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# www.westsideobserver.com

Volume 32 • Number 1

Celebrating Our 32nd Year

#### **Congratulations Supervisor Norman Yee**

by George Wooding istrict Seven Supervisor Norman Yee was elected president of the San Francisco

Board of Supervisors on January 8 in a 10−1 vote that came after lengthy public comment.

Supervisor Yee is the first D7 supervisor to be elected president of the Board. As president, Yee will have tremendous power over prioritizing agendas and committee assignments, and he will be next-in-line should something happen to Mayor London Breed.



I've been doing this work for a long time and I feel an urgency — to respond to the crises facing our City in a time of population growth and rising inequality, and an urgency to make as much impact as I can in my last two years as Supervisor so that we can make a difference in the lives of our children, grandchildren, and families throughout the City."

The Board's first vote for president was 7-4 with Yee receiving a majority of the votes. The other four votes were for D9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen. Three brand-new supervisors — Matt Haney (D6), Gordon Mar (D4), and Shamann Walton (D10) — plus Ronen (D-9) voted for Ronen.

Yee received votes from Sandra Lee Fewer (D1), Catherine Stephani (D2), Aaron Peskin (D3), Asha Safai (D11), Vallie Brown (D5), Norman Yee (D7), and Rafael Mandelman (D8). Understanding that Norman Yee had the majority, Supervisor Mar introduced a motion to reject the vote and re-vote by acclamation. Yee was then elected on a 10—1 vote; only candidate Ronen didn't join the acclamation.

Supervisor Ronen said, "Some of my colleague's reactions to my presidency campaign efforts really shocked me, because sexism should have no place at City Hall. With that said, president Yee's strong moral character will be an asset to the Board. I have worked closely with him on many projects and I'm excited to continue improving the lives of San Franciscans, together."

"We can find common ground," Yee said in his first official remarks as president. "The people of San Francisco are demanding action. And I know with my 10 intelligent colleagues there are policies we can agree on without sacrificing our integrity."

After the vote, Mayor Breed issued a statement congratulating Yee. "I look forward to working with President Yee to create more housing for all San Franciscans, help our homeless residents get the care and shelter they need, and keep our streets clean and safe." Supervisor Fewer, nominated Yee, "Supervisor Norman Yee and I served together on the Board of Education, and I have always

Cont. p. 5



Welcome back! the Westside Observer congratulates Papenhausen Hardware on their grand reopening. Welcome back to the neighborhood. We are looking forward to their presence in our friendly and bustling West Portal. (More on page 9).

# The Way We Were

by Dr. Derek Kerr

etween 1938 and 1940, the New Deal's Works Progress Administration (WPA) hired some 300 artisans to create a detailed wooden model of San Francisco for the Planning Commission. The idea came from notable SF architect Timothy Pflueger. The 3-D scale model served as a planning tool for the many WPA projects, such as the approaches to Golden Gate Bridge and the Bay Bridge itself, as well as the development of Treasure Island. These projects kept the City working during the Great Depression. Built at a scale of 1 inch to 100 feet, the 6,000 wood blocks of this mini-mundi covered 1000 square feet. The cost; \$100,000. The model was displayed at the Golden Gate International Expo in 1939, then at City Hall in 1940. It was packed away in 1942 to make room for administrative projects during WW II. In the late '60s, it was shipped to UC Berkeley for urban design studies.

Last year, the SF Museum of Modern Art, in partnership with the SF Public Library and the Dutch artist duo Liesbeth Bik and Jos van der Pol, restored the

**LIBRARY BRANCH EVENTS** 

Each Branch will hold 3 special

events.<sup>2</sup> The West Portal Library

held an opening event on Jan. 26 and two more will be held

on Feb. 23 and 24 when New

**Deal scholar Harvey Smith will** 

speak about the project and

the era, at 190 Lenox Way and

Ulloa. Details<sup>3</sup> or call librarian

Melissa Riley at 355-5790. Ms.

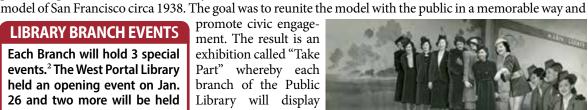
Riley tells us the West Portal

Library itself is a product of the

WPA and will celebrate its 80th

birthday with an open house

party on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



sections of the scale model corresponding to its neighborhood. The unveiling will reveal something about the way we were

grams based on local



R3 partial section of the 1938 WPA Scale Model of San Francisco. Photo: Beth LaBerge.

and the City's evolu- W.P.A. Scale Model of San Francisco on view at the Golden Gate Interna $tion. \ \ Events \ \ and \ \ pro- \ \ tional \ Exhibition, 1939; From the SF History Collection, SF Public Library.$ 

interests will accompany the display from January 25 through March 25. For more information contact your local library and see Take Part<sup>1</sup>

Fabricated Stats Used to Justify ...

# **SFPD Scarecrows Replacing Clark Kents**

by Lou Barberini, CPA

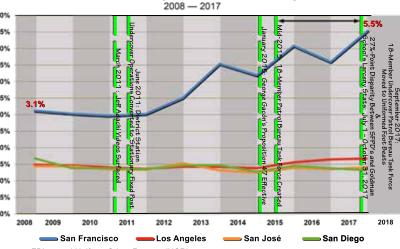
SFPD Circa 2012

idday during my Noe Valley bike beat, a text came in. An informant with a history of providing credible information conveyed someone was trying to sell an assault rifle in the Tenderloin. His veracity increased with the next text: A photo of the assault rifle, followed by a third text providing the seller's cell number.

I called Tenderloin Station to relay the information to Tenderloin undercover officers, but like present day staffing, the Tenderloin Station had 5.5% no plainclothes officers working in 2012. I initiated a call 4.5% into the seller, agreeing to meet 4.0% him at Eddy and Hyde Streets. 3.5% Next, I called Mike, the senior 3.0% plainclothes officer at Mission 2.5% Station, to posse-up undercov- 2.0% ers for a trip to the Tenderloin, 1.5% but first we had to inform our 1.0% bosses (I am being intentionally vague) we were going to leave 0.0% our district.

 ${\it Unfortunately, bosses told } {\it source: FBI annual Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)}.$ us they were too understaffed due to a tentative naked protest at 17th and Castro Streets. Despite both robberies and burglaries increasing at a 33% rate, and property crimes at a 50% rate, during a two-year period nudity took precedence over a gun designed for mass killings. The seller melted into

the chaotic fabric of the Tenderloin. SFPD was changing!



Larceny Comparisons in Select California Jurisdictions

as a Percent of Per Capita, 2010 U.S. Census Population

San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Jose, and San Diego share similar economic backdrops and enforce a single California Penal Code. Yet, according to the per capita larceny graph (above), derived by dividing the larcenies disclosed in the annual FBI Uniform Crime Reports, by the 2010

Cont. p. 14

# **Moving Toward a San Francisco Public Bank**

By Dr. Derek Kerr

nimated by indigenous tribes protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline and its threat to the Standing Rock Sioux water rights, local supporters lobbied to divest from banks funding oil pipellines. In March 2017, the Board of Supervisors directed City Treasurer Jose Cisneros to do so. But those banks also financed private prisons, hedge funds, weapons manufacturers, fossil fuels, tobacco interests, and luxury real estate. Plus their predatory practices cheated customers and tanked the financial system. When it came to loans for City housing, infrastructure, transit and higher education, their interest charges were steep. Since the Westside Observer's May 2017 article "A Public Bank for San Francisco" appeared, much has happened.

Per the Controller's SF OpenBook website, the City paid would cost \$134 million upfront, plus \$425 private banks a whopping \$581,707,462 in debt interest on bonds and loans in 2017-18. Of that amount, taxpayers owed up to \$121 million, according to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The rest was owed by ratepayers using water, transit, airport and other revenuegenerating services. Either way, bank executives, shareholders and bond holders reaped the proceeds. Also, the Treasurer's Office reported \$864,000 in bank fees last year. In response to public pressure to save money and place our money where our values are, City officials, like those in Oakland and Los Angeles, began exploring Public Banks, utilities that serve the public good.

Pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' Resolution 152-17, sponsored by Malia Cohen, Sandra Lee Fewer, Jeff

Sheehy, and Hillary Ronen, Treasurer Cisneros organized a 16-member Municipal Bank Feasibility Task Force. At Supervisor Fewer's request, the Budget & Legislative Analyst's Office issued a November 2017 upholding report Public Banking and other community supportive banking options.



After 9 months of deliberations and consultations with experts and other municipalities, the Municipal Bank Feasibility Task Force released an Executive Summary in September 2018. It presented 4 models.

small business, and student loans, was based on the nation's oldest public bank, the Bank of North Dakota. It Re-Investment, and a Combination at its last meeting at

million over 10 years, and would lose \$60 million before showing a profit by year 10. However, a full-service municipal bank offering direct loans to consumers, small businesses, and students would lose \$84 million over 10 years and "will never be profitable."

its, it would eliminate the complexity and were frustrated and attempts to legislate fairer business practices failed. costs of a getting a charter. It would make A.C. Townley, a politician who was fired from the Socialist Party, organized the Non-Partisan League with the by year 10. But it wouldn't break from Wall

Street or provide consumer loans.

from the Treasurer's Office regarding

the Municipal Banking Task Force. Its service priorities are affordable housing, small businesses, infrastructure, unbanked residents, then cannabis. Turns out the 4 models proposed in September took flak for being "too small - not thinking big" according to Amanda Kahn Fried. Public input also favored divesting from Bank of America and Wells Fargo. However, the Treasurer's Office finds it daunting to "create a Public Bank from scratch," declines to recommend a Public Bank, and hasn't provided a roadmap to establish one. By focusing on the costs of a Public Bank, the social costs

of depositing public dollars in private banks are obscured. Supervisors Cohen and Fewer urged the Treasurer's Office to "think big," move beyond its comfort zone, and create a path forward with State legislators. The goal would be 'local control, financial empowerment, and transpar-The Wholesale Municipal Bank, providing real estate, ency" for the City's \$11 billion bank balance. Accordingly, the Task Force will present 3 new models: Divestment,

> 3 PM on January 31, Room 305, City Hall.

Meanwhile, on 1/10/19 over 200 people packed the Women's Building to launch the San Francisco Public Bank Coalition (SFPublicBank.org). Among the speakers were former Supervisor John Avalos and Supervisor Fewer. Avalos, who pioneered hearings on Public Banking in 2011, recalled how private banks were bailed out by taxpayers, while thousands of residents lost their homes or were displaced from the City. He too defaulted and lost his home. Supervisor Fewer emphasized "there is no social justice without economic justice." Since money is power, she wondered why the City renders its \$11 billion fund unto predatory banks.

fund corporations that aol.com exploit people and harm



During the early 1900s, North Dakota's economy was based on agriculture, specifically wheat. Frequent drought The most viable model, a Commercial and harsh winters didn't make it easy to earn a living. The arduous growing season was further complicated by Municipal Bank, would use the City's Gen-grain dealers outside the state who suppressed grain prices, farm suppliers who increased their prices, and banks eral Fund for lending. By not taking depos- in Minneapolis and Chicago which raised the interest rates on farm loans, sometimes up to 12%. North Dakotans

money by year 2, and a \$17 million profit intent of creating a farm organization that protected the social and economic position of the farmer.

The Non-Partisan League gained control of the Governor's office, majority control of the House of Representa-On 12/13/18, the Board's Budget tives and one third of the seats in the Senate in 1918. Their platform included state ownership and control of marketing and credit agencies. In 1919, the state legislature established Bank of North Dakota (BND) and the & Finance Committee heard updates North Dakota Mill and Elevator Association. BND opened July 28, 1919 with \$2 million of capital

public health. She viewed a Public Bank as supporting public health and well-being, while serving as an antidote to corporate greed and profiteering. Claire Lau from the SF Berniecrats, and Fernando Marti from the Council of Community Housing Organizations, also voiced enthusiastic support. Dozens of other community groups support the concept. SF Public Bank Coalition organizers Kurtis Wu and Jackie Fielder announced their intention to place a Public Bank Charter Amendment before voters in November. Supporters can check SFPublicBank.org for educational sessions and work groups.

Regulatory and political hurdles abound. Last November, Los Angeles placed a Charter Amendment on the ballot to allow the creation of a Public Bank. A robust 44% of voters approved - but it failed. Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda commissioned a study concluding that a multi-Jurisdictional Public Bank was feasible. But the Oakland Treasurer's Office rejected it citing "no clear roadmap, structure or supporting data." As for cannabis, an exhaustive study by the California Treasurer's Office found that "No State-backed financial institution designed to support the cannabis industry is feasible. All alternatives fail on both risk and financial grounds." Banks handling marijuana proceeds risk asset seizures and employee prosecutions for enabling a federal crime.

Yet the quest to transform banking is gaining momentum. In 2016, the second US Public Bank, the Territorial Bank of American Samoa, opened with Federal Reserve approval. Hundreds of Public Banks thrive in Germany and Europe. The nascent Green New Deal movement dovetails with Public Banking. Recall the Great Depression when President Roosevelt tapped the publiclyowned Reconstruction Finance Corporation to finance New Deal infrastructure - without Congressional appropriations. While campaigning, now-Governor Newsom declared, "We must break Wall Street's chokehold on state finances and develop our own state bank."

Meanwhile, City Treasurer Cisneros actively pursues socially responsible investments. In 2018, the "Safe, Sound and Local" program allocated \$80 million from the County's Pooled Investment Fund to banks and credit unions to boost community lending. Other City agencies facilitate loans. For example, the Mayor's Office of Community & Economic Development backs \$86 million in home loans for lower-income residents. Such services will expand as support for a Public Bank grows.

Julie Carter from the Cal- Dr. Derek Kerr was a senior physician at Laguna Honda ifornia Nurses Association Hospital where he repeatedly exposed wrongdoing by the explained how big banks Department of Public Health. Contact: DerekOnVanNess@

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\*Certain restrictions apply. See showroom for details.



The counting room at the Bank of North Dakota



#### West Of Twin Peaks Central Council by Mitch Bull

he February, and first, meeting of 2019 for the West of Twin Peaks Central Council featured a robust turnout, with over 28 people in attendance. President Mark Scardina set the agenda to focus on community, including law enforcement reports, an overview of current state government-driven housing plans, and a recap of district 7 results in the local and statewide 2018 election.

dina turned the meeting over to Secre- throughout the public health system, tary David Golden, who took the roll. A resulting in the most recent figures showquorum was reached as a total of 15 of the ing 1479 SF residents being displaced and potential 20 delegates were in attendance.

Scardina started the officers' reports with items the delegates can expect for 2019, detailing that 2 weeks prior to meetings a preview of agenda items will be available. There will always be an available time slot for delegates to present homeowner group issues at each WOTPCC meeting. 1 week prior to the meeting an agenda will be sent to delegates and posted on the organization website. He also noted that each meeting will have time allocated for reports from the Supervisor's office and the SFPD Taraval station. (Delegates asked to have the Ingleside and Park SFPD stations considered as well.)

made a special appearance to speak to the were also discussed, with little information group, his first since being elected to Presibeing given out as the investigation is still dent of the SF Board of Supervisors. Yee on-going. It was mentioned that people

is the first District 7 Supervisor to hold this position and it is quite an achievement. He said that so far, it has been interesting as he is trying to align some facets of the agendas of the Supervisors with that of Mayor London Breed. As the it is his position to

no progress can be reached.

He also spoke of the first Lunar New **Year** celebration to be held in District 7. It will be held adjacent to the Ingleside phone IRS Tax scams, I-Tune card scams, Library on February 9 from 11 am- 3 pm and will have lion dancers, as well as the people calling or on e-mail. They encourother things that we associate with the age everyone to report these types of calls Lunar New Year celebration.

Following Yee, the Board officers gave reports; starting with Treasurer Carolyn Squeri, who thanked those organizations who have paid their dues. The WOTPCC has \$5973.38 in the bank account. Secretary David Golden followed by asking for an approval of the minutes from the September, October, and November meetings, since there was now a  ${\bf quorum \quad present. \quad The \quad \overline{ _{Gary Weiss \ of \ the \ SF \ Land \ Use \ Coalition}}$ motion was forwarded,

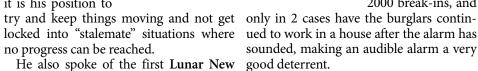
facts that show that from 2001-2015 SF neighborhoods.

