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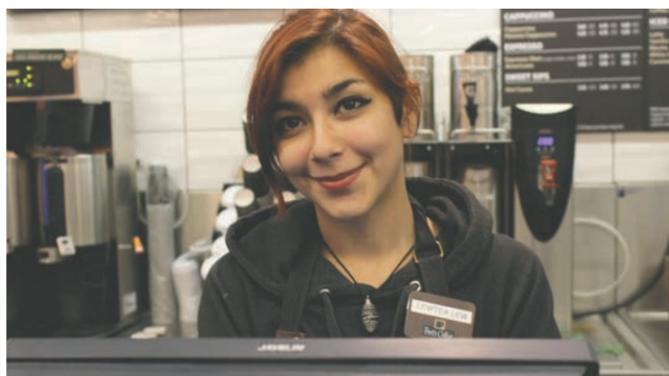


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Students Struggle to Study in San Francisco



Left: Luis Reyes, enjoying Coit Tower's view on his lunch break. Right: Eluteria Alatorre, getting the cash register ready for the weekday lunch rush. PHOTOS: Paul James

BY PAUL JAMES

According to *Inc.*, San Francisco is the country's most expensive city. *Business Insider* recently reported that Northern California is among the most prosperous economies in the world. While this may be great news for young people engaged in the lucrative sectors fueling growth, such as social media, high living costs have made life challenging for Bay Area college students.

"I used to never think of money," San Francisco State University student Luis Reyes said. "Now it's all I think about."

Reyes is a biochemistry major who came to San Francisco to "get away from Orange County." Without family financial support, he struggles to pay his tuition and afford to eat. To make ends meet he's had to work two jobs, as a waiter at a pizza joint and a tour guide at Coit Tower. Recently, the restaurant where he was employed was taken over by new management; Reyes

was let go. He's now desperately searching for ways to earn additional income.

"School's stressful enough," he said. "When you have a stack of homework piling up but need to pick up extra hours just to get a meal, it can be really tough."

Students like Reyes have little choice but to take out loans to pay tuition. Though borrowing offers temporary solace, over time interest charges add to the financial pressure. According to the College Board, the average student debt in America is close to \$30,000. Many Bay Area scholars are finding that number to be much higher.

Eluteria "Lutie" Alatorre, an Academy of Art University illustration major, found her work schedule to be so burdensome that she began to take out loans so she could focus on her studies. She grew up in Santa Clara County and, having spent time in the City, developed a strong desire to devote her college years in San Francisco. During her first semester she began to realize

the affordability challenges she faced.

"I pull out loans to pay for rent in the East Bay and to have some stability. But even still, I work a part-time job at PEET's coffee for a good portion of expenses."

Alatorre's biggest concern is how she'll be able to pay her debts. Financial stress has prompted her to consider dropping out of school to start a freelance career. "I try to keep busy so my mind doesn't wander into the future," she said. Yet, there's only so much a financially stressed college student can afford to do in the City.

Minerva Lopéz, a San Francisco State University biotech major, said she feels lucky when she's able to afford a decent meal at a restaurant. However, she realizes that the flip side of a hyper-expensive City is opportunities to find well-paying jobs.

"There was one instance where I was offered a job as a medical scribe.

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Parking Prices Add to Pain of Bay Area Living

BY GARRETT HARR

According to SpotAngels, in 2017 San Francisco had the country's highest average parking ticket cost – \$97.40 – ahead of New York City, with an average price of \$71.40. That same year, parking ticket revenues generated South-of-Market produced \$11,383,000, the most in the City, with Downtown having the greatest number of tickets levied per available parking space; 10 to 11 citations for every single parking spot.

The City and County of San Francisco issues more than 60 different kinds of parking citations, ranging in price from \$66 to \$600, excluding fees due if a vehicle is towed. If a car is hauled to one of the City's two Impound lots, at 450 Seventh Street or in Daly City, retrieval charges include a \$283.75 administrative fee, \$229 tow charge, and, after the first 24 hours of "storage," a \$50 to \$60 a day parking fee.

If a vehicle collects five or more delinquent citations, a yellow boot

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Dignity Health Collaborations Raise Questions

BY RON WINTER

A proposed merger between Dignity Health and Catholic Health Initiatives has raised concerns about access to care for women, transgender, and low-income patients, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. Nurses in Dignity's California hospital system are also worried that the merger could disrupt labor union contracts and job security.

At the same time, the University of California, San Francisco is collaborating with Dignity to offer a digital platform to help patients navigate the healthcare system, prompting criticism of USCF for partnering with an entity that the ACLU claims restricts care for certain groups.

San Francisco-based Dignity Health, California's largest hospital

provider, and Catholic Health Initiatives, a national nonprofit healthcare supplier, announced the proposed merger last December. The plan is being reviewed by the California Attorney General's Office following a series of hearings held throughout the state at which members of the public expressed concerns that it may act to lessen health care provision. Dignity Health has pledged that there'll be no service reductions for at least five years.

Merger concerns focus primarily on the Catholic proprietorship of Dignity and CHI, and that the affiliation will jeopardize access to reproductive health services, end-of-life practices, and treatment of LGBTQ patients, due to the Catholic Church's Ethical and Religious Directives. Though Dignity ended its religious affiliation with the Church in 2012 for some of its hospitals,

the merger could act to fully reinstate the relationship. Many Dignity Health facilities already abide by the Ethical and Religious Directives; procedures such as tubal ligations and vasectomies aren't performed there.

"We're concerned that this proposed merger could exacerbate the denials of care that we are already witnessing," said Phyllida Burlingame, Reproductive Justice and Gender Equity Director at the ACLU of Northern California.

The ACLU is pursuing two legal cases against Dignity Health. The first was filed on behalf of a patient who was refused a postpartum tubal ligation by a Dignity hospital, despite a doctor's recommendation that the procedure be performed to prevent

DIGNITY HEALTH continues on page 12

SHORT CUTS

Burglaries

According to **San Francisco Police Department** officer **Pat McNichol** there's been (another) uptick in automobile burglaries and break-ins, particularly around Illinois and 22nd streets. And earlier this fall there was a robbery on 20th and Connecticut streets. If you call 911 from your cell phone, make sure to give your location.

Electric

The **University of California, San Francisco** has added 15 new all-electric

transit vehicles to its inter-campus shuttle network, which serves UCSF employees, faculty, students, patients and guests. The electric shuttles replaced 17 gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles. A quarter of the university's fleet is now electric, with a goal of an all-electric fleet within 10 years. UCSF's shuttle network transports roughly 8,000 passengers a day, driving close to one million miles annually throughout the City. In comparison to their fossil fueled brethren, the battery electric buses will emit 60 metric tons less of CO₂.

Cohen to Leave Board of Supervisors at Year's End

BY MICHAEL IACUessa

Malia Cohen was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors by a razor thin margin eight years ago. This December, the 41-year-old will be termed out of office, leaving her post as Board president. Her years as District 10 Supervisor will likely most be remembered for the building boom that occurred under her watch, including the biggest to come, Pier 70 redevelopment, which'll help meet her goal of increasing the City's housing supply.

Cohen initially finished third in the 2010 District 10 race, but two weeks after the election, on the 20th pass of the ranked choice voting procedure, she edged Tony Kelly by 442 votes. She beat Kelly and another opponent, Marlene Tran, by a large margin four years later.

Cohen got a gift a year into her first term, when settlement funds from the 2009 closing of the Mirant Potrero Power Plant came through. Through legislation she introduced, the \$1 million the City received was spent in the district on recreation programs, community gardens, healthy eating initiatives at the Potrero Annex-Terrace housing complex and furnace and insulation upgrades to homes adjacent to freeways.

In her campaign for the state Board of Equalization, Cohen touts her accomplishments as championing legislation to ban flavored tobacco products, fighting "Big Soda" by push-

ing for a sugar-sweetened beverage tax and creation of the Department of Police Accountability to investigate officer misconduct.

A moderate on the Board of Supervisors, Cohen often drew progressives' ire while scoring highly with the Chamber of Commerce. However, she was hardly monolithic and occasionally proved a swing vote. She parted ways with landlords to protect tenants accused of minor offenses, including adding a housemate, from being evicted, and authored the Fair Chance Ordinance, which prevents inquiries into conviction histories by affordable housing providers and employers. And, although she proved friendly to developers, she broke with them by voicing opposition to Senate Bill 827, which would've allowed circumvention of local zoning laws, and favoring a ballot measure limiting heights on buildings along the waterfront.

