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# WESTSIDE OBSERVER

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## A Crisis of Leadership

by Mitch Bull, Publisher

**W**hen asked, ten people will probably have ten different answers on what constitutes leadership. In many cases, leadership has been exhibited by elected officials under times of conflict, tragedy, or turmoil.



I am a journalist and have a strong opinion on the recent mishandling of the events following the SFPD leaked report on the details regarding Public Defender Jeff Adachi's passing. I believe in fact checking, decency, and abhor the sensational publications that line our checkout stands in the supermarket. While I do not condone the leaking of the SFPD report, the right of the freelance journalist who received it to report it, or market it is protected by law, under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and the "Shield Law" of the California Constitution.

The SFPD obtained a search warrant, sledge-hammered the door to the freelance reporter's apartment, handcuffed him for six hours, and confiscated his notes, computers, and materials.

Unfortunately, this is just the latest example of the free press being treated as "enemies of the people" as we have heard from some of those in Washington, the Philippines and other places.

Mayor Breed backed her police chief, failing to condemn the raid, basically saying that she is not a legal expert, but if a judge issued a

**"This is a crisis of leadership. All of our elected officials are sworn to protect the laws of the United States and California. The actions of the SFPD were clearly against the law, and the actions of our elected officials condoning these illegal actions is shameful."**

warrant, it must be OK. Police Chief Bill Scott also supported the raid as a tool to get to the truth about where the leaked report came from. Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer stated that the journalist broke the law by receiving an illegally leaked report (incorrect), and that since he is selling the information the raid is somehow justified.

Now, several weeks later, Chief Scott admits the raid was a mistake and that the SFPD must do better due diligence in its investigations. Are we really expected to believe that he was not involved at the very highest levels when the SFPD applied for a search warrant and conducted the raid, violating the California Constitution and the reporter's civil rights? What about the Superior Court judges who signed off on the search warrants? Surely they have heard of the Shield Law.

The Mayor started waffling in her responses almost immediately, but has never condemned the actions of the SFPD in the raid. Supervisor Fewer continues to "blame" the journalist for making money on the story and also claims she is not a legal expert.

The Shield Law exists for the protection of journalists and the integrity of the free press, one of the cornerstones of democracy. Anyone who is old enough to remember Watergate; "Deep Throat" and the Washington Post knows that leaked confidential information is protected by law.

This is a crisis of leadership. All of our elected officials are sworn to protect the laws of the United States and California. The actions of the SFPD were clearly against the law, and the actions of our elected officials condoning these illegal actions is shameful.

Supervisors Peskin, Haney, Ronen, Brown and Stefani condemned the raid, as did District Attorney George Gascon. Even worse, ten days after the raid we have "no response" from several supervisors, including the President of the Board, Supervisor Norman Yee of District 7. No outrage, no concern for SFPD overreach? No comment on the trampling of free speech or civil rights? Nope, just crickets... still waiting for a comment.

This is not a "We made a mistake moment", or "My Bad". It is a violation of the California Constitution and a blatant attack on the press. All because someone in the SFPD (apparently) wanted to smear the memory and legacy of Jeff Adachi and the Public Defender's Office.

The "duck and cover" mentality of those at the top is unacceptable. "I am not a legal expert" is a terrible excuse for violating the law. A clear lack of integrity and leadership is evident.

All citizens and voters within San Francisco should remember this when the next election for Supervisor, Mayor and Superior Court occur. I sure will.

Mitch Bull, Publisher, The Westside Observer, The Castro Courier

## SFPD Chief Masks Promotional Quota System

by Lou Barberini, CPA

**C**irca 1996 SF Police Department (SFPD) Field Training Evaluations first phase: *Over our car radio, Seth, my field-training officer ("FTO") committed us to transport Sergeant Del Torre's detainee back to Ingleside Station. In the cells at Ingleside, I emptied pint-sized wads of currency that were stuffed into the detainee's pants pockets. After one of his hands was handcuffed to the cell bench, I squashed his money into a SFPD Currency Envelope.*

"Ok Lou, let's go in the other room and count the money. Then we'll come back and have him sign a receipt."

"Seth why can't we count the money in front of him?" "We're the police, were not going to steal his money."

"I'm more concerned about my CPA license than SFPD policy. I could lose my license for doing it this way. This guy doesn't like us. He could accuse me of taking a million dollars off of him. How am I going to justify why we had to go to another room to count his money? What's the risk of counting it in front of him? He's the only person in the cells, he's handcuffed, we've searched him, and there are two of us. Don't you think it would be better optics to count the money here?"

"You're right." Seth was not the most flexible character. Deeply entrenched in some of his beliefs, his sole desire to

be an FTO evaluator was to ensure the craft of policing was passed to the next generation of cops.



For a veteran cop to make an independent decision based on a rookie cop's recommendation — a suggestion that conflicted with widely-accepted SFPD procedures — exemplified Seth's passion and loyalty to the Department.

New officers' prior skill sets, such as a CPA's knowledge of internal control procedures, are invaluable resources to progressing SFPD into the digital age. And it makes sense that those measurable skills, such as having passed the California Bar or being licensed as a CPA, should be factored into department promotions.

The promotional process within SFPD is already

Cont. p. 9

## Don Quixote's Banjo Player

## Westside: Scott Wiener Does Not Represent Us

by George Wooding



**W**ith one foot on a banana peel and the other foot sliding off the national stage on housing issues, San Franciscans have to start asking ourselves: Do we really want to re-elect Scott Wiener in 2020?

Most politicians have negatives. District 11 and throughout the state.

But the extreme dislike of Wiener by knowledgeable residential property owners is way past a negative. Wiener's Senate District 11 consists of all of San Francisco County, including Treasure Island; Colma; Daly City; 27% of South San Francisco; and 17% of San Mateo County.

In his Don Quixote quest to pass statewide density housing legislation, Wiener has become a lobbyist for developers and high-technology companies at the expense of the residential homeowners in Senate

**"Wiener has become a lobbyist for developers and high-technology companies at the expense of the residential homeowners in Senate District 11 and throughout the state."**

No one denies that California has a housing problem. Wiener's developer-driven, Sacramento-based, build-at-all-costs legislation will ultimately be much less successful than intelligent locally-planned growth. Wiener wants developers to build San Francisco's housing by giving developers incentives to increase their profits. That's like Quixote tilting at windmills.

The results of Wiener's Senate Bill 50 (SB-50) would create a wonderland of poorly-designed,

Cont. p. 5

## It's Your City



## Our Youth Guidance Center Must Stay

By Former Supervisor Tony Hall

**F**irst of all, congratulations to George Wooding for his excellent article in the May issue of the *Westside Observer*. Once again, George demonstrates his superb grasp of the City's problems, and keen understanding of the politics that created them.

The Youth Guidance Center Everyone agreed at that time that the condition of the YGC was unacceptable and we needed a modern facility that was both humane and secure, but

In 2002, as your Supervisor, I engaged in months of hearings, research and meetings into the dilapidated state of the Youth Guidance Center, (YGC) which suffered from deferred maintenance since 1950. In keeping with my campaign pledge—to rebuild our City's jewels and facilities—I introduced legislation to reconstruct YGC.

Under the guise that the YGC costs too much to operate, our Mayor and Supervisors will divert the YGC budget to yet another homeless program. In-depth counseling, vocational training, new libraries and computer labs with the latest technical advances were planned, effectively designed for rehabilitation.

Projected to cost \$47.5 million, we were able to

Cont. p. 4



# The Struggle for Sunlight on Dark Money

By Dr. Derek Kerr

The Sunlight On Dark<sup>1</sup> Money initiative launched this March is a rear-guard action to salvage constraints on pay-to-play politics. The back-story features a split within the Ethics Commission, the resignations of Commissioners Peter Keane and Quentin Kopp, and 2 years of excruciating deliberations that pitted the Ethics Commission against nonprofits. Sponsored by Keane and Supervisors Mar, Haney, Fewer, Ronen and Mandelman, the Sunlight measure will land on the November ballot.

The Sunlight initiative aims to restore some anti-corruption and transparency provisions that were scrapped during sausage-making at the Ethics Commission (Ethics) and the Board of Supervisors (Board). Briefly, it expands bans on corporate contributions to candidate campaigns, prohibits developers pursuing land use decisions from funding campaigns for Mayor, Supervisor, or City Attorney, and requires Independent Expenditure Committees (aka Super PACs) to name their 5 top donors.

One impetus for this Initiative was the 2013-14 Civil Grand Jury report titled *Ethics in the City – Promise, Practice or Pretense*. It revealed that Ethics and the Board had covertly neutered Prop J of 2000, a grassroots<sup>2</sup> initiative that banned “legal kick-backs” whereby City officials took contributions, gifts or jobs from those to whom they granted contracts, land deals or similar benefits. This “Taxpayer Protection Amendment” received 83% of the votes.

But in 2003, Prop J was repealed by Prop E, an “Ethics Reform” Charter Amendment sponsored by the Board with input from Ethics. Prop E empowered the Board to amend - or undermine - voter initiatives incorporated into the Campaign and Government Conduct Code. Sold as a more efficient way to update ethics laws, it allowed revisions by a super-majority of votes; 8 of 11 Supervisors plus 4 of 5 Ethics Commissioners. Prop E drew plenty of opposition for its “fox guarding the hen-house” features, but passed with 62% of the votes. Thereafter, conflict of interest and campaign finance laws could be altered without a public vote. For example, in 2009 the Board and Ethics decided<sup>3</sup> “expenditure lobbyists” - those who influence City Hall indirectly by subsidizing the lobbying of astro-turf, political, and nonprofit groups - did not have to disclose expenditures.

On 4/27/15 Ethics Chair Paul Renne asked Commissioner Keane to assess Prop J and expenditure lobbying as possible ballot measures. Ethics can independently introduce ballot measures without Board approval. Accordingly, Ethics placed Prop C “Expenditure Lobbyists” on the November 2015 ballot. Approved by 75% of voters, it was opposed by the nonprofit sector. Then in November 2016, Ethics introduced Prop T to bar lobbyists from contributing to City officials whom they lobbied. It got 87% of the votes.

In March 2017, Keane started a “Prop J Revision Project” that evolved into a complex Anti-Corruption and Accountability Ordinance (ACAO). The ACAO sought a ban on behest payments whereby City officials press those seeking City entitlements to fund their favored nonprofits or

political committees - what Keane called “extortion by behest”. Keane wanted Ethics - not the Board - to place the ACAO on the ballot since it “cramps the style of elected officials in terms of raising money.” But it also cramped the fundraising and influence of nonprofits.

**The Nonprofit Perspective:** According to the June, 2018 *Budget Book*<sup>4</sup>, City expenses for nonprofits will increase from \$970 to \$990 million annually. As recipients of almost \$1 billion in taxpayer funds



“Then-Chair Keane warned against “putting our faith in a legislative body...that is hyper-political, jockeying for Mayor, jockeying for power, one group trying to screw the other.” Keane emphasized that he saw no need for an Ethics Commission that didn’t act independently ... Keane announced “I resign” and walked out.”

yearly, nonprofits are a major interest group. These private-public partnerships generate mutual benefits - and conflicts of interest. The dilemma is whether the exchange of favors inherent to such partnerships should be restricted even if their outcomes are beneficial.

Immediately, the nonprofit sector opposed any language that could affect their incomes or reporting burdens. Business interests warned against abridging their constitutional rights to participate in politics without intrusive disclosures.

Since the ACAO applied to nonprofits big and small, the nonprofit representatives emphasized the plight of small nonprofits that struggle to make ends meet and serve needy clients. For these Mom-and-Pop outfits, the ACAO was too complicated, they argued, drowning them under layers of accountability. They could get blindsided by technical violations, then sued out of existence by corporate adversaries.

Nonprofits resented being stigmatized as self-serving. If they don’t lobby in the land use arena, they face obstacles to opening or renovating their facilities - even displacement. By necessity, nonprofit developers of low-income housing try to influence land use decisions. Further, nonprofit board members often serve on City Commissions. But the ACAO would prohibit them from fundraising for their nonprofits, or supporting candidates who could help them get City contracts and benefits. Such limits would deter nonprofit leaders from

sharing their expertise with City Commissions. Or, they might quit their nonprofit boards to avoid conflicts of interest.

Nonprofits wanted City officials to steer donations to them. They viewed behest payments as altruism rather than extortion or quid pro quos. So, Ethics agreed to switch from banning to simply disclosing such donations. Still, nonprofits objected; having to report donations could discourage potential donors. Ethics tried repeatedly to accommodate their concerns. Yet after every amendment, they sounded the same refrain - thanks, but we’re still threatened.

**The Split within Ethics:** On one side were Commissioners Renne, Keane and Kopp who wanted to prevent pay-to-play corruption via a ballot measure. They were generally allied with Friends of Ethics (FOE), a good government group of former Ethics Commissioner and Civil Grand Jurors. FOE collaborated with MapLight<sup>5</sup>,

a nonprofit that tracks money in politics, to provide data supporting bans on certain campaign contributions and behested payments. For example, in 2015-16, City Commissioners appointed by the Mayor had reportedly funneled \$1.1 million to campaigns supporting mayoral agendas. Further, of \$23 million in behested payments logged from 2012-2017, none went to nonprofits serving low-income San Franciscans. FOE also pushed to limit the huge monetary impact of developers on campaigns, and the resulting displacement of local residents by luxury housing.

On the other side were nonprofits and big businesses. The nonprofit cause was bolstered in August 2017 when Mayor Ed Lee appointed Commissioner Yvonne Lee who has long-standing ties with nonprofits. She said City officials had “a duty to support the most vulnerable and community service organizations.” She rebuffed the “perception of corruption” as arising from “anecdotes” rather than facts and because negative perceptions of “Asian-American brothers and sisters” had incited their persecution. Commissioner Daina Chiu, a corporate attorney appointed by Assessor Carmen Chu, initially wanted to move “expeditiously” given the “harm done.” Then she drifted, citing nonprofit and business concerns, to join Lee against placing the ACAO on the ballot. After a 9/27/17 Chronicle editorial<sup>6</sup> blasted Ethics for failing to tackle money in politics, Chiu deplored “the high-jacking of our electoral process” - by Russia.

**The Sausage-Making Finale:** At the 2/16/18 2018 Ethics meeting, the staff recommended placing an amended ACAO on the June ballot. However, Supervisor Peskin’s aide, Lee Hepner, implored Ethics to let the Board pass the ACAO legislatively instead. Peskin also wanted to insert

a Major Donor Disclosure<sup>7</sup> requirement into the ACAO and pass it before the June 2018 elections when a flood of dark money was expected.

Then-Chair Keane warned against “putting our faith in a legislative body...that is hyper-political, jockeying for Mayor, jockeying for power, one group trying to screw the other.” Keane emphasized that he saw no need for an Ethics Commission that didn’t act independently. Placing the ACAO on the ballot required 4 votes. Lee was sure to vote No, so Chiu’s vote was pivotal. She decided to “honor the democratic process” by working through the Board as that could “strengthen” the ACAO and get it implemented sooner. Their “No” votes spurned the call for independence. Keane announced “I resign” and walked out.

Thus stymied, Ethics acquiesced to a joint meeting with the Board. But at that April 2018 meeting<sup>8</sup>, Peskin withdrew his Major Donor Disclosure proposal. The Board voted 6 to 5 against banning campaign contributions exceeding \$5 million from developers pursuing land use permits, citing the “highly diffuse and technical nature of land use decision-making.” Commissioner Kopp’s motion to ban behest payments failed. Worse, most of the ACAO, now absorbed into Ordinance 129-18<sup>9</sup>, took effect after the 2018 elections - thus failing to stem the torrent of dark money. For example; London Breed’s mayoral bid gained<sup>10</sup> \$1,248,098 in funds from Independent Expenditure Committees, topping the dark money to all other mayoral candidates.

Commissioner Renne’s term ended in February 2019. Isolated, Kopp resigned in March. His resignation letter mentioned Ethics’ failure “to illuminate so called ‘dark’ money” given the “refusal by some Commission members in the face of political pressure from nonprofit corporations and businesses.” Keane, Kopp and Renne now back the Sunlight on Dark Money initiative to restore some provisions that succumbed to divisions within Ethics and the Board.

