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WHY WE CARE ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF ST. LUKE'S SUBACUTE UNIT

by Teresa Palmer M.D.

CPMC's decision to stop providing subacute skilled nursing services for San Francisco's most frail and vulnerable patients is the cruelest and most tragic example of what happens when a "non-profit" hospital corporation dominates a market, and then sheds services that yield less revenue.

Subacute skilled nursing facility care is long-term life support for those who choose to live on ventilators, or have other very complex care needs. It is called "subacute" because the patients are just stable enough to be moved out of the intensive care unit. No patient population is more delicate and more vulnerable to small changes in their quality of care. No patient population is more dependent on loving family members to watch and advocate for them on a daily basis.

multisystem failure, combined with problems communicating. They are mostly immobile, and many are totally dependent on others to monitor their nutrition, hydration, hygiene, and breathing. They are prone to sudden, overwhelming, and potentially fatal infections from skin breaks, as well as urinary tract infections and pneumonia. If they have a downturn, they must be quickly transferred out of the subacute SNF to the acute hospital's intensive care unit.

In this geriatric doctor's opinion, the loss of subacute care in San Francisco is at a crisis stage and should be considered a public health emergency. It must be addressed by CPMC, by the City's private and public hospitals, by the City's government, and most of all, by the City's residents, whose power is needed to force a resolution."

In spite of all this, CPMC, which has the only subacute SNF (skilled nursing facility) in San Francisco, has refused to accept non-CPMC subacute patients since 2012, forcing them out of the City and away from their caring families. CPMC Subacute SNF, originally licensed for 40 beds, is at St. Luke's Hospital. Since 2016 CPMC has refused to accept ANY new subacute patients even as the remaining (now 17) die or leave the city. CPMC's plan will leave San Francisco as the only major city in the State without subacute skilled nursing beds, and the only city with a "Level 1" Trauma Unit without these beds.

As a result of an outcry by families of these patients, the larger community, and public officials, CPMC has reluctantly agreed to continue treating the remaining 17 subacute patients, who are now endangered by staff instability. CPMC wants to transfer these 17 from St. Luke's to Davies Hospital on June 30, 2018, and no familiar staff will follow them. Moreover, at Davies, RNs (Registered Nurses) have no union to protect them when they advocate for their patients. As the patients die or leave and are not replaced there, this new subacute SNF will close and all the new staff will also lose their jobs.

What separates subacute patients, and the care they need, from other patients is the need for heroic measures to maintain life on a long-term basis, coupled with the need for exquisitely detailed attention to the other most basic aspects of care. Subacute patients often have

To prevent constant re-hospitalization and early death of these patients, the subacute care team (doctors, nurses, and aides) must be very well-trained, motivated to work flexibly, have excellent communication up and down the line of authority, and be led by experienced RNs and very accessible doctors. The team must all know what is "normal" for each patient to see early warnings of new illnesses, because, of course, any new illness can be catastrophic.

In this geriatric doctor's opinion, the loss of subacute care in San Francisco is at a crisis stage and should be considered a public health emergency. It must be addressed by CPMC, by the City's private and public hospitals, by the City's government, and most of all, by the City's residents, whose power is needed to force a resolution. Please tell your friends, your organizations, your representatives, and CPMC that CPMC must provide care for the 40 subacute patients they are licensed for, on a permanent basis.

Let me give an example of the level of detail that subacute patients require - details that touch their families, every member of the staff caring for them, and the doctors that have either short or long-term responsibility for them. Imagine the following:

A family member reports to the charge nurse that when they walked into the room, their sister was struggling to breathe through her tracheotomy tube and the front of her gown was wet with bubbling secretions coming from the tube.

Cont. p. 16



A small group of counter-protesters attempt to disrupt the crowd gathered to protest. SB 827. Photos: Derek Kerr

SB 827 Protesters Vie With Counterprotesters

by Dr. Derek Kerr

SB 827 is dead. It garnered just 4 yes votes from the 13-member Senate Transportation and Housing Committee on 4/17/18. Senator Scott Wiener's audacious and polarizing bill had aimed to boost housing development. But it resorted to preemption of local democracy – overriding local zoning regulations to promote taller, denser buildings around transit lines. Its presumed beneficiaries; cities and counties, low-income tenants, environmentalists, and trade unions largely rejected it. Hurried amendments to reduce building heights, prevent demolitions and tenant displacements, and add affordable units didn't help. None of the gubernatorial candidates and just one of the City's mayoral candidates, London Breed, supported SB 827. However, Senator Wiener vows to revive the bill next year with backing from big technology firms, realtors and developers.

The bill's defeat was foreshadowed, and its divisiveness was exemplified, at an April 3rd City Hall rally against SB 827. Gathered in opposition was a diverse coalition of tenant, neighborhood, business and civic organizations represented by some 100 multi-ethnic and multi-generational protesters. Many were unmoneyed

Cont. p. 6



Westside Observer's George Wooding and Kathy Howard protest SB 827



Photo: Derek Kerr

Wiener's Still At It

Unwanted: Dead (SB 827) or Alive (SB 828)

by George Wooding

State Senator Scott Wiener's poorly thought out bill SB 827 on housing density based on proximity to transit corridors died in committee on April 17. If passed, neighborhoods would have been decimated with 55-foot to 85-foot high buildings everywhere in the City.

Wiener isn't through with his attempts to allow the State to take over planning of every California city's housing production. Wiener will reintroduce a modified version of his failed SB 827 housing legislation early next year.

Essentially, Wiener is trying to find a way to build housing in California where housing already exists. Who wins? Who loses?

SB 827 died in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee in Sacramento

on Tuesday April 17, where it stalled on a 6-to-4 vote, leaving it in limbo. Some senators who voted against the bill said that they may change their vote in the future. Wiener voted for his own bill and so did his principal co-author, State Senator Nancy Skinner.

San Francisco voters — property owners and tenants — must be ever vigilant that this legislation doesn't come back to haunt us.

The citizens of San Francisco should be rejoicing that SB 827

did not pass, because 96% of us would have been impacted. It is strange to watch our so-called representative turn on us and then try to harm our property rights.

Perhaps the threat of recall might remind Wiener that he serves San Francisco voters. Unfortunately, he just serves the developers and housing advocates who are his contributors.

At least London Breed is somewhat more honest. She is telling voters during the

Cont. p. 6

Looking at the June 5 Election

My Recommendations
by Patrick Monette-Shaw

With 15 local, regional, and state propositions and 20 elected officials’ contests on the San Francisco municipal and California’s primary election ballots, San Franciscans face a minefield determining how to cast their votes on June 5.

This condensed article focuses on a handful of mayoral and Superior Court Judge candidates, and local ballot measures. An expanded version of this article goes into greater detail. Take my clip-and-save cheat sheet to your polling place.

Recommendations for Mayor

I recommend Jane Kim as your first ranked-choice vote and Angela Alioto as your second ranked-choice, for reasons more fully explored in my expanded article. Whatever you do, *don’t* vote for London Breed!

Recommendations for Ballot Measures

The “cheat sheet” at the end of this article provides a summary of recommendations. Some discussion is in order.

Regional Measure 3: Bay Area Traffic Relief Plan.

This measure is sponsored by the Bay Area [Bridge] Toll Authority. Over a six-year period, bridge tolls in the Bay Area will increase by \$3 per bridge crossing, from \$5 to \$8 for each one-way trip. That’s a 60% percent change increase. Assuming a round-trip per bridge increase of \$6 dollars per toll bridge for five working days per week for 50 weeks (minus a two-week vacation), drivers will face a \$1,500 annual increase in transportation expenses for each round-trip toll bridge crossed. It’s not known how many drivers cross more than one toll bridge every day and whether their transportation expenses are even higher.

Background materials posted on the San Francisco Department of Elections web site shows Measure 3 includes \$4.5 billion in transportation capital improvements across the region. But a table included summarizing the “biggest investments” account for \$1.49 billion in public transit, bicycle, and pedestrian safety improvements, much of it for BART, Caltrain, and MUNI. Another \$1.48 billion will be allocated for “traffic bottleneck relief” on various transportation corridors, for a total of almost \$3 billion. To learn where the remaining \$1.5 billion will be allocated to, you need to read the full 22-page proposal.

The background materials don’t indicate whether BART fares, MUNI fares, and ferry service fares will increase. Shouldn’t public transit riders help fund the public transit improvements? It will be entirely funded from bridge tolls on the backs of drivers who may have no other transportation

alternative options. **Vote No on Measure 3.**

Prop A: Public Utilities Revenue Bonds. This measure would authorize the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to issue revenue bonds for power facilities; the PUC is currently allowed to issue revenue bonds for water and clean water facilities. The Board of Supervisors would have to approve each revenue bond by a two-thirds vote, along with approval by the Mayor and the PUC Commission. My objection is any of the bonds issued would be subject to ongoing review and oversight by the PUC Revenue Bond Oversight Committee (RBOC). The RBOC has done a terrible job with oversight of existing PUC revenue bonds. **Vote No.**

Prop B: Prohibiting Appointed (City) Commissioners from Running for Office. Under this City Charter amendment, appointed members who file to run as candidates for state or local elective offices would be required to resign their seats as commissioners. Unfortunately, there is a carve-out whereby appointees to citizen advisory committees would be exempted. Another carve-out would exempt both appointees to the boards of San Francisco’s Employees’ Retirement System (SFERS), the Health Services Board, and the Retiree Healthcare Trust Fund, along with exempting board members elected by city employees and retirees to these three boards. There are a total of 11 appointees (not elected commissioners) to the three boards chosen by the Mayor, the City Controller, the City Treasurer, and the Executive Director of SFERS; another two are members of the Board of Supervisors who are appointed. One of the two appointed by City supervisors is currently running for elected state office. These 11, and the 8 members elected by City employees and retirees, should not be exempted from having to resign if they choose to seek elected office, while all other commissioners on all of the other City boards and commissions would be required to resign.



Honor & Support



WORLD WAR ONE

100th 1918-2018

Armistice Centennial
Commemoration Committee
alwmcsf@gmail.com



USS SAN FRANCISCO CEREMONY

Sunday, May 27 11:30a.m. Lands End
USS San Francisco
Memorial Foundation
awcurtis@comcast.net

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Monday, May 28 11a.m.
Presidio National Cemetery
presidio@presidiotrust.gov

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL

Monday, May 28 12:30p.m.
Korean War Memorial Foundation
info@kwmf.org • www.kwmf.org

The inequity of requiring some board commissioners resign, but exempting others, makes no sense — even if this is San Francisco. I’m personally voting against Prop B because I don’t know how commissioners on the three exempted boards can focus on their duties as Commissioners while being distracted for months on end while running campaigns for state or local elected office. With that said, **I’m issuing a “No Recommendation” on this measure.**

Cont. p. 9



Andrea Korsunsky,
Director, Center for
Dementia Care

Better Care Starts With Andrea’s Expertise In Dementia.

Lean on Andrea. She and her expert team specialize in personalized dementia care with an emphasis on practical and emotional support for families. Andrea stands ready to help your loved one have a safer, happier, and healthier life.

See why we’re the Bay Area’s leading expert in senior care.

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Don't let this happen to OUR neighborhoods!

Neighborhoods are worth fighting for.

San Francisco's charm — what makes it the city where everyone wants to live — comes from our neighborhood control of planning decisions. As mayor I will not allow the state to seize control of planning. While **SB 827** may be temporarily on hold, the struggle to save our great neighborhoods has just begun.



Developers around the state are salivating. They're making all kinds of backroom deals to abolish every residential restriction in neighborhoods, through **Senate Bill 827**. It's too radical an attack on our affordability crisis. "Affordable Housing" can be a mantra that stands to make the developers very rich — if they are allowed to build in our beautiful neighborhoods.

While I strongly support building affordable housing, and I promise to build **5000 low and moderate-income housing units every year** as mayor, we have not seen that building more housing brings down housing costs. Rents and homeownership are still out of reach. Mayor Ed Lee's 2014 plan to build 30,000 units by 2020 — four years later — is now halfway complete, so why is the cost of housing rising?

As George Wooding (who is supporting Jane Kim for Mayor) reported in the *Westside Observer*, "Since announcing his Housing Plan in January 2014, over 17,100 units have been built or completely rehabilitated, with . . . **6,166 new affordable housing units**, plus 1,838 acquisitions and rehabilitation of existing affordable units in the fifth report issued in May, totaled an increase of **8,004 affordable units citywide**, but that was offset by the **loss of 4,182 affordable units** due to a variety of factors (including various types of evictions, Ellis Act conversions, and other reasons). That left a new gain of **3,822 affordable units**."

Since the state seized control, through *Costa-Hawkins*, of our rentable housing — housing that allows our most vulnerable San Franciscans to live in their homes — now *it is instrumental in the spiraling rent and eviction crisis*. Developers are waiting with ready cash to bankroll the campaigns of the good Senators from Coachella, Orange County and Fresno. With all due respect, I don't see the value of relinquishing control of our precious and limited spaces to their purview. **Protect our neighborhoods!**

Angela's experience, drive, and passion to improve the lives of all San Franciscans is unmatched in this race. She will rise above the petty, divisive politics in City Hall and find solutions to the issues that affect all of us.

www.aliotoformayor.com

Angela
ALIOTO

FOR MAYOR

Paid for by Angela Alioto for Mayor 2018 Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org

Ruminations From a Former Supervisor by Quentin Kopp



Even though my First Amendment rights have been lost on city elections as an Ethics Commission member (and now Vice-Chairman following retired Golden Gate University School of Law dean and Chief Deputy Public Defender Peter Kean's resignation after a vote double-cross by the current Chairman), I still retain such right regarding state and federal elections. A savant once observed: "It's useless to try to hold some people to anything they say while they're madly in love, drunk, or running for office," and, don't forget: "Everybody makes mistakes. That's why we keep having political elections."

Unlike the local ballot, there's only five state ballot measures. **Proposition 68** authorizes \$4,000,000,000 of general obligation bonds for state and local parks, so-called climate adaptation projects, natural resources, water quality, and flood protection projects, while reallocating \$100,000,000 of unused general obligation bonds for the same purposes. I'll vote **against it**, because only \$1,300,000,000 is actually specified to improve parks in an unequal geographical manner, lacks sufficient funding for critical deferred park maintenance, and relies upon a state department which bamboozled citizens in 2012 with a threatened closure of 70 parks, for which there was sufficient money to operate. Interest costs will double the \$4,000,000,000.

