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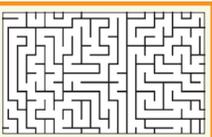
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Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	07:06	17:41
Feb. 10	07:05	17:42
Feb. 11	07:04	17:43
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Off-Duty Sheriff's Deputy Fatally Shoots Burglar

Alamedan forced to defend bedroom

Ekene Ikeme

An Alameda resident fatally shot a teenager last Wednesday, Feb. 1.

The incident occurred at 10:45 a.m. on Buena Vista Avenue. Authorities identified the deceased as 19-year-old Marquez Warren of Vallejo. Alameda Police Department (APD) Lt. Hoshmand Durani said Warren broke a rear glass door to enter the home. He then forced his way into one of the bedrooms. There he was confronted by the owner of the residence, Vedder Li, an off-duty Contra Costa County sheriff's deputy.

Li opened fire and shot Warren several times, according to reports. Warren ran outside the residence where he later collapsed, according to Durani. Li called 911 and remained at the scene while authorities were en route.

The first responders at the scene performed CPR on Warren then transported him to Highland Hospital. He was pronounced dead later on that day.

APD is describing the incident as an officer-involved shooting and not a murder, however, Durani said their investigation is still pending. APD confiscated Li's firearm, which was a personal firearm, for investigative purposes. Durani said APD has done several interviews with Li since the incident.

APD did not discover a firearm in Warren's possession. Durani is unsure if there was a struggle between the two men before shots were fired.

Li did not request medical assistance after the incident, according to reports. There was no other damage to the property. No one else was in the house during the shooting.

Durani said Warren had no prior relationship with Li and had no known connection to Alameda. Li has been with the Contra Costa County sheriff's office since July 2016.

Police ordered residents to shelter-in-place following the shooting as they searched for additional suspects. There were reports that Warren might have had one or more accomplices, but Durani could not confirm those reports. Police used official yellow tape to barricade traffic from the crime scene. The order was lifted about 12:45 p.m. that day.

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office and the San Leandro Police

Department sent officers to assist in the incident, according to reports.

Carla Roberts, a relative of Warren, set up a GoFundMe page for the deceased's funeral costs. The page has received \$7,495 in donations with a targeted goal of \$20,000 as of Tuesday, Feb. 7.

APD is describing the incident as an officer-involved shooting and not a murder. Their investigation is still pending.

"He was a great son, a funny big brother who always picked at his sister, and he loved both of his brothers very much, he looked up to them," the page says. "He was a great person, and a loving son who was trying to find his way!"

This is the first homicide in Alameda in 2017. There was just one homicide in Alameda in all of 2016. Oakland High senior Antwaun Williams, 19, was murdered outside AMF Southshore Lanes at 300 Park St. on Nov. 19, 2016.

The shooting occurred after the victim got into an argument with the suspect outside the business around 11:10 p.m. The two exchanged words and the suspect pulled out a handgun and opened fire.

Contact Ekene Ikeme at eikeme@alamedasun.com.



Teachers Oppose Cabinet Selection

Locals rally to express displeasure over Secretary DeVos

Photo and Story by Dennis Evanosky

Alameda teachers rallied on Tuesday at City Hall to protest the appointment of Betsy DeVos as U.S. Secretary of Education. Earlier that same day, the United States Senate confirmed DeVos' nomination on a 51-50 vote, with Vice President Mike Pence breaking the 50-50 tie. Members of the teachers' union, the Alameda Education Association (AEA), participated in phone and email campaigns to elected officials across the nation to voice their opposition to DeVos' nomination. AEA is affiliated with the 325,000-member California Teachers Association and the three-million-member National Education Association. Above, AEA President Audrey Hyman addressed teachers and community members from the Alameda City Hall's steps. Councilmembers, school board members and other officials joined the crowd.

Bay Shore Hotel Before BCDC

Dennis Evanosky

Property owner Daxa Patel has reapplied for a building permit from the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). Patel still hopes to build a five-story hotel on a 1.5-acre parcel at 2350 Harbor Bay Parkway.

One of BCDC's many roles is overseeing the 100-foot shoreline band that surrounds San Francisco Bay. The commission may authorize buildings within that 100-foot band. However, in a May 2016 study, BCDC's Design Review Board found that the proposed location of Patel's hotel is too close to the shoreline.

The Design Review Board asked Patel to explore design solutions that would allow for the building to move back from the shoreline and minimize the area of the site devoted to surface parking. In addition, Design Review Board members encouraged Patel to make the site more wel-

coming to the public, encouraging visits not just to the hotel, but the shoreline as well.

