



### New Video

## How Alameda County is "Meeting Today's Challenges, Preparing for Tomorrow"

The 2016-17 Fiscal Year, which ended June 30, included many notable achievements for Alameda County, including breakthroughs in addressing present-day challenges as well as innovative new steps to prepare our community for the future.

A new video, "Meeting Today's Challenges, Preparing for Tomorrow,"

tells the story of some of Alameda County's proudest accomplishments in the areas of public safety, support for affordable housing, improved customer service, environmental protection and the preservation of limited public resources.



The video is available on the front page of the County website, [ACGOV.ORG](http://ACGOV.ORG), and deserves the attention of our County employees who were instrumental in the successes of the past year.

The new video highlights a stellar year in which Alameda County won eight Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for innovative programs serving residents in the areas of public safety, customer service and preservation of precious resources. We also saw the County's strong financial position rewarded with top ratings from the Big Three credit rating agencies, while we took additional steps to meet our future employee pension obligations and prepare for future lulls in the economy so that vital local programs are protected.

The video is the result of work by the County's Information Technology Department and the County Administrator's Office, which worked together to produce this great video!

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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017**

**9AM - 10AM**  
**5K RUN/WALK/ROLL**

**10AM - 1PM**  
**FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES**

**16335 E. 14TH STREET**  
**ASHLAND, CA 94578**

**ACFAMFEST.ORG**  
**(510) 686-3653**

**ASHLAND CHERRYLAND**  
**FAM FEST 2017**  
**5K FUN RUN**

Join us for a fun-packed event with a **5k run/walk/roll**, exciting activities, **live music & food**, even a **helicopter landing!** Join in the biggest event of the year for Ashland & Cherryland

## Summer Fun with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)



The East Bay Economic Development Alliance (EDA) hosted hundreds of local preschoolers at its 2nd Annual STEM Fair on August 17th at Children's Fairyland in Oakland. With support from partners including the Alameda County Information Technology Department (ITD), EDA sponsors the Fair to promote the many virtues of early STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education as articulated in its "Innovation 2.0 Regional STEM Action Plan." Pictured above left, County staff are joined by a young STEM enthusiast at the ITD booth, while, above right, the EDA's Adrienne Ursino (foreground) is joined by numerous STEM Fair partners in celebrating the fun.

## “Stroll and Roll” to Showcase the Scenic Beauty of Historic Niles Canyon

For the second time in three years, Niles Canyon Road will be closed to motor vehicles on **Saturday, September 30**, to give full access to the roadway to hikers, runners and bicyclists, and to raise public awareness about a proposed new public trail through the scenic Canyon.

To make way for “The Niles Canyon Stroll and Roll,” automobiles will be barred from a 6.4-mile stretch of Niles Canyon Road between Old Canyon Road in Fremont and Main Street in Sunol from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 30. Participants in the unusual event also will have the chance to discuss proposals to enhance public access to Niles Canyon with staff from Alameda County and the East Bay Regional Park District.

### Niles Canyon Stroll and Roll

**Where:** Niles Canyon Road, between Old Canyon Road in Fremont and main Street in Sunol

**When:** Saturday, September 30, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Why:** Provide full pedestrian access to the roadway and raise public awareness about a proposed new public trail through the scenic Canyon.

More Information: [www.84strollroll.com](http://www.84strollroll.com)



A project study completed earlier this year suggested that a 10-foot-wide paved pathway running mostly along the north side of Niles Canyon Road would be the preferred way to enhance access to the Canyon for pedestrians, bicyclists and possibly equestrians.

Alameda County Supervisors Scott Haggerty and Richard Valle have been leaders in the push for a Niles Canyon recreation trail. In October 2015, the supervisors co-sponsored the first “Niles Canyon Stroll and Roll,” drawing an estimated 10,000 people.

Proposals for a public trail through Niles Canyon are driven by the canyon’s breathtaking scenery, which is accessible only via Niles Canyon Road, a winding two-lane portion of State Highway 84. Bicyclists have repeatedly called for a trail due to safety concerns related to sharing the narrow roadway – which includes no shoulder space in some sections - with automobiles. Recreation enthusiasts point out that hiking access to the Canyon is limited and that a trail would provide a vital link between trail networks in the Tri-Valley and Alameda County’s bay-front corridor.

Traffic data compiled by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) indicates there were 507 traffic accidents involving motor vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians on Niles Canyon Road between 2000 and 2014, with 390 injuries and 14 fatalities.

On May 13, a bicyclist was killed when a truck struck him from behind on a portion of Niles Canyon Road near Sunol where there is no roadway shoulder.

Go to the County’s event website, [www.84strollroll.com](http://www.84strollroll.com) to learn more about the Niles Canyon Multi-Use Trail proposal and the September 30 roadway closure.

### Spaghetti and Smiles: Social Services Agency's Free Summer Lunch Program for Kids

Story and photographs by Andrea Wong, Alameda County Social Services Agency

Sometimes in life, there is such a thing as a free lunch. From June 22 through August 10, the Social Services Agency (SSA) served 2,898 free lunches to youth age 18 and under at three SSA offices in Hayward and Oakland as well as community partner site Youth UpRising in East Oakland. As a sponsor of the California Department of Education's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), the SSA was part of a statewide effort to alleviate the nutrition gap during the summer months for children living in geographic areas where at least 50 percent of the students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals. In Alameda County, where 1 in 3 children face food security and hunger, SSA's free summer lunch program is a critical item on its menu of services.



Meals were served on a first come, first served basis to customers or program participants awaiting services, as well as drop-in residents of nearby neighborhoods. Parents and children were pleased by the choice of two hot entrees prepared daily by Revolution Foods and the cheerful service provided by high school and college students participating in SSA's summer youth internship program.