A savant once observed: "It's useless to try to hold some people to anything they say while they're madly in love, drunk, or running for office," and, don't forget: "Everybody makes mistakes. That's why we keep having political elections."

I will, however, vote for **Proposition 69**, which shouldn't be necessary, but requires expenditure of gasoline taxes for transportation projects. I don't believe in utilizing the gas tax, a user fee, for public transit or bicycle lanes (bicyclists pay nothing for roads built by motorists); my vote represents a compromise to preclude more misapplication of gasoline tax revenue.

Proposition 70 deals with the so-called "Cap-and-Trade program," constitutes an arcane procedural issue and mandates a two-third majority legislative approval for spending Cap-and-Trade revenues. It shouldn't be in the State Constitution, and it authorizes over \$730,000,000 for a high-speed rail project, which isn't even electrified high speed and violates 2008's Proposition 1A. Even the League of Women Voters opposes it. So does the California League of Conservation Voters and Coalition for Clean Air. **Reject it.**

Proposition 71 is a procedural constitutional change respecting a later effective date for voter-approved ballot measures. I'll support it.

Proposition 72 amends the Constitution to allow the Legislature to exclude the value of a new rainwater capture system from a property's taxable value. There's no argument against it in the Voter Information Guide and no vote against submitting it to voters by the Legislature.

Now, let's get to candidates, starting with the U.S. Senate. My candidate is a Los Angeles civil rights lawyer friend, **Pat Harris**. Friendship is thicker than water. For Governor, I'll vote for Republican **John Cox**. (Maybe someone can explain

of Public Instruction.

Staying with state issues, beware of **Assemblyman David Chiu's Assembly Bill 3037**. It wrong-headedly restores redevelopment agencies under the guise of solving California's housing needs. Even renowned California musician David Crosby understands redevelopment enables big government to seize private property and deliver it to wealthy, city government favorites at prices as low as a dollar per parcel. San Francisco's Recreation and Park Commission foolishly eliminated a now-deceased San Francisco redevelopment agency's chief executive's name from a downtown plaza because of what redevelopment did to the Western Addition and South of Market. During its heyday, redevelopment was used to foster golf courses, automobile rows, at least one country club, and hotels and restaurants by big shots under the rubric of replacing "blight." "Blight" was in the beholder's eyes, namely, city councils, or in our case as a city and county, the Board of Supervisors. Crosby observed last month "the little guy doesn't stand much of a chance . . ." under redevelopment. Governor Jerry Brown should be proud of his abolition of redevelopment. He mustn't allow its rebirth under AB 3037.

Finally, all four incumbent San Francisco Superior Court judges should be reelected. Their opponents from the Public Defender's office are simply trying to create false impressions about the performance of these Superior Court judges and should be rejected in such effort.

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

QUENTIN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

General Obligation Bonds	U.S. Senate	Pat Harris
Prop 68 NO	Governor	John Cox
Transportation Expenditures	Lt. Governor	Tim Ferreira
Prop 69 YES	Secretary of State	Alex Padilla
Cap-and-Trade	Controller	Betty Yee
Prop 70 NO	Treasurer	Vivek Viswanathan
Date of Effect	Attorney General	Steve Bailey
Prop 71 YES	Insurance Commissioner	Steve Poizner
Rainwater Capture	Board of Equalization	Mark Burns
Prop 72 No Recommendation	School Superintendent	Marshall Tuck

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Vote NO on E

San Francisco has REAL problems.

If the Board of Supervisors would spend less time trying to give the appearance of progress and focus more time on actually governing, San Francisco could once again become a city that is welcoming to all—regardless of income, race, or origin.

All tobacco products are already banned for anyone under 21.

In addition to the increased age restriction, California voters recently passed a 200% increase in the tax on tobacco. These taxes—which generate over \$1 billion per year—are supposed to be going to education, healthcare, and enforcement. Government leaders should give these new laws a chance to work and actually enforce the existing laws that are intended to keep tobacco products out of the hands of minors. Education and enforcement are the real solutions and California laws already provide tens-of-millions of dollars for both.

This ban appears to be paternalism, or more, at its worst.

Who would think that San Francisco, of all places, would intentionally target and ban the tobacco products most preferred by communities of color, while the most popular tobacco products will remain legal in the City? That's what this ban does, it targets the choices of adult menthol and shisha tobacco consumers.

Bans and prohibitions will lead to unintended consequences and selective enforcement.

If San Francisco bans menthol cigarettes, shisha tobacco, most vaping products and other tobacco products they say have characterizing flavors, an underground economy will likely emerge—just as it did during the failed War on Drugs and during Prohibition.

The Westside says NO on Prop E!

NoPropE.com

Paid for by No on Prop E - Stop the Prohibition Proposition, A Coalition of Concerned Citizens Supporting Freedom of Choice, Adult Consumers, Community Leaders, and Neighborhood Small Businesses, Committee major funding from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company
Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org.

Commentary

Politically Correct Sewers & Electricity?

by Steve Lawrence

CleanPowerSF Comes Calling.

You may have heard that PG&E is losing business in San Francisco to the SFPUC program CleanPowerSF. Your household will automatically be enrolled in CleanPowerSF unless you opt out. (Westside: probably April 2019.) If enrolled your power is provided by the city (by CleanPowerSF) and transmitted (“distributed”) to your home or business by PG&E. About half of your bill payment goes to each, PG&E for transmission, and CleanPowerSF for generation.

CleanPowerSF is very slightly cheaper, and its power is more renewable. After the switch you will still get one bill, from PG&E.

Most folks don’t care who provides their electricity, and they will do nothing and automatically be enrolled. A few (4.2% to date) elect to pay more for their power; it is then “100% renewable, Super-green.” The actual electrons consumed by Super-green enrollees are not all renewable; electricity comes from the grid. It’s an accounting thing.

Should you opt out of CleanPowerSF? The SFPUC Commission is told that opt-outers are 1) PG&E employees, and 2) those disbelieving in public power.

What is the argument against public power? It weakens PG&E, reducing its customer base and revenues. Why should

The cost of the largest project has more than doubled.

As major public works go, an increase of 40% (albeit with decreases in scope of the work) is not so bad. Compare the new eastern span of the Bay Bridge. If the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) has like cost increases, it would come in costing \$9.74 billion. With increases so far, today’s cost: \$7.3 billion. As the SSIP schedule is more than twenty years, let’s hope that time span does not increase as has WSIP’s. SFPUC sells bonds to pay for the great majority of work of the WSIP and SSIP projects. Rates rise to pay off this bond indebtedness. For the next four years rates are rising at 8.45% per year. Four-fifths of the rate rises are due to capital costs, most of which are financed with bond proceeds. SSIP, Phase One, has again been revised

“What is the argument against public power? It weakens PG&E, reducing its customer base and revenues. Why should you care? PG&E is immensely unpopular, especially after the San Bruno explosion and the North Bay fires.”

you care? PG&E is immensely unpopular, especially after the San Bruno explosion and the North Bay fires.

One thing to think about is: What happens after the next major earthquake? City pols use PG&E as a punching bag. Voters eat that up. But after the next major earthquake PG&E will turn the power back on. SF hopes for rapid service. But SF has done much to tempt PG&E to prioritize elsewhere. (Like Puerto Rico?) Fine for city pols to punch the lights out of PG&E, scoring easy political points, but won’t we power-consumers be needing PG&E? It still distributes the power. So, do you wish to jump on the beat-em-up bandwagon? A few will not; far too few to make any difference. Sadly, our best hope probably lies with our loud-mouthed politicians. Hope that PG&E is cowed into providing SF with good service when the inevitable earthquake strikes.

Cost and time span has increased yet again for WSIP (Water System Improvement Program, 2003-ongoing, now \$4.8 billion, started at \$3.4 billion). The program is now expected to be completed at the end of 2021 for just under \$4.8 billion. Ten years ago all was to be done by 2014.

with costs up and 37 projects delayed, 11 advanced. Phase One’s cost is just under \$3bn. (Phase One is the portion of the SSIP program to be done 2016-2025.)

Outdoor Warning System. On Thursday April 19 the city’s Outdoor Warning System sounded a false alarm said to be caused by testing new software. What is a real alarm? How can you tell false from true?

Here’s what is on the city website: “Every Tuesday at noon, San Francisco tests the Outdoor Warning System. During the test the siren emits a 15 second alert tone. In an actual emergency, the siren tone will cycle repeatedly for 5 minutes. Should you hear the sirens at any time other than Tuesday at noon, go indoors and immediately tune to a news source such as KCBS 740 AM, or other local media stations.”

So while you hear a voice after the Tuesday test, you will not necessarily hear one when a real alarm sounds. An alarm without the cycling of the alarm sound is not real. Alarms may mean earthquake, tsunami, or terror attack coming.

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

Letters to the Editor

No on A in June

P.T. Barnum, the great American circus entrepreneur said “you can fool some of the people, some of the time, but not all of the people, all of the time.” Guess what? The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) believes you can fool all of the people, all of the time.

They have Proposition A on the June 2018 ballot asking you to cede your remaining rights to approve SFPUC’s unconstrained borrowing and near under-supervised spending.

There is more bad news. The SFPUC has identified the failed Revenue Bond Oversight Committee (RBOC) as the watchdog as to how these new funds will be spent. I was hoping they would have at least gone upscale and suggested, from my perspective, more viable oversight-alternatives, such as Bernie Madoff, Bonnie and Clyde, Ned Kelly, Machine Gun Kelly, John Dillinger, or Al Capone.

In 2002 the voters conceded to the board the right to issue revenue bonds for water and wastewater. Now the SFPUC wants the whole 9 yards. Water, wastewater, and to complete the triad, power. The SFPUC has revenue bond debt of \$5.3 billion (water and wastewater) costing ratepayers approximately 4 percent per annum. Twenty percent of this is in a non-productive slush fund earning less than 1 percent. Ratepayers pay for this lack of planning.

This fund is overseen in degree by the (RBOC) those who engineered the derailing of the lofty ideals of the 2002 Proposition P. Prop P purportedly created an independent ratepayer organization known as the RBOC to audit the way public bond money was spent. Today the the RBOC is basically an automatic rubber stamp for poorly-supervised debt-issuance and spending. **Vote No on A.**

Brian Browne



My 2¢ • Will Durst © 2018

STORM WARNING.

You don’t need a weatherman to see that the storm clouds gathering around Team Trump are serious. And since the only permanent member of Team Trump is The Donald himself, this squall is shooting straight down Pennsylvania Avenue, with that hard-candy shell of a hair-helmet above the chair behind the desk in the Oval Office, square in its crosshairs.

The tempest is dark and swirly with fierce offshore winds like one of those Nor’easters that’s ravaged New England the last couple months. Several systems of individual flurries have begun to merge, taking on bulk and velocity, threatening to escalate into one of those upper echelon categories of blizzards. The kind with golf-ball sized hail that

That’s right, the guy who paid a porn star \$130,000 to keep quiet about the affair they had while his third wife was pregnant, called someone else a “slimeball.” Which is like a hooker calling the queen a whore. Or Martin Shkreli complaining he’s being gouged at the prison commissary. Shouting that the other guy has dust on his lapels from the middle of a pig-sty.

“His own party is pulling out the bullet-proof umbrellas. Fearing a blue wave the size of a nuclear-powered tsunami, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan didn’t just ditch the ship but the pier and the entire harbor itself.”

leaves dimples on car hoods and white-out conditions shutting down interstates. And American radar models forecast enough downpours to bury the president up to his ears. The European models indicate a larger depth.

The barometer is dropping precipitously on several fronts. Bimbo Eruptions multiply like thunderheads on a midwestern summer afternoon including one suspiciously named Stormy. Raising the sticky question of whether paying to kill a salacious story constitutes illegal campaign contributions or just being real smart.

The recent raid on the offices of Trump’s longtime personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, which seized records and perhaps recordings, has staffers quivering like a shaved poodle duct-taped to the foul pole of Wrigley Field during a night game in April. Nobody knows what sort of shenanigans Cohen was up to, but everyone suspects he is a consigliere with secrets. Fredo’s consigliere.

Former FBI Director James Comey’s new book calls The Great Pretender not just a liar, but an orange unethical dangerous Mob Boss liar with baby hands. The President, in response, tweeted that the professional Boy Scout from the Justice Department is a “leaker and a liar” and a “slimeball.” Not an epithet normally heard coming from the highest office in the land.

And although his sentence was commuted by George W Bush, Scooter Libby was never pardoned for his convictions of perjury, obstruction of justice and lying to the FBI. So perhaps President Trump remedied that situation as a signal to his associates that he doesn’t think these crimes are very important. Wink-wink, nudge-nudge. “Don’t worry boys. I got your back, your front and your sides.”

His own party is pulling out the bullet-proof umbrellas. Fearing a blue wave the size of a nuclear-powered tsunami, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan didn’t just ditch the ship but the pier and the entire harbor itself.

And slowly riding in on the horizon ... Mueller is coming. Mueller is coming! And it can’t be too comforting that special prosecutor Robert Mueller bears a slight resemblance to the Night King from Game of Thrones. Right about now Donald Trump might be best served by looking for a fire-breathing dragon. Maybe that’s what John Bolton is for.

Copyright © 2018, Will Durst. Will Durst is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed comedian, columnist, and former desk clerk at the Milwaukee Athletic Club. For past columns, commentaries and a calendar of personal appearances, including Durst Case Scenario: Midterm Madness, please visit willdurst.com.

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Award Winning News for the Neighborhood
— Society of Professional Journalists

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Photos: Mitch Bull, Doug Comstock.

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SB 827 Dead? (Cont. from p. 1)

mayor’s race that she supports her “good friend Scott Wiener’s SB 827 legislation 100%.” Every other mayoral candidate — Jane Kim, Mark Leno, Angela Alioto, and Richie Greenberg — are against Wiener’s legislation.

Homeowners and tenants should do themselves a favor and vote for anyone besides London Breed. Breed is essentially Wiener’s, developer’s, and Ron Conway’s “water boy.”

