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Board of Education President Shamann Walton in the Hunt for District 10 Supervisor

BY BRETT YATES

Last March, Shamann Walton formed a campaign committee to organize his run for the District 10 seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. As San Francisco Board of Education president, Walton entered the 2018 race boasting arguably the highest profile of any of the candidates. He quickly earned endorsements from Mayor Ed Lee, State Senator Scott Wiener, State Assemblyman Phil Ting, San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Adachi, and San Francisco Supervisors Ahsha Safai and Sandra Fewer. Walton became the first District 10 candidate to cross the \$10,000 fundraising threshold that requires public disclosure and, as of October, had raised roughly \$50,000 for his campaign.

If Walton appears to have an early advantage in the contest, his standing in City politics which granted it didn't come easily. Walton spent his early years in public housing in Bayview and Potrero Hill before moving to Vallejo at age 11 with his mother. After his 2014 election to the San Francisco school

board, the *Vallejo Times-Herald* ran a profile of Walton in which he recalled that he "spent several stints in juvenile hall" and "was expelled from the Vallejo City Unified School District on more than one occasion" during an adolescence plagued by fears that he'd "end up dead or in jail by the time I was an adult."

With the help of a mentor, Vallejo community activist Philmore Graham, Walton graduated from high school and attended Morris Brown College in Atlanta. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in political science, he returned to the East Bay to work at the Boys and Girls Club, and then to San Francisco for a position at the Potrero Hill Family Resource Center, where he eventually became director, and for a Masters of Public Administration at San Francisco State University.

At the Potrero Hill Family Resource Center, Walton became involved with the San Francisco Unified School District. As a school readiness coordinator, he developed kindergarten transition programs, parent workshops, and initiated the annual Peace March

by Daniel Webster and Starr King elementary schools, which celebrated its ninth year last June. In 2010, Walton became executive director of Young Community Developers, a workforce training nonprofit in Bayview-Hunters Point that, when Walton took over, had a nine-person staff and a \$750,000 annual budget. Under his direction, the organization grew: it now has 40 employees and a \$7.9 million budget.

Walton's first run for school board in 2012 was unsuccessful; he finished sixth in a field where the top four vote-getters are elected. In 2014, he was the second most popular candidate elected. In 2016, he became the board's vice president. The school board's leadership positions are determined by an internal vote annually, with the previous year's vice president typically replacing the president. At the start of 2017, Walton succeeded Matt Haney in that position.

Last year, Walton and Haney co-authored an editorial in the *San Francisco Chronicle* to explain SFUSD's controversial decision to drop their

SHAMAN WALTON continues on page 10

The New School of San Francisco Brings Unique Curriculum to Potrero Hill

BY BRETT YATES

Last summer, two schools moved into the Enola Maxwell campus, 655 De Haro Street, which'd been largely vacant for more than a year after International Studies Academy relocated to different grounds. One of the two institutions now housed on the site is San Francisco International High School, San Francisco Unified School District's only school dedicated exclusively to accommodating newly immigrated teenagers. The other fresh tenant is the New School of San Francisco, a tuition-free charter school that currently serves kindergarteners through third-graders.

The New School of San Francisco educates 184 pupils on the first floor of the three-story Enola Maxwell building; the high schoolers occupy the upper two. Inaugurated in 2015, the New School moved to Potrero Hill after two years at 19th and Alabama streets. According to head of school, Emily Bobel Kilduff, the new space is three and a half times larger than the old one, where they started with

only 80 students. "Even just having a blacktop and not having to walk 15 minutes each way to a park is pretty game-changing," she said.

Bobel Kilduff noted that New School was able to secure its latest campus owing to Proposition 39, the 2000 ballot initiative that declared that California public school facilities should be shared fairly among all public school students, including those in charters. She described it as "a legal process that guarantees a charter school space from the district, space that's considered adequate and comparable to another public school. It's a somewhat lengthy process that we went through with the District, but essentially we put forward our preferences, and we preferred the Potrero-Mission area because that's where we opened our doors two years ago, and we wanted to stay in the vicinity so the move was as feasible for our families as possible."

She added that the New School is "intentionally diverse. We want our school demographics to mirror the demographics of San Francisco,

which means including people of all backgrounds and neighborhoods in the City, so it was our priority to be centrally located, and given that there is a higher percentage of low-income families in the south and southeast parts of the City, we wanted to be more accessible to those families, who have the greatest barriers to being able to access great schools."

The New School's primary distinguishing characteristic, according to Bobel Kilduff, is its pedagogical method, which follows an inquiry-based learning model, as opposed to problem- or project-based education. Inquiry-based learning introduces "big questions" – like, "What did the Big Bang look and feel like?" or "Why is there injustice in the world?" – that center on students' curiosities, allowing them to accumulate knowledge through the exploratory process of

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Pier 70 Project Moves Forward

BY JACOB BOURNE

Following San Francisco Port Commission approval in September, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to endorse Forest City's mixed-use Pier 70 project in late October. The scheme has entailed more than a decade of planning, beginning in 2007 with the Port's issuance of a master plan for development of 69 acres of historic lands along the Central Waterfront.

Forest City is constructing a 28-acre portion, part of the Pier 70 Special Use District. In addition to the developer's acreage, the SUD includes 3.4 acres of Port-owned property at Illinois and 20th streets and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) "Hoedown Yard," a 3.6-acre parcel at Illinois and 22nd streets.

"Transformative projects like Pier 70 take time, commitment and partnership to create," said Jack Sylvan, Forest City senior vice president. "...it's clear that the community feels great about the plans...so many people have worked so hard to shape something special for Pier 70... The Port of San Francisco has also been a great partner in structuring a win-win public private partnership."

In line with the requirements of Proposition F, passed by almost 73 percent of San Francisco voters in 2014, the project will deliver up to 2,150 residential units, 1.75 million square feet of offices, and up to 445,000 square feet of retail, light industrial and arts space over the next eight to 11 years. Construction is expected to start in February 2018.

"The plans reflect what the community wants in a great new waterfront neighborhood," Sylvan added. "The project fulfills promises to rehabilitate

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PUBLISHER'S VIEW

Cyber-Stranger Danger

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

No parent would willingly allow a stranger to enter their home, slip down the hallway unseen, enter their child's bedroom, closing the door softly behind them. Yet that's exactly what's happening through the portals of mobile devices, all too often leading to actual physical encounters arranged through such applications as Tinder, Snapchat, and texting.

Nine out of 10 American teenagers access the Internet through cellphones, tablets, or other mobile devices. While most parents monitor their children's text messages and email, almost one-third don't, and new apps are constantly emerging that help hide interactions, particularly ones that consist of images. As a result, there's growing likelihood that a child will encounter someone in cyberspace that they've never physically met, who has no connection to their school, family, or recreational activities, and of whom their parents are completely unaware.

Often those encounters result in cyber-bulling. Almost half of all teenagers have been sent intimidating or threatening messages. One-fifth have confronted someone who has lied about who they are, a phenomenon sufficiently prevalent it has a name: catfishing.

Meanwhile, academic pressures, a degradation in family and community cohesiveness, and saturation of social media, with its emphasis on curated photographs and "likes," is eroding teenagers' confidence, particularly girls. This makes them more susceptible to "online grooming," another trend popular enough to have its own definition: "actions deliberately undertaken with the aim of befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a child, in order to lower the child's inhibitions in preparation for sexual activity with the child," according to the International Association of Internet Hotlines.

Risks of cyber-stranger danger are likely to grow, and get younger. Today, an average American child is gifted their first mobile device when they're 12; more than half of eight to 12-year-olds have a cellphone. It seems likely that before too long most eight-year-olds will possess such a device. New technology is enabling trusted images

to be manipulated to say or do just about anything. "Cookie Monster" can tender an invitation to the park for a playdate; "Josh Hutcherson" can throw out a party invite.

We need to catchup to the cyber-wave that threatens to drown our children, and adopt stronger safeguards that keep strangers away. Some interventions – no mobile device use in closed-door bedrooms; phone stowed faraway from sleeping children well before bedtime; adoption of devices like "Circle," which, for a fee, filters and enforces time limits on Internet-enabled devices – are in parents' hands.

Others merit state action. These include requiring all mobile devices to register their users' age, which should in turn act to block access to inappropriate sites and apps, or require parental override to gain admittance to anything. Such an approach is along the lines of requiring identification when buying alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis at a corner market. Similarly, children-registered mobile devices should be enabled to make all incoming contacts appear on parents' devices, so they can monitor with whom their kid is coming into contact, if not the substance of the interactions.

A fraction of a penny "text tax" should be placed on every message sent to a child-registered device, paid by the owner of the app or website being used for the communications, with the resulting revenues dedicated to supporting youth and children services, as well as associated law enforcement. Children and their families should have ready-access to counseling and coaching services, as well as immediate, effective, and sensitive responses to cyber-bulling or worse.

Cyberspace is the new frontier. It can be as dangerous as crossing the ocean a millennium ago, made even more so by the economic imperative that underpins the evil characteristics of seemingly innocent ventures, such as Tinder and Snapchat. Its borders will continue to expand, creating constant new access to trolls and other Google goblins. We need outposts out there, places of safety for our children, protection from things whose existence we haven't yet even imagined.

