



Kristen Smeal

The Art in the West End Healing Gardens complements its relaxing park-like feel.

Healing Gardens Offer Solace

Kristen Smeal

Nestled in the vibrant Arts District of the West End of Alameda is a quaint, quiet garden called the Healing Garden. The Healing Garden is on the corner of Webster and Taylor streets and is part of a neighborhood enrichment project by the West End Arts District (WEAD).

A waist-high fence and mature trees surround the former parking lot-turned garden, alfresco dining area, and music and performance space. It's surprisingly serene for being alongside the main thoroughfare of the West End and has a relaxing park-like feel.

Over the past year, the garden has grown from a few plants to garden patches around the entire periphery. Lucky bamboo and other plants have been recently planted and nurtured. Succulents

and native plants, donated and tended by dedicated volunteers, surround the lot and are enjoyed by the entire community.

West End Arts District board member Michael Townehas made a special investment in the Healing Garden, as it's right in his own neighborhood. Townehas was an initial visionary for this project and has seen it evolve out of love for the community.

Many in the neighborhood found solace amidst the pandemic and social upheavals of the past year by channeling their energy into artistic expression and community engagement.

Art, music and gardening are consistent themes in aiding a community through trauma, along with bringing neighbors together in a way pre-pandemic times may not have.

Over the past year, the garden has grown from a few plants to garden patches around the entire periphery.

By definition, a garden is any space set aside for the cultivation, display and enjoyment of plants and other forms of nature. The Healing Garden is a place in the community to cultivate relationships with neighbors, to take in the display of artwork, music and plants, and to heal.

The property is privately owned and leased by West End Arts District through the end

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ABC NorCal Graduates Celebrate

Sun Staff Reports

The Salvation Army in partnership with Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California (ABC NorCal) to sharpen the skills of individuals who are switching career paths or experiencing positive changes in their lifestyles.

For example, after being out of school for a number of years, Damian Torchy applied for the Construction Leadership Training Program. He wanted to improve his construction skills and boost his career in a place that provided structure. Torchy completed two job interviews and he applied for an apprenticeship.

"The weeks I spent with this training not only built my construction skills and professionalism, it also brought me closer to people like me that are determined to make a difference that lasts a lifetime," he said.

The training lasts two weeks and offers tangible job opportunities upon completion. The Salvation Army helps hone job-readiness skills that include writing resumes and cover letters, preparing for interview preparation and dressing for success.

Each student is given the choice to become an expert of a vocation within the construction industry to help achieve their career dreams by receiving priority entry into ABC



ABC NorCal

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft (second from left) takes a moment with recent ABC NorCal graduates. Ezzy Ashcraft joined Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, and Emeryville Mayor Dianne Martinez in congratulating the graduates.

NorCal's partner contractors allowing the graduates to begin working right out of the program.

"ABC NorCal is committed to opening new avenues of employment in the construction trades for individuals from all walks of life," said Charles Vernocy, Chief Operating & Finance Officer at ABC NorCal. "The Salvation Army has been an outstanding community partner that shares a belief in helping others reform for the better."

With classes in electrical work,

students receive electrician trainee cards, OSHA 10 certification, a construction training card, boots, tools and a tool belt to be ready to walk on to a construction site.

Anyone looking to gain new lasting skills in construction is welcome to apply for pre-apprentice and apprentice programs at EarnLearnBuild.org. ABC NorCal represents nearly 500 companies, both large and small, across Northern California. To learn more visit www.abcnorcal.org.



Mataichi Ozeki

The Iwaihara family pose in their Model T near the Fernside District around 1916.

Honoring Lost Japantown through the Performing Arts

Tina Blaine

Alameda once had a thriving Japantown, but few Alamedans know of its history and the story of its residents. At the turn of the 20th century, the Issei, first generation Japanese immigrants, came to Alameda as "sojourners", seeking a better life, with a dream of making their fortunes.

In response to the growing number of Japanese immigrants and local restrictions on where they could eat, shop, or get a haircut, Japanese-run businesses began to surface on Park Street.