Opening the meeting at 7:40 pm, Scar- lost a total of 1315 skilled nursing beds shipped to skilled nursing locations outside of SF.

> Two SFPD Police Sergeants reported on the crime statistics from the Taraval station. Most sectors of crime have shown significant decreases, including home and auto burglaries. Similar results have been recorded in the Park and Ingleside districts as well. They spoke of a scam that is prevalent that is targeting senior Asian residents who are having their money, jewelry, and other possessions stolen by people who are offering a "blessing" of their valuables. In some, cases residents have lost all of their valuables to these con-artists.

The early January home invasion rob-District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee beries that occurred in St. Francis Wood

> should put their valuables in safes and safe deposit boxes, have a dog, and more importantly, have an alarm device or at least a sign showing that a device is on the premises. One of the police officers stated that in her career she has investigated 2000 break-ins, and



They also spoke about the rash of teleand other scams that are being used by and emails to their local police station

(not using the 911 call function).

The meeting continued with a presentation from Ozzie Rohm and Gary Weiss of the SF Land Use Coalition, who briefed the crowd on three pieces of legislation they are tracking. 1). Supervisor Aaron Peskins' Housing Preservation and **Expansion** Reform Act - which is trying to preserve existing housing structures by

preventing total tear seconded, and unanimously voted to downs and "remolitions" to better preapprove the minutes from the 3 meetings. serve the spirit of the neighborhoods and In committee reports, George Wood- discourage large scale development and ing (Public Health) commented on the "McMansions" that are popping up in





# Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp

"We live in an age disturbed, confused, bewildered, afraid of its own forces, in search not merely of its road, but even of its direction. There are many voices of counsel, but few voices of vision; there is much . . . feverish activity, but little concert of thoughtful purpose. We are distressed by our own ungoverned, undirected energies and do many things, but nothing long. It is our duty to find ourselves."

hat's not the mandate of contemporary political commentators and philosophers, but Woodrow Wilson, speaking at Princeton University June 9, 1907. Once upon a time, presidential campaigns were relatively short. Not now in the era of Trump, especially for Democrats like an unknown congressman from Texas who was vanquished two months ago for U.S. Senate, or another similar type unknown except in Alameda County and the San Francisco Chronicle, and rookie U.S. Senate members, including one from San Francisco.

years ago. Before election as San Francis- edgeable political commentator, Dan Walco's District Attorney in November 2003, ters, wrote in Cal Matters on December she benefited from appointment to the 18, after Harris claimed ignorance of the \$97,000-per-year California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board by then-Assembly Speaker Willie Brown in 1993, and the next year to the even higher-paying California Medical Commission. The February 23, 2003 San Diego Union-Tribune since Harris has made sexual harassment a observed that those two state boards were touchstone in preparing for a presidential frequently condemned by taxpayers for run." "allow[ing] politically connected people with no expertise . . . to earn large salaries eligible for Washington elite access to an

Forgotten is Kamala Harris' conduct 16 for \$400,000. As California's most knowlsuit or settlement, "it seems incredible that Harris would have been kept in the dark about a harassment allegation against one of her closest aides, and the secret payoff that made it go away. That's especially true

As a U.S. Senator, of course, Harris is

Forgotten is Kamala Harris' conduct 16 years ago. Before election as San Francisco's District Attorney in November 2003, she benefited from appointment to the \$97,000-per-year California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board by then-Assembly Speaker Willie Brown in 1993, and the next year to the even higher-paying California Medical Commission.

at the age of 30 to "qualify her to oversee the work of 15 staff members who negotiate Medi-Cal reimbursement rates with state hospitals." Additionally, she was paid by taxpayers as an Alameda County Deputy District Attorney. In 1998, her California Medical Commission salary soared to \$99,000 a year. Given a six-figure job by against him in 2003 after San Francisco adopted public financing with clear eligibility rules, including a maximum amount of campaign spending. In her case, it was \$211,000.

After spending \$1,150,000 compared to Hallinan's \$362,000, she was the subject of an Ethics Commission complaint (that wasn't a new experience: in 2000, she was paid \$8,000 to manage the unsuccessful legally required). Eventually, in 2003, Har-SFProgressive.com: "By law, Harris should not even be the city's District Attorney."

Most recently, taxpayers funded the December settlement of a harassment suit against a top aide in her U.S. Senate office

for jobs that are less than full-time." The obscure, lucrative Social Security alternaerstwhile Bay Guardian's Savannah Black- tive under which one monthly payment well noted that Harris had no experience (\$11,334) equals a whole year's sum of ordinary Social Security payments. That's ten times over the average Social Security payment. Including Al Gore, about 351 former congressmen and congresswomen collect such benefit. Deployment of taxpayers' money also occurs locally. The California Fair Political Practices Commission last month fined BART a modest then-District Attorney Terence Hallinan \$7,500 for failing to file campaign expenas a San Francisco deputy prosecutor, diture statements in 2016 for a \$3,500,000 she rewarded her benefactor by running bond. Public agencies are prohibited from using taxpayer funds for political campaigns. Unfortunately, FPPC authority doesn't include whether such activity was legal in the first place because it can only apply sanctions for undisclosed public agency campaign spending. BART spent \$7,791 of taxpayer money to produce videos and send texts to promote the bond measure, which won easily. Meanwhile, local district attorneys and the State Attorreelection campaign of Amos Brown and ney General declined to sue agencies that failed to notify the public of the mailing use public money for political campaigns of two political brochures within the time criminally. In my 27 years in elected public office, I witnessed one such criminal ris was charged by the Ethics Commission action by the San Mateo County District with violating her promise not to spend Attorney, the best prosecutor's office in more than \$211,000 on her District Attor- the nine Bay Area counties. State Senator ney's campaign. Her violation of the public Steve Glazer of Orinda has requested the financing law was clear, but instead of fin- Attorney General to investigate the violaing her the maximum penalty of \$275,000, tion and promises legislation to expand the Ethics Commission assessed her a FPPC power. Last month, the FPPC also mere \$34,000. The law also permitted her decided there's probable cause the Los disqualification. As Savannah Blackwell Angeles County Board of Supervisors wrote in September 2005 for the former spent over \$800,000 of taxpayer money to campaign for a 2017 homeless services ballot measure. The lesson? Pity the poor

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

#### WSO Wins SPJ Award!..... 4 Streamline Exhibits ......12 Will Durst ..... 4 Remember When ..........13 Letters ..... 4 Taxing Taxes? . . . . . . . . . 6 Around the Town ..... 7 Police Report ..... 8 Calendar . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 9 Education/Kocivar . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 16

# — Commentary

# **Focusing on the Big Picture**

appy New Year! For SFPUC (water-sewer-power) it will be a challenging 2019.

taken from our water supply, throwing a monkey wrench into SFPUC's careful planning. To survive the inevitable dry spells, water from wet years must be stored. Our water system was designed to weather a long dry spell, using what is called a "design drought." The entire system of facilities was sized accordingly. The process took years.

But the state has implemented its Bay-Delta Plan over the strenuous objections of SFPUC and the irrigation districts that share water rights with SFPUC. SFPUC's rights are junior, which means that it drinks at the fountain only when the irrigation districts have had their quota. If new year. flow is insufficient in any year, tough luck for SFPUC.

water must go down-river as before. Fish benefit. SFPUC and the irrigation districts have sued to overturn the state's decision (and to maintain some negotiating leverage). They say there are other ways to benefit fisheries.

SFPUC calculates that during its design drought, rationing of 40% will be required under the state's plan. Previously, its design

Water: A whole lot of water has been test of whether the mammoth project can be kept on time and budget. The largest project of the earlier water program more than doubled in cost, overrunning by \$300 million and years in time. Will that repeat? The digesters job is considerably larger.

What do all these challenges mean for the ratepayer? No one knows, it all depends on how the challenges are met. But the signs are ominous. Will progressive supervisors and advocates berate CleanPowerSF into fast-track building local renewable generation facilities? Will it be able to handle physical power facilities? Will the digesters job overrun? Will replacement water be found? So much converging all in one

South Ocean Beach. While storms and The state has decided that twice as much high surf have pounded the beach, no emergency action has been required (at time of writing). No sand was brought in last year, but previous years' sand has helped. Rock (riprap, revetments) remain to protect the cliffs, although eventually these will be removed. Rain runoff has been controlled. The southbound lane of Great Highway was briefly closed, but roadway has not been permanently lost,

SFPUC's rights are junior, which means that it drinks at the fountain only when the irrigation districts have had their quota. If flow is insufficient in any year, tough luck for SFPUC."

20% rationing, and suburban customers seriously threatened. (A small portion of claimed that was too high. Serious economic harm would result.

SFPUC is searching for replacement water. But in California that is very hard to find, and is expensive. Desalination and "water purification" are likely to be explored. Water purification is making wastewater fit to drink.

Power: With PG&E going bankrupt, SFPUC's infant public power agency will be challenged in 2019. There is talk of buying up PG&E's physical assets. Clean-PowerSF lacks experience handling those. This Spring, enrollment is to triple; most of the city (including the Westside) will be automatically enrolled.

Additionally, pressure is being applied to build renewable energy generation. Everyone agrees that local, renewable generation of electricity is desirable. But accomplishing this is difficult and expensive. Now, picture, the heat is on to do what has been put off. Leaders have promised to begin working up a build-out program beginit in January.

**Sewer:** On the sewer side, the largest project of the \$7 billion SSIP (Sewer Sys- and SF Public Utility Commission stalwart. tem Improvement Program) is set to begin this year. Deep foundations for the new digesters will be dug. This will be an early

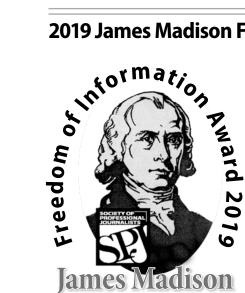
drought was based on a maximum of nor has wastewater infrastructure been closed roadway has been undermined.)

SFPUC says it is on track to protect wastewater infrastructure with a 3000 foot buried wall. It is advancing geotechnical (soil, earth) investigation, and hopes to have a conceptual wall design in about six months. A permit is needed by the end of 2021; construction is to begin mid-2022, and should take 28 months. The cliffs will likely be somewhat reshaped. Once wall protection is in, rock can be removed from the beach. Until then, large sandbags will be added if "trigger points" are reach, that is, if the ocean closely threatens damage to wastewater infrastructure.

Fiscal San Francisco. For those who missed it in the mainstream press, San Francisco projects a deficit of \$644 million in five years, no recession figured in. In response the mayor directs departments with PG&E's competition fading from the not to add new positions, and to cut budgets two percent. The average annual cost of each employee is \$160,700. There are somewhere in the neighborhood of 31,000 ning in July. The Commission is to receive employees, costing about \$5 billion per

> Steve Lawrence is a Westside resident Feedback: lawrence@westsideobserver.com

#### 2019 James Madison Freedom of Information Award



he Society of Professional Journalists, Northern California Chapter, announced that the Westside Observer is the recipient of the 2019 James Madison Award in the Community News Media category. "The publication stands out among San Francisco's neighborhood newspapers for fostering citizen journalism based on public records disclosures that shed light on city government and promote community engagement." Publisher Mitch Bull thanked his intrepid team of reporters and the Editor for their commitment to San Francisco and their knowledgable efforts to hold City Hall accountable.

Please visit spjnorcal.org for information about past award winners. For additional information about the awards, winners, or awards dinner, please email the SPJ NorCal Freedom of Information Committee at spjnorcalfoi@gmail.com.

#### AFTER XMAS GIFT WISH LIST.

ay past time to congratulate the baby Jesus on the anniversary of his birth but especially for blessedly ending all those annoying unending ads for the Christmas sales only to be replaced by all those annoying unending ads for the after-Christmas sales. A major difference being -much fewer jingle bells on the soundtracks.

holiday music stuffed back into the poison- Republican Party. ous mistletoe vault, meaning we'll have to wait nine whole months to hear the same Clinton's excess testosterone. thirty songs sung by the same thirty dead white men. And Nat King Cole.

As we throw the last shovel full of dirt their thumbs. on the most festive of seasons and kick the dried-out fir tree to the gutter, it is our pied-a-terre in the Seychelles. self-imposed, public-service task here at Durstco to right the many wrongs perpetrated by the corpulent bearded cisgender

It's also a relief to have the traditional tights to help him single-handedly save the

For Kamala Harris: some of Hillary

For Donald Trump and Roseanne Barr: two pairs of those Chinese finger traps for

For Ivanka Trump: a fully furnished

For Jared Kushner: the same kind of family reverence his father showed his uncle.

For Kanye West: a new hat.

# Apparently Santa had some holes in his bag and a few folks didn't receive the gifts they so richly deserved..."

male in the scarlet suit on his global flight. bag and a few folks didn't receive the gifts litigants. they so richly deserved. A little mistake we would like to rectify here with WILL DUR\$T'\$ AFTER XMA\$ GIFT WI\$H LI\$T.

At least the After-Christmas sales will make the purchasing of said items more bargainy. And by delaying another week or so, we could dovetail into President's Day sales. What with the government shutdown, every penny saved is a penny earned. Earning a couple hundred or so could buy us a cup of coffee. Not a latte, but still.

For Kellyanne Conway: a red, white and blue muzzle.

For General James Mattis: an allexpenses paid vacation to the relative calm immigration. of Damascus, Syria.

For Melania Trump: not a designer coat, but a new coat designer.

For Nancy Pelosi: a whip, a gun and a chair. For Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III: a cold dish of revenge.

For Sarah Huckabee Sanders: a roundtrip ticket on the clue train.

For Michael Cohen: a poster to hang in his cell that reads "What Happens in Jersey Stays in Jersey."

For Mitt Romney: a cape and pair of

For Brett Kavanaugh: Clarence Thomas' Apparently Santa had some holes in his primer on how to question Supreme Court

> For Mike Pence: a strobe light, so at press conferences, he can at least give the appearance of movement.

> For Elon Musk: A years' supply of whatever medicine they give kids with Attention Deficit Disorder.

For Bernie Sanders: a series of bushes to lurk behind for the next two years.

For Rudy Giuliani: a case of mint-flavored shoelaces for the multiple occasions he puts his foot in his mouth.

For Joe Biden: a 55-gallon drum of patience.

For Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador: a wall to control our

For Rachel Maddow: a nice blue sweater. For Ruth Bader Ginsburg: two six-foot spools of industrial strength bubble wrap.

And finally for the American People: total gridlock of the 116th Congress. No harm, no foul.

Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed comedian, columnist, and former concert reviewer for the Milwaukee version of the Bugle-American. More: willdurst.com.

Letters to the Editor

Westside Observer for winning the Society of Professional Journalists-NorCal of Information Award in the Community News Category.

takes an entire village to raise a child, so too with neighborhood-based community newspapers: It takes an entire team of publishers, editors, feature writers, and

Mitch Bull and its editor Doug Comstock, writers, and to the many additional suppublishes the best damn neighborhood newspaper in all of San Francisco!

The James Madison FOI Awards recognize organizations and individuals who make significant contributions to advancing freedom of information and/or expresforce behind our First Amendment. The

I'd like to add my congratulations to the awards are presented near Madison's birthday and the National FOI Week.

SPJ-NorCal noted the Observer stands Chapter's 2019 James Madison Freedom out among SF's neighborhood newspapers for fostering citizen journalism based on public records disclosures. For Just as the African proverb has it that it 11 years, Mitch Bull and Doug Comstock have assembled a team of columnists who inform and give voice to Westside neighborhoods on matters of public concern.

Primary contributors such as George human-interest contributors to crank out a Wooding, John and Johnathan Farrell, monthly newspaper of interest to readers. Dr. Derek Kerr and Dr. Maria Rivero, Lou From Westside Observer publisher Barberini, Steve Lawrence, Brian Browne, Kathy Howard, and Nancy Weurfel to Barbara M. the proofreader, to feature among many contributors — have each done a great job across the years writing porting contributors, this team makes a feature stories focusing on First Amendgreat "village" that — month after month ment and open government Sunshine issues that the Examiner and Chronicle and few other community-based neighborhood newspapers ever publish as "local" news.

