



#### A Guide to the Election

Patrick Monet-Shaw looks at the 2016 Primary Election ..... 4

#### Prop B - A Park Set-aside—Really?

Can't pull the wool over George Woodings eagle eyes ..... 7



#### Quentin Kopp:

Want to know how Quentin will vote in the June 7 primary? ..... 3

#### Favoritism, Nepotism, Cronyism

Is the "merit system" dead at City Hall? Our watchdogs ask the hard questions..... 2



#### Bay to Breakers Time!

Baton down the hatches for SF's blow-out marathon comes thru the hood ..... 12

#### Seven Maids with Seven Mops?

Steve Lawrence examines the Sewer System Improvement Program ..... 5

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AFT 2121 members hang a banner over the Muni overpass on Ocean Avenue, encouraging drivers to support the faculty strike at Ocean Campus on April 27, 2016. (Photo by Natasha Dangond/Special to The Guardsman)

## City College Strike Underscores Troubles

By Marco Siler-Gonzales

**T**he rain didn't let up on the morning of April 27, but neither did City College faculty, who multiplied in numbers as the rain fell harder on the street corners of Ocean campus at the start of the faculty union's school-wide strike.

Signs and umbrellas held high, demonstrators gathered at select locations on the perimeter of Ocean campus to protest unfair labor practices with the district.

"I'm sad that it's come to this point, but I'm hopeful to get what we need in the end, which is a fair contract for faculty and a wage that lets us live in this city," math instructor Mary Brave-woman said.

City College's faculty union, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 2121, have been in negotiations with the

administration for over a year now. But the AFT claims the administration has been bargaining in bad faith, leaving faculty working without a settled contract.

"Negotiations started in January 2015. The administration has been dragging their feet ever since then," AFT Negotiating Team representative and engineering instructor Wendy Kaufmyn said.

City College Interim Chancellor Susan Lamb previously notified the union that the strike

Cont. p. 14

## Ocean Beach Master Plan

# New Focus on West Coast Shoreline Erosion

By Tony Taylor



Chris Kern, Senior Environmental Planner at SF Planning hosted an open house forum to discuss amending the City's Local Coastal Program

"Many have been involved for years, even decades," he added. "The Ocean Beach Task Force was involved in the 90s. Now we've developed the OBMP process, which is anticipating and developing these recommendations. Some of these need to be adopted as city policy."

Kern is planning to present to the commission by the end of summer and to the Board of Supervisors in fall. In an effort to amend the City's Local Coastal Program (LCP), San Francisco Planning hosted an open house forum to discuss the proposed City policy. Along with SPUR, the California Coastal Commission, SF Public Works and other partners, the April 19th meeting held at the San Francisco Zoo was a step towards implementing the Ocean Beach Master Plan.

The amendment will add LCP policies addressing shoreline erosion, coastal flooding, and sea level rise along the City's western shoreline. Additionally, it will provide for long-term resiliency by balancing environmental resources, maintaining coastal

**T**he plan of managing Ocean Beach and dealing with coastal erosion, as well as how city policy will adapt to sea level rise along the West Coast line, is intricate. "We incorporated some recommendations from the Ocean Beach Master Plan (OBMP) on how the city will manage the shoreline erosion issues between Sloat Boulevard and Skyline Road, as well as coast wide," Chris Kern, the Senior Environmental Planner at SF Planning, said.

access, addressing community needs, and protecting the investment in public infrastructure.

Ben Grant of SPUR says the LCP Amendment is the first step where the OBMP ideas will be for-

middle path that most people can deal with."

Coastal engineer Justin Vandever says the OBMP is a "vision document" that aims to balance the competing interests along the shoreline.

"Ecological resources, public access, wastewater infrastructure, we want to preserve it," Vandever says. "The OBMP comes to a consensus of what the community wants to look like in the future."

Vandever says the City and National Park Service are looking at engineering feasibility studies and costs to see what is possible below Sloat Boulevard where there is critical infrastructure. "We're looking at how much longer we have with consideration to sea level rise, erosion, and El Nino."

"We've loaded

sand trucks from north beach to be placed on the bluff at Sloat Boulevard as a pilot project," Vandever says of the interim measures to buy more time while they assess this larger vision. "They placed the sand on the eroded slope

Cont. p. 4



J R DeWood Jr. lives in his van near the vacant Ocean Beach parking lots that have been closed due to coastal erosion

**"**...of the interim measures to buy more time while they assess this larger vision. "They placed the sand on the eroded slope making access easier for people who want to enjoy the beach."

## Look Out Behind You Mr. Jordan. That's No Bull

By John Farrell



**T**he 1995-96 Chicago Bulls are considered to be the greatest basketball team ever. With their 72-10 record, this dominating team had an NBA record 33 road wins, and one of the best head coach's in Phil Jackson. You had the greatest player in Michael Jordan, and a cast of complimenting players such as Scottie Pippen, Dennis Rodman, Ron Harper and Steve Kerr that made up a juggernaut that year.

Well, if you haven't been following basketball this year then you have missed history in the making by our Golden State Warriors coached by Steve Kerr, a member of that Bulls team. From a 24-0 start to finish 73-9 with 34 road wins. All the best in history. The Warriors have never lost back-to-back games and have never lost more than one game to the same opponent the whole year, which has never been done before as well.

The ongoing debate is how would these 1995-96 Bulls compare with our 2015-16 Golden State Warriors. Scottie Pippen and several of the Bulls say that they would have swept the Warriors. Hall of Famer and Warrior Legend Rick Barry says it would be an amazing and close series. So what do you think?

Let's look at the facts. The

Warriors have the best record, best start, and best road record in history. But some people say the Warriors played weaker teams. The Warriors played better against the top ten teams losing twice compared to the Bulls losing five times. The Warriors never lost to the same team twice. The Bulls lost twice to the Indiana Pacers. The Warriors never lost two in a row. The Bulls lost two in a row to the Denver Nuggets and the Phoenix Suns. Also the Bulls never played a team that year as good as the San Antonio Spurs who were riding the tails of the Warriors all year and writing their own history with their best record of 67-15, which is tied for the sixth best record of all-time. These Spurs were 39-0 at home until our Warriors showed up and ended their streak.

Ok, I am biased. I admit it. I have been a Warriors fan since I can remember. At St. Ignatius I went to several games during that miraculous 1975 year when they won the NBA Championship. Forty years later, after

Cont. p. 9

## Sidewalk Tree Pruning? Beware, Your Pocketbook May Get Pruned

By Ken Hoegger

**D**o you prune your sidewalk trees? Beware, you may be issued a fine if the Urban Forestry Inspector determines your pruning caused tree damage.

I planted my Metrosideros robusta, AKA New Zealand Christmas Tree, in 1977, and prune the trees every December.

Fifteen years ago, DPW required me to replace my sidewalk, damaged by aggressive roots from my trees. Since then, I have maintained the tree's height under 25 feet to minimize the tree roots from cracking my downward sloping lot's retaining walls, which are within seven feet of the base of the tree trunks. My neighbors are also pleased to be able to retain their views over my tree canopy.

On March 21st, I received

a letter from an Urban Forestry Inspector fining me \$1847, claiming my pruning damaged the tree. I informed the inspector that I had been pruning the trees in a similar manner for the last twenty-four years, ever since I replaced my sidewalk. The inspector stated that fines could not be revoked and my only recourse was to appeal before a hearing committee. I am in the process of preparing for my appeal and checked on-line and discovered that I was one of



Ken Hoegger surveys his sidewalk tree

many who were fined throughout the City, and that my chances of a successful appeal were negligible despite an Urban Forestry advisor, Laurence Costello, stating

Cont. p. 4



## Discretionary Hiring Fuels Mistrust: The Human Services Agency

By Dr Maria Rivero and Dr. Derek Kerr

**T**he human instinct to favor one's friends and relatives can undermine government institutions. Favoritism, cronyism and nepotism split workforces into insiders and outsiders – an important predictor of mistrust in management. Cronyism begets more cronies who protect each other by excusing poor performance and ethical lapses. Plagued by patronage, in 1900 San Francisco created a Civil Service Commission to uphold fair, competitive, merit-based hiring.

A century later, the Civil Service system was widely assailed as being too cumbersome to keep up with City hiring and service delivery. Enter Civil Service Reform; the Newsom administration's 2005 plan to "streamline" and modernize the system. Hiring was deregulated to "improve the quality of the candidate pool". Promotion was tied to "performance appraisals". Managers were empowered to use their "expertise" and "business needs" to select the "most appropriate" candidates, rather than relying on "rigid" test scores, minimum qualifications, and seniority. It

a welfare to work program for families with children, is pointedly criticized as a pressure-cooker workplace marked by favoritism, intimidation and a mass exodus of eligibility workers. Complaints of favoritism aren't new, but their intensity is. HSA's own 2008 Strategic Review raised "serious concerns" about staff mistrust and asked; "What is the basis for allegations of favoritism in hiring and promotion? What can be done to address the reality and/or perception of favoritism?" Apparently, those questions went unanswered. Civil Service Commission records show that

“...some 30 disheartened City employees – most from the Human Services Agency (HSA) – put their jobs on the line to denounce “favoritism, nepotism and cronyism” in hiring and promotion.”

was called “flexible staffing”. What could go wrong?

In a jarring series of Civil Service Commission hearings since November 2015, some 30 disheartened City employees – most from the Human Services Agency (HSA) – put their jobs on the line to denounce “favoritism, nepotism and cronyism” in hiring and promotion. According to SEIU 1021 activist and HSA employee Sin Yee Poon, hiring has become so discretionary that “Managers pick and choose whoever they want without adhering to merit system policies.” Workers testified about the manipulation and mishandling of job notices, job qualifications, eligibility lists, test schedules and scores, interview panels, as well as the subsequent ranking and selection of candidates. Irregularities that seem to favor or deter certain candidates are covert, or cloaked in “confidentiality”. HSA sources (unnamed to avoid retribution) assert that some new hires are “pre-selected” and fast-tracked into plum jobs “by executive decision” while qualified applicants without patrons trudge through a dead-end hiring process. A recurring theme is the “back-door hiring” of friends, relatives, even lovers, often as “temporary exempts” – positions that don't require the civil service screenings that ensure qualifications and experience.

Temporary exempt (TEX) positions were designed to quickly hire workers for time-limited projects, seasonal jobs, or as subs for civil service workers on leave. Without civil service benefits and safeguards, TEX jobs cost 30% less and allow managers to hire and fire at will. However, some workers insist that discretion in TEX hiring is being abused in violation of equal opportunity employment. They say that after a year of paid, on-the-job training, inexperienced but favored TEX recruits are deemed eligible to take civil service exams. Allegedly, they are preferentially maneuvered into benefited civil service positions, handed dubious “added duties” then granted undue promotions. In doing so, they leapfrog, and even supervise, more experienced civil service employees. Reportedly, some acquire supervisory, hiring, and service delivery authority without demonstrated experience. Among HSA line staff, there is little trust in these favored employees or the managers who install them.

Along with mistrust, distraught HSA workers describe degraded service delivery, breakdowns of teamwork, declines in workplace ethics and competence, negative rumors, as well as departures of demoralized colleagues. And, there's fear; those who ask questions or complain say they face bullying, isolation, non-promotion, removal, and black-listing. CalWORKS,

“Inspection Requests” alleging unfair hiring at HSA rose from 1 in 2013 to 16 in 2014. Only 1 was sustained for corrective action. Comparing the years 2010-2012 versus 2013-2015, the average number of hiring complaints rose 10-fold while HSA job recruitments merely tripled. What's going on?

**HSA Backstory:** The Human Services Agency (HSA) is the City's central resource for public assistance. It attracts employees who believe in social justice and helping others. Starting as a bureau to help impoverished widows in 1913, last year its \$871 million budget and 2,111 employees provided a spectrum of social services, including housing, job training, health care, food stamps, and in-home support for over 200,000 clients. Today's HSA arose from the 2004 merger of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Aging and Adult Services – under Trent Rhorer, architect of Mayor Newsom's 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Like Civil Service Reform, this merger promised efficiencies. But by mid-2008, HSA's budget had risen 20%, with a 47% increase in contracts and a 6-fold jump in new hires and promotions.

The fiscal crisis of 2008 triggered reductions in HSA positions and multiple “consolidations” within the Welfare-to-Work programs. Since then, employees say that new managers, with increased funding for new initiatives and technology, allowed more hiring and contracting – and favoritism. HSA records confirm that hiring and promotions zoomed from 2009 to 2015. All the hiring and promoting lifts managers into higher positions as well. Mayoral budget records verify HSA's steady growth, adding another \$61 million plus 84 full-time positions for 2015-16. Intriguingly, HSA's hiring of non-civil service employees tripled in 2013, surging from a prior average of 55 annually to 149 yearly thereafter – and coinciding with the rise in favoritism complaints.

With the implementation of Obamacare in 2014, HSA's Medi-Cal caseload exploded by 83% in 2 years. Medi-Cal staffing ramped up 30% and the program merged with CalFresh (food stamps) to provide both services at both sites. Newly-funded employment initiatives impacted CalWORKS which was already struggling with State mandates to double its client employment rate to 50%. To ease these transformations, the term “Service Center Model” was applied to the targeted programs. Soon, HSA needed a “Service Center Improvement Plan”. Records show that HSA deployed its Innovation Office with repurposed “employee engagement” tools to manage the strain – with mixed results.

Cont. p. 8

## By the Numbers

## Should A 401k Replace The Public Employees Pension?

By Lou Barberini CPA



**T**he subject of this article is whether it might be easier to balance San Francisco's challenging budget by switching the public employees' \$20 billion pension plan into a 401k plan.

“San Francisco Employee Retirement System tends to select the most expensive products with the weakest oversight and regulation. The newest adventure perpetuates SFERS's habit of paying Wall Street financiers exorbitant, hedge fund-level fees. Only this time, SFERS' is going all the way to China to circumvent US government oversight.”

Before I present my reasoning, I wanted to share with readers a unique investment opportunity. I know a guy in Italy, Giuseppe, who is selling his three million euros vineyard for only one million euros. My friend's 10-acre vineyard is set on beautiful rolling hills that surround a Tuscan villa and swimming pool. A spaghetti drip system, with sporadic leaks, irrigates half the vineyard, while the other half's more difficult terrain has to be hand-watered with a pail. The estate and the vineyard really capture the romance of Italy.

There is just one small caveat, while you may buy the property for one million euros, the title must remain in Giuseppe's name. It is your property, but the land deed still shows Giuseppe as the recorded owner. Don't worry, everyone tells me Giuseppe is a good guy. E-mail me if you are interested.

Back to the San Francisco landscape. Many in the private sector and the media have argued that public pensions are neither viable nor sustainable. My recommendation is that we test their wishes and create a 401k alternative- let's call it Luigicare. The four distinguishing tenets of the Luigicare

401k will be: 1) all public employee assets will be commingled, 2) We will hire a professional financial manager, 3) employees will get retirement withdrawals from their pension, based upon a percentage of their final year's earnings, and 4) if an employee dies before they have exhausted their 401k share, those assets will remain in the plan for the benefit of the other public employees. Come to think of it, Luigicare looks an awfully lot like the current SF public pension.

Just as the vines on Giuseppe's land require a certain amount of water to flourish, retirees require a certain amount of income to live on. Whether that water or income is delivered through the steady stream of a black-wired drip system, or provided on an as needed basis from a pail, is not important. Our current pension is not the culprit; it's the leakage that creates negative perceptions and shortfalls.

In my recent articles, I have shown how the San Francisco Employee Retirement System (SFERS) tends to select the most expensive products with the weakest oversight and regulation. The newest

Cont. p. 9

## PRESIDIO MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

*Honor & Remember*



**Monday, May 30, 2016**

**Parade 10:30AM / Program 11AM  
San Francisco National Cemetery  
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West Of Twin Peaks Central Council By Mitch Bull



**J**unior ROTC, WOTPCC Nominations, and a Supervisorial candidates’ forum were the main topics of the April 25th meeting of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council.

President Roger Ritter kicked off the meeting at 7:35 in front of a large crowd and following the roll call he gave the president’s report.

The WOTPCC select nominating committee (Dave Bisho, Paul Conroy, and Denise La Pointe) was given the task of compiling candidate names for the upcoming election of new WOTPCC officers for the 2016-2017 year. Nominations for Board officers will be collected by the committee and announced at the WOTPCC May meeting, with elections at the June meeting.

Next, President Ritter discussed the sponsorship of a WOTPCC/District 7 Supervisorial Candidates Forum – The date of Saturday, September 10 was discussed as a potential date. The committee is also looking at possible locations, including the Forest Hill Clubhouse, as well as other locations based on cost to the WOTPCC, and the ability to handle the expected number of attendees. It was suggested that seating in the front of whatever venue is selected be reserved for WOTPCC delegates and D7 homeowners. Matt Chamberlain, Dave Bisho and Denise La Pointe will serve as the working group to research the potential venues.

George Wooding gave the only committee report (Public Health), reporting that two people in SF have tested positive for the South American-centric Zika virus. (One woman and one man). Denise La Pointe and Wooding agreed to draft a letter of inquiry to the steps that have been taken by SF for mosquito abatement in the local ponds and lakes within San Francisco.

A discussion on full restoration of JROTC funding and the Physical Education (P.E.) Credit Equivalency followed. Lt. Col. Doug Bullard, who teaches and heads the JROTC program in the SF Unified School District, gave a short history of the program, including the decision in



Doug Bullard spoke of the JROTC program

2006 by the SFUSD to kill the program, and the subsequent 2008 passage of Prop

V, which restored portions of the program, yet did not restore centralized funding or the P.E. Credit Equivalent. Currently, JROTC is operating in 7 SF high schools, with 2 additional schools on probation (Galileo and Mission) due to a lack of instructors.

SFUSD trustee Emily Murase has a resolution in play to restore additional funding for the program, recognize the leadership program as acceptable for the two-year PE Equivalency requirement, and to give school principals flexibility to appoint another teacher to oversee the JROTC program as a PE/Independent Study program.

When asked about the “military” aspect of JROTC, Bullard explained that in the beginning of the program (mid-1880’s as the Cadet Corps) it was more military based, but now, there are no weaponry, or tactical planning education courses; all courses now develop leadership skills, citizenship skills, and self-evaluation and self-growth education.

Denise LaPointe introduced a motion to draft a resolution by the WOTPCC to support the program and funding legislation being submitted by Emily Murase. The delegates in attendance passed the motion unanimously.

Supervisor Norman Yee followed to give an update on the “Homeless Crisis Shelter Ordinance,” by starting with the decisions that led the city to the homeless problem that exists today: In the 1970’s the Federal Government stopped building low-income housing, and in the 1980’s the Federal Government closed all of the federally funded and operated mental health facilities, expecting that the programs would be picked up by state and local jurisdictions (this did not happen). All of this followed a Federal court ruling that mentally ill citizens could not be institutionalized by the federal government.

