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Nightmare on West Portal

By John Farrell

A lease was executed on November 5, 2014 for space at 360-A West Portal Ave between West Portal Financial Group LLC (WPFG), the lessee, and Francis Eng, on behalf of the Eng 1990 Trust, the lessor. WPFG consists of Peter Chen and Ellen Ching, a couple who reside in Balboa Terrace with their daughter Ashley. This couple's business, Raymond James Financial Services, was a home based business they outgrew. They moved into what they believed was a second floor space. They wanted to be in West Portal, and are committed to serving their existing client base and growing their business in the neighborhood.



That was where the nightmare began.

On June 12th 2015, Peter received a letter from the West Portal Merchants Association that a complaint had been filed with the Planning Department alleging violation of the existing moratorium on West Portal corridor for additional financial institutions. As the result of the complaint, the Planning Department issued a Notice of Enforcement on July 24, 2015, alleging violation of the Planning Code prohibiting "new financial services" in the West Portal Ave Neighborhood Commercial District.

Peter and Ellen hired a land use attorney, and after several months a hearing was held on November 10, 2015 before the Planning Department's Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Administrator determined that, per Planning Code Section 729.53, a Conditional Use Application (CUA) was required to operate on the first floor. He cited Planning Code Section 102 for the definition of the First Floor. In order to be considered a second floor it must be 6 ft higher than the sidewalk. The building unfortunately missed this requirement by approximately 2 inches. By the way, there is an elevator lift to get to



“Let's end this nightmare and allow this neighborhood couple and their daughter to live the American Dream. Stop the political interference. Let this business continue to go through due process for its CUA. And let it be heard loud and clear that “We support our local businesses!”

the business. Previously this space was used for another Business and Professional Use, chiropractic care, and a CUA was never filed. No one ever complained.

Another “Notice of Violation and Penalty Decision” was issued on January 27, 2016 requiring a CUA to legalize the Business and Professional Service Use on the first floor. Peter and Ellen appealed the Zoning Administrator's decision and were given a directive to file diligently for the CUA.

On June 7, 2016, the CUA was filed, as well as a request for a Letter of Determination (LOD) from the Zoning Administrator. After a lengthy and thorough review by the Planning Department, an LOD dated July 11, 2016, confirmed that the business was eligible for a CUA as a Business or Professional Service. No hearing date for the

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Candidates respond to questions in the "lightning round" at the District 7 supervisor forum at the West of Twin Peaks Council. Shown are Farrell, Yee, Matranga, Engardio and Young responding to the question: "Is your campaign taking public funds?" (Page 13 - full summary) Photo: Bill Wilson

Supervisor Candidate Debate Highlights Differences

By Tony Taylor

In front of nearly 100 community members, West of Twin Peaks Central Council hosted a forum for the five District 7 Supervisor candidates at the Forest Hill Clubhouse. Discussion topics included affordable housing, marijuana legalization, and neighborhood safety. With Proposition Q on the upcoming ballot, which could prohibit homeless tent encampments, the candidates were in agreement about one thing: the mentally ill homeless need to be a top priority.

During two-minute introductions, each candidate made their case for changes they intend to make once elected. John Farrell says he will challenge government spending, while newcomer Joel Engardio intends to ask tough policy questions. Ben Matranga and Michael Young, both San Francisco natives, similarly plan to be vigorous and energetic voices of the people at City Hall. Incumbent Supervisor Norman Yee, also a native, intends to bring beat cops back into the neighborhood.

Balancing the budget was the first talking point and Young was the first to speak up. He proposes a look at pensions.

“Staff is the most expensive

budget,” Young says. His suggestion is a selective hiring freeze.

Matranga wants to take a closer look at wasteful spending, while Engardio, Farrell, and Yee intend to focus on revenue generating debts like the water department.

“The Mayor's Office keeps adding special project individuals, which has tripled in last few years,” Yee says. “The budget is based on neglected infrastructure.”

For Proposition 64, the legalization of marijuana, Engardio and Young take a liberal approach. In 2014, Supervisor Yee created zoning restrictions making it impossible to open dispensaries within 500 feet of

a school or another marijuana vendor.

“I support the legalization of it,” Young says. “It's the wave of the future.”

“We have to make sure our neighborhoods are safe and people aren't lighting up in parks,” Engardio says. He believes it can be regulated. “We can benefit from those tax dollars.”

With Prop 64 still pending voter approval, one immediate issue facing the neighborhood is safety.

Farrell recently received emails for two break-ins. “This is unheard of,” he says, proposing stronger relationships between businesses, neighbors and the

Cont. p. 13

Campaign Spending

Supervisor Mark Farrell v. CCSF

By Dr. Maria Rivero and Dr. Derek Kerr

The whopping \$190,903 forfeiture imposed on Supervisor Mark Farrell by the Ethics Commission is among the most controversial in the City's history of campaign law violations. Now Farrell and the City are suing each other. In the era of Citizens United, money as speech lurks beneath their Superior Court clash.¹ It was triggered by the Ethics Commission's bold response to a Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) finding that Farrell's 2010 supervisory campaign unlawfully coordinated with an “independent” expenditure committee, Common Sense Voters.²

The FPPC Investigation:

The probe of Farrell's tainted 2010 campaign was elongated by months of inactivity between January 2011 and November 2014. Conveniently, it ended just after Farrell's re-election. The FPPC's most vigilant source, Janet Reilly, wasn't interviewed. Neither were Tom Coates or Dede Wilsey, whose \$191,000 funded Common Sense Voters' (CSV) attack ads against Reilly. Transcripts of interviews with Farrell and seven associates show that most of them were lawyered up, often defaulting to “I can't recall” and “I don't know.” Farrell denied any and all improprieties, fingering his campaign consultant Chris Lee as a “rogue agent.”

In November 2014, the FPPC issued a stipulation: Chris Lee, had coordinated the set-up, fundraising, and campaign planning of CSV and

thereby “caused it to become a controlled committee of Mark Farrell.” Per the Political Reform Act, a controlled committee is one that is directly or indirectly controlled

by a candidate, or a candidate's agent, or that acts jointly with the candidate in making expenditures. Since Farrell denied cheating and none of those interviewed asserted otherwise, the FPPC added, “The evidence supports the finding that Mark

Cont. p. 10



“Ten days before the scheduled Superior Court hearing - a settlement proposal; (Mark) Farrell offered to pay \$25,000.”



Chopping Down George Washington

By George Wooding

Some things are so idiotic that when you hear about them you have to shake your head in disbelief. On September 4, Matt Haney, president of the San Francisco Board of Education for the San Francisco United School District (SFUSD), posted on Facebook and Twitter a controversial proposal to change the names of schools named after slave owners in our City, including George Washington High School. According to the September 6 *San Francisco Examiner*, Haney stated, “Maya Angelou went to George Washington High School in San Francisco. But she was kicked out because she became pregnant, an experience she writes about in her autobiography ‘I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.’ I think we should rename the school after her.” The SFUSD has at least four schools named after historical figures: George Washington High School, Jefferson Elementary School, Monroe Elementary School, and Francis Scott Key Elementary School, each of whom owned slaves. The reactions against Haney’s posts were swift, and so negative that he had to reset his social media settings to “private.” Haney

George Washington, the “Father of our country,” had a cherry tree, while Haney “the arbitrator of political correctness,” needs a fig leaf.

Nightmare (Cont. from p. 1)

CUA has been set. On August 2, Supervisor Yee introduced an urgency ordinance to prohibit first floor story Business or Professional Services uses in the West Portal Avenue Neighborhood Commercial District for 45 days. At the September 10 District 7 Supervisors Candidate Forum a question was submitted asking candidates to address the proposed urgency ordinance. Four District 7 Supervisor candidates, except Supervisor Yee, opposed the proposed ordinance. At the Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting on September 19, 2016 the urgency ordinance was continued. Over a dozen concerned neighbors and clients of Peter and Ellen spoke out in support of their business, including an articulate 100 year old client. A few asked for a continuance, for the business to be grandfathered in, or that the business receive a friendly amendment exemption if this ordinance was adopted. It was continued. What was the urgency? This urgency ordinance is to allow time to revise the Planning Code to categorize and define businesses to prevent any confusion in the future, and no new CUAs will be issued until this is resolved. This will adversely impact new businesses including Peter and Ellen’s, since it is considered a new business until the CUA is received. If this ordinance “as is” passes, Peter and Ellen’s business may have to close down. Further, currently 15% of businesses on West Portal are “Business and Professional Services.” Do all these meet City requirements? Even though the Planning Department’s Zoning Administrator reported in the LOD that Raymond James does not offer banking services or products to the public and is not considered a Financial Service under the Planning Code, the President of the West Portal Merchants Association told the merchants at a

September 15th meeting that this business was bank-like and had bank-like activities. Peter and Ellen attended the meeting but were not given the opportunity to speak. To date Peter and Ellen have never been given the opportunity to present before the West Portal Merchants Association. Planning Code Section 790.110 defines a Financial Service use as “retail use which provides banking services and products to the public, such as banks, savings and loans, and credit unions when occupying more than 15 feet of linear frontage or 200 square feet of gross floor area.” At least 18 merchants from the West Portal Merchants Association are in support of the business, as well as dozens from the neighborhoods to date. Further, Supervisor Yee has received 30 correspondences in support of Peter and Ellen’s business. On September 7th, Jen Low, Legislative Aide to Norman Yee, told Peter and Ellen and two others “You are clearly not a threat to the neighborhood.” Then why is Peter and Ellen’s business being obstructed from receiving a CUA, instead of letting it go through the due process as recommended by the Planning Department and the Board of Appeals? Can someone please explain this to me? The Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association (GWPNA) has this matter on its agenda at its next meeting on October 5th. Let’s end this nightmare and allow this neighborhood couple and their daughter to live the American Dream. Stop the political interference. Let this business continue to go through due process for its CUA. And let it be heard loud and clear that “We support our local businesses!” John Farrell Broker/Realtor® – Farrell Real Estate, MBA, Former Assistant Assessor-Budget and Special Projects, 5th Generation San Franciscan, Westside resident.

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“I work for you”

West Of Twin Peaks Central Council By Mitch Bull

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor By Quentin Kopp

The September meeting of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council looked much the same as pre-summer break as the same slate of officers was nominated and reelected to their respective posts for the 2016-17 year.



WOTP Central Council President **Roger Ritter** opened the session, held a week earlier than usual due to a schedule conflict at the Forest Hills Clubhouse. He spoke about the agenda for the evening and following the roll call it was determined that a quorum was not reached, but the meeting went forward with no issues able to be voted upon by the delegates.

A decision was made to not do officer reports and proceed directly to the speakers for the evening. The first speakers were **Anne Quaintance**, Chief Programs and Government Affairs Officer for Meals on Wheels of SF, and **Sandy Mori**, co-founder of Kimochi, speaking about **Proposition I**, the “Dignity Fund” proposition.

The proposition is an attempt to secure stable funding for programs benefitting San Francisco’s senior citizens and adults

the decision-making process about the use of funds for the Dignity Fund.

For more information, visit their website: www.sfdignityfund.org

The second speaker of the evening was **Peter Cohen**, who spoke to the delegates about **Proposition C**, which would alter and expand the eligible uses from the 1992 seismic safety bond to include the rehab of other “at-risk” multi-unit buildings, including “soft story” retrofits and other fire, safety and code upgrades, as well as allow non-profit affordable housing developers to acquire and convert them to permanently-affordable housing.

Of the \$350,000,000 allocated in 1992 for seismic upgrades to masonry structures, about \$250,000,000 still has not been spent and is still on the City’s books. Prop C would define other areas where a multi-unit owner could apply for city-funded loans to upgrade and repair buildings with ground-floor parking, or retail. Most of the seismic repairs and upgrades over the past 20+ years have been funded by private and commercial loans, which in many cases had better rates than the city bond loans.

The backers of Prop C feel that the measure will improve and strengthen many more buildings



Sandi Mori and Anne Quaintance speak in favor of Proposition I (dignity Fund)

with disabilities, without raising taxes. Fully 24% of citizens in the city are people with disabilities or aged 60 and over and by 2030 the number will grow to 30%. Currently, programs supporting these communities are funded on a year-by-year basis through the General Fund, with approximately \$32,000,000 in funding each year.

The Dignity Fund, (Prop I) would create a “set aside” that would guarantee funding for these programs for 20 years by creating a baseline of \$38,000,000 in the City budget for programs. It would also mandate that the City set aside money from the General Fund to increase funding by \$6,000,000 in 2017, then an additional \$3,000,000 each year for 10 years. After the ten years, the additional amounts would be determined by changes in the City’s revenues.

By stabilizing City contributions to the programs that assist seniors, and disabled adults aged 18 and older the fund aims to allow more San Franciscans to age well and live with dignity in their homes. Although many San Franciscans own their homes, many seniors are strapped to afford their daily necessities. According to a UCLA Center for Healthy Policy study, (cited in Prop I handouts) 57% of single senior households and 39% of two-person senior households in San Francisco do not make enough income to cover the costs of housing, food, medicine, and other necessities. In addition the funding would enable programs providing services such as Transportation Services for seniors to expand as the need expands.

An 11-member Oversight and Advisory Committee (of volunteers) would be created to monitor and participate in



Peter Cohen speaks in favor of Prop C

within the City, and will also fund the preservation of existing at-risk multi tenant building, thus making it an “urgent anti-displacement initiative.”

With its aim to modify an existing bond measure, it will require a 67% approval percentage in the November election to pass.

Following a question and answer period, President Ritter adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.

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

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



I begin by announcing abridgement of my First Amendment rights! Having been appointed by the Board of Supervisors to the San Francisco Ethics Commission early last month (I attended my first meeting on September 26, 2016) I’m barred by City law from participating in local candidate and ballot measure elections, plus any contest involving a City official, such as the BART Board of Directors and San Francisco Superior Court, races in which City commissioners are candidates. I’m complimented by fellow citizens who request my election recommendations or inform me they like receiving them, but I’m now limited to State ballot measures and candidates and Federal office elections. State ballot measures, however, constitute a political feast, since there are 17, most of which could’ve been legislatively processed.

Jacob Fuchsberg, former President of the American Trial Lawyers Association, observed in 1969: “The average juror...wraps himself in civic virtue. He’s a judge now. He tries to act the part and do the right thing.” That’s my expectation of San Francisco voters and *Westside Observer* readers, so let’s get at it.

Proposition 51 authorizes \$9,000,000,000 in State general obligation bonds for construction and modernization of public and charter schools, vocational education facilities and junior college campuses. It wasn’t even placed on the ballot by the legislature. Governor Brown opposes it as a creation of the construction industry! It’ll cost taxpayers almost twice that amount for principal and interest payments over 35 years, or \$17,600,000,000. It’s worth recalling voters’ approval since 2001 of \$146,000,000,000 in state and local general obligation bonds for such purposes. The construction industry has already raised over \$6,000,000 to pass it. **I’m voting “No.”**

Proposition 52, an initiative constitutional amendment and statute, extends a law imposing fees on hospitals for MediCal, uninsured patients, and children’s healthcare. The reliable State Legislative Analyst declares the fiscal effect could be little, with possible annual State general fund savings of about \$1,000,000,000 and increased money for public hospitals in the low hundred millions for years. **I’ll vote “Yes.”**

Proposition 53, an initiative constitutional amendment sponsored by Stockton farmer and philanthropist Dean Cortopassi, requires voter approval for any state revenue bonds exceeding \$2,000,000,000, and prohibits the trick of dividing projects into several smaller ones to avoid voter approval. Revenue bonds are paid by income from the constructed project, such as fees or bridge tolls. I long have espoused the notion that revenue bonds ultimately constitute taxpayer debt, so we should approve or reject them. Presently, neither voters, nor the Legislature must approve a State revenue bond. Remembering the Bay Bridge \$6,400,000,000 replacement cost, originally estimated at \$1,000,000,000 (!), **I’m voting heartily for Proposition 53.**

Proposition 54 merits approval. It prohibits the Legislature from enacting any bill unless it’s been in print and published for at least 72 hours before the vote, except in a public emergency.

Proposition 55 represents another reason people don’t trust government or politicians. Four years ago, a ballot measure increasing the state income tax on earnings over \$250,000 for single filers and \$500,000 for a couple was sold to voters as “temporary,” meaning expiration in 2018. It’s now only 2016, but those same proponents, including the Governor, seek extension by 12 years. The word “temporary” contains no meaning for such people. **Vote against Proposition 55** and teach the Governor and others the meaning of “temporary.”

Proposition 56 increases the cigarette tax by \$2 a pack. Tobacco companies will probably spend over \$100,000,000 to defeat it. **Let’s pass it.**

Proposition 57 represents another gubernatorial attempt to diminish law enforcement, allowing parole for those convicted of nine non-violent felonies, more sentencing credits, and judicial (instead of District Attorney) determination of whether juveniles 14 and older should be prosecuted as adults on major charges. I’m pleased that two of my favorite law enforcers, San Mateo County District Attorney Steven Wagstaffe, and San Francisco Police Officer Marty Halloran, have written the main Voter Information Guide argument against Proposition 57. I urge defeat. **Vote “No” on 57!**

Proposition 58 undoes an initiative statute effectuated by California voters in 1998. Opponents characterize it as “A DISHONEST TRICK BY SACRAMENTO POLITICIANS.” They note that for decades millions of Latino children were forced into classes using almost only Spanish under the guise of “bilingual education.” Some called it an “educational ghetto.” Since 1998, immersion in English has been educationally successful. Why foster regression? It’s bilingual education sycophants who now try to stop English assimilation. **Reject Proposition 58.**

Proposition 59 is a “feel good” piece of ballot trash, lacking legal effect and claiming to compel a U.S. constitutional amendment prohibiting corporations and labor unions from making independent expenditure in federal elections. The principle is justifiable, but a federal constitutional change requires a constitutional convention requested by at least 34 state legislators or two-thirds of each house of Congress approving the amendment, followed by 38 states approving such amendment. Legislators who put this on the ballot show little regard for the poor voter trying to read and understand every ballot proposal this November 8. **My answer to them is rejection of Proposition 59.** Stop cluttering the ballot.

Proposition 60 constitutes another unnecessary initiative. It requires sex movie performers to use condoms during filming of sexual intercourse and producers to pay the cost of vaccinations, testing, and medical examinations. Why couldn’t the Legislature pass such a statute without bothering voters and causing campaign expenditures in the millions? Moreover, the Legislative Analyst predicts reductions in tax revenues because some in the “industry” will relocate to other states! Others will evade the law. Performer pay and producer income will decline, which means reduced state and local revenues “by several million dollars per year.” Implementation costs to the State “could exceed \$1 million annually,” concludes the Legislative Analyst. I’ve changed my original predilection to support Proposition 60 and **I’m voting “No.”**

I also recommend a vote against **Proposition 61**, another initiative that could

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Cherry-Picking Statistics

By Lou Barberini, CPA

The shade of the grandstand enveloped home plate in shadows as the ballpark sat nervously on edge. Sergio focused on Buster’s pumping fingers; then glanced over his left shoulder. Clarence “Preppy” Vanderbilt, the multi-sport USC grad, with a gliding shuffle step, slowly crept off first base. The leading base-stealer in the National League, Vanderbilt, was a threat to steal second base and disrupt the deadlocked game.

