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Proposition B "Privacy First Policy"

Threatens Sunshine Laws

by Dr. Derek Kerr

he "Privacy First Policy" (PFP), a Charter amendment proposed by Supervisor Peskin to safeguard private data from abuse by tech-based companies, undercuts the City's Sunshine Ordinance. Set to appear on the November ballot as Proposition B, it heightens tensions between privacy and transparency. By conferring "First" place to privacy, transparency may be sacrificed.

Origins of the Privacy First Policy: Drafted by Peskin's legislative aide Lee Hepner, a respected veteran of the Sunshine Ordinance Task force, and Deputy City Attorney Paul Zarefsky, the PFP was initially cosponsored by Supervisors Yee, Ronen, Kim, Fewer and Sheehy. It propounds 11 privacy principles. These affirm the public's right to know how its personal information is being used, how to access that information to ensure its accuracy, and how to provide informed consent for the use of that information by the City or parties benefitting from city entitlements. The bill is offered as guiding rather than binding City policy. In a round-about opaque way, it directs the City Administrator to devise an Ordinance implementing the policy guidelines by May 2019. Then the Supervisors will reconsider it.

One impetus for the upcoming Prop B is a scandal: the political data mining firm Cambridge Analytica exploited the personal information of millions

of Facebook users to Trump's presipaign. Locally, deliver nies also capprivate data expansive profiles. vents Twitter, Amazon

contractors

clause, and stealthy procedures.

services that ture users' and compile personal Nothing pre-Airbnb, Uber, a host of City selling information they acquire while doing business in the City. And, Supervisor Peskin wants to set a standard

target ads for Donald

tech compa-

cam-

dential

Who decides if an amendment of the Sunshine Ordinance is "not inconsistent" with its purpose? The City Attorney, according to Peskin ... Trouble is, the City Attorney has dual loyalties, representing the public and City government. When the two clash, the City Attorney defends City officials.

for the nation. All's well - except for one deal-busting

Sources of Consternation and Mistrust: Here's the shock clause, in the PFT's subsection (i);

"Notwithstanding any other provision of the Charter, the Board of Supervisors is authorized by ordinance to amend voter-approved ordinances regarding privacy, open meeting or public records, provided that any such amendment is not inconsistent with the purpose or intent of the voter-approved ordinances."

Who decides if an amendment of the Sunshine Ordinance is "not inconsistent" with its purpose? The City Attorney, according to Peskin. City Hall would rule on voter intent – and its own intent. Trouble is, the City Attorney has dual loyalties, representing the public and City government. When the two clash, the City Attorney defends City officials. It's not a hypothetical concern. Recall how City Attorney spokesman Matt Dorsey told the New York Times in 2011 that the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF) was; "...a rogue, lawless jury that beats up on City departments..." As the Westside Observer has repeatedly reported, the City



SFMTA Tragedy: Death in the Twin Peaks Tunnel

by George Wooding

lease take a moment of silence for construction worker Patrick Ricketts. Ricketts, 51, died August 10 after a temporary steel beam struck him at approximately 4:30 p.m. near the West Portal end of the Twin Peaks Tunnel, according to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). He leaves behind a wife and two step-children.

"I want to share my deepest condolences to Patrick violations over the last ten years. How-Ricketts' family, friends, and colleagues," District-7 Super- ever, the Examiner reports that back in visor Norman Yee said in a statement.

and will continue during a continuous closure of the tun- Contractors, both answered "No" on a SFMTA question-

Forest Hill and West Portal stations will be closed, the K Ingleside will travel on a shortened route, and bus serand M Ocean View lines.

infrastructure, including the tracks, walls, and communibids, and project oversight." cation and drainage systems, must be maintained to keep up with the demands of the Muni system.

Shimmick Construction, the contractor involved in the deadly accident, has had a long history of safety issues that standards. Six of those violations stemmed from an inciwere not disclosed to the city, according to the San Francisco Examiner.

The Examiner also reported that Shimmick Construction had been linked to almost 50 workplace safety November 2017, Shimmick Construc-

The Twin Peaks Tunnel construction began June 25 tion and its current construction partner, Con-Quest nel for two months (August 25). During the closure, the naire asking whether either contractor had been cited for

any serious or willful violations in the last decade.

...why does it continue to use this struction and In 2011, Shimmick Convice will run for the L Taraval Company to finish the project? Perhaps Corporation were fined for the SFMTA itself is complicit with serious, willful, and general The West Portal tunnels abnormally tight project deadlines, low violations after a worker punctured a natural gas line with a backhoe, not once, but twice in Yorba Linda, CA.

> According to the *Examiner*, federal records show that Shimmick Construction has violated Occupational Safety and Health Administration dent in Moorpark, CA when a forklift ejected and fatally crushed a laborer in November 2016.

The SFMTA exhibited no effective oversight, and must

City Employees Living in Each City District at Risk

Slow-Moving, Stalled, Legislation

by Patrick Monette-Shaw

he phrase "justice delayed is justice denied" is a legal maxim, meaning that if legal redress is available for a party that has suffered some injury but isn't forthcoming in a timely fashion, it's effectively the same as having no redress

That brings us to local legislation stalled at the Board of Supervisors, Disclosure

ment System board of directors adequately. held in January 2017, one candi-

date, Al Casciato, a retired SFPD police captain, bragged during one endorsement meeting that the POA was donating \$100,000 to his election campaign, and the

International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) Local 21 was expected to donate an

additional \$85,000 to his campaign, for a total of \$185,000. A San Francisco Examiner article reported on January 15, 2017 that Supervisor Malia Cohen, who may have heard about Casciato's bragging of how much he hoped to raise for his election campaign to buy a seat on SFERS' Board, would submit a "drafting request for legislation" to require campaign finance disclosure statements to provide transparency in elections to SFERS' Board. Casciato won, buying himself a seat.

months before Cohen's legislation The Grand Jury wanted was written and introduced on tion has on depriving San Francisco genuine anti-retaliation protection has on depriving San Francisco city employees of legal protections.

Additional Campaign Finance Prop C was passed, the Whistle-tem Board and the Petires Health blower Protection Ordinance tem Board, and the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board. During the last election to the San Francisco Employees' Retire-

June 13, 2017 and assigned to the Rules Committee. It was expanded On July 31, the full Board of

Unfortunately, it took six

Supervisors passed the legislation on first reading. Hopefully, it will be finally passed on second

reading at the Board of Supervisors September 4 meeting

Tunnel (Cont. from p. 1)

not have checked with Cal-OSHA, when SFMTA knows that they were lied to by selecting construction contractors for the Twin Peaks Tunnel and Replacement Project.

"Over-budget and much-slower-thanpromised," appears to be the SFMTA's construction motto.

Yee states, "I look forward to working with SFMTA and other city agencies to evaluate how we vet and select our contractors for city projects. I urge the SFMTA and all other city agencies to closely monitor this and all of our city-funded projects to ensure safety and compliance on all of our sites." Yee plans to hold a hearing in and selects contractors for city construction projects.

Construction contractors on the \$1.6 billion Central Subway project laid down 3.2 miles of the wrong kind of steel track. Con-Quest Contractors is also a project subcontractor on the Central Subway project. The SFMTA has oversold the Central

Subway's ability to attract more customers or generate positive income.

The Central Subway is reportedly over two years behind schedule (and counting) and significantly over budget. There are hundreds of unresolved problems and contract disputes of long duration outstanding between the SFMTA and the Central Sub-

way Station contractor. In its Project Management Oversight Reports, the Federal Transportation Administration has been warning for years of Central Subway staff deficiencies and increasing project delays. It's almost inevitable that lawsuits will be filed.

Shimmick Construction, why does it continue to use this company to finish the project? Perhaps the SFMTA itself is complicit with abnormally tight project deadlines, low bids, and project oversight.

City police and Cal-OSHA officials closed the tunnel for less than one day to inspect the accident scene. Perhaps the SFMTA should re-inspect the almostcompleted Twin Peaks Tunnel project to confirm that it, Shimmick Construction, and Con-Quest Contractors have done a good job.

"We feel confident that the contractor, September to evaluate how the City vets under the SFMTA's oversight, has done everything possible to ensure construction can proceed safely," SFMTA's Director of Transportation Ed Reiskin said in a statement at the time.

> While Shimmick Construction will ultimately be fined and blamed for Patrick Rickett's death, a couple of department heads at the SFMTA should be wondering



how culpable they are.

Indeed, on August 20, the Examiner published an article by Joe Fitzgerald Rodriguez that suggests Reiskin's job may be at risk, after Mayor Breed sent him and the MTA's Board of Directors a letter on the same date indicating she isn't happy with

So many questions. Now that the Muni's leadership. Breed isn't allowed to hire or fire the head of the SFMTA because it is an "enterprise" agency. But she does appoint, and can remove, MTA's Board, which is responsible for hiring and firing SFMTA's director. Political observers indicated Breed's letter may be laying the groundwork to remove Reiskin if SFMTA doesn't immediately improve.

Mayor London Breed's actions over Patrick Rickett's death will be very telling. If she is smart, SFMTA heads are going to roll. This is her time to be either a strong leader or a meek follower of her wealthy contributors. Remember, the next mayoral election is only 14 months away on November 5, 2019.

The Bay Area Transportation Working Group (BATWIG) states, "The traffic congestion in San Francisco is growing steadily worse and the SFMTA has failed to take steps to mitigate the problem. Uber, Lyft, and the Hi-Tech buses operate unregulated on San Francisco streets, causing numerous conflicts, exacerbating congestion, increasing pollution, and impeding the free flow of travel through the city for both citizens and enterprise."

Further, "It appears that accountability within the SFMTA and MUNI management is virtually non-existent. Inadequate coordination between management and the different MUNI divisions responsible for driver hiring, training, and retention, has resulted in failure to anticipate and mitigate the stress placed on the system by the Twin Peaks Tunnel retrofit. The continuing lack of available operators, missed runs ('not outs'), the shortage of transit vehicles, coupled with other factors, have contributed to reductions in services of up to 20% on some routes. We would like not to describe MUNI management as 'asleep at the wheel,' but the evidence shows that is the case."

The San Francisco Federal Credit Union has filed a lawsuit against the SFMTA claiming that the transportation agency reneged on promises to keep



SFMTA's Director of Transportation,, Ed Reiskin

taxi medallions in business even as ridesharing companies boomed. By not supporting San Francisco's cab drivers and making false promises, the SFMTA has quietly caused the near collapse of the cab industry.

SFMTA's attempt to reconfigure streets has resulted both in expensive mistakes and havoc on the affected thoroughfares, not to mention the outrage of neighborhood merchants and residents who neither asked for nor wanted such changes. Altering streets that have functioned effectively for a half a century or more often does more harm than good. The transit riding public deserves practical improvements that deliver the greatest good to the greatest number of transit riders. MUNI management has lost sight of this fundamental

Even with a surging population, MUNI ridership has declined by more than 8% over the past five years, and traffic congestion has increased exponentially, impeding the free flow of MUNI, general travel, and commerce through the city, and increasing pollution. The average MUNI bus speed is less than eight miles per hour.

Mike Murphy, the frontrunner for the District-4 supervisorial race states, "I will work to fix our broken transportation

MUNIFORWARD



Starting August 25, the 66 Quintara will increase frequency from 30 to 20 minutes on weekday nights until 10 p.m. and weekends.

Starting August 27 it's even easier to get to the beach! The 48 Quintara bus is extending service all the way to Ocean Beach from 6:30 am – 6:30 pm on weekdays.





Page 3September 2018

BOGDON For Assembly

Dear Neighbor:

Thank you for voting for me in the June primary, so I have the opportunity of running this November to become

As someone who grew up on the Westside, graduated from Lowell High School in 1989, and returned to San Francisco in 1999 to raise a family and begin a career in biotech, I've witnessed — along with you — the gradual decline of our quality of life.

The threadbare "solutions" from Sacramento are failing us, particularly those authored or co-authored by Assemblyman Phil Ting. Too often they are dictated by special interests vested in the status quo. Indeed, many of the recent proposals are only making matters worse:

- We don't need top-down mandates such as SB-827 from Sacramento and unelected regional agencies taking away local control, while dictating zoning and housing density decisions best left to city planners and our neighborhoods;
- We don't need higher taxes and increased regulations driving local merchants out of business; and
- When we approve taxes to fix our roads or build more reservoirs, let's ensure the monies raised are quickly and efficiently spent on their intended purposes.

It's time for change! As your new Assemblymember, with your help, we'll bring common sense solutions to restore our quality of life.

