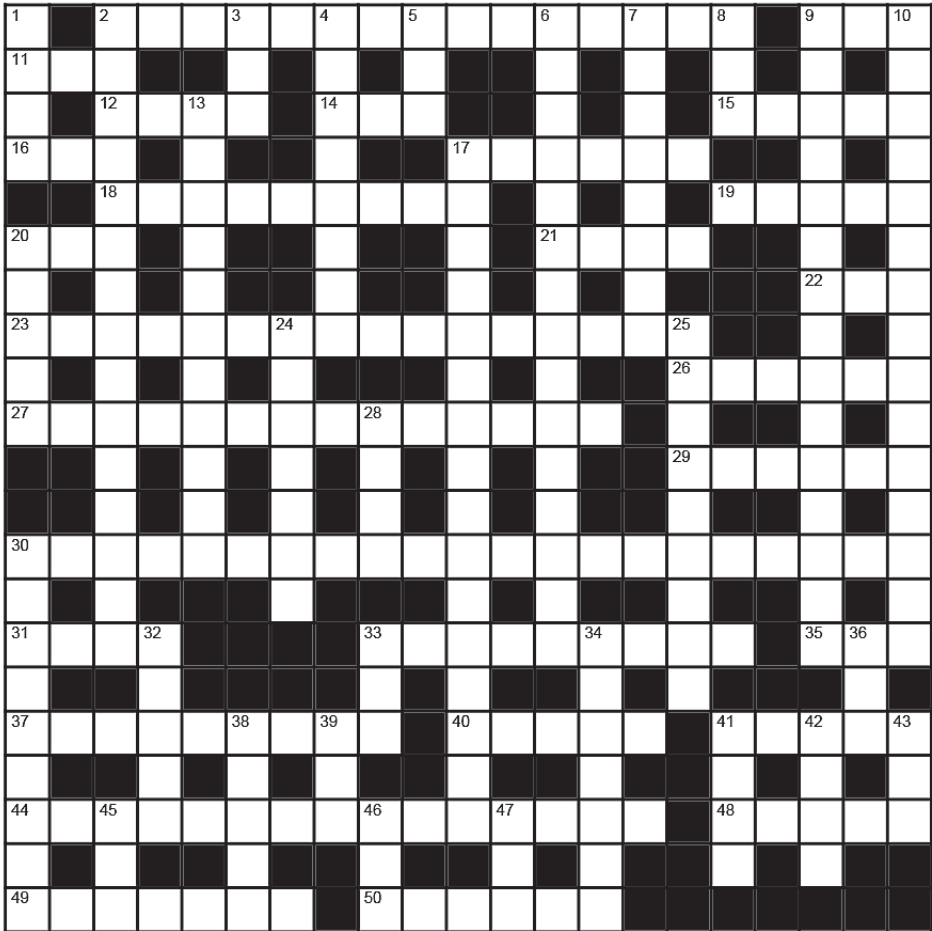
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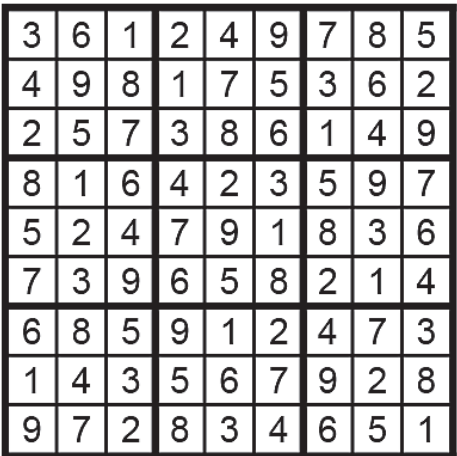
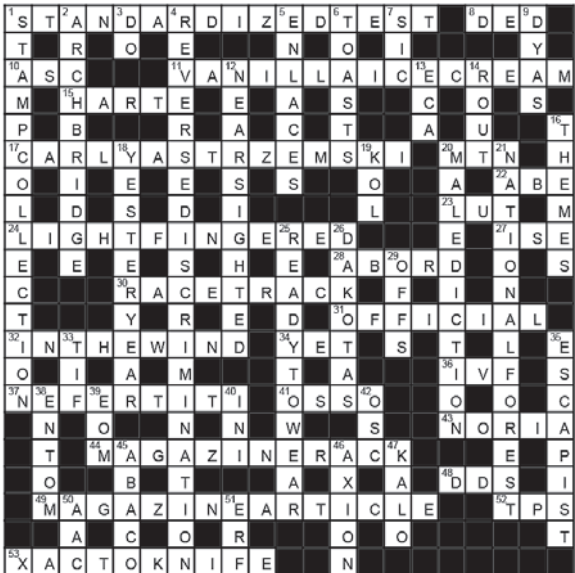
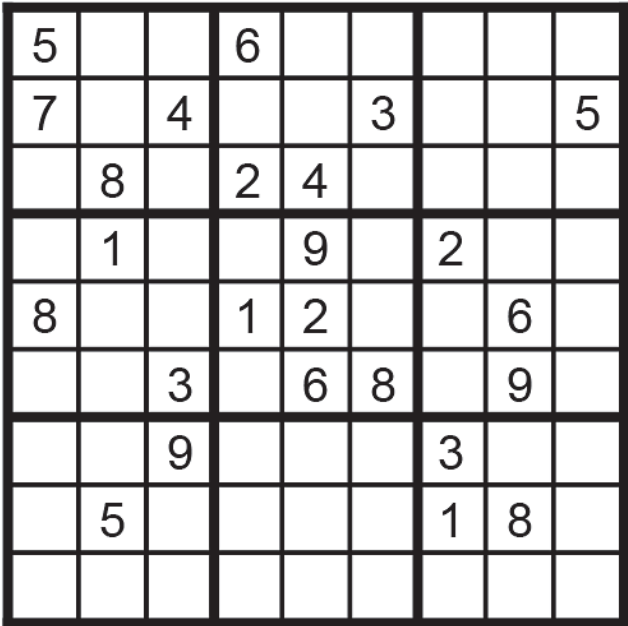
Crossword Puzzle



Across		33	Nailed an impersonation of, say	10	Difficult choices, figuratively
2	Become independent (6,4,5)		(9)		(5,2,1,7)
9	“Why is this happening to me?!” (3)	35	Arts deg. (3)	13	Irascible individuals (11)
11	Labor org. (3)	37	Kind of church (9)	17	Feature of a totally inept
12	Enough, for some (4)	40	-- Lumpur, Malaysia (5)		“Jeopardy!” game? (2,9,5)
14	Gasoline levy, for one; Abbr. (3)	41	1962 Gleason film (5)	20	Belgian painter James (5)
15	Blacksmith, at times (5)	44	Intermittently (5,3,3,4)	24	Notoriety (7)
16	To be, in Barcelona (3)	48	“Good ___!” (5)	25	Hoi polloi (3,6)
17	Canceled out (6)	49	Harem dweller. (7)	28	___ vera (4)
18	Heroic action (7-2)	50	Not participate in (3,3)	30	Positive (5,4)
19	Cream-filled pastries (5)	Down		32	From Nineveh: Abbr. (5)
20	Aurora’s counterpart (3)	1	Dice features (4)	33	Animation frame (3)
21	Make high-pitched, whiny noises (4)	2	Sideshow stunt (5-10)	34	Hardest to handle (7)
22	Cooperstown inst. (3)	3	Compass point (3)	36	___ Schwarz (3)
23	TOEFL, for example (12,4)	4	Made a case for (8)	38	Avifauna (5)
26	Chaired (6)	5	“Mario vs. Donkey Kong” developer based in Redmond, Washington (3)	39	“That’s so sad!” (3)
27	Thrill rides (6,8)	6	Alaska’s state bird (6,9)	41	Prefix with byte (4)
29	Animal a.k.a. siren (3,3)	7	Biting pests (2-3-3)	42	Pat (4)
30	Story of misused love juice (1,9,6,5)	8	The “S” of CBS: Abbr. (3)	43	Extension for some computer pictures (3)
31	“Eugene Onegin” mezzo (4)	9	Lose it (2,3,3,4,3)	45	Prefix meaning “one quintillion” (3-)
				46	Capone and Capp (3)
				47	However, informally (3)

Sudoku:

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



Tri-City Stargazer FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2024

All Signs: This is a harmonious week with a few speed bumps in the middle. Monday is laid back and dreamy. Tuesday is fun and joyful! However, Wednesday is brutal and Thursday is questionable. Nevertheless, on Friday, everyone’s happy again. Because Mercury is retrograde until Dec. 15, old friends and flames are back. Confused communications, transportation delays, misplaced items, late deliveries and changed plans are frustrating. But they’re relatively painless because Mercury is retrograde in the light hearted sign of Sagittarius. The marvelous benefit is that we can rocket through old business and meet deadlines.

Aries the Ram (March 21-April 20):
Venus is now in your House of Friendships promoting warm interactions with friends and groups. Furthermore, Mars is another influence promoting play, sports, especially competitive athletics, social outings, the arts and activities with kids. Therefore, be aware that both these influences will bookend your week because Monday and Tuesday are lovely, as are Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Be patient with others on Wednesday, especially about financial issues or something to do with your possessions. Chill out. It’s a solid week!

Taurus the Bull (April 21-May 20):
You make a great impression on others this week because Venus is at the top of your chart, which means you look attractive to everyone especially bosses, parents and VIPs. You can use this advantage to negotiate with others and project yourself favourably in discussions about finances, shared property, loans and mortgages. However, midweek is challenging! Especially Wednesday. Instead focus on organizing your home because increased chaos where you live might mean that you’re overwhelmed by confusion or holiday plans that are getting out of hand.

Gemini the Twins (May 21-June 20):
Remember that you need more sleep. This is also the classic time for you to run into ex-spouses and old friends because Mercury retrograde is taking place opposite your sign. Fear not, with lucky Jupiter in your sign, your confidence is strong and you have

panache! Not only that, Mars in your House of Communications will help you to speak with authority. Many of you would like to blow town now because you need a change of scenery. Turquoise waters and white sands beckon. Keep a low profile on Wednesday.

Cancer the Crab (June 21-July 21):
This is a busy week for you because you’re determined to get a lot done. Meanwhile, Mercury retrograde will invariably create delays, mixed-up communications and misplaced items, which include transportation problems. Nevertheless, you’re working hard to achieve your goals to boost your income. Fortunately, gifts, goodies and favours from others will come your way now. In fact, with the exception of Wednesday and Thursday, this is an excellent time to renegotiate old financial plans. Romance is especially sweet, affectionate and passionate!

Leo the Lion (July 22-August 22):
Mars is retrograde in your sign, which is unusual. (The last time this occurred was in 2010.) In one way, this boosts your energy. However, it will also suck the energy out of you in different ways, and throw obstacles in your path. So, you will sleep more than usual; and yet, you can accomplish a lot. Fear not because you will come out on top. Meanwhile, this is a fun-loving week! Accept invitations to party! Furthermore, Venus in your House of Partnerships paves the way for smooth interactions with everyone.

Virgo the Virgin (August 23-September 22):
Home and family continue to be your primary focus. In fact, many of you are dealing with repairs. Because

of the energy of Mercury retrograde, relatives you haven’t seen for a while are either on your doorstep or in contact once again. Fortunately, relations with coworkers are excellent. You make a fabulous impression on everyone because Jupiter is at the top of your chart, which can happen only once every 12 years. However, retrograde Mars is hiding, and it might stir up the pot. It could reveal something hidden? Tread carefully, especially Wednesday.

Libra the Scales (September 23-October 22):
Although life is fast-paced right now for you, tiny delays, confusion and glitches can’t be avoided. Cheques in the mail are late. Transportation problems might occur. Double check all your communications because errors are likely. Meanwhile, this is a lovely week with the exception of Wednesday and Thursday. Enjoy socializing. Romance is blessed. Playful activities with kids will be enjoyable. Admittedly, something tricky might arise dealing with friends or groups. Something could backfire. Surprise information might be revealed.

Scorpio the Scorpion (October 23-November 21):
Money, cash flow and possessions are your major focus right now. You might repair or take care of something that you own. You might also look for ways to boost your income. Meanwhile, Mercury retrograde is taking place in your Money House. Cheques in the mail will be late and you might feel behind in shopping or dealing with something that you own. Nevertheless, this is a great time to entertain at home, which is why many of you are redecorating. You have ambitious plans. Nevertheless,

something might not turn out the way you expect. Skip Wednesday this week.

Sagittarius the Archer (November 22-December 21):
This is a good week for you except for Wednesday and Thursday. However, Monday and Tuesday are great, and from Friday onwards things are delightful! The Sun is in your sign, which means you are projecting a strong energy. People will respond to you positively. In addition, Mercury retrograde is taking place in your sign, which is why you’re running into ex-spouses, old partners and friends from the past. With Venus in your House of Communications, your words are smooth and charming. Travel plans might be blocked or changed at the last moment.