Regular contributors like Will Durst, Quentin Kopp, Brandon Miller, Carol sion in the spirit of James Madison, the Kocivar, Mitch Bull (Around the Town),

#### WESTSIDE BSERVER

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Ad Sales • Mitch Bull

key drop-off points (see westsideobserver.com/hardcopy.html).

Contributors: Lou Barberini, Brian Browne, Mitch Bull, Julie Casson, Will Durst, Jonathon Farrell, Katherine Howard, Dr. Derek Kerr, Carol Kocivar, Quentin Kopp, Brandon Miller, Glenn Rogers, Patrick Monette-Shaw, Sergio Nibbi, George Wooding, Photos: Mitch Bull, Doug Comstock.

> Award Winning News for the Neighborhood Society of Professional Journalists



#### **President Yee** (Cont. from p. 1)

Yee will work to defend our most vulnerable communities like children and seniors, as he has done all of his career," she said. "Not only am I thrilled to continue to collaborate with him about addressing issues for our Westside neighborhoods, but I believe that Supervisor Yee will advance the Board of Supervisors' collective vision through strong, compassionate and steady Supervisors."

Supervisor Mandelman said, "As one of the longest-serving members of this board, Norman Yee has the experience and knowhow to be a fantastic leader of the Board of Supervisors. In his first, and arguably most important, act as Board President — assigning members to various Board committees — President Yee has done an exemplary job of making sure each committee is balanced, reform-minded and reflects the values of our neighborhoods. I look forward to working together with President Yee and all my colleagues on the Board to make San Francisco a model of a great city that prioritizes neighborhood concerns while providing national leadership on issues like homelessness, public transportation and support for our most vulnerable."

"I'm thrilled that the Board of Supervisors elected a President with a demonstrated, principled, and steady track record," Supervisor Mar said. "And as the first act of this new Board, I thought it was important we made this vote a statement of shared principles and unity. Therefore, I made a motion to rescind the vote, and take a re-vote by acclamation to show the breadth of support for President Yee, and that those who did not vote for him on the first round are proud to support his Presidency."

deaths of Mayor Ed Lee and Rose Pak had left a void in leadership in the Chinese community and having a Chinese-American board president "at this moment is what weighs the most heavily on me." Safai noted that Yee was born and raised

An excerpt from Supervisor Yee's acceptance speech is included below:

"I am humbled and honored to have this opportunity to serve as President for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors as I enter my 7th year of service and my 15th year of service as an elected public servant. I want to thank my colleagues for this distinct privilege and opportunity.

My whole life, I have been dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth and families here in San Francisco. My passion to build a better city — especially for our most vulnerable communities — started long ago. What led me to this work was services that resulted in the creation of do, what I do." numerous civic organizations and initiatives. While we had little, I learned how to be resourceful from an early age. Our community overcame racist, xenophobic

known him to lead with integrity, thought- policies and showed resilience even when fulness and deep compassion. Supervisor we had to fight for the most basic needs — from safe housing to funding for our education and senior programs. These are the roots that ground my life's work, especially serving the children and families of San Francisco.

When I take on a new challenge, I focus on how to make the most impact and how to best serve my community. Each time I assume a new role or start a new initiative, leadership as the President of the Board of it's because I see an opportunity to have a greater impact to benefit vulnerable communities and families. It is my privilege to be in a position that has the potential to lift up voices and bring people together in support of this greater purpose. Stepping into the Board Presidency is another chance to have an even greater impact. That is how I will approach this role — to focus on collective impact over personal differences.

> I believe that there is more that unites us than divides us. We can find common ground and unity even across diverse perspectives to address the problems of today and ensure that we are better prepared for tomorrow. Our City faces many challenges. Too many of our residents are struggling. We have the largest income gap that continues to grow. We have residents who are working one-, two-, or even more jobs just to get by. We have an unacceptable number of people that have nowhere to sleep at night except on the streets. We have immigrant communities who live with constant uncertainty and terror.

The people of San Francisco are demanding action and I know that with my ten intelligent, dedicated colleagues there are policy solutions we can agree on without sacrificing our integrity as individuals. I know every member of this Board shares my urgency for action and I know that drawing upon our individual Supervisor Safai said that the recent strengths will lead to a stronger impact as

> I believe that my job as Board President is to help amplify the collective work of this policy body, to help bridge differences and misunderstandings when needed, and to help each one of my fellow public servants be the most effective leader for their district and, together, for our entire city.

> I've been doing this work for a long time and I feel an urgency — to respond to the crises facing our City in a time of population growth and rising inequality, and an urgency to make as much impact as I can in my last two years as Supervisor so that we can make a difference in the lives of our children, grandchildren, and families throughout the City.

I want to thank all the community members who have worked tirelessly to push the envelope and to hold us — your representatives — accountable to the people we serve. Lastly, I want to thank my fammy experience growing up in Chinatown. ily: My wife, Cathy; my daughter, Chan-Even before my life as an elected official, I dra and her husband James; my younger spent over 35 years working in our com- daughter, Karissa and her husband, Dan; munities to strengthen and expand early and my baby grandchildren, Naila and education and other children and family Jameson. You remind me every day why I

> George Wooding, President, Coalition For San Francisco Neighborhoods. Feedback: wooding@westsideobserver.com

# **EMERGENCY**

You may not think that recent snow storms and the government shutdown have much in common. But both have taken a toll on the blood supply, adding to the emergency need for blood and platelet donations through the American Red Cross.

#### San Francisco

2/8/: 10 am - 4 pm, DOXIMITY, 500 3rd Street, #510

2/19/: 10 am - 4 pm, American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter, 1667 Market St. 2/22/: 12 p.m. - 5 pm, Lighthouse for the Blind, 1155 Market St, Room 1064



#### San Francisco Model (Cont. from p. 1)



Opening ceremony for the W.P.A. Scale Model of San Francisco, April 1940; image courtesy of the San Francisco Department of City Planning Records, San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

Dr. Derek Kerr was a senior physician at Laguna Honda Hospital where he repeatedly exposed wrongdoing by the Department of Public Health. Contact: DerekOnVanNess@aol.com

- 1. publicknowledge.sfmoma.org/take-part
- 2. publicknowledge.sfmoma.org/events
- 3. publicknowledge.sfmoma.org/events/categories/west-portal



#### **WOTPCC** (Cont. from p. 3)

2). Senate Bill 50 (Scott Weiner) that is a redux of last year's failed SB 827 to allow every lot within ½ mile of a bus stop, or transit hub to be uprated and redevel**oped**. This year, there is a more agreeable being discussed in committee currently. Height limits have been added, but not depth limits, basically eliminating many being developed.

3). A Rental Database Collection to track and record retain storefront vacancies and ID all rental properties to help devise and formulate better local plans and policies, and to establish a firewall against ill-conceived state legislation.

Rohm and Weiss also detailed the specifics of Assembly Bill AB68 (Phil Ting), which would allow new Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) in the back yards of tions who fail to pay dues or send a repwould decrease the setbacks needed to 4 feet from the back and sides of the lot, consider these topics in the near future. allow heights of 16 feet, and allow up to two units per lot.

For more information on their work, they can be contacted at: www.SFLUC.org

The results of District 7 voting in the 2018 election were evaluated next as Jay Cheung, of the Edwin Lee Asian Pacific major remodel of the Sutro Tower; and Democratic Club and RTB IQ Political Analysts shared his findings on the major issues of the 2018 election. Generally, he found that District 7 has one of the highest voter participations in the city (trailing only District 8) and in many cases leads the city in choosing the winning sides in tation and discussion will be held at the local issues. In most cases, D7 voters trend West Portal Public Library on February more like California voters in general, 23. For more information please reference not specifically like SF voters, as there are more homeowners in D7 than renters. In the major propositions like Rent Control, and the Gasoline Tax Repeal initiative, the district voted in a way similar to the rest of California, while San Francisco embraced the failed rent control issue due to the large number of renters within the city (less so

When asked how he sees the current

make-up of the Board of Supervisors, Cheung believes that the board is trending more progressive, but is actually more anti - large development rather than just embracing the traditional progressive agenda.

By-Law changes were the next topic as State Senate and Governor, and the bill is Matt Chamberlain discussed the results of an ad-hoc committee of the WOTPCC that has been examining possible changes. Chamberlain noted that the last update to set-backs from the boundaries of the lots the by-laws was in 2012 and resulted in the change that it is now OK to send **meet**ing minutes via e-mail. This committee is recommending the delegates examine changes in three areas: A) Taking Action (lack of quorums / too many abstentions, etc.) and, allowing for special meetings, either face to face or by conference call; B) How does the organization count a quorum and count votes; and C) What is the status (voting and otherwise) of organiza-SF single family homes. This legislation resentative to successive meetings? The delegates will be receiving information to

> WOTPCC President Scardina then asked for topics for future meetings and several were put forth: Westwood Highlands looking at taking action against ADU's and Airbnb's in violation of their CCR's; a speaker to give an update on the follow-up on the land use issues discussed earlier in the meeting.

> In "new business" Rae Doyle spoke on the 1937 3D model of San Francisco which will be exhibited at the various city libraries over the next month. A presenthe website at the San Francisco Public Library. (sfpl.org).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18.

The next meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, February 25 at 7:30 PM at the historic Forest Hills Clubhouse.

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

#### **Letters** (Cont. from p. 5)

and others, along with the Taraval Station earning this community award. Crime Reports, Sergio Nibbi's witty travel observations, Julie Casson's spot-on comics and Anise Matteson's critically needed in this era of sadly shrinking newsprint. It health reports as well as the monthly is my hope that the Observer will continue events calendar listings, round out the to be in print journalism for a long time Observer, making it a truly neighborhoodinterest focused newspaper.

My deepest respect to all of the contributors, and especially the feature article contributors, for having contributed to

Hopefully, this well-deserved award will go a long way toward attracting advertisers

Congratulations to everyone in the Observer's village! Onward ...

Patrick Monette-Shaw

# **Taxing Taxes**

by Brian Browne

overnor Gavin Newsom in his 2019-2020 budget is proposing a tax on water. The revenues from these taxes will be paid into a fund for disadvantaged communities to use in obtaining safe and affordable drinking water. The proposed 2018 Safe and Affordable

Drinking Water Act was scrapped by the Sacramento politicians. Specifics for the 2019 proposal are not known at this time.

cies in California is a tax. 1996 Proposition by the SFPUC to ratepayers. To be fully 218 made water, wastewater, and garbage compliant with P218 a capital charge that rates supplied by local government agen- is amortized over a period must be syncies special taxes. This means any tax chronized with the actual life cycle of the on these utility rates will be taxing a tax. facility/project for which the debt was Proposition 218 is abundantly clear: only costs that contribute to the cost of providing these utility services may be included in the rates charged to consumers. A tax on a tax does not contribute to the production of current drinking water (utility) supplies. In fact another tax adds to the cost of producing water (utilities) and causes less such as the state surplus or through a general tax. Proposition 218 was passed specially to constrain taxaholic politicians.

California is an initiative state. Hard decisions that our brave and fearless elected officials shy away from are presented to the voters to decide. The 1996 Proposition 218 "the right to vote on taxes" initiative is one such ballot measure. These initiatives often must has emerged is a legal and restructuring... consensus that utility rates are special taxes (vs general taxes),

may be embedded in utility rates (2015 suspect, is not illegal as long as the utility provider (SFPUC) can show these tiers mirror the actual cost of production.

that there is no oversight entity that automatically monitors compliance. It is a legal case by case approach. Challenges under proposition 218 are costly, demand strong and expertise legal skills, and require detailed and accurate data showing evasion of the mandates of Proposition 218. SFPUC fare if challenged under Proposition 218 as to its pricing policies? Its main weaknesses from my observations are:

from lifeline, to conservation, and now to satisfy P218 peak and off-peak pricing. I do not believe they have the data and rigorous computer algorithms to prove the need or economic efficiency for these tiers. The SFPUC does have well-crafted and strategically placed prose by sage and alert consultants, responding in main to Westside Observer articles as to the P218 viability of these tiers. These qualitative rationalizations are both insufficient and unnecessary and would fail to pass a strict P218 test.

Rates are made up of two main components 1) Operation and maintenance (O&M) cost, and 2) Debt service. Debt service constitutes over 50 percent of

Water supplied by local government ageneach unit of water (\$/748 gallons) charged created. In a 2012 SFPUC document the SFPUC stated that switching from the utility financing method (where return is based on depreciation) to the cash method (financial gyrations) allowed them to unbundle debt service from the reason it was issued.

Rates and Current Costs. This confession water (utilities) to be produced. Governor of the deliberate separation of facility Newsom will have to use other methods life from the financing payback period is something that a Proposition 218 (P218) investigator will not ignore in pressing home the SFPUC's disconnect between

rates and current for costs producing utility services. Little nexus is found between their debt management system and how rates are really structured at the SFPUC. Based on analysis of ratemaking at the SFPUC, this disconnect is so ... this disconnect is so immense that the pass numerous legal immense that the SFPUC SFPUC may have to before may have to seek remedy by seek remedy by going becoming settled law. Proposition 218 has going to the voters ... This ing a corporate mea numerous might require a promise of culpa. It appears that such challenges. What significant reorganization such a strategy is viable under Proposition 218. This might require a promise of significant reorgani-

only costs applicable for current services zation and restructuring and maybe even turning their regulatory process over to San Juan Capistrano), tier-pricing, while the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) or some other independent and effective regulatory system.

Forecasting Demand and Shortfalls. The The problem with Proposition 218 is SFPUC, under advisement from their rate consultants, assumes that physical demand for water will not decrease even with significant rate increases. The logic of this assumption seems driven by the consultants' belief that SFPUC service area physical-demand will increase by 0.5 percent, while price elasticity and conserva-**Could SFPUC Prevail in a Challenge?** The tions each will lower this demand by -.25 question has been posed: How would the each. Put differently +.5 -.25 -.25 = 0. In estimating these coefficients using econometric techniques I was unable to validate this assumption. The failure to use ortho-**SFPUC Rate Structure.** The SFPUC has dox economic (econometrics) techniques two tiers for single-family (2007) and for forecasting demand and thus revenues multi-family (2009) customer classes. The will lead to future revenue shortfalls and rationalization for these tiers has morphed—the need to charge prices in excess of those provided in their 2018 rate documents. This designed shortfall, which could easily be avoided, would also catch the curiosity of a P218 proponent as a violation.

> One positive. I have found the senior management of the SFPUC willing to listen to these criticisms. I hope they implement them and avoid unnecessary litigation to honor Article XIII \$c and \$d of the California Constitution. One can only hope that the Governor also takes great heed before he starts taxing taxes.

> Brian Browne was coauthor of 2002 Prop P and former member of the Revenue Bond Oversight Committee it created. Feedback: browne@westsideobserver.com



# Shortage of Elderly and Disabled Healthcare Facilities

# Supervisor Yee—Step up to the Plate!

by Patrick Monette-Shaw

#### Must Prioritize Full Spectrum Health Services

Congratulations to D7 Supervisor Norman Yee on being elected president of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors!

However, now, Yee needs to pivot quickly to working collaboratively with Supervisors Hillary Ronen and Ahsha Safai, the San Francisco Public Health Department, and other City leaders to address comprehensive solutions to the full spectrum of facilities that all have severe shortages of in-county capacity to serve disabled and elderly San Franciscans, many of whom have been discharged out-of-county.

#### **Turf Fight Erupts**

In its December 2017 issue, the Westside Observer newspaper published an article reporting that a tug-of-war had erupted between members of the Board of Supervisors over the severe shortage of skilled nursing facilities (SNF) throughout San Francisco.

hand, Supervisors Safai and Ronen who wanted to focus on the hospital-based SNF and sub-acute shortages. On the other hand, Supervisor Yee wanted to focus primarily only on Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE's) and assisted living

Safai held a first hearing before the Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services (PSNS) Committee on CMPC's proposed closure of St. Luke's SNF and sub-acute units on July 26, 2017. On September 12, Safai called the matter from the PSNS Committee for a hearing before the full Board of Supervisors sitting as a "Committee of the Whole."

#### Yee Threw a Wrench

During the September 12, 2017 hearing, Yee threw a wrench into the proceedings claiming he asked "for a hearing on these issues" last June, ostensibly referring to SNF and sub-acute level of care facilities. He had not.

