

	<b>Patrick Monette-Shaw</b> YES & YES Mr. M-S likes the Housing Commission and the Public Advocate ..... <b>4</b>		<b>Quentin Kopp:</b> Taxpayer's watchdog bites Central Subway, City Attorney, San Diego Chargers ..... <b>3</b>		<b>So Much to Do, So Much to See!</b> Keep current with the WSO calendar of events and happenings ..... <b>14</b>
	<b>Supervisors Tang and Peskin</b> The case for and against the Housing Commission—Prop M ..... <b>9</b>		<b>Tony Hall:</b> Guess who former Supervisor Hall is voting for in the Supervisors race? ..... <b>5</b>		<b>But Who's Counting?</b> 7 Billion? Steve Lawrence reminds us — that's 7000 Million! ..... <b>7</b>

# WESTSIDE OBSERVER

Volume 29 • Number 7      Celebrating Our 29th Year      www.westsideobserver.com      September 2016

## Sewergate: Gushing Costs and Profits in City's War on Whistleblowers



By Dr. Maria Rivero and Dr. Derek Kerr

**T**he fate of high-level City whistleblowers is retaliation. Then immiseration, as internal avenues of redress lead to dead ends, notably Human Resources departments that are harnessed to management and an Ethics Commission that hasn't sustained a retaliation claim since its founding. Whistleblowers can either submit to burial or seek validation externally from courts or the media—at a cost.

“Had the City Attorney's Office taken this case, even at its top billing rate of \$291/hour, the costs would be one-third of almost \$2.2 million in taxpayer funds.”

Take Sewergate—the dispute between City Attorney Dennis Herrera and his former Chief Trial Attorney turned whistleblower, Joanne Hooper. Her lawsuit alleges that the City Attorney's Office enabled a fraud-tinged sewer replacement scheme that drained \$2 million in taxpayer dollars annually, and that Herrera fired her for exposing it. Herrera maintains he fired Hooper for “sub-par performance” and “making reckless and unsupported charges”. To defend himself and the

City Attorney's Office, Herrera retained “outside counsel” - the elite law firm Kecker & Van Nest. Its August 2014 sole-source, no-bid contract granted \$850/hour for an unbounded sum, “Expected to exceed \$50,000.” Now we know by how much.

**Sunshine Records Released**  
Records released after Karl Olson of the ROCK law firm threatened to sue under the Public Records Act, show that between October 8, 2015 and July 27, 2016, Kecker & Van Nest  
*Cont. p. 2*



Joel Engardio      John Farrell      Ben Matranga      Norman Yee      Michael Young

D-7 Supervisorial Candidate Questionnaire

## Choose Your D-7 Board of Supervisors Favorite

By George Wooding

**T**his may be a sneaky way to choose your new District 7 Supervisor. The *Westside Observer* conducted a similar blind survey four years ago, which was an eye-opener for many of our readers.

Despite your current candidate preferences — between candidates Norman Yee (our incumbent Supervisor), Benjamin Matranga, Mike Young, Joel Engardio, or John Farrell — this survey may cause you to select another District 7 candidate instead of your current favorite.

All of the District 7 Board of Supervisor candidates were asked identical questions. Responses to each question were limited to a maximum of 60 words. Candidates were not allowed to answer questions in a way that would allow readers to guess who they were.

No candidate's answer was edited or changed in any way, unless they inadvertently identified who they were. Only two responses by one candidate were edited to remove identifying information. Each candidate was assigned an alphabetical letter (A to E). The candidates keep the same letter throughout the questionnaire.

At the end of the questionnaire, you will be asked to pick your preferred candidate by selecting in order the alphabetical letter(s) of candidate responses that you liked the most.

### Responses to Questionnaire

**1. How will you reduce the increasing amount of crime in District 7 without increasing the cost of police protection?**

□ A. Build a stronger relationship between police and residents via community forums, neighborhood watch groups, businesses, and schools. Promote education on crime prevention and safety. Utilize existing programs to support police and provide them with the equipment and training needed to do their job. Increase police patrolling. Offenders (especially high risk and repeat criminals) must be taken off the streets.

□ B. Increased and better police presence in the neighborhoods and for SFPD to prioritize beat patrol for officers. Would encourage a stronger relationship between police officers and business owners and residents. I would form a taskforce consisting of individuals from police personnel to community members and policy makers to create a police staffing plan for the future based on best practices.

□ C. When property crime is up, more police protection is worth the cost. Let's make sure we have enough police officers on patrol and look to other areas of the budget to make cuts. Years of low crime justified less police presence on the west side, but now it's time to prioritize the level of protection District 7 needs and deserves.

□ D. Demand the District Attorney prosecute crimes as felonies instead of misdemeanors when the option is available. Vehicle burglaries are less

*Cont. p. 3*

## The Leaning Tower of SOMA Guess Who 's Getting Stuck with the Bill?

By John Farrell

**I**n 2008, the Transbay Joint Powers Authority, a public agency, executed an agreement to pay the Millennium Tower for any soil settlement and cracking caused by the construction of the new Transbay Terminal. But after signing the agreement and then doing testing, the City discovered that the 58-story concrete structure had already sunk 10 inches before any work on the Transbay Terminal began. I can't stress enough the importance of accountability and due diligence.

First off, why did the City approved the \$600 million Millennium project without requiring that its anchor piles be drilled into the bedrock? Drilling into the bedrock prevents sinking and has often been required on other projects in parts of the City, especially those built on top of bay mud.

Second, why didn't the Transbay Joint Powers Authority do its due diligence before signing the agreement?

Third, why did the City commence construction after finding

out that the Millennium was faulty without re-negotiating its agreement, or having the Millennium take action to correct its problem?

Taxpayers are now at risk of paying hundreds of millions of dollars for this beautiful tilting/sinking luxury building debacle, and to top it off, the Transbay Terminal project is already over its budget by \$1 billion dollars.

John Farrell, MBA, Former City Asst. Assessor-Budget/Special Projects, Westside resident - farrellreinvestments@yahoo.com



## Circling the Wagons Around Our Coyotes

By Janet Kessler

**C**ontrol of San Francisco's coyotes is under two departments, ACC and RPD. Both have limited knowledge about coyotes, so they brought in an outside consultant to help, particularly with education. If this were working, all would be fine and well. But it isn't. False rumors, say of dens, have been perpetuated rather than calmed by faulty site evaluations. Little if any useful information, help or support

*Cont. p. 6*

“...let's stop removing dense, impenetrable (to humans and dogs), large areas of underbrush and thickets which coyotes use as harborage. In urban settings with so many people and dogs, coyotes need these areas to escape into.”



Sewergate (Cont. from p. 1)



Nest collected 22 checks totaling \$2,179,762. Had the City Attorney's Office taken this case, even at its top billing rate of \$291/hour, the costs would be one-third of almost \$2.2 million in taxpayer funds. The City Attorney's Office held 10 other sole-

turn to when they are in trouble." We asked the City Attorney's Office for policies or legal opinions that justified the sole-source contract with Keker & Van Nest, as well as records showing that public entity attorneys had been solicited to take the case. There were none. As to our query; "Who approves the City Attorney's decision to hire outside counsel?" we were told; "Given that the lawsuit is an active litigation matter, we are disinclined to respond to your questions about it at this time."

Campaign Donations

Pre-trial litigation costs are exploding due to Keker & Van Nest's stratospheric fees and hours. Calculated at \$850/hour, payouts through July 2016 amount to 2,564 hours - equivalent to one attorney working 40 hours a week non-stop for 16 months. Signed 2 years ago, the

Judge Richard Ulmer Denies Team Herrera's Motion

After Herrera dissed Hoeper's claim as "baseless allegations of wrongdoing from a disgruntled former employee," it was expected to be thrown out of court. Instead, on June 2, 2016 Superior Court Judge Richard Ulmer dismantled Herrera's arguments that Hoeper relied on privileged information she obtained as an attorney, ran afoul of the statute of limitations, and failed to tie her termination to her sewer investigation. Ulmer denied the City's motion for summary judgment and granted Hoeper a July 5<sup>th</sup> trial.

Team Herrera appealed to block the trial, arguing that it would cause "irreparable harm to the City" by exposing "privileged information and attorney work-product." This despite the Court's agreeing to seal portions of briefs deemed confidential. Herrera's petition was cast as

upholding a "public interest", namely, preserving the "sanctity of the attorney-client privilege." No mention of a public interest in the City Attorney's handling of thousands of dubious sewer claims, or of the private interest served by prolonging litigation at taxpayer expense.

Appeal Denied — Herrera Moves to a Higher Court

The Appeals Court denied Herrera's petition, but another appeal was filed with the California Supreme Court on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Borrowing the tone of Herrera's 2014 portrayal of Hoeper as angling to "shake-down



Herrera's Chief Trial Attorney Joanne Hoeper

tax-payers," one might ask whether he's doubling as a "rain-maker" for Keker & Van Nest. The City was granted a temporary stay until October 12, 2016. By then, legal fees will be surging toward \$3 million. A Public Advocate audit, and oversight of whistleblower protections, are needed.

1. *Westside Observer*: Sept. & Nov. 2014, Feb. 2015. Online at: [westsideobserver.com/news/watchdog.html](http://westsideobserver.com/news/watchdog.html)

Dr. Maria Rivero and Dr. Derek Kerr repeatedly expose wrongdoing. Contact: [watchdogs@westsideobserver.com](mailto:watchdogs@westsideobserver.com)



source contracts for professional legal services in 2015-16. Unlike the open-ended Keker & Van Nest deal, their pay-outs were capped. None came close to the Keker & Van Nest outlay. All 10 totaled \$1,895,000.

According to City Charter section 6.102, the main reason to retain outside counsel is to avoid conflicts of interests. For example, when Hoeper filed her initial retaliation claim against the City Attorney's Office, it was referred to the Santa Clara County Counsel for independent evaluation since Herrera was the respondent, and therefore conflicted. Hiring outside counsel may also be appropriate for unusual or specialized cases, internal investigations, or to minimize workplace distractions. However, the Charter requires that City officials; "shall give preference to engaging the services of a City attorney's office, a County counsel's office or other public entity law office..."

Keker & Van Nest

How did Herrera come to hire Keker & Van Nest – a private and pricey powerhouse that occasionally does *pro bono* work? Granted, the lead defense attorneys, John Keker and Susan Harrison, served on the Police and Ethics Commissions, respectively. But according to *The California Lawyer*, Keker is "the lawyer other attorneys would

...the City Attorney's Office enabled a fraud-tinged sewer replacement scheme that drained \$2 million in taxpayer dollars annually, and that Herrera fired her for exposing it ... To defend himself and the City Attorney's Office, Herrera retained "outside counsel" - the elite law firm Keker & Van Nest. Its August 2014 sole-source, no-bid contract granted \$850/hour for an unbounded sum, "Expected to exceed \$50,000." Now we know by how much."

retainer agreement identifies 3 attorneys, but doesn't limit the number Keker & Van Nest can assign to the case. As of July, the contract hasn't been amended. Further, it's unlikely that the firm's billing and case-staffing practices are being scrutinized, given its cozy relationship with City Hall. Per Ethics Commission filings, John Keker, Robert Van Nest and 9 of their associates contributed a total of \$5,500 to Herrera's 2005 campaign. Herrera's 2011 mayoral campaign received \$8,000 from 16 Keker & Van Nest attorneys. Other law firms and attorneys supported Herrera, but in 2013 Keker also donated \$25,000 to the America's Cup Organizing Committee at the behest of Mayor Ed Lee.

The Mayor's **\$9.6 billion budget** is \$1 billion more than 2 years ago! **So why are housing, safety and homelessness worse than ever?**

## Where's the Money Going?



**John Farrell has the qualifications and experience — the right tools — to make City Hall accountable.**

**We can no longer afford complacency.**

John knows the workings of City Hall and that business as usual has got to change.

- Mayor's Budget Analyst (Mayor Jordan)
- Senior Analyst for Harvey Rose - Budget Analyst for the Board of Supervisors
- Assistant Assessor-Budget and Special Projects

**By streamlining and identifying new revenue sources, he has a track record of generating millions to fund our City's essential programs and services.**



"I work for you"

# JOHN FARRELL

## DISTRICT 7 SUPERVISOR

Endorsed By:

Tony Hall, Former D7 Supervisor  
Judge Quentin Kopp (Ret.)

Joseph Russoniello, Former US Attorney

[www.johnfarrell4supervisor.com](http://www.johnfarrell4supervisor.com)



Candidates (Cont. from p. 1)

common in Daly City since Daly City prosecutes and punishes these crimes as felonies whereas San Francisco prefers to prosecute them as misdemeanors. We can and should do better.

□ E. Public safety is my top priority. I will fight to ensure San Francisco hires enough police officers to stop this neighborhood crime wave. I will fight to ensure that our officers have the right tools, training and equipment they need, including Tasers. I am proud to have worked with and earned the support of our City's public safety workers---Police Officers and Fire Fighters.

**2. The San Francisco Natural Areas Program (NAP) plans on cutting thousands of non-native trees in the City and replacing them with native trees — mostly saplings. What are your thoughts on this?**

□ A. I am against it. Over time our native trees have adapted alongside non-native ones and cutting them down now will affect the current ecosystem and its habitat. This is an unnecessary expense that wastes funds that could be otherwise used to provide essential City services and programs such as affordable housing, transportation, and family issues.

□ B. The NAP sets a very dangerous precedent for San Francisco and I am deeply concerned with the clear cutting of trees. We need a plan that removes dead and dying trees to keep our residents safe. This plan is a clear example of a long process that doesn't reflect the feedback that was received and results in very problematic recommendations.

□ C. If a tree is in danger of falling, cut it down. But NAP doesn't make sense. At what point in time is "native" defined? Go back far enough and everything was sand. It's also irresponsible to spend money on an evolutionary experiment in our parks when we have failing playgrounds. Recreation for people and pets should be the priority in city parks.

□ D. When practicable, we should live according to our environment's natural demands rather than work against it. A SLOW, gradual replacement of non-native species will preserve our city's aesthetics as we congruently return to our environment's natural state. Remember that, the 1991 Oakland Hills firestorm was exacerbated by non-native, Eucalyptus trees whose oils fed the inferno that destroyed 3,000 homes.

□ E. I would like to learn more about the current state of the ecological health in our significant natural areas. Funding for important environmental stewardship must be provided to protect and preserve our parks. As our population grows, the uses of these facilities becomes much more frequent and we must ensure that all users benefit from our parks system.

**3. How do you intend to increase affordable housing and middle-income housing in District 7?**

□ A. I will identify overlooked revenue sources, hold City departments accountable, cut waste, and allocate funds to build housing. Support increasing height limits in commercial districts to build more affordable and middle-income housing.

Allow legalization of in-law units, as long as they are up to code. Many already exist and provide housing without changing neighborhood aesthetics. Support expediting the permit/appeals process.

□ B. I don't believe in a onsize fits all approach to affordable housing. I want to see a significant investment in our down payment assistance loan program for first time home buyers allowing young families to get support from the city when purchasing a home. I strongly support at least 50% affordable and middleincome housing for the Balboa Reservoir housing development.

□ C. We can preserve single-family neighborhoods while helping families stay in San Francisco. With community input, let's build middle-income housing above retail stores along Muni lines. The new homeowners will revitalize commercial districts by demanding more amenities and we'll create housing for our kids. Seniors looking to downsize can consider an elevator building nearby and stay in the neighborhood they call home.

□ D. Before we build new housing at Stonestown and Balboa Reservoir, we need an honest conversation about the limits of affordable housing mandates without government subsidies. Private financing can only fund so much before going out of business; we would have to commit government resources to meet the remaining demand for affordable and middle-income housing.

□ E. My friends I grew up with can no longer afford to raise their families in the City where they were born. The basic bargain used to be that if you worked hard, your children and their children could look forward to a better life based on hard work and opportunity. Today, that compact is threatened by the increasing cost of living and lack of responsiveness at City Hall.

**4. What are your top transportation priorities for District 7?**

□ A. Safety, efficiency, and planning for future growth. Immediately address high injury corridors. Support Vision Zero. Design our streets to better support its traffic (including pedestrian and bicyclists) in a more efficient and safer way. Modernize MUNI, improve reliability, and ensure there are enough vehicles to support the system. Support the undergrounding of the M line and the Ocean Ave Corridor.

□ B. We need better service. We need more frequency on our bus lines. More reliable vehicle on those same routes. When changes are proposed we need clear and meaningful community involvement. We need to end the war on cars waged by the SFMTA. Finally we need better paratransit services which a lot of our resident use.

□ C. We must underground the M-line from West Portal to Daly City BART. This will serve new housing at Parkmerced and SFSU with more capacity (four-car instead of two-car trains). We'll have a real, end-to-end subway all the way downtown for a faster commute. This will solve the St. Francis Circle traffic tangle

Cont. p. 6

West Of Twin Peaks Central Council By Mitch Bull

NEWS AND VIEWS...

**A**lthough the West of Twin Peaks Central Council (WOTPCC) has been on their summer recess, it's not to say they haven't been busy.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM for the District 7 Supervisor Candidates Forum. The WOTPCC is hosting the event (sponsored by this publication) at the Forest Hills Clubhouse, and is planning a standing room only crowd to hear each of the five District 7 candidates.

Incumbent supervisor Norman Yee, and challengers Joel Engardio, John Farrell, Ben Matranga and Michael Young will all field questions and give their visions of how they would represent District 7, if elected in the upcoming November election.

There is no charge to attend, and the event is expected to run until approximately noon.

For more information, check the WOTPCC website at [www.westoftwinpeaks.org](http://www.westoftwinpeaks.org).

The next regular meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at the Forest Hill Clubhouse.

For more information see the WOTPCC website ([www.westoftwinpeaks.org](http://www.westoftwinpeaks.org)).

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor By Quentin Kopp



"I contend that for a nation to try and tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle." That emanates from the great Winston Churchill, whom I haven't seen replicated in my lifetime. One of the continuing wasteful City Hall projects is the Central Subway. Others and I proclaimed its demerits, futilely, five years ago, but the ponderous \$1,600,000,000 plus project survived with funding primarily from our tax payments in the Federal Transit Administration. The inconvenience caused to Union Square, bicyclists and motorists speaks for itself. Motor vehicle access from Geary Street to Market Street on Stockton Street has been barred during construction, and the San Francisco Metropolitan Transportation Authority (SFMTA) announced during this newspaper's summer "recess" the notion of stopping such access permanently to motor vehicles, much to the consternation of several Union Square businesses and the embrace of other such businesses. During our "recess," the City Controller reported that an architectural consultant for the Central Subway overcharged taxpayers thousands of dollars, which MTA doesn't care about recovering until project completion, whenever that occurs.

Additionally, a virtual last-minute amendment of Assembly Bill No. 1889 will seize \$1,100,000,000 illegally from the High-Speed Passenger Train Bond of 2008 for Metrolink commuter train service in Southern California and defraying the \$1,000,000,000-plus cost of electrifying the Caltrain commute rail system from San Francisco to San Jose. Not only does that measure, probably signed by an eager Governor before this journal reaches readers, constitute a perversion of such bond measure, but it represents yet another violation of using taxpayer obligated bond borrowing that already allocates over \$60,000,000 from the high-speed rail bond issue to the Central Subway project, which abolishes connectivity of the Central Subway to the fanciful proposed high-speed rail station at the Transbay Terminal.

While I'm discussing battering of

...let's consider the plight of San Diego taxpayers, who'll be asked in the November election to raise San Diego's hotel tax from 12.5% to 16.5% to pay for a \$1,800,000,000 new football stadium and convention center ... although the Chargers will contribute, even with \$300,000,000 from the National Football League, a mere one third of the total cost. Billionaire professional sports team owners continue to use taxpayers to subsidize their moneymaking toys..."

taxpayers, let's consider the plight of San Diego taxpayers, who'll be asked in the November election to raise San Diego's hotel tax from 12.5% to 16.5% to pay for a \$1,800,000,000 new football stadium and convention center. The San Diego Chargers qualified an initiative to do that, although the Chargers will contribute, even with \$300,000,000 from the National Football League, a mere one third of the total cost. Billionaire professional sports team owners continue to use taxpayers to subsidize their moneymaking toys, just as the once-beloved 49ers did to Santa Clara taxpayers. There are exceptions: The Golden State (San Francisco) Warriors basketball team and the Los Angeles Rams football team, which is building its own stadium on its own property, the former Hollywood Park Racetrack in Inglewood, California.

