



**Taraval Street Fair
& Pumpkin Festival
Returns October 25th
— p8**

Prop H Debate

**Watch Assemblywoman
Fiona Ma and Supervi-
sor Sean Elsbernd tackle
audience questions.
Watch it online
— www.westsideobserver.com/video.html**



**West of Twin Peaks
Central Council
Met October 22nd
with plenty of
controversial local
issues
— p5**

Business Corner
**We visit the
Italian American
Social Club
— p. 7**



Quentin Kopp
**He'll be back next issue
after a vacation with
more sage and witty
ruminations.**

More INSIDE

Fiona Ma on Prop H	2
Around the Town.....	2
NERT Training.....	2
Letters to the Editor	2
Phyllis Sherman - Phyllis' Findings	3
Bring Back Bengal Alley.....	3
Now at the Movies.....	10
Carol Kocivar - Timt time time is on My.....	11
Sharon Caron - Winter Cooties	12
Breast Cancer Exams at Curves.....	12
Hank Basayne - In a Very Strange Land.....	13
Jack Kaye - Is SR an American City?.....	14
Dr. Annette Lust - Theater.....	14

Are There Flowers in West Portal's Future?

Community Benefits District?

Matt Rogers, owner of Papenhausen Hardware, introduced a plan to establish a Community Benefits District along West Portal's commercial strip at the last meeting of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council. "It's in the beginning stages," Rogers said, and he is seeking support from the residents.

Community Benefit Districts are funded by a tax on the building owners of commercial properties in the affected area. A steering committee would control the amounts levied on the businesses as well as the services provided.

Services could include steam cleaning of sidewalks, continual cleaning, graffiti removal and extra security services if the steering committee desires. CBDs are formed through an election process that begins with a petition signed by 30% of affected land owners and takes affect when, by a 50% majority, they elect to form the CBD. They can last for up to 15 years and must be ratified by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors.

Rogers pointed to the Noe Valley CBD as a successful example of what can be accomplished. Noe Valley has beautiful hanging flower baskets and very clean streets. He also noted that an attempt by West Portal businesses to pool money for clean up in the past had little success. He could not comment on the flower baskets, however.



Noe Valley Community Benefits District provides clean streets and flowering baskets.

Don't expect City Hall to provide any extra services or funding. The City is having severe budget problems—so what's new? The City now pays for amenities like hanging flower baskets around City Hall and at a few other chosen locations at an astronomical cost. The price of each basket, which may have a life-span of only 4-6 months starts at \$750 each, but the real cost is maintenance. Our taxes are called upon, again, to shell out \$6 per basket for watering and fertilizing each one, which must be done daily. City Hall is silent on the real cost of these, admittedly gorgeous touches, but documents obtained by the Westside Observer through the City's Sunshine Ordinance show expenses of at least a quarter of a million annually.

A Bond Dressed in Emperor's Clothes

by George Wooding

As November's election rapidly approaches, San Francisco officials grow increasingly desperate to pass Proposition A to rebuild San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH). The City must convince two-thirds of voters for passage, but support is vanishing by the minute, just like the Emperor's new clothes. What happened?

Virtually every supporter and opponent of the project agrees the City needs a seismically-retrofitted hospital. The City dawdled 14 years planning the project. Utilizing vast special-interest money, the City hired high-powered lobbyists and PR experts to promote Prop. A. TV commercials air daily; brochures and flyers flood mailboxes. SFGH's dedicated doctors, nurses, and administrators appear in hospital uniforms at every neighborhood groups endorsement meetings.

Despite the San Francisco Chronicle's current news black-out on opposing arguments to Proposition A, it brazenly contacted Proposition A opponents, asking them to purchase political ads costing between \$2,200 and \$32,000.

Whitehurst Campaigns, a local PR firm, submitted 37 of the 39 paid ballot arguments supporting Proposition A. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senator Dianne Feinstein, along with local medical workers and SFGH patients, were among those signing arguments. All but one of the 39 arguments were funded by the Committee to Rebuild General Hospital, which is primarily funded by Service Employees International Union (SEIU). The 39 paid ballot arguments cost just under \$20,000. SEIU also plans deploying union members to pass out flyers door-to-door. Are voters being asked to save union jobs, or patients?

November's SFGH bond measure is the most expensive in City history. San Franciscans don't mind paying for a seismically-upgraded hospital,

but we're tired of paying for poorly-planned general obligation bond projects, after the City has sponsored one overpriced bond disaster after another. San Francisco politicians continually promise one thing to voters, then deliver completely different projects at costs higher than promised.

Laguna Honda Hospital's (LHH) initial \$401 million budget for a 1,200-bed facility has soared to \$641 million for a 780-bed facility, and may climb higher. It's painful imagining what the City will build with SFGH's \$1.7 billion budget. Sadly, before the election voters will neither know what the City will actually build nor how much it will finally cost. Current floor plans for SFGH's project are one design change away from becoming an expensive Mirage.

Just like LHH's rebuild, the same politicians promoting SFGH's bond today will be quietly distancing themselves from SFGH snafu's tomorrow. The June 2008 Civil Grand Jury report warns voters the City has continuously underestimated costs of general obligation bond projects by 35% to 67%. Costs for SFGH's construction have already jumped \$265.4 million from \$622 million in 2006 to \$887.4 million now, a 30% increase.

The Jury's report concludes the Mayor's Office, the Board of Supervisors, and the Controller's office have been unaccountable, demonstrating insufficient financial oversight over City bond measures. City politicians have chosen to ignore the Grand Jury's report, and haven't implemented any of the financial controls recommended before introducing SFGH's bond measure. Unfortunately, voters will be left holding the bag, having to pay for each and every design mistake.

Privately, officials are questioning why the ninety-foot high, glass walled, oval hospital is

Cont. p. 4

Clean Energy Starts Here

Assemblywoman Fiona Ma

This fall San Francisco voters have the opportunity to make San Francisco a global leader in the fight against global warming and climate change.

Proposition H, the San Francisco Clean Energy Act, is an answer to Al Gore’s energy challenge. It will make San Francisco the first major city in the world to require that its electricity supply be provided by 100% clean and renewable sources.

In a time when we need bold answers to our energy challenges, PG&E has gone backwards, reducing their renewable portfolio over the last three years to just 11%.

Already they’ve spent huge sums of ratepayer money, your money, to spread lies about Proposition H. That’s money that should be invested in maintaining our grid and developing renewable energy resources.

PG&E has built its case against the measure by arguing against revenue bonds. In fact, San Francisco already has approved the exact same revenue bonding authority for wastewater and water. Why not electricity?

The San Francisco Clean Energy Act will put San Francisco in control of its electricity supply. Public power means public accountability. San Franciscans spend billions and billions of dollars on PG&E bills, and yet PG&E never asks us when they invest in dirty power, or cut back on reliability.

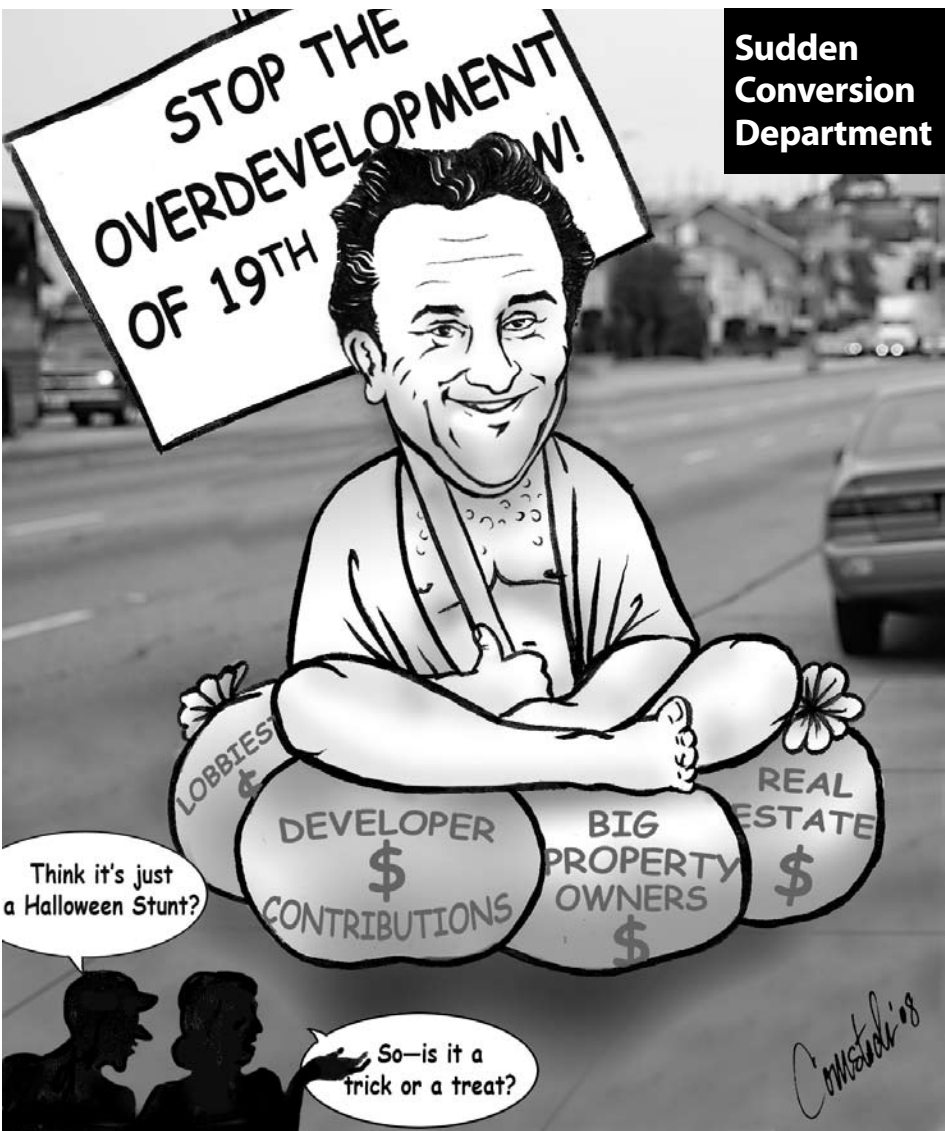
We simply cannot count on PG&E to deliver renewable energy and keep costs low for the people of San Francisco. With a 100% Clean Public Power system we will finally have a voice in the most basic of decisions -- how our power is produced, and how our money is spent.

Please support Proposition H and jumpstart the green economy here in San Francisco.