At times she was inconsistent. In 2014, she authored legislation to enlarge zoning for manufacturing businesses, but in 2016 was among four supervisors who unsuccessfully voted against putting a measure on the ballot to protect such spaces. Her public positions regarding penalizing Airbnb weren't always in sync with her votes. She voted against a Board of Supervisors' resolution endorsing repeal of the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, which limits the City's ability to expand rent control, despite

COHEN continues on page 13

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22nd Street Caltrain Station Closed on Weekends

BY J. ERIC MILLER

Starting last month, the 22nd Street and Fourth Street Caltrain stations are no longer open on weekends. The closings are to accommodate installation of a catenary rail system that'll allow Caltrain to convert the majority of its line from diesel to electric trains, known as Electric Multiple Units (EMU). Until construction is completed, weekend train service terminates at the Bayshore Station. Regular service is available along the rest of the routes. Caltrain hasn't committed to a specific date for completion of the work; closures are expected to last until spring of next year.

Although Caltrain is providing a "bus bridge" to transport riders from the closed places to Bayshore Station, the company has encouraged riders to use alternative conveyance modes, such as Bay Area Rapid Transit and SamTrans. Buses are American Disability Act compliant, but their capacity to accommodate bicycles and luggage is limited. Bus schedules are included in the weekend timetable accessible on Caltrain's website.

"We're here to serve the public," said Caltrain spokesman Dan Lieberman, adding that the organization's priority is to see that, "People can get where they need to go."

Station closures are limited to weekends; weekday usage is intensive, with daily ridership averaging 65,000 passengers Monday through Friday. Work stops in time for the stations to reopen for service Monday mornings.

The station closures were scheduled to occur after the end of the San Francisco Giants 2018 season, with the goal of completing them before the start of the 2019 season. "There's no good time to interrupt service," noted Lieberman. Both San Francisco stations will be open January 5 and 6 to meet increased demand leading up to the 2019 College Football Playoff National Championship game scheduled for January 7 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara.

Electrification of the Caltrain corridor between San Francisco and San Jose is part of the Caltrain Modernization Capital Project, which also includes plans to mount a new signal system that incorporates federally-mandated safety upgrades. Related work consists of anchor bolt installation, improvements to the drainage system, and widening the tunnel through notching; digging a linear indentation along the channel's upper rim to accommodate passage of larger trains.

Areas adjacent to the train tracks are being reconstructed as well. Pruning and removal of trees and other vegetation along the perimeter will establish an electrical safety zone emanating 16 to 24 feet from the tracks' centerline to protect against potential fire hazards from plants contacting electrical wires. Caltrain is expected to replace the trees in the immediate vicinity of their original location. Trees removed from private property will be replanted there, those on public property will be relocated elsewhere on community space, and trees on Caltrain

property will be transplanted to another company-owned spot. Protective barriers will be added to bridges that span the overhead contact system that'll power the trains, with raised wire mesh fences placed on top of pedestrian walkways.

Construction of 10 power substations, to provide and regulate energy to the electrical system, is occurring concurrently to keep pace with the project; each substation takes a minimum of six months to build. Two will be located in San Francisco: one on the corner of Mariposa Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, another in the Bayshore Station parking lot. The other eight will be spread among South San Francisco, Burlingame, San Mateo, Palo Alto, Redwood City, Sunnyvale, and San Jose.

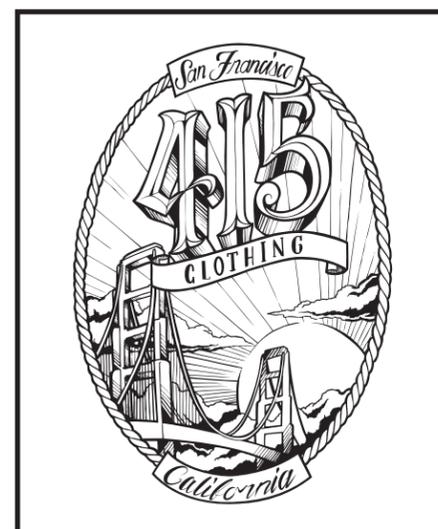
Following soil testing to assess the appropriateness of potential locations for pole installations, potholes will be dug to confirm soil conditions and to check for underground utilities. Once sites are approved, foundations will be laid for 30-to-50-foot poles that'll support four wires which'll convey power to trains, not unlike how Muni buses operate, with a pantograph on train roofs that'll contact the overhead line supported by the catenary system.

The overhead electrical power system won't extend as far as the Gilroy station, which will continue to be served by diesel trains. After EMUs are put into service they'll make up 75 percent of Caltrain's line, with expansion as funding permits. EMU use is expected to lower train operation's

environmental impacts, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions and noise pollution. Train performance should improve; electric engines' simple, lightweight design makes them powerful, and their lack of moving parts makes them easier to maintain. Caltrain expects to reduce its fuel costs by shifting from diesel to electricity.

The Caltrain Modernization Capital Project is estimated to cost \$1.9 billion, shared by nine different agencies, including Caltrain, the High Speed Rail Authority, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. The projected completion date is 2022.

Riders can follow @Caltrain on Twitter to stay informed.



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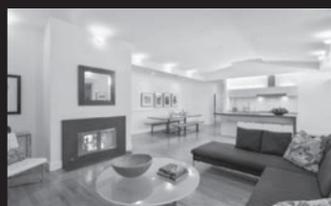
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Jackson Park to Feature Community Center, Elevated Promenade

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

Earlier this fall, more than 100 people turned out to view a proposed new design for Jackson Park, which features an elevated promenade around the park, community center with rooftop tennis court and adjacent plaza, large public open space at the corner of Mariposa and Carolina streets, restored clubhouse, new picnic area outside the ballfields, expanded elevated gardens, landscaped bulb-outs at the ends of sidewalks, and safer street crossings. The response from attendees was enthusiastic.

The meeting included presentations by District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen; David Fletcher, landscape architect with Fletcher Studio; Brian Liles and Julie Jackson, principals at Jackson Liles Architecture; and Jude Deckenbach, executive director of the community organization supporting the improvements, Friends of Jackson Park (FoJP).

"When this park is built, it will be phenomenal. It will be one of the jewels in the City's crown," said Cohen.

According to Liles, an important renovation element is ensuring that all buildings are designed to existing safety standards. "We've got a beautiful but older clubhouse. We want to update it to current building standards and move it to area of the park that is safer from a soils perspective," he said.

"I think the architects came up with an ingenious design that contains new, open, un-programmed space without buying more land or going into the streets. It's very forward-thinking, very aspirational, but it is the future," said Deckenbach.

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department is developing cost estimates for the renovation, with current approximations at \$26 million. Monies could come from the state, a general obligation park bond, Jackson Park users – residents, businesses, Live Oak School, and developers active in the neighborhood – and impact fees, as directed, with San Francisco Board of Supervisors approval, by the Eastern Neighborhoods Citizens Advisory Committee (ENCAC). ENCAC is an advisory body for land use decisions and public financing issues impacting South-of-Market, Mission, Showplace

Square/Potrero Hill, and the Central Waterfront.

"We're going to follow up with everyone who came to the meeting and is on the mailing list," said Deckenbach. "We're also going to do a big ask of the Mayor's office, every supervisor on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and members of the Recreation and Park Commission. We encourage the full community of Jackson Park users to make their voices known, including Potrero Hill residents, dog owners, families of students from Live Oak School, Starr King Elementary, Daniel Webster Elementary, International High School, Mission High School, New School San Francisco, and the adult softball leagues, as well as mem-

bers of other SF social sports leagues who play in the park."

"Jackson Park currently isn't one of the five priority projects identified for the parks bond, so we're asking our community to push to get Jackson Park named. It's a huge lift for us to move the needle and get on the bond, but we have to make this happen," said Deckenbach.

If a park bond is placed on the 2019 ballot, as expected, its value and contents will be determined by next summer. FoJP wants residents to voice their support of the Jackson Park plan to the Mayor's Office, Board of Supervisors, and Rec and Park. If it's included in the bond, and the measure passes, the City could allocate renovation monies in 2020, with construction

starting in 2021.