Capricorn the Goat (December 22-January 19):
This continues to be a low-key time for you in many respects because you are “waiting” for your birthday, which is on the horizon. Financial matters are favoured. In fact, many of you are shopping for attractive things for yourself and loved ones. Issues related to intimate relationships might have unexpected turns. Secrets could be revealed. Something that you thought was a sure thing – might not be. Fortunately, chances to improve your job and your health exist. Another advantage that you can enjoy right now is your ability to research things from the past.

Aquarius the Water Bearer (January 20-February 18):
This is a popular week and you will enjoy yourself if you time things right. Monday is a dreamy day; Tuesday is upbeat and joyful. Wednesday is challenging. Hide

at home. Thursday is so-so, and by Friday the charm is back. Grab every opportunity to socialize. Enjoy the company of friends as well as clubs and organizations. Old friends and acquaintances are back in your world. However, something unusual with your spouse or a close friend might occur. You might discover something they did that surprises you. Shop for wardrobe items this week because you won’t regret it.

Pisces the Fish (February 19-March 20):
With Mercury retrograde at the top of your chart, you’re bound to run into old bosses and authority figures from your past, including parents. Perhaps the tables have turned. In fact, with the Sun at the top of your chart, (this happens for four weeks once a year), you look terrific and capable! This is why someone might ask you to take on extra responsibilities. Say yes because you don’t have to do anything special to impress them. Secret love affairs are on the books. However, challenges at work or with your health might be a factor.



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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FREMONT CREATES

We’re back!

FREMONT CREATES RETURNS FOR ARTS, CULTURE, AND CREATIVITY MONTH

Submitted by PHYLLIS WOOD

April is Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month (ACCM), a California-wide, month-long celebration of visual arts, performance arts, musical arts, literary arts, and the diversity of our communities. ACCM was established in 2019 by Californians for the Arts, and Fremont joined the celebration in 2023 as FREMONT CREATES. In 2024, Fremont Creates promoted multiple events on its website and brought artists and culture keepers, throughout the community, together to meet and exchange ideas. The Grand Finale brought more than 500 people together to enjoy music, spoken word, performances, and the makerspace. During the month of April, 2025, events will take place at different venues throughout Fremont, culminating in the Grand Finale at the Downtown Event Center on Apr. 27, 2025. This event is open to the whole community free of charge.

Goals for the 3rd annual Fremont Creates:

1. Set the expectation that Fremont Creates is an annual April event throughout the City of Fremont.

2. Provide an opportunity for the community to explore the artistic culture in Fremont and for local artists to showcase their talents to the community.

3. Bring local artists and culture keepers together for a shared experience (to exchange ideas and feature their expertise).

4. Engage businesses and community partners to support Fremont Creates, acknowledging arts and culture are necessary for a vibrant and inclusive community.

For artists (visual, performance, musical, literary) who are interested in participating and learning more about ACCM, join us on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025, at Artist Walk in Centerville. We will be providing information on how you can participate and answer any questions you may have. If you are planning an arts event for April, complete the “Submit Your Event” form at fremontcreates.com to participate. We will add your organization to the list of hosts and your event to the Fremont Creates calendar. Visit FremontCreates.com to learn more about ACCM and to check out the Fremont Creates calendar of events for Apr., 2025.

Artist informational session Tuesday, Jan. 21 6:30pm - 8:30pm Artist Walk 3888 Artist Walk Common, Fremont fremontcreates.com

We’re Back: SACBC BINGO

December 13, January 10 & 24

5:00 pm Doors Open: Flashboard & Lightening

6:30 pm 10 Regular Bingo Games \$500 and 2 Special Bingo Games \$500

Flashboard Games pay as much as \$1,199

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sacbc.org/bingo t: 510-471-2581
e: sacbc.bingo@gmail.com





Longest Night Service

Submitted by LAUREL WALLACE

“For people who are dealing with grief, significant life changes, sobriety, family dysfunction, and other challenges, this time of year can be especially difficult,” said Rev. Jeffrey Spencer, Pastor at Niles Discovery Church in Fremont. “When it seems like everyone is filled with good cheer and you’re feeling like you’re enveloped in darkness, you need a place where your experience is acknowledged,” he said. “That’s why our church has offered a special service of light in the midst of darkness for 20 years.”

Spencer explained that the service is held on the longest night of the year, December 21, to enhance that symbolism. He said, “This service creates a time and space for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the possibility of hope and joy.” The service begins at 7:30pm and lasts “a little less than an hour. It includes quiet, candle lighting as an act of prayer and a claim of hope,” Spencer said. The service will also be streamed to a Zoom meeting (preregister for the Zoom meeting is at bit.ly/longnite2024).

Spencer said that he hopes the service will provide a space for people “to release their anger, face their emptiness, have a good cry ---if that’s what they need, and know that God cares.” He suggested that people worshipping at home, watching the live stream, will create a “worship space” near their computers. “Ideally, people will have a central candle (wax or electric) to light as part of the beginning of the service,” he said. “In addition, I hope they have seven additional candles or seven stones — they don’t have to be big— nearby to gather around that

central candle as the service progresses.” “This is our ‘pre-Christmas’ gift to the community,” he said. “Everyone is welcome.”

Longest Night Service Saturday, Dec. 21 7:30pm Niles Discovery Church 36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont Zoom option registration: bit.ly/longnite2024

Community Bulletin Board

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SIMINOFF DAYLIGHT MASONIC LODGE No. 850 Meets on 2nd Monday Of Every Month, At 1:30 PM In Siminoff Masonic Center on campus of Masonic Homes of California 34400 Mission Blvd. Union City CA 94587 510-476-4825		A-1 Comm. Housing Svcs. A HUD Approved Agency 1st Time Home Buyers Workshop Presented on ZOOM Learn the process of homeownership. Down Payment Assistance Please register www.a1chs.org or call 510.674.9227		510-494-1999 tcv@tricityvoice.com Shout out to your community Our readers can post information including: Activities Announcements For sale Garage sales Group meetings Lost and found For the extremely low cost of \$10 for up to 10 weeks, your message will reach thousands of friends and neighbors every TUESDAY in the TCV printed version and continuously online. TCV has the right to reject any posting to the Community Bulletin Board. Payment must be received in advance. Payment is for one posting only. Any change will be considered a new posting and incur a new fee. The “NO” List: • No commercial announcements, services or sales • No personal services (escort services, dating services, etc.) • No sale items over \$100 value • No automobile or real estate sales • No animal sales (nonprofit humane organization adoptions accepted) • No P.O. boxes unless physical address is verified by TCV	
FREMONT PATHFINDER BRANCH 59 SONS IN RETIREMENT!! Retired men! Come and have lunch on us and join the best retiree group in Fremont! We meet at the Fremont Elks Lodge at noon on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. In addition to engaging and entertaining luncheon programs and fabulous conversation, we offer a veritable plethora of activities for retired men. Golf, Bocce Ball, Poker, Bowling, Walking, Bridge, Couples Wine Tasting, Music and much, much more. Call, write, or email for your free lunch! Big Sir Rob Ingebretson, 48232 Cottonwood Street, Fremont, CA 94539; robingy@comcast.net; 510-657-7828.		Scholarships for Women Fremont PEO/UF sponsors scholarships for women entering college, earning another degree, or returning after 2+ years. 2% education loans. www.peocalifornia.org peouf150@gmail.com			
MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION Welcomes YOU! We are a spiritual community of open minds, nurturing growth and healing in ourselves, and all people. Together we strive to live compassionately and courageously as we work to build a nonviolent, just sustainable world. We welcome you and your family. Programming for children at the same time as Service, every 2nd Sunday of the month. We meet Sundays at 10 a.m. in Cole Hall, located at 2950 Washington Blvd. in Fremont and online at www.mpuuc.org/ Learn more about us at www.mpuuc.org		The Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area Experience a country and its culture with local hosts; meet global visitors. Guests from Canada in 2024 We visit Japan Enjoy our many Bay Area events www.ffa.org www.friendshipforce.org Call or text 510-363-0531			
Fremont Stamp Club Meet 2nd Thurs. each month Starts at 7:00 pm Cultural Arts Center 3375 Country Dr., Fremont Interesting discussions, trade, silent auction fremontstampclub@gmail.com www.fremontstampclub.org Steve (510) 461-3431		Living Hope Foursquare Church 7160 Graham Ave Newark CA Welcomes You Sunday Worship Times English: 10:30am - 12:30pm Tagalog 2:00pm - 4:00pm Join our worship and study of God’s Word. www.newlivinghope.org		Fremont Cribbage Club Meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Stanley’s Sports Bar in Sharks Ice Fremont 44388 Old Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont. We play a 9-game tournament We welcome experienced players and will work with new players hoping to learn the game. Email: accgr43@gmail.com for more information.	
LOVE to WRITE? WANT to WRITE? WRITER’S BLOCK? Fremont Area Writers (FAW) is here to HELP! Zoom meeting 4th Saturday of the month (off July & Dec) 2:00-4:00 PM Great speakers! * All genres! * Critique groups available! Email scottfrombayside@yahoo.com for Zoom link before the meeting. Writers’ Salon meets 4th Monday of the month (occasional exceptions) Join us via Zoom 7:00-9:00 PM Read, discuss or just listen. Email up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com for Zoom link before the meeting. Everyone is welcome! www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org		A-1 Comm. Housing Svcs. A HUD Approved Agency Credit and Money Mgmt. Workshop Presented on Zoom For dates, go to our website Please register at www.a1chs.org call 510.674.9227		Are you troubled by someone else's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups are here to help! Al-Anon has but one purpose, to help families and friends of Alcoholics. We have in-person and zoom meetings. Uc-newark.northernca-al-anon.org for a full meeting list. You can also email Alanond17@gmail.com or call us at 510.276.2270 for more info.	
BINGO BINGO BINGO Niles Canyon Mobile Estates 711 Old Canyon Road, Fremont (Niles District) The FIRST MONDAY of Every month Doors Open @ 6:00 PM Games Start @ 7:00 PM \$7.00 - 6 pack; \$1.00 Bonanza; \$1.00 Blackout; \$1.00 Hot Ball; \$2.00 Daubers		SENIOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES Friendly & fun group open to men & women. For more information visit: www.soireeseniors.com		NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES protecting and preserving your benefits Meets at Noon the 4th Friday every month except December at the Masonic Home on Mission Blvd, Union City Come meet new and old friends, discuss developments regarding your benefits, share your experience and knowledge and get involved. For info: www.NARFE.org or 800-456-8410 (5am-2pm PT M-F) or leave msg for Jeannie at 510-792-6327	
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Is your spiritual journey complete with amazing music, thought provoking reflection, friendly people, and even a few well-behaved dogs? Join us on Sunday at 10am St. Anne’s Episcopal Church 2791 Driscoll Rd Fremont, CA 94539		Rewarding volunteer opportunity! Deliver meals to seniors SOS Meals on Wheels Fremont, Newark, Union City M-F, 10:30am - 12:30 pm 10-15 clients per route Contact John, 510-244-0165 John@sosmow.org www.sosmow.org		THE HISTORIC SHINN HOUSE 1251 Peralta Blvd, Fremont, CA Open for public tours \$4 adults, \$2 Children (7-13) on the: First Wednesday of each month, and Third Sunday of each month from 1 PM to 4 PM. Groups of six or more need to make a reservation Groups of five or less are welcome without a reservation We will enforce current local CDC Guidelines All tours are Docent led and last about one hour. More information and group reservations email mphf.secretary@gmail.com	
TRI-CITIES WOMEN'S CLUB Meets on the third Tuesday Elk’s Club on Farwell Drive 9:15 – Cards & Games 11:30 – Lunch 1:00 – Program & Meeting Group meeting monthly/bimonthly; bridge, lunch bunch,Rummikub, bocce ball & book club. For more info, call 510-673-0877		FREMONT COIN CLUB Established 1971 Meets 2nd Tues in person 7pm Meets 4nd Tues with Zoom 7pm Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 38801 Blacow Rd, Fremont Guests Always Welcome, Enjoy Show N Tells, Drawings Auction, Refreshments www.fremontcoinclub.org 510-366-1365			
Join Us—AAUW, Fremont Branch We support equity for women and girls through research, education and action! Scholarships and internships available https://fremont-ca.aauw.net aauwfremontbranch@gmail.com		LARRY OROZCO TEEN WORKSHOP BICYCLE SALES & PARTS Minor Service Repairs DONATION - BICYCLES ACCEPTED DROP OFF SATURDAYS 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!! 33623 Mission Blvd. Union City, CA (510) 675-5805			

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Perception SW Eng (Job#K1917) Wrk w/ADAS/AD team&algo engs to bld next gen ADAS feats. **REQ:** MS or fgn equiv in CS, CompEng, Eng or rel fld&1yr work exp in a SW eng- rel occ. \$155,605-\$184,800.