Earthquake Awareness Month



The San Francisco Fire Department’s Neighborhood Emergency Response Team of the Sunset-Parkside along with teams from the Richmond, Presidio Heights, Lake Merced Hill, Midtown Terrace, St. Francis Woods and West Portal will be holding their annual earthquake search-and-rescue exercise at the West Sunset Playground at 39th and Ortega St. on Saturday, Oct 18th from 9AM to Noon. All NERT graduates are welcome to practice with us, and to bring your HAM radios if you have an FCC license. If you are interested in being a part of this vital volunteer group, you are welcome to come and see how we will help the community after the Big Quake hits San Francisco! For more information, go to www.sfgov.org/site/sfnert_index.asp



Sudden
Conversion
Department

Interim Development Controls: Sean Elsbernd’s Mahatma Ghandi Ploy

Letters to the Editor

I read, with great amusement, the email forward that was included as an article/column in the current issue of the West of Twin Peaks Observer. It appears to be a verbatim copy of an email that has been forwarded around since early this year. Printing an email forward is bad enough on its own. Printing an email forward that is factually inaccurate is even worse.

You might find this link useful: <http://www.snopes.com/inboxer/household/cellphones.asp>

Regards, -Michelle

Note from Editor - Thanks to all who wrote to point out our pointy-heads. We retract the claims and suggest visiting the site above.

BLIP

The attention of the Observer to the capital programs undertaken by the city is both welcome and necessary. Irrespective of the project financing, these public works should be the subject of scrutiny, informing the residents and taxpayers of San Francisco. The recent article on the proposed bond measure for the SF General Hospital makes mention of the Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP), and cites the recent grand jury report. It was left unmentioned that several months before, the controller’s office had—at the behest of the library commission—performed a comprehensive management audit of the BLIP, interviewing all relevant parties, requesting BLIP documents, and finally critically assessing the progress of the BLIP and making recommendations. The library administration responded to the controller’s report with an array of measures that it would adopt to better improve the management of the BLIP. By my reckoning as a commissioner who served for 12 years and who was directly involved with the conduct of her BLIP, the controller’s report is the more incisive and reliable critique of the BLIP. The subsequent library administration response demonstrates that government can be relied upon to do the right thing. I can assure my fellow residents and taxpayers that

the BLIP will succeed in delivering the high quality of library facility promised to and expected by each branch library neighborhood. For those who would ask, “But why weren’t costs contained?”, I would say that It has been no small task to configure a program to deliver 24 distinct projects across the city. From the inception of the BLIP, proactive steps were taken to align design with budget, but no one foresaw the impact that the spike in construction costs, beginning in 2002, would have on the BLIP. Because of the phenomenon sprung from the incredible demand from China for steel and other building materials, all public works across California were negatively affected, most notably the Bay Bridge project. This spike alone accounted for over a 30% increase in the cost of the BLIP. While I cannot speak for the current commission, I am certain that the lessons learned thus far and the keen dedication of library staff to ensuring that the expectations of all are met, will be the recipe for the success of the BLIP. You have only to visit the completed projects to appreciate the significance that a revitalized branch library system will have for the vibrancy and livability of our city.

Charles A. Higuera
Former Commissioner, SFPL

General Rebuild

I was dismayed to see the recent stories attacking the plan to rebuild our city’s only trauma center, San Francisco General Hospital. As an emergency physician, I work at General Hospital because it is the one place in the city equipped to treat victims of serious accidents, violent crimes and multi-casualty events. I also help train the next generation of doctors, who fan out into our community, making it a healthier and safer place.

State law now requires that all acute care hospitals meet seismic standards, or face closure by 2013. The rebuild of San Francisco General Hospital is supported by virtually everyone in the city -- all 11 supervisors, the Mayor, the Hospital Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the San Francisco Labor Council, the

(More Letters p. 6)

AROUND THE TOWN...

Comings and Goings...

You may have noticed some changes in the Observer last month, such as a change from the West of Twin Peaks Observer to the Westside Observer. That’s not the only thing to change.

With the September issue of the paper, new publishers have taken the reins. Mitch and Alice Bull have taken over the duties of Publishers from Phyllis Sherman. Phyllis will continue to be associated with the paper. You will continue to find her monthly musings in her column “Phyllis’ Findings.”

The new owners are not new to the area, Alice is a native San Franciscan, and Mitch has been in town for a little over 26 years, so they kind of know their way around. Although you may continue to see small changes in the format and look, the Observer will continue to bring our readers the same news, features and event information that we always have.

It is fortunate that San Francisco continues to have many vibrant, active communities within its’ borders, and the community newspapers are a reflection of this. All of us at the Observer value your thoughts and feedback. After all, it is the community that makes a true community newspaper successful.

You can reach us at: mitch@WestsideObserver.com. Be sure to check out the Observer online @ www.WestsideObserver.com.

Dave Bisho of Westwood Highlands Assn. says he wants the City to re-open Bengal Alley. "Bengal Alley between Miraloma and Lansdale is the main link for many Mt. Davidson and Sherwood Forest residents with the 43 bus which stops right at its gate on Miraloma Drive," he said. "About two years ago, a cyclone fence, put up by DPW showed up blocking the way on Miraloma."

“Bengal Alley between Miraloma and Lansdale is the main link for many Mt. Davidson and Sherwood Forest residents with the 43 bus which stops right at its gate on Miraloma Drive,” he said. “About two years ago, a cyclone fence, put up by DPW showed up blocking the way on Miraloma .”

“There are rights of way all over Mt. Davidson. Most of them are uneven pathways and very few of them have any stairs at all. Bengal Alley is the most important right of way of any of them. I’ve lived in the area my entire life,” said Bisho.

Update: Bisho and WPTPCC Secretary Rae Doyle met with Supervisor Sean Elsbernd and officials with DPW in his offices in City Hall on October 1st. Elsbernd said he would contact the homeowners who are responsible for the property and attempt to negotiate an arrangement that would eliminate the need for Bisho to file a formal complaint.

At a time when the use of public transportation needs to be encouraged, the City needs to take charge of access routes like Bengal Alley.



By Phyllis Sherman

I also appreciated the hard work of deceased sales assistant, Billie Lowe and the very-much-alive camaraderie of my friend and sales helper Marjorie Leet Ford. I hope you've enjoyed reading the paper along with my spirited column, PHYLLIS' FINDINGS (which I hope to continue writing) and will embrace the new publishers, Alice and Mitch Bull, who've renamed the paper WESTSIDE OBSERVER, with the same enthusiasm and devotion you've offered me. They're an energetic team.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

This dazzling, airy new home explores education and entertainment. If you've been to the old location of the Academy on Howard Street, you have some idea of what to expect....except, you still don't. This multi-story rectangle is unbelievably fascinating throughout. There's a 2.5 acre green roof planted with native California species that provides habitat for birds and

[illegible]

Many hospitals have stepped up efforts to encourage regular hand washing by doctors...but what about their clothes? Amid growing concerns about hospital infections and a rise in drug-resistant bacteria, the attire of doctors, nurses, and other health care workers -worn both inside and outside the hospital - is getting more attention. “Bare below the elbows” is what’s being discussed. Doctor ties, white coats, long sleeves and soiled scrubs play in the spread of bacteria. Sooo....if your doctor wears a tie when you’re visiting....get another doctor!

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

On the film front, **BURN AFTER READING** by Ethan and Joel Coen, has some hilarious moments. Brad Pitt (who appears to be having a ball, George Clooney, Frances McDormand and John Malkovich will keep you in stitches and it's worth seeing for the

The Sunday Cinema Club shows films once per month at the Kabuki Theater. It's at 10 AM (and it's a bit hard on Sunday to make it) and you never know what the movie is but it's always a brand new screening. You have to be a member. The current movie was RACHEL GETTING MARRIED directed by Jonathan Demme and starring Anne Hathaway, Rosemarie DeWitt, Bill Irwin and Debra Winger. It concerns the wedding of a Jewish girl from a dysfunctional family with a long history of personal crisis, family conflict and tragedy to an African American man. Compelling people, stellar acting, perceptive portrait...most of the audience could relate, but the accolades were mixed...OK film, but too long, unnecessary noise and music. It's a 5 or maybe 6 on a scale of 1 to 10. To be a member of the Sunday Cinema Club (part of Sundance Kabuki Cinemas) write to POB 29156 in LA, 90029 or call 1-888-467-0404 for information on joining. The next film is on October 12 and there's a discussion after each film.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Ole says to Sven, “have you seen the beautiful girls in this catalog?” Svan replies, “Yes, they’re very beautiful and look at the price!” Ole looks with wide eyes, “Wow, they aren’t very expensive. At this price I’m buying one.”

Three weeks later, Sven asks Ole “Did you ever receive the girl ordered from the Sears catalog?”

Ole replies, "No, but it shouldn't be long now. I got her clothes yesterday!"

Prop A(Cont. from p. 1)

being wedged forty feet or less between two 93-year-old, eighty-five-foot high, non-seismically retrofitted red brick buildings. It's being placed in the fall zone of both brick buildings, and may be damaged and possibly inoperable following a catastrophic earthquake. SFGH must comply with SB 1953, which mandates hospitals must be able to withstand an earthquake and also remain operational. One state official admitted his surprise SF chose rebuilding an earthquake-compliant hospital in such a risky location. A retired City safety employee knowledgeable about SFGH's structural issues is concerned an earthquake stronger, and lasting longer, than Loma Prieta's 1989 quake that strikes closer will topple both brick buildings. The City admits both red brick buildings need seismic retrofitting, but doesn't plan doing so until after 2015.

SFGH is backpedaling on its shifting \$75 million estimate for furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FFE). Previous FFE estimates ranged from \$150 million to \$234 million. SFGH now claims previous estimates were based on square footage, claiming the suddenly-reduced \$75 million estimate is based on actual equipment costs. Rather than purchasing the FFE, SFGH may lease the FFE. Ignoring that leasing adds yet-unfunded annual FFE financing in addition to the \$887.4 million bond. In contrast, the LHH project chose purchasing, rather than leasing, FFE to lessen project expenses.

Proposition A proponents are employing scare tactic propaganda, frightening voters that if the bond fails SF will lose its Hospital. However, state law SB 306 grants cities extensions until 2020, and beyond, to complete hospital rebuilds. Proponents also

claim each year lost re-building SFGH escalates costs \$40 million annually. If true, the City's 14-year delay has already cost \$560 million due to political foot-dragging. Many communities, including San Mateo, successfully completed seismically upgrading hospitals by 2002.

Mayor Newsom is reportedly worried Proposition A will be rejected by an unlikely alliance of informed taxpayers, renters, and the City's big landlords. Landlords are using Proposition A as a bargaining chip to achieve a 50% pass-through of sewage charges to tenants. The Coalition for Better Housing filed election papers forming a "No on Proposition A" committee to oppose what they call "the largest bond in San Francisco history" and to support a less-expensive hospital plan. Political consultant Jack Davis has jumped in, questioning the soundness of this bond. Newsom is worried a well-financed campaign against Proposition A, especially one highlighting long-term costs to voters, will doom bond passage.