Standing on the hill, Sergio, petrified like a statue, focused his attention again on Buster’s fingers. Time appeared to stand still despite the draining sands of summer’s hourglass. Tick-tick-tick.....

Boom-boom! The calm was shattered with Sergio’s cobra-fast pirouette towards first base, and point-three seconds later, Belt’s mitt slammed into Vanderbilt’s outstretched back. Safe! Belt casually tossed the ball back to Sergio as Vanderbilt stood, dusting the dirt off his pants, and nodding sarcastically. Without even returning to the mound, Sergio again fired the ball to Belt who again applied a hard *message* tag to Vanderbilt’s left thigh.

Vanderbilt glared at Sergio: “F\$!# you. You are a positionist!”

“What? A contortionist. Ya, I know. I’m pretty flexible.”

“No, A\$\$h@!+! You are a positionist. You judge me and treat me differently because of my position in the batting order. You have tried to pick me off 10 times in the last two days. Our pitcher makes it to first base and you don’t throw over once? Because his position is a pitcher, like you, you treat him better than me? My career counts!!”

“Dude, it’s your actions that matter. You crouch down, in a sprinter’s position, 15-feet away from first base. Your pitcher stands daydreaming, only 3-feet from first. You put on special gloves to slide into second base while your pitchers don jackets that create wind resistance. I judge you strictly on your mannerisms. I think it’s *reasonable* that my *suspicions* are aroused.”

“That’s B.S. If I had ‘pitcher-privilege’ you wouldn’t make me dive into first and risk injury- you positionist!”

As Sergio’s and Preppies’ voices elevated, homeplate umpire Gary Gannon closed in on the mound to break up the argument.

Vanderbilt pleaded his case: “I have to dive into first more than anyone on my team creating more injury potential. It’s because of my leadoff position in the batting order that Sergio profiles me. I’m just one of twenty-five players on my team. Thus, I represent 4% of my team and yet I receive 60% of my team’s pickoff attempts. That’s disproportionate and evidence of systemic positionism.”

Sergio countered, “Preppy, you learn that math at the University of Spoiled



Dodgers C #55 Russell Martin (R) steals second by getting by Angels SS #2 Erick Aybar (L) during the Angels vs Dodgers game at Dodgers Stadium on June 30th 2010 in Los Angeles.

Children? You are demanding that pick-off attempts have to be equally distributed amongst your team irrespective of the player’s speed or frequency of actually being on base?”

Umpire Gannon interceded: “Vanderbilt has made some valid points and the numbers do seem to be slanted against players in the leadoff position.”

“No those numbers are specious. Everyone knows Vanderbilt reaches first base four times more than any pitcher in the league. In fairness, the amount of the pickoff attempts I make should be compared to the players actually on the base-paths, and those hiding on the dugout bench should never be factored into this equation. Don’t let him cherry-pick the numbers!”

“Look how dirty my uniform is compared to my teammates? Its because of your bias against leadoff batters.”

Gannon weighed: “His pants are filthy. Have you considered the psychological effect on Vanderbilt?”

“Gary, that’s anecdotal!! Bochy only directs me into problem situations. When I enter a game, there’s always a threat on the bases. Yet, you compare my statistics to other pitchers who get to start fresh innings with no base-runners? Compare apples to apples before you draw conclusions.”

Gannon stroked his chin: “The frequent pick-off throws are obviously upsetting the leadoff batters’ self-esteem.”

“Preppy, have you ever heard me say anything derogatory to you as a leadoff hitter or to other leadoff hitters?”

“No, I haven’t.”

“Gary, you hear that? I have never been accused of disrespecting leadoff hitters. Please judge me on how I personally treat leadoff hitters on a case-by-case basis.”

“Yes, but I have to discourage these risky pickoff plays. My ruling, from this point forward, is that I am going to bundle pickoff attempts into three successes. If you successfully catch a base-runner off first base three times, those three successes will equal one out in the game.”

“You got to be kidding me? You are creating a disincentive to containing runners! The balance of the game is at stake!”

“There are disparities, therefore there must be prejudice against leadoff hitters. Now play ball!”

Up in the Giants’ radio booth, Kruk

and Kuiper conducted their postgame analysis and described how it was only the seagulls that remained to witness the conclusion of the 24-22, six-hour contest.

Mike Krukow chuckled, “But then again, those seagulls got to see a new baseball record of 34 stolen bases in a single game.”

Duane Kuiper closed: “Ya know, Mike –no one savors statistics more than I, but I can’t stand when players cherry-pick numbers that present an unfair portrayal of what really transpired. Just like the seagulls were the only ones staying for today’s disaster, our citizens remain to pay the burden when advocates skew figures just to advance their agenda and disparage public servants. Preppie Vanderbilt taking a gigantic lead and donning special sliding gloves is like the slowly moving car that continuously circles the city block despite ample parking spots. Both deserve greater scrutiny. It is inefficient for a pitcher to apply equal attentiveness to the base-runner standing only inches from a base as it

Kopp’s Voter Guide (Cont. from p. 3)

have been enacted by the Legislature, if meritorious. It prohibits the State from buying any prescription drug for more than the lowest price paid for that drug by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, while exempting managed care programs of MediCal. People more knowledgeable than I predict pharmaceutical companies will simply increase their prices to the Veterans Administration. **I will vote “No”** because I’m tired of abandonment of responsibility by the Assembly, Senate, and Governor, and because of opposition from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion, AMVETS, the California Medical Association, and American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Proposition 62, a repeat initiative, would repeal the death penalty for persons guilty of murder and replace it with life imprisonment without parole. It applies retroactively to persons already sentenced to death. I’m strongly against it and hope it loses again. **Relevant to 62 is Proposition 66. I do support Proposition 66**, a serious initiative to eliminate unconscionable delays in State court appeals of murder convictions and death penalty sentences. It establishes specific time limits for appellate court review, expands the number of court-appointed attorneys for death penalty appeals, and increases that portion of convicted murderers’ wages usable for victim restitution. Proposition 66 must be enacted. **Proposition 62 must be rejected.**

Proposition 63 represents yet another wasteful initiative. Most of its provisions were already enacted this year by the Legislature and Governor regarding removal of firearms from prohibited felons and certain misdemeanants, and licensing or possession and sales of ammunition, but our current Lieutenant Governor (and aspiring Governor), U.S. Senator, and other savants insist upon their own publicity-driven duplicative initiative. Tell them to stop grandstanding by defeating Proposition 63.

Proposition 64 legalizes marijuana use and sale to those 21 and older. If

is for a police officer to investigate a grandmother driving two miles over the speed limit. Sergio’s pick-off attempts on Preppie were actually proportional to his impact on the game.

“Also, like Sergio, if a rookie is specially assigned to a volatile, active area; their performance should never be compared to the veteran, who is coasting into retirement in the sleepy, fog-blanketed districts.

“Rudeness and prejudice do exist and are neither acceptable on the field nor on the street. However, each player or officer’s acts should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Ignoring exculpatory statistics, like weighing a benchwarmer’s impact the same as an all-star base-stealer’s, creates a false ratio and does not justify the demonization of the public safety officers that risk their lives to make our city a better place.”

Lou Barberini is a San Francisco CPA who lives and writes in West Portal: Lou.barberini@gmail.com

you like marijuana and think it’s good for society, I imagine you’ll vote for it. As a State Senator at the time medical marijuana was approved for pain and suffering, I suspected that would be a step to legalization. I’m proudly voting against Proposition 64.

Proposition 65 is yet another initiative which could’ve been done by the Legislature and Governor if it was so salubrious. It requires “single-use plastic carryout bag” (a thin plastic bag not intended for continued reuse) revenue be deposited in another new State special fund for various environmental purposes rather than retained by stores. Consider **Proposition 65 with Proposition 67**, which prohibits stores from providing single-use plastic or paper carryout bags to customers at point of sale and allows the sale of recycled bags to customers at 10 cents or more per bag. Propositions 65 and 67 conflict. If both pass, the one with more votes becomes effective with complicated results, which surely will create more bureaucracy, confusion and litigation. **The simple answer to both initiatives is rejection.** That’s my recommendation.

There are two other matters of state and federal implications on the ballot, the race for President of our country, and the campaign for U.S. Senate. One U.S. Senate candidate, **Attorney-General Kamala Harris**, has been accused in a pending federal court lawsuit by Prime Healthcare of corruption in effectively preventing the sale of Seton Hospital in Daly City. Her refusal as District Attorney to prosecute an illegal alien who killed three San Franciscans for capital punishment renders her particularly unequipped for such office. I’ll vote for **Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez**, daughter of legal immigrants who voted against the Iraq War and Wall Street bailouts. That’s good enough for me, and it should be enough for Californians to elect her. For President, I’ll exercise my ego and write myself in. So there!

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



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MOVIES in McCoppin

Fridays in October 2016 • McCoppin Square
Taraval Street and 23rd Ave • 6-9pm

Movies in McCoppin is a very popular event, featuring FREE movies and popcorn every Friday evening in October at McCoppin Square (Taraval Street and 23rd Avenue). Family fun and kids’ activities begin at 6:00pm, with movies beginning at 7:15pm (or upon sunset).

The movie line-up will be as follows:

- October 7th : Inside Out
- October 14th: Ant-Man
- October 21st: Hotel Transylvania 2
- October 28th: Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Movies in McCoppin is brought to you Katy Tang’s office, People of Parkside Sunset (POPS), the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, San Francisco Public Library, and Animal Care and Control. For more information, please visit the People of Parkside Sunset web site.

Let's Elect Our Elected Officials - YES on Prop D

By Larry Bush and Katherine Howard

It is really very simple — if a Supervisor position became vacant, then you, the district voters, would get to elect your interim Supervisor right away to fill out the term. Wait, you say. Don't we do that now? Well, actually, no. Right now the Mayor appoints the interim Supervisor, who serves until the next election. This appointment could last for a few weeks or, with the recent change in San Francisco election laws, up to two years.

What is wrong with this picture? First of all, the existing procedure violates the basic constitutional principle of separation of powers between the Executive and the Legislative branches. No other mayor of a major city or county in California does this, and even the Governor of California cannot unilaterally fill a vacant seat in the legislature.

Second, in terms of your own district interests, it gives the hand-picked appointee up to two years to vote the Mayor's way - which may not be your way - on the Board of Supervisors. The loss of separation of powers in the case of appointments by a mayor is not just a hypothetical concept. In an August 2016 public presentation, former Mayor Willie Brown stated that he told his appointees, "You are free to vote any way you wish when you're elected. But if I appoint you, you only have one constituent — and that's me."

Third, the existing mayoral appointment procedure gives the power of incumbency to the mayoral appointee. Incumbents generally have a head start over the other candidates through giving out favors, getting name recognition, and raising funds for their next campaign.

And, lastly, currently the Mayor can take as long as he or she wants in filling a position. This has resulted in long vacancies in elected offices. Some seats have remained vacant for months.

Opponents to Prop D say that there is no basis for recommending changes. Well, actually, there is. A little-known agency, the San Francisco Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), produced a report back in 2013. This report was called "Study on How Jurisdictions Fill Vacancies to Elected Offices Between Election Cycles." The LAFCo Report analyzed equivalent jurisdictions to learn how elected-position vacancies are filled. LAFCo found that the current ability of the San Francisco Mayor to unilaterally appoint a member of the legislative branch for the remainder of a term is inconsistent with practices in both large California cities and California counties. The report therefore concludes that: "... the City and County of San Francisco acts in a manner not consistent with the great majority of governing bodies. . . . More specifically, a governing body such as a Board of Supervisors, City Council, or

Board of Education, holds the discretion to either call for a special election or make an appointment to the vacancy . . .

"When we look at California's most populous cities, we again see a departure from what is more normative of practices used for filling vacancies in public offices. Of the ten cities surveyed here, no other city among the most populous grants total discretion for appointments, let alone without strict time parameters for action necessary, to one individual."

Proposition D works to correct that specific imbalance of powers between the Executive and Legislative branches of our City government:

1. Prop D would require that the Mayor select an appointee for all vacant elected offices within 28 days.

2. For the Supervisor seats, Prop D would require that the mayoral appointee be TEMPORARY. A Special Election would be held within a short period of time in your district, so that you could

decide whom you want to represent you right away.

3. The Mayor's TEMPORARY appointee would not be allowed to run in the Special Election. This would eliminate the power of incumbency and encourage an open election in which candidates

from outside of City Hall have a chance of at least being considered.

Opponents to Proposition D say that a Special Election could cost "millions." Well, actually, they are wrong about that, too. According to the Controller, it could cost about \$340,000 once every four years — that is \$85,000 a year, approximately \$.0009 % of San Francisco's annual \$9.6 billion budget. The price of democracy was never so little.

When could this new policy be applied? Very soon - in January, either Jane Kim or Scott Wiener will be relocating to Sacramento — and the Mayor gets to appoint their replacement. In Supervisor Kim's slot, the appointee will hold that position until the next election in June 2018. Unless we pass Proposition D.

Please join a broad spectrum of groups supporting Proposition D - including the Sierra Club, The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, the San Francisco Democratic Party, San Francisco Tomorrow, and the League of Women Voters.

Let's elect our elected officials - please vote YES on Proposition D!

Larry Bush and Katherine Howard

Voter's Beware: Don't Be Suckered

November Election Recommendations

By Patrick Monette-Shaw

With 42 local, regional, and state propositions, and a variety of elected officials' contests on the ballot, San Franciscans face a minefield casting votes on November 8.

I'm not telling you how to vote. Rather, these recommendations are to keep you from getting suckered at the ballot box.

Local Ballot Measures

A handful of the 25 local ballot measures deserve some discussion.

Prop. C: Loans to Finance Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing

Prop. C would amend uses of bonds voters approved in November 1992 to provide loans for the seismic safety and strengthening of unreinforced masonry buildings by expanding the program to finance permanent affordable housing to accommodate loans to at-risk multi-unit buildings to help maintain affordable housing for City residents. The City Controller says Prop. C would have a minimal impact on the cost of City government. **Vote Yes!**

Prop. D: Vacancy Appointments (on the Board of Supervisors)

Under America's "one person, one vote" system, it's totally undemocratic for residents in every City supervisorial district to allow the Mayor to appoint a permanent replacement Supervisor in the few times vacancies occur on the Board of Supervisors mid-term. Prop. D will require the City to hold a special election when there are vacancies on the Board of Supervisors, unless a regularly-scheduled election will be held within 180 days of the vacancy.

When a vacancy in California's legislature occurs, the Governor is required to call for, and schedule, a special election within 14 days to elect a replacement. When House of Representative vacancies occur, the U.S. Constitution requires any vacancy be filled by election, not appointment.

The Controller notes that during a typical four-year election cycle, there might be one additional special election for a seat on the Board of Supervisors. Based on Department of Elections' costs, the estimated expense would be just \$340,000 to hold a special election. Out of a \$9.7 billion City budget, that's a negligible amount. Don't be suckered: **Vote Yes!**

Prop. H: Public Advocate

Please see article "Support Housing Commission, Public Advocate" in September's *Westside Observer*, regarding creating an elected Public Advocate.

In addition to endorsements by the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN), the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, and San Francisco's Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC), other recent endorsements include San Francisco's League of Women Voters, San Francisco's Latino Democratic Club, eight other democratic clubs, the Green Party, the League of Pissed-Off Voters, several labor unions, State Senator Mark Leno, five current members of the Board of Supervisors, former Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, District Attorney George Gascón, former supervisor Bevan Dufty, DCCC chair Cindy Wu, and Tom O'Connor, president of Firefighters Local 798. Don't be suckered by Feinstein: **Vote Yes!**

Prop. I: Funding for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities (a.k.a., "Dignity Fund")

I am one of the few remaining advocates for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF's) left standing in San Francisco. It pains me deeply to oppose Prop. I.

The proposed Dignity Fund is a Charter change sponsored by Supervisor Malia Cohen voters should roundly reject. The City Controller's voter guide statement acknowledges Prop. I is not in compliance with our voter-adopted city policy regarding set-asides; instead Prop. I would create yet another set-aside, reducing General Funds for other purposes.

Over the 11 years of the proposed period, it will require additional contributions above and beyond the baseline \$38 million. In year two, an additional \$6 million will push the allocation to \$44 million, and will require an additional \$3 million in each year for nine years thereafter, through FY 2026–2027 when the appropriation will reach \$71 million annually. By FY 2026–2027 alone, the Dignity Fund will have been awarded a cumulative \$575 million, but nobody knows for what it will be used.

Why weren't categories of spending by planned use identified *prior* to placing this measure on the ballot by conducting a "community needs assessment," which hasn't been done? Isn't this the cart before the horse?

The Controller's voter guide statement also notes that in FY 2015–2016, the City's general fund budget for these services was approximately \$32 million. A follow-up records request to the Controller revealed that the proposed \$38 million will probably supplant, not supplement, the Department of Aging and Adult Service's (DAAS) existing budget, but it is unclear whether DAAS's current \$232.7 million budget (which grows to \$249.4 million next year) will continue — in effect meaning the Dignity Fund may essentially end up being a *supplement* to DAAS' existing budget.

A reasonable question is, if the City already has existing funding streams for these services that would be supplanted, why is the Dignity Fund needed to replace (supplant) existing sources of funding?

To hedge its bets, the legal text of Prop I specifically prohibits expending any funds from the Dignity Fund on medical health services (other than "behavioral" or mental health support services), and also expressly prohibits expending any of the \$575 million Dignity Fund on services provided by hospitals and long-term care institutions (particularly not long-term care skilled nursing facilities).

Over the past four fiscal years, the Department of Public Health has discharged at least 99 residents from Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center to out-of-county facilities, along with at least 132 patients from San Francisco General Hospital discharged



sffd150.org

The 150th Anniversary of San Francisco Fire Department

October 9th to 15th: Fire Prevention Week, including a Fire Station Open House on Saturday, October 15. This is an opportunity for the public to visit a local fire station and learn how best to prevent a fire in the home or work place.

October 17th: The Commissioning of the SFFD's new Fireboat. The event will officially name the Department's new state-of-the-art Fireboat with a Commissioning Ceremony. Details to follow.

November 5th and 6th: SFFD Film Festival. An organized, extended presentation of films with a "fire" theme, this event will be held at the San Francisco Public Library and will be free and open to the public however, attendees will need to register online to attend, registration will open two weeks October 23rd.

