



Nuru, Breed & Co.

George Wooding has a few thoughts about our “leaders” 3

Quentin Kopp

Wades into the coming election — with his usual tact 3



Digitize the News—Raise Hell!

Patrick Monette-Shaw asks where we go from here—and how? 3

Joanne Hoeper’s Westside Op-Ed

She has more questions than answers from the City Attorney 5



Dr. Derek Kerr

Behind the scenes in the escalating cannabis business 5

Rec & Park’s Big Whirling Blunder

Howard asks: is GGP a major parkland or a commercial carnival? 6

WESTSIDE OBSERVER

Northern California Society of Professional Journalists

2019 James Madison Freedom of Information Award

Volume 33 • Number 1

Celebrating Our 32nd Year

www.westsideobserver.com

February/March 2020

Welcome to the Future —

We’re Going Digital!

by Mitch Bull



As the calendar moved from 2019 to 2020 a new decade arrived, and with that we are making significant changes to the *Westside Observer*. For starters, we will have a new ownership group, Westside San Francisco Media, which has purchased the newspaper, website and trademarks. They are passionate members of our staff that have worked on the *Observer* for many years and they are taking this news outlet into the future.

The major change that tops the list is the move to a “digital-only” format. It is the plan to publish limited page papers in February and March to announce the changes and get our readers used to thinking about us as the online version of westsideobserver.com. The team is working on a redesign to the website, and platform changes that will enable you to get your *Observer* information on any device you currently use.

It has not been an easy decision to end 32 years of print journalism excellence, but the cost of print, the environmental

static delivery mechanism, not able to be updated until the next month when a new issue hits the newsstands.

What can you expect? A new, redesigned website and platform, bringing you the same information that you have relied on over the years, and more. Need to see what Quentin (Kopp) thinks? He will be there, as well as John Farrell, George Wooding, Kathy Howard, Patrick Monette-Shaw, Dr. Derek Kerr, Nancy Wuerfel, Tony Hall, and our other great writers and contributors. We’re working to make it more inter-

“It has not been an easy decision to end 32 years of print ... but the cost of print, the environmental impacts of paper and ink, and the availability of electronic media has made this the right time to “throw the switch.”



impacts of paper and ink, and the availability of electronic media has made this the right time to “throw the switch.” See the photo of the tree? Even though we don’t use redwood trees for newsprint, it symbolizes the movement away from paper and the trees and energy that will be saved by not producing 15,000 copies each month. The other “issue” with print is that it has always been a

active, working towards a day where we can get more of your feedback and ideas in real-time.

It won’t be instantaneous and there will be ways to interact and contribute to this exciting new enterprise. Check us out at westsideobserver.com and embrace the digital age.

Mitch Bull is the former Publisher of the *Westside Observer*

Court Upholds \$5 Million Whistleblower Judgment against City Attorney Herrera

The Court of Appeal vindicated whistleblower Joanne Hoeper, the former Chief Trial Deputy under City Attorney Dennis Herrera. Three judges sustained a January 2015 jury decision that Herrera retaliated against Hoeper after she investigated the City Attorney’s Claims Bureau and found multiple costly irregularities in the way sewer repair claims were handled.



Some sewer claims were fraudulent but routinely approved by the Claims bureau, at taxpayer

shut down and she was yanked from her position in July 2012. She was transferred to the DA’s

“Taxpayer costs will exceed \$5 million since the City has been paying the Kecker & Van Nest law firm \$850/hour to defend Herrera. Kecker & Van Nest already billed the City \$2,267,75, back in September 2016, records show.”

expense, as detailed in the *Westside Observer* in September¹ and November 2014, and February 2015. When Hoeper’s probing threatened managers close to Herrera, her investigation was

Office and later terminated. The WSO dubbed the saga “Sewer-gate.” (See her Op-Ed — A special to the WSO on page 5). In 2018, the NorCal Society of Professional Journalists recognized

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/watchdog.html#feb20

Auto Burglars Assail Westside, East Bay and Migrate to LA

by Dr. Derek Kerr

Although citywide auto burglaries seemingly dropped 2% in 2019, they soared by 24% on the Westside. The table below is derived from the Taraval Police Station’s excellent website. Note the surge in auto burglaries since August.

As explained in the July 2018 *Westside Observer*, these numbers are static. They are not updated to include late crime reports. Such updates are logged into SFPD’s separate CompStat database¹. Therefore, the crime figures reported on Taraval Station’s website are lower than those shown on CompStat for the Taraval Police District. For example, CompStat’s updates boosted Taraval Station’s 2017 count of car break-ins by 9% and raised its 2018 count by 5%. Ergo, the true numbers for 2019 will end up higher as well.

The bleak news about Taraval District car break-ins is offset by a big drop in residential and commercial burglaries. CompStat shows that in 2019, home and shop burglaries



numbered 334 versus 507 reported in 2018 – a 34% decline. That may reassure Sunset residents. As the July 2019 WSO reported, home invasions and burglaries prompted an uprising in that predominantly Asian neighborhood.

“Because Bay Area smash-and-grab crews are known to local cops, they hit the road to ply their trade where they enjoy anonymity.”

According to citywide CompStat figures, there were 25,677 car break-ins in 2019 versus 26,111 in 2018. That 2% drop is dubious. By the time all the delayed reports for 2019 are tabulated, the updated total could easily wipe out the tiny reduction. On top of this, published numbers are understatements. Folks without

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2019	157	123	112	91	107	101	131	167	189	173	220	198	1769
2018	134	100	122	100	121	104	128	135	95	113	105	149	1406
2017	121	140	157	154	176	149	148	106	115	138	151	125	1680

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/watchdog.html#feb20a

Hold Up on that “Insurance” for Your Water and Sewer Lines

by Steve Lawrence

By mail homeowners have received a solicitation to buy insurance for their water and sewer lines. The offer comes on the letterhead of San Francisco Water Power Sewer, the new appellation of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), as well as American Water Resources Insurance Services. What is this; is it legit?

In bold and all caps the solicitation says IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SAN FRANCISCO HOMEOWNERS. The Subject is Homeowner Service Line Repair Responsibility. The text suggests the homeowner is to “enroll,” if you’re responsible. Don’t be fooled: you’re being sold insurance. Do you have a choice? Yes you do, although the letter veils it.

SFPUC did authorize the use of its logo and name.

What the reader of this Notice letter does not discover is that SFPUC receives \$3.61 per month per enrollee. SFPUC expects to receive more than one million dollars. If the enrollee picks the plan that covers both water and sewer lines, SFPUC skims

28% right off the top.