In June 2017 Yee had called for a hearing The tug-of-war involved, on the one to "understand the efforts of City departments regarding institutional housing, particularly assisted living, residential care facilities, and small beds for seniors in San Francisco."

#### Yee's Anemic Efforts

The Observer reported in March 2018 Yee had been first approached to support a 50-unit senior housing project at 250 Laguna Honda Boulevard. Before anyone knew it, the developers expanded it to a 150-unit project that was eventually defunded and scrapped.

#### Yee's First Proposal to Build on LHH's **Campus**

The *Observer* reported in July 2018 that During the September 12 hearing Safai in March 2018 Yee's then-legislative aide, noted the lack of SNF and sub-acute care Nick Pagoulatos, began pitching a pro-

... omissions and shortsightedness in collecting data affects developing public policy. The problem? Missing data. No data is asked for, none collected. The City doesn't ask for data. No questions, no data."

the past decade ... as we've seen a major, major decrease in the number of skilled nursing beds over the last ten to 15 years." during the rebuild of Laguna Honda Hos-[of] skilled nursing beds, and the reality is market-rate units). that instead of building [additional] capacity, we've been shrinking capacity."

Supervisors Safai and Ronen wanted to explore "in-county, in-hospital solutions for San Francisco."

They were referring to the "Post-Acute Care Shortage" report presented to the Health Commission in February 2016 documenting San Francisco had a loss of 1,012 SNF beds across 14 years. Tack on the loss of another 151 beds in "freestandbetween 2002 and 2014. That brings the arrival. total of lost SNF beds to at least 1,163.

The "Post-Acute Care Shortage" report also documented the loss of 16 "board and care" care facilities and 80 RCFE facilities.

Unfortunately, neither the "Post-Acute Care Shortage" report nor Yee's most recent December 2018 proposal stratified in raw numbers how many beds have been lost in RCFE and board-and-care facilities.

The Observer reported in December 2017 San Francisco has discharged a significant number of San Franciscans outof-county due to the shortage of SNF and RCFE beds in-county. Between July 1, 2006 and November 20, 2018 at least 1,479 San Franciscans were discharged out-of-county. That number is probably far higher.

Chinese Hospital, St. Mary's, St. Francis, and Kaiser each failed to provide the Department of Public Health the number of San Franciscans they discharged out-ofcounty. The 1,479 known out-of-county discharges hasn't been completely reported and isn't fully known.

beds had been a "crisis in the making over posal in March 2018 to the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOHCD) to build a six-story building with up to 160 units Then-Supervisor Jeff Sheehy noted that of housing for seniors on LHH's campus, with a spectrum of options for those who pital [during 2007 to 2010] "we knew then need assisted living, skilled nursing, and that [the City] was projecting a shortage independent living (presumably including

> Pagoulatos submitted a draft document on May 15, 2018 to MOHCD's director Kate Hartley and Amy Chan, and DPH outlining a proposal to Assemblyman Phil Ting seeking funding for a feasibility study. Hartley and Chang deleted both the 160-unit description, and flatly ruled out building either assisted living or RCFE's units on LHH's campus, saying LHH's site 'wasn't big enough" and was too small.

Yee's first May 2018 proposal to build ing" (i.e., non-hospital-based) SNF beds on LHH's campus was essentially dead on

#### Yee's Second Proposal to Build on LHH's Campus

Undeterred, Yee tried again proposing to build on LHH's campus. In a draft position paper dated December 18, 2018 on his letterhead Yee pitched constructing a "Life Care Facility" (similar to Continuing Care Retirement Communities) to San Francisco's new Dignity Fund proposing a spectrum of facilities on LHH's campus, including 1) An unstated number of independent senior housing units (perhaps including market-rate units); 2) An unstated number of assisted living units; 3) a 30-bed RCFE, several of which beds would be "kept open" for patients discharged from LHH; 4) Ideally, an unstated number of Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) slots for people needing day-care supervision; and 5) Ideally, preschool to foster "intergenerational connections" between the elderly and two- to three-year-old preschoolers.

LHH voluntarily suspended it's

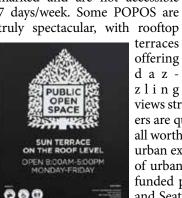


#### February

Although it's winter, the temperatures have been more spring-like and a very good time to be out and about in San Francisco. Lots to see and do in our "City by the Bay."

•••••••••••••••••

Do you know about "POPOS? We recently took a remarkable walking tour with architecture expert Rick Evans who conducts the "San Francisco Architectural Walking Tour." The tour centered on the many "POPOS" that exist throughout San Francisco, as well as some truly historic and fascinating architectural gems that we walk or drive by each day. The POPOS (Privately-Owned, Public Open Space) are at ground level, on roof-tops, and are sprinkled throughout in mainly wellhidden places. Many are not well marked and are not accessible 7 days/week. Some POPOS are truly spectacular, with rooftop



views stretching all the way to the bay. One has a sundial. Others are quiet, tucked-away spaces inside buildings. But they're all worth a stop, whether you're a lifelong San Franciscan or an urban explorer from out of town. And it's a truly special piece of urban planning — only two other cities require privately funded public spaces with building construction: New York and Seattle. For more information on his tour e-mail him at: rick@architecturesf.com

Congratulations to Supervisor Yee... A hearty congratulations to District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee, on being named the President of the Board of Supervisors. It is quite an accomplishment and we should be proud of him and his staff. They do a very good job of representing the citizens of the district and are open to public input from all corners. Good luck trying to corral the various factions that are pushing and pulling on the direction the city should go.

Back at last... congratulations to owners Matt Rogers, Karl Aguilar and the team at Papenhousen Hardware. A true neighborhood hardware store, Papenhousen has been out of commission since the fire severely damaged their location at 32 West Portal. Last



week, they relaunched at their new temporary location at 2 West Portal (at the corner of West Portal and Ulloa). Welcome back, and we wish them much success at the new popup location. The location at 32 West Portal is estimated to be completed by May of

•••••• February at our local Merced Branch library... 19th Avenue at Winton

Merced Branch Library Book Club – Tuesday, February 5, 7:00 to 8:30 P.M. Join us for a lively discussion of author David McCullough's book, 1776. The Merced Library Book Club meets bimonthly, and new members are always welcome.



Reading the Model - Saturday, February 9, 2:00 to 3:00 P.M.

How might a 3-D map change the way you look at where you live? Join us in conversation while taking a bird's-eye view of your neighborhood. Gather around a segment of the 1938 scale model of San Francisco with fellow residents and special guests. Reflect on the city's past and explore new possibilities for its future. A project of the Public Knowledge partnership between San Francisco Public Library and SFMOMA.

Knitting Circle – Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 to 7:30 P.M.

All levels of knitters, please join us with your knit projects and spread the inspiration! Practice supplies provided but bring your own if you have a special project in mind. For ages 13 and up.

\* The Four Hundredth Anniversary of Slavery: 1619-2019, "I've Been in The Storm So Long" – Wednesday, February 13, 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

In this program commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first

slave ship to the American colonies, Bill Doggett will present performance art using recorded slave narratives, his documentary film looking at the Middle Passage through 1858, and a discussion of slavery from colonial times to the beginning of the Civil War.

Merced Branch Library Book Swap – Saturday, February 23, 3:00 to 4:30 P.M.

Bring in a book (or 2+) from home that you want to trade in for another. Browse a variety of book choices available to swap. Books you bring in to swap should be in good condition. For 2019, the book swap takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month (except for the month of May).



Book-A-Librarian: Learn Basic Computer Skills — Choose a topic—searching library databases, setting up an email account, or surfing the Internet. Basic mouse and typing skills required. Sign up in-person or call to schedule a 45-minute one-on-one appointment.

ALL PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY ARE FREE (Closed on February 18, 2019)

Get your Honky Tonk On... West Portal's resident King of Country Music and Americana (Shelby Ash of The Music Store) gets your toes tapping and your boots kickin' all through the city. In addition to his live shows of the **Plough and Stars**, he has several other DJ fueled music "hoedowns" — check these out. For more information click on www. shelbyashpresents.net



Honky Tonk by the Beach - Every first Thursday of the month, (9:30 pm – 1:30 am)

@ the Riptide (3639 Taraval St) The Ozark Hillbilly (DJ Shelby Ash of the Music Center) features a showcase of vintage vinyl. Country, 70's outlaw country, and classic beer drinkin'/whisky sippin' music.

Country Junction – Every first Tuesday of the month 9:30 pm – 1:30 am @ St. Mary's Pub (3845 Mission St.) Shelby (aka the Ozark Hillbilly) spins ol'time kick-ass country music. Johnny, Waylon, George, Willie, Buck, Dolly and the rest.

Barn Dance Radio Show of KXSF 102.5 FM - tune in that ol' radio box every Wednesday night from 10pm - midnight for a jumble of classic country, rockabilly, funky folk, Zydeco, blues, western swing and everything in-between. Tune in to KXSF 102.5 on the FM dial, or listen online at www.kxsf.fm

Get into the Garden... The Garden for the Environment folks at 7th Avenue and Lawton have the following workshops available in February. Give them a call or go online to register.

The Edible Garden in February • Sat, Feb 9, 10am to 12pm • \$25 • Register: bit.ly/ GFEEdibleGarden2019

Learn to take full advantage of the unique San Francisco gardening climate, where you can grow your own fruits and vegetables year-round.

Beginning Beekeeping: The Basics and Starting a Hive • Sat, Feb 16, 10am to 12pm \$25 • Register: bit.ly/GFEBeekeeping1

So, you're thinking of becoming a beekeeper? This workshop is an introduction to bees and beekeeping practices, whether your starting a backyard hive or are just curious about bees. Well cover equipment and tools needed, bee biology basics, and provide practical knowledge to get your beekeeping journey started.

Rainwater Harvesting • Sat, Feb 16, 10am to 12pm • \$10 (but you'll get a \$10 gift card to the Urban Farmer Store or Cole Hardware for attending!)



Register: bit.ly/ GFERainwater Sponsored by the SF Public **Utilities Commission** 

With a few months still to go in San Francisco's rainy season, learn how you can easily capture rainwater to use in your garden or home. In this class, you'll learn what

to consider and where to start for systems as simple as a single barrel under a downspout, or as complicated as an indoor plumbing system for toilet flushing.

Urban Chickens • Sat, Feb 23, 10am to 12pm • \$25 • Register: bit.ly/GFEChickens2019 There is a huge movement to keep small farm animals in backyards across the nation. By keeping chickens or ducks you can increase the health of your garden and produce even more of your own food.

INFO: www.gardenfortheenvironment.org • Garden for the Environment • 7th Avenue & Lawton St., SF 94122 (415) 558-8246

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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.



Jennifer@Rosdail.com · 415-269-4663 · LivingAboveSF.com

# — Taraval Station Community Meeting

Tuesday, February 19 • 6 pm – 7 pm at Taraval Police Station • taraval.org



## **IVATRATVATI STVATI**

## **Taraval's New Captain Nick Rainsford**

ello everyone. I am the new Captain here at Taraval Station, Nick Rainsford. Although "new" to Taraval I have over 25 years of experience with the SFPD. In fact I was assigned to Taraval Station as recently as 2015-2016 as a Lieutenant, so I'm not entirely new. I joined the Police Department in 1994 and have had a variety of assignments, mostly in the patrol division. I started my career as a patrol officer in the Tenderloin District back when it was Captain Nick Rainsford



called TTF, Tenderloin Task Force, and worked there for about 5 years. Never a dull moment at the old TTF! I also worked at Northern Station until 2008 when I was promoted to Sergeant, promoted to Lieutenant in 2012 and eventually promoted to Cap-

I am pleased to be assigned to Taraval Station as, for me, it is "the old neighborhood." I grew up here in the Sunset District in the Parkside neighborhood. It's great to be working where I grew up, as the community is near and dear to my heart, being a native son. So much has changed over time and some things have also remained the same, but what a great place it was to grow up and it's still a great place for all residents who call the Westside of town home.

My priorities during my tenure will be to make the Taraval District a safe place to live in, visit, drive through, and work. Our number one priority as a Police Department is always to reduce violent crime. Any person who commits a violent crime in the Taraval District will be aggressively pursued through relentless follow-up and investigation. Property crime is also of concern and a top priority. Taraval officers investigate property crime collaboratively with other SFPD units, such as our Burglary Unit and our Crime Scenes Investigation Unit, to arrest those involved in auto burglaries and home burglaries. We also rely on our community partners who instinctively know when something in their neighborhood is not right so as the saying goes "If you see something say something." Look out for each other. Traffic safety is also a priority and we will conduct enforcement operations throughout the district so please drive safely. It's not worth it to get hurt or hurt someone else by not being attentive.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe 2019. For much more information about the Taraval District check us out a www.taraval.org.

#### Thursday | November 1

#### Theft from a Vehicle – Battery

3:10 pm | 00 Harding Rd

A man having lunch in his car heard glass breaking and looked up to see the suspect stealing his backpack. The suspect then got onto a bicycle and rode away. He followed in his car, cutting in front of the suspect to stop him. He reached out and grabbed the backpack but the suspect pepper sprayed him and fled.

#### Wednesday | January 2

#### **Vehicle Tampering – Burglary Tools**

3:10 pm | 700 Taraval St

Alerted that a stolen vehicle was nearby, officers the car in a parking lot with two suspects still inside When asked to exit the car, the suspects complied without incident and said they saw that the car's door was open so they entered the car to stay warm. A determined one was a felon with a taser and a shaved key in his possession. One was cited and the other was arrested.

#### Carjacking

9:53 am | Junipero Serra & Holloway Ave A woman had just parked her car when a suspect walked up to her and grabbed the keys, then pushed her to the ground, got into her car and drove away.

6:58 pm | Niantic Ave & Saint Charles Ave While walking home, a woman realized she was being followed. Two suspects approached her and pushed her against a parked car, claiming to have a gun and demanding that she give them her property. She did so, and they fled. She did not see a weapon during the incident.

#### Assault

2:25pm | 1600 16th Ave

A woman who yelled at a suspect, who ducked down near her friend's car, and immediately fled. She and her friend gave chase, but he entered a waiting car and fled, narrowly missing hitting the woman.

#### Friday | January 4

#### **Assault - Traffic Collision**

12:24 pm | Portola Dr & West Portal Ave The victim of a collision said he stopped at a stoplight when the suspect drove up and claimed he had hit his car. He demurred and continued driving, but the suspect followed him and hit his car. When he stopped, the suspect got out of his car and the man had to to grab the suspect by the neck to stop an assault. Officers investigated and the suspect was arrested.

#### Saturday | January 5

#### Assault - Robbery

1:51 am | 4000 19th Ave

The suspect told officers he had been helping the victim move when she suddenly attacked him, but she said she consolidating her belongings into a different storage unit when and during the argument, the suspect hit her with a metal tool and fled with her property. Searching the suspect, officers found the items in his possession. He was arrested.

#### Monday | January 7

#### **Battery**

4:55 pm | 2000 Irving St

A woman with a known history of bringing her own cup to help herself to the store's coffee without making a purchase, was confronted by the victim. She responded by flinging hot coffee in the face before exiting the store and fleeing the area.

#### Tuesday | January 8

#### Discharging a Firearm

9:03 pm | Plymouth Ave & Sadowa St Responding officers located multiple fired cartilage casings but were unsuccessful in finding any victims, witnesses or suspects involved in reported incident.

#### Thursday | January 10

#### **Shoplifting - Threats**

3:41 pm | 100 Cambon Dr

A store employee saw the suspect stealing and confronted the suspect outside the store to return the item but the suspect refused and began to flee. When the

employee gave chase, the suspect turned Battery - Warrant Arrest and punched him in the eye. He and a witnesses detained the suspect until responding officers arrived. After an investigation, the suspect was identified and arrested.

#### **Battery**

9:30 pm | 20th Ave & Kirkham St

A man was wanted to cross the street but waited for a car that was stopped at the stop sign. They both then tryed to cross at the same time. The car made a u-turn, when thesuspect got out, and kicked him.

#### Friday | January 11

#### Assault

5:23 am | 1300 Noriega St

An intoxicated man was walking when he accidentally bumped into the suspect and may have said something that he did not remember. The suspect responded angrily by punching and kicking the suspect.