You can visit my website www.bogdonforassembly.com to learn more about my campaign. Please donate online so we can reach more voters

I hope to earn your vote on November 6th

Sincerely

Keith Bogdon

Paid for by Bogdon for Assembly 2018. FPPC #1402323

Proposition B (Cont. from p. 1)

Attorney advises the Ethics Commission to dismiss virtually all sunshine violation referrals. Plus, the City Attorney is plenty empowered already - as the "Supervisor of Records" to adjudicate public appeals for withheld City records, and as legal counsel to the SOTF.

Granting the City Attorney and Supervisors Charter powers to amend the Sunshine Ordinance portends a power grab. It happened before. In 2014, a cabal of Supervisors (Wiener, Chiu, Farrell, Tang and Yee) purged the SOTF and blocked qualified applicants who were deemed too independent. Instead, City Hall shills were installed. Prop B exposes the Sunshine Ordinance to tampering by the very City officials who contend with sunshine requests, and battle sunshine complaints. Unlike California's Consumer Privacy Act, Prop B becomes a Trojan Horse that slips the alteration of open government laws into a bill that appears to protect consumer information. If it passes, City officials will be tempted to lessen transparency despite assurances to the contrary.

The current Sunshine Ordinance was Supervisors. That's apt because sunshine complaints are all directed against City Hall and its agencies. Supervisors and City Attorneys are regular targets. Allowing them to modify the Sunshine Ordinance invites conflicts of interest. Since 1999 the Board hasn't touched the Ordinance, except to add something. In 2008 — at the request of the SOTF - Supervisors amended the requirement that audio and video recordings of City Hall meetings be taped, to allow them to be digitally recorded, and available to the public in digital form. Under public pressure, in 2015 Supervisors required themselves and other top officials to maintain work calendars as public records, and to identify participants in official meetings. These add-ons neither altered existing mandates, nor bypassed the SOTF — something that Prop B would permit.

Stakeholders Beware: Almost privately, PFP was composed within the confines of City Hall. Although some tech companies were consulted, the bill received a perfunctory, unnoticed introduction at the May

22nd Board of Supervisors meeting. Then came two fleeting reviews before the Rules Committee in July. The proposal escaped public input, save for a single sunshine concern voiced by Peter Warfield from the Library Users Association. It was quickly adopted by the full Board on July 24th, with Supervisor Cohen joining as a co-sponsor. Only then did Supervisor Peskin mention his intent to work with "a broader set of stakeholders on trailing legislation." However, the legislation itself says nothing about stakeholders, apart from Supervisors and the City Administrator.

Notably absent was any outreach to the open government advocates who drafted or lobbied for the Sunshine Ordinance that 58% of voters passed as an amendment in 1999. Many of those folks are affiliated with San Franciscans for Sunshine, a grassroots advocacy group. The Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF), the panel that adjudicates sunshine complaints, was left out of the loop. Also excluded were entities with vital interests in transparency and information access, like the Society of Professional Journalists and the League of Women Voters. Both groups nominate voter-initiated and approved As such, candidates for SOTF seats. Though Pesit can only be amended by voters, not kin and Hepner have privately expressed regret for this astonishing lapse, the PFP hurtled onward without a "broader set of stakeholders."

Granted, the PFP/Prop B is wellintended. We need protection from digital platforms and tech firms that harvest, share, and monetize our private data. Granted, its sponsors generally support open government. Despite outreach lapses, they likely wanted to facilitate updates to the Sunshine Ordinance, some of which are sought by sunshine advocates. Alarmingly however, Prop B asks voters to give up power for politicians' good intentions. Between intent and execution lurks the fox. Giving future politicians the leeway to amend the Sunshine Ordinance is too risky. A sunshine-averse City Hall could simply deem self-serving revisions as "not inconsistent" with the Sunshine Ordinance. Trust us, anyone?

Dr. Derek Kerr is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists and an investigative reporter. Contact: watchdogs@westsideob-

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp

eceased one-time U.S. Senator Daniel Moynihan of New York observed on March 7, 1976: "Somehow liberals have been unable to acquire from life what conservatives seem to be endowed with at birth, namely, a healthy skepticism of the power of government agencies to do good." On the November 6, 2018 ballot will be an initiative (Prop 6) to repeal a 12-cent 2017 gas tax increase by the Legislature and Governor. The last state gas tax increase resulted from

my 1989 Senate legislation, raising the tax by 8 cents per gallon by 1993. That money was used as intended for building and maintaining highways, roads, and streets. The 2017 increase renders California's gas tax the highest in the nation and flaunts the 1922 legislative decision to finance highways, roads, and streets by a "user fee." Such user tax revenue should be deposited in the State Highway Fund, not the General Fund, not used for public transit, the DMV, or California Highway Patrol. Before 1922, highways were funded by general obligation bond issues three times, which meant borrowing money and repaying it with twice the principal in interest debt. In 1988, to avoid a gas tax increase, a Republican governor attempted another state bond issue, which voters rejected. Within the last decade, however, state politicians have used gas tax revenue for purposes other than highways, roads, and streets, including state general fund spending. Caltrans cannot be trusted with efficiency; California's highway construction

The vaunted Transbay Transit Center, usable only by buses, constitutes essentially a real estate project for big names like Salesforce, with an underground "train box" that bled state taxpayers \$400,000,000 from the 2008 High-Speed Rail Authority general obligation bond issue and will never be used.

costs per lane mile are 62% over the national average, engineering costs 42% more, and maintenance workers obtain a third more than the national average. The 2018-19 state budget shows motor vehicle-related taxes and fees of \$30,800,000,000, of which the Legislative Analyst estimates only \$8,600,000,000 for streets, roads, and highways, including \$1,100,000,000 on transportation bonds, some of which were used for non-highway purposes, like a new Orwellian category named "active transportation," whatever that means. Legislators last year diverted \$1,000,000,000 from gas tax revenue to the General Fund, thus stealing more than \$400,000,000 annually from city streets and county roads, and transferring much of it to "cap-and-trade." Bear in mind the Legislative Analyst four years ago concluded that Caltrans is overstaffed by 3,500 full-time employees costing more than \$500,000,000 per year.



Last month's homeric political event was which The Wall Street Journal five years opening the Transbay Terminal, originally represented to taxpayers as a modern facility for Caltrain and high-speed rail, plus truth. buses. Past and present politicians cel-(MTA) conferred upon morning newswith an underground "train box" that bled state taxpayers \$400,000,000 from the 2008 High-Speed Rail Authority general obligation bond issue and will never be used. Why? Extending Caltrain tracks 1.3 miles underground from Fourth and Townsend Streets will cost over \$4,000,000,000 in non-existing money, never mentioned by MTA's justifiably embattled general peddled as a \$1,600,000,000 undertaking,

ago dubbed the billion-dollar-a-mile subway, will cost \$2,500,000,00, an unspoken

Supervisor Aaron Peskin correctly notes ebrated with vanity a project begun over a that without high-speed rail and Caltrain, decade ago, which far exceeded its public the Transbay Terminal "will go down as the cost representations. The general manager most expensive bus terminal in the history of the Municipal Transportation Authority of humankind." The so-called high-speed train under construction near Madera to paper readers a polemic about our public Wasco in Kern County (not Bakersfield) transit systems, with the usual pap. The isn't high speed; it's conventional diesel rail vaunted Transbay Transit Center, usable from state government, which deludes the only by buses, constitutes essentially a real public and media. Moreover, state law now estate project for big names like Salesforce, prohibits tracks dedicated to genuine highspeed rail on the San Francisco Peninsula and in the Los Angeles Basin. State taxpayers have been deceived. The emperor has no clothes.

Many citizens have complimented me upon suing the U.S. Secret Service for refusing to comply with my February request for public records demonstrating the amount of taxpayer money spent on manager because of embarrassment. His agents who devoted over a week to Donald other bloated project, the Central Subway, Trump, Jr.'s trip to India to foster purchases

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Is our water system resilient?

by Steve Lawrence

e're overdue for a big earthquake. We've spent \$4.8 billion, to make our water system resilient. Yet what happens after a big quake is anybody's guess.

some of the city is covered by a special high-pressure water system with its own water, other sections, largely on the Westside, are not. It is hoped that the drinking water system will suffice for these areas.

Water lines are likely to break. Not only big lines that deliver water to neighborhoods, but small ones to homes and businesses, too. In some cases the water will just run. Residents will flee, business owners will be unable to get into the city. Not only will water be needed for fires, it will flow uselessly.

In planning the major overhaul that has been done these past fifteen years, the target was to deliver x amount of water within 24 hours after the quake, with a second target for thirty days. The amount to be delivered within 24 hours is normal winter percent probability of failure for new facilidemand; at thirty days it is normal (average) demand. These targets are arbitrary.

While each local situation is different, other quakes have happened. What was the after a quake unknown, and apparently water demand thereafter? How did water demand compare to that before the quake? Did it double, perhaps due to leaks and fire needs? Or did it remain the same?

So far as the records reveal, no estimation

Fires are almost sure to break out. While the big one strikes, if the water system supplies according to its targets, that could be wildly insufficient.

There is also the chance that the water system does not supply as expected. The planning reports allow a ten percent chance that the system won't. Moreover, "the reli-

2015 it has issued more than \$1 billion of discussion was revealing. "green bonds," which provide funds for projects addressing climate change. Rates will rise accordingly in upcoming years. SFPUC crows about how much greenhouse gas it avoids emitting. For example, it operates the clean Hetch Hetch power lessness, he admitted that yes he did, saygeneration facilities, mostly constructed ing he was probably part of the problem, as long ago, to generated clean hydropower much as he wished and tried to be part of using water stored at Hetch Hetchy. It also owns 16 solar arrays, which generate about one-tenth of what the water generates, and a higher percentage of renewable power

lacksquare So far as the records reveal, no estimation has been made for San Francisco. So when the big one strikes, if the water system supplies according to its targets, that could be wildly insufficient.".

ability model assumes pipeline service will be restored within 14 days. The analysis assumed that resources are available and facilities are accessible....

"The reliability model assumes a zero ties and pipelines." And it is assumed that resources for making repairs are available.

So not only is the amount of water needed unstudied, but also the reliability model used makes assumptions that are troubling.

Resilient? Maybe not.

Green Team. Hardly does it need has been made for San Francisco. So when to be said that green is "in." SFPUC

than does PG&E. Then there are committees galore: C5 collaborates and coordinates, there is a Climate Adaptation Plan for SSIP (sewer renewal), a Guidance for dealing with sea rise (soon to adapt to new projections), a mayor's committee assessing how vulnerable assets are to sea rise, and a water group studying whether the water system can perform through 2070. Awards are won and careers are made on

field is growing like the jolly Green Giant.

Homelessness. Recently homelessness and what to do was discussed at a community meeting. Led by two experienced

(water-sewer-power) is no exception. Since and involved homeless professionals, the

The older pro admitted that things are essentially the same as they were when he started in 1987. Moreover, when asked (more politely, in more words) if he had a professional interest in maintaining homea solution. Honesty is admirable; an industry that perpetuates itself has been created.

Early in the meeting the speakers operates CleanPowerSF, which provides deplored moving from one strategy to the next flavor of the month without actually accomplishing much. It's a weakness. Yet by the end of the discussion the advocates called for sanctioned encampments instead of today's Navigation Centers, with the aim of housing all homeless, a goal that the advocates believe will never be reached.

What are sanctioned encampments? They are a fenced area of perhaps fifty mini-homes, 250 square feet apiece, electricity but no plumbing, with shared toilet, shower, and other facilities. There is a council, and security by residents. Cost is about one-third the cost of Navigation Centers (SF's current approach). Seattle is using sanctioned encampments, successfully it is said. (Panelists Chris Block and green cred. Got kids interested? The Brandon Davis; sponsored by SHARP, Sunset Heights Association of Responsible People.)

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

— My 2∮• Will Durst © 2018—

SWAMP THING.

uring the 2016 presidential election Donald Trump famously proclaimed he would drain the swamp in Washington, but looking at the cast of characters he's surrounded himself with, it seems more like he invited all his carnivorous reptilian buddies to come drain their bladders in the swamp and now it's not only bigger but warmer as well.

Mr. Art of the Deal's career is littered with pyramid schemes, reneging on contracts, unpaid loans, phony foundations, phantom donations, broken promises, deceit, mendacity, moral turpitude and bad hair. He is a parody of avarice spreading a culture of corruption so large it can probably be seen from the Hubble Telescope.