This is your trusted local water agency? The one you and your family with pure



trust to provide you water, continuously, and sewer service? In bed with a sleazy insurance company?

The actual insurance company turns out to be Virginia Surety Company, Inc. out of Chicago. But you only find that out if you make a call and get

referred to the online Terms — to which many will “agree” without ever reading.

American Water Resources has long-time connections with SFPUC. AWR was one of two bidders for this business. Usually the low bidder wins.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SAN FRANCISCO HOMEOWNERS

148/0/5 ***** ECRWSS ** C022

SUBJECT: Homeowner Service Line Repair Responsibility

“Don’t be fooled: you’re being sold insurance. Do you have a choice? Yes you do...”

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/lawrence.html#feb20

Your Subscription to the Westside Observer keeps us going!

☐ I’m In! I want make sure the new online *Westside Observer* keeps telling it like it is.

Subscriber ☐ \$30 | Benefactor ☐ \$60 | Patron ☐ \$120 | Angel ☐ \$200 | Other _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Make checks to: Westside San Francisco Media

Mail to: PO Box 27176, SF 94127

☐ Subscribe/Donate online (Paypal): www.westsideobserver.com/donate.html

West Of Twin Peaks Central Council by Mitch Bull

The meeting of January 2020 for the West of Twin Peaks Central Council featured a robust turnout, with 18 people in attendance. President Mark Scardina opened the meeting at 7:35 and a roll call was made verifying a quorum.

Scardina started the officers' reports by giving a short president's report, detailing that a letter was sent to Supervisor Yee confirming the WOTPCC's opposition to the Edgehill Way project, which was voted on last month. The proposed project is 5 houses at Kensington and Vasquez. The SFPD Park Station has a new Captain and Scardina has been trying to have someone from the station speak to so far, no one has. The president asked consider volunteer-the WOTPCC web-a commitment of month. The coun-application from Forest Association) and a vote month. Finally, he that several people District 7 supervi-that candidates not paingning hat" while at the WOTPCC or the council.

Treasurer Caro-financial report. has \$5598.43 in the dues statements Any organization that does not pay by June loses its voting privileges until the account has been cleared.

George Wooding gave a public health update on the Coronavirus, explaining that all U.S. personnel have been evacuated from Wuhan and are being routed through Alaska, then to Ontario in SoCal. He stressed that everyone should treat this the same way as the flu virus; wash hands often and stay home if ill. The virus seems to be similar to the SARS virus in 2002 where approximately 800 people died worldwide.

No reports were given by the Secretary, or Open Space committees.

Stephen Martin-Pinto represented the WOTPCC at the SF Policy Advisory meeting to discuss the Downtown Congestion



President Mark Scardina



Stephen Martin-Pinto, Secretary

The Chronicle Needs to Experiment With Reality

by Lou Barberini, CPA



The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has been relying on the Chronicle's "news analyses" as the basis for policy decisions when it comes to closing Juvenile Hall and planning to build Navigation Centers (homeless shelters) throughout the west side.

The Chronicle relied entirely on a study by a solo graduate student ... simultaneously working for the Department of Homelessness (HSH), as unbiased work, and justification for proposing homeless shelters on the west side where the homeless currently don't reside."

Yet there is overwhelming evidence the Chronicle's analyses have been either sloppy or inaccurate.

- Important elements of outstanding gun-toting juvenile suspect descriptions appear to be censored.
- The Chronicle forgot to include the five-homicide Orinda Halloween crime spree in Bay Area homicide totals.
- Chronicle staff considers crimes that are committed without an arrested suspect as not crimes at all. Tell that to the victim.
- The Chronicle relied entirely on a study by a solo graduate student, who, it was reported, simultaneously working for the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), as unbiased work, and justification for

Setting the Record Straight: Recent CCSF Story

In our December-January issue of the Westside Observer, columnist George Wooding authored a story on salaries at the City College of San Francisco. In the course of the story, he made a statement, "In 2013, after years of fiscal mismanagement and possible corruption, the State Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) threatened to revoke CCSF's accreditation."

We strive to research and get the facts correct, and although the ACCJC had cited issues in its efforts to revoke CCSF's accreditation, it is important to note that after reviewing the findings of the lawsuit brought by the City of San Francisco, the subsequent ruling by Judge Karnow focused on ACCJC actions that were discredited, and deemed unlawful. As a result, the process to revoke CCSF's accreditation was stopped.

In 2017 CCSF was re-accredited by the ACCJC for a seven-year period after a thorough review of academic and fiscal management policies and procedures. There were no areas where fiscal mismanagement was found. This finding is relevant to the story and should have been included in the article.

We believe in accuracy and we apologize to the CCSF community for this oversight. We steadfastly support the mission and efforts of CCSF to bring high-quality, affordable education to the residents of San Francisco. Errors were made in the writing and editing of this piece and we are taking steps to ensure that these types of errors do not occur in the future.

Mitch Bull
Doug Comstock - Editor

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/WOTPCC.htm#feb20 More Barberini at westsideobserver.com/news/barberini.html#feb20

Moliga

Democratic County Central Committee

I'm a member of San Francisco's School Board, a parent and mental health professional, who grew up in San Francisco's projects and graduated from Balboa High School.

On the School Board I've worked with SFUSD staff, educators, parents, community organizations and city government to:

- Create affordable housing for educators
- Expand mental health services for students and families
- Secure funding for underserved schools

I'm running for the DCCC in Assembly District 19 to:

- Build access and opportunity in the Democratic party for underserved communities
- Endorse candidates and propositions that are committed to serving working people and families
- Work to get Democrats elected on the local, state and national level

Master of Social Work, San Jose State University
Community Builder Award, The Perlman Foundation
McCoy Award, YMCA San Francisco Association

SUPPORTERS TO DATE

United Educators of San Francisco
SF Women's Political Committee
San Francisco Labor Council

Supervisor Gordon Mar
Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Supervisor Matt Haney
Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Richmond District Democratic Club
D11 Democratic Club

BART Board Director Bevan Dufty
BART Board Director Janice Li
Former Supervisor Jane Kim
Former Supervisor Sophie Maxwell
Former Supervisor David Campos

Please vote for me on March 3rd

Leadership We Need

Faauga Moliga FOR DCCC / AD 19

Advertisement Paid for by Moliga for Democratic County Central Committee 2020 • FPPC #1420063 • Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org

"It's a Newspaper's Duty to Print the News and Raise Hell"

A Civic Duty: Digitize Neighborhood News

by Patrick Monette-Shaw

The deckhead for this article is a Wilbur Storey quote 159 years ago in an 1861 article in the then-*Chicago Times*. Back then, newspapers and journalists were unafraid of taking on the "Establishment" and raising some hell. It's a sentiment widely held by those of us who've been privileged to publish in the *Westside Observer* over the years, and with which I strongly agree.

