



Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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HOMETOWN

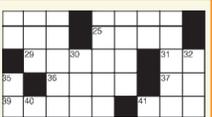
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Eric J. Kos

Javier Biagas and Cole Rodriguez Westbrook of North Star Visual install art on an Alameda Municipal Power Co. power box outside Jerry's Tire & Auto Center on Santa Clara Avenue. The company has helped convert local artists' work into vinyl decals that can be applied to the city's selected utility boxes.

City Debuts Power Box Art Tomorrow

Sun Staff Reports

Power Box Art, a partnership of Alameda Municipal Power (AMP), the Park Street Business Association and Rhythmix Cultural Works (RCW) will celebrate the unveiling of Alameda's newest public art on AMP's power boxes around town. The reception to honor the power box artists and sponsors begins at 6 p.m., tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 12, at RCW, 2513 Blanding Ave. The event is free and open to the public. The art was installed on 10 AMP-owned transformers last week. Maps of the transformer locations

will be available at the reception, in stores along Park Street after the reception and on AMP's website.

Local businesses are sponsoring the transformers. These include Alameda Collision Repair, Alameda Island Brewing Company, Alameda Natural Grocery, Berg Injury Lawyers, The Marketplace, OMM Inc., Ole's Waffle Shop, Rhythmix Cultural Works, Rich and Rose Krinks with Harbor Bay Realty and Tucker's Ice Cream.

Power Box Art began earlier this year when artists were invited to submit art that reflects ways the community can reduce its carbon

footprint.

A panel of judges chose 10 designs from more than 110 submissions. The selected artists are: Emily Bonnes, Delena Britnell, Nancy Crookston, Flavia Krasilchik, Clare Rickard, Chris Rummel, Stephen Seche, Jessica Warren and Wesley Warren.

The panel selected six-year-old Lars Petersen III in the student category. All the artists live in Alameda.

Learn more about the program and see the locations of the artwork at www.alamedamp.com/art.



Webster's Faire Weekend

Photos by Taylor Griffith

Thousands of people took advantage of ideal Bay Area weather to enjoy the Neptune Beach Community Festival held this past Saturday and Sunday. Vintage cars, rides for the kids, food, drink, a history tour and live music and other performances rounded out the lively fun.

News in Brief

Sun Staff Reports

Impact Fees to Take Effect

Development impact fees that the City Council approved on July 1 will take effect Sep. 19. "These fees require new developers to pay their fair share for the impact new housing or buildings would have on public facilities like parks, public safety and transportation," the city stated in a press release.

These fees are only charged to new developers creating new housing such as at the Del Monte warehouse or new businesses like those at Alameda Landing. They do not apply to existing home or businesses. Between now and 2040,

According to the city, between now and 2040 new developers are slated to pay \$600 million in impact fees. A significant portion of these fees will fund new and improved parks and athletic facilities, the city stated. These include the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park, the Estuary Park Athletic Field Complex and the Alameda Point Sports Complex.

Become a CERT Volunteer

The Alameda Fire Department (AFD) is offering a free six-session Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course. Registration is open now for classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 24

The course, taught by AFD firefighters, trains residents and business employees on how self-sufficiently handle a disaster like the recent earthquake in Napa. The course will cover ways to assist families and neighbors when disaster strikes. The curriculum covers topics like personal preparedness and hazard mitigation; a two-part disaster medical class; fire suppression and hazardous materials (HAZMAT) awareness and disaster-search techniques.

Those who complete the course will be sworn in as California disaster service workers. The city provides these workers with hard hats, uniform vests and backpacks. They will be assigned to one of the four CERT districts in Alameda depending on where they live or work.

Experienced CERT graduates conduct additional continuing education classes and exercises throughout the year. They are also invited to join CERTs on-call team to assist the AFD and the Alameda Police Department with non-disaster responses

Classes are held at the AFD training center, 431 Stardust Place on Alameda Point. Signup today to reserve your spot. For more information, call AFD Captain Sharon Oliver at 337-2131.

Regent Street Fire Displaces Four Families

Sun Staff Reports

A fire at a fourplex on the 1100 block of Regent Street called 27 Alameda firefighters to the scene shortly before 5:30 p.m., last Sunday. Crewmembers arrived to find a second-floor unit on fire.

The unit where the fire started had severe damage. Two other units saw water damage and some fire damage. An investigator determined that food left unattended on a stove had started the fire, which then spread to combustible items in the kitchen.

The residents in all four units had already evacuated the building by the time firefighters had arrived, none of them suffered any injuries. One firefighter was injured fighting the blaze. Two dogs that lived at the complex were injured; one died at the scene. The Alameda Police Department took the second dog to Bay Area Pet Specialist in San Leandro. A firefighter went along and continued to treat the animal, which is expected to survive.

The fire prompted the fire department to turn off the gas and electricity to the building, displacing all four families living there. The American Red Cross has stepped in to assist them. The Oakland Fire Department provided mutual aid.

Development Projects Move Forward in City

Michele Ellison

The Del Monte and Marina Cove development projects are moving forward, and the city has selected finalists to develop a commercial campus or outlet mall at Alameda Point.