Dr. Derek Kerr is a San Francisco investigative reporter Contact: [watchdogs@westsideobserver.com](mailto:watchdogs@westsideobserver.com)

Endnotes

1. [www.sunlightondarkmoney.com/](http://www.sunlightondarkmoney.com/)
2. [www.consumerwatchdog.org/newsrelease/oaks-project-volunteers-submit-15000-signatures-place-anti-political-kickback-initiative](http://www.consumerwatchdog.org/newsrelease/oaks-project-volunteers-submit-15000-signatures-place-anti-political-kickback-initiative)
3. [sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/ordinances09/o0235-09.pdf](http://sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/ordinances09/o0235-09.pdf)
4. [sfmayor.org/sites/default/files/CSF\\_Budget\\_Book\\_June\\_2018\\_1\\_Final\\_REV1\\_LR.pdf](http://sfmayor.org/sites/default/files/CSF_Budget_Book_June_2018_1_Final_REV1_LR.pdf)
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7. [www.sfexaminer.com/news/peskin-wants-big-political-donors-to-disclose-investments/](http://www.sfexaminer.com/news/peskin-wants-big-political-donors-to-disclose-investments/)
8. [sfethics.org/ethics/2018/06/minutes-april-3-2018.html](http://sfethics.org/ethics/2018/06/minutes-april-3-2018.html)
9. [sfbos.org/sites/default/files/o0129-18.pdf](http://sfbos.org/sites/default/files/o0129-18.pdf)
10. [www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Money-spent-on-San-Francisco-s-elections-13715699.php](http://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Money-spent-on-San-Francisco-s-elections-13715699.php)

YOU'RE INVITED!

JOIN US ON JUNE 11, 2019 AT DBI's EARTHQUAKE SAFETY FAIR!

At this event, you will have the opportunity to meet with various City agencies, contractors, design professionals, and financial institutions to answer your building and earthquake preparedness questions! This **FREE** event will feature an exhibitor hall and informative workshops, along with hands-on emergency training.

EVENT DETAILS	ATTEND ONE OR ALL OF THE INFORMATIVE WORKSHOPS:
DATE: June 11, 2019 TIME: 10am- 4pm LOCATION: Bill Graham Civic Auditorium - 99 Grove Street  <a href="http://sfdbi.org/earthquakefair">sfdbi.org/earthquakefair</a> #ESF2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 11am Tall Building Safety Strategy Study - What You Need to Know</li><li>• 12pm Changes with the Updated Vacant Commercial Storefront Ordinance</li><li>• 1pm Complying with the Accessible Business Entrance (ABE) Program</li><li>• 2pm Home Remodeling Process Made Stress-Free - Meet the Experts</li><li>• 3pm Making the Best Use of the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) &amp; Unit Legalization Programs</li></ul>
Space is limited. Register at <a href="http://www.sfdbi.org/earthquakefair">www.sfdbi.org/earthquakefair</a> .	

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## West Of Twin Peaks Central Council by Doug Comstock

After housekeeping items, Roll Call, Quorum Declaration and Approval of Minutes were out of the way, the meeting proceeded with Officers Reports.

President **Mark Scardina** announced convening of the Nominations Committee to **Nominate Officers** for election at the June meeting. He also reported that he had been participating in the Mayor's housing bond effort with special emphasis on housing density in the transit corridors.

Treasurer **Carolyn Squieri** reported that the Council has \$6,729.18 in the bank, but that the invoice for insurance had not yet been received.

In the first item of the Committee Reports President Scardina said the **Land-Use Committee** is in the process of organization, and he called on any members who are interested to contact him, and you don't have to be a delegate to be a member.

**Barbara Chionsine** of the Public Safety Committee reported concern about problems on **Lake Merced Blvd.** with campers, and that some homes in the area had been broken into. Another concern is that the City may be looking at the Circle at the end of Sunset Blvd. as a possible location for a **navigation center**.

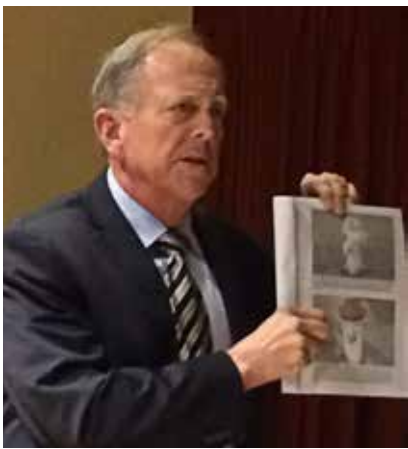
Other delegates thought they were looking at Junipero Serra at Ocean. Also disputed was the City's count of 81 homeless in the campers.



**George Wooding**, speaking for the Health Committee, cautioned that Mayor London Breed is contemplating a ballot measure that would allow affordable **housing on any public land** not already designated as a park. (Possibly Laguna Honda campus or the Youth Guidance Center?)

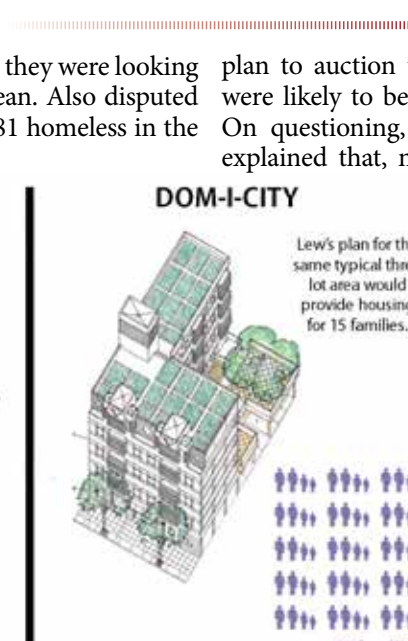
**Eugene Lew**, AIA Emeritus presented his **Dom-i-City** plans for compact Senior and low-income housing along transit corridors. "We need another kind of housing. A single family home on its own individual lot simply can't be built because there is a need for much more housing, and yet there is no land available, and high-rises are not suitable for neighborhoods." He proposed and has preliminary drawings for 4-6 story buildings with 3-4 bedrooms each, as well as 2 baths in a 1200-1400 sq. ft. area. Much like buildings that are common in Paris, his proposal has met with considerable enthusiasm.

**Tom Doudiet**, SF Firefighter, Ret. addressed the **fire preparation for an earthquake** on the west side of town. His assessment is that we are woefully unprepared should an earthquake similar to the 7.9 1906 quake occur. "We have little to no way to fight multiple fires should they spring up on the west side." Those little white fire-plugs common on every block would be essentially useless as they are connected to the domestic water main. In multiple



Former Fireman Tom Doudiet

... red-top high pressure hydrants ... were chiefly installed in populated areas of the City at that time. As the population has shifted west and south, there are few in the Richmond, Sunset, and Bayview, which have hundreds of blocks of wood-frame houses."



emergencies, these hydrants, which serve 260,000 residents, would be tapped out, and it is likely that tens of thousands of their service connections would break, rendering them all but useless. The less common red-top high pressure hydrants of the Auxiliary Water Supply System (AWSS) are fed from the Twin Peaks Reservoir, two salt water pump stations and fire-boats. Installed over 100 years ago, they were chiefly installed in populated areas of the City at that time. As the population has shifted west and south, there are few in the Richmond, Sunset, and Bayview, which have hundreds of blocks of wood-frame houses.

In 2010 and 2014 voters were sold bonds that, they were told, would expand the high-pressure system to all neighborhoods. Improvements were made to the system, but there was no extension. Now we are told that a new bond will be forthcoming in 2020. Hope you're not holding your breath.

In 2016, not only did we not get the promised expansion, but the SFPUC announced a plan to auction the pipes and parts that were likely to be used for the expansion. On questioning, water and fire officials explained that, miraculously, we no longer need to do the expansion, because they bought high-capacity hoses instead, and they can be ferried around on flatbed trucks. This leads to more questions: where was the manpower to drive the flat-bed trucks around? Where would the hoses be kept? Where would the flatbeds be parked? The plan was abandoned.

Doudiet recapped several subsequent plans, each less satisfactory than the first, for which we don't have room to recount. There is a video of Doudiet's presentation before the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods. It is available **here**.

He recommends, however, if you do nothing else, read **Sally Stephens** article in the *SF Examiner*.<sup>1</sup>

A third speaker, Ashley Murray from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, was not available, so some housekeeping items proceeded.

The Membership Committee encouraged accepting Mt. Davidson Manor as a new member of the WOTPCC. By unanimous consent it was affirmed.

Future agenda item requests included: extending the Auxilliary Water system, review upcoming bond measures on the November ballot, homeless and Navigation Center plans, conservatorship, a DA election forum, new fire chief, and closed psych wards.

*The next meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, June 24th at 7:30 pm at the historic Forest Hills Clubhouse.*

Endnotes

1. <https://www.sfoxaminer.com/news/san-francisco-residents-deserve-equal-fire-protection-after-a-major-earthquake-hits/>

## Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp



The late James Byrnes, a United States Senator from South Carolina and later Secretary of State under President Harry S. Truman observed in the 1940s: "The nearest approach to immortality on earth is a government bureau."

In 1931, San Francisco voters approved a new Charter which reduced Board of Supervisors membership from 16 to 11, elected citywide, and paid \$2,400 per year, without membership in the Retirement System but with membership in the publicly-funded Health System. The Charter also barred supervisors from interfering in administrative matters or trying to influence votes of city boards and commissions. Only the voters could increase the super-

was attempted 10 years ago by the ignominious Leland Yee and Daly City, which obtained an appraisal of the market value of Agricultural District 1-A's 68 acres. Over 11 years ago, it was already \$149,000,000. As amended, Wiener's measure would require payment of current market value to the state, which owns the property, by San Mateo, Daly City, and San Francisco taxpayers. Daly City, whose Historical Society fiercely opposes the bill, is reputedly near insolvency. Simultaneously, Wie-

“A nonprofit Los Angeles group investigation showed that in his 2016 campaign for the State Senate, Wiener accumulated \$574,276 from almost 700 donations from developers, real estate attorneys, brokers, architects, lobbyists, and other real estate insiders. Should he ever be elected to the U.S. Congress, I'd expect Wiener to foster legislation granting the United States Government control over local zoning and planning processes!”

visors' salary. Voters did so by doubling it to \$4,800 in the 1950s and then \$9,600 in 1964. All supervisors but one in my 15 years of service from 1972 until 1986 worked in a business or profession because it was a part-time responsibility, because a Mayor and a Chief Administrative Officer devoted full-time to managing San Francisco government.

After failed supervisorial efforts to remove voters/taxpayers from setting salaries the second time I was President of the Board of Supervisors in 1982 dollars, I asked Budget Analyst Harvey M. Rose to advise me what cost of living increases since 1964 would amount to in 1982. His answer was \$23,924 per year. I immediately introduced a Charter amendment to increase the salary accordingly. Voters easily approved it that November. In the 1990s, after I left the Board, a should-be-forgotten supervisor trumpeted Charter "revision," including voter approval of supervisor salaries. The Civil Service Commission, which would supposedly survey comparable legislative entities in the Bay Area to ascertain a "prevailing" salary. Unfortunately, voters were induced to approve such nostrums.

Since that time, voters unwisely created district election of Supervisors. Instead of answering to approximately 850,000 San Franciscans, presently our heroes represent about 77,000 people, and are term limited. Nevertheless, they're now members of the Retirement System, and last month the Civil Service Commission ignored staff recommendations and granted Supervisors a 12% salary increase to \$140,000 annually, plus a yearly cost of living increase the next four years thereafter. Marvelous! Try to reach any of them or their 3 aides on a Friday afternoon

For those interested in the "land grab" legislation proposed by State Senator Scott Wiener (Senate Bill 281), be advised the bill was not heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee, and, therefore, cannot be considered until next January, at which time it'd need approval by both that committee and the whole State Senate to reach the Assembly. A similar "land grab"

ner's Senate Bill 50, which would override local zoning to encourage high-rise apartment buildings in single family housing neighborhoods, was "parked" in the Senate Appropriations Committee for 2019. A nonprofit Los Angeles group investigation showed that in his 2016 campaign for the State Senate, Wiener received \$574,276 from almost 700 politico donations by developers, real estate attorneys, brokers, architects, lobbyists, and other real estate insiders. Should he ever be elected to the U.S. Congress, I'd expect Wiener to foster legislation granting the United States Government control over local zoning and planning processes!

A beleaguered Dolores Heights neighborhood taxpayer invites attention to a City Hall effort to establish a "Green Benefit District," as a so-called "community benefit district," levying an assessment on neighborhood property owners to fund cleaner sidewalks, streets, common areas, plus improved public safety. Each property owner will be assessed accordingly, whether residential or commercial. The 2019-2020 prospective San Francisco budget exceeds \$11,500,000,000. The assessment would raise \$1,000,000, of which 33% would be spent on overhead. A Green Benefit District was formed covering Dogpatch. The executive director, appointed by ex-Mayor Lee to a Board of Supervisors vacancy covering Telegraph Hill and North Beach, Julie Christensen, then promptly defeated for election by Aaron Peskin, receives \$120,000 per year as the Dogpatch District Executive Director. Don't Dolores Heights residents, who can't deduct from their income taxes the proposed "assessment," unlike business owners, already pay taxes for the services respecting sidewalks, streets, common areas like parks, and police and fire departments?

Let's hope the City Hall "family" doesn't attempt to organize a "Green Benefit District" in Richmond, Sunset, or West of Twin Peaks neighborhoods.

*Retired former Supervisor, State Senator and Judge Quentin Kopp lives in District 7*

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# Is San Francisco Dying?

## New Homeless Population Report Shocks

By John Farrell

Well the new homeless figures are in and it is not good news. The number of homeless people in our City has increased by 17% since 2017, which includes a large increase of people living in RV's, despite our City's efforts creating hundreds of new beds and spending over \$300 million annually to address homelessness. By the way, this \$300 million annually does not reflect the costs of City services currently provided by our City Departments such as Police, Fire, Public Works, and Public Health.

A preliminary report using federal guidelines of January's one-night street count reported 8,011 homeless in our City, but this will increase when the more complete count is released in July, since federal guidelines don't account for many types of homelessness such as those in jail, hospitals, and health treatment centers. The federal count in 2017 was 6,858, and subsequently increased 641 to the 7,499 reported by the City. So we can assume the 8,011 will increase to over 8600.

Since 2017, the number of people living in vehicles increased by 45%, while there were reported decreases of 14% in the number of homeless veterans and 10% in homeless youth. Sheltered homeless increased by 13% due to the increase in shelter beds, and the number of homeless families remained the same. Other counties also increased in the number of homeless over the past two years. Santa Clara increased by 31% to 9706 and Alameda increased by 43% to 8,022. The only county to reflect a decrease was Marin County by 7% to 1,034.

"I'm really disappointed in these numbers," said Jeff Kositsky, the Director of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (DHS). "I can make no excuses. These numbers are bad, and we have to own that." Mayor Breed also found the numbers disappointing and noted, "Unfortunately it's not a big surprise." She said "Certainly there is more we need to do, but at the end of the day this is a challenge that exists in the entire state of California. We need more resources from the



**"We cannot just ignore or arrest our way out of this. People are dying and there is something we can do to stop this. It is inhumane to continue allowing this on our City streets."**

federal and state governments for housing and we need to build housing faster."

Mayor Breed plans to open more shelter beds and permanent supportive housing by the end of this year. Further, Mayor Breed is proposing ballot measures this November for a \$500 million bond for affordable housing, and a rezoning of City properties (excludes Recreation and Park properties) for teacher housing.

Let's stop a minute. Mr. Kositsky reports that the numbers are bad. He also reported that their data tracking, and 75% of our City residents believe homelessness has gotten worse since 2017, per a Controller's survey. Also, there is a homeless surge at SFO as increasing numbers of homeless go to the International Terminal seeking shelter.

So here we are in a spiraling, out of control situation—we are losing the battle. So what do we do? Do we continue playing the same game in the second half of which is not working and face sure defeat, or do we adjust our game plan during halftime and come out with a new vigor and take the bull by the horns. I'm for the second.

How do we protect our society at the same time showing compassion to those sick and struggling? We cannot just ignore or arrest our way out of this. People are dying and there is something we can do to stop this. It is inhumane to continue allowing this on our City streets.

We need to look at other alternatives and successful programs around our country. For example, Providence, Rhode Island has a successful program that has saved lives and helped those drug addicted. It is called the "Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)" program. First thing they do in Rhode Island is they enforce their laws.