As the *Observer* migrates to an on-line-only news outlet printing the real news, please continue to support us as we start our new journey in raising hell.

The City's mainstream media are not covering the real news of our hyper-local neighborhood communities, and in particular are not covering neighborhood and local news in granular detail as we do here at the *Westside Observer*.

Indeed, 50 years ago *Time Magazine* published an [article](#)¹ in November 1970 noting large-circulation mainstream newspapers tend to be part of the Establishment, and, therefore, part of the problem. The *Time* article reported "*San Francisco's Examiner and Chronicle, for instance, are so comfortably settled that the ... City has become one of the worst-newspapered cities in America.*"

Time went on to praise Bruce Bruggmann, publisher of the former *San Francisco Bay Guardian Weekly*, for improving the state of journalism in San Francisco.

During the past 50 years, the *Examiner* has gotten somewhat better after it added reporters Joe Fitzgerald Rodriguez, Laura Waxman, Joshua Sabatini, and others. But the *Chronicle* continues to omit covering local news in-depth, when not altogether, and buries local news often in the back pages of its paper. That leaves us still being one of the worst-newspapered cities!

Because the mainstream media ignores

the problem of inadequate local news coverage, it's left to our local neighborhood newspapers to flesh out details of local news.

As citizen-journalists, *Observer* columnists share a sense of duty to dissent by researching news that affects our neighborhoods, and to build opposition to City policies where needed. We're here as an antidote to flesh out and publish news and raise hell! And we're intent on evolving with the times.

The *Westside Observer* has been a leading source of neighborhood news on the west side of San Francisco for the past 12 years, and even before it took over the *West of Twin Peaks Observer*. In 2008, the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association had 20 local monthlies in the City. But with the recent news the *Observer* is ending its print edition, there will now be only eight neighborhood monthly newspapers in print in the entire City. Like other neighborhood papers, the *Observer* is expanding its former web site into an on-line-only publication.

The *Observer* grew into the best damn newspaper in town with great leadership from its publishers and a stable of contributing authors covering the entire spectrum of topics — from neighborhood issues not covered at all by our local daily newspapers to in-depth reporting, analyses, and commentary on citywide issues also not covered in any meaningful



The *Westside Observer* has been a leading source of neighborhood news on the west side of San Francisco for the past 12 years, and even before it took over the *West of Twin Peaks Observer*.

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/patrick2017.html#feb20

"Community Property" Can Be More Expensive



by Lou Barberini, CPA

If you don't have a living trust, a married couple should not hold their property titled as "community property." Huh? If your house or brokerage account is titled as "community property," a surviving spouse will pay a probate tax when they receive their deceased spouse's share.

If your house or brokerage account is titled as "community property," a surviving spouse will pay a probate tax when they receive their deceased spouse's share.

Example: Assume the combined value of a couple's house and brokerage account is \$2 million. Currently, when the first spouse dies the surviving spouse will not be subject to federal estate tax, and California imposes no death taxes. However, there will be about a \$33,000 probate tax just to prove that the deceased spouse wanted his/her assets to go their surviving spouse.

If you don't have a living trust but add four simple words to the title of your property or your brokerage accounts, you can avoid the \$33,000 probate tax. Adding to Joe and Mary Smith Community Property "With Rights of Survivorship," or the abbreviation "WROS," will eliminate the probate tax.

Adding "With Rights of Survivorship" will not trigger any capital gains, transfer taxes, or an increase in property taxes. Nor should "With Rights of Survivorship" be considered a substitute for a will or how you want to be treated if you become ill.

Think about it: Both death and taxes are the only 100% certainties in life. By adding four simple words to the title of your property or brokerage account, you can avoid a 100% certain probate tax. (This doesn't apply to titling 401k or IRA accounts.)

Lou Barberini, CPA has an MBA in Taxation and the American Institute of CPAs' financial planning designation. Lou acts as a fiduciary and conducts financial planning and investment guidance through NICH Capital Partners. All assets are held at Charles Schwab Lou@nichcapitalpartners.com

More
INSIDE

Kocivar on Education 4
Crime Report 4
Homeless Plan 4
Cannabis Quagmire 5
Letters to the Editor. 5

Joanne Hoepfer's Op-Ed 5
Environmentalk. 6
Will Durst Update 4
Real Travel with Sergio 7
Around the Town. 7
People Profile 7

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp



As the March 3, 2020 primary election looms large or small, depending upon your outlook, my voting recommendations clamor (in my mind) for expression. It was once observed: "An election year is when a lot of politicians get free speech mixed up with cheap talk." The local measures and candidacies in our "one-party" jurisdiction include three judgeship elections without incumbents. I've interviewed and endorsed three candidates whose credentials justify success.

Pang Va Ly, Esq. is a remarkable woman, Chinese-American, born in Vietnam. Her parents succeeded through Lutheran church sponsorship in escaping Vietnam by water for Springfield, Missouri with their five children. Ms. Ly graduated from University of Missouri and then Missouri School of Law. She practiced law in the county prosecutor's office, then a national law firm in St. Louis, married, and moved to San Francisco. Her husband and she live in Dolores Heights. After a stint as an assistant district attorney, she was appointed by the San Francisco Superior Court judges as a court commissioner. For over three years, she has presided in Small Claims Court, Traffic Court, and special courts at 400 McAllister Street.

Dorothy Chou Proudfoot, Esq. constitutes the far better candidate for a second vacant Superior Court office, with strong experience as a Marin County prosecutor and Rent Board administrative judge.

Kulvinder "Rani" Singh, Esq. merits support for the third vacant judicial office. She was promoted to supervising attorney

QUENTIN'S CHEAT SHEET

State Measure Prop 13	No
U.S. Representative	John Dennis
Superior Court Judge	Pang Ly
Superior Court Judge	Dorothy Proudfoot
Superior Court Judge	Kulvinder Singh
City Measure Prop A	No
City Measure Prop B	No
City Measure Prop C	Yes
City Measure Prop D	No
City Measure Prop E	Yes

perhaps to ensure Republican John Dennis succeeds in attaining general election status in November by placing second behind Nancy Pelosi to thwart a radical Democratic candidate who would deprive voters of any realistic choice in November.