Although the *San Francisco Examiner* reported that an independent expenditure committee (“*It’s Our Time, S.F. Women Supporting London Breed for Mayor 2018*”) claims it will not accept contributions from Ron Conway, it turns out Breed’s own campaign — *London Breed for Mayor 2018* — **has** accepted donations from Conway’s family members and employees at his venture capital firm, *SV Capital*.

Breed’s 35-page request to the Ethics Commission for “*Public Funds By Candidates For Mayor*” dated March 21, 2018 itemizes 672 separate

campaign contributions totaling \$168,201. Of those 672 donations, three of Conway’s children or relatives each donated the \$500 maximum and at least two other employees of SV Capital did too. Those five contributions totaled \$2,500. The filing shows 257 (38%) of the 672 contributors each donated the maximum \$500, for a total of \$131,000, 78% of the \$168,201 total. The remaining 415 donors (62%) contributed just \$37,200 (22%) towards the total money raised.

You can bet that Conway will donate heavily to other independent expenditure committees set up purposely to defeat other candidates. As Larry Bush has noted in the *San Francisco Examiner*, Conway has already donated more than \$1 million to independent committees to defeat people who were in his way. That’s a record

unmatched in recent San Francisco political history.

It’s important to keep an eye on Wiener’s *other* major bill — SB 828 — which would essentially require cities to double the amount of housing they zone for in order to account for the existing shortage of some two million housing units across the state. The *Marin Post* web site reported on March 2 that SB 828 “would raise local jurisdictions’ housing quotas by *requiring* them to plan for 200% more housing units than their assigned hous-

“The citizens of San Francisco should be rejoicing that SB 827 did not pass, because 96% of us would have been impacted. It is strange to watch our so-called representative turn on us and then try to harm our property rights.”



ing allocations.” SB 827 stipulates that “*at least*” 100% — effectively all of the base-line assigned housing allocation, if not more — will be required to be multi-family housing projects.

Neighborhood planning advocate Ozzie Rohm said, “SB 828 is the special interest’s quiet revolution to make all home construction in San Francisco and California ‘by-right.’”

Ms. Rohm continued, “A ‘use by right’ is a use permitted in a zoning district and is therefore not subject to special review and approval by a local government. ... One still needs to obtain a zoning permit, but that permit is usually issued relatively quickly, without going before a planning commission or other board.

Rohm added, “Housing ‘by-right construction’ is the right to build what you want and where you want it. It deregulates the housing approval process and takes away the public’s right to weigh in on development projects. This means:

NO CEQA, NO Environmental Impact Review, NO Residential Design Guidelines, NO Neighborhood Specific Design Guidelines, NO Neighborhood Notification, NO Discretionary Review, NO Conditional Use Authorization and, NO Board of Appeals.”

All California cities have quotas for new home construction called Regional Housing Needs Allocation, or RHNA for short. San Francisco currently meets and exceeds its RHNA quota for market-rate **but not** for below-market-rate housing. In fact,

almost **no** city in California meets its quota for building below-market-rate, or affordable, housing.

This is ridiculous. A Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) analysis issued by the San Francisco Planning Department reported that between 2007 and 2014, San Francisco built 108.7% of the City’s goals for above-moderate housing (more than the RHNA goal), 47.7% of the City’s goal for low- and very-low income households, but only a paltry 19% of the goal for moderate-income households (households earning 80% to 120% of AMI – Area Median Income). If anything, SB 828 should demand development of more *moderate-income* housing, **not** more above-moderate-income housing. Meeting 108.7% of the above-moderate housing goal is clear confirmation of Wiener’s trickle-down theory of affordable housing development and his generosity to developers.

SB 828 would require municipalities

make up for the homes required in their assigned housing allocation but never built under the law in the previous eight years, so SB 828 would be applied retroactively.

Worse, SB 828 specifically demands development of more “*above moderate income*” housing, which will reduce the amount of affordable, and low-income, housing produced. Another handout to Wiener’s developer friends.

Wiener’s SB 828 would impose yet another state-mandated local program, this time taking zoning and rezoning out of local control. SB 828 is fundamentally about increasing housing density, just as SB 827 was. It’s another significant threat to local control, our democracy, and public engagement.

As other observers have noted, housing densification and population growth increases the risk of adverse impacts on the environment, public safety, traffic congestion, infrastructure, utilities (e.g., water supply), public services (including schools), privacy, neighborhood character, and quality of life. Neither SB 827 nor SB 828 provide funding for dealing with, or mitigating, these impacts.

Ms. Rohm also noted, “Given the fact that no city or government has any control over the number of permit applications filed by developers in any given period, there is no way to ensure such quotas are met. The city of San Francisco **cannot** force developers to submit permit applications. Why should we be responsible for something over which we have no control?”

Unlike SB 827, SB 828 is still alive. It may be just unintelligible and obscure enough to pass — and that will change the world of housing even more, at least for local government planners around the state.

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

SB 827 Clash (Cont. from p. 1)

seniors and half appeared to be Asian. Their message was that SB 827 would wrest control of land use from the City and displace low-income residents. Their slogan; “Say goodbye to your neighborhood.” They cheered speakers from communities of color, Supervisors Jane Kim, Aaron Peskin and Sandra Fewer as well as former Mayor Art Agnos. George Wooding, who penned a comprehensive critique of SB 827 in the April *Westside Observer*, spoke for the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods. But their messages were suppressed.

Shouting them down were barely 20 young, white counter-protesters. These self-described YIMBYs tend to stereotype their opponents as old, wealthy, self-serving, white NIMBYs. So they were taken aback by the turnout. Outnumbered and out-represented by an unexpectedly diverse crowd, the YIMBYs stooped to drowning out the speakers. Riling them up were YIMBY Action head Laura Clark, Bay Area Renters’ Federation leader and

wannabe District 6 Supervisor Sonja Trauss, and SF Housing Action Coalition director and Wiener acolyte, Todd David. Trauss even barged into the larger group twice yelling and shaking her placard. An offended demonstrator slipped her own

“Riling them up were YIMBY Action head Laura Clark, Bay Area Renters’ Federation leader and wannabe District 6 Supervisor Sonja Trauss, and SF Housing Action Coalition director and Wiener acolyte, Todd David. Trauss even barged into the larger group twice yelling and shaking her placard... A Sheriff’s deputy asked Trauss to leave that section of the rally. The YIMBY’s disruption provoked angry verbal exchanges and soon a team of deputies came out to separate the clashing factions.”

poster over Trauss’s placard. A Sheriff’s deputy asked Trauss to leave that section of the rally. The YIMBY’s disruption provoked angry verbal exchanges and soon a team of deputies came out to separate the clashing factions.

Some of the elderly demonstrators were startled and intimidated by the YIMBY’s

bullying, but stood their ground. Eventually, the larger group began chanting “Shame! Shame!” and “racism” while pointing at the homogeneous YIMBY contingent. True to form, Laura Clark resorted to victimology, later claiming that

her boorish comrades had walked into “a trap” and were “gaslighted.” *The Examiner’s* Joe Fitzgerald-Rodriguez’s provided a nuanced analysis of the clash and its fallout. Tim Redmond of *48 Hills* provided additional background including the position statement from the coalition opposing SB 827.

There was something jarring about this exchange. Preoccupied with their cause, the counter demonstrators weren’t just disrespectful. They were gleefully disruptive. Instead of seeming aggrieved, they came across as spiteful. They couldn’t conceive of any hardships – or tolerate any views - besides their own. It was a tribal display of young, white privilege and entitlement. Hours later, the Board of Supervisors voted 8 to 3 to oppose Wiener’s bill.

Getting San Francisco to cede local control of land use may require a catastrophic earthquake. Until then, better outreach and collaboration is needed. With passions aroused and battle lines drawn come opportunities to find common ground and co-create solutions.

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Learn about city, state, and federal down payment assistance programs.
Find out about new SF developments, and join a bus tour to visit them.

Need Affordable Rental Housing? Need help with landlord issues? Facing Eviction?
Learn about affordable rental programs. Understand your rights as a tenant. Connect with legal resources and eviction prevention services.

Having trouble with your mortgage payments?
Receive coaching from a HUD certified housing counselor. Apply for programs that help reduce your mortgage payment or bring your delinquent account current.
Speak face to face with mortgage lenders. Bring your loan documents and speak with representatives from loan servicers.

50 Phelan Avenue • City College of San Francisco, Smith Hall
Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM (PDT)
Pre-registration will be available soon. Attendees already registered for Housing Expo will receive an e-mail notification when registration becomes available.



Mayoral candidates Ellen Zhou, Mark Leno, Amy Weiss, Jane Kim, Angela Alioto, London Breed and Ritchie Greenberg square off at the Westside forum on April 27th at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park.



..... MAY 2018

Four weeks to go... with four weeks to go, the race to be the next Mayor of San Francisco is heating up. There is still no clear-cut favorite to win outright, with London Breed, Mark Leno and Jane Kim all bunched near the top and Angela Alioto trailing (among the four major candidates). It is really up to the voters to decide the direction for the next four (or more) years. Progressives Kim and Leno, Moderates Breed and Alioto have varying views of ways to move the city forward. The challenges of homelessness, housing (affordable and otherwise), traffic, tourism and city governance, and each candidate's proposed solutions, should be what the voters use to choose the successor to the late Mayor Ed Lee.

Senate Bill 827... if you haven't read the papers lately, State Senator Scott Weiner's proposed housing bill (SB 827) failed to make it out of committee and is defeated for this legislative year. Many people throughout the city and in the neighborhoods were against the bill as originally written. Amendments were made, but it still took too much local control away from local jurisdictions. It will return next year in a different form, and we hope that the sponsors and legislators crafting similar housing statutes will take into account the pros and cons that they heard from both sides of the debate. We have to work together to craft a solution. Yes, that means the NIMBY's and the YIMBY's have to stop yelling at each other and find a common solution.



The 64th Annual North Beach Festival

Saturday & Sunday
June 16-17, 2018

Presented by the North Beach Business Association. Produced by Stein Brothers Event Services, Inc.

Stockton and Powell, and on Filbert between Columbus and Mason. For more details about the North Beach Festival, including stage line-up and vendors, please visit SRES-Productions.com or call 800-310-6563.

The 2018 Fillmore Jazz Festival ... returns to the historic Fillmore District **June 30th** and July 1st, celebrating the culture of jazz that flourished during the 1990s. This year's theme of **'90s Throwback** pays tribute to the success of the San Francisco music scene during that time, and will feature musicians and bands playing everything from jazz and hip-hop to Latin and funk. Popular Bay Area bands reuniting for the weekend festival include: **The Mo'Fessionals, Alphabet Soup, Jungle Biskit, Dogsyde, Marshall Arts**, plus **Lavay Smith, the Broun Felinis** and many more. **Kim Nalley** will once again headline Saturday's festivities on the California Street Stage. The always-popular **Fillmore Jazz Festival** brings Bay Area and national jazz favorites together to play two days of free music,



great vibes and good fun.

The **Fillmore Jazz Festival** was founded in 1986 and is the largest FREE jazz festival on the West Coast. During the two-day fete, visitors can groove to the sounds of live music from multiple stages, peruse 12 blocks of arts and crafts and indulge in tasty food and beverages. Asian to Cajun cuisine, paintings to pottery, old favorites and new directions, the Fillmore Jazz Festival has it all. More musical acts will be announced soon and can be found at FillmoreJazzFestival.com.





Do You Know OLLI?... Keys to healthy aging: Be engaged, curious and active. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at San Francisco State University offers classes, lectures and special events to our members. OLLI is a stimulating community of engaged learners offering a multitude of activities on a wide variety of subjects. For a full listing of courses available in our Spring 2018 Session One, faculty videos and other information visit their website

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.

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SF BUSINESS VOTES

JUNE 2018 VOTING GUIDE



Vote to finance traffic relief, support safer policing, and oppose raising office rents for small businesses

RM 3

YES on RM 3 / Bay Area Traffic Relief
Reduces area traffic congestion by financing urgently needed highway and public transit improvements

PROP B

YES on PROP B / Appointees Running for Office
Require appointees on San Francisco boards and commissions to give up their seats when running in state or local elections

PROP H

YES on PROP H / Safer Policing Initiative
Authorizes SFPD to train and deploy officers to use Tasers as a non-lethal alternative to firearms

PROP A

NO on PROP A / Power Facilities Revenue Bonds
Could be used to bypass existing voter approval requirements in order to construct competing power systems

PROP C

NO on PROP C / Tax Increase for Childcare
Largest tax increase in city history, a 3.5% surcharge on the city's commercial rent tax significantly raising office rents for businesses of all sizes

PROP F

NO on PROP F / Legal Representation for Evicted Tenants
Creates a program that would be best addressed legislatively rather than by the ballot

Paid for by San Francisco Forward, sponsored by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org.



An artist's birds eye view of Lake Merced in 1868 shows the lake draining into the ocean. George H. Goddard, Library of Congress

THE MYSTERIOUS HISTORY OF LAKE MERCED

By Glenn Rogers

Lake Merced was first noticed by the Spanish in 1775 by Captain Don Bruno de Hecta who named the lake Laguna de Nuestra Señora de la Merced. (1) Originally, Lake Merced was intended to provide a water supply to the growing city of San Francisco. The Spring Valley Water Company (SVWC), which was formed by a collection of powerful capitalists, purchased Lake Merced for \$150,000 in 1868 and developed a monopoly on San Francisco's water. For the next 30 years, the City of San Francisco sued SVWC over the cost of water, leading San Francisco to look elsewhere for a reliable water source. When water was secured from Yosemite Valley and the Hetch-Hetchy Dam was built, the aspiration of San Francisco having its own water source was realized. Then, Lake Merced and the surrounding land became less valuable and portions of the property were sold off to numerous golf courses, the San Francisco Zoo, Stern Grove, San Francisco State University, and what later became known as Fort Funston.

