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VESTSIDE

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Presidio Terrace Street Sale:

Rescind or Not Rescind!

We all read recently about the City selling a private street in Presidio Terrace for \$90,100 at auction because of a tax-default in 2015. The real property is a private circular street and sidewalks located in the gated Presidio Terrace community. The new owner is Hiuyan Lam of San Jose.

unaware of this auction sale. It rect address and they first heard This means your property may

The Presidio Terrace Home Assessor-Recorder's Office when Owner's Association (HOA) was the mailing address has changed.

If your property remains never received the tax sale notice tax-defaulted for five years, it since it was sent to an incor- becomes subject to a tax sale.

If your property remains tax-defaulted for five years, it becomes subject to a tax sale. This means your property may be offered for sale at a public auction or acquired by a public agency if you do not pay ...'

of the new owner came to them auction or acquired by a pubto see if they were interested in lic agency if you do not pay the buying back the property in the taxes before the date on which beginning of this year.

The HOA, which includes 35 homeowners, blames the Trearetired in the early '80s, and then retired. But I won't go there. sending the tax-sale notice to undeliverable as the HOA didn't pay the \$14 annual property tax since the bill continued to be sent to the former bookkeeper's address and was never changed.

in Presidio Terrace over 20 money is wasted. years, agrees with the HOA and wants the Board of Supervisors knew that a street and sidewalks to overturn this tax-default sale. owned by the Presidio Terrace Senator Feinstein believes an HOA was to be sold at auction, incorrect address mistake by the I cannot believe that they would Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office have approved the sale. By the caused the HOA failure to pay way, if a property tax bill, espe-

There is a Board of Supervisors hearing scheduled for Nov by any Home Owners Asso-28th with a motion to follow ciation then there is something on whether to rescind or not wrong. The new owners' represcind the sale. The Board will resentative got in contact with determine if the Treasurer-Tax the Presidio Terrace HOA, why Collector's Office followed the law. Treasurer Jose Cisneros said his office followed all the right procedures.

So who is at fault? You can point fingers in various directions but that is not productive. families the best this Holiday It happens. So let's resolve this matter and make sure it never happens again.

Let's review the process. First Bless Us, Everyone." off, the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office is not responsible for maintaining homeowner addresses. That is the job of the Assessor- Recorder's Office. Second, it is the property owner's responsibility to advise the

about it when a representative be offered for sale at a public the property is offered for sale or acquisition.

We can speculate how the surer-Tax Collector's Office for HOA's address change could fall sending tax bills to the address of through the cracks for 30 years a former HOA bookkeeper who since their former bookkeeper

Even though the Treasurerthe same incorrect address. For Tax Collector's Office followed 30 years, tax bills were returned the procedures there is one simple question. Was the Board of Supervisors aware that the property to be sold at auction was a street and sidewalks in Presidio Terrace? If no, then there was a With penalties and interest, the disclosure mistake and rescind. total tax amount owed by the If yes, let's sit all the respec-HOA at time of the auction was tive parties down and resolve this matter in an amiable man-Senator Feinstein, who lived ner before any more time and

If the Board of Supervisors property taxes for three decades. cially one as minimal as \$14, has not been paid for over 30 years couldn't the City? That is called public service.

Since my article deadline was due before the Nov 28th hearing, we will see how it all plays out.

I wish all of you and your Season. And to quote Tiny Tim, "Tiptoe through the Tulips." Sorry, wrong Tiny Tim. "God

John Farrell Broker/Realtor® – Farrell Real Estate, MBA, Foryahoo.com

New Leadership at Taraval Station

he Westside Observer sat down with the new Captain Robert Yick at Taraval Station on November 21st after ■ his first two weeks at the helm in order to get a better idea of what the change will mean for the district. Former cop Lou Barberini, a contributing writer for the Observer, sat in on the interview.

Q. Captain, the question on everyone's mind is what you will do about the problem of car break-ins?

A. Yeah, so I have an operations order that we are putting together, in fact, all ten District Station Captains are putting together an operations order to address property crime. That would include residential burglaries, auto burglaries, given that we are coming up on the holiday season, it is something that we are definitely addressing.

Q. In what ways will you address it?

A. It's a specific plan, including on-duty personnel as well as Captain Robert Yick interview at Taraval Station on November 21sr or burglary and robbery details, so I can't articulate how I'm going to actually deploy people. But based on our heat maps,

...suspects may not care if someone is home or not, if they know, or suspect that residents keep cash or other valuables at home'

the experience of TNT—our Taraval Neighborhood Team, I'm going to have both plain-clothes and uniformed officers working in areas where it appears that there are higher incidents of property crime. Not only that, but I'm holding a Community Meeting tonight and I've met with a number of local neighborhood and merchant groups, because it's primarily about educating residents not to leave items in cars, or even visible in residences. I've worked in the Mission District prior to being assigned to Taraval, and it appears that burglars are targeting specific residences, and what they are getting away with are tens of thousands of dollars of either jewelry or cash, comparatively to other districts, where they may be Cont. p. 6









Captain Robert Yick began his career in law enforcement at UC Berkeley's Police Department in 1994, after 2 years he joined SFPD as Field Training Officer at Central Station in North Beach, then in the Richmond, as uniformed and plain clothes officer. Promoted to inspector and sergeant, he worked Night Investigations, Domestic Violence, and at the Operations Bureau. Promoted to lieutenant, he served at Central Station, transferred to Internal Affairs at the Mission Station where he also operated as SIT.

Thefts from Westside Vehicles Rising

According to statistics released by the SFPD's Taraval Station, reported thefts from vehicles are rising this year. In 2016, car break-ins averaged 118/month. This year, through October, they have averaged 140 per month – a 19% increase. In comparison, burglaries have dropped slightly, averaging 46 per month in 2016 versus 43 per month this year, while robberies hovered from 14 to 15 per month. 1. www.taraval.org/?cat=32

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2016	200	157	154	117	112	114	101	88	117	59	118	81
2017	121	140	157	154	176	149	148	106	115	138		



Will the reservoirs function for us after the earthquake?

by Nancy Wuerfel

ast month Westside Observer readers were provided with a litany of proposals, promises, concerns and questions about the auxiliary water supply system (AWSS) extension into the western and southern neighborhoods to fight fires after a major earthquake. The Board of Supervisors at the March 15, 2017 Government Oversight Committee meeting requested that an independent conmer Assistant Assessor - Budget sultant be engaged to report on the water system, & Special Projects, Westside to assess the alternatives, and to prepare a study of resident - farrellreinvestments@ the comparative costs. This report will be finished by the end of December, so the public discussion of methods and projects will continue with a new

However, a critical part redundant water supply of this debate is missing: systems dedicated to fire-Where will the water fighting from separate come from if a key res- sources through various ervoir fails as a result of delivery methods, but the earthquake? Current are these enough? plans do contain multiple

There is no separate analysis that identifies backup sources specific to replacing a large quantity of firefighting water that floods out of any of the three very important reservoirs as a result of damage from an

San Francisco Light's Up Our Lives

by George Wooding

Say goodbye to the golden glow of San Francisco's street lights.

he San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is replacing approximately 18,500 city-owned street light fixtures with bright, Light-Emitting Diodes (LEDs). Since starting in

April, 2017, the SFPUC replaced 13,000 of the high-pressure sodium (HPS) "cobra head"-style fixtures with LEDs, and is in the process of converting the remaining 5,500 fixtures. SFPUC crews expect to complete the changeover by early 2018.

LEDs produce light by passing a one-way electric current through semiconductor material. As the electricity is transferred bicyclists, and drivers. through the semiconductor diode from one electrical terminal to another, it tures are good for 100,000 hours of illumireleases energy in the form of light.

The HPS conventional incandescent HPS lamps need to be replaced every four and fluorescent lamps work by heating a to five years. filament or gas to a temperature that produces light. While LEDs, like other lamps, ever done on the LED lights. The SFPUCs release heat as well as light, they are con- Bureau of Environmental Management sidered far more efficient because they completed internal review called "The

produce more light per watt of energy consumed.

The PUC promised that LEDs "will improve lighting throughout the city and as San Francisco, the AMA, Conversion Program, will last about four times and the EPA all believe while using half as much over the long term."

and concluded that the program is categorically exempt from environelectricity."

They also promised that the switch over 2, 2010 the Major Environmental Analyhead from a lighting fixture and attaching a new LED light. The switch from HPS to

The street light changeover is happening rapidly in District 7. If your street has clear bright lighting, your street has already been converted to LED lights. Almost all of D7 will be using the new LED lights within the next six months.

The decision to change most of the HPS street lights owned by the SFPUC to LEDs was made for a variety of reasons: LEDs use 50% less energy; cost less to maintain; and will improve lighting for pedestrians,



No Environmental Impact Review was

The SFPUC estimates that the new fix-

nation, or roughly 20 years of glow time.

Guide to San Francisco Street Lights" on Janu-Let us hope that ary 10, 2012 examining environmental impacts conditions the 3000K level is as safe of the LED Street Light mental review. On June

would be fast and efficient. It takes about sis Division of the San Francisco Planning 30 minutes removing the old HPC lamp Department concurred that the proposed program is exempt because it entails "replacement or reconstruction of exist-LED lighting costs approximately \$135 per ing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity" (California Environmental Quality Act, section 15302, class 2).

> The lack of an EIR based on "replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities" is unbelievably shoddy work by the SFPUC and the Planning Department. Both agencies are saying that the existing light poles are OK, but they are not considering the impact of the LED lights on flora, fauna, or people. That's like approving the fuse of a bomb,



The single LED at Olympia and Clarendon overpowers yellowish lamps

but not examining the bomb.

The 2016 American Medical Association's (AMA) report from its Council On Science and Public Health, human and environmental effects on LED lighting states: "Despite the energy efficiency benefits, some LED lights are harmful when used as street lighting." AMA Board Member Maya A. Babu, M.D., M.B.A. noted, "The new AMA guidance encourages proper attention to optimal design and engineering features when converting to LED lighting that minimize detrimental health and environmental effects."

High-intensity LED lighting designs emit a large amount of blue light that appears white to the naked eye and creates worse nighttime glare than conventional lighting. Discomfort and disability

from intense, bluerich LED lighting can decrease visual acuity and safety, resulting in concerns and creating a road hazard.

In addition to its impact on drivers, blue-rich LED street lights operate at a wavelength that most adversely suppresses melatonin during night. It is estimated that white LED lamps have five times greater impact on circadian sleep rhythms than con-

ventional street lamps. Recent large surveys found that brighter residential nighttime lighting is associated with reduced sleep times, dissatisfaction with sleep quality, excessive sleepiness, impaired daytime functioning, and obesity.

The detrimental effects of high-intensity LED lighting are not limited to humans. Excessive outdoor lighting disrupts many species who need a dark environment. For instance, poorly-designed LED lighting disorients some bird, insect, turtle, and fish species, and U.S. national parks have adopted optimal lighting designs and practices that minimize the effects of light pollution on the environment.

Recognizing the detrimental effects

Cont. p. 4







Everything You Need to Know About Urgent Care

Picture this: You're cutting strawberries and you accidentally slice your thumb. The pain isn't terrible, but the cut looks deep. It's bleeding badly. So, what do you do? Do you visit your local emergency room (ER)? Or head to the nearest urgent care center? This is a type of dilemma many people face. Urgent care centers are popping up across the country, but most people don't know what makes them different from emergency rooms. When should you head straight to an ER vs. going to an urgent care? Let's get to the bottom of these questions.

When should I go to urgent care?

The biggest difference between urgent care and emergency rooms is the severity of the health problem. Urgent care centers provide treatment for non-life threatening illnesses and injuries and unlike your primary care doctors office, which is open Monday to Friday, most urgent care centers are open 7 days a week, including nights, weekends and holidays. Urgent care centers are staffed by doctors, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, with most centers equipped with X-ray and lab services. So whether it's the flu, a broken ankle, upset stomach, a high fever or severe allergies, urgent care centers are a one stop shop to get you back on your feet quickly. Other non-life threatening injuries and illnesses include sprains, sore throats, headaches, cuts, burns, UTIs, vomiting, ear aches, rashes, and dehydration.

If your condition is life-threatening, such as chest pain, coughing/vomiting blood, poisoning, seizure or difficulty breathing, that would require you immediately visit your nearest emergency room.

If the condition is a minor illness or injury, take advantage of the convenience and affordability your local urgent care center has to offer.

Why should I go to urgent care?

You may be thinking, "An emergency room will treat these non-life threatening problems, too. Why go to urgent care?" Here are a few reasons: 90 percent of urgent care patients wait 30 minutes or less to see a provider. 84 percent of urgent care patients are in and out within an hour. Walk-ins are welcome, and there's no need to schedule an appointment ahead of time, though doing so can get you in and out more quickly. What's more, urgent care is more affordable and convenient, while still taking most insurance plans. An ambulance ride to an ER can cost around \$1,200 or more, and urgent care can be found in convenient locations in nearly every neighborhood in San Francisco.

Where can I find urgent care in the Bay Area?

Dignity Health has partnered with GoHealth Urgent Care in a joint venture to bring high quality, consumer-focused urgent care centers to the Bay Area. We place the needs of our patients first - by providing an effortless patient experience and a welcoming culture of care in state of the art facilities with a clean, contemporary design engineered for your comfort and privacy. We are in-network with most major insurance plans, and the amount due ranges depending upon your chosen plan. Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care also has a self-pay rate if you do not have insurance or otherwise choose to pay for your urgent care services upfront; our centers are cashfree and accept debit and credit card payments.

If you're in need of urgent care services, you're able to check in online to view wait times or simply walk into one of our conveniently located centers to receive worldclass care. There are currently 10 Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care locations throughout the Bay area, including one in Marina, which offers convenient parking directly across the street, with the shortest urgent care wait times in the area.

Why Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care?

With flu season upon us, urgent care centers are a great option for getting your flu shot that fits your schedule. Additionally, Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care allows for seamless and affordable school physicals, without the wait or hassle of scheduling an appointment – simply walk in or check wait times online, which is great when you need to fit the doctor into your busy schedule! Stop in for your kids' sports physicals, TDAP shots, vaccines, or when your child has an unforeseen illness such as an ear infection or cough.

Finally, when choosing an urgent care center, proximity as well as reputation is important. Choose urgent care centers with hospital affiliations to ensure quality care and ease of integration of your medical records. The Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care collaboration enables Bay Area patients to receive the appropriate level of care for their needs, when and where they need it. Please do not hesitate to call your local Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care center to learn more!

Christopher Bialecki heads Business Development in the San Francisco Bay Area for Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care, the largest urgent care provider in the San Francisco Bay Area. Come visit your neighborhood centers at 4598 Mission St. and 2895 Diamond St., or call 415-965-7941, and learn how Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care can serve your urgent healthcare needs. Read more at GoHealthUC.com.

This article is sponsored by Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care.

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp



ome wag once declared that if a man carries his own lantern, he need not fear darkness. That pithy statement seems appropriate as I end another year of musings about the state of affairs in country, state, and city.

(Please note

Commission, I am legally precluded from ence, and civics instruction. Additionally, commenting on local candidate, ballot elite American universities such as U.C. measure, and similar campaigns because Berkeley provide mental health services Commission responsibility includes to students claiming psychological abuse enforcements of conflict of interest, public usually from conservative campus speakmeeting, public record, campaign financing and spending, and similar San Francisco ordinances and Charter laws.)

that high school and higher education teachers because of membership on and professors who preside over what now the San Francisco Ethics passes for American history, political sciers. That's in addition to "safe spaces", claims of "micro aggression" and that certain words constitute violence. Yet, a

Unfortunately, the Legislature and Governor for the past two decades have tended to divert gasoline tax revenue to public transit and other non-road spending. California's gasoline tax hasn't been increased since 1991, despite cost of living increases. I support a gasoline tax increase, but only if it isn't diverted from streets and highways."

petitions to repeal a 12-cents-per-gallon Twenge asserts that a large scale mental gasoline tax increase, plus other fees, health crisis may develop in the generaenacted in September by the State Leg- tion born between 1995 and 2012, which islature and Governor to provide money arises from smartphones and social media, for transportation structural improvements, are securing signatures to qualify for the June 2018 state ballot. Both initiatives would repeal such legislation. Most people don't understand how and in what If only academic leaders, most of whom manner California, its counties, and its cities have developed a motor vehicle transportation system. In the first two decades of the 20th Century, California lawmakers and Governor relied upon borrowing to build and maintain streets and highways. General obligation bond measures were submitted three times to California voters for such purposes and approved. The problem with bonds is they constitute a borrowing of money which must be repaid with annual interest over, typically, 30 years. The interest payments generally amount to nearly as much as the principal amount borrowed. In 1922, then-Governor William Stevens and legislators recognized that charging users of the highway system was a justifiable method of obtaining such money. The result was enactment in the tens and, occasionally, hundreds of of the first state gasoline tax of two cents per gallon, truthfully dubbed a "user fee." It remains the most logical and equitable method of building and repairing roads and streets by modernizing that user fee to tax electric vehicles and bicyclists in some fashion. Note that bicyclists' increased use of local streets involves no user or other fee for them. Contemporary politicians are plainly afraid of the strident bicycle lobby. Unfortunately, the Legislature and Governor for the past two decades have tended to divert gasoline tax revenue to public transit and other non-road spending. California's gasoline tax hasn't been ety member. The lawsuit was settled. The increased since 1991, despite cost of liv- Senate Rules Committee voted to pay the ing increases. I support a gasoline tax woman \$15,000, which meant expenditure increase, but only if it isn't diverted from of taxpayer funds. At a press conference streets and highways.

government. When this support is taken away, the constitution of a free society is dissolved." A Brookings Institution survey published last September at the advent of the university academic year revealed that American college students lacked knowledge of the First Amendment's meaning. The September 20, 2017 Wall Street Journal reported a survey of over 1,500 undergraduates demonstrated that a majority is protected under the First Amendment, that about half agree it's legal to silence by shouting down a speaker with views disagreeable to them, and nearly 20% believe it's proper for a college student group opposed to a speaker's opinions to use violence to silence such speaker. Such collegiate ignorance emanates from the

Currently, two statewide voter initiative recent book by social psychologist Jean not campus speakers. North Dakota State University Professor Clay Routledge reminds us that mental illness represents a human problem, not a political issue. come from the "school of resentment," would abrogate anti-intellectual academic policies, our country, state, and city would be better places for all.

