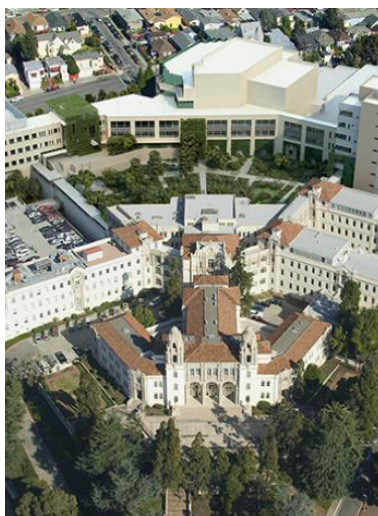


Highland Hospital Project Wins Architectural Award

The new Acute Care Tower at Highland Hospital, centerpiece of a \$668 million modernization of the historic Oakland hospital, has been selected by the California Counties Architects and Engineers Association (CCAEA) to receive a 2017 Public Projects Award of Excellence.

The Award, in the CCAEA program's Large County category, will be presented in April during the statewide County General Services Association (CGSA) Conference in Sacramento. By winning the Large County Award, the Highland project is also eligible for the CCAEA's top prize, the Grand Award, which will be announced at the CGSA Conference.

The 9-story Acute Care Tower opened in April 2016 as the centerpiece of a multi-phase rebuild at Highland – the cornerstone of Alameda County's public health care system - that meets the latest seismic-safety requirements. The campus-wide rebuild is the largest construction project ever funded by Alameda County. It also represents a vital public investment in the County's safety net health system that will ensure first-rate care is available to all residents – regardless of their ability to pay – for decades to come.



As one of three counties receiving CCAEA Awards, Alameda County was selected based on a five-part evaluation of the Highland project that reviewed community benefits, cost-saving measures, aesthetics, sustainability, innovation, creative funding and public-private partnerships.

"We are thrilled that this monumental project at Highland Hospital is being recognized in this way," said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator. "This project marks a bold investment by Alameda County in its safety-net health care system, and it is gratifying to see the many ways that investment is continuing to pay dividends for the entire community."

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Alameda County Sheriff's Dispatchers Save Woman's Life - Even Though She was 3,000 Miles Away



Emergency Services Dispatchers and other Alameda County Sheriff's personnel gathered at the February 7th Board of Supervisors' meeting to be honored for quick thinking and creative teamwork that helped to save the life of a woman on New York's Long Island who was attempting suicide on Facebook Live. Pictured above are, left to right, Emergency Services Dispatch (ESD) Supervisor Kristyn Ostlund, ESD II Lucia Guzman, ESD I Margaret Wirkkala, ESD II Anthony Burns, Supervisor Scott Haggerty, ESD Supervisor Traci Miles, Sgt. Brian Barker, and Detective Michael Buckhout

The Board of Supervisors on February 7th honored a group of emergency services dispatchers and other personnel from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for quick thinking and creative teamwork that helped to save the life of a woman on New York's Long Island who was attempting suicide on Facebook Live.

The incident occurred the morning of January 25th, when a crisis center in Idaho — where the woman used to live — made contact with the woman and were led to believe she was in Alameda County. The crisis center then called the Alameda County Sheriff's East Bay dispatch center in San Leandro.

In the face of these unusual circumstances, dispatchers worked quickly with telephone companies to triangulate the woman's location. Following a series of telephone "pings," dispatchers were able to place the woman in Long Island's Rockville Centre.

The dispatchers notified police in New York about the incident, all while watching via Facebook as the woman cut herself and spoke of wanting to take her life while sitting in a car.

Dispatchers then were able to match woman's surroundings on the Facebook Live video to those of Google Maps street views, enabling them to provide Rockville Centre police officers the exact street where the woman was located.

The woman was unconscious when officers got to her car, but the officers were able to get her to a hospital and stabilize her.

"This was an extraordinary day," Supervisor Scott Haggerty said while honoring Sheriff's personnel involved in the life-saving incident. "You didn't save somebody's life in Alameda County, you didn't save somebody's life in California, but you saved somebody's life in New York."

Haggerty said the unusual incident illustrated the top-notch work Alameda County emergency services workers perform every day. "We all know that after giving you each a pat on the back, you're going to go back to work and save more lives," he told the group.

