



Ninety, and not slowing down

Page 18



Coffee energizes community

Page 20



Moreau Catholic football team makes history at state championship

Page 19

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A new era arrives for Fremont government

CITY COUNCIL SAYS GOODBYE TO OUTGOING MAYOR AND MEMBERS, WELCOMES NEWCOMERS

By PANASHE MATEMBA-MUTASA

Tuesday night’s Dec. 10 city council meeting marked the last one of the year for Fremont, and it left a bittersweet taste as sworn-in newcomers filled the seats of the veterans who came before them. As the evening unfolded, residents and public officials took to the floor, offering heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing members and expressing their hopes for a brighter future under the new leadership.

“Your dedication to Fremont and the community has been constant,” said resident Henry Liang in a heartfelt public comment addressed to former Mayor Lily Mei.

With his father there to swear him in and close relatives beaming by his side, Raj Salwan received a warm welcome to his mayoral seat. Previously serving as vice mayor and District 5 councilmember, Salwan earned recognition for spearheading initiatives to enhance quality of life, including city-adopted measures to alleviate traffic congestion. In his acceptance speech, Mayor Salwan addressed the community’s calls for change and underscored the power of unity in shaping a stronger, more connected Fremont.

“As mayor for all, I will be a leader for all, for those who voted for me, and those who did not,” Salwan said.

District 6’s Teresa Cox will not return to the council after losing the election to Raymond Liu. In her farewell speech, she reflected on her four years of service at Fremont City Hall. Despite the disappointment of the election results, Cox emphasized the importance of unity and pledged her support for the incoming council as they prepare to lead the city forward.

“You are the backbone of our city government,” Cox said, addressing council members.

The newly formed city council will be led by Mayor Salwan and include five council members: Yang Shao, representing District 4 since 2018; Kathy Kimberlin, the District 3 representative sworn in this past September; Teresa Keng from District 1; and newcomers Yajing Zhang and Raymond Liu, representing Districts 5 and 6 respectively. Reflecting on her recent election, council member Zhang expressed her gratitude this holiday season, calling it particularly meaningful as she celebrates the trust placed in her by Fremont residents.



Lily Mei passes the reins to Mayor Raj Salwan. Photo credit: Sheila Fitzgerald/shutterstock

continued on page 8



Marah Sotelo played the Queen in Rumpelstiltskin: *Once Upon A Time Step* (2021). Photo courtesy of EBCT.

East Bay Children’s Theatre keeps dream alive

TRAVELING PERFORMERS BRING LIVE THEATER TO UNDERSERVED KIDS SINCE 1933

By DAVID R. NEWMAN

In the predawn darkness, a small rental truck pulls up outside the side entrance of an elementary school. The driver gets out and shuffles to the back of the truck, cupping his hands to his mouth to ward off the morning chill. It is 7:30am.

Others soon arrive, one by one, gathering around the truck to help unload. Whispers and subdued laughter fill the air. Out come props, clothing, scenery, lights and sound equipment. The small group works quickly and efficiently to transform the cafeteria stage inside into an English garden, the first scene of their show. Sound and lights are checked. Costumes are donned. It is 8:30am—30 minutes to showtime.

Someone has lost their hat. Two of the actors’ microphones are not working. The lighting technician has run out of extension cords. There is no curtain—they will have to change the blocking on a key scene. Has anyone seen the gaffers tape? No time for mic check. Children are filling the room. Excitement is palpable. It is 9am—the show must go on!

One hour later, as the actors take their bows to the cheers and applause of hundreds of smiling children, the director looks on with quiet contentment. Even though his mind races with a multitude of ways to improve the show, he knows that they have done it again. They have brought joy to these youngsters and introduced them to an art form that most of them have never seen before.

This is East Bay Children’s Theatre (EBCT). From the start, the mission of EBCT has been to bring musical theatre to underserved elementary schools throughout the East Bay—Title I schools that receive federal

funding to help support low-income families, primarily in Oakland, Richmond, San Pablo and San Leandro. They also provide education packets for teachers that include a story synopsis, vocabulary words, cultural guides and lesson ideas. All free of charge.

The troupe has been entertaining audiences nonstop since 1933, making it the oldest continuously performing theatre group in the San Francisco Bay Area. “We’ve never missed a season,” says EBCT’s resident director and playwright Ron Lytle. “Even through the Great Depression, World War II and the pandemic. That’s truly amazing. And now we’re just the blink of an eye away from turning 100!”

Their season starts in the fall and lasts one month, with performances every Tuesday and Thursday, each at a different school. It is a nomadic existence, with each cafeteria presenting unique challenges. Actors and tech crew must adapt the production to fit each stage. Each room is a different size, with different window, door and electrical outlet layouts.

And unlike a typical theatrical run presented in one location, EBCT’s touring production must be unpacked, set up, taken down and packed back up after each performance, all before lunchtime, and often with multiple interruptions as waves of hungry kids enter the cafeteria for breakfast and snacks. “It’s a hard job,” admits Lytle. “But I’m very proud of what we’ve been able to accomplish.”

Linda Morgan is the Principal at Bella Vista Elementary in Oakland. “I was very excited to learn that EBCT would be performing here during my very first week as principal!” she exclaims. “I appreciate them so much, especially in this day and age of high tech gadgets, quick clips, streaming, AI, etc. This is real people performing, emoting, expressing, just being human—I mean, this is reality!”

Terry Pink Alexander has been acting with EBCT since 2016. She plays the

continued on page 11

Newark’s transition of power

CITY COUNCIL WELCOMES A NEW ERA OF GOVERNANCE

By PANASHE MATEMBA-MUTASA

The Dec. 12 Newark City Council meeting marked a historic moment as a combined 51 years of leadership came to an end. Long-serving council members Ana Apodaca, Sucy Collazo and Luis Freitas stepped down, paving the way for a new era of governance under newcomers Terrence Grindall, Julie Del Catancio and Eve Marie Little.

“Thank you for your record-setting commitment to our community,” said city manager David Benoun to the three outgoing officials.

Newark, a city steeped in tradition, is entering uncharted territory with its first major council shake-up in over 50 years. The new council will include re-elected Mayor Michael Hannon; fresh faces Grindall, Catancio, and Little as well as Matthew Jorgens who was elected to the council in 2022.

During the swearing-in ceremony, Mayor Hannon took a heartfelt moment to pay tribute to the departing council members and their years of dedicated service. Ana Apodaca, a lifelong Newark resident and former council member, had returned from retirement to serve on the Newark City Council in July 2024.

Appointed to fill a vacancy, Apodaca brought extensive experience, having previously served from 2005 to 2014. During her interim term, the council adopted initiatives such as the Broadband Master Plan, Tri-City Hazard Mitigation Plan, Facilities Master Plan, and Citywide Parks Master Plan. Apodaca also championed local causes like securing field space for the Newark Girls Softball League and supporting the Newark Graffiti Abatement Team and Hispanic Community Affairs Council.

“She’s a treasure to our community,” the mayor said.

Sucy Collazo has played a pivotal role in Newark’s progress during her tenure on the City Council. First elected on Nov. 8, 2011, and re-elected in 2016 and 2020, she also served as Vice Mayor in 2015, 2019 and 2023.

Collazo was instrumental in advancing affordable housing, public safety and community enhancements like the city’s skate park, first dog park, new hotels and civic center. She represented Newark on various commissions, including the Alameda County Fire Advisory, Library and Transportation Commissions, leaving a legacy of commitment to civic growth and inclusivity. Hannon reflected on years of working beside her, emphasizing her dedication to the community.



Eve Marie Little takes her oath as she becomes part of Newark’s new city council. Photo by staff

continued on page 4

Special Care Nursery at Washington Hospital: Expert Support for Premature Newborns

Collaboration with UCSF Neonatal Nursery Provides Advanced Care

It can be unsettling for parents to have a premature infant. In addition to being so tiny—some weighing 2 pounds—these babies often have multiple lines and tubes that can make parents uncomfortable picking up and holding them.

The Special Care Nursery (SCN) at Washington Hospital looks after full-term and premature babies born between 32 and 37 weeks, from three to eight weeks early. In most cases, newborns in the SCN need to grow and develop before going home, but some may require respiratory support or a ventilator; IV fluids or medications; incubators and warmers; and cardiorespiratory monitoring.

Washington Hospital’s SCN is a level II nursery, which means it can care for premature babies who have moderate medical issues. Collaboration with UCSF Benioff’s Intensive Care Nursery in San Francisco, one of the country’s largest neonatal heart programs, gives Washington Hospital’s SCN expanded expertise and advanced technology. The Special Care Nursery is a collaboration between the

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospitals (both San Francisco and Oakland). Its three neonatologists are on the faculty at UCSF. The SCN neonatologists also care for babies at the UCSF Benioff Intensive Care Nursery in San Francisco.

“One of the main goals of the affiliation between Washington Hospital and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital SF has been to provide the best possible care for these very special patients and their families without the added stress of a lengthy commute for parents,” says James McGuire, MD, MPH, a board-certified neonatologist, Pediatrics Department chair, and former SCN medical director.

“Having a nursery in Fremont also gives parents the peace of mind that their baby is nearby without having to drive to San Francisco or hospitals out of the area.” He adds, “The need to travel can put an extra strain on a family that is already stressed.”