Having completed last week a legallyrequired "course" in sexual harassment, employment retaliation, and proper conduct in City employment for Ethics Commission members and supervisorial employees (a two-hour exercise in 225 Internet pages), I opine upon one of the least-emphasized parts of the continuing revelations of sexual and related misconduct by elected public officials, federal and state. Some reports result from settlements by the United States Congress or California Legislature of sexual harassment claims of female employees thousands of dollars. What's the source of those payments by the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, State Senate, and Assembly? It's not the personal funds of the offending politician. It's taxpayer money! In 1986, as a State Senate candidate for the first time, I was offended by a Senate Rules Committee action. State Senator John Schmitz, Orange County Republican, was sued by a woman whom he had attacked orally at a State Senate Committee hearing because of her liberal and, probably, "feminist" views on civic issues. Schmitz was a John Birch Sociin San Francisco, I denounced such pay-As a Board of Directors member of the ment from the public's money. After my California First Amendment Coalition, I election to the State Senate, I attempted embrace Ben Franklin's statement: "Free- unsuccessfully to change such custom dom of speech is a principal pillar of a free and practice. It's insulting to use taxpayer dollars to pay for damages from sexual or similar mistreatment by elected state and federal officials. Despite the usual protestations and demands for "accountability" (there's a genuine cliché word), I perceive no statement or bill introduction from Nancy Pelosi, Kamala Harris, Dianne Feinstein, Scott Wiener, Phil Ting, David Chiu, or Jackie Speier about enacting a law or legislative rule to prohibit such don't know that so-called "hate" speech misuse of our money. Perhaps that'll be one of our heroes' successful New Year's resolutions.

Meanwhile, stay the course and enjoy a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a healthy, satisfying 2018.

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

West Of Twin Peaks Central Council By Mitch Bull

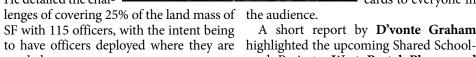
he final meeting of the calendar year of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council focused on the new Captain at the Taraval station, Captain Robert Yick.

meeting at 7:40 at the Forest Hills Clubhouse with a light turnout of delegates and attendees. Stephens started by welcoming everyone to the meeting and having the roll call, which resulted in not enough delegates being present for a quorum.

Stephens followed by introducing Captain Yick, who took the floor and gave a lengthy overview of not only his background, but of his methods of policing, statistics on crime in the district and his outlook on where things stand after his initial four weeks managing the Taraval

Yick is a long-time SFPD officer who but are not sworn SFPD officers and have

grew up in the Laurel Village area of the city, so he has history in SF and has seen the changes that have occurred in both crime and policing over the years. As a new Captain, he is focused community interaction and how the officers under his jurisdiction look, act, and work with the public at large. He detailed the chal-



concerned with property crimes and the "Hot Prowls" where teams of burglars case homes and are sometimes in the house at the same time that the homeowners are there. Yick touted the TNT-Taraval Neighborhood Team at the station that looks for patterns and trends to try and collect leads to break up these theft rings. To combat retail **property crimes**, he has foot patrols on West Portal Avenue, Irving Street, and Ocean Avenue, joining other areas where offices in patrol cars also are charged with getting out and walking the neighborhoods to give a greater sense of presence. Officers are also riding on the buses and MUNI. He did state that large shopping areas like Stonestown Galleria attract criminal gangs that can shoplift like "shooting fish in a barrel." Teams of thieves take merchandise in a store location then returned in this way.

time in a state institution. The qualifying that the that more property theft is now classified this year. as misdemeanors rather than felonies.

In discussing the crime trends, Yick said that robberies at Taraval are down about 40%, with an average of 25 per month, while residential burglaries are trending at about 30/month or 1 per day. Crews are working homes in the Westside of SF as the value of items stolen is much larger than

in other parts of SF. Thieves are looking for items such as cash, jewelry, credit cards, passports and keys for cars parked on the property or garaged. Auto burglaries have increased again this year, with approximately 25,000 being committed in SF during this year so far.

To combat crime and help the SFPD apprehend suspects, homeowners and merchants should look into placing **alarms** and cameras in (lower) areas

President Sally Stephens opened the where faces can be seen. He said that the department solves more crimes with camera footage than with anything else.

> Public Safety is a big concern with the homeowner groups, and Yick took the time to answer questions from the attendees. As part of the discussion, he highlighted that the SFPD is still trying to add 300-400 additional officers above the "charter-designated" 1971 members of the SFPD, but that it will take some time for the approval, recruiting and training processes to happen. He also fielded questions on the "gray area" of Patrol Specials - basically security staff who look like SFPD,

> > been used by neighborhood groups and merchants since the gold rush days to provide additional security. He also spoke on the ability of neighborhood groups and homeowner associations to hire private security services on a 24/7 basis.

He concluded his discussion by handing out his business cards to everyone in

A short report by D'vonte Graham yard Project- West Portal Playground He said that although violent crime is Festival on December 16 from 11 AM to relatively low on this side of the city, he is 1 PM at the West Portal Playground. Food, games, and other activities will be featured. The city is asking those who wish to attend to RSVP on the Park and Rec website.

> Dena Aslanian-Williams spoke about a group that is supporting the inclusion of renovating the plants/shrubbery of Dewey Circle as part of the D7 Participatory Budgeting Process. Without a quorum, the WOTPCC was unable to formally endorse the effort, but will take it up again in January. She also let the group know that the Forest Hills Association will be holding a meeting regarding the 250 Laguna Honda Blvd. project at the Forest Hills Clubhouse on January 8 at 7:30 PM with all of the project principals in attendance.

George Wooding gave a report on the status of the blended groundwater project. Currently, about 8% of the Westside water supply is blended groundwater from try to return the items for refunds or store a single source, the well at Lake Merced. credit at another store location. The SFPD By 2020 it is estimated that the blended is working with retailers to try and better percentage will be 15% as the two other identify stolen merchandise so it cannot be planned wells are brought on line. Even though is seems that the Board of Supervi-The topic turned to the differences sors was not in favor of starting the probetween "petty theft," a misdemeanor that gram, it has moved forward with little or can have (county) jail time, versus a **felony**, no comment from that group of officials. where a convicted person would spend Wooding also mentioned that it seems "Natural Areas Program" is bar has been raised from \$400 to \$900, so using more weed eradication herbicides

> Following the report, a motion was made for adjournment, seconded and approved at 8:55 PM. The next meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, January 29 at 7:30 PM at the historic Forest Hills Clubhouse.

> For more information see the WOTPCC website (www.westoftwinpeaks.org).



LED Lights (Cont. from p. 2)

of poorly-designed, high-intensity LED lighting, the AMA encourages communities to minimize and control blue-rich environmental lighting by using the lowest emission of blue light possible in order to reduce glare. The AMA recommends an intensity threshold for optimal LED lighting that minimizes blue-rich light. The AMA also recommends all LED lighting should be properly shielded to minimize glare and detrimental human health and environmental effects, and consideration should be given to utilize the ability of LED lighting to be dimmed for off-peak time periods.

Even before the AMA warning, some researchers raised health concerns. Some noted that exposure to the blue-rich LED outdoor lights might decrease people's secretion of the hormone melatonin. Secreted at night, melatonin helps balance the reproductive, thyroid, and adrenal hormones, and regulates the body's circadian rhythm of sleeping and waking.

Large cities such as New York, Seattle, and Phoenix all had problems as early adopters of the LED lights, Once LED lighting was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the EPA pushed the lighting onto large municipalities across the country.

The real LED problem was that the lights that were initially approved at a 4000K and 5000K level were too bright. [Note: Kelvin is a temperature scale on an absolute scale, not a relative scale, and is used, in part, to measure the range of color temperatures. It is expressed with a "K" but without a degree sign used with Celcius and Farhenheight.] The three primary types of color temperature for light bulbs are: Soft White (2700-3000K), Bright White/ Cool White (3500-4100K), and Daylight (5000–6500K). The higher the Kelvin, the whiter the color temperature.

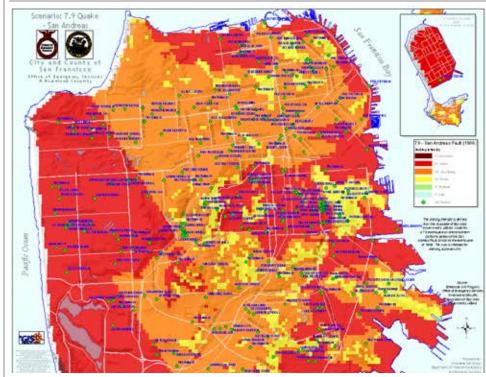
Wisely, in 2014 the AMA issued LED guidelines to limit blue-light emission by outdoor lighting by lowering the acceptable color temperature for approved lighting products to 3000K or below. More recently-engineered LED lighting is now available at 3000K or lower. At 3000K, the human eye still perceives the light as "white," but it is slightly warmer in tone, and has about 21% of its emission in the blue-appearing part of the spectrum. This emission is still very blue for the nighttime environment, but is a significant improvement over the 4000K lighting because it reduces discomfort and disability glare. Because of different coatings, the energy efficiency of 3000K lighting is only 3% less than 4000K, but the light is more pleasing to humans and has less of an impact on wildlife.

San Francisco has learned from the mistakes of other cities. The SFPUC will match existing lighting levels on City streets to prevent over-illumination. The SFPUC is doing one-to-one replacement with existing fixtures to maintain the existing lighting levels. The SFPUC states, "During our outreach, residents expressed a preference for lights with a warmer color temperature. That's why this project will feature LEDs with a Color Coordination Temperature (CCT) of 3000K. These LEDs will feature a warmer white light than the LEDs installed by most of the other cities and counties across the U.S., which feature a CCT range of 4,000-6,000K. In this regard, San Francisco is approaching its LED streetlight conversion differently than other cities in the country. In fact, for the past few years, San Francisco has only purchased LEDs with a CCT of 3,000K.

The new LED streetlights cannot be controlled remotely.

The yellow cobra head lights will soon be gone and technology inexorably marches on. It appears that once the City develops a central LED monitoring system, San Francisco will be at the forefront of safe, efficient street lighting. Let us hope that the 3000K level is as safe as San Francisco, the AMA, and the EPA all believe over the long term. Enjoy the new lighting!

George S. Wooding, President, Coalition For San Francisco Neighborhoods. Feedback: wooding@westsideobserver.com.



Reservoirs? (Cont. from p. 1)

earthquake — the Sunset, Sutro and University Mound reservoirs.

This potential water loss is especially problematic if damage is done to the high capacity Sunset north or south basins, tial flood inundation due to reservoir failwhich store potable water intended to be ure in San Francisco is unknown" (page pumped into the AWSS system through 54, 55, emphasis added). The 2014 Plan

a plan that uses the reservoir for both drinking water and firefighting.

What sources are dedicated to be intact or fully backed to be updated to reflect replace the volume of Up, Otherwise what good are current neighborhood water lost from a dam- the pipes without the changes and the many aged Sunset basin? Will water from Lake Merced Water?

be enough? Should we plan to install the Richmond from conflagration?

The city's 2014 Hazard Mitigation Plan states "the probability of a failure involving dams or reservoirs located in or owned by CCSF is unknown." Also, the plan concludes "the exact extent of poten-

relies on maps drawn in the 1970's to calculate The reservoirs need potential flood inundaimprovements made to the city's reservoirs.

On a brighter note, the Sunset, Sutro, necessary infrastructure near the ocean to and University Mound reservoirs are desfacilitate use of fireboats to pump seawaignated as dams and are under the jurister into the AWSS to save the Sunset and diction of the Division of Safety of Dams

Cont. p. 17

But Who's Counting?

By Steve Lawrence

he expected cost of SFPUC's (water-sewer-power) Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) has risen to \$7.3 billion. Costs are rising because the construction industry is roaring; also projects have been changed, and shuffled. Twice

before the program has been changed. The latest revisions include cutting work. More work is done late in the program. (Costs are in 2017 dollars.)

it will. If you pay bills

new rates take effect."

If you are a renter

done by May.

over the past two years as households used less water. Costs are mostly fixed. If less water is used, rates need to be Or pay a collective water of public funds." Once the higher. (Suppose reveand sewer bill), the rate

nues needed are 100. If 10 rate is about 11.)

rise Ideally rates The increase in the budget for the SSIP, the too

low rates we've enjoyed these past two the problem. Undoubtedly these propernew rates higher.

An example of how the roaring concost is provided by the water main replacement program. Years ago a goal of 15 miles per year was set. It has not been met. There is so much work going in the city that delays occur, and competition for workers has reduced supply at wages budgeted. The General Manager budgeted \$50 million per year; it has not been sufficient. Not only will the cost per mile increase, but having missed past goals, the miles done per year may increase to make up.

Articles in this and other papers about the AWSS system, for fighting fire after an earthquake, have criticized SFPUC for failing to extend the system to all city neighborhoods. Eleven mostly western and southern neighborhoods are left out. Should SFPUC be pressured into remedying this, rates may be put under yet higher

Look to this space for more on water and sewer rates as the process unfolds in the coming year. If you are a renter (or pay a collective water and sewer bill), the rate increase takes time to reach into your pocket, but it will. If you pay bills directly, July 1, 2018 is when new rates take effect.

Mainstream press announced SFPUC's plan to spend \$700 million over the next

Rising costs puts upward pressure on fifteen years fighting flooding of SF homes rates. Rates will be set for two years. The and businesses. That's ten percent of what process begins early in 2018, and should be is to be spent upgrading the sewer system. Ten percent for one percent of the area Upward pressure on rates has built SFPUC serves. Included will be reimburse-

ment for improvements made by homeowners.

Once such reimbursements were illegal "gifts public was safeguarded by taxpayer (ratepayer units are used, the rate is increase takes time to here) lawsuits declaring 10; if 9 units are used, the reach into your pocket, but such expenditures null and void.

Should ratepayers pay smoothly, without spikes. directly, July 1, 2018 is when to protect properties from flooding? These properties were purchased with

years, and the roaring construction industies were discounted accordingly. Should try, which affects all city work, will push the public also pay when a property becomes worth less due to less available street parking, more traffic, closer homestruction industry affects other work and less encampments, or more noise? Should owners newly near trendy shops and restaurants share their fortune with the city?

> Fixing the sewer system once cost \$1 billion; now it is supposed to cost \$7.3 billion. At ten percent of the total, flooding will still not be fixed; it will be mitigated.

Once SFPUC is in the business of ensuring flood-free property throughout SF, watch the expense rise like... well, flood waters during a super-storm. The Commission President is appointed as a consumer-ratepayer advocate. This observer has seen little consumer-ratepayer protection. "Affordability" is routinely given lip service, but one wonders.

For those readers with an interest in finance: A new state law took effect, requiring the SFPUC Commission to be given information before authorizing sale of bonds (recently, \$400 million, water). The bond funds pay for capital improvements: interest rate: 3.61%, finance charge: nearly \$2 million, amount agency receives: \$368 million, amount agency pays back: \$643 million (round numbers).

Steve Lawrence is a Westside resident and SF Public Utility Commission stalwart. Feedback: lawrence@westsideobserver.com

Ocean Beach Master Plan

I just read your piece in the Westside Observer and while I appreciate and understand your views and skepticism of the Ocean Beach Master Plan (OBMP), I must point out that there were some serious inaccuracies in your article.

The reason for using managed retreat for the south of Sloat erosion area is to clean up and restore the beach. I don't know if you enjoy visiting or walking along the south Ocean Beach shoreline, but those who do are aware that the beach from Sloat to Funston looks like a bombed out city with construction debris and rock boulders. This material may be effective at protecting the wastewater infrastructure, but it also blocks public access to/from and along the beach, is unsightly, and is dangerous to traverse. Due to sea level rise, what little remains of the sandy shoreline down there is due to be submerged underneath the water for good in the coming years. We think this stretch of Ocean Beach is worth saving.

Unfortunately, you also missed the fact that the OBMP design does provide for protection of the wastewater infrastructure. The method of choice is the Taraval seawall design. City engineers are busy designing that plan right now. As you know, the Taraval seawall has effectively protected the Great Highway from wave attack and erosion ever since it was built in the 1940's. It also allows for a beach and dune to exist in its midst, unlike the rip-rap system we now have south of Sloat.

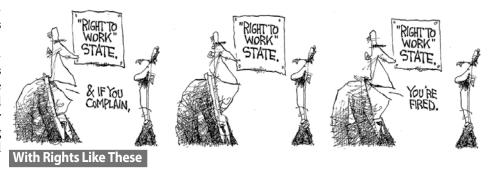
Finally, there is no environmental group calling for the Wastewater Plant to be removed before the end of its life. We are not extremists here. What we are trying to do is work toward a protection system that is much more friendly to our beach.