Drug dealers and people who steal and commit crimes to get there drugs end up in a correction facility. Every day at the facility these individuals in the MAT program line up to get their medication. There are three opioid blockers (Methadone, Suboxone and Vivitrol) that are FDA approved and work to get people off heroin and save lives. The inmates choose what blocker they want to use. These blockers stabilize them physically to handle the emotional work needed to address the disease of drug addiction. The MAT program provides counselors to build relationships with inmates while they are there and as they return to the outside. It has successfully saved lives. Many inmates were thankful for being arrested since it saved their lives.

Mr. Kositsky reported that for every person who exits homelessness, three fall into it. How do we prevent more homeless from coming to our City, since our City has no rules and homeless can come and do as they please? We need to enforce our quality of life laws while showing compassion and providing services, especially to mentally ill and drug addicted people who need help.

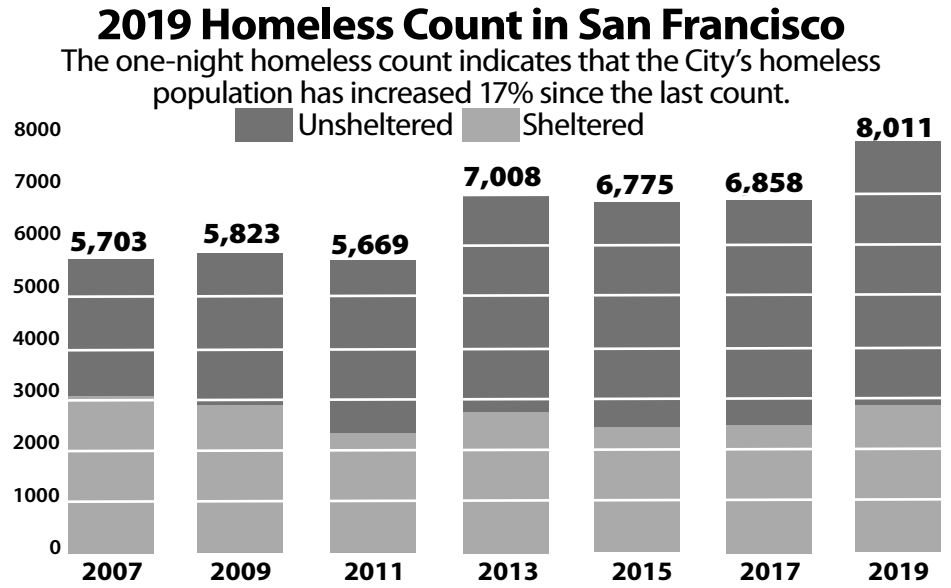
What if we built a specialized facility to utilize our resources and knowledge to fight this problem? A place where doctors, counselors and caseworkers were available, along with the treatment that we know works, to save lives. Where sick people could learn how to live life again and be provided job training and therapy in one place. Eventually these people would be able to leave and be on medication to cope

with their addiction.

In December, I proposed a resolution to tackle our homeless and quality of life crisis by providing a small portion of the Candlestick Park site for a larger Navigation Center and temporary parking lot for 500 RVs, to offer the homeless respite from life on the streets by providing room and board, while case managers work to connect them to relatives, income, public benefits, health services, shelter and housing. The temporary RV lot would help the approximate 1,100 people living in them. This would result in a higher quality of life in our City by providing safer and cleaner streets, and substantially reduce the costs of City services currently provided by our City Departments including the Police, Fire, Department of Public Works, and Public Health Department.

I was listening to a District 5 candidates' debate. Candidates were saying that affordable housing at the McDonald's site at Stanyan Street won't be built for 5 years. Why not build a navigation center there in the meantime since there is a need in the Haight. Since navigation centers are temporary it would be demolished when the affordable housing project breaks ground in 5 years. Park Police Station is right there to ensure safety.

The majority of homeless are over 40 years old. As our society ages, more and more people need skilled nursing facilities (SNF). The reduction in SNF beds has provided another crisis in our City. In 1999, voters approved Proposition A to rebuild the 1200 SNF beds and 140 assisted living beds at Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH). In 2008, LHH cut its SNF beds to 780. The City knew there was a shortfall in SNF beds, but instead of building more and



ensuring LHH rebuilt the 1200 as approved by the voters, the City reduced SNFs. This needs to be revisited and more SNFs need to be made available for our aging society.

The 2017 homeless count reflected 91 homeless in District 7. This amount is expected to increase and the majority are from those living in RVs and vans such as near SF State. Many of the supervisors want navigation centers in all the districts. I heard the City is considering a navigation center at Lake Merced Circle. This number of homeless does not justify a navigation center in District 7. Laguna Honda Hospital is a skilled nursing facility that should be able to handle those homeless in need in our district.

Instead of City Hall proposing to tax companies' IPOs, or continuously dumping bond initiatives on our taxpayers, have our tech companies donate to just causes like providing funds for more SNF beds at LHH. or providing funds for navigation centers with their company names on them. There is a lot of good will in these tech companies, as well as others. These philanthropic companies are concerned and care about our City problems.

We need to know how much is currently being spent on homeless services, including all those provided by our City departments. We need to utilize these resources

more effectively and efficiently, to cut waste and consolidate programs and services where applicable, cut those that are not cost effective and reallocate funds to those homeless programs that are justified.

In regard to additional funds, I highly recommend that all revenue generating City departments audit their processes to ensure all revenues are being addressed. I know we can bring in hundreds of millions more that is not currently being addressed.

These are just a few options for our City to consider. It's easy to turn away hoping that things will get better but they will only get worse, especially for these individuals who need our help, and for our residents and taxpayers who rely on our City government to address this problem for the health and safety of our City.

Contact the mayor and supervisors and let them know how concerned you are about the current homeless situation and that we cannot continue with business as usual. Our current process is not working and we need to look at other alternatives now. Let's be creative. The future of our City and posterity depends on it.

*John Farrell Broker/Realtor® – Farrell Real Estate, MBA, Former Assistant Assessor – Budget & Special Projects, Westside resident – farrellreinvestments@yahoo.com*

### YGC (Cont. from p. 1)

secure \$15 million in State and Federal funds by increasing the bed capacity by 18, for a total of 150 beds. The legislation passed unanimously at the Board. It met with national acclaim when it was rebuilt in 2007—even Mayor Newsom took credit.

In typical Newsom fashion—where votes are always more important than the welfare of the people at large—along with his new chief of the YGC, Bill Siffermann, D.A. Kamala Harris, and subsequently D.A. Gascon, promoted a new pie-in-the sky concept called Restorative Justice (loosely gleaned from a failed Chicago model) calling for reduced juvenile lock-ups, and speculative rehabilitation for the more serious offenders in smaller community-based facilities.

Newsom, smelling some kind of political attention, then directed his new YGC Chief to limit the number of youths at YGC to 78 (about ½ capacity). Of course this directive really dovetailed nicely with the D.A.'s approach, reducing prosecutions for minors.

Like so many of our other city-run facilities, without the proper supervision, or under the supervision of those who were more interested in their own careers, the Center went downhill.

Now three supervisors of very limited administrative experience call for closing YGC because it is underutilized. Based on a recent S.F. Chronicle survey that concluded that the states youth guidance facilities are underutilized and run at tremendous costs, these supervisors contend the funds should be spent elsewhere. (No doubt in their favorite endless dumping ground, "The Homeless Industry".) Should they close YGC, SF would be the states only urban municipality with no Youth Guidance Center or Juvenile Hall.

In my 33 years experience in

administrative positions with the City I can attest to the following facts: The Chronicle, which is the media wing of the political machine that runs this City, published the survey to further a goal of the Mayors office. It assumes that the youth crime rate is declining in all urban and rural areas. Hardly the truth, as it doesn't take into account the reduced rate of prosecutions, nor distinguish between urban and rural localities.

I can also state that any professional in the criminal justice field knows that crime runs in cycles. We have seen that multiple times here in SF where juvenile crime was rampant in the 60's, again in the late 70's and 80's to the point where there was fierce overcrowding at YGC. Thus, the calls for the rebuild of YGC.

Regardless of what the Chronicle says, if our laws were enforced, the YGC would be filled to capacity. The last thing we should be doing is eliminating what was intended to be an established correctional, rehabilitative, counseling and vocational training facility in order to experiment with the lives of the more serious offenders in "non existent, restorative justice community half-way houses." This unprofessional treatment increases the dangers to the community at large. The fact that the present YGC has not operated as it should have, or at near capacity is not due to lack of street crime, but to the permissive policies pursued by the last three administrations.

There will come a day when the residents will need the YGC. When that day comes—whoever the Mayor is—will need the brains and courage to operate the facility as intended in its original mission.

Could the proposed closing of YGC be a step toward rewarding the exploitative non-profit Homeless Industry service providers with for political donations?



Commentary

The Golden Fleece.

by Steve Lawrence

It's not only in Tech that one finds unicorns. The construction industry may be old and boring, but once in a while there are riches galore. Big jobs, and owners with more dollars than sense: bonanza.

Owners get reputations. And then there are owners who advertise their ripeness. "Look at this plum!"

In SFPUC's (water sewer power) water system work the plum was Calaveras Dam. The contract for the dam, big to begin with, more than doubled in size. With about \$300 million in change orders, what a bonanza! Not hard to imagine tens of millions of profits pocketed. That's the kind of job about which contractors dream, and drool.

So when the much larger sewer program came out with a job 3 to 4 times larger than the Calaveras bonanza—wow! SFPUC the owner again.

Even better, the job was not competitively bid. Taking the low bid is the traditional way of putting some limit on the greed and price of your contractor. He or she must be low bidder to win the job. But managers dislike testy bid competition. So the contract for the mammoth biosolids digesters avoided dollar competition, in favor of which contractor is supposedly overall "best." Shmoozing quietly invited. And once a contractor has shmoozed to

success, securing the billion dollar biosolids digester baby, the name of the game is maximizing. First thing: elongate the work, stretch it out, extending the opportunities to milk to the max the cash cow. And sure enough, right out of the box, in its first year the digesters job has been delayed one year; two according to some.

And what a fat cash cow this mam-

“Who controls rate rises? Nobody. There’s no citizens’ organization. Theoretically the SFPUC Commission keeps reigns on costs; but come on: If a pol plays along all is swell. Rock the boat? You don’t make friends.”

moth digester job is! Opportunities like this come once in a lifetime. Mixing metaphors, it's truly a Golden Fleece. Whoever controls is king-maker. Plenty of largess there is to spread around town, and barrelfuls of benjamins to bag as profits.

Who is the fleece-ee? Need you ask? It's the sheeple, of course. We'll pay and pay in our rates—for decades.

Water and sewer rates have been rising

at about seven and two-thirds percent per year over the last decade, doubling. Rates are supposed to continue at about the same pace, at least triple inflation. But it's not hard to see the writing on the wall. Not only the digesters fleece, but also the loss of water from the Sierras must be paid for. Those extras are likely to be big—and are yet to be figured in.

Most homeowners have reduced water usage during the past decade. Usage is down to 41.5 gallons per person per day. Reduction in use offsets rising rates. But that won't continue apace.

Who controls rate rises? Nobody. There's no citizens' organization. Theoretically the SFPUC Commission keeps reigns on costs;

but come on: If a pol plays along all is swell. Rock the boat? You don't make friends.

SFPUC is an enterprise generating well over a billion dollars a year, growing fast. Opportunities abound. For contractors, employees, Commissioners, and of course for the professionals who land contracts worth tens of millions. But biggest of these opportunities is the fat contract for the biosolids digesters. Watch it swell.

Public Power. Another step towards full public power has been taken by SFPUC, which issued a report favorable to acquiring PG&E's city distribution assets. Cost: "a few billion dollars," plus loss of about \$40 million per year PG&E now sends SF in payroll and other taxes. But benefits are said to outweigh costs. The report accuses PG&E of delaying and disrupting SF efforts to reach its goal of being 100% greenhouse gas-free by 2030. Dual provision of power doesn't work well. A poll shows that 70% of San Franciscans support full take-over. Rates will be lower, and more transparent, according to the report. Revenue bonds can fund the take-over.

At present SF, through CleanPowerSF, supplies almost 80% of SF's electricity needs. But this is the generation of the power only for the vast majority of accounts. Distributing power (power lines) is far more difficult than buying and selling power. Under the preferred plan, SF would buy PG&E's distribution facilities to become the sole public power provider for the city.

The report does not specify how many new employees would be required to distribute power, but certainly SFPUC would expand lots. Billing would also shift from PG&E to SFPUC.

Steve Lawrence is a Westside resident and SF Public Utility Commission stalwart.

My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2019

INTERNET PRIVACY.

Internet privacy. Forget about it. It's another of those oxymorons you hear so much about; like gluten-free dim sum or fully satisfied Game of Thrones fan or Donald Trump's Modern Guide to Etiquette and Manners. You got a better chance of finding a pod of humpback whales in your office cubicle than online security.

And the greatest threat in this confidentiality crisis is Facebook, the information octopus that disguises its sticky tentacles with cute kitten videos and pictures of grandmas blowing out birthday cake candles while it records your every keystroke. Every "like" of every post. Your favorite porn gif.

The situation has become so alarming, co-founder Chris Hughes called for the company to be broken up. Mark Zuckerberg says no need for that: he's learned his lesson and promises to be good from now on. And we can trust him, right? Because he's only lied about every privacy issue that's ever emerged so far. Ever.

The Mueller Report detailed how Russian trolls used Facebook's analytical tools to flood America with fraudulent groups and ads for the single purpose of opposing Hillary Clinton. By the time the accounts

were deactivated in 2017, 126 million Americans had been exposed to, well, no other way to describe it than...fake news.

Remember when Facebook admitted to manipulating posts to gauge our emo-

“The Mueller Report detailed how Russian trolls used Facebook’s analytical tools ... By the time the accounts were deactivated in 2017, 126 million Americans had been exposed to, well, no other way to describe it than...fake news.”

tional response then sold the research data? They're still doing it. We're just lab rats to them. But even lab rats get some cheese. Hey Facebook, keep your cookies: how about some cheese?

The standard defense is we signed on when we signed up, but you've seen those

user agreements. Nobody reads them. It's doubtful the people who write them, read them. Lawyers speaking in a language solely understood by other lawyers. And even then, only occasionally.

The agreements are longer than the migratory path of a monarch butterfly and in a font so tiny it would make a flea squint. So we scroll to the bottom and click "accept." And if we wake up two weeks later in a bathtub full of ice with a scar where our kidney used to be, well, them's the breaks.

And the internet never forgets. Check

semen inseminators. Don't ask.

We got no one to blame but ourselves. It's too late to put this genie back in the bottle but there are going to be plenty of other bottles to worry about. Universal facial recognition is right around the corner. Although some of us are lucky enough to have faces no one wants to recognize.

You think its creepy when Facebook tags us in photos we didn't post; wait till they develop an algorithm in which we're the villains in videos where the hero ruling over the Seven Kingdoms bears a striking resemblance to Mark Zuckerberg.

Most importantly, we got to learn not to post anything on social media we don't want prospective employers or mothers-in law or IRS agents to know about. Back everything up. With hard copies. Cloud storage is fine, until it rains. And there's a storm coming.

Copyright © 2019, Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed comedian, columnist, and former co-owner of a sandwich shop called Crummies in Waukesha, Wisconsin. For past columns, commentaries and a calendar of personal appearances, please visit willdurst.com.

Wiener (Cont. from p. 1)

ugly, housing density for high-earning workers in a town that already has 30,000 vacant units. The average new unit would be approximately 500- to 800-square-feet in size, preferably in buildings that are five stories high but with no parking. The buildings would be near San Francisco's aging transit centers, or could be built in any residential neighborhood next door to your home.

Thus, Wiener has led an all-out attack on the 70% of his constituents who live in single-family housing. According to his legislation, existing single-family housing needs to be torn down or rebuilt

so that larger apartment structures can be built. San Francisco's Westside is one of his primary targets. Low-income areas are also in jeopardy because the housing costs less. This leads to gentrification and residential displacement. Over one-third of the San Francisco Mission District's Hispanic population has already been displaced.

Wiener has accused the West Side of being racist and exclusionary. Early West Side developers wrote Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) that were racially exclusionary, but these old CC&Rs were rescinded 51 years ago in 1968. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibited

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Failure to Sufficiently Reconsider

## High Costs of Wrongful Arrests and Convictions

by Patrick Monette-Shaw

Can you exonerate the truly innocent in a legal system having binary verdicts available: “Guilty” vs. “Not Guilty”? Unfortunately, the answer may be “No.”