#### Saturday | January 12

#### **Battery**

1:39 pm | Sloat Blvd & Junipero Serra Blvd On Muni, a man swung his backpack onto his back and may have accidentally hit someone while getting off the bus. The suspect followed him, slapped him twice, then got back on the same bus.

#### **Assault – Arrested**

12:13 am | San Jose & Mount Vernon Ave The victim spotted a man who assaulted him in a reported incident from December 2018. When officers contacted the suspect, computer check revealed an arrest warrant from Colma. He was arrested.

#### Monday | January 14

#### **Robbery with Force**

3:41 pm | 19th Ave & Winston Dr

A woman was looking at an app on her phone while holding it with both hands when a suspect suddenly grabbed it and fled. When she followed the suspect, she was was pushed from behind. Officers detained suspects who matched her description. She confirmed their identity. After investigation, they were arrested.

#### Tuesday | January 15

#### **Battery**

12:34 am | 2200 32nd Ave

When a man answered the door to find his roomate, he asked him what happened to his keys? When he said he was going back to bed, the roomate followed him to his room and pushed him and knocked him to the floor, then left the house.

#### Trespassing - Resisting Officers

5:55 pm | 300 Eucalyptus Dr

After many gym members complained about an intoxicated suspect working out at the gym and causing a disturbance, the attendant asked him to leave but he refused. When officers arrived he refused again. They handcuffed the suspect, despite his resisting. Once arrested, he was transported to Taraval Station because he refused to sign the citation. At the station, he signed it. He was then released.

3:27 pm | 20th Ave & Winston Ave

A woman walking in the crosswalk when the passing suspect suddenly slapped her on the back of her head. A witness said the suspect caused a disturbance in a nearby store and was asked to leave. The witness followed him from the store and saw him yelling at random people and slapping the woman. Officers him and a check revealed a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested.

#### Robbery of a Residence

12:09 am | 200 Sagamore

A man, awakened by a loud sound, went to investigate and was confronted by two suspect, one who pointed a gun at him. They forced him upstairs and ransacked several rooms, then fled.

#### Burglary - Arrest

100 Cambon Dr

The Taraval Investigation Team identified the suspect in a recent burglary incident who had also just been arrested on a separate incident and the officers added the additional charges to the suspect's record.

#### Wednesday | January 16

#### Shooting into a vehicle

2:20 pm | Sagamore St & San Jose Ave

A man was stopped at a stoplight in his car when another car approached him. He heard the sound of a gun being fired and jumped out. The suspect then drove away immediately. A witness confirmed that he saw the suspect shooting at another car

#### Friday | January 18

#### Batterv

10:06 pm | 100 Font Blvd

A woman sitting in the lobby, was waiting for her grandson when the suspect, who was nearby, started acting abnormally. She was trying to walk away when the suspect suddenly threw coffee on her and fled.

#### **Evading a Police Officer**

5:04 pm | 1800 19th Ave

Searching for auto burglary suspects in the Richmond, officers found them at a gas station. As they attempted to detain them, they fled in a car at unsafe speeds, running through numerous stop signs.

#### Saturday | January 19

#### Arson - Arrested

12:27 pm | 00 Farallones St

The victim saw a relative acting weirdly, naked and setting fire to the freezer compartment of the refrigerator. The victim extinguished the fire, called police and the suspect was arrested.

#### Robbery - Arrested

6:43 pm | St Charles Ave & Belle Ave

A woman was walking when a suspect suddenly came up from behind her and snatched her cell phone away from her hand. She tried to retrieve it, but the suspect punched her in the face and fled. Officers successfully detained him and when she identified him, he was arrested.

#### Traffic violation - Reckless Driving

Cont. p. 13



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Water Lillies, (Detail) 1914–1917. Oil on canvas, 65 3/8 x 56 in. Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Museum

#### MONET: THE LATE YEARS • FEB 16-MAY 27 • DE YOUNG MUSEUM, GOLDEN GATE PARK

50 paintings by Claude Monet - 1913 to 1926, the final phase of his career. During his late years, the well-traveled Monet stayed close to home, inspired by the variety of elements making up his own garden at Giverny, a village located some 45 miles northwest of Paris. With its evolving scenery of flower beds, footpaths, willows, wisteria, and nymphaea, the garden became a personal laboratory for the artist's sustained study of natural phenomena. The exhibition focuses on the series that Monet invented, and just as important, reinvented, in this setting. It reconsiders the conventional notion that many of the late works painted on a large scale were preparatory for the Grand Decorations, rather than finished paintings in their own right. Boldly balancing representation and abstraction, Monet's radical late works redefined the master of Impressionism as a forebear of modernism.

De Young Museum | Tue-Sun | 9:30 am-5:15 pm | \$35 • Members: Free • 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, GGP



#### EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market | Every Sun | 9 am-1 pm | Fresh fruits and vegetables are the stars this popular market. Stonestown rear parking lot: at Stonestown Galleria (19th Ave @ Winston).

#### EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

**Sundays** | 2 pm | Victorian era architecture of the city's first suburb Lafayette Square neighborhood. SF's illustrious history, steep streets & fabulous views! 1801 Bush St. garden. Donations MUNI 1, 3. Many Tours of SF: INFO: sfcityguides.org

#### |EVERY TUES • QUE SYRAH HAPPY HOUR

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

#### 

**Every Thu | 6–10 pm |** The Academy of Sciences brings live music, science, mingling and coctails. GG Park \$12 (\$10 Members). calacademy.org/nightlife.

#### SUNDAYS • FREE COMMUNITY YOGA

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

#### FRIDAYS • TEEN COMPUTER CORPS

Fri | 4-5:30 pm | Trouble with Technology? We can help with kindles, email, laptops, tablets, cell phones and other electronic gadgets at the Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval. Info: 415-355-5770.

### 

Sat | 1-4pm | Drop-in help with a teen tech savvy volunteer! Bring your laptop, eReaders, gadgets, digital cameras, tablets or cell phones and we can help you learn how to use it. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox.

#### ONGOING • 21ST INDIEFILM FESTIVAL

festival at the Roxie Theater, 3116 16th Street. house.com/home/jazz. Sched: Facebook/ 21st SF Independent Film Festival.

#### DAILY • S.F. BEER WEEK

Daily Feb. 1-10 | Various Area venues | Brewski lovers event kicks off at Pier 35 with a gala of over 120 breweries pouring over 300 brews and features subsequent events/tastings from beyond Santa Rosa to Hayward to Santa Cruz. Bottoms up! sfbeerweek.org

#### TUE • 36TH DINNER A LA HEART

**Tue Feb 5 | Various Times/Locations | Choose a Bay** Area restaurant, make reservations through Institute on Aging (ioaging.org) and treat yourself to an exclusive prixfixe meal and a night on the town \$85 - \$250 helping thousands of seniors remain independent and healthy in SF Bay and the Peninsula.

#### TUE • SIX ROSES JAZZ

**Tue Feb 5 | 7-8 pm |** Enjoy a pleasant evening of jazz with Six Roses duo David Boyce and Michael Cavaseno. Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval St.

#### WED • AFRICAN AMERICAN QUILTS

Wed Feb 6 | 3:30 - 4:30 pm | Learn how quilt designs Sat Feb 9 | 3-4 pm | Drag queens reading stories to

were used during slavery along the Underground Railroad, handle artifacts, and help make a quilt that will hang in the library. Ocean View Branch, 345 Randolph St. Limit 20 people. RSVP: 355-5615.

#### THU • PEOPLE OF PARKSIDE

Thu Feb 7 | 7 pm | Meet Taraval Station's new Captain, Nick Rainsford, and D4 Supervisor Gordon Mar. POPS meeting is the first Thursday of the month at the Taraval Police Station, 2345 24th Ave.

#### THU • AUTHOR MIKE CHEN

Thu Feb 7 | 7 pm | His life is a far cry from his previous career...as 2142. Stranded in suburban SF since the '90s after a botched mission, Kin has kept his past hidden, then his "rescue" team arrives—18



years late. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.

#### THU • TRIBAL & TEXTILE ARTS SHOW

Fri-Sun, Feb 8-11 | 11 am | 33rd Year! More than 70 international dealers and galleries showcase rare historical and contemporary art from the Americas, Africa, Asia, Oceania, Polynesia, Australia and the Middle East, to benefit the de Young Museum. \$15 & \$25, Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Ctr., 2 Marina Blvd.

#### FRI • KURT RIBAK JAZZ



Fri Feb 8 | 7-11 pm | Berkeley bassist and native Kurt Ribak has been gracing the Bay Area with his soulful, eclectic and original jazz for years. Experience the original works of Kurt Ribak! . The Balcony **Through Feb 14 | Various times |** Independent film Lounge at the Cliff House. 1 Seal Rock. INFO: cliff-

#### SAT-SUN • LOVE BITES

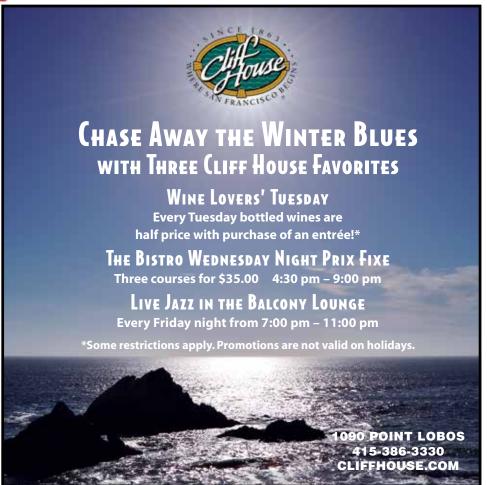


Sat-Sun Feb 9-10 | 7 pm | SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus 16th Annual Anti-Valentines Cabaret, Love Bites (Off More Than It Can Chew). A night full of laughs and amazing performances with pianist Thaddeus Pinkston. Martuni's, Valencia at Market \$20 via brownpapertickets.com or \$25 at the door.

#### SAT • VICTORIAN VALENTINES BALL

Sat Feb 9 | 8-11 pm | Step back in time and learn the Viennese Waltz, enjoy a buffet and candy bar, and play Victorian trivia games for prizes. Learn about love and courtship, Costumes encouraged. Proceeds benefit maintenance/restoration of the Haas-Lilianthal house. 2007 Franklin \$35-\$145, eventbrite.com

#### SAT • DRAG QUEEN STORYTIME





The 2019 Year of the Pig Chinese New Year Parade will be held on Saturday, February 23

#### SAT • CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE

Sat Feb 23 | 6-8 pm | One of the top ten Parades in the world, the SF tradition started in the Gold Rush. The Parade and Festival have grown to be the largest celebration of Asian culture outside of Asia. Elaborate floats, lion dancers, folk dancers, costumed elementary school groups, marching bands, stilt walkers, Chinese acrobats, and a 268 foot ong Golden Dragon. Market/2nd to Kearny / Jackson. ("Gum Lung"). Live on KTVU. INFO: chineseparade.com

children in libraries, schools allows kids to see peo- Sacramento St.) mostlybritish.org ple who defy rigid gender restrictions and imagine a world where people can present as they wish. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Ave.

#### MON • WHAT IF WE FIND E.T.?

Mon Feb 11 | 7:30 pm | New Approaches to Looking for Extra Terrestrials. A tiny group of scientists has probed the cosmos for aliens. An endless quest, or could we learn of other beings in the universe? Seth Shostak, Senior Astronomer, Morrison Planetarium, \$15 (members, seniors \$12). RSVP 877 227-1831.

#### WED • HEARTS IN SAN FRANCISCO



Wed Feb. 13 | Pier 48 Come together to share innovative visions for health care and celebrate SF General Hospital and Trauma Center provides. 6:30 pm Cocktails, 7:30 Dinner, 9 pm Coctails,

Dancing, Desert \$500 206-5928, sfghf.org

#### |WED • SLAVERY TURNS 400

Wed Feb 13 | 7-8:30 pm | Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first slave ship to the American colonies, Bill Doggett uses recorded slave narratives, his documentary film looking and a discussion of slavery from colonial times to the beginning of the Civil War. Merced Branch 155 Winston Dr.

#### THU • MOSTLY BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL

# M#STLY BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL

Daily, Feb. 15-22 | Movies from the U.K., Ireland, Australia, India, South Africa, and New Zealand. \$12.50-\$15, \$200-\$225 (festival pass), Vogue Theatre (3290

# FRI • JOHNNIE BAMONT QUARTET



#### **BESTSELLERS** January



- 1. Becoming Michelle Obama
- 2. There There Tommy Orange
- 3. Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup John Carryrou
- 4. Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom David W. Blight
- 5. Unsheltered Barbara Kingsolver
- 6. Educated: A Memoir Tara Westover
- 7. The Fifth Risk Michael Lewis
- 8. Crucible James Rollins\*
- 9. 21 Lessons for the 21st Century Noah Harari
- 10. Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Life Jane De Hart
- 11. How to Change Your Mind: Michael Pollan
- 12. These Truths: A History Jill Lepore
- 13. The Library Book Susan Orlean
- 14. Nine Perfect Strangers Liane Moriarty
- 15. Brief Answers to the Big Questions Stephen Hawking
- \* Event with BookShop West Portal; signed copies available.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Fri Feb 15 | 7-11 pm | SF native musician and surfer, Johnnie plays soprano, alto, tenor, baritone saxes and flute. A member of Huey Lewis and the News. Tony Saunders, on bass, also an SF native is son of the legendary keyboardist Merl Saunders. Bill Hampton will be on guitar. The Balcony Lounge at the Cliff House. 1 Seal Rock. INFO: cliffhouse.com/home/jazz.

#### SAT • WALKING SF'S 49 SCENIC MILES



**Sat Feb 16 | 1 pm - 2:30 pm |** Sure, we've all driven a part of SF's 49 Mile Drive, but hiked it? Let Kristine Poggioli and Carolyn Eidson, authors of Walking San Francisco's 49 Mile Scenic Drive, inspire you with tons of photos, SF history and fun facts. Get out walking in the City. Ocean View Branch, 345 Randolph.

#### SUN • LUNAR NEW YEAR OF THE PIG



**Sun Feb 17 | Schedule Below |** Roll in the Year of the Pig with dancing, art-making and storytelling at the Asian Art Museum's annual Lunar New Year Celebration. Readings from author Oliver Chin about the zodiac calendar and Year of the Pig characteristics — you may discover something new about yourself! Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin St. asianart.org

**10:30–11 am** stART Storytelling Tour (ages 3–6) 11 AM-4 pm | Hands-On Art-Making

**11–11:30 am** Lunar New Year Kids' Tour (ages 7–10)

11:45 am | Zodiac Animals with Oliver Chin

**1–4 pm** | Your Name Written in Chinese Calligraphy

1:15–2:15 pm | Interactive Lion Dance

2:30–3:15 pm | Lunar New Year Storytelling Please note: Street parking is free on Sundays.

#### TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue Feb 19 | 6-7 pm | Meet with Captain Yick at Taraval Station. Taraval Community Relations Forum: (Every 3rd Tues.) 2345 24th Ave.

#### THU • AUTHOR MICHEAL WALL

Thu Feb 21 | 7 pm | In Out There Space.com senior writer Dr. Michael Wall touches off a wild ride of exploration into the final frontier. He considers, for instance, the myriad of questions that would arise once we do discover life beyond Earth (NASA officials told Wall, is only drawing



closer). Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal

#### THU • THE WALL

Thu Feb 21 | 4-6 pm | Accompanied by her dog, a woman finds herself cut off from contact when an invisible, unyielding wall inexplicably surrounds the countryside where she is vacationing. (German with English subtitles.) Refreshments provided.

#### THU • OMI NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

**Thu Feb 21 | 7 pm |** OMI-NIA General Meeting, the 4th Thurs of the month. Temple UMC, 65 Beverly.

#### FRI-SUN • 67TH PACIFIC ORCHID EXPO



Feb 22-24 | Fri-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm | The 67th Pacific Orchid Expo "Orchids of the Enchanted Forest"kicks off with Gala Preview Night, Thu, Feb 21st, 6 pm. Show & Plant Sale, Fri Feb 22nd—Sun Feb 24th. Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park 1199 9th Ave. Tix: \$8-35 @ eventbrite.com

#### FRI • LUNA VISTA QUARTET

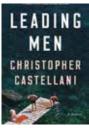
Fri Feb 22 | 7-11 pm | A Latin jazz quartet featuring flute, congas, and a group of fantastic Bay area musicians that span from Cuba, Peru, Canada and Mexico.