Of four local ballot measures, only two warrant affirmation, namely, **Proposition C**, which provides retiree health benefits for former San Francisco Housing Authority employees. **Proposition A** is a City College \$845,000,000 potpourri bond for "job training, repair, and earthquake safety." With interest over 30 years, taxpayers, including renters, will pay \$1,500,000,000 or more, depending on interest rates.

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/quentin11.html#feb20

Is City Hall Getting Nervous?



by George Wooding

Mayor London Breed is falling down.

The Mayor recently wrote on her blog of accepting a \$5600 gift from Department of Public Works (DPW) head Mohammed Nuru and she did not report it for over one year. Nuru was recently arrested on public corruption charges stemming from an FBI investigation into transactions involving restaurateur and non-profit head Nick Bovis.

Why is it that only the FBI can find criminal malfeasance in a City with only one political party?

Sources tell me that many Top City Officials are worried that Nuru is about to negotiate a plea bargain deal naming

... City Officials are worried that Nuru is about to negotiate a plea bargain deal naming names as he is facing twenty years in prison."

of Urban Gardeners (SLUG), a city-funded nonprofit that tended to community gardens and provided job training. As early as 1999, the *Bay Guardian* reported that Nuru used SLUG employees to actively campaign to elect and then re-elect Willie Brown as Mayor.¹

In 2004, the City Attorney's Office investigated Nuru's former non-profit, SLUG, and found that it also coerced employees into supporting the campaigns of Gavin Newsom and former District Attorney Kamala Harris.

In 2011, Nuru was appointed to become the director of DPW by Mayor Lee.

District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen stated, "*It – the \$5,600 gift – is a huge problem and I believe that she needs to resign.*"

District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar states, "*I believe Mayor Breed should do the right thing and temporarily step back from her duties until a full, independent investigation can be completed.*"

District 6 Supervisor Matt Haney was quoted in Joe Fitzgerald's *Examiner* column: "*She absolutely cannot take a \$5,600 gift from a subordinate and not report it*

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/wooding.html#feb20

Taraval Station Community Meeting

Tuesday, March 17 • 6 pm – 7 pm at Taraval Police Station • taraval.org



TARAVAL STATION Crime Report

Saturday | February 1

Stolen Vehicle – Possession of Stolen Property
3:30 pm | 00 Edgar Pl
Officers located and detained the suspects, who had attempted to flee the area but a search of the stolen vehicle revealed numerous items that belong to several different victims. The suspects were arrested.

Sunday | February 2

Stolen Vehicle – Possession of Stolen Property
9:15 pm | 1200 La Playa St
Officers saw a vehicle make a U-turn, blocking all the traffic lanes. A computer check on the vehicle revealed that it had been stolen. They detained the driver, who was arrested.

Tuesday | February 4

Robbery
9:56 pm | Lobos St & Plymouth Ave
The victim said he was about to exit his bus with his cell phone in hand, when the suspect ran up to him and began hitting his head. He dropped his phone and the suspect grabbed it and fled the area.

Wednesday | February 5

Robbery
5:28 pm | 3200 20th Ave
The victim was sitting in front of a store at the mall with his cell phone when a group of suspects surrounded him. One of the suspects snatched the phone and exited the mall. He tried to follow the suspects but they pushed him on to the ground, punching and kicking him, then fled.

Thursday | February 6

Robbery
4:57 pm | 400 Eucalyptus Dr
The victim was suddenly approached by the suspect who threatened him and demanded his property. After he handed over his cell phone, the suspect told him to walk away and not look back.

Friday | February 7

Robbery
4:31 pm | 1100 Plymouth Ave
A man was walking from a store when the suspect suddenly approached, demanded with threats. He tried to protect his cell phone (in his front pocket). The suspect grabbed and twisted the his thumb to seize the phone and fled northbound on Plymouth Ave toward Ocean Ave.

Saturday | February 8

Robbery

6:18 pm | 2200 Taraval St
After using the ATM that he had waited for, the suspect approached him for money. He declined and the suspect brandished a knife, pointing it at him. He gave the suspect some money and he left. Responding officers him and he was arrested.

Attempted Robbery
6:54 am | 22nd Ave & Taraval St
Officers responded to a report of a robbery. The victim reported that she had been holding her cell phone with earplugs on when the suspect suddenly appeared and attempted to steal her phone. The victim screamed for help which caused the suspect to immediately flee.

Assault
4:10 pm | 200 Montalvo Ave
A driver said he honked at car that was driving erratically and passed the car after it pulled over. But the suspect began to tailgate him, bumping into the his car. He got out and confronted the suspect, who pepper sprayed him before driving away.

Sunday | February 9

Arson of a Vehicle – Arrested
9:42 pm | San Jose Ave & Mt Vernon Ave
A witness said he had saw the suspect setting fire to something and throwing it into a car, causing a fire. Officers investigating determined it was the owner of the car who set it on fire, and he was arrested.

Vehicle Strip – Arrested
7:31 am | Great Hwy & Judah St
A man who was walking his dog heard suspicious noises coming from underneath a car, then saw the suspect slide out from under the car, holding a saw and several pieces of metal. The suspect entered a waiting vehicle and fled. Responding officers found the suspect and he was arrested.

Friday | February 14

Arson of a Vehicle – Arrested Robbery
10:38 pm | 1200 18th Ave
The victim, a man and his wife, said they were walking when two suspects approached them and attacked them, then fled the area with their property.

Friday | February 17

Stolen Vehicle – Arrested
9:26 am | 2200 15th Ave
Officers checked on a reported occupied suspicious vehicle, finding it had been stolen from Piedmont. The suspect was detained and after further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

Note: This is a truncated version of the reports, for a complete report go to taraval.org

The California New Deal - Care for the Homeless

by John Farrell

I am a fifth generation San Franciscan but can't believe what I have been seeing over the last several years. Last month I was walking my dogs up Pacheco Street and a woman in her early thirties in a windbreaker walked up to me and started talking. As she talked she became incoherent as she rambled about her being sexually abused when she was younger and about her brothers in the army using iPhones to listen to our every word. As she started becoming crazier and crazier I crossed the street to get away and protect my dogs. She started spitting at me and yelling profanities and that she wanted to kill me.

The prior week a man walked into the Marina Safeway and crapped in the aisle where the toilet paper was. Our per-

study of the causes of homelessness in CA by the State's Health and Human Agency working with the University of California

“As she started becoming crazier and crazier I crossed the street to get away and protect my dogs. She started spitting at me and yelling profanities and that she wanted to kill me.”

sonal property crimes are the highest in the nation, people are shooting up on the streets and drugs sold without consequences. We are losing conventions and our City is known around the world as the “Poop City.” This is becoming the norm in our city unless the quiet majority starts speaking up. Yes I am talking to you.