In the 1950's the state Public Utility Commission transferred the surface water over to the San Francisco Parks and Recreation Department on several conditions. Unfortunately, due to development around the lake and over pumping of the Westside Aquifer by numerous golf courses, cemeteries, and municipalities, the water level of Lake Merced dropped. When this occurred, the fish stocking of the lake which exceeded 250,000 at one time, diminished. (2)

Eventually, water would flow into the Pacific Ocean from Lake Merced as winter waters became too much for the lake to hold. There is an eye witness account on November 22, 1852 of a loud crack. Then, a fissure appeared 1/2 mile wide and 300 yards long which allowed the water of Lake Merced to flow into the Pacific Ocean. The next day the water was noted to have dropped 30 feet. A subsequent map of the lake showed the fissure remained 29 years later. (2)

THE WATERSHED:

Looking at the above artist's map of 1868, we can see the watershed that provided Lake Merced its water was extensive. Water flowed from the Olympic Club west. To the north, water would flow from a portion of the Richmond district. From the east, water would flow from TPC Harding Park, Parkmerced, the San Francisco Golf Club, most of the Ocean View district and from the "Top of the Hill Daly City." Most of this water would flow into a seasonal or permanent stream where Brotherhood Way is today. However, the most notable watershed comes from the south, or from the Westlake district. From the map above, we can see that all of the Westlake Shopping Center would be underwater. Lastly,

water flows into Lake Merced also from an underground spring. (1) Some believe Lake Merced could be a surface feature of the Westside Basin Aquifer underneath.

LIQUIFACTION DANGERS:

The stream traveling down the earthquake fault where Brotherhood Way is today, feeding Lake Merced, after millennia of flowing water, is covered with soils that are organic in nature, and subject to liquefaction. A study of the 1906 Earthquake explained just how vulnerable to earthquakes the Lake Merced region is. During the 1906 earthquake, a bridge was damaged beside Lake Merced. "The bridge was broken in two places ... At one break the west piece was shoved 12 or 14 feet past the other section. The west end of the intermediate piece failed to join the section at the west bank by 6 or 7 feet. The west section that remained with the bank was 4 to 6 feet lower vertically than the intermediate piece." (3) This drastic movement of the land in this location makes the new development in Parkmerced especially vulnerable, not to mention the existing Parkmerced towers present there today.

CONSEQUENCE OF HISTORY IGNORED:

The completion of the road around Lake Merced in 1937 terminated the opportunity for water to flow into the Pacific Ocean. Now, we are faced with erosion beside the Great Highway, where water once flowed into the Pacific Ocean from Lake Merced. Today, the Oceanside Water Pollution Control Plant is in danger because of the combination of ocean armoring and fragile soils where once a stream flowed into the ocean. (4) San Francisco needs to do better in planning its communities. A modicum of research,

by a curious engineer, could have avoided this unfortunate location for a sewer plant.

SPORTS FISHING:

There was a time when only a green golf course was desired, therefore, the more fertilizer the better. but now golf courses are using nitrogen fertilizers more judiciously. Today, there are more factors of concern. The over-use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are a major problem since they become part of the ground water runoff. I heard one golf course manager complain that the use of ground water would make the grass grow too fast. Evidently, it was the nitrogen in the ground water he was complaining about. With the increased control of nitrogen laden runoff water from golf courses, the improvement of the lake for sports fishing increases. However, any set back in the control of nitrogen entering



Threespined Stickleback

the lake can cause mass die offs of recreational trout. When this happens, the recreational trout fishing program needs to restock the lake. The nitrogen laden water would generate algae blooms contaminating the water by eliminating oxygen in the lake. This nitrogen laden water would be so toxic that even Stickleback, which are considered extremely hardy, would perish in large numbers.

The Threespine Stickleback gained access to Lake Merced when there was access to the lake through the Pacific Ocean. With this access, several other species of fish, tolerant of brackish water, gained access to the lake as well. Some of these fish are still found in Lake Merced today. Indigenous fish species, often outcompeted with the recreational trout. Therefore, these "rough fish" were eliminated or greatly reduced by poisoning the lake with rotenone, affecting the wildlife but not plant life. Despite the numerous times the lake was poisoned, the Threespine Stickleback and other brackish fish are still present. What is most amazing is that the original species of fish, the Sacramento Perch and the Sacramento

Blackfish, present when the Spanish originally discovered the lake are still present today. (5)

LAKE MERCED IMPROVING:

Lake Merced is believed to be improving since the year 1990. One of the most important reasons is that the water in the lake is rising. But when the Blended Water Program starts in earnest, using 15% of our ground water to dilute with our pristine Hetch Hetchy water, this may cause the lake to recede again.

The good news is that the Pacific Rod and Gun Club (PRGC) is gone and with it the noise pollution of shotguns. Replacing the PRGC was a 10 acre cleanup/remediation project which included the removal of 58,600 cubic yards of contaminated soil. After the soil was removed, it was replaced with clean soil and planted with 2" to 3" high grass. The clean-up at the gun club site cost \$22 million. However, missing in that cleanup was the lead buckshot that lodged in Lake Merced. One of the justification to avoid the more extensive lead clean-up was, that "ducks no longer land on the water;" however, when I visited the lake, there were a dozen ducks on the water. As years pass and young ducks, unfamiliar with the firing range, are likely to return and dive for food in the sediment below, the health hazard to these animals is problematic. Another problem is that all the buildings used by the Pacific Rod and Gun Club remain. If the PRGC is to have a new use, it would seem these buildings should be removed. The remediation of PRGC began in May 2015 and ended in April 2016. (6) Now, the San Francisco Police Department Pistol Range, north of the PRGC, uses iron or bismuth munitions instead of lead. This is a big improvement.

FOOT NOTES:

- (1) en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Merced
- (2) www.outsidelands.org/lake-merced.php
- (3) *The California Earthquake of April 18, 1906: Report of the State Earthquake Investigation Commission*, Andrew Cowper Lawson, Harry Fielding Reid.
- (4) explorebeaches.msi.ucsb.edu/beach-health/coastal-armoring
- (5) www.lmtf.org/FoLM/Data/SFSUR-reports/fish.htm
- (6) sfwater.org/index.aspx?page=863

Glenn Rogers, PLA is a Landscape Architect working on the westside of San Francisco.



Photo: SFDPW, courtesy C.R. collection Skyline Blvd. north at Great Highway. Lake Merced at the right, March 15, 1937.

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Looking at the Election (Cont. from p. 2)

Props C and D: Commercial Landlord Gross Receipts Measures. Both Props C and D would levy additional taxes on gross receipts of commercial property landlords, although some commercial properties for non-profits and other service providers would be exempt from the new taxes.

I'm recommending, very reluctantly, supporting Prop. C for Child Care and Education. Prop C, seeks to raise \$146 million annually for child care and education from commercial property landlords. That compares to Prop D, which the City Controller estimates will generate half as much at approximately \$70 million. Prop D would be less onerous on commercial property landlords.

Both measures carry the unfortunate subtitle of "Mostly to Fund" each measure. Instead of Prop D funding housing and homelessness services *exclusively*, part of the "mostly" conundrum is that the legal text of Prop D says the measure will set aside \$3 million, ostensibly to be deposited into the General Fund, *for any other public purposes* of the City.

Worse, the legal text of Prop C would only allocate 85% (\$122 million) of the \$146 million for child care and education funding, and the other 15% (\$22 million) will be deposited into the General Fund *for any other public purposes* of the City.

The legal text for both C and D provide no clarification, or restrictions, on what the "other public purposes" will include or

in 2017 to ban the sale of flavored tobacco in the City. This is more "nanny-state" control of the citizenry. What's next, banning chocolate milk flavored with chocolate? Banning the sale of chicken or baby back ribs, because the meat is "flavored" with sugar-infused barbecue sauce and cooked over potentially carcinogenic coals? Some of my multi-racial family members and former co-workers prefer brands of menthol cigarettes. Banning sale of menthol cigarettes can be seen as being discriminatory to minorities. The City Controller's preliminary statement on the Department of Elections web site indicates the City may well lose sales tax revenue, with people travelling to the suburbs outside the City to buy the flavored tobacco products they prefer. I'm personally voting No on Prop E. **But I'm issuing a "No Recommendation" on this measure.**

Prop F: City-Funded Legal Services for Residential Tenants in Eviction Lawsuits. This is a no-brainer. The City should help protect all renters and tenants facing eviction lawsuits. The City Controller's preliminary statement on the Department of Elections web site indicates the measure would increase the City's costs somewhere between \$4.2 million and \$5.6 million, but is subject to decisions made when developing the City's annual budget. **Yes on Prop F.**

Prop G: Parcel Tax for San Francisco Unified School District. The City Controller's preliminary statement indicates

Who is next? The powerful SEIU nurses' union, Firefighters Local 798, or the really powerful Police Officers Union being inspired by the precedent of a parcel tax for teachers? Who will be the next set of City employees saying "If you can do this for teachers, why can't you do it for me? I need a raise!" Shouldn't the City have to come up with salaries and pay raises from the General Fund?"

exclude. Why are both of these measures attempting to fatten up revenue for the City to spend on any "other public purposes"? Why are "other public purposes" being piggy-backed on revenue streams otherwise dedicated to specific purposes?

More concerning, Prop D to raise additional funds for homeless housing and homeless services may not take into account California Assembly Bill 3171, which would allocate \$1.5 billion from the state budget to help address the growing statewide homeless crisis if the bill is passed. AB 3171 would also require local jurisdictions to come up with local funds on a matching basis. Where is San Francisco going to come up with even more matching homeless housing funds on top of what the City is already spending, and how much will the local match increase cost? **I'm reluctantly recommending Yes on Prop C, and emphatically recommending voting No on Prop D.**

Prop E: Prohibiting Tobacco Retailers from Selling Flavored Tobacco Products: The Board of Supervisors passed a measure

the measure would generate \$50 million annually in new tax revenue from the parcel tax to be used principally for teacher salaries and training, and "other" SFUSD purposes. One of those "other" uses would permit the school district to use the revenue for public charter schools. Charter schools are already encroaching on, and competing for, space in public schools.

Teachers in San Francisco were forced to flee to the East Bay, given the City's housing crisis of unaffordable rent. If Regional Measure 3 passes, we'll unleash increased transportation costs of up to \$1,500 on teachers annually, assuming they only cross one toll bridge commuting round-trip to teach in San Francisco. Obviously, any salary increase will simply be consumed by increased transportation costs.

This measure could very well set a precedent that parcel taxes can be used to fund salaries of City employees. Who is next? The powerful SEIU nurses' union, Firefighters Local 798, or the really powerful Police Officers Union being inspired by the

Cont. p. 14



By the Numbers By Lou Barberini, CPA

Disclose SFERS Pension Conflicts of Interest

Over the past two years, I have alerted readers to serious problems with the management and *whereabouts* of city employees' investments in the San Francisco Employees' Retirement System's (SFERS) deferred compensation plan. More than 27,000 city employees have invested over \$3 billion in this 401k-style supplemental plan to which employees may voluntarily contribute. Curiously, one public union hasn't been moved by my concerns over how city employees' assets have been stewarded.



During this period I have been reporting numerous red flags with deferred comp issues in Prudential's annuity offering, the welfare officer with the San Francisco Police Officers Association's (POA) has been simultaneously promoting the investment results of Prudential in the union monthly newsletter, the *POA Journal*, for free! POA union members should immediately question why a POA employee is taking it upon himself to gift Prudential with free marketing in the member-supported monthly journal.

The union welfare officer is employed solely to monitor welfare benefits of POA members. But rather than investigating the validity of my assertions, he astonishingly published that 13 of the 17 Prudential's annuity options lost money over the past ten years. Because I worked *on the street* (in financial services) for over a decade, I immediately recognized the unlikelihood of any business or investment fund surviving a ten-year losing streak, especially 76% of the investment options offered by one company losing money!

Financial firms' compliance departments are hypersensitive about "Communications with the Public" under FINRA Rule 2210. The potential civil liability to investors that have made investment decisions based on erroneous performance results is astronomical. A few years ago, I brought to the attention of the POA's executive board the possible civil exposure to our union that might be triggered by a mere inadvertent typo in free "advertisements" for Prudential in the *POA Journal*.

Unfortunately, the fears I expressed to the POA may come to fruition.

With regards to the Prudential investment losses, the POA welfare officer not only missed the conceptual improbability of such enormous losses, but he also missed an important footnote on Prudential's website. By doing so, he converted positive results to losses and understated Prudential's performance by a whopping ten to fifteen percentage points! (For one investment option, by 35 percentage points.) The gravity of this error is severe, particularly because it was repeatedly made in numerous *POA Journal* editions!

Thousands of *POA Journal* readers might have missed out on earning a superior return during one of the greatest bull markets because of this amateur and erroneous advertising. Under FINRA Rule 2210, Prudential Insurance, the POA, and the welfare officer are all civilly liable for this mistake.

The POA welfare officer is retired from the SFPD. He is both an attorney and a Certified Financial Planner (CFP). He means well, but he has never *worked on the street* in any investment position. Besides his POA day job, he also runs a private law practice that represents public employee disability claim cases before SFERS. If, for instance, a MUNI driver wants to file for a tax-free

disability pension, the driver could contact the POA welfare officer who will switch on his attorney's cap. In essence, you have a POA employee's side income determined by SFERS, while he is simultaneously being paid by the POA to oversee SFERS. It represents a clear conflict of interest and is a sketchy scenario similar to an internal affairs officer getting paid overtime to investigate his own overtime abuse.

My former coworkers still *on the street* and I are unanimous in our opinion something is seriously wrong with SFERS' selection of Prudential's unaudited, synthetic, and overly-complex annuity. All *POA Journal* readers should be made aware that the POA welfare officer has positioned himself where he cannot *objectively* evaluate the merits of SFERS' deferred comp plan without jeopardizing the success of his disability claims practice before SFERS. This is self-dealing, not advocacy. Union members' and readers' interests have been compromised.

The Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Board of Directors is in the final stages of releasing a new *Standards of Conduct*, which would censure a CFP who did not disclose to readers he is juggling a conflict of interest. The POA welfare officer should get in front of the forthcoming CFP standards and immediately unveil any and all conflicts so city employees can properly weigh the authenticity of information he is touting for SFERS and Prudential.

Prudential's contract with SFERS is currently up for bid. It's imperative city employees receive a truthful discussion — not influenced by the side job compensation of POA employees — on why an unaudited, synthetic, and overly-complex insurance annuity is right for them. This is particularly important because the financial professional appointed to SFERS' board, who owns her own investment company, has directed none of her clients into the same expensive investment vehicle to which she votes to have City employees steered.

I have numerous lunch bets that Callan Associates — an outside consulting firm to SFERS — will recommend the \$3 billion deferred comp plan be awarded to Nationwide Insurance. That would be the sixth such insurance company SFERS has churned the contract to within 21 years. Nationwide is one of the last remaining annuity companies that hasn't had an opportunity to take a piece out of city employees' tax-deferred savings. City employees should never be assigned a back seat to politics, campaign contributors, and preserving disability pensions for the *well-connected*.