Over the next 10 years, the City plans to renovate Portsmouth Square in Chinatown, Gene Friend Recreation Center South-of-Market, Peace Plaza in Japantown, India Basin Waterfront Park in Bayview, and Kezar Pavilion in Golden Gate Park. Money for these projects is likely to come from two \$185 million parks bonds, one in 2019 from which Jackson Park will request funding, another in 2025.

According to Deckenbach, FoJP has \$2 million available to pay consultants for a "shovel ready" project. FoJP also has \$4.5 million in pledges from neighborhood developers. Last

JACKSON PARK continues on page 6

Recology Pushes for Residential Towers to be Built on a Parking Lot

BY MICHAEL IACUessa

Recology, the firm that collects San Francisco's garbage, has ambitious plans to recycle a truck parking lot located at 900 Seventh Street into 1,048 housing units, mixed with commercial and industrial space.

The project has several hurdles to pass, the largest of which may be that Recology will need to convince the City to rezone the land. Under the *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan*, adopted in 2009, the block was designated for Production, Distribution and Repair (PDR) as a means to preserve space for industry, which usually can't compete with rents paid by commercial or residential users. PDR heights are also limited to 58 feet; Recology is proposing building two towers that climb to 240 feet.

A preliminary plan filed with the San Francisco Planning Department indicates that the company wants to subdivide the six-acre land into four separate parcels. Two would be entirely residential, featuring the twin 24-story towers connecting to six- and eight-story structures. Another would consist of a six-story commercial building for PDR, office or laboratory usage. A fourth, ranging eight stories, would be equally flexible, including potentially adding residential units.

"The proposed project contemplates a similar mix of uses, maintaining the historic character of PDR/office uses, as well as meeting the ever-growing need for both market and below-market housing units in the City," the plan states. Twenty-five percent of units would be set aside as affordable; 20 percent very affordable.

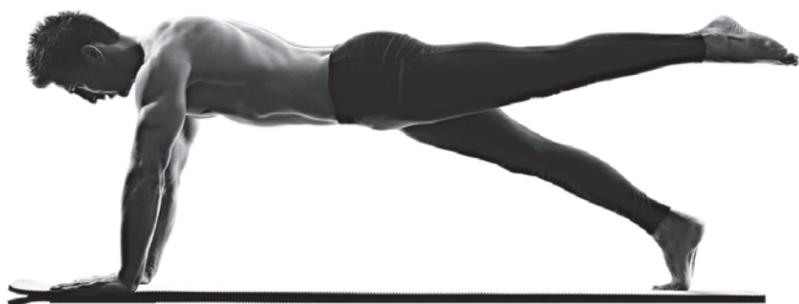
Eric Potashner, Recology's director of strategic affairs, noted that the eight-story flex building would be parallel to and the same rectangular

shape as 100 Hooper, a six-story edifice recently constructed for office and PDR use. The residential towers would be at opposing corners of the site to preserve views from within the project and adjacent properties. Public open space is proposed on the corner of Seventh and Berry streets.

The property rests in an awkward spot between two street grids, one that dominates South of Market and the

RECOLOGY continues on page 7

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JACKSON PARK from page 4

month, FoJP requested an additional \$6 million from ENCAC.

“San Francisco Recreation and Park Department is committed to working with Friends of Jackson Park to improve this site,” said Tamara

Barak Aparton, deputy director of communications and public affairs. “A phasing plan is critical to this project’s success, as it allows us to more realistically secure funding for the overall improvement plan. We look forward to continuing to work with neighbors on park improvements.”

The cost of creating or renovating parks varies widely. A children’s play area averages \$175 a square foot to build; turf in an area such as Alta Plaza North, a Pacific Heights park, costs \$7.20 a square foot to install. These expenses are expected to rise to \$256 and \$10.54 a square foot, respectively, by 2021, a midpoint for many parks’ projects’ construction.

J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president, called the design for Jackson Park “wonderful. It will well serve Potrero Hill and the other neighborhoods that rely on the park. I think the elevated promenade is an interesting and unique design element. There is something similar with the space built into the hills at St. Mary’s Recreation Center. I also like the bulb-outs. They’re an important pedestrian safety feature. The extensions of the park along the sides are significant. They’re a way for us to get as much space as possible.”

After the presentations were completed audience members wrote notes and stuck them to the boards containing drawings of the design. Suggestions included, “More dog space,” “Please expand the open grass space,” “exercise equipment as at new Mission District park,” and “Monkey bars, swings, bigger playground,” with another resident writing, “Yes x2” next to the note about the playground.

“I like that it’s going to be a center for the whole community.” said Kopal Goonetilleke, a parent and Hill resident. “I am excited that the community center will be a plaza where kids can do indoor sports. I also love the promenade. I think it will allow kids to be more free, a bit more independent.”

“I love it. I want it to be here this year, not in 10 years. I liked the multi-level aspect of it and the fact that it goes out to the edges. I want to see more park usage, more greenspace,” said Andrea Mravca, an Arkansas Street resident.

“It looks like it has a lot of good spaces to work out. I like the dog runs. I have a dog I can’t bring to Jackson Park right now,” said Jordan Hamel, who lives on 23rd Street.

“I like everything about it,” said Dave Raynor, an Arkansas Street resident. “My son loves the playground that’s there now. I also coach his soccer team at the park.”

“I think it’s beautiful. I love all of it. I just hope we get \$26 million to fund it,” said Jennifer Jimenez-Cruz, a Texas Street resident.

Brad Coley, a Connecticut Street resident, was pleased that the meeting went well. “There’s a lot of very deep thinking about what this park should have. We have many community-oriented people here who believe in it,” he said.

Robyn Majdrakoff, a Recreation and Park employee, came to the meeting because she teaches dance twice a week at the Jackson Park clubhouse. “The clubhouse is in great need of love and improvement. Also, the space is underused. All we have going on here are the afterschool program, the dance classes, and Tiny Tot basketball. There’s no classes for teens, adults, or seniors. I love being the only program here. I’ve had Jackson Park to myself these past eight years. But down here there’s not really a place for people to

JACKSON PARK continues on next page

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JACKSON PARK from previous page

gather. We need Jackson Park to expand so more people can enjoy the space," she said.

Deckenbach said FoJP is working to guide residents through the advocacy process. "On our website we will provide residents with a step by step process of what they can do. There will be contact information and talking points. This project is for the community, by the community. Feedback, engagement, and involvement are all necessary," she said.

STUDENTS from front page

I was worried because it was a really good opportunity, but I might not have been able to get my degree and pass my classes if I went through with it," she said. Ultimately, Lopez chose to focus on her education.

In 2017, GOBankingRates examined typical monthly expenses in major cities across the country, including the median rent for a one-bedroom apartment, groceries, utilities, transportation, and health insurance. The personal finance website found that in San Francisco an individual needs to make at least \$110,357 annually to live comfortably.

"I doubt there's a future for me in San Francisco," Alatorre said. "Gentrification is taking over this City so quickly, it's starting to eat the heart out of this place."

She offered advice to high schoolers who may be considering the Bay Area as a place to continue their education, "Save up. Lower your standards. It's amazing to be able to live here, but you really have to make sacrifices in order for that to happen. Have your priorities straightened out and know what you want to do in the future. And don't expect to be comfortable."