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Sr SW Validation Eng, Charging Systems (Job#P903) Lead new feat def for veh charging syst&test. **REQ:** MS AutoSystEng, MechEng, or rel fld&2yrs as valid eng or any occ where test eng exp was gained. \$151K- \$190,400.

Electrical Eng, Power Electronics (Job#P1820) R&D HV electro-mech systs. **REQ:** MS MechEng, EEng, or rel fld&1yr exp in any occ where pwr electronics exp was gained. \$147,600-\$167,600.

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Mechanical Eng, Motor Gearbox Adv Engineering (Job#S1481) Wrk on clean sheet des&inventions of EV propulsion systs. **REQ:** MS or fgn equiv in MechEng or rel fld&2yrs of exp in mech eng or rel occ. \$164,700-\$184,800

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Details: www.phihong.com/careers.
Reply: hr@phihongusa.com

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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Email: customerservice@fudenna.com

Office located at 39823 Paseo Padre Pkwy. Fremont CA, 94538

Gifts from the Heart (NOT THE WALLET!)

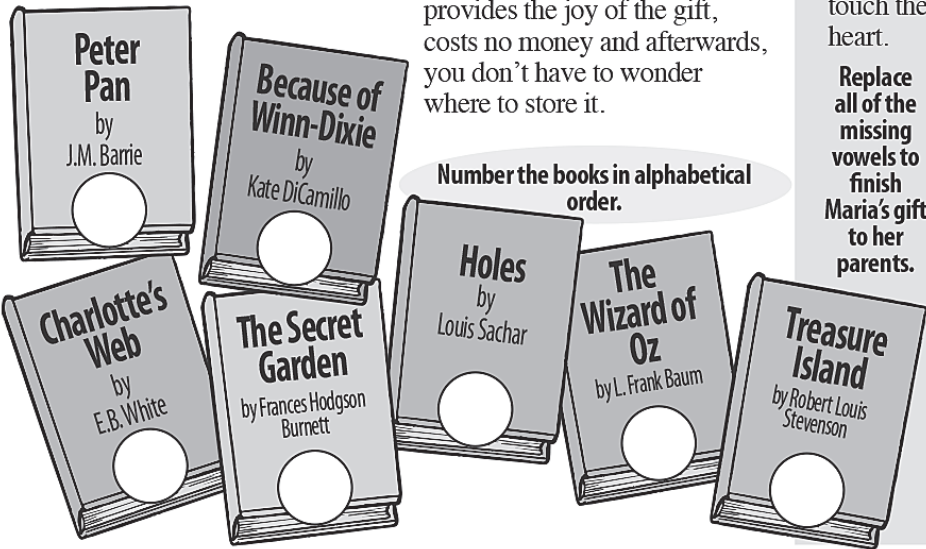
The spirit of the holidays is about giving, not spending money. Although at times, this becomes hard to remember.

Kid Scoop News Librarian Jim Silverman has a cool way to give gifts that warm the heart and don't cost a cent!

"Select some books from the library!" says Jim. "Wrap them up and tuck them under the tree."

Of course, you have to return them after a couple of weeks. But by then, the books are read.

A wrapped library book provides the joy of the gift, costs no money and afterwards, you don't have to wonder where to store it.

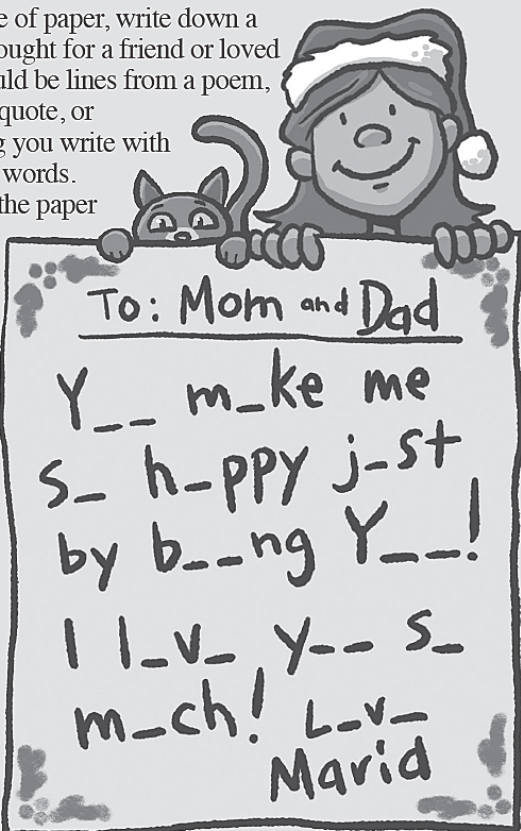


It's the Thought That Counts

It truly is the loving thought behind a gift that makes it special. And, thoughts are free!

On a piece of paper, write down a special thought for a friend or loved one. It could be lines from a poem, a famous quote, or something you write with your own words. Decorate the paper to offer a gift that will touch the heart.

Replace all of the missing vowels to finish Maria's gift to her parents.



Standards Link: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Kid Scoop Together The Gift of Time

Want a gift that keeps on giving the whole year? Write lots and lots of reasons you love someone then pop the reasons into a jar so your loved one can pull out a new one each and every day.

I love you because you drive me to school each day!

I love you because you cheer me up when I'm sad.

I love you because you help me with my homework.

FREE DOWNLOAD: KID SCOOP TEACHER ACTIVITY PACK!

With hundreds of topics, every **Kid Scoop** printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at:

kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
COLLAGE

The noun **collage** means a type of artwork in which different materials are pasted onto a surface to make a picture.

I was happy that grandma hung the **collage** I made on a wall in her house.

Try to use the word **collage** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Write On!

Money-Free Gifts

What can you give without spending any money?

The Gift of Time

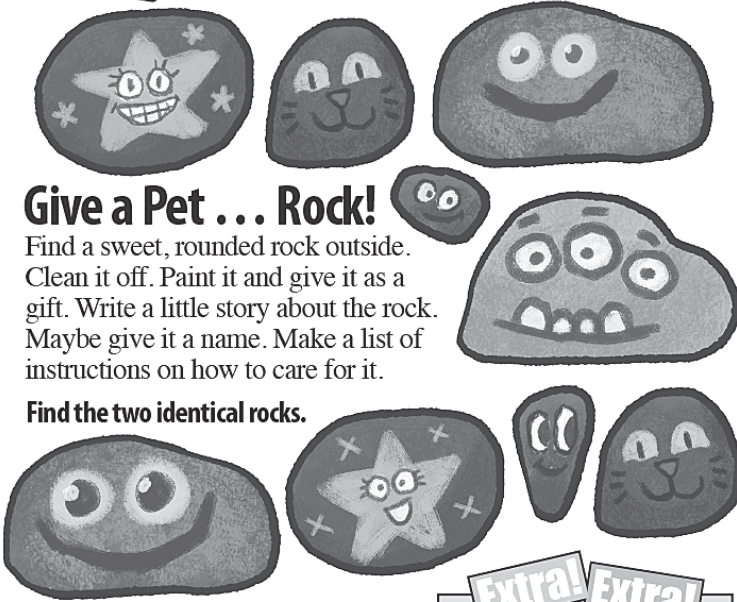
Create a coupon book of chores and actions you can take to be helpful. Could you take out the trash? Wash the dishes? Sweep the floor? Make a list of helpful things you could do for someone in your family.



Give a Pet ... Rock!

Find a sweet, rounded rock outside. Clean it off. Paint it and give it as a gift. Write a little story about the rock. Maybe give it a name. Make a list of instructions on how to care for it.

Find the two identical rocks.



Give the Gift of Helping Out

Step up and offer to help someone. Can you help someone carrying a lot of stuff? Can you help pick up after a game? Can you pick up some trash on the playground? Can you help an older neighbor with yard work or running an errand for them?

These little actions can make a big difference in someone's day!

What is fairness?

Look through the newspaper for words and images that describe someone in your family. Cut out the words and images. Make a collage to give them as a gift.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of media to create artwork.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Give the Gift of a Smile!

Is there someone at school who is looking sad. Give them a smile and a hello! Draw the face that continues the pattern in each row.



Standards Link: Recognize patterns.

Double Double Word Search

ACTIONS
BOOK
CARE
CHORES
CLEAN
COSTS
FREE
GAME
GIFT
HELP
LIST
POEM
ROCK
STORY
THOUGHT

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

S T S O C K I W O K
N W V S E R O H C G
O C K T B T H O M I
I Z A O P H R E B F
T G M R O O B N L T
C X A Y E U B A I P
A Q L M M G E E S J
T F R E E H E L T H
S O J P S T Y C B T

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Caring for Community

Look through the newspaper for info about organizations that help others in your community. List ways they help people. Write a letter to the editor of the newspaper thanking this organization for what they do.

Standards Link: Recognize syllables in words.



What seasoning does a snowman add to every meal?

ANSWER: Chilly flakes.

Letters Policy

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The Fremont CONNECTION



City of Fremont Holiday Closure

Scheduled for Dec. 24, 2024 – Jan. 1, 2025 (Police and Fire Services Not Affected)



As in years past, the City of Fremont will be implementing a Holiday Closure for many non-public safety City services. Some City offices will be closed from Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025. City Holidays are observed Dec. 24, 25, and 31, 2024 and Jan. 1, 2025, while limited City services will be offered Dec. 26, 27, and 30, 2024. City offices and facilities participating in the Holiday Closure will re-open for business on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025. This closure will not affect police and fire services.

Offices that are Taking Part in the Holiday Closure Include:
City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A and Building B (Administrative offices)
Fire Administration, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A
Development Services Center/Permit Center, 39550 Liberty St.

Maintenance Center, 42551 Osgood Rd.
All Community Centers and Recreation Buildings
Age Well Centers at Lake Elizabeth and South Fremont (also closed Dec. 23)
Tri-City Animal Shelter, 1950 Stevenson Blvd.

During the Holiday Closure:
Parks and Recreation Registration Desk, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building B is open for walk-in registration of recreation programs from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 26, 27, and 30.
Parks and Recreation Division will offer camps and other programs at some facilities. Visit RegeRec.com for more info.
Human Services will provide limited services for Youth & Family Services and Family Resource Center.
Healthy Start Program will provide limited services.

Afghan Elderly Association will not be providing services.
Youth & Family Services will have on-call crisis counselors to respond to youth referred from the Alameda County Crisis Receiving Home.
The Fremont Police Department and Fremont Fire Department will continue to provide public safety services.
A minimum number of City staff will be available in an on-call status to provide emergency maintenance services such as responding to storm-related issues.
Regularly-scheduled street sweeping will occur on Dec. 26, 27, and 30, 2024; weather permitting. No street sweeping on City-observed holidays. (We will make every effort to provide service on a different day.)
All construction and development services will be unavailable. The City's online permitting portal, Citizen Access,

will be unavailable starting Dec. 23, 2024, at 5 p.m. through Jan. 2, 2025, at 8 a.m. Online requests for permits and building inspections will not be available during this time. This includes planning, building, and engineering permits.
Addressing Services will be suspended starting Dec. 23, 2024. Addressing services will resume on Jan. 2, 2025.
The Tri-City Animal Shelter at 1950 Stevenson Blvd. will be closed on City-observed holidays: Dec. 24, 25, and 31, 2024, and Jan. 1, 2025. Shelter staff will still be onsite caring for the animals, but the shelter will not be open to the public. For urgent matters, such as reclaiming a found pet, please email animalshelter@fremont.gov or call 510-790-6645. Animal Services Officers will have limited hours during these dates.
There will be no garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection by Republic Services on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Collection service will be delayed one day during these weeks due to holidays. (Friday services will occur on Saturday.) Call 510-657-3500 for more information.
The Fremont Tennis Center will be open for public play, weather permitting. There will be some limited holiday public hours; call 510-790-5510 for more info.
Many City facilities and programs experience a reduction in service demand during the Holiday Closure dates. The City anticipates the Holiday Closure will have little or no impact on service delivery efficiency.
For more information on the Holiday Closure, please visit city.fremont.gov/holidayclosure or call 510-284-4093.

City's Construction and Development Services Not Available During Holiday Closure

Please be advised that during the City of Fremont's Holiday Closure, from Tuesday, December 24, 2024, through Wednesday, January 1, 2025, all construction and development services will be unavailable.
The City's online permitting portal, Citizen Access, will be unavailable starting Monday, December 23, 2024, at 5 p.m. through Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 8 a.m. Online requests for permits and building inspections will not be available during this time. This includes planning,

building, and engineering permits. Please keep this in mind when planning construction and development projects requiring these types of permits.
To schedule a building inspection for Thursday, January 2, 2025, the City's Inspection Scheduling Phone Line will be available starting Monday, December 30, 2024. The phone number is 510-494-4885. Online inspection scheduling through Citizen Access will not be available until Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 8 a.m.