Patrick Monette-Shaw's

CLEAN & MEAN CHEAT SHEET

Prop C Affordable Housing ... YES

Prop D Vacancy Appointments ... YES

Prop H Public Advocate ... YES

Prop I Dignity Set-aside ... NO

Prop J Another Set-aside ... NO

Prop K Regressive Sales Tax ... NO

Prop M Housing Oversight ... YES

Prop P Housing Impediments ... NO

Prop S Yet Another Set-aside ... NO

Prop U Real Estate Speculation ... NO

District 7 Supervisor .. John Farrell

L-TARAVAL RAPID PROJECT UPDATE

By Supervisor Katy Tang



On September 20th, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation (SFMTA) Board of Directors approved the L-Taraval Rapid Project, which proposes changes to Taraval Street in order to improve pedestrian safety and transit reliability. The project includes boarding islands, a boarding zone pilot, parking relocation, stop removal and relocation, turn restrictions, transit-only lanes, traffic signals and pedestrian bulbs. For a detailed outline of all changes proposed, please visit www.munforward.com/l/.

Our office will continue to provide relevant updates during pilot evaluation, implementation and construction. Below is a summary of what was approved by the SFMTA Board of Directors.

Pilot programs: There are two elements of the L-Taraval Rapid Project that will be evaluated under a pilot program, and which will be implemented in January 2017.

Boarding Zone Pilot – This is an alternative to physical boarding islands and includes signage and painted advisories on the road. The Boarding Zone Pilot will be implemented at five inbound stops where no riders have been hit and where few people get off the train: 26th, 30th, 32nd, 35th and 40th Ave. The Boarding Zone Pilot will be studied for six months and the SFTMA will need to see 90% compliance or they will move forward with installing physical boarding islands. The SFMTA will be working closely with the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) to address enforcement and to increase awareness and education around the pilot program.

Transit-Only Lane – The SFMTA will also pilot the proposed transit-only lane in the center of Taraval Street in January 2017 and will study the effects of traffic on Taraval and side streets. These lanes will consist of wording on the road in white paint, rather than the usual “red carpet” (a full red lane).

We have asked the SFMTA to provide the public with information on the metrics and data associated with both

pilot programs, and community members should expect to hear about updates from our office or from the SFMTA.

Early implementation: In order to improve pedestrian safety and transit reliability immediately and before any physical construction takes place, the SFMTA will be consolidating stops along Taraval Street and installing “clear zones” (paint in the place of proposed boarding islands) in January 2017. Residents should expect to see the following stops removed in both inbound and outbound directions: 15th Avenue and 28th Avenue. In the outbound direction only: 22nd Avenue. In the inbound direction only: 24th Avenue. The SFMTA will no longer be removing the following stops: 35th (inbound only), 44th and 46th/Ulloa (inbound & outbound). The stops in both directions at 17th Avenue were also approved for removal, but the SFMTA Board gave staff direction to further review the inbound stop before going forward with removing it.

Perpendicular Parking: The SFMTA Board approved the proposed perpendicular parking to be implemented along Santiago and Ulloa Streets. However, our office has asked SFMTA staff to immediately conduct a parking assessment along Taraval Street to see whether the proposed parking along Santiago and Ulloa Streets are necessary. Pending the parking evaluation on Taraval Street, perpendicular parking may be implemented as soon as

Cont. p. 23

Voter Recommendations (Cont. from p. 6)

out-of-county not admitted to LHH. That totals 231 out-of-county discharges over just four years.

The out-of-county patient dumping is due in part because the City eliminated 420 beds from the LHH replacement facility rebuild, and eliminated the proposed Assisted Living beds promised for LHH’s campus. If the City can afford to set aside \$575 million from the General Fund for the Dignity Fund, the City can well afford to either build the assisted living facility or LHH’s now missing 420 skilled nursing beds for those who would prefer *not* being dumped out-of-county.

Don’t be suckered by Supervisor Cohen: **Vote No!**

Prop. J: Funding for Homelessness and Transportation

The City Controller’s voter guide statement acknowledges Prop. J is also not in compliance with the voter-adopted city policy regarding set-asides; instead Prop. J would create yet another set-aside, reducing General Funds for other purposes. And the budget set-aside over the life of this measure would cost a staggering \$3.62 billion.

For the Homelessness part of this ballot measure, over the 25-year period of this Charter change through FY 2040–2041, \$1.21 *billion* would be redirected from the General Fund to a new Homeless Housing and Services Fund.

For the Transportation part of this ballot measure, over the same 25-year period, \$2.41 *billion* would either be redirected from the General Fund to a new Transportation Improvement Fund, or alternatively, the ballot measure authorizes the City to issue lease revenue bonds or lease financing arrangements for certain categories in the Transportation Improvement Fund, plus debt on the bonds.

Up to 32.9% of annual appropriations into the fund would be directed to street resurfacing, rather than actually being budgeted in the City budget. Don’t be suckered: **Vote No!**

Prop. K: General Sales Tax

Prop. K would increase the local sales tax rate by 0.75% (three-quarters of one percent) as of April 2017, for twenty-five years. The three-quarter cent tax is a general tax; proceeds would be deposited into the General Fund for any use.

This is a regressive tax that will hurt low-income and middle-income San Franciscans the hardest, and will likely drive more people to shop outside of the City limits, hurting San Francisco’s small businesses.

Board President London Breed’s September 2016 newsletter claims the sales tax measure “will bring in \$12 million for homelessness programs.” There’s nothing in the Controller’s voter guide statement, the legal text of Prop. K, or the Legislative Digest saying that any of the sales tax will carve out \$12 million for homeless services and programs.

Worse, the City’s current year “balanced” budget hinges on passage of the sales tax in November. If it fails, the City’s budget will instantly become “unbalanced,” with the City facing a huge hole of \$37.5 million this year, and another \$155.1 million hole next year. Don’t be suckered: **Vote No!**

Prop. M: Housing and Development Commission

Please see article “Support Housing Commission, Public Advocate” in the September *Westside Observer*, regarding creating a commission having oversight of the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development.

In addition to endorsements in favor of “Prop. M” by CSFN, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, San Francisco’s Latino Democratic Club, and the DCCC, other recent endorsements include the San Francisco Community Land Trust, the San Francisco Council of Community Housing Organizations whose co-directors are housing experts Peter Cohen and Fernando Marti, former Mayor Art Agnos, former Supervisors Sophie Maxwell and Bevan Dufty, and D-1 Supervisorial candidate Sandra Lee Fewer. Don’t be suckered: **Vote Yes!**

Prop. P: Competitive Bidding for Affordable Housing on City-Owned Property

The Association of Realtors spent more than \$250,000 to pay for petition signatures to qualify Prop. P and Prop. U for the ballot. Developers and real-estate speculators are behind both measures. The City Controller’s statement in the voter guide says that the proposed ordinance would require that the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) receive at least three bids or proposals, and accept the “best value” proposal (determined at the sole discretion of MOHCD), for any affordable housing project on City-owned property.

MOHCD is not to be trusted on any “sole discretion” basis unless and until a Housing Commission is created having oversight of MOHCD. Don’t be suckered by the Association of Realtors: **Vote No!**

Prop. S: Allocation of Hotel Tax Funds (for Homeless Families and Arts)

Prop. S will dedicate a portion of the City’s hotel tax revenue that is currently available for any public purpose to specific services that support the arts and homeless families. It’s yet another budget set-aside that will reduce General Funds available for other purposes.

The City Controller’s statement on Prop. S says it will have a significant impact on the cost of government. The Controller reports that the City’s hotel tax revenue that is currently available for any public purpose would be shifted to specific services supporting the arts and homeless families, and as funds are shifted to other purposes, other City spending would have to be reduced or new revenues identified to maintain current service levels.

Budget allocations for public transit, youth services, libraries, and schools previously adopted by voters would be reduced by approximately \$24 million in FY 2020–2021, and another \$32 million would be shifted in FY 2020–2021 from the City’s general fund discretionary budget. Losing \$56 million involves big bucks. Don’t be suckered: **Vote No!**

Prop. U: Affordable Housing Requirements for Market-Rate Development Projects

The proponent of Prop. U is Thomas A. Hsieh. Both Tom Hsieh, Sr. and his son Thomas Hsieh, Jr. who is a member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC), and a key ally of real estate lobbyists, have taken out paid arguments in the voter guide supporting Prop. U.

Prop. U was developed to help out real estate speculators in San Francisco, principally by increasing the maximum household income limit for on-site affordable rental housing units from 55% of area median income (AMI) to 110% of AMI. It allows landlords to double the rent on future and *existing* affordable housing units, encourages evictions for higher rents, and pits low-income against middle-income San Franciscans.

The City Controller’s voter guide statement also indicates that increasing the household income limit for affordable rental housing units will probably result in increased rental income for property owners.

Prop. U’s Official Opponents in the voter guide includes the San Francisco Council of Community Housing Organizations (housing experts Peter Cohen and Fernando Marti), CSFN, former City Attorney Louise Renne, former Supervisor Bevan Dufty, and many others. Don’t be suckered by real estate lobbyists: **Vote No!**

Board of Supervisor Seats District 7

Candidate-for-Supervisor Joel Engardio comically claimed during the recent West of Twin Peaks Central Council D-7 candidate debate and again in the *San Francisco Examiner* on September 18, '16 that San Francisco has “30,000 *employees*.” He whined that we’ve added more employees since 2010. Engardio isn’t telling you the whole truth.

The City may have 30,000 so-called “Full-Time Equivalents” (FTE’s), but the City actually has 40,397 full- and part-time *employees* as of June 30, 2016 who are creatively “averaged” into FTE’s. By converting 21,933 part-time employees, over half of all City employees, into the magical-thinking number of 12,179 FTE’s, Engardio and the *Chronicle* essentially eliminated 9,754 part-timers who had been “averaged” into FTE status

If Engardio doesn’t know the true number of City employees, why should D-7 residents elect him their Supervisor?

Although Engardio frets about the number of employees added since 2010, he won’t publicly admit that 8,620 of the additional full and part-time employees added to the City’s payroll were added under the watch of Mayor Ed “hiring binge” Lee, or that those additional employees represent fully 27.1% of the City’s now 40,397 employee headcount. Alternatively, the 8,620 full- and part-time employees represent 6,414 additional FTE’s added under Lee’s watch. Why isn’t candidate Engardio calling for a thorough audit of the number of employees or number of FTE’s Mayor “Hiring-Binge” Lee has added to the City budget during his tenure since he assumed office?

Engardio also took out a paid argument in the voter guide supporting Prop. U, claiming we need to protect neighborhoods from the “pressures of the housing market.” That’s comical: It’s his trickle-down theory of market-rate housing to allow landlords to double the rent on future and *existing* affordable housing units. Those who face the “pressures of the housing market” will be low-income, pitted against middle-income San Franciscans.

D-7 rejected Engardio in 2012 by an overwhelming majority; he came in fourth. Don’t be suckered by Engardio: **Vote for John Farrell**, who understands the difference between FTE’s and actual employees!

Well, these are my recommendations. You have a month to figure out how you’ll vote for everything else on the jam-packed ballot.

An expanded version of this article will be posted on the Westside Observer’s web site. The full version will be available on www.stopLHHdownsize.com, along with a clip-and-save cheat sheet of all 25 local measures, and candidate races, to use casting your ballots.

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. He can be contacted at monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com

Commentary

It's a Bird — It's a Plane — It's SFPUC Salaries!

By Steve Lawrence



SFPUC employs more than 2500. Median salary is \$92,762. Add benefits worth \$36,669. And sometimes overtime.

The General Manager makes salary of \$326,000, total \$420,000. All figures are for 2015/16, and following figures are in thousands, and are examples; not every employee so categorized makes the same. When one figure is given it is total compensation, including salary and benefits; when two figures are given, the first is salary, the second is total compensation with benefits and possibly overtime too. Account clerk 88.9, accountant II 118.9, accountant III 139.3, accountant IV 162.9, administrative analyst 121.2, administrative engineer 198.6, associate engineer 235.9, clerk typist 87, executive secretary 127, communications systems tech 190, construction inspector 100.4 / 204.4, coordinator of citizen involvement 110.9 / 160, engineer 134 / 191.7, engineer 174 / 236, engineer 180 / 266, IT operations support 113.5 / 160, junior engineer 88 / 127.5, manager 216.9 / 296, planner 127.4 / 174.7, project manager 187.5 / 253, public relations officer 95.2 / 137.7, safety officer 136 / 188.6, senior construction inspector 110.7 / 199.2, water service inspector 100.6 / 150.9.

The take-away is that not only are our bureaucrats quite well fed, but also (last month's column) they are generous with spending your hard-earned dollars in plenty of ways.

Rate revenues must recover costs. That's basic.

Greens believe water is too cheap. Fourteen years ago voters abandoned their right and duty to approve or disapprove SFPUC debt spending. So it's little wonder that in an increasingly wealthy city SFPUC bureaucrats go a little hog wild. Progressives might prefer to oppose high rates—but for their alliance with Greens. In return, Greens, who might promote urban living over suburban, abjure the urban development progressives abhor. The third partner in the alliance, Liberals, are for civil rights and unions; African-Americans receive “community benefits,” and they and unions get SFPUC jobs. So while Greens, Libs, and Progressives ally to each obtain from government (SFPUC) what they want, rate-payers get...the bill.

SFPUC has adopted a new debt policy. While in general its finance folk are excellent, hailing from Ed Harrington, this is the fourth revision in six years; policy tends toward more and more discretion. Board of Supervisors need no longer approve issuance of bonds (by two-thirds vote). (Bonds are debt.) The General Manager has discretion to sell bonds without competitive bidding. Need SFPUC own the capital improvements for which it issues debt? It is not apparent. Green bonds are specially enabled for renewables; revenues (rates) must pay them back. Need SFPUC take bids for its debt-financed work? No; a billion dollar project is to be awarded without, to a “construction manager/

general contractor.”

Debt for the water and sewer systems now exceeds \$5 billion. While the big program for water approaches completion, that for the sewer system is in beginning stages: 11% of the \$7 billion projected cost has been spent so far. More debt will be sold as the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) progresses. On a per capita basis, you already owe \$5880 for water and sewer stuff, with that to more than double as the SSIP progresses. Thank you for your generous support!

Last month's column reviewed extravagances of SFPUC (the city department providing water, sewer, power service). Rates must cover those costs.

Drought: As of September 3 our water system had 380 billion gallons stored. The system uses about 77 billion gallons per year; more than four years' worth are stored.

Streetlights: San Francisco has about 44,000 street lights, and they are changing. LED lights are being installed to use less energy, lower maintenance cost, and provide jobs. Nearly one-thousand have been installed by SFPUC; more are coming. SFPUC owns 57% of the street lights; PG&E owns 43%. In addition, some poles will be licensed — will have extensions — which will provide revenues of a couple of million dollars per year. Generally the process of changing a cobra lightbulb to LED is one that takes under an hour, and disrupts the neighborhood minimally. However, if additional work is indicated, it can take much longer and be more disruptive.

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

Letters to the Editor

Re: (Sept. '16) Prop C - A Lot of Bang for the Bucks by George Wooding and Peter Cohen

San Francisco has the opportunity to make an innovative investment in the future safety of our existing housing stock without imposing new taxes on property owners. For the past 25 years, city officials have been pondering how to free \$261million in unissued but already approved bond monies for city priorities.

I have identified a pathway forward – without raising taxes.

With the unanimous support of my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors, as well as Mayor Lee, I have placed Proposition C on the November 8th ballot for the voters' consideration. Prop C expands the eligible uses of the voter-approved 1992 seismic safety bond to also include fire safety, electrical and habitability and code upgrades for the city's most vulnerable housing stock.

It protects neighborhoods by increasing the safety of these older buildings while preserving the neighborhood character that is unique to each corner of the city. It provides stronger oversight provisions than the original 1992 bond, including greater taxpayer accountability and monitoring.

Most importantly, it would be a valuable investment in our city's Small Site Acquisition & Rehabilitation program, which is sorely underfunded and has been a proven asset in keeping families in San Francisco.

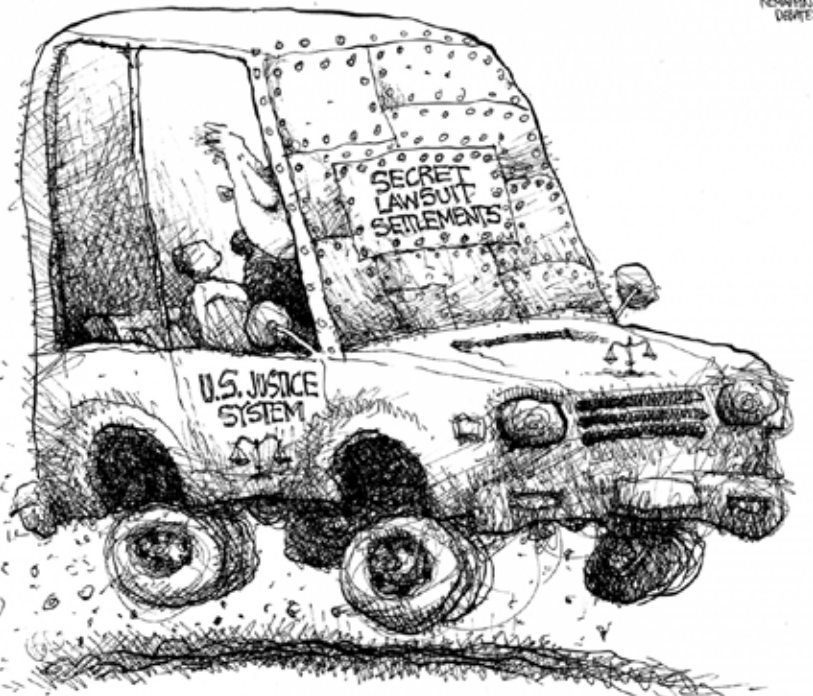
We are proud to have the support of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein who said:

“After Loma Prieta, voters passed a bond to seismically retrofit buildings at risk in an earthquake. Today, we can expand that 24 year-old program to save more at-risk buildings. Save housing, without new taxes, by voting Yes on C.”

Senator Feinstein is joined by State Senator Mark Leno, former Mayor Art Agnos, Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma and SFFD Chief Joanne Hayes-White in saying: YES on C. With earthquake and fire safety on everyone's mind, it's a smart investment in the City's future.

—Supervisor Aaron Peskin

Design Defect



My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2016



OCTOBER SURPRISES.

Something craven infects political candidates as the days dwindle down to a precious few, especially when prospects for victory appear slimmer than an emaciated giraffe in a fun house mirror. It may be darkest before the dawn, but for those scheduled to be executed at first light, the darkness triggers a kind of dastardly creativity that those made of lesser stuff might characterize as desperation.

The late hour slandering of an opponent has come to be called the October Surprise and considering the volatile history of this year's campaign we should be prepared for copious disclosures of gargantuan proportions. Not mere October Surprises, but October Lightning Bolts Tossed by Odin Himself, October 80 Megaton Hydrogen Bombshells and October Exposes That Will Make Your Mouth Hang Open Long Enough To Attract Bottle Flies.

