



From the Other Side of the Badge
Columnist, former Cop Lou Barberini, speaks from experience **2**

Central Council Meeting
Homeless update, Christian Homes Project and water blending **3**



Quentin Kopp
Bail Reform? How Sacramento seeks to weaken public safety **3**

Patrick Monette-Shaw
Does Sanctuary City extend to housing developers? **4**



M Line Goes Down Under?
Not so fast, many problems to resolve before they start the digging **6**

June is the Happening Month
Check out our Calendar—it's full of fun, exciting opportunities to get out and get with it **12**

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Housing “Supply and Demand” Isn’t Working

by George Wooding

The laws of “supply and demand” often don’t work as intended — especially with San Francisco housing. In 2014, Mayor Ed Lee pledged to construct 30,000 new and rehabilitated homes throughout the City by 2020, with half available to low-, working-, and middle-income San Franciscans. According to the Mayor, San Francisco is well on track towards those goals. Other observers aren’t so sure of the Mayor’s press reports. Since announcing his Housing Plan in January 2014, over 17,100 units have been built or completely rehabilitated, with over 6,100 of those units permanently affordable to low- and moderate-income San Franciscans.

Obviously, 6,100 of the permanently affordable units built for low- and moderate-income households represents just 35.7% of the 17,100 units built since January 2014, not 50%, as basic math shows. Over successive *Housing Balance Reports* issued by San Francisco’s Planning Department, the amount of *net new* affordable housing has dropped from 30% of all new construction in the first ten-year report in July 2015 to just 22% in the fifth ten-year report issued just two years later in May 2017, an 8% decline in net new affordable housing.

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...across the five housing balance reports, Supervisor Tang’s District 4 has *consistently* had *negative* balances ranging from 375.8% in Report 1, 189.4% in Report 2, 181.2% in Report 3, and 196.6% in Report 4. All were mostly driven by the failure to build new net affordable housing in D-4, remaining stagnant at just 10 net new affordable units ...”

Citywide, the 6,166 new affordable housing units, plus 1,838 acquisitions and rehabilitation of existing affordable units in the fifth report issued in May, totaled an increase of 8,004 affordable units citywide, but that was offset by the loss of 4,182 affordable units due to a variety of factors (including various types of evictions, Ellis Act conversions, and other reasons). That left a new gain of 3,822 affordable units. Adding in “entitled” or “permitted” units (those that have received permission or permits, but have not yet been built, and may never be built) resulted in a *projected* cumulative affordable housing balance of just 13.6% between units built and “entitled” units citywide, assuming the entitled units come to fruition.

But the data for District 7 during the same period for Report 5 was much worse. Although there were 99 net new affordable housing units built in D-7, we lost 220 affordable units, for a net loss of 121 affordable units, because D-7 had no new “entitled” affordable units and no affordable existing housing acquisitions. While the citywide affordable housing balance was 13.6%, the affordable housing balance in D-7 was a *negative* 19.1%, down from a *negative* balance of 35.3% in Report 4.

D-7 wasn’t alone: There were an additional seven supervisorial districts that had negative housing balances, and only Districts 5, 6, and 10 had positive housing balances. The hardest hit districts were Supervisor Katy Tang’s D-4 with a *negative* 197.2% balance, and District 1 with a 70.9% negative balance, offset by the gains in the three Districts with positive gains.

For that matter, across the five housing balance reports, Supervisor Tang’s District 4 has *consistently* had *negative* balances ranging from 375.8% in Report 1, 189.4% in Report 2, 181.2% in Report 3, and 196.6% in Report 4. All were mostly driven by the failure to build

Cont. p. 15



Goats on West Portal

Forty-two years ago in Potrero Hill Goat Hill Pizza became a San Francisco neighborhood favorite and this summer their location at 170 West Portal Avenue turns five. For the big celebration, owner Phillip DeAndrade does not expect any extravagance. “Five years is no longer anything in our mind,” says DeAndrade in a phone interview. “It’s just a start, a commitment to West Portal. I don’t think we’re going to party-hardy, maybe just celebrate with a little cake or something.”

Perhaps having pie would be too cliché. DeAndrade says ten years ago is when Goat Hill “started growing.” With the opening of their South of Market location (171 Stillman Street), delivery to the eastern side of San Francisco became more accessible.

West Portal was the perfect combination of what Goat Hill wanted for their third location, says DeAndrade.

“The neighborhood is respectable, hospitable and hungry for delivery,” adds the 72 year old. “We wanted a little business district to support counter service and take-out. The business has been growing ever since.”

The West Portal location, a “cafeteria style” eatery with eight dining tables and an ordering counter, has no serving staff like those in SOMA and Potrero Hill. On a wall covered with goat drawings, through an open doorway, the kitchen looks nearly double the size of the lobby. Cooks, cashiers and delivery men move-about in the skylit workspace.

Established in the fall of 1975, a time where there were few places to eat in the neighborhood, Goat Hill Pizza quickly became a Potrero Hill favorite. With the help of four Potrero Hill residents, DeAndrade and the team each kicked in some borrowed money to take over an old hamburger shop at the corner of 18th and Connecticut Street. The name “Goat Hill Pizza” was inspired by photographs of post-earthquake Potrero Hill. In the photos, goats roamed the rocky outcroppings among tents and temporary housing that were homes to Irish and eastern European settlers.

What began as a shoestring operation, the Potrero Hill location (300 Connecticut Street) is the oldest



Goat Hill Pizza’s West Portal location turns five

restaurant in the area nearly a half-decade later. Their homemade, signature sourdough pizza crust immediately set them apart from any competition. Also on the menu are fresh salads and soups.

“Hilda’s Favorite is probably our most popular pizza,” says Alexander B., a supervisor at the West Portal location. The pie’s ingredients, goat cheese, house-made pesto and fresh tomatoes, were inspired by the pizzerias moniker.

Enjoying Goat Hill Pizza for the first time together, Valentina Daggett and her family drove from South San Francisco to West Portal.

“I don’t normally eat pizza,” admits Daggett, “but when my office ordered it, I ate three pieces. The sourdough crust is different and I really liked it. I had to bring my son and husband.”

When asked how Goat Hill ranks on his scale of delicious pizza, the youngest Daggett, Lorenzo says, “eight out of 10.” “I really like the goat [artwork] on the wall,” the 10-year-old adds.

For our interview, DeAndrade calls *Westside Observer* from his home on a houseboat near Mission Creek next to the Giants stadium. He says he loves living near the Potrero Hill location where it all started.

“However, I have to confess,” he adds with a laugh, “I’m a 72-year old man who doesn’t enjoy sticking his head into the oven anymore. I like to get involved, but not as regularly as I used to.”

The boisterous entrepreneur adds that the Goat Hill team is “thrilled about the West Portal anniversary.”

Tony Taylor is a San Francisco reporter.



Laguna Honda to Offer Medical Aid-In-Dying

by Dr. Derek Kerr & Dr. Maria Rivero

On May 9, 2017, Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) pivoted to offering terminally ill patients the option of taking a lethal drug cocktail on its premises. This Medical Aid-In-Dying (MAID) policy is based on the June 2016 California End of Life Option Act and a related Department of Public Health (DPH) policy approved this February. Since the California Act prohibits MAID in a “public place” – and public hospitals are public places – it was assumed that patients would self-administer the prescribed drugs at home. For patients without homes or caregivers, the DPH initially planned to “facilitate placement of patients in an appropriate setting.” But there are few community settings where MAID can be safely conducted – or accepted. To afford patients the right to choose the timing, place and manner of their own deaths, LHH devised an on-site policy. Provided they need skilled nursing

Cont. p. 18

Turn It Off Now

by John Farrell

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) recently initiated its Groundwater Supply Project which blends Hetch Hetchy water with groundwater. Initially only 4% of our water will be blended, which will increase to 15% by 2020. Even though the PUC has assured customers there will be no change in the taste of the water, customers throughout the City have concerns including taste, odor, nitrate levels, and public notice.

On May 24th a hearing was held before the Board of Supervisor’s Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee at the request of our Supervisor to address public concerns of the blended water. Concerned neighbor after concerned neighbor spoke out.

George Wooding, President of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, stated that there is no more drought and there is no need this year for the water blending. Chris Bowman said that if

Cont. p. 19



By the Numbers

SFPD's Millennial-Tech Effect

By Lou Barberini, CPA

One sounds cranky when nearing retirement and comparing how his or her job and industry “is just is no longer the same.” For KMA (SFPD slang for entering retirement mode) San Francisco police officers, lamenting how *The Department* has changed is an inherited skill. As the last of the SFPD baby boomers pass their positions to the millennials, many of this decade’s personnel and technological changes have been dramatic, contributing to falling arrests and the highest per capita property crime rate in the country. Historically, the City has always hired police officers in surges rather than at a steady pace. There was mass hiring of baby boomers in the late seventies to early eighties, sequenced by a mid-nineties hiring of Generation X, and finally the millennials, the offspring of the baby boomers. By hiring in waves, the City has disrupted what should have been a smooth succession of institutional knowledge and craft passed on to new academy classes, instead causing the SFPD to experience volatile shifts in generational cultures.



A younger Officer Barberini makes an arrest

The theme of this article is about the cultural changes to the Department caused by the idiosyncrasies of the millennials and the integration of technology—namely videos—into policing. Not discussed are the two elephants in the room: a void in prosecution, and a Police Commission with a political finger to the left-blowing winds, that have greatly contributed to the decline in arrests and a spike in property crimes.

Personnel: Traits of the Millennials

The upbringing of baby boomers versus millennials as future police officers could not be more distinct. The former generation grew up in larger families that required greater engagement with multiple siblings. The later, digital generation was raised in smaller families that magnified each child’s importance.

A large percentage of baby boomers walked or took MUNI to school when the City was swelling with kids. By contrast, many millennials were shuttled to school in a figurative vehicle bubble, removing them from early exposure and interaction with other citizens on the streets.

Boomers’ parents rarely were present at their children’s games, and when the boomers were not playing in the Police Activities League or Catholic Youth Organization, they created their own games and leagues in schoolyards. Parents of millennials, some aptly called “helicopter parents,” thrived on organization. They enrolled their children in specialized travel teams, and inversely missed as few of their kids’ games as boomers’ parents attended. One generation’s parents stimulated creativity and independence, while the other limited their children to structure.

As teenagers, baby boomers interacted with adults when they walked paper routes or worked at restaurants. Adults delivering newspapers in cars and accepting entry-level jobs at restaurants confiscated even life’s basic economic lessons from millennials. When the baby boomers entered

technology. In the study, sixth graders were measured on their increasing ability to recognize facial expressions after they were weaned off their electronic devices for just five days. Consider how a childhood, void of human exchanges, affects a young police officer’s ability to recognize the facial warning signs of a bad guy.

Each generation’s paths have fed into how police officers are managed by SFPD. Thirty years ago, the boomers’ independence and creativity was stimulated by SFPD’s focus on *self-initiated activity*. “Are you going to just sit in your patrol car waiting for something to happen, or are you going to question the guy fiddling with every car door on a street? Can you work independently?” And, the boomers were supervised by the highest ranks of SFPD who had exemplary careers of proactive stints in gang, robbery, and narcotics specialized units. Management’s message to the troops was, “We’ve already been down that path. We get what you are encountering on the street.”

By contrast, this decade has been marked with the trend toward *scarecrow policing*. When an area becomes the subject of neighborhood complaints, SFPD’s response has become to position an officer(s) to a “fixed post.” That is, the officer(s) is confined to a designated spot, for instance the southwest corner of 16th and Mission Streets, and not allowed to move. The 50-foot radius of that corner becomes free from undesirable activity, but the usual suspects merely move 50 yards away. The underlying message to the police officers: *Just be visible. We don’t trust your judgment or your ability to work independently.*

This new type of leadership is the product of a command staff that has become



more *classroom-oriented* and less street-experienced. With the exception of Assistant Chief Chaplin, few of the command staff have strong proactive specialized unit résumés. While *scarecrow policing* might seem normal for a millennial who experienced a structured childhood, this would have never been acceptable to boomers who were groomed to become self-sufficient adults.

Similarly, the few SFPD millennial officers who grew up in the City and did take MUNI to school strongly resent being assigned to stand on a corner as a scarecrow. They are eager to protect the citizenry from robberies and auto burglaries. But this *self-initiated-activity* group is a shrinking percentage and influence of SFPD’s force. The effect of the millennials’ structured upbringing makes the new reactionary *just-respond-to-the-call-to-service-play-it-safe* SFPD mentality palatable, and deviates from the former generation’s independent philosophy of discouraging crimes before they happen.

In the old *self-initiated-activity* world, active officers spent considerable time in court, resulting in increased officers’ compensation. The consequence was that active officers did not take promotional exams as early in their careers. They remained in positions where they could train the new officers how to interact with the most dangerous characters.

In the *Scarecrow* environment, without arrests and court overtime, officers struggle to increase their income and provide increasingly better lives for their families. The new way to earn more income at SFPD is to *go corporate* and take promotional exams at much earlier stages of one’s career.

SFPD recently lowered the threshold to qualify for the sergeant’s promotional exam to three years seniority if the officer has a college degree. Ironically, the lack of a college degree has not prevented some members of SFPD from ascending to the highest levels of command. Compounding the problem are promotional exams where ranking is 100% contingent on the scoring of oral boards,—a subjective test. The result is that younger and very inexperienced officers are now supervising senior officers, which is equivalent to hiring football coaches who have only read books about football.

Technologies Takeover of Policing

While the millennials were raised in an environment that required less human engagement, they counterbalanced this deficiency with an immersion in technology.

It is technology, namely the proliferation of cellphones, that: a) increased citizen calls for service; b) created cellphone robberies as a new crime; and c) provided enough video evidence for the media to demean law enforcement.

Cellphones not only make it quicker for citizens to report crimes, but also stir the vividness of citizens’ imaginations. The man walking up the street carrying a rolled up carpet over his shoulder surely had a dead body inside (true story). Twenty years earlier, the same citizen would have seen the carpet-carrying man and waited until they got home to make a landline call, only to be distracted first by talking to a neighbor, fresh mail that just arrived, and then the four new messages blinking on their new answering machine. Immediate access to 9-1-1 has increased the volume of SFPD’s *reactionary* calls for service at the expense of time available for

self initiated activity—assuming the officer is so inclined.

No one is going to argue that police are perfect, as cellphone video footage has been captured in recent years. The solution: officer-worn body cameras (bodycams). For the generation that invented the selfie-stick, bodycams for millennials are a natural transition. For the last of the SFPD baby boomers, they are a threat to independence.

To be clear, no San Francisco police officer is afraid to document the good work they perform daily, or the ridiculous and hostile situations they must face. When the officer’s bodycam is activated, halos emerge over the most rebellious citizens’ heads as they suddenly remember their long-forgotten manners.

However, unlike the millennials, baby boomers fear the bodycam because they appreciate that it is a tool that will trigger critical second-guessing, criticism that formulates in the safety of carpeted oversight offices, and not in the microseconds on the street. Like a quarterback throwing a successful 25-yard completion only to have the coach question on Monday, “*Didn’t you see your other receiver open 30-yards out?*” the bodycam opens the door to discipline if an officer creatively goes off script, or if a supervisor *wants to get someone*. With a bodycam, police reactions will be more robotic and absent the independent, colorful salesmanship the boomers crafted over decades of connecting with people.

The issue is not whether law enforcement officers are flawless, but rather, are the videos that the media selects to play over and over proportional to police imperfections?

A police bodycam video of a hostile Taraval District man, shouting homophobic obscenities, and confronting officers, which ended in a shooting, is shown on every news station; a 50-person, BART takeover robbery is not.

A noncompliant man in New York dies from an officer’s use of a tactical defensive maneuver, and the viral video causes the San Francisco Police Commission to remove that tactic from SFPD’s defensive choices. Just a few months later, a SFPD officer struggles to subdue a man high on drugs in the Richmond District, and a civilian steps forward to help the officer by applying the same defensive tactic to the suspect that the SFPD officer is not allowed to use. The media never discusses why a civilian can use more defensive tactics to defend an officer than the officer can use himself.

In 2011, Public Defender Jeff Adachi produces surveillance videos of undercover officers that resulted in only one officer being arrested and fired for the incidents the videos captured. The videos were replayed over and over on every news station. To combat the alleged misdoings, SFPD overreacted and immediately downsized all the undercover specialized units, and benched most of the plainclothes officers at the station level. If just one ship sinks, destroy the lighthouse! This created a situation where prospective criminals no longer glared into pedestrian cars evaluating whether the driver was a civilian or an undercover officer. For the not-so-nice people of our city, hesitation was removed because there were very few undercover officers patrolling, and the boom times were on. Property crimes bounced off an inflection point and immediately skyrocketed, while SFPD waited for the Adachi videos to be adjudicated. But did the media ever measure whether the Adachi videos were representative of the type of successful undercover police work that was executed daily in San Francisco, or the

West Of Twin Peaks Central Council By Mitch Bull

The May meeting of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council focused on homelessness, an update on the Forest Hills housing project, and a continuing discussion on the blended water supply.

President Sally Stephens opened the meeting at 7:30 at the Forest Hills Clubhouse with a good turnout of delegates and attendees, and almost immediately turned the meeting over to the featured speaker of the evening, Jeff Kositsky, Director of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

Kositsky started his presentation with an explanation about the plight of those within San Francisco who are homeless, and what the city is doing to address and assist those who find themselves without shelter. The ex-Executive Director with the Hamilton Family Center, the director gave a well documented presentation showing the many causes of the homeless crisis in the city (and nationwide) that actually started in the 1960's under the Kennedy administration as HUD (Housing and Urban Development) funding started to be reduced. From 1978 to the present time the HUD budget to states and cities from the federal government has been reduced (in real dollars) by a staggering 80%.

He noted that the tax policies at the federal level still reward homeowners (through mortgage interest deductions) in the amount of over \$75,000,000,000 per year, along with the cost of Capital Gains tax exemptions diverting over \$100,000,000,000 from the IRS coffers. He cited reports that if the mortgage deduction tax breaks were removed it would not affect the real estate market for lower income home purchasers. (This premise was somewhat disputed by a realtor in the audience.)

Nevertheless, the cuts in federal funding, the elimination of the local Redevelopment Agencies (RDAs) by Governor Brown, and the impact of several recessions on both baby boomers and millennials have resulted in greater numbers of those who are without adequate housing and services. Add in racist real estate practices from decades past, and a growing heroin and opiate epidemic nationwide and it's easy to see some of the root causes of the crisis. For example, the African-American population within San Francisco is 6%, yet this segment makes up approximately 40% of the city's homeless population. While the "accepted" number of homeless in San Francisco is reported to be about 6,500, Kositsky says the actual number is closer to 15,000.

