



## INSIDE



### HOMETOWN NEWS

Fire Wire Page 2

Police Blotter Page 9

All the doings of Island safety & law personnel



### ISLAND CITY HISTORY

Train Anniversary Page 3

150 years exactly since the transcontinental train arrived.

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

### THE PUZZLES PAGE

Sudoku & more Page 4

Sharpen your pencils for that newspaper tradition!



### HOMETOWN NEWS

Special Day Page 4

Kiwanis Club of Alameda helps kids with special needs.



### WEST END NEWS

2nd Friday Fun Page 11

Halloween themes come out for monthly art walk.

## CONTENTS

HOMETOWN NEWS... 2

THE CITY PAGE... 3

PUZZLES & KIDS... 4

SPORTS... 5

OPINION... 6

CLASSIFIED... 7

LOCAL HAPPENINGS... 8

POLICE BLOTTER... 9

Alameda Sun is a publication of Stellar Media Group, Inc. 3215J Encinal Ave. Alameda, CA 94501

Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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	6:42	19:34
Sept. 6	6:43	19:33
Sept. 7	6:44	19:31
Sept. 8	6:44	19:30
Sept. 9	6:45	19:28
Sept. 10	6:46	19:27
Sept. 11	6:47	19:25

## USCG Seaman Arrested, Charged with Murder

Dennis Evanosky

The Coast Guard arrested 19-year-old Michigan native Coast Guard Seaman Ethan Tucker at Coast Guard Island on Wednesday, Aug. 28. Tucker stands charged with the Jan. 26 murder of his shipmate Seaman Ethan Kelch. Both were serving aboard *Coast Guard Cutter Douglas Munro* near Dutch Harbor, Ak., when the alleged murder occurred. The pair were on liberty.

According to the Coast Guard, Tucker strangled and struck his victim on the head with enough force to cause severe injury. Tucker then placed the incapacitated Kelch in the water and left him to die.

When Kelch did not return from liberty, the Coast Guard initiated a search. A search party discovered Kelch unresponsive

on Amaknak Island, 2 miles north of Dutch Harbor.

The Coast Guard reassigned Tucker to Alameda during the investigation. After his arrest, authorities transported Tucker to the Naval Consolidated Brig Miramar near San Diego. The suspect now awaits an Article 32 hearing — a preliminary hearing — which will determine whether he would face a court martial. If he faces a court-martial and stands convicted of murder, Tucker faces life in prison, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a dishonorable discharge.

According to the Kelch family, their son "joined the Coast Guard because he had an overwhelming desire to save lives."

"Our sympathy goes out to the families of both the accused and the victim," the Coast Guard stated.



City of Alameda

## Point Ferry Terminal Event Next Thursday

Sun Staff Reports

The City of Alameda, the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) and Alameda Point Partners have announced that the groundbreaking of the Seaplane Lagoon Ferry Terminal at Alameda Point will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., next Thursday, Sept. 12. The partners will break ground on the shores of the lagoon at West Oriskany Avenue and Ferry Point.

The city considers the new ferry terminal a key feature of "The Point," Alameda Point Partners' 68-acre transit-oriented waterfront development. In addition the terminal will serve as an important part of the city's strategy for expanding transit infrastructure and transportation options in Alameda. The terminal is a critical addition to WETA's fleet. If all goes as planned, ferry service would begin in early 2020.

## Feds Indict Alamedan

Sun Staff Reports

On Thursday, Aug. 29, the United States Attorney's office and U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor Management Standards, announced that a federal grand jury handed down a felony indictment charging Alameda resident Kenneth Morris with five counts of bank fraud and three counts of theft of union assets.

According to the indictment filed Thursday, Aug. 22, and unsealed the next day, Morris worked as the treasurer of the American Federation of Teachers Local 2240. The union represents teachers, counselors and librarians who work for the Catholic Diocese of San Jose and the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco.

As treasurer, Morris received the union's dues checks. The indictment alleges that — instead of depositing the checks into the union's bank account — Morris endorsed the checks and deposited them into his personal bank account. The indictment describes five such deposits, each between

\$1,000 and \$4,000 that Morris allegedly made between Sept. 10 and Dec. 10, 2018.

The indictment also charges Morris with stealing union property on three additional occasions between Nov. 13, 2017, and Jan. 12, 2018. According to the indictment, the combined value of the additional property stolen amounts to \$18,720.75.

Morris made his initial federal court appearance last Thursday, Aug. 29, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Elizabeth Laporte. He was arraigned, pleaded not guilty and was released on bond. Morris' next appearance — a status conference before Senior U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer — is scheduled for Sept. 18.

An indictment merely alleges that crimes have been committed; Morris is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. If convicted, he faces maximum terms of 30 years in prison for each of the five bank fraud counts and 5 years for each of the 3 counts of theft of union assets.

## City Invites Property Owners to Pay 'Fee'

Sun Staff Reports

Property owners in Alameda have already received a letter from the city inviting them to attend a public hearing on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Renters in the Island City may not consider this meeting very "public," however. The city has not included them in the discussions. The city is bypassing the renters by charging the property owners a fee, rather than a tax.

