



Photos by Maurice Ramirez

(Above) Preacher's Daughter restaurant staff (left to right) owner Dianah Rodrigues, general manager Marisa Esparsa, and cook Jose Gutierrez assemble meals as part of the Feed Alameda campaign. (Below) Rodrigues prepares wine-braised beef meals for distribution as part of the campaign.

## City Launches 'Feed Alameda' Campaign

Dennis Evanosky

The city is hosting Feed Alameda, a campaign that expands the faith-based Dine and Connect Program. Dine and Connect focused on feeding the most vulnerable members of our community while supporting local restaurants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Feed Alameda recently began paying local restaurants to provide 90 meals per week to Alameda's homeless individuals, women and children at Midway Shelter, residents of the FEMA trailers and those who use the safe overnight parking areas at Alameda Point.

City funding is underwriting the first 11 weeks of meals and a GoFundMe campaign allows the community to extend this program through the difficult months ahead.

Sponsors to date include the Alameda Rotary, Alameda Police Officers Association, Alameda Chamber of Commerce, and Alameda Firefighter's Local 689. The Alameda Point Collaborative is Feed Alameda's fiscal sponsor.

"We had an incredible response to this fundraiser thanks to the compassionate and generous Alameda community," said Sarah Henry, the city's public information officer.

"We increased our goal to \$40,500 and will continue raising funds through the end of January. If we reach our new goal, we will be able to fund hot and healthy meals through mid-August, working with a total of 31 restaurants."

Donations are welcome at [www.gofundme.com/f/feed-alameda](http://www.gofundme.com/f/feed-alameda). All donations are tax deductible.



**Help provide hot meals to those most in need. Tax-deductible donations to Feed Alameda are welcome at [www.gofundme.com/f/feed-alameda](http://www.gofundme.com/f/feed-alameda).**

"COVID-19 has been especially hard on our most vulnerable community members and our restaurants, so we modeled this program on the National Restaurant Association's 'Let Restaurants Do the Cooking' campaign that I learned about on a conference call with other U.S. Mayors," said Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft. "Please be as generous as you can! Your donations will go directly to purchase hot meals that are delivered to people in need."

Volunteers are also needed to help with meal distribution.

"On behalf of the volunteers and site coordinators for Dine and Connect, I express our gratitude

for this opportunity to collaborate with the City and local restaurants in providing nourishing meals to our unhoused brothers and sisters here in Alameda," said Sister Patricia Nagle, lead coordinator of the Dine and Connect Program.

The city will pay each participating restaurant \$25 per meal for 90 meals (chain restaurants are excluded).

Meals must be hot, nutritious, and low in sodium with a fruit and vegetable and a main course. Interested restaurants can apply here and will be selected in a randomized lottery: To learn more about the program, visit [www.alamedaca.gov/feedalameda](http://www.alamedaca.gov/feedalameda).

## Police Investigate Park Street Shooting

Ekene Ikeme

A teenage girl was shot while at the Park Street Business District Sunday, Jan. 24.

Alameda Police Department (APD) received reports of a shooting at 3:40 p.m. on the 1400 block of Park Street. When officers arrived, they discovered the injured teenager. According to APD Lt. Erick Klaus, the victim, whose identity is being withheld, was shot in her upper extremity. The teen was transported to a nearby hospital by Alameda Fire Department personnel. Her injuries were deemed non-life threatening and she was released, according to an APD press release posted on its Facebook page.

The victim was walking along Park Street with two other individuals when the suspect fired multiple rounds, according to the APD daily activity log. It is unknown if the victim was the intended target or the two unidentified individuals accompanying her. The other two juveniles were not injured during the ordeal.

APD has not revealed a motive for the shooting, but Klaus said the shooting does not appear to be random. "We are still working on determining the connection," said Klaus.

No arrests have been made in the case, but APD did announce they have identified a possible vehicle involved with the shooting. APD will not release the make and model to the public "in order to preserve the integrity of the investigation."

Currently, the APD Violent Crimes Unit is handling the investigation with help from

patrol officers.

"We are in the early stages of this investigation, and many steps need to be taken to ensure those responsible are located and held accountable for their actions," stated APD in the press release.

Klaus said officers canvassed the scene and detectives reviewed surveillance footage obtained from nearby businesses and residences. Detectives also spoke to patrons who were in the area at the time of the shooting.

"Our detectives and officers interviewed several witnesses present at the time of the shooting, and we are following up on several leads," said Klaus. "We are thankful that no one else was injured or killed."

After the shooting many residents began posting unsubstantiated comments on social media regarding the shooting. The rampant speculation caused APD to ask residents on Monday to not post rumors about the case.

"There are a lot of theories that are being discussed on social media platforms," stated APD. "We want to caution those who are putting out information that has not been fully vetted or may be a hunch. We owe it to the victims in these types of cases to conduct a thorough and complete investigation to identify those responsible through factual information and reliable evidence."