Lou Barberini's family lives in the West Portal area. He has an MBA in taxation. He currently provides fiduciary retirement, investment, and tax planning services through Nich Capital Partners (nichcapitalpartners.com). He can be reached at Lou.barberini@gmail.com



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Taraval Station Community Meeting

Tuesday, May 15 | 6 pm –7 pm • Taraval Police Station • taraval.org



TARAVAL STATION Crime Report

Ten Residential Burglars Arrested

On Monday, April 9, 2019, the department announced that 10 of 30 identified residential burglars were arrested in connection with 60 residential burglaries in the Taraval, Ingleside and Bayview Districts. The serial crew has stolen close to \$3,000,000 in currency, jewelry, passports and guns. I would like to thank the Burglary Detail and the SIT teams for their continued hard work and the results are dramatic.



Captain Robert Yick

In comparison to March, the April trend for residential burglaries is significantly down. We have not had the same issue with daytime hot prowls, but still have late night garage burglaries in the district. As a department, we recommend that you lock your garage doors at night and request SF SAFE to evaluate your residence.

As a reminder, you can attend monthly Taraval Police Station Community Meetings every third Tuesday of the month, from 6-7 pm at Taraval Police Station. There, you can hear updates and share any of your concerns. For more information, visit taraval.org or call (415) 759-3100.

Monday, April 2

Throwing Substance at Vehicle – Cited

6:01 pm | 1400 Great Hwy
The witness said the suspect threw a metal stick at moving vehicles, directing officers to the suspect. The victim said he was driving when the suspect walked up and threw a metal rod at his car, smashing a window. The suspect was cited.

Theft from Building – Battery

4:52 pm | 1100 Ocean Ave
The victim was in a meeting with clients when the suspect entered and yelled at her for evicting her. He threw a chair and upset items in the office. She tried to stop him, but he hit her, stole her keys and fled.
Trespassing Possession of Stolen Property
1:38 pm | 1200 23rd Ave
The victim said he just purchased the house and went to check on it. When he arrived, he heard suspicious noises and called the SFPD. Officers found three suspects inside, along with a stolen vehicle inside the garage. A further search located numerous property belonging to other people. A computer check on one revealed a warrant. The three suspects were arrested and they left on foot. The car was towed.

Tuesday, April 3

Robbery – False Imprisonment

4:22 pm | 700 Junipero Serra Blvd
The victim was taking a nap when she heard noises from the stairs and thought that her husband had come home. However, two suspects appeared and pointed a gun at her while demanding money. She fell on to the floor and put a blanket over her head as they searched the house, stealing multiple items, then fled the area. Officers invasion.

Wednesday, April 4

Battery – Cited

10:28 am | 00 West Portal Ave
The suspect, who was well known due to previous incidents, was seen as walking away. The victim said the suspect, who was told not to many times, entered the store and filled his cup with milk and sugar. When confronted he elbowed the victim's arm before throwing the contents around the store. Officers found the suspect, and he was cited.

Battery – Vandalism to Vehicle

4:29 pm | 2900 San Jose Ave
A driver noticed the car next to him was being driven in a reckless manner, almost colliding with his. Then, the suspect blocked the victim's car, approached and kicked at his car, then punched him. He fled the area in his vehicle.

Saturday, April 7

Robbery of a Residence

3:45 pm | 2400 18th Ave
The victim invited his friend over to play video games, as usual, then he arrived with another person, the suspect. They started

playing, but the suspect pointed a gun and took money from his dresser, then fled.

Robbery

5:05 pm | 00 Cambon Dr
The victim said, after several drinks, he talked with the suspect at a bar. They left the bar together, when the suspect punched him, stole this jacket and fled.

Monday, April 9

Assault – Vandalism – Warrant Arrest

11:58 am | San Jose Ave & Farallones St
The victim was inside her parked car when the suspect pushed a shopping cart against her door. She stepped out and took a photo of the suspect, who became angry and ran after the her. She ran back into her car and closed the door. He threw a light bulb against her window and walked away. Officers found the suspect, who had a warrant for his arrest out of San Mateo. He was arrested.

Thursday, April 12

Vandalism – Battery

8:13 am | 2300 19th Ave
At a gas station, the victim said the suspect came into the store, bought something, took his change, walk to the door, then suddenly stopped and threw the change back at him. He asked the suspect leave, but he punched him and slammed the door, causing the window to crack, before exiting the location.

Friday, April 13

Threats

11:09 am | 1800 Taraval St
Officers responded to a report of threats. The victims, who were postal employees, reported that the suspect had angrily entered the post office while yelling, screaming and demanding to know who was not delivering his mail correctly. The victims told the suspect to leave and the suspect responded that he would get a gun and would shoot at the person who had been handling his mail incorrectly. The suspect then left the area.

Assault

1:38 am | 2400 19th Ave
A man was sitting at a pizza restaurant with his eyes closed, when the suspect asked why he was a sleeping. The victim responded by asking “why are you talking to me? The suspect angrily stood up and punched him, starting a fight in the restaurant. The suspect then got in a car and fled.

Car Jacking – Battery

2:31 am | Terrace Dr & Santa Clara Ave
A woman said she was driving the suspect, her friend, home after they had been out for drinks. But he asked her to committ to a relationship. She said she was not ready yet. He angrily put the car in park while she was still driving, grabbed the key and threatened to kill her. She ran from her car and the suspect drove it away.

Monday, April 16

False Id to Police – Shoplifting – Arrested

6:56 pm | 200 West Portal Ave
A woman was seen stealing merchandise. The witness reviewed security footage and saw items placed directly into bags she was carrying. Officers found her, after exiting the store and she gave a false name. She was identified and a check revealed that four warrants for her arrest. She was arrested.

Tuesday, April 17

Robbery with Force

12:29 pm | West Portal & Vicente St
After a few drinks at a bar, the victim said he was heading home when three suspects appeared, punched him and stole his backpack. After regaining consciousness, he returned to the bar reported the group robbed him. A witness sad the victim harassed a group of people earlier at the bar before leaving.

Wednesday, April 18

Shoplifting With Force – False Identification

5:17 pm | 1900 19th Ave
A store manager said he saw two suspects putting merchandise in their basket, trying to leave without paying. When he confronted the victim, holding on to their basket to stop them, one of the suspects punched him in the face while the second suspect jumped into a car and fled. The first suspect tried to walk away on foot. Officers detained the first suspect, who gave a false name. Further investigation, found the suspects tried to steal 65 items in total—\$729.55 and he was arrested.

Thursday, April 19

Battery

9:24 am | Ulloa St & West Portal Ave
A MUNI worker said the suspect walked by and suddenly punched a woman in the face near the front entrance of the tunnel and fled. Several witnesses helped Officers find the suspect.

Friday, April 20

Assault

4:01 pm | 2200 Taraval St
The victim, who had a laceration on top of his head, said he was at the 7-11 parking lot when a truck parked in a handicap space but he did not see a handicap placard. He confronted the suspect, who responded angrily and took a plastic leveler from his truck swinging it multiple times at the victim and fled. The victim did not know how many times he was struck.

Assaulted

7:26 pm | 300 Santiago St
A woman said her roommate yelled at her friends to leave the house. They walked out of the house after several minutes of yelling the suspect followed and continued to yell. She wrapped her arms around the suspect's waist trying to separate the suspect from her friends. The suspect responded by punching and biting her ribs before fleeing. Responding officers located found and arrested the suspect.

Saturday, April 21

Robbery

11:35 pm | 4600 Lincoln Way
A man said he was walking when he heard a voice behind him and saw the suspect running towards him. He demanded that the victim give him money while punching him several times. He gave the suspect his money and the suspect fled.

Fire Report

9:46 pm | 1800 8th Ave
The SFPD reported they located a victim of the fire but were unable to determine how the fire was started. A witness said he saw fire coming up from the floor of his apartment and ran downstairs to check on his neighbor, the victim. She said her chair caught on fire. The witness ran back to his apartment to call 911 before returning to his neighbor and attempting to help her leave the apartment. However, she refused to follow the victim outside.

Cont. p. 12

An Open Letter to the Voters on the Westside

by Keith Bogdon, Candidate for the Assembly

Dear Neighbor:

San Francisco, with 880,000 people, is the second densest city in the nation, behind the five boroughs of New York City. We are already bursting at the seams.

There are powerful special interests afoot within the City, the region, and in Sacramento who want to **Manhattanize** San Francisco and destroy the character and quality of life of our residential neighborhoods and unique commercial districts.

YIMBY ACTION, the **SF Bay Area Planning and Research Association (SPUR)**, **Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)**, and the **nine county Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTA)** want to add another 220,000 residents to our City by 2040. **This is unsustainable!**

Doing their bidding in Sacramento are **Senator Scott Wiener** and **Assemblyman Phil Ting** who were elected by the voters to represent the voters’ interests, not those of the special interests, speculators, and developers.

Weiner is the author and Phil Ting is the principal co-author of SB 827 which would bypass local planning and zoning laws, local control, and the normal public review process to build hundreds of four to five story condo and apartment buildings in every neighborhood of the City zoned for single family homes.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted 8-3 to oppose SB 827. On April 17th, SB 827 was killed in committee for this year, but Wiener and Ting have vowed to reintroduce a similar bill next year in hopes that it will pass in 2019.

San Francisco voters are stuck with Scott Wiener for another two years, but **Phil Ting is up for election this year and you have the opportunity to vote him out of office.**

I am running for the Assembly to represent your interests in Sacramento, not those of the special interests. As your Assemblyman, I will fight to oppose top-down dictation from the Sacramento and regional governments, and work to empower our neighborhoods and district merchants.

To learn more about my campaign, please go to www.bogdonforassembly.com

I hope to earn your vote on June 5th!

Paid for by Bogdon for Assembly 2018 • Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org

Senior Smarts


When Your Decisions Matter!

By Anise J. Matteson, CBF

Patient Self-Determination Act

Passed by the U.S. Congress in 1990, it became effective on December 1, 1991. The purpose is to inform patients of their rights regarding decisions towards their own medical care, and ensure that these rights are communicated by the healthcare provider. Specifically, the rights ensured are those of the patient to dictate their future care (by means such as a living will or power of attorney) should they become incapacitated. ... (See *Westside Observer* – April 2016, p.17)

California law provides individuals the ability to ensure that their health care wishes are known and considered if they become unable to make these decisions themselves. (www.cmanet.org/about/patient-resources/end-of-life-issues/)



"It always seems too early, until it's too late."

Advance Directive

NOTICE: I have an advance directive

Name: _____

My health care agent is: _____

My health care agent's phone number is: _____

A copy of my advance directive can be found: _____

An Advance Directive is a part of patient-centered care—a treatment plan specific to a patient’s needs. It provides instructions in your own words to family/caregivers, friends and health care professionals when there is a significant condition change.

You should have an Advance Directive to specify your decisions in the future regarding health care, end-of-life-care, nutrition, hydration, hospice care, No Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and organ donation when you become unable to express your wishes. (Examples with supporting documentation: do not hospitalize, autopsy request, feeding

Cont. p. 12

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@sfwater

Do you have a pinched nerve?
We can help.

Dear friend,

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

Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. You know when I meet people in town they usually say, "Oh yeah, I know you, you are Doctor Meakim. You have been on the corner of Beach and Jones for years"...(and we just moved to our new office on Clement Street). Well, that's me. I'm also the woman hugging her niece at the Jersey Shore in the picture.

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, mid-back pain and low-back pain with tingling and numbness down my right arm and leg. I was scared that something was really wrong with me. This could not be normal. I was only 33 years old and felt like I was 100. That is when someone told me about a chiropractor that they thought could help. As a matter of fact, after the first person told me about him, two more people did that same week. So I made an appointment with the chiropractor. Thank goodness that they took the time to help me! I went to his office where he asked me about my problems, did an exam, and took some x-rays of my head and back. After that he pointed out where my nerves were pinched and adjusted them. The adjustment was so light I barely felt it. I began crying as I felt the pain leave my body for the first time in years. It may sound strange, but I was so happy and grateful for the relief that I still thank him every day! After that, I knew what I had to do. I had to become a chiropractor, and that's how it happened!

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

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

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

A healthy family does NOT rely on medication to make 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... and 160,000 were when the drugs were prescribed correctly. More people died last year from medication than at Pearl Harbor and Vietnam. Amazing huh?

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

Many people are beginning to understand that health comes from within. This is why chiropractic helps so many people. You see, your body can heal itself. Your body doesn't need any help; it just can't have any interference. With chiropractic, we don't add anything to the body or take anything from it. We find interference in the nervous system and remove it, thus enhancing the healing capacities of the body.

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

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

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

Here is what some of your neighbors have said:

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

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

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

My qualifications:

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


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

Thank you.—Dr. Christina Meakim D.C.

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

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

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



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Construction of the West Portal of the Twin Peaks Tunnel | July 14, 1916 • Reproduction by permission of SFMTA Photo Gallery

Senior Smarts (Cont. from p. 11)

restrictions, medication restrictions, other treatment restrictions.)

Sectarian Health Care Directive

“An optional addendum to your advance directive. The language in this addendum clarifies that admission to a religiously-affiliated facility does not imply consent to particular care mandated by the institution’s religious policies and directs a transfer if the facility declines to follow the wishes outlined in an advance directive.” (Compassion-AndChoices.org)

Preparing for the Unexpected

- Visit the library.
- Get your resources together.*
- Think about your healthcare decisions.*
- Discuss your wishes with your loved ones, primary care physician and/or attorney.
- Name someone to speak for you when you cannot speak for yourself.
- Tell others that you have engaged in advanced care planning and encourage them to do the same.*

- Complete your Advance Directive.
- File or share your advance care plans so they will be available if needed.*
- (* - Adapted from NHDD Themes for NHDD Week 2018. (nhdd.org/#signup)

When you have completed your advance directive, you may indicate this with the wallet card that states you have advance directives.

RESOURCES

A Letter to My Primary Health Care Provider Concerning Decisions to be Made at the End of

My Life. www.compassionandchoices.org. To download sample of “Letter to my doctor” (Gentle-Death-A-Letter-to-My-Doctor.pdf).