Community Leaders Honored for Overcoming Obstacles, Helping Others

In February, Board of Supervisors celebrated Black History Month by honoring five African American community leaders for their achievements in the fields of Health, Business, Community and Social Justice, Education and Arts and Culture.

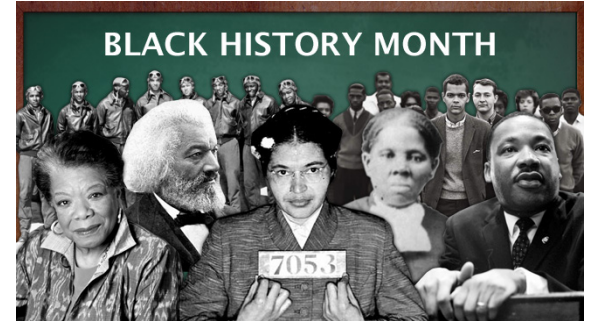
“Against all odds and challenges, each of these individuals and institutions continues to rise above in terms of having a positive impact - not just on the African American community, but on our entire community,” said Supervisor Keith Carson, whose office authored the commendations.

The Board issued commendations to:

- **Dr. Vicki Alexander, Health.** The former Director of Berkeley’s Division of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, Dr. Alexander is a pioneer in fighting infant mortality.
- **Lois the Pie Queen, Business.** The North Oakland restaurant has served up delicious food and supported important community causes for more than 60 years.
- **Dale Bartlett, Posthumous Recognition, Community and Social Justice.** Bartlett, who passed away last year, was a longtime aide to Berkeley City Councilwoman Maudelle Shirek who wrote more than 350 pieces of legislation to aid local residents and worked diligently to advocate for affordable housing for low-income African Americans.
- **Ardarius McDonald, Education.** The Principal at Berkeley Technical Academy and the former Dean of Students at Berkeley High School has shown extraordinary leadership and commitment to working with our community’s students.
- **Anyka Barber, Arts and Culture.** The founder of the Betti Ono Gallery, Anyka is devoted to supporting diverse up-and-coming artists whose perspectives are often missing from mainstream art spaces.

Honorees who spoke at the celebration echoed Carson’s sentiments in saying the event was a powerful way to recognize both the achievements of the civil rights struggle and the obstacles to equal treatment that persist to this day.

Photos of Chris Davis, Anyka Barber and Ben Bartlett by Abigail Mariam



Chris Davis of Lois the Pie Queen restaurant, left, with Supervisor Keith Carson. Davis’ late mother, Lois, founded the restaurant more than 60 years ago



Berkeley City Councilman Ben Bartlett, left, is greeted by Supervisor Keith Carson after receiving a commendation for his late father, Dale Bartlett



Dr. Vicki Alexander



Ardarius McDonald



Anyka Barber, left, with Supervisor Keith Carson

Bright Ideas - A Feature Focusing on Innovation

Interactive Election Map a "Simple" Solution to Long-Term Challenge

The Presidential Election last November was monumental in many ways for many people.

For the Alameda County Registrar of Voters – and hard-core election watchers across the County – it was a moment of triumph in a long-term effort to make real-time, precinct-by-precinct election results available on the Registrar's website.

The task seems simple. Create a map showing each of Alameda County's roughly 1,000 election precincts and make it interactive – so that casual campaign watchers and election junkies alike can exercise their Election Night angst by clicking on any neighborhood and viewing how it is voting on any given election issue.

Converting this concept into reality, though, proved more than a little challenging.

The County spent several years working with outside vendors focused on using geographic information system (GIS) technology to tackle the task of bringing the people the interactive election map they wanted.

Alameda County tested several iterations of the interactive map over several elections. Registrar Tim Dupuis' vision of an easy-to-use, easy-to-maintain interactive tool proved elusive.

Central to the challenge was finding just the right amount of computer server space to devote to the interactive map. The seasonal nature of the election business provided an added wrinkle: providing expansive server space – and paying for it – seemed a great idea on those one or two nights a year when people by the thousands slap and shake their computers in the frantic quest for the latest information.

The other 360-plus nights a year, however, carrying vast server space for a map sitting idle was "like paying for a super computer to do your word processing," said Ram Gurumurthy, ITD's Manager for Digital Strategies and Services.

Finally, a breakthrough came in late 2015 with the fortuitous return to Alameda County of Darren Venn. Venn is a software developer in the County's Information Technology Department (ITD) who authored some of the first mobile apps offered by Alameda County.