SCN staff educates and supports parents in understanding their baby’s cues

for feeding, stress and comfort—along with training on holding, changing, and bathing their child.

Expert Training and Experience

The SCN team undergoes continuing education to update skills as trends evolve and standards of care advance. The team continually takes UCSF courses on neonatal nursing care, a skills lab on procedures, and training on how to stabilize newborns who are transported to other hospitals when a higher level of care is needed. The team also participates in a quarterly UCSF clinical care conference and training from the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, among other courses.

Babies also benefit from having a board-certified neonatal therapist on staff, Robin Bonsall, who is a licensed occupational therapist. With more than 30 years in the field, Bonsall is highly experienced in pediatric therapy and early intervention, with additional education and certifications to her credit, including a master’s degree in early childhood



Robin Bonsall, M.Ed OTR/L SWC NTMTC CNT education, specialized training in feeding and swallowing, sensory integration and processing, and neonatal touch and massage certification. She recently earned a credential from the Neonatal Therapy Certification Board.

“I do pre-habilitation,” says Bonsall, “preventive work to make sure these

continued on page 5



In 2019, Dr. McGuire played the sheriff at the SCN Reunion event.

““Having a nursery in Fremont also gives parents the peace of mind that their baby is nearby without having to drive to San Francisco or hospitals out of the area. The need to travel can put an extra strain on a family that is already stressed.” –James McGuire, MD

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Diabetes: Understanding and Controlling Complications
Prasad V. Katta, MD, MRCP
Endocrinologist

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

Coping with Grief and Bereavement During the Holidays
Neeru Kumar, MD
Psychiatry

Coping with Grief and Bereavement During the Holidays
Wednesday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.
Explore how grief can impact our mental health during the holiday season and strategies for coping.

Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work
Prasad Katta, MD
Endocrinology

Diabetes Management: How GLP-1 Medications Work
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 9 a.m.
Join Dr. Prasad Katta as he explains how you can incorporate GLP-1 medications into your diabetes management plan.

Living With Serious Illness: Understanding Palliative Care
Krishna Suri, DO
Palliative Care Medicine

Living With Serious Illness: Understanding Palliative Care
Navigating a serious illness can bring new challenges for patients and loved ones. Dr. Krishna Suri explains what it means when palliative care is offered.

Managing Diabetes
Thomas Collins-Pallet, MD
Family Medicine

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

Other Video Topics:

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PART TWO OF A TWO-PART SERIES ON DIABETES

Breaking the Cycle of Diabetes

Fremont man found the knowledge and support he needed.



Amadeo Reyes is all smiles since his health is back on track.

“Dr. Huang has guided me step by step. She always made me feel like I could tackle diabetes and win. There is no way I could have done this without her guidance.” –Amadeo Reyes

Sometimes when one door closes, a better door opens. Amadeo Reyes of Fremont said that was true for him when he transferred from his long-time endocrinologist to Washington Township Medical Foundation endocrinologist Jean Huang, MD.

Reyes was diagnosed with diabetes in 2013. At 38, he had struggled with his weight his entire adult life and had a strong family history of the disease. In spring 2024, Reyes’ former endocrinologist handed back care to his primary care provider. But Reyes didn’t feel like he could face the disease on his own. A few months later, he had his first appointment with Dr. Huang. It changed his life.

“My father passed away in 2020 from diabetes,” Reyes said. “I was almost 49 and headed on that same path. I had high blood pressure, high cholesterol and my blood sugar and hemoglobin A1C were out of control. I didn’t know how to change. The minute she opened the door to the exam room for our first appointment, I knew I found someone that would help me.”

At that first appointment, Dr. Huang set her expectations for Reyes. She told him she was there to be a teacher, mentor, coach and cheerleader, but he needed to do the work. She set parameters for diet and exercise, changed medications and let him know he wouldn’t be alone on the journey to better health. The first big change was getting him to check his blood sugar every day.

“I didn’t like needles, so I had rarely checked my blood sugar since I had been diagnosed,” Reyes admitted. “I knew better, but I always found an excuse. I forced myself to get over the needle phobia and started checking daily.”

The next challenge for Reyes was his diet. “I’m Filipino and we eat rice for breakfast, lunch and dinner,” he explained. “Dr. Jean said to eat in moderation, so

I decided not to eat rice for three months. I didn’t know how I was going to do that. She’s Chinese, so she understood. She helped me make better choices.”

Reyes said before seeing Dr. Huang, there were times when he was too busy working to eat and would feel shaky. He also cares for his elderly mother, who didn’t eat unless he did. He tended to eat even when he wasn’t hungry, when he was bored or felt stressed. Reyes shared with Dr. Huang that much of Filipino culture revolves around food. Where he saw potential problems, she presented solutions.

Next on the list was exercise. As a customer service representative at Oakland International Airport working the early shift, Reyes was fairly stationary. When he got home from work, the last thing he wanted to do was go for a walk or to the gym.

“Dr. Huang was straight with me about what I needed to do in addition to changing my diet,” Reyes said. “She suggested I walk around the terminal to get my steps in every day and recommended the best shoes, because diabetic foot care is especially important. Now I walk every day with no pain and feel stronger than I have in years.”

After talking about testing, diet and exercise, Dr. Huang discussed medications with Reyes. She prescribed daily oral metformin to help his body regulate his response to insulin, reduce cravings and decrease his body’s tendency to store fat. To help with his weight loss, she prescribed weekly injections of Ozempic, a GLP-1 agonist, to help him feel full faster and stay feeling full longer. This combination was just what he needed.

“I was almost 240 pounds when I first saw Dr. Huang,” Reyes said. “In the five months since, I’ve dropped below 200 pounds for the first time in more than 20 years. My A1C went from 8.5 to 5.9. My cholesterol is down to

136. My blood pressure and cholesterol medications have been cut in half and I feel better than I ever have.”

After the initial office visit, Dr. Huang connected with him weekly via email. Those emails kept Reyes motivated and encouraged. “She asked how my blood sugar levels were, if I was checking regularly, if I was keeping up with the diet, if I was walking every day,” he shared. “She monitored my numbers and reminded me she was always available.” Reyes believes that her continued encouragement made all the difference for him.

“From the first time I met her, Dr. Huang has guided me step by step,” he said. “She’s motivated me, pushed me and encouraged me—acting more like a friend than a doctor. She always made me feel like I could tackle diabetes and win. There is no way I could have done this without her guidance.”

“She talks to me like a human being, not just a patient,” Reyes continued. “She has a three-month and a six-month plan to help me be the best I can be. Next year, I’m going to start going to the gym to add weights to the cardio I do now. She’ll say, ‘These are our goals,’ and I know she’ll be there to help me achieve them.”

To learn more about Dr. Jean Huang, visit <https://www.mywtmf.com/find-a-doctor/jean-huang-md/> or scan the below QR code.



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Tri-CED will collect holiday trees at no additional cost between December 26, 2024 and January 31, 2025.



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510.429.8030 | Tri-CED.org

Please prepare your tree for collection by following these simple guidelines:

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- Natural trees only. Flocked and artificial trees will not be accepted.
- If you miss the Citywide holiday tree collection, it can still be turned into compost by cutting it into pieces that will fit into your green compost cart with the lid closed.

Holiday Collection Service Schedule

Tri-CED and Republic Services drivers and administrative staff will be home for the holidays on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Collection service will be provided one day later during these two holiday weeks. Wednesday service will be provided on Thursday, Thursday service on Friday, and Friday service on Saturday.

Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25
Administrative offices will be closed. No collection services.

New Year's Day – Wednesday, January 1
Administrative offices will be closed. No collection services.

Holiday Trees Drop-off Location

All Union City residents, including multi-family households, can drop off holiday trees at Tri-CED for composting at no additional cost through the end of January. Please observe the holiday tree collection guidelines listed on the other side.

Tri-CED Community Recycling
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Questions? Contact Tri-CED at **510.429.8030** or visit Tri-CED.org.



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New Carts are Coming!

March 2025, we will be rolling out new collection carts for landfill, recycle, and compost as part of the SB1383 compliance requirements. Stay tuned for more details coming your way soon!



Artist rendering only – style and actual shade of colors may vary.

continued from page 1

Newark’s first major council shake-up in 50 years

Newly appointed council member Terrence Grindall already has plans to host ‘Coffee with a Council Member’ each month. Photo by staff

“When I think of you, I think of the heart of Newark,” Mayor Hannon said.

Mayor Hannon shared his find memory of council member Luis Freitas, encouraging him to join the city council in 2014. Freitas has been a cornerstone of Newark’s leadership, serving 29 years on the city council.

First elected in 1995, he was re-elected for six consecutive terms and held the position of vice mayor for eight non-consecutive years starting in 1998. Freitas played a vital role in key developments, including new affordable housing, hotels, and the David W. Smith City Hall. He represented Newark on

various regional boards, including the Alameda County Transportation Commission and Waste Management Authority.

“He’s a gentleman and an honorable person in our community,” Mayor Hannon said.

Newark Planning Commissioner Julie Del Catancio is sworn in as a Newark council member. Photo by staff

The three newly elected council members expressed heartfelt gratitude to residents for their support, pledging to work collaboratively to build a stronger Newark.

Councilmember Terrence Grindall reflected on his campaign journey, sharing how conversations

with residents gave him valuable insight into the changes they hope to see.