I was stuck by this reading Preet Bharara’s book “*Doing Justice*,” in which he noted “*There’s no such thing as a verdict of innocence.*”

Bharara was the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 2009 to 2017, when President Trump fired him. In his book, Bharara recounts several stories of innocent people who had been wrongly accused and forever injured because of a *failure to sufficiently reconsider* evidence and facts at multiple points in the criminal justice system, leading to injustice against innocent people.

He recounts the case of a man who spent 17 years in Sing Sing prison for a murder he hadn’t committed along with five other defendants who had also been falsely convicted in a second murder. In 2013, the convictions against all six were overturned; the defendants received \$3.9 million from the state and New York City paid the wrongfully accused \$40 million in 2016.

The Innocence Project reported<sup>1</sup> in March 2016 that between 1989 and 2012, wrongful convictions cost California taxpayers at least \$221 million, including \$80 million for costs of incarceration, \$68 million for lawsuit settlements, \$68 million spent on trials and appeals, and \$5 million in state compensation for wrongful imprisonment.

That included \$12.6 million in San Francisco for 97 wrongful arrests and convictions, and legal settlements and fees during that 23-year period. There’s been additional wrongful convictions and settlements since then.

As the *Westside Observer* reported<sup>2</sup> last March, San Francisco taxpayers have

had to foot the \$90.7 million bill for City Attorney time and expenses plus settlement awards in 359 prohibited personnel practice lawsuits brought by City employees involving on-the-job bullying, wrongful termination, harassment, discrimination, and other practices between 2007 and 2018.

### Wrongful Arrests and Convictions in SF

On April 3 a records request was placed to the City Attorney’s Office seeking settlements awarded to plaintiffs, plus the City Attorney’s time and expenses involved in wrongful prosecution, wrongful conviction, and wrongful incarceration lawsuits concluded in San Francisco between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 2018.

The City Attorney’s Office (CAO) responded on April 29, providing an Excel file listing 366 lawsuits, but excluded one pivotal case, which makes it 367.

The data reveals taxpayers have had to pay \$53.4 million, at minimum, in City Attorney time and expenses plus settlement awards for 367 lawsuits against the City for unlawful arrest, excessive force by law enforcement officers, and other causes.

### The data shows:

- Of the 366 lawsuits fully settled, 227 (62%) involved *unlawful arrest*, and comprised \$22.6 million (56.2%) of \$40.3 million in total costs.
- Among the 366 lawsuits, another 98 cases (27%) involved *excessive force* by police officers and “*Other*” types of actions by the police, comprising an additional \$15.9 million (40%) of total costs.
- Of the 366 lawsuits, plaintiffs received \$15.7 million (39%) in settlements, while the City Attorney racked up \$24.6 million in time and expenses, 61% of total costs.
- Adding in the known \$13.1 million settlement in the Trulove lawsuit, total costs grows to at least \$53.4 million, which will increase when the CAO finally settles Trulove’s case and releases the CAO’s time and expenses.



“In the end, San Francisco taxpayers will end up forking over well upwards of \$53 million because police officers hadn’t gotten it right. A cast of prosecutors, judges, defense lawyers, district attorneys, and jurors also didn’t get it right, because of their combined failure to sufficiently reconsider. And the failure to reconsider shattered these innocent men’s lives.”

(and growing) costs!

### Four Cases: Wrongful Incarceration

Among the lawsuits filed in San Francisco, four men were innocent, but wrongfully incarcerated. Costs of their cases involve \$30.8 million, and still growing.

**Caramad Conley:** Conley was wrongfully convicted in 1994 and sentenced to serve two life-without-parole terms for a 1989 drive-by shooting that left two dead

and injured 11 others.

Superior Court Judge Marla Miller ruled in December 2010 that Conley had been denied a fair trial, and was wrongly and unconstitutionally convicted, in part because material information was not provided to Conley’s lawyers. The lead police investigator in the case, Earl Sanders — who later became San Francisco’s Chief of Police briefly — knew a witness had committed perjury, but didn’t correct the false testimony. It wasn’t the only case in which Sanders withheld information from defense lawyers, a *Brady* offense.

Conley was released in January 2011 after serving 18 years in prison.

**John Tennison and Antoine Goff:** Tennison then 17 and Goff then 19, were charged with first-degree murder of Rodrick Shannon on August 19, 1989. Police claimed the pair of men had been identified by two teenage eyewitnesses, one girl 14 and another girl 11.

The Court ruled prosecutors and police had information that another person might have committed the crime but did not disclose it during the trial. Tennison and Goff had filed complaints alleging numerous *Brady* violations.








*Prison Legal News* reported<sup>3</sup> that two SFPD investigators — Earl Sanders and Napoleon Hendrix — had coached the 11-year-old girl who witnessed the shooting and had suppressed a video-taped post-trial confession by Lovinsky Ricard, the actual killer. In 2002 Sanders and Hendrix were accused of misconduct and colluding with prosecutors in suppressing Ricard’s confession. That confession and other information was also never turned over to Tennison’s and Goff’s defense lawyers.

U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken overturned Tennison’s conviction on August 26, 2003.

**Jamal Trulove:** In 2010, Trulove was convicted of murdering his friend in 2007 at a Sunnydale housing project. A state appeals court overturned his conviction

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# Muni Fare Prices as of July 1, 2019

	\$3.00	Adult Single Ride Fare (Cash & Limited Use Card)
	\$1.50	Reduced Fare Single Ride (Cash & Limited Use Card)
	\$2.50	Adult Single Ride Fare (Clipper® & MuniMobile®)
	\$1.25	Discount Single Ride (Clipper® & MuniMobile®)
	\$40.00	Reduced Fare Monthly Pass (Muni Only)
	\$81.00	Adult “M” Monthly Pass (Muni Only)
	\$98.00	Adult “A” Monthly Pass (+ BART within SF)





JUNE 2019

**Fever and Chills...**we recently had to administer care to a family member who was running a high fever and had chills. As she was “cold” and shivering, she asked for blankets to keep her warm. Eventually, the fever worsened, and we checked into the emergency room. Later, we learned that if a person is experiencing a high fever and has chills, the best thing to do is to not apply blankets, but to have the person wear less clothing and a light sheet, or get to a cool environment as the chills are the body’s way of throwing off heat. I may be the only person who didn’t know this fact, but if not, I thought I would pass this along.



**Like Succulents?...**The San Francisco Succulent and Cactus Society (SFSCS) will hold its 2019 Succulent Show and Plant Sale on June 8 and 9 at the San Francisco County Fair Building (1199-9th Ave at Lincoln Way). The show will feature a wide variety of attractive drought-tolerant plants, reflecting their diversity and this year’s theme: A World of Succulents. It’s free and doors will be open both days from 9 am to 5 pm. The sale is the largest of its kind in Northern California and will include succulents, cacti, and bromeliads from more than 25 regional nurseries and boutique growers. Additional vendors will offer hand-crafted studio pottery made especially for succulents. Throughout the weekend, experts from the Society will be on hand to answer questions about plant selection and how to care for various species. A drawing for attendees to win a free plant will be held each hour. The San Francisco Succulent and Cactus Society (SFSCS) is a non-profit educational organization promoting the study, conservation and cultivation of succulent and xerophytic plants. The SFSCS meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in Golden Gate Park at The County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers) at 9<sup>th</sup> Info: [www.sfsucculent.org](http://www.sfsucculent.org)



**Like Beer?...** The San Francisco Conservatory is Celebrating 140 years and will feature a “Botanicals and Brews Beer Garden” on the Third Friday of each month, starting in June and continuing to November, from 6:30 PM to 11:00 PM. **Botanicals and Brews** beer garden is back for another round of local craft breweries and an after-hours look into the world of tropical plants. Explore monthly themes with live music from local artists and exclusively prepared brews on select evenings. For an added thrill, experience a guided flight by expert craft beer makers in our Master Brewer session. **New!** Six beer garden nights. Each one not to be missed. Enjoy access to the complete 2019 series with the **Six Pack Pass**.



**Like SF History?...** The San Francisco Historical Society (SFHS) is conducting several events in June. **Remnants of San Francisco Parks** Chris Pollock • Tuesday, June 11, 2019 - 7:30 p.m. Roosevelt Middle School Auditorium, 460 Arguello Boulevard (at Geary Boulevard)

Many fascinating fragments in San Francisco’s city parks raise the question. “What’s the story here?” These pieces are leftovers of larger construction projects—private, public, or military. The sites included in this talk are located in parks administrated by the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department. You have probably passed by them numerous times and not known what you were seeing. Find out what part they played in the city’s storied past. **Chris Pollock** is the official San Francisco Recreation & Park historian for all the parks and squares in San Francisco. He is working on a revised and updated version of his book, San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park: A Thousand and Seventeen Acres of Stories, originally published in 2001. Chris was trained as an architectural designer and has also worked as an architectural historian. There is no need to RSVP for this program. Refreshments from 7:00 - 7:25 p.m. Free parking is available in the Roosevelt playground. Enter from Palm Avenue. Program is free to current SFHS members. Admission is \$10 for non-members (\$5 for students, K-12 teachers, seniors, and persons with disabilities), which may be applied toward membership in SFHS.

**Barbary Coast Trail® Tours** Follow a 3.7-mile urban trail through the historic core of civilian San Francisco. Learn about the pivotal events in this “Instant City,” as it grew from a quiet village of a few hundred residents to a bustling city of thousands in just four tumultuous years. Hear the stories of the colorful characters who made San Francisco a city like no other. Tours: Saturday mornings and start at 10 am. • Part I - “**Silver Strikes, Earthquakes, and Lion Dancers**” covers Market Street, Union Square, and Chinatown and will be offered on June 8, August 7, and October 5. • Part II - “**Gold Rushers, Shanghaiers, and Jazz Dancers**” covers Portsmouth Square, Jackson Square, and the Barbary Coast, offered on June 22, August 24, and October 19. • Part III - “**Hipsters, Paesani, and Semaphore Hill**” covers North Beach, Washington Square, and Telegraph Hill offered on May 11, July 13, September 7, and November 2. • Part IV - “**Stevedores, Feluccas, and Windjammers**” covers the Northern Waterfront, Fisherman’s Wharf, and Aquatic Park, offered on May 25, July 27, Sept 21, and Nov 16. Tours are free for SFMHS members and \$15 for non-members. Advance reservations and pre-payment are required; please call (415) 537-1105 ext. 0 or email [rsvp@sfnhistory.org](mailto:rsvp@sfnhistory.org) at least 48 hours before the tour. You can take the tours in any order. *Please Note: Rain cancels Barbary Coast Trail tours.*



**Free Programs at the Merced branch of the SFPL for June...** **Knitting Circle** – Tues, June 11, 6 to 7:30 pm *All levels of knitters, please join us with your knit projects and spread the inspiration! Practice supplies provided, but bring your own if you have a special project in mind. For ages 13 and up.* **Merced Craft Night** – Thu, June 13, 6 to 7:30 pm. *Join us for a fun night of crafting on the second Thursday of each month. For ages 13 and up. Pre-registration is required. Sign up with a librarian or call (415) 355-2825. Sign up starts on the first day of the month* **Clothing Swap for All!** – Sat, June 15, 1 to 3 pm. *Spring clean! Be green! Swap not shop! Bring any gently used, unneeded clothes, accessories, and shoes. Each is good for one exchange. Clothes for all agese. Unwanted items donated to Larkin Street Youth Services.* **Merced Branch Library Book Swap** – Sat, June 22, 3 to 4:30 pm. *Bring in a book (or 2+) to trade in for another. Browse a variety of book choices available to swap. Books should be in good condition. For 2019, the swap takes place on the 4th Saturday of each month.* **Book-A-Librarian at the Merced Branch Library** *Pick a topic: navigate the library’s website, borrow and download eBooks and eAudiobooks, set up an email account, surf the Internet, and more. Basic mouse and typing skills are required. Lessons are conducted on the library’s computer, or bring your own smart phone or tablet. Sign up with a Librarian or call to schedule an appointment.* Merced Branch, SF Public Library • 155 Winston Dr. (at 19th) • 415 355-2825, • [sfnpl.org](http://sfnpl.org)

**Bluegrass Bonanza! ...** West Portal Avenue’s own Shelby Ash (The Music Store) presents the best of “new” bluegrass and Americana music. **Live Bluegrass & Old-Time String Band Music** -- every 3rd Friday June 21: **Miss Leo & Her Bluegrass Boys + Lonesome Still** July 19: **AJ Lee & Blue Summit** @Plough & Stars, 116 Clement St., SF • 9pm door / 9:30 show / \$6-\$10 sliding scale / 21+ Info/tix: [www.shelbyashpresents.net](http://www.shelbyashpresents.net)



**Get into the Garden...** The Garden for the Environment folks at 7th & Lawton have the following workshops available during June. Give them a call or go online to register. **Regular Educational Volunteer Hours** Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10am to 3pm | Cost: Free | More Info: [bit.ly/GFEVolunteer](http://bit.ly/GFEVolunteer) *Join us in the garden on Wednesdays and Saturdays to help with garden maintenance tasks. You’ll work alongside staff and fellow volunteers on a range of activities like composting, vegetable planting and harvesting, pruning, and weeding. The best way to learn is by doing, and we promise you’ll learn a lot working in the garden with us. No registration needed -- you can come and go at any time, and volunteering at GFE will always be free. Bring lunch and picnic with us at noon!* **Introduction to Sustainable Gardening Series** Saturdays, June 15, 22, and 29 | 10am to 12pm | Cost: \$30 for the full 3-part series. *A three-part workshop series designed to help you transform your backyard into a thriving, sustainable garden. You’ll receive \$30 in gift cards (One \$10 gift card for the Urban Farmer Store or Cole Hardware at each workshop for a total of \$30 in gift cards if you attend all three workshops). Register: [bit.ly/GFESustainableJune2019](http://bit.ly/GFESustainableJune2019) | Sponsored by the SFPUC* **Herbal Plant Walk at Garden for the Environment** Saturday, June 22, 10am to 12pm | Cost: \$25 *Join local herbalist Bonnie Rose Weaver on an herb walk at Garden for the Environment Register: [bit.ly/GFEJune2019HerbPlantWalk](http://bit.ly/GFEJune2019HerbPlantWalk)* For more information: Garden for the Environment | 7th Avenue and Lawton Street, San Francisco, CA 94122 | [www.gardenfortheenvironment.org](http://www.gardenfortheenvironment.org) | (415) 558-8246

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

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## Clothes make the earth go round . . .

On Earthday I attended the San Francisco festival, held this year in the Mission District. I saw some wondrous clothing made from recycled materials. I wondered how important clothing is in the whole reduce/reuse/recycle continuum. So I called our “Waste” expert, Ruth Abbe. Abbe is the chair of the Sierra Club California Zero Waste and Recycling Committee and was our advisor for the “Ghost of Christmas Presents” column last winter.

It was no surprise to learn that Abbe has definite ideas about how to save the earth through our clothing choices. In fact, the whole subject of textiles is now prominent in sustainability circles. According to the World Resources Institute, it takes over 700 gallons of water to make one cotton T-shirt. This is enough drinking water for one person for 2.5 years! Other resources used are fertilizer to grow the cotton for a natural fabric or oil for a synthetic fabric, as well as various chemicals used in processing and dyeing the fabric, and the energy for the manufacture and shipping of the T-shirt. But even with all of the energy that goes into making it, it’s not like we wear that T-shirt until it falls off our bods.

With the advent of Fast Fashion, manufacturers started providing low-priced clothes, made with cheap fabrics, poorly cut and stitched, and often exploiting local communities environmentally and even using child labor. Fast Fashion produces clothing quickly to sell new “looks” to consumers (that’s us) each fashion season. Garments are worn a few times and then tossed away as the next fashion cycle rolls through. Worldwide, over 80 - 150 billion garments, depending on the source you check, are produced each year.

After the owner tires of the message/style/ color/whatever, that 700-gallons-of-water T-shirt may be recycled, donated, or just dumped. According to CalRecycle<sup>1</sup> “more than 1.24 million tons of textiles were disposed in California landfills in 2014. Textiles are the sixth most prevalent material type in the overall disposed waste stream and comprise 4 percent of landfilled waste.” OK, so you have decided to re-examine how you clothe yourself. Don’t worry, you don’t have to glue together snack bags, like the talented designers did for the Earthday fashion show gown in the photo. You have

lots of options.