Advance Health Care Directive (English/Spanish. California Hospital Association. www.calhospital.org/resource/advance-health-care-directive.

GOOD to GO RESOURCE GUIDE. Compassion & Choices MAGAZINE, Special Resource Issue, 2012. (800) 247-7421. www.compassionandchoices.org. Chapters include: How to Make Your Health Care Decisions Known, Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment, Your Wishes, Glossary, The Conversation, and more.

Hospice by the Bay. (415) 626-5900. www.hospicebythebay.org/index.php/locations/san-francisco. Community services: include Advance Care Planning Seminars, Estate Planning Seminars, Community Grief Counseling and Support Groups: call (415) 526-5699.

My Life My Choices™, Planning for Future Healthcare Decisions. <http://hospicebythebay.org/event/my-life-my-choices-planning-for-future-health-care-decisions/>. Hospice of Marin Community Education Program.

Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment. <http://capolst.org>. To download “POLST FOR Patient and Loved Ones.”

Anise J. Matteson, CBF is an Advocate for National Healthcare Decisions Day, Certified Bereavement Facilitator, elder care consultant, retired Registered Health Information Technician and writer of reference books for seniors. Information is educational only. For specific questions, consult your physician and an attorney.

Police Report (Cont. from p. 12)

Driving While Intoxicated

2:08 pm | Lincoln Way & 26th Ave
Officers responded to a reported collision and located the car and driver. They observed a moderate odor of an alcoholic beverage on the driver’s breath. After the driver failed a field sobriety test and after further investigation, the driver was arrested.

Monday, April 23

Reckless Driving with Injuries – Throwing Subsistence at Vehicle

2:02 pm | 19th Ave & Vicente St
Officers investigated a reported incident and determined that one party had cut off the second party. The second party attempted to talk to the first party but the first party drove away. The second party followed the first party and attempted to confront the first party by jumping on to the hood of the first party’s vehicle. Both parties were admonished.

Tuesday, April 24

Stolen Credit Card – False Driver’s License

12:51 am | Rivera St & 48th Ave
Officers on patrol on Great Highway heard a vehicle alarm and detained two subjects standing next to a car with a broken window though a third subject inside, he successfully fled. One of the subjects provided an ID which was clearly laser jet printed and poorly laminated. A search of the subject revealed numerous credit cards with different names which said he found. With no evidence they had broken into the vehicle and none of credit cards belonged to the victim of the broken vehicle. The subject with the credit cards and false ID was arrested. The other was released

Wednesday, April 25

Possession of Stolen Property – Theft

2:36 pm 1200 48th Ave
Responding officers located the suspect of a reported theft and asked about the package he was holding. He said he picked up the package. But a witness said he saw the suspect walking up and down the street towards a gate before the witness lost sight of him. The suspect was then seen again holding a package. A search of the suspect revealed additional items with the names of multiple victims on them. After further investigation, the suspect was arrested.

Editor’s Note: This is an incomplete, and abridged version of the Taraval Station’s Crime Report. The full version is available on the website at: taraval.org



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SUNDAY • MAY 20 • BAY-TO-BREAKERS

Sun May 20 | 8 am | Main Street & Howard Street to the Ocean Beach parking lot | A testament to San Francisco’s uniqueness and audacity. Each year the race flows across the City from the Bay to the Pacific Ocean; one of the largest footraces in the world with 50,000 + participants and 100,000 + spectators and consistently attracts world-class competitors. But it’s a celebration for everyone. Thousands of costumed participants join with families, weekend runners, and walkers, cheered on by thousands lining the route. To register/etc. go to: baytobreakers.com

May Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY • FARMERS MARKET

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

EVERY SUNDAY • VICTORIAN TOUR

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

EVERY TUES • QUE SYRAH HAPPY HOUR

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

EVERY THURS – NIGHTLIFE

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

JAZZ FRIDAYS @ THE CLIFF HOUSE

Every Fri | 7–11 pm | The Balcony Lounge at the Cliff House hosts jazz every Fri night. 1 Seal Rock. cliff-house.com/home/jazz

SATURDAYS • FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

Every Sat | 11:30 am | Enjoy a rejuvenating morning flow and meditation for body, mind, and spirit. GG Park, Big Rec Baseball Field (across from Botanical Garden). Bring a mat or blanket, FREE. Cancelled if raining. Dogs OK

DAILY • BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

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

SAT • CINCO DE MAYO

Sat May 5 | 10 am - 6 pm | 14th annual family friendly Cinco de Mayo on the Mission’s new trendy Valencia Street between 21st & 24th. A diverse array of Mexican and Latino foods, music, dance and artistry. Beer garden - live entertainment.

SAT • AUTHOR ELLEN KLAGES

Sat May 5 | 11 am | Book Shop West Portal, celebrates Children’s Book Week! Meet the author of *Out of Left Field*. Everyone knows Katy Gordon is their best pitcher,

but when she tries out for Little League, it’s NO girls, period. Katy’s going to fight back. At West Portal Branch, 190 Lenox — with optional picnic at West Portal Playground afterward.



SAT • BOTANICAL GARDENS PLANT SALE

Sat May 5 | 10 am - 2 pm | Garden’s Annual Plant Sale is a fundraiser, but free to enter and a ton of fun. The Bay Area’s largest plant sale with over 20,000 plants representing 2,500 different varieties, many rare, hard to find, and thrive in dry conditions. SF Botanical Gardens, GG Park at 9th & Lincoln.

SAT • COMPUTER HELP FOR ADULTS

Sat May 5 | 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 May)

SUN • ASIAN HERITAGE STREET FESTIVAL

Sun May 6 | 11 am – 4 pm | Streets in Civic Center will close to showcase traditional and contemporary performances and activities—the cultural procession featuring ethnic attire. The Asian Art Museum is also featuring special programming and free admission.

FRI • POET KIM SHUCK

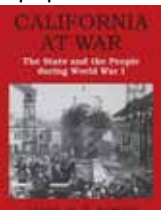
Fri May 11 | 3 pm | SF’s poet laureate Kim Shuck, a self-proclaimed jester and a fool of modern poetry, Kim’s words and workshoping will take kids (ages 9 and up) on a witty-wise journey to embrace their own poet within. Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

MON • MADE IN SF WEEK

Mon-Sun May 7-14 | Various times/venues | Check out our vibrant manufacturing sector and discover locally made products, the people who make them, and where to buy them. Events include factory tours, demos, classes, and more, including the beer and wine trail. Info:408-5605 / sfmade.org

SAT • SAN FRANCISCO & WORLD WAR I

Tue May 8 | 7:30 pm | World War I propelled the US into the 20th century. Author Diane M. T. North, *California At War*, will discuss the decisive role played by San Francisco and its citizens, growth of the military, shipbuilding, volunteer efforts, the influenza pandemic, and civil



liberties. Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello Blvd. Free parking - enter from Palm Ave. SF Museum & Historical Society members Free/\$10 gen /\$5.

MON • BIKE TO WORK

Mon May 10 | SF hosts one of the biggest Bike to Work events in the country. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute along commute routes for refreshments, giveaways. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute hours and some during the evening commute.

SAT • CALM MIND, HAPPY HEART

Sat May 12 | 2 pm | This calming, playful yoga experience for caregivers and children to connect, and practice healthy activities as a team. Through music, songs, props, mindful movements and yoga, we tell stories with our bodies and strengthen our whole beings! Merced Branch, 155 Winston Dr.

SUN • MOTHER’S DAY ROSE SHOW

May 13 | 2:30 - 4 pm | The San Francisco Rose Society features gorgeous and unique garden roses grown by our members. Hall of Flowers,,1199 9th Ave@ Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. Show roses available after 4 pm.



TUE • TAIKO DRUMS!

Tue May 15 | 10 am | Feel the thunderous sounds of the Japanese taiko drums vibrating through your body — an exciting experience. Play the drums yourself! I Parkside Branch 1200 Taraval St.

THU • HOSPITALITY HOUSE ART AUCTION

Thu May 17 | 6-8 pm | 33rd Annual Art Auction at the Minnesota Street Project Galleries to raise funds for Hospitality House’s programs, including the art studio and gallery for Tenderloin / South-of-Market artists who otherwise have no art materials and resources to learn, create, develop, exhibit, and sell their work. TIX: \$50-75. hospitalityhouse.com

TUE • COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

Tue May 15 | 6-7 pm | Meet with Captain Yick at Taraval Station. Taraval Community Relations Forum Meeting: 2345 24th Ave. (Every 3rd Tues.)

THU • OUTER SUNSET/PARKSIDE

Thu May 17 | 6:30 pm | Residents from the Outer Sunset and Outer Parkside (the area west of Sunset) to discuss key issues in the neighborhood. Outer Sunset Parkside Residents Association (OSPRA). Ortega Library, 3223 Ortega St. mediasusan2@gmail.com (Every 3rd Thur)

FRI • VIETNAMESE SNACKS

Fri May 18 | 4 pm | Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month exploring Vietnamese snacks! Vote for your favorites. For ages 8 and up. Alert us of food allergies Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval St. INFO: dorcas.wong@sfpl.org

SAT • WESTERN NEIGHBORHOODS

Sat May 19 | 2-5 pm | 19 years of history with Western Neighborhoods Project. it’s at The Plough and the Stars—toasts, historical images, and stories—earthquake refugee shacks, Irish pubs, and how Outside Lands became a familiar phrase. 116 Clement St. \$19.

MON • S.H.A.R.P. HOMELESS SOLUTIONS

Mon May 21 | 7 pm | Turning our backs on neighbors and condemning them to live without access to shelter and sanitation is not a solution. Safe Organized Spaces, a proposal for direct action the city can take. Learn about the state of services and ideas for change! www.saintfrancischallenge.org 1736 9th Ave.

TUE • CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING

Tue May 22 | 6:30 pm | Enjoy a brief presentation on Chinese Brush Painting Origins followed by hands-on painting to create flowers, animals, and particularly the Dog for this zodiac year. Water colors and ink. Limited; RSVP to 415-355-5770 or psimgr@sfpl.org to register after 5/8. Parkside Branch, 1200 Taraval St.

WED • AUTHOR DAVE ITZKOFF

Wed May 23 | 7 pm | From his rapid-fire stand-up comedy riffs to his role in *Mork & Mindy* and his Academy Award-winning *Good Will Hunting*, Robin Williams was an innovative and beloved entertainer. Itzkoff’s *Robin* comes across as a man possessed, holding forth on culture and politics with personal revelations. Bookshop West Portal, 80 W Portal.



THU • OMI NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

Thu May 24 | 7 pm | OMI-NIA General Meeting at Temple UMC, 65 Beverly. (Every 4th Thu)

THU • LONE MOUNTAIN CEMETERIES

Thu May 24 | 7-8:30 pm | In 2016, a backyard landscaping project at a home near Rossi Park turned up a small metal casket with two viewing windows. In March 2018, dozens of grave markers and cut stones were unearthed during a parking lot renovation. Western Neighborhoods Project at 1617 Balboa Street. \$10, but space is limited, RSVP Contact: Woody LaBounty woody@outsidelands.org

THU • INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Thu May 24-Sun Jun 3 | 10 am-2 pm | The Festival features multiple performance artists in theater, dance, film, and music; visual arts exhibits and installations. \$25 sfiaf.org/orcall 415-345-7575.

SAT • HALAU HAA KEA O KINOHI

Sat May 26 | 1 pm | Join Halau Ha’a Kea o Kinohi for a short hula performance (native Hawaiian dance) with a cultural presentation about the meaning of the dance and history of hula. Join in. For all ages! West Portal Branch Library, 190 Lenox Way.

SAT/SUN • CARNIVAL / GRANDE PARADE



Sat/Sun May 26-27 | 9:30 am - 6 pm | A giant two-day celebration in the colorful Mission District celebrates Latin American and Caribbean arts and traditions. The parade features more than 30 music and dance groups. It starts on 24th & Bryant, heads west to Mission then 17th St. to Harrison.

MON • MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Mon May 28 | 10:30 / 11 am | Grand March from the Presidio Officers’ Club to SF National Cemetery for 11 am speeches & music, a 21-gun salute at noon, and then a picnic with food for sale on the parade ground until 2 pm

MON • CENTRAL COUNCIL

Mon May 28 | 7 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

TUE • AUTHOR OBI KAUFMANN

Tue May 29 | 7 pm | Artist-adventurer Obi Kaufmann’s decades of exploring the backcountry science and art illuminate *The California Field Atlas*. Lavishly illustrated, it takes readers off the beaten path of conceptions of California, to myriad ecologies, topographies, and histories in exquisite maps and trail paintings. Bookshop West Portal, 80 W Portal.



SUN • BACH & TELEMANN CONCERT

Sun Jun 3 | 2 pm | Avedis Chamber Music offers masterpieces from Bach’s Triple Concerto and his well-loved Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, as well as Telemann’s effervescent Suite in A minor—the final program in the series. Legion of Honor Lincoln Park | 100 34th Ave. TIX: avidisconcerts.org or 415 392-4400 Gen: \$28-Sen/stu: \$18.

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

BOOKSHOP
WEST PORTAL

—APRIL 2018—
BESTSELLERS

1. A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies and Leadership
by James Comey

2. To Die But Once by Jacqueline Winspear*

3. Paris by the Book by Liam Callanan*

4. Botanical Shakespeare by Garit Quealy*

5. A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

6. Noir by Christopher Moore

7. Fascism: A Warning by Madeleine Albright

7. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

7. Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

8. City of Sharks by Kelli Stanley*

9. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

10. The Female Persuasion by Meg Wolitzer

11. Circle by Madeline Miller

12. Overstory by Richard Powers

13. An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

14. I'll Be Gone In the Dark by Michelle McNamera

15. The Woman in the Window by A. J. Finn

* Spoke at BookShop West Portal; signed copies available.

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Theater Linda Ayers-Frederick

3Girls Theatre Company's DISRUPTION Turns the Tables on Corporate Intrigue



In AJ Baker's brand new play DISRUPTION, produced and presented by 3Girls Theatre Company, the CEO of a drug company is threatened by an anonymous whistleblower with a sexual harassment charge.