Kositsky detailed the challenges that San Francisco has faced over the years, and admitted that although the city has increased funding to combat homelessness by 80% since 2005, there has been an increase in the homeless count of over 23%. He cited the myriad of agencies and databases that are not linked, and do not work together with sharing of services and information. There is hope on the horizon, as his department is starting a "centralized" information system to handle people in the system to ensure that a "Coordinated Entry" program will identify people registering for services, and help to track them throughout their various avenues of services and treatments received in order to better track and administer services and care.

He believes the situation will improve with additional funding, better tracking of services, strengthening partnerships with city agencies (and regional providers), and right sizing the system to address the true needs. It is his opinion that it will take a 30% increase of the Departmental budget over the next 5 years to make a significant impact to reduce the numbers that we see

on the streets. Although he presented much more information than can be recapped here, he closed the presentation by pointing out three things that the public can do: use Common Sense when dealing with the homeless; be generous with funds and support; and have compassion for those that you encounter.

President Stephens followed by informing the group that the election of officers for 2017-18 will be held next month and that anyone interested should contact her, or Dave Bisho.

The President of the Forest Hills Association gave a quick update on the Christian Church Homes project in Forest Hills. The city has asked that the majority of the project planning be put on hold until the completion of the geotechnical report and the EIR relating to the stability of the hillside adjacent to the proposed development. In addition, the architecture firm working with the developer is working on some new design elements, including that the new plan will include a preschool (but not necessarily the school that is currently in operation).

Dave Bisho spoke to the organization about a proposal to craft a motion for the WOTPCC to support a letter to the SFPUC and city government to strongly oppose the groundwater-blending project that is currently underway in the city. He read a draft of a motion, and with a small change, it was seconded by Paul Conroy and approved unanimously by the delegates in attendance.

Matt Chamberlain announced he is in the process of updating the master delegate listing and should be trying to complete this within the next 30 days.

Barbara Chionsini spoke on Public Safety and the good news that the Sloat Boulevard safety project has been funded and is on track to be completed by the end of September. The project will result in an improved roadway, lighting, crossing indicators and more pedestrian-friendly improvements that will increase the safety of the thoroughway. She also commented on the Public Safety meeting held by Supervisor Yee last month. The organizers of the meeting requested questions from the public to be created for the SFPD to answer, but at the event, the questions were not allowed to be asked. She has lists of the questions and has submitted them to the District Attorney.

The last report of the evening was from George Wooding on Public Health, who commented that 30% of the residents of District 7 (approximately 16,900) are above the age of 60, and that 3600 homes in the district have a single occupant, yet the Westside has been targeted by City Hall for density programs. He posed the question "could there be a way to have elderly residents 'share' occupancy in some of the single person homes?" It makes for interesting discussion.

President Stephens followed with a call for adjournment.

The next meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, June 26th at 7:30 PM at the historic Forest Hills Clubhouse. For more information see the WOTPCC website (www.westoftwinpeaks.org).



Jeff Kositsky gave a thorough look at the homeless situation

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor By Quentin Kopp



In June, 1901, at his family residence at Sagamore Hill in Oyster Bay, Long Island, then-Vice President Theodore Roosevelt declared to visiting college undergraduates: "The most practical kind of politics is the politics of decency." Can you imagine that as a truism nationally in 2017? I can't, and I've been imbued with politics since my late father ran for Treasurer of Onondaga County in Upstate New York in November, 1935. Of course, for vanishing readers of The Chronicle, there's the daily schedule of political events, 95% of which consist of anti-presidential ranting, if not raving, to already-converted California and Bay Area "resisters."

Thus far, free speech seems to survive in San Francisco, unlike many college campuses, including my own alma mater, Dartmouth College, at which last fall a cadre of students invaded the library at night and demanded exodus by all the studying students for the purpose of embracing a "Black Lives Matter" parade. We've seen it at the University of California, we read about it at Middlebury College in Vermont after author Charles Murray, an invitee of a respected (and liberal) professor, was silenced by students accusing him of espousing racist views. It's happened at UC Davis, Brown University, New York University, DePaul University in Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin. According to a former president of Colgate University (Jeffrey Herbst), a liberal arts college in Hamilton, New York, and head of a Washington entity defending the First Amendment, college students now believe free speech doesn't apply to language which they think offensive to minorities or other groups. A 2015 Pew Research Center poll disclosed that 40% of people ages 18 to 34 support censorship of statements offensive to minorities, while only 24% of those who are 51 to 60 agree. I think we all realize the irony of speech suppression and dilution at UC Berkeley, generally viewed as birthplace of the "free speech movement" in the 1960s. I do, and I deplore it, as a Board of Directors member of the

of his or her appearing at the trial or hearing of the case." In 2008, voters added Article I, Section 28: "In setting, reducing, or denying bail, the judge or magistrate shall take into consideration the protection of the public, the safety of the victim, the seriousness of the offense charge, the previous criminal record of the defendant, and the probability of his or her appearing at the trial or hearing of the case. Public safety and the safety of the victim shall be the primary considerations. A person may be released on his or her own recognizance in the Court's discretion, subject to the same factors considered in setting bail." The California Constitution guarantees the right to bail. Releasing a defendant on his or her "own recognizance" means releasing that person without bail. The bills' rationale is to eliminate a bail system which affects people with different income and assets differently by effectively abolishing the authority of judges to set bail in most cases.

Since the 1970s, San Francisco's Superior Court has operated a pre-trial jail release or "OR" office. So has nearly every other California county. Those offices evaluate defendants for not constituting a danger to the victim or other persons or a significant risk of not appearing in court for arraignment, plea, trial or other required court appearances. If a defendant doesn't appear, a judge must

Since I've lost virtually all my First Amendment rights as a San Francisco Ethics Commission member to comment upon City Hall indignities, like a forthcoming second garbage rate increase in two years...

California First Amendment Coalition, which I proudly joined at the invitation by my old friend and founder of the late Bay Guardian, Bruce Bruggmann.

Since I've lost virtually all my First Amendment rights as a San Francisco Ethics Commission member to comment upon City Hall indignities, like a forthcoming second garbage rate increase in two years, I invite attention to a state matter. Pending legislation (Assembly Bill 42 and Senate Bill 10) endanger public safety and will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, maybe even \$2,000,000,000, as claimed by opponents. The linguistic staple of those who would weaken public safety is "reform." The aforementioned legislation as "bail reform" would radically alter the bail system in California courts and violate the California Constitution, specifically the Victim's Bill of Rights, approved by 83% of California voters in 1982 and Proposition 8, which the Legislature authorized later for voter approval with only one dissenting vote and declares in Article I, Section 12: "In fixing the amount of bail, the Court shall take into consideration the seriousness of the offense charge, the previous criminal record of the defendant, and the probability

issue an arrest warrant and the sheriff must locate and return the accused to jail. That costs money – often a lot of money. Similar systems in New Jersey and D.C. have depleted court appropriations and shocked taxpayers and judicial officers. The proposals reflect a national movement based upon the premise that bail is unfair to most defendants. I will testify from 10 years as a judge in criminal courts that judges evaluate carefully recommendations from pre-trial screening officials, defendants' lawyers (most of whom are Court-appointed because of defendants' poverty and paid by taxpayers) and prosecutors as to whether someone accused of crime should be released from jail without bail pending trial. Keeping in jail someone who isn't a public safety threat and who'll comply with court appearances doesn't make taxpayer sense. Judges know that and release accused defendants accordingly. Forcing them to do so without justification will deplete already inadequate court funds and increase crime. Just watch and see.

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

More INSIDE	Police Report 7	
	Money Matters 8	Remember When 16
	Around the Town 11	Open Late/Brain Fud 16
Steve Lawrence 5	Calendar 12	Sudoku 16
Transportation Future . . . 5	Ocean Obstacles 14	Education/Kocivar 18
Will Durst 5	Theater 14	Real Travel 19

Pitting Neighbor Against Neighbor for Affordable Housing

Sanctuary City for Housing Developers

by Patrick Monette-Shaw



As the debate intensified over what percentage of inclusionary affordable housing must be included in proposed developments, one proposal authored by Supervisors Ahsha Safai, London Breed, and Katy Tang proposed reducing on-site affordable rental units in construction projects building 25 or more dwellings to 18%. A competing proposal from Supervisors Aaron Peskin and Jane Kim sought to keep the required number at 24%.

That prompted an astute member of the public to testify during the Supervisors Land Use Committee hearing on May 15 that voters didn't pass Prop "C" in 2016 to allow developers to build the remaining 82% of units as market-rate rental units.

Indeed, voters passed Prop. "C" in 2016 by a whopping 67.9%. Voters spoke resoundingly to double the requirement of 12% on-site affordable housing units to 25%, with 15% affordable to low-income households and another 10% affordable to middle-income households.

The dueling proposals have quibbled over whether developers will be able to devote 75% vs. 82% of new construction to market-rate housing to increase their bottom-line profits. Obviously, developers want the higher percentage — and Safai, Breed, and Tang are happy to oblige.

In exchange for requiring private developers of new market-rate housing projects of 25 or more units to double affordable housing provisions to 25%, Prop. "C" was contingent on granting authorization to the Board of Supervisors to set affordable housing requirements in a "trailing ordinance" to remove inclusionary housing requirements from the City charter.

Skulduggery at the Board of Supervisors soon commenced. The City Controller's Statement on Prop. "C" in the June 2016 voter guide fretted about the potential loss in property tax revenues should developers face restrictions on market-rate housing. Apparently, Controller Ben Rosenfield was more concerned about the reduction in property tax revenues resulting from lower taxes on assessed values of lower-priced units, than developing inclusionary affordable housing units for actual people.

It's very clear Mayor Ed Lee and Rosenfield want to create a *Sanctuary City for Housing Developers* to help them maximize their housing project profits, in part to help the City's property tax base.

Showdown at the OK Corral: Two Competing Housing Proposals

Proposition "C" in 2016 was tied to a requirement the City Controller perform an analysis of the threshold of inclusionary housing percentages that might affect production of market-rate housing, and required the analysis be provided to the Board of Supervisors.

As the *Westside Observer* reported last March in *Housing Bond Lurches Down a Cliff*, the City Controller released his first inclusionary housing advisory analysis in February and submitted it to the Board of Supervisors. The *San Francisco Examiner* reported on February 15 the Board's discussion was postponed to February 28.

The Board's discussion languished for over two months and the two competing proposals to revise the percentage were first heard by the Land Use and Transportation subcommittee on May 15.

Back on March 23, 2017 noted housing experts Peter Cohen and Fernando Marti,

co-directors of San Francisco's Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO), published an article on *48Hills.org*. The two men noted there's a big difference between what Peskin and Kim want, versus what Safai and Breed want, and there are many nuances between the two proposals. Importantly the pair noted *only* the Peskin-Kim proposal expands housing opportunities for both low-income and middle-income households, and the Safai-Breed-Tang proposal reduces one category in order to expand the other category of household incomes. That's pitting one income level against another, or pitting neighbor against San Francisco neighbor.

A side-by-side comparison of the Pes-



...the Peskin-Kim proposal expands housing opportunities for both low-income and middle-income households, and the Safai-Breed-Tang proposal reduces one category in order to expand the other category of household incomes."

kin-Kim vs. Safai-Breed-Tang competing proposals as of May 15 is instructive but too detailed for this article.

The competing proposals were continued to the Land Use Committee's May 22 meeting in order to continue negotiations between the competing proposals. **"Sanctuary" to Maximize Profits**

The Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD)

FY 2014–2015 annual report included an unnumbered table comparing Area Median Income (AMI) levels to affordable housing sales prices. The table shows for each 20% increase in AMI levels, developers stand to earn an additional \$94,000 on each unit sold. That's a lot of incentive for developers seeking sanctuary to market housing units to higher income households by increasing the AMI thresholds.

Commendably, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) submitted testimony to the Supervisors and to the Planning Commission regarding the battle over the two competing inclusionary housing percentages proposals.

CSFN's testimony noted the Safai-Breed-Tang proposal places more emphasis on middle-income housing, but would result in the displacement of equally-worthy low- and lower-income households who have greater needs than middle-income households. CSFN noted such a major policy change would pit low- and lower-income San Franciscans against San Franciscans with higher incomes, and suggested this policy change should not be undertaken without a more comprehensive review and a vote of the electorate.

Housing Production Performance

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process is a state mandate regarding planning for housing, requiring all jurisdictions update the Housing Elements of their General Plans. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) sets San Francisco's RHNA goals.

ABAG issued recommendations for the 2007–2014 period. San Francisco ended up building housing far differently than what ABAG had recommended. For the "Low-Income" category, only half of what ABAG recommended (just 8.1%), built just one-third (6.3%) of the 19% recommended be dedicated to "Moderate-Income" households, and built a staggering 23.5% *more than* recommended for construction of "Above Moderate-Income" households.

An alternative RHNA report provided by San Francisco's Planning Department illustrates disturbing information: San Francisco built 108.7% of the RHNA Allocation

Cont. p. 17

MUNI PRICE CHANGES JULY 1, 2017

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\$2.75

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\$1.35

DISCOUNT SINGLE RIDE FARE
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\$1.25

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INCLUDES CABLE CAR & BART WITHIN SF

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SFMTA
Municipal
Transportation
Agency

Commentary

Winning, Losing and Somewhere In Between

by Steve Lawrence

Renewable Winner. Mayor Lee has announced that by 2020 San Francisco will obtain 50% of its energy from renewable sources. What does this mean?

First off, the Mayor is talking about electricity. San Francisco uses lots of gasoline, diesel, and natural gas all of which are sometimes considered energy. Not here. Secondly, this feat can be accomplished, it is said, partly because PG&E is raising its renewable percentage in compliance with a state mandate. While the mandate is to have at least one-third renewable by 2020, PG&E and other providers are ahead. The Mayor probably counts on at least 35%.

Moreover, the Mayor counts on PG&E competitor CleanPowerSF to provide more and more renewable energy. Lately it is cheap. Also, CleanPowerSF is ramping up, and will serve more customers. Full reservoirs mean more hydropower for the next few years. Conveniently, San Francisco went to the Legislature to change the definition of renewable; with the change Hetchy power qualifies.

Politicians eagerly take credit for what goes right. So far, CleanPowerSF, which the Mayor once opposed, is a winner. PG&E is saddled with expensive legacy power. Renewable power prices have dropped and are still dropping, favoring the new competitor.

“Politicians eagerly take credit for what goes right. So far, CleanPowerSF, which the Mayor once opposed, is a winner. PG&E is saddled with expensive legacy power. Renewable power prices have dropped and are still dropping, favoring the new competitor.”

Affordable Housing. Supervisors and Mayor all favor affordable housing. Preferred flavors differ. More for very low income, or some for middle income? Two bedrooms (accommodating families) or more units? Inclusive, some within each building or development, or just maximize? Income levels set for each neighborhood or for the City as a whole? Preference for “neighborhood residents” in the lottery? teachers, first responders, vets? Maybe artists next?

With all these flavors to battle over, is the question asked: Is affordable housing policy working? Do the policies and programs provide affordable housing adequately? Or is the City failing, rather badly?

If we really wished to supply affordable housing there are simpler ways. Zone sensibly. Impose a (sliding scale) fee on new

units renting for more than x, and a fee on units selling for more than y. Let the Market supply housing. The City incentivizes affordable housing, but lets the Market sort out the details.

Trouble is, were the City to incentivize affordable units City pols lose clout. No more special interests (teachers, neighborhood residents, etc.) to cater to; no developers walking the halls with checkbooks dangling. Nonprofits lose their purpose. A crisis solved is a political opportunity lost.

The City would still be involved in ameliorating disruption new development inevitably causes. But by incentivizing the housing the City wants, and leaving details to those who may profit or not, would there not likely be a more rapid response to a building need?

Groundwater. While this wet year is perhaps an unfortunate time to begin adding groundwater to the City’s potable water, adding groundwater is the right thing to do. Few will notice. It is safe. While plenty of mountain water is available this year, the Hetch Hetchy supply is likely to be constrained in the future. The State’s Bay Delta Plan proposes to require the Tuolumne River, from which our mountain water (now 85%) comes, to flow during Spring at a higher rate than it has been flowing on average. Our water system would lose most. Water authorities are negotiating a more sensible, and less impactful, resolution. Hopefully. Were they to delay including long-planned (and already delayed) groundwater, well, it would hardly improve their negotiating position. When asking the State to be reasonable, it helps to be reasonable as well.

The water supplies of many towns rely totally on groundwater. We are lucky to have mostly mountain water. Our water system is ready and able to include less than 15% groundwater in potable supply. Let it be.

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



My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2017

BEST RADIOACTIVE SPIDER EVER.

Donald John Trump is keeping people busy. He’s got staffers, lawyers, streaming news alert editors, impeachment historians, ethics investigators, hair spray manufacturers, Putin watchers, real-estate interpreters, all frantically flapping and squawking like a flock of seagulls outside a sardine plant at low tide.

Watch any of the network or cable news broadcasts and you instantly note that all the anchors are exhausted. Their “Breaking News” graphic... broke. Half of Washington has gone deaf, what with all the bombshells exploding with little or no warning around their tiny Beltway heads.

A majority of the president’s problems seem self-inflicted. Broken-racketed unforced errors. The Apprentice Chief Executive has made more missteps than the last place finisher in a drunken hopscotch tournament with a watch cap pulled over his eyes on cobblestones. Every time someone escorts the blonde bull out of Ye Olde China Shoppe, he sneaks around back and butts his way through another wall just because he loves the sound of breaking crystal.

Immediately after firing FBI Director James Comey, the president called him “a nut job” and shared classified intelligence with two Russian diplomats. But then the White House assured the country that Mr. Trump was never in possession of any intelligence he could have shared. And America is totally willing to believe that whole “not in possession of any intelligence” part.

In defense of this disclosure of classified Israeli intel, Trump claims he can say anything to anybody at any time because as President he has special powers. Apparently he was bitten by a radioactive spider. But the biggest and best and most beautiful of any radioactive spider that anyone has ever seen. This was a huuuuuuuge radioactive spider. Everyone is talking about it.

To say his last week was rocky is like intimating the glove compartment of a car crushed by a compactor is not the best place to store beer. Inexplicably, Trump told the Economist magazine he invented

“...visiting the centers of 3 world religions offers more hidden minefields than walking barefoot in the dark through the western sand dunes of Egypt.”

the phrase “priming the pump” which according to Webster’s has been in general usage since 1933. He’s King of the Inexplicable.

Next he’ll maintain he’s responsible for the phrase “out of control dumpster fire” as well. Of course, he has provided one heck of a high bar for all future comparisons.

Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein felt compelled to appoint a Special Prosecutor to get to the bottom of possible Russian collusion and obstruction of justice and all-round, random mendacity. The fastest any president in history has been targeted with a special prosecutor. Ever. In less than 4 months, he’s gone from zero to Nixon.

