



Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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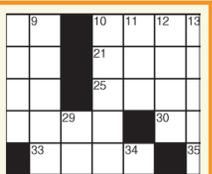
Find out the latest on home
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JoanAnn Radu-Sinalco

**Alameda Sun
Almanac**

Date	Rise	Set
Today	07:25	18:22
Oct. 24	07:26	18:21
Oct. 25	07:27	18:20
Oct. 26	07:28	18:19
Oct. 27	07:29	18:17
Oct. 28	07:30	18:16
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Alleged Arsonist Released on Bail

Ekene Ikeme

Update on Suspects

One of the two suspects arrested for allegedly setting several arson fires in Alameda last month was released from jail after posting bond last Thursday, Oct. 16.

Stephen Peterson, 27, was released from Santa Rita Jail in Dublin after his family posted the \$150,000 bond. Alameda Superior Court Judge Gregory Syren reduced his bail by more than half from \$375,000 to \$150,000 at a bond hearing the day before Peterson was released.

Peterson's family members, who moved to Alameda when he was 14, said they were able to post the bond because of the reduced price.

Syren sided with Peterson's public defender Ray Plumhoff who said his client's bond should be reduced because he is not a flight risk, is a member of the community and there were still questions as to whether or not Peterson is guilty.

Plumhoff argued at the hearing that Petersen was wearing dark clothing when he was arrested and then booked into the Santa Rita Jail, where was detained since his arrest on Sept. 30. But when Petersen was charged with setting the fires, authorities claimed he was seen wearing light or white-colored clothing. Syren said Peterson would have to abide by a 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. curfew, per his bond agreement.

Peterson and an Alameda transient named Andrew Resto Gutierrez, 22, are accused of setting seven fires around the Park Street shopping district on Sept. 28. The two men said they do not know one another and did not work together.

Peterson was charged with three counts of arson for the fires at 1336 Regent Dr., 1016 Walnut St. and 2103 San Jose Ave. Gutierrez, who was born in Puerto Rico, was charged with four counts for the fires started at 1188 Regent St., 2206 Encinal

Ave., 1617 Park St. and 2323 Times Way, according to police reports. Gutierrez's bail remains at \$620,000.

Peterson and Gutierrez are due back in court tomorrow for their plea hearing.

Community Benefits for Victims Continue

Several businesses were damaged or destroyed during the arson attacks including Angela's, a Mediterranean restaurant, which was in the process of reopening on Park Street near Lincoln Avenue.

Other Alameda eateries, and their owners, out of respect for Angela's Chef Saboor Zafari, are holding special fundraising events Sunday, Oct. 26, to help finance Angela's future renovations.

■ **Pappo Restaurant** at 2320 Central Ave. will donate \$10 from each ticket sold to their Belgian Beer Dinner as well as a raffle of rare beers.

■ **American Oak** at 2319 Santa Clara Ave. will donate 100 percent of their cocktail proceeds sold between 3 and 5 p.m.

■ **Speisekammer Restaurant** at 2424 Lincoln Ave. will donate 100 percent of its sales from a special Angela's-themed menu.

■ **Café Q** at 2302 Encinal Ave. will donate 20 percent of its sales on the day.

■ **Sidestreet Pho** at 2304 Encinal Ave. will donate 50 percent of its earnings from a special beer and entrée pairing.

■ **East End Pizza** at 1650 Park St. will donate one dollar from every cocktail purchased throughout the day.

In addition to these events, Italian Restaurant C'era Una Volta will host a separate fundraiser dinner Friday, Oct. 31, featuring Chef Saboor in the kitchen with C'era Una Volta's Chef Rudy and Cheryl. The dinner costs \$40 with \$30 from each order directly benefitting Saboor and Angela's.

Contact Ekene Ikeme at ekeme@alamedasun.com.

Pancakes Power Local Fundraiser

Breakfast held at Elks for victims of recent fires in town

Dennis Evanosky

The community came together last Sunday morning in the Rathskeller at the Alameda Elks Lodge at a pancake breakfast that raised funds to help support the victims of a series of alleged arson fires across Alameda.

The city's Social Services and Human Relations Board worked with community members to help organize the event. Participants enjoyed Jan Nichols' guitar music as they socialized over pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage. The morning's proceeds — some \$6,500 — went to the American Red Cross.

People were also able to contribute directly to the families who had fallen victim to the fires through the Alameda Relief Fund. While the human relations board and community organizers provided opportunities to participate in this healing process, several individuals stepped up. These included Joe Dalipe from Island Print Express;



Dennis Evanosky

Jan Nichols performed at the breakfast last Sunday.

Marc Sorensen from the Chamber of Commerce; Kathy Moehring; and Susan Timney from High Street Station.

Joe and Christopher Tam were instrumental in setting up the Alameda Relief Fund, which raised \$2,200 on Sunday. The fund is still

accepting donations. If you'd like to help, make a check payable to the Alameda Relief Fund and mail it to First Community Bank, 2531 Blanding Ave., Alameda CA 94501 or bring the check by the bank in the Nob Hill store at the Bridgeside Shopping Center.

City Makes 'Spirits Alley' Official

Sun Staff Reports

The City of Alameda held an official ceremony designating a half-mile stretch of Monarch Street as "Spirits Alley," Friday, Oct. 17, on Alameda Point.