General email accounts and phone lines will not be monitored during the Holiday Closure. Staff will not be responding to emails received during the closure. Community members should avoid sending any emails during this time.
The City's Development Services Center/Permit Center, located at 39550 Liberty St., will be closed. It will reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 8 a.m.

Fremont Police Department Shares Strategic Plan for 2024-2027 to Enhance Safety and Service

Fremont Police Department (FPD) unveiled its Strategic Plan for 2024-2027, building on the goals and objectives outlined in Police Chief Sean Washington's 2021 Transition Plan and feedback from community members. In an effort to provide services and programs that increase efficiency, improve safety, and meet the needs of our diverse community, the plan centers on five goals:

- Mitigate the impact of crime and enhance community safety
- Enhance recruitment and retention strategies
- Provide staff support, wellness, training, mentoring and succession planning
- Work to enhance operational excellence, efficiency, and accountability

- Seek additional community engagement and communication opportunities

FPD is also pushing for national accreditation to fine-tune its operations in addition to expanding its use of digital media to stay connected with the community. With specific metrics to track progress, FPD is committed to adapting as priorities evolve and will provide annual updates to City leadership.

Over the next three years, the plan will help guide FPD in providing quality service and growing trust within our community. To view the plan and learn more about how FPD aims to achieve a safe, equitable, and effective form of policing, please visit fremontpolice.gov/StrategicPlan.

Giving Hope



Giving Hope 2024. Help your neighbors! Make a gift to Giving Hope. Financial pressures remain on for many of our neighbors who may have to make tough choices on how to prioritize their limited budget. By making a gift to Giving Hope, you provide some financial flexibility.

Sponsor a family by fulfilling a wish list.

When wish lists are fulfilled, people can focus their resources on the things and traditions they find important. Wish lists can include requests for specific gifts, gift cards, or both.

Make a financial contribution.

Financial contributions build our urgent needs fund. Your donation helps cover unforeseen expenses for people in need year-round.

Learn how you can give hope this holiday season. Visit our website at city.fremont.gov/givinghope or scan the QR code.



Home & Garden

No whining about mulled wine



After serving mulled wine, garnish the glass with a lemon twist, cinnamon stick or rosemary sprig. Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell

By **DANIEL O'DONNELL**

There have been many attempts throughout history, long before refrigeration, to extend the longevity of food and drinks. Many of these preserving processes created items that are still enjoyed today. The use of salt created bacon, smoking produced smoked salmon, and fermentation led to sauerkraut, all of which are now commonly consumed around the world. The process of drying yields sun-dried tomatoes, adding sugar gives us dried fruits, and storing food in oils produced marinated artichokes, all popular ingredients in contemporary cooking. Using spices is another ancient preservation method. This process gave us mulled wine which has become a tasty holiday tradition in many western countries.

Mulled wine is a red wine infused with different combinations of mulling spices and is served warm or hot. Mulling spices include clove, nutmeg,

cinnamon, star anise, allspice, cardamom, and vanilla pod, all which are popular spices in other holiday recipes. A single type of fruit or a combination of fruits such as cranberries, pears, apples, grapefruit, pomegranates and oranges are common non-spice ingredients. Many recipes finish by adding a festive garnish to the glass right before the warm wine is served. These could include an orange or lemon twist, a cinnamon stick or a rosemary sprig.

The names for mulled wine vary throughout Europe and South America but can usually be translated into English as cooked wine, smoldered wine, hot wine or boiled wine. Traditional styles and alcohol levels of mulled wine vary from country to country. Mulled wine with higher levels of alcohol can be found in the United Kingdom which typically adds brandy or fortified wine; in Poland which incorporates vodka and in Brazil where cachaca is mixed in. Countries such as Italy and the

U.S. produce mulled wines with lower alcohol levels due to the use of higher temperatures and longer simmering durations to infuse the spices into the wine.

Traditional mulled wine recipes call for red wine as the main ingredient. The wine does not have to be expensive since many of the characteristics that people enjoy in middle and higher priced wines will be negated by the cooking process and the addition of potent spices. The best wine varietals to use in mulled wine recipes are dry and full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Grenache or Syrah. Full-bodied wines will maintain their taste with the addition of different flavors and drier wines will ensure the mulled wine does not get too sweet with the addition of different fruits. Experimenting with other red wines such as Pinot Noir, Malbec, Chianti, Shiraz, red wine blends, and even rosés can be fun and tasty.

Making non-alcoholic mulled wine can be a way to include

non-drinking friends and family members in a warm glass of holiday cheer. Cranberry, red grape, pomegranate, apple and blueberry juices can substitute for red wine. The same spices, fruits, and garnishes used in mulled wine recipes can be incorporated into a non-alcoholic recipe. Non-alcoholic Kombucha also makes a flavorful base. Combination flavors such as cranberry ginger spice, ginger berry, autumn apple and elderberry juniper already have some holiday flavors present. Single flavors such as blackberry, pomegranate, cranberry and blueberry are also tasty options. Kombucha is so flavorful that it is also being incorporated into red wine mulled wine recipes.

Mulled wines are made by combining red wine with spices and fruits, then heating the mixture up to a temperature of around 150°F. Alcohol evaporates at 172°F so the mulled wine should not be allowed to boil at any point. It can simmer from 20 minutes to a few

hours depending on how infused you want the spice flavors to be. Mulled wine can be cooked on a stove top in a saucepan or Dutch oven. It can also be cooked in a slow cooker which is a foolproof way to prevent boiling. Whole spices can be added directly to the wine or placed in a spice bag. Ground spices should be stirred in well. The finished wine can be ladled directly into a garnished heat-resistant glass or ceramic cup.

Recipes for mulled wine can be found on the internet, on packages of mulling spices or passed down from family members. It's easy to make, so you can be sure the mulled wine will look, smell, and taste great. This holiday season, sharing tasty mulled wine with family and friends can warm the hands and stomach as well as the heart.

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

The ACWD Connection

Rain Barrel Rebates

Save water during the rainy season and collect rainwater. ACWD, in partnership with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), offers rebates for purchasing and installing qualifying rain barrels. Receive up to \$50 per rain barrel (2 barrel maximum).

Learn about rain barrel rebates and more water-saving solutions at acwd.org/rebates.



Arts & Entertainment

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

Sunday, Dec. 15 - Monday, Dec. 23

Las Posadas
6pm
Participants meet on the porch of the Old Mission San Jose Museum and walk in a procession to a local business or site within two blocks singing Christmas carols as they go. Mission San Jose Museum 43300 Mission Blvd., Fremont
missionsanjose.org/las-posadas
www.fremontculturalartscouncil.org
www.missionsanjose.org

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

Upcoming Events
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

Thursday, Dec. 12
Homework Center Volunteer Orientation
4pm
The Castro Valley Library is looking for dedicated and enthusiastic High School student volunteers, just a few hours a week, for its after-school Homework Assistance Center.
Castro Valley Library 3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley
nsilva@aclibrary.org 510.667.7900

Thursday, Dec. 12
Cookies and Cram
3:30 – 7:45pm
Cramming for exams? Bring your friends and drop-in to the Union City Library to study! Snacks and teas provided.
Union City Library 34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City 510.745.1464

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
Music for Minors Holiday Concert
6pm
Celebrate the season with the Music for Minors holiday concert, featuring the MFMII kid's choir.
Niles Elementary School 37141 2nd St., Fremont
www.musicforminors2.org
Free, donations are welcome

Friday, Dec. 13
Night Movies in Niles
7:30pm
The Sin of Harold Diddlebock (1947) 20 years after The Freshman, producer Howard Hughes (Hell's Angels), Director Preston Sturges (The Lady Eve), and star Harold Lloyd came together to make this sequel!
Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum 37417 Niles Blvd., Fremont 510.494.1411

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
Niles Essanay Screening
7:30pm
Nanook Of The North: Director Robert J. Flaherty spends one year following the lives of Nanook and his family, Inuits living in the Arctic Circle.
Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum 37417 Niles Blvd., Fremont 510.494.1411

Saturday, Dec. 14
Holiday Concert
2pm – 4pm
The East Bay Symphonic Band Flute Choir & Horn

Quartet will be performing in the Greenhouse Community Room.
San Lorenzo Library 395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo 510.284.0640

Saturday, Dec. 14
Navidad en Mexico
7pm
Ballet Folklórico Mexicano de Carlos Moreno. Mariachi Colima and special guest singer Nina Hernandez
San Leandro Performing Arts Center 2250 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro
Early bird price: \$35 by Nov. 30
Regular price: \$50 purchased after Dec. 1
balletfolkloricomexicano.org 510.924.7849

Saturday, Dec. 14
Newark Symphonic Winds Holiday Concert
7pm
Join the Free Holiday Concert and Sing-along, with many new compositions.
Newark Memorial High School Theatre 39375 Cedar Blvd., Newark 510.552.7186
newarksymphonic.org

Saturday, Dec. 14 – Sunday, Dec. 15
Holiday Spectacular
An array of dancers, vocalists and the Bay Philharmonic orchestra—led by joyous host Conductor Jung-Ho Pak
Sat.: 7pm
Sun.: 3pm
Chabot College Performing Arts Center 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward
bayphil.org

Sunday, Dec. 15
Navidad en Mexico
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
Early bird price: \$35 by Nov. 30
Regular price: \$50 purchased after Dec. 1
balletfolkloricomexicano.org 510.924.7849

Tuesday, Jan. 21
Artist informational session
6:30pm - 8:30pm
For artists (visual, performance, musical, literary) who are interested in participating and learning more about Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month in April
Artist Walk 3888 Artist Walk Common, Fremont
fremontcreates.com

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 practice familiar songs as well as learning new.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 4 – Friday, Fed. 21

The Bridge and the Point: A Photographic Investigation
11am – 4pm
Exhibit images were shot by students in the Advanced Photography class at Ohlone College during the Fall 2024 semester. Professor Paul Mueller and his class visited abandoned industrial areas around Alameda Point and Dumbarton Bridge, places familiar to those who live in the area, but generally overlooked by everyone else.
Louie-Meager Art Gallery, Smith Center for Fine and Performing Arts Ohlone College 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont
Free and open to the public

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/3VFpbc

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

Tsunami warning highlights lack of disaster awareness

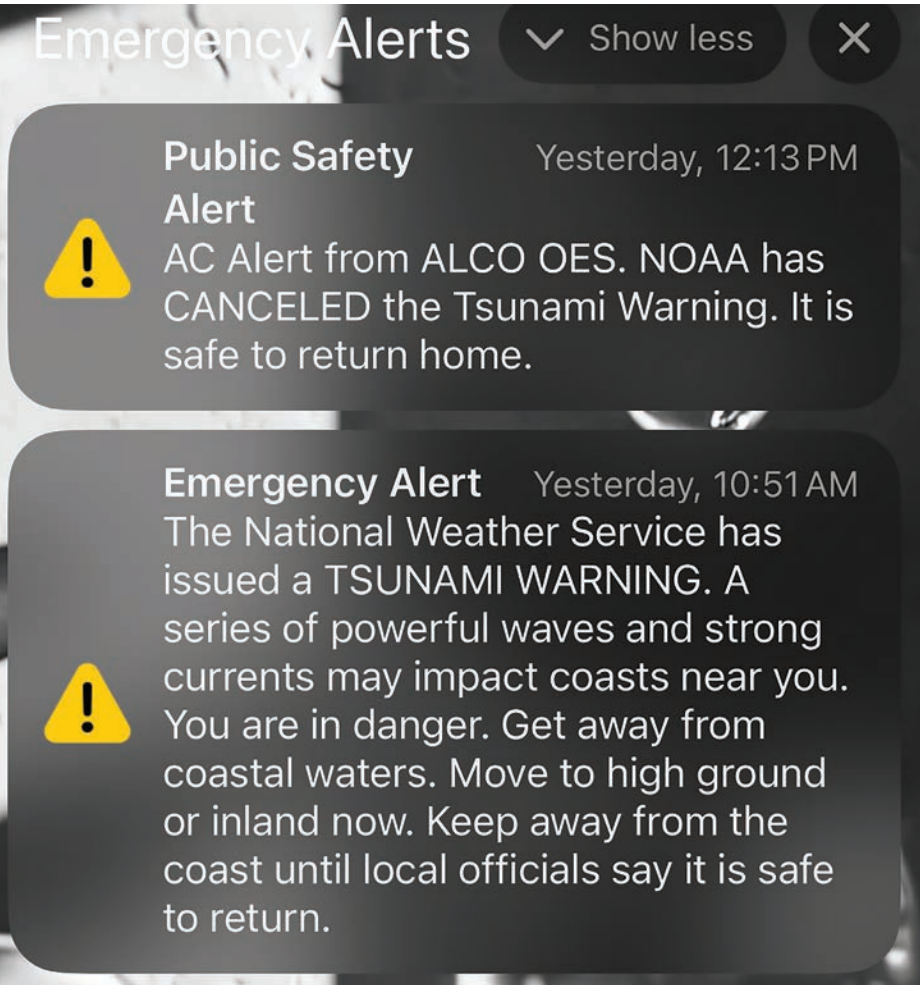
PHONE ALERT LEAVES RESIDENTS PUZZLED

By **STEPHANIE UCHIDA**

Midmorning on Thursday, Dec. 5, smart phones around the Bay Area blared the most annoying phone noise in existence. People nabbed their devices, expecting to see an amber alert for a missing adult, and definitely wanting to make the cacophony stop. Instead, they saw something more unusual: a tsunami warning. Catastrophic earthquakes such as the 1906 San Francisco quake and the Loma Prieta quake of 1989—which claimed 63 lives—loom in the minds of everyone in the Bay Area. So residents had reason to worry over the 7.0 earthquake that hit off the coast of Humboldt County at 10:44am. Out of an abundance of caution, San Leandro Public Library closed the Manor Branch Library for the day as the building is near the marina. Luckily, the tsunami warning was canceled an hour after the