Getting the hell out of Dodge, the President embarked on a 9 day, 5 city foreign tour visiting Saudi Arabia, Israel, Belgium and the Vatican. For a guy who hates to travel and goes off script like a five year old at “Everything’s Free Day” at Disneyland, visiting the centers of 3 world religions offers more hidden minefields than walking barefoot in the dark through the western sand dunes of Egypt.

POTUS 45’s first overseas trip culminates at the G-7 conference in Taormina, Italy. The G-7 used to be known as the G-8 until Russia was kicked out for annexing Crimea. But now that they’ve annexed us, are they back in the loop? Perhaps that’s a question better suited for the special prosecutor. Time to take the Fifth. Of Scotch.

Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed columnist, comic and former dishwasher at Sandburg Hall at UWM. For a calendar of personal appearances including the premiere of his one man show “Durst Case Scenario” at the Theatre on San Pedro Square May 26- 28, please visit willdurst.com.



On SF Transportation in 2067

by Howard Strassner

San Francisco is starting a process to make plans for transportation fifty years from now. The process will start with the composite imaginings of a large task force which will be presented to the general public before it becomes part of the policies which will lead, over time, to our plan for future transportation and transit. This imager, task force member, believes that selecting probable future transportation will require considering most of the current trends in: transportation; land use; environment; demographics; politics; and economics. Each of these trends are broad and will impact all of the other trends, so it is important that they are all considered (even though predicting the very distant future is just a guess) before we draw Muni lines on paper. Moreover, transportation and land use are inseparable, environment is becoming increasingly a function of demographics, and politics and economics are nearly the same. The following is specific to SF, a dense City where even the low density communities are five times as dense as a suburban area. Analyzing the trends leads to suggestions for legislative changes so that SF can best use the trends to support future transportation before we reach the fiftieth year, rather than lose control and fight to catch up, as has been our history for most of the last one hundred years.

Trends and Predictions: When we look ahead fifty years technology innovations will continue to reduce the numbers within the top part of our middle class while expanding the lower part of our middle class. Concurrently, the top few percent of us will have even higher incomes and will hopefully be slightly less concerned about keeping it all forever, and of course we will always have our poor. While history shows that labor saving innovations

have always led to more jobs, this will begin to slowly change and fewer work hours and smaller incomes will become the norm. Our total national population will continue to increase for a while, even though that will tend to exacerbate climate change and increase sea level rise enough to finally bring us closer to reality, and population increases will not continue forever. However, San Francisco will continue

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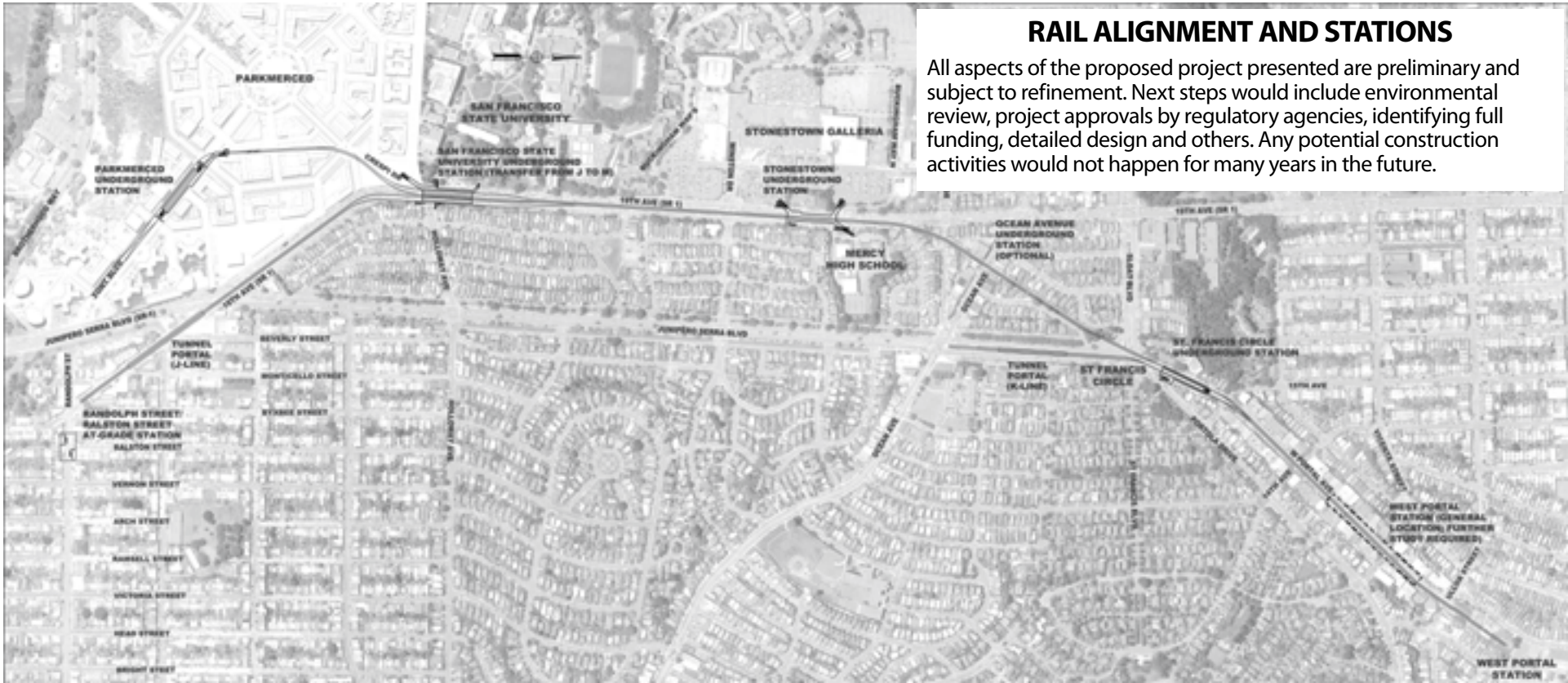


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RAIL ALIGNMENT AND STATIONS

All aspects of the proposed project presented are preliminary and subject to refinement. Next steps would include environmental review, project approvals by regulatory agencies, identifying full funding, detailed design and others. Any potential construction activities would not happen for many years in the future.

Let's Get It Right the First Time
Taking the M Line Down Under
by Glenn Rogers and George Wooding

The M streetcar solution provided by the SFMTA was essentially twofold, but had many variations proposed as well. The first solution was to provide transit above ground only, but move the M Streetcar from the median to the west side of 19th Avenue, so there would be less pedestrian traffic crossing the street slowing down traffic. One of the variations had a lovely park where Holloway Avenue is today. This ground solution entered Parkmerced, but a major problem happens if the M streetcar leaves Parkmerced, if, as planned, it did so on a trestle — 40' above ground — passing by numerous towers, clearing the traffic on Junipero Serra or Highway One, and landing on a narrow part of Randolph Street, which is physically unable to support a landing. Another more realistic version was for the trestle to land on 19th Avenue where more room is available, however, the elevated track there would be longer and more awkward.

In truth, a good design for the M streetcar entering Parkmerced has not been found. A major improvement would be to allow the M streetcar to prompt a "green" light at 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra Blvd. In this way, the M streetcar and traffic would not be delayed significantly. By every configuration imagined, the trestle solution was officially abandoned.

The second SFMTA solution, and the one currently under consideration, provides an underground solution. This is understood to be more expensive but necessary since the ground or elevated plan seem untenable. This solution, still in the early planning stages, presents the M streetcar route planning problems in the selection of exit stops.

An early SFMTA design scenario provided an underground substation at Twin Peaks, but his underground station creates a grade obstacle for the L streetcar to smoothly travel on its route to Ocean Beach. Another problem: the M streetcar, going underground the length of West

Portal Boulevard would present hardships for businesses on the street because of fewer stops and reduced street traffic. Although the General Plan of San Francisco requires that existing businesses are to be fostered by new development, time and again, old businesses are ignored in SFMTA plans and other City agencies. The temporary noise, fumes and dust in the construction of this underground station would hurt business in the district, but even more problematic and permanently damaging, is the lack of access and the lack of opportunity for shopping by eliminating stops after construction.

The SFMTA's underground stop for the M streetcar at Stownstown and Mercy High School presents numerous planning problems at once. The new planned stop misses businesses at the Lakeside district, to provide an exit from an underground station onto a parking lot in Stonestown. Parking lots are for cars, therefore, for this

stop to become acceptable for pedestrian traffic, sidewalks would need to be built and trees planted, removing more valuable parking. Moreover, stopping here, instead of at Winston Drive, also means a bus transfer point or node on Winston Drive is ignored. Therefore, travelers exiting from this location would need to walk 1/4 of a mile, unnecessarily, to catch another bus. This underground station provides great service for students at Mercy High but no one else.

Lastly, the M streetcar and the J streetcar are to meet at the San Francisco State University Station. When this idea was presented, Oceanview residents feared this would mean inferior streetcar service.

THE PREFERRED ROUTE:

(1) This new M streetcar plan proposes that the tunnel begin under the Saint Francis Circle intersection. Tunneling here could occur between Sloat Blvd. and 15th Avenue, after the business district ends. This location would be less disruptive to businesses than an unnecessary improvement and enlargement at the Twin Peaks Tunnel Station.

(2) After tunneling under Saint Francis Circle, the M street car should remain underground until it reaches Randolph Street. The K streetcar could reach grade quickly on Junipero Serra Blvd. since traffic here is minimal especially at the turn onto Ocean Avenue. The SFMTA's plan to provide a tunnel for the K streetcar from Junipero Serra onto Ocean Avenue would seem expensive and unnecessary at this time.

(3) To save the Lakeside business district, an underground station should be provided at Ocean Avenue, where the present stop occurs for the M streetcar. Students at Mercy High School and Lowell High School would have a pleasant park where the old streetcar tracks are now. This egress would go towards the direction of Eucalyptus Drive for students and the other exit to Ocean Avenue for shoppers.

(4) An underground station at Winston Drive, where service to Stonestown occurs, is preferred. Today, north bound vehicular traffic turning left on Winston Drive blocks the M streetcar until a green light removes traffic from the tracks. Having an underground station speeds up the M streetcar dramatically here. Pedestrians

leaving the M streetcar, will need a tunnel to both sides of 19th Avenue, so traffic is not hindered by pedestrians crossing the street on the surface. (See picture below)

(5) Holloway Avenue should remain open, providing drivers an opportunity to reach the university parking lot that is



Traffic at Winston Drive and 19th Avenue intersection

available for students, teachers and guests. Previous plans to create a park here would create an obstacle for traffic. There is no other street as direct or convenient as Holloway Avenue to enter the parking lot. Blocking easy access to the parking lot would create unnecessary traffic because drivers would have to go out of their way to look for a parking lot they cannot find. Again, pedestrian access to both sides of 19th Avenue is critical.

(6) An underground station at San Francisco State University could provide students and Parkmerced residents greater opportunity to board the M streetcar without danger of vehicular traffic. Four tracks at this station, providing additional streetcar storage, could provide backup at peak commute times. After this surplus is exhausted, additional streetcars could be summoned from the Cameron Beach Yard, the streetcar barn on San Jose and Geneva Avenues. Replacement streetcars for the San Francisco State University station from the Cameron Beach Yard will take approximately 24 minutes to arrive, traveling at 8 mph for 3 miles. Using M streetcar for backup means Oceanview residents will have better service.

With the J streetcar going to San Francisco State University station exclusively, Oceanview residents were rightfully alarmed that there would be inferior service.

The M streetcar's speed performance would improve dramatically beneath the very heavily traveled intersection of Highway One, 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra Blvd.

Cont. p. 9

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TARAVAL STATION Crime Report



Park Merced Burglaries

In the month of April, the Taraval district had 39 incidents of burglary. Approximately half of the total number of these burglaries occurred around the Park Merced area. Most of the residents who have fallen victim to the burglaries are students who reside with roommates. The victims were leaving their front doors unlocked and leaving electronics (laptops and tablets) easily accessible in the living area. We are seeing a crime trend in which suspects are simply checking for locked doors. If the door is unlocked, the suspect makes entry into the residence and takes a quick scan of the living room area for electronics. Once the electronic is located, the suspect quickly leaves the residence undetected. In many of the cases, the victim will report they heard the front door open but believed that it was a roommate returning home. When they hear the door again, they then leave their bedroom area to discover that their electronics had been stolen.

As of May 15th, there were 33 burglaries in the Taraval district, 20 were in the Park Merced area — 16 of the cases were hot prowl burglaries. Burglary suspects communicate with each other. Once word gets out of a target rich location, it is predictable that burglaries will increase. Due to that, most of the cases around Park Merced are unlawful entries vs. a forced entry, it is important that residents keep their doors locked at all times. When electronics are not in use, secure them in a location that is not easily accessible, as well as purses and backpacks.

In roommate situations, I strongly recommend, that a note be left inside the door reminding each other to lock the door. This is a priority for the officer's daily mission with an increase of uniform visibility. We need the help of the residents for their neighborhood's safety. We have also been working closely with the Park Merced management to get the word out to residents and to collect video evidence for the ongoing investigations. My staff has created flyers to alert residents with steps to take to prevent burglaries. These flyers will be handed out door-to-door. If you see a suspect checking doors around your residence, please call 911 and give a full description of the suspect.

Arrest made: Last week the diligence of the Taraval Neighborhood Team (TNT) and Taraval Station Investigations Team (SIT) paid off when they arrested one of the suspects responsible and recovered a stolen wallet at his residence. They also recovered a large amount of US currency and obtained a confession. I am incredibly proud of the officer's commitment to the community and their relentless efforts to identify and apprehend suspects. I am confident we will see more arrests in the near future.

Auto break-ins Another hot topic is theft from autos. In recent weeks, we have seen an increase along the lower Lincoln corridor, the Great Highway area and around SFSU. While apprehending suspects who break into cars can be challenging, the officers of Taraval Station in partnership with residents did exactly that! On May 18, 2017 residents called 911 to report a subject that was possibly "casing cars" in the area of 24th Ave and Ortega. The residents

were able to supply a detailed description and officers quickly responded. As they began a thorough search of the area, Officer Carroll observed the described suspect attempting to shatter the window of a vehicle. He took the suspect into custody, who had a window punch and his hand was bloody. Fellow officers found 5 additional vehicles broken into in the immediate area with trace evidence. The suspect was booked on 5 counts of auto burglary and one count of attempted burglary. The residents and officers should be commended for this arrest. Please remember, do not to leave anything in your vehicle. Even for a few minutes, if you leave items visible in your vehicle there is a high likelihood you too will fall victim to these thieves.

Kevin Downs Congratulations to Officer Kevin Downs who received the distinct honor as the Officer of the Year by the Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society. On May 20th, an awards banquet was held at the Irish Cultural Center. Officer Downs humbly accepted the award surrounded by his family, close friends and fellow officers. Words cannot express how proud and grateful we are to have him working by our side.

Tip Line and Interpreters In an effort to bridge the gap of communication with our monolingual residents, both Cantonese and Mandarin speaking, Taraval has established an anonymous tip line for the community. It is important, that all the members of the community have the ability to communicate with us. Certified interpreters are always available but we recognized that some members of the community are still hesitant to contact us and we wanted to make sure to offer a line of communication in which a resident can feel free to call us. The tip line is not monitored 24 hours a day and should not be used as a replacement for 911 or non-emergency 415.553.0123. **Taraval Anonymous Tip Line 415.566.0115**

As always, in closing, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly with any concerns, questions or suggestions you may have. Please contact me at Taraval Station 415.759.3100 or email me at Denise.flaherty@sfgov.org

NOTE: This is an abridged version of the full message available at taraval.org

Monday / May 1

Battery

7:48 pm | Sunset Blvd & Kirkham St

The victim saw two suspects throwing pinecones into the street. When she said they should not throw things into the street because it could cause an accident, the female suspect yelled and punched her and a fight ensued. The male suspect broke up the fight and they fled.

Battery

9:44 pm | 8th Ave & Irving St

The victim said he was almost hit by a vehicle crossing the street. When he yelled at the driver, he tried to punch him, but he

backed away so the driver pushed to the ground and drove away.

Homicide

12:07 pm | Sunset Blvd & Lawton St

A witness heard shots being fired and said the suspect's vehicle drove up to the victim's vehicle and fired at them, then fled south on Sunset Blvd. **If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact Taraval Station:** Denise. Flaherty@sfgov.org or Taraval station at 415-759-3100.

Tuesday / May 2

Traffic Collision

8:33 am | 400 Capitol Ave

— Taraval Station Community Meeting —

June 13 | 6 pm –7 pm • Sunset Youth Services • 3918 Judah St. • taraval.org

The victim said she parked her car when another vehicle struck her mirror. She confronted the driver, who cut her with a knife. The suspect said she accidentally hit the victim's mirror but when came at her yelling, she felt intimidated and afraid for the safety of her child and she cut the victim when she too close to her. The incident was investigated and documented.

Wednesday / May 3

Arson – Assault – Battery

8:48 am | Sloat Blvd & 47th Ave

The victim said he heard the noise of a lighter behind him and the suspect began yelling obscenities. A witness confirmed that the suspect was yelling obscenities at the rest of the bus and then tried to light the victim's pants on fire, so he yelled at the suspect and called the police as the suspect left the bus. Officers found the suspect, who kicked and spit on them. He was transported to county jail and was arrested.

Arson – Arrested

10:21 pm | 100 Ralston St

Responding to a report of a person that was cutting his own wrist, officers attempted to make contact at the apartment but there was no answer, but seeing smoke coming from inside the building, they broke down the door to see if any one was inside, but the situation as too intense in the apartment. SFFD extinguished the fire but was but found no one inside. Later, a SFFD unit saw the suspect sitting and contacted the SFPD who detained the suspect, who said he was depressed and set his apartment on fire. He was transported to SFGH for a mental evaluation and was later arrested.

Battery

8:30 pm | Address Confidential

The victim said her boyfriend he had not fed their toddler. During an argument, he grabbed the victim while she was holding on to their toddler and would not let her walk away. After further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

Thursday / May 4

Robbery

9:54 am | 1800 Irving St

A SIT Inspector identified two out of the three suspects involved in a March 28th robbery of a business, with the threat of gun use. They were arrested.

Battery

9:31 am | 9th Ave & Irving St

A woman said she was cut off by a driver and responded with a rude gesture towards him. He pulled over and returned the gesture, got out of his car and slapped her. As he walked away, she pepper sprayed him. He confirmed, but denied slapping her. After investigation, both parties were cited.

Friday / May 5

Burglary – Possession of Burglary Tools

9:44 pm | 00 Grijalva Dr

The victim heard the doorbell ring non-stop for 10 minutes, but was not expecting visitors. When he heard glass breaking he

saw the suspect reaching in to unlock the door. He yelled out and the suspect fled. Officers found the suspect several blocks away with a cordless drill, a pipe and an extended plastic grabber, and he had a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested.