One of the more perplexing (and vexing) examples of City Hall spending bloat involves a lawsuit by a former chief trial deputy in the City Attorney's office who sued the City and County in 2015 for wrongful employment discharge and treatment, alleging the firing followed her reporting of improper payment of sewer claims by the City Attorney's office. Instead of defending the case with its own attorneys (and there are 180 of them in the office), the City Attorney hired private downtown attorneys, who are competent, but expensive. Taxpayers have now been charged over \$2,000,000 (!) for defending

Department had 136 applications during a 12-day period in June, but received 467 applications during the 12 days after the July 7, 2016 killings. Heather Mac Donald, a fellow at the Manhattan Institute, and author of "The War on Cops," published this past summer, has noted that a "deadly force study" by a Washington State University researcher in 2014 found police officer participants were biased "in favor of black suspects over white or Hispanic ones in simulated threat scenarios." In 2015, a U.S. Department of Justice study found that white police officers "were less than likely than black or Hispanic officers to shoot unarmed black suspects" in the Philadelphia Police Department. Finally, a July 2016 analysis of racial differences in police use of force by a Harvard College economics professor found, in Mac Donald's words, "zero evidence of racial bias in police shootings." I agree with Mac Donald: it's time to stop the demonizing of police.

I end by reflecting on the life of a West Portal native, the late Warren Hinckle, who enlivened the lives of not only his daughters Pia and Hillary, (and his son Warren Hinckle IV), but also other family members and all who knew this genuine San Franciscan. As the late Arthur Godfrey said on radio after Franklin D. Roosevelt's passing, "God bless his gaudy guts."

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

Brian Brown Sinks SFPUC. . . . .	5	Crime Report . . . . .	12	Senior Smarts . . . . .	19
Letters to the Editor . . . . .	7	Around the Town . . . . .	13	Kocivar / Education . . . . .	20
Durst: Voters Dilemma . . . . .	7	Calendar . . . . .	14	Outside Lands . . . . .	21
St. Cecillas is 100!. . . . .	8	Movies/Theater . . . . .	15	Health Matters . . . . .	21
Money Matters . . . . .	10	Jack Kaye . . . . .	17	Real Travel . . . . .	23
Prop C. . . . .	11	Remember When / Open Late . . . . .	18		



Open Government: Two Crucial Ballot Measures  
Support Housing Commission, Public Advocate

By Patrick Monette-Shaw

Whether you live in San Francisco’s West Side, or elsewhere in the City, two “good government” measures on November’s municipal ballot — one to create a Commission having oversight of both the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) and the Mayor’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development (MOEWD), and one to create an elected Public Advocate — are crucial to open government in San Francisco. Both measures deserve your unqualified support.

Prop. M: Housing and Development Commission Desperately Needed

As I have previously reported in the *Westside Observer*, there are a whole host of problems with MOHCD and the Mayor’s housing policies.

With “Prop. C” in 2012, voters mistakenly approved handing MOHCD sole discretion over how it will spend the \$1.3 billion to \$1.5 billion allocated to the City’s Housing Trust Fund (HTF) that will be diverted from the City’s General Fund.

Documents prepared by MOHCD acknowledge it’s overseeing nearly \$3 billion in affordable housing funds. Currently, MOHCD has sole discretion over all spending allocation decisions, with scant oversight by the citizens of San Francisco.

Supervisor Mark Farrell’s Nonsense

Supervisor Mark Farrell’s August 9, 2016 *San Francisco Examiner* Op-Ed titled “New, costly ‘Peskin Commission’ is not the answer to the housing crisis,” opposed creation of a Commission having oversight over MOHCD and OEWD, was a classic example of an *ad hominem* attack, in which Farrell wrongly attacked Supervisor Aaron Peskin.

First, Farrell’s Op-Ed asserted the Housing Commission would be expensive, wrongly alleging the “City Controller found that the ‘Peskin Commission’ would come at a great cost. We’re talking about millions of dollars — and the taxpayers will be left holding the bag,” Farrell falsely claimed.

Farrell had to have been exaggerating. In response to a public records request, the City Controller provided two nearly identical documents on August 15, in which the Controller noted the increased cost to City government would be a negligible \$210,000 annually (a mere 0.0022% of the City’s \$9.7 billion budget, far less than one-hundredth of one percent of the budget). Farrell appears to feel it’s OK to issue blatant distortions in a major media news outlet.

Second, Farrell claimed a Housing Commission would slow down construction of new affordable housing. This is laughable, given MOHCD’s own unnecessary delays. For instance, MOHCD admitted to the Citizens’ General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee (CBOB) on July 28 that the first “tranche” (a “slice,” or portion, of a multi-part bond series) planned for issuance in the second quarter of calendar year 2016 now won’t be

issued until the fourth quarter, possibly in November 2016, a full year after voters passed the bond.

Why is it taking MOHCD so long to issue the first bond tranche, and why is MOHCD’s delay of no concern to Farrell?

Farrell ignores having a Housing and Development Commission develop and set MOHCD’s housing policies might actually speed up affordable housing construction. And he ignores MOHCD’s “sole discretion” would be replaced by a requirement that the Housing Commission hold open-to-the-public hearings to develop a five-year plan for affordable housing projects, creating greater transparency and accountability.

Olson Lee’s Gravitas and Stonewalling Under “Sole Discretion”

At the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee meeting June 30, reported in the *San Francisco Examiner*, current MOHCD director Olson Lee expressed concern he would lose the “gravitas” (importance) of being a Department Head by having to report to a Commission, rather than reporting to the Mayor. Olson ignored that public officials in Washington and Sacramento routinely deal with San Francisco “department heads” who report to a Commission, such as Barbara Garcia at the Department of Public Health, Lee-Ann Pelham at Ethics, and Joanne Hayes-White at the Fire Commission, among many others.

This isn’t about Olson Lee’s “gravitas” entitlement. It’s about the policies he enacts or opposes, given he has *carte blanche* to develop planned affordable housing projects at MOHCD’s sole discretion.

Take, for instance, Olson Lee’s opposition to housing cooperatives being eligible to receive funding under MOHCD’s Small Sites Acquisition program, despite both Mayor Lee’s and the Planning Department’s assertions housing co-ops are a definitive form of affordable housing. In many sections, San Francisco’s 2014 Housing Element consistently calls for including “housing cooperatives” for support,



and presumably, for funding.

Housing element law requires local governments to plan for their housing needs, by providing opportunities for housing development, rather than constraining opportunities. Why Olson Lee appears to want to constrain MOHCD’s Small Sites Acquisition program from funding housing cooperatives isn’t known.

On July 25, MOHCD responded to a records request saying that the “Middle-Income Buy-In Program” represents MOHCD’s intention to include middle income units in a variety of mixed-income developments. “These funds will be disbursed as long-term loans, at below-market interest rates. Anticipated project types receiving the funds will include developments combining low-income and middle-income units; market-rate and middle-income units; and market-rate, middle-income, and low-income units. The goal is to combine the bond proceeds with the best available leveraged financing in order to maximize the production of middle-income units. Actual projects and per-unit loan amounts are still to be determined.” At its July 28 meeting, CGOBOC hadn’t been apprised of spending category changes “still to be determined.”

How did we get to the point that MOHCD will be issuing long-term loans at below-market interest rates to build market-rate housing? Inexplicably, MOHCD is now proposing to build market-rate housing, another bait-and-switch.

“...MOHCD’s “sole discretion” would be replaced by a requirement that the Housing Commission hold open-to-the-public hearings to develop a five-year plan for affordable housing projects, creating greater transparency and accountability.”

Developers Masquerading as Housing Advocates

Peter Cohen and Fernando Marti — co-directors of San Francisco’s Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO) — noted in their July 27, 2016 *San Francisco Examiner* Op-Ed, that “As long as developer front groups masquerading as ‘housing advocates’ and some politicians continue to chase after false solutions based on 1980’s-era deregulation policies, they will fail to meet the increasingly dire housing needs of Californians.”

There are reports that MOHCD has approved loans to “regular” (i.e., for-profit) developers, not just to non-profit developers. Community concerns about for-profit developers are real and widespread, and of legitimate concern.

George Wooding, president of the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN), says:

“San Franciscans must remember MOHCD is the ‘black hole’ of bad governance. The more ‘bad’ loans City Hall issues to private, for-profit developers, the more bad debt San Franciscans will end up assuming. Should developers abandon failing projects, the City will

be responsible for covering costs, making MOHCD the “Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac” of our City.”

Under Olson Lee’s “leadership,” MOHCD has preserved the status-quo of his own making. A Housing and Development Commission will go a long way toward providing greatly needed and increased oversight, and policy development guidance.

Wooding added:

“San Franciscans don’t want Olson Lee determining behind closed doors the financial health of San Francisco. We deserve strong oversight, transparency, and accountability over MOHCD.”

Endorsements for Prop. M

Endorsements supporting “Prop. M” include CSFN, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, San Francisco’s Latino Democratic Club, and San Francisco’s Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC), among others. Please join them, and I: Vote “Yes” on “Prop. M”!

Prop. H: Public Advocate

Given decades of soft-corruption in San Francisco largely gone uncorrected, San Franciscans deserve to have an elected Public Advocate to champion reforms. It’s time San Francisco joins New York City, Portland, and Seattle in creating a Public Advocate. New York saved \$170 million alone in 2015 by investigating city contracts.

Supervisor David Campos, “Prop. H’s” principal author says:

“This measure is about making San Francisco government more accountable, transparent and accessible. In New York and other jurisdictions, the Public Advocate saved tens of millions of dollars and the same should happen in San Francisco.”

San Francisco city departments have been run too long without sufficient public accountability, seeking to preserve the status quo. “City Hall family” members and former San Francisco mayors want to keep it that way. “Prop H” will restore checks and balances at City Hall.

San Francisco doesn’t have a central office responsible for overseeing how City departments interact with the public, or for reviewing administration of City agency programs. Under “Prop. H,” a Public Advocate will receive, investigate, and attempt to resolve complaints concerning City services and programs.

Although members of the Board of Supervisors have legislative aides, those aides are principally focused on developing district-level and citywide legislation, and other policymaking work. They aren’t focused on addressing constituent concerns in their respective districts. The Board’s legislative aides have next to no authority to perform investigations of programs and services.

The Public Advocate will perform both constituent services and investigations of City programs and services, including the distribution and mix of

Cont. p. 11



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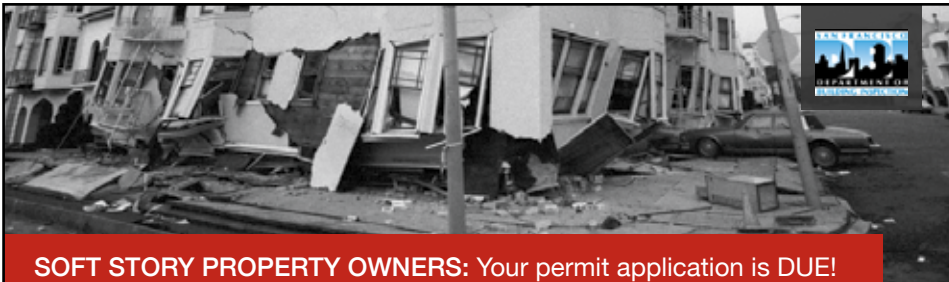
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SOFT STORY PROPERTY OWNERS: Your permit application is DUE!

If you are a property owner of a multi-unit building with 3-stories and 15+ units, your permit application is due by September 15, 2016, which is less than 15 days away.

Turn in your permit application to DBI by September 15 to avoid getting this placard and a Notice of Violation on your property.

Find out if your property is on the list by visiting [sfdbi.org/soft-story-properties-list](http://sfdbi.org/soft-story-properties-list).





# Is the SFPUC a bank with a side business in water, wastewater, and power?

By Brian Browne

I recently met with District 3 Supervisor, Aaron Peskin, to discuss SFPUC financing and infrastructure issues. Supervisor Peskin's return to the Board is welcomed by all concerned about the SFPUC and prudent financial review. Let me go over some of the input I provided.



SFPUC'S FORECAST OF COSTS, VOLUMES AND REQUIRED REVENUES (\$millions)											
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Annual Increase
O&M	198.2	189.3	192.8	198.5	204.5	210.6	198.2	217.0	223.5	230.2	2.01%
Debt Service	197.5	228.6	232.3	258.3	313.0	346.8	361.4	400.8	424.6	429.4	9.01%
Other	78.9	83.9	86.6	112.1	111.1	97.1	106.9	113.2	119.5	134.6	6.25%
Total Cost	\$473.7	\$501.8	\$511.7	\$568.9	\$628.6	\$654.5	\$685.3	\$737.5	\$774.3	\$801.1	6.01%
Tot Volume MGD	179.0	174.0	174.0	173.9	115.0	173.9	173.0	173.9	173.9	173.9	-0.32%
Percent Debt	41.7%	45.6%	45.4%	45.4%	49.8%	53.0%	52.7%	54.3%	54.8%	53.6%	

Using SFPUC's data I developed the above Table to summarize my concerns as to its financial stewardship. For the period 2016 – 2025 it forecast a modest annual increase in O&M of 2.01%. Debt service is forecast to increase annually by 9.01 percent. Currently it is stating debt service is 41.7 percent of total costs. By 2025 it predicts debt service will be 53.6 percent of total costs. This large increase in debt service to repay revenue bonds will drive total costs up by an annualized rate of 6.01 percent.

During this period the SFPUC forecast that total water volumes sold will remain steady or fall slightly. An accurate forecast of volumetric sales is important. The general equation for setting a rate is to divide total costs (numerator) by total volumes (denominator). This is a benchmark coefficient used in the revenue requirement approach to ratemaking. Revenues = O&M + Debt + Other = Establishes Rates.

The SFPUC's rate model (algorithm) assumes that the elasticity of demand will remain at -0.25 (for every one percent increase in price quantity demanded will only decrease by .25 [hence the minus

sign]) for the entire forecast period (2016-2025), and that the service area population growth will increase by 0.5 percent annually to offset decreasing customer demand by these large rate hikes. This estimation of -0.25 is a misuse of the concept of demand elasticity. Its validity as a policy tool and for decision making by the SFPUC (or by its consultants) must be seriously questioned.

The substitution effect (2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Demand) acting on consumer preferences (artificial lawns for real lawns) will, over time, increase this negative coefficient and require even higher prices to keep revenues equal to escalating costs. Should this dog chasing its tail phenomenon continue, there is a strong possibility that future price increases will result in lower total revenues after rate increases, with a disastrous impact on SFPUC's O&M and capital budgets. For the 101A Economic types this is where demand is or becomes elastic.

Serious thought must be given to adjust the marginal cost (supply) of resource use, especially during drought cycles. It is not obvious that the SFPUC has seriously considered this in its complex

Cont. p. 6

# He's Got My Vote

By Former District 7 Supervisor Tony Hall



For too long, the residents from West of Twin Peaks have not had a strong, independent and earnest voice in City Hall. The concerns of homeowners, taxpayers, renters, small businesses and indeed most residents of District 7 have been underrepresented in the deliberations at City Hall. This is why so many people West of Twin Peaks feel as if their tax dollars, their hard work, and their issues don't matter, and why so many have grown frustrated and alienated from their own city government.

I'm very excited that we now have an opportunity to elect someone as our Supervisor who really will effect change. Someone who is truly qualified in every way to represent our diverse and unique seventh district. Someone who will not be a rubber stamp for the political machine that is running this City, or a sell-out to "special interests" in order to get elected. That someone is JOHN FARRELL.

JOHN FARRELL knows exactly how our City government is working, and more importantly, how it should be working. He knows our City bureaucracy intimately from decades of work as an administrator and executive in various City departments.

John has worked as a Senior Analyst for the Board of Supervisors Auditor Harvey Rose to identify waste and misuse of public funds. Under Mayor Frank Jordan, John worked as a Budget Analyst and Assistant Assessor. His experience as the Financial Director for the Treasure Island Development Authority, as a Senior Management Assistant for the Port Authority, and as a Recreation and Parks Director has provided him with an unusually well-qualified background.

John has identified over \$200 Million in missed revenue opportunities that the City has ignored. In recent years he has been a tireless advocate for improved government service as a successful small business owner and community representative. One only has to meet John, or read

one of his many columns on City government in our neighborhood newspaper, the *Westside Observer*, to know that he possesses that rare combination of intelligence, honesty, and experience so rarely found in people who have made the decision to enter public service.

As a fifth generation San Franciscan, John comes from a long line of successful public servants who dedicated their lives to making this City great. His father was appointed Controller by Mayor Joseph Alioto in 1973 to clean up the corruption and disarray that existed in that office.

His grandfather was a Muni driver, his uncle a Sergeant for the SFPD.

As a former Supervisor, I know how hard it is to try and function as a true and honest representative of the people who place their trust in you. It is not an easy job. It is a position that requires tremendous personal self-sacrifice and a desire to help make our City into the healthy, functioning, unique and beautiful metropolis that it should be.

John is the only candidate in this upcoming election in District 7 who has the proven abilities of experience, honesty, and sincere intentions that can make us all once again proud of our Supervisor.

A vote for John Farrell is a vote for the welfare and future of all San Franciscans.

Tony Hall served twice as Supervisor for District 7

...I know how hard it is to try and function as a true and honest representative of the people who place their trust in you."

# MUNI PASS PRICES SEPT. 1, 2016



## ADULT "A" MONTHLY PASS

INCLUDES BART WITHIN SF

\$86.00

成人"A"月票 (三藩市內可乘坐BART) • Pase mensual "A" para Adulto (incluye BART dentro de SF) • 大人用「A」マンスリーパス (SF内のBARTを含む) • 성인 "A" 월 패스 (SF내 BART 포함) • Adult "A" na Buwanang Pases (Kabilang ang BART sa loob ng SF) • Взрослый месячный проездной билет категории "A" (включая BART внутри СФ) • Titre mensuel pour adulte « A » (inclut BART dans SF) • Thẻ Tháng Người lớn "A" (Bao gồm BART trong SF) • บัตรผ่านสำหรับผู้ใหญ่ "A" แบบรายเดือน ผ่าน (รวม BART ภายใน SF) • تصريح الركوب الشهري للبالغين "A" (يشمل ركوب مواصلات شبكة BART داخل سان فرانسيسكو)

## ADULT "M" MONTHLY PASS

MUNI ONLY

\$73.00

成人 "M" 月票 (只適用於Muni) • Pase mensual "M" para Adulto (Muni únicamente) • 大人用「M」マンスリーパス (Muniのみ) • 성인 "M" 패스트 패스 (Muni 전용) • Adult "M" na Buwanang Pases (Muni Lamang) • Взрослый месячный проездной билет категории "M" (только транспорт Muni) • Titre mensuel pour adulte « M » (Muni seulement) • Thẻ Tháng Người lớn "M" (Chỉ Muni mà thôi) • บัตรผ่านสำหรับผู้ใหญ่ "M" แบบรายเดือน ผ่าน (เฉพาะ นักบวช เท่านั้น) • تصريح الركوب الشهري للبالغين "M" (لركوب مواصلات شبكة Muni فقط)



## DISCOUNT MONTHLY PASS

YOUTH/SENIOR/PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

\$25.00

折扣 (青少年/長者/殘障人士) 月票 (只適用於Muni) • Pase mensual con descuento (Joven/Adulto mayor/Incapacitado) (Muni únicamente) • 割引 (年少者/高齢者/障害者) マンスリーパス (Muniのみ) • 할인 (청소년/시니어/장애우) 월 패스 (Muni 전용) • Diskuwentong (Kabataan/Nakatatanda/Tao na May Kapansanan) Buwanang Pases (Muni Lamang) • Льготный (для молодежи, пожилых и инвалидов) месячный проездной билет (только транспорт Muni) • Titre mensuel (Muni seulement) à prix réduit (jeunes/seniors/handicapés) • Thẻ Tháng Giảm giá (Thiếu niên/Cao niên/Người Mất Năng Lực) (Chỉ Muni mà thôi) • ส่วนลด (เยาวชน / อาวุโส/คนพิการ) ผ่านรายเดือน (สำหรับนักบวช เท่านั้น) • تصريح الركوب الشهري المخفض (للشباب/ كبار السن/ ذو الإعاقة) (لركوب مواصلات شبكة Muni فقط)



## LIFELINE MONTHLY PASS

LOW INCOME ADULT

\$36.00

成人Lifeline 月票 (低收入) • Pase mensual Lifeline para Adulto (Bajos ingresos) • 大人用ライフラインマンスリーパス (低所得) • 성인 라이프라인 월 패스 (저소득) • Adult Lifeline na Buwanang Pases (Mababang Kita) • Взрослый месячный проездной билет Lifeline (лайфлайн) (для малоимущих) • Titre mensuel Lifeline pour adulte (faible revenu) • Thẻ Tháng Lifeline Người lớn (Thu nhập Thấp) • บัตรผ่านสำหรับผู้ใหญ่ รายเดือน (รายได้ ต่ำ) • تصريح الركوب الشهري مدى الحياة للكبار (لمحدودي الدخل)





**Coyotes** (Cont. from p. 1)

reaches the public, and an informational meeting last October did nothing to calm the public's anxiety level — it was a disaster. Participation from other veteran specialists has been suggested and offered, but ACC and their one-consultant are instead circling-the-wagons, as if everyone else were an enemy instead of a resource.