1. Want to buy something new? Buy Slow Fashion. Return to quality materials, quality craft(wo)manship, and classic styles for your basic clothing pieces. They’ll last longer, and really, you’ll look better in them.
2. Want something unique even if a bit pricey? Look for designers who now emphasize minimum or zero waste in



Sustainable Fashion Week International SF, gown by Christina Cree. Photo Alces Images.

**“We think of ocean pollution as fishing line or plastic bottles, but synthetics in clothes break down eventually. And they never, ever go away.”**

clothing design—whether it is in the amount of fabric used or taking scraps of fabric and creating one-of-a-kind clothing from them.

3. Want to support companies that make zero-waste part of their mantra? Companies such as Patagonia have programs to make it easy to repair, to buy used, or to trade in their clothing. When the article of clothing is worn out, you can often return

it to the company, so the item can be recycled into new fiber and fabric.

4. Want to investigate manufacturing practices more deeply? Look into the Sustainable Apparel Coalition<sup>2</sup>, an improbable joint venture of Patagonia and Walmart aiming to improve manufacturing practices worldwide for sustainability and for social impacts
5. Want the adventure of the hunt? Get thee to thy local thrift shop — you will often find better fabrics, better work(wo)man ship, and budget-friendly prices when compared to mainstream retailers.

6. Want to have a broader selection of ‘gently used’ (i.e., second hand) clothes to choose from? Online consignment stores offer used name-brand clothing at discounted prices.

7. Want to choose the best fabrics for the environment? This choice is easy — go for natural fibers such as wool, cotton, and linen. They can be recycled into rags (see below). They can be composted. If done right, they will eventually break down and return to their natural components. Avoid synthetics such as nylon and polyester, which will break down into synthetic microfibers. We think of ocean pollution as fishing line or plastic bottles (see our 2018 articles on plastics in our oceans), but synthetics in clothes break down eventually. And they never, ever go away. Science is just now exploring the possible impact of these fibers on animal and human health. According to Abbe, microfibers have been found in the French Alps! And in wine and beer! Now, this is getting serious. There are a few microfiber filtering products out there - filters you attach to your washing machine or filter bags for your clothes. These are new products. Do some online searches and decide what is right for you.

8. Want to learn to be more self-sufficient while being environmentally conscious? Repair the clothes you own! Don’t know how? There are fix-it clinics and repair fairs. You can learn to fix a hem, sew on a button, and darn your sweaters or socks. Abbe learned darning at one of

these clinics, and was delighted about repairing tiny moth holes in a favorite sweater — and her repairs were completely undetectable.

9. Want to know what to do if that T-shirt is still in good shape but no longer reflects your values (or your changing body shape — just sayin’, we all deal with that eventually). Donate good clothes back to that thrift shop you visited earlier. Go to Recycle Where<sup>3</sup> to find locations to donate clothes in good condition and those shoes, belts, and purses that can’t go in the garbage company’s Blue Bin.

10. Want to know what to do once that beloved T-shirt is worn beyond repair? In San Francisco, put recyclable, clean but unusable fabric items in a clear plastic bag (sorry - someday we’ll get away from those pesky plastic bags), then in the Blue Bin. Rips, holes, single socks are okay here.

11. Want to know where worn fabric goes? One use is in cotton industrial wiping cloths. You’ve seen these for sale at big box and paint stores. Rags are better for cleaning than microfibers — and, of course, as the microfiber cloths break down, they end up back in our water supply and in the ocean. Rags are also used in shoddy pad — the underlayment for carpeting and under the floorboards of cars. Some clothing is recycled into clothing! The fabric is separated back into threads and ends up as new fabric. Learn more through SMART - The Secondary Materials And Recycled Textiles Association<sup>4</sup>.

As is often true, the simplest action is the most effective. The best way to cut down on clothing waste is to just not buy as much. You’ll save time, you’ll save money, and you’ll help to save a bit more of the environment.

*Katherine Howard is a local open-space and environmental advocate.*

Endnotes

1. [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/reducewaste/textiles](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/reducewaste/textiles)
2. [apparelcoalition.org/the-sac/](http://apparelcoalition.org/the-sac/)
3. [www.recyclewhere.org](http://www.recyclewhere.org)
4. [www.smartasn.org](http://www.smartasn.org)

### Chief Scott (Cont. from p. 1)

an arbitrary process. The existing SFPD sergeants’ and lieutenants’ promotional lists were based on a multiple-choice written pass/fail test, which diluted the efforts of officers who had studied diligently to improve their knowledge above their peers.

The written exam was followed by a subjectively scored oral exam. I sat for the most recent sergeant’s exam, which was unfairly and inconsistently administered by civilian role players. That is not my opinion; that was the decision of the SF Department of Human Resources, which rescinded the test. Over 400 officers, who had spent approximately a quarter-million dollars of vacation time to take the first invalidated oral exam, were again required to waste a second vacation day to take a revised oral exam. (I did not retake the second oral test.) The scores of the second revamped oral test were scored and codified into a ranked list of sergeant-candidates.

Since his arrival, Chief William Scott has frequently boasted about blindly adhering to the hyper-political 2016 Department of Justice assessment of SFPD. There is absolutely no evidence that the Chief has applied any of the *statistical* education of his college accounting degree to form his own independent interpretations and question the DOJ survey.

For instance, the DOJ reported on page 187 that women comprise 15% of SFPD. Despite the 15% composition, the DOJ surveyed that the rank of sergeant was 19.9% females, lieutenant 18% females, commander 20% females, and deputy chief 16% females. However, despite an overrepresentation of women in every rank other

than captain, the DOJ determined that SFPD was completely guilty of gender bias because female captains were three-quarters of a human being deficient, at 14.29% representation.

The San Francisco chief’s position is also 100% male. To comply with the DOJ fractional proportionality requirement, perhaps Chief Scott should step aside for a female chief 15% of the time — which is probably way short of the percentage of nights he sleeps in his Los Angeles home.

From the top 157 candidates on the current sergeants’ promotional list, Chief Scott promoted 100% of the female candidates. In the first round of sergeants’ promotions, Chief Scott found fault with 70% of the white male candidates, promoting women and officers of color with lower test scores, instead. In Scott’s second and last wave of promotions, he still found excuses to skip over 33% of the white males with higher test scores. Scott’s 33% rejection rate for whites exceeds the rejection rate for African Americans of 10%, Hispanics of 20%, and women of 0%.

In the face of the overwhelming statistical evidence that his sergeants’ promotions were discriminatory, on the ABC Channel 7 news, Chief Scott spun, “*We look at different set of experiences, different sets of training, different backgrounds, different cultural competencies.*” This raises the issue of whether giving Chief Scott vague criteria on the definition of “secondary skills” opened the door for him to play with cronyism, nepotism, and accommodating the various identity tribes who were already overrepresented within SFPD. One must also question: What secondary skills were

present in 100% of the female candidates, but absent in so many men?

The evidence that the Chief is using “secondary criteria” to cloak a quota system is evidenced by the fact that of three current SFPD officers who have passed the CPA exam, one of them is idling on the current sergeants’ list. Yet while the first sergeants were being promoted from the current list, Chief Scott’s Chief Financial Officer’s (CFO’s) resume was composed of a music undergrad major along with a master’s degree in political science. Consider: The government has certified that a male candidate on the sergeants’ list is

proficient in accounting, internal control, auditing, operations management, government accounting, technology, income taxes, business law, and *statistics*, while the Chief paid a civilian CFO — who had never taken a class in debits and credits — significantly more money: \$192,924 as a Deputy Director III in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

Promotions based on race and identity harm the City in four ways:

The department would progress and run more efficiently if the Chief assigned officers with quantifiable skills to the positions

*Cont. p. 13*

## make a note. plan to vote.

Come to a new  
voting demonstration event!

To find out where we will be visit  
[sfelection.org/outreach/calendar](http://sfelection.org/outreach/calendar)







EVERY SUNDAY • 82ND ANNUAL STERN GROVE FESTIVAL

**Sundays • June 16 through August 18th • Concert Starts at 2 pm 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd., SF**  
Stern Grove Concerts Return this month. Beginning in June the annual outdoor music festival series at Sigmund Stern Grove will be celebrating its 82nd year. Free concerts will be offered every Sunday all summer long for 10 consecutive weeks.

Crowds are expected to number at 10,000 a week as this may be Stern Grove’s most pivotal and well-attended season. A variety of shows will be performing, starting with the award-winning Jazz-fusion rap group Digable Planets, with featured performances by Los Van Van, Galactic, Mitski and Madaline Kenney, Toots and the Maytals, and Lee Fields and The Expressions, The Psychedelic Furs and James, Pink Martini with Barrio Manouche, the legendary Isley Brothers and more. The Festival also includes classical elements like SF Symphony and the San Francisco Ballet.

The Grove, nestled in a rustic setting all its own, off busy 19th Ave, is where the sounds of rock, hip-hop, jazz, folk, classical, funk, and blues all define the experience.

With programming eclectic and diverse, the City considers Stern Grove Festival, with its wide range of musical performances, a gigantic home concert. A distinctive aspect of the Festival’s programming, in addition to spotlighting familiar classics and legends, is to introduce local up-and-coming artists and emerging talents from around the globe to a broad audience.

The admission-free concerts begin at 2 pm. Admittance is on a first-come, first-served basis No tickets are required. Some performances have pre-performance events (like a picnic) around Noon, and charge admission to those talks, benefit parties/gatherings. Check for details.

Sigmund Stern Grove is located at 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard in the Sunset/Parkside district,

Patrons are invited to bring their own food and beverages. The Festival also offers a rotating line-up of food trucks at concerts and free yoga classes at noon from Office Yoga instructors in the West Meadow. For more information about the Stern Grove Summer Festival visit the Stern Grove website at: [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org) or call (415) 252- 6252 —Jonathan Farrell

June 2019  
CALENDAR

EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

**Farmers Market | Every Sun | 9 am–1 pm** | Fresh fruits and vegetables stars in this popular market, rear parking lot: Stonestown (19th Ave @ Winston).

EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

**Sundays | 2 pm** | Victorian era architecture Lafayette Square. SF’s illustrious history, steep streets & fabulous views! 1801 Bush St. garden. Donations MUNI 1, 3. Check out many tours of SF: INFO: [sfcityguides.org](http://sfcityguides.org)

SUNDAYS • FREE COMMUNITY YOGA

**Every Sun | 10 am** | Bring Your Own Mat for outdoor yoga at Playland at 43rd Ave. All classes are FREE and DROP IN. (Rain cancels.) 1360 43rd Ave & Judah. Cancellations: Playland Yoga Facebook Page.

EVERY TUES • QUE SYRAH HAPPY HOUR

**Every Tue Happy Hour | 4–8 pm** | Que Syrah Wine Bar. Take \$1 off each glass, 10% off each bottle (consumed on site). 230 West Portal Ave 731-7000

EVERY THURS • NIGHTLIFE

**Every Thu | 6–10 pm** | The Academy of Sciences brings live music, science, mingling and cocktails. GG Park \$12 (\$10 Members). [calacademy.org/nightlife](http://calacademy.org/nightlife).

EVERY THURS • DIGITAL DEVICE DROP-IN

**Thu | 4-5 pm** | Patient tech-savvy help in getting to know your digital device. Please have your device fully charged and know your sign-in information and passwords. Main Library, 100 Larkin St.

FRIDAYS • TEEN COMPUTER CORPS

**Fri | 4-5:30 pm** | Trouble with Technology? We can help with kindles, email, laptops, tablets, cell phones and other electronic gadgets at the Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval. Info: 415-355-5770.

FRI • OFF THE GRID - FOOD TRUCKS

**Every Fri | 5-10 pm** |The largest food truck gathering in the country, brings delicious food to the public with free sides of music, craft, and soul. Fort Mason Center 2 Marina Blvd. Free—\$25, [offthegridsf.com](http://offthegridsf.com)

SATURDAYS • FREE ART MUSEUM DAY

**Every Sat | 10 am-5 pm** | For SF residents, admission to the de Young and Legion of Honor will be free every Saturday to their permanent collection galleries and special exhibitions. may be redeemed with a driver’s license or postmarked envelope

SATURDAYS • COMPUTER HELP

**Sat | 1-4 pm** | Drop-in help with a teen tech savvy volunteer! Bring your laptop, eReaders, gadgets, digital cameras, tablets or cell phones and we can help you

learn how to use it. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox.

ONGOING • SF DOCFEST

**Ongoing thru Jun 13 | Various Venues** | The 18th annual documentary film festival is a two week-long event has brought the most weird and wonderful aspects of real life to the big screen. Schedules-Locations-Tix: [sfindie.com](http://sfindie.com)

THU • OUTER SUNSET/PARKSIDE

**Wed June 5 | 6:30 pm** | Residents from the Outer Sunset and Outer Parkside (west of Sunset) discuss key issues in the neighborhood. Outer Sunset Parkside Residents Assn (OSPRA). Ortega Branch, 3223 Ortega St. [mediasusan2@gmail.com](mailto:mediasusan2@gmail.com) (Every 3rd Thu)

THU • PEOPLE OF PARKSIDE

**Thu Jun 6 | 7 pm** | POPS meeting is the first Thursday of the month at the Taraval Station, 2345 24th Ave.

THU • VEGETARIAN COOKING

**Thu Jun 6 | 3-4:30 pm** | Shanta Nimbark Sacharoff, author of *Cooking Together: A Vegetarian Co-op Cookbook*, discusses sharing food and food preparation and some herbs and spices in various cuisines. She demonstrates two kinds of chutneys. Sampling with Chai and crackers. Limit: 25 people. RSVP (415)355-5615 to register. Ocean View Branch, 345 Randolph.

SAT • WORLD OCEAN DAY CLEANUP



**Sat Jun 8 | 10 am - 1 pm** | Aquarium of the Bay joins the UN to encourage solutions to the dangerous problems caused by plastic pollution. Volunteers pick up and count marine debris like straws, wrappers, cigarette butts, and other plastic trash from our ecosystem. Wear comfortable clothes, sturdy shoes, and sunscreen. Bring your own reusable water bottle/coffee mug, reusable gloves, and/or bucket. Meet- near benches at west end of the SF Dolphin Club 530 Jefferson Ave. [worldoceanday.org](http://worldoceanday.org)

SAT • CACTUS & SUCCULENT SALE

**Sat-Sun Jun 8-9 | 9 am - 5 pm** | Succulents, cacti, and bromeliads from more than 25 regional nurseries and boutique



You Asked – We Listened!

We are pleased to announce the introduction of what will become a treasured Cliff House tradition.

The Zinc Bar Happy Hour

Please Join Us!

Monday – Friday | 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm | Zinc Bar & Balcony Lounge

Light Bites, Drink Specials & Awesome Views

1090 Point Lobos | San Francisco | 415-386-3330 | [CliffHouse.com](http://CliffHouse.com)

Some restrictions apply. Promotions are not valid on holidays.

growers. Hand-crafted studio pottery made especially for succulents. Experts from SF Succulents and Cactus Society on hand to answer questions SF County Fair Bldg.,1199 9th Ave., GGP.

SAT-SUN • WEST COAST CRAFT

**Sat-Sun Jun 8-9 | 10 am - 6 pm** | This craft and design show is a juried exhibition of artist and designer craftspeople living and working on the West Coast and exemplifies the mood and aesthetics of their lifestyle. Pavilion, Fort Mason Ctr. [westcoastcraft.com](http://westcoastcraft.com)

SUN • CUESA’S 26TH BIRTHDAY BASH

**Sun Jun 9 | 6 pm to 9 pm** | The Ferry Building as it is transformed for an epic party to feed your senses and soul. Unlimited food and drink from the Bay Area’s best chefs with the freshest farmers market produce. Support local farms and the vibrant food future. Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture, Ferry Bldg. Embarcadero & Market St. TIX: \$50 [cuesa.org](http://cuesa.org)

SUN • STAR GAZER PARTY

**Sun Jun 9 | 8 – 11 pm** | Come join us for our monthly City Star Party. SF Astronomers Assn. members provide telescopes. Lands End, Point Lobos. Be sure to check [sfaa.org](http://sfaa.org) website for updates. . . weather or over-cast cancels!