But this time the CEO is a woman, and the whistleblower is a disgruntled employee who twisted a one-night stand into a lawsuit that would destroy not just the CEO's career, but the entire company. A fast-paced whodunit intent on turning a few tables, DISRUPTION tells a tale of sexual harassment, a metabolic miracle drug about to go public, social media, and corporate espionage, all at a time when our national conversation is focused on sexual politics and power in the workplace. With just one day to save her company and herself from a public relations disaster, Dr. Andrea Powell (Sally Dana) and her team find themselves in a tense, high stakes duel against an unexpected opponent.

Director Louis Parnell (who also plays Judge Diamond, the negotiating mediator between the two factions) keeps the action moving, bringing out the dark comedy that fills Baker's script. In Dr. Powell's corner are members of her staff: Chief Counsel Vivan Starr (Nancy Madden) and Dr. Powell's assistant Cris Friend (Heather Gordon). The opposition is represented by the former employee Laszlo Elza (Timothy Roy Redmond). The crisp economical office design by Jeff Wincek enables the play to move back and forth from conference room to waiting area without missing a beat.

Set in the hi-tech start-up culture of Silicon Valley, it has become de rigueur for every new product to be touted as "disruptive." Add to this the fact that it is a powerful woman who is deemed the harasser by a male colleague, the title DISRUPTION becomes even more apropos. At a time when our national conversation is focused on sexual politics and power in the workplace, the play resonates with the #metoo movement.

AJ Baker is the Artistic Director, Co-founder and one of the Resident Playwrights of 3Girls Theatre Company that develops, produces and promotes new plays written by women in their prime. Baker began working on the play in 2016 during the months leading up to the election. Disappointed but not surprised by the amount of "hard core gender bias" she saw, she realized that much of the public still can't even imagine a woman at the top of an organization chart. "Women who want power—and who succeed in getting it—are seen as 'exceptional' in the worst possible way," she says. "That is, they aren't 'normal,' and therefore they aren't entitled to play by the same rules or be judged by the same standards as powerful men. In DISRUPTION, I wanted to explore how this dynamic looks from the inside." And explore it she did most successfully.

DISRUPTION is partially informed by Baker's own work as an attorney in a specialized law practice where she solely represents individual senior executives, company founders and venture partners in executive compensation transactions. So the world of the play is, in fact, the world of Ms. Baker's day job.

DISRUPTION played through April at the Z Below on Florida Street. For more information about their future productions, go to 3girlstheatre.org.



S.H.A.R.P & West of Twin Peaks Central Council

Mayoral Candidate Debate Brings Out Differences

Thursday, April 26 th at 7 pm in Golden Gate Park's Hall of Flowers/County



State Senator Mark Leno



Supervisor London Breed



Supervisor Jane Kim



Former Supervisor Angela Alioto

Election (Cont. from p. 9)

precedent of a parcel tax for teachers? Who will be the next set of City employees saying "If you can do this for teachers, why can't you do it for me? I need a raise!" Shouldn't the City have to come up with salaries and pay raises from the General Fund? **No on Prop G.**

Prop H: Policy for the Use of Tasers by SF Police Officers. This Police Officers Association-sponsored measure is ironically titled *The Safer Policing Ordinance*. Tasers can be just as deadly as bullets from a handgun, so tasers are not "safer." Police officers do not need both guns and tasers. **Vote No on Prop H.**

Prop I: Relocation of Professional Sports Teams. This is a mere "declaration of policy" that San Francisco will not entice professional sports teams located in other jurisdictions that have previously established themselves for 20 years with community support and fans to relocate to San Francisco. **"No Recommendation" on Prop I.**

Superior Court Judges

The *SF Weekly* carried a great article about the Superior Court judges' contests. Public Defenders Phoenix Streets, Maria Elena Evangelista, Kwixuan Hart Maloof, and Niki Judith Solis are running for different seats on the Superior Court, shown on my clip-n-save cheat sheet to take to the polls with you. I strongly urge you to support all four of them!

Don't Forget to Vote June 5!

An expanded version of this article, with hyperlinks, additional discussion, and the clip-n-save cheat sheet to take to your polling places is available on the author's web site at stopLHHdownsize.com.

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

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June 5, 2018 Election Cheat Sheet

Mayor Jane Kim (#1) • Angela Alioto (#2)

Superior Court Judge, Seat 4..... Phoenix Streets

Superior Court Judge, Seat 7..... Maria Elena Evangelista

Superior Court Judge, Seat 9..... Kwixuan Hart Maloof

Superior Court Judge, Seat 11 Niki Judith Solis

Regional Measure 3 Traffic Relief Plan No

Prop. A Public Utilities Revenue Bonds No

Prop. B Appointed Commissioners e. —

Prop. C Gross Receipts Tax Child Care Yes

Prop. D Gross Receipts Tax Housing & Homeless No

Prop. E Flavored Tobacco Products —

Prop. F Tenants Lawyers in Eviction Lawsuits Yes

Prop. G Parcel Tax for School District No

Prop. H Tasers for SF Police Officers No

Prop. I Professional Sports Teams. —

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Sub-Acute Care (Cont. from p. 1)

The family member assumed that the patient had been neglected and called for suctioning, which relieved her situation in the moment. Her gown is changed and she is repositioned. The patient appears more confused than usual after an unknown amount of time in respiratory distress, and her ability to communicate detail is already poor.

On review, the staff reports routine frequent checks and suctioning, but cannot say whether episodes of becoming overwhelmed by secretions are becoming more frequent. Suppose the Aides, LVNs, and RNs who know this patient best are not present on the shift when this is reported. What could be happening with the patient?

There are many factors that can contribute to excessive and/or obstructive secretions in a patient who breathes through a tube. Among these are:

Under or over hydration; inadequate or infrequent suctioning (which is not pleasant, and unfamiliar staff may allow a patient to refuse it); lack of good oral and dental care; a heart that is subtly beginning to fail more than it already was; overly fast feeding by mouth or tube leading to reflux of stomach contents into the lungs; oxygen administration that is too high (leading to carbon dioxide accumulation and respiratory depression) or too low (leading to patient fatigue from the work of breathing); ventilator settings that need adjustment (when did the respiratory therapist last review them?); anything that can lead asthmatic spasm of the bronchial tubes, or to nausea and/or vomiting, or anything that can lead to periodic depression of consciousness; violation of dietary restrictions by families or staff that want to slip the patient a treat which then gets aspirated.

Are there new signs of pneumonia? Does the patient's history suggest that a new occult pneumonia is likely from what is known about past episodes? Is the cur-

rent problem new or old, intermittent or progressive, and can the needed data be found, and is the patient exam at the moment typical or an exception to the usual state of things?

for an acute, short-term stay. This is a long term care facility- a "SNF"

The care at the St. Luke's Subacute SNF has been excellent for many years, well above what is legally required. However, this excellence has broken down in recent months as the number of patients in the unit dwindled from the mid-20s to 17. As the unit downsized, many staff accepted other work or termination agreements that allowed them to get on with their lives. There have been a number of days recently when more than one Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) called in sick. Normally, another CNA or a Licensed Vocational Nurse could be substituted, but no qualified staff were found, and families were forced to notify each other to visit and monitor. Of course families should visit and monitor, but this is not a substitute for qualified staff.

Why is Sutter/CPMC so determined to stop subacute care services? Since it is long-term care, Medi-Cal pays hospitals less for subacute SNF patients (and all SNF patients) than for acute patients. So CPMC is maximizing its revenue by avoiding patients who bring in less revenue. Before moving to close subacute Care, CPMC closed 101 regular Skilled Nursing Facility beds on its California campus, which has been sold to a real estate developer for market-rate housing. CPMC is closing its 25 bed Swindell's Alzheimer's Center on the same campus, and closing 39 SNF beds at St. Lukes. CPMC closes low revenue units outright when possible, or incrementally strangles them by attrition if it cannot. Either way, it is their policy to maximize revenue rather than to fill San Francisco's healthcare needs.

Many people reading this may wonder why it is so important to keep these sub-

acute patients alive, given that they are so frail, so expensive to care for, and that their autonomy and quality of life are so low. Many may feel that they themselves would not want to live in these circumstances. This is understandable. But people must have the right to choose. As a doctor who has practiced geriatrics for decades, I can assure you these decisions, either way, are highly personal, best reached in consultation with families and often with spiritual advisors. People must have the right to choose how they will live. It is not society's right to make that decision for them. And it is certainly not CPMC's right to make that decision for them, in order to maximize their revenues.

A brief history: CPMC, a multi-hospital chain in San Francisco, is the biggest and most profitable division of Sutter Health, a huge "non-profit" Northern California hospital chain. Sutter's domination of the



Intensive care unit with dialysis device in clinic.

Northern California market and its revenue-maximizing practices have raised Northern California hospital's prices far above Southern California hospital prices, to the point that the State of California has initiated an anti-trust

suit against Sutter. Sutter's and CPMC's policy of avoiding less-profitable SNF care including Subacute Care, is part of this picture.

In 2001, CPMC bought St. Luke's Hospital with overt plans to shut it down and reduce competition to its own hospitals, but community resistance prevented the closure.

In 2012, CPMC began refusing to admit patients from other hospital systems into St. Luke's 40-bed subacute SNF as well as its 39-bed regular SNF, which treats less fragile patients after hospitalization.

In 2017, the families of the subacute patients were informed that the unit would close in late 2017 and they would need to find care for their family members outside San Francisco where many patients had lived for decades, and where their families lived. Many patients stayed, and the families organized and fought the eviction of their loved ones.

In September 2017, CPMC announced, at a Board of Supervisors hearing on this crisis, that it would care for the remaining 17 subacute patients in their SF facilities, but would complete the closure of St. Luke's subacute SNF and regular SNF by June of 2018, while not accepting any new patients.

CPMC has chosen to move the remaining 17 St. Luke's subacute patients into its Davies 38-bed regular SNF Unit in June 2018, displacing almost half of the Davies regular SNF patients from the CPMC system. San Francisco already has a severe shortage of regular SNF beds, due to the shutdown of hundreds of hospital based SNF beds since 2013. According to California law, Subacute SNF and regular SNF patients must have separate staff and space within the new Davies Unit. CPMC is implementing this unwieldy plan at Davies just until the Subacute patient numbers dwindle to the point of a complete subacute closure.

If CPMC truly cared about serving the most vulnerable San Franciscans (those who need subacute and regular SNF care) it would permanently resume care for the 40 Subacute SNF patients and 39 regular SNF patients, as they are licensed to do at St. Luke's. Space can certainly be found on its large campuses while St. Luke's campus is rebuilt. Additionally, CPMC should not reduce the existing 38 regular SNF beds at Davies.

Warren Browner, CEO of CPMC, says there is "no space" in the future for this chronic care in either its new St. Luke's or its new Cathedral Hill hospital, meaning

all space must be used for acute care, which generates higher revenue. But even if space in the two new hospitals were reserved for acute care, as CPMC demands, CPMC could still accommodate subacute and regular skilled nursing care in their two planned medical office buildings next to their two new hospitals. Buildings with SNF care do not legally require the expensive level of retrofitting as an acute hospital. CPMC refuses to consider this.

Dr. Browner has implied that the 2013 Development Agreement, where the City authorized construction of a new CPMC Cathedral Hill hospital, forced CPMC to close St. Luke's Subacute and regular SNF. This is simply not true. Community advocates did, at the time, demand that CPMC continue adequate acute hospital services at St. Luke's. However the 2013 Development Agreement is silent on subacute and regular SNFs. CPMC has used this silence to betray an earlier agreement to maintain its skilled nursing facilities.

The SF Department of Public Health estimates a citywide need now for 70 Subacute SNF beds. This means even if CPMC re-opens its 40 licensed subacute SNF beds at St. Luke's, there will still be a deficit.

Due to the severe shortage, SF Department of Public Health is discussing a partnership with all local hospitals to re-open hospital-based regular and subacute SNF beds in San Francisco. The City will need to spend taxpayers' money to replace beds closed by CPMC, which is already subsidized by San Francisco because it does not pay taxes on the basis of being non-profit.

The public-private solution which SFDPH is discussing will take years, and meanwhile, all of those now choosing to live with a subacute SNF level of support will be forced to leave San Francisco, their home. Thus far, CPMC is absolutely unwilling to change its plans while the Department of Public Health works on a longer-term solution.

Since the advent of the Affordable Care Act, CPMC hospital revenues have increased in San Francisco, but the dollars spent on charity care have decreased, both in absolute terms and as a percentage of revenue. One would hope that this revenue would lead this tax-exempt corporation to re-open critically needed subacute and other SNF beds for the aging population of San Francisco, but this has not occurred.

Community and political pressure, and some new local, regional and/or state legislation is needed to prevent this disaster, and to pressure CPMC into maintaining permanent Subacute SNF beds.

I urge you to contact your community health advocacy organizations, Dr Warren Browner, CEO of CPMC, and Sarah Krevans, President and CEO of Sutter, your Supervisor, Mayor Farrell, and Barbara Garcia, Director of the Department of Public Health, to encourage CPMC to establish a permanent subacute skilled nursing unit on one of its campuses immediately until one can open at St. Luke's, and to re-engage, in general, in providing hospital-based SNF care in order to meet the needs of this aging community.

Teresa Palmer, MD, is a Geriatrician. She has provided a bibliography of her research. It is available on the website: westsideobserver.com

“Warren Browner, CEO of CPMC, says there is “no space” in the future for this chronic care in either its new St. Luke’s or its new Cathedral Hill hospital, meaning all space must be used for acute care, which generates higher revenue. But even if space in the two new hospitals were reserved for acute care, as CPMC demands, CPMC could still accommodate subacute and regular skilled nursing care in their two planned medical office buildings next to their two new hospitals. Buildings with SNF care do not legally require the expensive level of retrofitting as an acute hospital. CPMC refuses to consider this.”

rent problem new or old, intermittent or progressive, and can the needed data be found, and is the patient exam at the moment typical or an exception to the usual state of things?

I give you this example to show the level of detail that a team caring for these patients must cope with. And remember, this is not an intensive care unit which has a very high staffing level and is designed

acute patients alive, given that they are so frail, so expensive to care for, and that their autonomy and quality of life are so low. Many may feel that they themselves would not want to live in these circumstances. This is understandable. But people must have the right to choose. As a doctor who has practiced geriatrics for decades, I can assure you these decisions, either way, are highly personal, best reached in



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West Of Twin Peaks Central Council by Mitch Bull

NEWS AND VIEWS...