Trump is the King of Corruption. The Maharajah of Malfeasance. Good God of Graft. Captain Crooked. The Pharaoh of Fraud. The Overlord of Venality. The creator and originator of Orange Collar Crime. Wouldn't be surprised if he hadn't trademarked that. His insatiable greed and con-man ways give rich people a bad name. Okay, a badder name. Boss Tweed had nothing on this Boss Tweet.

You almost can't blame his cronies. Once they ooze into the president's orbit and see everyone else making money hand over

getting's good. There's only so much ripe low-hanging fruit. Not to mention lettuce.

Forbes Magazine suggests Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross might have stolen

as more crooked than a dumpster full of the time. bent wire hangers.

Like Health & Human Services Secretary Tom Price who also resigned under a cloud, Ryan Zinke, Secretary of Interior, loves to travel first class on the taxpayers' dime and has left a trail of dodgy banking schemes in his wake. These guys are fast turning the swamp into a Jurassic Cesspool.

The first Congressman to endorse Trump, Christopher Collins (R-NY) was

■ You almost can't blame his cronies. Once they ooze into the president's orbit and see everyone else making money hand over fist, they figure they'd better get while the getting's good. There's only so much ripe low-hanging fruit."

upwards of \$120 million and wrote that he could be "one of the biggest grifters in American history." They also said he was a skinflint who'd pocket packets of Sweet'n Low in restaurants so he didn't have to buy them. The kind of guy you see and discreetly lock up the silverware.

One of his "best people," former EPA fist, they figure they'd better get while the Director Scott Pruitt was forced to resign

indicted for insider trading. Michael the judge. Cohen, the president's fixer, is presently fixing to fix his fixee. Another early supporter, Duncan Hunter, is under FBI criminal investigation for using campaign funds for personal purposes. These guys are seriously threatening Nixon's record for most Cabinet members perp-walked up a courthouse steps with a raincoat

after a series of scandals that pegged him draped over their handcuffs. In one-third

New York's Attorney General is suing Trump and his three kids alleging the president used his foundation to benefit himself financially and politically. They also want him banned from running any charity in the state for 10 years for being reckless, unethical and just plain despicable.

During court testimony, former administration official Rick Gates admitted not only to committing crimes at the behest of Trump's campaign manager, Paul Manafort, but also stealing from him. Manafort allegedly stashed his stolen money in hidden offshore accounts. And both are reported to have stolen from Trump who steals from everyone. This administration is the Russian nesting dolls of crime. And there you go, another connection to Russia. Coincidence? You be

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___ Letters to the Editor

Will State Laws Supercede Local Control at Parkmerced?

hroughout California and more specifically in Parkmerced, State laws have removed local jurisdiction over zoning and development of housing projects for universities. Thankfully, San Francisco State University presented their plans to the Planning Department voluntarily.

of University Enterprises at SFSU, "We will continue to work with the City on our efforts, as we are committed to pursuing mutually beneficial approaches to our redevelopment—including more housing for our students, faculty and staff."

The University courteously notified Parkmerced of the construction about to begin. Then, Parkmerced management notified residents, through their newsletter, of impending construction. This notice was critical for those with health issues who need time to prepare for a move. These old buildings, about to be torn down, had been painted with lead decades before it became recognized as a

According to Jason Porth, vice president Avenue as demolition begins. The contractor recently posted work-in progress boards and the firm performing the work is McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

On the other hand, Sacramento appears to be hell-bent on mandating state control over local land use issues. Governor Brown, Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Scott Weiner, and Assemblymembers David Chiu and Phil Ting, have all encouraged more legislation mandating that State laws supersede jurisdiction of local Planning Departments and City ordinances regarding housing construction. Scott Weiner's AB 828, allows fast tracking housing in San Francisco and elsewhere. However, other State proposals to generhealth issue. Presently, two entire blocks ate more housing, are less well known. AB have been fenced off beside Holloway 2923 would allow housing to be built on



The fence markis the next SFSU phase of demolition in Parkmerced Photo Aaron Goodman

BART parking lots. Have you ever gone to a BART parking lot that is empty and in need of demolition? Well, I have not. SB 1333 specifically attacks Charter Cities and their ability to review development decisions proposed by the State. Even worse, since SB 1333 is an unfunded mandate, as the State asks local governments to carry the cost. The public needs to preserve what few rights they have for land use and zoning determination at the local level. The

State's idea that a uniform planning code from Sacramento can provide acceptable guidance for all cities in California, each with different problems, is foolhardy. Each one of these cities is so different, each with their own unique architecture and topography that a uniform regulation, outside a local jurisdiction, has no possibility of providing adequate guidance.

Glenn Rogers, San Francisco

Justice Denied (Cont. from p. 1)

when they return from recess.

This delayed justice should not have taken 21 months.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

On May 22, 2018 Supervisors London Breed, Malia Cohen, Katy Tang, and Catherine Stefani introduced File No. 180546 — Harassment Prevention Training for City Employees, which was assigned to the Rules Committee.

Unfortunately, when the Board of Supervisors went on recess on July 31, 2018 no Rules Committee hearing had been held on the legislation.

The main features of the legislation provides:

The City's current sexual harassment prevention training will be expanded to include all types of harassment.

The harassment prevention training will be expanded from requiring only employees who supervise, or could potentially supervise other employees, to include all City employees who work more than 20 hours a week. The City Controller's payroll database for FY 2017-2018 ending on June 30, 2018 listed 42,271 employees, of which 10,234, worked less than 20 hours per week and won't receive the expanded harassment prevention training.

The training was to begin in FY 2018-2019 starting July 1, 2018 provided the Board of Supervisors appropriated money to fund the training in FY 2018-2019. Otherwise the training won't be expanded until FY 2019-2020, starting on July 1, 2019, another year-long delay for justice.

As the Westside Observer reported in April 2018, between January 1, 2007 and December 22, 2017 the City spent \$70 million to settle 330 lawsuits brought by city employees for a variety of prohibited personnel practices already proscribed by local, state and federal laws, including wrongful termination, sexual harassment and sexual discrimination, age or disability discrimination, racial discrimination and racial harassment, and other prohibited practices.

It's not known if the expanded prevention training was funded in Breed's FY 2018–2019 city budget. The delayed legislation may contribute to additional sexual harassment complaints and lawsuits.

Whistleblower Protection Ordinance Amendments

The most egregious example of delayed legislation involves whistleblower protections for City employees. The legislation has languished for over three years.

As previously reported in the Westside Observer in July 2015, San Francisco's 2014-2015 Civil Grand Jury released its

report "San Francisco's Whistleblower Protection Ordinance Is in Need of Change," dated May 2015.

The Jury recommended that if the Ethics Commission requests the Board of Supervisors amend the WPO and the Board or the Mayor fails to act, that the Ethics Commission should consider submitting WPO amendments directly to the voters.

The Grand Jury concluded the Board of Supervisors failed to carry out a mandate to enact and maintain an ordinance after voters passed Proposition C in 2003 requiring the Board to develop adequate protections for City employees against retaliation wanted genuine anti-retaliation protec- prohibited.

tions enacted. Now 15 years after Prop C was passed, the Whistleblower Pro-

reporting ing complaints with Rules Committee. a handful of City

agencies, and only to address filing oral complaints.)

The Westside Observer also reported in July 2016, the Ethics Commission held two hearings and forwarded proposed WPO amendments to the Board of Supervisors on April 11, 2016. The Ethics recommendations included allowing complainants to file complaints with any City agency and also allowing complainants to file complaints to county, state, or federal agencies. Ethics stopped short of extending antiretaliation protections to city employees who contact the media.

It took another two months before then-Board president London Breed finally introduced legislation on June 14, 2016 to amend the WPO, assigning it to the Board's Rules Committee.

The Ethics Commission provided this author with an updated version of proposed amendments that had been revised

been submitted to the Board's GAO or anti-retaliation protections is troubling. Rules Committees). In April 2017 the comparison of the March 28, 2016 amendments submitted by the Ethics Commission to the January 2017 revisions. The side-by-side comparison noted the March 2016 amendments from Ethics specifically addressed protecting all City employees and City contractors' employees from retal*iation* for filing a whistleblower complaint.

The Ethics recommenda- WPO amendments from court-awarded settlements, they in File No. 160689 earn nothing in the way of anti-retaliation Ordinance tions included allowing complain- on October 2, 2017, (WPO) has still ants to file complaints with any for some reason not been amended City agency and also allowing the WPO amend-The Jury specific complainants to file complaints to ments in new File cally recommended amendments to county, state, or federal agencies. No. 180317 on April Much of the justice-delayed stalled legislation is due to London Breed's foot-dragamendments to Ethics stopped short of extending new title, which was com- anti-retaliation protections to city assigned to the Rules plaints to any City employees who contact the media. the employee's own It took another two months before lative aides to nowdepartment. (The then-Board president London Malia Cohen noted most current version of the WPO pro- Breed finally introduced legisla- on August 14: "This posed amendments tion on June 14, 2016 to amend the file 180317 was intro-

Committee. One of the legis-

continue to restrict WPO, assigning it to the Board's duced earlier this complainants to fil**problems** of 160689, which is why Supervisor Breed closed the

problems" with File No. 160689 were not

Whistleblower Anti-Retaliation Training

Ethics Commission staffer Jeffrey Pierce had created a presentation on May 17, 2018 that was presented during a City Controller Office's Whistleblower Department Liaison Training session at City Hall on June 14, which I obtained under training, and may have been misled.

I became concerned because the training presented indicated the Whistleblower Francisco's Westside Observer news-Protection Ordinance does not include as paper, and a member of the California a "protected activity" any First Amend- First Amendment Coalition (FAC) and the broadcast media, to the print media, or to com. Contact him at monette-shaw@ the FBI. That the WPO amendments still westsideobserver.com. don't address First Amendment speech on January 17, 2017 (that may not have as being a "protected" activity worthy of

Paragraph 1(b)(iii) in the anti-retaliation Westside Observer published a side-by-side prevention training noted: "Note also: protected activity doesn't cover First Amendment activity like reporting to the press. An employee can bring a civil action in federal court to vindicate their first amendment rights - and stands to win substantially more in damages."

The mindset at the Ethics Commission, and likely at the City Attorney's Office, But the January 2017 version deleted appears to be that since employees can from §4.115(a) that retaliation against both file civil lawsuits to vindicate their First City employees and City contractors who Amendment rights and may potentially had filed complaints with the City Con- earn more through lawsuit damages, the for filing complaints. The Grand Jury troller's whistleblower program would be City can just turn a blind eye towards proactively providing them with any anti-Although Breed retaliation protections under the WPO. filed (tabled) the While they may earn more in damages protections.

> This delayed justice redress should not Breed re-introduced have taken over three years to consider adopting.

What's Next?

ging when she was then Board President.

That's not surprising, since San Francisco's Sunshine Ordinance Task Force had referred then-Supervisor Breed's multiple Sunshine Ordinance violations to District Attorney George Gascón for enforcement, a development that will hopefully be explored in the Westside Observer's Octo-

By report, new Board president Malia Cohen is considering sponsoring the Whistleblower Protection Ordinance amendments and is leaning towards doing so. After two-and-a-half years of the legistheir own City departments, and doesn't file on the original." [Emphasis added] The lation languishing at the Board of Supervisors, Cohen should move the legislation forward rapidly.

The sooner the WPO amendments are While researching this article, I learned adopted, the sooner the number, and costs of, lawsuit settlements and City Attorney time and expenses will begin to drop, along with a drop in wrongful retaliation against City employees and an increase in antiretaliation protections for them.

An expanded version of this article, with a records request. It's not yet known how hyperlinks and additional discussion, is many departmental liaisons received this available on the author's web site at stopLHHdownsize.com.

Monette-Shaw is a columnist for San ment activities, like whistleblowing to the ACLU. He operates stopLHHdownsize.

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Quentin Kopp (Cont. from p. 3)

of Trump properties there. As a taxpayer, I and public transit. Illinois politicians want resent spending federal revenue on Trump, Jr.'s private business. Obviously, obtaining Obama Center won't be operated by the those records will enable taxpayer litiga- National Archives and Records Administion to recover for the Federal Treasury tration. Presidential archives won't even be money wasted on private business activities in India. I'm informed records of other the City of Chicago \$1 for "rent" of 19.3 taxpayer waste on Trump, Jr.'s business acres of city land. It's no wonder William trips will expose more disgraceful misuse of tax extractions. Consider also former President Barack Obama's business deals at taxpayer expense. The Obama Presidential Center was originally publicized as funded with private money. No more. Illinois taxpayers will expend over

\$174,000,000 for reconfiguring roadways \$139,000,000 more in federal money. The deposited there. The Obama Center paid Randolph Hearst opined: "A politician will do anything to keep his job, even become a patriot."