Let's back up a little . . .

The consultant was chosen from outside the city based on her list of notable and highly educated biologist "advisors". But on further examination, not one of these advisors studies, or has any experience with, urban coyotes. In addition, coyote coexistence can't function as a 'cookie cutter' program imposed from without — it needs local knowledge and guidance.

Due to the public's overwhelming dissatisfaction with ACC's laissez-faire coyote program, ACC is now charged with producing a "coyote management plan". This is a blueprint for how to coexist, requiring a description of urban coyote behaviors and how to respond to certain of these in order to keep the interface between humans and animals safe for both.

Instead of a true plan, the "ACC team" has supported radio-collaring and tagging of coyotes. This might be suitable for a graduate study — but not for a management program. Collars/tags may look dramatic for a news story, but, ultimately, they provide no data for management. And, they damage coyotes. Cataloguing of individual coyotes or families, if needed, can be accomplished by knowing their behavior, through sightings and ground transects.

So, reliance on an exclusive consultant hasn't worked. Outreach has been minimal and solutions offered were insufficient or ineffective — so much so that neighborhoods are skirting ACC by calling in a more seasoned expert — Mary Paglieri, Behavioral Ecologist and Human-Wildlife Conflict Expert/Manager with 17+ years of hands-on urban coyote experience. But she is being kept out of ACC's loop. Should the Supervisors (who oversee ACC) be allowing this exclusion in a department with this track record?

A "Management Plan" must start from understanding urban coyote behavior, family dynamics, territoriality, and habitat within particular environments. "Specifics" about coyotes, which tagging/collaring might approximate, are in constant flux — it's only the overall picture which will inform for this purpose. In my ten years of documenting, for instance, I continue to see ONE family in most parks, with a slight fluctuation in members over time as pups are born and disperse.

Also, coyotes move around, and dens are moved, so pinpointing these at any particular time won't aid anyone and may

create a false sense of security or even the opposite, a greater sense of fear. Dens usually are in very secluded places — exact locations will have no impact for management unless right on or close to a path in which case, yes, it should be marked and foot-traffic diverted. But dog-walkers in any area of the parks will continue to be caught unawares unless they remain vigilant; this is what needs to be addressed.

What CAN be done? —

1) More signage and intensive educational outreach — "no dog-owner left behind" — for instance, at all pet-adoption centers and when dogs are licensed.

2) Emphasize dog-walkers' need for constant vigilance/awareness. Then, whether a coyote has been spotted far off, is approaching, or suddenly appears under foot, the "first line of action" for any dog-walker should be total avoidance — not hazing, which is engagement. This protocol, developed by Mary Paglieri, is easy to follow, especially for dog-walkers with little coyote knowledge or experience, and those who are fearful.

Elderly or fearful people shouldn't be taught to "haze"/harass coyotes, taught by ACC. Walking away accomplishes what is needed; the coyote's entire intention in approaching is to move dog and walker away. So, do it!

Vulnerable smaller dogs which might be viewed as prey should be picked up immediately. Guidelines should detail this.

3) Let's provide secure fenced play areas for small dogs.

4) Increase education about coyote behaviors to promote understanding and compassion instead of fear. Tolerance for coyotes can also be increased by improving communication with the community (you can't just say, "learn to coexist"). Coexistence can't work if humans remain hostile.

5) Understanding the gamut of human behaviors, attitudes and perceptions towards these animals is crucial — try questionnaires and written reports of incidents.

6) Finally, let's stop removing dense, impenetrable (to humans and dogs), large areas of underbrush and thickets which coyotes use as harborage. In urban settings with so many people and dogs, coyotes need these areas to escape into. Removing this dense foliage makes them more visible and allows dogs constant access into what once was "their" exclusive areas — more negative encounters between dogs and coyotes result. It also may make coyotes more prone to look for equally "open" spaces elsewhere, as they get used to these constant intrusions.

*Janet Kessler has been photo-documenting and writing about urban coyote behavior, people and pets, in San Francisco parks, for ten years.*

**SFPUC** (Cont. from p. 5)

and implosive rate algorithm. There is no mention of "identification" as to supply vs. demand shifts.

The financial-gaming approach used by the SFPUC to utility debt issuance, use of funds, and debt service must be questioned. The hijacking of the Revenue Bond Oversight Committee (RBOC) by politicians, bureaucrats, along with their willing committee-collaborators, must now be challenged under a large legal microscope. The Mayor's Taskforce established this Committee as an independent watchdog, not a compliant lapdog.

I provided Supervisor Peskin with two important documents provided by the SFPUC via a Sunshine (FOI) request: 1) The SFPUC's computer model that supposedly sets your water and sewer rates and supposedly explains the economics behind the SFPUC's ascending block tariffs and 2) A copy of SFPUC's Excel bond issuances (see summary below). I made an explanatory video of the latter document, which I uploaded to YouTube, calling it; "Kicking the Debt into the Future." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhHgZssLdhY>.

I explained to Supervisor Peskin that the SFPUC rate model was delivered to me with only half its content obviously accessible (Excel worksheets) and without any explanatory documentation to understand relational links. It was confusing and near-impossible to decipher coherent paths of programming logic. This model is estimated to have cost ratepayers between \$400,000 and \$500,000 and was developed by outside consultants. This model cost will be "blended" (SFPUC jargon) into your water rates.

A well-organized and systematic utility system in expending external capital has a clear path to follow. It issues short-term debt to fund properly planned capital improvements. At the completion of the plan and build cycle (work-in-progress) the capitalized value of these short term loans are retired through the issuance of revenue bonds. All bond issues should be accompanied by a detailed prospectus delineating precisely what the funds will be used for, and how these expenditures will be monitored. As a member of the RBOC I always had a good chuckle when I saw this hijacked committee as being named a

**Candidates** (Cont. from p. 3)

with above-ground trains and improve 19th Ave. congestion.

❑ D. Crossing the metro tracks on 19th, West Portal, and Ocean is a risky adventure for pedestrians and cars. We should underground the metro and free up precious street space to accommodate more pedestrian-friendly thoroughfares and encourage slower vehicular traffic. Maximize the use of refuge islands, raised surfaces, and traffic calming techniques.

❑ E. I have worked directly to take on the City's transportation challenges and will prioritize pedestrian safety and improve MUNI reliability. At City Hall, I cut red tape and delivered more than 13 miles of street safety improvements on time and under budget. I will fight to make MUNI safer, cleaner and more reliable and reduce traffic congestion.

**5. How would you handle District 7's coyote problem?**

❑ A. I will support providing necessary funds to the SF Animal Care and Control for their training in handling of this problem as well as educating residents in prevention and safety, and for purchasing hazing instruments needed to condition coyotes to fear people and minimize conflict.

❑ B. The city needs to work with neighborhoods and neighbors to address the problem. The current "leave it alone" mentality is simply unacceptable. People need better information and better options to deal with coyotes. The city needs to work with neighbors to address their concerns and do a much better job at tracking and monitoring coyotes.

❑ C. Just trapping and killing coyotes in District 7 won't work when more will trot over the Golden Gate Bridge from Marin County. We must give San Francisco Animal Care and Control the resources it needs to collaborate with counterpart agencies in other counties to find a scientifically informed, humane and sustainable solution to keep the entire Bay Area safe.

❑ D. I favor "the harder right over the easier wrong". We must re-instill the fear of humans into coyotes by teaching neighbors "hazing" techniques: making loud noises and waving arms when encountering coyotes. This has worked in Denver, Vancouver, and Los Angeles. Killing coyotes is costly, dangerous, and studies show that coyote populations usually bounce back even after aggressive killing campaigns.

❑ E. My campaign has knocked on over 10,000 doors and held nearly 20 house parties all across District 7 listening to neighborhood concerns. I have heard from numerous neighbors regarding an increase in coyote activity including very serious concerns about coyote incidents near our elementary schools. I support funding the Department of Animal Care &

Control to have the expertise to fully and appropriately address this issue. This is not currently happening.

**6. What are your top three (3) City budget priorities?**

❑ A. 1) Identify current revenue sources that have not been addressed. Review revenue practices to ensure all revenue sources are identified. 2) Hold City departments accountable, streamline and cut unnecessary expenditures. 3) Prioritize essential services and programs. Ensure vital City needs are met. Audit non-profit agencies and City contracts to ensure services are provided and necessary.

❑ B. Public Safety, Pedestrian Safety and a fair share for District 7. We need more resource for SFPD. We need more investment to make our streets safer for pedestrians. We need to ensure that District 7 gets its fair share of resource for important capital improvements like sewers and road re-pavement and important programs like child-care and senior centers.

❑ C. The biggest budget threats are the salaries of too many city employees (nearly 30,000!), unfunded liabilities that will balloon and a reliance on "set-asides" that limit accountability. At \$9.6 billion, the budget has doubled since 2004. Nothing is twice as good. We need to investigate how our money is being spent, measure for results and only pay for what works.

❑ D. 1) Police: by 2018 we will lose 400 police officers to early retirement. Current academy classes will produce only 200 more officers — we need more classes! 2) Housing: help hard working families avoid low-income status by creating more middle-income housing; this is good for our city's stability; 3) City government hiring freeze until we sort out the swollen city budget.

❑ E. My top three budget priorities are public safety, addressing quality of life concerns, and funding vital services like road repaving, tree maintenance, and graffiti removal. The Board of Supervisors recently passed the largest budget in our City's history — \$9.6 billion — yet it is not balanced and relies on tax increases to fund basic services. I will use my experience in finance to root out waste, fraud and abuse to ensure that real fiscal discipline and accountability is prioritized at City Hall.

Heard enough? Please pick your preferred candidate by selecting in order the alphabetical letter(s) of candidate responses that you liked the most. Then compare your preferred responses to the legend of names of D-7 candidates and their corresponding alphabetical letter revealed on page 23 of this newspaper.

*George Wooding, Westside resident and President, Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods. Feedback: [wooding@westsideobserver.com](mailto:wooding@westsideobserver.com)*

major guardian of the purse.

The coupon rate (percent — say, 4.5%) required to sell these bonds represents the market's confidence in the issuer. The repayment period (term) should correlate with the life of the project and be repaid in the rate structure by those customers who will benefit (Proposition 218) from its development. From these two variables (coupon and term) a future stream of payments is calculated that equals the present value of the summed elements (escalated) making up the total cost of the project. These level annual payments (same as a like mortgage) are embedded in the rate structure.

Below is an abbreviated table of the SFPUC's Water Enterprise debt structure. Adding in the debt for Sewer, Hetch Hetchy Power, and Golden Gate HQ brings the debt issued by the SFPUC to \$6.8 Billion with \$5.6 Billion outstanding. I have subjected these numbers to my own model and find many areas of concern. Why so much refinancing of bond debt with another bond issuance? Is this consistent with the correlative issuance prospectus? Interest only payments mean pushing the

debt forward to future generations. Why so much liquidity (average of \$1.25 Billion) in the Treasurer's Pool that earns less than 1 percent while the average debt cost 4.5 percent. There are many issues — one that is too egregious to overlook is calculating their average cost of capital by adding all issuances and creating an average. I did the same calculation, but weighted the interest by the bond-volume, and came up with a significantly higher average cost of capital. Their averaging method gives equal weight to a small bond issuance with a low coupon rate, to a large bond issuance with a higher coupon rate

Some of these bonds have been used to refund other bond issues, others only the interest on the debt is being paid, and some are amortized. Total debt issued by the SFPUC in Water revenue bond debt is \$4.4 billion. Of this \$4.4 billion \$4.1 billion remains outstanding. Using my own calculations and assuming a normal approach to capitalization and amortization for debts service, I calculate the outstanding should be approximately \$3.7 Billion.

Adding in the "approved" commercial

Cont. p. 19



## Commentary

**T**his column concerns affordability. Water, power and sewer rates have been rising far faster than inflation, and will continue to do so indefinitely. The percentage of the median San Franciscan's income to be consumed paying water and sewer bills is expected to double—from 1.2 to 2.5%. That's the plan; but public works often overrun.



Why are water and sewer costing more and more? There are good reasons, and not so good ones. The systems are old; the public expects more. Not so good reasons, however, call for discussion, following:

SFPUC (water, power and sewer service providers) is exempt from voter approvals. Most major public projects require voters to authorize bond issuance. Renovate City Hall? Voters okayed bond sales. Build a new stadium? Same. Even filling potholes has come to be done with bond money (debt) and needs voter approval. Officials know that voters will

services in a manner that is inclusive of environmental and community interests and sustains the resources entrusted to our care." Is the word "efficient" to cover affordability?

Concerning the next round of rate setting for water and sewer service, the SFPUC recently received a telling staff memo. In part it states: "multi-year rate increases are anticipated to be necessary to cover the cost of large capital plans and increasing O&M [operation and maintenance] expenses. In the course of the [rate consultant's] Study, Commission input and

**“**But while officials ask for \$300 million here and there in almost every election — for the sewer system, \$7 billion — that's 7,000 millions — goes right under the ballot radar.”

approve almost any debt for libraries, parks, and schools; often they spend elsewhere, then ask for bond financing for the gimmees.

But while officials ask for \$300 million here and there—in almost every election—for the sewer system, \$7 billion—that's 7,000 millions—goes right under the ballot radar.

Not only is this a huge amount of debt incurred, but also by not running it past the voters bad things happen. There is complacency. No need to use annoying competitive bidding to let a billion dollar contract. Use a method that limits competition, competitive procurement. Less likely to get a difficult contractor.

Also, before procurement, let's travel overseas to visit cities with the fancy new system being purchased. It's not only foreign travel. Top administrators also have their own Hetch Hetchy destination. This past spring, top dogs stayed up in the mountains—for less than \$60 per night. Not only Commissioners, but also past general managers, Susan Leal and Ed Harrington, and many other top employees enjoyed this perk of SFPUC. Why not? SFPUC is off the voters' radar.

Because it need not obtain voter approval before incurring huge debts, SFPUC has come to fill other City functions as well as those it has had all along. Fire Department financially stressed? Give its auxilliary water system to SFPUC. Street sweeping costing DPW too much? Double SFPUC's payments for that. Need neighborhood street trees, but lack ready funds? SFPUC. Jobs, "community benefits"—SFPUC can and does help. Just add it to the debt and higher rates will pay that off in the future.

Too, a new headquarters building was *de rigeur*. No ordinary one would do. First SFPUC paid \$10 million for a property the City got for free. Then SFPUC gave its headquarters plenty of bling. It has a wind-machine covering one side for making power (it doesn't work), solar panels, waterless toilets and a green machine (stinks), and lots and lots of art. Do visit 525 Golden Gate, see what you think. Although the building is but a few years old, recently structural engineers have been hired; we shall see where that leads.

SFPUC's Mission Statement no longer clearly address affordability. "To provide our customers with high quality, efficient, and reliable water, power, and sewer

direction will be sought regarding a range of policy issues, including those related to evolving legal requirements, the lingering impact of the drought on the SFPUC's finances, and changes to industry practice in areas such as affordability, stormwater management, and conservation incentives. This memo outlines the scope of the upcoming study...."

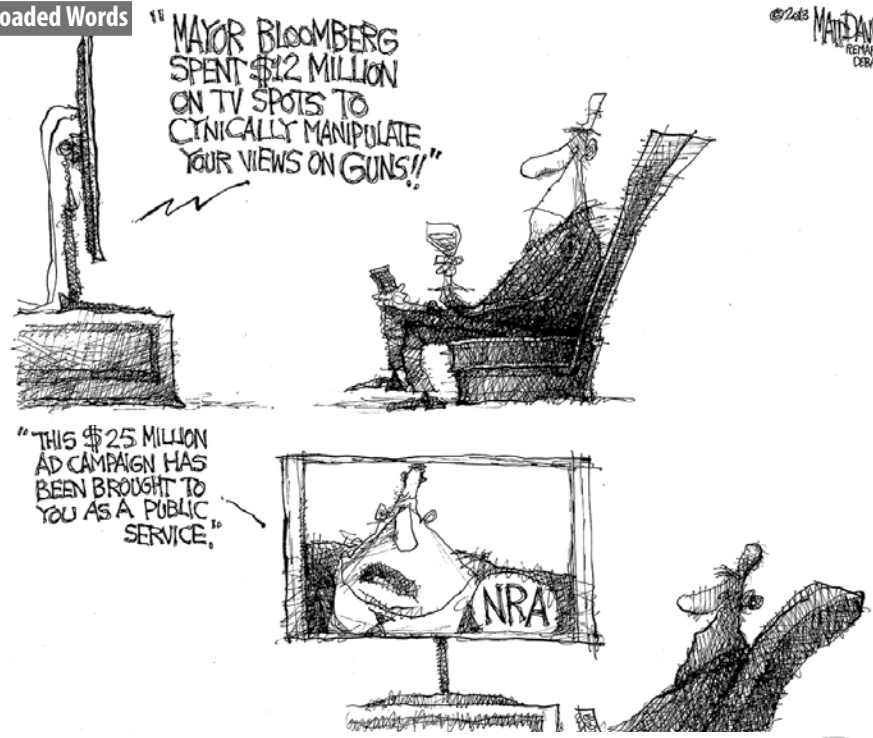
Addressing challenges, the memo continues, "exceptional levels of water conservation, large capital plans, the convergence of water and wastewater management strategies, and the deployment of green infrastructure represent significant adaptive challenges to [SFPUC]." Bet that an "adaptive challenge" comes with a big price tag.

How may you be affected? Rates will rise, of course. But also if you plan to develop property, for example adding a unit to rent, you may be charged more than previously for future expansion of the systems (capacity charge). Upon sale of your property you may be required to inspect your sewer lateral, or begin paying for insurance against failure. Stormwater may be charged separately from sewage. During drought, there may be a surcharge added, so that SFPUC revenues do not decline as severely as they have recently. If you qualify as low income, you may enjoy lower rates and charges. In other words, SFPUC will likely follow the airlines: fees and added charges, balanced by a bit of helping those who struggle—and know how to work the system.