The city will consider approval of a plan to build up to 414 new homes and 25,000 square feet of retail space in and around the Del Monte warehouse on Buena Vista Avenue. Up first is the Planning Board, which will consider the project at its Monday, Sept. 22, meeting. The City Council will decide whether to approve the plans on Tuesday, Nov. 18. Both meetings begin at 7 p.m. and take place in council chambers at City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave.; both will be televised and webcast live.

At its November meeting the City Council will take up the project's master plan, development plan, development agreement and traffic management plan. It will also consider an environmental study that says the new project won't have any greater impact than the more commercial-oriented original the city signed off on in 2007.

The Planning Board will review all of this in September and make recommendations to the council, which will then consider the board's feedback as councilmembers contemplate green-lighting the project.

More Point finalists picked

At its Tuesday, Sept. 16 meeting, the City Council will consider Catellus and Mission Bay Development Group as finalists to develop 82 acres of Alameda Point. The city is hoping to see either a commercial campus user or premium outlet mall.

City staffers sent out a request for qualifications in May seeking developers interested in building on a 68-acre portion of the Point. The city hopes to see hundreds of new homes and businesses to serve those new residents on the site. Four development teams submitted proposals by the deadline, and three were considered by a panel that included city staffers, representatives from local business groups and existing Alameda Point tenants.

The panel originally picked Mission Bay Development Group and CIM Group as its finalists but the latter developer withdrew its proposal, a staff report says. CIM cited uncertainty about the market for commercial users at the Point. Both Catellus and Mission Bay are proposing build-to-suit development for corporate users that can include office, research and development, light industrial and other commercial uses.

If the council gives Catellus and Mission Bay the nod, both teams

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Election 2014

Candidates for BART board of directors

Ekene Ikeme

Lena Tam

Soon-to-be former Alameda city councilwoman Lena Tam is one of two challengers looking to unseat current BART board member Robert Raburn at the upcoming elections in November.

The seat is for BART's Fourth District, which encompasses the Oakland Coliseum, Fruitvale, Lake Merritt, 12th Street Oakland City Center, 19th Street Oakland and MacArthur stations. Tam is being termed out of her position on the Alameda city council after two, four-year terms. Tam served on the Alameda Health Care District Board prior to her seat on the council. She currently serves as the East Bay Municipal Utility District water resources planning manager.

Robert Raburn

Raburn, a transportation planner by trade, is finishing his first four-year term on the BART board.

He was chairman of the Measure B Citizens Watchdog Committee — which monitors use of transportation funds — and was involved with the East Bay Bike Coalition, which lobbied for bike lanes on the Bay Bridge. The other challenger is Larry Lionel Young Jr., a teacher and realtor from Oakland. Young ran for mayor of Oakland in 2010 and 2012, but was unsuccessful in both attempts.

The election is coming at an important time for BART as it has been less than a year since BART workers went on their second of two three-day strikes and finalized a deal. All three candidates emphasized how they would ensure relations between the union and management would stay strong to prevent future stoppages. During the strike, BART board members were unable to meet with bargaining units directly and learned about the strike through the general manager.

Raburn said both sides must determine what the issues are and "put everything on the table so it is available to all, including the public." Young wanted to make certain that workers and management are "on the same page" during negotiations because management is working with people of diverse backgrounds. Tam said she would help establish a dialogue with the unions to gain back their trust.

Tam said her time on the board would include balancing budgets during tough times, facilitating collaboration between management and labor interests, and advocating for transit-oriented projects with state and federal legislators.

BART has nine board members. James Fang of San Francisco is the only other board member that will be challenged in the upcoming election. Fang will run against Nicholas Josefowitz and Flash Gordon in District 8 in northern and western San Francisco, according to San Francisco election officials. Board members Joel Keller of Brentwood and Tom Blalock of Fremont secured another four-year term when no one filed to run against them by the Aug. deadline. The other five members' terms end in 2016.

Contact Ekene Ikeme at eikeme@alamedasun.com.

Meet the Candidates

Michele Ellison and Dennis Evanosky

The Alameda Sun is partnering with The Alamedan to host two candidate forums where voters can hear the candidates for Mayor, City Council and the Board of Education explain how they would run the city and its schools if they are elected.

The Mayor, City Council candidate forum will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m., next Thursday, Sept. 18 in the Regina K. Stafford Room in the Main Library, 1550 Oak St. The school board candidate forum will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 20, in the multipurpose room at Maya Lin School, 825 Taylor Ave.

The Alamedan will live tweet both events and broadcast the Mayor and City Council forum. The Sun and The Alamedan encourage readers to submit questions in advance, at candidateqs@thealamedan.org. Questions will also be accepted the day of the forums in writing or by way of a tweet @TheAlamedan while the forums are taking place.

The people we elect for mayor and to the City Council will decide whether thousands of new homes and millions of square feet of office space will proceed as proposed at Alameda Point and along the Northern Waterfront. Elected school board members will select Alameda Unified School District's next superintendent and — if the Measure I

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