

Vol. 15 No. 29  
April 14, 2016

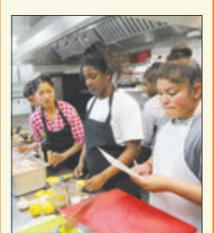
**INSIDE**

**HOMETOWN**

**Fire Wire**  
page 2  
**Police Blotter**  
page 3



All the doings of Island safety & law personnel



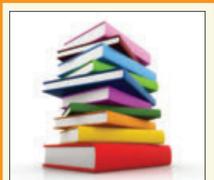
**HOMETOWN NEWS**

**Outreach tour** Page 4  
Alameda Point Collaborative hosts public at recent event.



**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**And Sudoku** Page 7  
Sharpen your pencils for that newspaper tradition.



**LOCAL HAPPENINGS**

**Events Calendar** Page 8  
Friends of Library book sale on tap along with other fun.



**SPORTS**

**Commuters** Page 10  
Alameda's most famous golf tournament is this weekend.

**CONTENTS**

- HOMETOWN NEWS...** 2
- OPINION** ..... 6
- PUZZLES** ..... 7
- EVENT CALENDAR...** 8
- CLASSIFIED** ..... 9
- SPORTS** ..... 10

Alameda Sun is a publication of Stellar Media Group, Inc. 3215J Encinal Ave. Alameda, CA 94501  
News: (510) 263-1470  
Ads: (510) 263-1471  
Fax: (510) 263-1473

Visit us Online at [www.AlamedaSun.com](http://www.AlamedaSun.com)  
Like or Friend us on Facebook  
Follow us on Twitter at Alameda\_Sun



**Alameda Sun Almanac**

Date	Rise	Set
Today	06:35	19:43
April 15	06:34	19:44
April 16	06:33	19:45
April 17	06:31	19:46
April 18	06:30	19:47
April 19	06:28	19:48
April 20	06:27	19:49

## Councilman Attempts to Adjust Rent Ordinance

**Ekene Ikeme**

Councilman Tony Daysog was one of three signers of a petition for a ballot measure filed with the City Clerk on March 31 that would amend the city's Rent Stabilization and Tenant Protection Ordinance.

The petition, signed by Daysog, Maria Dominguez and James Smallman, indicates that the purpose is "to limit relocation fees to extremely low-income, very low-income, low-income or moderate-income tenants, change the relocation fee formula, and exempt small 'mom and pop' landlords who reside in the City of Alameda from relocation fee requirement for specific instances when moving-in family members."

At the heart of the issue is Daysog feels small homeowners, especially those who live in Alameda, should not be penalized at the same rate as big realty corporations or landlords on relocation fees if they are evicting tenants for special circumstances.

With the current ordinance in place, an Alameda homeowner of a single-family residence who has a one-bedroom accessory unit in the backyard that has been rented to the same unrelated person for at least

four years will have to pay \$10,300 in relocation fees for "no cause" evictions. An Alameda homeowner would have to pay \$19,500 in relocation fees if the tenant of four years or more is removed from a three-bedroom occupancy for a "no cause" eviction. No cause evictions are when a tenant is evicted for any reason other than lack of paying rent in a timely matter, destruction of property, arrest or any other violation of the tenant/landlord agreement.

Under the proposed measure, renters who have lived in a unit for two or more years would receive relocation payments up to two months' rent plus \$1,500; and be limited to extremely low-income to moderate-income households. Tenants evicted by a landlord who resides in Alameda or is returning to live on the island, would be exempt from the fees if the purpose of the eviction is to replace tenants with family members or a licensed caretaker.

The Alameda Renters Coalition (ARC) takes exception to a relocation benefit exemption for "mom-and-pop" property owners who own 4,648 or 28 percent of Alameda's rental housing ("Renters Start Petition for Ballot Measure" March 31).

"An exemption for these landlords will create a large separate group of tenants deprived of benefits available to other tenants," ARC stated in the commentary. "This outcome would have the opposite effect of a tenant protection."

The city clerk's office has two weeks to approve Daysog's petition and issue a title and summary.



File photo  
**Councilman Daysog**

## Blaze Strikes House on Greenbrier

**Sun Staff Reports**

On Monday, April 11, at 9:49 p.m., 18 firefighters from the Alameda Fire Department (AFD) responded to a house fire on the 400 block of Greenbrier Road. When they arrived on scene crewmembers saw smoke coming from a single-story home. They learned that the occupants had already been evacuated.

Firefighters entered the home and discovered a back room on fire. Some crewmembers pulled pre-connected hose lines and quickly extinguished the blaze, while others used a power saw and tools on the roof to ventilate the home.