The May meeting of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council focused on atopics ranging from the upcoming Mayoral Forum, to the Twin Peaks Tunnel Project slated for this summer, as well as a recap on Senate Bills 827 and 828.

President Sally Stephens opened the meeting at 7:35 at the Forest Hills Clubhouse with a good turnout of delegates. Stephens started by welcoming everyone to the meeting and having the roll call, which resulted in just enough delegates being present for a quorum.

Guest speakers Phillip Pierce and Wen Huang from the SFMTA informed the gathering about the upcoming Twin Peaks Tunnel project. The tunnel, which opened in 1918,

was last retrofitted with new tracks in 1975. Here we are in 2018 and the tunnel is in need of new tracks, new cross ties, as well as seismic work, safety work and other improvements. The plan is for the tunnel to be closed for limited hours on weekend evenings through June 25, after which time the tunnel will be closed for a continuous 60-day period during which time the SFMTA hopes to make all of the repairs and improvements.

Each day approximately 80,000 commuters ride MUNI Metro through the Twin Peaks tunnel. For the time being, the K-L and M lines will be serviced using buses, shuttles and modifications to keep access to downtown moving. There will be more transfers to be made for the commuters.

The SFMTA is working with the West Portal Merchants Association, and the Mayor's Office of Economics and Workforce Development to assist



Wen Huang of SFMTA

four "lesser known" candidates starting the discussion at 7 PM with the four "major" candidates (Alioto, Breed, Kim and Leno) following the lesser known candidates. With 8 candidates, the forum will be limited to four questions to which each candidate will have an opportunity to reply.

SB 827 and 828 were discussed next, as the group was updated on the failure of SB 827 to get out of committee and move on. George Wooding moderated the update relating to SB 827 (dead for 2018) and SB 828, which would allow the State of California

For more information on this important project go to the website: www.SFMTA.com/TwinPeaks.

President Stephens followed the SFMTA presentation with an update on the Mayoral Forum to be held on April 26 at 7 PM at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park. All of the eight mayoral candidates are expected to be on hand with the

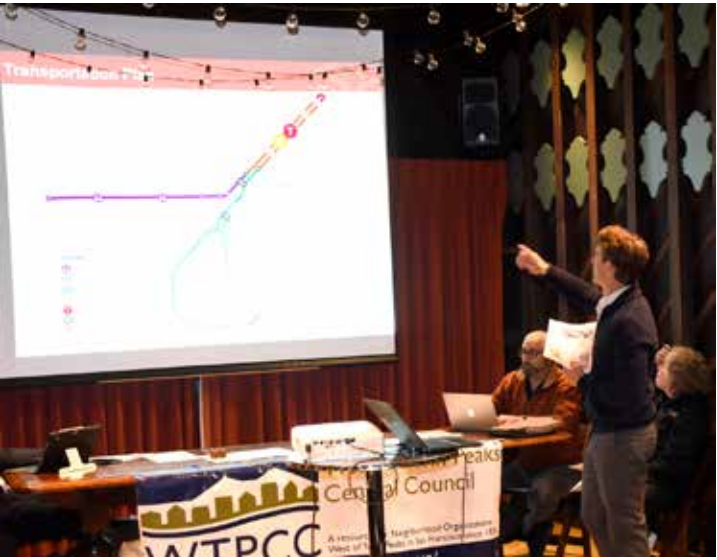


Phillip Pierce of SFMTA

to impose zoning guidelines and principles with little local oversight and control, resulting in large increases in density, and buildings up to 5 stories high that are exempt from local zoning and planning rules. Wooding sees it as an attempt to break down single-family home ownership and the homeowners' groups. He is coordinating a "town hall" meeting on Saturday, April 28 at the Main Library (in the Koret Auditorium) and would like people to get the word out, as he is worried that few will show up now that 827 has died in committee.

Stephens and Vice President Matt Chamberlain next discussed with the group the process involved in removing the inactive homeowner/neighborhood organizations from the WOTPCC. There are three organizations that have been deemed inactive, and following discussion, a vote of the delegates was taken to remove

them from the WOTPCC roster. The three groups (Sherwood Forest, Merced Manor and Mt. Sutro Homeowners) have not paid dues for several years, attended meetings,



Pierce explains why the tunnel will be closed for 60 days

or sent correspondence. In an effort to reduce the number to reach a quorum from 11 to 9, and to accurately state who is represented by the WOTPCC, this action was started.

Although the vote passed 10-1, an attempt will be made to contact the organizations to determine if indeed any of the three are still active, have members, and wish to continue with the WOTPCC. A second (final) discussion and vote is required to be taken at the next meeting for the action to be completed.

It's time to nominate and elect WOTPCC officers for 2018-19. Stephens asked the delegates in attendance to let her know if anyone has interest in serving on the WOTPCC Board for next year, and/or volunteering to serve on the nominating committee as elections will be held prior to the Summer break.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

The next meeting of the WOTPCC will be on Monday, May 28 at 7:30 PM at the historic Forest Hills Clubhouse.

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

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Education Carol Kocivar ©2018

Have you Thanked a Teacher Today? Thank You!

These two words alone may not solve the teacher shortage, but they can make a big difference to the teachers in your school.



Celebrate
May 7-11, 2018
Teacher Appreciation Week

Saying "Thank you" may not solve the public policy debate over how to recruit and retain amazing teachers.

Saying "Thank you" doesn't address the issues of pay or pensions or benefits.

But for the teachers who work every day in our schools to help our children, "thank you" can make a world of difference.

Sometimes we forget that little things really count. It's personal relationships that bring us together for the common good.

How to Thank a Teacher

You can do it with a simple handwritten note.

(That really is my favorite.)

I remember the day I wrote my first "thank you" note to a teacher.

My daughter was just completing kindergarten. I wanted her teacher to know my daughter looked forward to going to school almost every day.

So, I wrote a short note thanking her for making my daughter's first year of school such a success.

Her teacher made a point of stopping me at school to let me know how much she

More Ways to Say Thank You

Teacher appreciation week officially falls on the week of the second Wednesday of May. The California State PTA website has more ideas for how to say "Thank you."

Want to do even more to thank our teachers in San Francisco?

Support Propositions C and G on the June Ballot.



Proposition G: Parcel Tax for San Francisco Unified School District

This will raise around \$50 million a year to ensure San Francisco Unified School District can attract and retain quality teachers and staff. It establishes a \$298 parcel tax for teacher pay that will adjust with inflation each year for the next 20 years.

Proposition C: Tax on commercial rents to fund childcare and education.



This would generate additional net annual revenue to the City of approximately \$146 million. Eighty-five percent of the revenues from the tax would be designated for childcare and early education, and 15% would be available for any public purpose.

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

Money Matters By Brandon Miller



How the Tax Changes Impact your Business

If you're a business owner like me, you probably dread adding anything else to your plate. But it might be worthwhile to spend a moment seeing how the recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 will affect your tax bill. You might even like what you learn.

The much-vaunted drop in the corporate tax rate—it's now a flat rate of 21% versus ranging from 15-35%—is great if your business is a C-Corporation. But it's more likely that your company is structured as an S-Corp, Limited Liability Company (LLC) or sole proprietorship. So this tax cut probably doesn't help you.

But here are some changes that may actually work in your favor:

Pass-through deduction. Before telling you how great this benefit is, let's first look at who is eligible for it. A pass-through entity means that the profits and losses of the business flow through to the owner, who reports it as personal income. Accountants, consultants and mom-and-pop shops are all perfect examples of pass-through entities.

If your company falls into this category, the new law says you don't have to pay taxes on 20% of your business' earnings. That's a pretty sweet benefit.

And you don't even have to itemize your taxes to get this deduction. Your taxable income just has to be below \$157,500 if you're a single filer and \$315,000 if married, filing jointly. If you earn more than that, you can't claim this 20% deduction if your business consists of professional services from one individual. (Think doctors and lawyers.) There may be ways to defer some of your income, though, so you can qualify for the deduction. If you don't offer professional services—you sell products, for example—you qualify for the deduction no matter how much money you make.

Large expense write-offs. This one is good news if your company needs to purchase vehicles, furniture, machinery or even computers. You can now deduct 100% of the cost—it used to only be 50%—in the year you buy the equipment instead of having to depreciate it over several years. You can also take the deduction over five years versus the old law that only let you take the deduction in the year the equipment was put into service.

But wait, it gets better. You can write off up to \$1 million, which is a significant jump from the previous threshold of \$510,000. And, it's not just new equipment that's eligible. You can also write off used or old equipment that you purchase for your business.

Accounting method changes. If you deal with a lot of inventory, you'll like this part of the new tax law. Previously, if your company made more than \$5 million, you were forced to use the accrual accounting method. The threshold has now been bumped up to \$25 million. So if you make less than that, you now have the option to use a cash accounting method. Why is that good news? Because cash accounting

lets you deduct the cost of inventory when your business pays for it, instead of when you sell it.

Corporate AMT repeal. The Alternative Minimum Tax has been eliminated for businesses, leaving you with one less potential headache.

Of course, not everything about the new law will benefit your business. There are several business deductions that the new law eliminates altogether or makes harder to take advantage of.

You can no longer write off your expenses for entertaining business clients. But don't worry, office parties are still fully deductible.

If you offer transportation benefits to your employees, such as a public transportation pass or parking fee reimbursement, that's no longer deductible either.

The Net Operating Loss (NOL) deduction, which used to be unrestricted, is now limited to 80% of a business' taxable income. In years past, if your business sustained a loss, you had the option of using those losses to reduce any taxes paid in the past two tax years or to reduce any future taxable income for the next 20 years. Now you can only carry the NOL forward.

And there's also bad news if your business carries a lot of debt. Previously, there were no restrictions on the amount of interest you could write off for small business loans. But the new law reduces the deductible amount to 30%.

The main takeaway is that there are some great opportunities to leverage and some pitfalls to avoid. Consulting with your tax or financial professional early on (especially this year) could translate into a significant break on your taxes.

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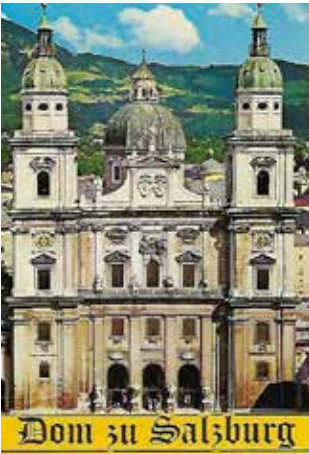
The Salt of the Earth

We flew from San Francisco to London, with a few days at the Mayfair Hotel, and then a quick flight to Florence for the 50th birthday celebration of a dear friend from Woodside. During our stay in Florence, we managed to drive to the Cinque Terre, which was a harrowing experience, driving along those narrow, winding roads, hanging on to those steep cliffs, but certainly worth the adventure while we enjoyed the spectacular views of the crystal blue waters below.

Next on our agenda was a drive to Salzburg, Austria with a few stops in-between. Our hotel, the Schloss Fuschl, a former castle, was located on the lake of

as we all watched the chess players in the middle of the plaza playing with life size chess pieces.

As beautiful as the main Cathedral was, it did not compare to listening to the dual organs playing simultaneously in this massive structure. From there we took the funicular to the top of the fortress and prided ourselves by walking all the way down and saved 20 Schilling in the process, we should have taken the tram back down and spent the money. A quick stop by Mozart's House, and then it was back to our hotel.



Schloss Fuschl, Saltzburg

the same name and a real treasure. It was a short ride into Salzburg and our first stop was at the Mirabell Palace, where we admired the Marble Hall and decided that it would be a great spot for our next party. Lovely, until we stepped onto the geometrically arranged Mirabell Gardens, with its bronze sculptures by Italian sculptor, Ottavio Mosto. Truly unbelievable. We later learned that several scenes from The Sound of Music were filmed there where the children sang Do-Re-Mi' while dancing around the horse fountain and using the steps as a musical scale. We just could not get that song out of our heads for the next several days.

The main streets sported beautiful new streetcars that coexisted peacefully with the centuries-old horse and buggies, as well as stores full of delicious-looking cakes and desserts. We settled for an ice cream cone from a shop right next door to a MacDonald's. It was a quiet Sunday, but still enough people who caught the attention of a very clever dog playing a piano



The following day we drove to Hallstatt where pastel-colored houses cast flickering reflections on the glassy lake. Surrounded by the mighty Alps, the entire area has been known for hundreds of years



Cinque Terre, Italy



for the production of salt, which was a major economic force. The one place we skipped was the Bone House, home to over 1,200 human skulls, which was used as the local cemetery. We settled for a cold beer instead.

Our visit was extremely enjoyable, but as often happens, far too short. From there we drove through a lush valley covered with wild flowers and on to Innsbruck, Lucerne, and eventually finding our way back to Pisa where we returned our rented Mercedes. So many great memories.

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



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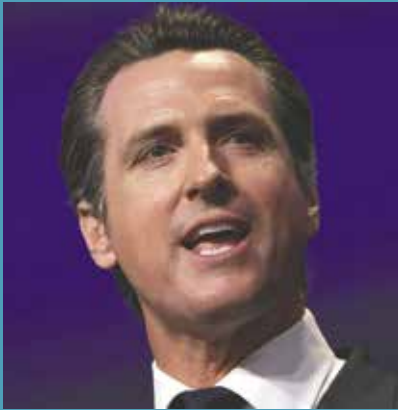
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FIONA MA for Treasurer



MALIA COHEN for BOE

- ✓ **YES on B** Commissioners Without Conflicts
- ✓ **YES on D** Housing for All
- ✓ **YES on H** Safer San Francisco

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- PROP A** SFPUC INFRASTRUCTURE **YES**
- PROP B** COMMISSIONERS WITHOUT CONFLICTS **YES**
- PROP C** CHILDCARE TAX **NO**
- PROP D** HOUSING FOR ALL **YES**
- PROP E** PROTECT KIDS FROM TOBACCO **YES**
- PROP G** SFUSD TEACHER PAY **YES**
- PROP H** SAFER SAN FRANCISCO **YES**
- PROP I** RELOCATE SPORT TEAMS **NO**

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"We carefully considered the candidates and measures on the June ballot and recommended only those that serve our Westside neighborhoods. That's why we're supporting Angela Alioto & London Breed for Mayor."

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