Practical advice to reduce your bill: For those whose water use includes significant water for landscaping, did you know that your sewer bill—which is tied to water consumption—can be reduced? The default is that you are billed 90% of water usage; the volume that goes down the sewer is assumed to be nine gallons out of ten. But, you can have that changed. A home with gardens and out-door plants might win a factor of 75%. Use 4 units of water (about 3000 gallons), and instead of being charged for 3.6 units of sewage you would be charged for 3 units. You will need to fill out a declaration, and be subject to inspection to verify use. You file a "flow factor appeal." Go to [sfwater.org](http://sfwater.org), customer service, rates, single family, and find the flow factor appeal link.

Steve Lawrence is a Westside resident. Feedback: [lawrence@westsideobserver.com](mailto:lawrence@westsideobserver.com)

## Loaded Words



My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2016

## THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

**S**o the conventions are over and we've entered the penultimate stage of this presidential demolition derby and your muted murmurs of "yippee" and "hooray" have been duly noted. That's enough, put the horns away, this is not an overly large celebration.

It took a year and a half, but the presidential field has winnowed down to the major political parties' two anointed nominees: the Donald and the Hillary. Let us pray. And more polarizing figures could not be found with the superconducting magnet at the Large Hadron Collider in Geneva.

Thus far the process has been everything but pretty or boring: vicious, petty, puerile, perverse, depraved, savage, a slapstick parody, a travesty of two mockeries of a sham with a little surrealistic burlesque thrown in for good measure.

The next three months promise more of the same on a larger scale with a smaller cast of characters. Like a daytime soap turned into a feature film. With plot twists and special effects and surprise cameos and reverse camera angles and pretty much everything but car chases. Although, with Bill Clinton involved, you can't rule it out.

Expect multi-directional, laser-focused, cluster bomb attacks on two people whose

**“**...which is scarier: that one of these two is going to become the next president of the United States or the American people get to decide.”

outsized personalities make them targets the size of your proverbial side of the barn. And they will be hit. From 3 feet away. With pointy rocks.

The hardest part is figuring out which is scarier: that one of these two is going to become the next president of the United States or the American people get to decide.

Politicians echo that refrain like hyperactive crickets in the summer dusk: "It's what the American people want." And "Let's see what the American people want." Nooooo. Let's not see what the American people want. Have we learned nothing at all from segregation and civil war and The Real Housewives of Orange County? You want to know what the American people want? We'll tell you what the American people want.

The American People want drive-thru nickel beer night.

The American People want to lose weight by eating potato chips.

The American People think louder is better and deafening is best.

The American People want to climb K-2 in a Lazy-Boy recliner.

The American People want the Supreme Being to help their team beat the other team, totally oblivious that fans of the other team expect the same thing.

The American People require a warning label on their brake fluid to keep them from drinking it.

The American People want to win the lottery without having to buy a ticket.

The American People think any piece of clothing they can squeeze into, fits.

The American People want to make society safer with more guns.

The American People want to visit foreign lands and speak English.

The American People want better schools and roads by paying fewer taxes.

The American People would chew off their own feet if Oprah told them there was liquid gold in their ankle veins.

The American People want to look like George Clooney by getting \$10 haircuts.

68% of the American People still believe professional wrestling is legitimate.

The American People have the attention span of tornado-strewn straw.

The American People think the laws of gravity should be repealed.

The American People love the Home Shopping Network because it's commercial free.

God bless the American People.

Copyright © 2016, Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed columnist, comedian and former roach coach pilot. For his new one-man show, *Elect to Laugh: 2016*, appearing every Tuesday at the San Francisco Marsh and other theaters such as the Pioneer in Reno on August 11-13, go to [willdurst.com](http://willdurst.com).

## WESTSIDE OBSERVER

Award Winning News for the Neighborhood  
— Society of Professional Journalists

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

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The ideas and opinions expressed in these pages are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff or publisher of this paper. The *Westside Observer* is a free monthly newspaper serving the entire West of Twin Peaks area of San Francisco. Circulation is 18,000 copies, distributed 10 times a year. 16,000 are distributed to-door, 2000 are distributed via free distribution racks in the West of Twin Peaks area, as well as libraries and other key drop-off points (see [westsideobserver.com/hardcopy.html](http://westsideobserver.com/hardcopy.html)).

## Letters to the Editor



This picture was taken from San Fernando Way toward San Leandro Way between St Francis Blvd. and Portola Dr. The date has to be in the 20's. The house on San Leandro Way in the center of the photo with the second story balcony was built by my grandparents Herbert & Hazel Hellwig. My mother, Ruth, was the first female child born in St Francis Wood on Oct 20th, 1918. The house was probably built around 1916 and first sold around 1942. (Remember When, Apr. '14)



—Dick Hammond



# St. Cecilia 100 Years in the Parkside

By: Liam Reidy

2017 marks the 100 Year Anniversary of the Saint Cecilia Parish community - an impressive milestone and testament to the strength of local Catholic parish community in the Parkside district. While the architecturally impressive church building at 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Vicente was dedicated in 1956, the original church was established at 1215 Taraval Street in 1917. Down through the years the parish grew to meet the demands of its members, and through several expansions and additions, (including the addition of an elementary school in 1930), the parish remains an active gathering place for parishioners.

To commemorate our centennial, we have planned an exciting year of festivities that will bring together all of our parishioners. At this special time in our parish's history, we celebrate our past, recognize Christ's presence amongst us, and continue to look forward to our bright and faithful future together. Please visit [www.stcecilia100.com](http://www.stcecilia100.com) for all the latest news on the centennial.

## A Year of Music

St. Cecilia Parish will host a series of six concerts throughout 2016-2017. We honor St. Cecilia, Patron Saint of Music, with the program. Concerts will be held on Sundays at 4pm in the St. Cecilia Church. All are welcome. The schedule is as follow; October 23, 2016: *St. Cecilia Choral Festival*, featuring the following 6 choirs from the San Francisco Archdiocese: The Cathedral of St. Mary of Assumption, Mission Dolores, St. Teresa, Mercy High School, St. Thomas More, and St. Cecilia.

November 20, 2016: *A Musical Feast to St. Cecilia*, featuring soloists and choirs from our parish and school music ministry.

December 18, 2016: *Lessons and Carols for Advent*, presented by St. Cecilia's Adult Choir

February 26, 2017: *Organ Recital*, featuring Katya Kolesnikova

March 19, 2017: *An Evening of Irish Music*

April 23, 2017: *An Evening of Chamber Music*

## Centennial Eucharistic Celebration

Join us for the Centennial Eucharistic Celebration on the official 100th year anniversary of the Parish. Saturday, January 7, 2017: Mass, St. Cecilia Church at 5pm and Gala to follow in the Durocher Pavilion.

## Parish History Chronicled

During the past year St. Cecilia alum Frank Dunnigan (Class of 1966) researched the history of the parish and has completed a wonderful book entitled "*San Francisco's St. Cecilia Parish - A History*" which traces 100 years of parish life from 1917 to the present. With about 200 pages of narrative and 100+ nostalgic photos, many from private collections, the book recounts the stories of the people, the buildings, and the milestone events that have led to today's vibrant community. The book will be available to all parishioners in November and locally from Book-Shop West Portal.

Docent Tours of St. Cecilia Church


The Knights of St. Cecilia will host docent guided tours of St. Cecilia Church during the year and will feature historical details and facts about the church. All parishioners, friends, and neighbors are welcome to attend. The tours take place each Saturday on August 20, September 17, October 15, January 21, and February 18 starting at 10 am.




## Strut Your Mutt



**Sept. 18 • Little Marina Green • SF**  
Help save the lives of homeless dogs and cats. The online fundraising event and dog festival brings together rescue groups, shelters and individuals to celebrate saving the lives of shelter pets in 14 cities across the country, including San Francisco  
Registration: noon - the walk begins at 1 pm and the festival ends at 4 pm • [strutyourmutt.org](http://strutyourmutt.org)



## City and County of San Francisco Department of Elections



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**(415) 554-4395**



## Meeting A Longstanding Need: A Housing & Development Commission

By Supervisor Aaron Peskin, District 3

City officials and residents alike have been talking about a Housing & Development Commission for years. No matter which side of the city on which you live, chances are you have been directly impacted by the gross lack of oversight and accountability of two key city offices: the Mayor’s Office of Housing & Community Development (MOHCD) and the Office of Economic & Workforce Development (OEWD). Taxpayers fund both departments with hundreds of millions of dollars from the City’s General Fund, with MOHCD tasked with administering an additional \$2 billion in public monies to build and rehabilitate affordable housing citywide.

Unfortunately, there is not actually a strategic plan that comprehensively lays out how that \$2 billion is to be allocated by MOHCD, or according to what community priorities. The Planning Department is required to adhere to the City’s General Plan (at least in theory) which lays out Planning requirements for every neighborhood. Additionally, the newly-created Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing has been tasked with devising a strategic plan within its first 90 days as to how it will address the homeless crisis on our streets – *so why in the midst of a raging affordability crisis, do we not have a Housing Plan with a road map for all levels of housing with commensurate neighborhood infrastructure?* Why are communities not empowered to help construct the solutions to the issues plaguing their neighborhoods?

Some of MOHCD’s funds were approved by voters as far back as 1996 and still haven’t been allocated, while other funds are “self-appropriated” without Board of Supervisors oversight, and have been allocated haphazardly to put out the political fires of the moment. There have even been instances where funds have disappeared, like the 2015 scandal where \$1.3 million for housing and public infrastructure improvements overseen by MOHCD was stolen out of the SoMa Community Stabilization Fund by an ABAG official,

and no one noticed for months. Then there are the ongoing concerns with how our city’s Below Market Rate (BMR) program is being managed. Supervisors Cohen and Breed have been vocal at the Board on MOHCD’s lack of outreach and cultural competency in the application process. Public noticing of BMR availability is not well monitored or enforced, with many communities cut out of the process all together. BMR units are a critical part of our city’s permanent affordable housing stock, and they are asset to be managed responsibly on behalf of the public. After returning to elected office, I was shocked to find out that some of the city’s early BMRs were not actually even listed or tracked in the MOHCD database. Then there are the multiple units that MOHCD was aware were in the early stages of possible foreclosure; even after being prodded by my office, the MOHCD allowed these permanently affordable housing units (on separate occasions) to be foreclosed, and lost forever.

For its part, OEWD manages

## Don’t Play Politics with Affordable Housing and Small Business Assistance

Supervisor Katy Tang, District 4

The proposed ballot measure to create a Housing & Development Commission would dismantle two important city departments – the Mayor’s Office of Housing & Community Development (MOHCD) and the Office of Economic & Workforce Development (OEWD) – and then recreate them with new names. The new departments would then be controlled by a 7-member Commission that is answerable to nobody.

Currently, MOHCD provides funding to non-profit housing developers to build critically needed affordable housing every year and makes sure that housing goes to the neediest San Franciscans.

And OEWD helps San Franciscans get trained and connected to jobs, helps small businesses, improves our neighborhoods, and negotiates with large developers to force them to provide affordable housing at no cost to the city.

The activities and decisions of these two departments are already reviewed by the Board of Supervisors, several City commissions, and dozens of community groups. Why do we need another layer of government to slow down our City’s production of affordable housing? Why should we slow down our assistance to small businesses and bundle economic development grant approvals with affordable housing matters? And why do we need to consolidate two different departments under one Commission?

Affordable Housing  
The cost to build affordable housing in San Francisco is astronomical. The City also produces on average only one or two 100% affordable housing projects each

year. Why does it cost so much? And why the snail’s pace for production? Transparency and oversight requirements.

We all want transparency for city processes. But this comes at a price. To build an affordable housing project in San Francisco, MOHCD must seek public input, review and approvals by the Board of Supervisors, review by a City-wide Affordable Housing Loan Committee, a Citizens Committee on Community Development, the Planning Commission, Housing Authority, Port Commission, and more. This begs the question for the proposed new Commission: Who is this “transparency” really for? The 7 appointed Commissioners?

The proposed Commission creates a duplicative review body with no clear public benefit. The additional reviews and approval steps proposed would instead slow down the City’s ability to produce affordable housing at a faster rate.

Small Business Support  
We need to do more to support our City’s small businesses. OEWD’s Invest in Neighborhoods program has provided on-the-ground support, grant funding, and facilitation of city and private services to small businesses since its inception. It makes no sense to bundle this program with affordable housing review under the proposed Commission.

It is no secret that it is difficult to start or continue operating a small business in



Cont. p. 22



My life here

Judy Houghteling, resident since 2011

## My Life Here Is The BOOK Well-Crafted.

Her apartment is her art and bindery studio. It’s where Judy perfects her amazing craft of bringing a book and its beauty into a work of art. And because her lifestyle comes complete with staff, housekeeping, and amenities, she’s free to pursue her passions and is enthusiastically writing her next, best chapter right here. See why we continue to be the city’s most appealing Life Plan Community. To learn more, or for your personal visit, please call 415.447.5527.



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Money Matters By Brandon Miller



# Prepare for These Milestones as Retirement Approaches

Over a two-decade span ranging from ages 50 to 70-1/2, investors will face multiple milestone decisions that will likely impact their retirement savings and portfolio. As you navigate through each decision, you'll need to be aware of how rules governing Social Security, Medicare and your taxes will come into play. Take steps now to be prepared as these milestones approach:

**Age 50**  
Give your retirement savings a boost by making "catch-up" contributions. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules for 2016 allow those 50 and older to invest an additional \$1,000 per year (for a maximum of \$6,500 per year) in an IRA, and another \$6,000 per year (to a maximum of \$24,000) in a workplace retirement plan such as a 401(k).

**Age 55**  
This may be the first opportunity you have to make penalty-free withdrawals (income taxes still apply) from employer-based qualified plans. To become eligible, you must first retire from your employer in the year you turn 55 or later. While tapping into your retirement income may make sense for you, consider the impact early withdrawals could have on your long-term financial security before taking action.

**Age 59-1/2**  
At this age, you have more penalty-free access to your retirement assets—meaning you can take distributions from IRAs and potentially from qualified work plans (check with your Human Resources department to see what rules apply to you). Keep in mind that withdrawing from your nest egg early is a risk to your long-term financial situation. Taxes are due on distributions attributable to pre-tax contributions and earnings.

**Age 62**  
You first become eligible to claim retirement benefits from Social Security at age 62. The earlier you claim benefits, the lower the monthly payout will be. Many investors choose to claim at a later age, because you can receive a higher monthly benefit. If you do decide to claim benefits at age 62 while you continue to receive a paycheck, your Social Security benefits may be reduced until you reach full retirement age (defined below).

**Age 65**  
You qualify for Medicare coverage starting at age 65. You'll automatically be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B if you're receiving Social Security at this time. Otherwise, you need to apply for it. Your application window is the three months of either side of your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday month. Medicare is complex, so make sure to research what options are available to you.

**Age 66-67**  
Depending on your birth year, you reach what Social Security defines as "full retirement age" at 66 or 67. Visit [www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/retirechart](http://www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/retirechart) to learn what age that is for you. If you wait until now to receive Social Security benefits, you'll have more ways to structure your benefits. Married couples in particular tend to have many

options, so be sure to coordinate your decisions with your spouse.

**Age 70**  
Your maximum monthly benefit is available after your 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. If you haven't claimed Social Security benefits, you should do so as there is no advantage to waiting beyond this date. You may want to consider donating your benefit if you have other investments that cover your expenses.

**Age 70-1/2**  
By April 1 of the year after you turn 70-1/2, you are required to take a minimum distribution from traditional IRAs and workplace retirement plans. The IRS calculates the amount you pay (called Required Minimum Distributions or RMDs) using the Uniform Lifetime Table and your age at the time you're talking the distribution. Instructions for calculating RMDs can be found in IRS Publication 590 at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Distributions must be taken from each account that is subject to this rule. Failure to do so can result in penalty of 50 percent of the amount that was required to be distributed.

If you have questions about making these milestone decisions or want to get an objective opinion, consider hiring a financial advisor. Find an advisor who will look comprehensively at your financial situation and your retirement goals, in order to help you make decisions with increased confidence.

*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*



## More street trees coming to Parkside and Central Sunset

**Sign up now to receive a tree** Business owners, property owners, and residents of the following neighborhoods can sign up now to receive street trees in these upcoming plantings organized by Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF):

<b>Parkside</b>	<b>Central Sunset</b>
<a href="http://www.fuf.net/parkside/">http://www.fuf.net/parkside/</a>	<a href="http://www.fuf.net/centralsunset/">http://www.fuf.net/centralsunset/</a>
Deadline to sign up: October 5	Deadline to sign up: October 5
Planting date: November 12	Planting date: November 12



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**Saturday, September 24**

**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**St. Francis Yacht Club • 900 Marina Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94123**

Please RSVP to 415-623-2450. Space is limited.

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# PROP C: A Lot of Bang for the Bucks

By George Wooding, Peter Cohen

San Franciscans will have Proposition C before us on the November ballot. It is a very simple measure to allow already-approved bonds to be used for one of the City's most pressing issues of our day—preserving housing affordable for low and middle-income San Franciscans.

Proposition C would expand the eligible uses from the 1992 seismic safety bond for unreinforced masonry (ie, brick) buildings to also include the rehab of at-risk residential buildings, including wood-frame “soft story” seismic retrofits and other fire, safety and code upgrades, and in the process allow the buildings to be made permanently affordable. There are at-risk buildings scattered across the City, usually small multi-unit apartments like in the Mission, Castro, SoMa and Richmond, and along commercial streets.

With \$260 million in remaining bond authorization, that could result in over a thousand homes brought up to safety and long-term affordability.

It is a lot of bang for the bucks, a smart investment for the City in maintaining the value of residential buildings as part of San Francisco's infrastructure.

And you might ask, what's the impact to Taxpayers from Proposition C? Nothing. Updating the 1992 bond would address today's housing needs without any increased costs to voters. No new bonding capacity would be created beyond what

was previously authorized. Prop C also includes oversight and transparency provisions to ensure accountability.

Finally, as important, Prop C is an urgent anti-displacement initiative, funding the preservation of existing homes

“...what's the impact to Taxpayers from Proposition C? Nothing. Updating the 1992 bond would address today's housing needs without any increased costs to voters.”

to provide stability for tenants at risk of evictions. Often these tenants are facing threat of Ellis Act evictions, which can be avoided if the buildings are acquired on the market and made permanently affordable housing for those residents and other low and middle-income tenants in the years ahead. Proposition C is an important step toward ensuring stability and housing for all.

Proposition C is endorsed by the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods and the San Francisco Neighborhood Network, and supported by Supervisor Yee and all other members of the Board of Supervisors, as well as the Mayor. Join us in making this great investment in housing!

Peter Cohen is the co-director of the Council of Community Housing Organizations, George Wooding is the President of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods.

## Prop M & Prop H (Cont. from p. 4)

programs and services throughout the City, effectiveness of public information and service complaints about City agencies, and responsiveness of City agencies. The Public Advocate will review the management and employment practices of City officers and departments that promote or impede effective and efficient operation of City government, and will review the City's contracting procedures. And the Public Advocate will conduct performance audits of City departments, services, and programs. Currently, none of this work is routinely, or consistently, performed.

The Public Advocate may introduce legislation at the Board of Supervisors regarding matters within the Advocate's jurisdiction.

Additionally, the Public Advocate will investigate expanded whistleblower complaints. Currently, the City Controller receives and investigates whistleblower complaints concerning: The misuse of City funds by officers or employees, the use of City equipment or time for personal purposes, and other improper activities by City government officers and employees.

“Prop. H” expands the whistleblower program by giving the Public Advocate authority to investigate complaints concerning: Incorrect, unreasonable, or unfair decisions or rulings of City officers or agencies; inconsistent enforcement, or failure to enforce, laws, rules, or regulations; poor or inadequate service delivery or treatment; poor communication, including unreasonably long response or wait times and unreasonable response delays; and inequitable or inefficient provision of

City services.

The Public Advocate will assess progress of City departments in developing effective customer service plans. Finally, “Prop. H” will rename the Office of Citizens' Complaints to the “Department of Police Accountability” (DPA). The Police Commission will recommend nominees for the Director of the DPA to the Public Advocate, subject to Board of Supervisors confirmation, rather than being a mayoral appointee.