By 1912, Alameda Japantown consisted of barbers, bathhouses, hotels, restaurants, grocers, tofu shops, laundries, bicycle shops, a doctor, a tailor, and shoe repair shops. Local businesses increased in the mid-1920s with nurseries and floral shops to support the Japanese in gardening and landscape work.

However, the journey for the Issei was filled with many hardships. They faced anti-immigration laws in the 1920s, increased animosity toward Japanese in the 1930s, and the incarceration of all persons of Japanese ancestry from 1942 to the end of World War II.

Despite the erasure of Alameda Japantown, the Japanese Methodist Church South and the Buddhist Temple opened as hostels in 1946,

Free to the public, the Japantown Art Walk takes place on Friday, Sept. 17, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. RSVP, info and schedule at: www.rhythmix.org.

offering hope for the returning Japanese, and a promise to revitalize the tonarigumi, neighborhood cohesiveness, that exists today.

Rhythmix Island City Waterways' Japantown Art Walk is presented in conjunction with Tonarigumi, Alameda's Historic Japantown Neighborhood. Tonarigumi is working in partnership with the City of Alameda, Buena Vista United Methodist Church and the Buddhist Temple of Alameda.

Together, they are striving to raise awareness and reclaim the memories of the past. They want to remember the Issei elders and all they endured, and to be uplifted by the strength and resilience of a community.

Four markers are being created to share a forgotten history of Alameda's Japantown

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9/11 Memorial aboard USS Hornet this Saturday

Sun Staff Reports

The USS Hornet Museum, 707 West Hornet Ave. at Alameda Point, will be hosting a memorial for the 20th anniversary of 9/11 this Saturday, Sept. 11.

The Walking Ghosts of Black History will be leading the memorial to honor our first responders.

The memorial will include speakers, a special exhibit, a color guard and will finish with a wreath toss. The memorial takes place from 10 a.m. to noon. The ceremony and speakers start at 11 a.m.

In recognition of their service, the *Hornet* will allow all first responders and their families (with proper ID, two adults and two children) aboard for free on 9/11. Each year, memorial services, like the one aboard *USS Hornet*, recall the 2,983 men, women and children killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on this country. On that day, two hijacked planes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane crashed in Pennsylvania and a fourth plane crashed into the Pentagon.

Fernside Collision Takes Life

Sun Staff Reports

Alameda Police Department officers are investigating a fatal two-vehicle crash Monday, Sept. 6.

The deceased, an adult male, passed away at the scene. A second victim, also an adult male, was taken to a local hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

The collision occurred just after 8 p.m. at the intersection of Fernside

Boulevard and Cambridge Drive. According to a surveillance video, the victims' SUV vehicle was t-boned by another vehicle that blew a stop sign. APD said the SUV careened into a residential property after the crash.

Officers reopened the road around 9:45 a.m. Tuesday morning.

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau did not identify the deceased by press time.

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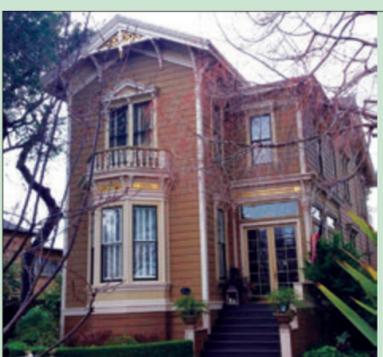


Betty Young

Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	6:46	19:27
Sept. 10	6:47	19:26
Sept. 11	6:47	19:24
Sept. 12	6:48	19:23
Sept. 13	6:49	19:21
Sept. 14	6:50	19:20
Sept. 15	6:51	19:18

There Are No 'Victorians' in Alameda



There are homes built in seven Victorian-era styles. Each blossomed and faded during Queen Victoria's reign from 1837 to 1901. Alameda's examples begin with the Gothic Revival and end with the Craftsman styles. They include the Italianate, like the one on the left. Read more about the Gothic Revival style on page 12. Then join Dennis Evanosky for a first-hand look at most of these styles. Meet Dennis at Franklin Park at 9 a.m., this Saturday, Sept. 11.

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