SHORT CUTS

Parking

A parking space dedicated to handicapped individuals is now available in front of the Potrero Branch Library, with an additional public space for 20th Street shoppers, replacing the two **Zipcar** spots formerly located there. The change was sparked after Hill resident and former mayor **Art Agnos** conveyed to **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency** Director **Ed Reiskin** that, up until now, there hasn't been any designated handicapped parking within five blocks of the Library. According to Agnos, "Ed was terrific...he understood it immediately and promised to correct the absence of a suitable handicapped parking spot for library users and he did just that." Zipcar now has two spots located two blocks east on 20th, behind **Daniel Webster Elementary School**'s playground.

Cannabis

Proposed changes to a Tennessee Street warehouse related to developing a cannabis nursery have been withdrawn. The sponsor appears to have walked away from the project, though indications are that other investors are circling around the concept... Activities housed at the Hall of Justice will be moving to 350 Rhode Island Street, as well as South-of-Market facilities. Conditions at the 59-year-old Hall have deteriorated over the years, with regular power outages, raw sewage leaks, frequent flooding, broken elevators, and asbestos exposure...Noise complaints poured in from Potrero Hill residents as music poured out of Alicia Keys and Lenny Kravitz at The Concert for UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals, a benefit presented by **Salesforce.org** in conjunction with the annual Dreamforce conference last month. "I should not be assaulted in my home with the doors and windows closed and the TV on as I was last night," stated **Rose Marie Ostler**, in an email to government officials. "I heard every singer and the music last night. When the Rolling Stones appeared the first night's noise was horrendous, many called, and lo and behold we heard nothing the second night. As I told Mr. Felder of the Giant's it's obvious speakers can be arranged so we hear nothing on Potrero Hill...I

refuse to have the peace and quiet in my home disturbed."

Carolina Street

As reported in the *View's* September issue, the **San Francisco Planning Commission** approved a proposal to renovate and expand a single-family home located at 891 Carolina Street. The endorsement was rendered during a discretionary review hearing held last summer, with modifications involving the removal of two decks. The revised plans were submitted and approved last fall. The Commission's decision was criticized by nearby residents, who view the project as out of scale with surrounding homes due to its height and footprint. **Robin Bishop**, who requested the DR, had advocated for elimination of the proposed fourth floor so the height would better match surrounding properties, which largely consist of two- and three-story houses. **Kris Gardner**, owner of 897 Carolina Street, believes that the Planning Commission's decision sets a concerning precedent for future neighborhood development, and doesn't adhere to the *Residential Design Guidelines*, which were created to preserve community character. Although the *View* article cited the proposed height as 34.6 feet, according to Planning staff the official height is approximately 37 feet, as measured from the top of the curb to the midpoint of the pitched roof. Gardner maintains that the height is 39.5 feet based on a previous Planning document. Height measurements vary depending on how they're taken; the zoning code allows up to 40 feet.

Recycling

The Good Life Grocery is struggling to overturn a \$12,000 fine that was imposed by **Cal-Recycle** because the store didn't provide can and bottle redemption services, a state requirement that was lifted in June when a centralized recycling center opened nearby. Other close by outlets, including **Whole Foods**, **Trader Joe's**, and **Safeway** opted to pay similar fines instead of offering onsite redemption. Cal-Recycle send a Second Notice last month, warning that unless payment is received the issue will be sent to a collection agency...

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THE VIEW IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED NEWSPRINT WITH SOY-BASED INK.
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Islais Creek SFMTA Facility Fails to Deliver on its Promises

BY MICHAEL IACUESSA

As the San Francisco Municipal Transit Agency's (SFMTA) new Islais Creek facility nears completion, a coalition of labor and environmental groups who helped spearhead its approval feel like they've been stranded at the proverbial bus stop.

The \$127 million complex will replace SFMTA's 67-year old Kirkland facility near Fisherman's Wharf, which houses more than half of the City's bus fleet. In addition to parking for 160 hybrid busses, the 8.4-acre site, located between Indiana Street and Interstate 280, will include a repair building, washing station and a maintenance and operations structure.

It was supposed to feature a two-story entry lobby, with public restrooms and wraparound staircase leading to a balcony overlooking the creek. The idea was for the public to be able to utilize the lobby as a meeting room, and view environmental artifacts and displays honoring the area's labor history. Just the meeting room has survived; it may wind up being accessible only by appointment. It's been cut off from the lobby, which has shrunken, according to architect Robin Chiang, to "a staircase vestibule."

Chiang, whose firm, Robin Chiang and Company, specializes in transportation facilities, was hired as a subcontractor to the project's engineering firm, URS Corporation, to develop initial designs. Chiang also serves as executive director of Friends of Islais Creek, which lobbied to obtain approval for the development. Based on early schemes, the Bay Conservation and Development and San Francisco Arts commissions gave their endorsements. After delays, SFMTA decided to collaborate with the San Francisco Public Works Department instead of URS, leading to plan changes.

SFMTA first purchased four acres of land in 1990 from a private entity on which to eventually build the facility. Around the same time, Friends of Islais Creek, which predominantly advocates on behalf of environmental issues, was cleaning up the waterway, which'd been polluted and neglected for years. In the mid-1990s, Friends partnered with International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) retirees, who wanted the site to pay homage to San Francisco's labor history.

A Cargill plant, which processed coconut oil from copra – dried coconut meat – had been located alongside Islais Creek. Copra was a major export from the City during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Cargill's Islais Creek facility operated from 1947 until 1974, closing when the Philippines raised tariffs on coconut exports. ILWU members formed the Copra Crane Labor Landmark Association (CCLLA) to lobby to restore the Copra Crane on the site. The crane was deployed to load livestock feed, a common usage of crushed copra, onto outboard vessels. It was the last remnant of hand-operated bulk cargo gear on the waterfront. According to ILWU historian Harvey Schwartz, CCLLA, with assistance from noted union activist Archie Green, convinced the environmentalists that the five-story crane could be an eye-catcher for their restoration efforts.

SFMTA eventually purchased adjacent land from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the California Department of Transportation. When it went before the BCBD and SFAC ten years ago, Friends and CCLLA spoke in favor of the project based on their input into the original designs. And, in a budget transfer request in 2009, SFMTA wrote that it "has worked with many community stakeholders to create an attractive and functional waterfront park on land that is currently vacant."

Budget challenges kept the facility from being built until recently. Over the years, three CCLLA members, including Green, passed away. SFMTA has itself gone through a succession of project managers.

Before project construction went out to bid, Chiang noticed changes to the blueprints and began to make inquiries. He believed that elimination of the balcony was a significant alteration to the building's exterior that should've triggered another review by the Arts Commission, which has jurisdiction over all structures on public property. The balcony, he said, had a unique design in that it "stuck out like a diving board, straight out." He sent several emails and letters of complaint to SFMTA. "I thought it was really important we do this before it goes out to bid because it is going to be too expensive to change later," he said.

Chiang thinks Public Works altered design elements without realizing their

relevance. He believes the lobby was eliminated because it was too complicated; the balcony nixed because Department staff misread the blueprint and erroneously thought it crossed a property line. For its part, the Arts Commission stated to the *View* that many of the changes were building code-related, over which it has no jurisdiction.

SFMTA Public Information Officer Adrienne Heim and other Agency staff have met with neighborhood leaders over these issues thrice. At an October gathering Heim reported that access to the meeting room would likely require an appointment, and only be available when the security budget allowed a guard to be onsite. She was uncertain whether the room would be accessible during night or weekend hours.

Although the gathering didn't include a tour of the facility, which is due to be finished this month, Chiang explained that when people enter there'll be no place to go except the stairs or elevator, and thus they'll have to be escorted. "Originally, the lobby was supposed to be so that the public could go in and look at displays and then go up the stairs to the balcony," he said.

As for the homage to industrial heritage, Heim stated that just \$10,000 has been set aside for internal displays and signs on the promenade along the creek.

Janet Carpinelli, a Dogpatch Neighborhood Association member, expressed frustration at the meeting. "It seems the MTA made a lot of mistakes along the way and now you are asking us to live with them," she said. Later, she remarked to the *View*, "How are people going to get to see what is inside if they are only allowed access a few times a year?"

SFMTA has proposed erecting signage along the creek's walkway similar to what recently was installed at Tennessee and Tubbs streets to honor the Tubbs Cordage Rope Com-

pany. According to David Fletcher, who served as the landscape architect for that site, and attended the October SFMTA meeting, \$10,000 won't cover research and printing costs. "SFMTA needs to establish a budget and a plan with guidance from the community," he said. He echoed others in the room in believing that SFMTA is applying whatever's leftover in the budget to the elements promised to the community.

Carpinelli is also concerned about plans to maintain the outside area as a public park. SFMTA is responsible for a 40- by 800-foot shoreline strip that features a parklet and cement walkway. According to Carpinelli, homeless encampments have moved in along the northern side near I-280.

Heim indicated that cleanup and graffiti removal is planned, but that Caltrans is responsible for the parcel under I-280, and hasn't issued a timetable for the activity. The northern part of the shoreline leading up to the highway is under Port control. Under a state law enacted last fall, the City can lease Caltrans land at 30 percent of market rate but, while the City is looking at a handful of parcels to do that, the Islais Creek area isn't on its agenda.

SFMTA's plan calls for benches, pedestrian and bicycle paths and an art structure.