He left the County in 2013 and took a job in New York, applying his skills as a mobile developer on the other side of the United States while Alameda County continued to wrestle with its interactive election map conundrum.

Venn's return allowed Alameda County to place a fresh pair of eyes on the election map challenge. He took a new approach, writing code for a cloud-based interactive map that offered a flexible solution to the server-space quandary. The new map, offered by Alameda County through Amazon Web Services, now resides in that ethereal space where the expansive computing power needed to fuel its operation is available during the busiest times – without requiring the County to devote substantial resources to it during the dormant off-election months.

The new interactive map, available at <http://electionmaps.acgov.org/>, debuted in June 2016 and met a stern test last November, when Alameda County reached an all-time high for voter participation with 670,245 ballots cast.

It proved so popular and easy-to-use that other elections offices got word of its success. Recently, Boulder County, Colorado, obtained the code authored by Venn and built an interactive map of its own. The map also received an award from the California County Information Services Directors Association.

"The best thing about this solution is it's so simple," Venn said. "That and the fact that people really seem to like it – here in Alameda County and in other communities as well."



Darren Venn fiddles with the interactive election map he created for the Registrar of Voters

Statewide Award for Combating Food Insecurity

Andrea Ford, Assistant Agency Director of the Alameda County Social Services Agency - Workforce and Benefits Administration, was recently named Administrator of the Year by the California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) in its annual "Freshy" Awards program.

The "Freshy" Awards honor outstanding individuals and organizations for their work to strengthen the CalFresh food benefits program.

In naming her the 2017 Administrator of the Year, CFPA said Ford "led the way" in strengthening CalFresh in Alameda County by working collaboratively with leaders including the Alameda County Community Food Bank, the Alliance to Transform CalFresh, the California Association of Food Banks and the Office of Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan and her "All In Alameda County" anti-poverty initiative.

In picture at right, Ford (left) receives her Administrator of the Year award from Supervisor Chan at the February 21 Board of Supervisors' meeting.

Photo by Vanessa Cedeño.



Sherry Hu to Be Mistress of Ceremony for 2017 Women's Hall of Fame

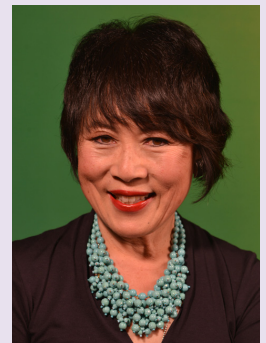
Emmy Award-winning reporter Sherry Hu of KPIX 5 television will serve as Mistress of Ceremony for the 2017 Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 1, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

Hu, an Oakland native, is hardly a stranger to the Women's Hall of Fame. Not only has she hosted the event several times, she was inducted in the Culture and Art category in 2015 for her work helping students in the Oakland Unified School District produce a television newscast and website. Hu joined the District after more than three decades as an award-winning journalist with KPIX. She rejoined the station last year to take over an ongoing series profiling low-income, at-risk Bay Area teenagers, "Students Rising Above."

Twelve local women representing the region's rich diversity as well as a remarkable range of achievement will be inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame at its 24th Annual Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on April 1 in Pleasanton. Live jazz, raffle drawings and great food will be featured at the event, which begins at **12:30 p.m. at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, Building B, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton.** Tickets to the event are \$100 and can be purchased online at <http://acgov.org/whof/>.

The program, co-sponsored by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the County's Commission on the Status of Women, will once again raise funds to support important local partners serving women and families in Alameda County. In addition, it will support local girls' academic pursuits through the **Mary V. King "Leading the Way" Youth Scholarship Fund**, named after the former Alameda County Supervisor and Women's Hall of Fame co-founder who died in 2015.

This year's inductees are **Linda Mandolini, Business and Professions; Suzan Bateson, Community Service; Ayodele Nzinga, Culture and Art; Catherine (Suárez) Dunbar, Education; Emily Kirsch, Environment; Patricia Aguilera, Health; Kathie Barkow, Justice; Aeshah Clotney, Non-Traditional Careers; Audrey Yamamoto, Philanthropy; Katherine Yelick, Science, Technology, Engineering; Hel Say, Sports and Athletics;** and **Lauryn Nguyen, Youth.**



Alameda County Board of Supervisors

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County Administrator
Susan S. Muranishi

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