While some argue we have an Ethics Commission, they ignore that Ethics' principal mandates are to investigate campaign finance-related violations and a limited amount of government conduct violations. Ethics doesn't investigate issues the Public Advocate will address, nor does it go to bat for the myriad of concerns raised by citizens. Clearly, “Prop. H” is a good government measure. The Public Advocate will be a long-overdue independent watchdog!

Endorsements for “Prop. H”

Endorsements in favor of “Prop. H” include CSFN, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, and the DCCC, among others. Please join them, and I, by voting “Yes” on “Prop. H.”

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](mailto:monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com).

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



## OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, September 24 • West Portal Playground  
131 Lenox Way • 6-9pm



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Monday - Aug 1

**Threats – Brandishing**  
4:04 am | 19th Ave & Judah St  
A MUNI driver said the suspect, sitting near the rear of the bus and had been belligerent and loud throughout the whole ride. The driver told the suspect to be quiet or get off the bus but the suspect refused and continued the belligerence. At the next stop and he came within three inches and brandished a knife, threatening the driver. Then he exited the bus.

**Robbery**  
4:13 pm | Vicente St & 14th Ave  
A robbery victim said he was walking when the suspect came from behind and hit him on the right side of his head, grabbed the victim’s phone and ran to the MUNI Station.

**Assault – Threats – Arrested**  
11:01 pm | 2200 18th Ave  
The victim said the suspect, who was diagnosed with a mental issue and had not been taking his medication, argued because the suspect invited a friend over to dinner, but she did not want the friend because he was a drug addict. The suspect picked up a sledgehammer and threatened the victim before swinging the sledgehammer around. He was arrested.

Tuesday - Aug 2

**Assault – Arrested**  
6:51 pm | Address Confidential  
The victim said they got into a verbal argument when the suspect grabbed a frying pan and struck the victim in the face. He pushed, punched and struggled to keep the suspect away but she stabbed the victim’s palm with a knife. The suspect said the victim started the argument and she used the pan to defend herself. After further investigation she was arrested.

**Battery – Warrant Arrest – Arrested**  
8:45 am | Montana St & Plymouth Ave  
A witness said he saw the suspect yelling at the victim and punching her while other people stepped in and tried to separate them. But the suspect and victim said nothing had happened, that the victim was “ok” and both refused to provide further information. A second witness he was punched a couple of times in the head trying to separate them, but declined to press charges. A computer check revealed that the suspect had a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested for warrant and battery

**Threats – Arrested**  
10:40 am | 200 Cardenas Ave  
The victim said the suspect knocked on his door and threatened to shoot him. He started filming the suspect while she was threatening him. She was arrested.

**Warrant Arrest – Arrested**  
6:34 am | Great Highway & Irving St  
A suspect sleeping on the sidewalk was blocking the path. A computer check revealed a warrant for his arrest out of San Mateo. The suspect was arrested.

Wednesday - Aug 3

**Robbery**  
1:52 pm | Ocean Ave & Miramar Ave  
The victim said she was holding onto her cell phone when a known suspect punched her in the head, stole her cell phone and then fled to his residence and refused to leave his residence. Setting up a perimeter around the residence, negotiators enforced an arrest two days later.

**Warrant Arrest – Arrested**  
8:42 am | 2600 28th Ave  
Officers responded to a report from Child Protection Center who was detaining a suspect with warrants. Officers arrived on scene and made contact with the suspect. A computer check confirmed the warrants and the suspect was arrested.

**Robbery**  
7:12 pm | Plymouth Ave & Thrift St

The victim said he was walking on the sidewalk when three suspects approached him and punched him, stole his cell phone and fled the scene.

Thursday - Aug 4

**DUI– Arrested**  
5:34 am |Brotherhood & Thomas Moore  
Officers found an unconscious male in a vehicle while the vehicle was still in gear. Breaking one of the windows, an officer was able to unlock the doors and put it in park. After multiple tests he was arrested

**Battery – Arrested**  
11:19 pm | Address Confidential  
The victim was upset with the amount of time the suspect spent talking to his ex wife on the phone. In the resulting argument he shoved her and she fell down the stairs. Then he grabbed her neck, choking her, and threw her onto a couch and left. When he returned, he told officers the argument was over a nine minute conversation and the he was only trying to push the victim away from him. After further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

**Battery – Arrested**  
1:34 pm | 4500 Irving St  
The victim said when she woke up she noticed some money missing, so she searched the belongings of the suspect, an unemployed alcoholic, and found the money. The suspect grabbed the her hands to keep the money. He was arrested and his weapons were taken for safekeeping.

Friday - Aug 5

**Breaking Window – Arrested**  
10:02 pm | 1000 Ocean Ave  
A witness who said the suspect was waiting for his food. However, another patron received their order first (and also generously paid for the suspect’s food). When the suspect struck a window with his cane broke and shattered. He admitted he broke the window because he didn’t get his food fast enough. The suspect was arrested.

Saturday - Aug 6

**Trespassing – Cited**  
7:18 am | 1500 27th Ave  
The victim said her sister was not allowed on her property and wanted to press charges for the current violation. The suspect had been advised during previous incidents. The suspect was cited.

**Theft – Possession of Stolen Property**  
2:57 am | 42nd Ave & Kirkham St  
Officers found the suspect matching a witness description carrying two bags as his personal belongings. A computer check revealed a warrant for his arrest. Searching the area for auto break-ins officers found a vehicle in disarray. When the owner confirmed that her property was inside the suspect’s bags and a witness also confirmed, officers arrested the suspect.

Sunday - Aug 7

**Battery – Evading a Police Vehicle**  
4:31 am | 200 Minerva St  
Responding to a report regarding a fight, officers attempted a traffic stop but the suspect fled at a high rate of speed. Officers did not engage in unsafe pursuit. Instead, they attempted to speak with the victim and witness who were uncooperative. The officers located a vehicle with a shattered rear window registered to the victim, who suffered injuries which caused a swollen forehead and a minor laceration. An ambulance was requested for the victim.

**Battery**  
6:57 am | 00 Cambon Dr  
The victim came to Taraval Station to report that the suspect came up to him and said a few words before swinging at him with both his fists. The victim said he went to the hospital but refused to give officers a specific description of the suspect or information about the hospital.

**Battery**  
12:32 pm | 200 Cardenas Ave  
Parkmerced security said that the victim saw that the faucet was left on in the in her backyard. She did not receive a reply when she asked the suspect, a neighbor, to turn off the faucet. She started to turn off the faucet but the suspect grabbed her by the forearm with enough force to bruise her arm. The suspect left the location before officers arrived.

**Dog Bite**  
1:10 pm | Taraval Station  
The victim came to Taraval Station to report a dog bit his dog. He was walking his dog on a leash when two off-leash bulldogs rushed out of a house and attacked his dog. The larger of the two bulldogs jumped on his dog and began biting. In defense, he kicked the bulldog off his dog before two suspects came out of the house to retrieve their dogs. The veterinarian treated his dog for a puncture wound.

Monday - Aug 8

**Burglary – Forced Entry**  
7:15 am | Irving St & 9th Ave  
The shop owner said that her shop had been ransacked and currency stolen and the security video was destroyed. In addition, several other items were damaged, including an unlocked side window and its fly screen partially ripped.

Wednesday - Aug 10

**Shoplifting – Cited**  
2:24 pm | 3200 20th Ave  
An employee said he saw the suspect grab a handful of clothing and walk past the registers towards the exit. The Loss Prevention employee detained him. Responding officers cited the suspect.

**Fire Report**  
2:46 am | 800 Gonzalez Dr  
Officers arrived after a dumpster fire was extinguished by the SFFD, which reported that there have been several dumpster fires in the area and will continue investigating.

**Elder Abuse – Arrested**  
6:28 am | 100 Brighton Ave  
When a 911 call that was abruptly disconnected, responding officers found the victim, who said her son, the suspect, came into her room yelling and insulting her. Thinking he was drunk, she tried to walk away, but he suddenly pulled her oxygen supply tube away from her nose. When she tried to call 911 her son disconnected

the phone. She retreated to her room. Her other son confirmed the events. The suspect was arrested.

Thursday - Aug 11

**Speeding – Warrant Arrest**  
11:54 pm | Winston & Buckingham Way  
A vehicle was observed traveling at 51 mph in a 35 mph zone during a speed enforcement. After a traffic stop, a computer check revealed a warrant for the driver’s arrest. He was arrested and cited for speeding.

**Warrant Arrest – Arrested**  
12:21 am | 45th Ave & Santiago St  
The suspect said that, after ingesting illegal drugs, he heard voices telling him that his mother was in danger. After confirming the well being of the suspect’s mother, he was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

**Warrant Arrest – Arrested**  
2:04 am | 900 Lincoln Way  
The witness to an attempted break-in to a residential group home described the suspect. A computer check on the suspect revealed that he had a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested.

Friday - Aug 12

**Assault – Arrested**  
3:01 pm | 2300 24th Ave  
The victim reported that he telephoned the suspect to end their relationship. The suspect then went to the victim’s home and pursued the argument outside the victim’s apartment. The suspect pushed and slapped the victim across the face. Officers arrested the suspect.

**Threats – Arrested**  
2:56 am | 800 Irving St  
The victim said he was just threatened by the suspect with a knife, and identified the him. Officers detained the suspect, who continued to aggressively challenge and yell at the victim during the process. After investigation, the suspect was arrested.

**Vandalism to Vehicle – Arrested**  
8:00 pm | 200 Lakeview Ave  
The victim said he was walking to his vehicle when he noticed the suspect, his neighbor, acting erratically in the middle of the intersection and throwing things around. He asked the suspect “calm down” before getting into his own car. When he was in the driver’s seat, the suspect produced a sling shot broke his window. Officers found the suspect and arrested him.

Cont. p. 19

Next Neighborhood Safety Taraval Community Relations Forum Meeting:  
September 20 • 7:00 – 9:00 pm at Taraval Station • taraval.org

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..... September 2016 .....

*It seems like “déjà vu” all over again...* it’s 2016 and we are treated to another visual of a tree limb falling in a SF public park and severely injuring a citizen. In 2008 a branch fell from a redwood tree in Stern Grove and fatally injured a local citizen who was putting her dog into her car. Now we have a woman watching her children play in Washington Square Park and suddenly a large falling limb seriously injures her. With a traumatic spinal injury there is now the possibility that she will not walk again.

We can chalk these up to “freak accidents,” but when will the City and County of San Francisco take the responsibility to maintain its urban forests? Even with a \$9,600,000,000 budget - larger than many states! - the city has had to turn to private donors and neighborhood groups to pay for pruning and tree maintenance. I do understand that we cannot predict when a limb will fall, changing, or ending a life, but the fact that the Park and Rec Department only spends approximately 2% of its budget on tree maintenance pushes the odds dangerously towards trees that are unmanaged.

After the Stern Grove incident, I asked a contact at City Hall how this type of thing could happen, and was told that the city takes that chance since it is easier to secure budget for insurance and lawsuits than budget for gardeners and arborists. Now that another life has been affected, isn’t it time for City Hall to do the right thing and start maintaining the urban forests? Those “touchy-feely” photos of Mayor Lee with the injured woman aside her hospital bed just didn’t strike me as genuine. (For instance, why were photographers there?) I would have felt better if the Mayor had put on his old hard hat from his DPW days back on and took a team of arborists to a park to pose for a photo of getting something done. Fortunately for San Francisco, they have multitudes of legal minds on staff. I expect they will need them. C’mon, do the right thing and pay all of the medical and ongoing expenses caused by yet another “freak accident.”

.....  
*The lights are dimmer along West Portal Avenue...* as San Francisco lost a true native son with the passing this week of journalist, truth-seeker, bar-fly, and iconoclast Warren Hinckle. There is little I can add that hasn’t already been written about the “founder” of gonzo-journalism and a mentor to Hunter S. Thompson. A champion of the left, Hinckle always looked out for the little guys, and not unlike other great SF writers such as Caen and Delaplane, he had a razor-sharp wit and pen to match. Our condolences go out to his family and friends. He was a great San Franciscan and will be missed...but never forgotten.

.....  
*Taraval Police News...* there are several scams that have been reported throughout the city. The first is related to residents being “contacted” by email or social media by an IRS agent. The Internal Revenue Service doesn’t email us when they want us. It’s usually an official letter from their local office. Do not give your bank or credit card PIN numbers or other financial information to anyone calling you on the phone, emailing you, or sending you a twitter reportedly representing the IRS.

The second scam involves imposters posing as PG&E employees, including:  
In-person scammers pretending to be PG&E utility workers and going door-to-door in PG&E’s service territory in order to gain entry to homes.

Email scammers sending “phishing” emails to PG&E customers, asking them to make a payment online.

Phone scammers posing as PG&E customer service representatives and asking for payment information over the phone.

Anyone who has received a call, email or visit from imposters claiming to be PG&E employees can report it immediately by calling PG&E at 1-800-PGE-5000 and call 415-553-0123 or 911 to have an officer check the person out if he or she is in your neighborhood.

Always ask for identification before allowing anyone claiming to be a PG&E representative inside your home. PG&E employees always carry their identification and are always willing to show it to you.

Remember that if you have an appointment with PG&E, you will receive an automated call within 48 hours prior to a scheduled visit, or a personal call from a PG&E gas service representative prior to a scheduled visit.

PG&E’s Credit Department will not ask for personal information or a credit card number over the phone.

If you have concerns about the legitimacy of a phone call about a past due bill, a service request or a request for personal information, hang up and call PG&E at 1-800-PGE-5000.

.....  
*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.*

## Balboa Reservoir

Community Advisory Committee Meeting  
September 12 @ 6:15 pm - 8:15 pm



City College of San Francisco, Multi-Use Building, Room 140  
55 Phelan Avenue



*Celebrating*  
**100**  
*Years*

SAINT CECILIA PARISH will celebrate our Centennial Anniversary on Saturday, January 7, 2017. We will celebrate this milestone throughout the 2016-2017 school year with Masses, events, photo galleries & volunteer opportunities! For current news and a complete calendar of events, visit [www.stcecilia100.com](http://www.stcecilia100.com)

## SAINT CECILIA PARISH

- SAN FRANCISCO -

## Come Celebrate the Opening of Our New NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYGROUND



### Aptos Middle School

105 Aptos Ave, San Francisco, CA 94127

**Saturday, September 17; 11 am - 1 pm**

[www.SFSharedSchoolyard.org](http://www.SFSharedSchoolyard.org)



Supervisor Mark Farrell

Join us for games, food, and kids’ activities to celebrate opening Aptos Middle School as a neighborhood playground on the weekends.

The Shared Schoolyard Project is a fiscally sponsored program of the San Francisco Parks Alliance





## September Calendar



### OPERA IN THE PARK 2016 • FREE • SHARON MEADOW / GOLDEN GATE PARK

**Sunday, Sept. 11 | 1:30 pm** | Discover the beauty of an aria, while lying back in the surrounding green of Sharon Meadow, where the operatic wonder of the San Francisco Opera truly comes to life. Many bring along a blanket, while others take this opportunity to pack a picnic and enjoy an outing with family and friends. The combination of singing and music is a splendid treat and one of the most popular events held at the Golden Gate Park. It is highly suggested to arrive early in order to claim a decent viewing location. If you've forgotten to bring along food, snacks, or something to drink – the event has items for sale. In the Meadow, remember to only bring low beach chairs and picnic blankets so that everyone can enjoy a chance at a reasonable view. [www.sfopera.com](http://www.sfopera.com) photo: Stefan Cohen

### EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

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

### EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

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

### EVERY TUE/THU /SAT • GET IN SHAPE!

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

### EVERY TUES • QUE SYRAH HAPPY HOUR

**Every Tue Happy Hour | 4–8 pm** | Que Syrah Wine Bar. Take \$1 off each glass, 10% off each bottle (consumed on site). 230 West Portal Ave 731-7000

### EVERY THURS – NIGHTLIFE

**Every Thu | 6–10 pm** | The Academy of Sciences brings live music, science, mingling and cocktails. GG Park \$12 (\$10 Members). [calademy.org/nightlife](http://calademy.org/nightlife).

### JAZZ FRIDAYS @ THE CLIFF HOUSE

**Every Fri | 7–11 pm** | The Balcony Lounge at the Cliff House hosts jazz every Fri night. 1 Seal Rock. [cliffhouse.com/home/jazz.html](http://cliffhouse.com/home/jazz.html).

### FRIDAY NIGHTS @ THE DEYOUNG

**Every Fri | 5–8:45 pm** | Music, poetry, films, dance, tours and lectures. Cafe: special dinner, no-host bar. Art-making children/adults. deYoung Museum, GG Park. [deyoung.famsf.org/deyoung/fridays](http://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: Disney's 1940 feature-length masterpiece Pinocchio. Walt Disney Family Museum, 104 Montgomery, Presidio. Closed Tuesdays.

### SAT - SUN • SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

**Sat Sep 3-Sun Sep 18 & Labor Day, Mon Sep 5 | 2 pm** | Free Shakespeare in the Park 2016 presents *The Winter's Tale*. The Presidio's Civil War Parade Ground (between Graham St & Keyes Ave) Info: [sfshakes.org](http://sfshakes.org)

### WED • GWPNA

**Wed Sep 7 | 6:30** | Supervisor's Update, WP Beat Cop Update, discussions, presentations and sometimes guest speakers. W Portal Playground, 131 Lenox Wy.

### FRI • ONE-ON-ONE E-RESOURCE HELP

**Fri Jul 8 | 4-5 pm** | Learn to access our online resources— eBook/eAudiobook collections, streaming music, TV and movies, online classes. Must have basic working knowledge of their computers. 557-4388 or sign-up Main Branch Library, 100 Larkin St.

### SAT-SUN • AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

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## District 7

# Supervisors Candidate Forum

**Saturday, September 10th • 10 am to 12 pm**  
Forest Hill Clubhouse • 381 Magellan Ave, SF







**Joel Engardio   John Farrell   Ben Matrangola   Norman Yee   Michael Young**

### The West of Twin Peaks Central Council:

Balboa Terrace • Forest Hill • Forest Knolls • Golden Gate Heights  
Greater West Portal • Ingleside Terraces • Lakeshore Acres • Lakeside  
Property Owners • Merced Manor • Midtown Terrace • Miraloma Park  
Improvement Club • Monterey Heights • Mount Sutro Homeowners  
Pine Lake Park • St. Francis Homes • Sherwood Forest • Sunnyside  
Twin Peaks Improvement Association • Westwood Highlands • The Woods

For more information please see our website:  
[www.WestofTwinPeaks.org](http://www.WestofTwinPeaks.org)

Moderator: **Joe Eskenazi** • Sponsored By: **Westside Observer**

**Sep 10 - 11 | 11am - 6:00 pm** | Two Days of Nonstop Entertainment, Food, Shopping, Dragon Parades, Cultural Events, Children's Activities & More! Grant Ave. & Washington St.

### SUN • SUNDAY STS/WESTERN EDITION

**Sun Sep 11 | 11am to 4pm** | Explore Fillmore and Fulton by foot, or bike. Baker St between Fell and McAllister, Fulton between Baker and Fillmore, and Fillmore between Fulton St and Geary Blvd.

### MON • FOLK MUSIC REVIVAL

**Mon Sep 12 | 4-6 pm** | The search for authentic American folk music began in the '20s. Songs of Appalachia and other roots music were collected and stored and later recorded and sung by The Weavers, The Kingston Trio, and Peter, Paul, & Mary. Tim Holt revisits the golden age of folk music of the '50s and '60s. Latino/Hispanic Rm A & B, Main Library, 100 Larkin St.

### WED • INGLESIDE BRANCH OPEN HOUSE

**Wed Sep 14 | 2-6 pm** | An Open House celebrating 7th anniversary of reopening! Light refreshments with the staff. Special programs; including Red Envelope Artwork, Jimbo the Clown, Music Performance, and Raffle Prizes. Ingleside Branch, 1298 Ocean Ave.