APD said it will provide updates to the public when they receive new information. If anyone has information about the shooting, contact the APD Violent Crimes Unit at 337-8336.

## AUSD Targets March 8 to Reopen Public Schools

Sun Staff Reports

In a Jan. 22 letter to parents, Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) superintendent Pasquale Scuderi outlined circumstances surrounding a planned partial reopening of the city's public schools.

At its Tuesday, Jan. 26 meeting, the AUSD Board of Trustees discussed schedules for schools, should they partially reopen on the Monday, March 8, target date.

Applying for state funds was also on the table at last Tuesday's school district's meeting: both the requirements and the Feb. 1 deadline imposed by the state's "Safe Schools for All" plan.

In order qualify for state funds to support reopening, AUSD must show that it is prepared to provide

■ Biweekly testing of all staff and students if the COVID-19 case rate is less than 14 cases/100,000 residents

■ Weekly testing of all staff and students if the case rate rises above 14 cases/100,000 resident

In his letter, Scuderi assured parents that the district is working to secure contracts with COVID-19 test providers.

"(We are) dedicating significant time and attention to have this process in place ahead of March 8," he assured parents.

## Books Express Armenian, American Legacies

Ellen Chesnut

From the killing fields of Marash, Turkey, in 1920 to America and from the dustbowl in Amarillo, Tex., to California in 1935, *We Armenians Survived! Battle of Marash 1920* and *Written Works of Glen Chesnut* both tell remarkable stories.

The first book relates the tale of immigration to America by a people besieged by a government bent on their extermination.

The second written by my late husband weaves the narrative of Americans leaving a parched homeland in Texas to literally greener pastures in California.

I am very proud of being able to tell the story of my mother's family and the Armenians of Marash, Turkey by sharing the experiences of eight Armenians who made it through the blood bath of Marash where thousands were torched in their churches.

The author of *The Media Monopoly*, Ben Bagdikian, was newly born when his family trekked out of Marash in one of the worst blizzards in memory following behind the retreating French

soldiers many of whom were black Senegalese.

Dicran Berberian, at 17 years of age, learned of the murder of his immediate family and others by none other than one of the perpetrators who happened also to be his next door neighbor, a Turk, who proudly showed Berberian his father's pocket watch.

Berberian would later become the codiscoverer of plaquenil, an anti-Malaria drug now known as hydroxychloroquine.

Glen, my husband of 45 years, was the youngest son of Sam and Ulta Chesnut and had a remarkable story as well. Coming from a ranching family, he quit high school in Tehachapi, Cal., for one year to work as a cowboy.

In later years he would become a merchant seaman and ship out of San Francisco, when it was a great port city, and then out of Oakland. Glen was a self-taught artist and a writer. *Written Works* features some of his best flash fiction, poetry and short stories.

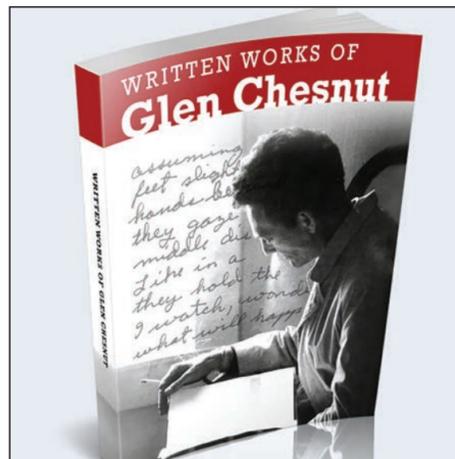
I invite you to visit his website to read more of his works not in the book, don't miss the art gallery

of his paintings and multi-media works and the photo gallery of pictures Glen took while stationed in Germany in the early 1950s.

Go to <https://glenchesnut.com> to learn more. Glen's book can be ordered through Amazon in both an eBook and a paperback version and at bookstores.

*We Armenians Survived* can be ordered at Abril Bookstore and through Amazon in both eBook and paperback versions.

Abril Bookstore: (818) 243-4112. [www.abrilbooks.com](http://www.abrilbooks.com). All proceeds from book sales have been going to and will continue to go to Armenian charities.



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All the doings of Island safety & law personnel



### HOMETOWN NEWS

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This is the week to eat right here in the Island City.

A	D	R	E	6	4
R	E	D	S		
E	R			3	1
E	S	C	E		
H	A	L	E	5	9

### PUZZLES

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Try your hand (and brain) and the crossword, sudoku, etc.



### ISLAND CITY HISTORY

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Learn about Alameda's Medal of Honor recipient

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### Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	7:16	17:28
Jan. 29	7:16	17:29
Jan. 30	7:15	17:30
Jan. 31	7:14	17:31
Feb. 1	7:13	17:32
Feb. 2	7:12	17:33
Feb. 3	7:11	17:34

Courtesy Ellen Chesnut  
Authors Ellen Chesnut and her late husband, Glen, pictured above right, offer their books for sale. They donate all proceeds to Armenian charities. Glen's book, right, describes the Armenian-American experience.

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