“Directly engaging with residents and sharing your concerns reaffirmed my commitment to this community,” Grindall said.

Grindall also mentioned he will be hosting “Coffee with a Council Member”

meetings each month, where residents can meet him at a local coffee shop to discuss any concerns. Updates for future dates and locations will be posted to his website, terrancefornewark.org.

continued from page 2

Special Care Nursery at Washington Hospital: Expert Support for Premature Newborns

premature babies get what they need and avoid problems later. There's so much evidence in medicine today that supports a proactive approach in promoting short- and long-term development and growth."

One of the areas she's passionate about is newborn feeding. Premature babies lack the neurological and muscle maturation to coordinate sucking, swallowing and breathing. "We work with both breast and bottle feeding based on what works best for the family and their feeding goals," Bonsall says. It sounds like something very small, but feeding and swallowing are big issues for tiny babies.

Having a baby hospitalized can be a very stressful experience for families, according to Bonsall. "The interactions and experiences they have will remain with

them lifelong. One of our most basic forms of attachment is feeding," she explains. "It is important to support and empower parents for successful feeding experiences for both the parent and the baby."

Guiding Parents and Caregivers

The SCN team is on hand to guide parents and caregivers every step of the way, even providing overnight accommodations the night before a baby is ready to go home so they can practice baby care with the nursing team nearby.

Bonsall and the team also encourage following guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics, especially on sleep. The team trains parents to prevent sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), which Bonsall says is on the decline. Parents and caregivers are advised to avoid stuffed

animals and extra bedding in the crib, and to position a baby on their back to sleep. The team also advises on how to provide tummy time.

Bonsall monitors the babies in the SCN, making sure they're developing, moving, and functioning as they progress. "I monitor their muscle tone, head shape, and how they respond to their environment, including noise and light," she notes.

"Parents want to interact with their babies, but it's hard when babies are hospitalized," she explains. "I show parents and caregivers how to engage with their hospitalized baby by talking, reading, singing to them, giving a massage, and knowing how to pick up and hold them safely and comfortably."

Dr. McGuire and Bonsall are proud of the SCN team and the work it does for the community.

"People can trust in the Washington Hospital SCN. We provide quality care. Since we're a smaller nursery, we have the extra time to give each baby dedicated attention," says Bonsall.

For more information, visit www.whhs.com/SCN or scan the below QR code.





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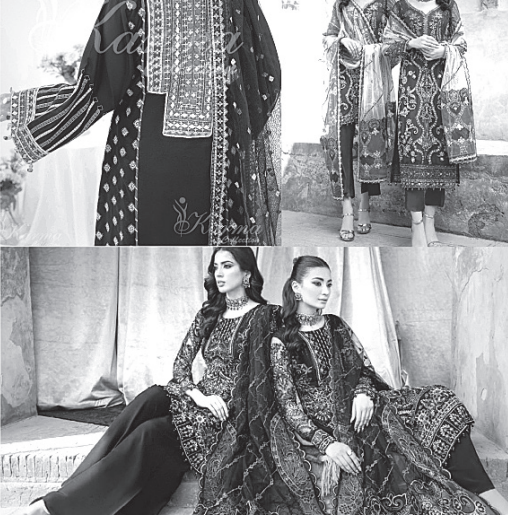
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NewPark Mall loses Macy’s

HOLIDAY BLUES IN NEWARK AS MAIN DEPARTMENT STORE PREPARES TO CLOSE

By PANASHE MATEMBA-MUTASA

It’s the most wonderful time of the year, with families across the Bay bustling through town to snag last-minute gifts. But in Newark, the spirit of holiday cheer has been dampened by news of the closure of its Macy’s store.

“It’s so sad. We lost our JC Penney and now we’re losing our Macy’s,” said resident Carol Nelson.

The decline of department stores has become increasingly evident since the early 2010s. According to Yahoo Finance, the sector’s value has plummeted from a peak of over \$100 billion in 2012 to just \$55.6 billion in 2024. As shopping trends shift decisively toward online platforms, more retailers are shuttering their brick-

and-mortar locations. Yet, for many older generations, the nostalgia of wandering through malls and filling shopping carts during the holiday season remains a cherished tradition.

“That Macy’s has been my go-to,” said shopper Annette Devincenzi. “I can pretty much always find something I like.”

The Macy’s, located in NewPark Mall, is one of many over the last few years facing closure as the city implements the NewPark Safe Specific Plan. Adopted in 2018, this plan is a roadmap for redevelopment and revitalization in the city’s primary retail destination. In 2021 the plan was amended and the current owner of the mall, Brookfield Properties, proposed two catalyst projects for the initiative: a 319-unit residential facility and a Costco warehouse. The Costco is up and running, while the apartment construction is still in its early stages.

While an official closing date has not yet been

confirmed, the expected date as per the NewPark Safe Specific Plan is “by 2026.” Customers have received promotional materials urging them to make purchases while items last, and on a Thursday afternoon after work you can find them doing just that.

The NewPark Safe Specific Plan outlines a vision to attract new retailers to fill the void left by departing anchor stores. However, this has done little to ease the concerns of some local residents. Linda Erwin, a frequent mallgoer, voiced her unease about the exodus of major retailers, noting a troubling trend across the Tri-City area.

“Between Fremont, Union City and Newark, we are a collective of 345,000, yet we can’t keep anything alive,” Erwin said.

The full plan includes which retailers will be closing to make way for redevelopments. It can be viewed on the city’s official website at newark.org.

Grants, accolades and events

An \$8,000 grant will support Ohlone College’s program for young learners. Photo courtesy of Celina Barrios

By STAFF

Kaiser Permanente Northern California’s health plan was recognized with a 5-star rating by California’s Office of the Patient Advocate (OPA) in their 2024-25 report card. Kaiser’s Northern and Southern California plans are the only two in the state to receive this score. about.kp.org

Silicon Valley Career Technical Education (SVCTE) was awarded \$989,645 through the competitive K12 Strong Workforce Program

(SWP) Round 7 grant application cycle. The grant will go towards Electric Vehicle (EV) Technology, Eco-Friendly HVAC Systems, Fire Science with Environmental Solutions and Clean Diesel Technologies.

In Fremont, Ohlone College received \$8,000 in grant awards (for two grants) from Alameda County Supervisors Elisa Márquez and David Haubert. The funding will benefit the college’s Ohlone for Kids & Teens program. ohlone.edu

In Pleasanton, East Bay Children’s Theatre

is presenting a screening of the musical movie *Once Upon a Time Step*, featuring song and dance numbers from Cinderella, Aladdin and the Lamp, Snow White and Jack and the Beanstalk. A live stage show featuring Santa and elves will accompany the screening. *Once Upon a Time Step* will be presented at 2pm on Dec. 22 at the Firehouse Arts Center. One show only. Approximately 1 Hour. Tickets: \$14-\$20 www.ebctOnline.org



Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

Tuesday, Dec. 24 | 5 PM

Centerville

Presbyterian Church

4360 Central Ave, Fremont

cpcfremont.org/christmaseve

Classifieds Deadline: Noon Thursday
510-494-1999 | tcv@tricityvoice.com

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CNSB # 3873583

Ohlone College dance students perform at Winter Showcase Cabaret



Winter Showcase host Zion Wheaton and Hip Hop dance student Pranav dance to the freestyle portion of the show. Photo credit: Lia Altan

Submitted by ROELLE BALAN

Ohlone College's Winter Showcase Cabaret graces the stage of the NUMMI inside the Ohlone College Smith Center. It's a chance to showcase all the hard work Theatre and Dance students put into their singing and dancing routines during the Fall Semester. The event took place on Dec. 6 and 7.

The stage was adorned with red roses on top of a wooden platform. Behind was a gorgeous red opera house-style curtain. Performers on stage became background actors, sitting on chairs and tables as if in a fancy restaurant with flameless candles as the centerpiece. Next to one of the tables was a bar with bar stools. On the other side of the stage was a DJ set, drum

set, and an electronic piano with a mic. The night started off with Ohlone student and Winter Showcase host Zion Wheaton rapping to an original piece over the instrumental "I Like the Way You Move" by OutKast. He also invited other performers to dance freestyle. In a comedic fashion, Ohlone Dance Director Lia Altan interrupted his rap

performance to say the show can't start without a curtain speech. The night was filled with dance performances and live singing. The Hip Hop dance class taught by Keith Pinto performed a choreographed dance to "Fly As Me" by Silk Sonic and "KOD" by JCole. The college's K-Pop club performed their own routine to a song called "Shake It" by girl group Sistar. A stunning

contemporary-like dance to "Burn" from the Broadway musical "Hamilton" graced the stage, performed by David Jeffries. Theatre student Ethan Le sang "Here's to the Ladies that Lunch" by Elaine Stritch from the musical "Company." Several other talented students from the theatre department also sang live to Broadway musical numbers, including "Michael's In the Bathroom" sung by Jack Dellandre, "When He Sees Me" sung by Eddie Sherman and "Mr. Cellophane" sung by Alex Walleman. At the end of the performances, Alton talked about the Spring Showcase. It will be performed at the bigger venue, the Jackson Theatre at the Smith Center. Alton said through email dancers and choreographers who want to be a part of the Spring Showcase have to

register for a class in order to participate in rehearsals. The show will be on April 25-26, 2025. Dance experience is not required. Some Theatre students from Ohlone College will be attending the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, a worldwide performing arts festival. The Theatre department is accepting donations to send students to the festival through the Ohlone College Foundation Paypal. Donors must specify the donation is for "Edinburgh Festival Fringe." Multiple dance classes are offered at Ohlone for the upcoming Spring Semester 2025. Those classes are Intro to Ballet, Intro to Contemporary Dance, Intro to Hip Hop, and Intro to Classical Indian Dance.

continued from page 1

East Bay Children’s Theatre performs at Title I schools



In 2024, EBCT staged *Curious and Curiouser: The Alice in Wonderland Musical* (2024). Photo courtesy of EBCT.