"The excitement on the children's faces and the appreciation expressed by parents illustrate how much value the summer lunch program has within our community," says Lori A. Cox, Social Services Agency Director. "I am proud that we are able to continue to meet the needs of families where they access services."



## Alameda County Announces 2017 Arts Leadership Awards Winners

The Alameda County Arts Commission is honoring eight people with the 2017 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the local arts community.

The winners will be honored by the Board of Supervisors at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday, September 26, in the Board Chambers at 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland. In addition to honoring these outstanding local leaders, the event will draw attention to the County's celebration of National Arts and Humanities Month in October. This year's winners are:



**Denny Stein and Mary Bobik** (team) of Fremont, representing Supervisorial District 1. Denny and Mary are co-leaders of the Fremont Art Association, Fremont's oldest cooperative art gallery, working studio, and shop in Fremont. The Association presents monthly artist demonstrations, showcases local art and provides art classes for all ages.

**Carol Zilli** of Fremont, District One: Carol is the founder and executive director of Music for Minors II in Fremont, celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2018. The organization provides music enrichment for nearly 5,000 elementary school students annually in 30 public schools throughout Fremont as well as other areas of south and east Alameda County.



**Ami Ferreira** of Fremont, District Two: Ami, also known as Tsunami, is an arts educator and cultural diplomat with All The Way Live Foundation in Hayward. She also is a national champion in classical ballet and lyrical dance and holds national and world titles in artistic roller skating.

**Greg Morozumi and Elena Serrano** (team) of Oakland, District Three. Greg and Elena are the Principal Co-Founders of the EastSide Cultural Center in Oakland's San Antonio District. The Alliance brings together artists, cultural workers, and community organizers of color to improve the quality of life and support progressive social change.



**Catherine Ndungu-Case** of Pleasanton, representing Supervisorial District Four: Catherine Ndungu-Case is the founder and CEO of Cheza Nami Foundation in Pleasanton. Cheza Nami (which means, "come play with me" in Swahili) fosters youth appreciation of African culture through dance, drumming and play.

**Joyce Gordon** of Oakland, District Five: Joyce founder and owner of Joyce Gordon Gallery in Oakland, which exhibits art reflecting the social and cultural diversity of the Bay Area and international artists. She also established the Joyce Gordon Foundation of the Arts, a nonprofit bringing arts programming to underserved youth.



### Remembering September 11



*Eric Hyde, an employee of the Alameda County General Services Agency (lower left), lowers the flags in front of the County Administration Building in Oakland on the morning of Monday, September 11, in memory of those killed in the attacks on New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania 16 years earlier.*

### Most Important School Supply? Library Card

On September 12, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation in celebration of National Library Card Sign-Up Month. The proclamation urges everyone to sign up for a library card, noting that libraries play a pivotal role in educating children and create inclusive spaces for students of all ages and backgrounds to learn together. In picture at right, Alameda County Librarian Cindy Chadwick took a moment with Wilma Chan, President of the Board of Supervisors, to make a pitch for Alameda County Library cards. Visit any Alameda County Library branch to get a library card or sign up online at <http://bit.ly/2vQnwle>.



## Donate to Disaster Relief Fund

### *Provide Direct Relief to Communities Hit By Hurricanes Harvey and Irma*

On September 12, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors formally reactivated the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund to generate local support for communities affected by the recent hurricanes in and around Texas and Florida.

Reactivation of the Disaster Relief Fund enables the approximately 9,700 County employees and people in the community to make voluntary donations in support of recovery efforts following Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. County employees may also have the option to donate up to 5 days of their accrued vacation time, compensatory time and/or holiday in-lieu time.

Alameda County intends for all contributions to go directly to victims and families affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.



To donate to the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund, go to <http://acgov.org/government/news/disaster.htm>. Information about the Disaster Relief Fund is also at ACGOV Cares (<http://acgovcares.org/>), an Alameda County website designed to engage employees and residents about volunteerism and other opportunities to strengthen our communities.

Cash and online donations are accepted. Cash donations can be contributed by sending a personal check payable to the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund, c/o the Auditor-Controller Agency, 1221 Oak Street, Room 238, Oakland CA 94612. To make an online donation or to obtain additional information, go to <http://acgov.org/government/news/disaster.htm>.

Alameda County established its Disaster Relief Fund in response to the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States. The Board of Supervisors has reactivated the Fund numerous times in response to tragedies both domestic and abroad, including: Hurricane Katrina in 2005, earthquakes in Haiti and Chile in 2010, the Northern Japan Earthquake/Tsunami in 2011 and the tragic warehouse fire in Oakland last year.

## Roadway Repair Projects Moving Forward

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is moving forward on extensive roadway reconstruction projects made necessary by last winter's heavy storms.

Repairs to Palomares Road between Castro Valley and the Niles Canyon area near Fremont have been completed and the road is expected to open at the end of September following the completion of debris cleanup stemming from storm-related rockslides in January and February.

Meanwhile, reconstruction has begun on portions of Redwood Road in Castro Valley, which sustained major damage when the hillside below it fell away during last winter's storms.

Daniel Woldesenbet, Director of the Public Works Agency, told the Board of Supervisors on September 12 that the Redwood Road reconstruction should be completed by January 2018. Officials warn that inclement weather could impact that schedule.

In the meantime, Redwood Road will remain closed to all motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians at mile marker 7.38. Guests accessing the East Bay Regional Park District's Anthony Chabot campground facilities need to enter from the Oakland side of Redwood Road.

Visit the Public Works Agency website at [www.acpwa.org](http://www.acpwa.org) for construction updates.