### WED • WRITE YOUR WILL

**Wed Sep 14 | 7-8:30** | Stuart Bronstein, an SF estate planning and probate lawyer for more than 30 years, will help participants create fully functional wills. Bring a blue ink non erasable pen. Call 415-355-5770 or email [psimg@sfpl.org](mailto:psimg@sfpl.org) to register.

### THU • AUTHOR DOUG GIST

**Thu Sep 15 | 6 pm** | Author Doug Gist's book signing event will present his grandfather's never-before-seen street-scene photos of the 1906 earthquake and fire. Book Passage, Ferry Building. 415 835-1020

### SAT • PARK CLEAN-UP

**Sat Sep 17 | 10 am-12pm** | Friends of the West Portal Playground is hosting a park clean up and community gathering at the West Portal Playground Clubhouse. Join us for FREE coffee and donuts while beautifying our park and playground. There will be craft activities available for kids. Visit: [www.westportalplayground.com](http://www.westportalplayground.com) for more details.

### SAT • TOUR DE FAT

**Sat Sep 17 | A costumed bike parade and nationally touring and locally loved musical acts, peppered with interactive fun like a 1,000 Person Dance Contest (to win a bike!) a Slow Ride competition (how slow can you go?), and the inspirational car-for-bike swapper series. Lindley Meadow, GG Park. [newbelgium.com](http://newbelgium.com)**

### SAT • PARTY FOR THE PARKS

**Sat Sep 17 | 6 Cocktails - 7:30 Dinner/Dancing** | Every child deserves access to a safe, clean, imaginative, place to play. Proceeds support the renovation of over a dozen city playgrounds, benefiting over 20,000 children. Panhandle Playground, Oak & Ashbury. Cocktail Attire (415) 801-4164

### SAT • WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS

**Sat Sep 17 | 10 am** | Three-mile walk is part of the world's largest event held in over 600 communities to raise awareness and funds for care, support and research. Free, donations/fundraising encouraged, 408-372-9900, [alz.org](http://alz.org) Great Meadow, Fort Mason

### SAT-SUN • DRAGONBOAT RACE

**Sat Sep 17-18** | Speeding fleet of colorful 40-foot dragon boats race to the beat of Chinese drums for the 21st Annual Dragon Boat Festival at Lake Merritt, Oakland. Info: [sfdragonboat.com](http://sfdragonboat.com)

### SUN • 36TH COMEDY DAY

**Sun Sep 18 | 12-5 pm** | 40 comedians, 5 hours Free! 36th Annual Comedy Day at Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park. 320 Bowling Green Dr. - [comedyday.org](http://comedyday.org)

### WED - SUN • BIG BIG BOOK SALE

**Wed Sep 21 - Sun 25 | 10 am - 6 pm** | Find over 500,000 quality books of all media at \$3 or less, including \$1 books on Sunday, literary crafts and ephemera, and collectible and rare books. Proceeds benefit S.F. Public Library education programs. Free. Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center 415-626-7500.

### FRI-SUN • OKTOBERFEST

**Fri Sep 23 - Sun 25 | 5pm-12am | Sat 11am-5pm/6pm-12am | Sun: 11am-6pm** | In the tradition of Munich's famed festival, Oktoberfest by the Bay will include nonstop music, singing, dancing and German food and drink. Pier 48, SF.

### SAT • SF FASHION WEEK



## Now At the Movies • By Don Lee Miller

### CAFE SOCIETY

Bronx Jewish Bobby Dorfman: Jesse Eisenberg, finally gets a job in his Uncle Phil's: Steve Carell Hollywood talent agency office via a call from sister Rose (the fabulous Jeannie Berlin). Phil's secretary Vonnie: Kristen Stewart (who at last gets to prove she can act) becomes his love interest. Unbeknownst to Bobby, she is already married-Phil's nighttime singing pleasure. Director/writer/narrator Woody Allen varies the storylines by switching back to the quarrelsome parents in their humble flat, to the rough violence of the NY gangster brother, to the secret scandals and sparkling night-spots of Hollywood/NY high society and nightclubs. Bobby marries Veronica: Blake Lively and fathers an infant. Noteworthy photography by three-time Oscar winner Vittorio Storato. PG-13: Some violence, a drug reference, suggestive material and smoking.



### FINDING DORY

The forgetful ocean blue tang, Dory: voiced by Ellen DeGeneres sets out—with Nemo: Hayden Rolence and a reluctant Marlin: Albert Brooks—to find her family. It's populated with enough familiar characters from 2003's "Finding Nemo" and has similar structure. The real surprise is the advancement strides in animation since "Nemo" which give "Dory" a spectacular new look. PG: Mild thematic elements.

### FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS

Director Stephen Frears ("The Queen", "Philomena") creates the 1940's NYC environment for the true tale of the Manhattan socialite and heiress: Meryl Streep who marries more wealth, "husband"/manager, St. Clair Bayfield: an older Hugh Grant, and, in her '40s, pursues a classical singing career. She hires a cringing young pianist, Cosmo McMoon: Simon Helberg. Bayfield does his best to protect her from the truthful reviews; one wonders how she is deaf to the booing and snickering. She was noted as being the worst "terribly, awful" soprano ever forced upon the public. When she headlines at Carnegie Hall, Bayfield even tries to bribe the NY Times critic. If Streep manages an Oscar nomination for "FFJ"—don't bet on her winning, not because of the truth of her portrayal, but because of the screeching of FFJ. PG-13: Brief suggestive material.

### GHOSTBUSTERS

In the last half-hour, the Ghostbusters suddenly comes alive with expensive special effects as the city is suddenly invaded by hundreds of ghosts and spirits everywhere. This part is worth seeing; it's awesome. Paranormal enthusiasts: Abby: Melinda McCarthy and Erin: Kristen Wigg, nuclear engineer Jillian: Kate McKinnen, and subway worker: Patty: Leslie Jones get some action with the company they create to handle the other worldly spirits and ghosts. The males in the cast are secondary: Ed: Ed Begley Jr., Harold: Charles Dance, and Mayor Bradley: Andy Garcia. Cameos from the cast of the original 1984 film are Martin: Bill Murray and Annie Potts, 63: the quartet's desk clerk. Directed and co-written by Paul Feig ("Bridesmaids", the upcoming "The Untouchables"). PG-13: Some supernatural action and crude humor.

### HANDS OF STONE

This true tale of the Panamanian light weight boxing champ, Edgar Ramírez, 40: Roberto Durán (Sony's "Vantage Point", among an international cast of stars, ten years ago) who is coached by almost-over-the-hill coach of champions, Ray Arcel: Robert DeNiro. This boxing movie was filmed somewhere South of the Border and has authentic atmosphere. Rubén Blades: Carlos Eleta was the first fight manager to recognize the boy's talent at 16; he brings him to the attention of Ray. Arcel wants to promote professional boxing on TV, but is stopped by Mafia kingpin Frankie Carbo: John Turturro. The boxing sequences are interspersed with showing both how the poor and wealthy dwelt in Central America in the 1970-80's. While Durán's personal life shown may be partly fiction, his boxing status is legendary, especially his championship 1980 bout with Sugar Ray Leonard: Usher Raymond. He won 103 bouts with only 16 losses but won four world championship belts in four different weight classes!, retiring at age 50. Directed and written by Jonathan Jacobowicz, who should have used more dramatic music for the fight scenes.

### JASON BOURNE

The latest in the Bourne series starring Matt Damon in the title role starts hop scotching around Europe. An unsmiling Alicia Vikander, 27, follows her Oscar-winning role in "The Danish Girl", as Jason's tracker. Julia Stiles makes her final appearance when she bites the dust within the first half-hour in a street mob. The final 30 minutes shot in Las Vegas, mostly at night, is the most exciting car chase in films of the last decade; the company was on location almost a month. Filmed in sequence, the European part took five months to film. Director Paul Greengrass adds another winner to his credits. Writers can be proud of their achievements.

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

### The Fringe is Coming! The Fringe is Coming! The Fringe is Here!

A Sneak Peek of seven of the thirty-eight shows from the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual San Francisco Fringe Festival started off with a bang at the EXIT Theatre Main stage and displayed the wide variety available for Fringe theatregoers this September 9-24th.

Starting off the Sneak Peek was Michael Patrick Gaffney's *Oldest Living Cater Waiter: My Life in Three Courses* directed by Ken Sonkin. Offering up delicious insights into Gaffney's complicated and hilarious careers as both a professional actor and as a high-end waiter, Gaffney cooks up numerous characters with just the right amount of sauciness, Shakespeare and a soupcon of self-discovery.

Next up was a bit of Magic from Keith Boudreau & Eric Valen's *Mysterium Show*. How do short segments of string turn back into a long one and exit from the performer's eyelid? Only the magician knows for sure. Winner of San Diego's 2015 Fringe Festival's "Audience Favorite", *Mysterium* offers a celebration of the supernatural, resurrecting the spirit of magic while leaving traces of the familiar behind.

Third on the Peek's program was an excerpt from *Watershed*, one of three pieces that comprise *Abracadabra! & Other New Works* by yours truly, Linda Ayres-Frederick, and Nancy Cooper Frank. SF acting treasure Terry Lamb plays the older than dirt man as he leafs through photos that inspire his stories while his daughter (Niki Yapo-Held), deals with a gigantic thawing on the earth below! *Out of the Darkness and Suitcase* complete the program of three strangely magical tales of fate, of journeys taken, of crossings interrupted. Look for *Abracadabra! & Other New Works* at [www.sffringe.org/abracadabra](http://www.sffringe.org/abracadabra)

In *Hey, Hey, LBJ!* soloist David Kleinberg takes us to the combat zone of Vietnam. As an army combat writer, Kleinberg's powerful work on the USA's most divisive foreign



Flora Lynn Isaacson

Linda Ayres-Frederick



## SUMMER FUN AT THE CLIFF HOUSE



### Join us for these Cliff House Weekly Favorites

- Wine Lovers' Tuesday – Half Priced Bottled Wines\*
- Bistro Wednesday Nights – \$30 Three-Course Prix Fixe
- Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge
- Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet

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

### Guided Historical Walks

Spend a memorable Saturday morning exploring Lands End. Start with a continental breakfast at the historic Cliff House then walk through Adolph Sutro's magical 'kingdom by the sea' with historian guide John A. Martini. Regarded as the ultimate authority on this part of the City's fabled past, John's walks will be offered on September 10 and October 8.

For more information and to make reservations please visit [www.cliffhouse.com/history/Johns\\_Walk.html](http://www.cliffhouse.com/history/Johns_Walk.html)



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



war shows him arriving in support of the war, but it's not long before things change dramatically. Acclaimed by the *Washington Post*, Kleinberg has performed the show in Vietnam, at The Marsh Theatre and elsewhere, keeping us on the edge of our seats!

Rounding out the Sneak Peek was Bill Hyatt's *It Came from Fukushima*, a large cast comedy about a radioactive creature attacking San Francisco. This multiple-character blend of Film Noir and Sci-fi tells a tale of fear, greed, hope and survival. Will the monster destroy San Francisco or is humankind the most dangerous monster of all!?

*Heart in the Hood*, written and performed by Michael Sommers, formerly from small town Vermont, tells the uplifting, true story of Sommers and the real denizens of his adopted West Oakland inner-city hood. Running the gamut from poignant to hilarious, Mike and his harmonica play all 16 characters!

Completing the evening was none other than Terry Baum's *Awaiting the Podiatrist* with music by Scrumby Koldewyn and David Hyman. This slightly world-renowned lesbian playwright finds herself in a room in Intensive Care, caught between her comatose father and her terminally irritating mother. This solo play with songs, puppets, and recognizable inner torment speaks familiarly to anyone who's ever had parents! Can't wait to see the whole show!

For those unfamiliar with the SF Fringe Festival, it is a unique, unexpected, uncensored, celebration of Indie Theatre that has now been happening for over two decades. One of EXIT Theatre's proudest achievements, the idea has grown a unique opportunity, birthing many of the Bay Area's most accomplished artists and companies, and a place that has hosted performers from around the world. 100% of the ticket sales go to the performing companies, and after 25 years of low price tickets, the Fringe is still here! Kudos to Christina Augello, Founder and Artistic Director, along with the talented performers, audience, funders, individual donors, volunteers and staff who dedicatedly continue to make the festival happen. A variety of ticket options are available from single tix at the door for \$12 or less, or \$14.99 or less in advance online to Frequent Fringer Passes where you can see from 5 shows for \$45 to 10 shows at \$85. [www.sffringe.org](http://www.sffringe.org) for further information and a complete schedule. Shows play in one of three venues at the EXIT THEATREPLEX 156 Eddy Street, SF or at PIANOFIGHT 144 Taylor, SF. See you at the Fringe!!! *Linda Ayres-Frederick*

### Sylvia

Ross Valley Player's 87<sup>th</sup> Season opens on September 16, 2016, with *Sylvia*, written by A. R. Gurney and directed by Buzz Halsing. For tickets to *Sylvia*, go online to [www.rossvalleyplayers.com](http://www.rossvalleyplayers.com) or call 800/838-3006 (Brown Paper Tickets). All performances take place at The Barn, home of the Ross Valley Players, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross. *Flora Lynn Isaacson*

## Coquerel's Sifaka at the SF Zoo

Coquerel's sifaka is a species of lemur, distinguished by its unique methods of movement, including leaping and jumping great distances between trees and skipping slightly sideways on the ground. The animal was introduced by the former PBS Kids program Zoboofafoo.

Sifakas are an endangered animal found only on the island of Madagascar. They get their name from a call they give, which sounds like "shi-FAHK". Along with the animals, named "Karen" and "Neil", the crowning jewel of the exhibit is a custom-built 18-foot fony baobab tree. The tree is common in sifaka habitats and was designed both for function and aesthetics. Adjacent to the main space is a "day room" which is visible to the public and gives the animals a second space in a controlled climate.

SF Zoo is on Sloat at Ocean Beach



## Update on the Lake Merced West Project



Rec & Park will update the public on the process and state of the previous Rod & Gun space, as well as a presentation from the leadership of Lake Merced Recreation LLC. Learn more about their vision and ask them questions about their proposal.

Thursday, September 15th • 6pm • Lake Merced Boathouse, 1 Harding Road





# Helping you take control

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**JERRIS ROBINSON**  
Senior Service Representative

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Second Thoughts • By Jack Kaye



# Brexit and the Nexits

The citizens of the United Kingdom have voted to leave the European Union (EU). The reaction has been wild. The stock markets fell for two days. (The U.S. market is now at record highs.) Some in the U.K. want a do-over. Scotland wants to leave the U.K. and keep its ties to the EU. Voters in Wales might decide to follow suit. The residents of Northern Ireland might want to leave to U.K. and join the rest of Ireland while staying with the EU.

If the nexits occur, England will once again be England. Scotland and Wales could still be part of Great Britain, which would be like a little EU with free trade and movement between the three countries. I have always favored this idea.

But what other nexits could there be? Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands are said to be considering leaving the EU while maintaining free trade with the remaining countries.

Greeks might also decide to quit the Union so that they could have their own

people and cultures. Why should the 35 developed nations do so well while 160 second and third-world countries have so much trouble providing for their people? Aren't all people created equal? Aren't we all G-d's children (if we believe in G-d)? Aren't all cultures created equal?

The urge for globalization began more than 2500 years ago. The Persians wanted to spread their empire across the world. They were defeated and followed by the Greeks, who under Alexander the Great wanted to Helenise the world. They were followed

“There is a reason people are fleeing their homelands in record numbers - their culture has failed them. But unaware of this relationship, those making a new home in the developed world want to bring their old culture with them.”

currency and better control their failing economy.

In Spain, the Catalonians want to have their independence.

And Tibet still wants its independence from China.

Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia have already been disbanded, replaced by about nine independent nations and two autonomous provinces. The Soviet Union was disbanded, giving their 14 countries back to the people of Eastern Europe.

In the Middle East, it is beginning to appear that some of these nations whose boundaries were drawn by the Western powers after the fall of the Ottoman empire in the last century will need to be split up. Iraq might become three countries: a Shiite, a Sunni and a Kurd, since the three groups do not seem willing or able to live together there. Syria and Yemen might also see a restructuring. Yemen became a united nation in 1991 and may need to be divided again. It seems that tribalism has even trumped nationalism in this region.

Here in America, we have been amazed to see the political success of a businessman and entertainer against 16 seasoned professionals. This success came regardless of the fact that this man has been called racist, xenophobic, sexist, dishonest, narcissistic, a bully, a liar and in it just for himself.

What appealed to a record number of GOP primary voters was his position on illegal immigration, outsourcing American manufacturing jobs, and U.S. trade agreements. He promised to seal the southern border to stop the constant flow of migrants who can walk into our country, and if caught be able to stay at least for a few years before facing possible, though unlikely, repatriation. He promised to bring back good-paying manufacturing jobs while making our country self-sufficient by producing the goods and services Americans want and need. He promised to reduce our trade deficits with other countries like China and Mexico. He pledged to get American companies to stop outsourcing jobs.

He would make America great by putting America first. He defied the current zeitgeist of globalization in favor of nationalism.

Meanwhile, the globalists are in a state of panic. Their dream of one world order with no borders and no nationalities is fading.

Those who represent big business want to eliminate all barriers to expanded markets. Big business means global business that transcends nationalistic boundaries. They imagine a world with no tariffs, no passports, uniform laws and regulations, a common currency and even a common language, preferably English. They long to make business completely fluid with no obstacles to block the flow.

Those on the left also favor globalization. For them it means equality for all

by the Romans, the Moguls, the Ottoman, British, French, Dutch, Russian, Japanese, Austro-Hungarian and Soviet empires.

All of these empires are gone now. The attempts at globalization were defeated by nationalism. People wanted their own country, culture, language, currency and sense of identity. They still do.

But what has caused this recent surge in nationalism? I think it was the fear of future immigration from the developing world. I think that Angela Merkel, a globalist, opened the floodgates of nationalism by welcoming immigrants from the Middle East and Africa. The moment she made her invitation, I knew that we were talking millions of people. I don't think that she realized how many people would arrive in Europe to make their way to its most generous lands to refugees - Germany, England and those in Scandinavia, while not choosing to go to nearby countries that share their cultural values, tradition, beliefs and religion. Germany appealed to the EU to force member nations to accept some of these new entrants. Many EU countries resented and rejected this mandate and closed their borders.

While our own mainstream media will not report the problems associated with this mass migration from totally different cultures, the British probably got the news of necessitated changes in daily life in these affluent, civilized nations. Cultures were being threatened by greater numbers of peoples with vastly different values and beliefs - especially regarding the treatment of women and the LGBTQ community. The millions of migrants also receive welfare benefits greater than those available to citizens, taking money away from each country's less fortunate.

And some fear that the migrant problem will only worsen with low birth rates and aging population in the developed nations, and the prospect of huge population growth in the poorest nations like those in the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa.

The globalists want to believe that all cultures, like all people, are created equal. The problem is that they are not. Just as people are born very different, though equally human, cultures are not even close to being equal while being dramatically different. Globalists are unwilling to see the relationship between a culture and its success socially, politically, and economically. There is a reason people are fleeing their homelands in record numbers - their culture has failed them. But unaware of this relationship, those making a new home in the developed world want to bring their old culture with them.

I believe that the answer is not mass migration, is not changing successful cultural practices and policies, nor is it imposing our culture on others in the form of empires or occupation. I think it is in the

Cont. p. 18

# Do you have a pinched nerve? We can help.

Dear friend,

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

Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. You know when I meet people in town they usually say, "Oh yeah, I know you, you are Doctor Meakim. You have been on the corner of Beach and Jones for years"...(and we just moved to our



new office on Clement Street). Well, that's me. I'm also the woman hugging her niece at the jersey shore in the picture.

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

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

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

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

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

In an average year, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports over 1.5 million hospitalizations due to medication. Last year the WHO reported 350,000

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

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

Many people are beginning to understand that health comes from within. This is why chiropractic helps so many people. You see, your body can heal itself. Your body doesn't

need any help; it just can't have any interference. With chiropractic, we don't add anything to the body or take anything from it. We find interference in the nervous system and remove it thus enhancing the healing capacities of the body.