Bill McLaughlin, Surfrider Foundation, SF Chapter, www.sloaterosionob.blogspot.com

Reply: I am glad to hear that protecting the city infrastructure is priority for environmentalists, and that they will accept a seawall. If funds can be found, the rubble can be removed, and strong protection built.

WESTSIDE





My 24 • Will Durst 0 201

NO MEANS NO.

n avalanche of revelations concerning public figures engaging in various sexual assaults has tumbled down upon our heads and the airwaves are consumed with accusations, recriminations, equivocations and ethical gyrations, not to mention the threat of career annihilations.

And it couldn't happen to a more deserving aggregation of guys Since early October, after numerous unprovocative clothing they are wearing women came forward to accuse Hollywood might provoke the unwarranted attention producer Harvey Weinstein of sexually of some deranged carbon unit with y chro-

abusive behavior, huge numbers of highprofile males have faced similar charges and either been fired, allowed to resign, lost committee leadership positions, had projects canceled, entered rehab, become incapable of speech or are favorites to win the vacant US Senate seat in Alabama.

We're not just talking politicians, but judges and talk show hosts and actors and comedians and producers and professors and presidents and professional athletes ment and disregard for decency.

mosome poisoning who thinks he is god's gift to women. Which admittedly is many of us. Okay. Most. All?

And that categorically has to include grabbing someone by the private parts and the fact we have a leader who bragged about that sort of activity is as helpful as wiring a park bench to a chandelier. That's not locker room banter, that's an oafish toad gloating about his clueless entitle-

That's not locker room banter, that's an oafish toad gloating about his clueless entitlement and disregard for decency."

and coaches and chefs and reporters and editors and publishers and venture capitalists and rental clowns and we haven't even scratched the clergy. Which many of them would most assuredly enjoy.

Men Behaving Badly is a tale as old as are horndogs to begin with. It's a miracle women have survived, considering the position of vulnerability various quirks of nature foisted upon them: childbirth, being 10% smaller than male counterparts, and a shorter fertility period. Offset by living longer and a tendency to mature more quickly and some might argue owning a monopoly on that particular aspect.

Every single woman vou've ever including your sister, mother, grandmet her) has been the unwelcome recipient of inappropriate touching and crude groping and hugs that go on much too long and clumsy pawing and cheek kisses that inexplicably involve wetness, and all sorts of leers and ogles and catcalls and having to constantly worry that the provocative or

It is way way past the point that we men get hip to the simple fact that no means "no". It doesn't mean, "yes, please". It doesn't mean, "maybe". It doesn't mean, "It's getting hot in here, so take off all my clothes".

And it certainly doesn't mean "You big dogs chasing cats, a concept even more lug, you're so cute when you're angry and apropos when you consider that most men thank god you know what I want more than I do and I love it when your face turns that blotchy tomato color." Because, trust us, nobody likes that blotchy tomato color.

Not only does no mean "no", it also means "don't". Don't threaten, don't harass, don't stand close enough to smell your aftershave and don't make sly innuendoes, which usually aren't very sly or innuendoish. This is the second decade of the 21st Century. Time to lose the Middle Ages werewolf attitude and start walking and mother and great- grandmother, (if you acting upright. Make your great- grandmother proud.

> Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning columnist, comic and former cab driver in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For a calendar of personal appearances, including the 25th annual Big Fat Year End Kiss Off Comedy Show, Dec 26- Jan 7: willdurst.com.

WESTSIDE

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New Captain (Cont. from p. 1)

device here or there.

Q. A short time ago we had the UPS truck robbery, where the driver locked his truck, went to make a delivery and came back to a broken lock and a package with 300 iPhone X missing—is that the kind of targeting you are talking

A. My priority when it comes to burglaries, it would be residential burglaries. We have had a couple of incidences in the last couple of months where residents have interrupted a burglary and were assaulted, or were home at the time of the burglary. The UPS truck and the iPhones, that's an auto burglary. It's a high dollar value, but it's being handled by our burglary detail downtown. And I don't know if you are aware, but when D.A. Gascon, who was our Chief at the time, had centralized our investigations and that's how we ended up with SIT teams, our Station Investigative Teams. What we've gone back to is a centralized, burglary, robbery and night investigations unit and detail, of which the gun detail would just track guns that are stolen from homes, cars and such. So given that the department has gone back to that, the feeling is that we are going to be able to better track series, and be more successful in solving a lot of these crimes.

Q. There seem to be a series of crimes on the Muni where thieves just rip-off telephones from people riding the bus?

A. That's also an education—at least a portion of it is—because, what I've noticed is that if someone is sitting in the seats by the door, right at the rear exit doors, that's walk up, grab the phone, and jump out of around them? the back of the car.

Q. What do they do with the phones? Aren't they locked and password protected?

of these devices are shipped overseas, and they are wiped, then reactivated.

Q. It seems like mixed signals, coming from above, that they are centralizing burglary and robbery and at the same time, the patrol bureau task force is decentralized. What's the theory behind that?

A. I think it is education, because, as many great arrests as the bureau task force made, the numbers nevertheless kept going up. So it was a question—could we arrest our way out of it, and see our numbers drop? It's pretty well known, that if you are a residential burglar, or auto-burglar, that if one is caught, then you'll see numbers drop, but there are a number of these crews out there, and they are pretty savvy in terms of how they operate. These rent-a-cars, paper plates...

series of those?

A. Either that or they switch plates, they taking off with a bicycle, or an electronic switch drivers, they have counter-surveillance, they are pretty savvy at what they do.

Q. But at the local level, the Patrol Bureau Task (PBT) Force was disbanded essentially, is there a plain-clothes unit here or in the Richmond?

A. We have a plain-clothes unit. The upside to this is that the members who were assigned to the PBT, many of them were sent back to their district stations, where they can continue to do their work and still have that scope of knowledge.

Q. But there's not a lot of plain clothes in the PS-System¹ (The district level personnel staffing program on SFPD computers). There's not a lot (plain clothes officers) on the roster. They (plain clothes) do it infrequently? The Taraval Neighborhood Team (TNT) are in the BDUs (Cotton uniforms)? But to catch a burglar you kind of have to snoop and be undercover?

A. That's the thing, do I put two people in plain clothes to find an auto-burglar when I've got residential burglaries throughout the district? It's all about how to best use the resources.

Q. How do you go after residential burglary with undercover officers?

A. It's visibility, it's being aware of your neighborhood, knowing who your neighbors are, and that's why I think block parties are so important. When I grew up in this city it was all about getting to know your neighbors and being able to communicate with each other.

Q. It doesn't seem to be happening now, seems like we don't know our neighbors, people just stay glued to their an opportunity for a crime. Suspects can phones and pay no attention to people

A. Neighborhood organizations are great, but when I look at my kids, they are stuck to their phones. If you drive by a bus stop, what's everyone doing? They've A. It's still worth a fair amount of money, got a phone in front of them, they walk especially if someone was looking at the down the street, they're on their phones. phone at the time, it was unlocked and So it's just changed. Phones are valuable. If they can access it. The thinking is that a lot you have your passwords in your phone, people can buy things, have them shipped to a different location, so I advise against that. Your phone is your wallet, you've got ApplePay, everything is in your phone.

Getting back to residential burglary, we need to let residents know. We don't want to live in fortresses, or go back to the days when everyone had bars on their windows, but we don't want to live that way, there are better ways to secure residences. We've found, as a department, that surveillance systems and cameras capturing images gives us a great way to use those investigative tools and catch a lot of people. We've solved a lot of Muni thefts because the images from the Muni are great, and not only that, but they have cameras facing out, too. We've solved robberies in the Mission District with Uber drivers, because they have cameras facing forward, Q. Why don't you concentrate traffic too. We found out who a shooting susenforcement on paper plates —there is a pect was because that person was leaning

No Room at the Inn:

Facing Our Long-Term Care and Post-Acute Care Issues

by Teresa Palmer, MD

s a "Silver Tsunami" of baby boomers and their elders emerges, a nationwide failure to cope is in process. Specific aspects of life in San Francisco, such as very high property costs, exacerbate our local failures. As residents, we must find a way to care for seniors, disabled people, and others who most need care. We do not wish to live in a walled fortress where all but the very well off are sent away, out of county.

Aging At-Risk and Underserved People **Increase While Services Do Not**

Francisco, even as desperately needed services are shut down or remain too expencomplexity of cognitive, medical, and psychiatric problems that occur with aging, especially aging in poverty, it is crucial to have appropriate medical, psychiatric, and social supervision for those who cannot be completely independent.

Our acute hospitals are excellent at per-

as acute psychiatric beds.

Public sector: Funding instability and Predictable increases in aged, poor, sick, cuts have worsened poor integration of the and homeless people are occurring in San existing rich, but overburdened, array of public services in San Francisco. To save money, public SNF beds (Laguna Honda sive for those in need. Given the increasing Hospital) have been cut. Many in the disability/independent living community supported this, as promises were made about using the savings to increase care at home. Now we have shortages in both home-based care and SNF beds for lowand moderate-income people.

Lack of accessibility to mental health forming "medical rescue" for a single acute services and treatment on demand for illness, but what then? The long-term and substance abuse has led to a chronically ill post-acute care continuum ranges from sub-population that is harder to treat and

Many in the disability/independent living community supported this (cuts), as promises were made about using the savings to increase care at home. Now we have shortages in both home-based care and SNF beds for low- and moderate-income people.".

or caregivers, all the way to 24/7 skilled ness, add to the complexity. nursing and medical care for chronic, ventilator-dependent patients in a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) sub-acute unit.

Causes

Rapidly aging population, with low proximity of caregiving family nearby.

50% of those over age 85 develop Alzheimer's or similar memory issues.

Inequity between the cost of housing (both for people and care facilities) and income. While especially true for the Medi-Cal-eligible population, care and placement may not be entirely affordable even for those who earn \$100,000 annually. Residential Care or 24-hour care at home costs a minimum of \$2,500 to \$6,500 a month (even with a minimum wage of \$14 to \$15 an hour and some unpaid help from family members). Many people need more than the minimum amount of care.

Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), does not pay for residential care outside of a SNF. Medicare pays only for temporary rehab. Major medical insurance, like Medicare, does not pay for long-term care, only separate and extremely expensive longterm-care insurance.

For the middle class, even Medi-Cal may people on Medi-Cal that they admit, and caseloads. ask for financial records to prove that a

family can pay the monthly cost (\$10,000 to \$15,000 per month).

Those whose sole source of income is social security disability, often less than \$1,000 per month, cannot even pay for a single room occupancy (SRO) hotel (now at least \$1,400 per month), let alone the costs of residential care (over \$2,500 per month).

Profits over Service

This has resulted in a narrow focus on short-stay acute care in the hospital, and a subsequent severe shortage/shut-down hospital-based SNF's, and

a few hours of help at home by family house. Advancing age, and age-related ill-

Chronic brain disease/cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer's disease are not billable to insurance as a "psychiatric" diagnosis, even when the behavioral manifestations are extreme and require a level of care that is only available in an acute psychiatric unit. The only exception to this is for 72 hours, but only if the individual is considered an imminent threat or gravely disabled. However, discharge from the hospital without an effort to do highly individualized assessment and careful placement often leads to injury or death from falls, elopement, aggression to others, or self neglect.

Solution(s):

Everyone in the health care sector and public /nonprofit planning sector must do their share to provide needed services:

The Department of Public Health must Medi-Cal, which pays for chronic care at exhibit leadership in planning for longterm and post-acute care needs of the sickest among us, and must be assertive with corporate providers of health care in the

Private-sector "non-profit" hospital temporary rehab, unless people purchase corporations and health care foundations must prioritize the person in the community, and not prioritize the profit in it. In San Francisco, this clearly involves a comnot be available, due to the extremely strict mitment by *all* hospitals to fund hospitallimits on assets (less than \$2,000 in sav- based SNF units, sub-acute SNF units, and ings). Due to its low reimbursement rate, acute psychiatric beds in proportion to most nursing homes limit the number of their acute care and community outpatient

Cont. p. 19



sub-acute SNF beds, as well Are private out-of-county providers the best choice for our vulnerable populations?

By the Numbers

The Senate Ate My Article and Is After **Your Money!**

by Lou Barberini, CPA

y original *Westside Observer* article for this month was a comparison on how technology has increased the volatility of pricing, all the way from Giants' tickets to shares of index mutual funds. While the Giants tickets were affected by a horrible season, the trigger for hyper-volatile mutual fund share prices was attributable to a small provision in the Senate version of the proposed tax law.

had been accumulating a stock over time, tic tax proposal could have created a stock let's say Apple, when the investor goes market disaster. to sell a portion of his Apple stock, he is

allowed to select those Apple shares that cost the most. By specifyshares of Apple purcapital gains tax.

sion of the tax bill, which taxes." would have required

This would have drastically accelerated the effects of its tax proposals. investor's capital gains tax.

The proposal to sell your earliestacquired shares applied to mutual fund companies as well. Consider: Yesterday Taxpayer A and Taxpayer B each bought \$10,000 of the Luigi Mutual Fund. The the middle class seems to be a consistent Luigi Fund took A's and B's money and invested in Apple and Amazon stock. proposals: Today, Taxpayer A realized he actually needed the \$10,000 for his wife's Christmas gift, and he turned around and sold his Luigi Fund shares for about the same price as he purchased them at.

Taxpayer A's actions would have forced the Luigi Fund to sell the Apple and Amazon stock it bought with his money. Though Apple and Amazon did not fluctuate overnight, the proposed tax act would have forced the Luigi Fund to still recognize the proceeds of those Apple and Amazon sales against the shares the fund initially bought 20 years ago when Apple and Amazon were at infancy prices. This would have produced a huge capital gain that would not have been assessed against Taxpayer A because he had severed his ties with the Luigi Fund. But instead, the capital gains would have been passed on to Taxpayer B because he remained in the fund. In other words, Taxpayer B would have paid tax on 20 years worth of appreciation from which he never benefited.

With this statute, if the stock market turned negative, mutual fund shareholders would have rushed for the exits to beat the capital gains tax on the mutual funds' liquidation of old stock. This would have created a vicious cycle that furthered market declines, producing more capital gains taxes, which would have encouraged even

Under the current tax law, if an investor more selling. By itself, this single hubris-

Catering to the mutual fund industry's

protests, the Senate finally recognized this The double taxation proposal's devastating ing the most expensive of estates is eliminated for defects. However, the fact that enough time chased, usually the most estates up to \$22 million, fact that enough time elapsed for me to comrecent, investors were but middle-class taxpayers plete an 800-word analable to minimize their are now assessed a double ysis and have it edited before the Senate com-Enter, the Senate vermess it had initiated not only ate up my original

investors to sell the first shares they bought article, it also speaks volumes about the — t hose that are generally the cheapest. Senate's inability to foresee the economic

> While deep-pocketed mutual funds have now been excluded from this proposal, as of this writing it has been left on the drawing board for ordinary taxpayers. Lack of ideology and inferior tax treatment for theme with the Senate's and House's tax

> The double taxation of estates is eliminated for estates up to \$22 million, but middle-class taxpayers are now assessed a double tax on their California taxes.

> The United States needs to incentivize population growth to prevent the aging of our country, but immigration is frowned upon by the current administration. Yet, the new tax proposal raises the automatic deductions for couples without kids by \$3,000, while decreasing the automatic deductions of a family with three children by \$9,000.

> And, the presidential campaign rhetoric to eliminate hedge fund managers sheltering their million-dollar salaries at a 23% tax rate was left untouched — while police, fire, and teachers are taxed at a higher rate.

> Most of these un-Reaganesque tax proposals impair the blue states' interests, abandon blue state republicans, and act as an arbitrary capital preservation scheme for the wealthy, dressed in sheep's clothing of middle-class tax cuts.

> Lou Barberini resides in the West Portal area. He has an MBA in Taxation and worked for investment companies and a Big Four CPA firm. He currently works with clients at Nich Capital Partners (Nichcapitalpartners.com). Lou can be reached personally at lou.barberini@gmail.com



The Steinle Case

By Former Supervisor Tony Hall

skillfully pointed out during the trial.

he American system of justice is based upon a jury system operating under the presumption of innocent until proven guilty. Guilt beyond a reasonable doubt is absolutely necessary to protect the integrity of our judicial process. The facts in this case simply did not support a guilty verdict, as Matt Gonzalez, the lawyer for the accused, so

...nothing compares to losing someone you dearly love, but incarcerating someone on false charges is not the remedy, no matter what country they're from. The process of politics is one thing, and it

The case should have never been charged losing someone you dearly love, but incaras such, when one looks at the hard evi- cerating someone on false charges is not

should not be commingled with the judicial process."

dence. I believe that justice was served in the reality that the shooting was proved accidental, and the defendant was innocent of any murder or manslaughter charge. That being said, my heart goes out to the Steinle family that lost a beautiful young daughter in this horrible tragedy. No amount of justice can alleviate the pain or bring her back. The pain certainly cannot be alleviated by convicting someone Matt Gonzalez, Asst. Public Defender of false charges. Hopefully

the Steinle family will receive some sol- this newspaper, as well as publications ace over the years by knowing that their archived online.1 daughter was taken by a horribly tragic for murder as the prosecutor wanted.