Warrant Arrest – Traffic Violation

10:25 pm | Plymouth Ave & Broad St

When officers saw a man riding his bicycle on the sidewalk, they detained him and a check revealed two warrants for his arrest. A search also found methamphetamine on him. He was arrested.

Saturday / May 6

Arson

12:40 am | 1100 Ocean Ave

The suspect was seen lighting a newspaper stand on fire. A second witness also produced security videos showing him lighting the stand on fire. Officers found the suspect by his clothing and detained him. He was arrested.

Warrant Arrest

3:38 pm | 3300 Ortega St

A witness said a man had been loitering near a children's play area and that he may have a knife. Officers found the suspect and a check revealed two warrants for his arrest out of San Louis Obispo. No knife was found, but he was arrested.

Elder Abuse – Robbery – Vandalism

3:27 pm | 200 Gonzalez Dr

The victim said her son had been living with her sporadically for the last three years. When he asked for money to pay for medication for withdrawal, she gave him \$20 he demanded more struggled for the her purse. He chased her when she broke away and hid in the bathroom, threatening to break down the door unless she gave him more money. She slipped an additional \$40 under the door and he left.

Sunday/ May 7

Warrant Arrest – Possession of Narcotics

9:38 pm | 1900 20th Ave

Officers saw a vehicle pass a stop sign without attempting to stop. A traffic stop revealed a felony warrant for the driver's arrest. A search revealed possible cocaine and marijuana. He was arrested.

Trespassing

800 Judah St

A trespasser was reported causing a disruption in a church, yelling and screaming during mass. Officers located the suspect and escorted him out. He was cited.

Monday / May 8

Counterfeit Money – Defrauding

1:23 am | 100 Cambon Dr

A food delivery woman said she got no response after ringing a doorbell at the provided address. She called the number associated with the order, and the suspect walked up from the street, presented a \$100 bill, which the victim exchanged for the food and change. When she looked closer the \$100 was counterfeit.

Cont to page 9



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Money Matters By Brandon Miller

The Benefits of Tax Diversification in Your Retirement Plan



Taxes are an often-overlooked aspect of retirement planning. While many Americans are saving diligently and focused on accumulating the biggest “nest egg” possible, many investors may not be fully considering the impact that taxes will have on their monthly income in retirement. This is an important dynamic to understand and will prevent any unnecessary surprises when you enter your hard-earned retirement.

Know your retirement plans

IRAs, 401(k)s, or other workplace plans are great ways to save and invest for retirement. Your contributions are generally made with pre-tax dollars, and you don’t pay taxes until you withdraw money. If you have access to a workplace retirement plan or an IRA, take the time to evaluate how your savings may be taxed in retirement. It’s important to factor this into your retirement income planning.

One way to potentially minimize the impact of taxes in retirement is to accumulate savings in an account that gives you access to tax-free withdrawals. To achieve this, many people choose a Roth IRA. Strategic planning and dedicated saving in a Roth IRA during your pre-retirement years may give you more options to manage your retirement income stream in a tax-efficient manner.

In general, a Roth IRA may make sense for investors who anticipate being in a higher income tax bracket later in life (examples include marriage, progressing in your career or annual raises), or who prioritize having tax-free retirement assets. Direct contributions to Roth IRAs are only available to those who meet specified income limits (check with your financial advisor or tax professional for details). You invest after-tax dollars into a Roth IRA, but if certain requirements are met, all withdrawals can qualify

“You invest after-tax dollars into a Roth IRA, but if certain requirements are met, all withdrawals can qualify for tax-free treatment. This is a unique advantage that few other vehicles offer. Your employer’s plan may also offer a Roth option, which is a way to save even more money that benefits from this distinctive tax treatment.”

for tax-free treatment. This is a unique advantage that few other vehicles offer. Your employer’s plan may also offer a Roth option, which is a way to save even more money that benefits from this distinctive tax treatment.

You can also convert dollars from a traditional IRA or workplace plan into a Roth IRA. This allows you to put a larger sum into the tax-free category for retirement. A Roth conversion can also create a sizable tax liability in the year the conversion is made, so you need to determine if this strategy is suitable for you. If you want to use this strategy, you’ll need to have enough money available outside of the IRA to pay the taxes incurred. Always consult with your tax professional before moving forward with this strategy.

Tax-smart retirement spending

Generally, it’s a best practice to allow money with more favorable tax treatment to stay invested for as long as possible to extend those tax benefits. The advantage of owning a tax-diversified mix of assets once you reach retirement is that it helps you manage your tax burden on a year-to-year basis, per your personal circumstances. In any given year, your strategy may include:

Withdrawals from a workplace retirement plan or IRA funded with pre-tax contributions that are fully taxable

Distributions from a traditional IRA where a portion is taxable

The sale of taxable investments where tax may or may not be due

Withdrawals from a Roth IRA that are not subject to tax and don’t add to your taxable income

Managing income levels effectively in a particular year can help limit the amount of taxes due in that year. Depending on your income level, a portion of Social Security benefits may be subject to federal income tax.

Tax decisions should be one consideration in your retirement income strategy. Putting yourself in position to have options as you draw income requires planning in advance. Investing with tax diversification in mind may help you access income with different types of tax treatments in retirement. As you craft your strategy, be sure to discuss the potential tax treatment of your investments with your tax advisor.

Brandon Miller, CFP is a financial consultant at Brio Financial Group, A Private Wealth Advisory Practice of Ameriprise Financial Inc. in San Francisco, specializing in helping LGBT individuals and families plan and achieve their financial goals

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Undergrounding (Cont. from p. 6)

(7) Beside the Parkmerced Leasing Office there is a “Round-About” or turning circle. This is just a half block away from the proposed underground M streetcar station for both Parkmerced and San Francisco State University patrons. This location would be ideal for shuttles moving residents of Parkmerced to the new M streetcar station at San Francisco State University. Either the circle itself or the adjacent surrounding curbs could provide shuttle stops.

(8) Following the angle of the grade on 19th Avenue, could allow the M streetcar to surface close to Beverly Street near the Temple United Methodist Church, which provides sundry services to the public, including health care, a food pantry, counseling and numerous other worthwhile services. It is important that seniors and the physically challenged easily reach this location by the M streetcar. SFMTA plans must not ignore service to this service center.

(9) The M streetcar, traveling on Randolph Street, stops unnecessarily at Ramsell and Victoria Streets. We recommend these two stops be eliminated and that only the traffic stop at Arch Street remain.

(10) Today, the Balboa Park Project provides a new alignment for the the J and K streetcars that bring passengers who ride directly to the Balboa BART station. Then, the tracks for the J and

K streetcar return, providing a pleasant pick-up station, with seats and cover from rain on San Jose. No longer must passengers heading downtown, in a southerly direction, wait at a streetcar stop, without seats, or protection from weather, standing on streetcar tracks. This configuration makes SFMTA’s plan to have the J streetcar come to SF State out of date.

IN SUMMARY:

This new M streetcar plan fosters existing businesses in both the West Portal and Lakeside districts. It provides easy access to other bus stops, encouraging intermodal transportation. It also allows existing parking to remain on 19th Avenue and provides access to the SF State’s parking lot. This Route accommodates the Temple United Methodist Church for those with hardships. The plan reduces the length of tunnels and unnecessary underground stations. We bring attention to improvements of the J and K streetcars and their new access to the Balboa Park BART station. Lastly, transportation service to the Oceanview district will be improved by using M streetcars to increase service when needed. We hope the public will support this more effective plan.

Glenn Rogers is a Landscape Architect, and George Wooding is President of the Coalition for SF Neighborhoods



Police Report (Cont. from p. 7)

Restraining Order – Delaying police officers duties

9:53 am | 15th Ave & Taraval St
The suspect, known from previous incidents and prohibited from being in possession of any type of stick, was aggressively swinging a mop around. Officers found him holding on to a metal pole. He got on a LRV, which the officer followed until it’s next stop and arrested him.

Elder Abuse – Robbery

5:05 pm | 200 Gonzalez Dr
Previously, officers responded to a son who forced his mother to give him money, while she was hiding from him in a bathroom. When they found him, they questioned him about the previous incident, he gave an inconsistent statement. He was arrested.

Tuesday / May 9

Traffic Violation – Suspended Driver’s License

10:11 am | Brotherhood Way & Arch St
An officer saw a vehicle traveling 54 in a 35 mph zone. The officer’s check on the driver revealed that her license had been suspended. She was cited.

Driving While Intoxicated

12:46 am | Lake Merced Blvd & Brotherhood Way
Officers saw a vehicle that struck a light pole. A witness said the car was swerving between several lanes before hitting the pole. The driver submitted to a field sobriety test, which the driver failed and was arrested.

Battery Arrested

9:48 pm | La Playa St & Judah St
The victim said she and the suspect, her boyfriend, had an argument earlier and she left to call the police. Following her, the suspect locked the door and took her keys with him, then tried to take her phone, chasing after her, ripping her shirt grabbing it. When officers found him on an LRV, he said she hit and slapped him and he took phone in fear that she would lie about him. After further investigation, he was arrested.

Battery- Indecent Exposure

12:41 pm | Taraval St
Responding to a report that someone was standing in the park, completely nude, screaming, officers found the suspect was sitting in the grass near the children’s park. A witness said she confronted the suspect, and the suspect yelled and spit at her. The suspect was cited.

Wednesday / May 10

Suspended Driver’s License – Vehicle Violation

9:22 pm | Kirkham St & 24th Ave
When a car failed to stop at a stop sign, officers conducted a stop and a check revealed that he did not have a driver’s license and two prior convictions for driving without a license. He was cited, the vehicle was towed.

Robbery

9:15 am | 100 Cambon Dr
The victim was in line at the store when his friend, the suspect, demanded money. He refused, but when he left the store, the suspect hit him several times with a golf club. The suspect grabbed his backpack to flee with it, but a witness confronted him. and he fled the area.

Reckless Driving – Speeding

9:29 pm |31st Ave/Quintara
Officers at a posted stop sign when a car driving 75 mph sped past and made a turn before crashing into a parked vehicle. The driver was cited.

Friday / May 12

Hit and Run

7:20 pm |Lincoln & 30th Ave
The victim gave the license number from the suspect’s vehicle and a computer check his place of residence.Officers located the vehicle but were unsuccessful in making contact with the owner of the vehicle. The vehicle was towed and held for hit and run.

Saturday / May 13

Robbery Residence

9:46 pm | 100 Chester Ave
The landlord was outside working on general maintenance when two suspects exited a vehicle, produced a gun and demanding money. He complied. The suspect kicked in the apartment door and searched for valuables before fleeing the area.

Assault – Threats

10:01 pm | 1500 Ocean Ave
The victim set off a silent alarm when the suspect entered the store despite a stay away order. She threw several items around and broke a bottle and held the glass shards while threatening to kill him. She fled when she found out police were on the way.

Monday / May 15

Car Jacking – Kidnapping – Assault

9:36 am | Alemany/ Ellsworth
The victim said he pulled over to make a phone call when the suspect entered his car, pointed a gun at him and demand he drive on the freeway. While driving, the suspect pulled the trigger on the gun, but it failed, the suspect proceeded to slash the his arm with a knife, then left the car, still on the freeway, and fled. The victim called the SFPD.

Thursday / May 18

Burglaries – Possession of Burglary Tools

12:55 am | Ortega St & 23rd Ave
On a report of suspicious activity near parked cars, responding officers found two cars with broken windows and the suspect, with a bleeding hand, as he attempted to hit another window. Stolen property and marijuana were found in his possession. More cars were found with broken windows,

some with blood droplets and a blood smear. He was arrested.

Friday / May 19

Vehicle Burglary

1:01 pm | 2400 Great Hwy
The victim said she looked outside and observed several suspects behind her vehicle and noticed that the rear window of her vehicle was shattered and one suspect was reaching through it. A neighbor, returning home and stated saw the suspects and yelled until they fled. Officers found four subjects together, one matching the victim’s description on a MUNI LRV. They stopped the LRV and detained the suspects, who were confirmed by the victim. Identified as juveniles, one was cited, three where admonished.

Saturday / May 20

Robbery – Threats – Warrant Arrest

5:58 pm | Lincoln Way & Funston Ave
The bus driver said he picked up three suspects downtown and they were burning something on the bus, so he kicked them off the bus. The victim said she was at a bus stop when they took a book from her bag. Then another suspect pulled her hair. A bus pulled up and the driver intervened. He said that another group tried to get into the bus and kicked the door causing the window to break. The bus driver opened the door and all suspects fled. Officers approached the suspects and they fled. Officers were able to catch some of the suspects. Two suspects were arrested, one cited and three were admonished.

Editor’s Note: This is an incomplete report as space allows. For the entire report go to: www.taraval.org

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Transportation Future (Cont. from p. 5)

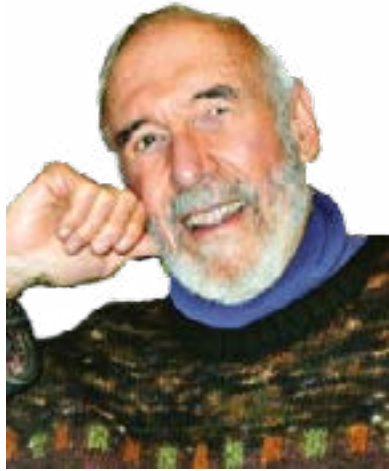
to be an attractive place to live, and in fifty years there will be about 1.2 million of us with some increase in density in currently low density areas, along with some loss of backyards but a little more open space in mini parks. In addition, the current plans for more housing in the eastern neighborhoods, along with a greater number of those seeking more affordable housing, will compel zoning changes to add some housing in the western and existing low density neighborhoods. Transit first policies, which are now rejected by some neighbors, but implemented anyway, will become more acceptable because most of us will need better transit. Many jobs performed by lots of people will be partially automated, and many of us will work fewer hours at various hours during the day, more of which will be at home so that Muni ridership during peak transit hours will not be much greater than mid day. Downtown will remain a major center for work, shopping and recreation, while the people will impose high congestion charges on the taxis entering the downtown to minimize congestion, so that their buses will work.

Robotic Taxi Implications: All of the above trends will have only small impacts on future transportation, whereas robotic taxis, even if they are controlled, will influence the essence of future transportation. The high capital cost for a car and a garage, along with the cost of insurance and time required for maintenance and walking to and from less costly parking, will combine with the good service provided by robot driven taxis, at a moderate cost, to create a climate in which almost

“fareless” with operating costs covered by a healthy percentage of the SF General Fund, democratically approved by the bus riding public, who will enjoy safe, fast and reliable service 24/7. Some additional income for Muni will come from downtown congestion charges on taxis, and congestion charges to enter other neighborhoods if local taxi traffic impedes Muni service. These charges will be imposed by GPS history without expensive camera systems. Land rent from new housing above current SFMTA parking garage sites and lots and higher hotel taxes, to cover free transit, will also provide some additional income.

Muni Predictions: Muni bus drivers will be replaced with robots because if the finances justify robots for small cars with a few riders, the financial feasibility for robots to drive small, medium, and large buses with many riders will be even more obvious. Service on low ridership lines, with smaller buses, will become more frequent due to greater ridership and lower cost. Smaller buses and more frequent ser-

vice will be more cost effective due to no cost for drivers. Late night service on low ridership lines, such as the 36, will be provided by Muni funded robot taxis, called by riders when they get off the Metro lines at Forest Hill station, because the small buses will be used to provide more frequent late night service on busy lines. Riders will accept some car pooling and a short wait for their free robot taxi. Today's best Muni service schemes will become more prevalent such as split ends of the line on the 38 Geary, and more recently the 28 Nineteenth; turn back service on the 5 Fulton and limited, now called Rapid service, with stops only at transfer points and easy ways to pass the local on the busiest lines, almost like BRT. Since there will be greater ridership on the Metro routes, LRVs will come more frequently, but in order to reduce capital and maintenance costs only single cars will run to the ends of lines. This, plus a need to run longer trains in the subway to eliminate any problems due to overly frequent trains, will require a method for reliable



“...the fifty percent increase in population plus a large modal shift, due to decreased car ownership and good late night service plus fareless rides will lead to a total daily Muni ridership increase of nearly 100%.”

Ridership: The elimination of car ownership will result in a modal shift to transit from automobiles, because recent studies have shown that people reduce their driving when they have to pay for every trip. Thus, the fifty percent increase in

population plus a large modal shift, due to decreased car ownership and good late night service plus fareless rides will lead to a total daily Muni ridership increase of nearly 100%. Part of the increase in ridership will come from the increase in transit frequency, which will encourage more transferring. The large increase in transit ridership will require that the details of the ballet, on Market Street, between pedestrians, transit, trucks, bikes, and taxis for the physically challenged will have to be carefully choreographed, because, even with multiple buses using the same bus stop, it will probably not be possible to greatly increase the number of buses on Market Street. Thus riders may have to transfer to a rapid from a local bus, which then turns back to minimize the total number of buses on Market. Fortunately, most other streets will easily accommodate additional transit frequency because there will be fewer cars.

Streetscape: Even though there will be almost no private cars and more walking and bicycling, our streets will still have some traffic. In addition to a few taxis for the wealthy or people in a rush, there will

physically challenged persons; white zones for taxis; parklets; and more trees, benches and parks. Pedestrians will have to be trained on the advantages of transit first, and not to walk in front of buses or traffic to test the computer. This process will start with reminder bollards along some curbs. A typical residential street, with enough length to accumulate some traffic, will have linear parks to replace most curb side parking, along with necessary yellow, white and blue/white zones. Most roadways will be narrower than today, but we can expect some double parking to allow for large delivery trucks. Popular bike routes will have bike lanes because the extra apparent width will not encourage autonomous taxis to speed. Since there will be no parking there will be no parking protected bike lanes. If necessary, part of the linear parks might become bike lanes. Capital expenditures necessary to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety should consider these longer term future streetscapes. Shorter streets, with less traffic, will have only one traffic direction where feasible, allowing for wider linear parks with the various parking zones only on one side of the street. Horizontal lengths of streets will be utilized for back to the future street sports.

Muni Routes: Some new routes will be added to serve the few parts of SF where residents have a longer walk to a transit stop than the slightly extended new standard. This will require careful map study, to determine walking distances, not just circles around transit stops. Large proposed increases in density should also generate local route studies. Sometimes that will be mean additional and re-spaced stops. Sometimes longer distance routes will be replaced with feeder, community service routes connecting to Metro, BART or Caltrain. Muni planners should study the various alternatives and compare average travel time, including transfers along with the cost of transit service. Neighbors should be given all the alternatives studied so that they can knowledgeably advocate their preferred transit to the SFMTA Board. Those who live on our lowest density hill tops may still have a longer walk, or use taxis to get to transit.

