

PHONG LA

ALAMEDA COUNTY ASSESSOR



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Message from Assessor La

Dear County Residents:

As autumn officially begins, let's take a moment to acknowledge that we survived a record-breaking heat wave! Although many cities faced triple-digit temperatures upwards to 116-degrees (e.g., Livermore!) and possible blackouts, I'm happy that we were all able to come together and endure this particularly grueling weather. I love summer, but this was a bit too much!

I'd like to take a moment to recognize Labor Day and September 11th this month.

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of our fellow workers. I want to especially give a shout out to the many hardworking staff here at the Assessor's Office that remain dedicated to closing the annual Assessment Roll for Alameda County. Without them, there would be no Assessor's Office and they have my gratitude.

This year marks the 21st anniversary of September 11th. More than two decades have passed since that tragic day. Like many people, I still recall where I was and what I was doing when I heard what happened. We remain committed to honoring the victims, the first responders, the loved ones and all those whose lives were touched by the attacks. Our promise to never forget will not fade with time, but instead grow stronger as we move forward.

Community Engagements

This month, my staff and I attended the 2022 Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) internship graduations. The internship program assigns and places high school and college students with our local, regional, and state elected offices or public organizations to get a close-up look at issues that government offices and nonprofits face, as well as to learn the procedures and policies used to help solve them for the public.

During the summer, the Assessor's Office had three interns from APAPA, one intern from Hayward's Raising Leaders program, and one college intern that all worked hard and excelled in their assigned projects. They learned about working in a professional office setting, the programs and services that our Office provides, and the impact that we have on the residents of Alameda County.

Congratulations to Jason, Kacie, Siya, Angel, and Chloe for a job well done and I hope you all will join me in wishing them the best in their future endeavors.

Our Office also participated in the City of Alameda's 8th Annual Autumn Job Fair at the Alameda South Shore Center. With over 30 businesses tabling at the event, it was great seeing so many people attend to seek both full and part time positions. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table to speak to my staff.

I would also like to recognize several businesses who had grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies around Alameda County:

The City of Fremont welcomes Ashley Furniture, a home furnishing manufacturer and retailer, whose ceremony was organized by the Fremont Chamber of Commerce. Fremont saw the grand opening expansion of Dig Deep Farms at the Ardenwood Historic Farms, a program created to improve food insecurities and help make local food more easily accessible to the community. And finally, the Hayward Chamber of Commerce organized the grand opening and ribbon cutting of Denny's, a diner-style restaurant chain in Hayward.

My staff attended these events to present certificates from the Assessor's Office. It's always great to see new businesses open and invest in our cities and county.

For pictures of these events, please visit the Assessor in the Community section below.

Please let the Assessor's Office know if your organization is hosting an in-person or virtual event that you would like the Assessor's Office to attend.

Also, let us know if there's a specific topic you would like to see covered in a future webinar. I encourage you to fill out the poll with possible topics [HERE](#).

Keep an eye out for our upcoming programs and tell others to [sign up for our newsletter](#) to get notified of these events, important dates, and deadlines.

Fun Fact About Assessors: Did you know?

As we move forward into this century, it is important to take a look back at our past. History teaches us the following:

“[In] Ancient Egypt when the Pharaoh died his senior advisors and courtiers were sometimes buried with him, except for the Assessor...because he knew where all the money was...” – *Anonymous*

Despite the obvious humor in that statement, assessors were of the utmost importance in ancient times. As an example, in the ancient city-state of Lagash, which is now Iraq, tax records dating from about 6,000 B.C. were in the form of clay tablets. Property taxes were prevalent in Egypt, Babylon, Persia, China, and throughout the ancient world. The primary focus of early property taxation was land and its production value. There were tombs and monuments for assessors in Egypt and Syria that rivaled those of some kings.*

A citizen of Lagash put it this way:

“You can have a Lord, you can have a King, but the man to fear is the tax assessor.”

*A Brief History of Property Tax by Richard Henry Carlson

Free Legal Clinic to Help Answer Questions:

The Property Transfer Clinic (PTC) is here to help! The PTC is a free legal clinic available to assist property/business owners and constituents on the third Friday of each month. I continue to work with the Alameda County Law Library, the Alameda County Bar Association, Legal Access Alameda, and the Alameda County Library to maintain this clinic and to make it available for Alameda County residents, who do not have access to an attorney. The upcoming PTC is on October 21st. Sign up [HERE!](#)

As always, we remain committed to serving the residents of Alameda County.