Mambos, cha-chas, boleros and Latin standards delight the listener with this group, filled with exciting repertoire and gorgeous timbre. 1 Seal Rock. INFO: cliffhouse.com/home/jazz.

#### MON • AUTHORS CHRISTOPHER CASTEL LANI & DAVID THOMPSON IN DISCUSSION

Mon Feb 25 | 7pm | In Castellani's *Leading Men*, in 1953, at a glittering party thrown by Truman Capote in Italy, Tennessee Williams and his longtime lover Frank Merlo meet Anja Blomgren, a mysterious aspiring actress. Their encounter will





go on to alter all of their lives. Thomson shows us, in Sleeping With Strangers, the art and the artists we love under a new light. He illuminates the way in which film as art, entertainment, and business has been a polite cover for a kind of erotic

séance. And he makes us see how the way we watch our movies is a kind of training for how we try to live. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.

#### |MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Mon Feb 25 | 7:30-9 pm | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets the 4th Monday of the month to discuss local topics. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. westoftwinpeaks.org

#### MON • IMMIGRATION FORUM

Mon Feb 25 | 7 pm | How did we get here? Where are we now? Where do we go from here? Dreamers, Visas, chains, caravans and hard choices ( to wall or not to wall...) Sanctuary city: San Francisco's role over the years and in the future. S.H.A.R.P., 1736 9th Aven. Input/participation by Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, Central American Resource Council, SF Immigrant Legal Education Network, and City Immigrants Rights Commission.

# TUE • WAS THE PALEO DIET HEALTHY



Tue Feb 26 | 6:30-8 pm | What do archaeology and anthropology tell us about the paleo diet? And how does it affect health? Ancestry strongly affects what each individual can and can't eat to remain healthy. For her Masters in Anthopology, Suzanne Ubick studied the transition from foraging to farming after the last Ice Age. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Wy.

#### THU • AUTHOR MARY BURNS

Thu Feb 28 | 7 pm | In The Love For Three Oranges,

secrets and long-held grudges surface in Venice, at an ancient palazzo on the Grand Canal, recently refurbished by an Italian artist—but will the ghosts of the past allow the new inhabitants to live in peace? Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal.



#### FRI • JOHN KALLEEN GROUP



Fri Mar 1 | 7-11 pm | The JKG is a jazz quartet in the classic style, offering fresh compositions, echoing the admired hard bop and post-bop eras of the 50s and 60s, but infused with a modern, dynamic spark. jazz with an incentive drive. 1 Seal Rock. INFO: cliffhouse.com/home/jazz

#### **Local event? Priority for Westside events**

editor@westsideobserver.com



#### SAN FRANCISCO MODEL OF 1938 AND THE WEST PORTAL DISTRICT

#### Feb 24 3:30-4:30 pm (Sunday) at West Portal Branch Library, 190 Lenox Way.

New Deal scholar Harvey Smith will tell tales of the SF Model made by the Works Progress Administration in 1938. The West Portal Library, also built by the WPA almost 80 years ago, will display two pieces of the SF Model representing nearby areas starting the week of January 22 for two months. Mr. Smith, a scholar of the New Deal, will help us understand what a New New Deal might look like. Can San Francisco be more public-minded? Also plan to come to our Open House to celebrate our 80th birthday on May 4!

#### SF MODEL OF 1938 AND MERCED NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Wed Jan 30 | 7-8 pm at Merced Branch of SF Public Library, 155 Winston Drive

Woody LaBounty will give a presentation on the massive, 3-D scale model of San Francisco created by the Works Progress Administration in the late 1930s. Described by someone recently as 'a pre-Internet Google Street View,' the mostly-wood 37' x 40' model depicts every structure standing in the city at the time. Parks, lakes, theatres, schools, and even the color schemes of individual houses are accurately represented. Today, the model provides a fascinating historical viewpoint of a San Francisco both familiar and alien at the same time. Woody will explain the purpose and creation of the model as well as point out highlights, changes, and the development of the Lake Merced neighborhoods using sections of the model on display in the branch. Free to the public.

#### SAN FRANCISCO MODEL OF 1938 AND OCEAN VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Wed Feb 13 | 6 to 8 pm at the Ocean View Branch of SF Public Library, 345 Randolph St

Neighborhood historian Woody LaBounty will give a presentation on the massive, 3-D scale model of San Francisco created by the Works Progress Administration in the late 1930s. Described by someone recently as "a pre-Internet Google Street View," the mostly-wood 37' x 40' model depicts every structure standing in the city at the time. Parks, lakes, theatres, schools, and even the color schemes of individual houses are accurately represented. Today the model provides a fascinating historical viewpoint of a San Francisco both familiar and alien at the same time. Woody will explain the purpose and creation of the model as well as point out highlights, changes, and the development of the Ocean View neighborhood using a section of the model on display in the branch. Woody LaBounty is Executive Director of the Western Neighborhoods Project (OutsideLands.org), a local nonprofit dedicated to the history of western San Francisco.

# SAN FRANCISCO MODEL OF 1938 AND THE PARKSIDE DISTRICT

#### Wed Feb 20 | 7-8 pm at Parkside Branch of SF Public Library, 1200 Taraval Street

Neighborhood historians and authors Woody LaBounty and Lorri Ungaretti will give a presentation on the massive, 3-D scale model of San Francisco created by the Works Progress Administration in the late 1930s. Described by someone recently as "a pre-Internet Google Street View," the mostly-wood 37' x 40' model depicts every structure standing in the city at the time. Parks, lakes, theatres, schools, and even the color schemes of individual houses are accurately represented. Today, the model provides a fascinating historical viewpoint of a San Francisco both familiar and alien at the same time. Woody and Lorri will explain the purpose and creation of the model as well as point out highlights, changes, and the development of the Parkside neighborhood using sections of the model on display in the branch. Free and open to the public.



#### Treasure Island's Real Treasure

ur environment is made up of many small, delicate building blocks that interact in wondrous ways to create the natural world we enjoy every day. One such building block is a sea grass with the somewhat unappealing name of eelgrass.

True to its label, eelgrass (Zostera marina) has long, Marina Project. ribbon-like leaves that extend vertically in the water. The blade-shaped leaves grow from 18 inches to over 12 Mr. Hunter Cutting, an advocate for protecting this ecofeet in length but only half an inch wide. Eelgrass grows logical and recreational resource. Cutting has been folcompletely underwater, but given the right conditions, it lowing the Treasure Island Redevelopment Project since concerns arose, due to the revelation that the new marina manages to flower, to spread, and to support a great many 2015. other organisms. It is so important to the health of its eco-

system that it is known as a keystone species. If the eelgrass does well, then so will the lives dependent on it. If it does poorly, then its many dependent species will also suffer.

When a disease wiped out eelgrass beds along the eastern coast of the United States in the 1930's, it also wiped out - forever - the eelgrass limpet, a small creature dependent on this one food source. That disease also resulted in a drastic reduction in the number of brandt geese - a bird that depends on the plant extensively.

This very special eelgrass also grows in San Francisco Bay.

Blades of eelgrass provide a place for Pacific Herring to lay their eggs, and then a place for diving birds to strip those eggs off for a nutritious lunch. Juvenile salmon and Dungeness Crabs hide from predators in eelgrass meadows. Bay pipefish camouflage themselves as a swaying eelgrass blade. Even the decaying plant materials support the estuary's food web.

Eelgrass meadows catch minute particles floating in the water and deposit them on the Bay floor, slowly building up the sandy and muddy bottom. Large beds of eelgrass can absorb wave shocks, protecting adjacent shorelines.

changes in currents, to increases or decreases in the sediment in which it lives, and to

ment Project. Of particular interest is the Clipper Cove ters from environmental and other groups. Last year new

I learned more about Clipper Cove in a discussion with

Cutting is worried that the proposed marina develop-



mon good for everyone — not only for marina users but also for the eelgrass does marina users but also for the eelgrass for the myriad forms of life it supports.

Eelgrass is sensitive to water clarity, to manges in currents, to increases or decreases.

Let many dependent species will also suffer."

mon good for everyone — not only for marina users but also for the eelgrass for the myriad forms of life it supports.

For more information, contact Humanges in currents, to increases or decreases.

changes in depth of water. Its presence off of Treasure ment project could damage the eelgrass population now Island is discussed in the Environmental Impact Report living in Clipper Cove. These concerns were mirrored for the Treasure Island / Yerba Buena Island Redevelop- early on in Environmental Impact Report comment let-

and entrance channel might result in increased sedimentation and yearly dredging.

> The precise impact on the eelgrass beds is not known; in public documents the developers stated that even they were not sure of the overall impact. An eelgrass expert wrote that the impacts could and should be studied. Studying those impacts sooner rather than later was part of last year's understanding with the developers.

> However, last month the Treasure Island Development Authority suddenly submitted a new proposal. The new proposal asks that the project be approved by the City before an environmental study of the impacts on the eelgrass is completed. Unfortunately, this position is also being supported by the Office of the Mayor.

> You can help to protect the eelgrass and the habitat it supports. The measure has been referred to the Budget Committee of the Board of Supervisors for a vote on this new proposal. Contact the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Breed, and ask them to reject the new proposal until environmental safeguards are added back to the agreement.

> San Francisco Bay belongs to everyone and should be devoted to the common good for everyone — not only for the marina users but also for the eelgrass and

> For more information, contact Hunter Cutting c/o the Westside Observer at: huntercutting@yahoo.com.

Katherine Howard is an open space advocate and a member of the Executive Committee of the SF Group of the Sierra Club. Illustration : Alces Images

#### **Yee's Priorities** (Cont. from p. 6)

"outpatient" ADHC serving about 60 people daily on March 20, 2009 but continued paying state licensing fees from November 16, 2009 through June 30, 2013. LHH allowed the license to expire on November 15, 2013. At least 91 ADHC clients — including ten with Alzheimer's — were impacted by LHH's ADHC closure.

I became a formal whistleblower in January 2009, reporting to the City Controller's Whistleblower Program and the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division that closure of LHH's ADHC program was a probable violation of a DOJ settlement agreement reached with the City of San Francisco.

Yee's position paper acknowledges many older adults will eventually need to move to skilled nursing facilities due to increased mobility impairments and chronic medical issues, but his position paper doesn't reported in May discuss increasing the severe shortage of SNF beds in-county by building more SNF of units on LHH's campus or elsewhere in the City.

Budget and Legislative Analyst ing of beds continues to this day, questions, without any plane for the City to data.

In fact, Yee's December 2018 position paper explicitly states in paragraph 5 that the "bleeding of beds continues to this day, without any plans for the City to address this issue." That's in the same paragraph in which Yee acknowledges both "low - and middle-income residents are being placed out-of-county."

Yee's grand plan for LHH's campus will be vigorously opposed by the Dignity Fund and the Mayor's Long-Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC), whose shared members vigorously opposed building any more healthcare-related units on LHH's campus in 2007. Why would they support it now?

Thirteen days later, an Assisted Living Workgroup — a group Yee formed in April 2018 with DPH and the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) — presented recommendations on January 10,

2019 to the LTCCC. The report primar-

but not expanding the supply of new facilities.

The Workgroup's report "data noted document demand is limited, and systems are typically not set up to document the need" various for services.

#### Lack of Data No Surprise!

The Observer 2017 the Board (BLA) issued without any plans for the City to a report in July address this issue." That's in the 2016 ("Audit of same paragraph in which Yee flow from exist-Senior Services in Services i San Francisco") acknowledges both "low - and mid- ing highly critical dle-income residents are being tions are asked by that DAAS has failed for years to placed out-of-county." conduct meaningful data col-

lection via a gap analysis.

A Gap Analysis estimates unmet needs for particular services — the gap between the number of individuals currently receiving a service and the total population that might benefit from a particular service. Without a robust Gap Analysis, DAAS (and DPH) lack critical information during decision-making.

Ombudsman Benson Nadell's Concerns

ily recommended Adult Living Facilities San Francisco's Long-Term Care Ombuds-(ALF) should be supported by the City in man advocating for patients, and who smaller six-bed facilities using subsidies, investigates complaints of abuse in the dated "social model of care" (favored by

City's SNF's, assisted living, and boardand-care concerned.

January On 2, 2018 Nadell presented testimony about how omissions shortsightedness in collecting data affects developing public policy. problem? The Missing data. No data is asked for, none collected. The City doesn't Supervisors paper explicitly states ... the "bleed- ask for data. No

"Data can only data. Until right ques-City and County leaders, long-term care policy will

*be skewed towards those questions that are* asked. Data will always be missing in this context."

#### CANHR: Concerns About RCFE's, Assisted Living Facilities, and CCRC's **Lack Focus on Healthcare**

In early January 2018, the California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR) issued a blistering report noting that during the past 20 years residents of RCFE's are "older, sicker, and have more monette-shaw@westsideobserver.com.

Benson Nadell, a State employee who is complex medical and care needs," and RCFE's now resemble nursing homes of years past. CANHR's report notes the out-San Francisco's disability rights advocates, the Dignity Fund, and the LTCCC) has all but ignored the health care needs of RCFE and assisted living clients whose acuity facilities remains levels have worsened. The CANHR report is very critical of Continuing Care Retirement Communities — such as the "Life Care Facility" Yee is proposing for LHH's campus — for not focusing on provision of healthcare facilities.

#### Focus on Data Collection!

Back in 2013, the Department of Public Health and the Planning Department jointly developed a Health Care Services Master Plan (HCSMP). There was no section in the Plan to focus on long-term care healthcare services in the City.

The HCSMP is now being updated.

What these organizations fail to measure, they can't accurately assess or fix, particularly without gap analyses measuring client preferences.

Yee needs to expand his focus to include SNF and long-term care facilities in addition to RCFE's and assisted living facilities, and he needs to do so citywide, not just on LHH's campus.

The Board of Supervisors under Yee's leadership must mandate that privatesector hospitals report their out-of-county discharge data to DPH.

As Dr. Teresa Palmer, a geriatrician who worked at LHH for over 20 years notes, "If we don't know how many folks have been forced to leave the county for long-term care, how can we plan for what San Franciscans need if we don't collect the relevant data?"

Monette-Shaw is a columnist for San Francisco's Westside Observer newspaper, and a member of the California First Amendment *Coalition (FAC) and the ACLU. He operates* stopLHHdownsize.com. Contact him at



Yee's December 2018 position

# Mostly Rock 'N' Roll Exhibit Rocks the Westside

by Jonathan Farrell

his past year, the music world lost a living legend, 'the queen of soul' Aretha Franklin. No doubt like many others, her legacy will live on. But that can only happen when the essence is expressed and noted. Like any art form it is important to capture both the art and the artist at their best. This could be said of another art form, photography. And, this past January 19 Streamline Café & Art Salon on Taraval Street

(mostly) rock 'n' roll 1980-1994

photography by steve rapport artist reception saturday Jan. 19th 6-10

featured some of photographer Steve Rapport's best work.

As Streamline manager/owner Brent Wilson explained to the Westside Observer, and it still is today, especially with regards "capturing emotion and feeling in a pho- to Ocean Beach," he said.

tograph is no easy feat." Wilson was eager to speak to the WSO to share not only his enthusiasm for Rapport's work, but the privelidge Wilson has in bringing the arts to the community. He went on further about the exhibit.

"No matter how much presence the subject of the photograph possesses, a captured image alone can still fail to convey the subject's soul, their being." Praising the photographer's perspective, he added. "Steve Rapport captures

makes those who view his work 'feel' the District," he said. Wilson had been a musi-

on exhibit jan. 19th - mar. 2nd hours: tues.- sun. 8am to 3 pm

The exhibit — (Mostly) Rock 'N' Roll work; that was in the early '90s. Rent was

1980-1994 — showcased some of his well-known iconic work alongside some of his lesser known pieces, all of which were deep, and significant," said Wilson. Whether it was from his time in London as a freelance photographer for publications like Rolling Stone, Vox, The Guardian and Sounds or on other assignments, Rapport kept pursuing photography as his artistic venue. "During this time Steve also produced work for many record labels, such as CBS,

Streamline.