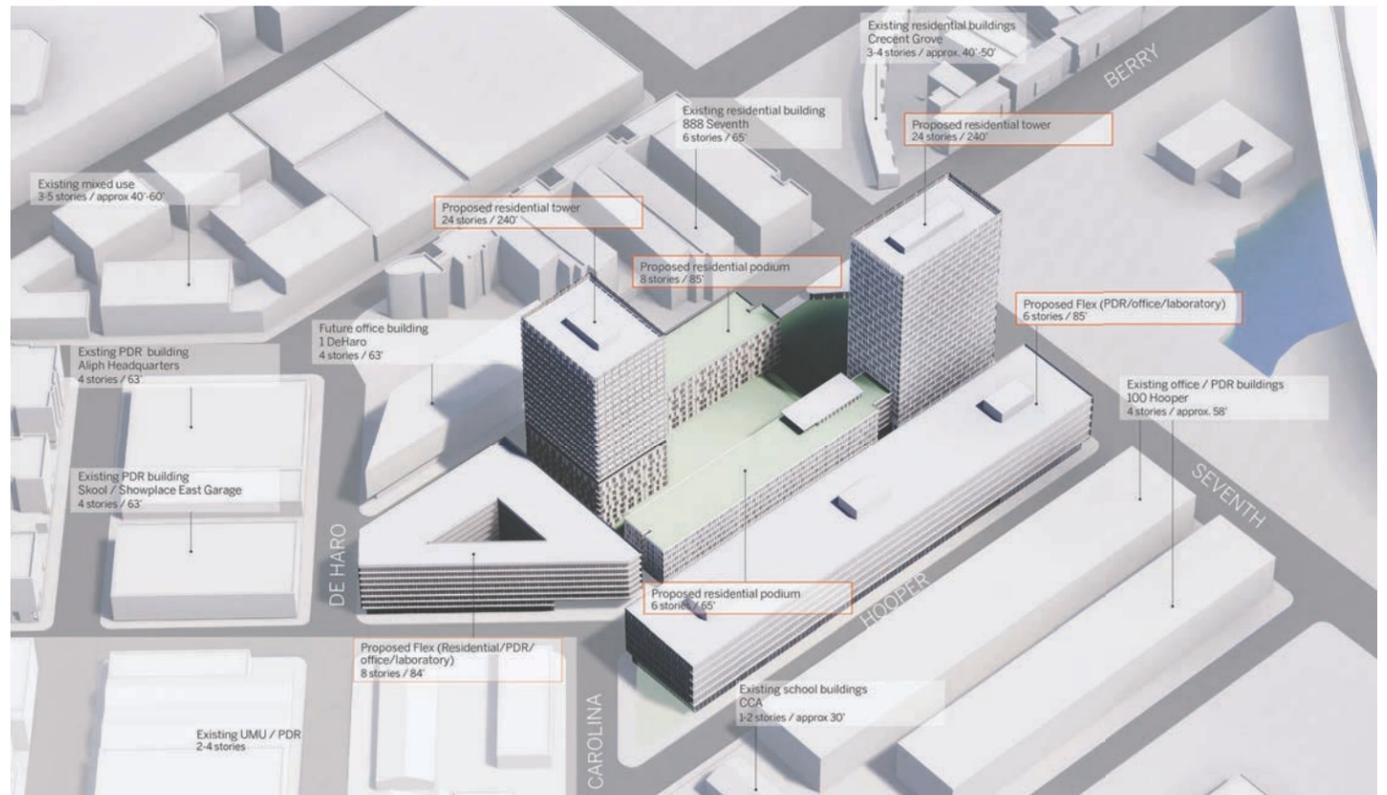
RECOLOGY from page 4

north-south network that permeates most of Dogpatch and Potrero Hill. The parcel is a five-minute walk from the six neighborhoods that surround it – SoMa, China Basin, Mission Bay, Potrero Hill, Dogpatch and the Mission – but doesn't offer access between them. The Caltrain railyard obstructs traffic across Seventh Street to the north. Three streets – Mission Bay Drive to the east, Alameda to the west and Carolina to the south – end at the block.

"The streets all stop at our property. They don't go through," said Potashner. To solve some of the grid issues, Recology proposes to extend Alameda Street to Seventh Street.

Under the moniker "Recology Golden Gate," the company has been using the site to primarily park 120 trucks in conjunction with dispatch and maintenance services. Those lorries serve Chinatown, North Beach, Downtown and the Marina. According to Potashner, those uses can be merged into its Tunnel Avenue site at the Brisbane/San Francisco border.

"They drive down to Tunnel Avenue and that's where they dump. They are going down there every day anyway. And then they drive all the way back," he said. "The main thing is that we wouldn't be sending 120 trucks in and out of the neighborhood."



Model of Recology's proposed new development.

PHOTO: Courtesy of Recology and Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

While Potashner noted PDR use would expand compared to what Recology does at the site now, he admitted he's gotten a sense that City planners want to take a breath before looking at the merits of moving PDR zoning to mixed use. The Planning Department declined comment to the *View* other than to say it considered protecting PDR a high priority. The department is due to release an assessment letter on the preliminary plan this month.

It's likely that in their assessment of Recology's concept, planners will be mindful of the future of the 19-acre railyard, which could be moved south of the City should the Fourth and King Streets station be closed when tracks are linked to the new Salesforce Transit Center. All current proposals call for those tracks to be undergrounded, which could open three million additional square feet for development adjacent to Recology's parcel. However, the railyard's fate is several years from being decided.

J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president, questioned whether the Recology site lends itself to residential use. In addition to the train tracks, he noted that Interstate-280 passes by, there's no open space and the parcel is several blocks from transit in any direction.

"That site is remote from a residential standpoint, and thus building a dense residential facility there doesn't make sense from a planning standpoint," he said.

While Eppler acknowledged the need for more residential development in the City, he said PDR should be a necessary component at the location.

"The development of the parcel should respect the zoning that was established as part of the *Eastern Neighborhood Plan*. When that area was rezoned as PDR it was done to ensure PDR jobs did not get removed by the City. Whatever gets developed at the Recology site needs to acknowledge the zoning and work well with PDR neighbors."

Among those neighbors are PlaceMade, one of 100 Hooper's tenants. PlaceMade is a sister nonprofit of SFMade, which is dedicated to helping manufacturers stay and grow in San Francisco. Another PDR neighbor is slated across the street at 1 De Haro, where a building, which'll also include office space, is expected to be constructed and open by 2020. However,

there's a residential building at 888 Seventh Street, and the California College of the Arts is developing student housing two blocks down Seventh Street.

Recology has commissioned the architectural firm, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM), to develop its design. SOM, a global company with a San Francisco office, includes among its recent credits One World Trade Center in New York City and Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, in the United Arab Emirates.

In addition to approximately 1.4 million square feet of building space, the proposal calls for 1,061 parking

spaces at a rate of 0.7 spaces per residential unit and one space per 1,200 square feet of nonresidential floor area.

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Painting entitled "1200 Blk Powell #1" by Timothy Wells

PHOTO: Courtesy of Jack Fischer Gallery

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Theater: The Obligation
 Film/television/stage star Roger Grunwald (HBO, A.C.T, 59E59th, Cal Shakes) personifies a Jewish-American comedian, an Auschwitz survivor, a half-Jewish German soldier in this deeply personal exploration of the dark history of their (our) world in *The Obligation*. Through drama and a surprising amount of humor, *The Obligation* explores lesser-known aspects of the Holocaust and post-war survivor experience. This work, a full-length expansion of Grunwald's acclaimed Mitzvah Project, which has toured the world, asks: Who decides what culture, race and ethnicity mean? Why do we demonize "the other"? \$26 to \$56. Potrero Stage, 1695 18th Street. To purchase tickets and for more information: <https://bit.ly/2j7Bz6K> or 415.992.7990.

2 fri

Spirituality: Day of the Dead San Francisco
 Day of the Dead has been celebrated in the Mission since the early-1970s. The Marigold Project was created in 1990 for participants to build altars, leave offerings, heal, and celebrate our ancestors' lives in Garfield Park. For the night, it serves as a community graveyard with expressions of art, music, live performances, and a walking procession through the Mission. Bring flowers, candles, and mementos of loved ones of all ages for the altars. Set-up time for altars is 12 to 4 p.m. Procession begins at 7 p.m. For more information, including altar guidelines and how to volunteer for the event: <https://bit.ly/2PFTE7J>

Music: Saint Benjamin
 Influenced by Ed Sheeran and Rex Orange County, Saint Benjamin creates an indie pop sound all his own. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

3 sat

Community: 19th Annual Potrero Hill History Night
 Architectural historian, Jonathan Lammers, will talk about the history of the Potrero Police Station, at Third and 20th streets, which is expected to be transformed into a community center. Michael Ohta, former member of the Pickle Family Circus and folksinger Pete Seeger's nephew, will be interviewed by 'Goat Hill Phil' Philip De Andrade, exploring his family's 65 years on the Hill. Cartographer Doug Spurling will speak about his project coordinating historic Potrero Hill and Dogpatch maps from different periods. Keith Goldstein, former Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president, will serve as master of ceremonies. The event kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with \$3 slices from Goat Hill Pizza, \$2 tasty desserts from Chat's Coffee, and \$1 beverages by Umpqua Bank. It's a great chance to meet and schmooze with neighbors. The event is sponsored by the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center at Mission Bay and the Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Downtown High School, 693 Vermont Street. For more information: 415.863.0784.