Dennis Montalto, who lives nearby and has walked along the creek for 25 years, stated at the meeting that the City has an opportunity to build something on the waterfront of which it can be proud. "It's a beautiful park, and right there in your backyard. It should be your gold star," he said. He referenced the *Central Waterfront Area Plan*, which calls for creating a loop of open space between Islais Creek and the Third Street drawbridge.

Further dismaying neighborhood groups is news that Copra Crane res-

SFMTA continues on page 9



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State Senator Scott Wiener Gets High Marks in First Year

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

During his first year in office, California State Senator Scott Wiener (D) has authored or supported legislation to support LGBT rights, affordable housing, and transportation funding.

"This year is a really eventful year, in which I had 11 bills signed into law by Governor Brown," said Wiener, who represents District 11, which covers the City and Peninsula to South San Francisco. "I authored SB 35, the Housing Accountability and Affordability Act, which made all communities contribute to our housing need; SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, provides \$5.2 billion for roads and maintenance. One billion is going to public transit," said Wiener.

Wiener is proud of passage of Senate Bill (SB) 219, an anti-discrimination measure that protects LGBT seniors living in long-term care facilities; SB 282, which increases access to prepared food for low income homeless, elderly, and disabled individuals; and SB 458, which created five mobile recycling pilot programs throughout the state. Administered by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, SB 458 serves to remove redemption obligations from small grocery stores.

"We have a solemn responsibility to resist the Trump administration," Wiener said. "My colleagues have been awesome in showing their solidarity.

We show that California values are still here. They're American values: inclusivity, diversity, and access to health care."

Wiener formerly served as District 8 Supervisor. He now chairs the Senate Human Services Committee, and is a member of the Appropriations, Public Safety, Transportation and Housing, and Energy committees.

Wiener won his seat in a close 2016 race against District 6 Supervisor Jane Kim, prevailing with a roughly four percent margin. His goals for the remainder of his term include criminal justice system reform; securing more funding for kindergarten through twelfth grade schools, to increase access to science, technology, engineering, and math education and to close the achievement gap between low-income Black and Latino students and scholars with other ethnic and racial backgrounds. Wiener also wants to raise access to public transportation, and accelerate "...California's move toward 100 percent clean energy."

Wiener is a past chair of the San Francisco County Transportation Authority. He formerly represented the City on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District. Prior to being elected Supervisor, he worked as a deputy City Attorney and co-chaired the board of

SCOTT WEINER continues on page 14

Assembly Member David Chiu Champions Housing

BY JACOB BOURNE

David Chiu (D), was elected to represent the 17th Assembly District, which covers San Francisco's eastern neighborhoods, in 2014, after serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 3, for the previous five years, including as Board president.

"I'm a big supporter of David Chiu," said Bruce Agid, Berry Street resident. "I've watched him when he was on the Board of Supervisors as District 3 Supervisor and president of the Board. I was impressed by the way he could collaborate and work with the Board, gaining consensus on measures to move things forward. He has a really good feel for the issues. It's so critical to find common ground. Elected officials can be very ideological, but that's not necessarily effective at the end of the day. David has demonstrated that he can move things forward."

Agid is pleased with Chiu's recent work on immigrant's rights, including a Chiu-authored bill signed into law in October that prohibits employers from allowing federal immigration agents on private property without a judicial warrant. Chiu championed the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act, passed last fall, which forbids landlords from disclosing the immigration status of their tenants to authorities.

Chiu chairs the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, which focuses, in part, on ad-

dressing housing supply shortages for those earning low and middle incomes. Former Mayor Art Agnos is satisfied with Chiu's record on civil and human rights, as well as environmental issues, but wants to see the legislator do more to alleviate the housing affordability crisis.

"The central issue in San Francisco is how we're going to use our land and for whom," said Agnos. "We need to manage development in a way that preserves a sense of opportunity for newcomers and creates affordability for the poor and middle class. How that challenge is addressed is going to determine a lot about the livability of our City. David Chiu is not as aggressive as I would like on land use issues; he pays too much deference to how much developers say they can afford in terms of affordable housing."

Chiu co-sponsored Assembly Bill 1506, to repeal the Costa Hawkins Act of 1995, which prohibits rent control on single family homes and newly constructed residences. The bill remains in the committee he chairs. Rhode Island Street resident and elected Assembly delegate in District 17 – a Democratic Party position to represent community interests – doesn't believe that Chiu is truly invested in the measure's passage.

"He will always support a progressive measure when he knows that it will lose," Becker claimed. "He's not driven

DAVID CHIU continues on page 15

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Cohen Focuses her Final Year on Cannabis Industry Equity

BY JACOB BOURNE

District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen began her term in 2011, was reelected in 2015, and will complete her Board of Supervisors tenure in January 2019. She chairs the Budget and Finance and Budget and Finance Federal Select committees. This year, Cohen's legislative attendance has exceeded 92 percent. She's sponsored more than 100 pieces of legislation since January.

In February, Cohen filed to run for a State Board of Equalization seat, garnering endorsements from 16 labor and 74 political organizations and leaders, including outgoing Board of Equalization member Fiona Ma and six of her Board of Supervisors colleagues.

Governor Jerry Brown stripped the scandal-plagued state tax collection agency of most of its powers and duties last summer, prompting Assembly member Rich Gordon to withdraw from the race. "I have come to the conclusion that, fundamentally, you can't solve the problems that are surfacing at the Board of Equalization as long as the board is elected," Gordon said. "The political process candidly interferes with the ability of the board to play its role as a quasi-judicial hearing body."

According to Vermont Street resident, Marcy Fraser, Cohen's lack of accountability to the public makes her a questionable pick for the Board of Equalization, though she doubts her main opponent, State Senator Cathleen Galgiani, will beat her. Fraser, a regular Nextdoor user, said that there's a consensus on that social media platform that it's fruitless to try and get in touch with Cohen or her aides; a response is highly unlikely.

Other community members expressed concerns over Cohen's alleged acceptance of a \$7,300 campaign donation from AT&T in advance of a key vote about relaxing local laws regarding utility box installation by

that company, as reported by *The San Francisco Examiner*.

Tony Kelly, Potrero Hill Democratic Club president and a candidate to replace Cohen, interpreted Gordon's comments as a warning against using the position as a stepping stone for other political offices. Given an absence of significant opposition, he believes Cohen will likely win the seat. He hopes that during the remainder of her term she'll prioritize issues facing District 10.

"Supervisor Cohen has said before that the issues plaguing the most vulnerable populations in District 10 were here before she was in office and will continue after she's gone," Kelly stated. "I would hope that, in her last year in office, the Supervisor would attempt to listen to those populations more and work much more proactively on those issues. But I hope that every year."

Rose Marie Ostler, a Carolina Street resident who's lived in Potrero Hill for 71 years, is frustrated that Cohen isn't more responsive to District 10 residents. "All she wants to do now is move up the ladder," she said.

Ostler related an experience as a St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church parishioner, in which she solicited Cohen's help on parking issues during church services. Ostler said that at the time Cohen was running for a second term. She came to the parish, but used the occasion to speak about her campaign, instead of showing interest in parking challenges. According to Ostler, churches in other neighborhoods have made special arrangements with the City for parishioners to park during services; Cohen took no action in this case.

According to a Wisconsin Street resident who preferred to remain anonymous, overall Cohen has done a

MALIA COHEN continues on page 15

Tony Kelly Hopes That Third Time's the Charm in District 10 Supervisor Race

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

that supports neighborhood parks and recreation.

It's Kelly's third campaign for the District 10 position; he ran in 2010 and 2014 against current Supervisor Malia Cohen, finishing second in the most recent race. "For me, serving as supervisor would be the strongest way to advocate for the neighborhoods," said Kelly.

Kelly's goals include replacing informal homeless encampments with campsites located on public land that provide safe, clean, and secure sleeping spaces. He hopes to work with the City to continue funding for deportation hearings for indigent undocumented immigrants. And he wants to improve compliance with municipal language access laws, enabling more people to understand government signs and communications.

Kelly hopes to address health and education disparities related to income and race. "We are in the most unequal district in the most unequal city in America. Development isn't stopping. They're looking right down Third Street. I want to help try to get more out of developers and manage growth," said Kelly.

Kelly wants to start a municipal bank, as a means to expand the City's financing capacity. "We have a \$10 billion budget and about \$7 billion in reserves. A portion of the money should work harder for us. A small portion of it could be used to leverage loans for affordable housing or infrastructure," he said.

Kelly serves as Potrero Hill Democratic Club president. He's also a theater director, freelancing with San Jose Stage Company. In addition, Kelly is the art director for *Playbill*, a monthly print magazine devoted to theater news. He said his 15 years of work in Southside neighborhoods has educated him on District 10's unique issues.

"It's the biggest district in the City, with three very different neighborhoods and many micro neighborhoods. We have many new buildings. Yet we also have a homeless crisis, which we should solve with safe, supportive, and transitive housing. We don't have any new transit lines. We have car ownership going up in this area. We need to decrease pollution and cleanup along the waterfront. I want District 10 residents to be able to live longer, happier, healthier, more productive lives," said Kelly.

Kelly served as Potrero Boosters president from 2003 to 2010, 2011 to 2013. He was on the formation committee for the Green Benefit District, a property tax-funded organization

During the 2014 election, Kelly faced criticism for an unpaid \$200,000 loan the City provided Thick Description, a theater company he directed, which has since folded. "Thick Description had a settlement agreement with the City in late 2009...was finally signed and completed in 2014. Thick Description has completed its obligations under the agreement," he said.