There is no doubt that the case was widely politicized before the trial to further an agenda of immigration and sanctuary city reform, two reforms that I believe are sorely needed in our country today. But I doubt very much that those using the case for political means would argue with me when I state that nothing compares to

the remedy, no matter what country they're from. The process of politics is one thing, and it should not be commingled with the judicial process.

Again, This horrible tragedy would not have occurred if it were not for our broken and twisted immigration system, and a sanctuary city policy that has been terribly distorted from its original purpose. Please refer to my columns of Dec 2016 and Oct 2015 that appeared in

Hopefully our elected leaders will reflect accident, as opposed to being singled out upon the outcome of this case as decided by 12 jurors, and then work toward implementing policies that protect all of us from harm or injustice.

> In closing, I wish all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Tony Hall served twice as Supervisor for District 7

1). tonyhallarchives.wordpress.com/contents/



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Holiday lights...and Santa's on the way... Each year, the time seems to go by faster and faster. Here in the newspaper business, by the time we get a copy out on the street we are planning out the next one as the calendar clicks by at its rhythmic rate. The Thanksgiving holiday has come and gone and we are still trying to finish off the turkey soup... Weren't the Giants just playing baseball? (Are they getting a "Stanton" Holiday gift?) I will note that I saw my first Christmas tree in a SF window on November 12th and it seemed early, but now I'm not so sure...

Let's keep it local... with the ease of online retailing and the crushing number of catalogs that we receive during this time of year, it's important to not forget the amazing "brick and mortar" stores that line our shopping districts and make us a neighborhood. From BookShop West Portal and The Music Store, to Ambassador Toys; Walter Evans Framing, to Harmony A/V and Music we have a terrific number of places to fulfill our holiday gift lists. And how about a pampering at Dimitra's, or a yoga class at Relativity, topped with a great dinner at one of our amazing local restaurants! From Paradise Pizza and Pasta at one end of West Portal to the Bullshead at the other end there is no end to the number of different restaurants and cuisines that can excite our taste buds. And that's just West Portal - add in Stonestown Galleria, the Marketplace on Sloat, and Westlake across the "border" in Daly City and you can find something for everyone on your holiday list, without using much fuel to get there. While online shopping is quick... it really doesn't do much to put me in the holiday spirit. Getting out in the cool breeze, seeing children looking in the windows, hearing the Salvation Army "bell ringers" and (even) scurrying for parking helps to bring out the holiday spirit.

Local Stuff...the SF Recreation and Parks Department, with Supervisor Mark Farrell's office, will be bringing a Winter Festival to the West Portal Playground on Saturday, December 16th from 11 AM to 1 PM. The event is part of the SF Shared Playgrounds initiative and will feature food, games and fun. RSVP to the RPD to help with food planning.



Get in the Holiday Toy Drive Spirit... This holiday season, SF's own Ground Floor Public Affairs, run by Alex Tourk, is assisting in supporting the San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 Toy Program. The program, which is the oldest and largest of its kind in the country, helps ensure that no child is without a toy during the holidays. This year the Firefighters are sending trucks to Napa and Sonoma to deliver toys to kids affected by the recent fires. We hope that you will join us in supporting this wonderful holiday tradition by donating money or toys to the program. Send your check or money order to: Firefighters' Toy Program, 2225 Jerrold Ave., SF 94124 Please make your check payable to the San Francisco Firefighters' Toy Program



SF Giants and Wells Fargo, "Step Up to The Plate" program helps local elementary schools, including our own St. Thomas More School. The Giants and Wells Fargo recently announced a \$100,000 donation to 31 local elementary schools for their sports, music, arts and education programs.



All-star shortstop Brandon Crawford joined Wells Fargo in presenting a check for \$1,000 to St. Thomas More school to assist them in upgrading their Performing Arts Center with stage lighting and a sound system. Over the past 15 years, Wells Fargo and KNBR have distributed over \$1.1 million through the Step Up to the Plate program to support the Bay Area's youth.

Green Gifting at the SF Public Library... This holiday season, add a personal, handmade touch to gift-giving by upcycling with the Library. SFPL is excited to be offering free workshops and events about green ideas and environmentally sustainable practices during the month of December. Transform old books and magazines, T-shirts and sweaters,

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and bottles and jars into cup cozies, mixed media wreaths, sugar scrubs and more.

Libraries throughout the City are hosting Green Gifts workshops for kids, teens and adults, focusing on crafting seasonal presents and decorations using repurposed materials. The workshops help patrons learn to create less waste by providing innovative and fun ways to utilize the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Patrons can try their hand at weaving newspaper baskets, folding origami trees, creating paper ornaments, fabric flowers, T-shirt tote bags and much more. For more information, view the complete program guide, and visit sfpl.org/GreenGifts.

For additional, and year-round, eco-friendly resources and programs at the Library, visit the Wallace Stegner Environmental Center at the Main Library.

Green Gifts - Program Highlights:

Crafting with Recycled Books – Dec. 2 & Western Addition 3, West Portal

Mixed Media Wreaths - Dec. 5, Anza Adult Craft Night: Sugar Scrubs and TAY Day in the Hormel Center - Dec. 18, Holiday Cards – Dec. 6, Noe Valley Holiday Upcycling – Dec. 7, Excelsior Children's Craft: Calming Jars - Dec. 9, Dec. 20, Ortega

Fingerless Gloves with GoGo Craft – Dec. 13, Portola

Main Library, Hormel Center

Craft Night: Snow Globes & Gift Tags -

Giving Thanks...as the end of the year sneaks up on us, it's always a good time to look back on this year and be thankful and appreciative for what we have. Over the past year, we have observed terrible disasters across the country, hurricanes, floods and of course the devastating wildfires throughout California. Let's continue to reach out to help our neighbors who need it and lend a hand when we can.

West Portal has seen some vacancies, and filled others, and San Francisco continues to change and evolve, with the Salesforce tower now rising above everything else in the skyline. This transition has been going on since gold was discovered in "them thar' hills." Thank you to our writers, our staff and colleagues, our advertisers (without whom there would be no newspaper), our readers and my family, who makes this all worthwhile. Let's plan for more local news and event coverage as the *Observer* completes its 30th year.

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





St. Luke's Update

Temporary Reprieve From Exile

by Patrick Monette-Shaw

n September's Westside Observer Dr. Palmer and I addressed whether the proposed closure of sub-acute and skilled nursing units would result in eviction and exile for the 28 current patients at St. Luke's. The September article covered the Board of Supervisors July 26 hearing and the Health Commission's August 15 hearing on closure of St. Luke's units. Since then the Health Commission held a second hearing and the Board of Supervisors also held a second

would be closed because there was "no room" in either replacement hospital for St. Luke's or CPMCs new Van Ness Avenue hospital to accommodate them.

Those 28 patients were given a tempo-sion hearing, the rary reprieve on September 12: CPMC Board of Superrelented and will keep the current patients, at least through June 30, 2018. But CPMC/St. Luke's won't admit any new patients needing sub-acute care, leaving San Francisco with the problem of no sub-acute care facility anywhere else in the

Two September Hearings

The Health Commission's second hear- Hillary Ronen. ing on September 5 was again well attended by family members. Family Council surprise, although Coordinator Raquel Rivera provided a heartbreaking presentation. Additional testimony was provided by community advocates supporting St. Luke's patients and their families. Many St. Luke's staff and nurses, other physicians, family members, and others also testified.

The resolution the Health Commission adopted September 5 noted it was concerned about capacity of SNF and subacute facilities for future generations of San on September 11 that CPMC would keep Franciscans, and recommended St. Luke's delay discharge of its current SNF and sub-acute patients until alternative facilities were identified. Although its resolution noted closure of St. Luke's units would

CPMC had been adamant the two units San Franciscans, the Health Commission stopped short of specifying alternative facilities must be located in-county.

> A week after the Health Commisvisors stepped in September 12 and held a "Committee of the Whole" hearing on St. Luke's at the urging of Supervisors Asha Safai and

To everyone's CPMC was adamant during the Health Commission's September 5 hearing CPMC

would not keep the two St. Luke's units open, the day before the Board of Supervisors hearing CPMC suddenly relented and announced to St. Luke's patients and family members, and to City Supervisors, both units open, at least until June 2018 and *perhaps* for the term of the patients'

During his opening comments on September 12, Supervisor Safai noted the lack

"crisis in the making over the past decade ... number of skilled nursing beds over the last ten to 15 years."

That's because City Supervisors hadn't been paying attention to the disappearing number of SNF beds as the crisis unfolded.

Norman Yee's remarks were worrisome. He indicated he'd asked "for a hearing on these issues" last June, ostensibly referring to SNF and sub-acute level of care facilities.

Yee had not. Instead, Yee asked last June for a hearing to "understand the efforts of City departments regarding institutional housing, particularly assisted living, resi-

> in San Francisco." Those are sepaissues of sub-acute and SNF level of care.

> While those residential care facilities are clearly important, and rapidly Francisco, the difference between medical-based SNF and sub-acute facilities, vs. non-medical res-

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idential care facilities is significant. While both settings are clearly necessary, they are *not* the same issues.

Director of Public Health Barbara Garcia was asked to comment. She regurgi-- portending even more out-of-county distions with San Mateo County to develop regional solutions. She indicated DPH is

working with Dignity Health to develop a as we've seen a major, major decrease in the sub-acute unit, but only for mental health patients. DPH and the PACC don't appear to be seeking solutions for sub-acute patients without mental health diagnoses.

Supervisor Safai called on David Serrano Sewell, the Hospital Council's During opening comments, Supervisor regional vice president. Sewell confirmed the PACC is currently only focused on two vulnerable patient populations: 1) Cognitively-impaired post-acute care patients requiring 24/7 supervision, and 2) Behaviorally-challenged/disturbed post-acute care patients

Safai noted the September 12 hearing was specifically to be about "in-county, indential care facili- hospital solutions for San Francisco." But ties for the elderly the PACCs September 25 meeting minutes (RCFE), and small documents the PACC continues pursuing beds for seniors out-of-county, regional solutions.

Following public testimony, Supervisor London Breed called on Supervisors rate issues from the to make closing statements. Surprisingly, Supervisor Yee, asked to speak. Yee stated: "Maybe Supervisor Safai was not listening when I was mentioning that I had already asked for a similar hearing."

Yee claimed he was looking for a more "comprehensive" hearing, which is almost comical because the lack of sub-acute care vanishing in San and SNF beds in the City is a complete humanitarian crisis.

> That alarmed observers, who worry about splitting the focus from sub-acute and SNF in-county, in-hospital solutions by adding a distinct issue about residential care facilities. The focus should remain on sub-acute and SNF in-county, in-hospital

Out-of-County Discharges Worsen—Again

Back in April 2016, I wrote another tated the Health Commission's, and Yee's article, Skilled Nursing Bed Shortage Worsassertion that a "regional solution" should ens, first presenting out-of-county disbe reached, particularly for sub-acute care charge data from our two public hospitals: LHH and SFGH. That article reported charges. She indicated she is in conversa- the total out-of-county discharges then stood at 161. On September 11, 2017 DPH

Cont to page 17





ast night, I had the pleasure of hosting the first of many monthly community meetings. I would like to thank all the attendees and presenters for spending a part of their evening at Taraval Station. The community room was filled to capacity and it was standing room only at the beginning of meeting. The attendee's included residents, merchants, other city agencies and the press. The presenters included: Marynoel Strope, a Community Outreach Coordinator for Community Boards, who explained their mediation services; Michael Paquette and Jessica Estrada, personnel from the Department of Public Health who explained the city smoking



ordinances; and Wesley Chu, a Public Safety Coordinator from San Francisco Safety Awareness for Everyone (SF SAFE) who provided safety tips and pamphlets.

— Taraval Station Community Meeting —

Tuesday, December 19 & January 16 | 6 pm –7 pm • Taraval Police Station • taraval.org

Wednesday - November 1

7:51 pm | 700 Eucalyptus Dr

A witness saw four juveniles start a bonfire in the Rolph Nicol Playground but it got out of control. The suspects then got into a car and fled. SFFD extinguished the fire.

12:05 am | Gonzalez Dr & Cardenas Ave The victims were having a conversation on the sidewalk, when two suspects walked by and exchanged a few words when one pointed a gun and stole their money.

1:55 pm | 600 Capitol Ave

The victim at a soccer field said he was playing on the same team as the suspects when started yelling profanities at him, pushed him down, punched and kicked him. Bystanders intervened and they fled.

Theft from a Locked Vehicle

6:30 pm | 3200 20th Ave

A UPS driver at the Stonestown mall, parked and locked his truck while he made a delivery but returned to find his lock damaged and the door open. An inventory check a revealed that a delivery of approximately 300 iPhone X devices were stolen.

Friday- November 3

Battery - Vandalism - Traffic Collision 7:57 pm | 200 Granada Ave

When a car collided with another car the the suspect refused to get out of his car and exchange information, so the victim attempted to leave but the suspect followed him. Then, a second suspect confronted him, blaming him for the accident. When he tried to get out of his car, the suspect slammed the door and hit him on the head. Feeling threatened, he tried to protect himself with a knife. The suspect punched a car window and both fled.

5:50 pm | 1900 Irving St

down and walked away. The fire was extinguished by several local merchants.

Robbery

7:34 pm | 100 Font Blvd

A woman was walking to the garbage area with her purse when she noticed three suspects running behind her, then one of the suspects grabbedl her purse, but she held on until he pushed her down, when she let go of the purse. All three suspects fled the

Monday - November 6

Graffiti - Cited

9:31 pm | 2000 Taraval St

Notified of graffiti-in-progress on a 7-11, officers saw the suspect walking away from the graffiti. He said he did not "tag" anything, but officers handcuffed him and found a can of spray paint and a book with similar drawings to the graffiti. After further investigation, he admitted to the graffiti and was cited.

Saturday -November 11

Robbery

12:39 pm | 500 John Muir Dr

A man had just parked his car when a suspect demanded his property. He said there were also two other suspects nearby and that they had a firearm pointed at him. When he said he did not have anything to turn over, one of the suspects hit him on the head with the gun, then took everything from his pockets before fleeing.

Theft - Possession of Stolen Property 10:19 am | Ocean Ave & Junipero Serra The victim, an SFFD paramedic said

they picked up the suspect on a medical call and en-route to the hospital, the suspect decided to get out of the ambulance. Then the paramedic noticed that her cell phone was missing. She followed him, and retrieved her phone without incident. After further investigation, he was cited.

Sunday - November 12

Theft - Cited

9:16 am | 4000 Judah St

A victim said a suspect in a previous theft was at a nearby bus stop. Officers found the suspect, showed him the security footage of the theft. He was cited after confessing.

Threats - Resisting Arrest - Arrested 10:18 pm | Ocean Ave & Lee Ave

An intoxicated and unresponsive person refused to leave a restaurant. Officers escorted him out of the restaurant and told him to sit down because he had two glass bottles of alcohol in his pockets but he refused and tried to walk away. Officers detained the suspect for a four-hour detoxification but he refused and so was handcuffed. During the transport to detoxification, he repeatedly threatened to kill the officers. He was arrested.

Wednesday - November 15

Robbery

4:14 pm | Ocean Ave & Howth St

A skateboarder said he was with his friends, filming their skateboarding tricks The witness saw the suspect climb a palm when the suspect tried to take his camera. tree before it caught fire. then climbed He had wrapped the camera's strap around his wrist, preventing its theft. His friends came to his aid — pushing the suspect on to the ground and punching him, but he got up, got in a car and fled the area.

Robbery

9:08 pm | Noriega St & 26th Ave

A woman was talking on her cell phone while walking along Noriega Street, when the suspect came from behind and pulled on her backpack. Turning around, she saw he was pointing a knife at her and demanding her property, which she surrendered. He pushed her to the ground and fled towards 26th, with a second suspect who had been standing him.

Burglary - Possession of Stolen Property 4:45 am | 1300 10th Ave

Officers saw that a subject who had been watching their arrival walked immediately away. He then tried to pull open a locked door. A witness said she heard a noise earlier and saw him walk out of an building he had no reason to be in, so she followed him and saw him attempting to open several a building, then tried to unlock a nearby bicycle. Officers found him sitting at a bus stop in possession of wire cutters, pliers, a passport from China and he was on probation for burglary. He was arrested.

Thursday - November 16

Possession of a Loaded Firearm 1:21 pm | 100 Lee Ave

TNT officers saw a black, four door, Honda Civic failing to make a complete stop at a stop sign. It matched a car that had been previously used in numerous crimes. A computer check revealed a suspended driver's license and a warrant for her arrest out of San Mateo. She had been cited six times previously for a suspended license. The passenger admitted to marijuana and pills in his backpack. A computer check revealed he had been arrested for possession of a firearm. A search found a loaded firearm hidden on the passenger's side, two handkerchiefs tied as if to cover faces and illegal narcotics. Both were arrested.

Friday - November 17

Battery - Vandalism

6:54 pm | 100 Font Blvd

The victim, who had one bloody hand against her right eye, said she heard people arguing outside the lobby, then people run into the building, heard glass shatter and discovered she was bleeding. Officers saw a shattered window. A witness said a group was arguing and antagonizing the suspect who chased them with a golf cub. Inside the building, they closed the door as he struck the window and walked away.

Threats - Arrested

12:40 pm | 2000 Ocean Ave

A store employee said he was scared when 10:40 AM | Grafton Ave & Capitol Ave the suspect came in and threatened him Two sergeants saw a car with paper plates with a pocket knife. The suspect had a known history of harassment and threats to the neighborhood's shop owners, and arrested him.