In addition the Design Review Board stressed the need to tie the hotel's landscaping design in with the adjacent shoreline in order to provide continuity. Board members also asked that Patel consider moving the bike path closer to the shoreline. This would require Patel to move the building further away from the shoreline.

When the full commission reviewed Patel's plan last August, Commissioner Wilma Chan, who represents Alameda, questioned the hotel's 27-foot setback from the shoreline. "My understanding is the hotel is 63 feet high but the setback from the water is 27 feet," Chan said at the meeting.

"Normally wouldn't it be a 63-foot setback? It is quite close to the water. For people who have gone out there and seen it, it is very close to the water."

Indeed the commission has a rule-of-thumb that adheres to a good urban design principle: the width of the public access should be about the same size as the height of the structure, no less. Patel's design violates this rule.

In addition, nearby shoreline setbacks are inconsistent with Patel's plan. The McGuire Hester building and the Stacy and Witbeck building, both right down the street near the ferry terminal, provide 75 feet of waterfront public access.

Some feel that Patel's plan is too large for the small footprint. "You know, it's like trying to put

a size 10 foot into a size 6 shoe, it's just too painful," said Chad Otten, member of the board of directors of the neighboring Headlands Homeowners Association, which opposes the project.

It is unclear what changes to the plan Patel will propose to the commission, which may vote on whether to grant the permit.

The commission is scheduled to take up Patel's request at its Thursday, Feb. 16, meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m., at the Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale St. in San Francisco.

Comments may be sent to Wilma Chan at wilma.chan@acgov.org and to BCDC staff care of Jhon Arbelaez at jhon.arbelaez@bcdc.ca.gov.

Contact Dennis Evanosky at editor@alamedasun.com.



Frank Muñoz (center, with cane) crosses Lincoln Avenue with some help from friends: (from left to right) Cindy Zecher, Laura Hudgins, Gary Lym and Sean McPhetridge.

Accident Victim Sends Message

Photo and Story by
Dennis Evanosky

On Jan. 17, Frank Muñoz was looking forward to hoisting a brew with some friends at the Swell Bar at Lincoln Avenue and Benton Street. Instead, he found himself in an ambulance on the way to Highland Hospital.

As Muñoz was crossing Lincoln, a pair of east-bound vehicles stopped and motioned him on. A third vehicle, this one west-bound, also stopped for Muñoz. As he stepped out into the intersection, the driver of a Chevrolet Cavalier chose to use a parking spot on Lincoln as a passing lane. The car swerved around the waiting vehicles and struck Muñoz, knocking him to the pavement.

"I suddenly felt a giant wall hitting me," Muñoz said. He spent two days in Highland Hospital, recover-

ing from the accident. On Jan. 25, one week after the mishap, Muñoz conquered his fear of ever crossing Lincoln again. He decided it was time to make a statement.

He invited some friends — Laura Hudgins; Alameda Unified School (AUSD) Superintendent Sean McPhetridge; AUSD School Board President Gary Lym and fellow AUSD employees and friends, Terry Dominquez and Cindy Zecher — and the press to join him at Lincoln and Benton. He then crossed Lincoln with a full escort.

He said he plans to take this article to the City Council and tell, not ask, his elected representatives to install a stop sign and Lincoln and Benton.

"I want to make something positive from this negative experience," Muñoz said.



From left to right: second place speller, and Elementary School Champion, Thomas McMuldren; fourth place, Ana Bernardi; third place, Chandler Lau; fifth place, Elizabeth Tsyvinsky and Champion Speller, Hazel Purins.

Island's Top Spellers Compete in Local Bee

Eric J. Kos

Now in its third year, the Alameda Spelling Bee was held last Saturday at Otis Elementary School. Some 45 Alameda students from fourth to eighth grade took part in a written test followed by an oral competition that displayed their skills in the essential building block of writing: spelling.

This year's champion was seventh-grader at Lincoln Middle School, Hazel Purins. Purins also

took first place two years ago at the inaugural bee. She spelled *facetious* and *camouflage* correctly for the title.

Second place, and the elementary-school champion title went to sixth-grader at Academy of Alameda, Thomas McMuldren. Third place went to Lincoln Middle School sixth-grader Chandler Lau.

Rounding out the top 10 spellers in Alameda were: Ana Bernardi, Elizabeth Tsyvinsky,

Adriana Argyriov, Katie Angstadt-Leto, Richie Do, Ryan Lacuzong and Oscar Krings.

These 10 students will represent Alameda at the Alameda County Spelling Bee set for Tuesday, March 14, in Castro Valley. The Alameda Elks Lodge sponsored their entry fees as part of their prizes. In case of a cancellation Chloe Phan, who finished in 11th place, was named first alternate.

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