



Dennis Evanosky

Pennzoil's above-ground storage tanks at the company's Grand Street property (above) are slated for removal along with the company's building at Clement Avenue (below). The company ceased operations in August.

Plans for Pennzoil Moving Forward

Dennis Evanosky

Shell Oil, the owner of the property that houses the Pennzoil plant on Grand Street, has announced plans to demolish the buildings and above-ground tanks at the location.

In its remedial action plan Shell told the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) that it also plans to conduct "remediation work to prepare the property for sale."

The Water Board states that Shell will excavate 11,400 cubic yards of soil from the property and sample the remaining soil to ensure pollutants have been removed. In addition, Shell plans to backfill the excavation with clean material.

The plant has been in operation since 1951. It takes up some 4.1 acres of property bounded by Grand Street, Fortman Way, Ellen Craig Avenue and Hibbard Street.

From 1951 to 1995, Pennzoil blended and packaged petroleum-based products at the site. From 1995 to August of this year, the site served Pennzoil as a distribution center.

Lubricating oils were discovered in the tank farm area in 1985 and additional oil was spilled in this area in 1990.

Environmental work began when the company removed underground storage tanks. In 1996, two



Eric J. Kos

more storage tanks were removed. Then, in 2002, spills from some of the tanks on the property called for the removal of some 410 cubic yards of soil.

Complaints to the city about rusting, above-ground storage tanks led to Pennzoil removing 37 tanks, leaving just 11 tanks on the property.

The facility once consisted of a tank farm that contained 29 oil storage tanks and held 48 above-ground bulk storage tanks. These 48 tanks had a combined capacity of 3,045,758 gallons.

Additional contaminated soil was discovered during later site inspections. Contaminated soil was removed in 2002, however, some

contaminated soil was left under above-ground storage tanks to maintain their structural integrity.

The Water Board will review and consider all public comments before deciding on Shell's plan.

The public is invited to submit comments no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 20. Send comments to Alyx.Karpowicz@waterboards.ca.gov.

The public can view Shell's plans and other reports for the site at <https://geotracker.waterboards.gov>. Search for SL373281185; click on the Report tab.

Community Relations Consultant Tracy Craig is available for questions at 510-334-4866 or email tracy@craig-communications.com.

Rash of Shootings Plague Island City

Last Saturday's gunfire increases city's number to 11 since June 1

Ekene Ikeme

Another shooting incident took place in Alameda on Saturday, Oct. 3, adding to an already alarming increase in shooting incidents on the Island in the past several months.

Alameda police officers were alerted to possible gunshots fired at 8 p.m. on the 700 block of West Essex Drive last Saturday. According to an Alameda Police Department (APD) report, officers discovered several rounds of spent shell casings after canvassing the area. Officers believe there was more than one shooter at the scene after finding the spent casings. No suspects or victims were found at the scene.

Witnesses at the scene said they saw a silver mid-sized car and a dark blue or black vehicle leaving the area moments after hearing the gunfire, according to the report. Both vehicles were last seen traveling east on West Essex towards the intersection of Pan Am Way.

APD is asking anyone with additional information or possible footage between 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the area of West Essex, between Pearl Harbor Road and Pan Am, related to the shooting to contact APD's Violent Crimes Unit at 337-8538.

The incident adds to a rise in reported shooting incidents in Alameda since the beginning of summer. According to APD, there have been 11 gun-related incidents in Alameda since June 1, compared to just one incident from June 1 to Oct. 5 last year.

"Law enforcement agencies have typically seen an increase in criminal activity during the summer months, however, we have seen an unsettling rise in gun-related incidents since June 1

compared to the same time frame in 2019," wrote APD in a Facebook post. "Our violent crime's detective is actively working to resolve these cases. Officers have been providing extra attention to areas of concern, and assistance from the public is becoming extremely vital in resolving these cases."

The shooting incidents include a shootout on Friday, Aug. 7 outside the Airloom Deluxe apparel store at 2322 Santa Clara Ave. in downtown Alameda involving two groups of juvenile boys ("APD Responded to Pair of Shootings Last Week," Aug. 11). In this incident witnesses reported hearing between 20 and 30 gunshots. One person was struck by a bullet, but their injury was not life threatening, while another person was struck by shrapnel. Four people, all minors, were arrested for the shooting.

In another incident, Alameda resident, Shamari Hill, was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after shooting a woman in the leg on Sept. 16 in the parking lot of Mountain Mike's Pizza at 714 Central Ave., ("APD Officers Arrest Shooter," Sept. 24). Hill, who is out on bail, had his arraignment hearing on Oct. 6, according to Alameda County Superior Court records. His original hearing date was scheduled for Sept. 22.

APD said all violent crimes, including brandishing of weapons, robberies, assaults and high valued theft; has increased since the beginning of June. APD wants residents to ensure their safety by following several basic tips including stay alert to waiting or circling vehicles; walk-in well-lit and highly traveled areas; and more. To view all APD tips visit APD's Facebook page.

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Alameda Sun is a publication of Stellar Media Group, Inc. 3215J Encinal Ave. Alameda, CA 94501
Locally Owned, Community Oriented
News: (510) 263-1470
Ads: (510) 263-1471
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Betty Young

Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	7:11	18:42
Oct. 9	7:12	18:41
Oct. 10	7:13	18:39
Oct. 11	7:14	18:38
Oct. 12	7:15	18:36
Oct. 13	7:16	18:35
Oct. 14	7:17	18:34



Sweet Sounds on Webster

Maurice Ramirez

The Santa Clara Vibes entertained people who ventured out last weekend on the West End to enjoy food, beverages and just to stroll and enjoy the evening.

How to Cast Your Vote in the 'Nov. 3' Election

Sun Staff Reports

The City of Alameda began detailing the voting procedures for the November 3 election.

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters (ACROV) began mailing "Vote-by-Mail" ballots to registered voters on Oct. 5. Voters can mail in their ballots as soon as they are ready. No postage is needed. Envelopes must be signed and postmarked by Election Day and received by the ACROV no later than 17

days after the election.

Voters who do not want to mail in their ballot can drop it off at one of three Alameda "Vote-by-Mail" drop box locations: Alameda City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave.; College of Alameda, 555 Ralph Appenzato Memorial Parkway; and Bay Farm Island Library, 3221 Mecartney Road. The drop box locations will be open 24 hours a day until 8 p.m. on Election Day.

The City of Alameda will set up six accessible-voting

locations in the city for voters who wish to vote in person. These locations will be announced soon. The six polling locations will open on Saturday, Oct. 31 until Election Day.

Voters don't have to wait to cast their ballot in person. The ACROV office, at 1225 Fallon St. in Oakland, has turned into an accessible polling location. The location is open to voters Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Election Day.

The deadline to register to vote is Monday, Oct. 19. To register online, visit alamedaca.gov/voteready. To learn more about the measures affecting Alameda, visit alamedaca.gov/Departments/City-Clerk/Elections. Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft held a virtual Town Hall on the November 3 election. She talked to Alameda County Registrar Tim Dupuis and Alameda City Clerk Lara Weisiger. To watch the Town Hall, visit the City of Alameda Youtube page.

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