Susan Cochran played Cinderella for EBCT in the 1960s. Photo courtesy of EBCT.



In the 1950s, EBCT put on a production of *Babes in Toyland*. Photo courtesy of EBCT.



EBCT’s 2017 production was *Aladdin And The Lamp*. Photo courtesy of EBCT.



Jordyn Foley played Cinderella in *Once Upon A Time Step* (2021). Photo courtesy of EBCT.

White Rabbit in this year’s production: *Curious and Curiouser: The Alice in Wonderland Musical*. “The children always swarm around us after the show asking for autographs, stars in their eyes. This is very heady stuff for us community theatre actors,” she laughs.

Fellow actor Jordyn Foley plays Alice, and has starred in several other EBCT productions. “I met Ron when I was nine,” she says. “I love the cause, the people, the music...so I just kept coming back.”

“It plants a seed, doesn’t it?” says Lytle, a twinkle in

his eye. “The first show I saw was *Snow White*. I was in kindergarten. And for some reason it was in Spanish.”

Lytle has been with EBCT for 20 years now, and has made dramatic changes during his tenure. Says Mary Bishop, EBCT President, “Ron has really expanded the company artistically. Before he arrived it had been mainly just a women’s social club.”

“It has changed a lot,” says Anne Doyle, 91, who has been volunteering with EBCT for the past 40 years. “When I joined, it was myself and some other ladies from Piedmont and Oakland,

and we would do everything ourselves—paint sets, make costumes and perform.”

Lytle, who first developed his writing chops in college and later in Las Vegas, was initially hired as a freelance playwright, providing EBCT with original material. His first commission: a parody of *The Elves and the Shoemaker* titled “There’s No Business Like Shoe Business”. He would eventually take on several other roles, including director, choreographer, composer and lyricist.

To date he has created 20 productions— scripts and scores— for the

company, including 14 original musicals, five revivals of previous shows, and one movie musical. He has opened the group up to outside actors and technicians, brought in professional music tracks, utilized new theatre mics and lighting, refined sets and improved programming by adding a holiday fundraiser and public performances. Says Lytle, “I decided early on that I wanted to bring as much spectacle to these kids as I could.”

Like most theatre companies, EBCT survives through donations and grants. And while they

were fortunate to receive a sizable grant during the pandemic, Bishop admits it has been tough going. They break even on most public performances, and with a dwindling membership base, support and outreach are at an all-time low. Each year their season shrinks just a little bit more.

But for now they soldier on, staying true to their original mission. Lytle’s program note sums it up best: “Who knows how many kids EBCT has inspired to become actors, singers, dancers, musicians, writers, technicians, and audience members...”

East Bay Children’s Theatre
www.ebctonline.org
ebctheatre@gmail.com
Holiday Fundraiser:
Once Upon A Time Step:
The Magical Musical Movie
Sunday, Dec. 22
2pm
Firehouse Arts Center
4444 Railroad Ave.,
Pleasanton
Tickets: \$14 - \$20
www.firehousearts.org

Home & Garden

Five global holiday cakes



Bibingka is made from rice flour in a banana leaf lined bowl.
Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell



Alcohol for Irish Christmas cake should be soaked for two weeks. Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell



Irish Christmas cake can be left with no frosting, iced with marzipan or covered with white frosting.
Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell



Panettone is actually a sweet, fruit-stuffed bread. Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell



The long loaf of stollen cake looks like a tunnel. Photo credit: Daniel O'Donnell

By **DANIEL O'DONNELL**

The world's oldest cake was discovered in the tomb of a prominent Egyptian who lived around 2200 B.C. Most cakes if not all at this time were baked as offerings to the gods. However, once the prototype was invented, cakes evolved as different cultures added their own creative touches, ingredients and baking techniques. These led from cakes being baked as offerings to being baked for their sweet or savory taste and/or to celebrate significant occasions. The holiday season is one of those noteworthy times.

There are many different traditional desserts throughout the world. Below are five cakes often served during the holidays, not only in the cakes' native countries, but now in the U.S. as well.

Irish Christmas Cake

Traditionally, Irish Christmas cake is moist, rich, heavily spiced, and full of dried fruits and nuts, and in many cases soaked with whiskey or brandy every so often

until the cake is ready to be frosted or eaten. The dried fruit that goes into the cake batter is soaked in alcohol two weeks prior to baking the cake, which is six to eight weeks before the holiday season begins. Irish Christmas cakes are presented and served with no frosting, a marzipan icing, and/or with a white frosting top layer.

Italian Panettone

Panettone is popular all over Italy during the winter holidays. Many people consider it cake, although it is actually a sweet bread. Regardless, it is still a holiday favorite among both Italian and non-Italian Americans. Baked with raisins, other dried fruits, often almonds, candied lemon and orange citrus rinds, the dessert always has a rich and buttery flavor and a light and fluffy texture. Traditionally it can take up to 24 hours to make so there is no stigma, even in Italy, if a Panettone is purchased rather than baked at home.

German Stollen

Known in Germany as
Weihnachtsstollen, Christstollen,

or Winterbrot, German stollen is considered a cake because of its sweet flavor and thick coat of powdered sugar, and is often served as a dessert. However, it is in fact a baked, yeasted fruit bread containing dried fruits, candied citrus peels, nuts, and spices and sometimes marzipan filling in the center. German stollen is easily recognizable by its long loaf shape. Some historians think it was molded in the shape of a mining tunnel, which was a crucial industry in the area, while others think its shape has a religious connection to the baby Jesus being wrapped in a blanket.

Filipino Bibingka

Bibingka is a Filipino rice cake traditionally cooked over coals in a shallow banana leaf lined terracotta bowl. It is eaten throughout the year but especially during the Christmas/Holiday season. Traditionally, bibingkas are made with rice flour, but there are recipes that use other types of flour such as mochiko flour or cassava flour. The basic ingredients besides

flour are butter, coconut milk and egg. Other ingredients can include sweetened condensed milk, vanilla, and macapuno, which is a coconut cultivar. Some bibingkas are traditionally served with a duck egg, grated coconut or cheese.

Jewish Hanukkah cake

The name Jewish Hanukkah cake is a term used during the holidays for a dense and sweet apple cake filled with tart fruit and topped with cinnamon and sugar. This Jewish apple cake is traditionally made without dairy products and so is often enjoyed throughout the year. It is a popular dessert choice for Hanukkah because of the use of oil instead of butter. A central part of Hanukkah is the Miracle of the Oil when the Temple menorah stayed lit for eight days on a single day's supply of oil. It is traditional during Hanukkah to eat fried and oily foods in remembrance of this miracle, making this cake an ideal dessert for the holiday.

There are plenty of recipes online for these traditional holiday

cakes. Some of these cakes can be purchased. World Market, 101 Clay Street, Oakland, sells panettonnes, stollens and numerous Burt's fruit cakes which are indistinguishable from traditional Irish Christmas cakes. Bibingka cakes are available at Valerio's Tropical Bake shop, 1535 Landes Ave., Milpitas. Jewish Hanukkah cake can be hard to find locally but can be ordered online from Challah&Co.com or GoldBelly.com.

There are many different holiday traditions around the world. Enjoying a traditional holiday cake from another culture can literally spice up and sweeten your holiday season.

