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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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Alameda Sun Almanac

Date Rise Set

Today 7:19 18:31

Oct. 18 7:20 18:29

Oct. 19 7:21 18:28

Oct. 20 7:22 18:26

Oct. 21 7:23 18:25

Oct. 22 7:24 18:24

Oct. 23 7:25 18:23

## AUSD HQ Rededicated

Dennis Evanosky

Last Friday, the Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) celebrated the memory of the late Niel Tam by naming the district office for him. The office at 2060 Challenger Drive now bears the name "Niel Tam Education Center."

Tam, a native of Chicago, Ill., passed away on May 24, 2015. He had worked for AUSD for more than 30 years. He is especially remembered for his devotion to children with special needs. He gave the city much of his time outside the classroom, volunteering at Girls, Inc. Alameda Point Collaborative, the Alameda Food Bank, the Alameda Multicultural Community Center and Alameda Family Services.

Tam was the youngest of four boys in a family of Chinese immigrants who settled first in Chicago and later moved to San Francisco.

He lost his father when he was just 5 years old. He attended San Francisco State University, where he earned two master's degrees, one in special education, the other in school administration. He came to Alameda as a student teacher, and never left.

Tam taught special education in the Island's schools and spent 11 years of his as an administrator, first as an assistant principal at Will C. Wood Middle School, then as a principal at the now-shuttered George P. Miller Elementary School. He also served for two years as principal of the former Washington Elementary School (now Maya Lin School) and stepped in to assist with the 2006 opening of Ruby Bridges Elementary School.

After he retired from teaching Tam ran for won election to a seat

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Dennis Evanosky

Left to right: Jain Thapa, Congressional aide to Rep. Barbara Lee meets with Chase and Celeste Martin of Alameda, Shaun Sati of Oakland, Randy Post of Alameda, Mirela Stanke of Oakland and Antoine Martin of Alameda to receive a petition designed to re-energize the Endangered Species Act.

## Locals Move on Key Wildlife Legislation

East Bay activists deliver petition to Rep. Lee in Alameda

### Sun Staff Reports

Last Thursday, Oct. 10, activists wearing endangered species masks and carrying colorful signs delivered 500,000 petition signatures supporting the Endangered Species Act to Rep. Barbara Lee's staff during her congressional office hours at the Alameda Public Library. They include thousands of signatures collected in the Bay Area.

The delivery is part of the Center for Biological Diversity's (CFBD) campaign to present petitions to more than 70 in-district congressional offices in 25 different states. Activists will call on Rep. Lee to pass H.R. 4348 — the PAW and FIN Conservation Act — to repeal new Trump administration rules that cripple the implementation of the Endangered Species Act.

In August 2019, the Trump administration finalized rollbacks to regulations implementing key provisions of the Endangered Species Act. The new rules severely weaken protections for threatened and endangered species across the country. The changes, which could lead to extinction for hundreds of animals and plants, were developed under the supervision of Interior Secretary David

Bernhardt, a former fossil fuel industry lobbyist.

Congressional Democrats introduced H.R. 4348 to repeal the Trump administration's new Endangered Species Act regulations. The bill already has more than 20 co-sponsors in the House and Senate. It was introduced by House Natural Resources Chairman Raúl Grijalva of Arizona and Senate Interior Appropriations Ranking Member Tom Udall of New Mexico.

As of Monday, Lee's office confirmed with CFBD staff that she is also a sponsor of HR 4348.

CFBD is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.6 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

"Over the past four decades, the Endangered Species Act has become the single-most-important law for saving thousands of animals and plants from extinction. It's the reason the world still contains grizzly bears, wolves, sea turtles and bald eagles," CFBD stated in its press release. "It's the reason we still have hope that polar bears won't be lost to climate change. We are calling on Congress to save the Endangered Species Act."

According to a CFBD flyer that solicited the petition signatures, that under the Trump administration's changes to the Act:

- "Threatened" wildlife will no longer receive any level of protection;

- The financial costs of safeguarding endangered species will now be considered;

- Developers will be allowed to bulldoze, mine, drill and log in crucial habitat; and

- Wildlife awaiting help could face even longer, life-threatening delays.

The Endangered Species Act is the world's most successful law aimed at saving animals and plants from extinction. More than 1,700 species receive its protection — 99 percent have been spared extinction.

A 2013 national poll commissioned by CFBD found that two out of three Americans want the Endangered Species Act strengthened or unchanged, not weakened. More recent polls show even greater support, with nine out of 10 people polled supporting a strong Endangered Species Act.

Learn more at [www.biodiv.us/savetheact](http://www.biodiv.us/savetheact).



Dennis Evanosky

Artist Janet Murphy has created a calendar that features Justa Sketch and her companion Inky Doodle, below.

## Alamedan Publishes Unique 2020 Calendar

Dennis Evanosky

Artist Janet Murphy has lived almost all her life in Alameda. Murphy recalls her father making up silly names. She says that when Wienerschnitzel opened its doors on Park Street, her father came home and told her the new restaurant's name. She laughed because she thought he was making the name up. Her father once created his own cartoon character.

He made up the name "Homer Sapien." Homer never made it into print, until now. Morgan has created a 2020 calendar, and the opening spread commemorates Homer and his dog.