Near Future: Soon after we complete this exercise it should become apparent that SF will have to deal with the rising numbers of taxis which are already reducing MTA revenues from parking. This will be very complex and involve: the legislature in Sacramento, the State PUC, the Board of Supervisors along with the transit first Board of the SFMTA. This process should start as soon as possible because it has taken

over one hundred years to establish even an imperfect relationship between private cars and transit and similar difficulties can be expected between transit and robotic taxis. Hopefully congestion fees and transit's right to control taxis will be implemented well before we have robotic taxis. This will initially advantage larger alternative private buses. These buses should be considered as transit especially if they have at least two doors and they could be provided with non Muni bus bulbs, for a fee. Adequate transit planning for a future Market Street should evolve even before the Street becomes an advent Street. The Planning Code should be changed to eliminate all required parking, though retroactive removal of parking may require some limits to allow time for transitioning to zero parking.

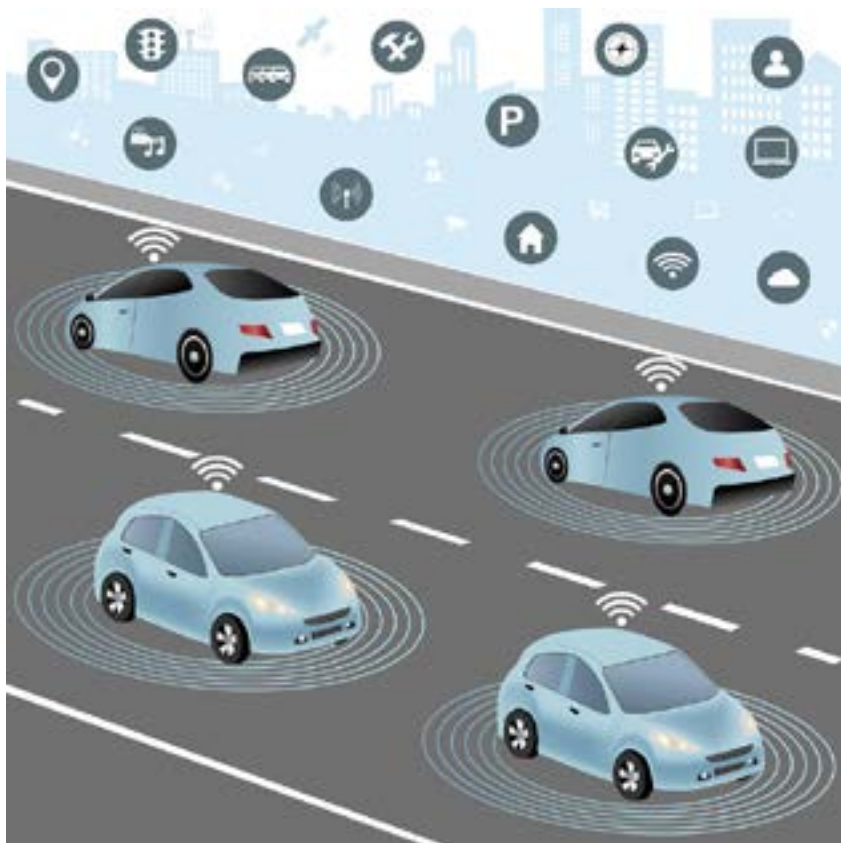
Howard Strassner is a transit advocate and former President of the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association



no one in SF will be able to afford a car and the wealthy will prefer more convenient taxis. The trend toward robot driven taxis will continue until there is almost no need for parking. This will eliminate the need for most off street residential parking, which will provide thousands of new small housing units under existing houses. Some larger garages under apartment buildings, especially below grade, will become “barns” to service robotic taxis during the night. Currently the moderate cost of Uber and Lyft, which allows commuters to bypass high parking fees, is increasing congestion downtown while reducing Muni income from parking fees and taxes. The future low cost of robotic taxis will further increase this congestion and a congestion fee will be necessary to insure good service for both taxi and transit riders.

Muni Funding: No money will be available from the Federal Government for expensive subways because: national growth will be slower (due to energy and growth limits). Thus, debt will become more of a problem while the greater number of lower income people will pay very little in taxes but democratically demand more services. The SF wealthy will almost happily pay the congestion charges, when they ride a taxi, but will draw the line at constructing unsubsidized subways because better bus service is good enough. There will be no income to Muni from parking fees, fines or taxes because there is no parking. There will probably be no income from the Federal or State governments for operation. Eliminating the expense of drivers will help make Muni

vice will be more cost effective due to no cost for drivers. Late night service on low ridership lines, such as the 36, will be provided by Muni funded robot taxis, called by riders when they get off the Metro lines at Forest Hill station, because the small buses will be used to provide more frequent late night service on busy lines. Riders will accept some car pooling and a short wait for their free robot taxi. Today's best Muni service schemes will become more prevalent such as split ends of the line on the 38 Geary, and more recently the 28 Nineteenth; turn back service on the 5 Fulton and limited, now called Rapid service, with stops only at transfer points and easy ways to pass the local on the busiest lines, almost like BRT. Since there will be greater ridership on the Metro routes, LRVs will come more frequently, but in order to reduce capital and maintenance costs only single cars will run to the ends of lines. This, plus a need to run longer trains in the subway to eliminate any problems due to overly frequent trains, will require a method for reliable



be lots of tiny, small, and large delivery vehicles and contractor trucks. A typical neighborhood commercial curb side, now used mainly for private vehicle parking, will have bus bulbs; yellow zones for delivery trucks; white/blue zones to drop-off



..... JUNE 2017

Thank you Jack!
Last month was the sign off for one of our long-time columnists. Jack Kaye, who penned the monthly column Second Thoughts, has stepped away from the keyboard, for now, after 10 years, and 100 columns. I would like to give Jack a big public “Thank You” for his contributions to the newspaper for these 10 years. Your insights and musings will be missed.



Documentary Debut – Who Killed Parkmerced...



Local producer and filmmaker Nick Pasquariello is debuting his documentary, *Who Killed Parkmerced* on June 6 and 7 at the Roxie Film Center. Part of the 2017 DocFest documentary film festival, the short film will be shown as part of the “Shorts 2 – Bay Area Voices” series of documentaries. The film “explores the fate of one of the city’s most beloved communities, Parkmerced, in the face of overbearing developer greed and a lack of neighborhood character and livability.” Tickets can be purchased at the Roxie or online from the DocFest website @ www.sfindie.com.

Don’t Forget - Builders and Brewers...

SF’s Rebuilding Together is conducting their 4th annual Builders and Brewers event. It will be held on Thursday, June 15 from 6-9 PM at SOMArts. Magnolia Brewing, Laughing Monk and Anchor Brewing are providing beer tasting and there will be food, games, and silent auction items to keep everyone busy for the evening. It raises money for Rebuilding Together’s SF repair programs for housing repairs for low-income seniors, low income families, and people living with disabilities. They do a great job. For more information, please call Karen Nemsick at 415.905.1611, x 202.



Kudos to the SF Park and Rec Department...



San Francisco was recently named as the third best city in the nation as related to access and quality of its park system, receiving the only perfect score in “ParkScore’s” history for access. The city was one of just three to receive a “5 Park Bench” rating, based on access, park size and facilities and investment. Minneapolis and Saint Paul topped the list.

June in the Parks...

There are great activities for all ages in the parks in June. In addition to the re-opening of historic Alamo Square Park last week, a new batting cage opens at Victoria Manalo Draves Park (16 Sherman Street) on June 8 from 3-5 p.m.; On June 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. there will be a Rock Climbing open house at the Glen Park Rec Center (Bosworth and O’Shaughnessy); In Golden Gate Park you can explore the park on horse-back (through June 20) from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Call 1-844-967-4653 for details); and for those “bowlers” among us, the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club offers free lessons on Wednesdays and selected Saturdays in Golden Gate Park (320 Bowling Green Drive). There are many more events and programs. Check out the Recreation and Park website for more details.



It’s the North Beach Festival... get ready for the 63rd annual North Beach Festival. This long running event to celebrate Italian Heritage and culture (and food!!) returns on June 17 and 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the heart of North Beach. The event will run along Grant Avenue, between Columbus and Filbert, and along Columbus Avenue, between Broadway and Green; and Vallejo and Green Streets between Grant Avenue and Columbus. On Saturday and Sunday, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. there will be the Blessing of the Animals in the Shrine of Saint Francis of Assisi at 610 Vallejo Street. For more information, visit SRESProductions.com, or call 800.310.6563.

“Landlord” Legality... it was great to see that City Attorney Dennis Herrera’s office won a \$2,700,000 verdict against a landlord who conducted a “ruthless war” against her tenants to force people from their rent-controlled units. Although I am generally not a fan of city mandated rent stabilization, the conditions that this property owner imposed on mostly elderly and disabled tenants were cruel and reprehensible, and it is good to see the city oppose and condemn this type of rental operation.

Shopping “local”... this is just a reminder to shop local when you can. Our city is unique with many “village-like” commercial venues such as West Portal Avenue, Ocean Avenue, Irving St., Columbus Avenue, Taraval St., etc. With online shopping chipping away at sales, and the cost of rents skyrocketing, we need to continue to support our neighborhood “retail-warriors” while they are here for us. You don’t have to look closely to see increasing vacancies in all of the districts, from the Sunset to the Castro and everywhere in between. I know that parking can be problematic, but if you can shop locally, it helps everyone. Studies show that over 50% of the dollars spent at locally owned establishments stay in the local economy.

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.

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THRU • THE ART OF EYVIND EARLE

Walt Disney Family Museum The artist's first-ever comprehensive museum retrospective will feature more than 250 works, including intricate thumbnail concept paintings for *Lady and the Tramp* and evocative large-scale concept artworks for *Sleeping Beauty*. Alongside Earle's work for The Walt Disney Studios is an extensive showcase of his fine art, including elaborate and lush landscapes, unique scratchboards, rare examples of sculpture, companion poetry, and commercial illustrations. In addition to signature landscapes and enchanting illustrations that are characteristic of Earle's style, the exhibition will feature his limited edition serigraphs and lesser-known pieces, including cartoon drawings from his time in the U.S. Navy and commercial advertisements for American brands. Stand-alone special exhibition ticket: \$15 all levels, free for youth 17 and under.

June Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY • 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 - Lafayette Square. SF's illustrious history, steep streets & 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. FREE exercise classes. SF State & Rec and Park. Turf field at Minnie & Lovie Ward Park, 650 Capitol. 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 cocktails. GG Park \$15 (\$12 Members). calademy.org/nightlife.

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 | 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.

SAT • FREE E-BOOKS

Sat 3-4 pm | More than 40,000 free eBooks with one-on-one help from a librarian. Bring your Kindle, iPad, smartphone etc. 20 minute appointments available. RSVP: info@sfpl.org with preferred date/time, and device. Main Library, 100 Larkin St.

SUN • COMMUNITY YOGA

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

DAILY • BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

Learn Basic Computer Skills—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.

ONGOING • BUTTERFLIES & BLOOMS!

Through June 30 | 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.

ONGOING • THE ROOMMATE

Ongoing - Jul 1 | Schedule varies | In her mid-50s, Sharon needs a roommate to share her Iowa home. Robyn, a Bronx-born vegan, would appear to fit the bill perfectly. As they get to know each other, Robyn's

secret life starts to emerge—and then the wheels come off. SF Playhouse, 450 Post St. sfplayhouse.org

ONGOING • ROAD TO SUMMER OF LOVE

Ongoing – Sep 10 | Summer of 1967, young people converged on SF's Haight-Ashbury district. California Historical Society's exhibit of the countercultural movement through photographs—from the Beat poets to the art scene CHS, 678 Mission St. californiahistoricalsociety.org

ONGOING • DOCUMENTARY FILM FEST

Ongoing - Jun 15 | Various venues | The 16th annual film festival that provides a manageable amount of the truth is devoted to documentary cinema. Since 2001, this two week-long event has brought the most weird and wonderful aspects of real life to the big screen. sfindie.com

ONGOING • OPERA SUMMER SEASON

Ongoing - July 2 | Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Puccini's *La Bohème* are a trio of operas about love to coincide with city-wide celebrations of 50th Anniversary of "Summer of Love" sfopera.com

MON • JOHN KERRY/PLOUGHSHARES

Mon Jun 5 | 6 pm | John Kerry negotiated the Iran nuclear agreement and the Paris climate accord — the two biggest threats to our planet today. Fort Mason, Cowell Theater, Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktail Reception. Fort Mason Ctr. TIX: ploughshares.org

TUE • 35TH SF JAZZ FESTIVAL

Tue Jun 6-18 | 43 concerts - 10 venues | To honor its 35 years, the festival hailed by London's *The Observer* as the "biggest and probably the best Jazz festival in the world", presents a phenomenal array of concerts: legendary masters alongside groundbreaking newcomers, time-honored traditions mixed with bold exploration, and players and sounds from around the globe & Bay Area. Info: sfjazz.org

TUE • BOOK CLUB

Tue Jun 6 | 7 pm | Erik Larson's book, *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*. The Merced Library Book Club meets bimonthly. New members are welcome. Info: (415) 355-2825.

TUE • AUTHOR CARA BLACK

Tue Jun 6 | 7 pm | Private eye Aimée Leduc is accosted by a Brigade Criminelle agent on an elite counterterrorism squad, just returned from Yugoslavia, where she was hunting down dangerous war criminals for the Hague. She begs Aimée to investigate—is it possible Mirko Vladić could be alive and in Paris with a blood vendetta? Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.

WED-ONGOING • A NIGHT WITH JANIS



Jun 7 - Jul 2 | Schedule varies | Like a comet that

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burns far too brightly to last, Janis exploded onto the music scene in '67 and, almost overnight, became the queen of rock 'n' roll. The unmistakable voice, laced with raw emotion and Southern Comfort, made her a must-see headliner from Monterey to Woodstock. A.C.T.'s Geary Theater, act-sf.org.

WED • DIGITAL PHOTOS

Wed Jun 7 | 2 - 4 pm | Dealing with Digital Photos. Knowledgeable library staff will demonstrate how to use your iPhone, smartphone, iPad, tablet, digital camera, computer, or other device to take, edit, store, and share photos and videos! No equipment needed, but feel free to bring your device along. All levels welcome.

THU • TOTAL WELLNESS

Thu Jun 8 | 11 am - 2 pm | Incorporating all facets of physical and mental wellness and a variety of health screenings, fitness demonstrations, over 65 health-related booths, raffle prizes! Embarcadero Ctr.2, 3 & 4, Front btw. Sacramento & Clay Streets.

FRI • RITE OF SPRING

Fri Jun 9, 10, 11 | 8 pm | SF Symphony's 'sl burst of color and excitement with Stravinsky's revolutionary *Le Sacre du printemps*, along with pianist Garrick Ohlsson, in Beethoven's First Piano Concerto. Davies Symphony Hall, Van Ness & Hayes. sfsymphony.org

SAT-SUN • CACTUS & SUCCULENT SALE

Sat-Sun Jun 10-11 | 9 am-5 pm | Colorful water-wise plants—so many choices your head will spin. Get inspired at the Plant Show featuring many exotic and rare succulents, cacti and bromeliads SF Succulent & Cactus Society's 30th Annual Show & Sale SF County Fair Building at 9th Ave and Lincoln

SAT • TASTE OF MENDOCINO

Sat Jun 10 | 1 - 5 pm | More than 30 Mendocino wineries will be pouring their best wines, and nu-

merous Mendocino County artisanal food producers will be serving up delicious bites to complement the wines Fort Mason Center, Gallery 308 | 21+.

SAT • 1901 STRIKE REENACTMENT

Sat Jun 10 | 12 & 2pm | Maritime National Historical Park will host reenactors to celebrate the labor strike of 1901, the costumed living history players depict the tense days that occurred between July 13 and October 2, 1901. Free. Hyde & Beach 447-5000 or nps.gov/safr

SAT • WORLD OCEAN CLEAN-UP

Sat Jun 10 | 10 am - 1 pm | Celebrate World Oceans Day at a beach cleanup. Please join us and our partners as we work to create a trash-free Bay and ocean! Acquatic Park. Hyde & Beach. Register Here: worldoceansday_aotbcleanup.eventbrite.com

SUN • CUESA SUMMER CELEBRATION

Sun Jun 11 | 6 - 9 pm | Eat Your Way Through the Best of the Season with 40 Top Restaurants + 20 Bars & Wineries. Benefit the Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture's work supporting local farms, such as Foodwise Kids cooking classes and the Schoolyard to Market youth entrepreneurship program. Ferry Building Marketplace is closed for a lavish walk-around feast where farmers market produce is the star. Market & Embarcadero. TIX \$50

MON • 86TH CALIF. BOOK AWARDS

Mon Jun 12 | 6 pm | Since 1931, this award has honored the Golden State's literary giants, bestowing gold and silver medals in categories including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, etc. \$10, 597-6705, 555 Post St. commonwealthclub.org

TUE • MAKE FROZEN CUSTARD

Tue Jun 13 | 6:30 | Join Bruno Tse from our neighborhood cafe, Rolling Out, as he demonstrates how to make frozen custard with dry ice. Tasting to follow! Parkside Branch Library, 1200 Taraval St.

80TH ANNUAL STERN GROVE FESTIVAL

Concerts start promptly at 2 pm, and end between 4:30 and 5:30 pm. Stern Grove is located at 19th Ave. and Sloat Blvd. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. Arrive early for best seating. Benches are reserved for seniors and disabled patrons and seats are first come, first served. Share the Space!

To ensure visibility for all patrons, tents and large shade structures are not allowed. If you have a small umbrella be aware that it must be down prior to and during the performance. Please bring only lawn chairs that are low to the ground with backs at shoulder height. Please be considerate so everyone can enjoy the day! INFO: sterngrove.org

TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue Jun 13 | 6-7 pm | Meet with Captain Denise Flaherty at Sunset Youth Services, 3918 Judah Street, taraval.org

TUE • SF FILM FEST/HISTORY



Tue Jun 13 | 7:30 pm | Art, Glamour, and Politics: The Early Years of the SF International Film Festival with Miguel Pendás. In its 60th year, — the dramatic story of how the longest-running film festival in the Americas came into being, using photos and film clips that made the festival one of the most respected in the world. Roosevelt Middle School Auditorium 460 Arguello Boulevard (at Geary Boulevard) SF Museum & Historical Society, \$10 non-members, \$5 students, K-12 teachers, seniors, PWDs.

TUE • DAMIEN ESCOBAR

Tue Jun 13 | 8 pm | Fame came early on in his teens when he, alongside his brother, appeared on “America’s Got Talent” a playing a blend of hip hop and classical melodies with a violin was somewhat surprising to viewers. Tickets: \$45 - 125 Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3301 Lyon palaceof-finearts.org



WED • IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ALLIES

Wed Jun 14 | 7 pm | Join immigrant rights activists for solutions, resources and volunteer opportunities to make a difference in your community. Parkside Branch Library, 1200 Taraval.