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

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Arts & Entertainment

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

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. E, 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

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
Wednesday, Dec. 18
Dream Achievers Band Concert
1 – 3pm
The Dream Achievers Band is a musical ensemble made up of talented musicians with autism from Friend' of Children with Special Need's music program.
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont

Thursday, Dec. 19
Graphic Novel Reading Hour
4 – 5pm
Join us for this reading club, where you'll hear about a few different graphic novels and then get some time to read. You can bring your own graphic novel or borrow one from a stack of books.
Newark Main Library
37055 Newark Blvd., Newark
Newarklibrary@aclibrary.org
510.284.0675

Saturday, Dec. 21
Financial Literacy for Teens
3pm – 4pm
These workshops aim to teach preteens and teens about the basics of finance. We will introduce concepts like budgeting, investing, and managing credit.
Union City Library
34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City
510.745.1464

Sunday, Dec. 22
Holiday Fundraiser
2 p.m.
Once Upon A Time Step: The Magical Musical Movie
Firehouse Arts Center
4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton
Tickets: \$14 - \$20
www.firehousearts.org

Saturday, Dec. 28
Winter Magic Show
1 – 2pm
Come warm yourself this season with a little fun and a whole lot of wonder! All ages are welcome. Magician Mike Della Penna is known for captivating the 3-to-8-year-old crowd with his laughter-filled, participatory magic shows. Space is limited.
Fremont Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont
510.745.1400

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

Saturday, Jan. 25
Diamonds in Education Gala
6 – 10pm
Help raise funds for students. Buffet dinner, casino games, live and silent auction and more
Paradise Ballroom
4100 Peralta Blvd., Fremont
www.diamondsineducation.com
Tickets: \$175/ \$150



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Email: customerservice@fudenna.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES

California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that STEVEN TEXERA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on 1/17/2025 at 9:45 A.M. in Dept. 202 Room N/A located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: SRIJANA DHAKHWA, 900 MISSION AVE 11C, SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901, Telephone: 415-488-5552 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3878110#

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOSEPH HAICHIAG CHOU AKA JOSEPH HAICHIANG CHOU CASE NO. 24PR097097

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: JOSEPH HAICHIAG CHOU AKA JOSEPH HAICHIANG CHOU A Petition for Probate has been filed by LILIAN CHOU AND KENNETH CHOU in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that LILIAN CHOU AND KENNETH CHOU be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on 1/6/2025 at 9:45 A.M. in Dept. 202 Room N/A located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94707. If you object to the granting of the petition,

you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: LILIAN CHOU & KENNETH CHOU, DONAHUE FITZGERALD LLP, 1999 HARRISON STREET, 26TH FLOOR, OAKLAND, CA 94612, Telephone: 510-451-3300 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3877413#

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF GAIL L. PERRY CASE NO. 24PR101135

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: GAIL L. PERRY A Petition for Probate has been filed by ROGER A. BROWN JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that ROGER A. BROWN JR. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on 1/8/2025 at 9:45 A.M. in Dept. 202 Room N/A located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the

court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: GREGORY FINCH, 3400 BRADSHAW RD., STE. A-4A, SACRAMENTO, CA 95827, Telephone: 916-857-1100 12/10, 12/17, 12/24/24

CNS-3876405#

TRUSTEE SALES

T.S. No. 126996-CA APN: 543-312-24 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 9/24/2018, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 2/5/2025 at 12:00 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 9/28/2018 as Instrument No. 2018189103 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Alameda County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: MARY ALICE SASS, AS TRUSTEE OF THE 2007 SASS LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 23, 2007 WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; AT THE FALLON ST. EMERGENCY EXIT OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON ST. , OAKLAND, CA 94612 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in the unpaid balance of the obligation of LOT 29 BLOCK 3, AS SAID LOT IS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF TRACT 3002, NORTHGATE UNIT NO. 1, CITY OF FREMONT, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, FILED JULY 25, 1968 IN BOOK 57 OF MAPS, PAGES 73 TO 79, INCLUSIVE, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 34216 AUCLAND PL, FREMONT, CA 94555-2326 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$439,331.44 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website www.clearconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 126996-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur

close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 126996-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-3319 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3877570#

T.S. No. 126334-CA APN: 475-0167-093 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 9/17/2008, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 2/5/2025 at 12:00 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 10/1/2008 as Instrument No. 2008290606 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Alameda County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: IRENE COURT, UNMARRIED, WHO ACQUIRED PROPERTY AS A MARRIED WOMAN, AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; AT THE FALLON ST. EMERGENCY EXIT OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON ST. , OAKLAND, CA 94612 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 32252 CORONATION DRIVE, UNION CITY, CA 94587 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$367,162.83 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed

of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website www.clearconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 126334-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 126334-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-3319 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108 12/17, 12/24, 12/31/24

CNS-3877567#

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Intention to Circulate Initiative

Notice is hereby given of the intention of the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the Washington Township Health Care District for the purpose of establishing an annual special parcel tax in the amount of five cents (\$0.05) per square foot of structural improvements, with a cap on the amount imposed on any one parcel. A statement of the reasons for the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows: This measure will ensure local residents have access to the most advanced life-saving medical care, highly skilled healthcare providers, and cutting-edge medical equipment and technology, close to home. Washington Hospital, a community-owned not for profit hospital, opened over 65 years ago to serve a community of 18,000 people. Today, there are well over 350,000 residents, and as the population in southern Alameda County continues to grow, there is a need for more doctors, surgeons, nurses, and medical specialists. Funds from this measure will help recruit and retain medical specialists and also provide for the purchase and maintenance of trauma equipment, disaster preparations, public health emergencies, operation of the emergency department and advanced operating rooms, acquisition of medical and laboratory technology, and support for ambulatory services, including urgent care clinics and outpatient health centers. All funds will stay in our community to serve the hospital and health care needs of the community, and the residents of Fremont, Union City, Newark, South Hayward, and Sunol. No funds can be taken by the state or be used for other purposes. Dr. Prasad Kilaru

NAME OF PROPOSER
/s/

PROPOSER'S SIGNATURE
[Street address omitted for privacy reasons]
Fremont, CA 94539

PROPOSER'S ADDRESS
December 12, 2024

DATE
Martha Guilbeaux

NAME OF PROPOSER
/s/

PROPOSER'S SIGNATURE
[Street address omitted for privacy reasons]
Fremont, CA 94536

PROPOSER'S ADDRESS
December 12, 2024

DATE
12/17/24

CNS-3879158#

Bay Philharmonic Youth Orchestra opened the season



The flute choir for Bay Philharmonic Youth Orchestra plays autonomously without a conductor. Photo courtesy of Aaron Ely

Submitted by
AARON ELY

On Nov. 9, the Bay Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (BPYO) held its season opener concert at the Irvington Presbyterian Church. The season opener was titled “Music For The People,” and like past BPYO concerts, it was open to the public to come and listen for free. Led by music director Dr. Carlos Hernandez, the concert lasted about one and a half hours with eight music pieces, which ranged from the early 1900s to more

modern pieces such as music from the Broadway play (and now musical) *Wicked*. The orchestra itself is made up of three ensembles: Virtuosi, Bravi and Melodia, along with a chamber flute choir. The conductorless flute choir opened the concert and played two works autonomously. The Virtuosi, Bravi and Melodia ensembles then all came together to play three distinct works, which included selections from the popular video game *Minecraft*. Although the three ensembles rehearse independently, they played together in the concert.

“This music is set up to accommodate for different levels of musicianship, so this (like *Minecraft*), is a choose-your-own-adventure experience: There are hard level, medium and easier parts to choose from,” explained Dr. Carlos Hernandez, “We are encouraging students to challenge themselves while supporting other students that are less mature, musically.” After the cumulative ensemble played their three pieces, the Virtuosi and Bravi ensembles continued to play as a new ensemble

for another two works, one of which was a collection of songs from *Wicked*. Closing out the concert, Virtuosi performed the last three works, all of which had varying styles and came from different genres and parts of the world. Besides the well-known classical music generally played in orchestras, BPYO strives to also present other styles of music from different time periods and cultures. Many guests from all across the Tri-City area attended to hear the student orchestra make music, including local county

officials such as current Fremont Mayor Lily Mei, her successor Raj Salwan, Vice Mayor Desrie Campbell and District 3 City Council member Kathy Kimberlin. “Congratulations on your season opener ‘Music for the People.’ That’s exactly what we’re here to talk about: It’s to ensure we make music available for all people,” said Fremont Mayor Lily Mei. BPYO was founded in 2016 and has continued to share music since. Under the new leadership of Carlos Hernandez, the youth orchestra is performing three concerts throughout the

2024-2025 season. BPYO also participated in the Bay Philharmonic’s Holiday Spectacular Show on Dec. 14 and 15, and their next concert is on Mar. 23, prior to their Southern California Disneyland performance.

Learn more at: bayphil.org

LIFE CORNERSTONES

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Fiapaipai Sao
Resident of Fremont
May 2, 1949 – December 4, 2024

Debbie Silva
Resident of Fremont
June 17, 1956 – December 8, 2024

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

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

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



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Patricia Westlind
Resident of Fremont
August 4, 1930 – December 12, 2024

Vishal Belgodu
Resident of San Jose
June 28, 1984 – December 12, 2024

Analia Vieira
Resident of Union City
October 1, 1934 – December 10, 2024

Loren Kensinger
Resident of Fremont
April 23, 1942 – December 9, 2024

Robert Ho
Resident of Fremont
June 19, 1927 – December 8, 2024

Jenifer Nisha Ahamed Sheriff
Resident of Pleasanton
May 8, 1990 – December 8, 2024

Edward Cary II
Resident of Fremont
December 14, 1948 – December 7, 2024

Fujio “Frank” Nakasako
Resident of Fremont
June 11, 1928 – December 7, 2024

Jing Rao
Resident of Fremont
February 19, 1952 – December 6, 2024

Marlene Neubauer
Resident of Fremont
November 30, 1934 – December 5, 2024

Irene Mendoza
Resident of Fremont
May 8, 1936 – December 5, 2024

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

GEORGE ROLAND COLE

July 21, 1934 - December 3, 2024



George Roland Cole passed away peacefully December 3, 2024 with his loving family by his side, after his battle with lymphoma.

George was born in Long Pine, Nebraska on July 21, 1934. He came to California in 1943 from Rupert, Idaho where he became a longtime resident of the Fremont area.

He served in the U. S. Army Reserve from 1953-1960 with the 49th Military Police company.

