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All the doings of Island safety & law personnel



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A bevy of Realtors help clean the bay for Earth Day.

7	1	6	3
4	8	2	5
6	9	8	1
3	2	7	4
1	5	4	9
2	7	3	8

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Sharpen your pencils for that newspaper tradition!



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Among this week's events is a local garden tour.



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Exemplary young citizens receive praise at ceremony.

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Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	6:13	19:59
May 3	6:12	20:00
May 4	6:11	20:01
May 5	6:10	20:02
May 6	6:09	20:03
May 7	6:08	20:04
May 8	6:06	20:05

Firefighters Promoted

AFD sees four advance to captain

Sun Staff Reports

Last month, Fire Chief Edmond A. Rodriguez announced five promotional appointments. Three Firefighters were promoted to Captain, including Khader (George) Nijmeh, Alex Barbour, and Phillip Fernandez; Apparatus Operator Robert Caruthers was promoted to Captain; and Firefighter Michael Navarro was promoted to apparatus operator.

Captain Nijmeh

Nijmeh started his career with the Salinas Fire Department in 2005 and joined Alameda Fire Department in 2010 as a Firefighter (Paramedic). Nijmeh serves as a rescue boat oper-

ator, technical rescue team member, tactical medic program manager with Alameda Police Department, fire investigator, rescue task force program manager, Certified Information Security Management team member, peer fitness trainer and Local 689 C Shift vice president.

Captain Barbour

Barbour started his career with the Alameda Fire Department in 2013 and serves on the wildland program, water rescue and confined space teams, and as a Local 689 executive board member. Barbour teaches Building Construction and Fire Control 3 for the recruit firefighter academy and is a Community Emergency Response Team instructor.

Captain Fernandez

Fernandez started his career with the Alameda Fire Department in 2008

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Courtesy AFD
 Chief Edmond Rodriguez (right) congratulates newly appointed apparatus operator, Michael Navarro.

Alamedan Spreads Some 'Aloha'

Larry Freeman

What does one do upon discovering a wallet stuffed with cash, credit cards, identification and more? Then imagine discovering this wallet on Paia Beach on Maui, Hawaii, just three days before Easter. Alameda hairstylist Sarah Hobbs faced just such a difficult choice recently.

Two days earlier, a tourist from Canada slept on the beach and used her purse as a pillow. She woke as a massive wave crashed over her, and she could only watch the ocean sweep her valuables out to sea. Her purse, passport and wallet had just been claimed by the vast, blue Pacific. She had no choice but to somehow talk her way onto a plane, through customs and get back home that day.

On a neighboring beach the next day, a passerby found the purse, coughed up with just the passport inside. The passerby managed to contact the purse's owner.

In another stroke of happenstance or something more, Sarah, with husband Devin, strolled along Paia Beach the following day, and though "everything was sandy," she spotted a brown, leather rectangle lying on the beach.

She picked it up and unzipped the newfound prize — perhaps an early Easter present — and discovered the package flush with green bills and other possible valuables.

She inhaled and faced a moment of truth. "Oh my gosh. No way. What do I do?" she asked out loud.

Should she take the money, throw the wallet in the trash and be done with it or answer the question: "Do I try to find her?"

"Find her, no doubt about it," said Devin.

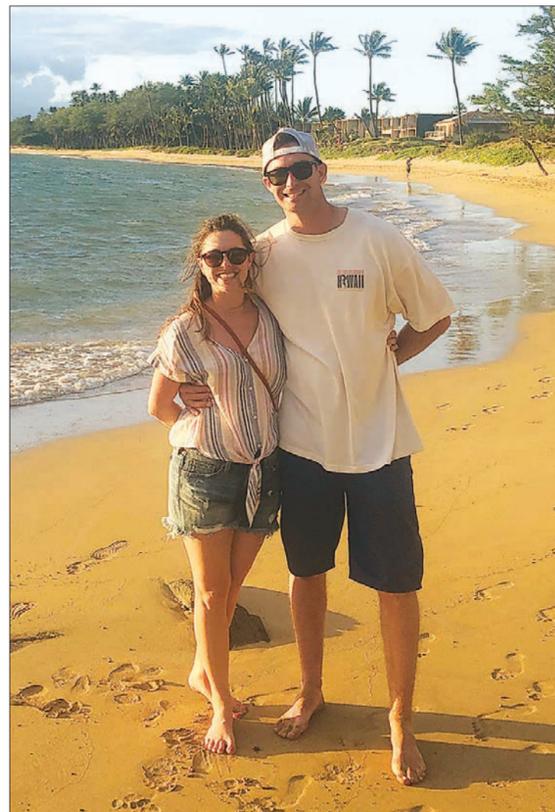
Hobbs searched social media and learned that the woman who owned the wallet was a British Columbia college student and contacted the school.

"Deep down, I knew I would not want that to happen to me," she said and then took the next step to right things. Searching deeper in the wallet she found a business card with the woman's name and a contact number. She reached the woman who lost it all and suddenly will get all of it back.

The two spoke, marveling at this mystery of misfortune and redemption. Sarah took care to ship the contents back after she determined that "she is a good, honest person."

The woman told her to keep the cash and "take it as a thank you." Sarah mused that it was "amazing that neither the wallet nor the purse were at the bottom of the ocean. It was surreal that it was still there, and this was so easy to do." After a moment of reflection, the Island City resident said, "There is a spiritual energy in Hawaiian culture, 'mana.' I wanted to spread that and the spirit of the Islands."

Larry Freeman lives in Alameda. He teaches U.S. History at Acalanes High School.