Matt Gonzalez, an attorney with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office and Board of Supervisors president from 2001 to 2005, is endors-

TONY KELLY continues on page 9

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Theo Ellington Enters Race for District 10 Supervisor

BY BRETT YATES

In September, Theo Ellington filed with the San Francisco Department of Elections to become a candidate in the 2018 District 10 Supervisor race. "I'm running, quite simply, because every family, not just the wealthy folks, should have the opportunity to live here in San Francisco," he declared.

Ellington grew up "right off Third and Palou" in a house owned by his grandfather, who had moved to San Francisco from Mississippi. Ellington called it "your typical migration story: after the war, he came over looking for a better opportunity for his family and landed right in the heart of what we now know as Sunnydale. He was your typical hardworking man. He found a job as a laborer, building the roads and freeways across the City, and he eventually saved up enough money to purchase a home."

Last year, Ellington was able to "relive" his grandfather's dream by buying his own Bayview house. "For me, that's laying claim here in the City, making sure that me and my future family have a place to live and call our own," he said. As supervisor, he hopes to ensure that others have a chance to do the same. "I will definitely work to increase the supply of housing at every level."

As a mayor-appointed commissioner for the San Francisco Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure between 2012 and 2014, Ellington oversaw the redevelopment of the Hunters Point Shipyard, Mission

Bay, and the Transbay Terminal site. "At the time, we provided the most funding for affordable housing in San Francisco," he asserted, explaining that the goal was to create a "housing ladder" for the formerly homeless, low-income families, the working class, and senior citizens. The position gave him "vital land-use experience."

Ellington recognizes that as District 10's population grows, greater investment in local infrastructure will be necessary. "To be quite frank, the T-train sucks," he opined. "It's unreliable and causes a lot of frustration, and up there with my priorities is making sure our transit options are in line with the demands of development. In Dogpatch, the population is set to triple in a matter of three years, and the amenities have not yet met the demands. Transit is lacking. Making sure the sidewalks are safe, making sure there are enough parks and open spaces; these are things that every other neighborhood has enjoyed, but neighborhoods in the Southeast are kind of left to fend for ourselves."

Ellington views Dogpatch as "a case study for what will happen in Bayview in a matter of three to five years." The "north-south connection by way of the T-train" must be "substantially improved," but "we've also got to make sure that our east-west connections are made," he said.

Ellington first developed a "deep concern" for his community during middle school, when "I realized that my walk to school every day up in Hunters Point was plotted by balloon shrines,"

many of which memorialized "folks who I knew, who were classmates, who were kids from the neighborhood, who were shot and killed due to gun violence. I knew that we deserved something better on this side of town, and that me becoming numb to the gun violence was not a normal feeling, so that was kind of the spark for me to say, hey, I've got a responsibility to serve my neighborhood in that capacity."

While an undergraduate at Notre Dame de Namur – where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science before moving on to the University of San Francisco for a Master of Arts in urban affairs – Ellington served as a field coordinator for Malia Cohen's successful 2010 campaign for District 10 Supervisor. After he graduated college, then Mayor Gavin Newsom gave him a spot on the Southeast Community Facility Commission, a division of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission that manages a community center on Oakdale Avenue and an adjacent set of greenhouses on Phelps Street.

In 2012, Ellington started a political club, the Black Young Democrats of San Francisco, which led opposition to Mayor Ed Lee's proposal to implement New York City's stop-and-frisk policing tactics – which target African-Americans and Latinos at notoriously disproportionate rates – in San Francisco. Lee soon dropped the idea.

In 2014, the Golden State Warriors hired Ellington as their director of public affairs to serve as a liaison between the Warriors and San Franciscans as the team prepared to build its new Mission Bay stadium. Despite fierce local debate over the arena, which culminated in petitions and even lawsuits, Ellington believes that, "generally speaking, folks are supportive of the Warriors coming to San Francisco." Regarding the Chase Center, he said, "We know the economic benefit that it provides, but what I'm most proud of is the initiatives we've put forward that I've worked on to make sure that the community and City leadership was comfortable with the project."

The initiatives revolved primarily around workforce development – "working with both the private and public sector to make sure we're providing real, good-paying jobs for folks," Ellington said – and transit, for which Ellington helped create a "locked-box fund" into which annual deposits will allow "the community

to decide" how to allocate resources for "unmet transportation needs." In Ellington's view, the project provides "a model for other developers as they begin to come to the City."

Last January, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that Ellington – "a member of the centrist slate" – was the top vote-getter in the California Democratic Party Assembly District 17 Delegate Election, "a generally obscure exercise in democracy" in which the eastern half of San Francisco chooses seven men and seven women to attend the annual California Democrats State Convention in Sacramento to vote on party resolutions. The 2017 election was more rancorous – and less obscure – than usual, following the Democrats' nationally disappointing November, as "Reform" candidates from the Bernie Sanders wing of the California party sought, on a local level, to wrest control from the "Rebuild" Clintonists.

Last month, Susan Eslick, Dogpatch Neighborhood Association vice president and Dogpatch & NW Potrero Hill Green Benefit District treasurer, endorsed Ellington for Supervisor, praising his "enthusiasm, organizational skills, and knowledge of the issues facing San Francisco."

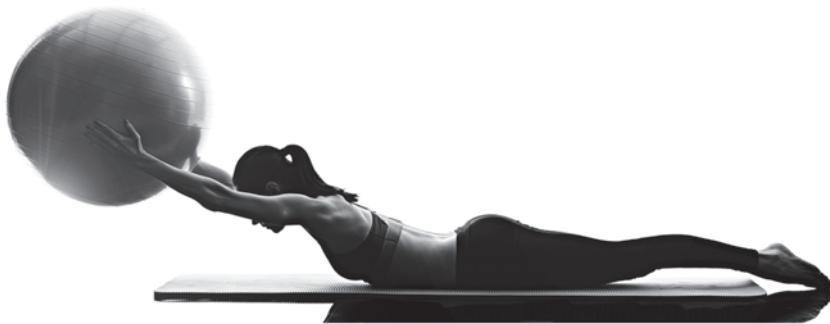
As Supervisor, Ellington promises to monitor development carefully in District 10 and advocate for his constituency's interests. "The interesting thing that I found in the last year or so I've been having these conversations is that, for the first time ever, the same feeling that's in Potrero is in Dogpatch, is in Bayview, is in Viz Valley; folks are feeling overwhelmed by the development that's in the neighborhood, and folks are feeling like they've been left out and don't have a voice in this entire process," he described. "I don't think there's a situation where folks are anti-development, but it's got to conform to some kind of standard, and that standard has to be set for the residents."

Ellington admitted that "there's no one-size-fits-all approach," but "when residents have a seat at the table and developers can implement ideas that are reflective of the neighborhood, you've got something special there."

At age 29, Ellington is the youngest candidate in the District 10 race by a considerable margin, but he's "been fortunate enough to have been put in several leadership positions" already.

THEO ELLINGTON continues on page 18

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2024-2026 22nd St.....	\$2,400,000	444 Kansas St	\$1,900,000	1185 Rhode Island St.....	\$1,528,000
1925 23rd St.....	\$1,450,000	763 Kansas St	\$2,860,682	1366 Rhode Island St.....	\$1,550,000
2204 25th St	\$1,517,000	1029 Kansas St	\$1,450,000	1483 Rhode Island St.....	\$965,000
420 Arkansas St.....	\$1,725,000	1325 Kansas St	\$1,300,000	703 San Bruno Ave	\$2,00,000
541 Arkansas St	\$1,725,000	249 Mississippi	\$1,300,000	1 Southern Heights Ave	\$2,080,000
828 Arkansas St	\$1,150,000	649 Mississippi St.....	\$1,375,000	212 Texas St.....	\$1,362,500
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Long-Time Potrero Annex-Terrace Activist Campaigns for District 10 Supervisor

BY BRETT YATES

Since moving to the Potrero Annex-Terrace housing complex in 2001, after living in Bayview for the previous 20 years, Uzuri Pease-Green has become increasingly involved in community activism. She's especially passionate about issues relating to housing and homelessness, social services, and policing.

She serves on San Francisco Police Department Chief Will Scott's African-American Advisory Committee and the Community Police Advisory Board at Bayview Station, in addition to participating in procedural justice training – which seeks to improve interactions between officers and the public by emphasizing fairness, transparency, legitimacy, and impartiality – at the SFPD Academy. She's a board member of Community Awareness Resources Entity, co-founded by her husband, with a mission to "repair the internal hostility" in Potrero Hill's public housing and "make the neighborhood safe for residents," which held its fourth annual free Thanksgiving dinner at the Potrero Hill Recreation Center last month. And from Monday through Thursday, Pease-Green drops off food donations to single-room occupancy hotels on Sixth Street and Bayview homeless shelters.

In 2010, Pease-Green's broad range of neighborhood involvement coalesced into a job as a community builder for Bridge Housing's Rebuild Potrero project, which broke ground last January.

She functions as "the liaison between Bridge and the community, as far as talking to people, explaining to them about the rebuild, getting them to come to the meetings, helping to organize the meetings, helping to put out some of the fires with the rumors that are going around that we're all going to get kicked out. I wanted to work for Bridge because I wanted to be on the inside to see what they were doing, to make sure we weren't all going to get kicked out," Pease-Green said.