A year has gone since our governor took office, and President Trump has been continuously criticizing him and state leaders for failing to fix the homeless problem, threatening to provide federal intervention. Our governor just created a new homeless plan to spend more money, identify state land for shelters, designating 100 state fleet trailers for temporary housing, and calling for a

researchers.

Let's save the state at least a couple of hundreds thousands on a homeless cause study. Here is how we got there and here is how to fix it.

In 1963 President John F Kennedy signed the Community Mental Health Act that transferred the responsibility of mentally ill patients from the state to the federal government. This was to create a network of community mental health care centers where mentally ill people could live in the community and receive the care they need. However less than a month after signing the Act he was assassinated.

In 1965 Congress enacted Medicare and Medicaid, which provided benefits to mentally disabled people living in the



Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/farrell.html#feb20

Education Carol Kocivar ©2020

Forget the Oscars. The most inspiring and entertaining shows this month are student performances from schools throughout San Francisco.

The annual SFUSD Arts Festival-- from March 21 to March 29 -- celebrates student creativity in visual, literary, media, and performing arts

You get a chance to see it live and in person at the Asian Art Museum in the Civic Center. Each day will feature different exhibits and performances.

To find out what's on the event calendar, just go to the **2020 SFUSD Arts Festival** web site to find festival highlights and a daily calendar.

There is nothing better than seeing children in live performance. And even if it is not your own child, there is that palpable sense of pride and excitement to watch the culmination of hard work and practice and engagement.

San Francisco is a leader in arts education. From its ground breaking Arts Master Plan to this annual festival, community understanding that the arts are essential to learning is a core value of San Francisco public schools.

Here are a couple more arts celebrations to put on your calendar:

7th Annual Mariachi Festival March 19
• 6:00 - 8:00 pm Mission HS This special concert of mariachi and ballet folklórico celebrates the 7th year of the mariachi program in San Francisco Unified School District. This special concert will be presented in the beautiful Mission High School Auditorium. Special guests include local favorites Folklórico Cuicacalli.

Ruth Asawa School of the Arts
There are a variety of student performance and exhibits. Just check out their web site Box Office.²

Lowell High School
The musical **Into the Woods** will be performed Thursday, March 19 to Sunday, March 22. www.mtishows.com/production/into-the-woods-2148


Carol Kocivar is a children's advocate and lives in the Westside. Feedback: kocivar@westsideobserver.com



Catch more Kocivar on Education at westsideobserver.com/columns/kocivar2011.html#feb20

You Live It
We'll Frame It

Fine Custom Framing
since 1978



348 West Portal Avenue
(415) 759-2002

SFUSD
Arts Festival

A Citywide Celebration of Student Creativity

MAR 21–29, 2020

 **ASIAN ART MUSEUM**
200 Larkin Street
(Civic Center)

 **SFUSD VISUAL
AND PERFORMING
ARTS DEPARTMENT**
415.379.7023
www.sfusd.edu



Cannabis Quagmire Foils City's Goals

by Dr. Derek Kerr

Cannabis in San Francisco¹, the 12/5/19 Controller's Report on the legalized adult-use/recreational marijuana industry, shows how efforts to curb the illegal market while helping those injured by the War on Drugs can backfire.

In 2016, 74% of San Francisco voters passed California Proposition 64, allowing the production and sale of cannabis for adults over 21 without a prescription. Since January 2018, these recreational marijuana products have been tracked from "seed to sale" to ensure consumer safety and prevent illegal diversion.

With this mandate, the Board of Super-

amnesty program so some illicit operators could enter the legal market by complying with regulations. The Office of Cannabis³ was set up to manage these processes. The Controller's Office monitors the impacts of permitted cannabis operations.

The land-use Ordinance worked, as shown by the Office of Cannabis location



"This quagmire burdens taxpayers... In 2018-19 it collected \$360,000, about half of its operating budget. Those fees came from existing businesses. But in 2019-20 it will collect zero application fees due to the logjam. Yet, its operating budget will top \$1 million."



Doors are open at 2161 Irving St.

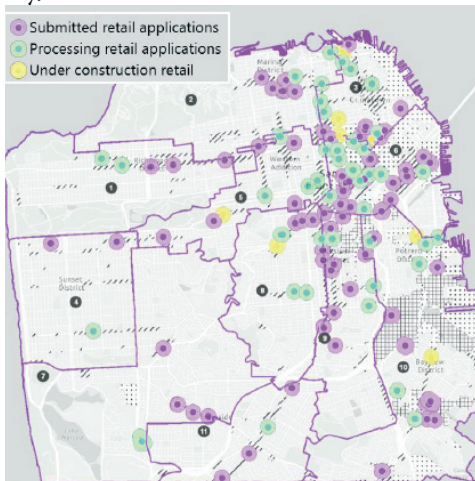
visors passed Ordinance 229-17 that keeps cannabis businesses 600 feet away from schools and largely in East-side locations and along commercial corridors. Then Ordinance 230-17² set up a permitting process. It included an Equity Program that prioritized persons disadvantaged by the War on Drugs, and an

map.⁴ At this time, the only Westside storefront dispensary that offers both recreational and medicinal cannabis is Barbary Coast Sunset at 2161 Irving Street, because the two on Ocean Avenue are closed for renovations. But the permitting Ordinance created a self-defeating solution.

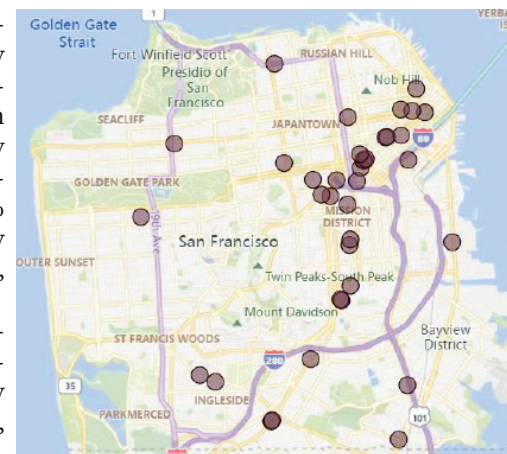
REGULATORY LOGJAM: Although 212 cannabis businesses are authorized, only 118 are currently operating. That's way less than the 387 operating in Oakland. Of these 118 operating businesses, 39 are store-front retailers and all were pre-existing or pre-approved Medical Cannabis Dispensaries. Likewise, the authorized

delivery-only retailers, growers, manufacturers, and distributors were already in place. New businesses have been stymied. That's because Equity Program applicants hold top priority. By City law, no other applicants can be considered until the equity entrants get 50% of all permits issued. Only three equity entrants have been approved to date, hence the backlog.