Sarah and Devin Hobbs on a beach in Maui just before Easter and Sarah's discovery of the "Aloha Waller"



Several Encinal High School students and teachers toured the inside of the C-SPAN bus April 24. The bus visited Alameda during its ongoing tour of America's schools.

C-SPAN Bus Drops by Encinal High

Photo & story by Eric J. Kos

The students of Encinal High School had the chance to tour C-SPAN's award-winning state-of-the-art, 45-foot customized bus Wednesday, April 24, after school. The cable news organization has been touring the nation, visiting schools and performing interviews in all 50 states. That's right, even Hawaii, which the bus reached with some help from a giant barge.

The bus most recently visited schools in San Ramon, Oakland, Palo Alto, and was headed next to Sacramento. Since 1993, a C-SPAN Bus has traveled across the nation in partnership with C-SPAN's cable and satellite providers for local interactions through visits to schools and community events.

The students and few adults who visited the bus engaged with the crew and the onboard interactive tools to learn about the unique public service television network, C-SPAN's online presence and C-SPAN classroom's comprehensive

educational resources. The bus visitors learned about C-SPAN's unique non-commercial, editorially balanced, non-biased coverage of public affairs and political events and the cable industry's commitment to funding its operations.

Both sides of the bus are lined with interactive panels loaded with software designed to inform the public, including several quizzes on political topics. I scored a 7 out of 10 on my "Presidents" quiz, while one of the students scored 10 out of 10 on two consecutive quizzes, earning himself some C-SPAN schwag.

The hostess for the tour, C-SPAN's Jenae Green, 27, shared that her parents reminded her that she had been born in former Navy housing in Alameda, and lived in town until age 4. Green helped everyone get the most out of their experiences, including having one student pose as a television newscaster reporting from the fully equipped studio inside the bus.

C-SPAN, a public affairs network

4th Parade Volunteers Needed

Sun Staff Reports

The Alameda Fourth of July Parade needs volunteers to augment the professional security team hired by the city to staff blocked intersections along the parade route.

Volunteers must be 18 or older, available to staff an intersection from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 4, and able to move a light-

weight barricade. Volunteers will also need to attend one of the orientations with the Alameda Police Department in late May or early June.

If interested in volunteering send an email to alameda4thofjulyparade.aa@gmail.com. Please respond no later than Monday, May 13. Volunteers will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

City News Briefs

Sun Staff Reports

Community Open House on Rent Stabilization

The City of Alameda invites the public to attend an open house tonight, Thursday, May 2, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to provide input on city policies and proposed changes to the Rent Stabilization Ordinance. Community members will review the existing law, potential changes to it and provide input.

Anyone interested in Alameda's Rent Stabilization program may drop in at any time. All ideas are welcome, admission is free.

The open house will take place at City Hall West, 950 West Mall Square, Room 201, at Alameda Point. This is the first of several opportunities for the public to provide input on the city's next steps with potential changes to the City's Rent Stabilization program regulations.

For more information, contact Sarah Henry at 747-4714 or shenry@alamedaca.gov.

Fair Housing Training Sessions Set

The City of Alameda has prepared a series of workshops for landlords and tenants. These workshops will discuss: advertising guidelines; renting to families with children; who is protected under the law; what laws govern housing and discrimination; reasonable accommodations and

modifications for tenants with disabilities and more.

The three workshops will take place on Tuesdays: May 21 at 6 p.m., May 28 at 2 p.m. and June 11 at 6 p.m. at the Independence Plaza Community Room, 703 Atlantic Ave.

Registration is required online at www.alamedarentprogram.org/workshops. For more information, contact the Rent Stabilization Program at 747-4346 or rrac@alamedahsg.org.

City Seeking Proposals for Cannabis Businesses

The City of Alameda will consider a limited number of cannabis retail dispensary permits through its first request for proposals (RFP) process. The process may result in selected applicants securing eligibility to apply for a retail dispensary cannabis business operator's permits with a condition of mandatory delivery.

Interested parties must submit a letter of intent to submit an RFP by Monday, May 13, at 4 p.m. Proposals are then due Monday, June 10, by 4 p.m. The city reserves the right to alter this schedule as necessary.

To read the RFP, visit www.alamedaca.gov/business/bid-on-city-contracts.

City Committees Have Several Vacancies

The City of Alameda announced last week several vacancies on

Mattress Recycling Center Open

Sun Staff Reports

Two organizations have teamed up to provide a permanent mattress recycling and combat mattress dumping. The Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress Program and Habitat for Humanity ReStores have established a permanent mattress drop-off location at the ReStore in Oakland. A ribbon cutting was held last Thursday, April 25.

Foam, steel, wood, cotton and other fibers from old mattresses can be recycled and turned into everyday products such as appliances, carpet padding, mulch and more. Up to 80 percent of an old mattress can be recycled.

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important city commissions need to be filled. The City Council is soliciting applications from residents who would like to serve.

The Civil Service Board has two vacancies. The board meets quarterly on the first Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. in City Hall. The board ensures competent and efficient personnel practices, impartial and competitive examinations, fitness- and merit-based appointments and fair discipline.

The Commission on Disability has three vacancies. The commission meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday every other month in City Hall. The Commission was formed to provide information and make recommendations regarding disability issues to the City Council and to receive information regarding the disabled from the community at large.

The Housing Authority Board of Commissioners has one vacancy. This Board is the governing body of the Housing Authority. It establishes policies and advises on the programs for the development of assisted housing and the maintenance, modernization and revitalization of existing facilities. The Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Independence Plaza.

The Library Board has one vacancy. This board meets the second Wednesday of odd months, at 6 p.m. in Conference Room 224 of

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