He attended Washington High School where he met his high school sweetheart, and future wife, Irene. Together they opened a successful Pleasanton grocery store, Cole's Market. As a family, they ran the store for twenty-five years until their retirement in 1990.

After retirement, George and Irene enjoyed running their almond ranch in Delhi. They loved to entertain friends and family, travel, music, dancing and sports. They took pride in sponsoring the annual American High School "Tim Cole Basketball Tournament", created to honor the memory of their eldest son, Tim Cole.

George decided to explore cooking after his wife's passing 9 and a half years earlier. He became a very good cook pouring his heart and soul into each dish while listening to his favorite "Big Band" era music.

George is survived by his children: Jeff Cole (April), and Denise Cabral (Neil); his sisters: Donna Facey and Sharon Santos; his grandchildren: Jeffery (Mandie), Nicole (Andrew), Jessica (Aaron), Kevin (Erin), Joshua (Maria), and Tyler (Gabby); and great grandchildren, Emma, Cadence, JT, Maverick, Rylee, Lillian, Eloise, Jett, and Cruz. George will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Private services will be held.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of George to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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

Letter to the Editor

Local comedian Kabir ‘Kabeezy’ Singh dies at 39

On Dec. 4, the comedy world lost a great talent with the passing of Fremont's own Kabir “Kabeezy” Singh, who died peacefully in his sleep. A toxicology report is still ongoing, but authorities believe his death was due to natural causes, given his history of health issues, which have not been made public. He was 39.

Friends and family took to social media to mourn the comedic genius, expressing shock and sadness at his sudden demise. Fellow standup comedians praised

the Indian-American young man for his infectious energy and down-to-earth authenticity, truly a loved and respected member of the local standup circuit.

When this reporter first met him in July of 2021, he had just made it through the first round of auditions on America's Got Talent (AGT), Season 16. He would eventually reach the semifinal round before bowing out. During our brief one-hour interview at his home base, Kirby's Sports Bar in Fremont, I was immediately

charmed by his quick wit and natural charisma.

He talked about his life, growing up, traveling and moving to India (he was born in Portland, Oregon), where, as an American, he did not quite fit in. To ward off the bullies, he turned to comedy. This is where he first developed his stand-up skills.

He felt lucky and blessed for all of the big breaks in his career, but seemed uneasy being in the national spotlight. That's when I realized that everything he did was out of love—for his family, for his friends, and for his fans. His greatest fear was that he might disappoint them with a poor performance, or forget about them on the road to fame.

He was dedicated and loyal, and that's why everyone loved him

back. When AGT asked him where he was from, he replied “Fremont, California.” When they asked, “Where's that? Bay Area?”, Singh said, “No, it's Fremont, California. We're not doing ‘Bay Area’ or ‘East Bay.’ We're doing Fremont, California, buddy.”

I wish him well on that great stage in the sky.

Fremont's Got Talent: Part I (July 20, 2021) [davidnewman.net/2021/07/20/fremonts-got-talent-part-i/](https://www.davidnewman.net/2021/07/20/fremonts-got-talent-part-i/)

Fremont's Got Talent: Part II (August 3, 2021) [davidnewman.net/2021/08/03/fremonts-got-talent-part-ii/](https://www.davidnewman.net/2021/08/03/fremonts-got-talent-part-ii/)

David R. Newman
Castro Valley



Kabir Singh. Archival photo on file

Letter to the Editor

Tri-City Voice's face-lift is eye-catching

For the past few weeks, I have noticed that your weekly newspaper has undergone major changes on the front and inside pages. Indeed, this is a good improvement. As a regular reader, I appreciate the entire team's good job and would like to give them a round of applause for their new ideas.

Still, I have a few suggestions for you to consider to make TCV more readable.

- Tri-City Stargazer has the right spot while the Classifieds page found missing ads
- Kid Scoop reduced to half a page is fine for me
- The Fremont Connection is very informative
- Home & Garden page is a readers favorite
- The sports page along with ongoing local reports within Tri-City are pretty much covered
- Last but not least your Opinion column and Letter to the Editor should be on the same page so readers can enjoy both of them to the fullest.

Wishing all staff members Season's Greetings.

Zafar Yousufzai
Fremont



Members of the Mission San Jose/St. Joseph Parish lead a procession of Las Posadas, going door-to-door singing carols and paying tribute to the Christian Nativity. Source: Nancy Dorighi

Unsung holiday traditions of the Tri-City Area

TRI-CITY INTERFAITH COUNCIL AND LAS POSADAS ADDS TO THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS

By **HUGO VERA**

The month of December is typically the time of year when the world reflects on the past achievements and milestones of the waning year while setting aspirations for the following one. During this time of festivities, millions engage in Christmas, Hanukkah and other adjacent traditions. For others, however, the holiday season can mean

more than the expected candy canes, snowmen and visits from Santa Claus. Take for example the tradition of Las Posadas. Stemming from the Catholic faith, Las Posadas is a long-standing tradition in which participants lead a musical procession, commonly celebrated in Mexico, Central America and various parts of the United States with a substantial Latino population. Mimicking the Christian Nativity, participants sing songs written from the point of view of Joseph and Mary as they too go door to door, “requesting shelter” so that Mary may eventually give birth to Jesus Christ of Nazareth. “The tradition of Las Posadas offers people a more spiritual way to celebrate

Christmas and the birth of Christ as opposed to some of the more commercialized ways, not that there’s anything wrong with that either,” says Nancy Dorighi of the Saint Joseph Parish at Fremont’s historic Mission San Jose. The Mission San Jose/ St. Joseph congregation have made it a yearly tradition to organize a roughly 90-minute procession as participants carry candles and statuettes of Joseph, Mary, Jesus and other key figures of the Christian Nativity. “At the very start of the procession we have someone hold a statue of the Nativity and then we typically read off a two-minute script essentially asking for shelter for the about-to-be-born

Christ before moving on to the next property,” adds Dorighi. “We’ve been doing this every year, rain-or-shine [since the Mission’s restoration in 1982] and with social media we’ve been able to share and boost engagement.” Even for those who are not part of the Christian faith, or any faith for that matter, another local congregation has worked to ensure that the holiday spirit can reach all who want it. Originally founded in 1962, the Tri-City Interfaith Council was established by Protestants in the greater Fremont, Newark and Union City area as means to bring together people of all faiths and creeds. In the decades that followed, the Tri-City Interfaith Council

has assembled a following composed of—but not limited to— Christians, Jews, Mormons, Muslims, Sikhs, atheists and members of the Bahá’í faith. Each year, the Tri-City Interfaith Council leads a Thanksgiving Prayer Service in which members of various faiths and degrees of religiousness simply give thanks to whichever deity—or lack thereof—they prefer for what they have in life. “As long as humanity has existed, we have been divided by faiths, dogma and how we choose to worship,” states Tri-City Interfaith Council Secretary Canice McLaughlin. “I believe that God is bigger than not just all of us, but that he’s bigger than what our brains can think of. Our mission is

not to convert others or to evangelize, but to be open and to listen to others.” McLaughlin believes that events such as the Thanksgiving Prayer Service are crucial to bringing people together, especially in a past year that has been marked with intense and ongoing interreligious conflict and division. “I can say that it breaks our hearts when we see others use religion as an excuse for warfare,” concludes McLaughlin. “It’s up to us as individual human beings to come together so that we can stop wars in the name of religion and stay true to the ‘Golden Rule’ that all faiths follow so that we can achieve peace among all.”

Enter US with proper documents

By **BARBARA WONG,** Mission Law & Advocacy, P.C. and SW Law Group P.C.

When traveling to the United States as a foreign national, the documents you need to present depend on your visa type and purpose of entry. Below is an overview of the key documents required for entry and the implications of certain scenarios, such as holding an expiring passport, arriving on an H-1B work visa, coming as an F-1 student, or traveling as a B-1/B-2 visitor.

General Requirements for Entry

Regardless of your visa type, there are universal requirements for entry into the U.S. as a foreign national. Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure date from the U.S. unless you are a citizen of one of about 130 countries in the *six-month club*, which allows entry with a passport valid only for the duration of the stay.

An expiring passport can complicate your entry and limit the length of your stay, as the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the port of entry may grant you a stay only until your passport expires, even if your visa allows a longer stay. Therefore, you may wish to renew your passport before traveling to avoid these issues. You may also be able to renew your passport while in the U.S., through your home country’s consulate.

You must also possess the appropriate visa for your purpose of travel. This is stamped in your passport after approval by a U.S. embassy or consulate. Depending on your visa type, you may need additional documents to demonstrate your eligibility and purpose for entering the U.S. The CBP electronically issues Form I-94 to track your admission and departure. Upon entry, CBP will stamp your passport with an admission date and visa classification.

Entering the U.S. as an H-1B Worker

The H-1B visa allows foreign nationals to work in specialty occupations in the U.S. for a sponsoring employer. To enter the U.S. as an H-1B visa holder, you must present an H-1B visa stamp issued by a U.S. embassy or consulate. Ensure it is valid on the date of travel. You should also have an I-797 approval notice which confirms that the H-1B petition has been approved. You may also wish to carry an employment verification letter from your sponsoring employer confirming your job title, duties and the validity of your employment. Dependents on H-4 visas must present their own valid visas and documents linking them to the principal H-1B worker, including marriage or birth certificates.