Today, 20% of the homeless in the country are living in California, with 6000 + in San Francisco, and an estimated 40,000 in Los Angeles.

Recently, members of the Board of Supervisors attempted to have a “State of Emergency” declared around the homeless issue. Yee opposed it due to the lack of control and loss of input by citizens and the potential bypass of building codes as related to where homeless shelters and navigation centers could be built. Yee said that people were confused by his stance and that he wants to look at models (like the navigation centers) that work, but that centers need to be built 1). Where the homeless are, and 2). Where the homeless services are. He thinks the only way to address the problem is through the construction of more city housing that is affordable. Currently the city is spending \$247,000,000 on homeless services.

The next discussion involved the introduction of Archie Wong as the new Assistant District Attorney for District 7. Wong explained about the increases of car burglaries, and a hope that more police

Cont. p. 11

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor By Quentin Kopp



**I**t was Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Works Progress Administration, better known as the WPA, who declared in September, 1938: “We shall tax and tax, and spend and spend, and elect and elect.” A concomitant observation by George Bernard Shaw in 1944 noted: “A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.” With those perhaps pithy reminders, I address the June 7, 2016 municipal, state and federal elections.

Five local San Francisco measures confront voters. **Propositions C and D justify support. Propositions A, B, and E demand rejection.**

**Proposition A** asks voters to incur \$350,000,000 in bonded indebtedness to finance construction, acquisition, improvement and seismic strengthening of various sorts, including community health and animal care facilities, General Hospital (once again), a new ambulance deployment facility, and homeless shelters and service sites. As Controller Ben Rosenfield, one of the few dependable sources of financial information at City Hall, notes, the estimated annual costs of: debt service,” meaning annual interest and principal payments over the 30-year existence of the debt would amount to \$10,400,000 annually for five years, then \$30,700,000 annually for the remaining 25 years. That’s a total of \$757,500,000 to borrow \$350,000,000 for 30 years! The only honest man to vote against this proffered indebtedness in February was the supposed left-winger, Supervisor Aaron Peskin. For my tax money, he’s a reliable guide to fiscal discipline, even if he endorses U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders as the Democratic Party nominee for President of the United States, whom I intend to vote for in the Democratic Party primary for simple reasons I’ll explain later. (The Republicans don’t allow Independents like me to vote in their presidential primary.) The ordinance-submitting Proposition A to voters omits any reference to the 30 years of interest and principal payments on the debt. So, too, has the so-called Legislative Digest and even the Controller’s required analysis of costs. A general obligation bond, of course, causes an increase in property taxation. For all you renters, be advised that 50% of those costs will be, under the Board of Supervisors submittal ordinance, passed to renters as rent increases.

**Proposition B** violates a 2008 ballot measure the Board of Supervisors unanimously submitted to voters with recommended adoption. That November, 2008 ordinance found that only 18% of revenue to the General Fund of the City and County is available for discretionary spending for any lawful city government purpose and thus “impairs the capacity of the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors” to allocate “the City’s limited resources to best serve the public interest.” The voters overwhelmingly proclaimed they wouldn’t approve any new earmarking (or “set aside,” in City Hall language). Proposition B, using the current Recreation and Park Department general fund allocation of \$64,000,000 earmarks non-negotiable funding which increases to at least \$94,000,000 in 10 years and continues thereafter for another 20 years. It also extends the unreasonable Open Space Fund, which separately this year amounts to \$47,800,000 from property taxation, until 2046. The asserted justification for this example of imprudent fiscal management is that General Fund support for the Recreation and Park Department has declined from 2.1% of the General Fund in 2000 to 1.2% in 2016. That’s, of course, misleading because they don’t tell you that in 2000 General Fund revenue was \$1,900,000,000 and has grown to \$4,800,000,000 in 2016.

Thus, 1.2% of General Fund revenue in 2016 amounts to \$57,600,000, which far exceeds 2.1% (\$39,000,000) of the General Fund in 2000. The Board of Supervisors voted 9-2 to submit this example of maladroitness public administration to voters as a Charter amendment, claiming it provides over \$1,000,000,000 “in new...park funding...without raising taxes.” That’s nonsense. If park funding has genuinely been inadequate, whose fault is that? I’ll answer my hypothetical question: Those same nine Supervisors who dodge responsibility for satisfactory Recreation and Park Department funding and now ask unwitting voters to reward their laziness regarding the Department with spending on “automatic pilot.” Proposition B also authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds, a form of borrowing money without voter approval. Moreover, the Board of Supervisors “would not have the power to adopt, reject, or modify the [Department’s] plans.” The unelected Recreation and Park Commission and Mayor would establish the department budget; elected Supervisors would not, but then, the nine supervisorial slackers who put Proposition B on the ballot don’t care if tax dollars are handled by political appointees and career bureaucrats. Finally, Proposition B eliminates a requirement that new revenues from outside sources like a grant or donation from a foundation be used “only for enhancement of park and recreational programs.” As emphasized in the official voter handbook argument against Proposition B, that allows such donations to be spent “on salaries, perks, or other overhead, rather than on Park improvement!” Let it be noted that the only two Supervisors who saw through this scheme to avoid fiscal responsibility were Supervisors Peskin and Katy Tang of the Sunset District. Need I say more? Vote “No” on Proposition B, as also recommended by the Coalition For San Francisco Neighborhoods, Sierra Club, San Francisco Tomorrow, San Francisco Taxpayers Association and League of Women Voters. Force these nine supervisors to rectify any funding debility in the Recreation and Park Department, not pass the buck.

**Proposition C** I suggest a vote for Proposition C simply because it rightfully deletes from the Charter and substitutes an ordinance respecting so-called “affordable housing” obligations on developers. That’s good government. The percentage of desirable “affordable housing” units in a housing development can vary from year to year. Amending the San Francisco Charter is more time consuming and difficult than acting by ordinance to meet changing circumstances. We can argue about the proper percentage of affordable housing, but it shouldn’t be in the Charter.

**Proposition D** I also recommend a vote for the City’s Paid Sick Leave Ordinance to conform to comparable state law on the same subject matter. This should be accomplished by Board of Supervisors action, but now voters must approve it because in November 2006, an initiative ordinance on the subject was submitted to and adopted by voters, probably due to Board of Supervisors inaction, or characteristic supervisorial laziness.

Cont. p. 6

Employee Pension Funds. . . . .	2	Money Matters . . . . .	8	Remember When / Open Late . . . . .	16
WOTPCC. . . . .	3	Crime Report . . . . .	10	Senior Smarts . . . . .	17
Letters to the Editor . . . . .	5	Around the Town . . . . .	11	Kocivar / Education . . . . .	18
Public Notices . . . . .	6	Calendar . . . . .	12	Health Matters . . . . .	18
Durst Talking Trump . . . . .	5	Movies/Theater . . . . .	13	Real Travel . . . . .	19
		Jack Kaye . . . . .	15		



# Voter’s Beware: You Get What You Vote For

June 2016 Election Recommendations

By Patrick Monette-Shaw

## Local Ballot Measures

### Prop A: Public Health and Safety Bond Measure

A January 31 *San Francisco Examiner* article indicated \$54 million to build a new Animal Care and Control facility initially included in June’s \$350 million Public Health and Safety bond was removed in a sudden and unprecedented change of plans. The *Examiner* reported the \$54 million would be used to “modernize homeless shelters and clinics that deal with mental health,” instead.

The plot to remove the facility was aided and abetted by — get this — Board of Supervisors current president, London Breed. The *San Francisco Chronicle* reported on January 26:

“The money that would have gone to the animal facility will now be split among three initiatives: \$20 million for the Department of Public Health to modernize local clinics, including providing mental health services; \$20 million for modernizing and transforming homeless shelters; and \$14 million for neighborhood fire stations.”

Unfortunately, the legal text of Prop. “A” states that \$20 million will be spent for upgrading homeless shelters, but qualifies it by saying a portion of the \$20 million may be to “acquire and construct homeless services sites” — not just homeless shelters themselves. Great: Bond funding for more City office “sites.”

Worse, the legal text contains no mention of a \$20 million set aside for clinics modernization, and no mention of \$14 million set aside for neighborhood fire stations.

If there are cost overruns or “unforeseen site condition” problems on the retrofit of SFGH buildings or on the ambulance and paramedic deployment facility, both the clinics modernization and neighborhood fire stations may receive no, or reduced, funding.

Breed is expected to support the Board of Supervisors in issuing by the stroke of its pen \$59.5 million as early as May 25 in another debt instrument that does not

I’m tired of being snookered by City Hall. Vote No on Prop A.

### Prop B: Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund (City Charter Amendment)

Prop. “B” is a bald attempt to increase the Rec and Park Department’s annual budget by \$30 million over a 10-year period above its current \$67 million annual budget, and also extend the Open Space fund for an additional 15 years. There’s no specificity on for what the Open Space set-aside and baseline budget increases will, or *shall*, be used.

It’s another slush fund for the Rec and Park Department to spend on whatever they want, with no ability for San Franciscans to weigh in on the use of the increased funds.

Importantly, the City Controller’s statement assessing Prop “B” notes the Open Space set-aside is not in compliance

Join the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, Open Space Fund community watchdog Nancy Wuerfel in opposing Prop B — Vote No!

### Prop “C”: Affordable Housing Requirements (City Charter Amendment)

In November 2012, voters passed the then-Prop. “C” to create the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) to increase funding for housing development. Over the 30-year life of the HTF, the City’s General Fund will contribute \$1.3 billion to \$1.5 billion to the HTF.

But the 2012 HTF ballot measure contained a “poison pill” voters may not have been aware of: A gift to real estate speculators and developers that reduced the on-site affordable “inclusionary” housing requirement by 20% — from 15% to 12% — a change incorporated into the City Charter so developers and speculators could increase their profits.

The first Housing Balance Report dated July 7, 2015 showed the ten-year Citywide Cumulative Housing Balance — the ratio of “affordable” to “market-rate” housing built — was just 21%; the second Report, dated September 4, 2015 showed the Cumulative Balance had dropped to

### Prop “D”: Office of Citizen Complaints Investigations (Initiative Ordinance)

Prop. “D” simply requires the Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) to investigate all incidents in the City in which a police officer fires a gun killing or injuring someone, even if nobody files a complaint, and requires Police Department officers and employees to cooperate with OCC investigations of such shootings.

This is a common-sense reform that should be supported.

As I reported in “Mayor’s Hiring Binge vs. Retiree Pensions” in the *West-side Observer* last March, during the

require voter approval — so-called *Certificates of Participation (COPs)* — to fund replacing the Animal Care facility. COPs also require interest payments, so in addition to the \$350 million in principal and the projected \$254 million in interest for a total of \$604 million for the June 7 bond, taxpayers — via the General Fund — will foot the \$59.5 million of principal on the COPs plus an estimated \$50.5 million in interest, for a total of \$110 million for the COPs.

So instead of \$604 million for the bond, we’re up to at least \$714 million by adding in the Animal Control COPs.

The January 26 *Chronicle* article also reported Breed told the City’s Capital Planning Committee “Fifty-four million is a lot of money to spend on any facility,” and Breed also criticized the City for “pouring money down the drain” on projects she said are too big and sometimes unnecessary. How’s that forchutzpah?

Perhaps Breed is more comfortable pouring \$110 million down the drain for the Animal Control facility — with the stroke of her COP’s pen, no voters required — rather than the \$54 million for it that she helped strip from the bond measure.

Voters were snookered on last November’s \$310 million housing bond measure: Only recently has the City finally admitted that fully 20% of that bond — \$62 million — is being set aside for housing for the homeless, something voters were never informed about prior to the November 2015 election.

I’m tired of being snookered by City Hall. Vote No on Prop A.

The conservative *San Francisco Chronicle* carried an editorial on April 21 titled “Good cause, bad policy,” in which it recommended voting “No” on Prop. “B.”

Join the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, Open Space Fund community watchdog Nancy Wuerfel in opposing Prop B — Vote No!

15%, and the new third Report shows it is now 18%.

Between the second and third Housing Balance reports, new housing units produced for moderate income households saw a 28.4% net decline, from 1,550 in September 2015 to just 1,120 affordable units in the March 2016.

The June 2016 Prop “C” removes the City Charter prohibition, returns the inclusionary housing percentage back to 15%, and allows the Board of Supervisors to adjust the inclusionary housing percentages by Ordinance in the future, rather than having to seek voter approval again.

Vote Yes on C!

four-and-a-half years of Mayor Ed Lee’s tenure, he added 5,139 full- and part-time employees to the City’s payroll at an increased cost of \$567.1 million.

Cont. p. 9



## Tree-topper (Cont. from p. 1)

that it was a mistake for DPW to recommend the *Metrosideros robusta* as a sidewalk tree due to its invasive root growth. I have also obtained a letter from a well-known arborist and advisor to DPW, Ted Kipping, stating that my pruning did not damage the tree and only minor corrective branch pruning is recommended.

DPW and the Urban Forestry Department’s fining policy appears to be in opposition to their stated goals of encouraging the public to plant sidewalk trees. I do not argue against fines, but recommend the following: 1. Owners who damage their trees should first be required to attend tree pruning or tree care classes, and then, if proper care practices are not followed, community service or monetary fines should be considered. 2. A public education program promoting proper tree care should be launched. This could be done inexpensively through water department mailings. 3. Pruning standards should not be applied rigidly without consideration of the tree species, and the unique planting environment. 4. All existing fines should be placed in abeyance until a public education program is launched. Unless this draconian fining policy is amended, the

## Beach Erosion (Cont. from p. 1)

making access easier for people who want to enjoy the beach.”

Anna Roche is a climate change special projects manager working on the OBMP south of Sloat Boulevard. She says the key moves for chronic coastal erosion are short- and long-term strategies.

“Short-term, for now until 2021, is softer, environmentally friendly uses of sand and sandbags,” Roche said. “The long-term solution is a low profile wall outside of the Lake Merced tunnel with our wastewater management closer to the seaward.”

“We have been following the public process that went into OBMP and did a thorough development. Lots of voices are being heard” she says.

Roche adds that in an area with three San Francisco districts touching the Ocean Beach area, coordination takes a long time. “Government agencies have gotten on board, but getting senior management on board takes time.”

Vandever sees the momentum and is hopeful for growing support.

“Engineers and planners have the idea that these plans are possible from technical standpoint, but are they possible from a financial and political stand point? We’re getting everybody on board to make these things happen and there’s lot of motivation,” he says.

“The Cliff House is a location where we have a surplus of sand. One of the goals of the Regional Sediment Management Plan is to rebalance where we have surpluses and deficits to move the sand around,” Vandever adds.

Chris Potter of the California National Resources Agency says the Coastal Sediment Management Plan hopes to give the communities of San Francisco, Pacifica, and Daly City a plan for sea level rise, coastal erosion adaption and resilience that can be tapped into when necessary.

“The plan has been developed and we hope they will use it as they deal with the issues,” Potter says.

The Ocean Beach community has its own opinion on the OBMP. They feel that downsizing roadways and keeping parking lots vacant does not address their local

DPW and the Urban Forestry Department’s fining policy appears to be in opposition to their stated goals of encouraging the public to plant sidewalk trees.”

public will be discouraged from planting sidewalk trees, as this policy appears to be nothing more than a revenue generator for DPW.

The Urban Forestry Department has contributed enormously to the greening of our City, but sometimes institutions CAN BE MORE EFFECTIVE WITH PUBLIC INPUT. If you have been or fear you may be subjected to a fine, I look forward to hearing of your experience. Together, we may be able to help DPW and the Urban Forestry Department develop a more citizen-friendly policy that encourages the development of our urban forest.

Ken Hoegger is a native San Franciscan living on Mt Davidson. He has been involved in numerous tree planting projects and community involvements in the West of Twin Peaks area over a 45 year period. [khoegger@pacbell.net](mailto:khoegger@pacbell.net)



Ben Grant of SPUR says we can’t keep doing it the way we have been. “It’s not serving anyone.”

needs.

Dennis Holl, a 30-year local, is concerned about an influx of traffic if the roads are scaled down.

“They want to do manage retreat and remove [a lane from Great Highway], the road that’s getting more and more traffic every day,” he said. “They want to remove the parking lots for people that go to the beach and remove an existing rock barrier. Then they want to move the barrier and do a sand replenishment in front of that.”

“I say restore it instead,” Holl added.

Kern says manage retreat provides for better public access and a better beach environment. It will provide a broader beach over a longer period of time.

Ocean Beach resident J R De Wood Jr. wants the people to have parking access immediately.

“I live in my van by those parking lots that are just sitting dormant,” Wood says. “The residents are coming out anyway, open them up. There has to be a way to implement something now.”

Grant from SPUR admits the vision will have to be revisited in the coming decades as we learn about how sea level rises along the coast line.

“We can’t keep doing it the way we have been. It’s not serving anyone,” he says. “We have been working a solution for six years that can keep the infrastructure in place.”

Other organizations in support of the LPC Amendment are the Department of Public Works, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, SF MTA, Surf Rider Foundation, and Ocean Beach stake-holder groups.

“There’s good support,” Kern says. “These groups coming together is a big achievement.”

Tony Taylor is a local reporter.



Commentary

Seven Maids with Seven Mops?

The public works program to improve San Francisco’s sewer system has been revised again. The program, which goes by the acronym SSIP, for Sewer System Improvement Program, is a seven billion dollar, thirty year set of projects. Most is to be done within twenty years. During this time an average of about \$300 million per year will be spent on sewers; spending in early years should exceed that rate.



“Digesters reduce the solids. Bugs consume the organic matter. The dead bug bodies emerge as sludge, which can be used as fertilizer.”

Normally voters would need to approve such spending, which is mostly funded with bond indebtedness. But in 2002 voters gave SFPUC, the entity responsible, a blank check. No voter approval is needed. So you may hear little about the SSIP program.

Early on, new digesters are to be built. Digesters are the heart of a sewer system; actually, they are more the “stomach” as they digest. Sewage is separated, solids from liquids. Digesters reduce the solids. Bugs consume the organic matter. The dead bug bodies emerge as sludge, which can be used as fertilizer.

The digesters now working were built in the Fifties. The new ones will use a modern process. Dewatered sewage will be heated. This allows the digesters to be smaller and more efficient. Cost of the six new digesters approaches two billion dollars. Construction work begins in three years, and is to be completed by the end of 2025. Then there will be a two year transition from old to new digesters.