Bank Robbery with a Gun

12:24 pm | 2600 Ocean Ave

The victim said a man asked to open an account and was given paperwork, then noticed the suspect was nervous and sweaty and approached him to see if he needed assistance. He handed the victim a note that he had a gun and was robbing them. The victim complied with the suspect's demands and he fled the bank.

Assault – Threats – False Imprisonment 11:52 am | 1100 Ocean Ave

Advised that the suspect was in possession of a knife and was engaged in a fight with staff members, officers located the suspect and victim. The officers separated them into a separate room but the suspect was non-compliant. Eventually he released his weapon, later identified as a screwdriver. The victim was accompanying him into the exercise room when he took the screwdriver. She tried to take it back but he struggled to retain possession and cut her face with it, then prevented the victim from leaving. The suspect was arrested.

Sunday - November 19

Robbery - Warrant Arrest - Arrested

1:09 pm | West Portal Ave & Sloat Blvd The victim fell asleep at the bus stop when a witness told him his backpack had just been stolen. He chased after the suspect who brandished a knife and him. Advised by dispatch to the suspect's direction of flight and his description, officers found the suspect and the witness confirmed. A check revealed a warrant from San Mateo. A search found items commonly used to break into cars. He was arrested.

Monday - November 20

Battery - Warrant Arrest - Arrest 5:32 pm | 800 Ulloa St

The victim got off the MUNI at the same time as the suspect who punched him twice, on the back and in the face, then walked away. He did not know, nor did he provoke the suspect. Officers found the suspect and a check revealed a warrant out of Contra Costa. He was arrested.

Tuesday - November 21

Robbery

5:29 am | 9th Ave & Irving St

Three suspects approached the victims at doors, managing to enter into the foyer of a MUNI stop and told them not to fight as

they stole their backpacks. They reached into each their pockets and stole their cell phones, then walked to their vehicle, and fled. One victim chased after them but was punched and shoved away. The suspect's vehicle and some of the stolen property were later located and retrieved by Bayview officers. Their vehicle was towed.

Wednesday - November 22

Battery

8:16 pm | Irving St & 41st Ave

When the victim confronted the suspect, who was urinating against a building at the corner, he responded by yelling, then punched him in his face. When he fell, the suspect attempted to kick him, but missed. Then he punched him again. A witness yelled that he calling the police, and the suspect and his friends fled.

Friday - November 24

Trespassing - Threats - Arrested 8:50 pm | 3200 20th Ave

A security employee said the suspect stole merchandise, which was caught on video. He confronted the suspect inside the mall and advised him to leave and not to return. The suspect threatened to kill the victim, then left the mall but came back, and again threatened to harm the employee and his family if they were on the streets. Officers located the suspect and arrested him.

Warrant Arrest - Arrested

2:30 pm | Garfield St & Monticello St On patrol, officers observed a known subject with active warrants for his arrest and placed him in handcuffs. A search revealed heroin. The subject was arrested.

Possession of a Loaded Firearm

with no indication that it was a new vehicle. During a traffic stop the driver said the car was his girlfriend's and he forgot his identification. Observing a faint smell of marijuana from the car, they warned him they would to search the car. He admitted there was a loaded gun in the car. The gun was booked as evidence, and he was cited.

Cont to page 13

elp end the pollution and be the solution to gun violence No questions asked!



SATURDAY • DECEMBER 16th 8 am - NOON United Playaz • 1038 Howard Street

HANDGUNS = \$100 ASSAULT WEAPONS = \$200

- 1 in 3 homes with children have guns, many left unlocked or loaded.
- 80% of unintentional firearm deaths of kids under 15 occur in a home.
- Homicides, domestic violence and suicide by gun increase during the holidays.

Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence



SMUIN: THE CHRISTMAS BALLET • DEC. 14-DEC. 24 • YERBA BUENA CENTER

Baby, it's cold outside, but it's sizzlin' hot when Smuin kicks off the holidays with The Christmas Ballet. From classical to cool and contemporary, Smuin offers two acts filled with a stunning and original array of ballet, tap, and jazz. ACT I: Classical Christmas and ACT II Cool Christmas. A joyous celebration of dance and a true holiday classic, the SF Chronicle said "there's no better way to express the joy of the season." Smuin favorites as well as new pieces. TIX/INFO: www.smuinballet.org • Run time: 2 hours.

ecember/ lanuarv (

EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market | Every Sun | 9 am-1 pm | Stonestown rear parking lot: at Stonestown Galleria (19th Ave @ Winston).

EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

Sundays | 2 pm | Victorian era architecture of the city's first suburb in the neighborhood of Lafayette Square. San Francisco's illustrious history and some steep streets. Many fabulous views! 1801 Bush St. garden. Donations OK. MUNI 1, 3. sfcityguides.org

EVERY TUE/THU /SAT • GET IN SHAPE!

Tue/Thu | 8:30 am | Sat: 9 am | Get into shape, improve your health. FREE. Kinesiology students from SF State in partnership with SF Rec and Park. Turf field at Minnie and Lovie Ward Park, 650 Capitol Ave. 100citizens.sfsu@gmail.com, www.100citizens.org

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 coctails. GG Park \$12 (\$10 Members). calademy.org/nightlife.



NOVEMBER 2017 BESTSELLERS

- 1. Slow Medicine: The Way to Healing by Victoria Sweet *
- 2. The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants...
- by Lauren Markham *
- 3. The Wine Lover's Daughter: A Memoir by Anne Fadiman *
- 4. The Hacking of the American Mind: The Science Behind the Corporate Takeover...
- by Robert H. Lustig, MD, MSL * 5. Leonardo Da Vinci
- by Walter Isaacson
- 6. We Were Eight Years in Power by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- 7. Lincoln in the Bardo
- by George Saunders
- 8. Manhattan Beach
- by Jennifer Egan 9. Where the Past Begins: A Writer's Memoir
- by Amy Tan
- 10. Sourdough by Robin Sloan *
- 11. Bobby Kennedy: A Raging Spirit by Chris Matthews
- 12. Origin
- by Dan Brown
- 13. Sing, Unburied, Sing
- by Jesmyn Ward
- 14. Logical Family: A Memoir by Armistead Maupin
- 15. Grant
- by Ron Chernow * Spoke at BookShop West Portal; signed copies available.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

JAZZ FRIDAYS @ THE CLIFF HOUSE

Every Fri | 7–11 pm | The Balcony Lounge at the Cliff House hosts jazz every Fri night. 1 Seal Rock. cliffhouse.com/home/jazz.html.

FRIDAY NIGHTS @ THE DEYOUNG

Every Fri | 5-8:45 pm | Music, poetry, films, dance, tours and lectures. Cafe: special dinner, no-host bar. Art-making children/adults. deYoung Museum, GG Park. deyoung.famsf.org/deyoung/fridays

|FRIDAYS @ OFF THE GRID/FT. MASON

Every Fri | DJs 5-7:30/Bands 7:30-10: pm | Off the Grid: Over 32 food trucks and street food carts in a huge circle with a full bar and bands in the middle? That's a party! Free. Ft. Mason Ctr. Two Marina Blvd.

SATURDAYS • FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

Every Sat | 11 am | Come play outdoors, in nature. Enjoy a rejuvenating morning flow and meditation for body, mind, and spirit. GG Park, Big Rec Baseball Field (across from the Botanical Garden). Bring a mat or blanket, FREE. Cancelled if raining. Dog OK

DAILY • BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

Learn Basic Computer Skills. Choose a topic—searching databases, setting up email, or surfing the web. Basic mouse skills required. Call 355-2825 to make an appointment. Merced Branch Library, 155 Winston Dr.



DAILY • DICKENS CHRISTMAS FAIRE

Ongoing thru Dec 17 | 10 am - 7 pm | Discover holiday revelry in this lamp-lit city brimming with over 800 lively and colorful characters from the imagination of Charles Dickens, the pages of history, and the sometimes saucy world of the Victorian stage. Free BART Shuttle from Glen Park Station every Fair day. Parking \$12. (cash only) The Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave, Daly City. Info/Tix: www.dickensfair.com

Celebrating 30 years! The Bay Area's largest outdoor ice for all! www.sunsetmercantilesf.com rink, a beautiful city setting and an array of shops and MON • OLD US MINT WORKSHOP restaurants to enjoy. Info: embarcaderocenter.com / 837-1931. Tix: \$11, children \$7.

ONGOING • BUTTERFLIE & BLOOMS!

Now through - Jan 7 | Get eye to eye with a butterfly in the exhibit Butterflies & Blooms as the Conservatory of Flowers in GG Park's delightful living butterfly exhibit finally returns. JFK Drive, GG Park.



DAILY • SF FIREFIGHTERS TOY PROGRAM

Daily In its 62nd year of helping children, the Toy Program is the largest in the U.S. and is looking for donations of unwrapped toys. Bring toys to any S.F. TUE • 1906 EARTHQUAKE TOUR firehouse 415-777-0440, sffirefighterstoys.org

| DAILY • THE SECRET GARDEN

Dec 6 - 23 | Various | 42nd St. Moon presents the classic English children's novel in this 1991 musical, 11-year-old Mary is orphaned in India and comes to

Holiday Parties at The Cliff House

The Terrace Room

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

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GOPS IN COLOR • THRU JAN. 7 • LEGION OF HONOR

Gods in Color: Polychromy in the Ancient World will offer an astonishing look at Classical sculpture swathed in their original vibrant colors questioning the perception of an all-white "classical" ideal. Ancient sculpture and architecture from Greece and Rome will be revealed as intended—garishly colorful, richly ornamented, and full of life—along with original sculpture from the Near East, Egypt, Greece, and Rome against the backdrop of





the Legion of Honor's neoclassical building. Lincoln Park | 100 34th Avenue (at Clement Street)

cousin, where she discovers an enchanted garden. A wonderful show for the whole family to enjoy at the holiday season! Tix & Times at 42ndstmoon.org

SAT • SANTA'S HELPERS NEEDED

Sat Dec 9 | 8:30 am - 2 pm | SF City Impact hosts the 30th annual Help deliver groceries, cook, prepare and deliver meals to Tenderloin residents, disperse toys to kids, and serve hot meals to the homeless. \$25 415-292-1770, Register: sfcityimpact.com.

SUN • SUNSET HOLIDAY MERCANTILE



Sun Dec 10 | 11am-5pm | Eat, drink, shop, play at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park (1199 9th Ave. @ Lincoln Way). Explore 85+ artisans, artists, merchants and engaging children's activities, lively PAILY • HOLIPAY ICE - EMBARCAPERO entertainment, scrumptious food, and spirits at the Ongoing thru Jan 8 | 10 - 9:30 pm -11:30 Fri, Sat | Lawton Tap Room beer and wine tasting! Free and fun



Mon, Dec 11 | 7–8:30 pm | Join SF Planning at a Community Workshop looking at the future and longterm transformation of the Old U.S. Mint! at the Presidio Branch Library, 3150 Sacramento St.

Tue Dec 12 | 11 am | Imagine awakening before dawn on April 18, 1906 to the unthinkable—a massive earthquake has toppled chimneys and buildings and ripped apart city water pipes. With the fire on your heels, escape from the alleyways south of Market to what should be the safety of Union Square. \$15 Yorkshire to live with her reclusive uncle and invalid RSVP by Dec 8. Guide: Jack Grippi, SF City Guides.

WED • QUEEN OF BOOGIE WOOGII

Wed Dec 13 | 6-7:30 Boogie Woogie and Blues are at the heart of rock and roll, jazz and pop and yet most people can't really answer the question "What is boogie woogie?" Wendy DeWitt, who



was born in San Francisco has answers. Main Library, 100 Larkin.

THU • THE TRIP

Thu Dec 14 | Noon-2 pm | A filmmaker who takes an LSD trip and experiences visions of sex, death, strobe lights, flowers, dancing girls, witches, hooded riders, a torture chamber, and a dwarf. A true underground classic! Main Library, 100 Larkin. Cast: Peter Fonda, Susan Strasberg, Bruce Dern, Dennis Hopper

SAT • GREEN HOLIDAY CRAFTS

Sat Dec 16 | 2-3:30 pm | Make homemade gifts with your family. Newspaper baskets, Origami Christmas trees, Hand scrubs, Wishing stars. For ages 10 and up. Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval.

SAT • BORN A CRIME/BOOK CLUB

Sat Dec 16 | 11-12:30 pm | Join us this month to discuss Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah. Meets 3rd Saturdays, alternating fiction and nonfiction. Newcomers welcome. Please note new time! Ortega Branch, 3223 Ortega.

SAT • OMI NEIGHBORS

Sat Dec 16 | 1 - 3 pm | No meetings in Dec. Instead join us at our annual Holiday Toy Giveaway at Minnie & Lovie Rec Center @ Capitol and Montana.

SUN • S.H.A.R.P / LUNCHEON

Sun Dec 17 | 12 - 2 pm | Winter Solstice Luncheon The irrepressible Jack Barry, spouse May Pon, and SHARP's winter solstice luncheon buffet. Free to SHARP members, \$10 public, RSVP (Required) : sharpsf.org - 1736 9th Avenue.

MON • FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Mon Dec 18 | Celebrate Hanukkah with the Chabad of Pacific Heights at Westfield SF on Level 4, Under the Dome. This community event is open to the public with live music, treats, crafts for the whole family, and

Politics is war by other means

By Dr. Derek Kerr

rom the front lines of hard-fought campaigns, environmental lawyer and veteran activist Jon Golinger offers a memoir and action manual, published by the Bay Guardian Press. Saving San Francisco's Heart: How to win elections, reclaim our city, and keep SF a special place is aimed at those who are alarmed by the transformation of San Francisco into "the most expensive, economically unequal, and increasingly homogeneous city in the nation." Yet, the advice therein will benefit any grassroots electoral campaign against powerful interests. Golinger maintains that "dedicated organizing combined with real passion and a smart message can

Saving San Francisco's

defeat any amount of money". The book features the inner workings Newsom's election as Lieutenant Governor. of 3 successful underdog political cam- Having managed David Chiu's successpaigns he helped organize; Aaron Peskin's ful 2008 District 3 Supervisor campaign,

2000 supervisorial campaign exemplifying the neighborhoodempowering District elections that overcame Mayor Willie Brown's "juice politics", the "No Wall on the Waterfront" ballot referendum against the City Hall-backed 8 Washington luxury condo development, and the reclamation of the Democratic Jon Golinger

County Central Committee (DCCC) from real estate lobby." Through the "completely corporate interests affiliated with Mayor Ed Lee.

Golinger addresses effective voter outreach and messaging, volunteer mobilization, petition signature gathering, campaign fund-raising, candidate visibility, coalition building and endorsements. Included is an informative section covering 4 types of citizen ballot initiatives and how to use them. He demonstrates why the grinding labors of research, outreach and coalition building are vital when outgunned by formidable opponents. Eschewing dirty tricks, he hilariously depicts the upending of sleazy maneuvers by conniving adversaries. Ultimately, defeating big money and political clout boils down to organizing because; "Power is organized and organization wins elections".

Among many interesting anecdotes is his recounting of the sordid scramble for the Mayor's Office in 2011 after Gavin

Golinger and other progressives felt betrayed when ambition drove Chiu to cast the vote that put Ed Lee in Room 200. Thereafter, corporate interests flourished while housing costs and evictions hollowed the public ecosystem. However, Golinger finds hope in the 2-year drive to recapture the DCCC from "the

unglamorous and grinding job of recruitment," a 22-candidate Reform Slate was assembled for the 2016 DCCC elections. He reveals the reformist campaign strategy as well as the schemes and smears Thu Dec 21 | 12 pm deployed by his opponents. By resorting to "person-to-person individual contact," exposing chicanery, and coping with attack ads, the progressives hurdled a huge funding disparity to capture 15 of the 24 open

There is much to learn from Golinger's analyses of successful campaigns. But for each win there's a corresponding loss. If anything is missing from this guidebook, it would be autopsies of campaigns where he didn't prevail. Perhaps that's not an omission. A resourceful optimist, Golinger also illustrates how losses generate resources for future wins.

Dr. Derek Kerr is a San Francisco investigative reporter.

the lighting of the menorah. 5th & Market St.

TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue Dec 19 | 6-7 pm | Meet with Captain Robert Yick at Taraval Station. Every 3rd Tuesday. 2345 24th Ave

TUE • DIRECTOR JON JOST

Tue Dec 19 | 5-7:30 | A giant of independent filmmaking selects and personally introduces one of his own films. Jost's films typically explore the struggles of a family or several individuals in crisis and often depict the US as a nation of unsustainable systems, swayed by its religious and patriotic beliefs, and determined by its landscapes. Main Library, 100 Larkin.

|WED • SNOW GLOBES / GIFT TAGS

Wed Dec 20 | 5:30-7:30 | Create your very own seasonal wonderland under glass! Plus, gift tags from old holiday cards. Please RSVP: 415-355-5700. Ortega Branch, 3223 Ortega.