The fire was confined to a rear room, which sustained heavy damage. The home sustained minor heat and smoke damage throughout. There were no reports of injuries.

AFD investigators determined that the cause of the fire was electrical. Crews from Alameda Municipal Power and Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E) also responded to the alarm. Officers from the Alameda Police Department were also on the scene.

## Housing Authority to Host Rent Workshops

**Sun Staff Reports**

The Alameda Housing Authority (AHA) is hosting a series of workshops to explain the city's new rental ordinance. The workshops will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays through the months of April and May. All workshops are free and are held in the Ruth Rambeau Community Room at Independence Plaza, 703 Atlantic Ave.

An April workshop for landlords is scheduled for 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 19. Tenant workshops in April

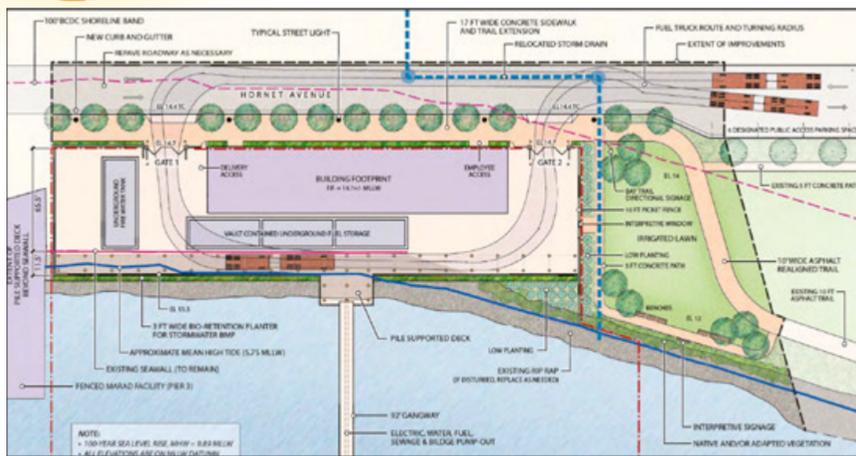


Image courtesy WETA

Builders have been chosen to execute this plan for a new ferry maintenance facility.

## Ferry Facility Can Begin Construction

**Ekene Ikeme**

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) announced two East Bay firms have been pegged to design and construct an operation and maintenance facility at Alameda Point. Overaa Construction of Richmond and Power Engineering Construction of Alameda will be tasked with building the Central Bay Operations and Maintenance Facility.

The two firms were awarded a \$54.7 million contract to construct the facility, the richest contract WETA has ever doled out since its inception in 2008. The new maintenance facility will also include an operations control center for service dispatch and an emergency response coordination.

It is uncertain at this time what role each construction agency will have in building the facility or when construction will begin.

Overaa is a fourth-generation family business that was founded in 1907. It dates back to the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. Norwegian immigrant Carl Overaa founded the firm to help rebuild San Francisco after the temblor. Overaa has experience in designing and constructing parking structures, educational facilities, water infrastructures and other facilities. Some of its past projects includes work on the Calpine Recycled Water Facility and Pier 48 in San Francisco, according to the company's website. The company is located on 200 Parr Boulevard in Richmond.

Power Engineering Construction began operating in 1986. Its expertise is in designing and constructing civil and marine projects, including marine terminals. Power Engineering worked on the Phillip 66 Oil Facilities in Richmond. Work

**Two firms were awarded a \$54.7 million contract to construct the facility, the richest contract WETA has doled out since its inception in 2008.**

on the project included upgrading and replacing the existing timber fender system, seismic upgrade of the wharf structures in the Richmond Terminal and repairing the existing concrete wharfs and pipe ways, according to Power Engineering's website.

The project was spurred after a Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance Standards performance audit. Power also worked on the Oyster Point Ferry Terminal in South San Francisco where they did steel piling, driving,

**FERRY: Page 5**

## News in Brief

**Sun Staff Reports**

**AMP Experimenting with Grid-Level Power Storage**

If California is to meet its Renewable Portfolio Standards, utilities will need an environmentally friendly, cost effective way to store renewable power and dispatch it to the grid when needed. Amber Kinetics, a vertically integrated manufacturer and project developer of grid-scale energy storage systems, recently partnered with Alameda Municipal Power (AMP) to test the viability of using flywheels for energy storage.

Amber Kinetics connected its Alameda Point Test Site with AMP's grid in February, and has now begun testing of its flywheel units.

Flywheels offer a number of advantages over chemical batteries: no chemicals or hazardous materials, unlimited cycling with no degradation and increased responsiveness. Flywheels convert electrical energy to kinetic energy when storing power and convert the energy back to electricity when needed by the grid. Amber Kinetics has demonstrated the only flywheel in the world capable of discharging for four straight hours here in Alameda.