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

WESTSIDE BSERVER www.westsideobserver.com

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Award Winning News for the Neighborhood • Society of Professional Journalists



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



It seems like "déjà vu" all over again... it's 2018 and it seems like we just celebrated the 25th anniversary of the SFNNA (San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association), but now it's time for the 30th. We will be having a 30th Anniversary celebration on September 28th at Accion Latina @ 2958 Mission Street from 6-9 PM. Drop on by and say hello to the publishers, writers and photographers who bring the City real, local news in each of the publications.





Speaking of deja-vu... it is 2018, not 1968, but we again have an occupant at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue who seems to be paranoid, and delusional about how the world works. Tariffs, where there is no need, opining about "fake news" and "alternative facts" and now his lawyer has stated that sometimes "truth is not truth." The truth is that we all should be indebted to the many journalists who report on what is happening here and around the world. Yes, mistakes can be made, but the

credible publications try to bring the information to you in a truthful manner. As you no doubt know, it is getting much more difficult for publications to survive as we move more toward online delivery from traditional print media. For example, in 1998, San Francisco had over 250 publications using the "green" news rack pedestals throughout the city. Today, the number stands at less than 55. Even our "free" publications are affected, as we have had several cost increases this year due to the tariffs on newsprint. I still believe that we still need investigative reporting by dedicated writers to keep the democracy free, and there are still excellent journalists being produced from institutions such as CCSF and UC-Berkeley. Grab a copy of a local paper and see what is happening around you.

The Tunnel is open, the Tunnel is open... The SFMTA opened the Twin Peaks Tunnel on Saturday, August 25, on-time and within budget (per SFMTA). Here's to another 100 years of "through the mountain service" to downtown SF. Let our many merchants know that you haven't forgotten them by making a trip to "The Avenue" and check out both old favorites and new arrivals. Speaking of old favorites...



The Music Store: 20th Anniversary on West Portal Avenue!... Thank you San Francisco! We are proud to say we are celebrating 20 amazing years of music and movies. We started out small and under the radar — 20 years later we're pretty much the same, but now with a hell of a lot more inventory; including two floors of new and used music and movies, rare/hard to find records, out of print classic movies, 1000s or CDs, 1000s of tapes, video games, comic books, posters, stickers, incense, and guitar, bass, ukulele lessons. Stop in during our "Happy Hour" (Mon-Sat 6-8pm) and we'll hook you up with our 20th anniversary 20% off sale...(get it? 20 years, 20% off.) 66 West Portal Ave, 415-664-2044 /

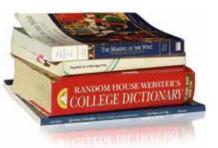
www.themusicstoresf.com • Mon-Sat Noon-8pm / Sun Noon-6pm.



Happy Birthday Quentin...local writer and long-time politico Quentin Kopp (SF Supervisor, State Senator, Judge) just celebrated his 90th B-day. Many Birthday wishes to him. His spirit and civic involvement sets a high bar us to reach. Keep it up "Q."

Book Sale at SFMOMA...

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library (Friends) and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's (SFMOMA) Public Knowledge initiative are teaming up with critically acclaimed Bay Area artist Stephanie Syjuco for a one-of-a-kind event for the bibliophile in your life called Added Value: An Alternative Book Sale. Taking place on September 22-23 in SFMOMA's free public spaces, Added Value is a playful, interactive event where used books from the Friends' Book



Donation Center will be revived, refashioned, and re-cataloged as valuable art objects and sold along with thousands of used books on a wide variety of topics, organized in unusual ways. The event also features free readings from local authors and a complimentary library-themed film program. Proceeds from this event, along with those at Friends' upcoming Big Book Sale at Fort Mason, October 30 through November 4, will benefit our award-winning San Francisco Public Library. Friends Members get early access to the sale on Friday, September 21, from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. September 22-23 • 10 am-5 pm • SFMOMA's free public spaces. (Helen and Charles Schwab Hall and the

SFMOMA Public Knowledge Library 151 3rd St.) Free



Basket Making Extravaganza at The Randall Museum... A Tradition of Making: Californian Native Basketry, explores the history and art of baskets and basket making in California, with beautiful artifacts, unique insights from a family of Native Californian master weavers, and weaving stations for hands-on learning. In celebration of the exhibit the Randall Museum is hosting a weekend with legendary basket weaver Julia Parker





and three generations of her family on Sept. 14-15-16. The Parker family was instrumental in creating the exhibit. They generously met with Randall staff and went through the museum's collection of baskets as they helped select and describe the works that are displayed. They also donated some of their own baskets that are included in the exhibit.

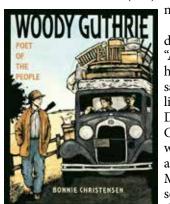
The celebration kicks off Friday, Sept. 14 with *An* Evening with the Parkers. A special reception at 6:30pm is followed by a lively panel discussion

with four generations of the Parker family. The weekend continues with hands-on weaving workshops for both children and adults led by the Parkers on Saturday and Sunday. To register for the events or to find out more please visit www.randallmuseum. org or call (415) 554-9600.

Merced Branch Library Programs ... September

Knitting Circle - Tuesday, September 11, 6 to 7:30 pm. All levels of knitters, please join us with your knit projects and spread the inspiration! Practice supplies provided, but bring your own if you have a special project in mind. For ages 13 and up.

Craft Night - Thursday, September 13, 6:30 - 8 pm. Join us for a fun night of crafting! Craft night is held on the second Thursday of each month. For ages 18 and up. Space is limited. Please sign up with a librarian or call (415) 355-2825. Sign up starts on the first day of the month. This month's craft is TBA.



Woody Guthrie & The Soul of America* - Wednesday, September 19, 7 to 8:30 pm. As Woody Guthrie said, "All you can sing about is what you saw, and if you look hard enough, you can see plenty to sing about." Guthrie saw a lot in his relatively short life. He and his wife Mary lived through the dust storms of the 1930s. He watched as Dust Bowl refugees were driven out of their camps along California's highways by vigilantes and sheriff's deputies, watched them bury infants who'd succumbed to disease and malnutrition. In 1940, in a grimy hotel in midtown Manhattan, using a borrowed Martin guitar, he wrote a song that is both a tribute and a challenge to a country that had largely turned its back on the folks whom Guth-

rie called "my people." Join Tim Holt as he shares the life story of Woody Guthrie, and sing along with him on songs that include "This Land," "So Long," and "I Ain't Got No Home." John Steinbeck, who watched Guthrie perform his songs in California migrant camps, said this about him: "There is nothing sweet about Woody, there is nothing sweet about the songs he sings. But there is something more important for those who will listen. There is the will of a people to endure and fight against oppression. I think we call this the American spirit." * Funded by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

SF Kala Kendra Dances* – Saturday, September 29, 2 to 3 pm In observance of Southwest Asian & North African Heritage Month, join us in welcoming Sarika Parekh and her troupe for a performance of Indian classical dance, Kathaka, and learn about the Middle Eastern influence on the style. For all ages. * Funded by Friends of the San Francisco Public

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.

Merced Branch, 155 Winston Drive (at 19th Avenue), (415) 355-2825, www.sfpl.org

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.





Coastal Cleanup Day is the world's largest volunteer day to protect our environment. Golden Gate National Park organizes efforts in the SF Bay Area and invites you to take part on Saturday, September 15, 2018. Photo: National Ocean & Atmospheric Administration

Grim Reality - Recycling Can't Fix This By Kathy Howard

To gain insight into the complexities of environmental health, I sat down with John Rizzo, a member of both the SF Group and Chapter Executive Committees of the Sierra Club. Rizzo is also a technical adviser to various environmental non-profits. We talked about his work around decreasing pollution in our oceans and waterways. Rizzo had just returned from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Sixth International Marine Debris conference in San Diego.

a floating mass of garbage that is twice the size of Texas, to small bottle caps that sea tiny partic les which are infecting everyyet to be fully studied and understood.

Perhaps the best place to start is somewhere in the middle.

At the end of our discussion, my head to develop recycling programs. At the was spinning from the scope of the prob- NOAA conference, one speaker showed lem of plastics in our oceans. Impacts pictures of beaches in poor communities range from the now-famous Pacific Gyre, littered with plastic garbage, while the wealthier areas enjoyed pristine coastlines.

Compostable bags and utensils are also, birds feed to their chicks (who then die), apparently, not the answer - at least not and all the way down to microplastics, yet. Rizzo learned that there are no standards for biodegradable bags or utensils thing in the world and whose impact has as there are for, say, organic vegetables. Some materials break down easily, others do not. Some bio-degradable bags were even found to have microplastics in them!

As much as some folks might complain about more rules, regulation is one way to ensure not only compliance but also a level playing field for the businesses involved. Why should an environmentally-conscious business have higher costs than one that foists the cost onto the rest of us by polluting the planet?"

plasticized coffee cup from a coffee shop vided metal forks, cloth napkins and china in Chicago. If that cup were thrown into cups. Come to think of it, for all of us tired the Chicago River, it could float down to of eating off of plastic, this is a pleasant the Mississippi and from there into the solution to a serious problem. Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf Current could carry it across the Atlantic Ocean as far problem with many moving parts that as the coast of Ireland. That is, if it didn't must be addressed on multiple fronts, break down into tiny microplastics. In including governmental regulation. As that case it might end up on the ocean much as some folks might complain about floor and be scooped up by denizens of more rules, regulation is one way to ensure the deep. Or algae could attach to it, and not only compliance but also a level playthe plastic would be eaten along with the algae. (Maybe we should skip the seafood for dinner and go for the veggie special.)

What is certain is that our earth is being overwhelmed with debris, and, in the case of plastic, it is not going to disappear on its own. Plastics can not only poison and injure marine life but they can also disrupt human hormones, litter our beaches, and clog our streams and landfills.

Recycling is not going to take care of this massive problem. Even with concerted efforts at recycling, only about Executive Committee of the SF Group of 9% of plastics are recycled worldwide, the Sierra Club. and that is only in the countries that have developed the infrastructure to do it. Poor communities just don't have the resources

As an example, let's study the life of a The conscientious NOAA conference pro-

Plastics are all around us - a complex ing field for the businesses involved. Why should an environmentally-conscious business have higher costs than one that foists the cost onto the rest of us by polluting the planet?

We can each have an impact on this growing environmental crisis: start limiting the amount of plastic we use; ask businesses we patronize to do that same; support legislation that reduces or eliminates plastics; and participate in clean-ups.

Katherine Howard is a member of the

Volunteer for International Coastal Cleanup Day

Bring their own reusable water bottle/coffee mug, reusable gloves, and/or bucket

SAN FRANCISCO—WEST Contact: Golden Gate National Parks (415) 561-3077 or volunteer@parksconservancy.org.



Aquatic Park and Fisherman's Wharf

Site Captain: Aquarium of the Bay, SF Maritime National Historical Park

Crissy Field at Stilwell Hall Site Captain: Presidio Trust

Baker Beach

Site Captain: National Park Services

East Beach and Crissy Marsh

Site Captain: National Park Services

Fort Funston

Site Captain: UC Davis SF Alumni Chapter, NPS, Parks Conservancy

Site Captain: Parks Conservancy

Marina Green and Small Craft Harbor

Site Captain: San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

Ocean Beach at Balboa & Sutro Heights Park—FULL

Site Captain: San Francisco JROTC

Ocean Beach at Fulton

Site Captain: CA Coastal Commission, NPS, Parks Conservancy

Ocean Beach at Judah

Site Captain: OceanHealth.org

Ocean Beach at Noriega

Site Captain: Surfrider Foundation, San Francisco Chapter

Ocean Beach at Sloat

Site Captain: Surfrider Foundation, San Francisco Chapter

Register: volunteer@parkconservancy.org

See our cleanup site map for this year's locations.

In coordination with a statewide and global movement, together we'll make a big dent in removing trash and debris from the environment. During Coastal Cleanup Day 2017, volunteers removed 800,000 pounds of trash and recyclables from California's coast and inland waterways in only three hours.

There's power in numbers. Are you looking to take part in Coastal Cleanup Day on a deeper level? We have tons of ways you can participate this year.