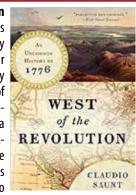
WED • BABE



Wed Dec 20 | 7 pm | Gentle farmer Arthur Hoggett (James Cromwell) wins a piglet named Babe at a county fair. Narrowly escaping his fate as Christmas dinner, Hoggett decides to show him at the next fair, Babe discovers that he too can herd sheep. But will they accept a pig? Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

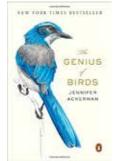
THU • AUTHOR CLAUDIO SAUNT

The British colonies made up only a tiny fraction—about four percent—of early America. In West of the Revolution, Claudio Saunt, reveals a Russia and Spain jockeying to control the West as indigenous peoples fought to



maintain their independence. West of the Revolution tells rest of the story in all its panoramic drama. Info: calhist.org, 648 Mission St., Calif Historical Society

THU • WEST PORTAL BOOK CLUB



Thu Dec 21 | 2-3:30 pm Discussion: The Genius of Birds, by Jennifer Ackerman. Meets 3rd Thursdays. Choices alternate between fiction and nonfiction. New members always welcome. What are we reading next? 355-2886 West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox.

THU • THE WILD ANGELS

Thu Dec 21 | Noon-2 pm | A motorcycle gang the "Angels" takes on the police to retrieve Loser's motorbike turning his funeral into a wild party. Mother of all motorbike movies! Peter Fonda, Nancy Sinatra, Bruce Dern, Diane Ladd. Main Branch, 100 Larkin.

ISAT • RUSSIAN BELLS

Near the end of Act 1 Rachel Kayhan Sat Dec 23 | Noon-2 pm | Introduction On Russian rently onstage in a lively and entertain- deftly performs the role of Daria Chase, Bells and Bell Ringing by Mark Galperin; Russian Bell ing production at the Ross Valley Players the snarky theater critic who has dirt on Concert by SF Symphony's percussionist, Victor Aveveryone - that is until the critic herself dienko; Screening of Blagovest Bells' film A Voice of has a knife put in her back during a stormy Pure Earth: The Sacred Bells of Russia. Mr. Avdienko will play a peal of 6 Traditional Russian Bells, accompanied by 2 bass Russian Flat Bells (bila), Main Branch 100 Larkin.

SUN • CHRISTMAS HELPERS

annual ministry to serve food, clothing and gifts to low-income families, at-risk children and isolated cess. The process reaches a feverish inten-residents of the inner city. \$25, 292-1770, Register: sfcityimpact.com.

WED • GREAT BOOKS

Wed Dec 27 | 6:30-8:30 | The Epic of Gilgamesh. Like great ideas, great writing, and stimulating diswell cast as newlyweds Aggie Wheeler and cussion? Join us the 4th Wednesday -most months. Simon Bright. They may have something Info: Jimsrhall@earthlink.net. West Portal Branch,

THU • THE INTRUDER

Thu Dec 28 | Noon-2 pm | A "social reformer," in town to incite and exacerbate racial tension. As events spin out of control, it's a power struggle to control the mob. Roger Corman's favorite movie for Cont to page 16 which no studio would shell out money. William

Shatner agreed to act for free. Main Branch, 100 Larkin.



Sat Dec 31 | 9:30 (members) - 11:30 am (public) 32nd Annual Japanese New Year's Bell-Ringing Ceremony. Take a swing at a 2,100-pound, 16th-century Japanese temple bell, with a purification ritual and chanting of the Buddhist Heart Sutra. Leave behind any unfortunate experiences, regrettable deeds or ill luck. Asian Art Museum 200 Larkin St.

SAT • KWANZAA

Sat Dec 31 | 1-4 pm | A Kwanzaa celebration in honor of Kuumba: our potential for infinite creativity. A short ceremony in the Koret with a live performer from 1 - 2 p.m. and celebratory feast in the Latino/Hispanic Room. Main Branch, 100 Larkin.

WED • GWPNA

Wed Jan 3 | 6:30 | Greater West Portal Neighborhood Assn meetings are open to all members and to the public, first Wed each Month. Playground Clubhouse,131 Lenox Way. GWPNA.org

TUE • HAAS-LILIANTHAL HOUSE

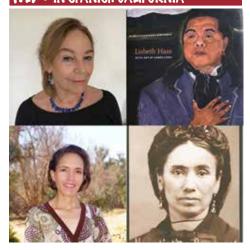


Tue Jan 9 | 7:30 - 9 pm | John Rothmann discusses the renovations of the Haas-Lilienthal House and the book The Haas Sisters of Franklin Street, Roosevelt School, 460 Arguello Blvd. \$10 sfhistory.org

IWED • AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Wed Jan 10 | 5:30 - 7 pm | Workshop reviews the available housing opportunities and requirements. Then, helps apply through the new online portal DAHLIA. Main Branch, 100 Larkin. Must register: theqfoundation.org/housing-workshops/

WED • IN SPANISH CALIFORNIA



Thu Jan 17 | 6 pm | Authors Miroslava Chávez-García Negotiating Conquest: Gender and Power in California, 1770s to 1880s and Lisbeth Haas Saints and Citizens: Indigenous Histories of Colonial Missions and Mexican California explore the creation, reconstitution, and dismantling the Spanish period. 648 Mission, Calif Historical Society, Info: calhist.org.

|MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Mon Jan 22 | 7 pm | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss local topics on the 4th Mon each month. No meeting in December. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. westoftwinpeaks.org

THU . OMI NEIGHBORS

Thu Jan 25 | 1-3 pm | OMI-NIA General Meeting, the 4th Thurs of the month. Temple UMC, 65 Beverly.

THU • WORLD LIT/THE COLOR PURPLE

Thu Feb 1 | 6-7:30 pm | Please join our discussion of Alice Walker's The Color Purple. Comprised entirely of letters exchanged between poor, abused black girl, Celie, and her missionary sister Nettie. With pain and perseverance, the indomitable Celie finds both her real self and a genuine community. Main Library, 100

Local event? editor@westsideobserver.com **Priority: Westside Events**

At the Theater • Flora & Linda

t's Christmas Eve, 1936. While the nation struggles with the Great Depression, popular Broadway actor William Gilette (Robert ■ Molossi) invites his fellow actors from a sold-out Sherlock Holmes who done it to his castle on the banks of the Conn river in East Haddan. They arrive expecting to celebrate the holidays, but he has other plans. Earlier that week, someone standing in the staff area at the rear of the Flora Lynn Isaacson theatre shot and wounded him in the shoulder while he was performing onstage at New York's Palace Theatre. Now assuming the shooter had to be a person connected with the show because the doorman would not have let in a stranger, he decides to carry his Sherlock Holmes role into real life by investigating the cast, their husbands and wives. The mystery soon deepens when the stage doorman and the party-crashing New York theatre critic are murdered!

Who was responsible for this mayhem text broadly succeeds in the Linda Ayres-Frederick -- and why? That, in a nutshell, is the plot main. of Ken Ludwig's The Game's Afoot cur-Barn Theater. You might think it sounds like a typical Agatha Christie mystery, but you'd be wrong. Although Ludwig styled his play like a "comedy thriller" the pun intended in his subtitle, Holmes for the Holidays reveals that the author of Lend Me a Tenor is up to his old tricks. Game's is mixture of anything goes: melodrama, satire, parody, broad farce - with only the slenderest thread of mystery and some judgmental remarks about personal morality - all combined!

This can be a slippery slope of course. There may be too much nonsense silliness, too many twists and turns - such that one might ask whether it's losing audience involvement. On the other hand, the overall performance shows RVP Director **Christian Haines** knows what he is doing, and actors who are uninhibited enough to shed all semblance of acceptable behavior, the freedom to shed normal constraints as they go into the script's numerous comic situations. Although Director Haines and his acting ensemble occasionally stray into over-indulgence, the decision to play the

and power blackout. Her monumental death struggle is ignored by the uncomprehending William Gilette who is joined moments later by Felix (Tom Hudgens). When the two men finally realize what has happened, to avoid scandal there's a fran- Sun Dec 25 | 8:30 am - 2 pm | SF City Impact's 30th tic debate about what to do with the body. Different locations are tried with no sucsity with arrival on the scene of the wacky Inspector Gorin (Pamela Ciochetti). It is all played at breakneck speed to great comic effect.

Isabell Grimm and Elliott Hanson are to hide - the former's multi-millionaire 190 Lenox. husband died in a mysterious skiing accident, leaving his entire estate to her.

Sumi Narendran, who has performed in other RVP productions, gives a good performance as Madge Giesel, and Ellen **Brooks** as William's mother Martha is fun

— Money Matters By Brandon Miller

Financially Prepared for the Holidays?

or many of us, the holiday season is a time of joy and rest. However, planning for the season's festivities can feel hectic and create financial stress. According to the Consumer Reports National

Research Center, top holiday stressors for Americans include gift shopping, crowds and long lines, traveling and taking on some level of debt1. So how can you give generously but not go overboard on your budget? Here are five ways to keep your cash outlays in check while still having a fun and memorable holiday season:

during the season is to set a limit and try to to do your research. stick with it. Start by looking at what you spent last year and use that as a baseline for this season. Did you spend more or stay on budget? While gifts and travel may the option – inviting that group to volunteer first items that come to mind, also consider what you'll spend on food, decorations, charitable giving and traditions, such as sending holiday cards.

Use your credit card wisely

One way to keep tabs on what you spend price-match policy, so it's worth your time

Consider an alternative to a pricey party

If you typically host a seasonal bash for a bunch of friends, consider another together instead. Contact your favorite charity or search volunteer sites such as All For Good (allforgood.org) to find opportunities that would allow your group to spend time together without the

If you feel like you've overspent in the past, look at this holiday season as an opportunity to be creative as you find ways to have fun while keeping your spending in line."

the holidays, try to spend at a level that enables you to pay the bill when it arrives. Otherwise you're "borrowing" the money by using your credit card and slowly paying down the debt you've accumulated with high interest costs. If you have multiple credit cards, think about using one for holiday purchases that will give you cash back for savings or airline miles for an additional perk.

Focus on more than the price tag

Most of us would appreciate a smaller but more meaningful gift over something expensive that we will likely regift. One way to do this is to give experiences that create memories. For example, consider bringing your family to a holiday play or making reservations for a special dinner you can enjoy together. If you have a large family that tends to give gifts to each other, you could suggest drawing names to make the process a bit less demanding on everyone.

Shop carefully

Getting a head start on gift buying usually results in savings. It gives you time to explore options and compare prices from different retailers. Planning ahead can also help you avoid expensive costs for rush shipping. If you're an online shopper, consider sending gifts directly to the recipient's home so you won't have to ship the gift a second time. If you prefer to shop at the Editor's Note: This article is a repeat of last mall, look up each item online while waiting in line to checkout. Many stores have a

night. However, in the morning, the sus-

pect became aggressive and started to yell

The victim said the suspect exposed him-

self in front of her and her daughter. Offi-

cers found him, based on the description

and then punched her, then left the area.

Police Report (Cont. from p. 10)

Saturday - November 25

1:06 pm | 1200 20th Ave

Battery

Gifts, travel and festive meals can add big cost. If festive parties help you get in up. If you are going to charge expenses over the spirit, put a spin on tradition by asking guests to bring their favorite holiday dish or suggesting a round-robin dinner. With either option you'll enjoy the party without the big price tag.

If you feel like you've overspent in the past, look at this holiday season as an opportunity to be creative as you find ways to have fun while keeping your spending in line.

¹ – Prevention Magazine: "11 things you stress most about during the holidays." Nov. 20, 2014. By Holly C. Corbett. http://www.prevention.com/ mind-body/solutions-holiday-stress

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year's edition—by popular demand.

the missing cell phone and contacted the police. Officers found the suspect who said if I can double up on our beat officers, I he found the bag and would have attempted will certainly do that as much as we have to return it. He was arrested.

The victim, who was homeless, said she Monday - November 27

stayed at the suspect's house the previous Assault

2:00 pm | Brotherhood Way & Arch St The victim said he stopped behind the susat her. She left but the suspect followed her pect's car for a funeral procession. When the light turned green, the suspect did not move his car, so the victim honked at him. He velled at the victim, who made a rude gesture in return. Both yelled from inside their cars before the victim got out and approached the suspect, who cut the victim with a knife before driving away.

and he was cited. Sunday - November 26

Warrant Arrest - Arrested

Indecent Exposure - Cited

9:50 am | Head St & Ashton Ave

1:49 am | Vidal Dr & Garces Dr

Officers saw a man waving a metal pipe around in the air. and a computer check revealed t a warrant for his arrest out of Los Angles. He was arrested.

Possession of Stolen Property - Arrested 3:32 pm | 2600 43rd Ave

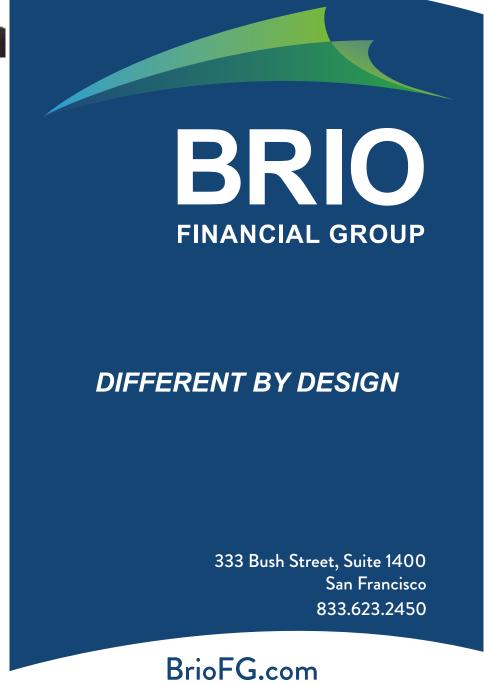
The victim said he put his laptop, a cell phone and an iPad into a reusable shopping bag and put it in a shopping cart, turned away for a moment and it was stolen when he returned his attention. He tracked

Tuesday - November 28 Assault

10:04 pm | 10th Ave & Irving St

The victim said she was walking towards 10th Avenue when an unknown suspect passed by her and struck on the back of her head. She confronted the suspect but he walked past her and into a nearby park. She suspected he may have been under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Editor's Note: this is an incomplete and abridged report For the complete reports, visit taraval.org



New Captain (Cont. from p. 6)

out of a car when an Uber driver crossed him. So I think cameras are a great tool. Visibility is a great tool. I tell everyone this, but if you're familiar with the peninsula, Foster City Boulevard is a street where everyone likes to speed. So what they do, so on the weekends, when there are a lot of kids in the parks, they put a black and white parked across from the park and put a dummy inside. You see all the cars slow down. But I think having foot beat officers in specific locations—business districts, walking around—getting to know people, and not just the major streets, but the adjacent streets too, because if people are shopping, they are going to be parking, leaving bags and things in their cars, too. So I think getting out on foot is key, and personnel.

Q. Do you need more personnel?

A. We can all use more personnel, given the staffing we are based on, the 1976 levels. It's safe to say that the levels have doubled in size, and our daytime population has to be a million and a half people. When I grew up in the city it was about 400, 000 people. I went to Sacred Heart. So what I'm also requiring is for officers in their sector cars to get out and talk to people, walk the business districts, just to get to know people. I think positive contacts, community relations, are key. It doesn't make sense that the only time people see us is when they call us.

Q. Cold car break-ins (852s)—and this is also from above, so not to fault youthey are now going to 311? It's obvious that the stats are going to drop from these kind of crimes, because people are going to want to vent to a cop, not a computer. And it's a good opportunity for police to engage with people, too. Some of these crime statistics are questionable, too. Comstat shows crime stopped in June—there's no update, although traffic continues to September.

- A. That's just the crime analysis unit updating the website. We have all the statistics, though, for civilians.
- Q. Looking at the statistics for 2016, the Mission just jumped, like 290 autoboosting in the first four months, now it's like 1100—it's obvious something is wrong there.

A. What happened was that they merged CDW, Crime Data Warehouse and Cop-Logic, so it has that increase because it wasn't capturing both numbers together.

Q. Well overall for the city it was up 30%, so if the numbers reflect that the Mission was up 20% it would make that district look better.

A. I believe we are up to 22,000 auto break-ins citywide this year, while last year was 25,617, so some improvement.

Q. Is hot-rodding back? Especially on **Sloat Boulevard?**

A. The Captain of our solo division motorcycles, he came out, and unfortunately we had a traffic fatality there on Halloween, so I know Sloat needs to be addressed. Anyway he came out and wrote about 65 citations along Sloat. And it's something my officers are addressing. This year we've written about 650 citations, and we usually lead the pack when it comes to

Q. How about paper-plate stats?

A. Apparently there is legislation to address this problem. It will mandate that a temporary license is issued whenever you buy a car. So there will be a visible number that can be checked. That would help greatly. They could plug that into the DMV and could tell if it was the right car.

Q. Is there any plan to coordinate with Shotspotter?

A. Shotspotter is available throughout most of the City. I'm more familiar with it in the Mission district and on the east side. It works pretty well. What happens is it goes to our dispatch, and we also have access to it online. So when someone fires a shot it triggers a signal, then gets catalogued online and dispatch notifies that

Cont. p. 15

Senior Smarts

Coping with the Holidays During Bereavement

By Anise J. Matteson, CBF

Grief is a journey, often perilous and without clear direction that must be taken. The experience of grieving cannot be ordered or categorized, hurried or controlled, pushed aside or ignored indefinitely. It is as inevitable as breathing, as changing, as love. It may be postponed, but it will not be denied." -- Molly Fumia (from Safe Passages) [Hospice by the Bay

hile Christmastide is usually a festive season from Christmas Eve until after New Year's Day, this holiday season many families, neighbors, friends, acquaintances, and co-workers will be coping with a loss due to the Napa-Sonoma fires or the hurricanes.

sons. The loss of a home, mementos, job, your loved one. vehicle, business, animals or a loved one; or a pending divorce.