alert, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. This time, no action was needed. But the warning raised questions about the efficacy of phone alerts, as people up and down the West Coast took to social media to post questions whether they were actually in a tsunami zone and what to do if so. On Bluesky, a Seattleite posted to check in on West Coast friends who might be affected. In a post to the r/BayArea reddit, people in Fremont and Livermore were unconcerned—even joking about evacuating up to Mission Peak and Mt. Diablo—as were Berkeleyites who received evacuation orders for low-lying areas of the city. The vibes-based consensus was that avoiding beaches and low-lying areas was sufficient caution. But what if the warning had heralded a real disaster? With vague information covering such a wide area, it was difficult to know who was truly at risk and

what action to take, if any. According to the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, tsunami risk can last hours or even days after the initial warning, so it's possible to be lulled into a false sense of security after an earthquake passes. In general, however, residents had the right idea about avoiding beaches and getting to high ground. Since the phone alerts don't always come with the specific details needed, it's good for residents to be aware ahead of time what disasters are most likely to happen in their area (earthquake, tsunami, wildfire, flooding) and the basics on what action to take to stay safe. A real crisis is a bad time to start Googling.



The Dec. 5 tsunami warning left many Bay Area residents confused. Photo by staff

PUBLIC NOTICES

BULK SALES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(UCC Sec. 6105)
Escrow No. 15481D

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) to the seller(s) are: DGGG 19, LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, 43690 AUTO MALL CIRCLE, FREMONT, CA 94538
Whose chief executive office is: 911 CAPITOL EXPRESSWAY AUTO MALL, SAN JOSE, CA 95136
Doing Business as: FREMONT HYUNDAI (Type – AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIP)
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s), is/are: NONE
The name(s) and address of the buyer(s) is/ are: PARMJEET MATHARU AND/OR ASSIGNEE, C/O PORTERVILLE FORD, 701 MAIN STREET, PORTERVILLE, CA 93257
The assets to be sold are described in general as: ALL STOCK IN TRADE, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT AND GOODWILL and are located at: 43690 AUTO MALL CIRCLE, FREMONT, CA 94538
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: CAPITOL CITY ESCROW, INC., 3838 WATT AVENUE, SUITE F-610 SACRAMENTO, CA 95821-2665 and the anticipated sale date is DECEMBER 27, 2024
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.
[If the sale is subject to Sec. 6106.2, the following information must be provided:] The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: CAPITOL CITY ESCROW, INC., 3838 WATT AVENUE, SUITE F-610 SACRAMENTO, CA 95821-2665 and the last date for filing claims by any creditor shall be DECEMBER 26, 2024, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.
Dated: NOVEMBER 7, 2024
PARMJEET MATHARU, Buyer(s)
2998940-PP TRI CITY VOICE
12/10/24

CNS-3877190#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610923

Fictitious Business Name(s):
MASTERING SPANISH, 6404 MARKET AVE., NEWARK, CA 94560, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
TSU-KE WANG, 6404 MARKET AVE., NEWARK, CA 94560
Business conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/02/2024.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ TSU-KE WANG
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 12/02/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3877014#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610773

Fictitious Business Name(s):
CASH NOW FREMONT, 38790 PASEO PADRE PKWY, FREMONT, CA 94536, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
SA FINANCIALS INC., **38790 PASEO PADRE PKWY, FREMONT, CA 94536**, County of ALAMEDA
Business conducted by: A CORPORATION
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/04/2003
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ SUKHRAJ GHUMAN
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/21/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3877005#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610788

Fictitious Business Name(s):
MISSION PEAK BROKERS / MISSION PEAK / MISSION PEAK FINANCIAL SERVICES / MISSION PEAK BUSINESS BROKERS / MISSION PEAK COMMERCIAL BROKERS / MISSION PEAK COMMERCIAL / MISSION

PEAK COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE / MISSION PEAK COMMERCIAL LOANS / MISSION PEAK LOANS / MISSION PEAK BUSINESS LOANS / MISSION PEAK COMMERCIAL GROUP / MISSION PEAL CAPITAL / MISSION PEAK PROPERTIES / MISSION PEAK REAL ESTATE ADVISORS / MISSION PEAK BUSINESS ADVISORS / MISSION PEAK INVESTMENT ADVISORS / MISSION PEAK FUNDING GROUP / HARRY SIDHU / MISSION PEAK REALTY / MISSION PEAK REAL ESTATE SERVICES, 46560 FREMONT BLVD, STE 111, FREMONT, CA 94538, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
MISSION PEAK BROKERS INC., 46560 FREMONT BLVD STE 111, FREMONT, CA 94538
Business conducted by: A CORPORATION
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/12/2010
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ HARPREET SIDHU
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/22/2024
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3875854#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610759

Fictitious Business Name(s):
AUTO EMPORIUM, 4210 MOWRY AVE #A, FREMONT, CA 94536, County of ALAMEDA
MAILING ADDRESS: 28720 VISTA GRANDE DR., HAYWARD, CA 94544
Registrant(s):
MUHAMMAD IMRAN, 28720 VISTA GRANDE DR., HAYWARD, CA 94544
Business conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/23/24
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ MUHAMMAD IMRAN
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/21/2024
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3875726#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610598

Fictitious Business Name(s):
DUTY FREE TERPENES, 30099 AHERN AVE, UNION CITY, CA 94587 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
TERPENE BELT PROCESSING, LLC, 30099 AHERN AVE, UNION CITY, CA 94587
Business conducted by: a limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2023.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
TERPENE BELT PROCESSING, LLC
S/ SHAREEF E SISSI
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/13/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3875725#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610764

Fictitious Business Name(s):
EHSAS CANDLES / EHSAS,3312 MORNING VIEW TERRACE, FREMONT, CA 94539, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
PARUL PATEL
FREMONT, CA 94539, County of ALAMEDA
Business conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ PARUL PATEL
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/21/2024
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610457

Fictitious Business Name(s):
TWO SHOT PEST CONTROL, 3619 FIRST ST, LIVERMORE, CA 94551 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
MASON OSBORNE, 3619 FIRST ST, LIVERMORE, CA 94551
Business conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/01/2024.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
S/ MASON OSBORNE
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 11/04/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/24/24

CNS-3875721#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610129

Fictitious Business Name(s):
PORSCHE FREMONT, 5740 CUSHING PARKWAY, FREMONT, CA 94538 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
FREMONT P, LLC, 7300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89117
Business conducted by: a limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/01/2006.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
FREMONT P, LLC
S/ FLETCHER JONES 111
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 10/22/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17/24

CNS-3872410#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610127

Fictitious Business Name(s):
FLETCHER JONES MOTORCARS OF FREMONT, 5760 CUSHING PARKWAY, FREMONT, CA 94538 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
FREMONT M, LLC, 7300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89117
Business conducted by: a limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/01/2006.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
FREMONT M, LLC
S/ FLETCHER JONES 111
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 10/22/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17/24

CNS-3872409#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610494

Fictitious Business Name(s):
ASSEMBLY OFFICE SOLUTIONS, 688 N. M ST., LIVERMORE, CA 94551, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
JOSE ORELLANA AMAYA, 688 N. M ST., LIVERMORE, CA 94551, County of ALAMEDA
Business conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610476

Fictitious Business Name(s):
NILES BICYCLES, 161 I ST., FREMONT, CA 94536; MAILING ADDRESS: 4509 RODERIGO CT., FREMONT, CA 94555, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
NILES BICYCLES, 4509 RODERIGO CT., FREMONT, CA 94555 (CALIFORNIA)
Business conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/05/2024
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ ALBERT SAMSON
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOVEMBER 5, 2024
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10/24

CNS-3870421#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610358

Fictitious Business Name(s):
CHESNEY'S COUNTRY KITCHEN, 1200 W WINTON AVE #217, HAYWARD, CA 94545 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
SHELLEY DAMERAL, 1200 W WINTON AVE #217, HAYWARD, CA 94545
Business conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
S/ SHELLEY DAMERAL
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 10/30/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10/24

CNS-3870426#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610489

Fictitious Business Name(s):
DRIVEWAY AUTO SALE, 38665 FREMONT BLVD UNIT 2, FREMONT, CA 94536, County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
OPENWORK LLC, 9032 PEMBRIDGE DRIVE, ELK GROVE, CA 95624 (CALIFORNIA)
Business conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/8/2024
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
/s/ MOHAMMAD KHON
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on NOVEMBER 6, 2024
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10/24

CNS-3870424#

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 610331

Fictitious Business Name(s):
1. BAY AREA VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER OF UNION CITY CA, 2. VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER OF UNION CITY CA, 33663 MISISON BLVD, UNION CITY, CA 94587 County of ALAMEDA
Registrant(s):
SURAT GILL CORPORATION, 33663 MISISON BLVD, UNION CITY, CA 94587 (CA)
Business conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1-29-2020
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars [\$1,000].)
SURAT GILL CORPORATION
S/ SURAT GILL
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on 10/29/2024.
NOTICE: In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10/24

CNS-3870423#

Fremont exhibit features Palestinian people and culture

The exhibit features clothing, food, musical instruments and more. Photo courtesy of Sharat G. Lin

Submitted by
SHARAT G. LIN

An exhibit in the Fremont Main Library features “Palestine: A People, A Culture, A Heritage.”

This free exhibit displays the traditional clothing, foods, musical instruments, arts and crafts, and history of the Palestinian people so that the public may learn more and welcome the diversity.

On display throughout the month of December, the exhibit draws our attention to the Holy Land where such cities as Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Jericho and Hebron are

all Palestinian cities and have significance to all three Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Palestine – The Holy Land – has been inhabited by indigenous peoples who became the original Jews, Christians and Muslims of the Middle East. The Arab Muslims (including Bedouins and Druze) and Arab Christians are now identified as Palestinians with an historical attachment to the land of Palestine. While there is a cultural continuity with the neighboring peoples of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, the Palestinian people have distinct specificities of culture, language dialect, cuisine, dress, arts and crafts,

history, and symbols of identity. Before partition (1947–1949), Palestinians had a thriving society and economy, education, medicine, arts, music, poetry, literature, and institutions of civil society. Even Gaza was once a center of both over-land and sea-borne trade along the ancient Silk Road between Europe and Asia. Because of the Holy Land, Palestine was the epicenter of pilgrimages and the confluence of cultures from across the continents. Today the vast majority of Palestinians live in the diaspora outside of historical Palestine with the largest numbers being refugees in the neighboring countries of the Middle East – Jordan,

Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and the Arabian Gulf countries. There are some 160,000–200,000 Palestinian Americans living in the United States, and there is a large community in the San Francisco Bay Area. These Palestinian Americans have brought their rich culture and heritage with them, of which a sample is on display in this exhibit.