Digesters are the largest single expenditure, but not the only one. The main sewage treatment plant (called Southeast) is old and will be upgraded. Also the sewer lines themselves, called the collection system, together with storage, will be improved. Because San Francisco combines stormwater with sewage, the system goes from handling low flows during dry season to dealing with high volumes when storms come. So the system must deal with both stink (odor control) when flows are low, and flooding when flows are high. A few neighborhoods are very aware of these problems. SFPUC will try to remedy: More than \$200 million is to be spent on “flood resiliency.” (Planned flood projects, cost in million dollars, year(s): Folsom/17th 255m 2020-4, Wawona 23m 2020, Cayuga 8m 2019, other 8m.)

Every public works program has come to have “goals.” These range from the obvious, meeting state regs and reliably treating sewage, to goals such as creating

local jobs. The updated SSIP adds a goal of anticipating rising seas. Although the sea level here in SF has risen remarkably slowly to date, that is expected to change soon. So preparations are being made. Sewers discharge to waters, and sewage flows downhill to elevations at or even below sea level. A rising sea can mean contamination with deadly salt water. By adding this new goal bureaucrats ensure their employment. They will keep busy evaluating the costs and benefits of various project alternatives. On the one hand, seas may rise slowly, so a less costly alternative may be worthwhile; on the other hand, a more costly alternative might better protect from fast rising seas.

Overall, the cost of the SSIP program is up just a bit from the last iteration (2012). But as with all public works, it’s not what the cost is hoped to be, it’s what it actually costs. The water program’s (WSIP) cost rose by about 40%. Perhaps SFPUC has learned from that and can do better. But, working in a densely populated city rather than mostly out in the sticks, perhaps costs will rise more.

In March \$621 million of bonds were authorized to be sold to finance near-term SSIP projects.

Congratulations for reading about sewage treatment, hardly the sexiest topic. But it’s important: Without good sewage treatment the flow of modern life goes quickly down the drain.

\*\*\*

Are colleges poisoning politics? For a generation or two college has been a place where tolerance of unwelcome views is in short supply. Micro-aggressions are the latest newflash. Punishing controversial profs and would-be campus speakers is familiar news. Has college intolerance seeped into Congress, and into our national civic discourse? Write to me.

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

Letters to the Editor

Coyotes

I read the article in the April edition of the *Westside Observer*. Frankly, I was very disappointed with the condescending tone, especially the following language: “We cannot expect our desire for pleasant and leash-free strolls to overcome the needs of local animal populations. To the coyotes, we humans are just gentrifiers who have been here far too long. We must take responsibility for our actions and learn how we can live together with our fellow local inhabitants.”

“Gentrifiers?” “Fellow local inhabitants?” Is the author being serious? San Francisco is a city, not a wildlife refuge. We have chosen to live here, in an urban environment, not in rural area or a national forest. We are now being asked to put up with yet another threat to our personal safety. Recently, I found the remains of a dead cat on my lawn; a friend of mine is worried

Oxalis

(Re: Oxalis Uber Alles, April *Westside Observer*) Mr. Sigg is a supporter of the Significant Natural Resource Area Management Plan (SNRAMP) which proposes to cut down 18,500 “invasive” trees.

Isn’t it strange to call a tree-killing proponent “an unabashed tree-hugger?”

sick because her cat has been missing for weeks; and I have elderly neighbors with small pets who would have great difficulty in “hazing” a coyote. Last month a coyote was seen in broad daylight on the playground at Commodore Sloat School.

The West of Twin Peaks Central Council has not yet taken a position on this issue. The views expressed herein are mine. At the same time, they do reflect what I have heard from my neighbors in Balboa Terrace. I realize some may disagree with me. However, whatever our views on this issue, we all share a common goal, which is to preserve the peaceful enjoyment of our neighborhoods for ourselves, our children, and yes, our pets.

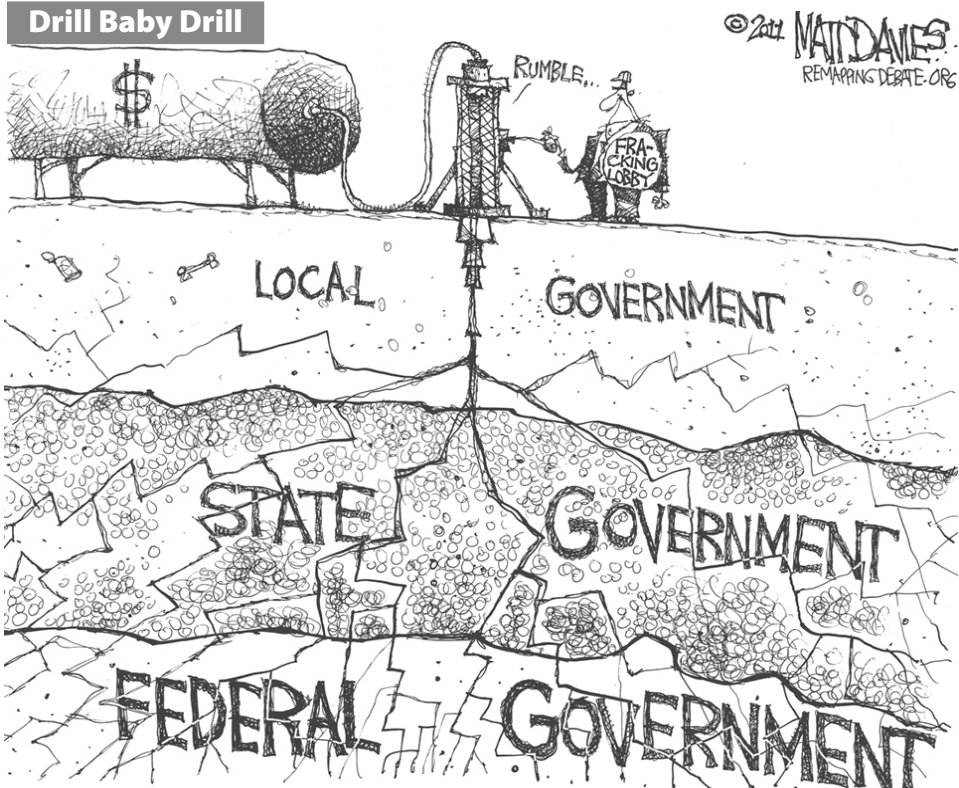
Roger Ritter, President, West of Twin Peaks Central Council, Past-President Balboa Terrace Homes Association

Mr. Sigg calls for defense of “nature” from a killer-plant via application of herbicides.

The herbicide regularly used against oxalis in our parks (for many-many years) is called Garlon (triclopyr.)

Cont. p. 6

Drill Baby Drill



My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2016



MAN FOR ALL REASONS

As evidenced by his hair, Donald J. Trump is pretty much wrong all the time. Every time. About everything. Except when he isn’t. One example is, should he become president, Mexico indeed will build a wall. To control our immigration. “Get me the hell out of here. Por favor?” Hell, Canada might have to build one as well. “Hey, let me in dere, ya hoser. S’il vous plait, eh?”

“The Donald also occasionally stumbles into the lobby of the Correctomundo Hotel by embracing such a variety of stances that it wouldn’t be surprising to find Trump University offers a course...”

Donnie John is also right about America becoming more religious under his reign, because upon his election, people are going to start praying, “like you wouldn’t believe.” All over the world. The seismic shock caused by millions dropping to their knees on January 21st might crack open a chasm in the planet deep enough to swallow a few of the Seven Seas.

After being aced out by Ted Cruz for all the Colorado and Wyoming delegates, Trump flailed like a boat-bound goose trying to fly south with its feet nailed to the deck; screaming all the while about the system being rigged, and you know what, he’s right about that one too.

It’s finally sinking in, this isn’t about democracy. This is much more important: this is party politics. In an effort to keep their voices preeminent, the bigwigs have rigged and rerigged the system like a 30-year old trailer park sound system. And on the other side of the aisle, Bernie is hearing similar ugly distortions.

He’s finding the Dems have rules more shady, murky and malleable than a catfish trap in the Mississippi Delta made out of cellophane. Perhaps helps to explain why Senator Sanders eschewed becoming a Democrat until recently.

The Donald also occasionally stumbles into the lobby of the Correctomundo Hotel by embracing such a variety of stances that it wouldn’t be surprising to find Trump University offers a course that teaches the Art of the Blind Squirrel/ Nut Finding Deal.

First he supported an assault weapons ban and background checks, then turned against them. Told Larry King he was a fan of universal health care, now, not so much.

The man has adopted more positions than a ballet dancer on a cruise ship. Sometimes during the same interview.

He calls his 180-degree head snapping turns “evolving.” Ever since Ronald Reagan characterized his conversion from Hollywood liberal as an “evolution,” that’s the go-to, buzz-word for politicians. People don’t change their minds anymore. They evolve. Over time. Even people who don’t believe in evolution, evolve.

Since 1999 Trump has gone from Republican to Independent to Democrat to Independent to Republican again. He’s the centrifugal candidate. Started out pro-choice, became anti-choice and now seems to be multiple-choice. And why do his supporters love him? Because he tells it like it is.

No matter what side of an issue you’re on, Trump has been there, done that. Less of a Man for all Seasons than a Man for all Reasons. A businessman too comfortable with the lesions of treasons. Whoa. Too much?

And now Paul Manafort, the shiny new senior advisor, told GOP insiders Trump is simply playing a role and will tone it down for the general election. Praying that we the voters will totally forget to play our roles of people who can’t stand him.

Copyright © 2016, Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed columnist, comedian and former bartender in Hurley, Wisconsin. For sample videos and a calendar of personal appearances including his new one-man show, *Elect to Laugh: 2016*, appearing every Tuesday at the San Francisco Marsh, go to [willdurst.com](http://willdurst.com).

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[www.westsideobserver.com](http://www.westsideobserver.com)  
PO Box 27176, SF 94127 • 415 517-6331

**Publisher: Mitch Bull**  
[mitch@westsideobserver.com](mailto:mitch@westsideobserver.com)  
**Editor: Doug Comstock**  
[editor@westsideobserver.com](mailto:editor@westsideobserver.com)  
**Ad Sales • Mitch Bull**

**Contributors:** Lou Barberini, Mitch Bull, Julie Casson, Matt Davies, Will Durst, John Farrell, Jonathan Farrell, Sharone Franzen, Ken Hoegger, Flora Lynn Isaacson, Jack Kaye, Dr. Derek Kerr, Dr. Carol Kocivar, Quentin Kopp, Maya Lakach, Steve Lawrence, Anise J. Matteson, Barbara Meskunas, Brandon Miller, Don Lee Miller, Patrick Monette-Shaw, Sergio Nibbi, Dr. Maria Rivero, Marco Siler-Gonzales, Tony Taylor, George Wooding **Photos:** Mitch Bull, Natasha Dangon, Rachel Eslick, Rachel Quinio, Tony Taylor.

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Letters to the Editor (Cont. from p. 5)

It is classified as Toxicity Category I (most toxic). It kills many things besides oxalis.

Here is a list of Garlon benefits from a 2010 study by Marin Municipal Water Department:

Garlon “causes severe birth defects in rats at relatively low levels of exposure.” Baby rats were born with brains outside their skulls, or no eyelids. Exposed adult females rats also had more failed pregnancies.

Rat and dog studies showed damage to the kidneys, the liver, and the blood.

About 1-2% of Garlon falling on human skin is absorbed within a day. For rodents, its absorbed twelve times as fast. It’s unclear what happens to predators such as hawks that eat the affected rodents.

Dogs may be particularly vulnerable; their kidneys may not be able to handle Garlon as well as rats or humans.

It very probably alters soil biology. “Garlon 4 can inhibit growth in the mycorrhizal fungi...” (soil fungi-guses that help plant nutrition.)

It’s particularly dangerous to aquatic creatures: fish (particularly salmon); invertebrates; and aquatic plants.

Garlon can persist in dead vegetation for up to two years.

It’s against the interests of the public to use it anywhere on earth.

Anastasia Glikshtern

Just once, we would like to read an article about the management of the Natural Areas Program (NAP) that was not centered around the use of poisonous herbicides! Unfortunately Jake Sigg’s article “Oxalis Uber Alles” in the April issue again insists on the need for chemical treatments.

Sigg stated that “the only current technology we have for killing the bulb [of the yellow Oxalis pes caprae plant] is herbicide.” That is not true.

First, it is widely known that herbicides do not kill the underground bulbs, just the top vegetation, so regrowth from the bulbs must be treated year after year after year. Only the most toxic chemicals will work. How did this constant application of dangerous herbicides in areas of our parks where people, pets and wildlife walk ever become acceptable?

Second, a simple check of the UC Davis Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources website shows there are safe, non-toxic alternative ways to effectively reduce oxalis. The problem is that the safe methods are labor intensive and require diligence when applying them. Sadly, that’s the reason NAP doesn’t use them.

NAP has taken over way more acres of our parklands than they can manage with their staff and volunteers. They have bitten off more than they can chew, so to speak. So, they try to cover their management problems by using toxic herbicides, even when those chemicals don’t really work.

It is not just the yellow oxalis that is out of control. There’s also the arrogance of NAP staff that think they can control the evolution of local ecosystems the way they want to – if they just use enough herbicides. Even if all the oxalis magically disappeared, there are many other plants that NAP wants to eradicate using the same toxic herbicides.

There’s nothing particularly “natural” about NAP’s chemical-drenched “natural areas.”

Nancy Wuerfel and Sally Stephens

Quentin Kopp (Cont. from p. 3)

**Proposition E** Another example of Board of Supervisors abandonment of responsibilities and passing the buck to voters is Proposition E, an initiative ordinance presented to voters by Supervisors to amend the Administrative Code to require the Office of Citizen Complaints to investigate all incidents in which a San Francisco police officer “discharges a firearm resulting in the *physical injury* or death of a person, even if the discharge is accidental.” Proposition E arises from recent shootings by San Francisco cops, all of which have been found justified. The Office of Citizen Complaints is another unnecessary City Hall bureaucracy, created in 1974 by an unholy deal between a then-Supervisor and then-President of the San Francisco Police Officers Association. The Police Department has always used its Bureau of Internal Affairs to investigate and make recommendations to the Chief of Police and Police Commission on police officer misconduct. In my early Board of Supervisors years and before, the Bureau was directed by Assistant Chief Mort McNerny with honesty, integrity, and efficacy. For higher pension benefits, the police union agreed to the establishment of the Office of Citizen Complaints, which now costs us \$5,600,000 annually, with 17 civil service employees and increases to \$5,900,000 in fiscal year 2016-2017. The shootings, which instigated this duplicative, costly proposal, are already under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice and the District Attorney. Now, oblivious City Hall officials add yet another entity to duplicate existing efforts. Don’t let them do it. Vote “No” on Proposition E.


**Proposition AA** Also on the ballot in San Francisco and eight other Bay Area counties is a parcel tax by the newly created San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority to fund water quality, habitat, shoreline access, and pollution reduction on San Francisco Bay. Proposition AA slaps a parcel tax of \$12 for 30 years in those nine Bay Area counties. Since 1964, taxpayers have funded the Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments. Now comes a new entity

with a tax scheme that would charge Facebook, Salesforce, Chevron, Wells Fargo Bank, Bank of America, Twitter, Uber and Airbnb the same amount you and I would pay for our residential parcel. The parcel tax would last for 30 years. The parcel tax collected could be granted to a private property owner like a gift of public funds. Of all taxes, a parcel tax is probably the most unfair, unless you like paying the same amount of tax as the aforementioned billion-dollar corporations. Vote “No” on AA.

**Proposition 50** There’s only one state ballot measure, Proposition 50, which amends the California Constitution to allow by a two-thirds vote of the California Assembly and California Senate the cessation of a suspended legislator’s pay and benefits. The California Constitution, contrary to arguments in the official Voter Information Guide, allows the legislative houses on a two-thirds vote to suspend a legislator who then continues to receive a salary and benefits. That’s what allowed one-time State Senator Leland Yee to receive over \$95,000 a year in 2014 despite suspension from office. I’ll vote yes on Proposition 50.

**State Senator** Because of expiration of his two terms in the State Senate, Senator Mark Leno concludes his legislative service December 1, 2016. On July 7, our area of San Francisco will vote for a successor. The two primary candidates are Supervisors Jane Kim and Scott Wiener. As President of the Korean War Memorial Foundation Board of Directors, I wrote two letters to each supervisor and the Mayor’s office in an effort to secure a contribution from the City and County of San Francisco for the memorial at the Presidio. Supervisor Wiener was the only Supervisor who responded immediately to my request. (The Mayor and other supervisors wouldn’t reply to the letters.) His efforts were responsible for securing in 2015-16 from the \$9,000,000,000 City budget \$100,000 for the Foundation. I naturally intend to vote for Supervisor Wiener for the State Senate. (Incidentally, the Memorial is under construction and will be dedicated August 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the site across from the National Cemetery at the

Cont. p. 7



# City and County of San Francisco Department of Elections


## Election Day Tuesday June 7, 2016

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### Vote by Mail requests by May 31

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# Proposition B: A Bad Set-Aside

By George Wooding

**V**ote No on Proposition B, a Charter amendment providing funding for parks, recreation, and open space.

This Charter amendment was designed by District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell, Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee, with the help of Phil Ginsberg, General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD).

Let's review Proposition B's \$4,568.6 Billion set-aside budget.

The Proposition B set-aside of a General Fund appropriation baseline amount of thirty years X \$64.0 million equals \$1,920.0 billion. Plus a fixed annual "Baseline Appropriation increase of \$3 Million for ten years attached to a twenty year baseline of \$30 million that ends in 2046 for a total of \$765.0 million. An Increase in "baseline appropriations" due to annual growth in the discretionary revenues after 2026 [assuming 2% annual growth] equals \$449.6 million. An Open space Fund set-aside of \$1,434.0 billion from 2016 to 2046.

Proposition B will take approximately \$4.5 billion out of the discretionary portion of the City's General Fund over the next 30 years. City voters will have no control over this set-aside for 30 years.

The RPD's set-aside is terrible financial policy. In 2008, City voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition S, a policy that disallowed any set-aside of City revenues unless the set-aside identifies a new funding source, includes limits on annual increases, and automatically expires after 10 years.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* recommended an emphatic "NO" on Proposition B in its April 21 editorial. Embarrassingly for Ginsberg, the *Chronicle* Editorial Board stated, "It's flatly disingenuous for those glossy Prop. B mailers to assure voters in underlined letters that the parks funding would come 'without raising taxes.' They should have added the clause: 'we hope'."

In other words, RPD is lying to the public. RPD intends to take its 30-year set-aside funds directly from the General Fund. Over two-thirds of the San Francisco Department of Public Health's budget comes from the General Fund, so City Supervisors would have to choose between either helping a sick, homeless child, or hiring a new RPD employee for \$200,000 a year. While the sick kid languishes, the RPD employee would probably be soliciting additional funds from Park donors.