And with one week of November in the mix this time around, even more delicious salacious wickedness awaits. Here's a sample of the advertent and inadvertent we can expect in the final five weeks of this-The Most Important Election of Your Lifetime. Yes. Again.

OCTOBER 2.

Breitbart News discovers that when the first words of Hillary Clinton's deleted emails from October of 2009 are arranged chronologically, a love letter to Lucifer is revealed in which she calls him “Smoochie.”

OCTOBER 3.

Moveon.org posts a video of Donald Trump shouting the phrase “You're fired” to photos of family members.

OCTOBER 4.

During the Vice Presidential debate, moderators and Longwood University audience members inexplicably fall asleep. Later the CDC dubs the new phenomenon “MDHS: Mass Droning Hypnosis Syndrome” and urges the FCC to prohibit future events from being broadcast on car radios.

OCTOBER 8.

Fox News interviews a high school classmate of Hillary Clinton, who recalls the future Secretary of State going door to door supporting Barry Goldwater and referring to Lyndon Johnson as “a southern-fried booger.”

OCTOBER 10.

Photographs showing Donald Trump

poking a group of special needs preschoolers with a stick are laughed off by the candidate as “political correctness run amuck.” His poll numbers rise.

OCTOBER 14.

On route to a campaign stop in South Carolina, Hillary Clinton rushes into a burning building to rescue a litter of newborn kittens. Her poll numbers do not budge.

OCTOBER 22.

Donald Trump explains that pushing an old lady in a wheelchair down a flight of stairs was a therapeutic attempt to jar loose her cramped muscles. His poll numbers rise.

OCTOBER 24.

Bill Clinton is revealed to have adopted the Twitter handle “Carlos Danger Jr.”

OCTOBER 26.

Hillary Clinton trips on a curb and Sean Hannity calls for her withdrawal due to her obvious incurable case of metastasized brain cancer. Her poll numbers drop.

OCTOBER 28.

Murky footage from a surveillance camera of Donald Trump shooting a stranger in the middle of Fifth Avenue in New York City racks up 3 million hits on Youtube in 4 hours. His poll numbers rise.

NOVEMBER 1.

A report surfaces that Donald Trump has a calendar in which October has 32 days. The candidate agrees many people have told him this. Important people. Top people. Despite evidence to the contrary, supporters feel in their heart that it must be true and make plans to vote a day late.

NOVEMBER 8. Trump loses.

Copyright © 2016, Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed columnist, comedian and former tour guide. Calendar of appearances including his new one-man show, Elect to Laugh: 2016, every Tuesday at SF Marsh, and Sep 29-Oct 1 in CO— willdurst.com.

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SF BUSINESS VOTES

NOVEMBER 2016 VOTING GUIDE





Join the **San Francisco Chamber of Commerce**
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VOTE YES

- PROP A** Funds public school repairs, new campuses & teacher housing
- PROP E** Protects street trees at no cost to property owners
- PROP O** Encourages needed development and brings jobs to the Bayview
- PROP P** Requires competition, lowering costs to build affordable housing
- PROP Q** A commonsense solution to sidewalk encampments
- PROP R** Dedicates police staffing to reduce neighborhood crime
- PROP U** Ensures middle-income families qualify for affordable housing
- PROP 67** Encourages use of reusable shopping bags

VOTE NO

Props D, H, L and M are a political power grab.

Join Mayors Feinstein, Jordan, Brown, Newsom and Lee!

VOTE NO ON D, H, L AND M!

- PROP K** Raising the sales tax hurts small businesses
- PROP W** Higher taxes that increase rent for residents & small businesses
- PROP X** Ballot box zoning makes our housing shortage worse
- PROP 65** Save our reusable shopping bag laws

For the full Voting Guide, visit sfchamber.com/votingguide.

**Paid for by SF Forward sponsored by
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Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org

SFPD Rolls Out October Speed Limit Enforcement Plan

Citywide Effort Part of New Campaign to Reduce Unsafe Speeds on High-Crash Streets

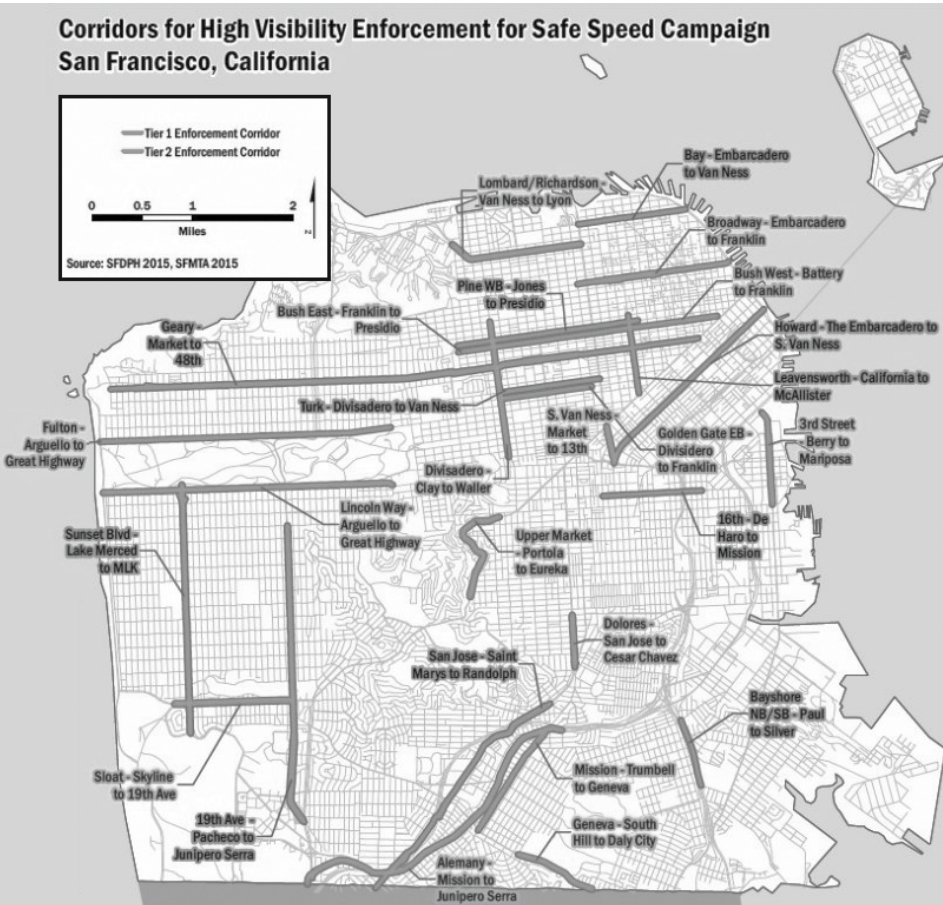
The San Francisco Safe Speeds Campaign will begin this October and will continue through the fall of 2017.


SFPD will be enforcing the speed limits on targeted areas that have high speeding and collision rates that were identified by the SFMTA, Department of Public Health, and SFPD.

The goal of the Safe Speeds Campaign is to protect pedestrians who walk or bike, as they account for over half of the traffic deaths in San Francisco. A citywide map of the areas being enforced will be shared with the public in hope of spreading awareness to change dangerous driving habits.


When the Safe Speeds SF campaign ends in fall 2017, city agencies will have new data and analysis about the role of enforcement in citywide speed deterrence. The map below portrays the corridors for High Visibility Enforcement for Safe Speed Campaign. Visit the Safe Speeds SF Campaign website for more information:

www.sfmta.com/about-sfmta/blog/safe-speed-ads-hit-airwaves





City and County of San Francisco
Department of Elections



Are you Ready for Election Day?

November 8, 2016

Prepare


- Register to Vote by October 24
- Check your registration sfelections.org/tools/reglookup
- Complete a Voter Registration Card or registertovote.ca.gov

Plan


- Read your Voter Information Pamphlet mailed in October or voterguide.sfelections.org
- Save time voting by using a Ballot Worksheet from the Department of Elections, in your Voter Information Pamphlet, or sfelections.org


Participate

- Vote at City Hall
October 11 - November 8
- Vote by Mail
New requests due by November 1
- Vote at your Polling Place on Election Day. Find yours sfelections.org/pollsite



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P & U Housing Solutions

Supervisor Mark Farrell

The affordable housing crisis has been the topic of conversation and focus of headlines for years – with implications that stretch far beyond rental rates and home prices. The affordability crisis threatens our City’s work force, cultural diversity, and school system, to name just a few.

As Budget Chair, I’ve overseen record-setting investment in expanding our affordable housing supply to help tackle this crisis. But to make the most of this investment, we must have common-sense policies in place that guide our efforts.

That’s why I’m supporting Propositions U and P this November. Both measures will help give more San Franciscans access to affordable housing options, and will be vital steps in preserving the City’s spirit and vitality.

Proposition U addresses the housing needs of working and middle-income residents, who are currently struggling to afford the sky-rocketing housing prices but also do not currently qualify for affordable units. While San Francisco has spent millions to build new affordable housing over the past decade, only 8% of our below-market-rate rental units are available to middle-income residents. This has led to a drastic decline in the City’s middle-income population. Teachers, nurses, artists, construction workers, food service workers, and first responders are forced to move out of San Francisco because they simply can’t afford it.

Proposition U will expand the income requirements for individuals and families who can qualify for below-market-rate units, allowing households who make up to 110% of the Bay Area median income to qualify for certain affordable housing units. This will allow two person households making up to \$94,750 and four person families making up to \$106,650 annually to enter the lottery for designated below-market-rate units, while ensuring that any household that secures a unit will pay no more than 30% of their income on rent. In other words, this measure gives working and middle-income families a fighting chance to stay in San Francisco.

While Proposition U allows more San Franciscans to access affordable housing, Proposition P promises to make the process by which the City builds affordable units more efficient and transparent. Today, the cost to build an affordable housing unit in San Francisco often exceeds the cost to build a luxury condo because market-rate developments undergo a competitive bid process while our affordable units are built without the same regard for price.

Under the current system, the Mayor’s Office of Housing invites developers to submit competing proposals for affordable housing projects; however, most projects get only one bid, and as a result, there is insufficient competition, which leads to more expensive construction. In fact, the vast majority of projects in the past five years have been rewarded to the same handful of developers that know how to work the system.

Proposition P will change this. It will require the City to consider at least three competing bids before awarding a contract for an affordable housing project, taking into account each bid’s proposed community-design process, the sustainability

Cont. p. 11

Don’t Be Fooled – P & U are Bad for Affordable Housing

By Fernando Marti

In the midst of the worst housing crisis in our City’s history, a coalition of nonprofit housing advocates and public policy leaders are developing innovative and significant ways to expand affordable housing options for low- and middle-income San Franciscans. Unfortunately, at the same time, voters are now faced with two misguided and poorly crafted measures by the San Francisco Realtors that threaten to reverse our hard-fought progress: Propositions P and U on the November ballot.

One claims it will “lower the costs” of building affordable housing. The other says it will create more affordable housing for “middle-class families.”

But **don’t be fooled**. These propositions by the Realtors don’t create a single new unit of affordable housing. They *will*, however, take affordable housing options away from the City’s families who are most at risk, stall the creation of new housing, and lower the quality of projects that are built. They are developer and real estate giveaways, plain and simple, that will hurt everyday San Franciscans.

Prop P – Less Affordable Housing, More Shoddy Housing

The Realtors’ Proposition P claims to lower the cost of building affordable housing by requiring the City’s housing department to collect three proposals for any affordable housing project before being able to move forward. In reality, Prop P is a “solution” looking for a problem that doesn’t exist and will in reality only hamstringing the City at a time when not a day can afford to be wasted from building urgently needed affordable housing. In fact, the City already has a proven competitive bidding process that takes several criteria into account, including cost, experience with similar projects, quality of design, and the extent to which the proposal fits community needs. The result has been thousands of high quality homes and the creation and enhancement of vibrant, healthy neighborhoods.

Under Proposition P, the City will be forced to go the low road, taking any proposals regardless of their quality and potentially ending up with shoddy “affordable” housing. It could even pave the way for big out of town and private developers to build our City’s “affordable” housing. We already have plenty of experience with “low-cost” housing – concrete blocks of low-quality housing built on the cheap in past decades. San Francisco doesn’t need more shoddy housing that we have to fix later, especially when our existing process results in high quality, well-constructed homes. This is a dangerous step backwards for affordable housing.


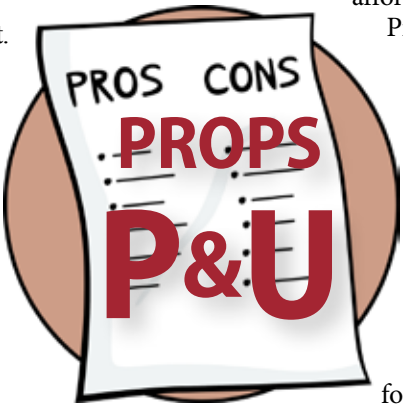
This San Francisco Realtors’ measure also has the potential to stop some affordable homes from being built in the first place. In their analysis of the measure, the Mayor’s Office of Housing said Proposition P could “indefinitely stall a development opportunity or delay much-needed affordable housing.”

Prop P is dangerous ballot-box planning that removes the City’s ability to continue making thoughtful and timely decisions, and will end up with less affordable housing for San Francisco.

Prop U – Developer Give-Away that Divides San Franciscans

Last June, voters overwhelmingly supported Proposition C, the increase to the

Cont. p. 11





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Campaign Violations - Mark Farrell (Cont. from p. 1)

Farrell did not authorize Respondent Lee, as an agent of the Farrell Committee, to coordinate with Respondent CSV.” The FPPC recognized Farrell’s responsibility for his agent’s actions, but voted 3 to 1 finding Lee “most responsible.” Lee was fined \$14,500 for enabling CSV “to send out hit-pieces on opponents without disclosing its association with the candidate.”

Ethics Commission Asserts Itself: As a State agency, the FPPC couldn’t address the City’s \$500 limit on campaign contributions. Its \$14,500 fine for influencing \$221,500 in “independent” expenditures - 44% of all pro-Farrell spending - was hardly a deterrent. After inertly participating in the 4-year FPPC probe, former Ethics Director John St. Croix notified Farrell on 12/9/14 that CSV expenditures beyond \$500 were considered donations to his campaign. Since CSV reported spending \$43,399 supporting Farrell and \$148,004 opposing Reilly, Farrell had to forfeit the \$190,903 exceeding the \$500 limit. When Reilly’s attorney, Charles Bell, demanded additional penalties for the “phenomenal abuse” of City campaign laws, it sparked a duel with Farrell’s attorney Jim Sutton.

In a series of meetings before skeptical Ethics Commissioners, Sutton insisted his client had been “completely exonerated” by the FPPC, and that the 4-year statute of limitations for City campaign law violations had expired. He portrayed Farrell as a novice, reliant on his consultant, and unaware of campaign violations - until his FPPC interrogation in 2012. Sutton deemed the forfeiture demand unprecedented and inapt because Farrell never held the money that CSV collected. Further, Farrell had cooperated with the FPPC – in full view of Ethics staff who failed to take timely action. Bell countered that Farrell was liable for his agent Lee’s violations, and that the “fraudulent concealment” of his wrongdoing extended the deadline for legal action. For example, Farrell never corrected his campaign reports to show that CSV was controlled by his campaign. And since CSV was controlled by Farrell’s campaign, it *was* his money.

Then came a schism between the Ethics Commission, its Executive Director and the City Attorney’s Office. Behind the scenes, the City Attorney declined to pursue a civil claim against Farrell, citing the statute of limitations. Remarkably, the commissioners forged ahead with their forfeiture demand. Then St. Croix caved, drafting a one-sentence waiver citing “statute of limitations concerns.” On 4/27/15 the commissioners decided that they, not the

Director, had the final say on the waiver. The Deputy City Attorney assigned to Ethics cautioned he was “unaware” of any precedent for the Commission to “adjudicate” its Director’s waivers. The City Attorney had long sought to confine commissioners to setting policies while letting department heads implement them. Per Administrative Code section 2A.30; “Each department head shall be immediately responsible for the administration of his or her department.” But the Charter empowers commissioners to appoint and remove department heads, and overrule administrative decisions, as long as they do so through the department head. To Commissioner Keane, granting the waiver would be “shameful and unconscionable” for “one of the most egregious campaign violations that have come before us.” The commissioners shunned a formal hearing – an avenue limited to a \$5,000 fine. Lamenting that they hadn’t been apprised of the FPPC investigation until it ended, they rejected St. Croix’s minimalist waiver and

“In a series of meetings before skeptical Ethics Commissioners, Sutton insisted his client had been “completely exonerated” by the FPPC, and that the 4-year statute of limitations for City campaign law violations had expired.

demanded an explanatory one.

On 6/5/15 St. Croix’s revised waiver explained that without “... evidence before it that you committed an act of fraud...the Commission has decided to waive the demand for forfeiture.” Except it hadn’t. Again, the commissioners spurned the waiver. Commissioner Keane asked; “If Farrell is imploring waiver, why has he not come before us,” adding “Farrell could waive the statute of limitations and defend his integrity at a Hearing.” None of the commissioners believed Farrell was clueless about CSV’s machinations in his behalf. As summarized by Keane, the idea that “...Lee was able to solicit \$191,000 without Farrell’s involvement isn’t credible.” They held Farrell accountable for Lee’s misconduct because Lee acted within Farrell’s agency as his campaign consultant. Sutton decried their over-ruling of St. Croix by interpreting the Campaign & Gov’t Conduct Code: 1.168(c)(4) as “solely” authorizing the Executive Director to waive forfeitures. Ethics Chair Paul Renne asserted the Commission’s “inherent” right to overrule its Director. Otherwise, “we, as a Commission,

are just a bunch of supernumeraries,” Keane added.

The forfeiture demand was referred to the Treasurer’s Bureau of Delinquent Revenue for collection. Sutton stone-walled until 11/4/15, then rebuffed it because the FPPC “concluded that Supervisor Farrell did nothing wrong.” The Treasurer sought guidance on the impasse. On 4/25/16 a frustrated Commissioner Keane asserted that the Farrell campaign “took illegal contributions and laundered them” through CSV. After closed session deliberations, Ethics decided to sue Farrell. Four days later, Farrell sued Ethics. On 5/23/16, Ethics instructed the City Attorney “to file a cross complaint” to recover the \$190,093.

Farrell’s Money as Speech Defense:

Farrell’s lawsuit emphasizes the statute of limitations expiration, the FPPC stipulation targeting Lee, the unfairness of forfeiting funds he never held, and the denial of due process without a formal Ethics hearing. The City’s cross-complaint alleges that Farrell engaged in “concealment” and was “personally involved in coordination with CSV, and was aware of Lee’s activities in this regard.” Since Farrell blamed Lee for going “rogue,” it asks why “Farrell has never explained Lee’s motivation for acting in such an allegedly unauthorized manner,” and why Farrell “should not ultimately be held responsible for the actions of all persons working for his campaign.”