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

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

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

Here is what some of your neighbors have said:

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

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

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

My qualifications:

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

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

*Thank you. —Dr. Christina Meakim D.C.*

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

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

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



WEST OF TWIN PEAKS PROPERTIES SOLD SINCE 6/1/16

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

ADDRESS	TYPE	BEDS	BATHS	PK	ASKING	SOLD	%OF ASKING
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?

St. Francis Wood district • 1912 Source: Greg Gaar. Published by permission of the San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

BRAIN FÜD

There's Money in Math

There are five mathematical words, each of which holds someone's money! Can you find it all?

- diameter
- mensuration
- differential
- polyhedron
- triangular (or spherical)

Here's a bonus, but you'd have to travel to the Black Sea to spend it.

Find it in:

- logarithm

Answer  
1. Diameter - Dime  
2. mensuration - Euro  
3. differential - Real  
4. polyhedron - Yen  
5. triangular - Rial  
Bonus - well done if you got this...  
6. logarithm - Lari

OPEN LATE



Brexit (Cont. from p. 17)  
developed world's best interest to provide the less developed world with tools to improve their living conditions and to modify their cultural beliefs and practices so that residents will want to live in their beloved homeland, not needing to risk their lives breaking into other lands to survive.  
I can imagine a prosperous Latin America with honest and wise politicians

and a happy, hard working population and reduced birth rates reflecting a greater respect for women. I can wish for the same in the Middle East and Africa. I can dream of a world with people who love their homeland and have no thoughts of ever living anywhere else.

Surely, every human deserves no less.  
Feedback: kaye@westsideobserver.com



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

Sudoku-fun!

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

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

Answer: appears below.

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



Police Report (Cont. from p. 12)

Saturday - Aug 13

**Battery – Cited**  
4:50 pm | Junipero Serra Blvd  
The victim said, after a traffic accident, the suspect, became argumentative, snatched back the paperwork he had previously given her and pushed her when she tried to follow him. The suspect said he never laid his hands on her. She requested a citizen's arrest and the suspect was cited.

**Robbery – Arrested**  
6:23 pm | Judah St & 15th Ave  
An anonymous female reported two men fighting. Officers found the suspect and detained him. A witness said that the suspect was fighting with another man, who was in a wheel chair. The victim, a MUNI operator, confirmed the confrontation and said he ordered both men off the MUNI. However, the suspect took the driver's personal property and pushed him. A video showed the suspect grabbing the backpack and a handful of papers. After investigation, the suspect was arrested.

Sunday - Aug 14

**Battery – Elder Abuse – Arrested**  
3:23 pm | 1400 23rd Ave  
The victims reported that they were home when the suspect, their son, back from a haircut, attempted to enter the house. They were afraid he was high on methamphetamine and did not want him in the house. And, earlier in that day, he pushed them after an argument over money. The suspect threatened the victims verbally outside and continued to ring the doorbell. After investigation, he was arrested.

Monday - Aug 15

**Robbery**  
12:13 pm | 300 Tara St  
The victim said he was in his vehicle when three suspects approached him. The first suspect opened the door and hit him several times in the face while the second suspect tried to steal his necklace and watch. The third suspect struck the victim's head with a gun. Eventually, the suspects stopped and fled after hitting the victim's vehicle with theirs and pinning him against his vehicle. Witnesses also heard shots.

Wednesday - Aug 7

**Methamphetamine Possession**  
12:27 pm | 18th Ave & Taraval St  
Observing a vehicle with expired registration, and that the driver parked in a yellow zone, exited the vehicle and walked across the street, officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop. A search of the suspect's vehicle located a bag which contained a large amount of suspected

methamphetamine. The suspect was arrested.  
**Robbery Attempt with Knife**  
4:00 am | Judah St & 40th Ave  
A victim riding on a MUNI bus said that he was seated in the rear of the bus when the suspect approached him with a knife and ordered him to give him money. He attempted to flee but the suspect chased him around the bus then left the bus and got into another vehicle.

Thursday - Aug 18

**Domestic Violence**  
12:23 pm | Address Confidential  
The victim reported that he and his boyfriend had an argument and the victim tried to leave but the suspect blocked the door and shoved the victim, causing him to fall and the suspect punched the victim's back four to five times. As the victim struggled and screamed for help, the suspect fled and took the victim's dog.

Friday - Aug 19

**Robbery**  
5:31 pm | Lee Ave & Ocean Ave  
The victims said they were walking when two suspects pushed them from behind and demanding their cell phones. When they hesitated suspects pulled out what looked like a gun. The suspects then fled.

Saturday - Aug 20

**Arson – Arrested**  
7:55 am | Sunset Blvd & Vicente St  
Officers detained the suspect kneeling and reaching towards smoke and flames. The suspect said the fire may started when he threw a cigarette. Then he said he set some papers on fire causing the grass to catch on fire. He was arrested.

Sunday - Aug 21

**Assault – Reckless Driving – Arrested**  
8:20 pm | Sunset Blvd & Judah St  
Officers observed a speeding vehicle come to an abrupt stop at a red light. After the light changed, the driver changed lanes without signaling. He did not pull over for a traffic stop, then he drove past the officers, into a driveway. He was arrested.  
**Loaded Firearm – Stolen Property**  
9:52 am | 500 Niagara Ave  
A suspicious vehicle without a license plate and an expired temporary registration sticker attracted officers, who observed two suspects in the vehicle. They smelled a strong odor of cannabis, and a search located a loaded firearm under a mat, ammunition and marijuana. One of the suspects had a warrant for her arrest and the firearm had been reported stolen from Rocklin, CA. They were arrested.  
**Editor's Note:** This is an incomplete report as space allows. For the entire report go to: www.taraval.org

SFPUC (Cont. from p. 6)

paper (CP) program of \$.5 Billion, total debt issued is \$.4.9 Billion. Total CP outstanding is \$.0.236 Billion, which makes the total debt outstanding for water at \$.4.4 Billion. Of some consequence to rate estimation and being in sync with Proposition 218 is that of the 24 debt instruments listed by the SFPUC, nine (9) have a note stating some or all of these funds have been used for refinancing other debt. This greatly clouds up the analytical waters as to stated objectives vs. achieved objectives. The SFPUC is a system begging for Proposition 218 scrutiny.  
In writing the Economic Report for the Mayor's Infrastructure Taskforce in 2002 I advised the City to divest the SFPUC of most banking functions. To be continued...

Brian Browne was coauthor of 2002 Prop P and

former member of the Revenue Bond Oversight Committee it created.

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VANGUARD PROPERTIES

Senior Smarts By Anise J. Matteson

WEATHER FORECAST PREPAREDNESS: HOT WEATHER

As I am writing this article, the weather is 62° and sunny. Bay Area forecast (San Francisco chronicle, August 16): “Coastal fog and low cloud will be possible again, particularly in the morning. Skies will be mostly sunny across the interior, with highs reaching the middle 90s in spots.”

Where is summer? According to a San Francisco meteorologist, forecast for San Francisco: “higher temperatures in two months.”  
**BE PREPARED**

When the body starts to perspire, it is signaling you are becoming overheated.  
*Perspiration* is a means of removing heat from the body and is increased by temperature and humidity.<sup>1</sup>—midsummer temperatures or during strenuous exertion.<sup>2</sup> The chief role of perspiration is to maintain the body temperature at a constant level. Diminished or total absence of sweating may occur in the elderly.<sup>3</sup>  
**STATISTICS**

A CDC study of the five years ending in 2003 attributed 3,442 deaths to exposure to extreme heat, about 689 per year.<sup>4</sup>  
UV radiation is considered the main cause of nonmelanoma skin cancer, striking more than a million, and more than 250,000 Americans, respectively, each year. UV radiation also frequently plays a key role in melanoma, which kills more than 8,000 Americans each year.<sup>5</sup>  
**HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS**

Hot weather subjects older adults age 65 and over to heat-related illness.  
**ETIOLOGY:** Difficulty adjusting to sudden changes in temperature<sup>6</sup>; Chronic medical conditions that changes the body's response to heat;<sup>7</sup> Prescription medications that impair the body's ability to regulate its temperature or that inhibit perspiration<sup>8</sup>; Dehydration (not drinking enough water or binging on alcohol or caffeinated drinks)<sup>9</sup> Diminished or total absence of sweating.<sup>10</sup>  
**RELATED FACTORS:** **Age:** Elderly have lower body temperatures. **Exercise:** Temperature rises with moderate to vigorous muscular activity. **Hyperthermia:** Body temperature elevated above the normal range.<sup>11</sup> Severe hyperthermia: Body temperature of 104°F or higher.<sup>12</sup> Forms: Heat stroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion. **Medical Conditions:** Heart disease, fever, obesity, mental illness, poor circulation, or a sunburn.<sup>13</sup> **Medications:** Diuretics (likely to cause dehydration). Antihistamines (can make the body more sensitive to sun exposure and high temperatures).<sup>14</sup> **SYMPTOMS:** Dizziness, fatigue, vomiting, headache, fast heartbeat, shortness of breath, or a high temperature (greater than 104°F). [Note: Get immediate medical care.<sup>15</sup> **ADVERSE EFFECTS:** Heat stroke (death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided); sunstroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramp, heat rash (prickly heat).

**PRECAUTION:** Wear clothing that is lightweight, light-colored, and loose-fitting; take frequent rest breaks, especially during strenuous activities; ingest adequate amounts of fluids; avoid hot, humid environments if possible; use a fan or air conditioner; seek air-conditioned areas (e.g., cooling centers); avoid midday sun; wear a hat (wide-brimmed); sunglasses or solar shield that block both ultraviolet A and ultraviolet B rays<sup>17</sup>; sunscreen as a defense against damage to the skin by ultraviolet rays<sup>18</sup>; umbrella as a sunshade; lip balm. [Note: Even resting in a shaded area, seniors can overheat on a scorching summer afternoon.<sup>19</sup> **PROTECTING OLDER ADULT**

Visit older adults at risk at least twice a day and watch them for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Encourage them to increase their fluid intake by drinking cool, nonalcoholic beverages regardless of their activity. [Warning: If their doctor generally limits the amount of fluid they drink or they are on water pills, they will need to ask their doctor how much they should drink while the weather is hot.] Take them to air-conditioned locations if

they have transportation problems.<sup>20</sup>  
**HEAT STRESS AND OLDER WORKERS**  
According to Mike Sterns (“Hot conditions stress older works”), “studies show that older workers are more susceptible to negative consequences from heat exposure.”<sup>21</sup>

Every year thousands of workers suffer from some form of injury or illness from becoming overheated on the job some even die.<sup>22</sup>  
At higher risk are workers wearing protective gear that includes tight-fitting clothes that do not breathe.<sup>23</sup>  
Once the heat index gets into the 90s and above, threats start getting severe and precautions need to be raised.<sup>24</sup>

Preventive measures suggested by OSHA: Increase the amount of fluids you drink; take frequent breaks in cool places; if working in the sun use a sunscreen rated SPF15 or higher; a wide-brimmed hat; wear light, loose-fitting clothes.<sup>25</sup>  
[Note: If you experience weakness or dizziness, stop working immediately and rest in a cool place.<sup>26</sup> **Weather Forecast**

**Heat index.** Takes both temperature and humidity into account to give a more accurate account of how conditions affect the body.<sup>27</sup>  
**High heat index.** Indicates an increased risk of heat stroke due to humid air that makes it more difficult to breathe normally.<sup>28</sup>  
**High UV index.** Implies that a person is likely to get sunburned even under cloud cover.<sup>29</sup>

**HEATSTROKE**  
Heatstroke is a form of hyperthermia that results from prolonged exposure to high temperature (normally air temperature of greater than 79°F and relative humidity greater than 70%).<sup>30</sup> It can cause death or permanent disability without medical treatment.<sup>31</sup>  
**CLASSIFICATION:** Exertional heat stroke (EHS) is due to overexertion in hot weather. Non-exertional heat stroke (NHS) occurs in climatic extremes and affects the elderly, infants and chronically ill.<sup>32</sup> **ETIOLOGY:** In extreme heat, high humidity, or vigorous physical exertion under the sun, the body may not be able to sufficiently dissipate the heat and the body temperature rises, sometimes up to 106°F or higher. A dehydrated person may not be able to sweat fast enough to dissipate heat, which causes the body temperature to rise.<sup>33</sup> **SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:** High temperature; absence of sweating, with hot red or flushed dry skin; rapid pulse; difficulty breathing; strange behavior; hallucinations; confusion; agitation; disorientation; seizure, and/or coma.<sup>34</sup> **TREATMENT:** It is important to reduce the temperature as quickly as possible.<sup>35</sup> **PREVENTION:** See Heat-Related Illness. **SUNSTROKE**

Sunstroke is a heat stroke caused by prolonged exposure to direct, intense rays of sun or from general excessive heat.<sup>36</sup> **ETIOLOGY:** There is a disturbance in the body's heat-regulating mechanism [that controls perspiration], particularly when there is little or no circulation of air.<sup>37</sup> Exposure to the sun varies depending on elevation (i.e., sea level, time of day, the reflection, and the wind.)<sup>38</sup> Individuals more susceptible: the elderly with underlying chronic disorders; those who use alcohol and atropine-containing drugs; those with certain skin disorders.<sup>39</sup> **SYMPTOMS:** Headache, dizziness, weakness, extremely high fever, absence of sweating, convulsions, sudden loss of consciousness; may be fatal.<sup>40</sup> **TREATMENT:** Immediate steps must be taken to lower the body temperature.<sup>41</sup> Seek medical attention.



Education

A Quick Look At  
The Teacher Shortage.

By Carol Kocivar

Put this under the list of “I wish it weren’t so.”

Schools in California are opening without enough teachers. This has been brewing for years. There are lots reasons why this is happening. Here are the most important:

Compared to other college graduates, teachers are not paid enough.

During the great recession, thousands and thousands of teachers lost their jobs.

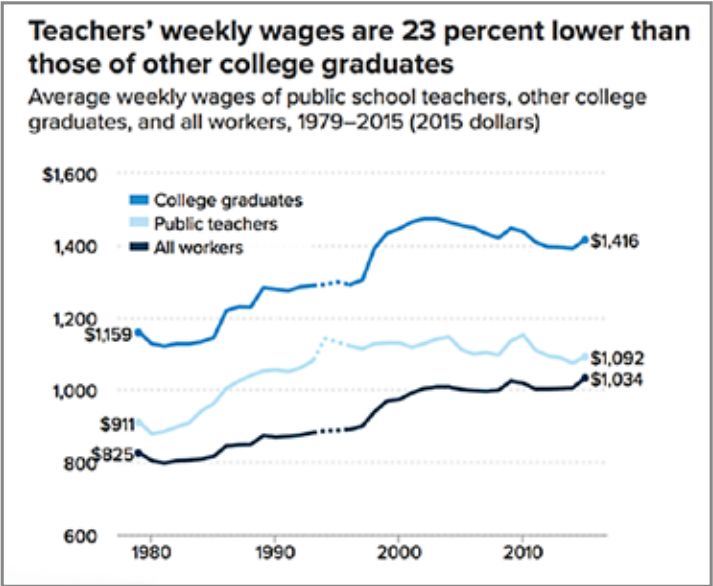
What was once a stable middle class job is no longer stable. And even more important, it is not “viewed” as stable. The national education discourse has focused on blaming teachers, not improving an underfunded system. And now, the teacher pipeline is running dry.

Let’s take a closer look.

Teacher Pay

A recent study from Economic Policy Institute finds that the teacher pay gap is even wider than ever.

This is a big deal. College graduates, particularly women college graduates, now have job options that pay more.



But... what about benefits? Teachers get both wages and benefits. Don't those make up the difference? The short answer is “No.”

The Economic Policy Institute study finds that “although teachers on average enjoy better benefits packages than similar workers, benefits only mitigate part of the wage gap. Including benefits, teachers are still left with a record-high 11.1 percent compensation gap compared to similar workers.”



Teacher Job Loss and Fewer New Teachers

The great recession not only resulted in lots of teachers losing their jobs, it created a very real sense of job insecurity. Between 2007 and 2010, there was a drop of 11 percent in California's teacher force. That is a lot of pink slips.

The pay gap, job insecurity (and yes, teacher bashing), means fewer and fewer people enroll in California's teacher preparation courses.

Will this be changing fast?

Based on a recent ACT survey of incoming college students, the news is not so good. They found:

“Interest among ACT-tested graduates in becoming educators continues to decline

“The teacher shortage is not just because not enough people want to become teachers. A huge factor is that not enough people continue as teachers. (And yes, there is a cadre of older teachers who are retiring.)”

at an alarming rate. Students interested in education have lower-than-average achievement levels, particularly in STEM areas. Interest in pursuing an education career is low among males. In general, there is a lack of diversity among students interested in education.”

An Underfunded System

The teacher shortage is not just because not enough people want to *become* teachers. A huge factor is that not enough people *continue* as teachers. (And yes, there is a cadre of older teachers who are retiring.)

Teachers need training and support, especially in high need areas such as math, science and special education. Alas, over the past years, this too has been the victim of an underfunded system. California is a high cost state. Per student funding, when adjusted for cost of living, still remains near the bottom of the nation. Unfortunately, this translates into the largest class sizes in the nation, as well as under-prepared and under supported teachers in too many classrooms.

The good news is that we can do something about this. (Hint: Support more funding and teacher preparation and training in our public schools.)

For more information on the teacher shortage, and strategies on how to address this, read Ed100.org and The Learning Policy Institute's Brief on Addressing California's Emerging Teacher shortage.



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



Andrea Korsunsky,  
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# Outside Lands

A festival of the Unexpected



By Wendy Oakes

Outside Lands is a three day vacation from the ordinary without ever having to leave the city, and with the added advantage of getting to sleep in your own bed after marathon days' end. This festival represents different things to different people, but it is always an adventure. Sure, there are artists that you will definitely make a point of seeing, but beyond those, it's all unknown and uncontrollable circumstances that await you. You don't know who you're going to run into from your past; you don't know how close you'll get to the stage or who you'll meet along the way; you don't know if they'll run out of organic vegan tamales by the last act; you don't know a lot of things. It's the unpredictability of Outside Lands that's part of it's charm and also what makes it somewhat like a vacation, where you're thrown into an entirely new set of experiences. No matter what your ambitions may be, your fate is typically cast to the four winds, which is kind of fun.

When you think about it, anytime you go to see live music, it's always a getaway from the everyday. It's a chance to shift your consciousness and for musical communion if the stars align. San Franciscans are so fortunate because our city is a favorite tour stop for pretty much every artist, and is almost always on the itinerary. Even if you didn't get to go to Outside Lands, you can be sure that those artists that you wanted to see will be returning. Here's a selection of four bands to be sure and catch the next time they're in town. All four, of course, offer their own musical destinations.

1. **Con Brio.** Luckily for us, Con Brio is from San Francisco, and although they tour pretty much every continent now, they most certainly will appear here at least twice a year. This is the band to see when you're looking for a super positive, super energy charged, and inspiring night. Con Brio operates as a seven piece and no one in this band is asleep on the job; they are all so in the truly transcendent, soulful ride that is their powerful music. Ziek McCarter, frontman for Con Brio, is a sight and sound to behold; his vocal gymnastics are stunning, and they are delivered with real emotion and heart. And his dance moves! You just have to see them. Every player in this band is a star but together they really shine. Easily one of the best bands at the festival.