City Controller Ben Rosenfield stated "This proposed amendment is not in compliance with a non-binding, voter-adopted City policy regarding set-asides. The policy seeks to limit set-asides which reduce General Fund dollars that could otherwise be allocated by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors in the annual budget process."

Further, Rosenfield stated "Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would have a significant impact on the cost of government."

Rosenfield also stated "The proposed amendment would create a new baseline funding requirement for parks, recreation, and open space that would grow over time. These funds are currently part of the City's General Fund discretionary revenues, available for any public purpose. As funds are shifted to meet the proposed baseline established in the amendment, other City spending would have to be reduced or new revenues identified to maintain current City service levels."

Proposition B doesn't delineate on which projects the Open Space funds will be spent. The Proposition claims that there are between \$1 billion and \$1.7 billion in deferred maintenance in the parks, yet the word "maintenance" has been deleted from the legal text of Prop. B. No one knows on which projects the Proposition money will be spent, or how it will be spent. Citizens will not know where or how RPD will spend this money.

Financial managers, like Ginsberg, typically publish a list of projects they would like to accomplish in their bond measures. This isn't the case with

Proposition B. Ginsberg hasn't provided a list of proposed projects, which will make it all but impossible for anyone to monitor how the increased funding is eventually spent.

Additionally, upon recommendation of the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors may authorize the issuance of revenue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, or the incurrence of other obligations, secured by the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund for acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and/or improvement of real property and/or facilities and for the purchase of equipment. The public has no control, or oversight, over any of these revenue bonds, or any other forms of indebtedness, such as Certificates of Participation.

Other than accepting awards for privatizing RPD assets, and charging the public more fees to use our own City recreation and parks facilities, Ginsberg has been a poor manager. Why did Mark Farrell — a bright and capable Supervisor — ever sponsor this financial mess?

RPD has already been turned into a fund-raising organization. RPD employees are paid to attract event sponsors, donations, and fees. The Open Space portion generated approximately 26% annually. The General Fund provided the RPD with an additional 36% annually and the Earned Revenue Fund generated 38% annually.

The Earned Revenue Fund consists of revenue from parking garages, paid parking, concessions, citywide rentals, permits, facility rentals, stadiums, golf courses, marinas, and other sources.

The Earned Revenue Fund is growing rapidly and is not part of Ginsberg's Charter amendment. A quick analysis shows that the revenue generated from park privatization generates the largest part of the RPD Budget.

Where is the responsibility and good governance in the Proposition B set-aside? Budget set-asides are the simplest financial tool the City can use. Each year the City automatically places more and more revenue into set-asides.

Proposition B is really an indictment of the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Ginsberg. If they want to grow the RPD's budget, they should increase the RPD's budget. The RPD and BOS need to work harder and do their jobs.. They don't need to create another set-aside.

Ginsberg's Proposition B even excludes the BOS from active budget oversight. "Following [RPD] commission approval, the Department shall submit the Capital expenditure plan to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall consider and by resolution express its approval or disapproval of the Plan, but may not modify the plan."

People need to understand that the seven RPD Commissioners and Ginsberg are all appointed by the Mayor. As much as Proposition B advocates claim Proposition B has oversight, nobody in the community will really know what the RPD is doing with this set-aside money.

Citizen budget advocate and RPD expert Nancy Wuerfel states "So, without a prescription in the Charter of what these funds MUST PAY FOR, we are handing over great gobs of cash without benefit of requiring work be done on an annual basis which should then OFFSET THE NEED for more General Obligation Bonds to do what could have been done without expensive bonds. Or the need to sell off the future value of the Open Space fund in revenue bonds to get money for projects nobody even knows are being funded with Open Space funds, because leveraging the

Cont. p. 8

**Angela Alioto has been fighting for the civil rights of employees for almost 20 years — winning stunning discrimination cases against some of the world's largest corporate giants.**

**Our Democratic party needs her independent voice — straight from the heart — to stand up for San Francisco values.**



**Look for Angela  
near the bottom of  
the ballot — #19**

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**DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

**Paid for by: Angela Alioto for DCCC 2016** Financial disclosures available at [sfethics.org](http://sfethics.org)

**Quentin Kopp** (Cont. from p. 6)

Presidio in San Francisco. You are invited to attend by me, on behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors.)

**Superior Court Judge** Because of the retirement of Superior Court Judge Ernest Goldsmith, three San Francisco lawyers seek to replace him. The most qualified candidate by far is Victor M. Huang, Esquire, who lives in the Inner Sunset and has been a practicing trial lawyer since 1992. I heard the three candidates last month. Mr. Huang has tried over 80 jury cases to a verdict, beginning in 1992 as an assistant public defender in Los Angeles, continuing in 2007 as an assistant district attorney in San Francisco, and in operation of his own law firm since 2014. His two opponents, one a City Hall insider, the other a long-time downtown attorney who seems not to understand campaign competition practices, lack Huang's remarkable experience in our trial courts. He's a University of California, Berkeley and University of

Southern California Law School graduate, married with three young children, who represents the most meritorious of the candidates. I recommend him unqualifiedly on June 7.

**Federal Elections** There are also two federal elections on the ballot, one for the United States Senate, and the other for President. As noted, I intend to vote for Sanders in the Democratic primary for President, because I abhor his not-even-to-be-identified opponent. Unlike his opponent, I'm confident of his honesty and independence from Wall Street. I also endorse for the U.S. Senate Duf Sundheim, Esq., another honest lawyer, who's a mediator and whom I've known for over ten years. I admire his measured qualities of knowledge and beliefs.

May the foregoing comments assist you in exercising your rights and duty to vote.

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

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Playland at 43rd Avenue Grand Opening | May 7 | 10:30 am to 4 pm**

Join the grand opening celebration of Playland at 43rd Avenue, between Irving and Judah. A temporary and flexible activation of the yard at the Francis Scott Key Annex.

**Residential Parking Permit Evaluation | May 10 | 6 - 8 pm**

SFMTA is in the process of re-evaluating the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) program, established in 1976 as a way to mitigate commuter traffic in residential neighborhoods. At Grace Lutheran Church (3201 Ulloa Street and 33rd Avenue). Info: [www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/residential-parking-permit-evaluation-reform-project](http://www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/residential-parking-permit-evaluation-reform-project) or email [InfoRPP@sfmta.com](mailto:InfoRPP@sfmta.com).

**Ocean Beach Update | Tuesday, May 24 | 12:30 pm**

This winter's El Niño put coastal erosion back into action, putting the SPUR-led Ocean Beach Master Plan to the test. Come hear about short and long-term coastal protection, updating the city's plan for the coastal zone and designing resilient open spaces from those on the front lines of implementing the award-winning adaptation plan.

SPUR Urban Center, 654 Mission Street, 415.781.8726 Tickets: \$10.



## Money Matters By Brandon Miller

### Municipal Bankruptcies Continue To Draw Headlines



**W**hat does it mean for investors when a city, country or territory declares bankruptcy? When placed in the context of the thousands of government entities in the U.S., it is an infrequent occurrence. However when it does happen, it certainly grabs our attention. It is a reminder that municipal bonds, like all bonds, carry some risk.

Hundreds of bankruptcies by municipalities have been recorded since the 1930s. The largest ever-municipal bankruptcy occurred in 2013, when the city of Detroit filed for Chapter 9 protection from creditors. The troubled city, with a declining tax base, was unable to meet all of its financial obligations and required a restructuring of its debt. Other cities such as Chicago and Atlantic City, New Jersey and the territory of Puerto Rico are facing financial challenges that have put them in recent headlines.

In the case of Detroit's bankruptcy, the city's declining economic fortunes resulted in a notable drop in its tax collec-

taxing power alone will not fully protect investors. Bankruptcy courts will often require these government entities to take steps to improve their financial standing, including selling assets as a way to raise money to help pay creditors.

#### Municipal bonds may work for the right investor

Most investors view bonds as an asset class that potentially carries less risk than some other types of assets such as stocks or commodities. Bonds also tend to perform differently in various market environments than asset classes like stocks. Therefore, bonds can play an important role in diversifying a portfolio. That type

“While a municipality may run into financial difficulty, its bonds can remain attractive.”

tions. Other governments have run into problems due to overwhelming pension obligations, financial mismanagement or various other problems that created a budget crisis.

#### A reality check about debt issuers

Individuals often choose to invest in bonds in order to generate a stream of income on a regular basis. In essence, investors are lending money to the bond issuer, who promises to pay back the principal, but in the meantime, makes interest payments to the investor. Municipal bonds are particularly attractive to some investors because income is generally free of federal income tax, and sometimes state and local income tax as well.

Any bond carries risk. One of the most important that investors must consider is the possibility that the issuer will default on debt securities that were sold to investors. Generally, investors tend to think that there is little likelihood that a government entity that issues a bond will default on its obligation. After all, a municipality or other government unit can issue bonds that are backed by its authority to levy taxes on citizens. But this does not preclude the potential for the municipality to run into a financial shortfall.

The fact that municipal bankruptcies occur for a variety of reasons and through different economic climates indicates that

of diversification can be a valuable benefit for investors, and municipal bonds can play a role.

While a municipality may run into financial difficulty, its bonds can remain attractive. Some investors view the unique ability of these bonds to provide income that is generally free from federal income tax (and sometimes from state and local income tax) worth the risk. As you consider your options in the bond market, work with a financial professional who can help you determine what investments make sense in the context of your portfolio and financial goals.

1 – “Restructuring Municipalities... What Creditors Need to Know About Chapter 9 Bankruptcies,” ABFJournal.com ([www.abfjournal.com/articles/restructuring-municipalities-what-creditors-need-to-know-about-chapter-9-bankruptcies/](http://www.abfjournal.com/articles/restructuring-municipalities-what-creditors-need-to-know-about-chapter-9-bankruptcies/)); “Detroit bankruptcy teaches muni bond investors painful lesson,” Crain's Detroit Business, Nov. 7, 2014;

2 – “Recalling New York at the Brink of Bankruptcy,” New York Times, Dec. 5, 2002.

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.

#### Prop B (Cont. from p. 7)

OSF is just not visible to anyone, much less understandable. It is like signing a marriage contract today for your infant daughter to a wealthy man for some fast cash now — was this really the best use of your daughter's future?”

Controller Rosenfield has stated “approximately 40% of the General Fund is already earmarked or locked in some way by voter initiative.” The higher the level of set-asides in the General Fund, the less the BOS has to do.

Magnanimously, Proposition B also states, “The City shall implement its efforts to increase revenues in a manner consistent with the City's policy of charging City residents a lower fee than that charged nonresidents for the use and enjoyment of Department property.” First of all, it is the citizens of San Francisco's property and there was a time when our open space and parks were free. Thank you Phil Ginsberg for letting San Franciscans pay less than tourists for the property on which we are already paying taxes.

Denis Mosgofian, the District 5 representative on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee, speaking to Supervisor Farrell on November 4, 2015 said “Here's the problem I have: In reading through language like this you're supporting it, you're pitching it, and when

we're listening we're all park supporters and we all want to believe that what's being proposed is going to serve. Except that what you originally proposed made a lot of sense, but what I'm looking at here doesn't provide that kind of specificity, so I went back and I looked up the language of the 1975 Open Space Fund, which specified up to 40% should be dedicated to maintenance. It specified a number of other particular expenditures, directives, and then in 1988 and 2000 it still had some of that specificity. By the time you get down to this piece of legislation it doesn't have that specificity, so given that — and given that instead of having a very robust support for the park system, it's gone way down to \$3 million — to me it looks like a bait-and-switch.”

Ginsberg's “The sky is falling” routine is getting stale. If Proposition B passes, people are going to start wondering why they will need to pass an upcoming capital improvement bond measure for RPD in 2018. I expect to hear voters saying, “Didn't we just give RPD a 30-year set-aside in 2016?”

George Wooding, Midtown Terrace Homeowners Association

#### Staff Discontent at Human Resources (Cont. from p. 2)

Could the stress associated with new mandates and initiatives, major program changes, and demanding work be the cause of staff discontent? Protesting workers say no, because such stressors have always existed at HSA, and the workforce adapted to them. Similarly, Union-Management tensions aren't new. What they oppose, they say, are self-serving, underhanded practices that break trust with conscientious Civil Service employees. In

next month's Westside Observer, we will analyze HSA's 2015 All Staff Survey and management's response to growing mistrust within the Agency.

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](mailto:DerekOnVanNess@aol.com)

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# GOLDEN GATE DOG WALKING



Primary Election (Cont. from p. 4)

Prop. “D’s” City Controller voter guide statement notes salary and fringe benefits for hiring one OCC investigator is a paltry \$140,000, and the OCC’s budget for Fiscal Year 2015–2016 was a mere \$5 million. The Controller rightly notes Proposition “D” would have a “minimal effect” on the cost of City government.

**For a ballot measure with minimal cost and many benefits of greater Police Department oversight, it’s well worth it. Please join me in voting Yes on D.**

Prop “E”: Paid Sick Leave (Initiative Ordinance) —No recommendation.

District Measure AA: San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention, and Habitat Restoration

This measure will levy a parcel tax of \$12 annually in each of the next 20 years for each parcel in the nine-county Bay Area. Over the life of the measure, each parcel owner would contribute a total of \$240 towards clean water, pollution prevention, and habitat restoration in the San Francisco Bay Area. The measure will raise \$25 million annually and over the 20-year

period, will generate a half-billion dollars for a variety of projects.

For the sake of our environment, \$12 a year — \$1 per month — seems like a bargain for owners of these parcels, and a small price to pay. Even though I rent, I’d gladly give my landlord the \$12 a year.

Vote Yes on AA.

California State Senator

The State Senator contest between two sitting members of the Board of Supervisors — Jane Kim and Scott Wiener — to replace termed-out State Senator Mark Leno should be a no-brainer: Vote for Jane Kim.

Ultra-moderate Scott Wiener has, among other legislative issues, been a complete disaster on housing issues and re-zoning of large swaths of San Francisco. Wiener’s housing philosophy appears to be “build lots of market rate housing at all costs, and let ‘affordable housing’ trickle down to the masses of citizens.”

Jane Kim has a very strong record on a whole host of legislative issues too long for this article, including sponsoring legislation requiring San Francisco’s Planning Department to submit a Housing Balance Report twice annually to the Board of Supervisors.

The most recent Housing Balance Report issued on March 31 shows during the last ten years only 17.6% — 5,934 — of the units built or in the construction pipeline are considered to be “affordable.” That’s hardly “trickle-down.”

Electing Kim to the Senate would provide a needed balance to SF Assemblyman David Chiu in the State Assembly.

Vote for Jane Kim!

DCCC Recommendations

The race for 24 seats on SFs Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC) is intense. I recommend most of the 21 candidates endorsed by the San Francisco Bay Guardian, which released a special web page devoted to its election recommendations.

However, since State Senator John Burton declared he is running for the DCCC in the 17th Assembly District after the Guardian published its endorsements, if you feel strongly about electing Burton to the DCCC you’ll need to decide which of the other 14 candidates the Guardian recommended to eliminate.

The list below shows I recommend adding Senator Burton, and not voting for Bevan Dufty. In my book, Dufty’s role in getting Ed Lee appointed as “interim” Mayor was unforgivable.

Dufty’s betrayal led directly to Mayor Lee’s failed housing and economic policies during Lee’s almost five-year tenure that has driven too many San Franciscans out-of-county. Dufty shouldn’t be rewarded for this subterfuge.

**17th Assembly District (East Side)**

There are 14 seats up for the DCCC on the East Side. Vote for these candidates: Alysabeth Alexander, Tom Ammiano,

John Burton (instead of Dufty), David Campos, Petra DeJesus, Jon Golinger, Prathima Gupta, Frances Hsieh, Jane Kim, Rafael Mandelman, Sophie Maxwell, Aaron Peskin, Leroy Wade Woods, and Cindy Wu.

Do not vote for Joshua Arce, London Breed, Bevan Dufty, Shaun Haines, Alix Rosenthal, or Scott Wiener for a seat on the DCCC’s 17th Assembly District. They’re all bad apples, for various reasons.

**19th Assembly District (West Side)**

There are 10 seats for the DCCC on the West Side. Only seven met the Bay Guardian’s endorsement criteria. Vote for: Brigitte Davila, Sandra Lee Fewer, Hene Kelly, Leah LaCroix, Eric Mar, Myrna Melgar, and Norman Yee.

Do not vote for Joel Engardio, Mark Farrell, or Mary Jung for a seat on the DCCC’s 19th Assembly District. They’re also bad apples, also for various reasons.

Superior Court Judge

There are three candidates running for San Francisco Superior Court Judge: Sigrid Irias, Victor Hwang, and Paul Henderson.

Henderson claims it’s important an African American who is gay be elected to the bench. Hwang, an Asian American candidate, is clearly more qualified than Henderson.

Henderson is currently the Mayor’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Safety. Imagine, for example, a lawsuit being filed in Superior Court against the City, and the case is assigned to a “Judge” Henderson. I’m not convinced Paul would maintain “independence” in judging the merits of such a lawsuit, and I’m very concerned he would support the City in such a lawsuit, rather than remaining impartial.

The more important issue is not a candidate’s race, sexual orientation, or political connections, but their legal experience. Hwang has court experience under his belt, which Henderson does not. Hwang clearly is the most qualified candidate; vote for him.

An expanded version of this article is available on [www.stopLHHdownsize.com](http://www.stopLHHdownsize.com).

Monette-Shaw is a columnist for San Francisco’s Westside Observer newspaper. He received a James Madison Freedom of Information Award from the Society of Professional Journalists–Northern California Chapter in 2012. Contact at [monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com](mailto:monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com).

Mr. Jordan (Cont. from p. 1)

many tough years, I was thrilled as the Warriors last year defeated Lebron and the Cavaliers for the NBA Championship.

I compare these Warriors to our 49ers of the 80’s and early 90’s with Joe Montana and Jerry Rice and coached by Bill Walsh. We watched one of the greatest football teams in history and got spoiled. Well our Warriors are the best in history and we may never see another team like this again.

So if you haven’t watched our Warriors then I highly recommend it. It’s a thrill.

The Warriors are the Best Sports Show on the planet. The fast pace offense, the in-your-face defense, the best backcourt in the game of MVP Stephen Curry (soon to be MVP again) and Klay Thompson — “the Splash Brothers”, the heartbeat of the team Draymond, Bogut, the Black Falcon, Iggy, the Brazilian Blur, Mo Buckets and Sean Livingston to name a few. And let’s

MERCED BRANCH LIBRARY PROGRAMS – May 2016

Children’s Programs

**Toddler Tales & Playtime – Mondays, May 2, 9, 16, & 23 | 10:15 am** Rhymes, songs, and books. For ages 16 months to 2 years and their caregivers.