In a First Amendment twist, Sutton fired off a “Special Motion to Strike” the City’s cross-complaint for violating Farrell’s freedom of speech. His tightly-woven 7/18/16 plea contends that the City’s case is untenable; ergo, Farrell is being victimized “because he exercised his constitutional rights to run and campaign for office.” On 7/29/16 the City defended its enforcement of contribution limits, adding that campaign law violations are not protected rights. Sutton replied that since the City’s allegations are unproven and Farrell “vehemently denies” them, the City is persecuting Farrell for “raising and spending funds to be used to communicate with voters about policy issues and his qualifications for office.” Ten days before the scheduled 10/3/16 Superior Court hearing - a settlement proposal; Farrell offered to pay \$25,000.

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: watchdogs@westsideobserver.com

1. Case # CGC16551745
2. WSO, July '16 - westsideobserver.com/news/watchdog.html#jul16



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Money Matters By Brandon Miller

A Checklist for Retiring Abroad

Do you dream about retiring in another country? It is an intriguing option for some who feel like they are ready for a new experience to go with the freedom of retirement. Whether you're looking for a favorable climate, less expensive living costs, or specific cultural or recreational opportunities, retiring abroad could be for you.

No matter what the inspiration may be, it is not a matter to be taken lightly. Do your homework and become as familiar as you can with your dream environment before making a final decision. Read on for a few things you'll want to consider.

Get a true feel of what it will be like to live in a new country

It is easy to become infatuated with a particular location as your future home when you visit on vacation. But there is a big difference between being a tourist and a resident. Think about how your day-to-day routine would change and what elements you'd like to stay the same, such as going to the gym or volunteering. If you know others who have retired abroad, ask them about their experience making the transition overseas.

Determine what's required to gain residency

If you are seeking to become a full-time resident overseas, you will have to determine the requirements. Alternately, understand the laws of the country (and they vary) to be an American resident living in that country on a fulltime basis.

Consider your living options

Will you want to buy a home or will renting be a better option? Renting may be wiser if you want to take some time to better acquaint yourself with your new surroundings before locking yourself into a purchase. Consider what happens as well if you purchase a home and then plans don't work out and you decide to move back to the U.S.

Learn about medical services

As we grow older, the need for health care services tends to rise. While many

countries have nationalized health care systems that cover residents, you may or may not be eligible to participate. Medicare won't cover treatment overseas, so a separate insurance plan may be required. If you think you may return to live in the U.S. one day, you may want to keep paying Medicare premiums to maintain future eligibility for the program. Also check on the quality of health care services in your intended new home to determine if medical capabilities meet your expectations.

Review financial matters

Determine how the currency exchange rate will affect your expenses. Keep in mind that your expenses may vary, particularly if you want to travel within your new region or rely on public transportation. You may want to transfer some money to a bank account in your new country, although electronic banking services today make it easy to access funds when you are outside the U.S. At the very least, you will need to continue filing a tax return in the U.S. and potentially paying U.S. taxes as well, though this can vary depending on your country of choice.

Choosing where to retire is a big decision. While thinking through the items above is a good place to start, consult the U.S. State Department's website for more considerations. Visit www.travel.state.gov and search for the topic "retirement abroad."

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



DENSIFICATION WARNING

By Rose Hilson, Laurel Heights Improvement Assn.



San Francisco residents defeated Mayor Lee's and Supervisor Tang's attempt to rezone all but the Residential Housing-1 and -2 areas under the Affordable Housing Bonus Program (AHBP), a densification idea. AHBP's goal: Increase the permissible density of housing units at the expense of neighborhood character by allowing developers to receive accommodation around existing Planning Code regulations using a "one size fits all" approach. Vigilant neighbors and small business owners held in abeyance the AHBP.

Although a 100% AHBP did pass, the rest of the AHBP including its design guidelines haven't been approved yet.

With recent state legislation, the City is now focused on liberalizing zoning guidelines that modify the permissible building volume and density. One such attempt to seek to liberalize and leave subject to broader interpretations is the proposed "Urban Design Guidelines" (UDG) which permits waivers to allow the equivalent of spot-zoning by waiver. The UDG also is a clone of the previously introduced AHBP Design Guidelines (AHBPDG). Clarification is needed to determine if the UDG will pre-empt the Urban Design Element of the General Plan.

Further, Planning Staff ("Staff") introduced the "Article 7" reorganization which governs neighborhood commercial districts (NCD). In this, the Control Tables reference "Urban Design Guidelines" with a reference to the existing General Plan's Commerce and Industry Element (CIE) UDG. The UDG reference should be clarified to mean those existing in the CIE vs. the draft UDG document.

Next, Staff has indicated that in 2017,

the "Residential Design Guidelines" (RDG), which further delineate the rules for residential development features such as front, side, rear yard setbacks and architectural style, will be revamped. Clarification is needed on its interaction with the other design guidelines.

Apparently, Staff is also proposing changes to the November 2008 draft "Ground Floor Residential Design Guidelines" (GFRDGL). These are noted in the UDG document but it cannot be ascertained how this current draft might be changed, if at all. In the 2015 draft AHB-PDG, there is a reference to the GFRDGL. Clarification is needed on the ultimate disposition of either of these drafts.

Neighbors are requesting the UDG, with any other design guidelines which may be under consideration or are being replaced including but not limited to the UDG, the Urban Design Element of the General Plan, any RDGs, or any AHBP design guidelines, be considered concurrently so that the City neighborhoods understand very clearly how each set of guidelines interacts with the others and with neighborhood or other regional guidelines, too, to avoid "one size fits all" guidelines.

Subject may still be "live" in November. Comment today.

-10/13: "Article 7" neighborhood commercial districts (NCD) reorganization. It references "Urban Design Guidelines." One interpretation of this reference could be UDG application to residential buildings in NCDs. Clarification is needed to not apply to residential buildings.

Info: sf-planning.org/ftp/General_Plan/I5_Urban_Design.htm

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Merchant Spotlight: Engineering for Kids

Engineering for Kids is an organization that sparks children's interest in S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) using hands-on activities. Engineering for Kids offers a variety of programs including after-school classes, camps, workshops, and even birthday parties, with the goal of inspiring the next generation of engineers and helping young people develop the necessary skills for a future in S.T.E.M.. After all, engineering is the fastest-growing industry in the world! With fun activities such as making rockets, exploring roller coasters and robotics, and designing video games, Engineering for Kids challenges children ages 4-14 to apply their natural curiosity to engineering concepts.

Juanita Leung, the Executive Director and Owner, believes that exposing children early to S.T.E.M greatly influences their interests later in life. For more information, visit the Engineering for Kids San Francisco website.

Engineering for Kids
2121 Taraval St.
415-994-6587
sanfrancisco@engineeringforkids.net

Lightening Round West of Twin Peaks Central Council • September 10, '16

	Questions	Farrell	Yee	Matranga	Engardio	Young
1	Do you support the current sanctuary city policy?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2	Should the number of police officers be increased in proportion to the increase in the City's population, as Supervisor Scott Wiener has proposed?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Do you support increased parcel taxes on homeowners?	No	Yes	No	No	No
4	San Francisco is a transit first city. Will you commit to using public transportation as your primary method of getting to work?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
5	Would you or did you vote for the resolution commemorating Mario Woods?	No	Yes	No	No	No
6	SFPD has asked for Tasers as a non-deadly alternative to firearms. Do you support equipping police officers with Tasers?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	The City could create a new office of Public Advocate, do you support that measure on November's ballot?	No	Yes	No	No	No
8	Do you support City-funded "safe injection sites?"	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
9	Do you support housing that has fewer than one parking spot per unit?	No	No	No	No	No
10	Do you support cutting down healthy non-native trees on public land, such as Mt Davidson, to achieve restoration to a pre-civilization state?	No	No	No	No	No
11	Do you support lowering the voting age in certain circumstances to 16 years old?	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12	Should non-US citizens be allowed to vote in School Board elections?	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
13	Do the Supervisors need more legislative aids?	No	No	No	No	No
14	Should short-term home rentals (AirBnB, home sharing, etc.) be allowed in single-family residential neighborhoods?	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
15	Do you support the Affordable Housing Bonus Program?	No	No	No	No	No
16	Should height limits be increased to allow for up to 5 stories along residential shopping streets in District 7?	Yes	No	No	Yes	No



An overflow crowd listened intently at the candidate forum at the Forest Hills Clubhouse

Candidate Forum (Cont. from p. 1)

police force.

“When I came in they had no training of new police officers,” Yee says. He believes District 7 is left out of heightened security because of low crime rates and has been fighting to get more officers assigned to the police station.

Matranga, who has the number one endorsement from SFPD, says the increase in staffing needs to happen now. “We know how long it takes to hire, train, get on the streets and assign to different beats. We have to own that.”

In addition to neighborhood safety, pedestrian safety is also a focus. A pilot project in Twin Peaks that closes off the eastern portion to vehicles will provide a safer experience for walkers and cyclists.

Engardio believes the project symbolizes tension between residents and tourists, calling the process unfair and not transparent.

“We can’t ban access and cars. This needs to be done smartly and thoughtfully,” he says.

Young adds that neighborhoods and community groups feel unheard at City Hall.

“This is a democracy,” Young says. “We have to include everyone in the discussion.”

In regard to affordable housing, Yee feels that District 7 is doing its fair share.

“There are three developments along Ocean Avenue,” Yee says. “We have Mercy housing that was completed a year ago and Park Merced is going to produce additional housing and units. They are going to ram the Balboa Reservoir project down our residents’ throats and I’m going to be totally against it.”

“I hear from a number of seniors that say they want their adult children and grandchildren to stay in San Francisco,” Engardio says. “It would be nice if there was a nearby condo where they could stay in their neighborhood.” He says adding more housing for millennials and the elderly will be a win-win situation.

Meanwhile, Matranga points out that an elevator building is five stores or more, which he is against.

Cont. p. 23



JOEL ENGARDIO

DISTRICT 7 SUPERVISOR

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Read Joel's ideas:
[Engardio.com](#)

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Theft of Tools from Buildings Under Construction

We have been receiving an increased number of reports regarding stolen items from homes that were under construction, especially concerning the theft of building supplies and tools. Please remember that with a construction project, there will be an increase of activity and an influx of foot traffic around the area as well as large items such as tarps, building materials and scaffolding where it's easy for a stranger to easily slip in and go unnoticed.

When a home becomes a construction site, the likelihood of a burglary increases dramatically. Burglars and thieves are looking for anything that will be profitable to them. Make sure your contractor and their team cleans up after each day's work. Their tools need to be safely locked up with the bigger item securely fixed to another large, preferably immobile, object.

Also make sure to secure the building so it's harder for the suspect to gain entry. Temporary access to the main dwelling, such as tarps covering missing windows, doors or wall openings, should be considered major security issues as they can be an attractive opportunity for burglars. Adding additional security lights around the location may also help deter robberies.

As always, please contact the police if you notice any suspicious or out of the ordinary behavior in your neighborhood! 911 or non-emergency 415-553-0123

Thursday, September 1

False Vehicle Registration
9:37 am | 34th Ave & Judah St
In random checks found a vehicle's registration had expired despite displaying a valid registration on the vehicle. The driver stated that he had obtained another registration tab to put on his vehicle. A computer check revealed he was on probation. The driver was arrested.

Battery
1:14 pm | 200 Country Club Dr
A witness stated that she observed the couple arguing which then escalated to the two pushing, scratching and choking each other. The couple told officers they were on vacation and only pushed at each other. After investigation, both were arrested.

Friday, September 2

Battery
4:39 pm | 100 Lenox Way
A juvenile victim of battery said he was in front of the library an apparent drunk started talking to him—then grabbed his hand and refused to let go. When he finally broke free, he ran to call the police who placed him under arrest.

Assault
3:01 pm | Judah St & 46th Ave
The victim said he was sitting at the bus stop when the suspect approached and started screaming, then punched him with a bicycle u-lock then fled into the park.

Saturday, September 3

Assault
11:25 am | Great Highway & Taraval St
The victim said he was riding his motorcycle when he noticed another vehicle rapidly catching up to him from behind, then cut in front of him and suddenly brake without warning. He punched the victim, without any explanation, returned to his vehicle and drove off.

Battery
4:16 pm | 1800 Irving St
The victim said a drunk homeless person, with a known history, whom he hung out with for many years, punched him in the face, and had punched him twice.

Robbery
10:58 pm | 100 Font Blvd
When a possible fight was reported, officers saw about 50 teens run out of the building. The victim said he responded to a comment about him, which escalated and the suspect to punched him while a second suspect joined-in and took the victim's items. He became uncooperative, saying he "would handle his own business" before officers notified his parents.

Sunday, September 4

Warrant Arrest – Arrested
7:12 am | Wawona St & 42nd Ave
An anonymous caller reported a vehicle with broken glass and a suspect in the back seat. The suspect said the car was a friend's who had left the keys in a bar and he had to break the window to get inside for a place to sleep. A check found a warrant for his arrest. He was.

Assault – Arrested
5:04 am | 1600 48th Ave
The victim of a reported fight said she went to a club after spending the night at a relative's house, and tried to greet the suspect with a hug, but he bit her hand and walked away. Leaving the club, the suspect pushed the victim and punched her several times. The suspect said they were drinking when the victim suddenly yanked off his necklace and ripped his shirt. Pushing the victim away, she fell to the floor. After statements from a witness, he was arrested.

Monday, September 5

Paraphernalia Possession – Theft
7:48 am | 00 Fuente Ave
Investigating a possible bike theft, the victim said she was in front of her house when the suspect walked her bicycle out of the carport. The suspect, asked if he owned the bike which was in his possession, responded loudly told "NO." A search revealed a methamphetamine pipe on the suspect. He was cited.

Battery
11:15 am | 00 Harding Rd
The victim said he was walking down a path when a ball landed by his foot and he kicked the ball away. The suspect, who was angry, approached and pushed the victim. A fight ensued with the victim punching the suspect in retaliation. After several minutes of fighting, the suspect returned to his game and the victim left the area.

Tuesday, September 6

Robbery
7:54 pm | Buckingham Way & 20th Ave
Responding to an auto burglary, officers met with an apparently hysterical victim, who was bleeding from her knee. She said she was returning to her parked vehicle and discovered an unknown suspect half-way inside her vehicle and saw the suspect take her purse and walk towards his parked car. She attempted to stop the suspect and jumped on the hood of his vehicle but he drove erratically and swerved violently until the victim fell. He fled.

Wednesday, September 7

Battery
7:20 pm | 3200 20th Ave
The victim said she was dining with her

friend when an unknown female glared at her from a booth and told her she was speaking too loudly. She tried to move to another seat, but the suspect confronted her and yelled obscenities then slapped her. The suspect fled.

Friday, September 9

Suspended Driver's License – DUI
8:13 pm | 44th Ave & Taraval St
A witness reporting a vehicle hitting a fire hydrant said the suspect left the scene. Officers observed the agitated suspect speaking rapidly with rapid eye movements. When the suspect refused to comply with orders, a brief struggle ensued and a methamphetamine pipe fell out of his pockets. He was cited and released to medics for treatment and observation.

Monday, September 12

Robbery – Arrested
8:00 am | Outside SF
SIT members investigating a string of robberies that had occurred in Taraval district, gathered enough information to arrest the suspect, who was residing outside of San Francisco. They located the suspect and arrested her for robbery.

Tuesday, September 13

Methamphetamine Offense, Resisting or Delaying Police Duties – Burglary Tools
3:36 am | Lincoln Way & ML King
Observing a bicyclist riding with without a front facing light, officers stopped the suspect. He responded that he had methamphetamine on him and the bicycle he was riding on did not belong to him. A search of the suspect located methamphetamine as well as multiple tools commonly used for burglaries. He was arrested.

Wednesday, September 14

Vandalism – Cited
11:31 pm | Lincoln Way & 9th Ave
A witness reported that the suspect banged on the MUNI's back door's window and shattered it. The suspect said he was arguing with his mother who decided to enter the bus. He admitted to being angry and banging on the glass, he was cited.

Friday, September 16

Robbery
10:37 am | 600 Lincoln Way
The victims said they were robbed at gun-point, the suspect was holding a handgun while pointing it at the victim's stomach. The victims gave the suspect their belongings he left the area on foot.

Domestic Abuse – Arrested
9:29 pm | Address Confidential
The victim said she and the suspect had an

argument about going to dinner when he became angry and threw his cellphone at her, from across the room and dragged her into the bedroom and onto the edge of the bed and falling to the floor. She escaped and called 911. The suspect was found in the basement under several cardboard boxes. The suspect was arrested.

Battery – Cited
3:54 pm | 200 Miramar Ave
The victim said she observed the suspect attempting to open several car doors by pulling on their handles. But when he attempted to open hers, she confronted him, and he began yelling profanities at her and punched her arms. She took a photo of the suspect and the suspect as he fled the scene. While police were interviewing the victim, the suspect returned and was identified. He was cited for battery.

Saturday, September 17

Battery
4:44 pm | 700 Gonzalez Dr
The victim, who said he and the suspect got into a verbal altercation regarding the suspect moving out, walked towards his room but the suspect blocked his way and hit him on the left ear. When he was able to enter his room, he called the police.

Battery
3:50 pm | 47th Ave & Irving St
The victim, with a strong odor of alcohol on his person, stated he was beat-up but did not see or know who might have done it. He had a cut on his nose and on his toe. It was possible that may have fallen and caused his own injuries.

Domestic Abuse
9:39 pm | Address Confidential
The victim said she she decided to lie down on the floor to regain composure following an argument with her boyfriend, when the suspect stomped on her face. He fled.

Robbery
7:01 pm | Twin Peaks Blvd & Clarendon
The victim said he had been robbed when he was intoxicated. He remembers being harassed by an unknown amount of suspects as they pushed him to the ground and kicked him several times before the theft. He was transported to the hospital for medical attention.

Sunday September 18

Theft – Warrant – Probation Violation
9:06 am | 4100 Judah St
The victim said two suspects, a male and a female, entered his business and stole two microphones. He pointed out the direction they fled to officers. After locating the

Cont. p. 26

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— Taraval Station Community Meeting —
Oct 18, 2016 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Taraval Station • taraval.org



October 2016



The race is on... it's a hotly contested race for District 7 Supervisor with 5 candidates that could serve the district well. If you didn't have the chance to attend the West of Twin Peaks Central Council Election Forum in September, check out the candidates responses to questions during the "lightning round" portion of the forum on page 13 of the paper. For those who want to have another chance to see them live, the League of Women Voters is conducting a District 7 Candidates Forum on Thursday, October 6 at UCSF Cole Hall Auditorium, 513 Parnassus Avenue, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. (Photo: Bill Wilson)

SF Ballot Measure Confusion?... A SF Ballot Measure Forum debate is being hosted by the Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association (GGHNA), SHARP and SPEAK, on Monday, October 10 at the SF County Fair Building, 1199 9th Avenue from 7:00 -8:45 PM. Learn the facts about all of the SF Propositions.