Whatever their motivation, the City's big landlords are actually right about Proposition A. The only way it will pass is if voters don't understand underlying hospital rebuild issues. Newsom is also correct: The more voters know about this bond, the less they will support it. The City must correct project flaws before construction, build the less expensive hospital, retrofit both red brick buildings beforehand, and adopt the Grand Jury's accountability recommendations.

This bond wears the Emperor's imaginary clothes. Vote No on Proposition A.

George Wooding is Vice President, West of Twin Peaks Central Council

Election Day is November 4th.
There are 34 measures on your ballot.
Where do you get information you can trust?



League of Women Voters of San Francisco

Busy?
Vote-By-Mail

The last day to request a Vote-By-Mail ballot
is October 28, 2008.

The last day to register to vote is October 20.



(415) 989-8683 / www.SFvotes.org



District Eleven Supervisorial Candidate Guide Where do YOU stand?

Candidate

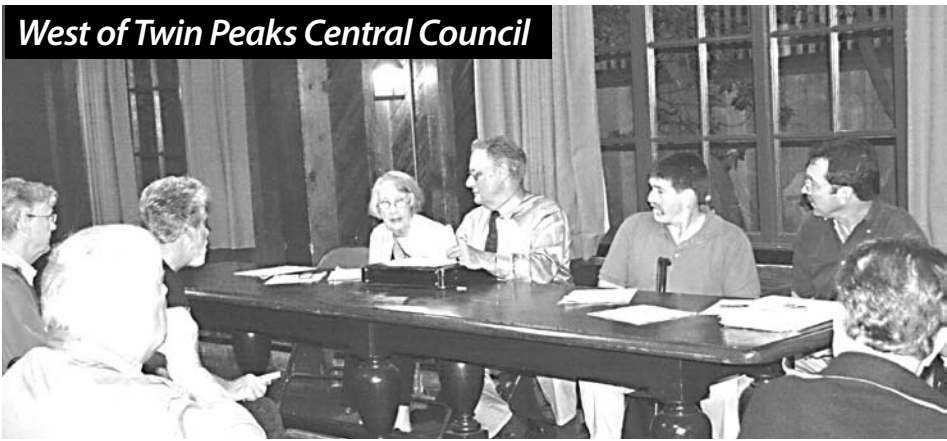


Issue	Mayor Newsom	Asha Safai	Myrna Lim	John Avalos
Prop H: Municipalizing Power	NO	NO	NO	YES
Prop K: Decriminalizing Prostitution	NO	NO	?	?
Prop L: Community Justice Center	YES	YES	?	NO
Prop V: Junior ROTC	YES	YES	YES	?

This guide is distributed for informational purposes only and is not intended to support or oppose any candidate or ballot measure

San Franciscans ready for change 10KStrong.org

Paid for by the San Francisco Coalition for Responsible Growth - Political Action Committee.



Secretary Rae Doyle, President Dan Dutil, George Wooding and Dave Bisho

Police Report: Sgt. Randall Young warned of a scam entailing residents receiving calls regarding Jury Duty. Deceptive callers tell people that they have missed Jury Duty and that they will need to take some corrective action. Scammers then ask for the person's Social Security number. **Do not give your Social Security to anyone** except your employer or social security officials. He also reported that the police had closed several houses of ill repute that were operating out of homes in the neighborhoods.

Housing Element Plan: Matt Chamberlain will be representing WOTPCC at meetings with the Planning Department aimed at designing the new Housing Element Plan. He reported that the city is currently using the 1999 Housing Element Plan and that the next meeting involving the plan will be held on October 1st. Another draft plan will be available in January for public input. He reported that, so far, the current plan had only met 12% of its affordable housing goal, while the high-end housing is at 150% of its goal.

Community Benefits District: Matt Rogers, owner of Papenhausen Hardware introduced a Community Benefits District along West Portal's commercial strip. See the story on page one.

Hospice Downsizing: Dr. Derek Kerr, who heads the Hospice team at Laguna Honda Hospital said that the original 30 bed hospice now occupying 25 beds, is scheduled to be cut 15 beds. The Hospice has been the last home to 2000 dying San Franciscans in its 20-year history. "The success of the endeavor depends largely on the sense of community that is engendered among its patients," he said, "a 'therapeutic community' is the result of having some patients who may live as much as six months or longer side-by-side those who are expected to live only a few days. Morphine and Prozac do not engender community—that is only provided by human presence." That presence is endangered if the group consists of only short-term patients. The longer-term patients provide the element of continuity,



a sense of belonging. Last year 37% of Hospice's patients died within the week, 66% died within the month, by 6 months 94% died and the remaining 6% provide a supportive environment for the newer patients. Plans will exclude longer term patients, defeating the purpose of the Hospice.

Kerr also noted that the Hospice Chaplain, A \$26,000 position, had been cut in July. A severe loss for the patients. He noted that, since the layoff, LHH had hired a public relations expert for \$57,000 and that administrative salaries were 12% higher, while other departments were flat or down. He said the cutback in Hospice services is selective rather than across the board, noting that the Rehabilitation ward, among others, is doubling in size, and that \$10 million had been earmarked for the move to the new buildings, including \$160,000 for media control/public relations, \$50,000 for opening day celebrations, \$30,000 for opening week, \$30,000 for brochures and commemorative materials, \$10,000 for t-shirts and memorabilia.

Mark Slavin, media spokesman for LHH said that all programs are downsizing with the move to 780 beds and that the transition budget has been reduced.

Slavin said "there are currently no new admissions to Laguna Honda. San Franciscans needing long-term care are being directed to private institutions," mostly out of the City and that "there is no longer a waiting list for patients at Laguna Honda except to the Hospice."

The Council passed a resolution urging the tax collector to place a box on the property tax form that would allow taxpayers to check to contribute

to LHH Hospice, similar to the box that indicates a contribution to the arts.

Debate on Prop H: The Clean Energy Initiative: Assemblywoman Fiona Ma and Julian Davis spoke in favor of the ballot proposition, Supervisor Sean Elsbernd spoke against. The members asked many questions and offered pithy pertinent commentary, no unusual occurrence at this venue. **To view the 19 minute blow-by-blow, visit our website: www.westsideobserver.com/video.html**

Dangerous Intersection: A complaint about the dangerous intersection at Skyline and Herbst met with assurance from Assemblymember Ma that, since it involves a state highway, she would pursue it in Sacramento.

Interim Zoning Controls: Marilyn Amini asked the council not to support the proposed Cumulative Impact studies and Interim Zoning Controls proposed for adoption by the Board of Supervisors. A 30 day delay was requested.

Public Right-of-way: A motion by Ingleside Terrace to support abandoning the Ingleside Path right-of-way between Ocean Avenue and Corona Street and Urbano and Head Streets passed. Proponents claimed they are dangerous and could result in costly lawsuits. There were lingering questions about who would be responsible for maintaining the property or who would own the abandoned property, but the Council passed a motion in support.

On November 4 your vote will help shape the security of our streets, the cost of electricity, the future of San Francisco General Hospital, the development of high speed rail, and equality for all Californians.



State Measures



YES on A -Save General Hospital. Without a seismic rebuild, state law requires the hospital to close by 2013. Proposition A will build a new trauma center without a net increase in the city's debt or property tax rate. Save General Hospital, VOTE YES ON A.



NO on B -Affordable family housing is essential for San Francisco, but this measure is so restrictive it will not help low income working families because they make too much money. This \$2.7 billion budget set aside will negatively impact money flowing to health care and public safety for years to come. VOTE NO ON B.



YES on D- Save our waterfront preserve and clean-up the historic Pier 70 shipyard—Vote YES on D.



No on H – Say No to the Blank Check! Proposition H takes away the voters authority to authorize revenue bonds and gives it to the Board of Supervisors allowing them to take over PG&E or cable T.V., phone or internet service and make you pay for it. Don't give the Board of Supervisors a Blank Check— VOTE NO ON H.



No on J – Don't add more bureaucracy to the planning process, don't weaken the Planning Commission—VOTE NO ON J



No on K - Don't tie law enforcement's hands when they go after human traffickers and pimps who push children into prostitution, VOTE NO ON K.



YES on L - The Mayor, the District Attorney, the Courts, and the Chief of Police agree - We need the Community Justice Center. It will reduce recidivism by addressing the underlying roots of criminal activity by directly connecting those in need of mental health and addictive services with the help they need. Support the Community Justice Center— VOTE YES ON L.



Yes on O
Keep our emergency 911 center funded without new taxes—VOTE YES ON O.



YES on V
For 90 years, hundreds of students annually enroll in this voluntary, non-discriminatory leadership training and community service program. Join the families who placed Proposition V on the ballot and tell the School Board you support choice for students. Give Students a Choice! VOTE YES ON V to save JROTC.

State Measures



YES on 1A- Build High Speed Rail
San Francisco to Los Angeles: 2 ½ hours at 220 MPH – reducing nearly 70 million passenger trips from our highways. Invest in tomorrow today – VOTEYES for green transportation, VOTE YES ON 1.



NO on 8 - Don't write discrimination into the Constitution—Business, labor and civic leaders agree there is no place for intolerance and inequality in California- VOTE NO ON 8



SAN FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
sfchamber.com

Make your voice heard, VOTE!

Paid by the 21st Century Political Action Committee

Letters (Cont. from p. 3)

Democrats, Republicans and Greens, and more than 160 other organizations. The new seismically-safe hospital building will be able to remain operational and help you and your loved ones in the event of a catastrophe. Passing Proposition A – the hospital rebuild bond – protects us all.

Unlike some past city projects, the General Hospital rebuild has been well planned. Two years of design and planning work already has been done, and the \$887.4 million cost is based on an efficient and cost-effective work plan. The proposed new patient-centered design has passed the state's Environmental Impact Review, architects are hired, and we are ready to break ground.

As a resident of the West Portal neighborhood, I am grateful that General Hospital exists to care for all San Franciscans. In addition to its life-saving trauma services, San Francisco General Hospital provides 20 percent of all inpatient care in the city. It consistently earns high marks for quality and innovation, such as its recent designation by the World Health Organization as the city's only baby-friendly hospital. It is truly a resource for all of us, and it deserves our support.

Eric Isaacs, MD

JROTC

I take issue with Dr. Dan Kelly's op-ed piece in the Westside Observer's September '08 issue.

Dr. Kelly refers to the School Board process, where "parents, students, and community members" commented on the "phasing out of JROTC". He does not indicate that there was overwhelming support for JROTC from not only parents and students, but teachers, counselors, administrators, the Mayor and many other community members. There has been consistent support for the JROTC throughout my long career with the SFUSD.

