

Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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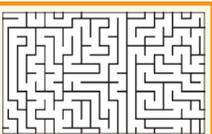
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Alameda Sun Almanac

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Today	05:47	20:29
June 09	05:47	20:30
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City Workshop Eyes Immigrant Rights

Maryam Nasirova

In a time of political unrest and sanctuary uncertainty, the City hosted a Know Your Rights workshop on May 31 at Ruby Bridges Elementary School. The gathering served as an informative, albeit brief, respite for anxious immigrant families and concerned neighbors who showed up to get some answers.

Jim Franz, the Community Development and Resiliency Coordinator, organized the workshop. Mayor Trish Herrera Spencer addressed the audience. As a Latina, Spencer said that she stands in solidarity with the Hispanic community and those in fear of deportation.

"It's critical that the actions that we take reach as many people as possible. That means working with our school district because all our families connect through our schools," she said. She acknowledged the attorneys who came to the workshop, applauding them for all the important work they do for the city.

Spencer asked the children in the room to stand and reminded them that they are important and they are the reason for this fight for justice. In January, the Alameda school district passed the Safe Haven Resolution, which prevents authorities from having the power to take away anyone on school grounds without an official warrant.

In addition, the City passed the Sanctuary City Resolution, which reaffirms a former pledge to respect all residents regardless of their ethnicity, nationality, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or immigration status.

"In a basic way, I will tell you that nobody from the police department is interested in anyone's immigration status unless they have committed a serious crime," said Alameda Police Department (APD) Chief Paul Roller. He explained that minor offenses such as jaywalking or running a red light do not constitute a good reason to inquire about

I will tell you that nobody from the police department is interested in anyone's immigration status unless they have committed a serious crime.

APD Chief Paul Roller

someone's immigration status. "The police department has had a policy since probably 2009, regarding immigration contacts and immigration violations," he said.

Despite speculation, Chief Roller explained that his department did not terminate its relationship with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Roller explained that he wants to have ICE available if a serious crime is committed, such as a homicide or sexual assault.

Sara McPherson from the International Institute of the Bay Area also addressed the audience. She explained that her organization is a 99-year-old non-profit. Its eight offices provide low-cost and free legal services to immigrants around the Bay Area.

McPherson reminded the immigrants in the audience that they had rights that they can use to their advantage. She encourage immigrant families to create a plan in case they are separated unexpectedly by ICE. She told them that they never have to open the door for ICE if its officers come to their homes without an official warrant. McPherson provided a list of legal services organizations.

Daniel from *Causa Justa* provided the audience with an emergency hotline — 241-4011 — to call if ICE detains them or anyone they know or if they suspect ICE activity in their neighborhoods.

County Fair Tickets Available

Sun Staff Reports

Just like the swallows return to Capistrano each year, Director Emeritus "Lil" Arnerich will return to the City hall parking Lot to distribute discounted fair tickets this Saturday June 10 from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m.

Each discounted ticket allows admission for two persons with only one person paying the \$15 admission fee!

This will be the 15th consecutive year that Arnerich has distributed tickets and other information detailing hours of operation, events at the Amphitheater, and other special days for veterans, seniors, horse racing and children.

The Alameda County Fair has received the honors of conducting one of the top 50 fairs in the United States and Canada.



The best in show sand castle at last year's contest featured a moat and greenery. A crowd gathered to cheer on the winners as they received their prize.

Play in Sand this Saturday

Avalon Cassard

For the 51st consecutive year, Alameda will hold its annual Sand Castle/Sculpture Contest. Don't miss your chance to witness the impressive skills of Alameda and Bay Area sand artists on Saturday, June 10 at Robert Crown Memorial State Beach.

Young and old are invited to bring their sand shovels, pails and children, and let their imaginations flow. The program is free and begins with registration at the Crab Cove Visitor Center, 1231 McKay

Ave., at 9 am. Building and sculpting start at 9 and continue for three hours. This gives competitors ample time to build, mold, scrape, moisten and mound their creative fantasies. Judging begins at noon.

Participants compete in three categories: ages 12 and under; ages 13 and over and family. Each sand castle or sculpture creation is judged for the following attributes: design is worth 30 points; detail is worth 30 points; neatness is worth 20 points; and technique is worth 20 points.



Photos by Dennis Evanosky

A vigil on May 31 at Park Street and Webb Avenue recalled the Memorial Day accident that took the lives of Briana Ortega and Simon Sotelo: (left) A young woman mourns at the candles placed on Webb Avenue, where the truck carrying Ortega and Sotelo came to rest; (right) A Native American family friend cleanses Briana Ortega's mother, Monica Christman, with a ceremony known as smudging.