The name of five classmates come to mind. Napa-Sonoma fires (Santa Rosa): Four. Hurricane Harvey (Houston, TX): One. I have not received a reply to my letter. Pray that God will keep them in the palm of His hand.

To all my readers, may you and your loved ones enjoy a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

This article is intended to provide solace for families coping with an anticipated loss or who have lost a family member this year.

HOLIDAY COPING STRATEGIES Evaluate Your Coping Plans

- ♥ Do your plans isolate you?
- ▼ Do your plans reflect what a particular holiday means for you?
- ▼ The most difficult part of the holiday
- ▼ The most difficult people to be with?
- ♥ Grief triggers?
- ▼ Traditions you want to include?
- ▼ Traditions you do not want to include?
- ♥ People you would like to be with you?
- ▼ People you do not want to spend the ing.com has these suggestions: holidays with?
- **▼** Things that might help you when you are feeling intense grief?

Assert Yourself

Dr. Louis E. LaGrand offers the following advice in his book Healing Grief, Finding Peace:

- ▼ Your needs come first. Tell family and friends specifically what you can and can-
- ♥ You may want to eat out, have someone else hold it this year, or have others assume more responsibility.
- You don't have to follow the exact schedule or routines of the past. Consider starting a new tradition.
- **▼** There is nothing wrong with reducing the amount of time you spend at events or in preparation for the day. Tell all concerned what your level of participation will
- ♥ Find a way to symbolically honor your deceased loved one. Make it a habit to acknowledge the memory of your loved one at major family events. It's okay if tears
- ▼ Tell yourself and accept the fact that the holidays will be different. Identify what emotions you are feeling and express them to your grief companion.
- Diligently manage your anticit Keep things simple and focus on the values, beliefs, joy, and wisdom of the deceased. Remember that laughter and a smile are still important parts of life.

TIPS FOR ADULTS ON PROVIDING EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR KIDS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

- 1. Be aware of the behavior of adults, particularly parents on a grieving child. Parents must let the child know that adult tears are not a rejection of the child.
- 2. Don't avoid long-standing family tradition. Traditions are often comfortable for the children, (e.g., decorating the tree, lighting the candles, the big family dinner). Focus on available support from family and close friends.
- 3. Create a specific time during the holiday season to talk as a family about favorite memories of the person who died.
- 4. Provide children with special amounts of attention, praise and emotional support.
- 5. Take an active role in helping the child
- 6. Pay attention to cues and talk openly

Those affected will grieve for various rea- about how natural it is to be thinking of

- 7. Recognize that the child may have questions about the death...Be patient and honest in your answers.
- 8. Provide reassurance through actions as well as words.
- 9. Recognize that children need to talk, not just to be talked to.

©Suggestions provided by: Hospice by the Bay, from: Helping Children Cope With Grief, by Dr. Alan Wolfelt--printed with permission of Hospice by the Bay for inclusion in Elder Caregivers NEWSLET-TER - October 2003, p. 8.

GENERAL TIP FOR ADULTS ON PROVIDING EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR ADOLESCENTS

They should be listened to and allowed to ventilate their feelings, whether they be guilt, anger or plain sadness. (Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, MD, On Death and Dying, p.

SYMPATHY NOTE

How to write a letter to enclose with a holiday card to someone who has experienced the death of a loved one?

Barbara Kate Repa, Senior Editor at Car-

- ▼ A handwritten note.
- Avoid explanations or excuses for tardiness.
- ▼ The note can be brief or long. The intent is to convey that you are thinking of him or her and sending support.
- Concentrate on extending sympathy rather than personal updates. Do not inject recounting your own loss.
- If you do not know what to say, phrases often used are:

With deepest sympathy.

Our heartfelt condolences.

My heart goes out to you and your family. I'm so sorry for your loss.

will be sorely missed.

Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

- ♥ Use the deceased's name.
- ▼ Talk about the deceased. Include specific comments about the person who died—an anecdote that captured the person's personality, comment on how the person inspired or taught you or made you
- ▼ Skip the unpleasantries (dredging up) past disagreements, sums of money owed, comparison to other relatives death, apologies or explanations for having been out of touch or less-than-flattering words about the deceased)
 - ♥ Avoid platitudes—clichés about death.
 - **♥** Write from your heart.
- ♥ Include your return address and full

(caring.com/articles/sympathy-note)

REMEMBERING A LOVED ONE

One winter I wore my husband's white sweat shirt with blue stripes and the word Air Force in blue letters. (He was a sergeant in the Air Force during the Vietnam War.)

One winter I wore my mother's beige sweater she had put on a dining room chair.

I framed and hung my husband's drawings in the kitchen and bathroom. Displayed his sculpture of a clown's head on my grandmother's whatnot cabinet. Used his drawing for the cover of *Elder Diary*: Starter Kit.

Photos of family and commemorative events displayed along cornice in the foyer: dad's sister, mom's mother, mom and me (B.A. commencement), dad and me (Father-Daughter Night, high school).

At the holidays the mantel is decorated



with my arts and crafts items (painted pine cones, painted flour dough diamonds, hearts and donut holes made using cookie cutters) to decorate mom's holly garland.

Christmas tree ornaments include humming birds, a goose and other ornaments, tinsel and garland with which my husband and I would decorate our tree. Mom's ornaments are boxed as keepsakes.

TERMINOLOGY

Bereavement is the time we spend adjusting to loss. The period of grief and mourning we go through after someone close to us dies. The expected reactions of grief and sadness upon learning of the loss of a loved one.

Mourning is normal grief produced by the death of a loved one. It is an important part of bereavement. Mourning rituals—funerals, wakes—allow us to say goodbye. *Cyber mourning* is the use of social media by mourners to express their condolences. Bereavement counseling is designed to help people cope more effectively with the death of a loved one. Specifically, bereavement counseling can:

- ♥ Offer an understanding of the mourning process.
- $\mbox{\ensuremath{\,\raisebox{.4ex}{$\scriptstyle\bullet$}}}$ Explore areas that could potentially prevent you from moving on.
- ♥ Help resolve areas of conflict still remaining.
- ▼ Address possible issues of depression or suicidal thoughts.

Bereavement counseling aims to get you to a point where you can function normally—however long it takes. (counselling-directory.org.uk/bereavement.html)

Bereavement support groups provide opportunities for you to discuss your experiences and learn about grief with others who have experienced loss. (http://www. ucsfhealth.org/education/bereavement_services _and_information/bereavement_ resources_and_services/)

Grief companion are people who will stand with you, listening to the pain being experienced and expressed. (LaGrand, p.111)

Grief counseling is a form of psychotherapy that aims to help people cope with grief and mourning following the death of loved ones, or with major life changes that trigger feelings of grief (e.g., divorce). (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grief_counseling) A chaplain is accountable as part of a professional patient care team; provides supportive care through emphatic listening, demonstrating an understanding of persons in distress; provides grief loss care; designs and leads religious ceremonies of worship and rites (memorials and funerals). www.healthcarechaplaincy.org/userimages/professional-chaplaincy-its-role-and-importance-in-healthcare.pdf

RESOURCES

Most Holy Redeemer Church. Parish Library, 100 Diamond St. Drop-in grief support group. Meets third Thursday, 7:30-8:45 p.m.; inclusive nondenominational, and not restricted to type of loss. Questions: gcm@mhr.org.

St. Mary's Cathedral. www.stmaryscatheralsf.org. (415) 567-2020, ext. 218. Sessions provide information on grief process, and tips on coping with loss of a loved one. Meets third Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Life Transitions Network (LTN). www.transitionalworkshops.com. (415) 263-**4822.** Moving Through Loss and Transition workshops provide a safe place to share your story, fully experience your feelings and learn new approaches to coping with losses and obstacles of all kinds.

Senior Smarts: Learning from Grief (February 2015). Covers: Defining Grief, Physical Responses to Grief, Emotions Associated with Grief, Definitions, Rituals, Healing, Grief Journal, Words of Consolation, Resources.

Anise Matteson, CBF. is an elder care consultant, retired Registered Health Information Technician and writer of reference books for seniors including Coping with the Holidays: Excerpts from Elder Caregivers NEWSLETTER, ©2007. Information educational only. For specific questions and advice, contact a chaplain, physician or an attorney. matte59@ lycos.com.



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New Captain (Cont. from p. 13)

they have received a Shotspotter activation at a certain location, then as a result cars are usually dispatched to that area. So cars start going there before a 911 call comes through. And it's very accurate. My prior experience at internal affairs, we handled all the officer-involved shootings.

Q. What do you plan to do differently from Captain Flaherty. Do you see any need for changes from the way things were handled before?

things need to be where they need to be at the station. Cars need to be functional, Taraval is 25% of the City, geographically, so I'm working out with the Captain in charge of the fleet the need to rotate the vehicles around, so that our vehicles don't have as many miles as some of the others, so we can essentially trade with the others, because as a result they need to be serviced more often, so I have more vehicles down and as a result don't have enough vehicles sometimes during the change-over of the watches. And that sometimes happens on our midnight shift, so I think that will help. It's really having the infrastructure, having the tools to being organized, that comes along with the way I think of resolving problems. I don't want to be reactive, I like to be proactive. I used to work plain clothes, I enjoyed it, I see where there are benefits, but I also see that that I need to weigh out where to put uniformed personnel where they need to be deployed. Again, given that we are such a large district, I need to have people where they need to be and know how far away is help? I rely on the experience of my officers and my lieutenants, also, to know where to deploy the personnel.

Q. In an out of the way district, like the Zoo for example, how long does it take to get an officer there?

A. Each car sector—we have 6 sectors—should be covered. The officers take ownership of their sector and are responsible to be on the scene quickly. They take ownership and if, for example they are on lunch break, a crime takes precedent. It's their report, and they are responsible for their reports. I've also made it the responsibility of the Sergeants for particular car sectors for quality of life issues. So if I hear of complaints—speeding, failing to stop at stop signs, focus on the five violations, illegal dumping, graffiti, code enforcement issues, so Sergeants have their sectors that they are responsible for and I am tracking and logging them. So, for example, let's say the intersection at 280 and Alemany, where no one seems to want to stop, that is certainly a problem. It's not an isolated thing where someone doesn't want to stop down at 24th and Taraval. So that's more of a long term issue, and what I need to do to address that-do I need to work with one of the City partners (Public Works, MTA) to resolve the problem, because first and foremost is pedestrian safety as well as motorists' safety. I like to say that I address everything, and then tier it.

O. What will you be discussing at the Community Meetings that you will have?

A. Each month, I will invite two speakers, whether they represent non-profits or they could also be people in the district, I'll leave that up to the attendees to determine who they are interested in hearing from, or learning from. I know in the past we've had MTA, tonight I'm going to start fresh with SF SAFE, and Community Boards. We can get the Dept. of Public Health, Self-Help does a nice presentation on earthquake preparedness, so given that the meeting is about an hour, I think two speakers are

Q. What is our most pressing issue in the district?

A. Hot prowl burglaries. The last one we had was interrupted, there was another one we had before I came in to the station, where occupants were home. Sometimes the suspects may not care if someone is home or not, if they know, or suspect that residents keep cash or other valuables at home—I read a synopsis of a case in the Mission where suspects knew that a

wedding was to take place, where a lot of jewelry and cash was taken. They very well may have known, maybe from Facebook that a wedding was happening. Another case where there was a break-in, the father had passed, and no one had sorted through the belongings. Did someone know? Did they ring the bell? Did they notice newspapers piling up? I think a lot of the suspects do a little bit of homework before they do a crime. They either knock on doors, or watch people come and go. I do know, in A. I am a very organized person. So a couple of circumstances, residents who were burglarized did say, afterward, this is the type of vehicle the suspects left in, and recalled seeing that vehicle driving around the week, or two weeks prior. Most burglars do not want to go in when someone is home. The window of opportunity is generally mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

Q. For the last question, what do you plan to do about cars not stopping behind the L-Taraval while people are getting on or off the train?

A. You are not the first person to ask that question. The first community meeting I went to, while Captain Flaherty was still here, that was asked. It's something that our officers are going to be enforcing, but the question though, is what is the vehicle code section? We know what it is for school busses, so I'm still waiting for that answer. So we hope that—it's very clear—when the L-Taraval is stopped, people are getting off of the ramp, that motorists should be stopping because there is a sign there that says that you are to stop when people are boarding or exiting. It doesn't mean we can't conduct traffic enforcement, I just can't tell you off the top of my head what the code violation is. Pedestrian safety is at the top of our list.

Captain Yick has reinstituted the Community Safety Meetings on the third Tuesday of the month at Taraval Station Community Room. The time has changed, however, to

1. PS: The personnel assignment system the SFPD computer



Do you have a pinched nerve? We can help.

Dear friend,

Last year more Americans were killed by deaths due to medication people took...

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 This is why chiropractic helps so many 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 Francisco and the surrounding area have 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, midback 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. 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 goodwent to his office where he asked me about 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 Chiropractic, I have published articles in 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!

rst 15 minutes after birth. They obviously know. didn't complain of neck pain or back pain; 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

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 medica-It's hard to believe, I know, but it's true. tion. Last year the WHO reported 350,000

> 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 beginning to understand that health within.

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 come to see me with their pinched nerve

- 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

"I had back pain for 15 plus years and two back operations. Now I play tennis, sit at my I was only 33 years old and felt like I was 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 ness that they took the time to help me! I arm pain for the last 4 years. After seeing Dr. Meakim I can now twist off caps, button/zip my problems, did an exam, and took some my own pants and there is no longer a need x-rays of my head and back. After that he for me to ice my arm in the morning and pointed out where my nerves were pinched night! I feel more energetic, and can move and adjusted them. The adjustment was so my arm and neck pain free!"— C. Brubaker

My qualifications:

I am a graduate of Palmer College of 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 I have adjusted many children within the care of tiny babies to athletes that you may

My assistants are Miranda and Nancy I adjust them to keep them healthy... as and they are friendly and helpful and ready with all the hundreds of children I care 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

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.

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BRAIN FÜI

Pugilistic Promise...

There are three brothers: Al, Ben, and Carl. Two of the three brothers are boxers. Here are some facts:

- 1. The shorter of Al and Ben is the older boxer.
- 2. The younger of Ben and Carl is the shorter boxer.
- 3. The taller of Al and Carl is the younger boxer. Which brother is not a boxer?

Answer

not be possible, either. Therefore, scenario 1 is true, which means that Carl is not a boxer.

s. An Is the older, shorter boxer, and can is the younger, taller boxer. Scenario 2 cannot be possible because it contradicts fact 2 by making the younger of Ben and Carl the taller boxer. Fact 2 also tells us that Al is not the shorter boxer, so scenario 3 can-

now expand our three scenarios:

J. Al is the younger, taller boxer, and Ben is the older, shorter boxer.

J. Ben is the older, shorter boxer, and Carl is the younger, taller boxer.

J. Al is the older, shorter boxer, and Carl is the younger, taller boxer.

J. Scenario 2 cannot be possible because it contradicts fact 2 by making

From fact 3, we know that Ben is not the younger boxer.

We now have three possible scenarios:

J. Al is the younger boxer and Ben is the older boxer.

A. Ben is the older boxer and Carl is the younger boxer.

B. Al is the older boxer and Carl is the younger boxer.

H scenario 7 is true, fact 7 tells us that Ben is shorter than Al.

If scenario 2 is true, fact 7 tells us that Ben is shorter than Al.

tells us that Carl is taller than Al, making Ben shorter than Carl.

tells us that Carl is taller than Al, making Ben shorter than Al. We can

From fact 1, we know that Carl is not the older boxer.

Carl is not a boxer.



Streetcar 1 Restored for Muni Golden 50th Anniversary Exiting West Portal of Twin Peaks Tunnel and Signed for the 'A Geary' Line | October 4, 1962 Published by permission of the San Francisco Metropolitan Transportation Agency Photo Library

Theater (Cont. from p. 12)

to watch. She gradually reveals she's not the nice little old lady she first appears to us.

The excellent costumes were designed by Michael Berg, and Malcolm Rogers created a great a set – with the first part onstage after a performance and the second part in 1936 Connecticut. Eugene DeChristopher assisted with the set construction. Ellen Brooks designed the wonderful lighting. The sound design quite aptly designed by Bruce Viera. Dyhanis Carniglia handled the Property Design and Scenic Art.

The entire production company is to be commended: **Madge Grahn**, Stage Manager, with **Hannah Bloom** assisting. **Jayme Catalano** was the graphic designer and did the marketing, and **Karin Conn** did the publicity.

If you are looking for a couple of hours of fun, pure *shtick* and (controlled) chaos watching wonderful actors directed to their outer limits, the RVP production is pure joy.

THE GAME'S AFOOT Nov 16 through Dec. 10, Thur 7:30 pm, Fri 8 pm, Sat 8 pm, Sun Matinee at 2 pm. TIX: www.rossvalleyplayers.com or 800 838-9555. The Barn, home of the Ross Valley Players, Marin Art and Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross.

Coming up next will be The Children's Hour by Lillian Hellman from January 18 through February 1, 2018, and will be directed by Neiry Rojo.

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Sudoku-fun!

Rules: Each puzzle is a 9 by 9 grid of squares divided into nine 3 by 3 square blocks, with some of the numbers filled in

for you.

The Object:
Fill in the blank
squares so that each
of the numbers 1 to 9
appears exactly once
in each row, column
and block.