— Taraval Station Community Meeting -

Tuesday, June 19 | 6 pm -7 pm • Taraval Police Station • taraval.org



TARAVAL STATION

Burglaries Down, Robberies Level

n July 17, 2018, officers responded to a collision involving a pedestrian at Sloat and 36th Ave. The vehicle was traveling eastbound when it struck the pedestrian crossing southbound. Despite the efforts of responding officers and the San Francisco Fire Department Medics, the victim succumbed to his injuries at ZSFGH. The investigation is ongoing and is assigned to our Traffic Collision



Investigation Unit (TCIU). This collision while tragic, should be a reminder for everyone to everyone to obey all traffic laws. Don't drive faster than the posted speed limit, or drive faster than you can react. As a pedestrian, make eye contact with motorists when crossing in front of, or behind a vehicle. Taraval officers are out in force everyday conducting traffic enforcement at specific locations and other locations in the district to help prevent collisions from occurring.

Our crime statistics are good. As of July 25th, there have been 7 robberies, 13 residential burglaries and 90 theft from vehicles. A quick year to date comparison from 2017 to 2018: robberies are down 10%, aggravated assaults are the same, residential burglaries are down 21%, theft from vehicles are down 25% and auto thefts are down 21%. We are constantly monitoring our crime data statistics and are diligently working to decrease these numbers for the rest of the year.

Robbery

8:48 pm | 1500 Noriega St

ond suspect. Both fled the area.

Attempted Robbery

Tuesday | August 7

9:22 pm | 4100 19th Ave

Wednesday | August 8

7:56 pm | 1400 23rd Ave

after investigation, was cited.

2:57 pm | 2400 15th Ave

12:52 pm | 2300 24th Ave

A woman said she had been using her

cell phone while walking when a suspect

suddenly approached her from behind,

snatched the phone and handed it to a sec-

A woman said she had been holding on

to her cell phone while walking when the

suspect grabbed her wrist in an attempt

to take her phone. He also attempted to

take her backpack but was unsuccessful on

Seeing a car without a front license plate,

officers stopped the car and noticed the

passenger holding an open can of beer.

They found a second opened container

of beer under the driver's seat. A check

revealed an arrest warrant and the passen-

ger was arrested. The driver was cited.

Possession of Stolen Property - Theft

The victim said she reviewed her secu-

rity video and discovered that someone

had stolen one of her packages. Officers

located the suspect, who's bag contained

several stolen items, including the victim's

package. Despite being Mirandized, the

suspect admitted to stealing the items, and

A woman told officers she followed a car

after seeing paper and packages thrown

out of the window of the slowly moving

car. She watched as the passenger left the

car, walked up, empty handed, to the front

stairs of a residence and returned with a

package in her hand. Officers found the

suspects and a search revealed numerous

boxes inside the car, with several names

and addresses on them, and additional

boxes and packaging discarded on nearby

Assisting SFFD with a car on fire, officers

saw damage to the front fender and to the

tires, which had popped, and the car was

carrying numerous canisters of nitrous

oxide inside. SFFD was unable to deter-

mine the cause of the fire but believe that

the damage to the vehicle may have been

streets. Both suspects were arrested.

11:35 pm | 100 Junipero Serra Blvd

Arson of a Vehicle

both attempts. The suspect fled the area.

Traffic Violation - Warrant Arrest

Thursday | August 2

Burglary - Arrested

1:55am | 1300 Taraval St

A man told officers he saw a closed business with a shattered glass door and a flashlight moving inside. Officers detained the suspect, with stolen merchandise. The owner confirmed that the items were stolen. The suspect was arrested.

Attempted Robbery

4:34 am | 400 Ralston Ave

A man had been smoking outside his home when the suspect hit on him for money, holding a long knife. The said he had nothing to give and allowed him to search him, confirming that he had nothing and the suspect left the area.

Friday | August 3

Traffic Violation - Resisting Arrest

5:16 pm | 19th Ave & Eucalyptus Dr

Seeing a vehicle run a red light, officers stopped the driver and wrote a citation but she refused to sign, demanding to make a phone call despite officer's request not to. When an officer opened the car door, she unhooked her seatbelt and lunged at the officer. After a struggle, she was handcuffed. and cited.

Sunday | August 5

Warrant Arrest - Arrested

2:40 am | 00 Santa Barbara Ave

A womas said her son was belligerent and aggressively banging the walls. When officers detained him they discovered an arrest warrant and he was arrested.

Threats - Consuming Alcohol in Public 6:28 pm | 1200 Irving St

A store manager said the suspect threat- Theft - Stolen Property - Conspiracy ened him with a weapon, after he prevented an attempted shoplifting. Officers located and detained the suspect, and found an arrest warrant. He was arrested.

Traffic Violation - Suspended License

1:46 pm | 18th Ave & Lincoln Way

Seeing a car with a broken brake light, officers checked and found an expired registration, despite a current registration sticker visible on the vehicle. They stopped the car and a check on the driver revealed a suspended license, and an arrest warrant, for driving on a suspended license, issued from San Mateo. The suspect was arrested

Warrant Arrest

9:58 pm | Taraval St & 19th Ave

Patrolling officers saw a known suspect holding on to a stick, despite a prohibition from being in possession of any type of weapon - including sticks. A check revealed a warrant and he was arrested.

Monday | August 6

could not be located.

Saturday | August 11

Discharging a Firearm

12:42 pm | 1800 Lincoln Way

The victim who had found numerous bullet holes near the entrance to a bar, and the area was littered with spent casings. He knew of no possible reason for the damage. Officers found additional bullet holes that had been fired into the building as well.

Traffic Violation - No Driver's License

11:25 pm | Irving St & 22nd Ave

When officers saw a moped make a sudden U-turn, causing an oncoming car to brake to avoid a collision, they conducted a traffic stop and found that the moped had never been registered nor had the driver been issued a license. The driver was cited and the moped was towed.

Battery - Threats

12:24 pm | 1300 LA Playa St

The victim said she had been working when the suspect, who frequently caused trouble and issues, entered the café. She asked the suspect to leave but he threatened to rob and shoot her. When she attempted to close the door so he could not re enter, he started kicking the her. Officers arrested the suspect after further investigation.

Sunday | August 12

Assault with a Gun

12:07 am | 00 Harding Park

The victim reported that he and his friends had been at a party at Lake Merced and were walking to their vehicle when an altercation with two suspects occurred. One person from his party had been physically fighting with someone else when he heard a shot go off and immediately felt pain along his inner thigh. He was driven Theft - Arrest to the hospital. Officers could not determine the exact location of the incident.

Warrant Arrest

12:50 am | Sloat Blvd & Clearfield Dr

Officers were pursuing another incident when a witness approached and said the suspect, who had just shoplifted from a store, was at a nearby bus stop. Officers found the subject and a check revealed an arrest warrant. The subject was arrested.

Theft from a locked vehicle - Burglary **Tools – Possession of Stolen Property**

2:46 pm | 1500 Sloat Blvd

The victim told patroling officers that two suspects broke into his car, stealing many things. The suspects were detained and a check revealed they were on probation for burglary with a search condition. A search of the suspects revealed a window punch, a hammer and stolen items belonging to several victims. The suspects were cited.

Thursday | August 16

Cocaine - Narcotics Paraphernalia

5:30 pm | Randolph St & Bright St Officers saw the suspect lighting a glass pipe while seated next to them with an

the cause. The owner of the vehicle was open container. As they approached the not present at the time of the incident and suspect, he quickly threw the pipe over a nearby fence. A search of the area nearby revealed the glass pipe, which was filled with cocaine. The suspect was cited.

Friday | August 17

Battery

12:21 pm | Sargent St & Bright St

The victim hailed a car through a car share application. When the car came, she waved at the driver and told her that she had to throw out the garbage first. The driver, the suspect, declined to stay and made a U-turn, but she flagged down the driver and told them to stop. The driver stopped and claimed the victim kicked her car. The suspect then hit the phone out of the victim's hand and also bit the victim's hand before driving away.

Saturday | August 18

Battery - Vandalism to Property

10:23 pm | 1300 46th Ave

The victim said the suspect tried to steal three bottles of wine and when he stopped her, she knocked over a computer monitor as she left the store. Officers found her and the suspect was cited.

Robbery

8:02 am | 100 Plymouth Ave

The victim was sitting on a MUNI bus when the suspects punched him several times, then went through his pockets attempting to take his phone but the victim held on to it. The suspects then fled.

Battery

6:56 pm | 200 Winston Dr

The victim said an unknown suspect hit them on their chest and did not know why the incident happened. The suspect fled.

Sunday | August 19

8:13 am | 700 Irving St

A Starbucks employee said the suspect took a cup of coffee without paying. Officers found her sitting on a bench in front of the store. She responded that she wanted a coffee and took one. A check revealed a warrant for her arrest. She was arrested.

Tuesday | August 22

Trespassing

8:23 pm | 1000 Monterey Blvd

Officers arrived and ordered the suspect to exit the house and the suspect was detained without incident. The witness said he heard noises from the back yard of a neighboring house, though the owner was deceased. The suspect was cited.

Assault – Battery of a Police Officer

2:41 pm | 800 Ocean Ave

Conducting a search, TNT officers saw the suspect exiting the house, but immediately attempting to flee back into the house. They detained him, despite punching and striking the officers, causing multiple lacerations and bruises. The suspect was arrested.

Cont. p. 14



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OPERA IN THE PARK 2018 • FREE • SHARON MEADOW / GOLDEN GATE PARK

Sunday, September 9 at 1:30pm | Discover the beauty of an aria, while lying back in the surrounding green of Sharon Meadow. Many bring along a blanket, while others pack a picnic and enjoy an outing with family and friends. One of the most popular events held at the Golden Gate Park, it is highly suggested to arrive early in order to claim a decent viewing location. The event has items for sale. In the Meadow, remember to only bring low beach chairs and picnic blankets. www.sfopera.com

eptember (alendar

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).

IEVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

Sundays | 2 pm | Victorian era architecture of the city's of the City chronicles his evolution first suburb Lafayette Square neighborhood. San Francisco's illustrious history and some steep streets. Fabulous gay rights pioneer. He left the views! 1801 Bush St. garden. Donations OK. MUNI 1, 3. Many MORE tours sfcityguides.org

EVERY SUNDAY • PRESIDIO PICNIC

Grid's Food Truck Party on the seven acre Main Parade St. / Lincoln Blvd, The Presidio.

EVERY TUES • QUE SYRAH HAPPY HOUR

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

EVERY THURS – NIGHTLIFE

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

JAZZ FRIDAYS @ THE CLIFF HOUSE

Every Fri | 7–11 pm | The Balcony Lounge at the Cliff Annual Kevin Starr Memorial House hosts jazz every Fri night. 1 Seal Rock. For INFO: Lecture SF Museum and Hiscliffhouse.com/home/jazz

EVERY FRI • OFF THE GRID FOOD TRUCKS



Every Fri | 5-10 pm | More than 30 food vendors in a huge circle with a full bar, bands and DJs? Now that's a party; California's largest weekly street food market. Fort Mason Center 2 Marina Blvd.

EVERY SAT • COMPUTER HELP FOR ADULTS

Sat | 2 - 4 pm | Drop-in and get help with a teen tech savvy volunteer! Bring laptop, e-readers, cameras, tablets or cell phones and we can help you learn how to use it. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox. (Every Sat in Jul-Aug)

SUNDAYS • FREE COMMUNITY YOGA

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



THU • PEOPLE OF PARKSIDE

Thu Sep 6 | 7 pm | POPS meeting is on June 7th at the Taraval Police Station We hold meetings every first Thursday of the month.

SAT - SUN • SHAKSPEARE IN THE PARK

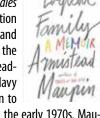


Sat - Mon Sep 8-9 | 2 pm | SF Shakespeare Festival's 36 es, which travel to five different venues every year. A seniors, and persons with disabilities)

Midsummer Night's Dream is featured this year. More venues, schedule, etc: sfshakes.org. Presidio's Main Post Parade Ground

THU • AUTHOR ARMISTEAD MAUPIN

Thu Sep 6 | 7 pm | In Logical Familv, the bestselling author of Tales from curious vouth to writer and South in search of adventure, leading him from a homoerotic Navy initiation ceremony in Vietnam to



Sundays thru-October 21 | 11 am to 4 pm | Off the the strangest: San Francisco in the early 1970s. Maupin's search for his "logical family," the people he could Ground lawn, features food and drink from more than call his own, from his loving palm-reading Grannie to 25 local vendors, food trucks & pop-ups. Montgomery an awkward Richard Nixon, its a story of the extraordinary individuals and situations that shaped him. | Learn how to do re-Bookshop West Portal, 80 W. Portal Ave.

ISAT • COMPUTER HELP FOR APULTS

Sat Sep 8 | 2 -3 pm | Drop-in and get 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 Library, 190 Lenox Way.