Families, Friends Gather on Park Street to Honor Accident Victims

Dennis Evanosky

Briana Ortega and Simon Sotelo's families and friends held a candlelight vigil on Wednesday, May 31, at the scene of the accident that took Ortega and Sotelo's lives ("Rollover Accident Mars Memorial Day," June 1).

Ortega was 17 years old and a senior at Decoto School for Independent Study in Union City.

Sotelo, was a passenger in the truck with Ortega. He was also 17; he attended James Logan High School, also in Union City.

Ortega and Silva were killed when the truck they were riding in clipped a minivan at Lincoln Avenue. The impact caused the truck to careen out of control. Witnesses said the truck rolled over several times and

came to a rest at Webb Avenue, the site of the vigil.

The accident crushed the roof of the truck. Firefighters had to cut the roof off the truck with the Jaws of Life. Ortega was pronounced dead at the scene. Sotelo passed away at Highland Hospital. Five other passengers in the truck and the minivan driver remain hospitalized.

Coast Guard Hosts Annual Valor Games

Van Le

The fifth annual Valor Games took place Friday, June 2, to Monday, June 5 on Coast Guard Island.

For the last four years Coast Guard Island has hosted the event. The event brings together disabled veterans and active service duty members to engage in the three days of Paralympic sport competitions.

The environment was spirited with supportive cheers and gracious displays of sportsmanship, perseverance and patriotism. Special appearances from Medal of Honor Recipient James A. Taylor and Paralympic Bronze Medalist Angela Madsen to former 49er's Super Bowl Champion Dennis Brown and some of the original Rosie the Riveters made the event even more notable.

The shared gratitude for community awareness of Veteran Affairs resonated clearly. Angela Madsen,

who also holds eight Guinness World Records and is decorated as being the first of two women to row across the Indian Ocean, attributes adapted sports to being a prominent part of her recovery process. While the competitions were taking place, sports clinics were in session and demonstrations were held for veterans and event spectators in various adapted sports such as wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis, badminton and boccia. This year, Madsen participated as a field coach and was tasked with mentoring athletes in the shot put event along with other field competitions.

Victor Backer, part of the team that organized the event, was taken aback by the exploits of athletes in the archery event. "We had a blind archer and another participant without arms and legs who just shoots with his mouth," said Backer. "Both got bullseyes all the time."

This year 78 male and 32 female athletes competed in the games. The opening ceremony was held on Friday. Saturday's competitions included powerlifting, archery and rowing. On Sunday the athletes

★ VALOR: Page 10



Petty Officer Third Class David Flores

This disabled veteran-athlete and her canine companion enjoyed the Valor Games on Coast Guard Island last weekend.

News in Brief

Sun Staff Reports

Overcrossing opens

Caltrans announced that the 29th Avenue overcrossing opened for traffic on Wednesday, May 31.

This overcrossing connects Ford Street with East 10th Avenue in Oakland. The newly renovated byway carries traffic coming off the Park Street Bridge to Oakland. The overcrossing is equipped with pedestrian and bicycle lanes.

Northern Waterfront by bike

Join a free bike tour of Alameda's northern waterfront. Get a behind the fences look at long-inaccessible waterfront sites slated for development. Hear what is proposed and discuss planned and potential bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure.

The ride includes a short presentation by each developer at the Encinal Terminals, Shipways and the Alameda Landing Waterfront development sites.

All ages are encouraged for this slow bike tour, but be aware that there many uneven portions, including railroad tracks.

Meet at Entrance Road and Clement Avenue, 9:30 a.m., Sunday, June 11 (or alternatively at 10:30 a.m. at Shipways 3, 1150 Marina Village Parkway).

Hornet joins Smithsonian

The USS Hornet Museum recently joined the Smithsonian Affiliations, network of some 200 museums nationwide.

The Smithsonian Affiliation Director Harold A. Closter, cited the *Hornet's* remarkable role in American history, particularly the CV-8's role in World War II and the CV-12's participation in the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 missions.

Smithsonian Affiliations is a division of the Smithsonian Institution develops partnerships with museums to provide greater access to collections and resources.

"Our selection to this program is a continuation of the Museum's ever expanding mission of connecting our Nation's 'Greatest Generation' with future generations and preserving the history and legacy of this national and state historical landmark," said *Hornet* executive director Jill Knowland.