A Latte and handcuffs... just kidding, but Friday, October 7 is "National Coffee with a Cop Day." It's a way to have conversation and to get to know your local neighborhood officers. No agendas, speeches or such, just coffee and talk at Starbucks at 100 West Portal Avenue from 8:00 -10:00 AM.



A "Scary" evening at Stern Grove... "Scare Grove" is coming to the grove on Friday, October 28 from 3:00 -9:00 PM. A Halloween mega event that will feature haunted houses, costume contests, hay rides ("Hey, we're riding on hay..."), carnival rides, giant inflatables, food and drinks, and live entertainment. Bring your little ghosts and goblins, and yes, princesses and Pokémon too! The entry fee is \$8 per person, but all children under the age of 2 are free.

The lights are dimmer along West Portal Avenue... as San Francisco lost a few more retailers on the street with the closing of Noah's Bagels, Citipets, and S.Marco Fine Leathers. Sad to see open storefronts. Let's hope they are filled soon.



Coyote Yoga?... GWPNA Vice President Lee Hsu and the West of Twin Peaks Council have asked Mayor Lee to come up with a plan to deal with the coyotes (who seem to be very comfortable in their current environment). In the mean-time, here is an informative blog post on how to respond if you encounter coyotes while walking your dog, or just living in SF:

urbancoyoteproject.com/blog/2015/5/16/what-to-do-if-you-encounter-a-coyote-while-walking-your-dog

Kudos to the SF Giants... Hats off to our baseball giants, who survived an epic second half collapse to clinch a "wild card" ticket to the playoffs on the final day of the regular season. Let's hope they "punch their ticket" in NY on October 5 against the Mets, and go on the Chicago to play the Cubs, en route to another even numbered year World Series. The odds are against them, but you can never count them out. By the way, it was a classy move to allow longtime Dodgers announcer Vin Scully to be heard broadcasting the third inning in the regular season finale. Announcing like it was in the golden era of baseball, it was a pleasure hearing him doing the game, as he wrapped up a 67 year broadcasting career. A lifelong Giants fan, but a Dodger employee for his entire adult life, he can now openly root for his childhood heroes.

Homeless reporting... to report a homeless encampment in your neighborhood, use the link: reporhomelessencampments@sfgov.org. Be prepared to give the following info: Exact location; Date and Time of report; Approximate number of people; Amount of belongings seen (Lots, a little, tents, etc.); Evidence of Dangerousness (aggressive behavior, etc.); Evidence of severe mental illness (if observed).

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



George Washington (Cont. from p. 2)

also received physical threats.

George Washington, the "Father of our country," had a cherry tree, while Haney "the arbitrator of political correctness," needs a fig leaf.

Apparently, Haney wants to remove the names of dead white men who owned slaves, or had problematic histories, regardless of their historical stature.

While Haney is busy chopping down historical names, he might want to consider taking an axe to the names of 241 townships in the U.S.; the state of Washington; the city named Washington, DC; seven mountains; eight streams; 10 lakes; 33 counties; nine colleges (including Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky; George Washington University in Washington, D.C.; Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania; Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri; and Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia); the George Washington Bridge, crossing the Hudson River; Washington Square Park, New York City; Washington Square Park, San Francisco; and the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Washington, D.C.

In Haney's politically correct, albeit myopic, world view perhaps we should take an axe and chop down the Washington Monument on the National Mall — among the capitol's most-visited monuments — simply because it looks too phallic.

Taking Haney's political correctness to the next logical step, should San Francisco rename Washington Street to erase George's name from our thoroughfares? Should we also rename Polk Street and the Polk Gulch area, since it was named after the United States' 11th president, James K. Polk, who also owned slaves?

There are 188 K – 12th grade schools around the nation that are named after President Washington. Will Haney go on a nationwide rant to rename them all?

Since Haney is a 33-year-old, living, white male, he might want to check his own lineage over the last 300 years to see if it would be appropriate for him to stay on the school board.

Haney's remarks are another "only in San Francisco moment" where political correctness is rewarded more than running schools and teaching students. Perhaps Haney should receive a "participation" award, since there are no winners or losers in this pathetic drama, only participants.

The President of the SFUSD's School Board's narrow focus on historical facts also begs the seminal question: What are our public school children being taught? Which "politically correct" criteria will Haney use to change school names?

History professors know that both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were opposed to the concept of slavery. Maybe it is time for Haney go back to school to learn some history.

On the other hand, who knows what revisionist history SFUSD schools are already teaching our children. Perhaps in the SFUSD system, George Washington *was* already being painted as only an evil slave owner who rode around on his horse whipping his slaves. Maybe two plus two does equal five, because close enough is good enough in San Francisco public schools.

Does Haney plan to use his axe to excise from history books the story of Washington chopping down a cherry tree?

As the myth has it, when confronted by his father about a damaged cherry tree, six-year old George Washington said "I cannot tell a lie, I did cut it with my hatchet." It's a story about the value of honesty that parents have

used for generations to teach morality to school children. As one scholar said, "The cherry tree myth has endured for more than two hundred years probably because we like the story, which has become an important part of Americans' cultural heritage."

Is it time to put a "politically correct" message like "get rid of your car" on the one-dollar bill (Washington did not own a car)? Make the Washington Monument a symbol of love, and maybe we can even erase or replace George Washington's face on Mt. Rushmore.

Matt Haney is running for re-election to the School Board in the November 8 election. Please do not vote for him. San Franciscans and their children do not need his myopic brand of political correctness. They need a good education.

William R. Whitmer, nicknamed "Mr. Bill" by parents and colleagues, an early childhood teacher, principal, and union member for 44 years states, "San Francisco's Board of Education is a failed institution. The term 'World Class School District' is a joke, given that San Francisco schools compared almost equal to Mississippi School Districts for the bottom educational rank in the United States."

Whitmer further states, "Being elected to the Board of Education is a proven path toward a political future in San Francisco. Few Board members know much about education. When elected, they don't do their duty. I only know of one Board member that returns calls or e-mails. The Board members are out of touch with daily life in the schools. Principals warn staff and polish a school site before a Board member's arrival."

Whitmer's point of view may help explain Haney's pomposity.

The November 8 general election will feature Proposition A, the school bond. Unlike other bonds which need 66.6% of the vote to pass, San Francisco school bonds need to be approved by only 55% of voters. The School District can add bonds to the ballot whenever they want to, and aren't accountable to the City or to anyone else.

Although the Proposition A bond will cost \$744,250 million and \$1.2 billion with interest payments, the Proposition A bond will probably pass easily. The district says it will spend a majority of the bond funds — approximately \$409 million — on building construction and renovations.

Every property in San Francisco will pay an annual property tax of \$25.00 per one-hundred-thousand in assessed value —approximately \$250 per year. Due to assessments, some years citizens will pay over \$300 annually.

The potential changes besides basic maintenance will be \$100 million to move the Ruth Azawa School of the Arts to Van Ness Avenue, and to build two new high schools in unnamed locations in Mission Bay and the Bayview. Here's a revolutionary idea for Haney to mull over with his cherry tree hatchet: Rather than renaming George Washington High School, why not name one of the two new schools after Maya Angelou?

Bond funding will also be used to pay the salaries of employees that are involved with the bond.

All of this bond money will be issued by the current Board of Education. The Board will determine how this money will be spent, where it will be spent, and what it will be spent on. The bond resolution is signed off by Board of Education Matt Haney.

Please vote "Yes" on the school bond. And since I can't tell a lie: Vote a big "No" for Matt Haney.

George Wooding, Midtown Terrace Home Owners Association, contact: wooding@westsideobserver.com





OPEN STUDIOS

Oct 29 & 30 | 11am to 6pm | Presidio, Richmond, Upper Haight, Buena Vista, Cole Valley, Sunset, Ocean View, West Portal, Portola, Excelsior, Balboa Park SF Open Studios is the oldest and largest open studios program in the country, featuring an annual, month-long art event in October that showcases over 900 emerging and established San Francisco artists in their studios. Each weekend, art patrons, admirers, and collectors venture out on self-guided tours to see as many SF Open Studios artists and their artworks as possible, in the hopes of finding their next true art love. The event connects collectors with artists for engaging dialogue and a glimpse into the life of the working artist; SF Open Studios simultaneously helps artists build their mailing lists, gain new admirers, and ultimately sustain a living making art. For a complete schedule of this Open Studio series and all the Open Studio shows around the City go to the website at: artspan.org.

EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

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

EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

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

EVERY TUE/THU /SAT • GET IN SHAPE!

Tue/Thu | 8:30 am | Sat: 9 am | Get into shape, improve your health. FREE 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, 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.

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.

FRIDAY NIGHTS @ THE DEYOUNG

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

FRIDAYS @ OFF THE GRID/FT. MASON

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

SATURDAYS • FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

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

DAILY • BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

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

DAILY • ART OF PINOCCHIO

10 am - 6 pm | *Wish Upon a Star: The Art of Pinocchio*. Until Jan 9, a never-before-seen exhibition. Discover how one of the most influential animated films in history was produced. Walt Disney Family Museum, 104 Montgomery, Presidio. Closed Tuesdays.

WED • GWPNA

Wed Oct 5 | 6:30 | Greater West Portal Neighborhood

Assn meetings are open to all members and to the public, first Wed each Month. Playground Clubhouse, 131 Lenox Way. GWPNA.org.

FRI • LITQUAKE - SHAKESPEARE @ 400

Fri Oct 7 | 8-10:30 pm | Kick off 17 years of Litquake at the Green Room overlooking City Hall. Hosted bar, light bites and dessert, and appearances by poets, musicians, "off-color" performance from SF Shakes. \$30 advance, \$35 at the door. Litquake.org

FRI • POET BILLY COLLINS



Fri Oct 7 | 7:30 pm | Billy Collins is the first poet since Robert Frost who has managed to combine high critical acclaim with broad popular appeal. He has published eight collections of poetry,

including *Questions About Angels*, *The Art of Drowning*, *The Trouble With Poetry* and *Other Poems*, Collins was US Poet Laureate from 2001-03. City Arts & Lectures, Nourse Theater, 275 Hayes St. Tix: 415.392.4400/cityarts.net

SAT • RED YARN CONCERT

Sat Oct 8 | 3:30 pm | Like folk music? rock music? What about kindie? Put it all together you've got Red Yarn! His latest album, *Wake up & Sing* will have you clapping your hands and stomping your feet. Parkside Branch Library, 1200 Taraval St.

SAT/SUN • 17TH WORLD VEGE FESTIVAL

Sat/Sun Oct 8 | 10 am - 6:30 pm | There will be fun, food, entertainment and activities for the whole family! And Veggies! At the County Fair building (1199 9th Ave., GG Park). \$10 students \$5, seniors, 18 yrs-. worldvegfestival.com

SUN • ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

Sun Oct 9 | 12:30 pm | Parade begins at Jefferson and Stockton Streets in Fisherman's Wharf, proceeds south through North Beach on Columbus Avenue, and ends in Washington Square in front of Sts. Peter and Paul Church. Free.

MON • ELECTION FORUM / SHARP

Mon Oct 10 | 7-9 pm | Props D (vacancy appointments), J and K (sales tax spending on homelessness and transit), M (housing commission), P (competitive bidding on affordable housing), Q (housing not tents) and U (middle income housing) at the County Fair Bldg (1199 9th Avenue, near Lincoln).

TUE • AUTHOR PETER S. BEAGLE



Tue Oct 11 | 7 pm | *Summerlong*. Beloved author Peter S. Beagle (*The Last Unicorn*) returns with this long-anticipated new novel, a beautifully bittersweet tale of passion, enchantment, and the nature of fate. 80 West Portal Ave.

TUE • CIVIC CENTER

Tue Oct 11 | 7:30 pm | Civic Center is the largest collection of monumental civic buildings in the US

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outside of Washington DC. James Haas will cover the period 1911—1918 and discuss the coming of the Panama-Pacific International Exploitation of 1915, the election of James Rolph and his leadership in the design and building of Civic Center (and a new City Hall) before the opening of the Exposition. Haas will discuss the many issues, fights, and personalities that played a role in this story. Milton Marks Auditorium 455 Golden Gate Ave, \$10-Students \$5.

TUE • TIBETAN MANDALA PAINTING

Tue Oct 11 | 6:30- pm | Master Thangka painter Singye Jamyong will teach you to color your own Tibetan mandala with colored pencils or water colors. He will explain the history of this ancient meditative art form and how mandalas will help your body and mind to stay calm and balanced RSVP required: 415 355-2886 West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.

THU • AUTHOR MAUREEN DOWD



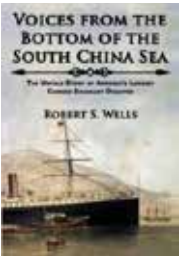
Thu Oct 13 | 7:30 | In Conversation with Judson True at the Nourse Theater. Maureen Dowd is a columnist for *The New York Times* since 1983, and the author of *Are Men Necessary?* and *Bushworld*. In 1999, she was awarded a Pulitzer Prize. This is the ninth presidential race Dowd has covered for the Times. In *The Year of Voting Dangerously*, Dowd traces the psychologies and pathologies of America's most epic battle of the sexes. 275 Hayes St. Tix: 415.392.4400/cityarts.net

SAT • PAPEL PICADO

Sat Oct 15 | 11-12 pm | Papel picado ("perforated paper") is the decorative paper craft of intricately cut, tissue paper panels. The panels are strung together and hung as colorful displays for celebrations and holidays. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.

SUN • AUTHOR ROBERT WELLS

Sun Oct 16 | 4 pm | In *Voices From the Bottom of the South China Sea*, Wells explores the beginnings of the modern U.S. and China relationship, seen through the lens of a dramatic 1874 deep-sea shipwreck involving the loss of many lives and a treasure still buried at sea. 400 Chinese would drown when they were forced to jump into the sea, only to be dragged down with their money belts of gold, their earning from their years spent laboring in America. Maritime Museum, 900 Beach Street, Free.



SUN • 44TH ANNUAL VICTORIAN TOUR

Sun Oct 16 | 1-5 pm | The Victorian Alliance House Tour features eight charming homes surrounding historic Duboce Park and nearby residences of the Duboce Triangle and a beautifully preserved church whose sanctuary reveals brilliant stained glass and artistic woodwork. Here tour guests may also enjoy complimentary refreshments and peruse our gift shop for some early holiday shopping. victorianalliance.org/house-tour/2016/

TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue Oct 18 | 7-9 pm | Meet with Captain Denise Flaherty at Taraval Station. This is a special 4 times per year meeting.

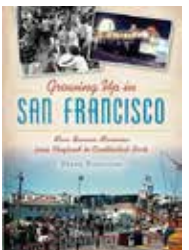
TUE • 24TH ANNUAL POOL TOSS

Tue Oct 18 | 6-9:30 pm | While partygoers bid on

the opportunity to toss their favorite celebs, last year's pool toss brought in over \$355,000 for Tenderloin After-School Program and the families who call TND home \$125 & up, tndc.org, 601 Eddy, 358-3906.

THU • AUTHOR FRANK DUNNIGAN

Thu Oct 20 | 7 pm | *Growing Up In San Francisco: More Boomer Memories From Playland To Candlestick Park*. In his second volume, local author and historian vividly recalls the many details that made life special. 80 West Portal Ave.



MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Sat Oct 24 | 7 pm | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss local topics. Meets the 4th Mon each month. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. westoftwinpeaks.org

MON • S.H.A.R.P / JEWISH HUMOR

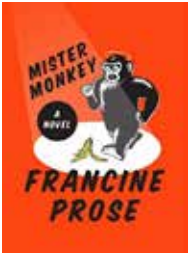
Mon Oct 24 | 7 pm | What's So Funny: Jewish Humor and the Great Jewish Comics of the 20th Century. Steve Budd explores Jewish humor through the work of the Jewish comic geniuses of the 20th century. Note: this meeting is on the 3rd Monday because of Halloween. 1736 Ninth Avenue.

TUE • ESSENTIAL OILS & WELLNESS

Tue Oct 25 | 6:30 pm | Life and wellness coach KJ Landis shares essential oils that are good for our body, mind, and spirit. Reduce stress, inflammation, and improve mood. Limited to 40 participants. RSVP at 415 355-2886. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.

THU • AUTHOR FRANCINE PROSE

Thu Oct 27 | 7 pm | *Mister Monkey*. The acclaimed New York Times bestselling author weaves an ingenious, darkly humorous, and brilliantly observant story that follows the exploits and intrigue of a constellation of characters affiliated with an off-off-off-off Broadway children's musical. Francine Prose is the author of twenty works of fiction. 80 West Portal



THU • OMI NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

Thu Oct 27 | 7 pm | Meets last Thu each month. This meeting is at Temple UMC 65 Beverly/Sheilds Street.

SUN • ASIAN ART MUSEUM FREE DAY

Sun Nov 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 Nov 8 | 10 am–4:30 pm | 100 J F Kennedy Dr. Free every first Tuesday.

TUE • DE YOUNG FREE DAY

Tue Nov 8 | 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 Nov 8 | 9:30 am - 5:15 pm | 4000 years of ancient and European art in the exquisite Beaux-Arts building. 100 34th Ave. Free first Tues.

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

Now At the Movies • By Don Lee Miller

BRIDGET JONES' BABY

Bridget: Renée Zellweger returns for the third installment as the bumbling British reluctant "spinster" and journalist of Helen Fielding's novels, looking just like the 43-old woman she is supposed to be. She delivers enough charm to carry the film but fortunately has the two bedmates who may be the father for aid. There's the barrister, Mark Darcy: Colin Firth, who's almost a stuffed shirt; then the refreshing billionaire American Jack: Patrick Dempsey, whom she meets at a tented music festival with a coworker Shazzer: Sally Phillips at the TV station where Bridg is a news producer. Zellweger's gynecologist, hilarious Emma Thompson has three scenes, especially the delivery. Bridg's parents, loving Jim Broadbent and Gemma Jones, who is running for elected office, supports single motherhood and gay rights. RZ's choices of lifestyle and companionship, plus the excessive profanity that goes along with it, are embarrassing.

There's a surprise at the end re the missing Daniel: Hugh Grant. Director Sharon Maguire has assembled a wealth of talent cast, capable of presenting this multi-legged modern Cinderella story. Profanity, sex references, and some nudity.

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

While gathering the Seven for the face-off with a mysterious villain, Bartholomew: Peter Sarsgaard, about fifty bodies stack up in the first hour. Most are just shot, but others get it with a wielded ax, needlepoint hairpins, scalping, bow and arrow, and other devious devices. Not any one of the Seven uses the same weapon of choice—it makes it more interesting. At only rare moments does this new version of the old star-studded classic face much challenge.