11/3 Saturday through 12/23
Art: "SF Made in China"
 Timothy Wells, 56, is a self-taught San Francisco artist who paints trash. That's right: trash. Walking the gritty blocks surrounding his Chinatown-adjacent apartment, Wells finds discarded, even torn apart cardboard packaging, many featuring Chinese characters communicating now-incomplete

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messages. He then uses watercolor and pigment ink to create hyper-realistic representations of such found debris upon archival boards. Looking at his work, one will be hard-pressed to believe it's trompe l'oeil and not photography. Jack Fischer Gallery, 311 Potrero Avenue. For more information: <https://bit.ly/2pVZg2k>

11/3 Saturday to 11/4 Sunday
Art: Style '18
 Style '18 is a juried event celebrating contemporary fashion, jewelry and accessories artists. Jurors JoAnn Edwards and Diane Master hand-selected 40 national and international designers to participate. Attendees can experience and purchase unique wearable art, as well as meet the makers. Proceeds support MCD's MakeArt education program for Bay Area children and families. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/2QVCflg>

6 tue

Election Day



11/7 Wednesday through 11/11 Sunday
Film: American Indian Film Festival
 In its 43rd season, this annual festival brings artists, filmmakers, musicians, talent, and the general public together to celebrate, support, and experience work produced by native and non-native peoples. \$5 to \$30. Brava for Women in the Arts Center, 2781 24th Street. For schedule, tickets, and more information: <https://bit.ly/2yKSvEC>

7 wed

Health: Choose Your MediGap Insurance Wisely
 Choosing Medicare Supplement Insurance policies can be confusing. This workshop will help explain major expenses that Medicare doesn't cover, why your insurance agent may sell you the wrong policy, what you need to know to lower insurance premiums and save hundreds - even thousands - of dollars every year, and how to pick the best supplemental insurance policy, tailored for you. Participants will create a personalized report using the MediGap Tool. 2 to 3 p.m. Free. San Francisco Main Public Library, 100 Larkin Street, Fifth Floor Computer Training Center. For more information, contact Aida Henry, Aida.Henry@sfpl.org.

Literature: Potrero Hill Book Club
 Discussing *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders. 7 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

8 thur

Music: Shelter Cove
 Performing originals and covers from the 1960s to now. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

Photography: Bieke Depoorter
 Belgian photographer, Bieke Depoorter, received the prestigious 2018 Larry Sultan Photography Award, granted through a partnership of California College of the Arts, Headlands Center for the Arts, Pier 24 Photography, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The prize consists of \$10,000 and an artist residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito. Depoorter will work with CCA students this fall and give this public lecture. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. CCA, 1111 Eighth Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/2ymGzt6> or 415.331.2787.

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9 fri

Comedy: MC Sergio Novoa
Check out standup comic MC Sergio Novoa. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

15 thur

Music: James Lawless
Live music by James Lawless, who has been playing folk music for about 10 years, with much of his influences coming from Old Time or Mountain Style. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

17 sat

Theater: Leila's Quest for Flight
The Golden Thread Fairytale Players present *Leila's Quest for Flight*, a play about mythic birds helping a little girl become a pilot. Drawn from Palestinian folk tales, the story incorporates music, dance, and physical comedy, and is suitable for children. 4 p.m. Free. San Francisco Public Library, Potrero Branch, 1616 20th Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/2PFctTR>

Music: Marc Maynon and CD Onofrio
Performing folk music. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

21 wed

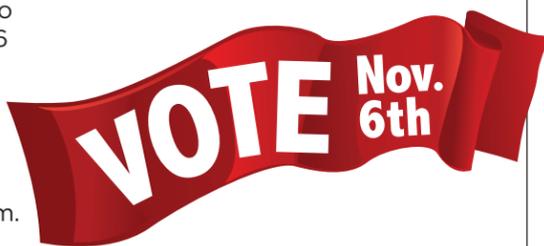
Music: Daniel Berkman
Live music by Potrero Hill resident, Daniel Berkman, a composer, multi-instrumentalist and innovator of the kora, a 21-stringed harp/lute from West Africa. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

27 tue

Music: Jonathan Brinkley
Live music by Jonathan Brinkley, a singer/songwriter from Portland, Oregon, who sings powerful, heart-provoking tunes that aim to make the world more honest and connected. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

28 wed

Music: Soul Delights
Live music by Soul Delights. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.



Linus, almost two-years-old, happy in Su's arms right before Lu went into the delivery room for Dashed.

Kansas Street residents, Di Yin Lu and Mark Pearson, nominated Su Ying Liang, owner of Baby Tree Family Daycare, for the *View's* monthly feature honoring neighborhood child care providers. According to the couple, "Su runs an incredibly clean, loving, and stimulating family daycare on Berry Street, right by the Adobe building. We discovered her via a recommendation from a fellow Potrero Hill mom on the Potrero Hill parents group email list. Su provides Mandarin immersion child care for children ages three months to three years. Linus, our older boy, was so happy with her that she had to force us to find a preschool when he aged out. Dashed, our younger boy, still talks about her fondly, and points out the daycare whenever we pass by. Su gave us a warm, loving, place for our boys at a time when life felt filled to the minute. She even took care of Linus when Di delivered Dashed at the University of California, San Francisco-Mission Bay. We don't think Su's ever had a time when her waiting list was empty. Our favorite memory of the boys at Baby Tree Family Daycare is them playing basketball in Su's yard. The younger toddlers rode up to the basketball hoop in cars that look like they belonged to the Flintstones, riding around in circles, while the older toddlers dunked their basketballs to an audience. Meanwhile, fragrant smells of cooking wafted around the yard from the various ground floor tenants at the Berry building. It was a wonderful moment of urban community; one that greeted us every afternoon at pickup time."



Flo Cimino, Potrero Hill barber and 20th Street fixture for 65 years, passed away at the age of 87 on October 13, 2018. A funeral mass for him was held at St. Teresa's Church. PHOTO: View Staff Photographer

Nominate your nanny!

The *View* invites its readers (including kids!) to nominate their nanny, child care provider, or babysitter to appear in a monthly feature honoring these essential caretakers. Submit your entry (up to 300 words with a photograph). One winner will be published a month, and receive a \$100 gift card. Send to editor@potreroview.net by the 20th of each month.

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New Student Residences Open at California College of the Arts

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

Blattner Hall, California College of the Arts' new 64,000 square foot four-story student residence hall, located at 75 Arkansas Street, began housing scholars last summer. District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, who also serves as president of the Board of Supervisors, spoke at the Hall's September 24th ribbon-cutting.

"Stable housing is essential for academic success, particularly for first generation college students. My legislation to build more affordable student housing at CCA will help reduce student homelessness, improve graduation rates, and break the cycle of poverty. I'm proud that we are finally opening this space in Potrero," said Cohen.

The legislation to which Cohen referred is a 2013 ordinance that amended the City's Planning Code and Zoning Map to establish the Art and Design Educational Special Use District at 1111 Eighth Street. The amendments facilitated CCA's continued operation and provided a regulatory scheme for phased expansion of the campus.

Blattner Hall can house roughly 228 graduate, continuing, and transfer students, with about 147 students living there presently. The building houses fewer students this year because it opened after orientation; incoming, transfer and graduate students couldn't move in. Next year, an on-time move-in will be possible for such students, increasing the number living in the Hall.

The apartments are coed; students can choose their own roommates. Each four-bedroom unit is 1,200 square feet. There are also two bedroom units; all offer similar amenities. Each residential unit is individually metered for energy use.

The unit have similar layouts, with a kitchen and living room flanked by two bedrooms on either end. Each occupant has access to a large work desk located just outside their room in a hallway nook, enabling them to work outside their chamber when their roommate is sleeping. Each bedroom has access to its own bathroom.

Between 40 and 65 students live on each floor, with access to a lounge area that has a television set and several pieces of "stain-proof, Exacto knife-proof" furniture, according to David Meckel, CCA's director of campus planning. Students can have emotional support animals, including dogs.

"We're glad our neighborhood can help provide housing that remedies the stresses students in the City feel. CCA has been a strong partner of the neighborhood and has been very receptive to neighborhood concerns," said J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president.

CCA trustee Simon Blattner, who donated the property on which the dormitory is sited, said he was involved in almost every construction element, including choosing the colors for each floor. "The light in that place is unbelievable. It was just a block building, a warehouse with a nice office. I had a

maximum of 17 people in the building at any one time. Saks 5th Avenue had a little more than that in the next 15 years. What's there now (has made a) dramatic improvement in the neighborhood right away," said Blattner.