Murphy has created a pair of delightful characters of her own, Justa Sketch and her feline com-

panion Inky Doodle. As part of the opening spread, pictured below, Justa's heart beats with love as she gazes up at Homer and his dog. Inky hangs around, as all cats do, when they want attention.

Each month features Justa and Inky doing what Murphy thinks people like to do that month. The January page shows Justa reading Daniel Mason's novel *The Winter Soldier*. Inky stretches out behind her on the chair; looks like he's reading along.

Drawing pages for a calendar is one thing, but making sure that it all comes together is another. Most people don't know, for example, that the January artwork goes on top of the November page. Or that calendar designers have to be sure that the sketch for March is in the right place — on top of the September page.

"I got lots of help," Murphy said. "I would not have been able to create this calendar without Kenn, who works at Office Max. I want to thank him for bringing it all together."

Brighten every day next year with a copy of this enchanting calendar. It's available at Books, Inc., 1344 Park St.

Contact Dennis Evanosky at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).



Janet Murphy

## News in Brief

### Sun Staff Reports

#### Kick the Sugar Habit

Seniors who feel they may be addicted to sweets are invited to attend "Is Sugar a Problem for You?" Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 1 p.m. in the Media Room at Mastick Senior Center, 1155 Santa Clara Ave. Members of HOW-Overeaters Anonymous will offer suggestions and solutions. The session is free for seniors. To register, visit the Mastick office or call 747-7506.

#### First-Ever Alameda Porchfest on East End this Weekend

In a phenomenon made popular in the city of Napa, Alameda will enjoy its first-ever Porchfest on the East End this Saturday, Oct. 19, from 3 to 6 p.m. The public is invited to come out and hear live music on various porches and other locations on the East End.

A wide variety of musicians will play at each of the locations for

tips and merchandise sales. Guests may stay at one location or visit them all.

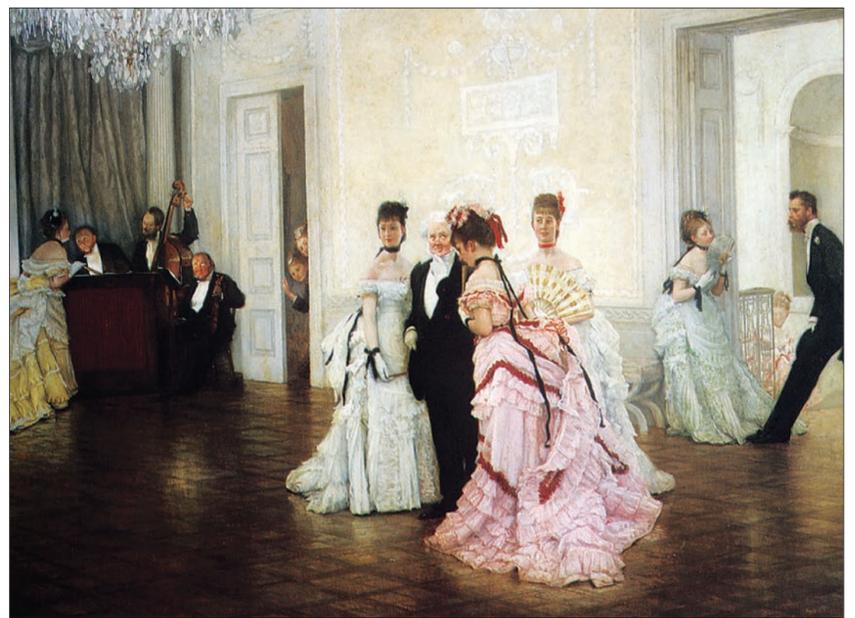
The public is encouraged to walk or bike. See details at [www.apf.neocities.org](http://www.apf.neocities.org) or on Facebook at Porchfest Alameda to learn about the musicians.

#### Hospital Health Fair on Tap

Alameda Hospital will host its 2019 health fair this Saturday, Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to noon. The event will feature free flu shots while supplies last, a bike helmet giveaway for kids 12 and younger, and a variety of health screenings, activities and exhibits for the whole family.

Alameda Hospital, other service organizations and businesses will provide information and demonstrations dedicated to the health and well-being of the community.

Alameda Hospital is located at 2070 Clinton Ave. To learn more about the health fair, call 814-4362.



Courtesy Royal Academy

The 1873 oil painting "Too Early," considered one of James Tissot's masterworks, captures that awkward moment when guests realize they've arrived before the appointed time. Tissot's work will be discussed coming up at Alameda Library.

## Docent Presents Monday

Eric J. Kos

A presentation set for Monday, Oct. 21, at 6:30 p.m. at Alameda Main Library, 1550 Oak St., will discuss an unsung French artist who, though working in the late 1800s, was not an Impressionist. James Tissot's work often gets overlooked, while the Impressionist movement drives the conversation in art history classes.

Tissot, who lived from 1836 to

1902, worked in both England and France, enjoying commercial and critical success. Approximately 60 of his works are currently on display at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco.

His work "defied both personal and professional convention," states the Legion's website. "His most ebullient society pictures reveal a rich and complex commentary on Belle Epoque culture,

religion, fashion and politics."

While his style proves hard to define, it shows elements of Aestheticism and Japonisme. In a sense his works may be considered windows into the past.

Monday's discussion is presented by the Friends of the Alameda Free Library in conjunction with the Legion of Honor. Admission is free. To learn more, visit [www.alamedafreelibrary.org](http://www.alamedafreelibrary.org).