Spirits Alley has been defined as the cluster of artisan distilleries and tasting rooms that have gradually formed along Monarch Street. Beginning with the opening of St. George Spirits in 2002, Spirits Alley has been a well-known visitor destination with six premium distilleries, wineries, and specialty beverage companies, including:

- Brix Beverage
- Building 43 Winery (Steelewinery Winery)
- Faction Brewing Company
- Hangar 1 Vodka (Proximo Spirits)
- Rock Wall Wine Company
- St. George Spirits

"The companies that form Spirits Alley ... along with the extraordinarily popular monthly antiques faire, have put Alameda Point on the map," said Mayor Marie Gillmore.

The craft distilleries have been attracted by the reuse of the former Alameda Naval Air Station's airplane hangars and by the views of the Bay Bridge and San Francisco skyline.

For more information about Spirits Alley, call 749-0304.

Tech Firm to Move Here

Sun Staff Reports

Atlanta, Georgia-based Sila Nanotechnologies announced it will open a 31,000-square-foot headquarters on Mariner Square Loop. The company has patented a technology that makes batteries lighter, smaller and less expensive.

Sila was founded in 2011 by a team of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs in collaboration with the Georgia Institute of Technology. Sila is aiming to revolutionize portable energy storage by

creating batteries that take up less room than today's state-of-the-art lithium-ion technology. Sila has filed for four patents for new battery technologies. These involve using advanced composite materials for battery electrodes.

The *Atlanta Business Chronicle* reports that Sila's technology development efforts have won backing from the U.S. Department of Energy, which has provided \$3 million in research grants.

World War II Flyers Recovered in Belgium Once Lived Here

Dennis Evanosky

DNA tests have helped positively identify three Army airmen who perished aboard a Martin B-26 Marauder over Belgium in 1944. Two men who called Alameda home are among them.

First Lt. William "Billy" Parker Cook and fellow pilots of the 397th Bomb Group, called the "Bridge Busters," took off about 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 23, 1944, from Péronne France. They had their orders: take out the Eller railroad bridge, a vital link in the German military supply line across the Moselle River.

Flying with Cook aboard his Martin B-26 Marauder bomber, which the men had dubbed *Hunconscious*, were his flight officer Arthur Lafave; and sergeants Eric M. Honeyman, bomb toggle; Ward Swallow, radio operator and gunner; Frank Lane, navigator and gunner; and Maurice Fevold, armorer and tail-gunner.

Cook and Honeyman had both lived in Alameda before the war started.

The *Hunconscious* was among 33 B-26 bombers flying over Belgium in formations called boxes when the Germans opened fire with anti-aircraft flack. "One B-26 from Flight B, Box II, right engine on fire, then exploded," the navigator aboard the box leader's plane reported. According to the lead navigator, the *Hunconscious* rolled over, plunged straight down and burned on the

ground. The men aboard the plane met their end on a wooded hill near a town called Allmuthen.

"The 397th continued with its mission and struck the target, destroying the bridge," the research group "History Flight" reported.

"Afterward, flak and enemy fighters claimed eight more bombers. Forty-five members of the 397th died that day."

On the way back to France, the Americans were struck by an attack from German fighter planes. "Aerial combat raged for ten minutes before P-47s intervened and broke up the attack," according to the MIA Project website.

Flak and fighters claimed eight bombers over Germany. Only five planes returned to France without damage; four no longer airworthy and requiring months to repair. Dec. 23, 1944, constituted the worst single-day losses for the 397th with 10 aircraft downed, 45 airmen dead and 21 made pris-

oners of war. The 397th later received a Distinguished Unit Citation for destroying the Eller bridge.

After the war, the American Graves Registration Command (AGRC) accounted for 39 of 45 dead. Only the six men aboard *Hunconscious* remained missing.

Cook, Honeyman and company lay forgotten in the Belgian woods



Ice Cream Parlor Funds Bench Restoration Effort

Photo and Story by
Dennis Evanosky

Last Friday, Kate Pryor and David Lee, (at the far right) from Tucker's Ice Cream presented Save the Bench with a check for \$1,265, the entire proceeds from the sale of a very special flavor of ice cream they created "Dumb Friends Bench Blueberry Buckle."

Accepting the check (from left to right) are Jack Mingo, Jim Manning, Nancy Hird and Betsy Mathieson. Mingo, Murray and Mathieson represent Save the Bench. Hird represents the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society.

Park Avenue resident Isabelle Clark commissioned the bench

in 1920 at the southern end of Jackson Park to honor her late husband, George B. Clark.

An animal lover and early member of the Alameda County Humane Society, Isabelle intended the bench, which originally had a pet watering station attached at one end, to provide rest and refreshment to animals and their owners.

The inscription "In Memory of My Dumb Friends" refers to animals unable to speak. The reference was most likely inspired by Our Dumb Friends League, a British animal welfare organization known as "Blue Cross" today.

A storm felled a palm tree,

which fell on the bench, causing hairline cracking to the bench and more severe damage to the base. Isabelle's inscription was partially destroyed.

More money is needed before the project can proceed. Donate by sending a check payable to the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society with "Save the Bench" on the memo line. Mail your check to P. O. Box 1677, Alameda CA 94501. You can also donate using PayPal at www.savethebench.org.

"Donations will ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy this unique contribution to Alameda history," said Mathieson.



Missing in Action Project

"Billy" Parker Cook, above, and Eric M. Honeyman, both former Alameda residents