SAT • KEVIN STARR LECTURI

Sat Sep 8 | 10 - 11:30 am | 2nd torical Society and the USF cosponser this free event in honor of the late California State Librarian Kevin Starr. William Issel will present "Peace with



Justice: Bishop Mark J. Hurley and the SF State University Strike." You must RSVP to lorri@sfhistory.org or (415) 537-1105 ext 0. Free parking: USF's Koret Center Parking Lot. Xavier Hall, USF, Parker Avenue



Sat Sep 8 | 2-5 pm | Pare Lorentz's New Deal era films. The Plow that Broke the Plains (1936) and The River (1937), are valuable as works of art and as pleas for conservation. Historians, Gray Brechin, Robert Cherny, & Joanne Lafler, provide commentary. Questions and discussion after. Main Branch Library, 100 Larkin.

THU • DISTRICT 4 SUPERVISOR FORUM

Tue Sep 11 | 6-8 pm | Outer Sunset Parkside Residents Assn. (OSPRA). D4 Supervisor Candidate Forum at Lawton Alternative School - Lawton between 30-31st Aves. mediasusan2@gmail.com

TUE • HISTORY & DIGITAL RESEARCH

Tue Sep 11 |7:30 pm | The Power of Collaboration: Crowdsourcing Our Past. The digital revolution has brought amazing changes to ways we access our past SUN • SHAKING THE HARVEST searchers from dedicated contributors to online histo- d'oeuvres, a silent auction, to support the Hamilton ry-sharing sites. Visual images on screen as examples Family Center in its efforts to end homelessness. Mezof historical understanding through collaboration, zanine SF, 444 Jesse St. \$125 & up, 415-409-2100, (Cliff House Project). Roosevelt Middle School, 460 hamiltonfamilycenter.org Arguello Blvd. No RSVP necessary. Snacks 7 - 7:25 pm. years as the provider of free Shakespeare performanc- \$10 for non-members (\$5 for students, K-12 teachers,

SUMMER AT THE CLIFF HOUSE Warm & Cozy Inside - Amazing Views Outside



Join Us for these Cliff House Weekly Favorites

- Wine Lovers' Tuesday Half Priced Bottled Wines*
- Bistro Wednesday Nights \$35 Three-Course Prix Fixe
- Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge
- Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet

Valet parking every night after 5:00 pm. *Some restrictions apply. Promotions are not valid on holidays.

> **1090 Point Lobos** 415-386-3330 www.CliffHouse.com



TUE • FILM: SILAS

Tue Sep 11 | 6-7:30 pm | Liberian activist Silas Siakor is a tireless crusader against illegal logging and corruption. "Silas" highlights the impact one person can make to change the system from the ground up. A Green Stacks event sponsored by the SF Dept of the Environment. Main Library, 100 Larkin St.

WED • ROCK YOUR RESEARCH

Wed Sep 12 | 6:30 pm search with the library's many robust databases—how to access and use them. Try out your new skills using a



library-provided laptop or feel free to bring your own. Snacks. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox Way.



Fri -Sun Sep 14-16 One of a kind festival of films from around the world celebrating older adulthood and addresses the challenges and triumphs of aging. \$10-12. New People Cinema (1746 Post St - Japantown).

SAT • COASTAL CLEANUP DAY



Sat Sep 15 | 9 am - Noon | Register for the cleanup near you now - see page 7.

using online sources. A panel discussion by local re- Sat Sep 15 | 7-10 pm | Live music, cocktails, hors

SAT • PARTY FOR THE PARKS

Sat Sep 15 | 6 Cocktails -7:30 Dinner/Dance | Every

child deserves access to a safe, clean, imaginative, place to play. Proceeds support the renovation of over a dozen city playgrounds, benefiting over 20,000 children. Music Concourse, GG Park. Cocktail Attire 415 801-4164 paula@sfparksalliance.org

SAT - SUN • DRAGONBOAT RACE

Sat - Sun Sep 15-16 | Speeding fleet of colorful 40-footdragon boats race to the beat of Chinese drums for the 23nd Annual Dragon Boat Festival at Lake Merritt, Oakland. Info: sfdragonboat.com

SAT / TUE • REPUJADO - METAL ART

Sat Sep 15 | 2:30 - 4 pm & Tue Sep 18 | 7-8 pm | The Mexican craft of metal embossing dates at least back to the 12th Century. It is done by pushing, working or making a relief in metal. Make your own artwork All supplies are provided. RSVP 415-355-5770 beginning 9/4/18. Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval St.

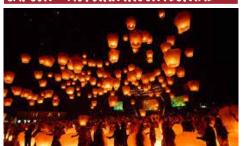
August 2018



- 1. Charlotte Walsh Likes to Win Jo Piazza*
- 2. I've Been Thinking...: Reflections, Prayers, and **Meditations for a Meaningful Life** Maria Shriver
- Cantero*
- 4. Educated: A Memoir Tara Westover
- **5. There There** Tommy Orange
- 6. The Death of Truth: Notes on Falsehood in the Age of Trump Michiko Kakutani
- 7. Masterpiece Fiona Davis*
- 8. Warlight Michael Ondaatje
- 9. Give People Money: How a Universal Basic Income Would End Poverty, Revolutionize Work, and Remake the World Annie Lowrey*
- 10. Calypso David Sedaris
- 11. The Romanov Empress C.W. Gortner*
- 12. Unhinged: An Insider's Account of the Trump White House Omarosa Manigault Newman
- 13. The Bookshop of Yesterdays Amy Meyerson*
- 14. Born a Crime: Stories from a South African **Childhood** Trevor Noah
- 15. How To Change Your Mind: What the New Science of Psychadelics Teaches Us About Consciousness, Dying, Addiction, Depression, and Transcendence Michael Pollan

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

SAT-SUN • AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL



Sep15-16 | 11am - 6:00 pm | Autumn Moon in Chinatown with entertainment, arts and crafts, food and drink. The opening parade will proceed from California and Grant Street with costumed kids, artisans, giant puppets, lion dancers, ribbon dancers, and marching bands. It will end at the main stage on Washington St., where Polynesian dancers, acrobats and martial artists will among many featured artists.

SUN • 38TH ANNUAL COMEDY DAY

Sun Sep 16 | 12-5 pm | Five hours - one stage at Robin Williams Meadows, Golden Gate Park. Watch last year's Comedy Day on demand: comedyday.org



TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue Sep 18 | 6-7 pm | Meet with Captain Yick at Taraval Station. Taraval Community Relations Forum Meeting: 2345 24th Ave. (Every 3rd Tues.)

TUE • AUTHOR KEVIN CARROLL

Tue Sep 18 | 6:30 pm | Kevin Carroll will share insights into the power of gratitude reflected in his new book A Moment's Pause for Gratitude, 50 brief stories, with a few questions at the end to encourage the reader to reflect on gratitude in their life. West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox.

THU • AUTHOR MARY JO MCCONNAYAY

Thu Sep 20 | 7 pm | The Tango War fills an important gap in WWII history. Beginning in the '30s, both sides were aware of the need to control not just the hearts and minds, but also the resources of Latin America. It also describes the mass flight of criminals of the century,



fascists who escaped to the Americas. Bookshop West Portal, 80 West Portal Ave.



Fri-Sun Sep 21-23 | Fri 5 pm-12 am, Sat 11 am-5 pm & 6 pm-12 am, Sun11 am-6 pm | Annual Munich traditions— German beer, food, music, and fun - four different sessions. Items range from around \$3 to \$12. Beer/wine \$6 a glass. Chico Bavarian Band and the Internationals. \$25 Pier 48, just south of AT&T Park.

SAT • OPEN HOUSE 7TH ANNIVERSARY



Sat Sep 22 | 11am - 4 pm | Come celebrate the 7th anniversary of our remodeled branch library! Fun for all ages. Ortega Branch, 3223 Ortega St.



Sat Sep 22 | Ceremony 10 am | Hundreds will participate in Suicide Prevention's 13th Out of the Darkness. Walk provides support for survivors of loss and those

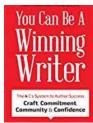
with lived experience around suicide/mental illness. Mission Creek Park, 7th St. & Berry.

FRI • SF FASHION WEEK 2018

Fri - Sun Sep 23-30 | Various venues | The 9th annual SF Fashion Week explores how diversity and innovation in fasion. For schedule of times & events: sanfranciscofashionweek.net

THU • AUTHOR JOAN GELFAND

Thu Sep 27 | 7 pm | *You Can Be* A Winning Writer: The 4 C's Approach Of Successful Authors - Craft, Commitment, Community, And Confidence. Ms. Gelfand takes us through the steps. Bookship West Portal, 80 W. Portal Ave.



WED • GWPNA MEETING

Wed Oct 3 | 6:30pm - 8:30pm | GWPNA meetings are held the first Wednesdays of the month and are open to members, guests and public. 131 Lenox Way, West Portal Playground Clubhouse.

MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Mon Sep 24 | 7:30 pm | West of Twin Peaks Central Council meets to discuss local topics on the 4th Mon each month. Forest Hills Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Ave. westoftwinpeaks.org

WED • DALY CITY'S LITTLE BOXES

Wed Sep 26 | 7-8:30 pm | Join producer and director



Robert Keil for a screening of his film, a fascinating journey through Daly City's Westlake District. The film documents Doelger's history and details Westlake's amazing develop-

ment process and classic midcentury style. A Q&A session follows. Ortega Branch, 3223 Ortega St.

SAT • PALISTINIAN CUISINE



Sat Sep 29 | 1-2 pm | Chef Nikki will share traditional Palestinian cuisine and discuss the history of the dishes. For adults. Space limited. RSVP 415 355-2886 from Sep 15! West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox

SUN • ASIAN ART MUSEUM FREE

Sun Oct 7 | 10 am-5 pm | Every first Sunday is free at the Asian Art Museum (save \$12) 17,000 artworks spanning 6 thousand years. Special exhibitions may require separate charges. 200 Larkin St.

TUE • CONSERVATORY FREE DAY

Tue Oct 2 | 10 am-4:30 pm | An intimate, up close experience with over 1,700 species of rare, exotic and endangered plants. Opened in 1879, the wood and glass greenhouse is the oldest existing conservatory of its kind in the Western Hemisphere. 100 J F Kennedy Dr. Free every first Tuesday.

TUE • DE YOUNG FREE DAY

Tue Oct 2 | 9:30 am - 5:15 pm | Art from 17th-20th centuries, native Americas, Africa, & Pacific. 50 Hagi-wara Tea Garden Drive. Free first Tuesdays.

TUE • LEGION OF HONOR FREE DAY



Tue Oct 2 | 9:30 am - 5:15 pm | 4000 years of an-cient and European art in the exquisite Beaux-Arts building in an unforgettable setting overlooking Golden Gate Bridge. 100 34th Ave. Free first Tues.- Holman Hunt (shown) is not in the free area.

THU • OMI NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

Thu Sep 27 | 7 pm | OMI-NIA General Meeting at Temple UMC, 65 Beverly. (Every 4th Thu)

Local event? Priority for Westside events

editor@westsideobserver.com



CORPSE FLOWER AT THE CONSERVATORY

The Corpse Flower is blooming for the second time this year. 100 J F Kennedy Dr. Free every first Tuesday.

Meet the candidates!

DISTRICT 4 SUPERVISORS FORUM

Outer Sunset Parkside Residents Association

Eight candidates have qualified to run for election for District 4 Supervisor in November:

Adam Kim, Mike Murphy, Jessica Ho, Gordon Mar, Arthur Tom, Tuan Nguyen, Lou Ann Bassan Trevor McNeil

> Tuesday September 11 | 6-8 pm **Lawton Alternative School**

> > Lawton between 30-31st Aves.

INVESTED IN OUR

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Student Housing, Homelessness and **Student Debts Overwhelm Plans**

by Glen Rogers, RLA

hile student housing costs around \$1,800, often including 5-7 meals per week,1 as many as four students might sleep in a one room dormitory. Many of these students fear the cost of housing

that the University deceives new tenants, ance of \$37,172." This should be a national failing to tell them their rents are not "rent" emergency. Not included in the above stacontrolled", and that City "rules and regutistics is the number of college students lations" do not apply to College State Uni- that are experiencing housing instability. versity (CSU) housing. Tenants learn too A recent study shows one in nine students

to smoke, drink or have pets. They frequently do not avail themselves of tenant protections mandated by local law.