WED • VIGILANTES & DUELS

Wed Jun 14 | 7 pm | Monika Trobits examines the events that led to the formation of SF’s vigilante movements linking the 1859 Broderick-Terry duel —the first shot of the Civil War on the West Coast. Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

THU • EARTHQUAKE SAFETY FAIR

Thu Jun 15 | Noon - 7 pm | Be ready for the next big one! This free public seismic safety awareness event is for property owners and tenants to get answers from Dept of Building Inspection, Planning, Fire Dept, Emergency Management and others at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium (99 Grove Street.)

THU • TAKING ALCATRAZ

Thu Jun 15 | 6 pm | The occupation of Alcatraz, from Nov ‘69 to Jun ‘71. Filmmakers of Taking Alcatraz join Native Americans who occupied the island and supporters. Ca Historical Society, 678 Mission.

THU • STAR GAZER PARTY

Jun 15 | 8 – 11 pm | Come join us for our monthly City Star Party. SF Astronomers Assn. members provide telescopes for your viewing pleasure. Bldg. 103, Presidio Parade Grounds 103, Montgomery St. Be sure to check sfaa.org website for the latest updates. . .bad weather or overcast skies will cancel!

THU • PAINTED BIRD HOUSES

Thu Jan 15 | 6:30 - 8:30 | The West Portal Aristry and Craft Club meets the 3rd Thurs for conviviality and craft making. Sign up 355-2886 West Portal Branch Library, 190 Lenox Way.

SAT • JAPAN DAY

Sat Jun 17 | 1-5 pm | Celebrate the Japanese cultural heritage of Japantown! Enjoy Japanese artists from Tokyo, Chicago, Bay Area, music and dance. FREE Japantown Peace Plaza - Post & Webster Sts.

SUN • FATHER’S DAY BIKE-ABOUT

Sun Jun 18 | 8:30-11 am | Dad will love spending an hour-and-a half-cycling through the Zoo watching the animals start their day, and finish with a continental breakfast. RSVP includes parking & admission, but you must bring a bicycle. Members: \$25/\$30 Gen. Kids piggy-backing free. Sloat Blvd & Great Highway, sfzoo.org

SUN • FATHER’S DAY CRUISE

Sun Jun 18 |10:30 am | Treat Dad this Father’s Day

with an on The Bay water experience. Enjoy free-flowing beer, champagne & a hearty buffet while sitting on a Hornblower yacht. Pier 3, Embarcadero and Washington. RSVP: hornblower.com

SUN • NATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

Sun Jun 18 | 12 – 3 pm | California songstress L Frank (Tongva Ahachmem) sings a beautiful opening prayer; dance and song with the traditional Winama Ba-Kay Yachma Dance Group (California tribal), the inspired musical artistry of Audiopharmacy featuring Desirae Harp (Wappo/Navajo) and Ras K’Dee (Pomo); closing prayer song by Ohlone artist Kanyon Sayers-Rood. Esplanade, Yerba Buena Gardens Mission St. between 3rd & 4th Sts. 543-1718

MON • AUTHOR KAREN DIONNE

Mon Jun 19 | 7 pm | In *The Marsh King’s Daughter* a notorious child abductor escapes from a maximum security prison in remote wilderness, Helena is sure she can find him. After all, no one is The Marsh King’s equal navigating the marshland—except Helena his daughter. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.

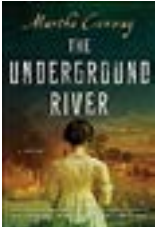


TUE • CHILDREN OF LOVE

Tue Jun 20 |6 pm | What happens to children with counter-culture background, growing up amid such unorthodox family dynamics? Three Bay Area authors—Alysia Abbott, Clane Hayward, Joshua Safran—with recent memoirs meet on the summer solstice to discuss their experiences growing up in the shadow of the Summer of Love. in partnership with Litquake. CA Historical Society, 678 Mission.

TUE • AUTHOR MARTHA CONWAY

Tue Jun 20 | 7 pm | *The Underground River*, set aboard a 19th century riverboat theater, a seamstress is blackmailed into saving runaways, jeopardizing her freedom, her livelihood, and a new love. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.



TUE • POLICE FORUM

Tue Jun 20 | 7 – 8pm | Taraval Community Police Forum with Guest Police Chief William Scott. Learn about the latest crime updates and public safety issues from the San Francisco Police Department and express your concerns and questions. Taraval Station Community Room | 2345 24th Ave.

TUE • SPA PRODUCTS

Tue Jun 20 | 7 pm | Make your own lip balm, sugar scrub, and air freshener! It’s fun, easy and all natural. Call 415-355-5770 or email psimgr@sfpd.org to register starting 6/6. Parkside Branch Library, 1200 Taraval St.

WED • LOW INCOME ENERGY HELP

Wed Jun 21 | 2 pm | Jennifer Chang of Catholic Charities OMI Senior Center will discuss the Home Energy Assistance Program and talk about affordable housing. Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

WED • POTHOLES!

Wed Jun 21 | 10 am | Govt Audit & Oversight Committee: Hearing on SF’s poor road conditions including analysis and mitigation strategies, and an update on Public Work’s Street Resurfacing Program

SAT • DEGAS/MILINARY



Jun 24–Sep 24 | Degas, Impressionism, and the Paris Millinery Trade. Best known for his depictions of Parisian dancers and laundresses, Edgar Degas was enthralled with high-fashion hats and the women who created them—what one fashion writer of the day called “the aristocracy of the work-women of Paris.” Legion of Honor. 100 34th Ave.

SAT • KOMBUCHA

Sat Jun 24 | 2:30 | Making kombucha at home doesn’t have to be difficult! Learn how with Karen

Solomon, author of *Asian Pickles* and *Jam It, Pickle It, Cure It*. Ortega Branch Library, 3223 Ortega St.

MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Mon Jun 26 | 7 pm | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss local topics the 4th Mon monthly. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. westoftwinpeaks.org

SUN • GAY PRIDE PARADE & CELEBRATION



Sun Jun 25- | 10 am-6 pm | The celebration is the largest LGBT gathering in the nation. Get ready for an enormous party with a large parade taking over the city, 300 exhibitors and 19 stages and venues. Several events are held throughout San Francisco during the week leading up to the weekend

SUN • STERN GROVE FESTIVAL KICK-OFF



Sun Jun 25| 2 pm | 80th Season kicks off in a big way with The Big Picnic starring **Kool & The Gang!** The Multi-Grammy award-winning funk band brings their signature sound and timeless hits. **Quinn DeVeaux** serves up early R&B, modern soul, and timeless blues. 19th Ave at Sloat sterngrove.org

MON • REPORTER LETOURNEAU

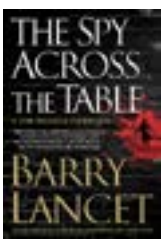
Mon Jun 26 | 7 pm | Connor Letourneau has been the beat writer covering the Warriors for the Chronicle this season. They have continued to set records this season as they seek to reclaim the NBA title. 1736 9th Ave.

MON • ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

Thu Jun 26 | 6 - 8 pm | SF’s newly-minted Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) program law presents an opportunity for building owners to construct new, additional units in their buildings. The panel discussion and a number of vendors and lenders can help you navigate the process. Jewish Community Center, 3200 California Street

TUE • AUTHOR BARRY LANCET

Tue Jun 27 | 7 pm | In *The Spy Across the Table*, the Kennedy Center murders were no random act of violence. The First Lady was the college roommate of one of the victims, and she enlists Brodie to track down the assassin, perhaps a master Chinese spy known only as Zhou—one of the most dangerous



men alive. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.

TUE • DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

Tue Jun 27 - Jul 23 | The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time—fifteen-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain but ill-equipped for everyday life. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor’s dog, he sets out to identify the true culprit. Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor. shnsf.com

THU • AUTHOR MEG GARDINER

Thu Jun 29 | 7 pm | *Unsub* is about a young detective determined to apprehend the never-caught Zodiac Killer who destroyed her family and terrorized a city twenty years earlier. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal



THU • RUBE GOLDBERG TIME!

Thu Jun 29 | 3:30 | Help us make a wacky, whimsical Rube Goldberg Machine, named after the San Francisco native. Materials provided, but bring your own objects if you like! Ortega Branch Library, 3223 Orgtega St.

FRI • OPERA AT THE BALLPARK

Fri Jun 30 | 7:30 pm | SF Opera returns to the home of the SF Giants for the eleventh Opera at the Ballpark with a free simulcast of Don Giovanni transmitted live from the stage of the War Memorial Opera House to AT&T Park’s high-definition scoreboard. Park concessions will be open for the simulcast, providing audiences the rare opportunity to pair hot dogs, nachos and garlic fries with world-class opera. 3rd St. & Embarcadero.

SUN • STERN GROVE FESTIVAL



Sun Jul 2 | 2 pm | Soulful local singer, musician and songwriter **Nicki Bluhm and The Gramblers** blend rock, country, blues and folk into an original sound. Oakland blues guitarist and singer **Fantastic Negrito** takes the stage on the heels of his Grammy win for Best Contemporary Blues Album this year. 19th Ave and Sloat Blvd.

SUN • ASIAN ART MUSEUM FREE DAY

Sun Jul 2 | 10 am-5 pm | Every first Sunday is free at the Asian Art Museum (save \$12) 17,000 artworks spanning 6 thousand years. Special exhibitions may require separate charges. 200 Larkin St.

Local event? Priority for Westside events
editor@westsideobserver.com

Planning Commission Hearing Proposed Medical Cannabis Dispensary At 2505 Noriega Street

As many neighbors are currently aware, there is a proposal to establish a Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) at 2505 Noriega Street (between 32nd and 33rd Ave). This proposal requires a Conditional Use Permit authorization from the Planning Department, and the hearing was originally scheduled for June 8th. Due to noticing issues, the Planning Commission will not be hearing the item on June 8th. Instead, the Commission will be continuing the item until potentially July 13th (to be confirmed by the Commission on June 8th).



Public comment will not be taken on the MCD on June 8th. If you attend that hearing, you would only be able to speak regarding the continuance of the item.

If you have any further questions or cannot attend any of the public hearings but would like to weigh in on the proposed MCD, please contact the Planning Department staff handling this project (Andrew Perry) by calling (415) 575-9017 or emailing Andrew.Perry@sfgov.org.

At the Theater • Flora & Linda

GOOD CLEAN STORY TELLING in SMUT

By Linda Ayres-Frederick

Word for Word, known for turning literature into theatre, has done another stellar job of bringing master storyteller **Alan Bennett's** novella *SMUT: An Unseemly Story* to hilarious life at the Z Below Theatre in San Francisco. This not-to-be-missed first production of Word for Word's 2017 Season is subtitled *The Greening of Mrs. Donaldson* and it explores the uncomfortable and tragicomic gap between people's public appearance and their private desires in the most tender and surprising of ways. Bennett is one of England's wittiest writers and is known for authoring a range of plays (*The History Boys* [Tony 2006], *Kafka's Dick*, *The Wind in The Willows*, *The Madness of George III*) and screenplays for film (*The Lady in The Van*, *A Private Function*, *Prick Up Your Ears*, and *The Madness of King George*). Bennett exposes a particularly English form of secrecy in this story of the unexpected in otherwise ordinary lives.

Mrs. Donaldson, charmingly played by Word for Word Charter Member **Nancy Shelby**, is a recently and moderately bereaved widow who is left with far less income than she anticipated. To supplement her income, she finds employment as a simulated patient for medical students, which leads to another source of income: renting out her spare room to medical students **Laura** (the delightfully athletic **Rosie Hallett**) and **Andy** (an adventurous and amorous **Andre Amarotico**). Mrs. D soon discovers that in spite of her middle-class sensibilities and the objections of her daughter **Gwen** (the multi-faceted **Delia McDougall**), she enjoys her hospital role-playing and the unexpected entertainment provided by her tenants.

The perfectly cast ensemble in multiple roles includes Word for Word Charter Member **Patricia Silver** as the more experienced (she'll have you know) medical patient **Violet Beckinsale**. **Soren Oliver** is the imposing professor **Dr. Duncan Ballantyne** who, smitten with Mrs. Donaldson, takes us on an intricate journey to overcome his inherently shy nature; practicing his wooing on the model skeleton is



Flora Lynn Isaacson



Linda Ayres-Frederick

nothing short of hilarious. **Phil Wong** is a lesson in himself as the student **Roswell**, head in clipboard, unable to maintain eye contact with the patients. **Robert Parsons** surprises us behind a microphone, crooning one of the show-stopping numbers. And Charter Member **Delia MacDougall** in her role as **Delia** is the picture of fear and frustration, stressed to the point of a stuttering near mute.

Director **Amy Kosow** keeps the pace moving and the comic moments coming in this first of two novella-sized stories in *SMUT*. **Jeff Rowlings'** set transitions from English parlor to medical theatre to bedroom to karaoke club in the blink of an eye, and **Drew Yerys'** Sound Design, couldn't be better to convey the sensuous nature of the show. Aided by **Callie Floor's** careful eye for costume design, *SMUT* is one of those truly enjoyable pieces of theatre that enables us to laugh and celebrate the details of life that are so recognizably human!

SMUT runs through June 11 at Z Below, Z Space's second venue, at 470 Florida St. Wed-Thur 7 pm, Fri-Sat 8 pm, Sun 3 pm. Tickets: \$40-\$60, no additional fees. 415-626-0453 or at www.zspace.org

TRACY LETTS' AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY

by Flora Lynn Isaacson

This drama scored a rare trifecta: winning a Tony Award, a Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and Drama Desk Award. The NTC production is Directed by **Terry McGovern** and **Nan Ayers**, it is produced by **Kim Bromley** and **Sandy Lelich**.

One of the very nice things about the Novato Theater is the intimacy of the theater. This critic has had the opportunity to see this play twice in the Bay Area, by two different theater companies, and both productions were excellent, each in its own way.

The time is August 2007. The setting is a large country home in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 60 miles from Tulsa. As I take my seat, I am greeted by the **Eugene de Christopher** and **Sandy Lelich** wonderful (appropriately shabby) set. There is a dining table stage right behind which is a descending staircase and, on the upper level, a couch which makes up into a bed. Stage Left has bookshelves and a small table with a couple of chairs.

The action takes place over several weeks at the home of **Beverly** and **Violet Weston**. **Beverly** is an alcoholic and a former poet. **Sheriff Gilbeau**, portrayed by **Jeffrey Taylor**, comes in to announce that **Beverly** has drowned. In Act 2, the family gathers after the funeral.

Beverly is played quite well by **William Peden**. Pill-popping **Violet** (**Shirley Nilsen Hall**) steals the show. **Hall** is ably supported by the rest of the cast: **Barbara** (**Heather Shepardson**), **Ivy** (**Molly McCarthy**); **Karen** (**Miriam Ani**); **Bill** (**Ken Bacon**); **Jean** (**Caitlin Strom-Martin**); **Steve** (**Montgomery Paulsen**); **Mattie**

Fei (**Sandi Weldon**); **Charlie** (**Richard Kerrigan**); **Little Charles** (**Jesse Lumb**); **Johnna** (**Cindy Calderon**).

Heather Shepardson is wonderful as **Barbara** and **Molly McCarthy's** portrayal of **Ivy**, is admirable as the little daughter who never left home. **Sandi Weldon** is quite strong, fielding many scenes with great humor, as **Violet's** sister, **Mattie Fei**. **Ken Bacon** ably plays **Bill**, the estranged husband, and **Miriam Ani** brings admiration to the warden's youngest daughter, **Karen**, who maintains a positive outlook.

The sound design by **Terry McGovern** is an exceptional complement to **Mark Clark's** fine choreography. (Mark Clark also produced the program.) **Mark Shepard's** graphic designs are stellar. Costumes by **Adrianna Gutierrez** are excellent, as is the lighting by **Electric Bill**.

Congratulations to NTC on another great season of entertainment!

Coming up next will Novato Theater Company start its 2017-2018 season on September 7th with Rumors by Neil Simon and directed by Trevor Scott Floyd.

Bay Area Premier of Rajiv Joseph's Guards at the Taj

Prior to this production, this Critic saw two wonderful productions by **Rajiv Joseph** at the San Francisco Playhouse. They were called *Animals out of Paper* and *van Gogh Tiger at The Baghdad Zoo*.

However, *Guards at the Taj* is whole other type of play. When we enter to go to our seats

Cont. p. 16

Overcoming Ocean Obstacles

by Nora Hall

Ignorance is Paradise

Coral reefs, unbeknownst to many, are more than just beautiful rocks. They are living animals that protect coastlines, provide food and shelter for over 25% of marine organisms, yield \$500M worth of protein, provide opportunities for biotechnology and energy, assist with nutrient cycling, and generate billions of dollars in tourism annually. They are teeming with diversity, and yet, most coral reefs remaining in the world are degraded and bleached due to ocean stressors such as increasing temperature, pollution and runoff, overfishing, and ocean acidification, to name a few. The Maldives often sparks imagery of pristine, sandy beaches and beautiful, secluded resorts – the “island life.” However, what I discovered from our 2016 Expedition to the Maldives is that this image holds true to those that have not been exposed to – or choose to look away from – the truth, including wealthy politicians, visiting foreigners, and the rest of the outside world, including my former self. The disparate behavior and advantages of the wealthy and ignorant is crudely exposed when resorts are situated adjacent to islands inhabited by locals.

The many islands that make up the Maldives face serious challenges, especially related to climate change and human impacts. Sea levels are rising and so is the competition for space, with over 133,000 people living in an area of just 2.2 sq mi in Malé. I saw island governance struggle to obtain basic living needs to help their communities survive and maintain good health, while some individuals thrive on monetary gain from tourism and development. Although I knew about these environmental issues before this expedition, I hadn't anticipated the human element would be as challenging to grasp in person, and would shake up what I thought I understood about people and our environment. Below are my notes on what I witnessed and learned about these needs, based on my visits to different islands and discussions with locals. My understanding scratches just the surface of a tumultuous history rooted in corruption and economic strife. Ironically, the hand that feeds the economy (wealthy foreign countries), is pushing this nation towards a literal drowning.

Clean Drinking Water

With the average island height 3ft above sea level, any available groundwater is highly susceptible to pollution and contamination from human waste and salt water. The tsunami in 2004 brought this to great attention after its destruction left 79 islands without safe drinking water. The rise of sea levels submerged the entire nation in inches of water that destroyed groundwater, soil fertility, and 50% of rainwater tanks. UNICEF provided rainwater harvesting tanks and several desalination units to islands in 2005, however, I learned that the amount of water collected is not



A resort on one island, that used to be inhabited by locals.

enough to accommodate a year's supply, and many of these units need repair. When fresh water runs out (or is not there to begin with), islands rely on the shipment of plastic bottled water by boat. This perpetuates the issue of plastic waste, and the enormity of use is both unavoidable and the evidence is ubiquitous.