A 2013 *San Francisco Chronicle* article showcased Pease-Green's "walking school bus," a program in which she and her daughter, Urell, escorted kids from Annex-Terrace – where, according to the *Chronicle*, 53 percent of schoolchildren are chronically absent or tardy – to Daniel Webster and Starr King elementary schools to make sure they arrive safe and on time. Volunteers continue the program today, alongside other Bridge Housing outreach initiatives – including a walking club and gardening classes – in which Pease-Green has played a part.

Earlier this year, Pease-Green, a 52-year-old mother of eight and grandmother of 13, graduated from a training program at Emerge California, a nonprofit dedicated to increasing the number of Democratic women in political office. The experience prompted her decision to run for District 10 Supervisor, with the incumbent, Malia Cohen, termed out after 2018.

"I'm definitely the underdog," she attested. Her work at Bridge Housing

had taught her the value of being "on the inside" to "lift up the voices" of her community. "A lot of people feel like they're not being heard or listened to," she said. "I want to go to each part of the District, because of the fact that what might work in Dogpatch might not work in Bayview-Hunters Point."

Although other candidates may talk about District 10's homeless problem, Pease-Green has experienced it firsthand. "I've slept on the sidewalk in a cardboard box. I understand. When you wake up in the morning, you don't say, 'Oh, I think I'm going to be homeless.' It's like a gradual domino effect, and some people don't know how to pull themselves out of it," she explained. "A lot of people say you just need to put them in a house, but that's just not the whole thing to it. People have to be taught how to pay the rent, pay the bills, and not end up homeless again. And then there's mental health issues and substance abuse issues and violence, domestic violence. There's a whole array of things that come with that."

Pease-Green has been clean and sober since March of 2009. She quit alcohol, crack, and cigarettes simultaneously. A graduate of Walden House's rehabilitation program, she subsequently became a drug counselor there. "My life is an open book," she stated. "I actually pride myself that I have been homeless and that I have had an addiction and that I've overcome both of those obstacles and I'm going forward in a positive way."

She's vowed not to forget her period

of hardship. "Years ago, I used to run around and I used to carry a broom, and I would try to sweep people's driveway and try to pull their weeds, and that's how I fed my addiction. Now that I'm sober, I've kept two clients, and I've kept the clients so that it keeps me grounded, so I don't get a fat head. If you get a fat head, you're doomed to repeat and go back into your addiction."

She promises to carry this lesson of humility into politics, where, on the Board of Supervisors, her main priority will be "keeping myself open" to District 10 residents and remaining immersed in the concerns of her community, rather than serving "corporate" interests. "I don't change who I am. I continue to be me. I like people; I like to talk, and I'm boisterous. And I'm not a yes-woman at all," she declared.

Pease-Green acknowledged that she's "running against some good candidates" and that she's "not interested in doing smear campaigns" against them. "[Shamann Walton] is doing what he does, the Board of Education and so forth, and that's good, but I'm also doing what I'm doing in the community." She noted that she's "not using this to go further in the political world. I want to be supervisor; I don't want to become mayor or become a senator or anything like that. That's not my focus."

She hasn't sought any high-profile endorsements: "I don't know anybody but the people." As of October, her

UZURI PEASE-GREEN continues on next page

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Education: A Foundation for Success

BRIDGE Housing conducted a household survey in 2016 to inform the relocation planning process and services provision for Potrero Terrace & Annex (PTA) residents. Through a series of articles, we will share the findings. The focus this month is K-12 Education.



The PTA education picture is mixed: some students are engaged and excelling, while others have farther to go in reaching their full potential.

Survey Highlights:

- 1 in 4 PTA students are chronically absent to school.
- 95% of PTA 4th graders were below the proficient level for math.
- More than half of students participated in an afterschool program.
- Graduation rates for the top 2 PTA-attended high schools are 92% and 80% for Lincoln and Mission High Schools, respectively.
- Most PTA parents want their children to complete four-year college (70%) and obtain advanced degrees (27%). Studies have shown that parents' expectations of how far their children will go in their education also predict educational outcomes. For example, students who reported their parents expected them to go to college reported better attendance and more positive attitudes towards school.

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UZURI PEASE-GREEN from previous page

grassroots campaign had raised about \$2,000. "My community is behind me, which makes me feel really good. I have a lot of people that are behind me a hundred percent," she asserted. "They're like, 'You need to run. We want you to run.' I say OK."

SFMTA from page 3

toration is on hold. The crane is under the control of the Port of San Francisco, which obtained a \$616,534 grant from the California Coastal Conservancy in 2013 for its restoration. However, according to Schwartz, the latest cost estimate to re-erect it is \$1.2 million. The 54-ton crane is currently lying on its side in a Port-owned yard just east of the new SFMTA facility.

TONY KELLY from page 5

ing Kelly in the 2018 election. "I think he'd be very engaged and hands-on. He's a great candidate. He stands for progressive values that show respect for the world. I think he has a significant base in the District. I applaud his commitment to try to win the seat," said Gonzalez.

Nicky Jacobson, founding member of Toes and Paws for Greenspace, a nonprofit that promotes inclusivity for people and dogs at Potrero Hill and Dogpatch parks, supports Kelly as well. "I'm in Dogpatch, less than a block south of Mariposa Street. I'm very concerned about the gentrification happening here. We should be doing it

responsibly. I think we need another progressive voice on the Board. Tony is not in the pocket of developers. He is independent. He represents the voice of the people," said Jacobson.

Kayren Hudiburgh, co-owner of The Good Life Grocery, also favors Kelly. "He is always at every community meeting, commission hearing, and Potrero Boosters meeting. He is totally involved in the neighborhood. Every day it's a new challenge, with so much building going up. Tony's good at putting pressure on developers. He finds new ways at looking at old problems. The same old, same old that we've seen is just not cutting it," said Hudiburgh. "How can we continue to operate and find staff, who usually can't afford to live in the City? This makes it really hard for small businesses to survive."

Hudiburgh said large homeless encampments in District 10 raise concerns for the welfare of those who live in them, as well as nearby workers and residents. "Too much money and too little money collide daily in front of our eyes, with the poor sleeping in doorways and tents. Small business is squeezed on all sides. We have to solve these problems. I think Tony will at least ask the right questions. He's relentless. He'll be the squeaky wheel and get some movement on these issues," she said.

Marsha Pendergrass Maloof, Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association (BHNA) president, is excited about Kelly's campaign. "I think his strengths are that he really understands the communities, not just Potrero Hill, but the District as a whole. I live in Bayview Hill, over near Candlestick Park. Some of the issues that concern me are the

demolition of the stadium and air quality issues. Once candidates for District 10 seat lose, they kind of disappear. Tony's done just the opposite. I think Tony's a really good person in terms of trying to find common ground with residents," said Maloof.

According to Shirley Moore, BHNA vice president, Kelly has a calming voice and approach. "People need hope to get through their daily lives, no matter the challenges. He's solid. We

have been suffering. We feel threatened and left out of the process. There has been no one to listen. I think Tony's leadership, knowledge, and compassion for the community are what District 10 needs right now," said Moore.

"Right now, he's working with us regarding the lack of outreach from the developer on the Candlestick stadium site. We're also working on opposing

TONY KELLY continues on page 18



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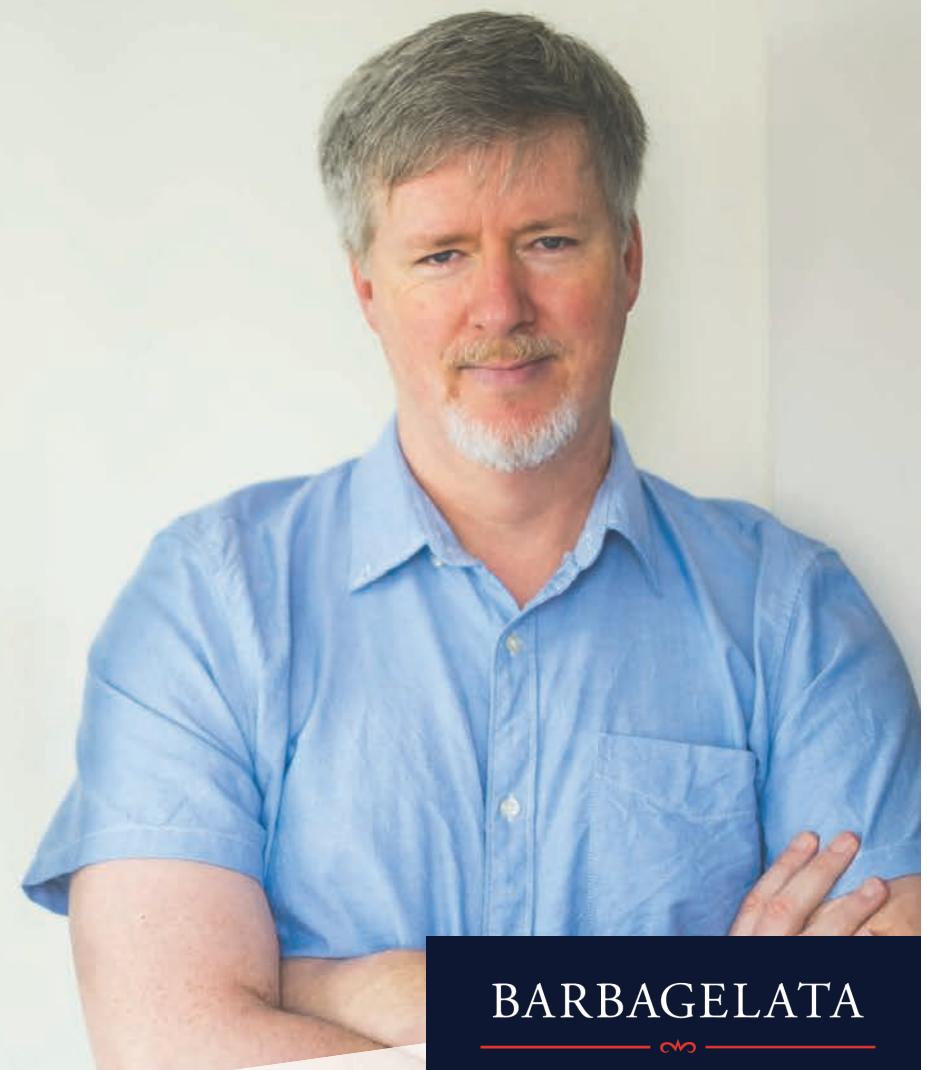
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SHAMMAN WALTON from frontpage