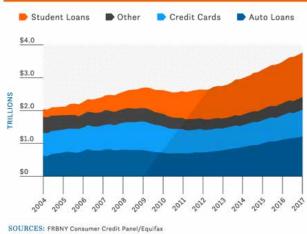
Further complicating the picture, the 19th Avenue Traffic Study with its promise of improved transportation along 19 Avenue has never materialized.2 Yet the University continues its plan to increase the student population, (presently 30,000). How is it possible for more housing to bal-

unacceptable?

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS:

SF State University is expected to provide education for the following counties: San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Solano, Napa and Sonoma counties. Approximately 50% of the student body is represented Additionally, since SFSU provides a hospi-

Consumer Student Loan Debt Compared to Other Nonhousing Debt

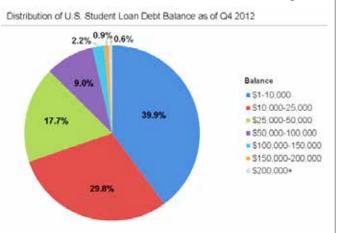


in this group with another 50% coming from other parts of California.³ The focus has moved from educating local students in our own counties, to an emphasis on educating students from elsewhere. These students will pay the same tuition if they live in California but are more likely to pay for expensive housing, at least for the first year of their education. In order to do this, student loans are often necessary. Today, student loan rates are as low as 3.76%. Historically, student loans rates were as high as 10% —with no opportunity to declare bankruptcy. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's officer in charge of student loans, Seth Frotman, in his resignation letter to the Trump administration, dated August 27, 2018 charged "the Bureau has abandoned the very consumers it is tasked by Congress with protecting. Instead, you have used the Bureau to serve the wishes of the most powerful financial companies in America." It would seem these same predatory student loan practices are repeating. Student loan debt is a hardship for students and should be reduced or minimized as much as possible. We hope the University will focus on the enrollment of its local students. In this way, student debt overall could be reduced, as local students are

The Economist, June, 2014 reported, "U.S. student loan debt exceeded \$1.2 tril**lion** with over 7 million debtors in default. In 2014, there was approximately \$1.3 tril**lion** of outstanding student loan debt in the U.S. that affected 44 million borrowers

closer to their family safety net.

could increase by up to 34% in the next 4-5 years because of the lack of tenant controls. Recently, students and staff complained who had an average outstanding loan ballate, for example, that they are not allowed are without a home and either sleep on a



loon in an area where congestion is already friend's couch, sleep in the library or live in their cars.4

NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT

There are plans to build a hotel along Holloway Avenue to provide housing for alumni who wish to watch their alma mater play their favorite sport. If guest teams are visiting, they too need a place to stay.

> tality major, students could use the hotel as a working laboratory for study. Up to 400 beds are planned to be provided by the hotel. But this good idea needs to be postponed until public transportation is improved.

While the University has courteously presented concept drawings to the-Planning Department for review and comment, we can only hope this cooperation continues. It is folly for universities to forgo local planning, following guidelines designed with the same universal build-

ing codes and regulations by the State of California for all universities in every city.

Additionally, in San Francisco, the University should not buy parts of Parkmerced willy-nilly, every time Parkmerced management is in trouble and is in need of money. Parkmerced could become a patchwork for competing uses, loosing its unique character and historical status as it becomes a hodgepodge of different segmented housing.

Most importantly, the University must provide affordable housing to their students as much as possible, but not at the expense of the elderly, the disabled and the "working class" families that have lived in Parkmerced for decades under "rent control." Such displacement to provide "market rate" housing for students, staff and teachers, should be avoided. University housing must be affordable, to all students, local and elsewhere, as much as possible.5

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

FOOTNOTES:

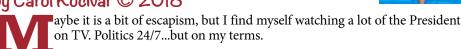
- 1. housing.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/2018-19AY %20Fee%20Schedule1.pdf
- 2. savesfmuni.wordpress.com/2016/04/05/ undergrounding-the-m-streetcar/
- 3. air.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/Fall%202017%20 Undergraduate%20Profile.pdf
- 4. www.mercurynews.com/2018/06/22/young -people-are-the-invisible-homeless/
- 5. www.sfexaminer.com/thousands-beds-pipeline

= Education Carol Kocivar ©2018

My President

Season 3, episode 1

by Carol Kocivar @ 2018



I am not talking about being glued to FOX news...though I do have the App on my phone when I want to indulge in Fake News. (Hey, I call San Francisco my home.)

Almost every evening, I choose MY OWN political leader.

It started years ago. From 2004 to 2008, President Josiah Bartlet of West Wing was my political choice. Then I moved on to a new TV President. No one is in office forever.

Repeat that five times just so we remember.

- No one is in office forever. 1.
- No one is in office forever. 2.
- 3. No one is in office forever.
- 4. No one is in office forever.
- No one is in office forever. 5.

Ah... that felt good.

After that was President Fitzgerald Grant in Scandal. His term eerily had a great Fixer and a computer hacker and a stolen election. Does truth follow fiction? (You might want to check CNN in real time to find out.)

Right now, President Tom Kirkman in Designated Survivor is my leader of choice. No lies...a quiet and humble presidential persona. I feel so good when his moral compass leads our country back from the brink of disaster.

I even have my own Secretary of State, Elizabeth McCord, in Madam Secretary. My goodness, she is aspiring to be the first woman president. No bets on how that will turn

Yes, it is pure escapism.

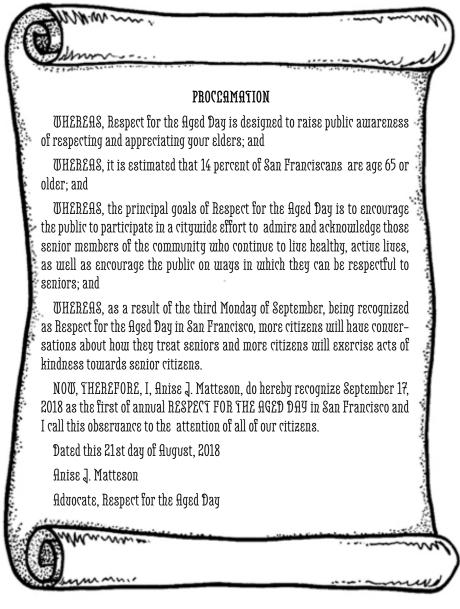
But sometimes I just want to choose my own President. This is a democracy, isn't it? Carol Kocivar lives in the Westside. Feedback: kocivar@westsideobserver.com



Senior Smarts

Respect for the Aged

By Anise J. Matteson



JAPAN'S HISTORY

Respect for the Aged Day or Keirō-no-Hi, is a national public holiday in Japan. A day to honor and respect the country's elderly citizens. It is held on the third Monday of September each year. This year it falls on September 17.1

History: In 1947, a small town in Hyōgo Prefecture now known as Taka proclaimed September 15th to be Old Folk's Day (Toshiyori no Hi). Over the years, the holiday's popularity spread to every corner of the country. By 1966 it was proclaimed a national public holiday and was still celebrated on September 15. Respect for the Aged Day was moved to the third Monday of September beginning in 2003.²

Purpose: Respect for the Aged Day is all about respecting and appreciating your ber 6 for inclusion in Senior Smarts.

Objective: Be extra kind towards any elderly citizens you come across on Keirōno-Hi [Respect for the Elderly Day].4

Focus: Admiring and acknowledging those senior members of the community who continue to live healthy, active lives.⁵

Qualifications: Who qualifies as 'elderly' can vary depending on location, but it is generally for those aged 65 and up.6

UNITED STATES HISTORY

In the United States the day is referred to as "Respect Day."

History: Taking part each September, Respect Day has been created to encourage people to focus on ways in which they can be respectful to others.⁷

Objective: The day can be used as a catalyst for treating any people with a more polite approach.8

Goal: The day will inspire people to think more about how they treat others all year around.9

COMMUNITY

- Ways to respect seniors year-round
- Drivers allowing seniors time to cross
- Passengers looking up from cell phone or tablet to yield seat on public transit.
 - Lowering the age to 62 for senior fare.
- Restaurants providing discounts.
- · Keeping sidewalks free from trash cans and vehicles extending beyond the driveway.

- Folding strollers to keep the aisle up front clear for passengers boarding public
 - Senior Share
 - Experiences (Life Story)
 - Opinion on aging
 - Healthy living tips
 - Photo
- Email to matte59@lycos.com by Octo-

In my opinion, respect is: kindness, caring, compassion, helpful, empathy, loving, patience, cordial.

Webster's Dictionary defines respect as:

- 1. [To esteem] regard, value, look up
- 2. [To treat with consideration] appreciate, heed, notice, consider, note, recognize, defer or do honor or be kind or show courtesy to, spare, take into account, attend, uphold.

I hope you will be inspired to extend an act of kindness to seniors on September 17

Express respect through courtesy, recognition, consideration, kindness, caring, concern, compassion, sympathy, empathy, patience, cordiality, helpfulness, and friendliness.

Throughout life's journey, live by the golden rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

1,2,3,4,5,6—theculturetrip.com/asia/japan/articles/ how-to-spend-respect-for-the-aged-day/

7,8,9 — www.daysoftheyear.com/days/ respect-day/

Anise J. Matteson is a retired Registered Information Technician, writer of reference books for senior and advocate for the first annual Respect for the Aged Day San

Do you have a pinched nerve? We can help.

Dear friend,

Last year more Americans were killed by prescribed correctly. More people died last

prescription drugs than by guns, AIDS, suicides and terrorists combined ... But we'll get to that in a minute.

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

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; 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

deaths due to medication people took... It's hard to believe, I know, but it's true. and 160,000 were when the drugs were

> year from medication than at Pearl Harbor and Vietnam. Amazing huh?

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

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

ent Street). Well, that's me. I'm also the 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.

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

"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 I adjust them to keep them healthy... as 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 examina-

tion 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.

CREATING WEALTH AND OPTIONS FOR OUR CLIENTS SINCE 2002.





Sutro Car House & Sutro Bath Depot | August 10, 1942 Terminus of 2 Clement Line and Louis' Restaurant near Sutro Bath House. The Sutro Car House was built in 1896 on California Street between 32nd Avenue and 33rd Avenue. This structure was originally built to store streetcars for the Clement Street Line. In 1902, United Railroads formed in part by incorporated the Sutro Railway. This included the Sutro Car House and the Clement Line. The car house structure stood until 1951, although the 1 California / Ferries and Cliff Line had been cut back after a landslide in 1925. Reproduction by permission of SFMTA Photo Gallery

Tunnell (Cont. from p. 2)

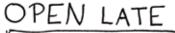
system: put back our stolen train stops and buses; protect public roads and sidewalks from overuse/abuse by rideshares, luxury buses, electric bikes and scooters, and waste ful city projects." This is the backlash that the SFMTA and MUNI have created.

The SFMTA has let the city down. San Francisco's Planning Department and State representatives envisior building housing around transit hubs. Unless the SFMTA can get its act together, San Franciscans will be living ir expensive, tiny boxes surrounded by gridlock. Right now the city's transportation future looks bleak.

The Westside Observer family sends our condolences to Patrick Ricketts' family. May he rest in peace.

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













What It Really Is About

I couldn't take it anymore Walking by sad, homeless people, barely looking at them as I passed them by. I wanted to be better than that so I decided on a simple outreach plan:

I would give them granola bars. Using my instincts, *I chose the people to approach.* I thought that my gift to them was the granolā bar, but right away I learned the truth:

It's not about the granola bar

No matter how hungry a person was, what mattered more than the bar was my looking into their eyes and that I wasn't telling them to be someone more, to go somewhere else. I was smiling and gentle and, in return, no matter how deep their agony, no matter how far back they had to travel to me from their psychotic wanderings,

One man clung to the granola bar as though it were a gift from heaven in a life where he owns nothing but despair

they were there for me with friendly eyes and polite "pleases" and "thank yous" and "your compassion means a lot."

Yet even so...

It's not about the granola bar

Our real connection became clear when tears swelled up in his eves because, although he had asked nothing

I came to him when he had long forgotten what it was like for someone to see him.

Giving of ourselves may seem like a little

but it isn't, in fact, a little thing but a big forever thing that can change how a person feels about the

and, very importantly, how he feels about his own worth.

Those simple gestures are selfish in a way because each time I left in awe of how kindness survives inside worn-out, ignored people. Kindness waiting for a reason to glow.

It's not about the granola bar

It's about talking with a person and not at a

It's about giving him a moment of not being

It's about letting his humanity shine through to light his smile that brightens both our worlds.

Vivian Imperiale



Money Matters By Brandon Miller

Think Your Financial Decisions Are Rational? Perhaps Not.

ou probably think your financial decisions to save or spend, buy or sell are based on taking in all the information at hand and selecting the right option for you. Psychologists know better.

all the research you want on investing, but of how this can hurt you is a losing investyour decisions might have unintended consequences.