**Monthly Lego Club – Tuesday, May 3 | 4 pm** Come join our new LEGO CLUB! Come to the Merced Branch and build some wild and crazy creations. Family participation is encouraged. Snacks will be provided. LEGO Club is the first Tuesday of every month.

**Homework Help – Wednesdays, May 4, 11, & 18 | 4 pm** Homework help available for K-8 students every Wednesday, 4 to 6 PM.

**Baby Rhyme & Playtime – Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19, & 26 | 10:15 am** Rhyme, rhythm, and song. For infants up to 18 months and their caregivers.

**Origami with Shinta Arifin – Thursday, May 19 | 4:00 pm** Please join us for a special program with origami artist Shinta Arifin. Create a variety of interesting objects by folding paper. For children and tweens ages 5 and up.

**Fire Truck Visit – Saturday, May 28 | 1:00 pm** Come join us as we kick off the Summer Stride program with a visit from San Francisco Fire Department’s Engine 19!

Adult Programs

**Current Market Conditions and Investments – Wednesday, May 4 | 7:00 pm** Investment Advisor Representative Arlene Ericson discusses the do’s and don’ts of investing in current market conditions.

**Knitting Circle – Tuesday, May 10 | 6:00 pm** All levels of knitters, please join us with your knit projects and spread the inspiration! Practice supplies provided, but bring your own if you have a special project in mind. For ages 13 and up.



Merced Branch Library Open House – Wednesday, May 11 | 6:00 pm

Come to the Open House to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Grand Reopening of the Merced Branch Library and to attend the May Merced Arts & Culture Salon.

**6:00-7:00:** Light refreshments will be served, and the band, **I. Reed Daley and the Bookworms**, will perform live music.

**7:00-8:00:** Popular local historian **Woody LaBounty** will present “Parkmerced: 75 Years of the ‘City in a City.’” In 1941, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company purchased almost 200 acres of land from the old Spring Valley Water Company to create the Parkmerced apartment community at the edge of San Francisco’s Lake Merced. On a geometric landscape design created by architect Thomas Dolliver Church, colonial-style apartment villas were erected beginning in World War II to be joined in the 1950s by eleven 13-story towers. LaBounty is co-founder of Western Neighborhoods Project ([www.outsidelands.org](http://www.outsidelands.org)), a nonprofit dedicated to the history of western San Francisco. Please join us for this special event.

**Book-A-Librarian: Learn Basic Computer Skills** Choose a topic - searching library databases, setting up a n email account, or surfing the Internet. Basic mouse and typing skills required. Sign up in-person or call to make a one hour one-on-one appointment.

**ALL PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY ARE FREE**  
Merced Branch Library, 155 Winston Drive (at 19th Avenue), (415) 355-2825, [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org)

not forget Coach Kerr, his highly regarded coaching staff and the unbelievable fans at Oracle and all over the Bay Area.

It will be a tough road along the way this year to the championship if they face the Spurs and then LeBron and the Cavaliers in the Finals again. But the only team that can beat the Warriors is themselves. They are that good. Historically good.

The Bulls-Warriors debate will go on just like Ginger and Mary Ann. But I know

who is the best team ever.

So look out behind you Mr. Jordan. You may still be the greatest player of all time. But if the Warriors win the championship this year than your Bulls are number two. And that’s no bull.

Go Dubs!

*John Farrell Broker/Realtor® – Farrell Real Estate, MBA, Former City Asst. Assessor-Budget/Special Projects, Westside resident - [farrellreinvestments@yahoo.com](mailto:farrellreinvestments@yahoo.com)*

Retirement Funds (Cont. from p. 2)

adventure perpetuates SFERS’s habit of paying Wall Street financiers exorbitant, hedge fund-level fees. Only this time, SFERS’ is going all the way to China to circumvent US government oversight

We must ask: which SFERS employees are proficient in the infant Chinese market rate economy and its government’s experiments with regulations and stimulus? Which City Attorneys are versed in Chinese contract law?

Most San Franciscans believe that the city hires fairly competent finance people to work at SFERS. Several members of SFERS staff are top 1-percenters in annual public salary. The question is whether these 1-percenters recognize the risk of giving Giuseppe one million euros for property whose title will not transfer. A conclusion can be reached because that’s exactly what the SFERS executives are proposing. Chinese law fiats that Chinese A shares cannot be titled in an American’s name. Thus, the SFERS staff is proposing to send \$400 million of taxpayers’/ public employees’ money to two Chinese Giuseppees, who will buy Chinese A shares in their own names.

While trillions of Chinese nationals’ dollars are stampeding out of their country in search of more stable currencies, SFERS is confident they recognize value better than these locals. While our President is addressing rising tensions in the South China Seas by repositioning our navy, SFERS has no fear of risking San Francisco taxpayers’ money in the same turbulent vicinity. This is the same staff that

proposed lowering the pension’s risk by fleeing US Bonds to the “safety” of hedge funds.

Will San Francisco get its money back if the rhetoric over China’s sand island expansion heats up? Folks, its not the return on the pension’s principal that’s important, it’s the return of the pension’s principal. It’s the leakage, not the conduit or the pail, not the traditional pension or the 401k.

If you think this \$400 million investment is inconsequential in relation to the size of our pension, please examine the recent class action suit filed against the advisors to the Dallas Police-Fire pension because of “huge losses” and for the “reckless and improper advice” that occurred from complex investments. *The Dallas Morning News* (4/5/16) reported there were allegations of self-dealing and over \$300 million of high-risk investments had to be “written-down.”

In December 11 & 12, 1995 articles, SFGATE documents how a SFERS one-percenter, at his previous job, mismanaged “conflicts of interest, hired a friend that had already served federal prison time for defrauding the government, conducted superficial background checks, and entered transactions that were not at arms length.” He was placed on administrative leave and the next employer to hire him was SFERS. If you are not troubled by this culture, then my friend Giuseppe has a great deal on a 10-acre plot on Pluto.

*Lou Barberini is a San Francisco CPA living in West Portal [barberini@gmail.com](mailto:barberini@gmail.com)*





## Captain Flaherty Takes a Bite — Out of Gascón!



**I**t is good to be back! I recently had to take a little time because my father had passed away. Thank you to so many who sent their condolences and good thoughts for me and my family. A special thanks to Lt. Ed DelCarlo and Lt. Jim Aherne, for standing in for me.

**Property Crime** In the past few weeks, many have complained about the property crime increase. It is my opinion, that vehicle break-ins and residential burglaries are epidemic and people across the city are feeling its impact. Last week, I had the opportunity to read an *Examiner* article entitled, “San Francisco Westside residents are ‘mad as hell’ about crime.” As the captain of the Taraval District, let me say, you should be mad. I am frustrated and would be just as mad if I were a resident. The article discusses both the impact of Prop 47 (which DA Gascón endorsed) and the disappointment with Gascón as San Francisco’s District Attorney.

**DA Gascón** Under the leadership of DA Gascón, the District Attorney’s Office has a practice of “bundling cases.” What is bundling cases? Prior to this practice, when a subject was arrested for breaking into a vehicle, the case would be reviewed for prosecution. If charges were rebooked, that subject would begin the process of being prosecuted for that one incident. Under the practice of “bundling cases,” even if an officer makes an arrest for an auto break-in, the prosecution process doesn’t begin and the subject is released. Our investigators have been told that, once the same subject is arrested on multiple different incidents of auto break-ins, then the District Attorney’s Office will prosecute those multiple cases as a bundle prosecution. That was not a typo, yes; a subject can victimize multiple citizens before any prosecution will take place. DA Gascón’s practice of bundling cases is not part of Prop 47, it’s not the law, and it is his policy within the office he runs. You will not see the District Attorneys of San Mateo, Santa Clara,

Contra Costa “bundling cases.” The good news is, policies can change. Practices can change. As a community, you can organize and show DA Gascón how his practice is negatively impacting your neighborhoods and is jeopardizing the safety we all value so much. For those who are unaware, you have the option of writing impact letters addressed to DA Gascón. This is a great opportunity to voice your frustration and really ask for change. In my experience, I have learned that community safety is the responsibility of everyone. The only way to truly combat the criminals in our city is to work in partnership. It cannot only be the responsibility of the citizens or the police department or the District Attorney’s Office or the judges who preside over these cases. It will take all of us, working together, understanding our roles in the partnership that will lead to our success.

If you would like to organize your neighborhood to take a proactive role in the safety of your community, SFSafe is an amazing organization that can help you do that. We will work with SFSafe and neighbors to help you organize. I would encourage anyone who is interested, please contact me by calling the station or e-mailing me. Through conversations with you, I become a better Captain. I need to hear from you. I need to hear the good and the bad. That way, we can answer the question “How Can We Be Better?”

I am available to answer any questions, address you concerns and listen to any comments you may have. Please email me at [Denise.flaherty@sfgov.org](mailto:Denise.flaherty@sfgov.org) or call Taraval Police Station at 415-759-3100

**Editor’s Note:** Captain’s remarks and Police Reports are shortened for space. Go to [taraval.org](http://taraval.org) for complete articles.

### Friday - April 1

#### Trespassing

5:44 pm | Taraval & 29th Ave

A female was sleeping on a mattress, blocking the building walkway. The suspect was uncooperative and hostile, and a crack pipe was among her possessions. She was arrested for two outstanding warrants.

#### Assault

8:33 pm | 500 Holloway Ave

Responded to a disturbance, officers questioned the victim. He was assaulted from behind with a metal folding chair by a suspect who tried to take the victim’s granddaughter with him. After further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

### Saturday - April 2

#### Warrant – Arrested

12:56 pm | 2400 Wawona St

Patrolling officers when saw three juveniles casing vehicles. While they began tampering with a locked truck a female began chasing them. Officers detained the suspects. One had a warrant and tools for burglary. The suspect was arrested.

### Sunday - April 3

#### Battery

8:48 pm | Juniperro Serra Blvd & Font Blvd

The victim, aboard a MUNI bus with his older sister, felt a nudge at his elbow from the passenger sitting next to him. When the suspect grabbed the victim’s neck and shook him back and forth, he broke free and exited the rear of the bus. The victim’s older sister reported the incident.

### Monday - April 4

#### Burglary – Arrested

9:14 pm | Lee Ave & Ocean Ave

The victim returned to his car with a broken passenger side window, when he saw a man sitting on steps nearby going through his belongings. Responding officers detained the suspect and located a vehicle burglary tool, broken glass in his pockets and he was on probation.

#### Threats

6:51 pm | 00 Pico Ave

The victims aid the suspect called her phone threatening to hurt her son. She has filed restraining order paperwork against the suspect.

#### Assault

9:48 pm | Brotherhood Way & Arch St

Responding to a possible fight, the victim - an off-duty Sheriff’s Deputy said he was in a traffic collision with the suspect. When the suspect did not have insurance info, he called the police, calling the suspect to flee on foot. He followed the suspect who attempted to punch him.

### Tuesday - April 5

#### Burglary – Cited

12:49 am | Irving St & 24th Ave

Officers observed a suspect loitering near a pickup truck. Learning his identity, officers detained the suspect and a search revealed several burglary tools and a credit card not belonging to the suspect.

#### Burglary

8:31 pm | 4700 Irving St

The victim said her son, or one of his

friends, stole silverware from her garage. While she had allowed him to store his belongings in the garage and gave him permission enter her garage, she then filed a stay away order due to unstable behavior.

### Wednesday - April 6

#### Warrant Arrest – Resisting Arrest

5:51 am | 2400 Great Hwy

A report of a suspicious person acting erratically caused officers to question the suspect, who had an active warrant for his arrest. Advised he was being arrested for an active warrant, the he went limp, refused to move or listen to orders. Officers added a charge of resisting arrest. He was arrested.

#### Assault – Elder Abuse – Arrested

4:40 pm | Confidential

Officers responded to a well being check. The caller wanted officers to check on the victim, a 93 year old female who was having issues with her son. Officers made contact with the victim who reported that the suspect had hit her on top of her head. The victim told the officer of other abuse that the suspect had inflicted on her. During the interview with the victim, the suspect returned home. After further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

#### Battery – Cited

6:54 pm | 3200 20th Ave

The victim said she went to the mall with her friend to return some items when the suspect arrived, he put his arm around the her neck and pushed her onto the ground, spit at her and left. Officers cited him.

### Thursday - April 7

#### Domestic Violence – Arrested

9:24 pm | Confidential

A victim in the divorce process was moving out of her house. When the suspect began arguing over their taxes. When she went to pack her belongings, he grabbed her shoulder with his right hand while holding a glass pint cup. In self-defense, she bit the his arm, then he smashed the glass over her head. After investigation, he was arrested.

#### Traffic Violation – No License

1:52 am | 3200 19th Ave

Officers saw an auto, that a speed measuring tool read at 50 mph. At a traffic stop the suspect said she did not yet have a license, car insurance and the registration was also expired. As a juvenile, her mother was called to take custody—she was cited.

#### Loitering – Arrested

10:10 pm | 100 Terrace Dr

An unknown subject sitting on the front porch began laying down. He said he was

resting his legs. The owner pressed charges for trespass and he was arrested.

#### Burglary

10:58 am | 14th Ave & Wawona St

The victim was returning home when he noticed his front gate was open, the front door frame was broken and heard noises from inside the house. The suspect kicked open the front gate, ran past him and fled onto a black vehicle.

### Saturday - April 9

#### Battery

4:28 pm | Holloway Ave & Byxbee St

The victim, walking on the sidewalk heard the suspect behind him. The suspect hit him on the left side of his head and he fell to the ground. He tried to photograph the suspect but he fled the scene on foot.

#### Domestic Violence – Arrested

11:10 pm | Confidential

Officers observed a man in a domestic violence report exiting the front door and detained him. The victim said the suspect became upset over an argument, pushed her and entered their daughter’s bedroom, locking himself in the room with their daughter with a gun. He was arrested.

#### Assault

5:25 pm | 19th Ave & Winston Drive

The victim stated that he was walking home from the mall when a vehicle drove up on the sidewalk and attempted to hit him. He recognized the suspect was his step-father.

#### Loitering – Arrested

9:53 pm | 300 Ulloa St

A homeowner reported the suspect standing by her doorway. The suspect fled when she confronted him. Later she saw him in front of her neighbor’s house. She called out and fled again. Officers found him hiding in thick brush. He was arrested.

#### Battery

1:14 pmm | 14th Ave & Quintara St

The victim was walking his dog when a smaller, off-leash dog began biting his dog on the hind legs. When he kicked the small dog away the suspect began an argument, threw a large rock that struck him in the leg and threw a stick. He recorded the suspects leaving for the officers.

#### DUI – Cited

3:07 am | 2400 14th Ave

When a vehicle that had rolled-over was reported, the suspect was not injured but had been driving drunk. Officers transported him to General Hospital for treatment and a blood test. He was cited.

Cont. p. 18

Proudly Serving The Families of West of Twin Peaks

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Next Neighborhood Safety Community Meeting has not yet been announced,  
check with [taraval.org](http://taraval.org) for time and location.





**May 2016**  
*An evening to remember...* I recently had the opportunity and great pleasure to attend the City National Bank/KNBR “**Evening with a Legend**” event at the City Club, and it was an evening to remember. The “legend” and prime speaker was **Dave Dravecky**, the former Giant’s starting pitcher who overcame a cancer diagnosis and surgery, worked to return to major league baseball, pitched (and won) his comeback game, and then



Broadcaster Hank Greenwald, Dave Dravecky and KNBR chief Lee Hammer

suffered the catastrophic injury (in 1989) that would end his career in his second game back. In his remarks he spoke freely about being a major league pitcher, where his arm was his ticket to fame, and the depression and anger that followed when his pitching career was “taken” away and his health dealt a major blow with the broken arm, and the reoccurrence of cancer, resulting in the subsequent removal of the arm and much of his shoulder. Not ducking questions, he shared his experiences of fear, anger, lashing out at his family, and finally that of faith, his family, friendships and the life that he leads today as a motivational speaker, a cancer survivor, and as a member of Giant’s organization, and more importantly – the Giant’s family.

While it is easy to hold our sports stars up as icons and put them on a pedestal, it was an amazing experience to hear the story as told by Dravecky, long-time Giants broadcaster **Hank Greenwald**, and KNBR chief **Lee Hammer**. Everyone who attended the function surely departed as a different person than when they arrived. Few other stories can rival this one as a triumph of the human spirit.

The proceeds of the evening benefitted the **TLC for Kid’s** program to restore and renovate playing fields for local kids.



Dave Dravecky and me

**Hetch Hetchy lawsuit dismissed...** A Tuolumne County Superior Court judge has rejected the state constitutional challenge by the Oakland, Calif.-based advocacy organization, “Restore Hetch Hetchy,” which sought to drain the reservoir in the Yosemite Valley that serves pristine drinking water to more than 2.6 million San Francisco Bay Area residents. **Judge Kevin M. Seibert** issued the order on April 28, granting **City Attorney Dennis Herrera’s** motion to dismiss the case.



Said Herrera: “Draining Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is a terrible idea that an overwhelming majority of San Francisco voters rejected in 2012. This lawsuit was a bid by the very same advocates to accomplish in a Tuolumne County Courthouse what they couldn’t in a San Francisco election. I’m thankful to Judge Seibert for his thorough consideration of the law, and for his compelling conclusions. I’m also grateful to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, under the capable leadership of Harlan Kelly, for supporting our efforts in this litigation, and also for maintaining a pristine water system that remains a marvel of civil engineering and public service to millions.”

I couldn’t agree more. Maybe these “advocates” should work on something truly worthwhile...like affordable housing. (Just my opinion)

**“The Big One” remembered, 100 years later...** last month, San Francisco celebrated the 100th anniversary of “The Big One”, the devastating 1906 earthquake and fire that destroyed much of the city, instantly displacing over 250,000 residents and changing the image of the city forever. For the first time, there were no living earthquake survivors on hand, as the last known survivor, **William Del Monte**, who was one month old at the time of the quake, had passed away earlier this year at the age of 100.

**SFMOMA opens next week...** The expanded and remodeled San Francisco Museum of Modern Art will reopen to the public on May 14, from 10 AM to 8 PM. The opening day will be free and “timed” admission tickets are available online. All visitors will require a timed ticket for the opening. Visit “[sfmoma.org](http://sfmoma.org)” for ticket information (opening day is “sold out”). The museum is triple the size of the former building.