Sincerely,
Phong La
Alameda County Assessor

Important Message from State Controller Betty Yee

Property Tax Postponement Applications Now Available

State Controller Betty T. Yee announced that applications for property tax deferment for the 2022-23 tax year are now available.

California's Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program, administered by Controller Yee, allows homeowners who are seniors – or who are blind or have a disability – and who meet income, equity, and other requirements to postpone payment of property taxes on their primary residence.

In the 2021-22 tax year, California homeowners were able to postpone nearly \$4.5 million in residential property taxes. Over the last few years, eligibility for tax deferment has been expanded several times by the addition of manufactured homes and adjustments to the income limit. This year, the household income limit has been raised to \$49,017, making PTP available to even more seniors and Californians with disabilities. Household income for the upcoming PTP cycle will be based on the 2021 calendar year.

Funding for PTP is limited, and applications will be processed beginning October 1 in the order they are received. Participants must reapply each year and demonstrate they continue to meet eligibility requirements. A lien will be placed on the real property, or a security agreement filed with the Department of Housing and Community Development for a manufactured home, until the account is paid in full.

Applications and additional program details can be found [online](#) or by calling (800) 952-5661.

Californians affected by natural disasters such as fires, floods, and earthquakes may be eligible for another tax relief program that allows for reappraisal of damaged or destroyed property. For additional information on this program, visit the California Board of Equalization's [disaster relief website](#).

As the chief fiscal officer of California, Controller Yee is responsible for accountability and disbursement of the state's financial resources. The Controller has independent auditing authority over government agencies that spend state funds. She is a member of numerous financing authorities, and fiscal and financial oversight entities including the Franchise Tax Board. She also serves on the boards for the nation's two largest public pension funds. Elected in 2014 and reelected in 2018, Controller Yee is the tenth woman elected to a statewide office in California's history. Follow the Controller on Twitter at [@CACController](#) and on Facebook at [California State Controller's Office](#).

Dates & Deadlines

September - National Preparedness Month

September 11 - National Day of Service and Remembrance

September 25 - September 27 - Rosh Hashanah

September 29 - Oakland Zoo's 19th Annual Healthy Living Festival. Click [HERE](#) for more information about this event.

December 10 - Legal deadline for filing a late exemption claim for homeowners, veterans and disabled veterans.

December 10 - Last day to pay first installment of property taxes without penalty.

Resource Mailing Address Change

Many are unaware, but one of the responsibilities of the Assessor is maintaining the mailing addresses for Real Property and Business Personal Property.

Only one mailing address is maintained for all assessment and tax related mail.

It is essential that we have the correct mailing address as all related correspondences including notifications of your assessment and tax bills are mailed to the address you provide.

If you need to change your address, you can find the Change in Mail Address forms [HERE](#).

For any additional information on property assessment resources visit our website [HERE](#).

Assessor in the Community



Assessor La at the 2022 Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) Great Fremont Club internship graduation. Congratulations to our Summer Interns: Jason, Kacie, and Siya!



Congratulations to Ashley Furniture on their grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony in Fremont. Ashley's is a home furnishing manufacturer retail business located on Boscell Road.



Assessor's staff member, Mona Barra- Gibson, at Alameda's 8th Annual Autumn Job Fair at the Alameda South Shore Center.



Congratulations to Denny's on their grand opening and ribbon cutting in Hayward. Denny's is a diner-style, chain restaurant located on Hesperian Blvd.



Photos from the Dig Deep Farms grand opening and ribbon cutting at the Ardenwood Historic Farms in Fremont. Dig Deep Farms is a community focused program working to improve food insecurities and making local food more easily accessible.



Property Transfer Clinic

Do you have questions about:

- The Assessment Process in Alameda County
- Transferring property to family members
- What happens to property after the death of a loved one
- Common exclusions from reassessment

Talk with a volunteer attorney for a
FREE 30-minute consultation.

Clinics are held every third Friday of every month. Visit
<https://appointments.aclibrary.org/appointments/lawyers>



Upcoming Dates:

October 21st, 2022
November 18th, 2022
December 16th, 2022

Appointments begin at
12:30PM.