Preconceptions can sometimes work in your favor, but just as often, they can cause you to lose money, opportunities or sleep. And personal biases across the greater population can lead to market swings, bubbles, panics and other irrational behaviors.

human foibles impact portfolios, markets sors have always understood that finan-

The truth is, every decision you make is Nordstrom because you believe them to influenced by subconscious biases. Finan- be high quality, but you would balk at that cial decisions are no different. You can do price if they were at Payless. An example if you don't account for your blind spots, ment that you won't sell until it reaches the price you paid for it, even though cutting your losses might be smarter.

> Behavioral finance has enormous potential to add to our understanding of what motivates people and moves markets, and it can lead to a wide range of improvements in the industry.

While it may be a relatively new field of Researchers have started studying how study for researchers, good financial advi-

An example of how this can hurt you is a losing investment that you won't sell until it reaches the price you paid for it, even though cutting your losses might be smarter.

behavioral finance.

Behavioral Finance and How It Helps You

Behavioral finance aims to explain why people make the money choices they do. It combines economics with psychology, particularly cognitive reasoning, to identify the mental shortcuts people use to make decisions about how to spend, save, and invest their money.

What does it offer you? Being aware of the biases that can creep into your decision-making allows you to adjust your behavior and make more rational, and hopefully more profitable, choices.

Some of the most common biases include:

- Herd mentality. Following the crowd is common, whether that's buying a hot stock or selling in a panic when the market drops. If you're tempted to do what everyone else is doing, take the time to think if it's really right for you.
- Overconfidence. Most people think their successes are something they caused and their setbacks are due to external forces. So you're a genius when your stock rises, but a hapless victim if it tanks. This can tempt you to take on more risk than necessary or keep a losing investment lon-
- ger than you should. • Mental accounting. People have a tendency to allocate money for various purposes, putting it into separate "accounts" and treating it differently depending on which account it's in. The issue with this bias is that it can keep you from putting your money to its best use. For example, you may have a rule that once you add money to your savings, you're not allowed to touch it. But it may make more sense to pay down high-rate debt that costs more than your savings earn.
- Value attribution. All of us make buy or sell decisions based on values we attribute to the item, which may or may not be based in reality. For example, you might be willing to pay \$200 for shoes from

and whole economies in a field known as cial planning is as much art as science. Humans aren't always rational, so you can't base decisions solely on what makes financial sense. It's our job to use what I call a reality overlay to make sure the plan fits the person.

> For example, a client might believe that paying off their house before retirement would be best, so they add \$100 extra to their monthly mortgage payment. With a low interest rate and tax advantages, the numbers say that it would be better to invest that extra money each month. But if I know my client would likely fritter away the extra cash rather than invest it, it makes more sense to keep adding the \$100 to the mortgage.

> Bringing your hidden biases to the forefront can add another arrow to your quiver when you're aiming for financial independence. Or you could just rely on your friendly neighborhood financial advisor to save you from yourself.

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Police Report (Cont. from p. 8)

Vehicle Tampering - Stolen Property -**Possession of Burglary Tools**

11:59 pm | 2600 19th Ave

Officers on patrol saw the suspect sitting at a bus stop then walking along the street while looking into parked vehicles. He got into a car and sat in the passenger's seat. Walking up to the suspect, who was rifling the glove compartment and putting items from it directly into his backpack. They detained the suspect, who said it wasn't his car. A search revealed tools that can be used to break into cars as well as items belonging to a victim, which were found inside the suspect's backpack. He was cited.

Shooting into An inhabited or unoccupied Building or Vehicle

3:04 am | 1300 40th Ave

Responding to a report of shooting, officers arrived and observed bullet holes in the building and numerous fired cartridge casings on the ground nearby. The witnesses said they had heard clicking noises and looked out the window and saw a silver sedan with an people inside it outside the building. Officers obtained video footage of the incident.

Wednesday | August 22

Fighting - Shoplifting - Arrested

10:31 pm | 1500 Sloat Blvd

Officers saw two people fighting in front



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Francisco and another from San Bruno. investigation, he was arrested. The suspect was arrested.

Inflicting Injury to a Child – Threats

5:32 pm | 1800 33rd Ave

The victim said he got into an argument with his father and who struck multiple times. His father was holding a piece of After further investigation, he was arrested.

Carrying a Concealed Weapon - Arrested 7:11 am | 00 Wawona St

Observing a suspicious suspect, officers website at: taraval.org - initially believing he was speaking to someone inside a car - approached to find

of a store and learned that the fight was that he was speaking to himself. The offisecurity guard attempting to detain the cers contacted him and observed a large suspect, who had stolen merchandise. The 26 inch dagger stuck into the grass nearby. guard would not press charges after the The suspect retrieved the knife, put it into merchandise was returned. However, a his bag and attempted to walk away. They check revealed an arrest warrant from San ordered him to drop the bag after further

Battery

6:06 pm | Plymouth Ave & Broad St

The victim said he had been in a traffic collision and parked his car to check with the other party. But the suspect walked up, punched him several times, stole his propwood to strike again. The suspect then erty and rifled through his car. He said his threatened to use a knife on the victim. things were later returned from medics who arrived at the scene.

> This is an abbreviated version of the Crime Report. The full version is available on the

8 Things NOT to put in the Blue Recycling Bin

Here's a list of commonly misplaced items you can't recycle. Make sure you put these in the right bin.

- 1 Heat Resistant Glass (Pyrex) We've always been told that glass is recyclable, so you've always placed it in the recycling bin, but heat resistant glass can cause problems in the recycling process.
- 2 Plastic Caps What you may not know is that while your bottle may be a recyclable plastic, the cap likely isn't, unless it is otherwise marked, plastic caps should go to landfill.
- 3 Plastic Straws They're made of a recyclable plastic, but because of their size, shape, and food/drink contamination most recyclers won't accept them.
- 4 Ceramics This comes as a surprise to many people. Probably because they think of ceramics in the same category as glass. They cannot actually be recycled.
- 5 Pizza Boxes Cardboard boxes are one of those items you always feel good about recycling but some have plastic coatings or treatments that make them undesirable to recyclers. It's the grease that gums up the works — a big problem in the recycling process. 6 – Disposable Diapers They're full of all sorts absorbent materials and treatments
- and, of course, human waste, all makeing them a very difficult item to recycle. Landfill. 7 – Mirrors Although they're glass, mirrors cannot be recycled because of the mirror
- coating on the glass. Chances are your local recycler will not accept it. 8 – Paper Towels We know what you're thinking. While technically the paper is recyclable, it's the contamination of food, or whatever else you've used your paper towels to clean up. One way to mitigate your paper towel waste is to buy recycled paper towels.

You can also compost most paper towels (depending on what you used them for).

= Real Travel By Sergio Nibbi =

Around the World in 80 Minutes

ussia, London, Paris, Madrid, Dublin and Athens. Ports of call on a magical around the world cruise? Fables from a great storyteller or a young person's dream of travels to far off lands? Fortunately, none of the above, especially if you live in San Francisco where these locations are as easy to visit as a trip to the market. When I was a teenager, we moved to the Excelsior District where we lived on Edinburgh and Brazil. My grandmother lived on Madrid, we had friends that lived on Naples, Munich and Dublin, and the corner grocery store was on Vienna. Russia, Persia, Madrid and Edinburgh bound the Excelsior Playground. The long standing Italian American Social Club has been on Russia and London Streets for many years and still serves great food and drinks to the locals and outsiders as well.

200 homes in the area, and in the process proceeded to name the streets and avenues after the world's capitals and countries. When I lived there, the Excelsior District was predominantly Italian, Irish, and

Swiss, and today it is one of the most ethnically-diverse districts in San Francisco.

Although through the years we've had the pleasure of visiting many of these beautiful cities and countries, we've never visited Prague, not the street but the city. In a few weeks, we leave for a river cruise on Scenic Cruise Line's Amber, leaving from Prague and ending up in Budapest for an 11-day adventure on the Danube River. Our Air France flight will take us to Paris on the gigantic Airbus Rathaus, Vienna A380, and then after a brief layover we settle in for a short hop to Prague. I'm amazed when speaking with friends about Prague, and how much they've all enjoyed the area, and I don't even know what country it's in.

Our trip starts with a three-day tour of Prague and the surrounding area. Some of the highlights will include a stop at the Astronomical Clock, a walk across the Charles Bridge and a guided tour of the City and its rich history. On the third day, a coach will $\ensuremath{\,^{\mbox{\scriptsize Salzberg}}}$

After the 1906 earthquake Emanuel begins and obviously some delicious food Lewis and his daughter Jeannette built over and drink to welcome us aboard. On the following day, we will have our choice of visiting the moving World War ll sites, or a more pleasant tour of the "Tastes of Nuremberg", certainly a much happier way to end the day. Our cruise will take us to





take us to Nuremberg where our cruise the old town of Regensburg, and then a



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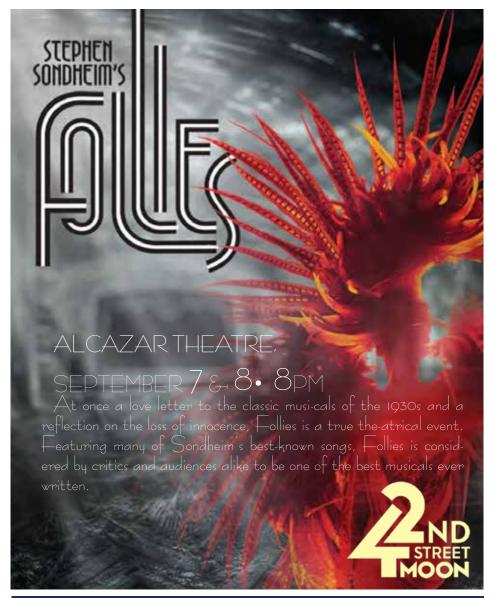


Regensburg

ferry ride to the Weltenburg Abbey where another beautiful city before heading back we'll be tasting beer from one of the oldest monastic breweries in the world. Another day, another Abbey, while we visit the 18th world-renowned Spanish Riding School. On the 10th day, we arrive in Budapest for a guided tour of the city, including a piano concert and a dip in the Thermal Baths and Spa. The following day we disembark the ship with two days to tour on our own back: Sergio@westsideobserver.com

Hopefully before we leave I will have found the time to figure out what councentury Benedictine Abbey in Melk, and try we're going to and what we'll be seethen on to Vienna where we can once again ing along the way. But most importantly, revisit the Schonbrunn Palace and the I need to find a pair of Lederehosen, an Alpine hat, and certainly a couple of German beer steins. I hope that after all this I don't wake up in the middle of the night yodeling my way to the bathroom.

Sergio gets around—the world. Feed-



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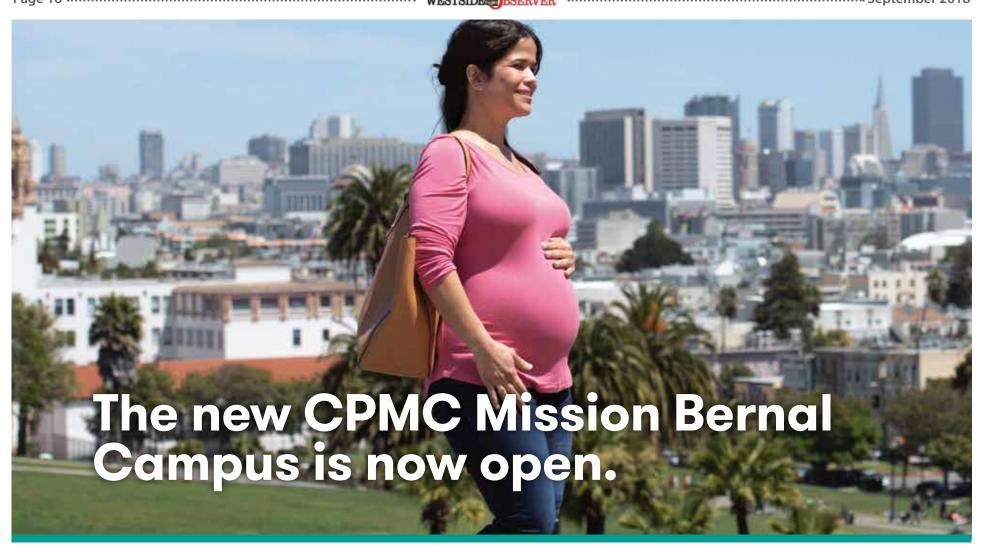
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