Entering the U.S. as an F-1 Student

If you are an international student entering the U.S. on an F-1 visa, you need to present your F-1 visa stamp and a designated school

official (DSO) must sign the Travel Endorsement section of the I-20 form before you travel. If you leave the U.S. and wish to re-enter, you should ensure it is valid and matches your program of study. You should also have your Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility) which is issued by your U.S. educational institution and outlines your program details, start date and funding sources. You should have the receipt confirming that you have paid the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) fee, and the official acceptance letter from your school as evidence of your enrollment. Furthermore, you may wish to have available financial documentation that confirms your ability to cover tuition and living expenses.

Entering the U.S. as a B-1/B-2 Visitor

The B-1/B-2 visa allows entry for business or tourism. To gain entry on this visa, you should present your valid B-1/B-2 visa stamp. CBP officers

may request evidence that you plan to leave the U.S. after your visit, such as a return flight ticket. Be prepared to explain your reason for visiting (e.g., tourism, meetings, or conferences) and provide supporting documents like a travel itinerary or business invitation letters. Lastly, you should show that you can financially support yourself during your stay, such as with bank statements or credit card details.

Additional Tips for a Smooth Entry

You should plan to double-check your visa status and ensure that your visa matches your purpose of travel and is unexpired. Organize your documents and keep your passport, visa, and supporting documents accessible during your journey. Further, plan to clearly explain your travel intentions and provide truthful answers to CBP officers’ questions. Since the rules and requirements can change, be sure to check the latest guidance from the CBP and U.S. embassy or consulate websites before traveling.

Understanding and preparing the required documents can help you avoid delays or complications when entering the U.S. Whether you are an H-1B worker, an F-1 student, or a B-1/B-2 visitor, proper documentation ensures a smooth and stress-free experience.



Attorney Barbara Wong-Wilson

Barbara Wong-Wilson is an attorney at Mission Law & Advocacy, P.C. and SW Law Group P.C. If you have any questions on U.S. immigration matters, please feel free to reach out to wong@missionlaws.com

Fremont Running Club shines at nationals



Aariv Patel earned 14th place in the boys 3K. Photo courtesy of Mike Exton



Diya Nalluri earned 13th place in the 2K 7-year old division. Photo courtesy of Mike Exton

Submitted by
MIKE EXTON

The California Grizzlies --- a local youth running club --- competed on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the AAU Junior Olympic Cross-Country National Championships in Charlotte, North Carolina. Once again, the Grizzlies excelled at the National Championships, as six members of the California Grizzlies made All-American, finishing in the top 25 in the nation in their respective age groups. Here are the names of these outstanding runners and their amazing achievements:

- 2K Girls 7-year-olds = 13th Place — Diya Nalluri 9:31
 - 2K Boys 8-year-olds = 18th Place — Krish Shah 8:10
 - 3K Boys 9-year-olds = 14th Place — Aariv Patel 12:09
 - 3K Boys 11-year-olds = 19th Place — Vihaan Sharma 11:29
 - 4K Girls 13-year-olds = 10th Place — Rosie Fennelly 15:31
 - 5K Girls 15-year-olds = 24th Place — Sophie Chang 22:26
- For more information about the California Grizzlies Running Club, please visit their website at: www.CalGrizzlies.com



California Grizzlies running club members, Vanya Ponnuru and Sophie Chang. Photo courtesy of Mike Exton

Ninety, and not slowing down

FREMONT ATHLETE PROVES IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO START, AS SHE WINS GOLD MEDAL FOR USA TEAM



Betts Stroh was the oldest women member on the World Masters Athletics USA team. Photo courtesy of Betts Stroh

“My goal is to inspire. I have had people tell me ‘My wife and I are going to the gym now,’ that’s amazing.” - Betts Stroh



Betts Stroh holds the flag for team USA at her competition in Sweden. Photo courtesy of Betts Stroh



At ninety-one, Stroh finds community and support in athletics. Photos courtesy of Betts Stroh



By **APRIL RAMOS**

As the end of the year approaches, it’s a natural time to reflect on the challenges, memories and accomplishments of the past year. Betts Stroh, a new Fremont resident, has quite a list of accomplishments to look back on this year. In August, Stroh competed in the World Masters Athletic Championship for track and field in Gothenburg, Sweden. Not only did Stroh compete, but she placed in all three of her races: 100-meter, 200-meter and 400-meter. Oh, and Betts Stroh also happens to be 91 years old.

Stroh started running in Montana before moving to Northern California, then Fremont three years ago to be closer to her family.

“I started this athletic adventure after my husband died,” shared Stroh. “At 79 I started doing 5Ks and I found them boring,” she laughed. After trying some 5Ks she realized another sport was much more up her alley. “I saw adults doing track and field. I always thought track and field was for boys and men. But women were out there competing and I thought, ‘Well, I’ll try that.’”

With discovering track and field, Stroh tested the waters with a few events, but some didn’t quite fit. “I competed in throwing the javelin, but because I’m very small—I’m 4 foot 8—you can’t really improve in throwing the javelin because your arms aren’t big enough. I thought ‘Why am I wasting my time throwing

the javelin, and I might hurt myself. I concentrate now just on running the 100, 200 and 400 [meters].”

Discipline is a big reason why Stroh has made it to international competitions. She explains how it’s been difficult to find a professional coach who has time to train her. For many, that setback would cause them to hang up their sprinting spikes all together. But for Stroh, it’s only made her get creative and keep herself accountable.

“I live in a very large rental community,” said Stroh. “At the back of the property is an Alameda [Creek] Trail, so I have [marked] off the 50, 100 and 200 meters. That’s where I practice my sprinting. The rental community has a wonderful gym, and I work out there.” Since sprinting

requires a lot of technical training Stroh notes YouTube as a great resource, “I’m on the internet all the time. The internet is my coach.”

In August, her self-discipline and training paid off when she attended the World Masters Athletics Championship in Gothenburg, Sweden, as the oldest woman on the US team. World Master Athletics holds international track and field competitions for athletes who are 35 years and over, according to their website, to “encourage their passion for active healthy competition, global camaraderie and celebratory spirit.”

“I’ve never had butterflies, but in Gothenburg, I was really nervous about being on the world stage because it was being televised,” said Stroh. “When we did the

100 meter it was two days after I’d arrived, and I was the first person out. That made me nervous.” With butterflies and all, Stroh finished her 100 meter race in 29 seconds, earning her the Gold medal in the 90-94 year-old women’s age group. However, she didn’t stop there, Stroh claimed silvers in the 200 and 400 meter clocking in at 60 seconds and three minutes, respectively.

Track and Field has helped build a community for Stroh. “I find everyone is so supportive and it’s just awesome that I have had this opportunity to be involved in this,” she said. Stroh gives credit to all the coaches and people who “have afforded me their knowledge and support for my continuing athletic adventure.” Those coaches include Lee Webb

of Mission Valley Track and Field in Fremont, coach Clyde Lehman of her current team Sierra Gold Track and Field, coach Steve March, a retired coach of Rocklin High School and Amanda Roberts, GirlsTrack Coach at Placer High School in Auburn.

Stroh continues to look onward in her athletic journey. Although she’s on a three-month break from running after her return from her World Masters Athletics wins, she plans to get back to her training routine and already has her eye on her next Masters meet in July. Stroh may be a sprinter, but she looks at her athletic journey as a marathon. “I want to be able to do the 100 meter when I’m 100.”

OPINION

Seeing worlds through BART’s windows

By SAMANTHA CAMPOS

Every week I ride BART from Oakland to Fremont, where the Tri-City Voice office is located, observing the change in landscape from town to town. For the first few stops, like most



Samantha Campos

everyone else on the train, I’m on my smartphone immersed in the flurry of digital work. But around the San Leandro stop, things get interesting. I put my phone down to witness signs of IRL human activity.

I admire the 55-foot sculpture of a woman—

seemingly mid-dance—at the San Leandro Tech Campus, next to the station. Artist Marco Cochrane made the “Truth is Beauty” work of stainless-steel grid in homage to “the untapped power and positive energy of women in the world.”

As the train rolls past auto body shops and dealerships, I notice a gigantic building with a mural of underwater sea life and vegetables. Curious, I discover that the building houses Lineage, “the world’s largest temperature-controlled warehousing real estate investment trust.” Essentially it’s a cold storage facility that handles food supply distribution.

More industrial buildings fill my view, soon replaced by the brown roofs of houses

and duplexes. Rarely do I see people outside of their homes or in their yards, but I spot signs of life nonetheless: clothes drying on a line, a faded American flag flapping in the wind, plastic reindeer pulling a red sleigh.

After Bay Fair, I notice more graffiti on the wall facing the BART line. Closer to Hayward I see parks and schools with multiple sports fields. On the opposite side of the train, neighborhoods display manicured lawns, citrus trees, and a surprising number of backyard trampolines.

Further on, I catch a glimpse of the Hayward Community Garden. Delighted by its presence, I learn that the 5.3 acres are leased by PG&E to the Hayward Area Recreation

and Park District, the largest independent park and recreation special district in the State of California.

Tents begin to appear beside the tracks toward South Hayward, separated by a colorfully ‘tagged’ wall from multi-story houses; on the other side of the BART rail, the immaculate rolling green slopes of the Mission Hills Golf Course materialize. The landscape shifts dramatically to the blue BART Central Warehouse and various tracks of non-operating BART cars, which looks like a scene from one of the many post-apocalyptic series I watched last summer.