Palestine: A People, A Culture, A Heritage Through December Open during library hours Fremont Main Library 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont

Birth

Marriage

Obituaries

LIFE CORNERSTONES

For more information
707-353-1148
lifetributes@weeklys.com



Fremont Chapel of the Roses
(510) 797-1900
1940 Peralta Blvd., Fremont
www.fremontchapeloftheroses.com



Fremont Memorial Chapel
(510) 793-8900
3723 Peralta Blvd. Fremont
www.fremontmemorialchapel.com

Bruce F. Roy
Resident of Fremont
July 14, 1936 – December 7, 2024

Aloah J. King
Resident of Fremont
October 17, 1928 – December 4, 2024

Helene Deckert
Resident of Union City
November 21, 1943 – November 28, 2024

Michael L. Filgate
Resident of Fremont
November 22, 1955 – December 2, 2024

David W. Storer
Resident of Fremont
November 16, 1960 – November 30, 2024

Gerard Oliver McCarty, Jr.
Resident of Fremont
August 19, 1966 – November 25, 2024

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



Berge • Pappas • Smith
Chapel of the Angels
510-656-1226
40842 Fremont Blvd, Fremont
www.bergepappassmith.com

Marie Smith
Resident of Stockton
Long-time resident of Fremont
August 5, 1937 – December 4, 2024

Gary Morse
Resident of Fremont
December 10, 1937 – December 3, 2024

Yuming Li
Resident of Fremont
April 3, 1946 – December 3, 2024

Dolores Garcia
Resident of Fremont
September 22, 1937 – November 30, 2024

Arunasalam Gnanendran
Resident of Fremont
October 7, 1941 – November 29, 2024

Soumya Chakraborty
Resident of Sunnyvale
January 27, 1988 – November 28, 2024

Margarito Sanchez
Resident of Fremont
October 18, 1923 – November 27, 2024

Hang Kuen Lai
Resident of Fremont
August 26, 1933 – November 26, 2024

Pandit Chandramouli Narayansastri
Resident of Livermore
June 2, 1966 – 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

MARIE DENEVES SMITH

August 5, 1937 – December 4, 2024



Marie DeNeves Smith, the beloved matriarch of our family, passed away peacefully on December 4, 2024, at St. Joseph Hospital in Stockton, California. She was born and raised in Escalon, California, on August 5, 1937, to loving parents Joseph Nunes and Louise Candida Pereira. Marie was a guiding light and a cherished presence for 87 wonderful years.

Her unwavering love for her family and vibrant spirit defined Marie's life. She was a source of wisdom, strength, and comfort, always ready with a kind word or a helping hand. Her legacy of love, resilience, and generosity will continue to inspire all who knew her.

Marie was a loving wife to her late husband, Louis E. Smith, with whom she built a loving family and enduring legacy. Her three beloved sons and daughters-in-law survive her: Dan and Linda Smith of Lodi, Kevin and Kelly Smith of Pleasanton, and Rodney and Angela Smith of Stockton. Devoted grandmother to Arielle Reid, Sean Van Steyn, Jacqueline Hirt, Ian, Sam, Harrisen, Joshua, Alexandria, Griffin, and Faith Belavilas. Great grandmother of Vin, Caelum, and Phoenix Reid, Jayden Van Steyn, James and Audrey Sweet, Danny and Chandler Smith, Charlie Smith, Haley Smith, Arriella and Noel Smith, and Haven Belavilas. Beloved sister and sister-in-law of Gary and Rosemary Gomes and the late Edwin and Theresa Pereira.

Marie was a dedicated member of Inner Wheel and received the Inner Wheel Spirit of Excellence Award from USA Inner Wheel President. She was also a member of Niles-Fremont Rotary, PFSA, Luso American, YLI, and the Fremont Symphony Board. Marie was a dedicated volunteer for 20 plus years for Washington Hospital and loved taking photos of the newborn babies. Her faith played a central role in her life, and she was deeply affiliated with St. Joseph Church in Mission San Jose-Fremont and Presentation Church BVM in Stockton.

Throughout her life, Marie enriched her community through her unwavering commitment to service and her heartfelt connections with others. All will miss her warm presence, generous spirit, and dedication to family and friends.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Marie's life at St. Joseph Catholic Church at 3 pm on Friday, December 6, 2024, at 43148 Mission Blvd, Fremont. She will be laid to rest at St. Joseph Cemetery, Fremont. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in her memory to St. Vincent De Paul at your local Catholic church, Shriners Hospitals for Children, 2425 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95817, Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, 43326 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539, Sisters of the Holy Family, 159 Washington Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539 or the charity of the donors choice that helps the less fortunate or those in need.

Marie's warmth, wit, and compassionate nature touched everyone she met. Her dedication to her family and her community was evident in her countless acts of kindness and the deep connections she cultivated throughout her life. Marie will be deeply missed but never forgotten. Her love lives on in the hearts of her family and friends, and her spirit will remain with us forever!



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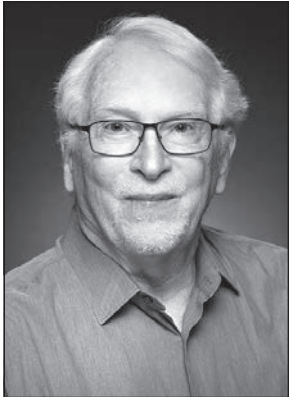
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The Tri-City Voice welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Only the writer's name will be published. Letters that are 350 words or fewer will be given preference. Letters are subject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

When is a Mini not a Mini?



Is a Mini SUV still a Mini? Photo credit: Michael Coates



Auto Review

Michael Coates is an experienced automotive writer, who is also editor and publisher of the Clean Fleet Report online magazine (www.cleanfleetreport.com) that focuses on advanced automotive technology. He lives in the Bay Area with his wife.

kmcoates@gmail.com
408-399-9081 (office)



The cabin sports a 9.4-inch circular display. Photo credit: Michael Coates



The Countryman model keeps Mini's iconic look with wheels pushed out to the corners to maximize interior space. Photo credit: Michael Coates

A REVIEW OF THE MINI COUNTRYMAN

By **MICHAEL COATES**

This is not a theoretical question I pose. This month's car (actually, two 2025 Mini Countryman models that pose the same question) is the "big" Mini, if you'll pardon the oxymoron. It answers the question—what would a Mini be if BMW turned it into an all-wheel drive (AWD) SUV.

Mini is a classic British car marque going back to 1959, but it has been owned by BMW for almost 25 years. The Minis of the BMW era are small, but not as diminutive as

the original model. BMW has also been producing an SUV model, the Countryman, for 15 years, so this question is not new. It's being answered in the affirmative by more than a third of Mini buyers, who choose the Countryman over the alternative models—two-door, four-door or convertible.

I will affirm that the two Countryman models I drove carried forward the Mini tradition well, in spite of the real question about how they fit into the Mini tradition. Over the years Minis have been made into many different types of non-small versions; the only difference is this is one you can buy with a warranty.

If we've settled the questions of origin and size, let's look at what the biggest Mini brings to the party.

We'll compare the base model Countryman S ALL4 with the JCW (for John Cooper Works) Countryman ALL4.

A Mini SUV

The Countryman is a small SUV. For comparison, BMW's smallest SUV, the X1, is about the same length, but eight inches taller. It doesn't feel small because you sit fairly high and the car's design gives a spacious interior. The Mini design aesthetic is to push the wheels out to the corners of the car, maximizing interior space. The rear seats fold, and the carrying capacity of the Countryman is impressive for its size. If you're carrying humans, three can fit in the back, although two would be more comfortable for extended trips.

The power for the Countryman comes from its new land of origin—it's a turbocharged 2-liter four-cylinder engine cranking out 241 horsepower in the S model and 312 in the JCW. Torque remains the same in the two models, so off-the-line performance is comparable—and quite good. Also borrowed from BMW is the seven-speed dual-clutch transmission, which delivers smooth shifting and the option to imitate manual shifting with paddle shifters in the JCW version. No manual is available.

Fuel economy in the Countryman is about what you would expect for this size vehicle—24 mpg city/32 highway/26 combined in the base model and one or two mpg less in the JCW. If

those numbers are an issue, but the Countryman still gets your juices going, check out the electric model that's also available.

JCW's racing heritage also shows up in the suspension, which is tweaked to adapt to more aggressive driving. Both models handled well—a Mini hallmark.

The cabin of both models is dominated by a feature taken from the original Mini, but supersized—the 9.4-inch circular display. It does a good job of giving you the information you need about the car's speed and can augment that with navigation or entertainment data.

Finally, we have one other element that is not "mini"—the price. Anyone familiar with the Mini knows it's positioned as a premium car.

The Countryman starts with a base price of \$38,900, but it's easy to add on packages with convenience and functionality that bump the price up. Our S checked out at \$44,295 while the JCW was just below \$52,000. The package delivers substantial value because, for all the BMW pieces, it is a Mini and performs like the big brother to the sedan. A Mini at heart.

Happy New Year

By **PAT KITE**

Insects are engraved in art and history. In China, if you see a butterfly, it is a symbol of the soul. We will talk about butterflies next month.

Now recall the Aesop fable, the Ants and the Grasshopper. All year worker ants from various colonies keep busy carrying grains and seeds toward their home. They are symbols of hard work and thriftiness. The grasshopper kept asking the ant for a "loan" of food. The ant asks, what have you been doing all year? Singing, the grasshopper replied, tuning her long legs. Well, then sing and dance your way through a cold winter, proclaimed the ant. But that winter was very long and cold, and little by little the grasshoppers disappeared from sight. The ants stayed toasty in their nests.

The ants obeyed the laws of the Harvest Mother. The Harvest Mother is also known as the Greek goddess Demeter. She is credited with teaching humans how to grow and prepare grain.

Our busy bee is a symbol of the Hindu gods Inra, Krishna and Vishnu. She represents wealth, creative activity and hard work. From the busy bee, we get honey all year round despite the winter months.

With insects there is little waste. In ancient Egypt we meet the scarab, or dung beetle. It lays its eggs in the sand, then rolls the scarab eggs in a dung package. From this package, new beetles eventually emerge.

All of these insects and many more have tales, magic, medicine and mortality. I love stories... don't you? Happy 2025.

Pat Kite's Garden



PAT KITE

L. Patricia [Pat] Kite's several garden books include KISS Guide to Gardening, Gardening Wizardry for Kids, Raccoons, Ladybug Facts and Folklore and Silkworms. They may be found at Amazon.com and Alibris.com.

Upcoming events and recent milestones

By **STAFF**

On Dec. 13, the Big Bus Initiative of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program will be on the move. The program has been giving toys to children in underserved communities since 1947, with nearly 45,000 donations in 2023. The Alameda County branch of the Toys for Tots is organized by Staff Sergeant Nathan Martinez, 2024 Alameda County Coordinator, and Civilian Project Coordinator Dan Cardenas. There are several stops in the Tri-City Area, including Mission Hills Middle School in Union City and Haller's Pharmacy in Fremont, that have committed to donating \$1,000's worth of toys. alameda-ca.toysfortots.org

K-Pop culture is returning to Hayward on Dec. 15 with a vendor and artist hall, games and live performances throughout

the day and raffles and prizes. K-Wave Pop-Up will take place at Craft Pizzeria and Sector 19 from 12pm to 6pm. visithaywardca.com

In Fremont, Ohlone College welcomed two new appointees. Dr. Jennifer Sarhadi became Director of Financial Aid on Dec. 2. Dr. Sarhadi started her career as a computer lab assistant at Modesto Junior College, and has worked at Monterey County Office of Education. She has an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

Also on Dec. 2, the college appointed Wrenna Finche as Vice President of Administrative Services. Finche has previously served as Vice Chancellor for the College Finance and Facilities Planning Division at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, where she oversaw over \$13 billion in state funding. At Ohlone, Finche will oversee



Wrenna Finche previously worked with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Courtesy of Dr. Celina Barrios, Public Information Officer

finance, facilities, technology services and campus safety, as well as advising college president Sasaki. www.ohlone.edu

Bay Philharmonic delivers two performance-packed Holiday Spectacular Shows



Bay Philharmonic’s Youth Orchestra will perform at the show. Photo courtesy of Bay Philharmonic



Yokos Dance and Performing Arts Academy provides instruction in ballet, jazz, and tap. Photo courtesy of Bay Philharmonic



Full Potential is a Fremont-based hip-hop dance group. Photo courtesy of Bay Philharmonic

Submitted by
CANDY CULVER

For the first time since COVID, Bay Philharmonic is presenting two Holiday Spectacular shows on Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15 at the Chabot College Performing Arts Center in Hayward.

Audiences can expect a diverse array of dancers, vocalists and the Bay Philharmonic orchestra—led by joyous host, Conductor Jung-Ho Pak. “I can’t wait to be on stage with all these great performers and share so much beautiful music with

you,” said Jung-Ho. “I’m like a kid in a musical candy store!”

The program features pop, jazz, classical, and pop music and will celebrate Christmas, Chanukah and Kwanza—with holiday favorites and new renditions. And of course, a visitor from the North Pole too.

For the first time, Bay Phil is joined by hip-hop group Full Potential, who will perform a Nutcracker selection. “We’re excited about the exchange of energy between the two groups,” commented Duncan Padilla. “It’s so different to dance

with a live group (instead of a recording).”

The lineup includes:

- Full Potential (Formerly known as Feel Projection Dance Company, LLC.) is a Fremont-based choreography-based dance troupe established in 2016.
- Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir celebrates diverse communities through song and is comprised of East Bay youth aged 7–17.
- Lelm & Langford is a Chicago-based piano/vocal duo, specializing in jazz, pop and orchestral performances.
- Yoko’s Dance and

Performing Arts Academy is well known for excellence in providing dance instruction in ballet, jazz, tap (and more) to students of all ages.

- Bay Phil Youth Orchestra (BPYO), created by Judy Lam eight years ago, provides musical skills development and personal growth to local young people.