2. **Nathaniel Rateliff and The Night Sweats** are also a seven piece, and also deliver lots of genuine emotion onstage. There's no posturing here; these guys are the real deal. This is the band to see when you want to feel as though you've taken a little cross country trip into America's heartland, and have happened upon an amazing night of music. The Denver based band brought us very convincingly to places like Memphis and New Orleans, but gave that music plenty of extra room to breathe, just as one is accustomed to doing when they hail from Colorado. Everyone onstage had a vocal mic set up before them; everyone in this organization can sing, and the horn section brought an even richer quality and an often dreamy element to the band's sound, which was already captivating - think Van Morrison meets The Band meets Memphis soul meets country blues. Superb musicians that they are, Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats laid down perfectly balanced and engaging grooves within a performance that looked to be as natural as breathing to them. The truth of the matter is that, all skill and practice hours aside, the only way to effectively deliver the kind of music that we heard at Outside Lands is to have lived the kind of life that led up to it. Nathaniel Rateliff's honest lyrics certainly don't always tell rosy tales, but he keeps his sense of humor and embraces life for all of

its sweet and sour notes. It was obvious that the Outside Lands gig meant a lot to them, and at sets' end, Nathaniel Rateliff used the opportunity and the energy of the moment to exclaim, "We're all in this together! Take care of each other and to take care of the working class people of the world or we got nothing!"

3. **Air.** The musical equivalent of a floatation tank. This is music for dreaming and for decompression, perfect for anyone who basically wants to take a break from everything and float off into the clouds of imagination. Jean-Benoit Dunckel of Air referred to his and Nicolas Godin's music as soft wave, which sounds even more chill than chill wave. You get the idea. Air doesn't tour here too often, but until they do, turn off the phone, the computer, and the TV, open the windows, get under the covers, and play some Air. Problem solved.

4. **Lionel Richie.** As someone who has never been a big fan of Lionel Richie, this one came as a surprise, but he was just phenomenal and closed out the three days in grand and exuberant style. What a showman and what a band! Lionel Richie positively ruled that stage and had the entire polo field dancing all the way through his set, which absolutely flew by! This is the kind of musical vacation you take when you just want to have a great time and not think about anything but dancing. As Lionel Richie said, "There are two ways you can dance. You can dance on the floor, or you can dance on the..." In our case the ceiling was a sky full of stars and, um, fog, in beautiful Golden Gate Park. It was pretty romantic too, judging by all the couples hugged up and falling in love. Blame it on Lionel.

Obviously, with Outside Lands' four main stages, as well as a multitude of other stages and attractions, a lot of artists have not been included here. "What about Radiohead and Ryan Adams?" you are probably asking. They are brilliant artists; that is undeniable, but let's face it, they're not the cheeriest of the lot, and sometimes an upbeat musical adventure is just the ticket.

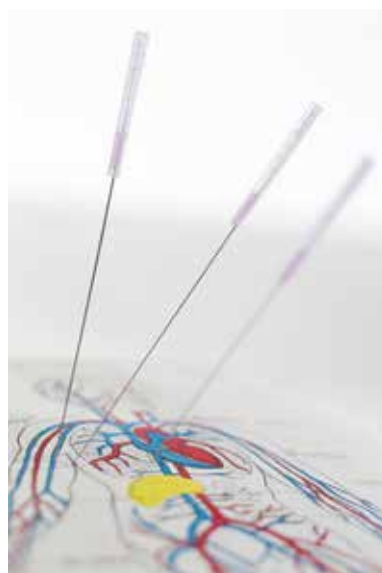
Lastly, this snapshot of Outside Lands 2016 would not be complete without a shout out to Major Lazer, who quite possibly had the biggest crowd of any act all weekend. When Major Lazer took to the polo field, easily 50,000 revelers from every corner of the festival came stampeding toward the stage. No matter how you feel about crowds, the sight of that pilgrimage (safely from a hill, thank you very much), was a sight to behold and just one of the many out there memories of the three day extravaganza that is Outside Lands.

Wendy Oakes is a local reporter.

## Health Matters • By Sharone Franzen

### Ancient Medicine for Modern Ills

By Sharone Franzen, LAc



Here in the Bay Area, we are exposed to many forms of healing practices that the rest of the country might consider exotic. For us, massage, yoga, and chiropractic care all seem commonplace. As for Chinese medicine, most folks are well versed in the basics: from acupuncture (tiny needles that stimulate the nervous system) to cupping (thanks, Michael Phelps!), we've catalogued it all as "alternative therapy," something to turn to when conventional medicine hasn't worked. While acupuncture has gained acceptance in our country - particularly for the treatment of pain - many folks are unaware that Chinese medicine as a whole can be used as front-line therapy for most chronic conditions. It may be hard to believe that something as low-tech as acupuncture or herbs can approach or surpass the effectiveness of modern medicine. How can such an ancient model of medicine have something to offer us when we have access to state-of-the-art treatments and medications? Don't people today have different conditions plaguing them than they did, say, hundreds of years ago? And doesn't western medicine have everything just about covered?

The answers to these questions may surprise even our most alternative-minded readers. Understanding how an acupuncturist arrives at a diagnosis and treatment plan may shed some light onto why this system of medicine is valuable for treating most modern ills.

First of all, and probably most importantly, diagnosis in Chinese medicine is syndrome-driven rather than disease-driven. This means that just saying you have "asthma" or "indigestion" is not enough to initiate treatment. *All* of your symptoms have to be taken into account in order to personalize the treatment. For example, if your asthma is the dry-wheezy type, it will be treated differently than, say, asthma that gets worse with cold, rainy weather. Dozens of herbal formulas treat what we would call "asthma," and each one can also be modified to suit the individual. The result? Not only a reduction in symptoms (wheezing, coughing, what-have-you), but also treatment of the ROOT of the problem (allergies, poor digestion, lack of energy, poor lung capacity, etc.). No matter what you name the issue, symptoms will form a pattern that can be treated with Chinese medicine.

Additionally, acupuncture serves as a beneficial "re-set" button for the nervous system. Once again, the location of a person's specific symptoms is considered before the appropriate points are needled. Not many western procedures (aside from chiropractic and physical therapy) actually TREAT a condition right in the clinic,

but most people feel at least a little better directly after acupuncture. Chronic issues may take a few weeks to sort out, but most pain will improve right away.

Although many hospitals and health-care organizations now are integrating acupuncture into their patient care, not many incorporate Chinese herbs into treatment. Some fear herb safety as the major issue, but remember: Chinese herbs have been used for thousands of years, with side effects painstakingly recorded by generations of physicians. Others claim that herbal medicine has minimal effectiveness. This is largely due to the prevalence of self-prescribed treatment, without the guidance of a trained herbalist. Case in point: the popularity of taking turmeric supplements for "inflammation." Turmeric is used in Chinese herbology particularly for abdominal, shoulder and arm pain. But turmeric is a warm, spicy herb, which is not recommended for those with a "warm" constitution - those suffering from hot flashes, night sweating, unusual thirst, and other symptoms. Therefore it can be combined with "cool" herbs to balance its temperature, and is used in formulas with synergistic herbs to increase its pain-relieving effect. Result: a more targeted, individualized, and effective remedy. In addition to healing the original complaint, side effects of proper herbal treatment include improved sleep, digestion, and mood.

Perhaps one of the downsides to this

Cont. p. 22

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# GOLDEN GATE DOG WALKING



No on M (Cont. from p. 9)

San Francisco. There are layers of requirements and challenges that a small business owner must go through. OEWD staff assist small business owners with navigating the City's laws, and the office is constantly finding ways to streamline and cut down on the bureaucratic processes that take place across many City departments. Why would we instead spend time adding another layer to delay providing assistance to our small businesses? In fact, no Commissioner who would be appointed to serve would be required to have expertise on small business needs, neighborhood development, or job training. This is unacceptable.

Transparency for who?

Calling for additional transparency sounds good, but the reality is that the proposal will only increase transparency

for the 7-member appointed Commission and cause unnecessary delays for critical projects and programs in our City. Furthermore, three of the appointed Commissioners would not be subjected to any qualification requirements in order to serve on the Commission.

Members of the public and members of the Board of Supervisors currently have at their disposal several different commissions and review procedures for both affordable housing and economic development projects and programs. Perhaps members of the Board of Supervisors should start paying more attention to the matters that come before them rather than insisting that adding a new Commission will solve all problems.

Don't be fooled by the call for additional "transparency," and don't play politics with affordable housing and small business assistance.

Senior Smarts (Cont. from p. 19)

**PREVENTION:** Adequate ventilation and hydration. Wear proper clothing. Vigorous activities should not be undertaken in extremely hot weather.<sup>42</sup>

HEAT EXHAUSTION

Heat exhaustion (heat prostration) is an acute reaction to a hot, humid environment<sup>43</sup> the result of over exposure to heat or to the sun.<sup>44</sup> If untreated, it can progress to heat stroke.<sup>45</sup> **ETIOLOGY:** Long exposure to extreme heat or too much activity under a hot sun causes excessive sweating, which removes large quantities of salt and fluid from the body; When the amount of salt and fluid in the body falls too far below normal, heat exhaustion may result[46]; A milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperature and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids.<sup>47</sup> **SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:** Heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, fainting, skin may be cool and moist, pulse rate fast and weak, breathing fast and shallow.<sup>48</sup>

[Note: It does not take all of these symptoms to indicate exhaustion.<sup>49</sup> **TREATMENT:** Seek medical attention. **PREVENTION:** Avoid long exposure to sun or heat; drink plenty of water; regular breaks from work; in the event of weakness or dizziness stop working immediately and rest in a cool place.<sup>50</sup>

SUNBURN

Sunburn (erythema solare) is a discoloration or inflammation of the skin due to overexposure to the sun.<sup>51</sup>

**Editor's Note:** Due to space restrictions, this in an abridged version of the author's contribution. The fully annotated version is available on the website: [www.westsideobserver.com/health.html](http://www.westsideobserver.com/health.html)

Anise Matteson is an elder care consultant, retired Registered Health Information Technician and writer of reference books for seniors. Seminars by announcement. Information is educational. For specific questions and medical care, contact your physician. [mattesonecs@yahoo.com](mailto:mattesonecs@yahoo.com).

Yes on M (Cont. from p. 9)

millions of dollars in "community investment" grants that are doled out in a private process without community oversight or transparency to various pet projects. OEWD has effectively used this grant program to build a patronage army in neighborhoods across the city, often with a flagrant disregard for the real needs of neighborhood residents and small businesses. In fact, it often pits neighborhood groups and residents against each other, with some pet projects routinely funded as a reward or an attempt at pacification. Millions of dollars go to flower baskets and block parties, while the concerns around street cleanliness and homelessness that I hear from residents every day go unanswered.

OEWD also represents the City in major development negotiations, operating largely out of view of the public. By the time development agreements actually come to the Board for a final vote it is often too late to ensure a meaningful win for the community; the details and commitments have already been settled behind closed doors, like the community benefits agreement that was negotiated to ensure luxury condos were built on the waterfront at 8 Washington, or the America's Cup booster deal that flopped. And those are development agreements that actually come before the Board – there are countless more deals that are cut behind closed doors in the name of "economic benefit" to the City that have been miserable failures.

The Super Bowl is only the most recent example, with residents and small businesses from the Excelsior to the SoMa to Chinatown and the Castro all loudly demanding that the City prioritize San Franciscans over the NFL and its 13-day-long corporate party. Traffic congestion reached "CARMageddon" proportions downtown, crime and homeless encampments peaked in outlying neighborhoods, and restaurants and small businesses saw record low returns as tourist dollars were instead directed largely to out-of-town vendors from within Super Bowl City. MUNI ended up \$2.5 million in the red,

while public employees were asked to "volunteer" to prepare for the event, and then during the non-stop party itself. The City reallocated \$1.4 million of taxpayer money to public projects intended to augment the "Super Bowl 50 experience" including boosting the wi-fi capacity on Market Street, and fixing up the Old Mint for the VIP party people. And that doesn't even include accelerated round-the-clock work on the Transbay Center that totaled over half a million dollars – right before the project asked the City to bail them out of an eye-popping quarter of a billion dollars of cost overruns. And through it all, the press and the public asked: "Who is actually negotiating on behalf of the City and cutting this deal?!" The silence in response was deafening.

Had there been some oversight like is being proposed with Proposition M, perhaps San Francisco might have succeeded in getting cost reimbursement from the Host Committee, as did Santa Clara. Instead, now they want to bring the Super Bowl back for a second round. Hopefully, we'll have an actual Commission that is beholden to the voters, neighbors, neighborhoods, and small businesses by then.

One need only see the carefully-orchestrated turnout in opposition to this common sense legislative proposal to understand why having a Commission over these governmental functions is so necessary. Grant recipients from both MOHCD and OEWD received personal phone calls from top level city staffers stressing the need to testify in opposition. These kind of strong-arm tactics make it painfully clear that there needs to be reform at the very highest levels of these offices. After all, what do they have to hide? It's time.

If you think the public should have input into the strategic housing & development vision for its own neighborhoods, and have a say in the next Olympics booster bid, America's Cup fiasco, or Super Bowl handshake deal... you should vote for an idea whose time has come. **Yes on M** for accountability, oversight, transparency and neighborhood voice.



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NEIGHBORHOOD	SF ZIP CODE	FALL 2016 FREE DAYS	SPRING 2017 FREE DAYS
Bernal Heights, Castro, Cole Valley, Glen Park, Haight, Lake Merced, Mission, Noe Valley, St. Francis Wood	94110, 94114, 94117, 94127, 94131, 94132	September 16, 17, 18	February 10, 11, 12
Parkside, Sunset	94116, 94122	Sept. 30 Oct. 1, 2	March 3, 4, 5
Chinatown, Marina, Nob Hill, North Beach, Presidio, Richmond, Russian Hill, Seacliff, Telegraph Hill, Western Addition	94108, 94109, 94115, 94118, 94121, 94123, 94126, 94129, 94133	October 14, 15, 16	March 10, 11, 12
Bayview-Hunters Point, Downtown, Hayes Valley, Ingleside-Excelsior, Mission Bay, Potrero Hill, SoMa, Tenderloin, Treasure Island, Visitation Valley	94102, 94103, 94104, 94105, 94107, 94111, 94112, 94124, 94130, 94134, 94158	October 21, 22, 23	March 17, 18, 19

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Health Matters (Cont. from p. 21)

system of medicine from the patient's perspective is the time and economic investment. Acupuncture and herbal medicine is a therapy, and as such involves a course of treatments. The length of treatment will vary according to a person's constitution, the frequency of visits, the severity of the person's condition, and the patient's willingness to make a few lifestyle changes if necessary. That said, most folks enjoy their acupuncture sessions and feel deeply relaxed and recharged afterward. Taking time out once or twice a week to focus solely on one's health is akin to going to the gym or taking a weekly yoga class.

In the state of California, Chinese medicine is highly regulated. Acupuncturists go through rigorous testing for licensure on not only acupuncture, herbal medicine, cupping, and other modalities, but also basic western medicine and pharmacology in order to recognize red flags – times when someone might be facing a medical emergency and should consult a physician or go to the emergency room.

Overall, Chinese medicine can be

used not only to treat chronic disease, but also to maintain health. This goes beyond prevention of disease: we can raise our expectations for our health, and make a plan to feel not just symptom-free, but truly vibrant. Using even occasional acupuncture appointments as a check-in for one's health can serve as a reminder to pay attention to our bodies in our mind-driven world. Some Chinese scholars say that the well being we feel after acupuncture is our birthright, that this feeling would be our daily experience were it not for the unnatural habits of modern life. Ideally, we all would have enough vitality that we would not need *any* form of medicine, aside from emergency treatments. But for those of us traveling on the road back to health, Chinese medicine has a lot to offer.

For more information on acupuncture and herbal medicine, check out the consumer FAQs on the California Acupuncture Board website: [www.acupuncture.ca.gov](http://www.acupuncture.ca.gov).

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

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### A Beautiful Day

When I called for reservations at Terry’s Lounge in the Cypress Inn in Carmel, the first thing they asked me was “will you be bringing a dog with you to dinner?” My immediate response was to say, “No, just my wife” but then I realized that they must hear that at least a dozen times a day so I settled for just the date and time. I guess I could have said “No, I’ll be ordering off the menu” but the click on the other end would have been deafening!



Originally built in 1929 what is now the Cypress Inn on Lincoln and 7<sup>th</sup> in Carmel was purchased in the mid 1980’s by Carmel native Danny LeVett and Doris Day who has always been known for her love of animals which made the Cypress Inn one of the first pet-friendly boutique hotels in the country. The four legged guests are as welcome as their human counterparts and attending the “Yappy Hour” from 4 to 6 is a Carmel treat while enjoying a “muttini.”

The ornate entrance to the hotel speaks of the Golden Age of Hollywood and somehow you would expect to see some of Tinseltown’s great stars like Cary Grant, Frank Sinatra or James Cagney sitting at the bar enjoying one of the hand-crafted cocktails. Ronald Reagan, who starred with Doris Day in the 1952 movie, The Winning Team, always enjoyed his favorite gin-n-juice Orange Blossom, which is still served to this day with a side of jelly beans.



Having starred in 39 films and recording a series of memorable albums, Doris is still the quintessential all-American Girl and legendary Hollywood “girl next door” but now enjoys a quiet life at home in the Carmel Valley.

We’ve always gone to Terry’s pooch-less, but have always enjoyed the casual atmosphere and the food, and the service is always top notch. One of our favorite dishes has always been the sand dabs, but the Braised Short Ribs and the Grilled Salmon are right up there with the signature Cypress Burger.

Terry’s Lounge, which is named after Doris’s son Terry Melcher, was elevated to a

new level last week with a bevy of glamorous guests, accompanied by some of the most exotic and expensive cars in the world. Yes, once again it was car week on the Monterey Peninsula, with cars and drivers being welcomed from all over the world, and parties and parades running all day and all night. An endless stream of cars flowed from Pebble Beach through the streets of Carmel, and amazingly most found a parking spot on Ocean Avenue, a nearly impossible task on any given day. Anticipating yet another stunning sunset, and after droves of tourists and gawkers, the cars filed back to Pebble accompanied



by local meter maids, police cars, TV crews and California Highway patrol cruisers. The outfits of the drivers and passengers would rival the best of Hollywood’s costume designers and the snapshots were endless. There certainly is no mistaking the roar of the engines propelling those red Ferraris, Rolls Royces, Maseratis and this year’s featured car, the BMW. One of the most popular attractions is the car auction, which would make anyone’s hair stand on edge. and thankfully the money donated to local charities seems to set new

records every year. So car week is now history, the Concours d’Elegance packed away for another year, the cars shipped out for yet another show, but Terry’s is still in town and for all of us to enjoy. So stop by any time and enjoy a Cypress Burger and a nice glass of Silvestri’s pinot, and if by chance you should run into Doris Day, tell her how much you’ve enjoyed her movies and music and thank her for her love of animals. Finally, I hope that you were not too disappointed that yours wasn’t the successful bid of 11.9 million for that 1933 Alfa Romeo Monza. See you next year in Monterey. Sergio gets around—the world.

Wild West Comes to the Big City

### 70th Grand Livestock Expo, Horse Show & Rodeo

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.



The Rodeo, produced for the past 47 years by Cotton Rosser and the Flying U Rodeo Co., features traditional rodeo events, including bronc riding, bull riding and barrel racing to name a few. An annual highlight for the rodeo community is the contest for ‘Miss Grand National Rodeo Queen,’ a title that is held for one year to serve as a good-will ambassador for the sport of Rodeo.

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). More: info@cowpalace.com or call 415-414-4100.

#### About the Grand National Rodeo:

The Cow Palace was created in 1941 as the 1-A District Agricultural Association, and as part of its mission produces the annual ‘Grand National Livestock Exposition, Horse Show and Rodeo’. It is the West’s most prestigious western lifestyle event attracting thousands of participants and fans from seven western states.

#### FULL EVENT SCHECULE

##### 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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#### Legend of D-7 Supervisorial Candidates (Continued from page 6)

- A. John Farrell
- B. Norman Yee (Incumbent, D-7 Supervisor)
- C. Joel Engardio
- D. Mike Young
- E. Benjamin Matranga



www.westsideobserver.com






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.

We invite you to see all that Peninsula Del Rey has to offer (including assisted living services if needed) at a complimentary lunch and tour. Please call 650.468.2854 to schedule.

 RCFE# 415600867

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