I worked as a counselor and Assistant Principal at McAteer High School from 1974 to 1994. As a counselor, I came to know the course offerings and assisted students in selecting classes meeting graduation and college requirements. The JROTC was an option (ended 6/08) for 9th and 10th graders in place of physical education. Twenty (20) credits or 4 semesters of P.E. or JROTC is required to graduate. This graduation policy has existed for decades and has been reviewed regularly.

Parents must approve their 9th and 10th graders selecting JROTC in place of the physical education courses. Any student changing his/her mind after the first few weeks of JROTC would be assigned to a physical education class. Neither I nor my colleagues ever heard of students being assigned for "purely administrative reasons".

I have never heard, nor have my colleagues, of any "immigrants" being told to accept JROTC to "protect their families", presumably in lieu of deportation or other sanction. If it ever happened it was a rare violation of SFUSD policy and practice.

Many students who choose JROTC do so because it offers a more personalized program. The majority of students enroll in JROTC for two years, discontinuing the class after completing the graduation requirement. Other students continue to choose JROTC as an elective class. Whether enrolled for two, three or four years, the JROTC program provides an excellent leadership curriculum, while giving students ample opportunity for structured physical activity.

Before any other high school program, JROTC was demonstrating gender equity, promoting young women as cadet commanders. In my years at McAteer, JROTC was the most racially and ethnically diverse program in the school. JROTC cadets were the only group to consistently provide service to the school at assemblies, after school activities and at graduation.

The students participating in this program learn self-confidence, discipline, teamwork, communication skills, respect for their school and a public service attitude, all important and transferable workplace assets. The JROTC has been a successful program by any academic criteria (graduation rates, college admissions, GPA, attendance, citizenship).

There is no data to support Dr. Kelly's assertion that JROTC cadets are subject to military recruiters. Dr. Kelly apparently quotes national rates of enlistment that do not reflect San Francisco's experience. The JROTC program, as well as the student population in general in San Francisco, have notoriously low rates of enlistment in the military.

As Assistant Principal at Mission HS from 1997 to 2002, I recall only one JROTC senior entering the military soon after graduation. [In six years (2003-2008) of collecting post graduation data on students in the Regional Occupation Program (ROP), which is the SFUSD vocational education program, and which program includes JROTC students, we found no student in the military one year after graduation. This surveyed group of graduates did not include all graduates.

A broad coalition of the community continues to support this proven-educational program that is an elective option. This group includes the student delegates to the Board of Education and Student Advisory Council (S.A.C.). Alexander Hamilton Post #448, the largest Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender American Legion Post has verified the JROTC as a safe haven for gay youth.

Dr. Kelly refers to a petition signed by 800 students seeking to end the JROTC. No one that I contacted who was involved in this dispute or the S.A.C. can recall any such petition, and I have not found any reference to any such petition in the material found on the internet reporting on the 2006 dispute. For over 5 years, the S.A.C. has voted to support the JROTC as a choice for high school students.

JROTC instructors are on the same contracted salary scale as all SFUSD teachers, and are members of the UESF, the teachers union. However, 50% of the JROTC instructors' salaries are paid by the Federal Government, making these instructors less expensive to the SFUSD than their colleagues. During my years in the District, these instructors never functioned in any capacity as military recruiters. Rather the JROTC teachers were among the most hard working and dedicated.

There are a number of other programs providing leadership opportunities in the SFUSD: Peer Resources, sports teams, student newspapers, student government, but none afford the broad appeal and the proven track record of the JROTC. JROTC deserves to remain an option for students.

Please vote YES on V and recommend to the Board of Education the reinstatement of this valuable educational program for our students.
Marigrace Cohen
Retired SFUSD Administrator

Send Letters to the Editor to:
editor@westsideobserver.com

CLEANING SMARTER

Improving the City's Mechanical Street Sweeping Program



The Department of Public Works is committed to keeping the streets of

San Francisco clean. In the spirit of working smarter and improving efficiency, we are adjusting the frequency of mechanical sweeping to ensure that we are spending your tax dollars wisely. Mechanical sweeping schedules in some neighborhoods are being adjusted so that the street sweeper will pass by some streets twice monthly and not once per week. The day of the week and the time of day will not change.

'No Parking Due to Street Cleaning' signs will be changed to alert residents.

For more information visit www.sfgov.org/dpw or call 3-1-1 TTY direct: 415-701-2323).



BEFORE



AFTER



CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Department of Public Works



Read the Observer
www.westsideobserver.com

WHERE SUSTAINABLE MEETS MODERN

- California native plants
- Contemporary design
- Beautiful gardens with Bay Area identity



M A D R O Ñ O

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDIO
375 ALABAMA ST. SUITE 440
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110
TEL 415.462.0489 FAX 415.285.2240
www.madrono.org



BUSINESS CORNER

by Mitch Bull

“The Italian-American Social Club” – a restaurant for everyone that makes you feel like you’re in the family dining room

In these modern times, restaurants come and go, each one trying to be sleeker and more cutting edge. Too often, they fail to catch on and are quickly gone with a “For Lease” sign in the window of an expensively remodeled space.

This month we take a trip to ‘old Italia’ at the **Italian American Social Club**, a place where generous servings of food, friendly staff and a great bar offer patrons an evening of dining the way it used to be... and still is.

Located in San Francisco’s Excelsior District, the restaurant is located at 25 Russia Avenue, off of Mission Street in the Southern end of the city, just before Mission crosses into Daly City.

Like the neighboring Crocker-Amazon area, the district was originally home to many families of Italian ancestry and it was a merging of two fraternal men’s clubs that created the modern club and location.

Starting in 1928 a group of men met in the basement of Mario Blengino’s home to organize a social club that would be a credit to their community. They soon outgrew the space and rented a spot on Russia Avenue they called The Aurora Club. When this club merged with the Alfieri Club in 1935, the Italian American Social Club was born, and the group took on the task of building and financing their own building.

In 1940 the present building at 25 Russia Avenue was completed and opened, with a week of celebrations including a parade and a banquet attended by many city officials.

Flash forward 68 years to 2008, and the I.A.S.C. is still going strong, with a membership of over 200 and a restaurant and banquet hall that is well known for hosting wedding receptions, birthday parties, and large banquets for over 250 guests.



Rich Guaraldi and Eligio Mendez welcome you to the Italian-American Social Club—a place where everyone feels like family

Even though the location sounds like an exclusive venue, the restaurant is open to the public on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, with lunch being served from 11 A.M. until 2 P.M. and dinner from 5 P.M. until 9 P.M.

The restaurant benefits from having its own free parking lot across the street, with plenty of parking at most times. With an “old time” 40 foot long bar, the IASC is a great place to meet friends for a drink, or to strike up a conversation with one of the regulars before settling in for a sumptuous Italian dinner.

Dinners are very reasonably priced, with “Specials of the Day” being priced at \$16.95. Unlike many modern day eateries, these specials include soup or salad, and ice cream in the pricing. Entrees such as Italian Sausage and Polenta, Lamb Shank, Veal Parmigian, Calamari Steak, or Red Snapper are typical of the specials. They also have other entrees such as New York Steak, Salmon, and a variety of dinner salads. The serving sizes are large, and it’s doubtful that many people walk away without getting their money’s worth.

Rich Guaraldi, the long-time Manager of the IASC is most welcoming when hosting people and talking about the club, “We really try to treat everyone as if they are members of our family. Families have been coming here for generations. Everything we do is about family.”

Sitting at a table having dinner, there is music coming from the speakers, and it almost feels like you are having dinner at your Italian Nana’s house, even if, like me, your ancestry isn’t from the old country. It’s not uncommon to have people sitting at the table next to you speaking Italian.

Guaraldi and his staff handle catering events in their four banquet rooms, holding events for between 40 and 250 people.

Headed by Paul Guistos, Chairman, and Frank Cena, President, the I.A.S.C. celebrated the 77th anniversary of the club’s existence in 2008. It’s easy to see why they remain a San Francisco tradition. Located at 25 Russia Street, you can contact the I.A.S.C. at (415) 585-8059. For more information, visit the website at www.IASCSF.com

Switch On Clean Energy

The clean energy initiative, Prop. H, will cut your electric rates, allow the city to build new renewable projects, and create \$107 million a year surplus for San Francisco.

To volunteer, donate or to learn more visit:
www.sfcleanenergy.com



switch ON clean energy.

PAID FOR BY SF CLEAN ENERGY FPPC# 1308629

October 2008

Calendar



Taraval Street Fair Returns on October 25th

by Mitch Bull

Food, fun and live music takes center stage as the 2nd annual Taraval Street Fair returns this month. The fair, organized by the Taraval Merchants Association, will take place on Taraval Street between 46th and 47th Avenues from 10:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 25th.

Dallas Udovch, of Oceanside Heating and Air Conditioning, is the President of the Merchants Association and is excited about this year's festival. "Last year, between 7000 and 10,000 people attended the fair, and this year we are expecting a larger turnout. We will be featuring 4 bands for the live music, lots of food booths, including sausages, sushi and Mexican fare, a Hot Dog eating contest (with a \$150 grand prize), jewelry booths and many different things for kids."

The music stage will feature several bands, including "The Impailors", "The Teddy Hey Band", "The Rockaway Players", and the band "Kim Never Talks".

Children and children of all ages can look forward to having fun at the fair, as it will feature a Pumpkin Patch, a Bouncy House, Clowns, and a San Francisco Fire Engine, courtesy of S.F. Fire Chief, Johanna Hayes-White, "who has been wonderful to work with during this planning process", said Udovch.

He went on to explain that everyone he has worked with to plan the event has been very supportive, citing State Assemblymen Leland Yee, District Supervisor Carmen Chu, and the Staff Command at the Taraval Police Station as being critical to helping to ensure that the fair is successful and safe.

Last year, Mayor Gavin Newsom attended the
Cont. p. 13

NO CORK FEE NIGHT AT CHOU CHOU

10/2 Every Thurs. | Bring your favorite wine, there is no cork fee every first Thursday of the month. Chou Chou Restaurant-French-Bistro Patisserie 400 Dewey Blvd. Reservations suggested: 242-0960

JAZZ AT THE CLIFF HOUSE/FRIDAYS

10/3,10/10,10/17, 10/24, 10/31 Fridays 7-11pm | Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge. Cliff House, 1 Seal Rock, Info: 386-3330

WORLD VEGETARIAN DAY

10/4-5 Sat. & Sun 10am-6pm | SF Vegetarian Society and In Defense of Animals. County Fair Bldg. Golden Gate Park, 9th and Lincoln Ave.