Waste Management (sewage)

Most island communities rely on pumping raw sewage into the ground. Due to the height of islands, waste often overflows directly into surrounding swimming and fishing beaches. I did not see any septic tanks/treatment on the islands I visited, but I am told Malé and resorts are equipped with such facilities, although all physical waste is still shipped to “Trash Island” for burning, whether or not visitors are aware.



A barge brings waste to Thilafushi, nicknamed “Trash Island.”

Waste Management (garbage, plastic)

Many island communities resort to burning trash, as they lack adequate infrastructure to sort, recycle, and compost. Besides the enormous amount of smoke ingestion, toxic chemicals leach into the ocean where kids play, people fish, and tourists come to see the beautiful coral reefs. When we moored near an island coined “Trash Island,” and barges overloaded with trash bags continually passed us while fires burned nearby, it's no surprise some of us experienced stomach pains and dizziness.

Visiting one island, we saw a section of the beach that had previously been reserved as a “pen” for trash to wash into the sea. When they ran out of space and guests at neighboring resorts complained of seeing trash in the reefs, they began to burn the trash on land, next to a school. Locals

Cont to page 17



Malé, the capital of the Maldives and one of the most densely populated cities in the world.

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Where Friends Meet

Housing (Cont. from p. 1)

new net affordable housing in D-4, remaining stagnant at just 10 net new affordable units over the past three housing balance reports, compounded by affordable housing units removed in D-4 that have fluctuated between 389 lost units in Report 2 to 437 lost units as of the most current Report 5 (including overlaps across reports). And Tang is the one brazenly pushing the alternative HOME-SF legislation, “inclusionary affordable housing” be damned?

With over half of the Mayor’s 30,000 units built or rehabilitated in only three years, why is the cost of housing rising?

Mayor Lee and his housing allies at San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), the Housing Action Coalition (HAC), the San Francisco Renters Federation (BARF), and Yes In My Back Yard (YIMBY) all believe that by building more housing, the average price of a unit of housing will decrease in San Francisco. That has yet to trickle down to lower housing prices.

The Mayor and these pro-development groups receive funding from pro-development contributors, developers, and high-tech companies. Not surprisingly, the people who make donations get to help shape politician’s opinions, and/or each organization’s pro-development policies.

Watch how these connected groups work together to build more housing. SPUR, which likes to bill itself as a “think tank,” writes a report on how San Francisco needs more housing. In 2013, SPUR’s Director, Gabriel Metcalf, then wrote an article that stated that San Francisco needed to build 5,000 units of housing annually. HAC, a group founded by Metcalf, is a lobbyist for developers. Tim Colen, the former Executive Director of HAC, is now on the YIMBY Board of Directors. Last and least, BARF helped to found YIMBY.

SPUR rewarded YIMBY and HAC with the following forum at SPUR’s downtown headquarters on May 8:

“The Bay Area’s housing shortage has led to a grassroots movement of millennials who say ‘yes’ to the building of high-density housing. In a conversation fueled by soaring real estate prices, by threats to the environment and by an increasingly homogeneous society, learn from three individuals on the front line about how they’re leading the pro-housing movement. Co-presented by SPUR.”

The three individuals who presented at the forum were, Laura Foote Clark from YIMBY Action, Kim-Mai Cutler from Initialized Capital, and Corey Smith from HAC. Admission was free for SPUR and HAC members, and \$10 for non-members.

It sounds like non-millennials missed a good program.

Meanwhile, BARF is dedicated to suing people with different opinions than building for millennials. BARF’s director, Sonya Trauss, says, on BARF’s website:

“Last year we raised and spent or committed about \$250,000. Last year’s expenses were one full time employee (me, Sonja) and two lawsuits. Next year’s expenses will be two full time employees (welcome aboard Brian Hanlon) and at least twice as many lawsuits. We made incredible progress this year, but we also let good lawsuits pass because we didn’t have the resources to pursue them.”

Although the Mayor’s simplistic trickle-down housing plan of “build it and they will come” has been successful in building more units, the density program has failed to reduce unit prices. In fact, the program has made units smaller and increased the costs of housing units.

In San Francisco, when unit production goes up, unit prices will also go up for the following reasons: 1) New housing construction represents a small amount of total construction — approximately 18%; 2) In San Francisco, there is little land on which to build housing; and 3) A number of market rate units in San Francisco are being purchased by speculators and will primarily serve to house multi-millionaires, while lining the pockets of realtors, landlords, and developers, without any meaningful improvement in housing affordability.

“New development in the City may lower prices regionally even while it raises prices in a specific neighborhood. An increase in units in San Francisco may lead to lower costs in San Mateo and higher costs in the City.”

William Fulton the author of *Guide to California Planning* wrote:

“The folks taking the cool jobs may not be uber-rich, but they have tons more money than everybody else, and so they drive prices out of sight. Build more market-rate housing, and you’ll just accelerate the cycle – more smart kids will show up wanting to work for tech start-ups, and that means you’ll have more tech start-ups, and pretty soon demand will rise faster than supply – in large part because you increased the supply.”

There are better ways to solve the San Francisco housing crisis than simply building for the sake of density and extra property taxes for the City. A new program that helps senior citizens share extra space in their homes is called *HomeMatch*.

Homeowners will have an additional source of income and companionship. Both parties can agree to an exchange of services for reduced rent.

HomeMatch is a joint program of Northern California Presbyterian Homes and Services and Episcopal Senior Communities and is partially funded by the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development. It was conceived by San Francisco Supervisors, who sought to ease the housing shortage for students, teachers, non-profit staff, health care workers, and other low- and moderate-income renters.

For more information on Homematch either email them at info@homematchsf.org or call them at 415 351-1000.

Homematch’s services are free of charge to anyone who qualifies for the program. They provide interviews, applications, background screening, and assist with the housing agreement for all parties involved; mediation and referral services are available as needed.

Parties are matched based on compatible living styles, and have an opportunity to describe their ideal home arrangement, personal characteristics, and other factors regarding living with another person. Parties meet and decide if they are a good fit for each other.

District 7 has 16,930 (23.7%) people who are at least 60 years old, and 3,068 of them live alone.

District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee is very excited about the potential of HomeMatch to help the elderly and said:

“When I was growing up, family members took care of each other. My parents sacrificed so much to raise me and my four siblings, to make sure we had a roof over our heads, food on the table and a better future. That’s why when my parents and aunt became older and less able to care for themselves, I wanted to return at least a fraction of the care they had given us. It was important for me to show my parents and my aunt the love, respect, and dignity they deserved in their old age. Though it was challenging at times — both emotionally and financially — to be their primary caregiver, I don’t regret any of it. I am grateful for the years I spent caring for my parents and my aunt before they passed away, and hope that more family members will commit to caring for their own parents as they age.

Though I managed to care for my elderly parents, we could have used additional support, like in-home health care workers. Also, I understand that not everyone has the means to care for their aging parents, so that’s why we need to support other programs such as HomeMatch SF.”

According to the 2000–2010 San Francisco Housing census, there are 31,131 vacant housing units (8.3%) in San Francisco. The next census will be taken in 2020. With programs like HomeMatch, existing vacancies, and the units being built, everyone should have a place to live — but it will still be very expensive to live here, in part because housing “supply and demand” isn’t working.

George Wooding, Coalition For San Francisco Neighborhoods

Do you have a pinched nerve? We can help.

Dear friend,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Here is what some of your neighbors have said:

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

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

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

My qualifications:

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

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

Thank you.—Dr. Christina Meakim D.C.

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

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

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



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Theater (Cont. from p. 14)

we are greeted by **Annie Smart’s** brilliant set at the entrance to the Taj in 1948 Agra, India. When two station guards (**Jason Kapoor** as Humayun and **Rushi Kota** as Babur) get swept up in their curiosity and doubt, their seemingly straight-forward-past becomes far more complex, and their friendship and wills are tested. Combining well-placed comedic dialogue (as in Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*) and physicality with the heartbreaking obsession with being human, Joseph’s production explores depth of irony with a dark side that will keep you on the edge of your seat. Although the guards are to stand in silence, as they protect the Taj, Joseph gives them some dialogue to define their personalities. In the process, Humayun attempts to silence Babur – without success.

Jasson Minadakis’ direction is outstanding, and this play is beautifully acted by the two guards. **Jason Kapoor** does a fantastic job as an actor, and **Rushi Kota** does an ambitious job. Humayun has a great desire to advance to a better station in life; while Rushi’s happy-go-lucky Babur denies any ambition at all. The climactic ending will shock you.

Particularly effective are the contributions by the Creative Team; such as the sets and scenic design by **Annie Smart**, the clever costumes by **Fumiko Bielefeldt**, and the atmospheric light Hindustani music and sound design by **Chris Houston**. Other contributions that add to the atmosphere are the Lighting Design by **Mike Post**, the Stage Manager, **Sean McStravick**, the Prop Master **Lizabeth Stanley**, the Casting Director, **Dori Jacob**, and the Dramaturg, **Laura A. Brueckner**, and finally the contributions of the Assistant Director **Madison Gordon**.

Guards at the Taj has finished its run.

Coming up next from June 8 thru July 2 will be *The Legend of Georgia McBride* by **Matthew Lopez**, and Directed by **Kent Gash**.
Flora Lynn Isaacson



Laguna Honda Station with Municipal Bus 019 Parked in Front | March 17, 1927 | 1 Monterey Park busline. Photo Courtesy of the SFMTA



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BRAIN FÜD

A Baked Treat

Riddles are little poems or phrases that pose a question that needs answering. Riddles frequently rhyme, but this is not a requirement.

(Thing 1)
I, at the start, am old
Many centuries I’ve been told
Used by the Greeks
For counting techniques
After things were bought and sold

Later is when I became known
As an infinite figure, when shown
You’ve counted my spaces
Over two billion places
And still, my amount is unknown

(Thing 2)
I, too, am not young
I’m almost as old as Thing 1
I’m just a frog
On the natural log
But I can make counting fun

(Thing 1 and Thing 2)
When you combine us two
In the order of Thing 1 and Thing 2
We’ll be a baked treat
That’s painful to beat
Whether cherry, peach, or aloo

Answer

Thing 1: “Pie”
base of the natural logarithm.
Thing 2: “e,” the
(an alloo pie is a
together, “Pie”
potato pie)

			5				8	
3	1				8			
		2		9	6			3
7						8		4
			4	1	2			
2		4						4
5			2	8		4		
			3				9	6
	4				5			

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.

8	2	2	5	9	6	1	4	7
9	6	5	1	7	1	2	8	3
1	1	7	2	8	2	9	6	5
5	1	6	1	2	8	7	9	2
2	9	1	2	1	7	8	5	6
7	2	8	6	5	9	1	1	2
1	5	2	7	9	6	1	2	8
6	4	9	8	2	2	5	1	1
2	8	1	4	5	5	6	2	9



By Julie Casson



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Inclusionary Housing (Cont. from p. 4)

Goal for “Above-Moderate” households, built 62.5% of the goal for “Very-Low Income” households, built just 30% of the allocation goal for “Low-Income” households, and built only 19% of the goal for “Moderate-Income” households.

Unfortunately, Planning Department RHNA reports don’t document what proportion of the “Above Moderate” housing goals or actual housing constructed went to “Upper Income” households earning more than 150% of AMIs. The “Upper Income” category is probably all market-rate housing units, and perhaps a good chunk of the “Above Moderate” units may also be market-rate units.

Then there’s the issue of RHNA goals that *weren’t* met in the eight-year period between 2007 and 2014. Fully 10,738, or 34.4%, of units *weren’t* built. Why aren’t those unmet goals rolled over and added onto the subsequent eight-year reporting period for 2015–2022? Or does ABAG simply “forgive” the municipality for *not* having built those units, and everyone simply forgets RHNA goals weren’t met?

Another potential problem involves deed restrictions. Fully 1,877 (9.2%) of the units in the combined “Very Low,” “Low,” and “Moderate” income units constructed don’t have “affordable income limit” deed restrictions. Years from now (or even sooner), those units that don’t have deed restrictions to maintain them as affordable units may face rent increases and may end up becoming market-rate units.

Deed-restricted units are legally bound to rent or sell to households under income limits at a price to guarantee affordability of those units for a minimum time period, usually 55 years.

Notably, neither the “Above Moderate” and “Upper Income” income levels face deed restrictions to set sales prices that are “affordable” and they are not guaranteed to be affordable. It’s clear developers are looking for the sky’s-the-limit at setting market-rate sales prices!

The Sudden Inclusionary Housing “Deal”

The dueling proposals for Inclusionary Housing amendments purportedly reached a “deal” on Wednesday, May 17 reported in the *San Francisco Examiner* on Friday, May 19.

Unfortunately, the actual “compromise” legislation wasn’t posted online in advance of its Land Use Committee hearing on May 22. Lacking both a Legislative Analysis and the actual compromise legislation itself, there was no way to confirm or analyze details of the proposed “deal” prior to the deadline to submit this article for publication in the *Westside Observer*.

The *Examiner* reported the “deal” would require “developers of large rental projects with at least 25 units who choose to build affordable housing on-site would be required to designate 18% of units as affordable,” and that number would grow to 19% in 2018 and then gradually grow an additional 5% to 24% by 2027.

Great! We’ll only have to wait another decade to get back up to the 24% of affordable on-site units of the Peskin-Kim proposal. That’s another decade for developers to make another ____-load of profits!

The *Examiner’s* article noted the “deal” reached would decrease the percentage of affordable housing developers *must* build on-site under Prop. “C,” “except for in the two neighborhoods most impacted by the housing crisis until further study.” The *Examiner* didn’t indicate which two neighborhoods might be exempted.

One reasonable question is: How much affordable housing will be lost during the 10-year period it takes to move the dial back up to 24% for rental housing in 2027? The *Examiner* reported no details about sales (ownership) units, or how the “deal” may have reached compromises on ownership units.

The *Examiner* concluded saying the revised “proposal is expected to reach the Land Use and Transportation Committee on Monday and the full Board of Supervisors for a vote Tuesday.” (May 23)

Committee Hearing (May 22, 2017)

The legal language of the compromise amendments to the inclusionary housing ordinance *wasn’t* online for members of the public to examine 72 hours in advance of the Land Use hearing May 22 in order to adequately understand and prepare testimony regarding the proposed new “deal.”

Committee Chair Supervisor Farrell admitted there had been “massive changes” and the Ordinance may now be 40 pages long, none of which were made public.

Farrell ended up continuing the single, compromise inclusionary housing proposal. Now the public will have time to see the single consolidated version of the combined “deal,” and there will be time to post both a Legislative Analysis and the final legislation online prior to June 5.

Several people who testified on May 22 noted the inclusionary legislation we’ve had for 15 years would become moot, given the HOME-SF legislation proposed by Supervisor Katy Tang and the Mayor since housing developers will likely opt to use the less stringent HOME-SF formulas for density bonuses rather than comply with the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.

CSFN president George Wooding’s article in the May 2017 *Westside Observer* — *Tang’s Radical Housing Proposal* — was right on target, warning Tang’s HOME-SF proposal is toxic, pitting middle-income against lower-income households!

Peter Cohen, co-director of CCHO, testified, in part: “We are concerned that we have a separate inclusionary [affordable housing] ordinance that is not consistent with that [HOME-SF]. So we do ask that these two mirror each other. If ‘inclusionary’ [goals] is not embedded in HOME-SF, at least they should mirror each other.”

Granting Developers “Sanctuary”

Are we granting developers “sanctuary” from building affordable housing? And are we granting them sanctuary to reap as many profits as they can eke out over the next ten years?

There’s a final clue about development of affordable housing from the Housing Balance Reports Supervisor Jane Kim managed to require be provided from the Planning Department every six months.

Since the first Housing Balance Report in July 2015, the percentage of net *new* affordable housing produced has plummeted from 30% to just 22% across an essentially two-year period and five housing balance reports. The projected housing balance citywide still stands at just 14%.

It’s clear that when developers are left to their own devices, they have little interest in developing *new* affordable housing and prefer to pay the in-lieu fee rather than building new affordable housing.

It appears the Board of Supervisors caved in to the Safai-Breed-Tang deal, and the “consensus” deal reached will hand developers their 82% license to build more and more market-rate housing, at least for the majority of the next decade through 2027. Take that to the “anti-gentrification” bank.

We’ll have to see, when Land Use takes up this issue again on June 5.

Do we want to be a “Sanctuary City for Developers” to maximize their profits? Or do we want to be a Sanctuary City for all San Franciscans seeking affordable housing, without pitting neighbor against neighbor?

Contact the Board of Supervisors and urge them to increase inclusionary affordable housing requirements *now*, don’t wait until 2027 to do so.

Monette-Shaw harbors no presumption of being a public policy or housing subject-matter expert. As a columnist, he has many First Amendment opinions on housing.

The full version of this article posted on www.stopLHHdownsize.com contains expanded information.

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. Contact him at monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com.

Ocean Obstacles (Cont. from p. 14)

attempt to sort electronics and scrap metal before the burns, but these materials usually pile up since they require someone to voluntarily take them to other islands for reuse. This particular island is considered one of the leading in environmental health and safety.

At this island we also spoke to a council member about his initiative to ban plastic bags, which was driven by 1) his desire to eradicate what they see as a preventable waste, and more so, 2) the negative feedback from tourists at the adjacent resorts, ultimately threatening the jobs of many who depend on tourism for income. Thus, it seems economic pressure drives good deeds unintentionally (i.e. the environment and communities are the benefactors). However, to my surprise, this is not the majority of cases – most people I met wanted to see the health of their country and families improve. These heroes host beach cleanups, voluntarily pioneer waste collection and disposal for their island, endlessly plea for support from council members, and persevere in united causes with no support or resources. They continue to fight even when they’re outnumbered.



Surveying where trash was recently disposed on Bodufolhudhoo, compared to where it is currently burned, adjacent to a swimming beach.

bered or constantly told no.

This subject moved me the most, as its direct impacts were evident and immediate. I also spent most of my academic years studying the effects of pollution and its impacts to surrounding communities and ecosystems, specifically coral reefs. As with the rest of the world, the waste we produce must end up somewhere. The average person produces over 4lbs of waste per day and, considering plastics never biodegrade, the rate of consumption is overwhelming in a densely populated place with inadequate and out-of-sight disposal facilities.

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

When I was young I lived on an island where everyone burned their rubbish, because making the journey to the mainland was costly. I didn’t see the problem in this at the time, and quite frankly as much of an asthmatic environmentalist as I am, every individual at the end of the day needs to make a living. I saw changes only when the government installed a successful recycling program with penalties for violators. Despite witnessing community change as a result from top-down driven penalties, incentives, and education, the most surprising and moving realization I’m taking away from our expedition to the Maldives is that all efforts to positively influence the environment was coming from individuals, sometimes at the stake of sacrificing livelihood.