EQUITY REVERSAL: Equity Program applicants must meet strict criteria involving income, City residency and school attendance, loss of housing, or arrests for cannabis-related crimes. Then, they need departmental approvals from SFPD, Cannabis, Planning, Public Health, Building Inspections and Fire, where equity applicants get no priority. Because of this grueling complexity, and because the Office of Cannabis



Retail Storefront Locations of Proposed Equity Business (currently in queue). Out of 183 applications from equity applicants, 133 are applying for storefront retail. The proposed locations are heavily concentrated in Civic Center, Union Square, the Mission and SOMA.



Cannabis Storefront Retailers in San Francisco

Storefronts are heavily clustered in the Mission District and along the Market Street corridor. Note: Delivery-only retail operators not shown.

has just 3 full-time equivalent employees, it takes 18 to 24 months to get a permit. Languishing in the pipeline are 133 equity applications - just for store-front dispensaries. Another 144 await approvals for delivery-only outfits or cultivation, manufacturing or distribution operations. The backlog is so bad that new equity applicants face an additional 6 month delay before being considered. As for non-equity applicants, they're shut out entirely.

Meanwhile, equity applicants are crushed by expenses since they must maintain a site for their proposed businesses. Rent alone can amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars while waiting for a permit. So, already-disadvantaged equity applicants are forced into debt. Or, they sell ownership shares to well-heeled investors or multi-state cannabis companies. Either way, the aims of the Equity Program are thwarted.

But Who Will Watch the Watchdog?

by Joanne Hoepfer

The recent federal charges against former San Francisco Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru raise serious questions about an ongoing culture of corruption at City Hall. City Attorney Dennis Herrera has now announced that he is issuing subpoenas related to that scandal. The irony here is palpable. On the very day the City Attorney made his announcement, the California Court of Appeal affirmed a \$5 million jury verdict against the City Attorney's Office for firing its chief trial deputy after she blew the whistle on fraudulent practices in the City Attorney's Office itself.

This raises a very troubling question: who will watch the official who is supposed to be the watchdog at City Hall?

I am the former chief trial deputy Dennis Herrera fired for blowing the whistle. I was fired because I discovered and reported that the City Attorney's Office Claims Unit was paying contractors to "fix" privately-owned sewers that weren't broken, a scheme that cost taxpayers millions. In March 2017, a unanimous San Francisco jury found that the City Attorney had illegally retaliated against me.

When this paper reported last week that the Court of Appeal had affirmed the jury's verdict, the City Attorney's spokesperson claimed that the lawsuit was simply "an employment dispute" and tried to sweep the ruling under the rug.

It's been seven years since I first reported on the fraud in my former office. I spoke up in 2012 to protect the City I love, and as a result, I lost the career I loved. I had hoped that a multi-million dollar unanimous jury

verdict would have triggered questions and an independent review of the Claims Unit. I was wrong.

The City Attorney's Office would have you believe that "there is no there there," that a few million dollars is no big

"The City Attorney's Office would have you believe... a few million dollars is no big deal, and that what goes on in the Claims Unit is just fine, and now you should trust it to conduct an impartial and thorough investigation into the allegations that led to the arrest of Mr. Nuru."

deal, and that what goes on in the Claims Unit is just fine, and now you should trust it to conduct an impartial and thorough investigation into the allegations that led to

the arrest of Mr. Nuru.

I urge San Franciscans to insist that the City Attorney's Office get its own house in order before entrusting it to investigate other City departments and officials. Look beyond the glib denials and take a close look at the evidence I presented at trial - all of which is a matter of public record and summarized in the Court's decision.

If you look, you will see evidence that a Claims Unit employee initiated and paid claims to a company owned by a close friend who employed his son. The claims are illegal because the company falsely pretended to be a homeowner whose



(In a sadly unsurprising turn of events, the employee's son was later hired by Mr. Nuru.) The same Claims Unit employee also engaged in a complicated scheme apparently intended to disguise double payments of public money to another close personal friend. There's much more. And the attorney who personally approved these fraudulent claims and many others is still in charge of the Claims Unit.

I was fired before I could complete my investigation. The City Attorney hoped that would be the end of it. It's long past time for an independent agency to conduct a thorough review of the City Attorney's Claims Unit, look into other "pay to play" practices which have gone on for years at City Hall, suggest reforms and make referrals for criminal prosecution if appropriate.

If the City Attorney's Office truly believes it has nothing to hide, it should welcome an independent review. San Franciscans deserve to know the full story of what went on in the Claims Unit, and under Mr. Nuru's watch in the Department of Public Works. More importantly, San Franciscans deserve to be able to trust that anything the City Attorney's Office does in response to recent headlines will be thorough and impartial. They must be able to trust the watchdog.

Joanne Hoepfer is the former Chief Trial Deputy at the City Attorney's Office

Letters to the Editor

Re: SFPD and the FBI article in Westside Observer

I have been away from the city for over seven weeks and so I did not have a chance to read Dr. Kerr's informative front page article in the December 2019/January 2020 of the *Westside Observer* until today.

Thank you for publishing your article in a paper where I have access as I normally don't read The Mission Local or The Intercept. But I do read the *Westside Observer* where I find Dr. Kerr's articles and the articles of other local writers worth reading.

Next, since I've been away, I also didn't

know about the hearing with Supervisor Mar on this matter. Do I contact him about the status of the investigation of the Joint Terrorism Task Force? And what about the ACLU lawyer? I would guess they both need to hear support from the community or in my case, Supervisor Mar is my district supe.

Are you planning to write a follow up article?

Finally, thank you for all that you have done to keep residents informed!

Herbert F. Mintz II

It's all at: westsideobserver.com

WESTSIDE OBSERVER

www.westsideobserver.com

Award Winning News for the Neighborhood

Society of Professional Journalists, Nor Cal Chapter



PO Box 27176, SF 94127
Published by
Westside San Francisco Media

Editor: Doug Comstock
editor@westsideobserver.com

Ad Sales • Mitch Bull

Contributors: Lou Barberini, Mitch Bull, Julie Casson, Doug Comstock, Will Durst, John Farrell, Jonathan Farrell, Tony Hall, Joanne Hoepfer, Katherine Howard, Dr. Derek Kerr, Carol Kocivar, Quentin Kopp, Steve Lawrence, Glenn Rogers, Patrick Monette-Shaw, Sergio Nibbi, Nancy Wuerfel, George Wooding.