The Property Transfer Clinic is a partnership between the Alameda County Library, the Alameda County Law Library, and Legal Access Alameda. It is funded by the Alameda County Assessor's Office.

The next Property Transfer Clinic will take place on October 21st. Please visit the link [HERE](#) to make an appointment with a volunteer attorney for a free 30-minute consultation.

Profile: Albany Chamber of Commerce



The Albany Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1935 as an organization with the purpose of informing, connecting, and promoting businesses in the community. With

approximately 150 businesses and community members, they work independently to help the businesses and the community thrive in the City of Albany. The Chamber is a non-profit membership association with various levels of memberships depending on the type of business and number of employees in the business.

The Albany Chamber hosts business mixers, workshops, and ribbon cutting events for new and remodeled businesses in Albany. They also produce fundraising and community events throughout the year. During the yearly Albany Stroll, the Chamber honors an adult and youth in the community with the Albany Chamber Citizen and Youth of the Year Award. With this honor, the adult and youth are recognized for their outstanding service in the community and the youth honoree is gifted a \$1,000 scholarship from the Elizabeth Bell Memorial Scholarship Fund.

For over 75 years, the Chamber remains committed to promoting businesses and community growth by providing professional development resources that help businesses independently grow and be successful. The Chamber website is also focused on providing news and information about the city for Albany residents and visitors. It is committed to educating businesses and the community on ways to thrive, and have a great time in the City of Albany.

Apply to join the Albany Chamber <https://everythingalbany.com/join-us>.

For more information on the Albany Chamber of Commerce, available business resources, and upcoming events, click [HERE](#).

WEBSITE:

<https://everythingalbany.com/>

CHAMBER ADDRESS:

PO Box 6434
Albany, California 94706

Additional Housing and County Support Resource

Application Events

Virtual & In-Person

www.microbusinessgrant.org

**\$2500
Grants**

AVAILABLE FOR MICROBUSINESSES & NON-PROFITS

Virtual Information Session:

Wednesday Sept. 21st - 3pm to 4:30pm

Zoom Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/MicrobusinessGrantInformation>

In-Person Walk-in Application Assistance Events:

Eden Area AJCC

Wednesday Oct. 5th - 5pm to 6:30pm

24100 Amador St. 3rd Floor, Hayward

(510) 670-5700

Concord AJCC

Friday Oct. 7th - 9am to 1pm

4071 Port Chicago Hwy, Concord

(925) 671-4500

Contact: gloribelp@rubiconprograms.org

MUST bring the following documents:

①

Government issued Photo ID (e.g. Drivers License, Passport, Green Card, CA ID Card or Foreign ID issued by a non-U.S. Governmental Entity)

②

One document (or copy) that identifies your business with company name (e.g. business license, permit, vendor invoice, tax return, bank statement, Public Health Certificate, etc.)

Please bring your laptop if you have one - if not, we will have one you can use





Funded in part through a Grant from the California Office of the Small Business Advocate

\$2,500 GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR MICROBUSINESS & NONPROFIT COVID-19 RELIEF

Visit microbusinessgrant.org

Apply by **October 19, 2022** at 5 p.m.

Scan me!



- This program will provide \$2,500 grants to qualifying microbusinesses and nonprofits in the counties of: Alameda, Amador, Contra Costa, and El Dorado
- Must have been in operation in 2019, are still in operation, and were impacted by COVID-19 public health restrictions
- Visit the link to see if you qualify, and for help with applying!





MPX VACCINATIONS

Where?

Every Thursday

Skywest Golf Course Facility

Free of Charge

1401 Golf Course Rd. Hayward, CA 94541

9:00am-3:00pm

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Gay, bisexual, and other men or trans-persons who have sex with men
- Sex workers of any sexual orientation or gender identity
- Persons who have had close contact with someone with suspected/confirmed MPX within the past 14 days
- Persons who had close contact with others at an event or social gathering where a suspected/confirmed MPX case was identified within the past 14 days
- Laboratory workers who routinely perform MPX virus testing
- Clinicians who have had a high-risk occupational exposure (e.g., examined MPX lesions or collected MPX specimens without using recommended personal protective equipment)

BOOK AN APPT.

**Vaccinations are available
by appointment only**

Scan to book:



tinyurl.com/MPX-Skywest

For More Information Please Contact us at (510) 954-0560



Funded by Alameda County Measure A1
and approved by Alameda County taxpayers

Ready to buy your first home?
Down payment assistance is available!