MON • 87TH CALIFORNIA BOOK AWARDS

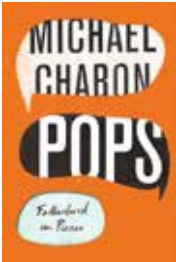
**Mon Jun 10 | 6 - 7:15 pm** | Since 1931, this award has honored the Golden State’s literary giants, bestowing medals in fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. \$10 (\$5 members) The Commonwealth Club, 110 Embarcadero, Taube Family Auditorium.

MON • CHAIN REACTION / PLOUGHSHARES

**Mon June 10 | 6pm - 9pm** | With an unpredictable president and rising tensions around the world, leadership and democracy are more critical than ever. Hear from the leaders working tirelessly to keep us out of nuclear war. SF Jazz Center, 201 Franklin St. Hors d’oeuvres, Cocktails & Dessert Reception. [ploughshares.org](http://ploughshares.org) \$250.

TUE • AUTHOR MICHAEL CHABON

**Tue Jun 11 | 7 pm** | The bestselling and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Moonglow* and *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*, among many others, delivers heartfelt, humorous, insightful, wise—on the meaning of fatherhood as only Michael Chabon can. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.



TUE • MIRACLE CLUB

**Tue Jan 11 | 6:30-8 pm** | The Laughter Yoga regulars at West Portal decided will discuss *The Miracle Club: How Thoughts Become Reality* and invite anyone to come who is interested in thinking positively. This book is available free in several formats. Ask a librarian for e-book help. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox.

TUE • 37TH ANNUAL SF JAZZ FESTIVAL



**Tue Jun 11-23** | This year’s festival features 41 shows in 13 days at 4 venues in Hayes Valley, including Jazzmeia Horn, José James, Orquesta Akokán, The Cookers, William Bell, Roy Ayers and many more. TIX: [sfjazz.org](http://sfjazz.org)

TUE • REMNANTS IN SF PARKS

**Tue Jun 11 | 7:30 - 9 pm** | Fascinating fragments in the City parks—“What’s the story here?”These pieces are leftovers of larger construction projects—private, public, or military— part of our storied past. SF Museum & Historical Society, Free (members) or \$10, 5, seniors, students, teachers, and disabled. [sfhistory.org](http://sfhistory.org). Roosevelt Middle School, parking. 460 Arguello.

WED • EARTHQUAKE SAFETY FAIR

**Tue Jun 11 | 10am - 4pm** | Dept. of Building Inspection hosts an exhibitor hall and informative work-



MAY 2019

BESTSELLERS

1. The Guest Book Sarah Blake \*
2. Becoming Michelle Obama
3. Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Creating New Underclass Mary L. Gray & Siddharth Suri \*
4. Miracle Creek Angie Kim\*
5. Where the Crawdads Sing Delia Owens
6. Save Me the Plums: My Gourmet Memoir Ruth Reichl
7. The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life David Brooks
8. Educated: A Memoir Tara Westover
9. The Pioneers: The Heroic Story of the Settlers Who Brought the American Ideal West David McCullough
10. Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup John Carreyrou
11. Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland Patrick Radden Keefe
12. The Island of Sea Women Lisa See \*
13. Maybe You Should Talk to Someone Lori Gottlieb
14. Normal People Sally Rooney
15. An Elegant Defense: The Extraordinary New Science of the Immune System Matt Richtel \*Wallace-Wells

\* Spoke at BookShop West Portal; signed copies available

WHAT ARE YOU READING?





SCARLETT THE TITAN • CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS • JFK DRIVE / GOLDEN GATE PARK

The Corpse Flower is often confused for the largest flower in the plant kingdom. That distinction goes to another smelly species, *Rafflesia arnoldii*. The Corpse Flower, however, is the largest unbranched inflorescence (flower spike) with a record specimen reaching over 10.5 feet tall. This inflorescence is made up of dozens of tiny, petal-less flowers arranged at the bottom of the central spadix. Female flowers open first to receive pollen from another Corpse Flower in bloom in the forest. They then shrivel and become unreceptive to pollen before the male flowers open. The male flowers will then release their pollen to be carried to a different Corpse Flower. Right now that the spathe is turning its signature crimson color, we could be expecting a bloom in less than a week. Be sure not to blink or you might miss the opportunity to come see (and smell!) this rare plant in full bloom. Stay tuned at: [conservatoryofflowers.org/bloom/amorphophallus-titanum](http://conservatoryofflowers.org/bloom/amorphophallus-titanum)

shops, along with hands-on emergency training at Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, 99 Grove St. Registration is now open! RSVP [sfdbi.org/earthquakefair](http://sfdbi.org/earthquakefair)

THU • TOTAL WELLNESS

**Thu Jun 13 | 11 am – 1:30 pm** | A free interactive health forum on the Street Levels of Two, Three and Four of Embarcadero Center, at Front, Sacramento and Clay Sts. Health screenings, fitness demos, over 65 health-related booths, specific nutrition, longevity, fitness and overall well-being.

THU • THE MISEDUCATION OF CAMERON

**Thu Jun 13 | 4-6 pm** | Film: Cameron is sent to a questionable treatment center called God's Promise where she receives gay conversion therapies while making new friends. Ocean View Branch, 345 Randolph St.

SAT • JUNTEENTH CELEBRATION

**Sat Jun 16 | 11 am–7 pm** | Honors African-American culture and community and includes a traditional African Uhuru village; a health and wellness pavilion; petting zoo; live entertainment; arts, crafts and food vendors, parade, and more. Free. Fillmore Street (btw. Geary & Turk Sts.) [sfjuneteenth.com](http://sfjuneteenth.com)

SAT • YERBA BUENA ARTWALK

**Sat Jun 15 | 1 - 6 pm** | Experience the city's cultural heart for FREE for the 12th annual Art Walk. Register at the Esplanade, YB Gardens/ Mission St. between 3rd & 4th Sts. World class art and culture exhibitions at 10 venues. Schedule: [yerbabuena.org/calendar](http://yerbabuena.org/calendar)

SAT • CORGI CON



**Sat Jun 15 | 10am - 2pm** | We look FURward to seeing every pawdy at Nor Cal Corgi Con, Great Highway at Ocean Beach between Stairwell 2 and 5. (Close to the Cliff House) Info: [corgicon.com](http://corgicon.com)

SAT-SUN • NORTH BEACH STREET FAIR

**Sat-Sun Jun 15-16 | 10 am - 6 pm** | The 65th Festival— one of the country's original street fairs. In historic Little Italy and the famed beat generation. Over 125 arts and crafts booths, gourmet food booths, two stages of live entertainment, Circus Bella, poetry readings, street painting, beverage gardens, kids' chalk area and the blessing of the animals. Free. Grant, Green, & Vallejo Sts., & Columbus Ave. [sresproductions.com](http://sresproductions.com)

SUN • STERN GROVE: DIGABLE PLANET

**Sun Jun 16 | 2 pm** | Diggable Planet and Bang Data kick-off the Stern Grove Festival with with jazz and hip-hop vibes from Diggable Planets. Local hip-hop hybrid group Bang Data opens.

SUN • BIKEABOUT - FATHER'S DAY

**Sun Jun 16 | 8:30 - 10 am** | SF Zoo's special bike tour focuses on what paternal care looks like throughout the animal kingdom. Stick around after the tour for a tasty continental breakfast until 11am! RSVP Only: [SFZoo.org](http://SFZoo.org) \$35 members, \$45 non-members/bring your own bikes. FREE for children piggy-backing on an adult's bike. Sloat Blvd. @ Great Highway.

SUN • FATHER'S DAY BAY CRUISE

**Sun Jun 16 | Boards: 10:30, 11:30 am & 6:30 pm** | Treat Dad with a 90-minute Bay water experience. Enjoy free-flowing beer, champagne & a hearty buffet on a Hornblower yacht. Pier 3, Embarcadero/Washington. RSVP: [hornblower.com](http://hornblower.com) \$54-91.

TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

**Tue Jun 18 | 6-7 pm** | Meet with Captain Rainsford at Taraval Station. Taraval Community Relations Forum Meeting: 2345 24th Ave. Info: [westoftwinpeaks.org](http://westoftwinpeaks.org) (Every 3rd Tues.)

TUE • CALL ME BY YOUR NAME



**Tue Jun 18 | 7:30 pm** | A precocious 17-year-old is spending lazy days at his 17th-century villa in Lombardy until he meets a student. An unexpected bond grows that will alter their lives forever. Hauntingly beautiful original songs by singer-songwriter Sufjan Stevens with the film on the big screen. Rated R. SF Symphony, Davies Symphony Hall, Hayes & Van Ness.

WED • TIBETIAN STRESS THERAPY

**Wed Jun 19 | 6 - 7:30 pm** | Struggle with inadequate sleep, loss of concentration, anxiety or a rapid heart-beat? A Tibetan self-healing technique called Hor-mey may help. Doctor of Tibetan Medicine Yangdron Kalzang will demonstrate the medicinal warm oil poultice Ocean View Branch, 345 Randolph St.

THU • GOOD NIGHT-AND GOOD LUCK



**Thu Jun 20 | 12-2 pm** | SFPL is screening classic movies that deal with the role of journalists and the media. Broadcast journalist Edward R. Murrow looks to bring down Senator Joseph McCarthy in this film starring George Clooney. Main Branch, Koret Aud. 100 Larkin.

THU • FRAMELINE LGBTQ FILM FESTIVAL

**Daily Thu Jun 20 - Sun Jun 30 | Times vary** | Join over 60,000 attendees for Frameline43. Explore the LGBTQ+ communities worldwide with an 11-day celebration featuring premieres, parties, panels, stars, and more! Sched/TIX: [www.frameline.org](http://www.frameline.org)

THU • OMI NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

**Thu Jun 21 | 7 pm** | OMI-NIA General Meeting at Temple UMC, 65 Beverly. (Every 4th Thu)

SUN • STERN GROVE: LOS VAN VAN

**Sun Jun 23 | 2 pm** | Los Van Van heats up the Grove with a uniquely Cuban concoction of rock, jazz designed for—dancing! Banda Sin Nombre, a local five-piece street band opens with global folk music.

MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

**Mon Jun 25 | 7 pm** | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss local topics on the 4th Mon each month. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. [westoftwinpeaks.org](http://westoftwinpeaks.org)

WED • GREAT BOOKS WEST PORTAL

**Wed Jun 26 | 6:30-8:30 pm** | *The Grand Inquisitor* by Dostoevsky. If you like great ideas, great writing, and stimulating discussion—join in. 4th Wed of most months. Info: [jimshhall@earthlink.net](mailto:jimshhall@earthlink.net) or to get the book. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.

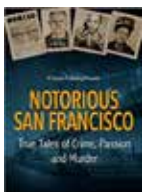
SAT • SOY & TOFU FESTIVAL



**Sat Jun 29 | 11 am-5 pm** | Tofu eating contests and the Soy and Tofu Dessert Competition top this exciting culinary event. Soy and tofu vendors exhibit uses and benefits of soy and tofu— live music and cultural entertainment, games. Event Center at Saint Mary's Cathedral 1111 Gough St. (at Geary Blvd) Japantown.

SAT • NOTORIOUS SAN FRANCISCO

**Sat Jun 29 | 2 - 3 pm** | Paul Drexler will present his book which contains 20 tales of serial killers, deadly women, con-men, masters of escape, and unsolved mysteries. Main Branch, Skylight Gallery, 100 Larkin.



SAT • BACKYARD CHICKENS



**Sat Jun 29 | 2-3 pm** | How to raise chickens in the city, and why they make wonderful pets in the garden. This program is for t(w)eens 10-18 years old. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.

SUN • STERN GROVE: GALACTIC

**Sun Jun 30 | 2 pm** | New Orleans group Galactic, featur singer Erica Falls with jam-based grooves inspired by the vibrant funk, R&B, and jazz traditions. SF-based Baby & The Luvies, a high-energy, soul-inspired, 10-piece dance band opens.

SUN • GAY PRIDE PARADE/ CELEBRATION

**Sun Jun 30 | 10 am-6 pm** | The celebration is the largest LGBT gathering in the nation. Get ready for an enormous party with a large parade taking over the city, 300 exhibitors and 19 stages and venues. Several events are held throughout San Francisco during the week leading up to the weekend. [sfpride.org](http://sfpride.org)

SUN • JAPAN DAY FESTIVAL

**Sun Jun 30 | 1-5 pm** | Celebrate the Japanese cultural heritage of Japantown! Enjoy Japanese artists from Tokyo, Chicago, Bay Area, music and dance. FREE Japantown, Peace Plaza - Post & Webster Sts.

**Got An Event? Westside Events Get Priority**  
[editor@westsideobserver.com](mailto:editor@westsideobserver.com)



30th Street Senior Center Lecture Series

HOW YOU AGE MATTERS



People are living longer and for most seniors the future seems like uncharted territory. Being prepared is the best way forward. Join us to hear from the experts who will share practical strategies to face aging.

JUNE 5 - 4:30-6:00 PM  
**The Many Faces of Dementia**  
Presented by Dr. Louise Aronson

JUNE 12 - 4:30-6:00 PM  
**Active Minds, Healthy Brains**  
Presented by Dr. Sergio Lanata

JUNE 19 - 4:30-6:00 PM  
**Get on Your Feet and Stay There:**  
Exercise for Preventing Falls  
Presented by Dr. Christian J. Thompson

JUNE 26 - 4:30-6:00 PM  
**Facing Aging**  
Presented by Dr. Patrick Arbore

Free and open to the public. RSVP REQUIRED.  
For more information on each session and to RSVP:  
**[www.onlok.org/events](http://www.onlok.org/events) or call 415.550.2223**

All sessions will be held at:  
**30th Street Senior Center**  
225 30th Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco



[www.onlok.org](http://www.onlok.org)

30th Street Senior Center





Money Matters

By Brandon Miller



Don't Let Money Come Between You and Your Partner

It's Gay Pride month again, the time when our wonderful City is festooned with lovely rainbow flags. This always makes me happy—and not just because I get to use the fun word festooned. Gay Pride reminds me of how far we have come as a community.

As a financial advisor who has specialized in serving LGBTQ clients for nearly 20 years, I've been privileged to have a front-row seat for the way changing laws and greater acceptance benefit same-sex couples. But one thing that hasn't changed is how hard it is for couples (or throuples) to talk about money.

For some reason, money is a bit of a taboo subject. People will share every detail of their love life with friends, but not what they earn, spend, save or, heaven forbid, what they owe. So I guess it's not all that surprising that years of being closeted about finances makes people reluctant to open up even to their partners.

But remember, when it comes to handling money together, you are sharing something with someone you love. You should be able to be open about what you want, hear what they want and prioritize your relationship over money.

It also might be helpful to view yourselves as a threesome—a “you,” a “me” and an “us.” Acknowledging that you're an individual and part of a unit at the same time can help you manage your money to the benefit of everyone. Say only one of you enjoys traveling. If your money plans only cover joint goals, obviously that won't be one of them. But if your plans take into account what all three of you want, you'll likely be much happier.

Here are a few other suggestions on how to get you and your partner(s) on the same page about money.

Be Honest With Each Other

This might seem glaringly obvious, but hiding purchases and debts from your partner is not only bad for your relationship, it also makes it difficult to get a true picture of your finances.

Let each other know about any baggage or bad habits you have, as well as how you feel about money and why. For example, one partner may save every cent because they were raised by a single mom who constantly struggled to make ends meet. The other partner may have lost a close friend in high school, so spending like there's no tomorrow is their financial philosophy. Understanding each other's point of view can help you develop a solution that works for the two of you.

Pool Your Money Together Into Joint and Individual Accounts

This builds off my 1+1=3 philosophy and is one of the most successful strategies I get my clients to use. The idea is to take all the money you earn as a couple, deduct what you need each month for living expenses, then split the leftover amount between partners to spend however they wish. For example, if you bring in \$10k a month and need \$8k to live on, you deposit the \$8k into a joint account and \$1k each in your individual accounts.

I can't tell you how many issues this helps solve. First off, it allows for some autonomy as your partner gets no say in how you choose to use your “individual” money. Spenders can go to town with theirs, while savers can squirrel away their portion. It also gets rid of power dynamics when one partner makes significantly more than the other.

Develop Financial Goals Together

If you both agree on how much you should spend and how much to save, you're more likely to stick with the plan. You can each write down what you want your money to accomplish, then compare the two lists and see where you agree and where you need to make compromises.