These basic needs are strongly interconnected, and an emerging common theme



Hydrous team speaks to a council member on Bodufolhudhoo. is that responsibility is easily relieved by an “out of sight, out of mind” mentality. It’s a human characteristic that I understand all too well, living in a country that produces some of the world’s highest amount of waste and greenhouse gases annually. I’ve lived my whole life without having to correlate basic necessities with luxuries because they are provided without fail, but this often comes with a price tag of excess or naivety, the repercussions of both falling on smaller nations. For instance, the Maldives are responsible for just 0.01% of global greenhouse gases, but they suffer due to collective harm from other countries.

Towards the end of our time in the Maldives, we took a trip to Malé, the capital. Outside of the markets along the harbor, I saw trash, dead fish, and an oil slick floating amid the docked boats. Somehow seeing waste directly in my face makes it alarmingly grotesque, even though it’s nothing compared to the scale the US produces. This final thought before I went home, to a country where “environmental support” is not considered an excessive commodity, made me think about how we often separate ourselves geographically and responsibly by social status, and arbitrary country and ocean borders. Regardless of how much we increase our “green” efforts in the US, we are guilty if we do not do something to help the Maldives, because their problems are a result of our ignorance and enormity of waste. Pollution and harm on one shore is akin to a stab from a knife – eventually that bleeding seeps to our shore. We are all one ocean that all of life on land depends on.

Looking back at the tsunami of 2004, experts say that without the protection of surrounding coral reefs, islands could have suffered much worse damage. These necessary, but threatened ecosystems, deserve to be seen and placed front of mind when we think of the future we want for ourselves and communities.

Nora Hall is a Westside Marine Biologist

Note: Having visited the Maldives for only a few weeks as an outsider, these are my personal reflections from interacting with local people, hearing their stories, and seeing impacts first hand; not how I think or feel people should live or want to live their life.



and along the Great Highway. The Sunday



It is estimated that 60% of coral reef cover was lost during the 2016 bleaching event.

Laguna Honda(Cont. from p. 1)

services, patients may be admitted to LHH for MAID.

Since Oregon’s 1997 Death with Dignity Act, Washington, Montana, Vermont, California, and Colorado, have adopted similar laws. Oregon data shows that 1,749 terminally-ill patients were prescribed lethal drugs resulting in 1,127 deaths. In other words, one-third decided not to use the drugs. Last year, just 0.37% of all Oregon deaths resulted from MAID. Overwhelmingly, they were over 65, white, college-educated cancer patients with 90% enrolled in Hospice. Only 5% took MAID in long-term care facilities like LHH. The prime reasons for seeking aid-in-dying were existential; loss of control, unbearable quality of life, and loss of dignity. In 19 years, no complaints of MAID abuse have been reported. The MAID advocacy group Compassion and Choices describes the experience in a video for patients

To qualify for MAID, patients must be California residents, at least 18 years old, and terminally ill with less than 6 months to live. They must have the capacity to make informed medical decisions – and be able to self-administer the drug. Because patients in Skilled Nursing Facilities are vulnerable to coercion and despair, the LHH protocol ensures that MAID requests are voluntary and rational. Patients must personally request MAID from their physician. No one can do so on their behalf. They must understand and communicate the nature and consequences of MAID. The physician assesses the patient’s eligibility and offers alternate options like Hospice Care, palliative sedation, ending life-prolonging treatment, or voluntarily refusing food and drink.

After waiting 15 days, patients are referred to a consulting physician to verify their eligibility for MAID. If approved, patients then submit a written attestation, witnessed by two persons, affirming that the decision is voluntary and without undue influence. Only one witness can be a relative or a hospital employee. Involved doctors cannot be witnesses. For patients with limited English proficiency, a certified DPH translator must explain each step. Disagreements about whether MAID is appropriate or voluntary require a referral to the LHH Ethics Committee. Concerns about a patient’s mental state or judgment require evaluation and clearance by a Psychiatrist or Psychologist. The review takes 3 weeks at minimum, and likely twice as long. In Oregon, the median is 7 weeks. The decision can be rescinded at any time.

Days after the written attestation, a prescription is made out for 10 grams (100 capsules) of the sedative Seconal, along with pills to prevent vomiting. The medications are provided 48 hours before the planned ingestion. The patient must self-administer the drugs and is reminded that it’s OK not to take them. To mask the bitterness, the capsules are emptied into half a cup of juice or apple sauce then swallowed within 2 minutes. In Oregon, half of the patients passed out after 5 minutes but a few stayed awake for an hour. Most died within an hour, though some lingered for 1 to 4 days. The cocktail can be modified to speed up the effect. A physician fills out the death certificate listing the underlying terminal illness as the cause of death. By law, MAID is not suicide and does not affect insurance coverage.

All MAID prescriptions and related deaths are reviewed by the State Department of Justice and Department of Public

Health (CDPH), respectively. Annually, the CDPH will publicly report the number of prescriptions and deaths with demographic data, keeping patient identities confidential.

MAID is controversial and emotive. Catholic doctrine opposes it, as does the Hippocratic Oath and the American Medical Association though the California Medical Association takes a “neutral” stance. Some disability rights groups believe that MAID reflects a fear of disability, thereby devaluing the lives of disabled persons. They warn that poor quality of life may be due to poor quality of care. Traditionally, Hospice care neither prolonged nor hastened the dying process. Accordingly, the Act allows health care providers and hospitals to opt out. Catholic hospitals like St. Mary’s and St. Francis prohibit MAID. So does the VA hospital system. The Vitas Hospice chain and Hospice by the Bay will not prescribe MAID.

Commendably, LHH conducted a staff survey before introducing its MAID policy. Only 5 doctors in the pool of 24 ward physicians agreed to participate. Support seems spotty among nurses, most of whom are Filipino and Catholic. LHH did not disclose how many staff refused to participate. Or how many declined to be surveyed, resulting in a “low” response rate. LHH acknowledged “challenges that needed to be addressed for conscientious objectors” without explanation. Staff who oppose MAID on ethical, cultural or religious grounds are free to opt out. Accordingly, MAID will be offered Monday through Friday during the daytime when enough supportive staff are available. Patients will be afforded a private room on the Palliative Care Service which is accustomed to caring for the dying and their families.

LHH patients, who are largely poor and non-white, were not surveyed. Neither were DPH patients. So there’s no data on the demand for MAID. A UC Berkeley poll showed that 76% of California voters support MAID, dropping to 52% among African-Americans. No one has polled terminally ill patients. Offering MAID without pushing it or alarming patients will be a challenge.

Apart from those who request MAID, who benefits? The DPH Flow Project rushes non-paying SFGH patients into LHH to relieve crowding and cut costs. In October 2012, DPH Director Barbara Garcia listed “freeing up beds at LHH” as a priority. In a May 2014 “Patient Flow” presentation, LHH reaffirmed its commitment to “increasing bed utilization and turnover” by increasing discharges, reducing lengths of stay and favoring short-term admissions. However, discharges are hampered by the lack of nursing homes, residential care beds and supportive housing in the City. MAID could open beds. Then there’s Valeant, the manufacturer of Seconal that doubled the drug’s price one month after the California bill was introduced. MediCal will cover the \$4,000 cost. Lastly, LHH officials may gain recognition by presenting the MAID program in professional articles and conferences. To protect patient interests from potential institutional and professional ones, LHH should include the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman in the process.

Dr. Maria Rivero and Dr. Derek Kerr were senior physicians at Laguna Honda Hospital where they repeatedly exposed wrongdoing by the Department of Public Health. Contact: DerekOnVanNess@aol.com



“A physician fills out the death certificate listing the underlying terminal illness as the cause of death. By law, MAID is not suicide and does not affect insurance coverage.”

Education Carol Kocivar ©2017

Congratulation Graduates!



One of the best times of the year is graduation—that celebration of hopes and dreams. A time for reflection and a few wise words.



Funny, prophetic, inspiring, or just heartfelt, graduation speeches give us a bit of a “time-out” to consider advice for a new generation.

Good News in California

The good news in California is that more and more students get a chance to hear those speeches. High school graduation rates are up, for the seventh year in a row. 83.2 percent of students graduated with their class in 2016. The state’s graduation rate has increased 8.5 percentage points since the class of 2010 posted a 74.7 percent rate.

And the percentage of students who meet the college minimum course requirement is also up, from about 38 % in 2011-12 to over 43% in 2015-15.

A Few Wise Words

Sometimes the ideas and words of graduation speeches last longer than just a few moments. Here are a few to share...

“Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. And, most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.”

Steve Jobs Stanford 2005

“You cannot be really first rate at your work if your work is all you are....All of you want to do well. But if you do not do good, too, then doing well will never be enough.”

Anna Quindlen Villanova 2000

“The most important words that have helped me in life when things have gone right or when things have gone wrong are ‘accept responsibility.’

Billie Jean King University of Massachusetts

“Follow your passion, stay true to yourself, never follow someone else’s path unless you’re in the woods and you’re lost and you see a path then by all means you should follow that.”

Ellen DeGeneres Tulane University 2009

Congratulations to this year’s graduates and the moms and dads and educators and others who helped our students reach this milestone!

Millenial SFPD (Cont. from p. 18)

correlation to the subsequent crime spike? Technology, specifically cellphone video, has fed the media’s selective subject matter and reinforced the misperception that all police are malicious. Over time, bodycam videos will evidence the valiant work of SFPD, but in a *man-bites-dog* media world, our local media focusing on police incidents that play out thousands of miles away in rural America will trump SFPD’s good work. This fuels a cycle of mistrust of SFPD and compromises officers’ ability to service the community.

Bodycams are not a magic bullet. For every technological advance, there is a loss of a human interface. Bodycams, like automated voicemails that replaced the cheery receptionist’s voice, will deliver robotic responses to the citizenry instead of genuine, empathetic police interactions.

Millennials + Technology=?

These are personal observations and generalizations provided as a topic for discussion. Millennials are waiting later in life to form households, purchase homes, have children, and maintain a steady job. SFPD millennial officers, with their steady incomes, are ahead of this national trend.

Long gone is the meritocracy. Both the newer officers’ respect for the achievements of their supervisors, and the trust in their supervisors’ experience to advise in critical situations, has severely declined. To a certain extent, it is better for an officer to figuratively take a knee on first down and punt, rather than take action, possibly violate a venial administrative mandate, and lose their job.

The millennials were shaped, and are the product of, baby boomer parents. With

automation moving up the food chain, millennials have had fewer career options than their parents. With seasoning, the millennial police officers will catch up to the previous generation’s interaction skills, and will then be able to merge that proficiency with their technological expertise to become more effective officers.

Like having to get a movie scene perfect on only one take, body cameras will cause police actions to be more staged and less colorful. Technology will also make crime suppression ever more dependent on video footage from buildings, buses, cars, and pedestrians. Citizens will become responsible for reporting crimes online, and attaching their self-made videos as evidence. Transactional *after-the-fact* investigations will replace humanized and proactive police responses.

Although millennials across the country have postponed the stages of their life, they will eventually catch up to their parents, and millennial police officers’ skills will eventually surpass their baby boomer predecessors. But have bodycams really made San Francisco safer, or do they just provide an opportunity to sensationalize ordinary events?

Like the rest of society, police officers are not perfect. But even though the bar is set much higher for police officers, the great majority leaves their respective stations to perform in an altruistic manner every single shift.

Lou Barberini is a CPA living in the West Portal area. He can be reached at Lou.barberini@gmail.com

SUNDAY STREETS SF

SUNSET GOLDEN GATE PARK JUNE 11th | 11am – 4pm



The Sunday Streets Sunset/Golden Gate Park is the longest, and perhaps most scenic route, traveling through Golden Gate Park and along the Great Highway between Sloat Blvd and Lincoln Way, to MLK Drive,.

From Lindy in the Park, to the Skatin’ Place, to Ocean Beach, there is something for everyone along this route! Because this route is so long, we encourage you to bring your bike or skates. If you don’t have wheels, be sure to put on those walking shoes!



Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi

10-17 Foxtrot

With all the construction going on at SFO it's a wonder that we made it to United's boarding area. TSA Pre-check worked as designed, and thankfully we were not ejected from our United seat at the last minute, avoiding the evening news. Our flight to Boston left on time and arrived 20 minutes early. Our driver bent our respective ears for the next two hours as he weaved in and out of the late afternoon traffic while delivering us from Boston's Logan to the Vanderbilt Grace on Newport, Rhode Island.

We had visited Newport many years ago while on a cruise, but only for the day. This time its 4 days to attend our grandson's graduation from the Naval OCS program, Officer Training Command, Newport. After 12 weeks of rigorous physical and emotional upheaval, the end was near. The cocktail party on Thursday evening was a precursor to Friday's graduation ceremony. The more than 200 guests were royally treated to food and cocktails as two candidate officers stood proudly at the microphone introducing Captain Michael Savageaux, the Commanding Officer who heads up the training program, as well as Rear Admiral Sean Filipowski, the Deputy Director of Operations, along with a select list of retired naval officers and dignitaries.

The highlight of the evening came with the introduction of three of the 65 students who were singled out for special recognition, and as proud grandparents we were thrilled to hear Trevor Nibbi's name as one of the three. The beautifully framed proclamation said it all, "In recognition for achieving the highest average for academic and military training."

I was fortunate enough to take a series of photos with the officers and future Ensigns, but one individual shone like a bright star, Gunnery Sergeant Jeremy Hager, who was the group's drill instructor and believe me, Hollywood could not have painted a better picture. Tall, slim, and tough as nails. He was a Marine. I approached him very cautiously for a photo op, not knowing if my head



would be bitten off, but I survived and was tempted to salute him, but for me those days were gone.

The following morning at 9 am sharp, the official graduation ceremony commenced, and in walked the 65 proud young men and women in their white dress uniforms who then stood at attention while we all recited the National Anthem. An Invocation followed, and then after some brief remarks the Oath of Office was taken, and one by one the soon to be officers were introduced as they moved on stage to accept their commissions.

With the playing of the Marine Hymn followed by a rousing rendition of Anchors Aweigh, tradition took over as the hats were removed and tossed into the air. And finally the one word that they had waited for, *Dismissed!* So many wonderful young men and women starting a completely new way of life, from Naval Aviators to Submarine Warfare Officers to Trevor's chosen field of Intelligence Officer.

A delicious lunch capped off the day as we headed back to our hotel, The Vanderbilt Grace. A beautiful building in a perfect location staffed by some of the nicest people that we have ever encountered. After

Thursday night's reception we had dinner at The Mooring, on Sayer's Wharf, and on Saturday Meg, our daughter in law, arranged for a 2 hour tour on a private boat that took us around the island as we enjoyed amazing old homes, yacht clubs, and ancient forts. Friday night's dinner was at Bouchard's Restaurant, which advertises



itself as "Fine French Dining" and "Fine" it was. Beautifully prepared, served, and enjoyed.

On Sunday, after an early breakfast at the hotel with our entire family, we all said our congratulations and good byes as we headed for the high-speed ferry to Nantucket, a first for us. The ride was a tad bumpy from the previous day's storm but our view from the top deck was amazing. Our stay at the Jared Coffin House was another treat as we enjoyed a few more of the local restaurants. Lola 22 was a real surprise as we were informed from some of the other guests at the hotel that they had some of the best Italian food in the area, but as we found out the menu was heavy on Asian. Surprisingly, the Gnocchi with Lobster was delicious. For me it was always Clam Chowder and a fish dish during our stay, not a single hamburger or hotdog in all

those days.

So now, Trevor is home for 3 weeks before heading back to Virginia for five more months of training on how to become our nation's greatest spook. But after seeing all those great young men and women of the Class 10-17 that just graduated from the Naval Academy, I can guarantee you that regardless of what the media has to say, we are so fortunate to be living in this marvelous country of ours, and having the dedication and talent of those new Naval Officers.

Sergio gets around—the world!

Turn It Off (Cont. from p. 1)

the voters were aware of this water blending project back in 2002, they would have never approved the bonds for water system improvements, of which \$66M has been provided for this water blending project. Other neighbors addressed the safety of the water and the insufficient public outreach by the PUC. I totally agree with all their concerns

The Committee addressed their concerns as well, but in the end this hearing was continue to a future date. Supervisors Yee and Sheehy noted that we should revisit this matter once 1 million gallons per day of underground water is in the system, which is expected in late summer.

I have a better idea - let's setup a task force. Just kidding!

I commend out supervisor for calling this hearing. But let's just not go through the motion to what appears to be to just appease the public. If the Board of Supervisors is really concerned then they should urge the mayor to have this turned off immediately, or pass a resolution urging the PUC to turn it off now since it is not needed at this time, and to address public concerns.

John Farrell Broker/Realtor* – Farrell Real Estate, MBA, Former Assistant Assessor – Budget & Special Projects, 5th Generation San Franciscan, Westside resident - farrell-reinvestments@yahoo.com

Join us at FREE Earthquake Safety Fair
June 15, 2017 from 12 pm - 7pm
at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

Tier 3 Property Owners: Retrofit Your Soft Story Property TODAY!

The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) encourages owners of soft story properties with 3+ stories, 5 - 15 units to turn in their permit applications and complete work in advance of the due dates below. Through the Mandatory Soft Story Program, property owners are improving the seismic safety of their buildings and protecting the lives of their tenants and families.

Compliance Tier	Submittal of Permit Application with Plans	Completion of Work and CFC Issuance
1	09/15/2015	09/15/2017
2	09/15/2016	09/15/2018
3	09/15/2017	09/15/2019
4	09/15/2018	09/15/2020

You may be able to add accessory dwelling units to your property when undergoing a seismic retrofit. Financing opportunities are available. Visit sfdbi.org/softstory for more information.

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THE CALIFORNIA BOOK AWARDS

Winners of the 86th Annual California Book Awards for Books Published in 2016

FICTION

Gold: Michael Chabon, *Moonglow*, Harper
Silver: Elizabeth McKenzie, *The Portable Babylon*, Penguin Books

FIRST FICTION

Gold: Melissa Yancy, *Dog Years*, University of Pittsburgh Press

NONFICTION

Gold: Andrés Resende, *The Other Slavery*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Silver: Jordan Fisher Smith, *Engineering Eden*, Crown

JUVENILE

Gold: Anne Nesbet, *Cloud and Wallfish*, Candlewick Press

YOUNG ADULT

Gold: Nicola Yoon, *The Sun Is Also A Star*, Delacorte Press

POETRY

Gold: Aja Couchois Duncan, *Restless Continent*, Litmus Press
Silver: Douglas Kearney, *Buck Studies*, Fence Books

CALIFORNIANA

Gold: Benjamin Madley, *An American Genocide: The United States and the California Indian Catastrophe, 1846-1873*, Yale University Press

CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLISHING

Gold: Harold Mooney and Erika Zavaleta, *Ecosystems of California*, University of California Press

6:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony | 7:15 p.m. Book Signing
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