contract with Teach for America: "Teach for America corps members receive just five weeks of teacher training before taking over their own classroom and make a two-year commitment to teach. The school district is required to pay both a fee to Teach for America and the teacher's full salary," they wrote. "After five years, just 17 percent of Teach for America teachers are still teaching in San Francisco, which is lower than half the retention rate of other new teachers."

They concluded that San Francisco "will never build transformational schools, especially for low-income students of color, if we continue to rely on a teaching model of minimal preparation and short-term commitment," pointing out that cities "that serve mostly high-income students, such as Walnut Creek or Palo Alto, don't contract with Teach for America; their school boards would never consider it, and there would be uproar from parents if they did."

In an interview with the *View*, Walton presented himself as the candidate whose *bona fides* had already been proven. "In terms of bringing communities together and effecting change and effecting growth, I have experience in that," he said. "With me you'll get someone who not only understands the District from living in the District, but also understands the District from working in the District, understands policies and practical aspects of how to get things done, and I'd be able to hit the ground running from day one."

Walton is the only candidate thus far who has already been elected to public office. He knows "how to manage budgets" and has "created probably at

least a thousand jobs" in District 10.

In 2016, Walton co-sponsored a ballot measure, Proposition O, that pushed for a special exemption for the Lennar Corporation to build five million square feet of office space in the Hunters Point Shipyard at an unregulated pace. Since 1986, San Francisco has capped new office space at 950,000 square feet per year. Under Proposition O, the Shipyard project, for which Lennar won voter approval in 2008, wouldn't count against this limit.

Critics condemned the measure as a corporate handout, which would allow Lennar to leapfrog over competing developers. In its annual election guide, *San Francisco Bay Guardian* stated that San Francisco "only has the infrastructure to absorb office space, and the jobs and new people it brings to the City, if there are some controls on how much is built every year. The clear facts, borne out by numerous studies, are that new office space doesn't pay even a fraction of the cost of providing Muni, fire and police, water and sewer, and other costs it puts on the City." The defunct paper also questioned "whether moving a bunch of new tech offices into a low-income area will be a gentrification and displacement machine."

Hoping to bring new jobs to a neighborhood that'd lost its main employer, the United States Navy, in 1974 and had never seen comparable reinvestment, Walton looked at it differently. "If we are going to be serious about countering out-migration of the Black population, then we have to be serious about providing the economic engine that is needed for us to stay, to live and work in the community," he

told the *Chronicle*, noting that high rise opponents had put forth the 1986 measure capping office space construction to curb the "Manhattanization" of downtown San Francisco, not to prevent development in disenfranchised outer neighborhoods.

With Young Community Developers, Walton had already co-developed 60 affordable housing units at the Shipyard with Five Point Holdings, Lennar's residential division. Lennar had also contracted with YCD to provide job training and social services for its low-income residents, thus fulfilling part of a community benefits agreement signed by the company that requires it to spend \$8.5 million on workforce development in District 10.

Proposition O passed by a narrow margin last November, winning 51.9 percent of votes, thanks in part to \$2.1 million donated in support by Five Point Holdings.

Walton is co-developing another 156 affordable homes at Candlestick Point with Five Point Holdings. In his *View* interview, he cited affordability – alongside safety, transportation, and school improvement – among his top priorities for District 10. "I think making sure the District and the City are more affordable is a challenge that will continue for a while until we make some policy changes," he said. His primary goals include "keeping the community indigenous and making sure that we manage the growth so that it benefits everyone – because, as you know, we have over 12,000 new homes coming into the District – by making sure that along with the growth we have economic opportunity."

In his view, the City "needs to do more in terms of developing its own

middle-class affordable housing and developing housing for all. With a \$9 billion budget, we can act more like the developers developing our City. If we do that as a City and County, we actually can be more responsible and accountable to the communities in San Francisco."

For the homeless, he advocates "more Navigation Centers, but also actually building more housing to house the homeless, because that's going to be the most important way to address homelessness: to actually put people in housing. So, I'm already working on strategies with the Department of Homelessness here in San Francisco."

Walton called himself "a candidate for all the people" of District 10. "We have some strong neighborhoods in the District," he said, "but they're kind of separate in a lot of ways: Bayview, Dogpatch, Potrero Hill, Viz Valley; not a lot of connectivity. So, I want to bring that connectivity to the entire District and bring neighborhoods together."

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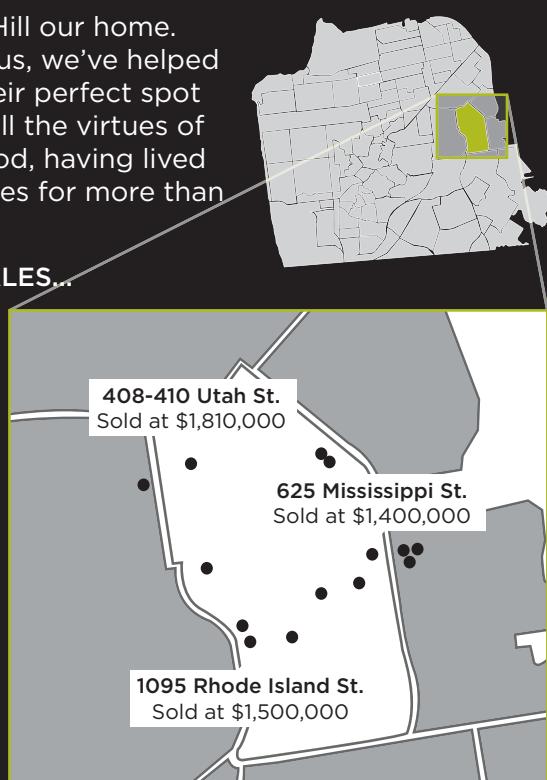
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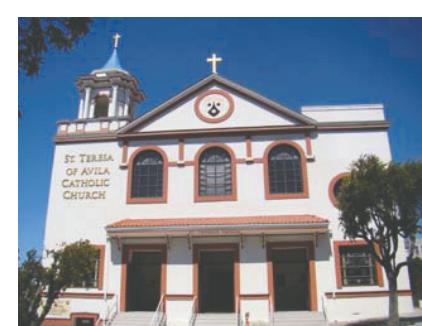
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- DEC 17 PANCAKE BREAKFAST: 9:45AM UNTIL NOON**
- DEC 24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASSES @ 8:30 & 10:00AM**
- DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS 4:15 PM**
CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR MASS 9:00PM
- DEC 25 CHRISTMAS MASSES 8:30 & 10:00AM**
- JAN 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS: 9:00AM**



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COMMUNITY | DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Photo: Courtesy of *The Work*.

2 Holiday: Deck the Dogpatch

Enjoy holiday cheer at this self-guided shopping, food and drink tour of Dogpatch, with popups throughout. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. From Third and 19th to Indiana and 26th streets.

2 Holiday: Gingerbread Pavilions

Be inspired by the "Architectural Pavilions: Experiments and Artifacts" exhibition to embellish your gingerbread house! Basic components — gingerbread house, icing, candies — provided; bring anything you'd like to customize your house. Festive fun for the whole family. Two seatings: 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. \$5 per participant; \$10 per house; \$8 for museum members; identification required. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. Advanced reservation required; more information: <http://bit.ly/2zg8wBw>

12/2 through 1/27/18 Art: The Racism Series

The Racism Series consists of prints produced in 2017, reflective of recent political and human conditions, especially their effects on minority communities. Opening reception: December 8, 6 to 9 p.m. Negative Space Gallery at Dependable Letterpress, 1192 Illinois Street. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2A2sKSo>

5 Art: Free Admission Day

Enjoy free admission to the Museum of Craft and Design on the first Tuesday of every month. More information: <http://bit.ly/2hUVuBu>

6 Music: Daniel Berkman

Potrero Hill resident Daniel Berkman is 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.