According to Blattner, CCA demolished a one-story building, which was constructed in 1924 and had "no historicity, no importance" to "give the students over 200 beds at prices that are acceptable to them." Hall housing for a full academic year costs \$12,144 for a double room, \$15,686 for a single, and is included in a student's financial aid package.

The Hall contains four street-level commercial spaces. CCA is currently seeking tenants, according to Emily Viemester, the college's senior campus communications manager.

The Hall features two outside courtyards paved with black and white stones on either side of the building. The ground floor has a 2,200 square foot multipurpose room. Two garage doors, one on either side of the multipurpose room, open up to the courtyards to provide a seamless connection of interior and exterior spaces. Construction on these elements was completed this month.

The building is "Platinum" under the GreenPoint rating system, a home certification system. Platinum is the highest rating in the GreenPoint system, which measures a home's capability in five categories: community, energy efficiency, indoor air quality

and health, resource conservation, and water conservation. LED lighting is deployed throughout the building; the Hall's roof is covered in photovoltaic solar panels. The electricity generated by the panels is used in common spaces throughout the building, including the multipurpose room, the upper floor common rooms, and hallways.

"We strive to combine great design with great environmental performance. Our expectation is that Blattner Hall will use around one-fourth the energy of a typical U.S. residence hall," said Richard Stacy, principal at LMS, the project's lead architectural firm.

The outside courtyards contain planters irrigated by rainwater captured from the roof and a drip irrigation system. The pesticides used on the greenery in the courtyards are organic; they're derived from natural sources.

"Our property management company, Capstone Management, is also looking into possibilities for implementing an integrated pest management plan that avoids and/or bans the use of any and all pesticides on the site," said Viemester.

Building access is through a key-card system. The Hall contains two stairwells, elevators, a lobby, a mailroom, ground-level CCA offices for housing and residential life activities, a bicycle room with a lift system to store 80 bikes, and "smart laundry rooms" on each floor. Students can view their

CCA continues on next page

WENDY WATKINS WES FREAS

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CCA from previous page

laundry status through a phone app and pay at the machines with a debit or credit card.

“The app tells you when the laundry’s done. Plus, the laundry room is hyper-metered. We know how many loads of laundry residents do,” said Meckel. CCA is monitoring the laundry machines as part of a larger effort to become more environmentally sustainable.

“[The hyper-metering] allows us to detect leaks immediately so water isn’t wasted. The information we gather from machines in Blattner Hall will also be able to help inform our planning the laundry facilities for our student housing facility at 188 Hooper. We had a similar way to monitor laundry in our Panoramic residence hall that allowed us to plan for the correct number of machines for Blattner Hall,” said Viemester.

The Hall is located fewer than three blocks from CCA’s 1111 Eighth Street campus. The college is adding housing for about 900 students in or within walking distance of the campus.

“Our three-prong strategy involves off-campus housing, near-campus housing, and on-campus housing. Blattner Hall is near-campus housing,” said Meckel.

Blattner Hall has no automobile parking. CCA addresses transportation needs through an agreement with the University of California, San Francisco’s Mission Bay Shuttle, which provides students with free access between the college’s campus and the Civic Center Bay Area Rapid Transit station every 16 minutes during peak commute hours. Students can also utilize Ford GoBikes, Muni routes 55 and 22, which connect to Dogpatch and the 16th Street corridor, and Muni routes 10 and 19, which traverse South-of-Market and Downtown.

The next residence hall CCA expects to complete is 188 Hooper, which’ll provide housing for 500 students. The housing at 188 Hooper, as housing for all CCA halls, isn’t meant to generate a profit. CCA itself is a nonprofit institution.

Daniela Granillo, a CCA senior majoring in architecture, said her first impression of the Hall was that “it was so big. It was very spacious. It kind of felt lonely. Then again, I moved in about August 14. When other students started moving in, it didn’t feel lonely anymore.”

According to Granillo, who used to live at Panoramic Residences at 1321 Mission Street, which houses CCA and San Francisco Conservatory of Music students, living at a residence hall with only CCA students “feels more like a community. Some units have an amazing view to the City and certain buildings in it. In other units, you can see into other students’ common spaces, but not their rooms. You never feel alone in the whole building.”

Granillo said she likes that the Hall provides a safe atmosphere. “San Francisco can be a very dangerous city. I am now so close to school that my parents are comfortable with me living here,” said Granillo.

Jose Rodriguez Trujillo, also a CCA senior majoring in architecture, said he likes that the units “feel much more open” than those at Panoramic Residences. “There nobody was

San Francisco Schools Continue to be Places of Bullying

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

A study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics last year found that the prevalence of bullying among fourth to twelve graders declined between 2004 and 2014, while students’ perceptions that adults effectively help stop mistreatment and create a safe school environment rose.

The *View* brought together a group of middle and high schoolers for a conversation about bullying. They indicated that intimidation remains a regular feature at San Francisco schools, with bullies partially excused for their behavior as being victims of low self-esteem themselves.

Bullying takes many forms, often revolving around group acceptance and teasing. “I’ve experienced some of my friends being disrespectful; and also people have been mean to me who were not my friends,” explained “Alex,” a middle schooler at The Brandeis School of San Francisco. “Once, we were playing basketball, and were supposed to split up into teams, boys versus girls. One of the guys said that one of the boys should play on the girls’ team, because ‘you’re bad and that’s the bad team.’ The boys are often rude to the girls.”

“In my kindergarten, three girls, who I thought were friends, would leave me out of things,” said Edan, a seventh grader at Creative Arts Charter. “People might say, ‘You’re stupid.’ I try to not take it personally, but some people take it harder.”

According to Saffi, another Creative Arts seventh grader, bullying initiated by an individual can quickly be crowdsourced. “One person acting badly can trigger a whole ripple effect,”

motivated to go out to the common areas. Everything felt tight and confined. Here, we have a full-size kitchen that actually works. Overall, it doesn’t feel like a cheap building,” said Trujillo.

Mallory Kimmel, a CCA second-year master of fine arts student, said living at the Hall is almost a case study for her thesis. “I’m exploring relationships between people and everyday objects. I look at how we seek companionship, happiness, and comfort when we’re lonely or sad,” said Kimmel.

Kimmel, who lived at Panoramic Residences in 2017, said Blattner Hall is “made to be competitive with a retail apartment. We have small things which make life so much better. For example, we have a standard size dishwasher, huge bay windows in our living rooms, and a lot of natural light.” One of her favorite aspects of the units is “a huge stainless steel table that’s really great to work on, pocket doors to the bathroom that do not take up much space, and limited streaming channels on the TV in the living room.”

Kimmel added that she likes the Hall’s proximity to the college, which allows her to go home to make lunch. “That saves me money. Later I can go back to school and keep working. Finally, another one of my favorite things is that I have a brass key. That’s just for my own room,” said Kimmel.

she said. “Someone calls you fat, then everyone turns against you. People take sides, then the whole school turns against you.”

“Social media can make it worse,” said Edan. “For example, a bunch of people were going to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and I wasn’t invited. I only found out about it through social media.”

“There was a big sleepover party, and one person wasn’t invited,” echoed Saffi. “That didn’t make her feel very good. There’s one girl in my school, we go on and off, but the closer we get the meaner she gets. She’ll text some stuff about me, then she’ll apologize, then it happens again. Stuff will happen and no one else will know about it. With Snapchat it’s easier to bully, it’s more private, you can say whatever you want.”

“Social media can definitely be a tool for evil,” said Sara, a senior at Jewish Community High School of the Bay. “Snapchat can be used to inject poison into different people. You have to treat everything on Instagram as basically a lie, unless proven differently.”

The students expressed mixed feelings about their schools’ response to bullying, with a general belief that teachers and administrators were either ineffective or absent from the fray. A number of students have transferred out of Brandeis over the last several years, in part because of the school’s inability to create a positive environment for its pupils.

“Unstructured times, and PE, are the worst,” said Alex. “If teams get assigned, someone will say, ‘Look who I got! Now we’re going to lose.’ If there are picks, then someone is always last, and has to carry all that baggage. The teachers are pretty much absent during recess and afterschool.”

“In fourth grade, there was a lot of drama, and the school put together a girls group thingy that met once a month to talk about what was going on,” said Saffi. “The next year there was a lot of bullying. A lot of times people don’t talk about it, because they’re embarrassed, don’t want to get anyone in trouble, don’t think they’ll be an effective response, or it could even make things worse.”