The ideas and opinions expressed in these pages are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff or publisher of this paper. The *Westside Observer* is a free monthly newspaper serving the entire West of Twin Peaks area of San Francisco. Circulation is 18,000 copies, distributed 10 times a year. 16,000 are distributed -to-door, 2000 are distributed via free distribution racks in the West of Twin Peaks area, as well as libraries and other key drop-off points (see westsideobserver.com/hardcopy.html).

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kathy Howard

As part of Golden Gate Park's 150th Anniversary celebration, the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Park is implementing two projects in the historic Music Concourse that could be detrimental to the very parkland and cultural features the department is seeking to celebrate.

The first project will place a **150 foot tall ferris wheel** in the Music Concourse for up to one year. This towering structure will be lighted from dusk to 10 p.m. every night. Furthermore, after the wheel is shut down for the night, bright LED-based security lighting will light the structure

be twice as tall as the Bandshell, reaching the same height as the currently free tower on the De Young Museum.

The second proposal is to **light the historic Music Bandshell and to attach a modern sound system** to a structure that was designed to act as a natural acoustic

For the 150th Anniversary of Golden Gate Park, events that give the public the opportunity to enjoy nature, that teach about climate change, and that spur people to action to save life on our planet before it is too late, would more truly celebrate the park than an urban, mechanized carnival ride."

from 10 p.m. to dawn every morning. For \$18. a person, the public may ride in an enclosed glass booth, cut off from the nature and parkland surrounding it, and listen to an audio narration of the 'views.' It should be noted that the ferris wheel will reflector.

In addition to the impact on all wildlife of more amplified sound in the Park, combining bright lighting with glassed-in booths on a rotating wheel is a recipe for disaster for birds.



Golden Gate Park is known primarily for its naturalistic landscape. An important part of this landscape has been the wildlife, which gives 'life' to the park and which many visitors come to the park to experience. Wildlife requires nighttime darkness and quiet to thrive and even in some cases to survive. However, in recent years, intrusive artificial light and amplified sound have been added to more and more formerly dark and quiet areas of the Park.

The anniversary celebration in the Music Concourse will take place during the nesting and spring and fall migrations. And yet, SF Environment has approved these projects without even considering a full CEQA process to evaluate the potential impacts in an Environmental Impact Report. Many environmental and wildlife organizations are concerned about the combined impacts of these projects...The

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/environment.html#feb20

Serving Food as Good as Our Prices are Low

Where Friends Meet

TENNESSEE GRILL

1128 Taraval St. • (415) 664-7834 • Open 6am-9pm

My 2¢ • Will Durst

Will Durst fans who have been concerned by his recent health crisis will take some solace from Durst's facebook fan page¹ — though we would all like to see him back onstage doing the sharp-witted and hilarious shtick that only he can do. At least we can all get a bit of the Durst fix online.

While we will all be looking forward to his recovery, we respect his wife, Debi's wishes to "keep the stroke quiet and among family at the onset to allow for the most restful possible recovery, making extra certain that the news didn't make its way to social media." We will keep everyone updated as we learn how his health progresses.

Endnotes

1 <https://www.facebook.com/115887861781406/videos/1747065078663668/>

MAYOR LONDON BREED

Mayor London Breed, Supervisor Norman Yee, the San Francisco Democratic Party and the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods ENDORSE:

YES ON B

798

SUPERVISOR NORMAN YEE

UPGRADE

911 call centers so San Franciscans can connect with lifesaving services when they need it most.

RETROFIT

fire stations, police stations, and public safety buildings to be seismically sound.

REPLACE

our city's deteriorating cisterns, pipes, and tunnels.

STRENGTHEN

our emergency water system so firefighters have access to a reliable water supply.

JOIN SF FIREFIGHTERS AND VOTE YES ON B. BY MAIL OR ON MARCH 3.

Ad paid for by Yes on B, sponsored by the San Francisco Firefighters Local 798.

Committee major funding from:

1. Christian Larsen (\$100,000)
2. San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798 PAC (\$25,010)
3. San Francisco Police Officers Association Issues PAC (\$25,000)

Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org



February/March

It's been a lot of fun...As you have already seen from the front page, the *Observer* is changing to meet the times and move digitally into the future. Our longtime editor, Doug Comstock, is heading a group that is purchasing the *Westside Observer* and the website. The organization has a dedicated and passionate group of contributors, writers, columnists and readers. My wife and I have had the honor and pleasure of operating the *Observer* for 12 years and we believe we have made a very positive impact on bringing information to readers West of Twin Peaks. We have met many wonderful people through this journey, local merchants who became friends, all of the delegates of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council, many politicians and staff that work to make the City a better place, and citizens who come up to us on the street and want to share a thing or two (Including readers who don't always agree with the points of view in our pages). We thank all of you for this wonderful experience and are eager to see how the *Observer* continues to bring the local neighborhood-centric news to the westside.

You can be involved! Get in touch with them at wsonews@gmail.com and get on the email list.

More Great Local Events:

Mark your Calendars: The West Portal Avenue Art Stroll is back in April... on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19th the Annual West Portal Avenue Art Stroll brings over 40 artisans to the neighborhood to showcase their work. The exhibitors will bring a diverse selection of creations ranging from paintings and ceramics to jewelry, photography and more. The event is free to the public and is open from 10am-5pm both days. Located on West Portal Avenue between 14th and Ulloa, it is presented by the West Portal Avenue Association.



Art by Eileen Goldenberg

**WEST PORTAL
SIDEWALK ART STROLL**

West Portal Avenue between 15th and Ulloa
40 Professional Artists
Boutique • Handcrafted • Art al Fresco

**APRIL
18-19
Sat - Sun
10am - 5pm**

Presented by
The West Portal Avenue
Merchants Association

Pacific Fine Arts Festivals
pacificfinearts.com

Other SFPL Events - We are fortunate to have one of the great library systems in the country. The SFPL conducts wonderful events at all of their branches and we have featured them in the column over the past 12 years. From "Tech Help for Seniors and Adults" to "Storytime for Babies" there is something each day of the week for everyone in the family. Take advantage of their programming by visiting - www.sfpl.org

Merced Branch • 155 Winston Drive (at 19th Avenue) • (415) 355-2825
West Portal Branch • 190 Lenox Way at Ulloa • (415) 355-2886
Ingleside Branch • 1298 Ocean Avenue • (415) 355-2898

ALL PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY ARE FREE • www.sfpl.org

Bluegrass Bonanza! ... West Portal Avenue's own Shelby Ash (The Music Store) presents music reflecting the best of "new" bluegrass and Americana music.

