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7	1	6	3
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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	6:40	17:05
Nov. 8	6:41	17:05
Nov. 9	6:42	17:04
Nov. 10	6:43	17:03
Nov. 11	6:44	17:02
Nov. 12	6:45	17:01
Nov. 13	6:46	17:00

## Some Insights on Island's Hometown Power Supply

**Eric J. Kos**  
 In light of recent events in the North Bay, wildfires likely sparked by electric equipment, public safety power shutdowns (PSPS) and other activities by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) spurred several Alamedans to contact the Alameda Sun with questions related to the City of Alameda's proprietary electric utility, Alameda Municipal Power (AMP), founded in 1887.

**Equipment**  
 According to AMP spokesperson Kathleen Haley, AMP has responsibility for maintaining the electric equipment in Alameda.  
 "As part of AMP's system maintenance programs, we regularly patrol our circuits to ensure overhead line clearances are adequate and meet regulatory requirements," stated Haley in an email. "Overall, AMP's electric system is maintained according to regulatory requirements, manufacturers' recommendations and prudent engineering assessment and practices."  
 AMP also employs the services of an arborist for tree maintenance and has a regular tree-trimming program in place.

**The relationship with PG&E**  
 AMP owns and operates the distribution system inside Alameda. Entities such as PG&E control the larger transmission grid, outside of AMP's jurisdiction, which is controlled by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). The electricity produced at generation sources is carried over those transmission lines to Alameda. Some portions of these transmission lines may run through high fire-threat areas and be subject to shut-offs, according to Haley.  
 If transmission lines in a specific area of Northern California are de-energized by PG&E and CAISO, "AMP has engineered its electric system to be redundant and has

developed contingency plans to 'switch' to a different set of transmission lines, thereby reducing the likelihood of rolling blackouts or power shut-offs in Alameda," stated Haley. "Should one of AMP's generation sources become impacted, AMP has the ability to obtain supplemental energy resources, which also reduces the likelihood of a power shut-off affecting Alameda."  
 Haley also explained that while power is generated on the Island, which might be helpful in supporting the grid, AMP is not able to disconnect from the wider grid and run independently as a microgrid.

**Pump power**  
 The city's storm and sewer-pumping facilities are maintained by the city's Public Works (PW) department. Some pumps have stationary, back-up generators on site while the rest are equipped for portable, plug-in generators. PW performs monthly maintenance checks and refuels the generators to ensure their performance as a back-up power source during a power outage. Power for the water supply in homes and businesses is under the jurisdiction of East Bay Municipal Utilities District.

**When would AMP shut down?**  
 According to Haley, utilities are required by law to develop a wildfire mitigation plan if there is a significant risk of catastrophic wildfire resulting from electrical lines and equipment in their service territory. Alameda is located in a geographical area classified as a Tier 1 by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Fire-Threat Map, which means it has an extremely low likelihood of utility-associated wildfire threat.  
 AMP's generation sources are outside of the boundaries of AMP's service territory and managed by the Northern California Power

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The Veterans Memorial Building, 2203 Central Ave., will host two events to help and honor the military today and Monday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day.

## Veterans Host Town Hall Today, Event Next Week

**Sun Staff Reports**  
 A town hall meeting where veterans can learn about benefits and services available to them takes place today starting from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Alameda Veterans Building, 2203 Central Ave. The town hall will be preceded by a women veterans' mixer at 2:30 p.m.  
 Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, along with representatives from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Women Veterans Alliance will host the gathering, which is open to all veterans, active-duty service members and their families.  
 Representatives from several groups will be in attendance to answer questions including: the Veterans Benefits Administration,

Veterans Health Administration, VA National Cemetery Administration and the Women Veterans Alliance. Members of U.S. Coast Guard Alameda, NOSC Alameda — U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps will attend along with the Department of Labor. In addition, multiple veteran service organizations including: California Veteran Services, Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion and AMVETS will be able to discuss their offerings.  
 Topics of discussion will include: VA modernization, VA construction and development at Alameda Point (see related story below), health-care and mental health, vocational rehabilitation and employment, compensation and pension and a question-and-answer session.

**Veterans Day Celebration**  
 On Veterans Day, the holiday when Americans focus on celebrating living veterans, Monday, Nov. 11, the Alameda High School Band will perform a special concert to honor veterans, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Alameda Veterans Building.  
 Veterans will hoist new U.S. and POW/MIA flags in front of the building as the band plays. Following the concert, several speakers will present the Veterans Day service including: Senior Chief Greg Owens USN, Ret., and Capt. Kanan Ott USN, NOSC Alameda. Lt. Eric Neider, U.S. Navy Chaplain, will serve as master of ceremonies.  
 Contact Sun staff at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).



The proposed VA project at Alameda Point will enjoy views of San Francisco.