The meeting concerns the city adding a \$78 "fee" to the money it already collects from property own-

ers in the form of fees and property taxes. Alameda needs the money to cover what it describes as "water quality and flood protection."

Property owners who oppose this new fee must submit written objections to the City Clerk. If a majority of the property owners have not objected, the City Council would then authorize the City Council to ask for a "public" vote.

Because the city is charging a fee, rather than a tax, state law allows it to include only property owners, who would vote by mail.

The money from the new fee would pay for maintaining storm drains and sweeping streets yet leave \$1.2 million available for capital improvements. This money tops off a \$56 urban runoff fee that the property owners already pay.

## City Attorney Seeks to Appoint Prosecutor

Sun Staff Reports

At last Tuesday's meeting, the City Council considered adding a "prosecution unit" to City Attorney Yibin Shen's office. Council's approval would allow Shen to hire an assistant city attorney to work as city prosecutor and a paralegal to act as an investigator.

The new prosecutor would have the authority to "prosecute all violations of city ordinances." In addition Council's approval would upgrade an administrative services coordinator position to management analyst to help sort through the complexities of this new unit.

Shen's office is asking the Council to authorize him to work directly with the Alameda County Superior Court and District Attorney office to help implement

the new program. This authorization would require the city to amend its Charter. As it stands, the City Charter limits the City Attorney to enforcing city ordinances and requires Shen to seek the consent of the District Attorney's office before filing any case containing state law charges.

With the addition of these two new positions, Shen's office would have 11 full-time staff, including seven full-time attorneys, three paralegals and the management analyst. The staff report estimates the annual cost for the recommended changes at \$403,000. With Council approval, Shen would fill the two new positions and upgrade the third between October and next February.

Contact Sun staff at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).



An expo of CBD-infused product purveyors took part in a one-day expo Aug. 24 at the Alameda Natural Grocery. These products that use the non-psychoactive component of hemp have been proliferating nationwide.

## CBD Comes to Alameda

Photo & story by Fred Gardner

A dispensary has yet to open in the Island City, but commerce in cannabis products was in full swing Saturday, Aug. 24, when Alameda Natural Grocery hosted an event promoting supplements containing CBD (cannabidiol). This non-psychoactive component of cannabis has some proven health benefits. Representatives of 16 manufacturers answered questions and offered samples of salves, tinctures, edibles and drinks — all are available at the Alameda Marketplace at Park Street and Buena Vista Avenue.

The banner proclaiming the event — "Hemp Hemp Hooray" — signaled CBD's out-of-the-closet legality. Although cannabis remains illegal under federal law, Congress in 2018 defined "hemp" to mean cannabis plants or products containing less than

**The banner proclaiming "Hemp Hemp Hooray" signaled CBD's out-of-the-closet legality.**

0.3 percent of THC (the plant's psychoactive component).

CBD first came to widespread public attention in 2013 when Dr. Sanjay Gupta documented its dramatic anti-seizure effects on CNN with footage of 2-year-old Charlotte Figi and interviews with her parents.

Figi's mother formed a support group for families of epileptic children, many of whom couldn't get medical marijuana in their home states and moved to Colorado. The cultivators who provided Figi's CBD-rich tincture, the Stanley brothers,

expanded operations to meet swelling demand, not just as a treatment for seizure disorders, but from people who found that CBD had anti-inflammatory and other beneficial effects.

The Stanleys (seven brothers, whose names all start with J) have built a leading brand with help from the state of Colorado, which legalized cultivation of hemp in 2014, well ahead of the federal government. At the Alameda Natural Grocery event the "Charlotte's Web" line included two products for dogs and three flavors of CBD-infused gummy bears. Thus the medical marijuana movement began the over-the-counter hemp CBD boom.

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration has granted approval to a 99 percent CBD cannabis extract called Epidiolex to treat

## Education Foundation Helps Launch Successful School Year

Sun Staff Reports

The Alameda Education Foundation (AEF) ran its eighth annual school supply drive, Equipped 4 Success, this summer. The school supply drive helped deliver 750 filled backpacks to AEF partner agencies for distribution to their students.

With help from Alameda residents, AEF was also able to provide teachers and schools with \$8,750 in additional backpacks and supplies for their classrooms and students. In all, the organization generated \$46,150 in cash and in-kind donations this year to support low-income students and Alameda public schools.

The drive was held between July 12 and Aug. 2. Alameda residents were asked to donate money or drop off items such as backpacks,

binders, glue sticks and more to help Alameda students with the new school year. A \$100 donation could buy 10 backpacks.

AEF designed the school drive to help homeless, formerly homeless and low-income Kindergarten through 12th-grade students with the materials they need to be ready to learn on the first day of school.

For more information on Equipped 4 Success, visit [www.alamedaeducation.org](http://www.alamedaeducation.org).



Courtesy photo

These two Alameda youngsters seem pleased with the donations they received from AEF.