Don’t feed the pigeons...this tidbit comes to us via our friends over at METNA (Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Assoc.) from their May newsletter. Were you aware that it is illegal to feed pigeons on the streets or sidewalks of SF per (Sec.486 M.P.C.)? The huge feral pigeon population is a health hazard, and feeding produces overbreeding. When a person feeds pigeons, the birds lose their natural ability to scavenge on their own. Violators may be cited and fined. DPW and the SFPD suggest reporting pigeon feeders to 415-553-0123 (the non-emergency police number).

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



## Spring at the Cliff House

Join us for these Cliff House Weekly Favorites

- Wine Lovers’ Tuesday – Half Priced Bottled Wines\*
- Bistro Wednesday Nights – \$28 Three-Course Prix Fixe
- Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge
- Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet

\*Some restrictions apply. Promotions are not valid on holidays.

### The Lands End Lookout

Be sure to visit the Lookout Cafe at the Lands End visitor center. Operated by the Cliff House team, the cafe serves delicious, locally sourced grab-and-go items. The center, operated by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, offers educational exhibits, stunning views, and the amazing Lands End Trails.

Open daily from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm    Located at Point Lobos and Merrie Way



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



### Paid Political Advertisement



SF Business  
**VOTES**

## 2016 Voting Guide

Vote to support parks, neighborhood clinics, fire stations and homeless shelters!

YES ON  
**A**

### Public Health and Safety Bond

Improves health, fire & shelter facilities without raising taxes

YES ON  
**B**

### Parks, Recreation and Open Space Charter Amendment

Guarantees parks get fair share of budget dollars

YES ON  
**E**

### Paid Sick Leave Initiative Ordinance

Enables employers to comply with sick leave laws without reducing employee benefits

YES ON  
**AA**

### SF Bay Clean Water and Habitat Restoration District Measure

Protects critical Bay infrastructure from sea level rise

**Paid for by San Francisco Forward, sponsored by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.**  
**Financial disclosures are available at [sfethics.org](http://sfethics.org).**

*WOTPCC (Cont. from p. 3)*

officers are on the way. He also explained why the D.A.’s office doesn’t believe that Prop 47 is the reason that street crime and auto-related crimes have increased, stating, “all auto burglary is a felony, regardless of the value of the items taken.”

In the final presentation of the evening, **Mark Scardina** of **Ingleside Terraces**, gave an update on the **Ingleside Terraces Design Review** and the problems with housing reconstruction via multiple permits that are not adequately reviewed and that “essential characteristics” of local

architecture are being lost, because DBI and (the) planning department are not doing enough research into the permit applications and the problem of “serial permitters”.

*The meeting ended at 9:15. Please Note: The next regular meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, May 23rd at 7:30 PM at the Forest Hill Clubhouse. For more information see the WOTPCC website ([www.westoftwinpeaks.org](http://www.westoftwinpeaks.org)).*



### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING JUNIOR ROTC IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS April 25, 2016

**WHEREAS**, The West of Twin Peaks Central Council is concerned with leadership training, lessons in discipline, and character building so that citizens will engage in decision-making at all levels of government; and,

**WHEREAS**, The West of Twin Peaks Central Council recognizes the value of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) in providing training and leadership opportunities for over 1,000 high school students of various economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds in our public high schools; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, the voters of San Francisco passed Proposition V, urging the school board to continue to offer JROTC in San Francisco public high schools; and,

**WHEREAS**, the San Francisco Board of Education will be considering a change in policy to lift funding restrictions on the JROTC program and to award physical education credit for JROTC, as allowed by state rulings, thereby allowing many more students to participate in the program;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The West of Twin Peaks Central Council urges the San Francisco Board of Education to adopt the proposed changes in policy to increase opportunities for students to participate in this valuable leadership training program.



BAY TO BREAKERS 2015 - 105TH ANNUAL



**Sun May 15 | 8 am – 4 pm** | With a starting point near the SF Bay, a few blocks from The Embarcadero, the 12K race runs west through the city and finishes at the Great Highway at Ocean Beach. A quintessential San Francisco experience since 1912, the race is interwoven into the fabric of the city and is a true reflection and celebration of life between the breakers and the Bay.

**ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

**Please note that no alcohol and no wheeled devices (including floats) will be allowed on the race course during the Zappos.com Bay to Breakers. Violators will be removed from the race course immediately and will not be issued a refund.**

[www.zapposbaytobreakers.com](http://www.zapposbaytobreakers.com)

SF INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

**Mon May 19 - June 5 | 10 am – 2 pm** | This festival brings together a global community of artists and audiences and features multiple performance artists in theater, dance, film, and music; visual arts exhibits; and installations. \$20–\$25 Events: [www.sfiatf.org/calendar\\_2016](http://www.sfiatf.org/calendar_2016)



SUN • 75TH MOTHER'S DAY ROSE SHOW

**Sun May 8 | 12:30 - 4 pm** | The SF & Golden Gate Rose Society presents a variety of miniatures, grandiflora, floribunda, and hybrid tea roses, with the top honor taking "Queen of Show." Free, Info: 831-5500 County Fair Bldg., Golden Gate Park 9th Ave. & Lincoln.



NEW MEMBER @ SF ZOO & GARDENS

**A new addition to the giraffe family** — a female born April 8. Barbro, and her calf are in excellent condition. The calf stood up and took her first steps within 30 minutes of birth. She's already more than six-feet tall!



Photo: Rachel Eslick

May Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

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

EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

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

EVERY TUE/THU /SAT • GET IN SHAPE!

**Tue/Thu | 8:30 am | Sat: 9 am** | Get into shape, improve your health. FREE exercise classes. Kinesiology students from SF State in partnership with SF Rec and Park. Turf field at Minnie and Lovie Ward Park, 650 Capitol Ave. [100citizens.sfsu@gmail.com](mailto:100citizens.sfsu@gmail.com), [www.100citizens.org](http://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 \$12 (\$10 Members). [calademy.org/nightlife](http://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. [cliff-house.com/home/jazz.html](http://cliff-house.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](http://deyoung.famsf.org/deyoung/fridays)

SATURDAYS • FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

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

DAILY • BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

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

WED-SUN • THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

**Through May 15** | Frank Loesser's masterpiece - an unconventional, romantic love story set in the vineyards of Napa Valley. Includes The Most Happy Fella; Standing on the Corner. 42nd Street Moon, Eureka Theater, 215 Jackson St. Info: [www.42ndstmoon.org](http://www.42ndstmoon.org)

DAILY • PIERRE BONNARD

**Through May 15** | *Painting Arcadia* is the first major international presentation of Pierre Bonnard's work to be mounted on the West Coast in half a century. The

exhibition features more than 70 works that span the artist's complete career, from his Nabi masterpieces to the well known interior scenes. Legion of Honor, 100 34th Ave. Info: [legionofhonor.famsf.org/](http://legionofhonor.famsf.org/)

SUN • INNER RICHMOND TOUR

**Sun May 8 | 10 am** | SF City Guides | The district's rich history goes back to the 19th century and includes robbers' roosts and racetracks, squatters and roadhouses, a saloon district and a red light district, as well as charming Victorian row houses and beautiful Craftsmans. Meet on the corner of 6th Ave & Geary..

MON - SUN • SF MADE WEEK

**May 9 - 15 | Various times** | Check out our vibrant manufacturing sector and discover locally made products, the people who make them, and where to buy them. Events include factory tours, demos, classes, and more, including the beer and wine trail. Info: 408-5605 / [sfmade.org](http://sfmade.org)

TUE • SPRING JAZZ CONCERT

**Tue May 10 | 8:00 pm** | The Jazz/Rock Workshop & Advanced Jazz Band with guest artist Roger Glenn who plays sax, flute, vibes, clarinet, oboe and and has performed with Jazz greats from Dizzy Gillespie, Cal Tjader & Herbie Mann to Pete Escovedo, Taj Mahal & Kurt Elling; for special performances for President Carter, and other venues worldwide. City College Ocean Campus, Diego Rivera Theatre

TUE • MEDITATIVE TIBETAN PAINTING

**Tue May 10 | 6:30 - 8 pm** | Master Tibetan Thangka painter Jamyong Singye leads a meditative and instructional art form. Each Thangka begins with a beautifully simple premise—that every brushstroke is a prayer. Each prayer comes to life, to move and inspire. West Portal Library, 190 Lenox Wy.

WED • MERCED ARTS & CULTURE SALON

**Wed May 11 | 6 - 8 pm** | Celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Merced Branch Library. Light refreshments, with I. Reed Daley & the Bookworms. At 7: local historian Woody LaBounty will present *Parkmerced: 75 Years of the 'City in a City'*. In 1941, Metropolitan Life Insurance purchased almost 200 acres of land to create Parkmerced. Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

THU • 22ND BIKE TO WORK

**Thu May 12 | All Day** | SF hosts one of the biggest Bike to Work events in the country. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute along commute routes for refreshments, giveaways, and bicycling informations. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute hours and some will re-open during the evening commute..

SAT • W PORTAL PLAYGROUND CLEAN-UP

**Sat May 14 | 10 am - 1 pm** | West Portal Playground is hosting a FREE coffee and donuts get together and park clean up. Come join fellow community members for a morning of community building, park stewardship, and free treats. There will also be crafts and activities for kids. [www.westportalplayground.com](http://www.westportalplayground.com)

Info about the event and renovation plans.

SAT • POOR PEOPLE'S HISTORY

**Sat May 14 | 2 pm** | A History of the Poor People's Campaign in Real Time, an exhibition at Irving Street Projects, 4331 Irving Street (44th Ave). Free [www.irvingstreetprojects.org/current](http://www.irvingstreetprojects.org/current) Justin Gomer, Ph.D., Lecturer, American Studies, UC Berkeley, on the shifting political landscape in the years after 1968.

SAT • SF MOMA REOPENS

**Sat May 14 | 11 am** | The SF Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA)reopens! While tickets to the Opening Day are sold out, tickets are available for May 15 and onward at [sfmoma.org](http://sfmoma.org). The newly expanded SFMOMA will offer nearly triple the gallery space, showcasing 260 works from the Doris and Donald Fisher Collection of postwar and contemporary art. 3rd & Howard Streets.

FRI • VETERANS MEMORIAL CRUISE

**Fri May 21** | The *SS Jeremiah O'Brien* pays tribute to the Merchant Marines. The 4-hour cruise goes out beyond the GG Bridge and along the SF waterfront. Continental breakfast, hot dog lunch and ice cream included. World War II and Korean War vets sail free! Air Force/Air Corps • Army • Coast Guard • Marine Corps • Merchant Marine • Navy. Cost \$150 Registration required, 544-0100 / [ssjeremiahobrien.org](http://ssjeremiahobrien.org)

SAT • SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

**Sat May 21 - May 28 | Times, venues vary** | Business seminars and workshops, networking events, business and technology forums, and district sidewalk sales are planned to highlight the impact small business has in the city. The kickoff networking event, "Flavors of San Francisco," features sample food from local restaurants. Info: [sfsmallbusinessweek.com](http://sfsmallbusinessweek.com)

SAT • ASIAN HERITAGE FAIR

**Sat May 21 | 11 am - 6pm** | The annual Asian Heritage Street Celebration is a massive block party and street fair in Civic Center, stretching from the Asian Art Museum to Little Saigon with cultural performances, food trucks, a cinema showcase, and free admission to the Asian Art Museum. [www.asianfairsf.com/](http://www.asianfairsf.com/)

MON • AUTHOR WILLIAM FINNEGAN

**Mon May 23 | 7 pm** | Winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Autobiography, Finnegan's *Barbarian Days* is an old-school adventure story, an intellectual autobiography, a social history, a literary road movie, and an extraordinary exploration of the gradual mastering of an exacting, little-understood art. Bookshop West Portal, 80 W. Portal Ave.

MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

**Mon May 23 | 7:30 pm** | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss topics of interest to Westside residents. No meeting in December. Meets the 4th Mon each month. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. [westoftwinpeaks.org](http://westoftwinpeaks.org)

TUE • AUTHOR C. W. GORTNER

**Mon May 24 | 7 pm** | Gortner talks about *Marlene* A lush, dramatic biographical novel of a golden age

Hollywood legend, Marlene Dietrich from the gender-bending cabarets of Weimar Berlin to the film studios, a sweeping story of passion, glamour, ambition, art, and war from the author of *Mademoiselle Chanel*. Bookshop West Portal, 80 W. Portal Ave.

THU • AUTHOR MONICA TORBITS

**Thu May 26 | 6:30 - 7:30 pm** | Local author Trobits will present an illustrated lecture and discuss the lingering presence of those eras and the issues of mid-19th century San Francisco. Her presentation will be based on her book, *Antebellum and Civil War San Francisco: A Western Theater for Northern & Southern Politics*. West Portal Library, 190 Lenox Way.

SAT - SUN • CARNIVAL

**Sat-Sun May 28-29 | 10 am - 6 pm** | Our giant, two-day celebration in the Mission District of Latin and Caribbean arts and traditions. See more than 30 music and dance groups. The parade starts on 24th and Bryant Streets, heads west to Mission Street. It continues north on Mission to 17th Street— ends at 17th & Harrison. Info: [www.carnavalsanfrancisco.org/](http://www.carnavalsanfrancisco.org/)

MON • MEMORIAL COMMEMORATION

**Mon May 30 | 10:30 am - 1 pm** | Parade through the Presidio begins at the Main Post (on Anza @ Sheridan) ends at the National Cemetery. The program at 11 am ends at noon with the 21-Gun Salute. A free shuttle from the Main Post to the Cemetery runs through 1 pm. Info: [visitwww.presidio.gov](http://visitwww.presidio.gov) or 561-5418.

WED • GWPNA MEETING

**Wed Jun 1 | 6:30 pm** | Greater West Portal Neighborhood Assn meetings are open to all members and to the public, first Wed each Month. Playground Clubhouse, 131 Lenox Way. GWPNA.org.

SUN • ASIAN ART MUSEUM FREE DAY

**Sun Jun 6 | 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.

TUE • CONSERVATORY FREE DAY

**Tue Jun 7 | 10 am–4:30 pm** | An intimate, up-close experience with over 1,700 species of rare, exotic and endangered plants. Opened in 1879, the wood and glass greenhouse is the oldest existing conservatory of its kind in the Western Hemisphere. 100 J F Kennedy Dr. Free every first Tuesday.

TUE • DE YOUNG FREE DAY

**Tue Jun 7 | 9:30 am - 5:15 pm** | Art from 17th-20th centuries, native Americas, Africa, & Pacific. 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive. Free first Tuesdays.

TUE • LEGION OF HONOR FREE DAY

**Tue Jun 7 | 9:30 am - 5:15 pm** | 4000 years of ancient and European art in the exquisite Beaux-Arts building in an unforgettable setting overlooking Golden Gate Bridge. 100 34th Ave. Free first Tues.

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



Now At the Movies • By Don Lee Miller

EVERYBODY WANTS SOME!!

Jake: Blake Jenner, Jay: Justin Street, Roper: Ryan Guzman, team captain McReynolds: Tyler Hoechlin and pothead Willoughby: Wyatt Russell comprise the horny Texas college basketball team who are housed in the same dorm. The story of the three pre-start days centers on pitcher Jake and the affection he develops for a freshman theater major, Beverly: Zooey Deutch. Director/writer Richard Linklater capably brings funny nostalgia to the 1980 era as he did for “Dazed and Confused,” set in 1976. The hairstyles, terrific music, clothing, attitudes and lingo are energetically, faithfully recreated. The rest of the team fills in the cracks as they pursue the attractive campus chicks at a country hangout popularized that year by “Urban Cowboy,” a punk rock show, and a disco nightclub. R: Profanity throughout, sexual content, drug use, and some nudity.



THE JUNGLE BOOK      IMAX 3-D

Director Jon Favreau succeeds this time out as he really uses the Imax 3-D to superbly create all the imagery except for Mowgli: Neel Sethi, the ten year-old man-cub who has angered a vindictive tiger Shere Khan: voiced by Idris Elba, who orders him to leave the jungle. It is the only home Mowgli has known, having wandered there as a toddler. He was adopted and raised by a wolf family: Akela: Giancarlo Esposito and Raksha: Lupita Nyong'o.

Baloo the scheming, but kind and humorous, bear: Bill Murray; Kaa the snake: the trance-inducing Scarlett Johansson; and Bagheera the panther: Ben Kingsley become friends of Mowgli. The Imax 3-D helps immerse the viewer into the CGI jungle. This family tale is from the writings of Rudyard Kipling and Disney's 1967 animated classic. Two songs are revived here. PG: Some sequences of scary action and peril.

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL

A father, Roy: Michael Shannon in a Texas cult church learns just in time to get his best friend, Lucas: Joel Edgerton and rescue his 12-year-old-son, Alton: Jaeden Lieberher with special powers. Calvin: Sam Shepherd, the cult leader, is determined to keep Alton, even at gun point. The FBI raids the church, putting the congregation into buses to take them away. NSA agent Paul Sevier: Adam Driver questions some churchgoers about Alton's powers and the light in his eyes. Roy, Lucas and Alton hit the road with one eye ahead and one behind. Roy phones his wife Sarah: Kirstin Dunst from a gas station where burning debris mysteriously attacks from the sky, exploding the gas station. The numbers Calvin had announced in church are the coordinates where Alton must meet his destiny. (If this seems like a variation on “E.T.,” don't be surprised.) The sci-fi road drama was written and directed by Jeff Nichols (“Mud”) with lots of close calls and thrills along the trip. PG-13: Some violence and action.

At the Theater • Flora Lynn Isaacson & Linda Ayres-Frederick

Anne Boleyn

Marin Theatre Company continues its 49th Season with Playwright Howard Brenton's *Anne Boleyn*. The play was originally commissioned by Shakespeare's Globe Theater and World Premiered in 2010. On April 19th, MTC opened this West Coast Premiere on its Main Stage.

In this brilliant twist on the story of King Henry VIII (played by Craig Marker) and his ambitious second wife Anne Boleyn (played by Liz Sklar), she herself shares the story of her rise into the household of the King during the Reformation of the Catholic Church and her epic and infamous tragic demise. The story is spliced with that of King James I (some 70 years later), also played by Craig Marker. James has found copies of two banned books in the possession of Anne and goes on a witch hunt to find out her motivations. This leads to his own attempts to settle the religious question in England and the creation of the King James Bible.

Marin Theatre Company's own Jason Minadakis is directing this poignant and provocative play in a lively staging in this his 10th season as Artistic Director at MTC. Included in the cast are well-known Bay Area actors: Charles Shaw Robinson as Lord Robert Cecil and Cardinal Wolsey; Arwen Anderson as Lady Jane Rochford; Howard Swain as Sloop, Dean Lancelot Andrewes, and Country Man I; Dan Hiatt as Tyndale and Dr. John Reynolds. Robert Parsons was understudy for Robinson.