Answer: appears right.

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By Julie Casson

Don't Miss Another Issue

15 Per Yea

Mail your check to Westside Observer:



POB 27176 SF, CA 94127 or e-mail mitch@westsideobserver.com

Patient Dumping (Cont. from p. 9)

provided updated data showing out-of-county discharges then stood at 605 discharges at minimum, excluding private-sector hospital's discharges.

On November 27, DPH released preliminary data from private-sector hospitals pushing the total to 1,381 out-of-county discharges. St. Mary's, St. Francis, and Kaiser hospitals didn't provide their data, which DPH still hopes to obtain, that may push the total even higher.

The Health Commission's "regional solution" will continue to exacerbate out-of-county discharges.

Remarkably, Health Commissioner David Pating, MD noted during the Commission's February 2016 meeting: "I hope we will consider out-of-City and maybe even multi-county [placement] options."

Really? More out-of-county patient dumping, including elderly and disabled San Franciscans desperately needing long-term skilled nursing care?

Upcoming Hearings

To many observers, Supervisor Yee's focus on residential care, not hospital-based SNF care, sounds like a complete rerun, helping to split community advocates by focusing on supportive/residential housing for the mentally ill and behaviorally-challenged patients, while failing to address the dire need for in-county hospital-based SNF beds.

The question is *not* whether Supervisor Safai listened to Yee. The relevant question is whether Supervisor Yee has **not** been listening to his constituents who want in-county, in-hospital solutions, not out-of-county patient dumping.

Supervisor Yee's concerns will be heard during a second Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee meeting on Thursday, December 7 at 2:30 p.m., to focus on citywide RCFE's and non*medical* institutional care and housing.

An expanded version of this article posted on www. stopLHHdownsize.com contains additional details concerning this condensed story.

Monette-Shaw is a columnist for San Francisco's Westside Observer newspaper, and a member of the California First Amendment Coalition (FAC) and the ACLU. He operates stopLHHdownsize.com. Contact him at monette-shaw@westsideobserver.



Over and out...

was just rewinding a phone call I had with my daughter. (If you are under 30, "rewinding" refers to listening again to an audiotape. A tapeyou know—made of light plastic—the thing you put in a cassette player.

A Cassette what?)

Let me start again.

I was just thinking back on a conversation I had with my daughter.

No, she didn't text me ahead of time to schedule the call. It was just a call. Serendipity.

I was getting my haircut and my iPhone was in my jacket across the room so I answered it on my iwatch. (Wow. I always feel like Dick Tracy.)

Dick Tracy... You know... The guy in the comics who had this fantastic watch you could talk into.

Yes... way before Star Wars and ET.

So anyway, I was talking with my daughter. She frequently calls me as she drives her three-year-old home from pre-school.

Voice in the background of phone call:

"Can we look at the animals on the way home? Actually, it sounded more like "Weeee ... animals...Look! Goats..." It's hard to hear my grandson's voice clearly from the back seat of the car but I knew exactly what

he was saying.

Daughter: "How many goats do you see?

Grandson: One... two. I see two! Two!

Me to grandson: "What did you do in school today?" Response from the back seat: Silence.

(I am sure he can't hear me very well either.)

My daughter and I chat for a bit about the upcoming soccer game for the eight year old. I share my memories of coaching her as an eight year old.

Daughter: "We are just pulling up to the house. Got to go and get snacks."

Me: I love you.

Voice from the back seat: "Love you!" No, I didn't hear my daughter give any prompts.

Carol Kocivar is former President of the California Parent Teachers Association and she lives on the Westside. Feedback: kocivar@westsideobserver.com

Reservoirs (Cont. from p. 17)

inspected annually by State inspectors to ensure the structural integrity of the reservoir a matter of having sufficient remains within state and federal performance standards. In system in place to meet the addition, SFPUC staff performs demand. The reservoirs need weekly visual monitoring of the reservoirs' structural integrity to ensure they continue to meet required state standards. Regarding the Sunset Reservoir, SFPUC staff state: Based on these inspections, the reservoir has proved to be in good shape and meets all required state and

(DSOD). As such, they are federal standards." Will this be the true after an earthquake?

The issue of fighting fires is water available and a delivery to be intact or fully backed up, otherwise what good are the pipes without the water?

Nancy Wuerfel is a government fiscal analyst and served as a member of the Park, Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC) for 9 years.



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San Francisco Estuary - love it or lose it

by Kathrine Howard

an Francisco Bay is the largest estuary on the western coasts of both North and South America. For those of us new to this terminology, an estuary is a partially enclosed coastal body of brackish water with one or more rivers or streams flowing into it, and with a free connection to the open sea. In other words, a great deal of the land/water interface in San Francisco Bay is Estuary.

At the State of the San Francisco Estuary both food and Conference at the Scottish Rite Center in shelter for the October, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership presented one-time-only Legacy Awards to two people who have spent years on protecting the Bay — Arthur Feinstein and Barbara Salzman. I sat down with Feinstein over tea and bagels before a recent Sierra Club meeting. (He is on the Executive Committee for the SF Group and the SF Bay Chapter as well as the State Conservation Committee.) Feinstein has been involved in Bay conservation work for over 40 years. During our conversation, it became clear that his knowledge of both extensive.

The health of our Estuary is vital to the survival of water-dependent wildlife. Many shorebirds go to the Arctic to breed in summer, but in winter they return south. As shorebirds migrate, often distances of 1,500 or 3,000 miles and some even 12,000 miles, many stop to feed and replenish their energies at various sites along the west coast. SF Bay attracts the largest number of the west coast group over the migrating season - sometimes as many as a million birds over the course of a year.

The birds are attracted by the abundant and varied food supply available in the estuary. As fresh water flows from streams into the Bay, it meets the salt water that has entered due to tidal action. Brackish water results where the two meet and mix. Each type of water - fresh, brackish and salt - creates a unique habitat that provides success. "However, the EIR then goes on

birds.

Over

years ago, Feinstein found himself involved in the lives of the Bay's water birds. It was the mid-1980's and Feinstein was volunteering with the Golden Gate Audubon Society. He learned of the serious need to expand the SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Uplands. His intense interest in the Bay resulted in a job with the Citizens' Committee to Complete the Refuge. Over the course of seven years, he met scientists and staff from Califorthe Bay and its wildlife is, to say the least, nia Fish and Game. As he learned more about the threats to habitat, he became passionate about protecting the Bay and its wildlife. He then spent years working with various groups and public agencies in an effort first to stop the additional loss of wetlands, and then to mold new development to protect the existing habitat and expand the wetland areas.

> Feinstein still finds that there is much to do to protect the wildlife in our Bay. For example, large development projects are currently proposed for San Francisco's India Basin area. The current India Basin Environmental Impact Report (EIR) recognizes that more recreational users, such as kayakers and kayak launches, could "affect foraging, roosting, and nesting shorebirds..." and that " such an increased human presence in tidal marsh and open water habitat at India Basin could affect shorebird behavior, thereby reducing breeding



Photo: Eddie Bartley

to say that since the existing habitat connew development may restore some tidal (less than one acre), this will "offset any potential impacts on nesting birds from recreational users." (EIR, part II, page 280.)

ignores the impact on ducks. Ducks are how is that balanced against the needs to particularly sensitive to any disturbance of their surroundings. Every time a duck is disturbed and has to fly away, that duck is using up precious energy that it needs for the return trip up north. For those of us who have seen park ducks, their actions are a little different — many return to the and Park Commission (Recpark.Comsame area and become accustomed to disturbances. But the birds in the open Bay do not. Feinstein described 'dead zones' around ferry landings and regular boat kayaking and other recreational activiroutes across the bay, which ducks avoid out of self-preservation.

Another problem is the short-term view in the EIR. We need to plan not only for replacement habitat for what is destroyed, but also for greatly increased habitat to offset past damage to wildlife populations,

as well as the upcoming sea level rise. Sea ditions are already so poor, and since the level rise estimates keep, well, rising — to where the possibility of a 10 foot sea level marshland and add new tidal marshland rise in the San Francisco Bay is now being discussed.

What will be the impact on existing wildlife populations, how can we protect One problem with the report is that it them and provide adequate habitat, and protect the communities surrounding the Bay? These are complex issues that Feinstein has been working on for years, and will continue to do so.

If you would like to help, you can:

Write to the San Francisco Recreation mission@sfgov.org). Ask them to please consider ducks and shorebirds in the India Basin Plan and support winter closure for ties that make it harder for the wildlife to thrive. Contact Arthur Feinstein if you would like to learn more: (415) 680 - 0643.

Katherine Howard is an open space advocate who is also on the Executive Committee of the SF Group of the Sierra Club.



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Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi

Giving Thanks

t's only a basketball game for Pete's sake! Actually a few games with eight teams competing over a period of three days. The games are broadcast on ESPN and out there for the entire world to watch. The only difference is that this tournament is not at the Warriors' arena or

somewhere back east. This tournament is called the Maui Jim Maui Invitational and it just so happens to be in, you guessed it, Maui. Two of the eight teams playing are Marquette, where our granddaughter graduated, and Michigan, where her father graduated. So considering what a sports fan I am (not), what better excuse to join them for a few days on this island paradise. It's Thanksgiving week, not much is going on at the office, and we finally cleaned out our suitcases after our 18-day cruise through the Panama Canal. So here we are overlooking the blue Pacific from our 10th floor windows, watching the surfers fighting the crashing waves, and wishing that we could join them, but unfortunately our insurance won't allow it.



and settled in our very comfortable seats nately no longer. It's a private club, and as on Hawaiian's direct flight to Kahului. members of St. Francis Yacht Club we had After a short bus ride to the rental car reciprocal rights, but again our boating office, we drove off into the sunset for the days are gone, and as hard as I tried getting

which took us over an hour in stop and go traffic to get here. You think that downtown San Francisco is bad?

Actually, as it really happened, we ended up with a family gathering to celebrate Thanksgiving and give us a chance to visit with our children and grandchildren. With four

of our grandchildren either working or The Maui News, along with its companion, attending college back east, it's always fun the Lahaina News, updates us on the latto catch up on their adventures, and it's a great place to get away from the everyday hassle and enjoy a margarita on the beach.

Nevertheless, the one thing that I've always enjoyed and look forward to is a visit to Lahaina, where the junk shops are wall to wall and the barkers are all trying to give you free samples of skin cream or suntan lotion. A lot has changed in the area surrounding our hotel but not much has changed in Lahaina. It's the same twolane street through the center of town, no new construction, and certainly no highrises, but the one thing that is still here ready for something different, I settled

and very visible is the large neon sign on top of a local church that still proclaims, "Jesus is Coming."

I've been told that I'm a real pain to travel with through Lahaina because I stop every

few feet for another photo op--how many Notre Dame or Wichita State who walks photos does one need of the same area? From previous visits, I have a bunch. In the past, we could enjoy the meals and drinks

We left on Saturday morning at 10:15 at the Lahaina Yacht Club, but unfortushort 17-mile drive to the Kaanapali Alii, a table, there was no going back.

> During this short week, our days are spent enjoying the beach, listening to the crashing waves and walking around the Whaler Village, which is a mere five minutes from our room. At night, we all gather to discuss the day's wins and losses and then pool our resources for a fun-filled potluck dinner.

est scores and who is still in the running. At this point we know that Michigan beat VCU for 5th place, and Marquette beat LSU for third place, making our granddaughter happy to have her school outdo her dad's alma mater.

But as much fun as the tournament has been, one needs a little diversion as well, so last night Karen and I had a date night that took us to Roy's, just a few minutes' walk from the hotel. Our corner table had a spectacular view of the golf course and the major hotels beyond, and always being

> for the "Duck, Duck, Goose"--and different it was. Finger licking good for sure. Tonight, we all gather around the bar-b-que pits for another family gathering and put our cash on the line: will it be

away with the championship?

Sergio gets around — *the world! Feedback:* sergio@westsideobserver.com



Aloha! Welcome to Mau

Long-term Care (Cont. from p. 6)

Land or space for Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE's) and SNF's must be made available in every neighborhood. Seniors and others who most need care should be close to their families and their home neighborhood. Planning regulations must be changed to accomplish this.

A sufficient quantity of hospital-based sub-acute SNF beds must be opened. Currently, there are no sub-acute SNF units in San Francisco except for the remaining beds at CPMC-St. Luke's Hospital that will be shut down when the existing people in them leave or die. All others who need this care must leave the county.

Acute psychiatric beds must be reopened, including gero-psychiatry. There **Solution(s)** People need different kinds Jewish Home SNF).

Local and state legislative solutions may include use of licensing authority; planning and building codes to reopen postacute SNF and sub-acute SNF care units care sites in new buildings, available public spaces, and community centers.

Funding assistance for the housing be found. Too many small providers have found that selling their property and leaving the business makes more sense than continuing.

The Board of Supervisors and our state representatives must work with the California Department of Public Health to assist in the existing, but underused, process to make waivers of Medicare and Medi-Cal dollars available for residential settings for those in need.

We Cannot Afford the Human or Ethical Cost of Funding One Type of Needed Care at the Expense of Another: All Are Needed.

Those proposals that pit funding for one aspect of the continuum of post-acute and long-term care against another are generally not person-centered, but are "industry-" or "profit-driven," with the ethically unacceptable goal of shifting responsibility for less profitable, more expensive services to someone else. To save money, especially for those who cannot pay, a lower level of care, inferior care, or care far out of town are offered instead. An example of this is CPMC Sutter's actions toward the patients at St. Luke Hospital's sub-acute SNF unit. Another example of this is displacement of long-term beds in nursing homes by more profitable (Medicare funded) short-stay rehab because hospitals have shut down their SNF rehab beds to make more profit from acute care.

Many studies that discuss the huge numbers of aging demented people now and in the future in San Francisco point out that "there will never be enough SNF beds for all of them." Then there is a discussion about why demented people should not go to SNF's (since they are "just demented," the logic goes, they will do fine in less medically skilled and expensive settings).

This is disingenuous, as dementia is a progressive disease that occurs in people who are aging and also getting more frail formerly served at Laguna Honda Hospital

from other age-related conditions. As time goes on it takes more and more resources to maintain them at home (if they have one), and for many this becomes unsafe or impossible.

While it may be possible to delay the need to enter a nursing home by optimal support in the community, timely availability of an SNF bed is essential for the safety of those with advancing dementia.

We certainly need to get better at supporting the increasing number of people with these conditions (and their families) to live full and unrestricted lives outside of nursing homes as long as possible. But for many, a nursing home (SNF) will be the most humane placement toward the end of their journey.

is only one 12-bed acute gero- psychiatry of help as they age. "Too little, too late" unit in San Francisco at this time (at the is often the story for low-and moderateincome people. People who have hard lives may need more help. People who get services and support in a timely fashion retain their ability to live outside a nursing home longer. We must increase funding on hospital campuses; and to place chronic for adequate and timely services for the full continuum of care for low- and moderate-income people as they age.

Funding of adequate home and commucosts of residential care providers must nity health services must be increased for both low- and moderate- income people, but not at the expense of adequate SNF

Lack of Support Is a Part of the Larger **Picture of Economic Displacement**

The egregious lack of care and placement options in San Francisco is very much a part of the larger issue of the displacement of all low- and moderateincome people in the City: If it is just not affordable to age in place, one must leave the county.

Levels of care that are needed for seniors and physically frail people:

Help at Home: For Medi-Cal eligible patients, "In Home Support Services" (IHSS) will provide up to 240 hours a month (8 hours a day) of assistance from an aide, who has limited training in performing personal care. IHSS caregivers make minimum wage, and many recipients "pad" the hourly wage (illegally) to keep a good worker. The system is chronically stressed, which results in persons in need getting awarded too few hours, and there is a chronic shortage of social workers to supervise the workers. Nurse visits are available for those meeting criteria.

Medicare and major medical insurance will only pay for very temporary nursing help at home after an illness. Private agencies generally charge at least \$25 an hour for help at home. This leaves many low- and moderate- income people either totally dependent on family and friends, or dependent on "off the books" arrangements.

We regret that we cannot include Dr. Palmer's entire Report on the State of Care for Senior and Disabled People in San Francisco. The report continues in full at westsideobserver.com

Teresa Palmer, MD, is a Geriatrician who



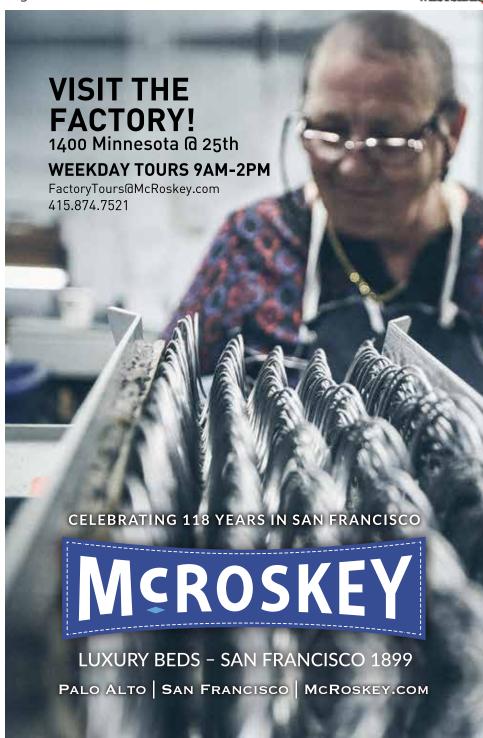


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