DAVID HARRIS WEST PORTAL BOOKS

10/7 Tues., 7pm | Spend an evening with the author of The Genius: How Bill Walsh Reinvented Football and Created the NFL Dynasty. West Portal Books, 80 West Portal Ave. Info: 564-8080

AMY BLOOM AT WEST PORTAL BOOKS

10/14 Tues., 7pm | Amy Bloom, National Book Award finalist, discusses her novel Away, West Portal Books, 80 West Portal Ave. Info: 564-8080

THE CLIMATE PROJECT

10/15 Wed., 7pm | New slideshow based on the "An Inconvenient Truth" to increase public awareness of the climate crisis throughout the United States. West Portal Branch Library 190 Lenox Wy.

CALIFORNIA TRIP AT WEST PORTAL BOOKS

10/16, Thu., 7pm | Join Authors Richard Blair and Kathryn Goodwin, whose *California Trip* spans nearly 40 years... from Grace Slick onstage to nude



sunbathers on the San Mateo coast to rodeo performers in Guerneville, West Portal Books, 80 West Portal Ave., Info: 564-8080

TARAVAL POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

10/16 Tue., 7pm | Talk to Captain Chignell about public Safety and community issues. 2345 - 24th Ave.

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS/

10/17 Wed., 7pm | Doctors Without Borders will discuss their work in conflict zones around the world, including Afghanistan, China, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Sudan. Cowell Theatre at Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd. & Buchanan St., Free

REFUGEE CAMP IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

10/15-19 Wed.-Sun, 9am-5:30pm | Doctors Without Borders aid workers guide visitors through a cholera treatment center, nutrition and vaccination tents, emergency refugee housing and more, asking them to imagine they are among the 42 million people uprooted by war or conflict around the world. www.doctorswithoutborders.org/RefugeeCampSanFrancisco.

ANNUAL NERT EXERCISE

10/18 Sat., 9am - Noon | SF Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team. Annual earthquake search= and-rescue exercise at the West Sunset Playground, 39th and Ortega St. All NERT graduates are welcome to practice. For more information, go to www.sfgov.org/site/sfnert_index.asp

TARAVAL ST. FAIR & PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

10/25 Sat. 10:30am-6pm | Fun for kids and adults, the second annual Taraval Street Fair is at the beach between 46th and 47th Streets. www.taravalmerchants.com

Our Hospice Interfaith Chaplain has been laid off.

Since 1988, over 2000 dying patients and many more grieving loved ones received spiritual support for their suffering and loss.

Your donations can restore this essential service.



Contact 218-6337 or friendsofhospice@yahoo.com • Thank You
Help Dying Patients at Laguna Honda Hospital

Beverly's
Your Craft & Fabric Store

40% off

**Any One Regularly
Priced Item**

Including one cut of fabric.
Excludes Webkinz and Ty

Expires 10/31/08
Limit only one item per coupon

418 Westlake Center • Daly City • (650) 756-7999

Roti
INDIAN BISTRO

Modern Indian Cuisine

Experience World Class Dining in the Neighborhood

*An intimate gathering of friends or
a festive luncheon event for a large group*

Special Lunch Menu:
Tu-Sa: 11:30am-2pm

Dinner Hours:
Su-Th: 5-10:30/Fr-Sa 5-11pm

(415) 665-ROTI (7684) 53 West Portal Avenue
For reservations and for www.roibistro.com
Catering and Parties
Rustom Swaleh



John Kirkpatrick
415.412.0559
john@johnkirkpatrick.com
www.johnkirkpatrick.com

call 415.412.0559

Top Individual Producer

in San Francisco's Largest Office



John Kirkpatrick is one of the top professionals representing San Francisco homes and investment properties.

John is a marketing expert with a strong professional and academic background. Dedication to detail and hard work have enabled John to earn an exceptional reputation. John wins clients through proven results; achievements consistently exceed client expectations.

Address	BD	BA	PK	SQFT	Sold Date	Sale Price
417 Dellbrook Ave	3	2	2	N/A	08/19/08	\$915,000
14 Lake Forest Ct	3	2	2	1,408	07/17/08	\$835,000
50 Panorama Dr	4	2	1	1,758	09/04/08	\$705,000
16 City View Way	2	1	1	1,015	07/18/08	\$749,000
204 Panorama Dr	2	1	2	1,026	07/17/08	\$755,000
449 Panorama Dr	2	2.5	2	1,244	07/21/08	\$767,500
10 Skyview Way	3	2	2	1,275	07/28/08	\$818,000
172 Marview Way	3	1	2	N/A	09/05/08	\$850,000
33 Olympia Way	3	2	4	1,275	07/31/08	\$875,000

source: sfmls

The TRI Coldwell Banker agent who sold the most San Francisco properties companywide in 2007.



Tower Market
635 Portola Drive
(415) 6641600

MOLLIE STONE'S

The Best of Both Worlds®



Grand Central Market
2435 California Street
(415) 567-4902

Your Local Grocer for Fresh Meat, Seafood, Poultry, Produce, Deli and Catering

Your Neighborhood Treasure



Bakery
Cafe & Catering
Gourmet Delicatessen

Our Original Location at 637 Portola Drive • 415-753-0750

Monday – Saturday 6:30am to 7pm, Sunday 7am to 6pm

Visit the new Creighton's Bakery

In the Diamond Heights Shopping Center at 5214-D Diamond Heights Blvd
Monday – Saturday 6am to 7pm, Sunday 7am to 6pm • 415-282-2366



Present this ad & receive 10% off your purchase
2-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Betty Taisch

Top Producer



It takes more than a sign to sell your home.
I offer you the knowledge and experience needed in today's active market - plus local, nationwide, and international marketing. Call me today to learn more about buying or selling your home

CRS, LTG, PMN, CRB, SRES, EPRO
International President's Premiere
Top 1% Nationally

(415)338-0121 Betty@taisch.com www.taisch.com



Serving Food As Good As Our Prices Are Low

TENNESSEE GRILL

1128 Taraval St. • 415 664-7834
6am-9pm Daily
Where Friends Meet

BURN AFTER READING

Joel and Ethan Coen's latest film is not on a par with their award-winning classics. Linda: Frances McDormand and Chad: Brad Pitt work for Ted: Richard Jenkins at Hardbodies gym. Linda wants a body lift that costs \$50K that she doesn't have. When they get hold of an incriminating disc belonging to ex-CIA agent, Osborne: John Malkovich, they set up a blackmail effort. Mrs. Katie Osborne: Tilda Swinton is having an affair with Harry: George Clooney; if it walks, he's bedding it. JK Simmons, (Juno's father) runs the CIA. The audience did laugh three times so I don't think this qualifies as a comedy. Crude humor, language, violence. Focus 91 min.

THE HOUSE BUNNY

For laughs, don't miss Anna Faris as Shelley, The House Bunny. She's fabulous!! This is a part Marilyn Monroe

would have loved to play. She's outlived her youth at Hugh Hefner's mansion and is kicked out. What's a doll to do? She becomes house mother for a sorority—not just any sorority but the loser one on campus. She teaches the gals (Emma Stone, Kat Denning, Katharine McPhee, and Rumer Willis who are about to lose their house) her make-up tricks and soon they are the most popular on the quad. There has to be a villainess to stir up trouble from a rival frat house, whose mother, Mrs. Hagstrom (Beverly D'Angelo), happens to be on the board of the college. Dean Simmons (Christopher McDonald) has his hands full with her. Columbia 97 min.

LAKEVIEW TERRACE

For the fans of Crash, here's another excellent multi-ethnic racial clash pic. Set in an upper class canyon neighborhood in the San Fernando Valley

during the Santa Clarita fires, cop Able Turner (Samuel L. Jackson) runs roughshod at work in the hood. When an interracial couple moves next door, he makes life hell for Chris: Patrick Wilson (The Phantom of the Opera) and Lisa: Kerry Washington (Della in Ray). From slashed tires to a floodlight shining into their bedroom, the harassment continues. Able's kids are nice enough, but afraid of their dad. His fellow cops seem to keep Able at arm's length. Then there's the cop party at 3 a.m. with strippers at Able's! TV's Justin Chambers (Grey's Anatomy) and Eva La Rue (CSI: Miami) have minor parts. Violence, language. Sony 125 min.

MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL

Tank (Dane Cook) makes a living by taking girls out on a date (paid for by their unappreciated boy friends) and showing them the worst time they have EVER had. His best friend, Dustin (Jason Biggs) doesn't feel he's able to get Alexis (Kate Hudson) to commit. He doesn't expect Alexis and Tank to feel so strongly about each other. Prof. Turner (Alec Baldwin), Tank's dad, is as much of a skirt-chasing heel as his son. Lots of laughs. Language, bedroom antics. Lionsgate 101 min.

RIGHTHOUSE KILL

Turk (Robert DeNiro) and Rooster (Al Pacino), partners in the NYPD Homicide Division with 30 years of experience, are determined to get a serial killer who goes after criminals who have gotten away with rape and murder. The killer leaves a poem on each body, shot at close range. Spider's (50-Cent [Chris Jackson]) hot nightclub seems to be the center of illegal activity. Karen (Carla Gugino), a CSI who likes her sex rough, is Turk's girl. When Lt. Hingis (Brian Dennehy) wants detective partners Perez (John Leguizamo) and Riley (Donnie Wahlberg) to bring in the serial killer, they tangle with Turk and Rooster. Jon Avnet directs in lack luster style. Language, action violence, some sexuality, drug use. Overture 100



min.

TRAITOR

Roy Clayton (Guy Pearce) is in charge of the FBI task force to link Samir Horn (Don Cheadle), devout American Muslim and ex-U.S. Army explosives expert, to bombings around the world. Every four minutes, they're in a different city across the globe. Clayton questions Horn in Yemen when he arrested with terrorists. When they escape, they take Horn, too. Max (Neal McDonough) connects Horn to explosions in Nice and London. Clayton must find Horn before more lives are lost at his hands in this international conspiracy. Jeff Daniels appears briefly as a CIA agent. Language, violence. Overture Films 113min.

THE WOMEN

Mary (Meg Ryan/Norma Shearer in the 1939 George Cukor classic) learns from a manicurist (Debi Mazur) that Crystal (Eva Mendes/Joan Crawford) is stealing her husband. Mary's bgf, Sophia (Annette Bening/Rosalind Russell), a women's magazine editor, fears for her job and being replaced by someone younger. Their gal pal, Edie (Debra Messing) is busy having kids. Jada Pinkett Smith as lesbian Alex is there for all the key scenes. The over-50 set is well represented by Bette Midler, Candice Bergen, Carrie Fisher and Cloris Leachman. Despite all of Diane English's effort and colorful fashions, she can't capture the razor wit of the original and having NYC sidewalk scenes with only women is ludicrous. The DVD of the black-and-white comedy is worth the rental/purchase. Language. Picturehouse 114 min.

STUDIO
now open!