Do you have an event, a neighborhood fact or just an observation to share? Drop us a line at mitch@westsideobserver.com and share your ideas or just let us know what you think.

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/aroundTown.html#feb20



**Jennifer
Rosdail**
REAL ESTATE SALES
a KWSF Partner

Creating wealth and options for our clients since 2002.
San Francisco is my neighborhood

Jennifer@Rosdail.com • 415-269-4663 • www.Living415.com



Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi

Arrivederci

You may be familiar with Lao Tzu's well known phrase, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." For me It all started with a casual lunch with Tony Hall, where I mentioned to him how much I enjoyed his column in the *Westside Observer* and casually mentioned that I too enjoyed writing about our occasional travels to our family and close friends. Tony mentioned that the paper was looking for a travel writer and asked me to send him a sample of my missives.

Never expecting to hear back, the very next day he wrote and said the paper wants to publish the missive that I had sent him. I have never taken any writing classes so obviously I felt honored to be in the company of so many talented writers, and so the adventure began. That simple step was over 10 years ago and approaching 100 issues!!! (And I still have every copy of the paper since I started with my column.)

It's been a great ride but like everything else in life, things happen, and like all our contributors I was deeply saddened when I

learned that the *Westside Observer* would no longer appear in print. Again, borrowing another famous quote from Les Guèpes, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." So, a new adventure begins with the realization that endless trees are saved in the process while our electronic gadgets take over.

You keep reading and we'll keep writing.....it's been a great ride and our deepest thanks for your continued support.

Sergio gets around—the world!



Follow Sergio's wanderings at westsideobserver.com/columns/Travel.html#

Westside People Profile: Alan Wong
by Jonathan Farrell

Alan Wong is a westside San Francisco native and Legislative Aide for District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar. He has a unique life story that has centered around public service to the community.

As a youth Wong attended Herbert Hoover Middle School and graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 2005. Thanks to City College of San Francisco classes he took as a teenager, Wong was able to graduate from University of California, San Diego (UCSD) at age 19 in 2007. Then Wong completed a master's degree in public affairs at the University of San Francisco. After serving as a union organizer for six years, Wong joined Mar's team in January 2019 to work on education, labor, and public safety policy.

"I'm so honored to have this opportunity to serve the community I was born and raised in," Wong said.

As Mar's legislative aide, Wong has helped draft many significant measures impacting the westside community. But there is more to Wong's story of public service.

Wong is also a distinguished officer in the Army National Guard. Army National Guard soldiers undergo the same training as full-time soldiers and return to civilian life when their training is completed. Army National Guard soldiers continue training one weekend a month and have a two week annual training each year. The Army National Guard can be activated by



Lieutenant Alan Wong serves breakfast with the Salvation Army at the Santa Rosa Fairgrounds during the 2017 Tubbs Fire.

the Governor for domestic emergencies and disasters. The Army National Guard can also be activated for federal service.

"I never thought of joining the military," Wong said.

The unexpected path that would lead him to serve his state and country for over ten years began while he was at UCSD.

In 2007, a New York Times article about Army Colonel David Sutherland and his brigade chaplain, Major Charlie Fenton caught his attention. In the midst of some of the most horrific situations in the Middle East, these military leaders made it their duty regardless of the obstacles to be

Continued at westsideobserver.com/news/jonathan_farrell.html#feb20

Holiday Parties at The Cliff House



The Terrace Room

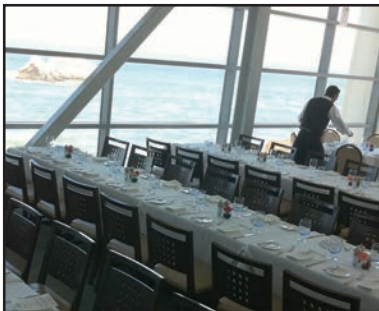
Offering sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean, historic ambiance and delightful cuisine, the Terrace Room is a truly unique private event venue for groups up to 120.

Private Events Direct 415-666-4027
virginia@cliffhouse.com

The Lands End Room

Located in the Sutro's Restaurant, the Lands End Room is a semi-private space for smaller parties of 17-49 offering California cuisine, awesome ocean views and Sutro Baths history.

Large Parties Direct 415-666-4005
halima@cliffhouse.com



Call soon to book your event!

1090 Point Lobos
415-386-3330
cliffhouse.com



2021-2022 BUDGET

HELP SHAPE OUR BUDGET

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) manages the city’s transportation system. Our budget reflects the priorities of our agency and includes potential Muni fare and service changes. We want to know what matters most to you. Here’s how you can share your ideas and priorities:

OPEN HOUSE

March 11 4:00-7:00 PM
(arrive anytime!)

1 South Van Ness Ave.,
2nd floor Atrium

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

March 17 & April 7 at 1:00 PM

City Hall, Room 400
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

CONVERSATION WITH JEFF TUMLIN, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

April 2 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
(connect anytime!)

Twitter: @sfmta_muni
Facebook: SFMTA_Muni
Live feed SFMTA.com/budget

Tweet us your questions by mentioning them with our Twitter handle, @sfmta_muni, and include the hashtag #SFMTAbudget. If you can’t attend the meetings, you can e-mail comments to sfmtabudget@sfmta.com.



[SFMTA.com/Budget](https://www.sfmta.com/Budget)

415.646.2109: For free interpretation services, please submit your request 48 hours in advance of meeting./Para sa libreng serbisyo sa interpretasyon, kailangan mag-request 48 oras bago ang miting./Para servicios de interpretación gratuitos, por favor haga su petición 48 horas antes de la reunión./ 如果需要免費口語翻譯，請於會議之前48小時提出要求。Đối với dịch vụ thông dịch miễn phí, vui lòng gửi yêu cầu của bạn 48 giờ trước cuộc họp./ Для бесплатных услуг устного перевода просьба представить ваш запрос за 48 часов до начала собрания./ Pour les services d’interprétation gratuits, veuillez soumettre votre demande 48 heures avant la réunion./ 무료 통역 서비스를 원하시면 회의 48 시간 전에 귀하의 요청을 제출하십시오./ 無料通訳サービスをご希望の場合は、会議の48時間前までにリクエストを提出してください。/บริการให้ความช่วยเหลือในหลายภาษาด้านภาษาฟรี ณ ที่ประชุมโดยต้องแจ้งล่วงหน้า 48 ชั่วโมง/ يمكن تقديم مساعدة لغوية مجانية في الاجتماع على ان يتم طلب هذه الخدمة قبل الاجتماع بفترة 48 ساعة