A parking lot full of Amazon Prime vans awaits the holiday season. Just past that, at an encampment with

an RV and couches, a man plays catch with two dogs. Houses quickly become apartment complexes as we speed along.

After Union City, yards get bigger and there are more trees. Just past the Purple Lotus Temple, the verdant waterfront of Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area never fails to delight. I take my phone back out to snap a picture.

Samantha Campos is the editor of Tri-City Voice, East Bay Express and East Bay Magazine.

Moreau Catholic football team makes history at state championship



Moreau Catholic football team makes history. Photo by Joshua Morrow



Peyton Collins ran a 70-yard touchdown during the second half of the game. Photo by Joshua Morrow



Miles Moore (17) and Jalen Arnold (13) celebrate a Moreau touchdown. Photo by Joshua Morrow

THE MARINERS BEAT LINDSAY HIGH TO WIN FIRST CIF STATE TITLE IN SCHOOL HISTORY AND CITY HISTORY

By ANDREW JOSEPH

The Moreau Catholic Mariners won the first California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Championship in school and city history by beating the Lindsay Cardinals 42-8 on Friday, Dec. 13 in Fullerton in the Division 7-AA title game.

“It was an honor to represent Moreau Catholic High School and the entire Hayward community. We feel extremely blessed to be given this opportunity to build a great program and to win a state championship,” said Mariners head coach Keith Minor.

The Mariners received the opening kickoff, but did not score and had a turnover on downs after an incomplete pass on a fourth down attempt. Lindsay didn’t score on their opening drive either and were forced to punt the ball. On the punt by the Cardinals, Jalen Arnold received the ball and ran it back the length of the field to score the first touchdown of the game giving Moreau an early 7-0 lead with just under two

minutes remaining in the first quarter.

“All that was going through my head when I returned the punt for a touchdown is that Lindsay didn’t do their homework on me,” said Arnold.

Lindsay fumbled the ball on their next possession on their own 35 yard line to give the Mariners great field position as the first quarter ended. Running back Peyton Collins ran 24 yards for the first offensive Moreau touchdown just ten seconds into the second quarter to give them a 14-0 lead. On the next Mariners possession there was an incomplete pass on fourth down, but a flag on Lindsay set up a first and 10 from the Cardinals 21 yard line. Running back Donovan Edwards ran in for another touchdown to make it a 21-0 Mariners lead in the second quarter.

“What made our offense so productive was the countless hours of film that was watched and the great preparation by the coaches during practice throughout the week,” said Mariners starting quarterback Jeremiah Charles. “My offensive line has been working real hard all season to keep me up and to set holes for our great running backs to run through —their hard work paid off on Friday and it showed on the scoreboard.”

Lindsay’s offense continued to struggle all night as the Mariners defensive line overpowered and shut down the running game that the Cardinals have been known for all season.

“The Mariner defense played with great physicality and discipline. Our defense did a great job executing the plays called, doing their job, and they played extremely hard for one another,” added coach Minor. “We were able to command in all three phases of the game which led to our dominant outcome.”

Defensive back Eriq Fields recovered a Cardinals fumble and ran 65 yards for another Moreau touchdown making it 28-0 with under four minutes remaining in the second quarter. The Mariners dominated the entire matchup in all three phases of the game going into halftime with a commanding 28 point lead.

Jameson Ransburg came up with a Mariners interception on Lindsay’s first drive of the second half to set up a first and 10 from the Cardinals 20 yard line. Tight end Miles Moore caught a pass from Charles and ran into the end zone for another Moreau touchdown to make it a 34-0 lead. On the Cardinals next possession they faced a fourth and 16 situation where they were forced to go for it. They ended up throwing another

interception that was run back 70 yards by Peyton Collins for a touchdown to make it a 42-0 Mariners lead with six minutes remaining in the third quarter. At that point both coaches agreed to start a running clock for the rest of the game because of the nature the game had taken.

The Cardinals were able to avoid the goose egg when Lindsay wide receiver JJ Guereca caught a 14 yard touchdown pass making it 42-8 after a successful two point after attempt. The Mariners subbed out most of their offensive starters at the eight minute mark in the fourth quarter as the game was already won by that point.

“It means everything to me to be part of a historic season. These are my brothers and I wouldn’t want to do this with anyone else but them,” said Arnold. “Something I want people to remember is that we started the season 1-3 and look where we are now. It feels amazing just to know that we as a whole were the first ever to do something this big in the city of Hayward.”

Arnold, the Moreau senior wide receiver sensation, finishes the season with 21 total touchdowns, well over 1,500 yard receiving and WACC Offensive Player of the Year. He is preparing for an exciting college career

with multiple scholarship offers from universities including St. Norbert and Montana State, but has not yet committed anywhere. Charles, the starting senior Mariners quarterback, plans to also continue his football career, but has not decided on a school at the moment.

“I can’t say it enough: the support we have received from the Moreau Catholic administration and staff, our student body, our parents, the coaches and their families and players who have supported our program is extremely gratifying,” said coach Minor. “I just want to give a huge shout out to the entire Mariner Nation; we could not have done this without your support.”

The Mariners have made history winning the first ever CIF State Championship by any school in the entire city of Hayward. Coach Minor enjoys this enormous success just three years after taking over the program. All around, the Mariners put together an incredible season this year directed by an amazing coaching staff and dedicated athletes. This Moreau football team will be always remembered as the first team to ever win the state title in their city, putting Hayward on the map and engraved in history forever.

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Coffee energizes community

QAMARIA YEMENI COFFEE HOLDS GRAND OPENING IN WARM SPRINGS



Hamza Ahmed (L) and Areeb Mehmood (R) cut the ribbon with cafe staff in the background. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



Hot or iced, the pistachio latte is a popular item. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



“The Pistachio Latte is truly one of a kind and has captured the hearts of everyone who has tried it. We use a sauce made of real pistachios, blended into milk, and serve it with our signature three-layer aesthetic: espresso on top, milk in the middle, and the sauce at the bottom.” - Hamza Ahmed



Rich Turkish coffee tastes better served on an elegant platter. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



In between serving customers, the “work” family was invited to stand with the owners at the ribbon cutting. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



Of course there were additional treats for the grand opening. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida



There are many desserts to choose from. Photo credit: Stephanie Uchida

By **STEPHANIE UCHIDA**

“I was surprised you were having a ribbon cutting because I’ve been here three times already!” said Alex Lee, who was introduced to Qamaria Yemeni Coffee’s Warm Springs location by his friends. Since its soft opening in June 2024, the cafe has attracted customers on break from nearby offices or just curious about the more unusual flavors such as Qamaria Latte with cardamom and cinnamon, or the saffron or rose soaked milk cakes. One guest at the ribbon cutting remarked how she appreciated seeing Turkish coffee on the menu.

Brewing with single-origin coffee beans from family farms in Yemen, Qamaria Yemeni Coffee has locations in Michigan, Illinois, and Texas, as well as Los Angeles, but this is the first in the Bay Area. The shopping center on Cushing Pkwy is a hop over the freeway from Tesla, and nearby Lam Research Corporation and Delta Electronics. It’s also a five minute drive from Pacific Commons Shopping Center. The location is easy to reach by car, although unlikely to attract random passers-by. However, one customer did say he found Qamaria by accident at the soft opening and decided to see what the long line was about. The cafe is open until midnight or

1am, and is packed even on weekday nights. Areeb Mehmood, who co-owns the cafe with Hamza Ahmed, shared over email, “A few years ago Hamza and I were often looking for this type of place to meet for work or to hang out. Over time, we realized that this type of environment was missing in our community—namely a warm place available late into the night to simply relax.” Yemeni coffee shops were becoming more popular in the U.S., and Mehmood and Ahmed decided to try opening a location for a franchise. Qamaria stood out with strong branding and professionalism. Mehmood continues, “It took us about 18 months

and a whirlwind of work, but it is an awesome feeling to see the excitement of the community, and people using our space the way we envisioned!” In six months they’ve had their ups and downs, including a break-in in August, but they look forward to continuing to grow and be involved in the community. For the ribbon cutting, the co-owners invited their extended families (their tribe) and the staff (their work family) to stand with them. Officials at the ribbon cutting included Cindy Bonior and Napoleon Batalao from Fremont Chamber of Commerce, Fremont’s new mayor Raj Salwan at his

first official event as mayor, former mayor Lily Mei, city councilmember Yang Shao and newly-elected councilmember Raymond Liu, City of Fremont Planning Commissioner Ben Yee and Alameda County Reparations Commission member Brandon Sass. Qamaria received a respectable number of certificates, presented by Maggy Chan on behalf of Alameda County Assessor Phong La, by Barbara Ledesma Rhinehalt on behalf of State Senator Aisha Wahab, by Jackson Berg on behalf of U.S. Congressman Eric Swalwell and by State Assemblymember Alex Lee.

Mayor Raj Salwan expressed his commitment to support local small businesses. “We’re very proud of another small business opening here in the City of Fremont. Fremont is a very diverse community where we bring people from all walks of life, all cultures, all heritages, where we come together. And there’s nothing better to bring us together than good coffee.”

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