CARDIO KICK-BX
CARDIO MOVE
ZUMBA
KID FIT
AND



YOGA
PILATES
BODY SCULPT
TUM & BUM BURN
MORE...

INTRODUCTORY PRICING

3 CLASSES-\$30

UNLIMITED MONTHLY-\$130

sign up today!!

ALL THE CLASSES YOUR HEART DESIRES!

www.backtosports.com

342 West Portal Avenue 415-759-8978

Italian American Social Club

25 RUSSIA AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO

Since 1937

Lunch & Dinner
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday



Variety of Pasta Specials \$9.95

Fridays Only:

Reduced Drink Prices (At table only)

*May not be used with other offers. No duplicates, please.

415-585-8059

Parking lot across from the club
Manager: Rich Guaraldi,
Past Grand President of the YMI

Proudly Serving The Families of West of Twin Peaks

"Caring Service
is our Highest
Priority"



The Bud Duggan Family Serving the Bay Area Since 1903

Duggan's Serra Mortuary, Daly City	415/587-4500	FD1098
Driscoll's Valencia St. Serra Mortuary, SF	415/970-8801	FD1665
Sullivan's Funeral Home, SF	415/661-4567	FD 228

Parking Available at all locations

Most Convenient San Francisco/Peninsula Locations
Traditional and Cremation Services

Contact our Pre-Arrangement Department for your
FREE Personal Planning Guide
"My Funeral, My Way"



VISA, MASTERCARD & DISCOVER ACCEPTED

duggansserra.com driscollsmortuary.com sullivanfuneralandcremation.com



A black and white photograph of a family of three. A man in a suit and tie stands on the right, smiling. A woman stands on the left, also smiling. A young child is seated in the center, between the man and woman, smiling. The family is posed closely together.

There is so much more to tell...
PLEASE CALL TODAY (415) 558-2200

Don't tell anyone but I scour the productivity applications for help. I have downloaded multiple "To Do"

Sessions are by appointment; Please contact Little Fish Boutique at 320 West Portal or Ars Magna Studio 494-5819to schedule your Halloween portrait.



OOOps. Sorry. Gotta Go.
Copyright Carol Kocivar 2008

★★★★★

A map of Greater London divided into 11 constituencies, numbered 1 through 11. Constituency 6 is highlighted in a darker shade of grey and includes a red circle around the City of London area. Constituency 2 is also highlighted in a darker shade of grey. Constituencies 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 are in a lighter shade of grey.

CITY AND COUNTY / 市縣 / CIUDAD Y CONDADO									
MEMBER, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS / 市參議員 / MIEMBRO DEL CONSEJO DE SUPERVISORES DISTRICT 0 / 第 0 選區 / DISTRITO 0									
VOTE YOUR FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD CHOICES / 投選你的第一、第二和第三選擇 / VOTE POR SU PRIMERA, SEGUNDA Y TERCERA SELECCIÓN									
1 FIRST CHOICE 第一選擇 PRIMERA SELECCIÓN		2 SECOND CHOICE 第二選擇 SEGUNDA SELECCIÓN		3 THIRD CHOICE 第三選擇 TERCERA SELECCIÓN					
Vote for One 選一名 / 必須與第一個選擇不同 Vote por Uno		Vote for One - Must be different from your first choice 選一名 / 必須與第一個選擇不同 Vote por Uno - Deberá ser diferente de su primera selección		Vote for One - Must be different from your first and second choices 選一名 / 必須與第一個和第二個選擇不同 Vote por Uno - Deberá ser diferente de su primera y segunda selección					
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT 愛德諾·羅斯福 Incumbent 現任者		ELEANOR ROOSEVELT 愛德諾·羅斯福 Incumbent 現任者		ELEANOR ROOSEVELT 愛德諾·羅斯福 Incumbent 現任者					
CESAR CHAVEZ 西塞·查維茲 Labor Organizer Organizador Laboral 勞工組織者		CESAR CHAVEZ 西塞·查維茲 Labor Organizer Organizador Laboral 勞工組織者		CESAR CHAVEZ 西塞·查維茲 Labor Organizer Organizador Laboral 勞工組織者					
WALTER LUM 沃爾特·林 Publisher Editor 出版商		WALTER LUM 沃爾特·林 Publisher Editor 出版商		WALTER LUM 沃爾特·林 Publisher Editor 出版商					
JOHN HANCOCK 約翰·漢考克 Physician Medico 醫生		JOHN HANCOCK 約翰·漢考克 Physician Medico 醫生		JOHN HANCOCK 約翰·漢考克 Physician Medico 醫生					
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 小馬丁·路德·金 Minister Pastor 牧師		MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 小馬丁·路德·金 Minister Pastor 牧師		MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 小馬丁·路德·金 Minister Pastor 牧師					
ANNA MAE PICTOU AQUASH 安娜·瑪·皮克托·阿奎施 Indigenous Rights Organizer Organizadora para Derechos Indígenas 土著權益組織者		ANNA MAE PICTOU AQUASH 安娜·瑪·皮克托·阿奎施 Indigenous Rights Organizer Organizadora para Derechos Indígenas 土著權益組織者		ANNA MAE PICTOU AQUASH 安娜·瑪·皮克托·阿奎施 Indigenous Rights Organizer Organizadora para Derechos Indígenas 土著權益組織者					
WRITE-IN / NO LISTADO / 填寫候選入		WRITE-IN / NO LISTADO / 填寫候選入		WRITE-IN / NO LISTADO / 填寫候選入					

LEARN MORE! View an interactive demonstration of how ranked-choice voting works at www.sfelections.org/demo.



English: (415) 554-4375
中文: (415) 554-4367
Español: (415) 554-4366
www.sfgov.org/elections

Kill Winter Cooties Naturally

Kids are back in school and with the cold weather approaching, what can we do to help our family stay healthy? The germs, bacteria and respiratory viruses around us today have never been stronger or more antibiotic-resistant. An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure (someone said) so building and maintaining a strong immune system is the first order of business. If you didn't read my Sept. article, please go to: www.westsideobserver.com/ Click on Columnists and scroll to the bottom to read my back issue on Antioxidants.



My second point is proper hand washing. I know, it sounds really elementary. However look at these stats below.

*Failure to wash hands or insufficiently washing hands, contributes to almost 50% of food borne illness outbreaks.

*More than 52 million cases of the common cold each year are among Americans under 17 years of age.

*About 22 million school days are lost due to the common cold alone.

*Centers for Disease Control estimate in the U.S. more than 100,000 people are hospitalized and about 36,000 die from flu and complications each year.

*The single most important thing we can do to prevent sickness and spreading illness to others is to clean our hands.

Lets teach our kids to use a natural waterless hand cleaner when a basin isn't available or at a basin, whenever possible:

Wet hands with warm water and apply soap.

Lather soap by rubbing hands together, covering top & palms of hands, rubbing between fingers and under fingernails. Continue for 20 seconds (sing happy birthday to you - 4 times).

Thoroughly rinse under running water.

Dry hands with paper towel or air dryer; use paper towel to turn off faucet and open bathroom door.

For the past 10 years, I've been studying and using 100% Pure Therapeutic Grade Essential Oils personally, with my family and clients, as an alternative to pharmacology for colds and viruses with positive results. What is an Essential Oil exactly? It's the blood (Chi, life force) of the plant distilled at a very high pressure (as in pressure cooking) but at a very, very low temperature. This substance is alive and these live enzymes support our system by raising our body's vibration or energy level. Everything has an energy vibration, and the energy or frequency of the plant is harmonious with us humans. Humans and plants are made up of the same substance from the earth. The blood of the plant helps to raise our energy level, our immune system kicks in, and the body heals its self. Oils won't alter our body's chemistry, they only support it.

Natural substances can't be patented so drug companies will take a natural plant substance and change it molecularly so it can be patented and sold with a particular brand name. However, something does change when the molecular structure is altered. The plant is no longer in the pure and highly

complex form as nature intended. Usually that's where the side effects come in and we all know the rest of that story.

Essential Oils have been around for thousands of years. I have a photo of a terra-cotta distiller, the oldest known distiller in the world (circa 4,000 B.C.) In ancient Egypt, the Kings, Queens, and Pharaohs used the oils for physical and emotional healing. The oils were also used for preserving mummies for their long journey in the afterlife. 33 alabaster jars of Essential Oils were found in King Tut's tomb in 1922, still intact when uncovered. Since the distillation process was expensive, the oils were considered gold and used only by the extremely wealthy. When the blood of the plant was removed during distillation, what was left over was the dried plant or the herb and that was the medicine used by the common people for healing. There was no pharmacy!

There are many accounts in the Bible of Essential Oils throughout the scriptures mentioning: Aloes (sandalwood), Cassia, Cedarwood, Frankincense, Galbanum, Hyssop, Myrrh, Myrtle, Onycha, Rose of Sharon (cistus) and Spikenard. When the Wise Men brought gifts to Baby Jesus of gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, the oils were the gold. There was no way for common folk to get valuable healing oils. Frankincense was used for protection from negativity and Myrrh was the best antiseptic available after childbirth; everything one would need to keep a newborn safe and healthy.

Historically, in Marseilles, France, 1400 AD during the Medieval plague, 4 spice runners robbed the dead and dying without becoming sick. When captured, the thieves revealed a mixture of clove, rosemary and other aromatics they rubbed all over their bodies to protect themselves against the deadly plague. They gave up the recipe in exchange for a lesser sentence.

Looking back over history, here are some suggested Pure Essential Oils for Winter:

Clove Oil - high in antioxidant power and immune-enhancing properties

Rosemary Oil - natural energizer, helps to restore mental alertness when fatigued

Cinnamon Bark Oil - high in antioxidants, relieves discomfort during Winter Season and supports digestion

Eucalyptus Radiata Oil - lab testing has shown it's effectiveness against bacteria when used topically

Lemon Oil - powerful antioxidant and known for it's ability to act as a natural solvent and cleanser

My suggestion is to give Essential Oils a try if your doctor doesn't prescribe something for the common cold or flu this season. The oils are used topically, internally and diffused - Natures Medicine.

Each of these oils individually are very powerful. There's a synergy when the oils are blended together and the healing power is increased. If you're interested in finding out about the oil blend of "Thieves", the five oils mentioned above, please call me 650.359.6579 or email at sharon@sharoncaren.com Happy Oiling!

For more health tips from Sharon Caron, go to www.westsideobserver.com

Introducing CurvesSmart.™

A workout that keeps you motivated like never before to get the results you want.

PERSONAL COACHING SYSTEM

DETAILED PROGRESS REPORT

COME EXPERIENCE CURVESSMART™
& GET A FREE BREAST SELF-EXAM KIT*

OVER 10,000
LOCATIONS WORLDWIDE.