## Va Project Delayed

**Richard Bangert**  
 The City of Alameda recently disclosed that it is not going to proceed with the preparation of an environmental impact report on the Veterans Affairs (VA) outpatient and columbarium project at Alameda Point, as previously announced in February.  
 The city hopes to instead rely on its 2014 Alameda Point

Environmental Impact Report that contemplated the VA's storm-water drains. "The City of Alameda has no jurisdiction over this project approval," said Andrew Thomas, assistant community development director. "Since it is not approving or denying the project, it does not need to do CEQA."  
 A California Environmental

Quality Act (CEQA) impact report is required for the city to legally issue easements for the VA to lay new storm-water drains across city property leading to the Oakland Estuary.  
 While this will ease the burden on the city, it will leave the VA without a state-certified impact report necessary for

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## Sewer Makeovers Set

**Sun Staff Reports**  
 The City of Alameda announced last week its annual sewer rehabilitation project will get underway beginning this month, with estimated completion by July 2020. Construction work hours are restricted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. near school locations, Monday through Friday. The work will consist of rehabilitating aging sewer mains, laterals and access holes on the following streets:

- Marina Village Parkway, between Mariner Square Drive and Mariner Square Loop
- Pacific Avenue, between Webster Street and Constitution Way
- Ninth Street, between Buena Vista and Pacific avenues
- Lincoln Avenue, between Eighth and St. Charles streets
- Bay Street, between Eagle and Pacific avenues

- Bay Street easement
- Grand Street, between Fortmann Way and its end
- Clement Avenue, between Lafayette and Union streets
- Santa Clara Avenue, between Benton and Morton streets
- Santa Clara, between Lafayette and Paru streets
- Centennial Avenue, end to end
- Eighth at Robert W. Crown Memorial State Park
- Taylor Avenue at Eighth
- Post Street, between Otis Drive and San Jose Avenue
- Toyon Terrace, from Post to its end
- Adams Street, between Post and Peach streets
- Oyster Pond Road, between Robert Davey Jr. Drive and Basinside Way
- San Antonio Avenue, between Morton and Chestnut streets
- Lafayette, between Clinton

and Alameda avenues  
 Residents on affected streets should receive notice approximately two weeks prior to the contractor beginning work in a particular area. The contractor will also provide advanced notice and will place "No Parking" signs 72 hours in advance of when work will begin and parking restrictions will become effective.  
 Sewer and water service will not be interrupted. The contractor will work to keep one lane of traffic open at all times, but motorists and residents may experience minor disruptions in traffic, temporary loss of on-street parking, an increase in noise levels and dust during construction.  
 Questions or information regarding the project should be directed to Shilpa Patel at 747-7945. This project is funded by the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

## News in Brief

**Sun Staff Reports**  
**City May Release Recording**  
 The City Council discussed in closed session whether to release the audio of a meeting between former City Manager Jill Keimach and Councilmembers Malia Vella and Jim Oddie at its Nov. 5 meeting.  
 The closed session discussion was added to the meeting agenda after Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley sent a letter to Alameda City Attorney Yiben Shen urging the city to consider releasing the audio of the meeting. In the letter, dated Oct. 22, O'Malley believes now that the criminal and Civil Grand Jury investigations are complete, "it is the opinion of the District Attorney's Office that the investigative exemption no longer applies to the city."  
 O'Malley did not demand the city release the audio, only to consider the "public interest, open governance and transparency when making a final decision." Oddie asked for the recording to be released to the public. Both statements appear in full on page 6.  
 Shen did not respond to the Alameda Sun's request for a statement on the district attorney's letter. The Council meeting took place after the Sun went to press.

The Council also discussed in closed session whether Vella should be reimbursed for her legal fees incurred during the ordeal. Oddie has waived his claim for reimbursement from the city.  
**Carnegie Project Canned**  
 The Carnegie Innovation Hall team announced the group will end future plans to restore the old Alameda Carnegie Library on Nov. 5. The announcement came in a letter from Michael Sturtz, the leader of the Carnegie Innovation Hall team.  
 It appeared the plan to restore the Carnegie Library building was a sure thing. The city had approved a lease on the building at its Oct. 15 meeting. Final ratification of the ordinance to approve the lease term was expected at the Council's Nov. 5 meeting.  
 At the Oct. 15 Council meeting, Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft expressed concerns with how the city's insurance premiums would be affected in the case of an accident during the construction. Sturtz said some workers would be volunteers.  
 The city chose Sturtz and his team to restore the Carnegie Library and Foster House in February. Read Sturtz's full letter and learn more about the project at [www.carnegieinnovationhall.org](http://www.carnegieinnovationhall.org).

## New Treat Raises Funds for FAAS

**Sun Staff Reports**  
 Island City canines have a new treat to look forward to when dropping by Park Street. Alameda's mainstay ice cream shop since 1941, Tucker's Super Creamed Ice Cream, now offers a handcrafted, banana and peanut butter frozen yogurt treat for dogs called "Little T's Peanut Barker." Dog owners looking for a reason to spoil their companions can feel good about it since 50 cents from each sale will be donated to the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter (FAAS).  
 The frozen yogurt's name was sold to the two highest bidders for \$5,000 each. The naming proceeds will also go to benefit FAAS and the shelter pets.  
 Little T's Peanut Barker frozen yogurt contains Greek yogurt,

bananas and peanuts. Tucker's received a Products Resembling Milk Product License from the Department of Food and Agriculture to produce the dog treat and the new flavor meets governmental regulations.  
 "I saw a customer buy a scoop of vanilla ice cream for their dog who was going through radiation treatments," said Erika Zimmerman of Tucker's. "It was so sweet to see how much the dog enjoyed the treat, and the human enjoyed giving it to them. That is when we knew we wanted to make a treat specifically for are our four-legged friends that would be safe for them to eat."  
 Try the treat at 1349 Park St. For more on Tucker's, see [www.tuckersicecream.com](http://www.tuckersicecream.com).