Liz Sklar plays the scheming Boleyn with touches of boldness, intelligence and strong will. Early on she claims, “to know the advantage of everything,” and perseverance is her nature. Thrust into an affair with Henry, Boleyn plays her hand well, demanding marriage over mistress status. This Boleyn, however, is more than a conniving plotter, and her devotion to the Protestant Reformation gives us a differing and sympathetic angle to her motivations.

Craig Marker plays both King Henry and King James with appropriate levels of tyrannical regality and manly charm. Marker's Henry is deeply in love with Boleyn, who conveniently provides him with a path toward his imperial designs and a split with the Papacy. His James I is

funny, exuberant, and surprisingly clever.

The reigns of both Kings are fraught with the dilemma of the state of their Churches, and their decisions drive the actions of the play's many antagonists. Robinson is perfectly spooky as Cardinal Wolsey and Lord Cecil, while David Ari is deviously wicked as Thomas Cromwell and George Villiers.

The play ends in 1603 when Anne's ghost talks with James about the Protestant Reformation she unleashed, and she then addresses the audience before departing.

With Assistant Director and Choreographer Regina Victoria Fields, Jason Minadakis directs the action with great beauty and a superb ensemble casting. Nina Ball's intriguing Set Design feels like a toy theater with steps cut from paper, and her construction extends effectively into the audience where some of the characters enter to create the feeling of being in the same Great Hall as the Royals. Costume Designs by Ashley Holvick and the Lighting Design by Kurt Landisman are outstanding. Sound Designer is Teddy Hulsker, and Dialect Coach Lynne Soffer does well with this cast.

This is the second U.S. production of *Anne Boleyn*, and MTC has created a very special and highly enjoyable night of theater chock-full of romance and pathos. Be ready for 3 hours of Palace intrigue.

*Anne Boleyn runs April 14 -May 15 at the Marin Theatre, 397 Miller Ave., Mill Valley.*  
*Tues- Sat: 7:30pm | Sat May 14, 2:00pm | Sundays, May 8, and May 15, 2:00pm.*  
*For tickets, 415-388-5208, or at boxoffice@marintheatre.org.*

*Coming up next: The Invisible Hand by Ayad Akhtar and directed by Jason Minadakis from June 2 through 26, 2016.*  
*Flora Lynn Isaacson*



Flora Lynn Isaacson



Linda Ayres-Frederick

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The Quality of Life

One of the best shows this season was Monday Afternoon Productions' *The Quality of Life* by Jane Anderson that played in April at the Phoenix Theatre in San Francisco.

Addressing tough issues of loss, playwright Anderson demonstrates that rare ability to see beyond the simplistic with an array of complex but engaging characters. First, there is the couple from the Midwest who have lost their only child, a college age daughter, to a senseless crime. They decide to visit their cousins in Oakland who have not only lost their house to the fire, but the husband is battling terminal cancer. The Midwesterners (played by Richard Aiello and Valerie Weak) have found religion to try to deal with their loss. Their West Coast Norcal cousins (Josiah Polhemus and Laura Jane Bailey) have

opted for marijuana. What ensues is a battle for souls, and director Michael Shipley so successfully leads his actors away from maudlin emotionalism that the paradoxical effect on the audience is devastating. Rarely does one get to see both sides of an argument about the value and quality of life and the right to end it without preconceived judgment. This is acting at its best that is both effortless and close to invisible. Unspoken grief comes out in as simple a gesture as a hand flutter held near the face to keep it from breaking apart. Kudos to the cast and team whose flawless performances inspire hope for live theatre.

A House Tour

Also in April at the Z Space, Peter Sinn Nachtrieb's hilarious *A House Tour of the Infamous Porter Family Mansion with Tour Guide Weston Ludlow Londonderry* played to sold-out houses. Local talent Danny Scheie gave the tour de force performance as Tour Guide Londonderry, leading us through the sometimes close quarters of the House that limited the number of attendees. Director Jason Eagan and Sheie kept the pace moving in the 85 minutes that revealed the offbeat characteristics of the Porter couple who spent much of their time together in various positions of intimacy. Their wealth

was gained by the invention of the expiration date, and their subsequent creation of the mansion invited even more animosity from the curious, strongly disapproving members of society who eventually set fire to the place while the Porters watched from a distance. Innuendo after innuendo joyfully surfaces throughout the text as it celebrates abnormality, stirring one's “inner misfit” and instilling it with power. In the playwright's words: *A House Tour* is “a salute to those who will never be able to fit into any ‘new normal’ nor would they want to if they could. Equality is not the same as being the same as everyone else.”

On Clover Road

On Clover Road by Steven Dietz had its World Premiere in the Rueff Theatre at A.C.T.'s Strand as part of SF Playhouse's Sandbox Series. Also closing in mid April, the play directed by Susi Damilano featured Sally Dana as Kate, the distraught mother in search of her missing daughter, Michael Storm as the private investigator who is supposed to de-program the daughter from the cult she's been living with, and Nancy Kimball as the girl who is initially presented to Kate as her daughter.

Set in an abandoned motel, the play takes so many twists and turns that it is sometimes hard to believe who is who and what's what. When the actual daughter (Rachel Goldberg) appears as the brainwashed disturbed, individual she is, we soon wonder why in the world the mother would want her back. Sally Dana shines as the mother whose complex background gives you pause and empathy for every mother of a teenager.

Linda Ayres-Frederick

Styling the Bay Area: 1960s–1970s Fashion

Thursday, May 12, 2016, 5:45pm – 8:30pm  
678 Mission Street / 415 357-1848

Do you love photos, posters, and movies that showed off Bay Area fashion in the 1960s and 1970s? Dig in, re-live, and dress up for a program that is informative and stylish! Join Tracey Panek, historian for Levi Strauss & Co., and Alexandra Jacopetti Hart, designer and author of *Native Funk & Flash: An Emerging Folk Art*, for presentations that are lively, deeply visual, and connect to rich professional, cultural, and personal experiences with Bay Area fashion.

Pre-Party 5:45pm, presentations at 6:30, costume contest at 8:00pm

Before the presentations, hang out for the pre-party and imbibe local beer and wine while listening to the era's music. After the presentations, stay for the costume contest! Submit your costume and strut your stuff to a panel of esteemed judges and win some great prizes!

RSVP (space is limited):  
<https://fashioningthe1960s-1970s.eventbrite.com>  
\$10 for CHS Members, \$20 General Admission

CALIFORNIA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



Strike (Cont. from p. 1)

“The administration did not respond to requests for comment, but Lamb closed all 11 City College campuses in response to the strike, citing safety concerns. April 27’s faculty-led strike marked the first ever in City College’s 80 years of existence.

was illegal because it occurred during the fact-finding process, a step taken in an attempt to mediate on-going negotiations. The AFT turned down the administration’s latest offer, a 7.19 percent full-time salary increase over the next two years, which the union said would only raise their wages 1.7 percent over 2007 wages. The administration did not respond to requests for comment, but Lamb closed all 11

City College campuses in response to the strike, citing safety concerns. April 27’s faculty-led strike marked the first ever in City College’s 80 years of existence.

Multiple Campuses Active

A small, dedicated group of protesters gathered at City College’s administrative offices at 33 Gough St. by 8 a.m. with picket signs, warm smiles and morning greetings for passersby as they began their day of action against unfair labor practices. The union had organized protesters to picket at Gough Street and seven other campus locations throughout the day.

“We’re not really so focused on how many; we just want to make sure



AFT 2121 member Kathe Burick helps lead City College faculty sing and chant while picketing against unfair labor practices at Ocean Campus on April 27, 2016. (Photo by Natasha Dangond/Special to The Guardsman)



City College faculty gather around Ocean Campus. (Photo by Natasha Dangond/Special to The Guardsman)

“You can either get depressed or angry, or you can connect with people, because morale among faculty has gotten really low,” said Kathe Burick, a dance teacher in her 37th year at City College. Burick was on the picket line at dawn, yelling out chants to save City College through her megaphone...”

there is a presence at every campus and every building.” English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor Diane Wallis said. “(We) just want to make sure the city sees that we’re supporting public education and we’re trying to support City College as a public institution.”

AFT president Tim Killikelly arrived at Ocean campus midmorning, ecstatic from the support he had seen at John Adams campus. “The college decided to close the school down because they understand the support we have from the community and students and how united faculty is to get a fair contract,” Killikelly said.

Civic Center Erupts

Protesters converged at noon among the hustle and bustle of Civic Center plaza to demonstrate in the long-awaited sunlight with a unified and spirited rally.

The rally proved that the faculty was not alone—representatives from Service Employees International Union, Associated Students, the Department Chair Council and Teamsters, among others, brought numbers to the crowd.

City College student Luis G.R held a sign with his friends that read, “Cuts to City College=Gentrification.” G.R, among many other students and faculty, believe the



City College English instructor Mitra Sapienza, with her daughter Colette, during the strike (Photo by Natasha Dangond/Special to The Guardsman)



AFT 2121 President Tim Killikelly supporting City College faculty and students during the one-day strike to rally against the administration’s allegedly unfair labor practices at Civic Center. Faculty and supporters picketed eight of City College’s 11 campuses on April 27, 2016. (Photo by Rachel Quinio/Special to The Guardsman)

pending cuts to class offerings are a step to purposely downsize the college.

“I had to change my major from zoology to biology because so many zoology classes have been cut, and now it’s even harder for me to get classes for biology,” said G.R, a student since 2011. “These cuts make people leave and go somewhere else.”

End to a Historic Day

“You can either get depressed or angry, or you can connect with people, because morale among faculty has gotten really low,” said Kathe Burick, a dance teacher in her 37th year at City College. Burick was on the picket line at dawn, yelling out chants to save City College through her megaphone toward the Ocean Avenue morning commute.

By the time evening had set on Ocean Campus, the picket line had dwindled, but Burick’s voice rose prominently over the blustering winds and blaring horns of Ocean Avenue traffic. Her voice finally gave in and cracked through the amplifier.

She took a moment to step aside and take a breath, “The

only way to keep it our college is to declare it our college.”

Marco Siler-Gonzales is a Journalism student at City College, this special report is courtesy of The Guardsman. Patrick Fitzgerald contributed to his story.



Second Thoughts • By Jack Kaye



## Tragic Suits

America is known for being a country of laws based on our Constitution.

“Attorneys, judges and juries have to say no to these egregious cases of tragic suits motivated more by greed than a need for justice. ...”

Lawsuits are an important part of the way we change individual and group behavior to conform with existing law, or sometimes by causing a change in law. Lawsuits can claim for all actual damages and can request that punitive damages be paid for pain and suffering which is often based on a multiple of the actual damages - usually three to four times that amount.

This system has worked pretty well over the years, but something has changed.

Lawsuits have become a way for survivors and relatives of victims of tragic events to sue for astronomical amounts, going after anyone or any group with deep pockets.

The examples abound.

A family sued when their relative died of lung cancer about 10 years ago. He had smoked for 20 years even though the health risks were well known from the start. He tried but could not quit. Their claim was against the tobacco company for not only producing a product that injured the user's health, but for adding chemicals to the product to make it even harder to resist. The fact that millions of others had been able to quit this dangerous habit over that 20-year period was apparently not an issue. The fact was that this smoker couldn't.

A jury of their peers, apparently outraged that the company had added ingredients to make their product more irresistible, awarded the family almost \$24 billion (that's with a "b"). That would have made the survivors some of the richest people in America - all because their loved one couldn't quit smoking. The award was immediately thrown out on appeal and there was a confidential settlement. Perhaps it was like the one Kramer settled for from Starbuck's on a Seinfeld episode. Kramer spilled coffee on himself and wanted money. He settled for free coffee for life.

Recently, a former professional athlete was mistaken for a wanted criminal who happened to look very much like him. A police officer tackled the victim hurting the athlete's leg. The officer could have found a less invasive mode of arrest. The officer owes his victim an apology, as does his department. The city should pay all related medical and rehabilitation costs if any. But that is not what this man is asking for and he has found a lawyer unashamed to sue for \$150 million.

A group of about 100 mothers wanted to sue the makers of a birth control product. The company had noticed an error in their product's 30 day row of pills. They warned customers at the time and issued a recall. Only one package was returned. Most of the users could clearly see the problem and simply turned the product around so the first row became the last row. Now, years later these 100 mothers sued the company saying that because of the error, they gave birth to children they hadn't planned on and didn't want to have to support. They wanted the company to pay all of the unwanted children's expenses through college. Besides the fact that the problem was known and correctable from the start, there is no way to prove that these litigants used the product back then or that they used it according to instructions. In addition, while 90% of all U.S. women of childbearing age use contraception, 50% of all pregnancies are accidental. So apparently they don't always work even when used properly.

A few years ago, a crazed young man attacked students at an elementary school and killed 20 children and seven adults using an assault rifle. The families have

filed suit against the gun manufacturer for producing a weapon of such destructive force for non-military use. While not one of the many reports about this suit has mentioned the amount, it could be for hundreds of millions of dollars. The gun sale was legal, but the parents want the company to no longer be able to produce weapons that could kill innocent people, especially children.

A man with dual citizenship, returned from western Africa after contracting Ebola, a deadly virus. Upon his return to the States, he felt ill and went to the hospital for treatment. When asked where he had been, he failed to tell hospital staff that he had been in a country with a large Ebola contamination problem. The staff did not recognize his illness immediately and by the time they did, it was too late. He died after the staff risked their lives to save him. One of his nurses contracted the virus but was cured. The dead man's family and the nurse who treated him sued. He should not have died from a cause for which he failed to reveal the source, and the nurse should have been protected from a disease of which the staff was unaware.

A very large, overweight woman, described as having serious cognitive issues living here as an undocumented immigrant, tried to cross a busy highway. An officer rushed to save her from what could have been a fatal accident. The woman resisted his attempts and fought him. He subdued her but then began hitting back. This was caught on video. The officer was immediately fired. The woman was awarded millions of dollars and told that she would be exempt from future deportation.

A 6'5", morbidly obese Staten Island man with a serious case of heart failure, diabetes and kidney insufficiency related to his massive size, resisted his third arrest after ignoring multiple warnings to cease his illegal street activity. He told officers that he had had enough of these arrests and would not cooperate. They tried to take him into custody, grabbing him around the only part of his body they could get their arms around - his neck. He resisted and was last heard saying "I can't breathe." He died of a heart attack, a symptom of which is not being able to get air to the heart - one feels breathless.

The arresting officers were found not guilty in his death. The city's mayor lamented the jury decision and sided with the deceased. He had the city pay the family \$6.5 million for this predictable death.

A woman with a long history of alcoholism was at the county hospital for treatment of the effects of this condition. She left on her own, as she was entitled to do, and died while in the hospital's emergency stairway. It was unclear why she went there and what she was doing in this restricted area. Her dead body was not found for a few days because the security guard did not include it in his rounds. The family sued saying that she should have not been able to get into this emergency stairway and the security officer should have found her dead body earlier. The city gave her foreign family \$3.5 million.

It seems clear to me that suits have gone much too far. Attorneys, judges and juries have to say no to these egregious cases of tragic suits motivated more by greed than a need for justice. Perhaps punitive damages should go into a victim fund instead, not to the litigants who should only get reimbursed for actual damages in order to be made whole.

Feedback: [kaye@westsideobserver.com](mailto:kaye@westsideobserver.com)

## 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 Marcy and Raquel 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.





# WEST OF TWIN PEAKS PROPERTIES SOLD SINCE 2/1/16

FACT: INVENTORY HAS NEVER BEEN LOWER WHEN COMPARED TO BUYER DEMAND

ADDRESS	TYPE	BEDS	BATHS	PK	ASKING	SOLD	%OF ASKING
17 San Andreas Way	St. Francis Wood	5	4.5	6	3,750,000	3,750,000	100
120 Ulloa St	Forest Hill Extension	3	2.5	1	1,495,000	1,700,000	113.71
587 Mangels Ave	Sunnyside	3	2	2	995,000	1,010,000	101.51
155 Monterey Blvd	Sunnyside	2	1	2	879,000	1,255,000	142.78
269 Joost Ave	Sunnyside	3	2	2	998,000	1,430,000	143.29
2455 14th Ave	West Portal	4	3.75	2	1,525,000	1,525,000	100
45 Ardenwood Way	West Portal	2	2	3	1,295,000	1,630,000	125.87

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**Elise Beneke Tietz with cow in Glen Canyon 1909.** (Note with photo) Valborg C. Tietz, owner of picture (above). The lady pictured was my mother-in-law: Elise Beneke, who later married Alexander William Tietz in 1910. Her husband Alexander Tietz was crushed by 2 railroad cars at the Santa Fe yards in 1920, where he worked. He was taken out beyond the 'Three-mile Limit' where he was found. There never was anyone charged with throwing the wrong switch. The family was paid \$9000 for his death by the Santa Fe R. R. She never re-married, and lived with her son Wilhelm or 'Bill,' who was my husband. We married in 1955. She lived with us for 25 years, and died at age 86 in 1976. This picture was taken of her in the Glen Canyon, where there was a dairy for years. The cows were quite tame, as you can see. The Good Brothers owned the dairy." Published by permission of the San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

## Ingleside Terraces Wide Neighborhood Garage Sale

24 plus homes participating!  
**Saturday, May 21 • 10:00 – 3:00**  
*No early birds, please!*



Maps of specific homes and the items the 24 owners are selling will be available at 10:00 am at 350 Urbano Drive on 5/21.

There will be antiques, household items, furniture, books, children's items, picture frames, sports equipment, toys, plants, luggage, aquarium equipment and **treasures galore!**

## OPEN LATE



By Julie Casson

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

## 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:**  
The answer appears below.

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

## Half the Time

The minute of the hour is half of the hour of the day, which is half of the day of the month, which is half of the month of the year, which is half of the 2-digit year of the 21st century 4-digit year (i.e. the last two digits of the 4-digit year "20##"), which is therefore, in a sense, half of the 4-digit year.  
What is the exact time, including the minute, hour, day, month, and year?

Answer  
2:01 a.m., August 4th, 2016  
The minute (1) is half of the hour (2).  
The hour (2) is half of the day (4).  
The day (4) is half of the month (August, the 8th month of the year).  
August (8) is half of the 2-digit year (16, the last two digits of "2016").  
Two (2) digits ("16") of the 4-digit year are half of the four (4) digits of the 4-digit year ("2016").  
The same type of thing won't happen again until the year 2116.

## BRAIN FUD

We're On The Web!



westsideobserver.com



Senior Smarts By Anise J. Matteson

Senior Housing: Choosing Where You Live to Have a Dynamic Life

I am prompted to express my expertise in elder care in response to Alexander Mullaney’s interview with Joel Engardio (“Meet the District 7 Candidates,” Ingleside-Excelsior Light, March 2016) regarding Engardio’s response to: West Portal’s commercial corridor. How do you see it growing in your term?