TWIN PEAKS
608 Portola Drive at Woodside
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
415 759-9103
www.TwinPeaksCurves.com

*Free breast self-exam kit valued at \$24.95. No purchase necessary. Must complete a CurvesSmart demonstration. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations while supplies last until 11/1/08. ©2008 Curves International, Inc.

curves.com

3 NEW HOMES

7th Ave. & Irving St., San Francisco

NOW AVAILABLE!

CALL TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT

Mary Naughton - 415.205.4894 or 415.999.9210

- Brand New Top Floor Addition
- Complete Rebuild on Lower Units
- Large Roof Deck with Views
- Flexible Floorplans
- Excellent Location
- Eco-Friendly Features

SHAMROCK
REAL ESTATE CO.

www.HomesOn7th.com

SPACE CADET

Professional Organizing

Specializing In:

- ★ Closets
- ★ Offices
- ★ Kitchens
- ★ ...and more!

Get the private consultation you deserve!

Call Today! 415-233-3133

YourSpaceCadet@Gmail.com

Serving the Bay Area and Nearby Galaxies

ACE PHARMACY / NEW LIFE

HOME CARE SPECIALISTS

(415) 731-3535

Open 365 Days a Year

2505 Noriega St. • SF

Prescriptions

- Tuckables/Underpads/Diapers
- Authorized WINGS Diaper Distributor
- Ostomy • Skin Care Products
- Complete Convalescent Supplies
- Diabetic Supplies • Wheelchairs • Walkers
- Private Charge Accounts
- Med-Cal, and Insurance Billing

October 2008.....Westside Observer.....Page 12

IN A VERY STRANGE LAND

by Hank Basayne

I don't understand the language. The terrain is unfamiliar. Many of the inhabitants seem uncomfortable, but there are some others who appear relaxed and even quietly joyful. I'm not prepared for this place--I've packed all the wrong things. I started this journey more than eighty years ago, but now that I'm here, I don't know where I am.

I knew this was my destination all along, yet I'm surprised to be here.

I didn't arrive suddenly--there were milestones along the way: the births of my grandchildren, difficulty buttoning my shirt buttons, the deaths of parents, siblings and, increasingly, my peers. My first heart attack. The jolting awareness that I am the oldest person in the room. The deference paid me by those who I think of as contemporaries, but who see me as an elder.

Without planning to, I've arrived at old age. Trying to sort through my feelings, I'm aware of fear, excitement, grief, surprise, gratitude.

Fear because I still cling to thinking of myself as youthful, competent, energetic, creative. I guess I'm still somewhat stuck in the stereotype our youth-oriented society has of the aged. Not sure that I'll be any good at this new role as an elder. Fear that I'll lose my independence, and I've long resisted the idea of being dependent. Fear of becoming irrelevant, disempowered, outdated, invisible. I feel young; how can I be old?

And yet I know that the fundamental rule of life is inexorable Change. It is futile for me to try to resist inevitable change and trying only invites frustration and unhappiness. Also, if I hug tightly to what is known, I'll never get to explore the unknown, and there is excitement for



me in discovery. As Ram Dass has said, to invest in anything that changes is to create suffering.

This is no longer the world I knew growing up or during my young adulthood. The tectonic changes are social, global, technological, and I'm no longer the person I knew while I was growing up, either. So there is lively and pleasant anticipation in seeing how the new Me is going to accommodate to this new place.

Yes, I feel some sadness for what is lost. All that energy and hope, all those big plans, that wonderful feeling of invulnerability. My sense of active engagement in the affairs of the world, dimly seen beyond my own busyness. There are people I miss, aching. Some lost dreams. But, despite my drawers full of memorabilia, I remember the cautionary tale of Lot's wife: to get stuck looking back could turn me into a pillar of salt, too.

I'm amazed at this unexpected situation I find myself in. I didn't prepare for it very well. Could have taken better care of my body. Could have stored up provender against this time of winter. Wish I had been more attentive, less self-preoccupied. But I suspect that, even if I'd made some harder choices, I'd have arrived here anyway. The buds leaf out, they reach full leafhood, they change into beautiful colors, they fall. They make way for the new buds. The cycle is universal. It is to be embraced.

So rather than clinging to the past or bemoaning the losses or fearing what is unfamiliar, it's time for me to welcome this Gift of Age, to investigate this new, very strange land. I need to practice letting go so I am free to look into this new state of affairs. I need to cultivate a quieter way of allowing this unfamiliar scenery to reveal itself. I'm grateful for this unanticipated opportunity, which so many are denied. But

Festival (Cont. from p. 8)

1st Annual fair, and Supervisor Chu presented the Merchants Association with a proclamation declaring "October 27th, 2007 to be Taraval Street Fair Day in S.F."

Putting together an event of this size is not an easy task and Udovch has had plenty of assistance from his colleagues on the Merchant's Association to get things in order for this year's event. "The Board of Directors has done a fantastic job in pulling this together. Dave Quimby, Yui Sam, Paula Sham, George Zlatnich, and Orlando Tyson have all worked extremely hard to make this event a reality, said Udovch, who added, "Our goal is to highlight this great neighborhood we live in, elevate District 4, and to get everyone together for a day of fun and friendship."

The planners have had good

success with sponsorship for the fair, with a mix of sponsors signing on. Sponsor businesses involved are Costello's 4 Deuces Bar, Lakeside Hardware, 1st National Bank, the Riptide Lounge, Prudential Insurance, Allstate Insurance, and Oceanside Sheet Metal and Pepsi.

Next year, the planners are looking to expand the scope a little larger, hoping to take over a section near to Great Highway to recreate a version of San Francisco's famed "Playland at the Beach" for a day, with rides, booths, and of course, Laughing Sal.

As with all street fairs, parking is limited so taking public transportation is recommended.

For more information on the fair, go to the website www.Taravalmerchants.org.

WE'RE ALSO ON THE WEB
www.westsideobserver.com

POLICE
BLOTTER

Police Captain Paul Chignell, Taraval Station



Sunset Homes Hit By Graffiti Suspects. Incidents Have Occurred from 10:00 pm to 7:00 am. Our Officers Are Working on Identifying Suspects. Please Call Us If You See Multiple Juveniles Loitering. 9/28/08

- 1900 block of Ocean Graffiti
- 2200 block of 25th Avenue Graffiti
- 2200 block of 25th Avenue Graffiti
- 2300 block of 30th Avenue Graffiti
- 2300 block of 32nd Avenue Graffiti
- 2300 block of 32nd Avenue Graffiti
- 2300 block of 32nd Avenue Graffiti
- 2600 block of 34th Avenue Graffiti
- 2300 block of 41st Avenue Graffiti

For a complete daily Police Report from the Taraval Police Station, go to our website: www.westsideobserver.com

BRAIN FOOD

As you may know, a group of fish is called a "school", a group of lions a "pride", and a group of seagulls is called a "flock". Some are a little bit more unusual. See if you can guess what animals belong to the following groups:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| Crash | Parliament |
| Exaltation | Pod |
| Mob | Sounder |
| Murder | |

Answer on page14

Sudoku-fun!

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

- 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 in such a way that each of the numbers 1 to 9 appears exactly once in each row, column and block.
- Answer: The answer appears in another section of the paper.

The Steak Experience

Alfred's

STEAKHOUSE

Since 1928

Real Steak Real Martini Real San Francisco

Complimentary Self Parking (For Dinner Only)
At The Financial District Hilton's Public Parking Entrance on Washington St.

659 Merchant Street (by Kearny & Washington)
415.781.7058 www.alfredssteakhouse.com

SECOND THOUGHTS

by Jack Kaye

Is San Francisco an American City?

Recently, we had a house guest from the South. He was a young college graduate who had attended on a full academic scholarship. He was a nice kid.

As the first few days of his *eight-week* visit unfolded, I realized that there were many things that we do here that people where he's from don't. The number and variety of these differences grew as the days progressed. Here is a sample of our differences.

I knew that he came from a state with an abundance of water and very low utility rates. I told him that in San Francisco water and resultant sewage costs are very high and that we try not to waste it. The same is true about gas and electric charges. We also showed him how we always use our own bags when grocery shopping to save on paper and plastic bag creation.

He said he understood. He limited his time away from his running kitchen faucet (while he went into another room) to under two minutes, kept his showers to only 25 minutes, and tried to keep the refrigerator door open for less than 10 minutes at a time.



I told him about recycling our glass, paper, aluminum and plastic. He told me that they have it in his town but it costs extra so most people don't bother. He didn't either.

We noticed that he even threw his paper grocery bags away in the garbage.

It was then that I began to wonder if it was them or us who were different.

San Francisco was the first American city to ban smoking in restaurants, then bars, then parks. San Francisco was the first to create domestic partnerships for unmarried couples leading finally to gay marriages, which were just recently upheld by the state supreme court.

San Francisco was also at the forefront of the decriminalization of marijuana movement, first with medical marijuana, then with allowing dozens of retail outlets to sell it, then with making it official policy to not arrest for possession of the weed, and soon will be the first to celebrate its inevitable legalization.

Jesse Jackson not only carried South Carolina, when he ran for the Democratic nomination for President, he also carried San Francisco which has only a 5% African American population.

And when Bush-Cheney made clear their intentions to invade Iraq, San Francisco was first to turn

out *en masse* to object to an attack which would go on to cost a hundred thousand lives (including the Iraqi dead) and trillions of dollars (including the future disability costs for wounded soldiers and the predictable aid to millions of Iraqi refugees who will move to America when we withdraw our troops).

Now, San Francisco is offering medical coverage to all of its residents, paid sick leave for all those who work in the city, and a living wage that is 50% higher than America's minimum wage.

The City even had planned to issue resident i.d. cards to undocumented (read 'imported, paperless') residents. In San Francisco members of the police and sheriff's department do not cooperate with federal agents (as in American government) in their efforts to identify and deport illegal immigrants (read 'paperless imports') who commit crimes in the City.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has repeatedly let the United States Navy know that its ships were not welcome near our shores because of its policy toward gay members and because of its intrinsically belligerent nature. And the San Francisco school board is trying to eliminate ROTC from its campuses for the same reasons.

So what do you think? Is San Francisco an American city or will America someday become a San Francisco country?

ovation at the final curtain.

Coming up at Aurora will be George Bernard Shaw's The Devil's Disciple, Oct 31-Nov 7. Info: 510-843-4822 www.auroratheatre.org.

TAMING OF THE SHREW

Off Broadway West's "Shrew" is set in 1920's Hamptons. a "freely adapted" version of The Taming of the Shrew. The story is of shrewish Kate, whose father, Professor Davenport (Baptista), has promised not to let his youngest daughter, Chastity (Bianca) wed until Kate has found a husband. Kate is waiting for a man who is her equal but is pawned off by her father onto John Patrick (Petruchio), who is bribed by the sizable dowry. They are surprisingly well suited to one another and fall in love.