Alameda leads the county in use of renewable energy and AMP is a carbon-neutral utility. Working with companies like Amber Kinetics will help find new ways to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance grid stability.

**Pizzeria to Benefit Skate Park**

In honor of an Alameda skateboard legend, the late Clay "C-Bone" Harding, local pizzeria Spin Pizza will host a fundraiser Thursday, April 21, to benefit the Cityview Skatepark at 1177 Red Line Ave. on Alameda Point. A portion of proceeds from food sales that day will go to improvements at the park which first opened in 1999. Spin Pizza is located at 2670 Fifth St. Find out more at #LongLiveCbone.

**Waves of Migration History Talk on Tap**

Local historians, and publishers of this newspaper, Dennis Evanovsky and Eric J. Kos will discuss 12 waves of immigration that brought various

groups to Alameda's shores in a brand-new talk "Waves of Migration — How did you get here?" tonight, Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m.

Participants will have a chance to learn about rich local history that will provide context for the Island City Waterways public art performance coming up the weekend of May 21 and 22. Attendees will be invited to record their own story of "How did you get here?" an online portal of the Bay Area's diverse voices of migration. Find out more and purchase tickets online at [www.rhythmix.org](http://www.rhythmix.org).

## Project Tree Seeded

**Eric J. Kos**

A longtime dream of mine is coming true this year. The *Alameda Sun* has funded a tree-planting effort here in Alameda. In today's era of climate responsibility and such, it seems well past time for the newspaper industry to start giving back some of the trees we've been using to these few centuries. So for all the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journals* and *San Francisco Chronicles* out there, the *Sun* took one for the team. We forked over a \$1,000 donation to the Alameda Backyard Growers (ABG) last month to fund a tree-planting effort hereby dubbed "Project Tree."

In a strange twist of name-sakes, I was introduced to the ideal partner in this effort, Marla Koss, a deeply experienced fruit tree steward who couldn't have been a better leader on the ABG side of things. And so the team of Koss and Kos ironed out some of the details and envisioned the project. A committee of Growers has since taken the lead, structuring an application process, setting up administrative details and ensuring they could devote the time and energy needed to get these trees the start they need.

I suggested they stick to native species, drought-resistant trees, carbon dioxide vacuums, pollinator

**PROJECT: Page 7**



Robin Seeley

The students of the Culinary Academy of Post Street reflected on the planet's wild creatures just in time for Earth Day.

## Cooking School on Safari

**Robin Seeley**

The eighth session of the Culinary Academy of Post Street (CAPS) focused on a distant continent in distress: Africa. Most people have heard about the Minneapolis dentist who senselessly slaughtered Cecil, the rare black-maned lion. But Cecil was not the only rare animal on the savannah: many African species have drastically diminishing populations. Some are even completely extinct in the wild, with a few lone survivors still on display in zoos.

To hit this point home, CAPS pursued big game on a more modest scale. Each student chef adopted the persona of a favorite feral creature. They got to choose among the lion, giraffe, gorilla, elephant and rhinoceros. Thanks to some really cool cookie cutters, they then constructed 3-D animal buddies out of dough. The com-

pleted creatures got gussied up in frosting, candy sprinkles, and goofy eyes. Their fancy appearance stood in stark contrast to the grim reality of their endangered status.

But we leavened the lecture about their impending doom: Leila, Roan, Enzo and Julian would get the chance to render their own exotic treats extinct, as well. Of course, it was understood that these are the only African wildlife that it's OK to dismember and consume.

By the end of class, the kids all appreciated that these beautiful creatures do not exist merely for our viewing pleasure in zoos. Their native habitats are disappearing, trophy hunters kill them for sport and ego gratification, and even well-meaning tourists trample their turf in jeeps and buses.

So, after gleefully consuming edible effigies of endangered fauna, we wanted to atone for the misdeeds

### To the East End & Beyond

of our own predatory species. The internet provided the perfect solution: World Wildlife Fund, aka WWF. It lets you "symbolically" adopt an endangered animal in Africa. CAPS students chose one of the species at greatest risk of extinction, the white rhino. For the record, that's rhino with an "h," not a swipe at a certain Republican candidate.

Now we're eagerly awaiting our official adoption certificate, stuffed rhinoceros toy, adoptee photo and other goodies sent in acknowledgement of our support. If you would like to do the same, check out this link: <https://gifts.worldwildlife.org/gift-center/gifts/Species-Adoptions.aspx>.

Robin Seeley is the Director-in-Residence at the Culinary Academy of Post Street.