A bounty hunter from Wichita, KS [where I was born], Chisom: Denzel Washington collects his partners in crime from various (factitiously named) Western towns: Josh: Chris Pratt, Goodnight: Ethan Hawke, Jack Horne: Vincent D'Onofrio, Byung-hun Lee: Billy Rock, Vasquez: Manuel Garcia-Rulfo, Red Harvest: Martin Sensmeier.

Their funding boss, Emma Cullen: expects satisfaction but won't be too unhappy if revenge is exacted. The supporting players round out the big cast: there's her brother, Matthew Cullen: Matt Bomer (TV's White Collar [09-14], The Nice Guys), Teddy Q: Luke Grimes, Dinali: Jonathan Joss, and McCann: Cam Gigandet (2008 Award winner: Young Hollywood Award).

One to Watch; 08&09: MTV: Best Fight: Never Back Down, Twilight; 09: Best Movie Rumble: Twilight). Denzel is the central focus, without any question; all others are subsidiary. Antoine Fuqua directs the screenplay attributed to Kurosawa, plus four. Extended and intense scenes of Western violence. Historical smoking, some profanity, and suggestive material.

SNOWDEN

Oliver Stone's latest true political drama tells the tale of young analyst Edward Snowden: Joseph Gordon-Levitt as his career ascends at an underground security site in Hawaii. Along the way, his work contacts include a Who's Who: there's Laura: Melissa Leo; confidant Ewan: Tom Wilkinson; girl friend Lindsay: Shailene Woodley; Hank: Nicolas Cage; Janine: Joely Richardson; Hawaii coworkers: Glenn: Zachary Quinto; CIA Agent Geneva: Timothy Olyphant; Trevor: Scott Eastwood; Robert: Ben Chaplin; Corbin: Rhys Ifans; and, ultimately in the final scene, Snowden, himself. Edward and Lindsay's global travels provide a world tour: Washington, Munich, Bavaria, Germany, Hong Kong, China and Moscow. Director Stone co-wrote the screenplay. What every American will forever thank Snowden for, is exposing the government wire-tapping of our personal phone conversations and e-mails, all kept in a huge underground bunker in Hawaii. Obama subsequently has stranded him in Moscow for years, confined in the Peruvian embassy, where Lindsay eventually joined him.

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

Sylvia

Sylvia is a hilarious romp through the complexities of married life, directed by **Buzz Halsing**, with Assistant Director **Heather Gordon**. As we take our seats, we are greeted by an elegant set, designed by **Sasha Oaks** and constructed by **Eugene DeChristopher**. In the background, we see the skyline of Manhattan, beautifully lit by **Ellen Brooks**. The set is divided into three sections with ivy growing over the entire front of the stage. On stage right are a tree and bench – representing a park. The main part of the set is a comfortable mid-1990s apartment in Manhattan. On stage left we see Madam Tesla's office. The Sound Design by the well-known **Billie Cox** puts us in the mood with songs like "Every Time We Say Goodbye I Cry A Little."

This critic would call *Sylvia* a light-hearted love story with an unusual cast of characters and excellent Costume Design by **Michael A. Berg**. Greg (**Keith Jefferds**) and Kate (**Jennifer Reimer**) have moved to Manhattan after 22 years of child-rearing in the suburbs. Greg's career as a Financial Trader is winding down, while Kate's career as a Public School English Teacher is beginning to offer her more opportunities.

One day, Greg brings home a dog he found in the park (or we should say – the dog has found him) bearing only the name of Sylvia on its nametag. A street-smart Labradoodle, Sylvia (**Jannelly Calmell**) becomes a major *bone of contention* between husband and wife. Sylvia offers Greg an escape from the frustrations of his job and the unknowns of middle-age. To Kate, Sylvia becomes a rival for Greg's affection, and Sylvia *thinks* Kate just doesn't understand the relationship between a man and his dog.

The marriage is put into serious jeopardy, and there are a series of hilarious and touching complications helped along by Tom (**Jim Fye**), another dog-owner who befriends Greg in the park; also by trans-gender Phyllis (again Jim Fye) an upper-crust friend of Kate's; and Leslie Anderson (also played by Jim Fye) – *Madam Tesla* – whom Greg and Kate consult. Madam Tesla is a marriage counselor in need of help herself – that is, their business.

I can understand why *Sylvia* by A. R. Gurney has played to rave reviews and enthusiastic audiences. Director **Buzz Halsing** has made this romp a lot of fun for audience and (obviously) the performers. **Flora Lynn Isaacson**

Sylvia began September 16 and will run through the 2:00 p.m. performance on October 16. Regular performances: Thur 7:30 p.m., Fri 8 p.m., Sat 8 p.m. Sun Matinees 2 p.m. Tickets: www.rossvalleyplayers.com or call 800/838-3006 (Brown Paper Tickets). A reservation line is available at 415/456-9555 extension 1, and tickets for Private and Sponsored performances or School Groups may be purchased by telephone, 415/456-9555 extension 3. All performances take place at **The Barn Theater Marin Art & Garden Center**, home of the Ross Valley Players, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross.

Coming up next at RVP November 11 through December 18, 2016: *H.M.S. Pin-afore* by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, Directed by **James Dunn**.



Flora Lynn Isaacson



Linda Ayres-Frederick

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Ridin' and Ropin', Oh Boy!

Get yer' spurs on as the Cow Palace Arena Hosts the 70th Grand National Livestock Expo, Horse Show & Rodeo over two October weekends

For 70 years the iconic Cow Palace Arena & Event Center has been celebrating the old west and inspiring youth to take part in the agriculture industry through their annual Grand National Livestock Exposition, Horse Show and Rodeo event. From top to bottom the Cow Palace is filled with the ultimate western experience including an agriculture exhibition, a professional Rodeo in partnership with the PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association), and a classic western marketplace - including mechanical bull rides, live music, BBQ, shopping, and more. The family-friendly event takes place all day over two action packed weekends on Oct. 14-15 and Oct. 21-22, 2016. Although tickets must be purchased for the Grand National Rodeo in the main arena, the Livestock Exposition, Horse Show, Interactive Agricultural Area, and Marketplace are FREE to the public.

During the livestock exposition, real farm equipment and animals are on site with interactive displays to learn about how food is grown. Exhibitors will show cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, and rabbits, along with photography and fine art inspired by agriculture and western lifestyle.

Schools are able to bring students to the agriculture fair for "Kids at the Palace", a free event during the day on Friday, October 14 and must reserve their spot ahead of time (contact media@cowpalace.com for reservations). Space is still available for vendors in the Western Marketplace, and businesses interested in becoming an event sponsor can contact the Cow Palace for more information. Pre-sale tickets to the rodeo are now on sale and range from \$12- \$42. Tickets can be purchased on the Cow Palace website (cowpalace.com). For more details contact info@cowpalace.com or call 415-414-4100.

FULL EVENT SCHEDULE:

Friday Oct. 14 - Opening Day

Kids at the Palace (scheduled school tour)

Open/Junior Livestock Show

Color Guard & Drill Team

PRCA Rodeo

Saturday Oct. 15 - Cattleman's Day

Open/Junior Livestock Show

Classic Barrel Racing

Lunch At The Palace - Cowgirl Luncheon

Livestock Person of the Year Banquet

PRCA Rodeo

Sunday Oct. 16

Open/Junior Livestock Show

Classic Barrel Racing

Monday Oct. 17

AQHA Ranch Horse

Versatility & Ranch Riding

Thursday Oct. 20

NCA Dog Trials

Friday Oct. 21 - Tough Enough to Wear Pink Day

NCA Dog Trials

PRCA Rodeo

Saturday Oct. 22 - Military Day

Team Penning Super Stakes

ASBA Rabbit Show

PRCA Rodeo

Cow Palace Burger Eating Contest w 7 Mile House

Sunday Oct 23

RSNC Ranch Sorting & Championships

ARBA Rabbit Show





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Senior Service Representative

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Southern Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria



As we celebrate our 4th year in the community, we wish to thank all of our customers and fans who help to make our restaurant a special place.

We are looking towards the autumn season and we will be updating our menu with the addition of more recipes from the kitchen of the D'Urzo family.



For the second year in a row we are proud to announce that we have again been awarded a "Michelin" recommendation.

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SAY YES TO **PROP O**

FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD...TO YOURS

Help us bring jobs, housing and parks to Bayview Hunters Point by voting Yes on O



P**ROPOSITION O** is the next step in revitalizing the long-abandoned former naval base that was once an economic engine for the Bayview, Hunters Point and Candlestick Point. It ensures that new housing, jobs and parks that have already been approved by San Francisco voters in 2008 will be created faster to help the many families who need them now.

This measure will:

- **Speed the creation of 12,000 new homes**, with approximately one-third of those homes affordable for low- and middle-income families;
 - **Generate thousands of construction jobs**, support job training programs and provide for about 17,000 jobs, with a local hire commitment;
 - **Jump start the transformation** of the former Shipyard and Candlestick Point into over 300 acres of new public parks, walking paths and bike trails for neighborhood residents; and
- **Enable construction of an African American marketplace** at Candlestick Point along with a new shopping corridor for neighborhood-serving businesses.
- In 2008 San Francisco voters approved the Shipyard/Candlestick Point Development Plan.** Prop O will exclude the project from the City’s annual office construction quotas and allow all parts of the project to move forward together as quickly as possible.



“Our community is already seeing benefits from this project. The Alice Griffith Housing rebuild is in progress. Over 5,000

new jobs have been created so far with 63 percent going to minority workers. Almost \$2 million has been spent on job training and another \$1.7 million on grants to community organizations.

This measure means that we will add more jobs even faster, as we build more affordable and family housing. Join me in saying Yes to Jobs, Housing and Parks Now.”

SHAMANN WALTON

Vice President of the San Francisco Board of Education

JHPN16012-10x16

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(partial list)



YES on PROP O
FOR JOBS, HOUSING & PARKS **NOW**

www.JobsHousingParksNow.com

Paid for by Jobs, Housing and Parks NOW for Candlestick Point & Hunters Point Shipyard, Yes on O, with major funding by Five Point Holdings, LLC. Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org.



Second Thoughts • By Jack Kaye

How To Reduce Cancer and Heart Related Deaths, Save the Tobacco Industry, Raise Tax Revenue, Destroy the Drug Cartels and Make People Happier

I have a simple plan that will do all of the above as well as free up law enforcement and shrink prison populations, reduce the incidence of Alzheimer's, cut America's dependence on alcohol, as well as resultant liver and kidney problems

Let us do what Walter Cronkite, Rick Steves, Congressman/Dr. Ron Paul, state legislator Tom Ammiano, Senator Bernie Sanders, the presidents of the Organization of American States, and the majority of Americans have told us we should do

Legalize marijuana

The way it is now, our economy depends in part on the viability of our tobacco industry. The industry includes 10,000 farms, thousands of farm-related workers, with factories producing 264 billion cigarettes for sale in our country and abroad each year. Cigarettes, unfortunately, cause cancer, emphysema, premature aging, and aggravate a number of other health-related problems like heart disease and stroke. We can't keep producing health hazards, and yet we can't close down an entire industry. How can they continue to operate and make profit while producing something much less harmful? For many it may actually be therapeutic

Legalize marijuana and have the tobacco industry convert to the marijuana industry. The companies would be licensed under strict guidelines ensuring the highest quality product in as pure a form as possible. This product would yield profits for the companies and employment for the workers as well as taxes for the government, potentially far exceeding revenues from tobacco taxes, which are eaten up by resultant health care costs and lawsuits.

Without the production of cigarettes, people currently addicted would have to finally quit. Many currently suffering the pains of illnesses will get some relief by smoking marijuana. People using alcohol to transcend their unfortunate circumstances only to be more depressed by them can turn to marijuana, which has very few health risks associated with moderate use. Marijuana is now being used to fight the opioid addiction that is affecting people of all walks of life

Marijuana will help the old as well as the young. The older citizens will not only get relief from their pains and improve their appetites, but they will have a different dimension in which to dwell when not busy with daily activities. They will enjoy the intrinsic joys of life and not miss some of the practical limitations of their advanced years. Elders who have been smoking this precious herb for years will have much less chance of developing Alzheimer's, according to recent findings

Law enforcement officers on the federal, state and local levels now spending their time finding marijuana farms and arresting distributors, sales representatives,

and consumers would be freed up to pursue serious criminals. Prison populations would be reduced if marijuana-related arrests, which target low income minority members disproportionately, ended. Alcohol-related crimes might also decrease with more people choosing marijuana as their new drug of choice

With marijuana legal, drug dealers here and south of the border would go bankrupt. Without riches from illegal marijuana sales, the drug cartels will have less power to control their communities and tempt others into lives of crime.

If you think that the abundant list of reasons for legalizing marijuana cited above is all-inclusive, I would urge you to think again. There is a much more important reason than all of the above combined - it will change our culture for the better.

As I have already mentioned in previous columns, we Americans have gotten too busy. We are constantly rushing, talking on our cell phones, playing phone tag with friends who are as busy as we are and are unable to connect. We have been fooled into believing that more is better and that there can never be enough. There is a saying "you can't be too rich or too thin." Of course you can and you can be too busy, too

Recent studies have found that people who partake for a period of time lose some of their extrinsic motivation. They are less dependent on money, status, power or prized possessions as sources of happiness. They become more intrinsically motivated

We need to stop rushing around and learn to fully appreciate the paradise that surrounds us. We don't have to constantly be trying to prove ourselves. According to informed sources, marijuana is the greatest teacher of living life in the moment and enjoying what you are doing, no matter whether it's called "work" or "play."

With marijuana you don't need a big Hummer or pickup truck to feel like a man. With marijuana you don't need four-inch spike heels and a pushup bra to prove that you are a woman. You don't need wealth or fame to be successful. With marijuana you realize that you are consciousness and are interconnected with everything and everyone else. You've got a friend inside and outside you

Or, at least, so I've been told

So, in this November's election, please do the right thing: vote "yes" on 64 to legalize marijuana in California!

Feedback: 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.



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20 Santa Rita Ave	Forest Hill	4	3.5	1	2,695,000	3,050,000	113.17
301 Edgehill Way	Forest Hill Extensio	2	1	1	998,000	1,130,000	113.23
491 Ulloa St	Forest Hill Extensio	2	1	2	1,095,000	1,200,000	109.59
4 Lansdale Ave	Sherwood Forest	3	2	2	1,395,000	1,450,000	103.94
72 Westgate Dr	Mount Davidson	2	2	2	1,298,000	1,450,000	111.71
95 Keystone Way	Mount Davidson	4	3	1	1,575,000	1,625,000	103.17
376 Hazelwood Ave	Westwood Highlands	3	2	1	1,395,000	1,625,000	116.49
135 Wawona St	West Portal	4	3	2	1,928,000	2,185,000	113.3



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Remember When?



Exterior of the Parkside Theatre • 1928 Dec. 28. Notes: Written on back: Taraval near 19th St.. Published by permission of the San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

BRAIN FÜD

Off with their heads...

It's time to get back at the Queen of Hearts by beheading words that start with "Qu". In this case, you remove the first TWO letters and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.
Example: British pound -> Part of the psyche
Answer: The words are Quid and Id.

- 1. Stop doing -> That thing
- 2. Peculiar behaviour -> Annoy
- 3. Subatomic particle -> Large boat
- 4. Unit of liquid measure -> Product of creativity
- 5. Small game bird -> To be unwell
- 6. Large feather; pen -> Unwell; faulty
- 7. Nausea; uncomfortable -> Simple
- 8. Misgivings; scruples -> Donations to the poor

Answer

1. Quid -> Id

2. Quirk -> Irk

3. Quark -> Ark

4. Quart -> Art

5. Quail -> Ail

6. Quill -> Ill

7. Queasy -> Easy

8. Qualms -> Alms

Pumpkin Whoopie Pies

(a cross between a cupcake and a cookie)



October 11 | Tuesday | 7 pm – 8 pm
Parkside Library | 1200 Taraval Street

Fall is all about pumpkins! Join this cooking demonstration and taste a delicious sample. For adults. Call (415) 355-5770 or email psimgr@sfpl.org to register.

OPEN LATE

I love this time of year in the city.

In fact, I think this is my favorite holiday.

Really?

In the city, yes

BAND

Lots of Parking

Labor Day?

No lines for brunch

Less traffic

Burning Man.

By Julie Casson

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

Sudoku-fun!

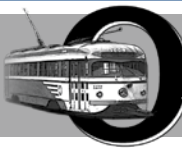
Rules: Each puzzle is a 9 by 9 grid of squares divided into nine 3 by 3 square blocks, with some of the numbers filled in for you.

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

Answer: appears below.

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

We're On The Web!



westsideobserver.com



Spectators who came late to see the debate at the Clubhouse were not able to be seated, or even to standing room.

Candidate Debate (Cont. from p. 13)

“It’s too much density and would destroy character,” he says.

“The bottom line is that it’s the government’s responsibility to provide low and moderate income housing,” Farrell says. “I will bring more housing by identifying revenues.”

Another type of housing discussed is Proposition Q that prohibits tent encampments on City sidewalks. All candidates are in favor of the ban, except one.

“I’m against this,” Young says. “I would like to look at resources provided. No one aspires to be homeless. Nobody wants to be living in a tent on the street. If you provide the services, they will come.”

Young insists that we be laser focused on the mentally ill, calling for more care beds.

“This Prop would put the burden on the SFPD,” he says. “The mentally ill homeless will go into the justice system and impact the tax payers.”

Farrell, who supports Prop Q, suggests a phone number where one could call and get homeless services immediately.

“These people have to be taken care of,” he says. “We need to provide more funding to get people into housing. We have to get the homeless the mental health-care they need and the city has the money.”

Yee points to the new Department of Homelessness.

“I’m very supportive of what they’re doing. They’re talking to people that are putting up tents and helping them find resources. It’s all about building housing

that’s affordable for them.”

Engardio, also in favor of Prop Q, calls the tent encampments unsafe and unsanitary.

“We have to nip it in the bud now. One-third of homeless are mentally ill and suffering on the street,” he says. “You can throw money on housing and job programs, but it won’t help them. We need to focus on the mentally ill and move the needle somewhere.”

Homeless encampments aren’t the only unwanted newcomers to District 7. An influx of coyotes also became a topic of discussion.

“We have two options: to kill them or look at long term,” Young says. “They have become habituated to humans and hazing is a tough sell in the short-term, but in the long term that’s helpful.”

“We can’t mass kill them like the 1920s,” Engardio says. “We have to follow the science. We need to look at the experts and come up with a humane plan.”

Farrell is looking to Animal Care Control.

“If we kill them, they’ll come back,” he says. “Have them [Animal Care Control] educate people on how to deal with coyotes. Give them proper tools of hazing.”

