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We can't combat these injustices by simply saying, 'Fuck the police.' We have to put out legitimate complaints we have with our society.”

Michael Lerner, rabbi and Shut Down Day advocate



Alameda resident Sarah K. chants with protesters inside the Oakland City Council Chambers during the first stop of the Shut Down Day rally in Oakland on April 14. The protest was organized to raise awareness about the increase of police officers using lethal force.

QING HUANG / THE ADVOCATE

‘Shut Down Day’ urges outrage against system

Police brutality cultivates alarming death toll, nationwide protests, debates over reforming historically subjective policing

By Lorenzo Morotti
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OAKLAND — A mass of protesters marched Southbound from Oscar Grant Corner on 14th Street and Broadway here on April 14 with the intent to send a clear message that police brutality is running rampant in cities nationwide.

Consisting of mostly young college and local high school students, the protesters flooded Broadway and made their frustrations heard at City Hall, Oakland Charter High School, Laney College’s Student Center and

the I-880 on-ramp near Broadway.

Along the way, a procession of police squad cars followed the protesters who were chanting, “Back up, back up/ We want our freedom, freedom/ All these racists pigs / We don’t need them, need them,” as they held up banners that read, “Black Lives Matter.”

Oakland Police Department arrested one of the hundred or so protesters when they rushed past a homeless encampment and up the dirt embankment onto the freeway at the end of Alice Street, near 7th Street, at 3:30 p.m.

The protesters were unable to halt the flow of freeway traffic and were limited to holding up signs and chanting on the side of I-880 due to a combined effort of the Oakland PD and California Highway Patrol.

Before the 1 p.m. march, protesters supporting National Shut Down Day stood under clear sky across from City Hall and listened to members of the Stop Mass Incarceration Network and the Revolutionary Communist Party discuss their grievances with

SEE PROTEST, PAGE 3



FOOD, WINE SHOWCASES LOCAL SHOPS, EATERIES

PAGE 6



Oakland ‘Shut Down’ rallies against police brutality

PAGE 8



CODY CASARES / THE ADVOCATE

Chicano image, pride shifts in ‘bloody’ war

Mexican-Americans adjust cultural perceptions during human, civil rights era

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Mexican-American involvement in the U.S. military during the Vietnam War influenced young people to redefine the term Chicano and demand social equity during the civil rights movement of the 1960s and early 70s.

La Raza studies professor Agustin Palacios traced the evolution of the term Chicano while giving a condensed, yet comprehensive, history of Mexicans in the U.S. to a group of 25 students Friday in the Library and Learning Resource Center from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

His “Lecture and Discussion of Chicano

Participation in the Vietnam War and Their Struggle for Civil and Human Rights in the United States” is only one part of the Big Read, which is a month-long communitywide reading program facilitated by West Contra Costa County Library and Contra Costa College, and grant-funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

West County’s Big Read focuses on Tim O’Brien’s novel about the Vietnam War, “The Things They Carried,” in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the bloody conflict’s end.

“(The Vietnam War) was a very bloody war;

SEE BIG READ, PAGE 3

ABOVE: Agustin Palacios, La Raza studies professor, speaks to students during the Big Read’s “Lecture and Discussion of Chicano Participation in the Vietnam War and Their Struggle for Civil and Human Rights in the United States” seminar held in L-107 on Friday.

WATER PUMP REDIRECTS LIFE SOURCE TO EAST BAY

Half full San Pablo Reservoir goads first ever Freeport usage

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As California is in its fourth year facing a drought, East Bay Municipal Utilities District is diverting water from the Sacramento River for the first time in its history.

EBMUD Public Affairs Representative Nelsy Rodriguez said on April 14 the district board unanimously approved usage of the Freeport Regional Water Project to pump water to the San Pablo Reservoir, which is at 54 percent of its capacity.

Earlier this month, Gov. Jerry Brown also made history by directing a mandatory 25 percent statewide water usage reduction.

The district, in collaboration with Sacramento County Water Agency, helped build the Freeport water treatment and pump station for a total cost of \$1 million, and was finished in 2010.

However, this is the first time the

SEE DROUGHT, PAGE 3

editorial

Awareness needed
Pumping needed water to the East Bay will cost EBMUD and thus potentially raise the cost of its customer’s water bill.

SEE PAGE 2