7 Music: Goat Hill Geezers

Live music by The Goat Hill Geezers, who do covers of Beatles, Eagles, Everly Brothers, Simon & Garfunkel, Joni Mitchell and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

9 Art: Graphic Arts Workshop 65th Anniversary

Founded in 1952, The Graphic Arts Workshop celebrates 65 years of artistry and printmaking with a grand exhibition of artists past and present. Enjoy live music, myriad artworks spanning six decades, including lithography, etching, woodcut, silkscreen, and monotype, food, and champagne. Free. 3 to 6 p.m. Graphic Arts

11 Holiday: Buñuelos and Mexican Hot Chocolate

Buñuelos and Mexican hot chocolate are traditional holiday treats from Latin America. Share these tasty holiday treats with fellow community members; all are welcome. Free. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Potrero Branch Library, 1616 20th Street. More information: <http://bit.ly/2BfdFuN>

12/12 through 12/19 Holiday: Chanukah 2017

Celebrate Chanukah 2017 with the 43rd annual lighting of the 25-foot tall mahogany Bill Graham Menorah in Union Square. This San Francisco tradition, the brainchild of rock and roll concert promoter Bill Graham, began in 1975. Lighting ceremonies take place from December 12 to 19, at approximately 5 p.m.; Friday at 3 p.m.; Saturday at 7 p.m. More information: <http://bit.ly/2Bflez7>

13 History: Shaping San Francisco

Most San Francisco histories have focused on politicians and City leaders who argued and organized over the years, overlooking the vital role of the emergent middle-class women who spearheaded the Freeway Revolt, and kept it going against overwhelming odds. Revolters helped reclaim the Embarcadero and Hayes Valley from the blight of freeways. Shaping San Francisco is a series of free lectures, which aim to excavate the City's lost history. It's a place to meet and talk unmediated by corporations, official spokespeople, religion, political parties, or dogma. Free. 7:30 p.m. Eric Quezada Center, 518 Valencia Street. More information: <http://bit.ly/25o3Qoc>

16 Holiday: Gift Wrapping Workshop

We'll guide you through

with Level Four convicts. Over time, each man in the room takes his turn at delving deep into his past. 4 to 7 p.m. Free. Sponsored by the Office of the San Francisco District Attorney and C.A.R.E. Bring snacks to share. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. More information: crkahn52@gmail.com

17 Holiday: SFMade Holiday Gift Fair

SFMade presents its Seventh Annual Holiday Gift Fair, featuring made-in-San Francisco gifts from more than 70 different vendors. Products include jewelry, bags, chocolate, wine, home items, apparel, body products, children's toys, holiday cards and decorations, and stationery. Shoppers can also purchase artwork from California College of the Arts students. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. California College of the Arts, 1111 Eighth Street. To register and for more information: <http://bit.ly/2AprTfD>

20 Music: Soul Delights

Join us for a lively performance. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

31 Holiday: New Year's Eve Fireworks

Fireworks will launch at the stroke of midnight from barges located on the Bay just south of the Ferry Building near Pier 14, at Mission Street and The Embarcadero. For tips on viewing locations and more: <http://bit.ly/2j98BA4>

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SCHOOL from front page

addressing those queries, instead of assigning them predetermined projects or problem sets.

"I'm an educator," Bobel Kilduff explained, "so I started as a classroom teacher. I was trained in a very traditional way, which the vast majority of educators are trained in, which is the assumption that the teacher is the one that holds the knowledge, and it's

our job to impart the knowledge to children. And that is guided by a set of state standards that you follow, and we just need to make sure that the kids master those standards, and we assess on those standards, and that's how we know whether or not kids are successful. I've now come to believe that that is a pretty worrisome way to think about how we educate children, and in many ways really doesn't map to what a growing body of research – and

research that's been out for hundreds of years – would tell us about how children learn and develop."

New School seeks to flip the traditional model on its head. "Instead of starting with the adult being the one who holds the knowledge and the information, we start with the premise that kids come to us with a lot of knowledge and information, a lot of great questions, and are curious and passionate about learning. In an inquiry-based model, instead of starting with what kids must know, we start with a 'big question,' and we of course use that question to follow Common Core standards, because, like any public school, we're held accountable to those standards of what one is supposed to know in kindergarten and first grade. And we believe the Common Core standards are rigorous and great; we just believe that there's a way you can get to Common Core standards that's really engaging for kids, that's very hands-on."

New School works with the Exploratorium's Institute for Inquiry to develop curriculum that integrate specific content into broader study arcs, so that "the learning feels very relevant and connected and fun for kids."

New School began as the brainchild of Bobel Kilduff – a Stanford University graduate who taught middle school in the South Bronx before moving into "various leadership positions" with Teach for America, where she worked to build a "pipeline of educators who are committed to disrupting the status quo" – and fellow head of school, Ryan Chapman, another Teach for America alumnus. While some charter schools are founded by for-profit corporations, theirs was an independent, personal

effort, undertaken after two years spent "visiting different school models and building out the blueprint for the design of the school."

Ultimately, they created a petition for their charter and took it to SFUSD, which denied them on the grounds that they lacked a "sound educational model." Bobel Kilduff and Chapman appealed the decision to the State Board of Education, which overturned the District's ruling.

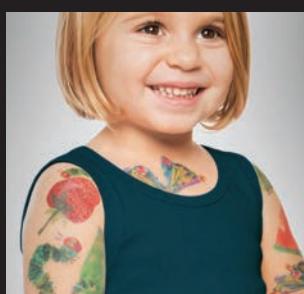
"Not only did the state disagree; the state board has ten members, and we had a unanimous decision, so not one state board member believed our educational model was unsound," Bobel Kilduff recalled. "And what I would also say about that hearing is that it was clear they had done more of their due diligence in actually reading our petition, in terms of the specificity of the questions and the level of the questioning we got at the state level versus the district level. In many ways, I think San Francisco Unified is a very anti-charter school district, and had probably made up their minds before they saw our petition."

Bobel Kilduff calls New School a "boutique charter; we're kind of a stand-alone pilot." With growth and success, a boutique charter can ultimately "become a charter management organization, having multiple campuses with a central office, managing several school sites. We're clearly not there yet. We feel like just trying to demonstrate that you can do inquiry in a public school with a diverse set of learners is challenging enough for us to be focused on. One of our intentions is to be a laboratory school for San

SCHOOL continues on next page



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SCHOOL from previous page

Francisco and the Exploratorium and beyond, so that the work we're doing and what we're learning isn't done in a silo or on an island of privilege, serving just a small number of kids, but rather the curriculum we're developing, what we're learning about inquiry, the individualized learning plans, everything we're doing is open-source, so our impact can be broader than just the four walls of our building."

Federal grants initially funded New School's creation, paying for supplies and teacher salaries. As a charter school, "you don't get your first round of state funding until the fall of your first year." Even now, however, the school's "per-pupil cost exceeds what we get in state funding." Bobel Kilduff spends about 40 percent of her time on fundraising, focusing on a five-year campaign to extend the elementary school to fifth grade, which'll require about \$6 million in private contributions. Many individuals have donated; the largest benefactor has been the William K. Bowes Foundation, a philanthropic organization created by a San Francisco-based venture capitalist, which provided New School with a \$1 million grant. "I'm working on corporate sponsors, but it's a little harder to unlock those dollars," Bobel Kilduff acknowledged.

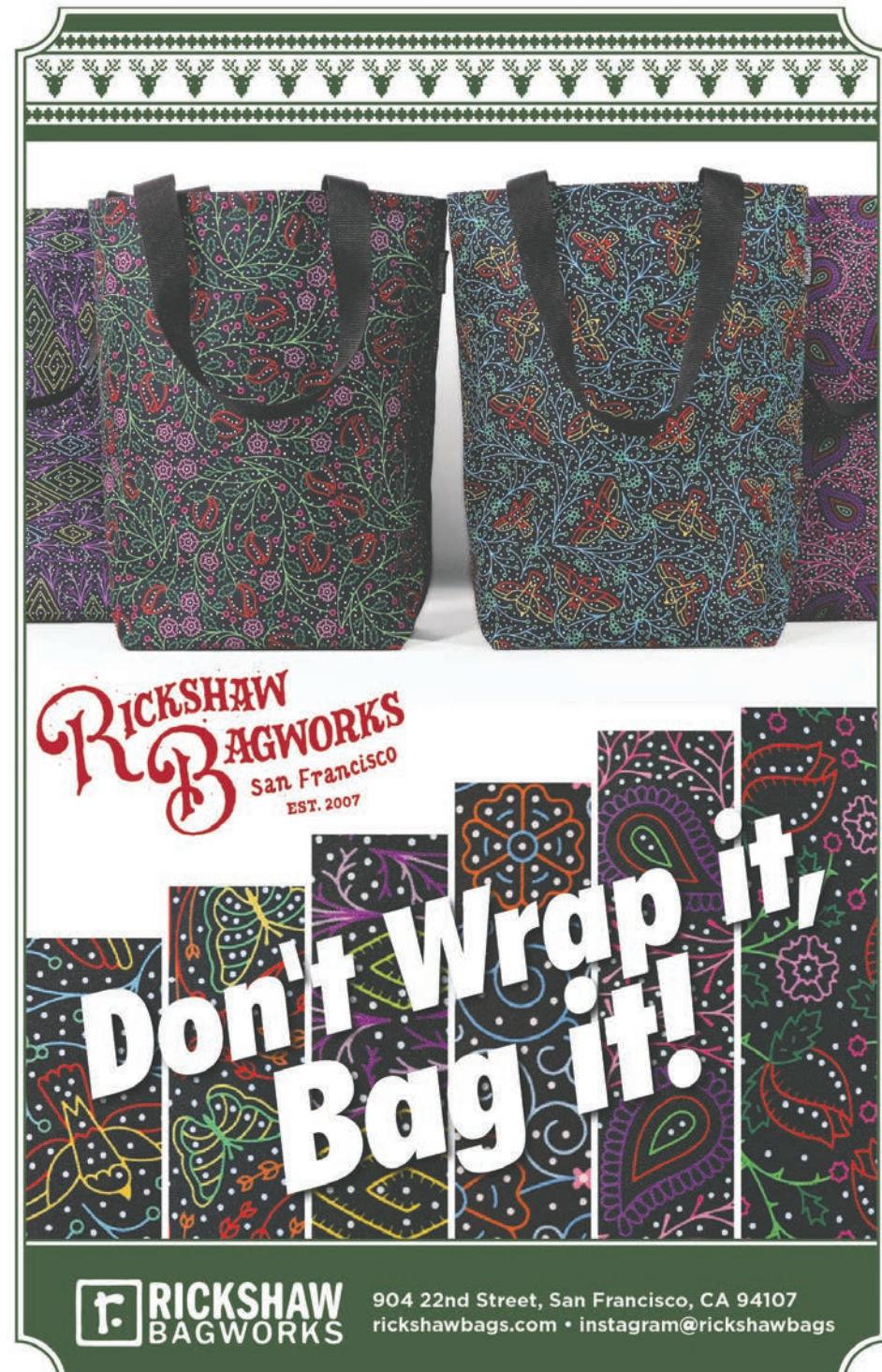
The school's biggest challenge, however, has been finding adequate facilities. In October, tests conducted by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission identified three high school campuses whose tap water showed unsafe lead levels. The worst offender was a water fountain inside the gymnasium at the Enola Maxwell