Matranga suggests a graduated scale of aggressiveness.

“When I talk to a mother who says that a coyote was on the school ground at 9am, then it’s gone too far. We make ensure the children are safe and never harmed.”

Tony Taylor is a San Francisco journalist.

L Taraval Line (Cont. from p. 6)

2017 along Santiago and Ulloa Streets, but only in areas not near pilot locations. In areas near pilot locations (which include inbound stops at 26th, 30th, 32nd, 35th and 40th), perpendicular parking would only be implemented if the pilot is unsuccessful. In these areas, perpendicular parking would occur on side streets at the time of construction, which will begin in 2018. Our office will continue to work with SFMTA staff on this proposal and keep residents engaged and informed of any updates.

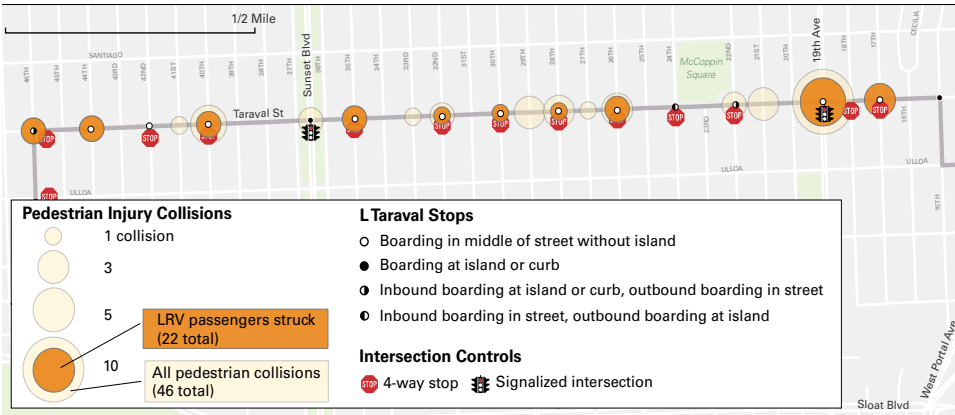
Construction: Construction of other elements including physical boarding islands, bulb-outs, and traffic signals as well as repaving, track replacement and overhead wire replacement, will all take place beginning in early 2018. Construction is expected to last 18-24 months. The SFMTA will be notifying residents who may be affected by construction and the

rerouting of traffic, and will be working closely with our office to minimize the disruption to residents and small businesses.

Additional Safety Measures: The SFMTA has taken suggestions from community members to increase the size of bumper stickers on trains that tell drivers to yield when passengers are boarding/disembarking from the trains. The SFMTA will also be installing flashing LED lights on the rear of trains alerting drivers when train doors are open. We can expect to see these changes take place in January 2017.

Our office would like to thank all of the community members and small businesses who participated and voiced their support and concerns along the way. The safety of our community members is a vital part of this project, and we also hope that transit can become more reliable and efficient for our residents. To stay updated on this project, please visit www.muni-forward.com/l/.

Reported Pedestrian Injury Collisions on Taraval between 15th Ave and 46th Ave ‘09-’13



Senior Smarts By Anise J. Matteson

Getting Ready for Winter



The weather is noticeably warmer—on some days reaching 70°F. September 22 will be the first day of [autumnal equinox] autumn. After Thanksgiving the weather will begin to get colder. Start now to get ready for winter.

Hypothermia is the cause of at least 1,500 deaths a year in the United States. It is more common in older people and males, and has caused deaths among soldiers during wars.[1]

BE PREPARED

Preparation should include:

- Checking your winter wardrobe for mending, replacing, and washing or dry cleaning.
- Warm clothing (hat, scarf, gloves, coat, sweaters, slacks, and socks).
- Warm shoes and slippers.
- Extra food and water.
- Flashlight and batteries.
- Advance Directive.
- Comforter for added warmth to bedding.
- Wash blankets or take to the cleaners.
- Heating system [furnace] is working properly.
- Weatherization (windows and doors) to eliminate drafts.
- Drapes and curtains (insulate the room).
- Cellular blinds. (The air inside the honeycomb structure creates a layer of insulation to help reduce heat cost.[2]

COLD WEATHER RELATED ILLNESS

Older adults are subjected to cold weather related illness due to prolonged exposure to a cold environment indoors (inadequately heated home or in an air-conditioned home.)[3]

HOMEBOUND

The homebound in some religious faiths are referred to as shut-ins.

Webster’s Dictionary defines homebound as confined to the home, and shut-in as confined to one’s home or an institution by illness or incapacity.

Degrees of confinement varies from one week, one month, to never leaving the home except in the case of emergencies, or no more than two days per week.

To learn more about “homebound ministry” see the October 2013 article “Homebound Survival” on page 8.

The article also includes questions for boomer and senior readers:

- If you are homebound, why?
- What are the challenges?
- What tools can help you age in place?

Your feedback is invited.

October 22 is Make A Difference Day. A day when people in the United States perform acts of kindness. Maybe you know a senior who would welcome an act of kindness to help them get ready for winter.

RESOURCES

Pacific Gas and Electric Company. www.pge.com/care. (800) 743-5000.

- **CARE Program (California Alternative Rates for Energy).** (866) 743-2273. Provides a monthly discount on energy bills for income-qualified households and housing facilities.
- **REACH (Relief for Energy**

Assistance). (415) 648-0260. PG&E sponsored program administered by the *Salvation Army*. Provides financial assistance to low-income households. For more information call (800) 933-9677.

- **FERA (Family Electric Rate Assistance).** (800) 743-5000. Provides a monthly discount on electric bills for income-qualified households of three or more persons.
- **LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program).** (866) 675-6623. Provides bill payment assistance, emergency bill assistance and weatherization services. (Department of Community Services and Development.)
- **Medical Baseline.** Provides services at the lowest rates to customers with documented needs. For more information call (800) 743-5000.
- **Energy Partners.** Free energy education and weatherization to income-qualified customers. For more information call (800) 989-9744.

PG&E also provides payment arrangements (payment schedules) and Balanced Payment Plan).

PG&E offers programs for: 1) Residential Single-Family, and 2) Tenants Sub-Metered Facility, per CARE Program Application for Residential Single Family Customers (01-9077 Rev. 06/01/06).

Canon Kip (Canon Kip Senior Center) Aging and Disability Resource Center. (415) 487-3370. Helps seniors and persons with disabilities to process their Pacific Gas & Electric bills with “HEAP Program.”

- **Home Energy Assistance Program** from the Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) provides bill payment assistance once per year to your PG&E bill. Eligibility: Resident of San Francisco. Required documents for application.

Source: Episcopal Community Services of San Francisco, May 2010, Aging and Disability Resource Center. (flyer)

NOTE: Due to submission deadline, this list has not been researched for updates.

FOOTNOTES

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypothermia>
- IKEA catalog
- www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hypothermia/basics/causes/con-20020453

Anise Matteson is an elder care consultant, retired Registered Health Information Technician and writer of reference books for seniors. Seminars by announcement. mattesonecs@yahoo.com.

What is Prop V?



SOME ADVOCATES WANT YOU TO VOTE for something they're calling a... ¹

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...that could raise prices for **MANY ITEMS FOUND IN YOUR GROCERY CART** — not just on soda. ²

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VOTE NO on PROP V**

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DontTaxOurGroceries.com

See for yourself

- ¹ Supporters hope to keep second SF soda tax from going flat
<http://www.sfexaminer.com/supporters-hope-keep-second-sf-soda-tax-going-flat>
- ² If Berkeley shoppers don't have to pay the soda tax, does it really exist?
http://www.mercurynews.com/columns/ci_28170149/barnidge-if-berkeley-shoppers-dont-have-pay-soda
- ³ Grocery Store Owner Opposes SF Grocery Tax <http://bit.ly/AdelAlghazali>

Vote Yes on Prop V: The Soda Tax

By Carol Kocivar © 2016

Last week, I received another one of those slick political mailers urging a “NO” vote on a “grocery” tax. It wasn’t from the butchers or the bakers or the suppliers of fresh fruits and vegetables. Major funding came from the American Beverage Association California PAC, which opposes a Soda Tax on the ballot in San Francisco.

I am totally offended by this campaign. Here’s why:

One of the great health risks our children and families face is drinking too many sugary beverages.

According to the University of California, San Francisco¹, “sugar-sweetened beverages are not only the single largest source of added sugar in our diets, but also the source with the strongest link to the leading chronic diseases in America: diabetes, heart disease and dental caries.”

Diabetes, heart disease, dental cavities. These are simple medical terms that everyone has heard of.

But let me make this real.

WARNING. THE FOLLOWING MAY SCARE THE BEJEEEEZUS OUT OF YOU.

A recent report² by Dr. Dean Schillinger, Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, tells the story:

• “It is not an understatement to say that now, in every doctor’s office in America, there is a largely invisible war being waged against DM2. (Type 2 Diabetes). To place this war in metaphor, we have calculated, based on US war veteran’s data and CDC statistics, that in the 10-year war in Iraq and Afghanistan, 1,572 soldiers lost a limb in combat. In that same time period, approximately 730,000 US residents (and over 70,000 Californians) lost a limb to DM2, a nearly 500-fold difference.

• “Most shocking of all is the recent observation that DM2, once known as “adult-onset diabetes” or, more colloquially, “Grandmas’ disease, is affecting younger and younger people. Twenty-five years ago, diagnosing a

child with DM2 was virtually unheard of...”

• “In neighborhoods with large concentrations of minority populations with low educational attainment, hospitalization for uncontrolled diabetes and its consequences (amputation, kidney failure, etc.) are 4 to 8 times higher than in other neighborhoods.”

• “People with diabetes, on average had medical expenditures approximately 2.3 times higher than what expenditures would be in the absence of diabetes. For the cost categories analyzed, care for people diagnosed with diabetes consumed more than 1 in 5 health care dollars in the US, and more than half of that expenditure was directly attributable to diabetes.”

Had enough? Well, I have.

This is a big deal not only for the physical but also the fiscal health of our city. Below is an estimate³ of the costs to the City in 2013 from the budget analyst for sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs).

Estimated costs to the city is in the lower right column: \$37,257,853.

So what can we do?

On the ballot⁴ in November is Prop. V. This imposes a tax of one cent per ounce on the distribution of sugary beverages in San Francisco. The idea: Increase the cost of sugary drinks to encourage people to make healthier beverage choices.

The beverage companies understand this simple math. If people buy fewer sugary drinks, those companies lose money. Period. Bottom Line. But opposing a public health

effort on these grounds is not a winning argument.

So... spend millions to change the conversation.

Why not call it a grocery⁵ tax—that might sound convincing.

Why not say you are trying to help small business owners instead of the business of BIG SODA?

Why not say politicians want to tax our groceries? Really?

Why not say we have priorities that are more important? (More important than amputations and kidney failure?)

This is a health crisis⁶ we can’t ignore. The next time you get one of those mailers or see an ad on TV, think of it as a reminder:

The beverage industry is afraid, very afraid that they are going to lose lots of money if we pass this effort to improve the health of our community.

NOTE: Opinions expressed in this column are my own. I am not speaking for any organization in which I am a member.



Carol Kocivar is a children’s advocate and lives in the Westside. Feedback: kocivar@west-

sideobserver.com

1. chancellor.ucsf.edu/news/messages-to-campus/ucsf-healthy-beverages-initiative

2. shapeupscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/5.-SF-Expert-Report-Dr.-Dean-Schillinger.pdf

3. sfbos.org/sites/default/files/FileCenter/Documents/47337-BLA%20SugarSweetenedBeverages%20121213%20Rvsd.pdf

4. sfbos.org/sites/default/files/FileCenter/Documents/47337-BLA%20SugarSweetenedBeverages%20121213%20Rvsd.pdf

5. donttaxourgroceries.com/default.aspx

6. www.sfunitedtoreducediabetes.com/



Parkmerced Residents (Cont. from p. 11)

One resident asked what could be done about available street parking in Parkmerced being stolen by SFSU students. The solution of a parking permit, which would be displayed on every Parkmerced vehicle which costs \$135 annually was not suggested. Permitted parking would allow any non-resident in Parkmerced only 2 hours of unfettered parking.

The noise level in Parkmerced during construction was predicted to be much less than what was experienced during the construction of 800 Summit. This was explained by the fact supports are going to be drilled, then, concrete poured into the holes created. This is very different from the construction at 800 Summit whereby steel was pounded into the ground.

One resident, having been offered parking at the time of the signing of their first lease, complained their new apartment agreement provided no such guarantee. No satisfactory answer was provided this resident.

Uber, the private cab service, has offered to provide transportation from Parkmerced to BART at a flat rate of \$5. The traffic congestion from this solution has not been considered.

Shuttle service to public transportation will be provided by Parkmerced management every 10 minutes during commute hours and every 20-30 minutes during off hours.

Free bike service, will allow those to ride from their apartment to public transportation. Then, the bike can be left for residents to use upon their return. Should residents decide to use a shuttle upon their return, there will be no penalty.

The stairs beside the Cambon Shopping Center, providing an opportunity to travel by foot to Junipero Serra Blvd., will be saved during construction, if possible.

Glenn Rogers is a landscape architect who lives in the Westside.

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

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

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

Crime Report (Cont. from p. 14)

suspects, a computer check revealed that one was on probation and the second had a warrant for her arrest. A search of also revealed the stolen items inside her bag. After further investigation, the female suspect was arrested.

Shoplifting with Force

7:35 am | 700 Taraval St
The victim, the manager of the store, observed the suspect who had a history of shoplifting in the store, select an item and told the suspect return it and leave. He punched him in his chest and fled.

Traffic Violation – Cited

10:39 pm | 9th Ave & Irving
A suspect was riding a skateboard on the sidewalk while carrying a bicycle frame and when the officer asked where the he had found it. He could not explain where. He said he did not want the bicycle frame anymore. He was cited for skateboarding on the sidewalk and the frame was booked. It has not been reported stolen or lost.

Monday, September 19

Assault – Warrant Arrest – Arrested

9:21 pm | 200 West Portal Ave

The victim, who appeared to be intoxicated, and have been pepper sprayed and also hit on the head with a bottle. An ambulance was summoned for medical attention. The victim had a warrant for his arrest. He was transport to SFGH and the arrested.

Robbery with a knife – Paraphernalia

9:42 pm | 1700 Ocean Ave
The store manager saw the suspect causing a mess, then go to the candy display and took a candy bar. When he confronted the suspect he pulled a knife threatening the victim, then fled. Officers located the suspect and found a knife and a candy wrapper, as well as a meth pipe. He was arrested.

Stolen Property - False identification

6:30 pm | 1300 La Playa St
A suspect was examining a package on the sidewalk when officers came by. He quickly hid the package and walked away. They found an open container of alcohol along with a package. The suspect gave a false name. When the package was confirmed to have been stolen he was cited.

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



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Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi

Saluting the Flag

The calendar is telling us that summer as we know it is slowly fading into Fall, but not before we get to enjoy the best part of the season, Indian Summer: warm, clear, fogless days to rival the best of our southern neighbors. But as hot as it may get here it will never be as hot as the summers that I spent at Camp Roberts, outside of Paso Robles. For six years I was a member of the 91st Infantry Reserves, stationed at the Presidio in



San Francisco where we attended training every Thursday night in preparation for our two week stay at Camp Roberts. When I joined the reserves in 1955 we were required to spend two years on active duty after finishing college, but by being in the reserves we could take whatever rank we earned with us once we went active. As time went on, the rules kept changing and two years became six months and eventually the requirement was lifted entirely and I finished my obligation in the reserves. The first year that I went to Camp Roberts we went through a form of basic training which started out with a 5 am wake up call, falling out for Reveille while our flag was raised, which signaled the start of another day of running up and down the hills, going to the rifle range, and running through rooms filled with tear gas while trying to recite our serial number

after removing our gas masks. The tears left an indelible mark on my cheeks for days. Lunch was mostly served at the barracks, where we always ate a handful of salt tablets to replenish our body's normal supply; Gatorade had not yet been formulated. After the first week's rigorous training we all got ready for Saturday morning's inspection and parade. Once again we got up early to the sounds of Reveille and yes, we saluted the flag. Shortly after we made up our bunks just a little bit nicer for the inspection and waited for the officers to walk up and down the aisle, avoiding our grungy fatigues but paying particular attention to our highly polished boots. After the inspection came the parade, with hundreds of men marching on the tarmac that by early morning had reached 120 degrees. The best part was listening for the command "dismissed" and at that point it was off to San Luis Obispo or Pismo Beach.

The overnight stay was the highlight of the two weeks as we sadly returned to the post after a brief stay amongst civilians, and with some luck an occasional girl or two. By the second week we were in the groove and ready to take the enemy head on. More running, more target practice, and more sweat, but fortunately no more tear gas. Camp Roberts was also the training ground for the tank crews, and you couldn't find a crazier bunch. They drove those tanks up and down the hills firing at whatever was out there in that scorching heat. It was bad enough on the ground, but just imagine the heat in those tin cans. I'm sure that at night they downed more than just a few salt pills. Looking back, those were the good old days and a chance to meet some new and dear friends. Once back at the Presidio, we had the occasion to head to Fort Berry or Fort Cronkite where we went twice a year for target practice on the range. My most vivid recollection was running up and down the range screaming at the top of my lungs for all to hear, "I'm a dammed fool, I forgot to lock my piece." Some things you never forget. You could have earned your marksmen medal, but safety was paramount on the range. So for the next five years we went back to the same post, the same parade grounds, the same heat and the same barracks, with the same toilets lined up neatly one next to the other. No partitions, no privacy. But the one thing that still stands out so vividly in my mind is waking up early, falling out to the sounds of the bugler playing Reveille, and standing tall and proudly saluting our flag. As I've said for all these years, "God Bless America." Sergio gets around—the world.



With so many things to do, we suggest getting an early start on your want-to-do list.

There's a lot to do at Peninsula Del Rey Retirement Community — clubs, events, socializing, and more.

So, go ahead and make your want-to-do list. But please don't include a bunch of chores. We'll take care of most of those for you.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Fight to ensure San Francisco has enough police officers to meet the needs of a growing city, while supporting common sense reforms that respect the men and women who put their lives on the line.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Ensure the City enforces laws that prevent camping and aggressive panhandling, while demanding accountability so that our streets and facilities get the resources they need.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE

Root out waste, fraud and abuse to ensure vital City services are funded, while opposing tax and fee increases that squeeze working families.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

Demand that Planning Department officials meet with neighborhood leaders, not just developers, while ensuring traffic, environmental and affordability concerns are always addressed.

BEN IS ENDORSED BY:

- Fiona Ma, CPA, BOE Chairwoman
- Angela Alioto, Former Board President
- Barbara Kaufman, Former Board President
- Tony Ribera, Former Police Chief
- San Francisco Police Officers Association
- San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 (#2)
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