Warner Brothers, RCA, EMI and Polydor." Wilson aims to continue bringing more art (of all kinds) to the community. Particularly to the Westside of the City, this is a primary goal for him and the staff at

Westside of the City don't alarm him. Wil-some point. son sees it simply as a form of revitaliza- Gorney likes the way the light at the tion. He and fellow owner/manager Dion oceanside creates atmosphere. And he sees Garcia are pleased that for the past two it as essential along with, of course, the fog. years, Streamline has been continuing in its endeavor while maintaining a presence in the Parkside/Sunset District neighborhood.

When I got word that the space on Taraval was available I just sensed this was the right time," he said.

As an architect and building designer as well as an artist and musician, Wilson believed such a venture was possible. With the partnership of Garcia and help of Dave Quinby and others his instincts were spot

"Regardless of it being out in 'the boondocks' said Wilson I've always considered the 'Avenues' and Ocean Beach a destination, not a dumping ground."

He noted in years past that Golden Gate Park, the San Francisco Zoo and the long gone, but legendary Sutro Baths and Fleischaker Pool are examples of the best of what the Westside of San Francisco has to offer.

"The Westside was a destination then

"Look at how the surfing and recreation culture of the City has grown over the past few years," added Wilson.

There are at least four surf shops in the outer-avenues area and the L-Taraval trolley line and MUNI bus system brings people to and from it every day.

Wilson has seen real estate values skyrocket over the past 20 years. And like many artists he knows from experience what it's like to leave an area because real estate values changed the

who or what he photographs in a way that landscape. "I used to live in The Mission cian in a band and was pursuing his art-

> affordable and the pace of life there was leisurely.

> But when the dot com Boom hit, as the 20th century came to a close, the Mission District, as had many other districts of the city, became prime areas for real estate development.

> Wilson moved out to the avenues to the Parkside in 2004.

Like artist Doug Gorney who also lives 'out in the Avenues' Wilson recognized the area's unique aspects of natural aesthetics due largely to Ocean Beach and

it's beauty. Gorney's paintings feature the Westside of the City. He appreciates landscapes and the characteristic Doelger-style homes of the Parkside/Sunset area.

Gorney's work was featured at Streamline in May of last year. He, Wilson and Fears of gentrification occurring in the Garcia are considering another showing at

> These are ideal for painting, drawing and photography. Like Gorney, Wilson considers this ocean light special to the Westside

> "For years the Westside has been an underappreciated area of San Francisco. But I think that has changed and I am so pleased to be able to be a part of Streamline," Wilson reiterated.

> He noted that even before Streamline officially opened as a café/gallery, art showings in various forms were taking place. "Whether as a musician or artist I've always identified with the arts, he said. This is why having a space/venue like Streamline is important for the community, I truly see it as a bridge between art and commerce."

> To learn more about Streamline Café and Art Salon at 3560 Taraval Street; as well as the upcoming exhibits visit: http://www. streamlinesf.com or call 415-504-7000.

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

Dear friend,

Last year more Americans were killed by and 160,000 were when the drugs were

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

me. I'm also the woman hugging her niece at the Jersey Shore in the picture.

Seventeen 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, midback 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 it 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 It's hard to believe, I know, but it's true. deaths due to medication people took...

> 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

new office on Clement Street). Well, that's 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

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

Thank you.—Dr. Christina Meakim D.C. P.S. When accompanied by the first family member, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only \$17.

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

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





Looking Towards Ocean Beach from Sutro Heights | October 13, 1961 | Published by permission of SFMTA Photo Center.

#### Police Report (Cont. from p. 8)

6:32 pm | Randolph St & Victoria When officers saw a car without Battery front license plates, they con- 8:46 am | 1300 9th Ave ducted a traffic stop and cited When a woman found a man in him. Unhappy with citation, he followed the officers and was seen passing vehicles illegally and running numerous stop signs. He was stopped and cited again.

#### Thursday | January 24

#### **Suspended Driver's License**

3:27 pm | 19th Ave & Winston Dr Officers sas a known subject, with a history of burglary and theft, driving around the Stonestown parking lot. A check on the car revealed a registration that expired in 2018, despite a current 2019 sticker affixed to the plate. During a traffic stop a revealed that her license had been suspended. She was cited.

#### Resisting - Marijuana Offense

10:47 am | Irving St & 6th Ave Patrol saw a car pull into a red zone and park directly in front of a fire hydrant and the occupant walking away. With the windows rolled down it smelled strongly of marijuana. Officers detained and handcuffed the suspect, despite resistance and a strugle. A search revealed marijuana that was not

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suspect was cited.

#### | Friday | January 25

a private parking area she asked him to leave. He responded angrily and yelled at her before he spat at her and left the area.

#### Assault - Arrested

10:30 pm | 3080 San Jose Ave

A man was sitting in his car when he saw the suspect, who had been talking to himself, suddenly grab a golf club and demanded that he get out of his car. He declined, and the suspect walked away. He exited the car, and the suspect attempted to hit him strike him. He used pepper spray and the with it. When officers detained suspect backed off. Officers found him, he stated said he thought it him and he was was arrested.

#### Stolen Vehicle - Driving under the Influence - Arrested

12:38 am | 00 Forest Side Ave A man driving a stolen tractor told officers he found the keys inside the tractor. They told him to turn off the tractor. Then the man narrowly missed falling off trying to step off of it. He was determined to be intoxicated, after viewing security footage and he was arrested.

properly stored in the car. The Saturday January 26

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#### Robbery

4:17 pm | 500 Victoria St

A woman was waiting outside of her house for a mail delivery when the suspect's car approached her and told her to come closer to the vehicle. Thinking it was the mail service, she approached the car,, when a suspect on the passenger side suddenly grabbed her arm, pulled off her jewelry and they drove away.

#### Wednesday | January 30

#### Theft of a Bicycle - Probation

2:12 pm | Judah St & 48th Ave In a bicycle anti-theft op, officers saw the suspect scrutinizing an unattended bicycle as he passed. he doubled back and walked away was free. A check revealed he was on probation for theft. He was arrested.

NOTE this is an abridged version of the complete Police Report that is available at: taraval.org

The next community meeting will be on Tuesday, February 19th at 6:00 pm at Taraval Station's Community Room.

As always, if you have any questions please call Taraval Station at (415) 759-3100.

Where is it today?



In the Westside Observer July-August 2010 edition, this photo was identified as "Westwood Park Grocery Company's building under construction (not before 1917). Anyone knowing the address or date of this building please contact editor@westsideobserver.com. Photo: Gabriel Moulin,



In the June 2013 edition, reader **Grant Wright** asked if it could be Ocean and Granada? He sent us this recent photo of the view at Ocean and Granada.

Trennoche, writes to express a many Ingleside hideout alleys... different point of view:

I believe this may be the corner of Ocean Ave. and Faxon Ave. I grew up 1 block up, left onto Wildwood Way...1955 to 1961...Crossing Ocean Ave. here to St. Emydius Grammar School gradded 1959. To the right not in photo was Littleman's (big for then) Grocery Store...with butcher Dept. (lamb chops...25 cents each).

My buddy was eventually a barber in the left side of this corner Bldg, if not it was the next bldg... further left or west was Homewood Terrace on Ocean Ave., ... an orphanage...our back yard on Wildwood bordered the huge grounds and many days was the short cut down to Ocean Ave. to school much of the time. I recall the blackbirds doing violent diving attacks on me...reminding me today of the Bolinas movie hitting them.

I had sadness for these kids living in these big old bldgs and no famil. I had it good relatively with a basket ball hoop in our yard...

I was a 50's Inglesider, we were older before our time and gang members already in mid grammar school...daily alcohol, tobacco, and 2nd story jobs, and But long-time Westsider, Trak much...well...anyway we had The "K" Ingleside (Fireside) was our wheels, riding on the back where the rope to the trolly was our access to stop the street car where we wanted...door to door...irritated the drivers having to get out andd reset the trolly when we pulled it off the overhead wire with the rope...clutching the rear of the streetcar... just enough room for our toes to clutch the back of the street car. It took several "K" cars to get our gang over to West Portal or even down town to Chinatown to buy and resell firecrackers and cherry bombs from the "Mole"; down in the underground alleys of Chinatown. Intrigue for sure. So much to say...stories of the 1950's. Westwood started and ended on Miramar like a left or west wnf... Eastwood ws its right side or East counterpart street.

Dudley Perkins Jr. (son of The Birds with Tipi Hedron...I Sr. and owner of the1st Harley was a rock attacker with little luck Davidson dealer in the USA)... lived at corner of Miramar and Wildwood Way. I eventually rode same, different gang.

-Trak Trennoche

# Sudoku-fun

Each puzzle is a 9 by 9 arid of squares divided into nine 3 by 3 square of the numbers 1 to 9 blocks, with some of the numbers filled in for you.

Fill in the blank squares so that each appears exactly once in each row,column and block.

Answer: appears below.

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ε	9	۷	Þ	s	8	τ	6	2
6	Þ	τ	7	ε	۷	s	8	9
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PEN LATE Call me it takes baths on his own. need anything! Yes MAMA I guess we have to dance. Come watch these bubbles I can make in the QBATH!  $\otimes$ 

We're On The Web!



By Julie Casson



# Money Smarts Tax and Financial Planning

In a Changing World

# Saturday, March 16th

Presidio Concordia Golf Club 9:00-noon

## Topics to be covered:

- New Tax Return
- Changes from '17 Returns to '18 Returns
  - Adapting your Financial Plan

For more information: Call 415.623.2450 or Email info@briofg.com

BrioFG.com

333 Bush Street, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA

833.623.2450

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#### **SFPD's Question Data** (Cont. from p. 1)

U.S. census figures, only SF experienced a seismic spike in crimes starting in 2011.

The 2011 inflection point is attributable to four events: 1) Public Defender Jeff Adachi unveiled videos of undercover officers performing in a lessthan-virtuous manner, 2) Mayor Gavin Newsom moved George Gascón from being SFPD's Chief of Police to being San Francisco's District Attorney, 3) A new SFPD chief replaced Gascón, and 4) Governor Brown signed AB 109 which transferred "nonviolent" felons from state to local jails and effectively reduced parole violations.

This column is not an attempt to resolve the chicken-and-egg argument of whether crime is up because of the District Attorney's tepid response to SFPD arrests, or whether SFPD is not making quality enough arrests for the District Attorney's office to prosecute. The graph (above) clearly illustrates the decline in larcenies attributable to the iPhone kill-switch in late 2013, and the 2015 resurgence of larcenies coinciding with the implementation of the Prop 47 decriminalization measure. For the tenyear period of the graph, the surge in larcenies appears to have affected SF more than the other three large California cities. This article is about the increase in crime rates correlated to SFPD's reducing or eliminating undercover operations and the current SFPD administration's continued use of fabricated statistics to justify cops walking beats. This article doesn't address the greater effectiveness of bike beats versus foot beat.

Although Adachi's videos in 2011 led to only one direct firing, SFPD's reaction to the videos was to completely trim citywide plainclothes units of Narcotics and the Gang Task Force to skeleton staffs, while completely wiping out undercover operations at district stations. Over 100 potential Clark Kents surfacing to

rescue citizens or startle criminals were replaced with police scarecrows fixed to 100-square-foot crime hotspots.

Immediate consequences to the phaseout of SFPD plainclothes were twofold. First, before someone commits a crime they generally swivel around looking for law enforcement. When plainclothes officers are working, potential criminals have to peer into every civilian car to rule out whether undercover officers will jump out. Undercovers not only are a hindrance to the criminals' trade, but they keep perp's guessing. It didn't take long for the street to realize SFPD had retreated from proactive police work and undercover operations — as the chart shows, from 2011 on criminals were able to relax their own counter-surveillance.

Second, the internal hierarchy of respect for the art of police work was expelled. For close to a century, if an SFPD officer did well in patrol, they were moved to a district station plainclothes position. If they did well as an undercover within their district, they graduated to a citywide specialized undercover unit. This meritocracy of talent served as a carrot for uniform patrol officers to be proactive and stop crimes before they happened.

SFPD Circa 2012: A boss (me being intentionally vague again) at Mission Station informed me that Noe Valley residents were complaining about how many packages Andy was stealing off doorsteps. I suggested we use the "narcotics-buying tactic," such that when Andy was seen on his bicycle, we put marked city currency into a package, have FedEx set the package on a stairway, and then have a second police officer arrest Andy after the officer recovered the marked city money in Andy's pockets.

The boss' response was for me to remain conspicuously in uniform.

Two weeks later on November 27, 2012 in a story that made news worldwide,

# Money Matters By Brandon Miller

# How to Find True Love... With a Financial Advisor

aybe it was the wild highs and lows of the stock market last year. Or a realization that you don't have the time—or desire—to research investments and strategies on your own. It could be that you just inherited a boatload of money. (Call me!) Or you're ready to make that thing that you've been talking about for years finally happen.

Whatever your motivation, hiring a regulated and must take ongoing educagood decision. At a minimum, a financial advisor's job is to help you save, invest and is a coach and a cheerleader. The voice of interests. reason. A trusted confidant. And a professional at managing money, of course.

well as keep you disciplined when a yearend bonus slated for your retirement account threatens to become a spontaneous getaway to Puerto Vallarta.

A financial pro brings objectivity to decision-making that you likely can't achieve on your own because, well, it's your money. And your money means your retirement, or your kids' education, or your own home or any number of other dreams you have. It's natural to act emotionally about money, but that kind of thinking drives people to do things like sell when the market is tankexact opposite of a sound strategy.

professional to manage your money is a tion and ethics classes to maintain their certification.

Fiduciary is another thing to look for in grow your money. But it's so much more your research because it means the advithan that. A really good financial advisor sor is legally obligated to act in your best

Once you're done swiping left or right through potential advisors, it's time to A financial advisor is there to help you actually meet. Most professionals offer a set and prioritize goals, and plan out the complimentary initial consultation to see steps needed to achieve your dreams. As if the two of you click. Be sure to ask lots of questions, including:

- Background, professional designations and years in business
  - Services provided
  - Investment philosophy
  - Type of clients they specialize in
- How much contact they have with clients and how quickly they respond to them
- · Who takes over during vacations or if the advisor is incapacitated
  - How they handle complaints

Then there's the big question: how much they charge. Fee-based advisors may be ing and buy when it's on the upswing—the preferred over those that charge commissions, as the latter may be tempted to rec-An advisor is there to steer you toward ommend investments that benefit them

An advisor is there to steer you toward more rational decisions, helping you invest with a purpose and strategy in mind. They offer a wealth of knowledge that you can access as you work towards saving for your goals."

more rational decisions, helping you invest more than you. Fees can be charged hourly, access as you work towards saving for your

So how do you find an advisor who will become a trusted partner? A person to guide you through your most important decisions? To keep you from making costly mistakes when you're buying a house, questioning whether you can afford surrogacy (or children at all), navigating a job loss or divorce, starting a business, deciding when to retire or any other major thing money together for years to come. that happens in your life?

Start by asking friends, family and coworkers for recommendations—especially people whose stage of life or financial needs are similar to yours. Online searches and financial professional registries are other good sources. And check the background of anyone who makes your shortlist. BrokerCheck is a helpful site for that.

You may find an alphabet soup of designations after the person's name. An important one is CFP, which stands for Certified

with a purpose and strategy in mind. They for a specific service (such as creating a offer a wealth of knowledge that you can financial plan), or as a percentage of the assets the advisor manages for you. Be sure you understand and are comfortable with the cost structure.

In fact, make sure you're comfortable with everything about the financial professional you decide to settle on. Remember, this is someone you want to be able to trust with intimate details of your life. Take the time to find someone who really gets you, and the two of you can make beautiful

Brio Financial Group is a registered investment adviser. SEC registration does not constitute an endorsement of Brio Financial Group by the SEC nor does it indicate that Brio Financial Group has attained a particular level of skill or ability. Advisory services are only offered to clients or prospective clients where Brio Financial Group and its representatives are properly licensed or exempt from licensure. No advice may be rendered by Brio Financial Group unless a client service agreement is in place.

*Sonya* — *exasperated with the epidemic of* package thefts — went vigilante. A stone's throw from Mark Zuckerberg's house, Sonya waited for Andy to steal her FedEx delivery, then doused him with bear spray.

In 2015, with auto break-ins surging, SFPD created an 18-person, citywide Patrol Bureau Task Force (PBTF) and some stations started fielding undercover teams. In 2016 larcenies dropped 9.5% and robberies declined by 12%. The street took note: The Clark Kents were back.