Make a Monthly Date to Review Your Finances

Who says a candlelit dinner and credit card bill don't go together? Make it fun to review your previous month's expenses. Celebrate if you stayed on budget. And if you went over budget, well, someone might need to get spanked.

The more honestly and often you and your partner talk about money, the fewer fights you'll likely have caused by misunderstandings or resentment. And having a happier, healthier relationship seems like a perfect way to celebrate Gay Pride.

*Brio Financial Group is a registered investment adviser. SEC Registration does not constitute an endorsement of Brio by the SEC nor that Brio has attained a particular level of ability. Services are only offered to clients where Brio Financial Group and its representatives are properly licensed or exempt from licensure. No advice may be rendered by Brio Financial Group unless a client service agreement is in place.*

YGC (Cont. from p. 4)

I proposed a comprehensive 8-point homeless program at the Board of Supervisors. Not to be outdone, then-Supervisor Newsom quickly put together a weak, but catchy plan called *Care not Cash*. The Supervisors' Budget Analyst, Harvey Rose, recommended against it because of the undisclosed hidden costs and the Board voted against the legislation. Newsom took it to the public as Proposition F in 2002. The *Care Not Cash* measure presented to the voters was a slick, false, well-financed piece of propaganda specifically designed to fool the voters into believing it would help fix the growing homeless situation by eliminating the cash paid monthly to homeless individuals but instead, provide services. The voters went for it, and subsequently, because I tried to disclose the shortcomings of the measure, District 7 was flooded with false flyers financed by the well-healed Newsom camp accusing me of insensitivity toward the homeless. Many believe that the genesis of our City's homeless problem began with Newsom's *Care Not Cash*. He never disclosed to the taxpayers what the “care” would cost in terms of real taxpayer dollars. He merely exploited the homeless for political gain.

Our current Mayor is proving herself to be just the latest beneficiary in the “Game of Thrones” political machine that has runs

Cont. p. 14

Do you have a pinched nerve?  
We can help.

Dear friend,  
It's hard to believe, I know, but it's true. Last year more Americans were killed by prescription drugs than by guns, AIDS, suicides and terrorists combined ... But we'll get to that in a minute.

Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. You know when I meet people in town they usually say, “Oh yeah, I know you, you are Doctor Meakim. You have been on the corner of Beach and Jones for years”...(and we just moved to our new office on Clement Street). Well, that's me. I'm also the woman hugging her niece at the Jersey Shore in the picture.

Seventeen years ago something happened that changed my life forever. I was a young woman living in Philadelphia when it happened. I was driving with a friend when she missed a stop sign and rammed into the side of another car. We were all shaken up. The police were called and we all went to the hospital. No one was bleeding, so the doctors took some x-rays of our neck, gave us pain meds and sent us on our way. The next day I woke up with pain everywhere and it just kept getting worse. For years I tried everything that I could find. For an escape from the pain, I went to medical doctors, physical therapists, acupuncturists, I tried special pillows, and anything I thought might help. I spent a lot of time and money. Along the way I had two more car accidents and the pain kept getting worse and worse. I had developed fibromyalgia, neck pain, mid-back pain and low-back pain with tingling and numbness down my right arm and leg. I was scared that something was really wrong with me. This could not be normal. I was only 33 years old and felt like I was 100. That is when someone told me about a chiropractor that they thought could help. As a matter of fact, after the first person told me about him, two more people did that same week. So I made an appointment with the chiropractor. Thank goodness that they took the time to help me! I went to his office where he asked me about my problems, did an exam, and took some x-rays of my head and back. After that he pointed out where my nerves were pinched and adjusted them. The adjustment was so light I barely felt it. I began crying as I felt the pain leave my body for the first time in years. It may sound strange, but I was so happy and grateful for the relief that I still thank him every day! After that, I knew what I had to do. I had to become a chiropractor, and that's how it happened!

I have adjusted many children within the first 15 minutes after birth. They obviously didn't complain of neck pain or back pain; I adjust them to keep them healthy... as with all the hundreds of children I care for in my office.

You see, it's not normal for kids to get ear infections, asthma, allergies or a number of other illnesses we see clear up in our office everyday.

When the nervous system is working correctly your internal resistance and healing powers are enhanced.

A healthy family does NOT rely on medication to make it well. My family does not turn to medication to seek health and we don't have a “medicine chest” in our home. Due to years of advertising saturation from the pharmaceutical companies most Americans do seek health from outside in and most families have a “medicine chest” filled with an average of 16 different medications.

In an average year, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports over 1.5 million hospitalizations due to medication.

Last year the WHO reported 350,000 deaths due to medication people took... and 160,000 were when the drugs were prescribed correctly. More people died last year from medication than at Pearl Harbor and Vietnam. Amazing huh?

If drugs make people well, then those who take the most should be the healthiest, but this simply isn't the case.

Many people are beginning to understand that health comes from within. This is why chiropractic helps so many people. You see, your body can heal itself. Your body doesn't need any help; it just can't have any interference. With chiropractic, we don't add anything to the body or take anything from it. We find interference in the nervous system and remove it, thus enhancing the healing capacities of the body.

We get tremendous results ... it really is as simple as that.

For the past eight years, people from San Francisco and the surrounding area have come to see me with their pinched nerve problems.

- Headaches
- Migraines
- Chronic Pain
- Neck pain
- Shoulder/arm pain
- Whiplash from car accidents
- Backaches
- Numbness in limbs
- Athletic injuries, just to name a few.

Here is what some of your neighbors have said:

*“I had back pain for 15 plus years and two back operations. Now I play tennis, sit at my computer and enjoy an active pain free life! Thank you Dr. Meakim!” — A. McGrath*

*“All possible medicines and doctors, you made a miracle taking away my pain!! I am a happy wife and mother again!” — L Igudesman*

*“I have had chronic neck, shoulder and arm pain for the last 4 years. After seeing Dr. Meakim I can now twist off caps, button/zip my own pants and there is no longer a need for me to ice my arm in the morning and night! I feel more energetic, and can move my arm and neck pain free!” — C. Brubaker*

My qualifications:

I am a graduate of Palmer College of Chiropractic, I have published articles in leading chiropractic journals and taught chiropractic to chiropractors! I've been helping your neighbors in San Francisco since 2004. I've been entrusted to take care of tiny babies to athletes that you may know.

My assistants are Miranda and Nancy and they are friendly and helpful and ready to assist you to set up an evaluation. Our clinic is both friendly and warm and we try our best to make you feel at home. We have wonderful service at an exceptional fee. Our clinic is called Healthy Life Chiropractic and it is at 101 Clement Street (at the corner of Clement St. and 2nd Avenue). Our phone number is 415-751-7071. Call today for an appointment. We can help you.

Thank you.—Dr. Christina Meakim D.C.

P.S. When accompanied by the first family member, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only \$17.

P.P.S. Can you imagine not having to wait at a doctor's office? Well, your time is as valuable as mine. That's why we have a no-wait policy. You will be seen within minutes of your appointment.

P.P.P.S. Of course, all people respond differently to care.







Ocean Avenue Between Faxon Avenue and Jules Avenue Looking West | June 7, 1919 | Photo courtesy of SFMTA photo collection.

### Remember When?

## Westside Activist May Pon-Barry passes

Local San Francisco realtor John Barry was very sad to tell the *Westside Observer* that his wife of 45 years died after a long battle with cancer.

*"It hurts me to have to share this news,"* Barry said. He referred to their time together as a 45-year adventure of "Gaudeamus Igitur" (a life of rejoicing in accomplishments large and small). Barry continued adding, *"May died at sunrise on Sunday, Mother's Day. She was at home, looking out the bedroom window at the Golden Gate Bridge."*

A memorial was held on Thursday afternoon May 23, 2019 at the Foresthill Clubhouse for May Pon Barry. For decades The Barry-Pon family have contributed continuously to local SF causes and projects.

Staunch members of SHARP – The Sunset Heights Association of Responsible People – and other San Francisco neighborhood groups, John and May Barry helped many people and organizations in various ways, but especially here *"out in the Avenues, whether it was near Golden Gate Park or way out to Ocean Beach."* May and John were always committed to making the local districts a good and stable place to live, and that included families.

*"May was actually quite extraordinary, said Barry. She was a private person with a public purpose. She was always organizing community events and projects; such as establishing the SF recycling centers network, under the auspices of REA, Richmond Environment Action, at University of San Francisco,"* he added.

Recollecting further, Barry said, *"In 1970, when she was 23 years old - along with a few others, May rallied for the cause. REA operated on the USF campus until 1996, when the university needed to reclaim its generously-donated Anza and Collins parking lot to build teacher housing."*

Barry noted. *"REA was inspired by the first Earth Day, and was to get San Francisco to have a comprehensive, citywide recycling system. That was back in the days more than 40 years ago when, if you called City Hall and asked a clerk 'where's the nearest Recycling Center?' The answer was, 'honest to God! What's a Recycling Center?'"*

*"REA got a network of 12 Community-based, neighborhood Recycle Centers up and running, and caused SF to cancel its plans to spend \$500,000,000 on a mammoth garbage incinerator."*

Because of that tremendous effort, Barry said. *"The City*



*turned to the local trash companies, then called Sunset Scavenger or Golden Gate Disposal, to reform, and over time evolve into what is now called Recology. The current city-wide system of 'source separated' and a three-cart bin system is what REA finally proposed to Supervisor Angela Alioto and city officials to create the SF Environment Commission."*

Despite the ongoing struggle with a stage 4 cancer condition, May continued to work. She was an Enrolled Tax Agent, and a highly skilled tax specialist that many CPAs would turn to for help. May's tenure at M-Butterfield, Brown & Associates earned her respect, admiration, and influence in the business community near and far.

She served as principal and president of M-Butterfield, as well as holding other leadership positions with various organizations and associations. May served eight years on the Board of Directors of the SF chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO). During that time she also served as NAWBO chapter president. Through NAWBO (and other groups) she was able to participate in charitable outreach efforts, as well as promote educational and career opportunities for women.

May Pon Barry, an alumni of Galileo High School, is survived by husband John Barry, daughters Louise Pon-Barry (with son-in-law Derek), Heather Pon Barry (with son-in-law Brendan), granddaughter Sierra Madison Cienfuegos, and a grandson Thomas Chua Pon-O'Connor.

*Jonathan Farrell contributed this report.*

### Chief Scott (Cont. from p. 9)

that require such skills.

By appeasing and reinforcing the identity tribes through promotions and decorating police vehicles, the Chief is reinforcing the fractionation of the department. Giving only one of your children a gift makes the others feel slighted and resentful.

Because the Chief has promoted out-of-rank order on this recent test, officers promoted from previous tests have told me they believe coworkers now view them as delegitimized and due less respect under the perception that they, too, received the Chief's gender/race thumb on the scale.

SFPD has perpetually struggled horribly with the presentation of crime stats that seem to change with the same fluidity as water. Placing someone in charge of reporting the crime stats who has expertise in *statistics* and a CPA license in jeopardy, would add credibility to the Department.

Twenty years ago, Officer Seth was capable of making an independent decision on an internal control suggestion against moving uncounted money into an adjacent room, while an accounting major Chief still allows uncounted suspects' money to be driven across the city by a single unsupervised officer. This

is the result of weighing the *cultural competency* of a degree in music — and recently promoting her higher than CFO — more than financial skills certified by the state.

Perhaps Chief Scott's lack of comfort with *statistics* might explain why he has not challenged the preconceived 2016 DOJ coloring book. But the cost of Chief Scott's inability to think independently, to ignore testing achievements by window dressing the department in identity colors, and stomping over a journalist's constitutional rights to chase a possible cop leak, all contribute to a brew of soaring crime rates masked with fake *statistics*, a demoralized department that makes fewer arrests because they believe the Los Angeles-residing chief cares more about the racial proportionality of arrests than the cops, and a justifiably frightened citizenry.

*Lou Barberini spent 21 years with SFPD after working for a Big Four firm and as a financial advisor. He has an MBA in Taxation, the AICPA's Financial Specialist designation, and currently provides fiduciary retirement planning and investment services through Nich Capital Partners on assets held at Charles Schwab & Co. He can be reached at lou.barberini@gmail.com.*



### Police Report (Cont. from p. 8)

**Carjacking**  
10:28 pm | Lincoln Way & 24th Ave  
A woman said she had just finished work, got into her car and engaged the keys when two suspects suddenly opened the door, told her to get out, then punched her, pulled her out, got into the car and fled with it.

**Thursday | May 23**

**Robbery**  
1:02 am | 00 Sylvan Dr  
A woman was on her way home when one of a group of suspects demanded her property while another grabbed her backpack, causing her to fall. They kicked her and took her property before leaving the area.

**Assault - Breaking Windows**  
3:18 pm | 3200 20th Ave  
A security guard said he found a man sleeping in a stairwell and told him to leave. Angered, the suspect struck his car with a metal rod and tried to hit him as well, then fled.

**Friday | May 24**

**Battery**  
1:52 am | 24th Ave & Quintara St  
A man, who appeared to be intoxicated, told officers that a suspect approached him, asked him why he was looking at him, then punched him numerous times and fled.

**Robbery**  
11:30 am | 1600 36th Ave  
A man was walking his dog when the suspect became friendly towards his dog, then suddenly tried to take the dog's leash. when he resisted, the suspect punched him in the face and took the dog away. A witness confronted the suspect and rescued the dog. When officers found the suspect, who appeared intoxicated, he tried to punch one of the officers. He refused to comply with instructions and pepper spray was deployed. He was arrested.

**Warrant Arrest - Arrested**  
11:13 pm | 00 West Portal Ave  
Officers found a suspect who had been reportedly threatening people on a MUNI train. A computer check revealed an arrest warrant. The suspect was arrested.

**Monday | May 27**

**Robbery**  
8:40 am | Lakeview Ave & Brighton Ave  
A woman was walking to a bus stop when the suspect, who was walking towards her, suddenly grabbed her purse and yanked it. The straps broke off on the purse and the suspect fled with it.

**Tuesday | May 28**

**Vandalism to Property**  
8:27 pm | 2100 30th Ave  
A woman told officers her neighbor, the suspect, had previously broken the bedroom window. Today, he used a water hose to spray water through the broken window causing water damage to items inside. The suspect was cited.

**Wednesday | May 29**

**Battery**  
11:33 am | Geneva Ave & Ocean Ave  
A man was behind a vehicle that had initially stopped at a red light but did not move when the light changed to green. He honked his horn and a woman got out of her car to throw a bottle at his car. He responded by kicking her car, wherewith she punched and scratched him, then drove away.

**Editor's Note:** This is an incomplete selection of the full Crime Report. For the full report go to: taraval.org





A slope like this can allow wildfire to spread even faster than normal. Photo: petaluma360.com

Most recently, it has been determined that a tower built in 1919 was responsible for the Camp Fire. Asked if this tower had been inspected recently, there was no immediate reply by PG&E. It seems this tower was built and left untended for nearly a century.<sup>1</sup>

Besides neglect being responsible for forest fires, other causes have been an unwillingness by city, county and state officials to change fire codes. The Hanly fire in 1964, which covered roughly the same land burned in the Tubbs fire of 2017, seemingly provided no new fire code legislation. Today, areas in Sonoma County are being built exactly the same way they were before the Hanly and Tubbs fires.

Wildfires are different today than from the past. Historically, wildfires would move 6.7 mph through a dense forests. It is worth mentioning, that a fast walk is 3 mph. With 147 million dead trees in the wild lands of California, it is easy to catch these trees on fire. Today, wildfires move on top of the canopy of the forest fueled by “Santa

## California’s Largest Fire: PG&E’s Wildfires

by Glenn Rogers

**P**G&E has a service area of 70,000 square miles from Eureka to Bakersfield, servicing 16 million people. PG&E controls more than 125,000 miles of power lines and nearly 50,000 miles of gas lines.

Ana” or “Diablo” wind. These winds can move as fast as 40 mph. When a 10 degree slope is present, fire can grow even faster than on flat land. In this way, fire can move as fast as

one football field a second.<sup>2</sup> With fire damage occurring this fast, it is said the PG&E could be responsible for as much as \$80 billion in liability.

### HOW WILL PG&E PAY FOR ITS LIABILITY

To pay for these expenses, some believe ratepayers could be paying as much as double what they pay today. Therefore, with the cost of liability so high, PG&E filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on January 29, 2019. In this way, they can dodge some of their liability burden.