Housing to which seniors can downsize.

Stories of seniors who have homes and they are thinking, ‘Well I can’t climb the stairs much anymore’ but where am I going to go? I’d like to stay in my neighborhood...

If my memory is correct, I read this statement in the West Portal Monthly sometime in the past few years.

There are service providers who can assist seniors with home modifications to age-in-place. They are Certified Aging-in-Place Specialists (CAPS).

There is medical equipment that can be installed: chair lift, platform lift, dumb waiter, home elevators, etc.

Mechanical lifts may be covered by health insurance.[1]

Neither you nor your loved ones have to experience this season of life alone. Everyone goes through each season. The difference is how it is experienced and who is willing to walk with you.

Michael Menn, a licensed architect, remodeler and frequent industry speaker provided the following information for the Glossary in my reference book, Caring for an Aging Loved One: The Family Caregiver’s Guide Book, ©2007.

Definitions

Aging-in-place. 1: living in your home safely, independently and comfortably regardless of age, income or ability level; 2: the pleasure of living in a familiar environment throughout one’s maturing years; 3: the ability to enjoy the familiar daily rituals and the special events that enrich our lives; 4: the reassurance of being able to call

a house a “home” for a lifetime; 5: using products, services and conveniences to allow or enable you not to have to move as physical and social circumstances change.

Universal Home Design. Is intended to make the home friendly, or easy to navigate, for everyone.

Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS). Professionals trained in working with older and maturing adults in remodeling their homes to provide comprehensive and practical “aging-in-place,” “universal design” and “visibility” solutions.

What is CAPS?

The American Association of Retired People (AARP) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) have been working together to create the “Certified Aging in Place Specialist” (CAPS) program to help home remodeling professionals meet the needs of the burgeoning market. This training program is offered through individual state homebuilders associations to home remodelers.

The program teaches the technical, business management and customer service skills essential to compete in this fast growing segment of the residential remodeling industry. It provides comprehensive, practical, market-specific information about working with older and maturing adults to remodel their homes for aging-in-place.

CAPS professionals have the answer to your questions. They have been taught the strategies and techniques for designing and building aesthetically enriching barrier-free living environments. The CAPS program goes beyond design to address the codes and standards, common remodeling expenditures and projects, product ideas and resources needed to provide comprehensive and practical “aging-in-place,” “universal design” and “visibility” solutions. CAPS graduates pledge to uphold a code of ethics and are required to maintain

their designation by attending continuing education programs and participating in community service.

The role of a the Specialist”

A Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) has been trained in the following:

The unique needs of the older adult population.

“Aging-in-Place” home modifications.

Common remodeling projects.

Solutions to common barriers.

Knowledge of “Universal Design.”

Knowledge of “Visibility.”

While most CAPS professionals are remodelers, an increasing number are general contractors, designers, architects and health care consultants.

Abbreviations

AIA - American Institute of Architects

CGR - Certified Graduate Remodeler

© Information courtesy of Michael A. Menn, AIA, CGR, CAPS. Principal, Design Constructors Concept, Ltd.

AT-HOME LIVING: MECHANICAL LIFTS

Purpose: Mechanical lifts can be installed in homes in order to make uninhabitable areas more habitable.[2]

LIFTS

Stair chair. A device used to transport patients capable of being moved in a sitting position up and down a staircase or through narrow and confined spaces.[3] Attaches to the bottom of a stairwell.[4]

Stair Lifts [5]

Outdoor Stairlift. Weather-proofed. Waterproof cover.

Perched/Stairlift. When the user may have trouble bending at the knee and therefore cannot use a standard lift.

Sit/Stand Stairlift, For multiple users with different requirements.

Curved Stairlift. For more complex staircases.

Wheelchair stair lift: 1. Has a platform for a wheelchair instead of a comfortable chair. 2. Allows the senior to take their wheelchair with them up and down the stairs. 3. Provides them with a way to tackle the stairs by themselves. 4. Useful for

seniors who are unable to transfer themselves from wheelchair to a chair lift.[6]

Platform Lifts

Platform lift. An unenclosed platform which carries persons and cargo in the manner of an elevator, usually over a short vertical distance. The platform is usually attached to the side of the lift mechanism.[7]

Wheelchair platform lift. Allows its user to roll onto the platform and then press a button to go up or down to reach the porch or the sidewalk.[8]

HOME ELEVATORS

Personal elevator. 1. For people in wheelchairs or seniors who have a walker or cane and find it difficult to go up and down the stairs in their home. 2. For homes that are two or more stories tall and that have a lot of stairs. 3. Can be installed into already established closets.[9]

Residential home elevator.

Personal elevator

Dumb waiter. 1. For seniors who are unable to maneuver the stairs easily and who often need items transferred from one floor to another. A mini manual elevator that allows the user to transfer laundry, prepared meals or other heavy items up and down floors.[10]

Seniors, you are a real estate developer or investor’s dream come true!

Please contact me if you would be interested in my offering a seminar with service providers to learn more about options for remaining in your home when you are no longer able to climb the stairs.

Share “Your Story”: If you are home-bound, why? What would make your life more fulfilled?

EDITORS NOTE: For the complete Resource Guide for this article go to: [www.westsideobserver.com/health.html](http://www.westsideobserver.com/health.html)

Anise Matteson is an elder care consultant, retired Registered Health Information Technician and writer of reference books for seniors. Information is educational only. For specific questions and advice, consult a licensed contractor



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Education

What Happens After School Matters

By Carol Kocivar © 2016



There is a new survey by the Partnership for Children & Youth that deserves our attention. It finds that lack of funding may cause poor children to lose quality after-school programs.

This is a big deal.

After-school programs are not only a critical resource for working parents, they are an important strategy for closing the achievement gap and keeping our children safe in the afternoon hours.

Background

California's After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program supports over 4,000 elementary and middle schools offering after-school and summer programs to more than 400,000 students daily. These programs operate at high poverty schools, those with an average of over 80% of students participating in the free and reduced-price meals program.

Research (a good thing) shows that after-school programs improve school attendance, English fluency, academic success, crime prevention, improved health and nutrition, and social-emotional skill development.

They are also cost-effective, with \$2 to \$9 dollars saved for every \$1 invested.

The Problem

While the costs have increased, funding for ASES has remained the same for a decade. The survey found that 92% of ASES-funded respondents have been negatively impacted by the stagnant ASES funding.

29% are very likely to close in the next 2 years without an increase to the ASES daily rate.

35% are now serving fewer kids, a 46% increase from last year's survey.

64% have reduced staff hours, a 28% increase from last year's survey

More than 86% find it more difficult to attract and retain qualified staff (unable to offer competitive pay).

Legislative Proposals

There are several bills pending in the legislature that try to address this issue:

Assembly Bill 2663 proposes to increase funding by \$73 million in the 2016-17 fiscal year to raise the daily ASES funding formula from \$7.50 to \$8.50 per student.

Assembly Bill 1567 would waive fees and give priority access to state-funded afterschool programs for children who are homeless, and those in the foster care system.

Find out more...

Ed100.org takes a closer look at after school programs. Changes in the structure of the American family and workforce have made after-school hours a critical issue for parents and school district leaders.

You can find this at in Lesson 4.7: ed100.org/time/afterschool

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



Health Matters

The Night Kitchen

By Sharone Franzen, LAc



As spring makes its way toward summer, most of us have adjusted to Daylight Saving Time and are back to a comfortable sleep rhythm. But every year, more and more of us find it hard to either fall or stay asleep, dipping increasingly below the requisite eight hours. We toss and turn, take medication, or try to catch up on the weekends, all with varying results. Of course, some folks insist that they do just fine on six hours of sleep a night. They get themselves out of bed in the morning, have a couple of cups of coffee, and get themselves to work without too much fuss. But how does the rest of their day go? Are they really functioning optimally? And might there be health consequences down the road for all of us who don't sleep enough?

Studies have shown that lack of sleep can lead to many common health conditions. For instance, researchers have found that less than eight hours of sleep a night can lead to weight gain. They have found notable differences in digestive hormone levels between people who get adequate sleep and those that don't. Ghrelin is the hormone that signals hunger; its levels rise with lack of sleep. Leptin, on the other hand, is the satiety hormone; leptin levels are lower in sleep-deprived subjects. All of this irregular hormonal activity can create food cravings when we're tired, and sugar in its many forms is an exhausted brain's preferred crutch. Additionally, human growth hormone – responsible for building muscle – is released during sleep, with consequent decreased levels in those who don't sleep enough. (Any competitive body builder will tell you that plenty of sleep is a major part of training.) Low human growth hormone levels can affect a body's lean-to-fat ratios and, subsequently, reduce metabolism and lead to weight gain.

Food cravings, poor concentration, and the dreaded two o'clock slump are just a few indications that our bodies need more rest. Adequate sleep should be considered a requirement rather than a luxury. So what can we do to get more z's?

First of all, we need to examine our evening rituals. Infants and children fall asleep more easily when they follow nightly bedtime routines, but unfortunately many adults don't know how to create healthy routines for themselves. For instance, habitual use of your computer or watching television at night can undermine your body's ability to wind down. Melatonin, the body's sleep hormone, is made by the pineal gland in the brain. Daylight shuts down the pineal's activity, whereas nightfall signals more melatonin production to prepare us for sleep. Computer and TV screens radiate light directly through the eye into the pineal gland, sending the brain the message to stay alert. Shutting down these stimulants earlier in the evening helps correct the discrepancy and will make you feel sleepy at an appropriate bedtime. (Of course, old habits are hard to break. If you rail against giving up your late night TV, ask yourself this: how does watching yet another rerun of The Sopranos feed your life's ambitions? Wouldn't you rather be well rested?) Using a low-wattage lamp to read a book will allow the pineal gland to do its work, and if you pick reading material that's a bit boring, you'll be asleep in no time!

Chinese medicine takes a more big-picture approach to sleep. Falling or

staying asleep at night depends upon not only what happens right before bed, but on a person's activity level during the day. The concept of "Yin" and "Yang" might be familiar to those who have studied martial arts. Yang is an active, "masculine" energy, exemplified by morning hours, warmth, sunlight, and a go-get-it attitude. Yin, on the other hand, is all about rest, quietude, and darkness. At any given time, we have both energies working in different proportions: more Yang during the day, but some Yin for quiet activities or mental concentration; more Yin at night so that we can put most of our bodily functions in "rest" mode, but enough Yang to keep our hearts beating. Therefore, our overall health depends on a more or less equal expenditure of Yin and Yang during a 24-hour cycle. When one aspect becomes depleted due to illness or an unhealthy lifestyle, the other eventually follows. Acupuncture and herbal medicine treat insomnia by both increasing a person's energy during the day, and relaxing the nervous system at night.

With this in mind, we might ask ourselves not only what type of Yin-nourishing practices we are cultivating, but also whether we are supporting our Yang energy during the day. If you find it hard to sleep at night, are you exercising every day? Are you accomplishing a reasonable amount of tasks? (If you are stuck with a long to-do list at the end of the day, either you have not expended enough Yang energy to get things done, or you have overworked beyond the point of reasonable expectations.)

Many daytime activities integrate Yin and Yang, and can help us feel deliciously tired come nightfall. Yoga, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, and many other exercise routines incorporate both active and passive elements. Even a long walk has Yin and Yang aspects: although you are exerting yourself physically, your mind can be lulled by the rhythm of your gait and the swing of your arms. Once you've incorporated some sort of exercise into your daily schedule, you should find yourself falling into a deeper and more restful sleep at night.

If you find that after a solid month of exercise and pre-bedtime rituals you are STILL not sleeping well, you may have an underlying physical imbalance that needs attention. Hormonal, emotional, and digestive issues can all affect sleep quality, and can be addressed using natural therapies. Acupuncturists, naturopaths, and other holistic healthcare practitioners can help. Waking up feeling well rested every morning is well worth the investment.

Sweet dreams!

Sharone Franzen is a licensed acupuncturist and herbalist at Lakeside Village.

Police Report (Cont. from p. 10)

Monday - April 11

Warrant Arrest – Concealed Weapon

4:57 pm | 700 Taraval St

A shoplifter was detained by loss prevention. Officers found an active warrant for his arrest and a fix blade, four inch dagger-like knife hidden in his jacket within easy reach. He was arrested.

Battery

12:55 pm | 46th Ave & Taraval St

A UPS delivery person buzzed a neighbor's apartment to gain entry to deliver a package. When someone buzzed him in he dropped off the package. The suspect came down stairs and complained about the doorbell and pushed the victim before walking back inside. The suspect told the officer a different story. Without witnesses, a report was made and the inspector will follow up.

Tuesday - April 12

Battery – Arrested

10:57 am | Confidential

The victim of a domestic violence incident told the officers that he wanted to go smoke marijuana with his friend but the suspect placed a pillow over his head and hit him in the head repeatedly. The suspect said the victim wanted to smoke marijuana instead of staying for their son's birthday party. The suspect said that she never hit the victim. The suspect was arrested.

Robbery

11:30 am | 2600 San Jose Ave

The victim told the officers she noticed a vehicle double parked in front of her house. As she arrived home, the suspect grabbed the victim's purse and ran back into the vehicle and fled.

Wednesday - April 13

Battery – violation restraining order

10:42 pm | Confidential

A domestic violence victim said she and the suspect, just out of alcohol rehab, were divorcing. He began drinking again. She took the his wallet to prevent him buying alcohol. The angry suspect pushed her head onto the pillow, making breathing difficult until she gave back the wallet. The suspect was arrested.

Robbery – Arrested

11:07 am | 19th Ave & Holloway Ave

A robbery victim told said he was harassed by two suspects who punched in the face and implied they had gun. One suspect reached for his pockets demanding his property. The victim was able to confirm the suspects when presented with them by SF State Police. The suspects were arrested.

Thursday - April 14

Restraining Order Violation – Arrested

12:45 am | 500 Holloway Ave

he victim who said her grandson had an active restraining order filed against him but he was standing in front of her house. Officers arrested the suspect.

Robbery with Gun – Arrested

1:38 pm | 200 Arballo Dr

A robbery victim was walking on the sidewalk when a white vehicle stopped and a man walked and produced a silver handgun pointed it at the victim and removed her purse. Another police pursuit involving a vehicle matching the description of the suspect ensued. The suspect was arrested. The victim's purse was returned.

Editor's Note: We print the reports that space permits. For more complete Police Reports go to: taraval.org

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Special School Tax Senior Exemption Applications Due June 30th

The Quality Teacher Education Act (QTEA) of 2008 and the School Facilities Special Tax of 2010 were passed by the voters to provide critically needed funds to the SF Unified School District. For the 2016-17 tax year, the QTEA will levy a fee of \$236.98 for each eligible parcel. The School Facilities Special Tax will levy a fee of \$36.06 for single-family dwellings, condominiums and commercial properties and \$18.04 per unit for apartments, flats and mixed-use dwellings. Both of these measures include an exemption for seniors living on the property provided that they meet certain criteria. To apply for this exemption, please complete an application form and submit it by June 30, 2016. Exemption applications must be submitted each year and are not automatically renewed. [www.sfusd.edu/en/about-sfusd/voter-initiatives/senior-citizen-exemption.html](http://www.sfusd.edu/en/about-sfusd/voter-initiatives/senior-citizen-exemption.html)



Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi



# Shake Rattle and Roll

**W**hen heading to AT&T Park to join yet another sell out crowd, driving down 3rd Street to admire all those new sleek towers laden with young entrepreneurs and biotech geniuses, or being thankful for the new Benioff Children's Hospital, do we ever stop and realize that not all that long ago the entire area was an environmental wasteland? The area was laden with oil-soaked soil mixed with deadly toxins, rusting steel tracks, and creosote-soaked railroad ties, long abandoned.



For years the industrial buildings that dotted the area were served by rail cars dropping off and picking up all sorts of products. Typical businesses were a who's who in the fuel and paint business: Richfield Oil, Chevron, Valvoline, Glidden Paint, L&H Paint, battery manufacturers, and building materials suppliers. To this day there are still huge steel pipes under 16th Street that carried fuel from barges that docked at China Basin to fuel depots owned by Chevron and Richfield Oil. Railroad tank cars were the Uber of the day.

For many years our offices were on the corner of 17th and Arkansas Streets, and throughout the day we could hear and feel the trains rolling down 16th Street rattling our windows and shaking the floors, having started from the Embarcadero and fanning out through the area calling on the various businesses in Mission Bay.

The San Francisco Belt Railroad started out as the State Belt Railroad in 1889, and was renamed when the city

From its general offices in the Ferry Building, the company provided its services by switching cars from four major railroads to points throughout its system. Working with Southern Pacific, Northwestern Pacific, Western Pacific and my very favorite, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, the system supplied the area for all those years, and additionally gave birth to a very popular song, Harry Warren & Johnny Mercer's "On the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe", written for the 1946 film, The Harvey Girls.

At times I wonder how all that equipment would survive in today's environment



with cars, pedestrians, bicycles and skate boards all competing for a spot to navigate. A few weeks ago, the Chronicle's C.W. Nevius wrote an interesting article about the horrific traffic in this same area. A viable solution is not easy. The tracks are gone, the locomotives are gone, the businesses are gone, but the people are not. Would a new train line work? Why not? It worked at Disneyland, at the airport and the fairly new "F" line along the Embarcadero. Who needs open air sightseeing buses or Red and White fleets? I propose that we rebuild the San Francisco Belt Railroad, load



bought the Port of San Francisco in 1969. Eventually all operations ceased in 1993. The railroad connected the Port of San Francisco with many of the docks along the waterfront, serving the area for years. Eventually the 67 miles of track stretched from its roundhouse, which was eventually converted to modern offices on the Embarcadero, to a train/ferry slip at Pier 43, through Fisherman's Wharf, Aquatic Park, Fort Mason and terminating in the Presidio.



its cars with people and not products, and drop off all those happy fans at AT&T Park and the Warriors new stadium, and the tourists at the Wharf, and all those hi-rise dwellers going back home. No more parking lots, no designated drivers, free flowing beer and great music along the way. My first choice for a theme song? What better than Johnny Mercer's "On the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe?" Let's put it up for a vote.

Sergio gets around — the world!



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4	09/15/2018	09/15/2020

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**Jour 29: Magazine Editing & Production**

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**Jour 31: Internship Experience**

Hours Arranged BNGL 615 Gonzales

**Jour 35: Internet Journalism**

TR 9:40 - 10:55 AM MUB 160 Graham

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W 6:30 - 9:20 PM Mission / Rm 217 Lifland

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