AC Boost provides financial assistance to middle-income working households to purchase a home in Alameda County. The program offers shared equity loans of up to \$210,000 to first-time homebuyers who live, work, or have been displaced from Alameda County.
Application deadlines apply!

Learn more at acboost.org



¿Listo para comprar tu primera casa?

AC Boost ofrece préstamos de asistencia para el pago inicial de hasta \$ 210,000 para compradores de vivienda por primera vez que viven o trabajan en el Condado de Alameda o que han sido desplazados del Condado de Alameda. Asistencia en español está disponible.

準備購買你的第一間房屋嗎？

AC Boost 提供 \$210,000 首期貸款幫助，給予首次買屋者。購房者要在亞拉米達縣 (Alameda County) 居住或工作，或在亞拉米達縣流離失所者。有中文提供幫助。

Bạn đã sẵn sàng để mua ngôi nhà đầu tiên?

AC Boost cung cấp các khoản vay hỗ trợ thanh toán trước lên tới 210.000\$ cho những người mua nhà lần đầu sống hoặc làm việc tại Hạt Alameda hoặc những người phải chuyển nhà khỏi Hạt Alameda. Có hỗ trợ bằng tiếng Việt.

Handa na bang bumili ng unang bahay ninyo?

Ang AC Boost ay nag-aalok ng tulong sa paunang pagbayad na mga pautang ng may hanggang \$210,000 para sa mga unang-beses na mamimili ng bahay na nakatira o nagtrabaha sa Alameda County o sinumang napaalis mula sa Alameda County. May pagtulong sa Tagalog na magagamit.



acboost.org
(510) 500-8840
acboost@hellousing.org



AC Boost is funded by Measure A1 Affordable Housing Bond funds and administered by nonprofit organization Hello Housing on behalf of the County of Alameda.

The County of Alameda and Hello Housing do not discriminate against any person on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, source of income, genetic information, medical condition, physical disability or mental disability, or any other category protected by law.

Ver. 7/12/2021



Covid-19 Testing

Interactive map to find testing sites and schedule appointments – [HERE](#).

Vaccine Distribution

All Alameda County residents, ages 5 and older, are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Alameda County.

- Pfizer is approved for all individuals, ages 5 and older.
- Johnson & Johnson and Moderna is approved for all individuals, ages 18 and older.

For more information on the Pfizer children's vaccine, click [HERE](#).

A comprehensive list of vaccination sites in Alameda County can be found [HERE](#).

Booster / Additional Dose Information

Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson are available as boosters and as additional doses for eligible individuals.

For those individuals who first received a Johnson & Johnson vaccination, a booster shot is recommended by the CDC after 2 months. Here are the current CDC recommendations:

For the first booster, an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) is preferred in most situations. The second booster must be an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Booster shots are recommended to help restore protection and provide further protection from newer variants of the virus.

If you are eligible for a booster, please visit [HERE](#), or contact your health care provider or local pharmacy.

Please speak with your health care provider and learn if you are eligible for a booster by visiting the California FAQ page on boosters [HERE](#).

Disclaimer:

The contents of this article are intended for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing medical advice.

Alameda County Supervisor's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Supervisorial District Community Needs Cash Aid Grants - [HERE](#)

Housing Assistance

OAKLAND - [HERE](#)

EMERYVILLE - [HERE](#)

LIVERMORE - [HERE](#)

Child Care

For Child Care in Alameda County - [HERE](#)

Food Distribution

Interactive map to find food, testing, and services in Alameda County - [HERE](#)

Employment

Alameda County Workforce Development Board - [HERE](#)

Agencies

California Small Business Development Center - [HERE](#)

California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development - [HERE](#)

Alameda County Workforce Development – [HERE](#)

Business Resources by City

ALAMEDA - [HERE](#)

ALBANY - [HERE](#)

BERKELEY - [HERE](#)

DUBLIN - [HERE](#)

EMERYVILLE - [HERE](#)

FREMONT - [HERE](#)

HAYWARD - [HERE](#)

LIVERMORE - [HERE](#)
NEWARK - [HERE](#)
OAKLAND - [HERE](#)
PIEDMONT - [HERE](#)
PLEASANTON - [HERE](#)
SAN LEANDRO - [HERE](#)
UNION CITY - [HERE](#)