In addition, two Guest Conductors will share the Holiday Spectacular stage: Dr. Carlos Hernandez, BPYO Music Director and Bay Phil Artistic Administrator; and David Sloss, who served for 32

years as Artistic Director and Conductor of the former Fremont Symphony and is the founding Director of Fremont Opera.

Tickets are available through Bay Phil’s website for both shows, and range from \$25 to \$89.

The 2024/2025 season features two other unique shows in 2025, an Aretha Franklin Tribute on Mar. 16, and a Beatles Tribute on Jun. 22.

Holiday Spectacular
Saturday, Dec. 14: 7pm
Sunday, Dec. 15: 3pm
Chabot College Performing

Arts Center
25555 Hesperian Blvd.,
Hayward
bayphil.org

Santa at the Firehouse

Submitted by
CHERYL HURD

The holiday season is here!

It has been a tradition with the Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) to host Santa at the Firehouse.

Each year, we hold an open house for the community to collect toys to be donated to non-profits in the areas we serve. In return, the community gets to tour a firehouse, have cookies, hot chocolate, and chat with firefighters and Santa.

This is truly a collaboration between ACFD and Local 55. Without this program, many families would not get anything for the holidays.

Below, you will find a list of locations and dates where this year’s Santa at the

Firehouse’s will take place. Mark your calendars. Hope to see you there!

Santa at the Firehouse Events:

- Newark: Saturday, Dec. 14, 4 – 7pm, ACFD Station 28 - Lead by Josue Garcia

- Castro Valley: Saturday, Dec. 21, 11am – 2pm, Station 25- Lead by Miguel Padilla

Santa at the Firehouse
Saturday, Dec. 14
4 – 7pm
ACFD Station 28

7550 Thornton Ave., Newark
Saturday, Dec. 21
11am – 2pm
Station 25
20290 San Miguel Ave.,
Castro Valley
info@alcoff55toys.com
alcoff55toys.com

BART fares will increase 5.5% on January 1, 2025

Submitted by **BART COMMUNICATIONS**

BART fares will increase Jan. 1, 2025, to keep pace with inflation so that the agency is able to pay for continued operations and to work toward restoring financial stability. BART’s current funding model relies on passenger fares to pay for operations.

Fares will increase 5.5 percent on New Year’s Day. The increase is tied to the rate of inflation minus a half-percentage point. It’s the second such increase – the first took effect January 1, 2024.

The average fare will increase 25 cents, from \$4.47 to \$4.72. BART’s fare calculator and Trip Planner have been updated with the new fares for trips with the date 1/1/25 and beyond. Riders can learn how the

increase will affect their travels by entering a 2025 date for their trip.

“We understand that price increases are never welcome, but BART fares remain a vital source of funds even with ridership lower than they were before the pandemic,” said BART Board Vice President Mark Foley. “My Board colleagues and I voted in June 2023 to spread necessary fare increases over two years rather than catching up all at once. At the same time, we voted to increase the Clipper START means-based discount from 20 percent to 50 percent to help those most in need.”

The fare increase is expected to raise about \$14 million per year for operations. Combined with the previous year’s fare adjustment, BART will use this \$30 million per year to

fund train service, enhanced cleaning, additional police and unarmed safety staff presence, and capital projects such as the Next Generation Fare Gates project.

Discounts available for those who are eligible

The regional Clipper START program is an important resource for low-income riders of BART and other Bay Area transit systems. The program is for adult riders with a household income of 200% of the federal poverty level or less. Administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, program participants receive a personalized Clipper card that cuts half the cost of fares on more than 20 transit systems.

Limited income riders get 50% off with Clipper START.

Youth 5-18 years old

get 50% off with a Youth Clipper card.

Seniors 65 and over get 62.5% off with a Senior Clipper card.

The RTC Clipper card is a version of Clipper created for passengers under 65 with qualifying disabilities to provide 62.5% off.

Regular, predictable increases a long-term strategy

January’s fare increase is the latest adjustment in a strategy to provide BART funding while providing riders predictable, scaled changes to the costs of riding. In 2004, BART first implemented this inflation-based fare increase program that calls for small, regular, less-than-inflation increases every two years, allowing fares to keep up with the cost of providing reliable and safe service.

BART is also much less expensive than driving on a cost per mile basis. The Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rate for drivers is 67 cents per mile; BART riders pay an average of 27 cents per mile, 60% less than the cost of driving.

Outdated funding model

BART’s current funding model relies on passenger fares to pay for operations. Even with the fare increase, BART is facing a \$35 million operating deficit in FY26 and \$385 million in FY27. Since BART’s outdated model of relying on passenger fares to pay most operating costs is no longer feasible because of remote work, the agency must modernize its funding sources to better match other transit systems throughout the country

that receive larger amounts of public funding. BART needs a more reliable long-term source of operating funding and continues to advocate at the federal, state and regional levels for the permanent funding needed to sustainably provide the quality transit service the Bay Area needs.

Addressing BART’s ongoing financial crisis will take a variety of solutions including securing new revenue and continuing to find internal cost savings. BART costs have grown at a rate lower than inflation, showing we have held the line on spending. We have implemented a service schedule that better matches ridership and we are running shorter trains, reducing traction power consumption and maintenance costs.

Dream Achievers Band performs at library

Submitted by
JUI-LAN LIU

The Dream Achievers Band will give a holiday concert at Alameda County Main Library on Wednesday, Dec. 18. The Band is a musical ensemble made up of talented musicians with autism from Friends of Children with Special Needs’ music program, which was founded 12 years ago. Band members are Lawrence Wang, saxophonist and vocalist; Alice Jen, pianist and Gregory Hebert, guitarist and vocalist. Every one of them has an inspirational story of hope and amazing courage. Their repertoire includes more than 400 songs of different genres.

The Dream Achievers Band is the winner of numerous talent shows and has performed internationally including Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Toronto, Canada and Washington DC. They aim to bring love, hope and inspiration to special needs communities around the world.

Holiday Concert with Dream Achievers Band
Wednesday, Dec. 18
1pm - 3pm
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont
<https://aclibrary.org/>

Fremont lights tree, celebrates season



The Jazzinators, the youth band of East Bay Traditional Jazz Society, performed Christmas tunes at the event. Photo Credit: Stephanie Uchida



L to R: Cindy Bonior (CEO, Fremont Chamber of Commerce), Councilmember Teresa Keng, Former Mayor Lily Mei, Vice Mayor Desrie Campbell, and Councilmember Kathy Kimberlin. Photo Credit: Stephanie Uchida



Fake snow created a prime photo up, and amused the kids. Photo Credit: Stephanie Uchida

RESIDENTS GATHER FOR LIVELY INAUGURAL HOLIDAYS AT THE PLAZA

By **STEPHANIE UCHIDA**

Fremont Street Eats may have ended back in October with a Halloween finale, but the Downtown Event Center was lively on Dec. 6 with the

first celebration of “Holidays at the Plaza.” Food trucks and small business vendors lined up around the outdoor event space and local groups like Mission Peak Chamber Singers and Jazzinators performed, while kids participated in face painting and cookie decorating.

Unfortunately, Mayor-elect Raj Salwan was unable to attend, being delayed on the East Coast due to weather. However, former mayor Lily Mei, Vice Mayor Desrie Campbell, Councilmembers

Theresa Keng and Kathy Kimberlin and recently elected councilmember Yaying Zhang attended the tree lighting.

Lily Mei said, “Our downtown event center, like this tree, helps us have roots and helps us to blossom and grow. And we hope to be able to celebrate so many more occasions.” She continued, “During the holidays, share your blessings with others and remember to be kind.”

Feel the holiday spirit in the rink

HOLIDAY EVENTS AT FREMONT SHARKS ICE

By **ETHAN YAN**

Every holiday season, Sharks Ice at Fremont lights up with the holiday spirit as the staff welcome individuals and families to explore the world of ice skating. This year is no different, with holiday sessions running from December 22 to January 5. Skaters will get to enjoy various perks such as holiday discounts, more frequent sessions and holiday-themed drinks.

By far the most exciting attraction, holiday public sessions will run all day long, from 9:30am to as late as 10:00pm on some days. This year, sessions were shortened from 120 minutes to 90 in order to make them more frequent. “We found that people were more likely to come if we had more sessions available during the day. People were sort of showing up during the middle of the session, unsure whether they should stay for the next one or join [the current] session, so having more



Sharks Ice Fremont opens their holiday public skate all day. Photo by Ethan Yan

sessions available throughout the day was a good option for people,” Sharks Ice at Fremont General Manager Casey Maguire said.

The decision would add more flexibility into skaters’ holiday schedules, encouraging more people to come to the rink. Furthermore, skaters can enjoy the holiday discounts as well: a 50% discount on their second session if they purchase two sessions in a single day and a 10% discount on all Sharks merchandise.

To get into the holiday spirit, the rink is adorned with numerous decorations. “We do Christmas lights all the way around the facility. We do holiday decor inside

the rink and play Christmas music 24/7 over the loudspeaker,” Maguire said.

To satisfy skaters in between sessions or right after sessions, Stanley’s Sports Bar, located upstairs from the rink, will feature many cozy foods and beverages, some of them holiday-themed. Adding onto the appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches and pizzas offered, holiday-themed treats include hot chocolate, candy cane drinks and peppermint drinks.

There could potentially be a variety of holiday desserts as well. Diners can eat while watching the ongoing skating sessions, looking out at the rink from giant windows.



An inflatable Santa and reindeer gaze upon a freestyle session in the morning. Photo by Ethan Yan

The bar also features a pool table and various arcade games to entertain kids, families and adults as they enjoy their food.

The Sharks Ice holiday programming has also been positively received by the local community. “We get a lot of word-of-mouth folks, people who’ve been here before. We get a lot of people within the community, kids who go to school who skate here, who tell their friends. Over the holidays, we get a lot of people who bring their families that are travelling in from out of state or out of town,” Maguire said.

There are advantages to coming as a group as well,

such as discounts for groups of ten or more people. Youth and senior prices are cheaper than the regular adult prices. Even though skating could be perceived as a solo or duo sport when looking at the singles and pairs events at figure skating competitions, coming to the rink with family or a group of friends is a great socializing and bonding activity to develop the holiday spirit.

As the holiday season rolls around, albeit later than usual for certain school districts, Sharks Ice at Fremont invites with open arms all who seek to enjoy themselves on the rink. Those looking to pursue ice

skating further can also take part in the Learn to Skate program at the rink that runs all year long. “We want to get as many people in here as we can and show them that this is a great place to come often, to learn how to skate. Our goal for the holiday season is to make memories for families and [ensure] that they have a great time.”

37th Annual Newark Memorial Optimist Club Holiday Basketball Classic

Submitted by
DARRYL REINA

High school girls’ basketball teams from all over the Bay Area and beyond will be converging on Newark Memorial High School on December 27, 28 and 30, for the 37th Annual Newark Memorial - Newark

Optimist Club Holiday Basketball Classic.

The Newark Memorial Event Center is located at 39375 Cedar Boulevard, Newark. Plenty of free parking is available. The daily cash admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors (62+), and Free for children 6 years and under.

The opening day schedule for Friday, December 27, is as follows:

Junior Varsity Division

9:00am: Valley Christian vs. Mission San Jose

10:30am: Foothill vs. American

12 noon: Clayton Valley Charter vs. Irvington

1:30pm: Mt. Eden vs. Newark Memorial

Varsity Division

3:15 pm: Irvington vs. Lynbrook

4:45 pm: Arroyo Grande (SLO) vs. Aragon

6:15 pm: Santa Clara vs. Foothill

7:45 pm: Terra Linda vs. Newark Memorial

Games will continue throughout the day on December 28 and 30. The JV championship game is set for 1:30pm, and the Varsity championship game at 7:45pm, on Monday, December 30.

Please plan to join us for the competition and exciting Girls Basketball action!

Newark Optimist Club Basketball Classic
Friday, Dec. 27 – Monday, Dec. 30
Newark Memorial Event Center
39375 Cedar Blvd., Newark
Admission: \$8 adults, \$5 students/seniors, free children 6 and under

OPINION

Give local businesses a try this gift-giving season

By **APRIL RAMOS**

Now that the grocery store and kitchen frenzy of Thanksgiving is over, we quickly jump into the next frenzy: holiday shopping. Although I have moments of internal conflict when it comes to the materialistic mentality that comes with the holidays, I still find it quite exciting brainstorming the perfect gift for family and friends, searching decorated stores and listening to their holiday playlist over the speakers. What helps my conscience when I feel like I'm falling for the consumerist black hole that comes with holiday shopping is either shopping at small businesses or shopping locally.



April Ramos

A few months back I decided to cancel my Amazon Prime account. I never used it as much as I thought I would anyway. It only really saved me in moments of procrastination or laziness, when I didn't want to put the effort into finding a specific item. But what I've lost with Amazon, I've gained with smaller, local businesses. Finding unique gifts that I would've never thought to type into a search bar brings the cheer back into my Christmas shopping. I've learned that a great way to start shopping locally is checking out a city's downtown area.