### HOW DO WE FIX PG&E

PG&E told a Commission on February 13, 2019 that shareholders, with a profit motive, allow the company to provide the service to improve the company and “make investments that improve safety or quality of service.” But the California Municipal Utilities Association has objected to this logic, stating on February 28, 2019, that PG&E “does not need a profit incentive to promote safety, providing, reliable, affordable and sustainable electric service...”

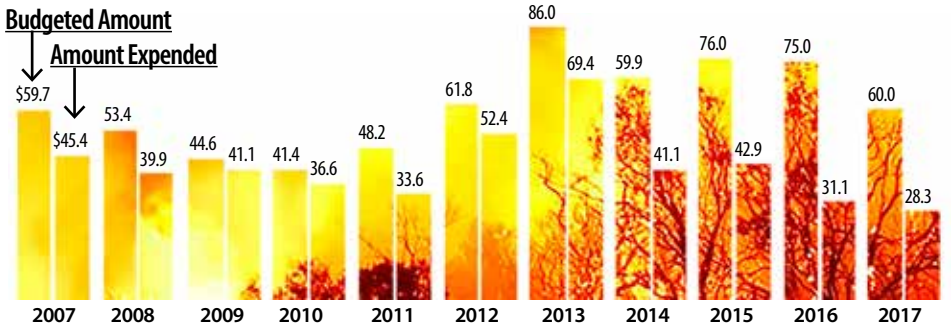
Another way to fix PG&E has been

suggested to have it divided up. A benefit of this would be, the private interest in profit, would be removed from the “public interest of reducing carbon emissions and meeting the statewide goal of carbon neutrality by 2045” the Sierra Club believes.

### Digging Into the Numbers

In each of the past 10 years, PG&E has spent less than the authorized amount to underground power lines

Graph is in millions of dollars Source: California Public Utilities Commission



It has been suggested PG&E could reduce forest fires by shutting down power at critical times of the year and with fire danger high. Oakland and San Francisco could be affected and could be without power for up to 1 to 5 days. Those that need machines at home, with serious health issues, could be required to go to the hospital for care. The next question is, who will pay for these fire-related medical visits to the hospital and would PG&E pass the charge onto the ratepayer? In the past, PG&E could pay for food damaged by power outages. Will PG&E continue this practice in the future?

Of the proposals to stop wildfire, undergrounding the main transmissions lines would seem to be the best solution. However, of the money that was available for this purpose, almost half of it has been diverted. “They can divert it to corporate bonuses, to more shareholders’ dividends, anywhere they want,” writes Candace Nguyen, KTVU news on July 24, 2018.<sup>3</sup> Undergrounding transmission lines can cost about \$2.3 million per mile.<sup>4</sup>

Glenn Rogers, RLA is a landscape architect living on the westside. See his website at [alderlandscapearchitecture.com](http://alderlandscapearchitecture.com)

#### Endnotes

1. [wildfiretoday.com/2018/12/10/why-did-a-99-year-old-power-line-fail-igniting-the-camp-fire](http://wildfiretoday.com/2018/12/10/why-did-a-99-year-old-power-line-fail-igniting-the-camp-fire)
2. [cnn.com/2018/11/09/us/california-wildfires-superlatives-wcx/index.html](http://cnn.com/2018/11/09/us/california-wildfires-superlatives-wcx/index.html)
3. [ktvu.com/news/money-slated-to-put-pg-e-power-lines-underground-was-diverted-for-years-2-investigates](http://ktvu.com/news/money-slated-to-put-pg-e-power-lines-underground-was-diverted-for-years-2-investigates)
4. [sfchronicle.com/business/article/Wine-Country-fires-PG-E-often-diverts-money-for-12742239.php?psid=6dauR](http://sfchronicle.com/business/article/Wine-Country-fires-PG-E-often-diverts-money-for-12742239.php?psid=6dauR)

### Wrongful Arrests (Cont. from p. 6)

in 2014. A second jury acquitted him of murder at retrial in 2015, finding that the police had, essentially, framed him.

In 2016, Trulove sued four named SF police officers involved. “A federal jury determined that the two lead homicide inspectors on the case, Maureen D’Amico and Michael Johnson, not only made up evidence against Trulove but withheld evidence that would have helped him.”

CBS News reports<sup>4</sup> Trulove accepted a \$13.1 million settlement in exchange for the City dropping its appeal of the \$14.5 million in damages a federal jury in Oakland had awarded him last year.

Of note, both the Conley and Tennison/Goff cases involved the same police investigators, Napoleon Hendrix (who has since died) and Earl Sanders, who retired in 2003. The Courts overturned the murder verdicts in both criminal lawsuits because

investigators had illegally withheld exculpatory evidence.

In the Tennison and Goff lawsuit, the U.S. District court ruled that the prosecutor had a duty to ensure *Brady* evidence that came to light after conviction was provided to the defendants. That apparently didn’t happen.

The *Brady* doctrine is a pre-trial discovery rule based on the 1963 U.S. Supreme Court case, *Brady v. Maryland*. The Supreme Court ruled prosecutors are required to disclose any information and exculpatory evidence favorable to the defense, in part because *Brady violations* send potentially innocent people to prison.

When prosecutors withhold *Brady violations* they engage in the worst kind of prosecutorial misconduct and violate prosecutorial ethics.

### Failure to Reconsider

After Tennison and Goff eventually

filed a federal lawsuit in April 2004, it took nearly another *six years* before they received their settlement awards in July 2010 — 19 years after their *belated-justice* nightmare began. Strangely, the City Attorney’s Office claims the Tennison and Goff lawsuit was finally “settled” on August 21, 2014 — four years later!

Bharara reminds us people’s understanding of the truth — whether about the correctness of a fact, or the guilt of a person — should never be unalterable. That includes *sufficiently reconsidering* at every step during an investigation. We need to put ourselves in Conley’s, Tennison’s, Goff’s, and Trulove’s shoes: *Combined, they spent a half century wrongly incarcerated for crimes they didn’t commit.*

In the end, San Francisco taxpayers will end up forking over well upwards of \$53 million because police officers hadn’t gotten it right. A cast of prosecutors, judges,

defense lawyers, district attorneys, and jurors also didn’t get it right, because of their combined *failure to sufficiently reconsider*. And the failure to reconsider shattered these innocent men’s lives.

An expanded version of this article is available on the author’s web site at [stopLHHdownsize.com](http://stopLHHdownsize.com).

Monette-Shaw is a columnist for the Westside Observer newspaper, and a member of the California First Amendment Coalition (FAC) and the ACLU. Contact him at [monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com](mailto:monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com).

#### Endnotes

1. [innocenceproject.org/wrongful-convictions-cost-california-221-million/](http://innocenceproject.org/wrongful-convictions-cost-california-221-million/)
2. [stoplhhdownsize.com/Lawsuit\\_Settlements\\_Continue\\_to\\_Soar\\_19-03-01.pdf](http://stoplhhdownsize.com/Lawsuit_Settlements_Continue_to_Soar_19-03-01.pdf)
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4. [sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/03/19/jamal-trulove-framed-murder-case-sfpd-13-1-million/](http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/03/19/jamal-trulove-framed-murder-case-sfpd-13-1-million/)

### YGC (Cont. from p. 12)

the City for the last forty years. I had hoped that because of her background, she would have the courage to actually address the real source of the homeless problem, but she seems to be marching to the same beat as her predecessors in keeping the money train flowing for the politically-connected.

Mayor Breed says that all Districts in this City must bear responsibility for dealing with our homeless problem, a problem greatly caused by the last three Mayors.

(See SFGATE: Navigation Center meeting in South Beach dissolves into heckles, jeers) “We simply need more Navigation Centers, more permanent supportive housing, and more affordable housing throughout our city,” Mayor Breed said.

Be sure that Breed and her unwitting supporters on the Board see the current facility at YGC as a very attractive site for a Homeless Navigation Center, much like the facility rammed down the throats of South Beach and Embarcadero residents. Her proposal for YGC will be put forth as a homeless Administrative and Navigation Center, but in reality it will eventually morph into a homeless shelter providing beds for up to 300 homeless.

No one opposes providing beds, but why place the facility in one of the premier single-family districts left in the city? Is that fair to the residents who have taken great pride over the years to keep their neighborhood safe and clean, or to the homeless themselves who will be miles from additional services? Under the guise that the YGC costs too much to operate, our Mayor and Supervisors will divert the YGC budget to yet another homeless program.

To our elected, its beyond time to grow up and start dealing with the problem in a realistic and humane manner.

To those who vote them in and are footing the bill, you’d better be prepared to fight. Don’t forget, YGC sits on Laguna Honda property. Look at what our leaders have done to that once nationally-acclaimed facility — once the envy of cities across the country for needy seniors. Now home to conflicting populations of mental and substance abuse patients and homeless indigents, forcing our less fortunate elders to seek refuge and treatment in more expensive out-of-town facilities.

I covered solutions to homelessness in Oct. 2010, *Homelessness*.<sup>1</sup>

Since then, the numbers of homeless and the money we spend on services here in

San Francisco has almost doubled!

You can Access my prior columns at: [tonyhallarchives.wordpress.com](http://tonyhallarchives.wordpress.com) or contact me

at: [tonyhallsf@gmail.com](mailto:tonyhallsf@gmail.com)

1. [tonyhallarchives.wordpress.com/2013/05/07/homelessness](http://tonyhallarchives.wordpress.com/2013/05/07/homelessness)

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# You are what you ... READ.

Here is a quick quiz. Which of the following books have you shared with your children?

- Where the Wild Things Are
  - The Cat in the Hat
  - The Very Hungry Caterpillar
  - Little House on the Prairie
- Chances are you have read all of these best sellers. In fact, they are on the New York Public Libraries list of 100 Great Children's Books.

Now here is another list. Which of these books have you shared with your children?

- Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix
- Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag
- United States v. Jackie Robinson
- ¡Vamos! Let's Go to the Market

These books are recommended by the librarians of SFUSD and the San Francisco Public Library and reflect the diverse world in which our children live. I have to confess I have read ALL of the books on the first list and NONE of the books on the second list. My bet is I am not alone.

I recently heard California Teacher of the Year Rosie Reid make what I think is an important observation about reading. While our schools are moving to more diverse reading selections, it is important to embrace this at home.

## In many ways, we are what we read.

Whether it is the grit of *The Little Engine that Could*, to books that show how girls can grow up to be anything they want to be, we help shape their future with every book we read.

This can, and should, be intentional. Do the children and families in our books

reflect the broad diversity of our community? Our state? Our world? Do they help our children understand the common human values that can transcend today's fractured and divided world?

Here is a gentle suggestion. Instead of picking up that well-loved book you want to share with your children, add a few new titles to your reading menu.

There are loads of ways to get started.

Your local bookstore can give you lots of suggestions. (This is my plug for my local book store: Bookshop West Portal.)

Try the summer reading list from the San Francisco Public Library with tips from Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. SFUSD

Reading List (PDF)

The San Francisco Public Library, in partnership with Soar with Reading, has installed vending machines that dispense brand new, free books for kids age 0-14. New book titles will be available every 2 weeks throughout the summer. Visit the library, choose some books, and build your own library at home with great books to keep forever.

Learn even more through Summer Stride. This is the San Francisco Library's annual summer learning, reading and exploration program for all ages and abilities with over 1,000 free events.

Pick up a Summer Stride Guide, packed full of our summer programs, at any branch library or the Main Library,

Children's advocate Carol Kocivar lives in the Westside: kocivar@westsideobserver.com



## Wiener (Cont. from p. 5)

discrimination concerning the sale, rental and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin or sex.

According to the *San Francisco Supervisor Districts Socio-Economic Profile* report: 57% of District 4 is Asian, 1% Black, 34% White, 6% Latino, and 7% Mixed Race. The District 7 demographics are: 34% Asian, 4% Black, 52% White, Mixed Race 10%, and Latino 11%. District 4 is 66% non-white; District 7 is 48% non-white. Are they all exclusionary racists?

Clearly Districts 4 and 7 are racial melting pots, not homogeneous white enclaves.

This is one of Wiener's racial comments about his detractors on the West Side on February 4, 2018. Wiener tweeted: "*It's fascinating when racist anti-growthers pretend they're opposing pro-housing bills b/c, they say, low income communities & communities of color will be harmed. These folks should be honest about what they want: to keep those same exact communities out of their neighborhoods.*" Perhaps Wiener should more closely study the demographics of San Francisco's districts.

Wiener disrespects West Side residents by using the derogatory term, "NIMBYS." NIMBY (an acronym for the phrase "Not In My Back Yard"), or Nimby, is a derisive characterization of opposition by residents to proposed developments in their neighborhoods. It carries the connotation that such residents only oppose a development project because it is close to them and that they would tolerate or support it if it were built farther away. The residents are often called Nimbys, and their viewpoint is called Nimbyism.

Wiener's Nimby terminology is the equivalent of labeling his opposition "*banjo-playing idiots.*" He neither listens to residents' opinions, nor respects West Side homeowners' opinions. Although he has already failed legislatively twice, he still believes that nobody else is as smart as he is. It's almost as if he believes he's another *very stable genius.*

He spent the last two years trying to pass his draconian housing legislation — first, his SB-827 *Planning and Zoning: Transit-Rich Housing Bonus* failed in 2018, and second, his SB-50 *Planning and Zoning: Housing Development: Incentives* legislation failed in 2019. According to an anonymous Sacramento lobbyist, Wiener pulled the bill because he did not have enough votes to get the SB-50 legislation out of the Appropriations Committee. SB-50 will come up for a vote at the Senate Appropriations Committee no earlier than January 2020.

Should Wiener manage to get SB-50 passed in 2020, his tenure as a state Senator will effectively be over.

On May 16, Wiener was quoted on *WEHOville.com*, "*We're not giving up trying to move it [SB-50] forward this year,*" Wiener said. "*This is not over ... We're either serious about solving this crisis, or we aren't. At some point, we will need to make the hard political choices necessary*

for California to have a bright housing future." *WEHOville.com* is a West Hollywood news outlet.

Ironically, SB-50 was opposed by the West Hollywood City Council and other local governments that had argued the bill would unfairly reduce control over local development. It was also opposed by West Hollywood homeowner associations.

In the 2018 California Senate's Transportation and Housing Committee's vote, SB-827 lost four votes to six. The only two yes votes from Democrats were from the bill's authors (Wiener and Nancy Skinner), illustrating the disconnect between the bill's progressive goals and the demands of constituents from liberal (and often wealthy) areas. Naturally, Wiener voted for his own poorly-written housing density legislation.

Wiener used SB-827 to promote housing density and as a bully pulpit to promote himself. SB-827 would have overridden most local zoning controls. It would have allowed for much higher building heights and a higher density of new projects within a half-mile radius of any transit stop.

The result: 96% of San Francisco's residential housing stock could be built at least five stories higher. Imagine 60-foot-high homes being built next door to normal 26-foot-high residential houses.

Mayor London Breed supports her "Good Friend" Scott's housing density legislation.

Scott Wiener sold his soul to developers and high-tech firms in the 2016, State Senate District 11 race. Wiener was competing against former-Supervisor Jane Kim. Kim held the lead by winning the June primary but was then buried under an avalanche of Wiener's campaign contributions. Wiener won the November 2016 general election by just under 13,000 votes.

The race between the two shaped up to be the most expensive local State Senate race in history, and was a nail-biter from the start. Backed primarily by business and developers, Wiener narrowly won in November. Wiener generated approximately three times more political contributions than Kim from over 700 developers and businesses.

On November 3, 2020 please make sure not to make the mistake of voting for Scott Wiener. Three strikes and he's out. Despite the number of Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions by billionaire developers, Independent Expenditure Committee's (IEC) financially contributed to by high-technology billionaires, paid volunteers, daily brochures in your mailbox, endorsements, web advertising, website platforms, television and radio commercials, campaign operatives and managers, phone banks and robo calls, please do not vote for Wiener's re-election.

His political support will be a mile wide and an inch thick, accompanied by a banjo-playing Don Quixote.

George Wooding, Coalition For SF Neighborhoods



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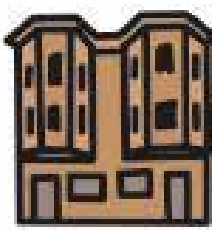
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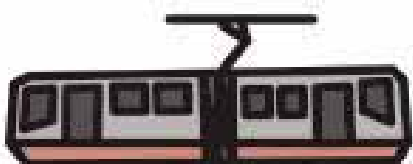
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