“The teachers encourage students to say that ‘I did this or that; the ‘message,’ but that approach doesn’t really change things,” added Edan. “And it can hurt more if it’s less than a sincere apology. In elementary school this boy would take my pencil and throw it on the ground. I’m pretty sure the teacher knew about it, but she didn’t change our seats. My parents asked the school if I could not be in the same class as him. I was both mad and grateful that my parents intervened.”

“There should be more school counselors. It’s hard for people to talk about bullying, there’s never really a time,” advised Saffi. “Teachers tend to ignore the problem, they see it and ignore it. If teachers see things, they should try to guide how it unfolds.”

“I’ve never had an experience when a teacher has come up to me and asked if I was okay. And it’s hard for other students to stand up to bullies, because people are worried that it’ll make them the target,” said Alex. “The PE teacher

had us do push-ups one at a time in front of the entire class, but there’s no equivalent public display of intellectual abilities.”

“I see it almost every year I teach fifth grade,” said Heidi, an elementary school teacher in Solano County. “The girls start to divide into those who are developing fast, and those who are left behind, which soon morphs into popular girls, who are at the top of the hierarchy, and often become bullies, and those who are like deer in the headlights. And there’s pretty much nothing we can do about it. As far as boys, there’s always a handful that are extra-disruptive, often because they have learning challenges. In some ways my heart goes out to them, but it would take every minute of my class time to effectively deal with them.”

While the Pediatrics research reported a decline in bullying, another study showed a rise in youth suicides from 1999 to 2014, a period in which schools intensified their efforts to suppress mistreatment, according to a *Psychology Today* article. The greatest suicide increase was among 10- to 14-year-old girls, which tripled in frequency.

Students also struggle with their own culpability in developing workable relationships with their sometimes difficult peers. “There’s a girl in my friend group who thinks we bully her,” said Sara. “She says we don’t let her speak, we don’t talk to her, we just ignore her, and it makes her feel sad. But, we try to help her out; she just doesn’t talk, or know how to participate in conversations. Once, we brought in a jar that had conversational prompts in it to give her some topics to engage in. That lasted like a day and a half.”

The students had universal sympathy for the bullies themselves, and a reluctance to consider them to blame for their actions.

“Kindness comes from home,” said Edan. “In first grade there was a girl who was pretty mean to me. At the end of the year she apologized, and said there was something going on at home.”

“There’s no such thing as a mean person,” said Alex. “Just someone who does mean actions.”

“When you’re born you’re a blank canvass,” offered Saffi. “Then your family influences you. And a lot of movies show that when you’re mean you become popular. It’d be different if the mean people were on the bottom.”

“You guys are almost out of middle school,” advised Sara. “When you get into high school people start to become more mature. Hang in there; you’ll be fine.”

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OBITUARY



Gilda Guerrero with Sara Moss, one of her many extended children. PHOTO: Debbie Findling

Gilda Gonzalez Guerrero
April 4, 1947 to September 27, 2018

Gilda Gonzalez Guerrero was born April 4, 1947, in Guatemala City, Guatemala to Maria Dolores Crispin and Rigoberto Gonzalez. The youngest of seven children, as a child Gilda dreamed of coming to the United States, frequently climbing a rooftop to look North.

When she was 21, Gilda flew to America, settling in San Francisco's Mission District. She quickly submerged herself in her new culture, taking English classes, working as a hotel maid, and making new friends. Having arrived shortly before 1968's "Summer of Love," Gilda adopted the City's hippie spirit, wearing tight jeans and chatting with her best friends, Olivia Guerrero and Maria Elva Romo, over bottomless cups of coffee and Kent 100s. She enjoyed dancing and loved going to clubs, joining a *folklorico* dancing group.

On Valentine's Day in 1971, Gilda met her future husband, Jose Armando Guerrero. They married a year later, on February 29, 1972, and had three children together: Armando, Krisheidy, and Daniel. In 1998, they separated and eventually divorced.

Gilda was passionate about children and family. She invested her energies into her nieces and nephews, formally becoming guardian of two nieces, Yicel Guerrero and Miriam Lissette Saenz. She made delicious coffee, of which her young charges

often stole sips.

In 1991, Gilda relocated her family to Richmond, where her children grew up and eventually started having kids of their own. She was blessed with four grandchildren, Brandon Hall, Lennea Castro, Ryosuke Guerrero, and Ashanti Guerrero. Gilda frequently said, "I always wanted to take care of my grandkids, but God had something else planned for me."

Following her love of children, Gilda took kids' education classes and worked at several day care centers throughout what became a 40-year career caring for others' offspring. In 1999, while subbing as a nanny in San Francisco, she was approached by Andy Greenberg, who was so impressed watching Gilda's remarkable skills with children at the Upper Noe Recreation Center that she offered her a full-time job caring for her sons. Once Andy's children had grown, Gilda nannied for Andy's friends with newborns. Andy continued to see Gilda while she provided child care, often picking her up at the end of the day so she could have a few minutes to talk with her on the drive to a Bay Area Rapid Transit station.

Gilda made every child feel special, gifting parents by blessing them with her focus, intelligence and humor. With each successive caretaker job, Gilda's extended family grew larger. *View* publisher Steven Moss and his wife, Debbie Findling, hired Gilda to nanny their newborn daughter, Sara, in 2001. According to Debbie, Gilda taught her how to be a mom. She became second mother to Sara. Years later, when Sara was a teenager, Sara and Gilda would spend time together, and Gilda was honored at Sara's *bat mitzvah*.

When Eleanor Drey and Rennie Saunders needed a babysitter and asked Debbie for a reference, Debbie said she and Steven thought so highly of Gilda that they considered having another child just so they wouldn't have to let her go. Red-haired Leo and Gilda became enthusiastic soulmates, creating elaborate drawings, chatting with the other babysitters in the park, with Gilda proudly listening to Leo speaking Spanish, and engaging in make-believe games, which

often included an array of costumes. Realizing how important Leo's stuffed monkey was to him, Gilda made sure that Monkey always was in *esposas* in the stroller, so that he couldn't go missing, like the hats and shoes Leo loved throwing out during their long daily walks to Glen Park. Leo always looked forward to sleepovers at *abuelita* Gilda's house, where he could be found happily eating pancakes in her bed, doing art projects, playing with Guapo or looking at her fish. As with all the children lucky to be in Gilda's care, Leo gained confidence and joy from her unconditional love. Eleanor and Rennie relied on her wisdom and judgment to help them become better parents.

Gilda loved walking, making jewelry, and channel surfing. Sometimes she could be found watching the guide channel, eyes closed, remote in hand. She was patriotic, proudly flying the American flag on Independence Day. She loved *futbol*, especially the World Cup. Every four years she'd camp out in front of her television and cheer for her favorite teams. Each winter, she'd cook large batches of homemade tamales that she'd hand deliver to the families whose children she'd worked with as a nanny.

Gilda was an activist in the Christian church community. She believed everything was in God's hands and had a purpose. She was a "prayer warrior," who had a team of women with whom she'd pray. Her faith in Jesus Christ was most important to her, along with accepting Him as her one and only savior. She often spoke about how He impacted her life and how important it was to include Him in everything we do.

A few days before she passed she was filled with gratitude and love, surrounded by people whose lives she'd deeply affected. Her strength, optimism, and faith sustained her until the end, when she passed peacefully in the loving and grateful presence of her family on Thursday, September 27, 2018, at the age of 71.

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DIGNITY HEALTH from front page

future pregnancies.

The second ACLU lawsuit claims that the healthcare provider canceled a hysterectomy surgery once it was determined that the patient was transgender. The lawsuit asserts discrimination; the hospital states that the procedure is contrary to the Catholic anti-sterilization directive, although it's routinely performed at the hospital for patients who aren't transgender.

Karen Camacho, ACLU Organizing Coordinator, told *The San Francisco Examiner*, "This is a merger between two Catholic hospital systems, which generally follow the Ethical Religious Directives that prohibit many crucial reproductive health services, including contraception, abortion and fertility treatments. Transgender patients have had gender affirming surgeries denied on religious grounds."

"This promise that they're going to maintain levels of care for five years is one we can't count on," Burlingame added. "These hospitals receive public funds and serve the general public, and they need to provide care that meets the standard of care for all services."