As a self-proclaimed bookworm, the fall of Barnes & Nobles and Borders bookstores was a hard pill to swallow. Now, one of my favorite things to do is walk into cozy, unique bookstores and browse a more curated collection of books rather than get lost in row after row of books I'd never find an

interest in. Banter Bookshop in Fremont's downtown area is one of those bookstores. Since I also have bookworm friends, this is the perfect stop for me to do my Christmas shopping while also helping a small local business.

Near the Downtown Hayward area is another one of my favorite small businesses: The Cobblers. Not only has The Cobblers shoe and repair shop been around since 1958, but they've been run by the Grasseschi family since its opening. This is a great shop to visit for holiday gifts, especially when in search of western wear items, which is a must in my family.

Newark has been working on its own downtown area, Old Town Newark, for many years now. In city council meetings, discussions of a walkable, shoppable downtown area with storefront space encourages more small businesses to

establish themselves in a space where they will have a prime location to catch the eye of shoppers. In a Dec. 2, 2020, community meeting presentation, it was stated that the vision for the downtown space was to "Revitalize Old Town Newark as a vibrant mixed-use neighborhood, with a strong sense of place, thriving retail and commercial businesses..." As a Newark resident, I'm patiently waiting for the day I don't have to drive past my city's limits to experience a charming downtown stroll, checking off my Christmas list and supporting my local businesses.

Editor Samantha Campos, publisher Dan Pulcrano, assignment editor Stephanie Uchida, and composite editor April Ramos will take turns writing to our readers.

April's bio: I have lived in the Bay Area all of my life. Growing up in Hayward, my early childhood consisted of Hayward Youth Soccer League games and hikes in Garin Regional Park. After moving to Newark, my surroundings changed but luckily my activities didn't have to. I continued my involvement in local sports and found new places to hike. Now, with my role on the Tri-City Voice team as Composite and Sports Editor, I keep a close eye on tournaments and local teams. With eight high schools, three community colleges and numerous clubs in the Tri-City area it's a great experience when I see local athletes reaching new heights or teams making school history. Watching teams grow is a great reminder of how special athletics are in the community and how it keeps local pride strong.

Moreau Catholic earns first-ever trip to CIF State title game

MARINERS FOOTBALL MAKE SCHOOL HISTORY AFTER DEFEATING SAN JOSE TEAM



The Moreau Catholic football team wins their first ever CIF Division 7AA Championship. Photo by Andrew Joseph

By **ANDREW JOSEPH**

The Moreau Catholic Mariners football team punched their ticket to their first ever California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division 7-AA Championship Bowl game in school history by beating the Leland Chargers of San Jose 42-11 on Dec. 6 at home in the 7-AA regional finals.

No football team from the city of Hayward has ever advanced to the state championship game, let alone win the NCS title, which Moreau did earlier on Nov. 29.

"Going to the first ever CIF State Championship in the city of Hayward is great... because we're representing the whole city," said Mariner head coach Keith Minor. "This feeling is incredible."

Mariners starting quarterback Jeremiah Charles finished with 278 yard passing on a perfect 10/10 pass attempt ratio with a total of four touchdowns. Moreau wide receiver Jalen Arnold finished with four receptions for 64 yards and two touchdowns. Jameson Ransburg finished with two receptions for 138 yards and two touchdowns.

"We knew what the goal was and we prepared

all week in practice for this game," said Charles. "We came out here tonight and got the job done."

Striking first on the opening drive of the game, Arnold scored a touchdown to give the Mariners an early 7-0 lead. The Chargers settled for a field goal after a failed third and goal conversion to make it a 7-3 game with three minutes left in the opening quarter. Before the first quarter ended, Ransburg ran 80 yards for another Mariners touchdown to make it 14-3.

Moreau had the ball to start the second quarter as tight end Miles Moore caught a long reception to set up first and goal. Jayden Bryant rushed for a touchdown to make it 21-3 with 9:30 remaining in the first half. Ransburg caught a long pass from Charles downfield to score another touchdown giving Moreau a 28-3 lead. Moreau's defense played exceptional all night by stopping Leland's attempt to get their ground game going and shutting down their pass attempts.

After an interception by Arnold, who also plays free safety, the Mariners took over with the ball at the Leland 30 yard line. Arnold caught a pass to the four yard line to set up first and goal. Peyton Collins scored a touchdown on the next play

to make it a commanding 35-3 Moreau lead closing the second quarter heading into halftime.

"I believe Jalen Arnold is the best wide receiver in Northern California," said coach Minor. "His stats prove it and he's an extremely efficient player."

Leland received the second half kickoff, but their quarterback was picked off by Arnold at the Leland 43. Arnold later scored a touchdown to make it 42-3 with 8:19 remaining in the third quarter. The Chargers scored their first and only touchdown of the game in the fourth quarter when Wyatt Markos scored on first and goal from the five yard line, followed by a successful two point after attempt to make the final score 42-11.

"To make history tonight feels amazing," said Arnold. "The legacy I want to leave behind is that anybody can do anything if they put their mind to it."

Arnold was recently named Western Alameda County Conference Foothill Division offensive player of the year, first team all-league receiver, and second team all-league defensive back. He now has 20 total touchdowns, 1,492 yards receiving on 64 total receptions this season. Currently, Arnold has multiple college offers



Mariner Head Coach Keith Minor holds up the CIF Division 7AA Plaque. Photo by Andrew Joseph

to play college football including an offer from Division I school Montana State University and St. Norbert University in De Pare, Wisconsin.

Senior Mariners quarterback Charles is now 150/231 pass attempts and 2,761 passing yards. He has commanded the Moreau offense all season and willed his way to be one of the best quarterbacks in CIF play.

"It was a real good feeling as the clock ticked to all zeros tonight and we knew we punched our ticket to the CIF State Championship," added Charles.

Just three years after taking over the program, Mariners head coach Keith Minor made history

by not only taking the Mariners to their first ever state title in school history, but also the first ever CIF State Championship appearance in the history of the entire city of Hayward. After starting the season 1-3 overall, Moreau Catholic is now 10-4 overall and 5-1 in league looking to finish the season bringing home the Division 7-AA CIF State Championship title to mark the name in the record book making history.

The Mariners play the Lindsay Cardinals of Lindsay, California, who are 10-5 overall and 3-4 in league, on Friday, Dec. 13 in Fullerton at the Fullerton Union High School Stadium for the CIF state title.

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Las Posadas tradition celebrates diversity of local community



Over the nine nights, participants gather on the Mission porch and walk to local businesses. Courtesy of Arathi Satish



Each night, a different family carries the hand-carved statue of Joseph and Mary with Baby Jesus. Photo courtesy of Arathi Satish



The group will ask for shelter, while the business owner pretends to turn them away. Photo courtesy of Arathi Satish

Submitted by
ARATHI SATISH

Las Posadas, a Christmas-time tradition, has taken place in Mission San Jose since 1982. This annual community event is a collaboration between Old Mission San Jose which arranges the host venues, and Fremont Cultural Arts Council which provides the entertainment and is sponsored by the Mission San Jose Chamber of Commerce.

The nine-day festival has been celebrated locally for the past 42 years. Las Posadas, which has always been held in-person, survived as a zoom event with entertainment by actors and singers who live or work in Fremont during the pandemic years. This year, all the evenings will be held in person.

Knuti VanHoven, who has been instrumental in organizing the entertainment said, “Fremont is a city that has very few well known

traditions. Las Posadas has been around for more than forty years and many artists have been performing for over twenty years. Kristen Del Rio did her first Las Posadas at the age of twelve and is performing on the second night this year. Jim Burris and Ahhhz have been doing their shows for over twenty four years. It is a very local event that we all look forward to every year.”

Nancy and Gary Dorighi, Mission volunteers, have helped to coordinate and conduct this event over the past few years. Mission San Jose was founded on June 11, 1797 by Father Fermin Francisco de Lasuen. Dedicated to St. Joseph, the mission honors the saint as guardian of the Holy Family starting with their journey to Bethlehem. It is the fourteenth of the 21st Spanish Missions in Alta California. Before it was Mission San Jose, the site was the Ohlone Village of Oroysom.

The culture, language

and the spirit of the Ohlones are present today in their descendants. Today, many new cultures and languages contribute to the diverse Fremont community. Nancy Dorighi said, “We are gratified to see participation grow in recent years. Beyond the commercial side of Christmas, it is heartwarming that people enjoy singing the traditional carols and the varied entertainment. We are grateful to all the volunteers who organize, host and entertain.”

For nine evenings, from December 15 thru 23, participants meet on the porch of the Old Mission San Jose Museum and walk in a procession to a local business or site within two blocks singing Christmas carols as they go. A family is selected every night to carry the hand-carved statue of Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus to the selected venue. Once they arrive, they ask for shelter while the host turns them away, but eventually

welcomes them in. A unique entertainment program lasting 30 to 45 minutes is arranged there by Fremont Cultural Arts Council, and the evening ends with refreshments provided by the host business. On the final night, Mission San Jose invites everyone to the Old Mission Church to enjoy a program of Christmas carols performed live on their Rosales organ, followed by a pinata on the Museum porch for the children. Las Posadas participants will be impressed by the beautiful interior of the Mission Church which was patterned after the early 1800s adobe church. Equally impressive is how the space enriches the music.

Celebrate the holiday season in a special way by participating in the Las Posadas festivities in the heart of Fremont.

Las Posadas
Sunday, Dec. 15 - Monday,
Dec. 23
6pm

Mission San Jose Museum
43300 Mission Blvd.,
Fremont
missionsanjose.org/las-posadas
[www.fremontcultural-](http://www.fremontculturalartsCouncil.org)
[alartsCouncil.org](http://www.missionsanjose.org)
www.missionsanjose.org

Las Posadas
2024 Program

1. Dec. 15 - The Peak Performers of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation directed by Von Bringhurst present “Songs of the Season of Light and Life,” at Holy Family Sisters, 211 Avenida Palmdale.
2. Dec. 16 - Kristen Del Rio sings Christmas songs in the beautiful Mission San Jose Church, 43266 Mission Blvd.
3. Dec. 17 - Palm Hill Bell Choir of the First United Methodist Church of Fremont, directed by Roberta Marton at Better Homes & Gardens Realty, 43430 Mission Blvd #100
4. Dec. 18 - Dominican Sisters School of Music Students and Faculty at

- Dominican Center, 43326 Mission Circle
5. Dec. 19 - St. Joseph School Children's Choir at St. Joseph School, 43222 Mission Blvd.
 6. Dec. 20 - The Keatings present Songs of the Season at Venture Sotheby's International Realty, 152 Anza St.
 7. Dec. 21 - The Keatings present An Instrumental Christmas at Mission Barber. 43279 Mission Blvd.
 8. Dec. 22 - Jim Burris and Ahhhz! present an a capella Christmas at Washington Township Museum of Local History, 190 Anza St.
 9. Dec. 23 - Mission San Jose Church organist Ron McKean and vocalist Debbie Rossetto with traditional Christmas hymns. Followed by refreshments and pinata.

Newark Symphonic Winds holds annual holiday concert

Submitted by
JIM CARTER

On Dec. 14, Newark Symphonic Winds (NSW), under the superb direction of Mr. Richard Wong, will present their Free Holiday Concert and Sing-along, with many new compositions.

The show will begin with an energetic piece, “Christmas Troika” by James Curnow, and continue with tunes from Mariah Carey and Jose Feliciano, as well as songs from the 1950s. The first half of the performance

will conclude with all the children invited up to the stage to listen to Newark’s emeritus Mayor, Dave Smith, reading Newell Long’s “’Twas the Night before Christmas.” After the reading, Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance, so be certain to bring the kids and grandkids.

After an intermission, the second half will feature the Pleasantones Clarinet Quartet with Tony Altweis, Rob Mayfield, Sydney Moura and Brenda Nixon. The quartet will perform

several songs, including “Frosty the Snow Man,” and “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring.” The symphony will return to the stage, performing the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s “The Messiah,” arranged by Jack Bullock. The audience will have the chance to join a community sing-along, led by announcer Joan Carter. Sing-along pieces include “Celtic Carol” and “Sleigh Ride.”

Once again, Fremont Bank Foundation is sponsoring the performance. As always, the concert is free,

and no tickets are necessary. Simply come and enjoy the evening—and bring your friends. In past years performances have been sold out, so guests may want to arrive early to get preferred seating.

Newark Symphonic Winds
Holiday Concert
Saturday, Dec. 14
7pm
Newark Memorial High
School Theatre
39375 Cedar Blvd., Newark
510.552.7186
newarksymphonic.org



Newark Symphonic Winds returns with holiday cheer. Photo by Victor Carvellas