"Shrew" is at Phoenix Theatre, 414 Mason, Ste. 601, Thur-Sat 8 p.m., Sept 19 -Oct 18, 2008. Tickets: 800-838-3006 or online at www.offbroadwaywest.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS

The Real Story Behind Gone with the Wind. Ross Valley Players new season features Ron Hutchinson's hysterical off-Broadway farce about the legendary film and how it was almost never made!


David O. Selznick shuts down production because the screenplay doesn't work. Screenwriter Ben Hecht and director Victor Fleming, subsisting on bananas and peanuts, the three men are shut up for five days. The result was a Hollywood classic.

So funny! Until Oct 12. 8pm Fri & Sat 7:30pm. Thur and 2pm Sun. At the Ross Valley Players Barn, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. at Lagunitas, Ross. 456-9555 www.rossvalleyplayers.com or at the door.

Flora Lynn Isaacson

Note: this is a summary of the full reviews. Complete text: www.westsideobserver.com/theater

World Famous
Original
"Irish Coffee"



the
Buena Vista

2765 Hyde Street (at Beach)
San Francisco 415 474 5044
thebuenavista.com sfbuenavista@aol.com

Looking for the OBSERVER?
We regularly supply these
fine stores and services:

- Streetbox: Post Office 94127
Civic Center Main Library
Ingleside Branch Library
Noe Valley Branch Library
Parkside Branch Library
Sunset Branch Library
West Portal Branch Library
Aqua Surf Shop/Sloat Blvd.
Bell Market in Noe
Century21/101 Vicente
Curves - 608 Portola Dr.
Fresca 24th St.
Greenhouse Cafe/329 West Portal
Lakeside Restaurant on Ocean Ave
Liberty Fitness/3725 Noriega
Mollie Stones
MRW Hairdresser /2601 Ocean Ave
Nail Chic on Castro in Noe
Tennessee Grill
Safeway on Diamond Heights
Stonestown Cinema
West Portal Books
YMCA Stonestown Branch
- 

Locations run out of papers so call us 415 517-3661. We support local business, if you can help to supply the Observer to the public, call our circulation manager at 415 517-3661.

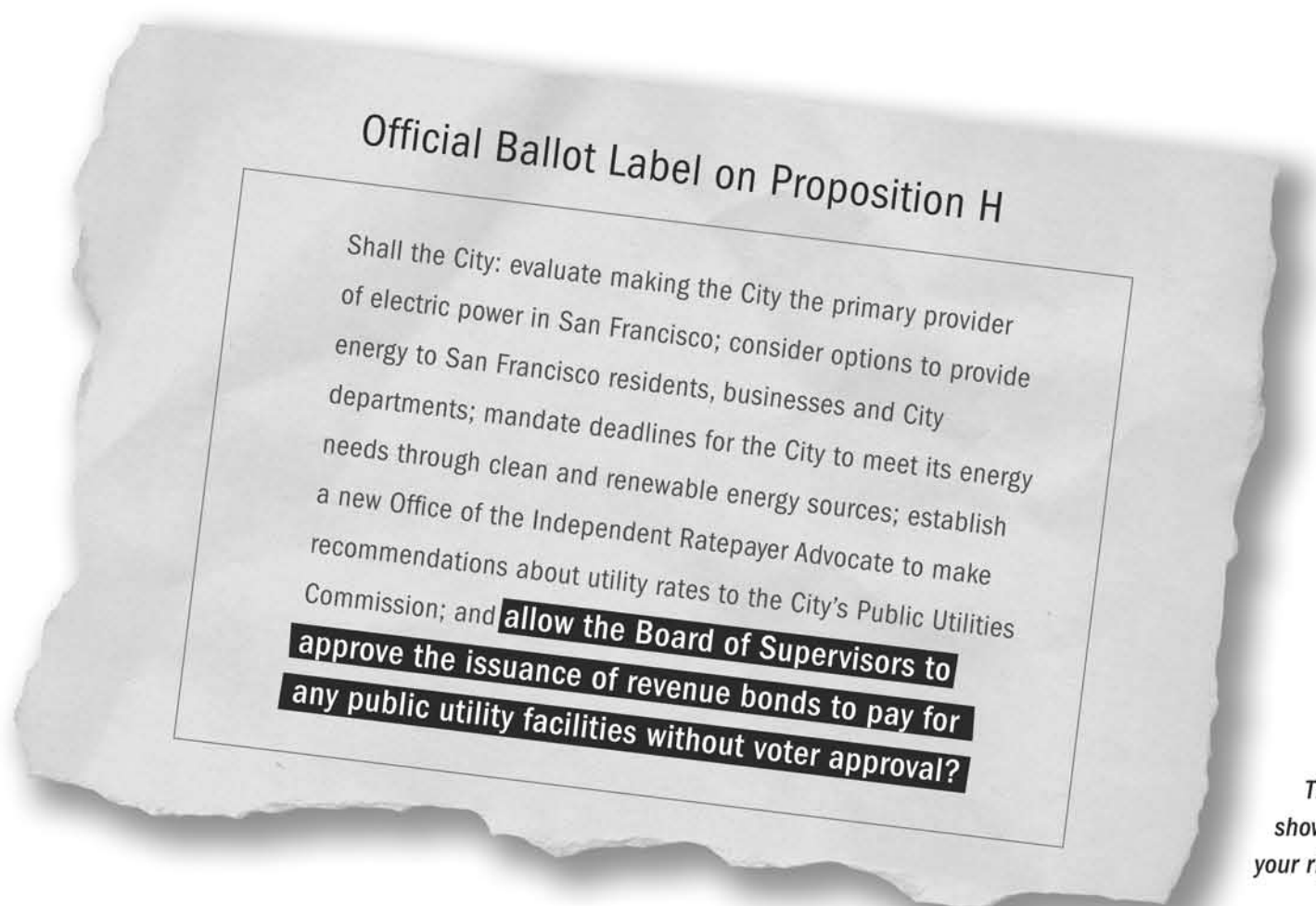


P0 Box 27176, SF 94127 • www.westsideobserver.com • 415 517-6331
Publisher/Editor: Mitch Bull • mitch@westsideobserver.com
Associate Editor: Alice Bull
Managing Editor: Doug Comstock • editor@westsideobserver.com
Dir. Advertising Sales • Catha Hall 650-365-6565
cell: 415-990-9330
Contributors: Hank Basayne, Mitch Bull, Sharon Caren, Captain Paul Chignell, Jack Kaye, Dr. Carol Kocivar, Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Dr. Annette Lust, Phyllis Sherman, George Wooding.

The ideas and opinions expressed in these pages are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff or publisher of this paper. The Westside Observer is a free monthly newspaper serving the entire West of Twin Peaks area of San Francisco. Our circulation is 20,000 copies, distributed 10 times a year. 12,000 are distributed door-to-door, 1,500 are distributed via free distribution racks in the West of Twin Peaks area, as well as key drop-off points, including merchants, and public libraries.

Sudoku Answers:										Answer to Brain Food:									
4	9	1	3	8	5	2	6	7		Crash	-	Rhinoceros							
8	3	7	1	2	6	4	5	9		Exaltation	-	Lark							
6	5	2	7	9	4	3	8	1		Mob	-	Kangaroo							
7	6	5	2	4	8	1	9	3		Murder	-	Raven/Crow							
1	4	3	9	5	7	6	2	8		Parliament	-	Owl							
9	2	8	6	3	1	5	7	4		Pod	-	Whale							
5	1	4	8	7	2	9	3	6		Sounder	-	Pig/Hog							
3	8	6	5	1	9	7	4	2											
2	7	9	4	6	3	8	1	5											

Finally, Some Truth in Labeling.



The official ballot label shows Prop. H takes away your right to vote on bonds.

After You Read the Label, You Won't Buy **Prop. H.**

Prop. H gives this Board of Supervisors, and all future Boards, the **power to spend billions to take over any utility without voter approval.** Join Dianne Feinstein, Gavin Newsom, San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods and the San Francisco Police Officers Association in voting **NO on Proposition H.**



"Prop. H will give politicians and unelected commissioners the power to borrow billions to take over utilities without a vote of the people. And San Franciscans will be forced to pay the cost."

—GAVIN NEWSOM,
San Francisco Mayor



"I don't feel this is the time to ask San Franciscans to pay as much as \$400 or more each year in electric bills. And I don't think we should give the Board a blank check to take over any utility at any cost."

—CARMEN CHU,
San Francisco Supervisor



"I strongly oppose Proposition H. It takes away your right to vote on revenue bonds to take over any San Francisco utility. The City Controller says this could cost 'billions of dollars.'"

—SEAN ELSBERND,
San Francisco Supervisor



www.StopTheBlankCheck.com

Vote No on Prop. H

Paid for by the Committee To Stop the Blank Check, No on H, a coalition of concerned consumers, small businesses, labor, community organizations and Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The future of home phone service is here.

Set your voice free in the digital era.



Comcast Digital Voice®

- Unlimited local and nationwide calling, plus Canada
- 12 popular calling features, plus Voice Mail
- Listen to your voice messages online



Comcast Digital Voice®

\$19⁹⁹
A Month
For 6 Months

1-800-COMCAST



Offer only available in Atherton, Belmont, Brisbane, Burlingame, Colma, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Los Altos Hills, Menlo Park, Millbrae, Pacifica, Palo Alto, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Carlos, San Francisco, San Mateo, South San Francisco, and Woodside. Unlimited package pricing applies to all direct-dialed calls to locations in the U.S. and Canada, from home. No separate long distance carrier connection available. Plan does not include international calls. Comcast Digital Voice service (including 911/emergency services) may not function after an extended power outage. Certain customer premises equipment may not be compatible with Comcast Digital Voice services. Caller ID equipment is required. May not be combined with other offers. Offer only available in participating Comcast systems (and may not be transferred) and limited to new residential customers (or former customers with accounts in good standing, who have not had any Comcast service during the past 60 days), located in Comcast Cable wired and serviceable areas. After 6 months, current monthly rate for Comcast Digital Voice varies from \$44.95-\$39.95 depending on other Comcast services subscribed to, if any. Offer only good for a single outlet per service. Equipment, including EMTA (for telephone service, current monthly rental fee is \$3/month) required and equipment and installation fees are additional. Prices shown do not include taxes, franchise fees or, for Digital Voice, Regulatory Recovery Fee, which is not a tax or government required or other applicable charges, e.g., per-call charges. Not all services available in all areas. Call Comcast for restrictions and complete details about service, prices and equipment. Comcast ©2008. All rights reserved. Service is subject to Comcast standard terms and conditions of service. Offer ends 10/31/2008. 5806B_CCWB_BAR