The merger also calls into question whether pensions for nurses will be retained, if union contracts for hospital workers will continue in the long term, and whether there'll be adverse impacts on staffing levels and the work environment.

"We are concerned about the impact of this merger upon the services we provide, and want a guarantee that these hospitals will remain open for at least 15 years, with no services eliminated, and that there is no cut or change in the way charity care is accounted for," said Joe Domingos, a National Nurses United spokesperson, referring to free or discounted care offered to low-income patients at its facilities.

In a press release, Dignity Health stated, "There will be no reduction in any service currently provided at any Catholic and any other-than-Catholic hospital as a result of our alignment, which is made clear in the California

DIGNITY HEALTH continues on next page

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DIGNITY HEALTH from previous page

Attorney General's independent Health Impact Reports. That includes women's health services. Any service that is offered today will be offered tomorrow to all members of our community."

UCSF, which is collaborating with Dignity to launch a digital patient platform next spring, is trying to steer clear of the controversies. When asked about the nurses' union contract concerns, Kristen Bole, UCSF Director of Clinical Communications and Public Affairs, said, "That has nothing to do with us at all."

"Dignity Health will play no role in direct patient care for UCSF through the new digital platform, nor will its directive influence UCSF care in any way," added Shelby Decosta, UCSF Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer.

The UCSF/Dignity collaboration will offer "a state-of-the-art digital engagement platform that will provide information and access to patients when and where they need it as they navigate primary and preventive care, as well as more acute or specialty care," according to a UCSF statement. The cloud-based platform, created by Dignity Health for use in its 39 hospitals, is being designed to offer patients a user-friendly interface with the healthcare system, via a web-based and mobile application, and is being tailored to fit the needs of UCSF patients.

Joann Wardrip, Dignity Health Media Relations Manager, stressed that "the religious affiliation won't have any bearing on the collaboration, because it's purely technological in

nature. Use of the digital app won't result in any religious influences on healthcare or experiences for UCSF's patients."

COHEN from page 2

stating that she favored the annulment during her campaign for the Board of Equalization.

When first elected, Cohen promised to support small business; she did that by co-sponsoring the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund, which provides low interest credit. She spearheaded, as Budget and Finance Committee chair, efforts to create a municipal bank with a goal of making those loans more accessible.

She successfully pushed for a moratorium on new cannabis businesses in 2017, when she felt that those who lacked capital weren't being expeditiously approved by the Planning Commission. Since then she's fought to ensure that minority communities have equal opportunities within the City's Office of Cannabis, an agency she was a co-sponsor in creating.

Cohen has had her missteps. Two years into her first term, during a redistricting task force meeting, she suggested removing Potrero Hill from her jurisdiction, which led some to question her commitment to the neighborhood. In 2016, she made headlines for having to recuse herself from a vote on a proposed 395-unit complex at the Corovan site after inappropriately suggesting that the developer provide additional funds for community projects just prior to the vote. She later dismissed her suggestion as a bad joke, but it occurred

in a capacity-filled room of District 10 constituents. Earlier this year, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that Cohen had the worst attendance record of any Supervisor, missing eight of 29 committee meetings she chaired. The survey took place over an eight-month period, a time when Cohen said she was dealing with a family health issue.

While Supervisors get inundated by constituents with complaints about issues, from the large to the trivial, there's been a common complaint on the Hill that Cohen isn't as responsive as she could be, whether related to a small property tax matter or getting bullet holes in a public housing unit filled. One doesn't have to look far back into news articles about Cohen to see a theme of her not responding to requests for comment. She passed when asked to elaborate on her accomplishments and unfinished business for this article.

Nonetheless, she's maintained a close relationship with neighborhood groups, whose members have praised her efforts and communication. J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president, has spoken highly of her in solving issues related to the Pier 70 development. Frank Gilson, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association board member, described her as "responsive and accessible."

Susan Eslick, vice president of the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association, said she'll miss Cohen. "I have always felt Supervisor Cohen has supported Dogpatch and any community efforts we have worked on," said Eslick. "She has always been aware of the changes happening in our little section of District 10 and has guided projects and City agencies to listen to the desires

of the neighborhood."

Eslick, who is on the board of the Dogpatch and Northwest Potrero Hill Green Benefit District (GBD), said Cohen worked closely on GBD establishment. "We could not have done it without her support and guidance."

Perhaps the largest issue looming over the District as Cohen leaves office is redevelopment of the former naval shipyard at Hunters Point. The potential creation of 10,000 housing units there had been among Cohen's self-cited achievements, but over the past few years, it's been discovered that radioactive and toxic contamination at the site may not have been fully cleaned up. In 2016, Cohen and then-Mayor Ed Lee informed the Navy that the City would no longer accept transfer of land until regulators deemed it safe. This year, when it came to light that 97 percent of soil sample tests may have been falsified, Cohen called for a legislative hearing, which led to the site being retested.

Cohen's other accomplishments include authoring the Neighborhood Preference legislation, which sets aside 40 percent of affordable housing in new developments for those who live in the community; introducing legislation that expanded San Francisco gun laws to include firearms with magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds; and pushing for the Pregnancy Information Disclosure and Protection Ordinance, which prohibits clinics from making false or misleading statements so as to halt the practice of pro-life proponents posing as full service providers.

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Under the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Community Service Program drivers can perform a public service to pay down their parking citation, working for the equivalent of \$15 an hour, up to \$1,000 a year. The length of time allowed to complete community service, and minimum ticket payments, varies depending on the amount owned. For instance, for citations of \$150 or less service must be completed within six weeks of the ticket, with a \$25 minimum payment; \$151 to \$300 tickets have to be finished within 10 weeks, with at least \$50 paid; \$301 to \$600 citations have a 12-week completion time and a \$75 minimum fee. Low income drivers can have one enrollment charge waived each calendar year.

According to SFMTA, between program launch in 1976 and 2016, 524 drivers provided 8,000 hours of community service, with half of these hours related to performing neighborhood clean-up under the auspices of San Francisco Public Works and the remaining time associated with 45 different organizations, including the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank.

SFMTA offers a monthly payment plan regardless of income. Applications must be submitted within 60 days of a citation, with an initial \$25 fee – \$5 for low-income households – and minimum monthly payments of between \$25 and \$50.

Various Apps have emerged to help drivers dodge citation charges. After appearing on the television show, "Shark Tank," in 2013 "Fixed" was

launched to enable drivers to photograph a ticket and send it to a lawyer, who could then identify common errors and draft a customized letter protesting it, reducing most of the legwork and time people had to spend fighting a ticket. The App was blocked in San Francisco, among other large cities, just two years later. It has since been acquired by the law firm Lawgix.

"Xstreet" offers information on street cleaning schedules and other parking rules to help users understand limitations in particular areas. It sends cellphones alerts noting street sweeping days and when to move parked vehicles. Launched in 2016, the service relies on community members and public data to keep drivers abreast of parking regulations and spaces and avoid infractions.

Crowdfunded in 2014, SpotAngels deploys a Bluetooth feature to remind drivers when to move their vehicles to avoid a ticket. Headquartered in San Francisco, the company allows users to check for parking spots real-time, helping to find free and cheap parking. The App can also be used to determine in which areas parked vehicles are most at risk of being cited.

According to San Francisco Open-Data, the City generates \$124 million annually from parking tickets. These funds help support parking enforcement assets: "parking control officers," deployed on the ubiquitous three-wheeled SFMTA vehicles with blinking lights; and administrative overhead. In 2018, SFMTA's board of directors approved a \$1.2 billion operating budget for fiscal year 2019.

PARKING from front page

is attached to its wheel, rendering it undriveable. It costs \$505 to have the boot removed; if payment isn't made within three days the car is impounded.

For vehicles that have never been previously towed the administrative

fee is reduced to \$200.75. Drivers can have the entire fee waived if they have an annual income at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level based on household size. A one-person household would need to have a yearly income of less than \$24,280 to qualify, with a two-person household required

November 2018 Outreach

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- Nov. 13
- Nov. 27
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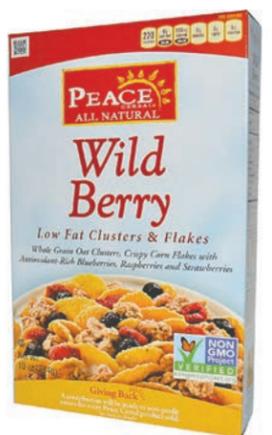
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