SFPD Circa June 2016 Central Station (North Beach) plainclothes officers were on an undercover operation looking for auto break-in burglars when a crew of men robbed three female tourists. On a steep street no foot beat officer had ever travailed, one officer sprinted straight up the hill, while the rest of his Clark Kent team converged on the robbers (see video at: https://www.youtube.com/

watch?v=-yszXyaLoUc). A by-product robbery arrest resulted from this undercover *auto break-in operation!* 

Larcenies and robberies declined in 2016. For the first eight months of 2017, Police Chief Will Scott claimed auto break-ins increased. (For the majority of this period, auto break-ins weren't disclosed on the SFPD website: SanFranciscoPolice.org.) In September 2017, despite PBTF's 228 auto burglary arrests in just 23 months, Chief Scott disbanded the PBTF team, moving them with narcotics officers to foot beats.

For the first 12-months of Scott's new foot beat experiment, the SFPD website documented larcenies increased 10.5%, from 37,445 to 41,368. To spin the disastrous results, on December 5, 2018 SFPD touted a reduction in property crimes in a San Francisco Chronicle article:

"The report by UC Berkeley's Goldman Cont. p. 16



# = Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi

## Out in the Cold

ith our country in a death spiral and our loyal Federal employees working for no pay and with no money to buy food, what is one to do? Our President suggested surviving on a Big Mac but will the landlord accept that in rent payment? What happens if he's a vegetarian? And what happens if you want to visit a National Park, or Alcatraz or Muir Woods? I guess I could bring along a trash bag but what happens when nature calls? Maybe a box of Depends the next time I'm at Costco.

In my younger days we never had those or Occidental and spend the day canoeing problems. On most weekends we would on the River. We always looked forward to

pile in a car and drive to Fairfax and spend the day sitting by the pool at Marin Town and Country Club. I don't remember the entrance fee but the grounds beautiwere ful. Green lawns, padded chairs, a beautiful pool



and background music. You could bring paddling down the river when someone a picnic lunch and always be assured of jumped off the side — overturning the clean garbage cans long before the days of canoe, and dumping me in the river. Forture-cycling and composting. By late after- nately, they knew that I couldn't swim, and

noon our backs were beet red with the sun leaving strange marks on our back, face and chest. No bikinis in those days so the area between natural skin and burned was quite obvious. We used baby oil as lotion and who knew about SPF ratings. If you came back looking like lobster it was a badge of honor. Today people go to tanning salons, we just sat there and burned!

If you were looking for some real adven-

a stop at the Union Hotel, which opened in 1879, or one of my favorites, Negri's, where they were famous for their Italian meals since their opening in 1943. I can still vividly remember being in a canoe with a bunch of friends

through the panic you could hear "save Nibbi, save Nibbi." Thankfully they were able to pull me towards the shore until my feet touched the muddy bottom. From then on I always wore a life preserver.

As time wore on we made our way as far as Mendocino and beyond while enjoying the beautiful ocean views. We stayed a few times at Heritage House and loved it. Eventually we ended up with a boat of our own, still not know-

ture you might travel as far as the Russian ing how to swim. We had many adventures River and stop off in Rio Nido, Guerneville on the Bay, going from the Marina to Angel



At the time there were no cell phones, but our trusty two-way radio was always set on channel 16 where we could get patched in to the Coast Guard. No charge, no hassle, they just showed up.

The biggest thrill was Opening Day, where hundreds of boats are decorated, loaded with friends, food, and booze, and headed out in the bay to parade around after passing by the anchored Coast Guard cutter where all the boats were blessed, and then to a sheltered anchorage were the music

was loud and the liquor strong. Knowing the lurking dangers on the water my steadfast rule was no drinks for the captain until I was safely back in our berth.

And speaking of safety, what would happen now if all of a sudden we were in

Island, Sausalito, Tiburon, and eventually need of assistance? Can't call the Coast to the Delta. So many great times, but Guard, they're grounded. Maybe I should like anything mechanical, boats do break call Trump, but being from California I'm down, and on more than one occasion we sure he won't even pick up my call. I guess had to call the Coast Guard for assistance. the best bet is to stay home and enjoy a

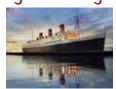


Big Mac, but considering that I still have a job I may chase down a furloughed Coast Guard family and go all out and treat them to an In-N-Out burger.

Sergio gets around—the world. Feedback: sergio@westsideobserver.com

# Floating Hotels and Random Considerations for a Future City

#### by Glenn Rogers



n the past, along the San Francisco Bay, numerous boats have been used as either bars, hotels, dance halls, museums or residences. Might we capture this romantic past again to accommodate visitors? Boats would rise and fall with the tide, not being damaged by water. Some boats, like paddle



boats from the Mississippi, could be brought here. Long Beach has the Queen Mary. A similar ship would be ideal in the San Francisco Bay as both a tourist attraction and a hotel. Barges could also be purchased and retrofitted with hotel trappings.

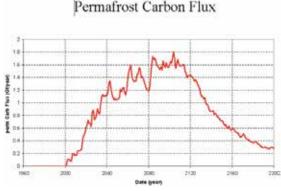
#### **Housing for the Homeless?**

Art Agnos suggested a retired cruise ship could provide some relief to the City's homeless problem. With the average cruise ship capacity of 5,412, which includes double occupancy, this would go a long way to house San Francisco's homeless population, which is, today, around 7,000 people.

#### **Refuge from Climate Change?**

Even if Climate Change were universally accepted and people ditched their cars, planes, ate only vegetables, etc., there would still be enough residual carbon in the atmosphere

to last for another 40 years. Therefore, when the climate is undeniably bad and mankind admits they are the cause, we will have to wait another 40 years for any improvement to manifest. Plans for the Bay and the Historical Port of San Francisco will need to be extensive in anticipation of coastal conditions, conditions we may not be able to ! imagine today. Would boats, used as hotel and housing alternatives, ease many of the future problems caused by Climate Change?



Note date and Carbon Flux. Safe to say, when we are at the top of the graph, all ice will be melted.

#### Planning for the Future:

Today, transportation is much different than anyone would have predicted in the past. Ride sharing platforms like Uber and Lyft, are replacing taxis in a way few of us would have predicted. Also, bicycles are becoming more common as a form of transportation and the renting of bicycles is becoming "turn key," they can be picked up, used, and left at the nearest bicycle station. Our continued use of buses and cars may take on a drastic transformation as well.

Some planners believe that drones could become the preferred transportation system of the future. These drones could be used for both personal transportation as well as commercial transport.<sup>2</sup> Should this be the case, considerable infrastructure that we use

for cars and trucks will need to be repurposed.<sup>3</sup>

Hopefully, attractive elevated pathways, with parks, alleys of trees and more, could become part of our Historical Port District in the future. With these lovely park like walkways, tourists will be able to walk comfortably to North Beach, China Town or other favorite San Francisco locations from a floating hotel.

Sea level rise is going to become more common in the future. During King Tides, Miami floods every month. Fish are seen swimming in the street regularly.<sup>4</sup> Far off in the future, might we expect San Francisco to be similarly affected?

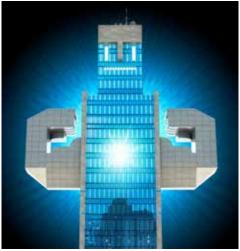
New construction in the City should be built like public buildings. Our City Hall, with its steps that take you to another level, 10 feet above the ground plane, should become commonplace for new construction. We need do this soon, otherwise, we will be throwing away money, as our infrastructure becomes obsolete and no longer habitable.

#### **Solar Energy:**

Increasingly, San Franciscans are interested in doing their part to protect the envi-

ronment. Many are installing solar panels on our homes and businesses. A possible incentive could be that PG&E, which previously paid customers for electricity from their solar panels at 3 cents per kilowatt hour. Today, CleanPowerSF pays customers 9 cents per kilowatt hour. This is a 300% increase.

Photovoltaic windows on skyscrapers, though they are considered 50% less efficient than solar panels, could provide significant energy production, because they have a greater surface area on the west and south side of a skyscraper than the limited space available on the roof. After the disaster at Fukushima, Japan has required all new public buildings to be zero energy by 2020.5 San Francisco should do this too. Illustration: Eddie Guy for Spectrum IEEE Additionally, solar windows, as they pro-



duce solar energy, darken, providing less intense light in buildings, making these buildings more livable.

While these ideas may seem far-fetched today, I have a feeling the sooner we anticipate a new tomorrow the better off we will be.

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

- theconversation.com/if-we-stopped-emitting-greenhouse-gases-right-now-would-we-stop-climatechange-78882
- 2. www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2018/03/26/6-amazing-passenger-drone-projects-everyone-shouldknow-about/
- 3. www.citylab.com/design/2017/06/automated-vehicles-drone-delivery-landscape-architects/530187/
- 4. www.pbs.org/newshour/show/will-climate-change-turn-miami-into-a-future-atlantis
- 5. spectrum.ieee.org/energy/renewables/the-dawn-of-solar-windows

# = Education Carol Kocivar ©2019

## A Middle School Success Story

think it's time for a good news story. This one is about a San Francisco public middle school. Over the past four years, a strong principal and dedicated staff have helped a troubled urban middle school move toward success.



in 2014 at Martin Luther King Middle come to the class and help the student get school, the school had serious behavior engaged in the lesson. and academic issues. Large numbers of students were sent out of class because of behavior games to increase student voice inappropriate behavior. Four years later, and reduce teacher bias. This game is test scores are up and teacher referrals are designed to reinforce good behavior and dramatically down.

#### What happened?

They looked closely at the data about

When Principal Michael Essien started classroom. A support team is available to

The school now uses the PAX good develop self-control. (The video below shows the game in action.)

The school also now gives students

What are the adults doing that is producing this behavior in the kids? If we change our behavior, it will change what is happening with the children."

professional development and administrative support. They provided more opportunities for student engagement. They expanded the curriculum to include arts integration. And they put the students at the center of decisions.

#### **Shifting the Conversation**

asked an important question:

"What are the adults doing that is pro-

ducing this behavior in the kids? If we change our behavior, it will change what is happening with the children."

After reviewing the data, the principal saw that many teachers did not have the skills

to address aggressive behavior. Teachers school site." had to develop the skills to support students who show up in class with trauma. Not only has behavior improved, so has They also had to change the relationship between students and teachers.

The school made a number of changes: Teachers received deep instruction on how to handle conflict. With new skills, teachers are now responsible for understanding a child's escalation pattern. 2. www.kalw.org/post/looking-education-Whenever possible, teachers know how to carol-kocivar-6-26-18#stream/0 intervene before things get out of hand.

The teacher does not send kids out of the

student behavior. They responded with chances to discuss and solve conflict. They even can create a power point to explain how to get to better behavior, e.g. "How not to be tardy."1

#### **Changing Instruction**

Along with changing the culture of the school, instruction was shifted to emphasize student engagement and critical think-According to Principal Essien, they ing. More student projects. More sharing of personal experiences. More use of student expertise.

Strong arts integration was added to the other core curriculum. Listen to an interview by Carol that explains how this works.2

Principal Essien says with a smile, "Kids are taking over my school site. It is their

And there is good reason to smile.

Carol Kocivar is a children's advocate and lives in the Westside. Feedback: kocivar@ westsideobserver.com

1. www.yotube.com/watch?v=t27xbR39F1s



We don't just live in the community, we invest in our community. It's our belief

that real estate isn't just about buildings - it's about the people inside and the

lives they build. Vanguard Properties has been gay-owned and operated since

1985. We have supported many of our community programs, that focus on the LGBT+ community



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## **Magnificent Magnolias**

#### At San Francisco Botanical Garden through March 31

While much of the country is hunkering down for winter, San Francisco is preparing for its most stunning, annual floral spectacle as nearly 100 towering magnolias, many rare and historic, erupt into a riot of pink and white blossoms. Plush, pearly buds on leafless branches open into saucer-sized, vibrant flowers, filling the Garden with dramatic splashes of color and sweetly fragrant scents. The Magnificent Magnolia bloom, with trees reaching 80 feet, peaks until the end of March.

Visitors to the Garden can take advantage of a free Magnolia Highlights Walk map, docent-led tours, a magnolia mobile app and more, as well as unique classes and activities, including special Magnolias by Moonlight tours, Plant Love Valentine's Tour, and Magnolia Meditation workshops to

celebrate and learn more about these unique trees.

San Francisco Botanical Garden (SFBG) is home to the most significant magnolia collection for conservation purposes outside China, where the majority of species originated. The Garden's current collection includes 54 species and 49 cultivars, including many important specimens from Asia.

This unique and long-standing collection began in 1939 with Eric Walther, who planted the very first magnolia in the Garden and continued to introduce species and cultivars. One famous species he planted was the cup and saucer magnolia or Magnolia campbellii, the first of its kind to bloom in the US in 1940, attracting huge crowds of excited and curious visitors who stood in long lines to see the magnificent large pink blossoms. More than a dozen other M. campbellii can now also be found throughout the Garden.

San Francisco Botanical Gardens • Golden Gate Park • 9th Ave. at Lincoln Blvd.

Larcenies

Foot Beats Total

3,233

<u>4,135</u>

7,368

Sept 2017

Oct 2017

<u>Plainclothes</u>

3,668

<u>2,992</u>

6,660

**Question SFPD's Data** (Cont. from p 14)

School of Public Policy found that daily incidents in San Francisco of larceny theft — which include vehicle break-ins dropped nearly 17 percent, and assaults dropped 19 percent in the months after Chief Bill Scott reassigned 69 officers to foot patrols on Sept. 1, 2017."

Goldman School study:

First, the dinky four-month sampling is too small of a timeframe to extrapolate stats. any trends.

Second, a two-month base of larcenies in the prime summer tourist season should not be compared to two months of the less-touristy fall.

Third, concurrent with the elimination of undercovers, then-Mayor Lee simultaneously rerouted car victims' larceny calls from SFPD dispatch lines to the 311-call center, where to this day victims are still instructed to file their reports online. The mayor's message was, "Your loss is so common, we don't care," which This thwarted burglary occurred on a surely discouraged victims from reporting crimes, resulting in understated post-September 1, 2017 larceny stats.

Fourth, while the Goldman School study claimed a 17% decline in larcenies for the period, SFPD's website reported a 10.6% increase in larcenies — a 27-percentage point disparity:

Aug 2017

Total:

During this two-month period of foot beat patrols, July 2017 SFPD's website reported burglaries, auto break-ins, and

robberies increased 22%, 13.6%, and 4% respectively. In spite of these surging crime rates and larcenies increasing 10.6% from 6,660 to 7,368, the Goldman School somehow calculated 7,368 was a 17% smaller number than 6,660. Is this some sort of Berkeley "new math"? How did Chief Scott not understand larcenies *increased under foot beats?* 

Fifth, page nine of the Goldman

School study disclosed that they visited ten SFPD district stations and determined 16,248 larcenies cases occurred during the four-month period. Yet when SFPD headquarters accumulated the total larcenies for this period, SFPD HQ reported only 14,028 larcenies. Somehow, 13.6% - 2,220 — of the larcenies There are five major problems with the calculated by the district stations vanished between the stations' books and SFPD headquarters' consolidation of the

> Retired SFPD December 16, 2018: In the Central District, as we were scurrying out of the rain a guy lollygagged up the street before conspicuously settling into a seat on the front staircase — in the rain — as if he was soaking up an Indian summer evening. I noticed an adjacent garage door had never closed, revealing several bicycles hanging from the ceiling. I jogged up the stairs past him, and banged on all three front doors, Fred Flintstone-style. The suspect dawdled off to his next opportunity.

steep city street surveilled by undercover officers, but which was never visited by foot beats. This is the Prop 47-decriminalization crowd peddling foot beats under the theory it's better to arrest nobody, than to have arrest rolls deviate one iota from a tacit demographic quota system. While Chief Scott shops for his

> next ern California chief's job, citizens and tourists will have to endure his foot beat

experiment, unreliable statistics, and the embarrassment the City has become.

14,028 +10.6%

Lou Barberini spent nine years undercover and four years as a bike beat officer with SFPD. He has an MBA in Taxation and currently provides fiduciary retirement planning and investment services through Nich Capital Partners on assets held at Charles Schwab & Co. He can be reached at lou.barberini@gmail.com.