building, where the lead level reached 860 parts per billion; well above the recommended maximum of 15 parts per billion. The tap was shutoff as soon as the school became aware of the issue.

Apart from this problem, however, Bobel Kilduff is "over the moon" with the Enola Maxwell campus, which the New School shares amicably with IHS, whose students "help with our after-school program." Still, the long-term aspiration is to find "a permanent location that's big enough to house K-12. It's not in our control where, necessarily. By law, the District always has to make an offer to us that can accommodate all of our students, so there'll never be a world in which we're homeless, but the District could offer us a site in the Presidio, and we could take a decision of saying that, gosh, even though that offer is on the table, that's really challenging because so many of our families are from the south part of the City." In such a case, it might "make more sense for us to go on the private market and find a lease on our own," but that'd entail paying significantly more, since "Prop 39 guarantees you a per-square-footage rate through the District which is pretty cheap."

This uncertainty is "hard in your startup years. I can't tell our families right now where we're going to be next year. That's hard on families, and hard on us as a staff, and a barrier for especially a lot of low-income families, who don't have the luxury of being able to get across town easily if we were to move to a different neighborhood. And if the school is really committed to serving that demographic, that makes our recruitment efforts all

SCHOOL continues on page 14



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SCHOOL from page 13

the more challenging. So, there are a lot of ramifications to not having a permanent home."

For Bobel Kilduff, these frustrations have been outweighed by the pleasures of watching New School's pupils respond to its experimental pedagogy. "I've spent time in hundreds of different school models, if not a thousand, just given the roles I've had in education over the years, and I think you can become kind of numb or just comfortable with the status quo of classrooms in which kids aren't engaged, and the teachers have lost their mojo or love for teaching because they're given a scripted curriculum from their district that they have to follow, and they have no ability to be entrepreneurial or creative." She regards New School as a place that sees kids and teachers alike "as en-

trepreneurs" on a common journey of discovery and invention, for which "we don't fully know the road map," and believes that this "creates a culture of excitement and joy and a celebration of the learning process."

SCOTT WIENER from page 4

the San Francisco LGBT Center.

According to Laura Clark, executive director of the San Francisco Yes In My Backyard Party, a pro-development coalition, Wiener's work on housing will increase access to rental and ownership properties. "SB 35 was a really bold initiative that targets those municipalities that have been missing their affordable housing goals. Scott's the kind of legislator who understands all the way into the weeds of every policy he's working on. A lot of our cities and towns have been thinking about

things piecemeal. We need a broader perspective, because we can't do it all on our own," she said.

Todd David, San Francisco Housing Action Coalition's executive director, and political director of Wiener's 2016 Senate campaign, said Wiener's work on housing has resulted in sound, data-based policy. "Scott is one of the leaders in the state on housing and transportation. We partner with him on a regular basis. From an environmental point of view, infill urban density housing is the number one thing we can do to try to reverse climate change," said David.

David admires Wiener's work ethic and approach to politics. "Scott is the hardest-working, most dedicated public servant that I know. He has very strong opinions, yet he's open-minded. He's willing to listen in earnest. You're always going to get a consistent message out of him. He doesn't change his message for the crowd," said David.

According to Reverend Arnold Townsend, vice president of the San Francisco NAACP, Wiener listens to his constituents. "He's not telling us what's best for us. Scott understands the issues that stem from gentrification. We support each other on some housing issues," said Townsend, who hopes Wiener will promote mental health services, supplementary services for education, and legislation to increase affordable housing.

Shamann Walton, San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education president, executive director of Young Community Developers – a non-profit economic development agency located in Southeast San Francisco – and a candidate for District 10 Supervisor, said Wiener's work will help ensure the availability of housing, transportation, and education funding. "We want to make sure we get the resources we need for isolated communities like mine, Bayview-Hunters Point. Scott is very methodical in how he makes decisions on what he wants to support. I worked with Scott on the soda tax and the neighborhood preference legislation for affordable housing. We were successful on both efforts," said Walton.

Assemblyman David Chiu (D), who represents the 17th Assembly District, the eastern portion of the City, said Wi-

ner has been a "tremendous partner" on housing, immigrant rights, and food availability measures. "I co-authored all of his major LGBT bills this year. We worked on 15 housing bills. Scott and I were at the center of discussions to move this package forward in our respective houses. Both he and I are passionate about bills facing homophobia and opposition from conservative forces in our state," said Chiu.

Chiu said Wiener's response to "the worst forces of the Trump administration" is to persevere in an even-handed manner. "He's incredibly smart and fierce in his advocacy," said Chiu.

According to Roberto Ordeñana, San Francisco LGBT Center interim executive director, the Center is thankful for Wiener's work to support transgender individuals, LGBT seniors, and HIV positive individuals. "Many sectors of the LGBT community are at risk of being left behind on the path to full equality, including homeless youth. Scott deeply cares about so many community members and finding strong policy solutions. He also shows how LGBT representation is important. I think right now we have incredible momentum. It's really wonderful to see Scott work so hard," said Ordeñana.

Ordeñana said many voters can relate to Wiener's personal history. "I know Scott reflects back on his lived experience, coming to San Francisco as a young adult and wanting to get involved. He is helping make San Francisco and the state of California a supportive place," said Ordeñana.

Nicolas Josefowitz, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit director and a candidate for District 2 Supervisor, said he appreciates that Wiener sees the link between funding public transportation and reducing carbon emissions. "This was his first year in Sacramento, and he stood up to all the special interests. He is relentlessly solutions-oriented. For him, it's not about sounding good. It's about delivering results. I'm incredibly impressed by him. We worked together really closely on Vision Zero to make sure our roads are safe, especially for the most vulnerable. Scott understands that building

SCOTT WIENER continues on next page



GETTING INVOLVED

2018 GBD Board Elections coming up.

Nominations and applications for the Green Benefit District Board of Directors open on December 11, 2017. The GBD is seeking candidates for the following seats: Dogpatch property owner (3), NW Potrero Hill tenant (1), greenspace advocate (1). Information about the GBD, including activities and projects, district boundaries and election schedule and other information is on the GBD website at GreenBenefit.org.

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SCOTT WIENER from previous page

more housing, especially around BART stations, is linked to reducing traffic congestion," said Josefowitz.

DAVID CHIU from page 4

by convictions, but wants to gain and retain political power. This February, when he came out with the measure that would repeal Costa Hawkins, he didn't consult with any neighborhood group or anyone that would support him. Instead he held a press conference with realtors."

Becker thinks that Chiu's handling of AB 1506 is part of a larger trend of inadequately following through on legislation. Senate Bill 562, co-authored by Chiu, would grant Californian's universal health care access through a single-payer, government-run program. Becker criticized Chiu for not referring to the bill during a special October commission convened in Sacramento for Assembly members to examine state healthcare options.

A bill sponsored by Chiu, aimed at helping the chronically homeless, will take effect next month. AB 74, or the Housing for a Healthy California Program, will harness federal and state funds to build housing and provide rental assistance to homeless individuals while creating access to social services. The measure's goal is to reduce healthcare costs associated with homelessness by ensuring that those who lack shelter are housed. Governor Jerry Brown signed the bill last fall.

"California is home to twenty percent of the nation's homeless population and one-third of the nation's

chronically homeless population. I'm gratified that Governor Brown is helping to advance significant and innovative solutions to address this crisis," said Chiu. "This new program shifts the paradigm for how we tackle homelessness among people who have been without a roof for far too long."

Alabama Street resident Debra Walker first met Chiu a decade ago when they were Democratic County Central Committee members. Walker recalled a tight race in 2014 between Chiu and his opponent, David Campos, former District 9 Supervisor who's now DCCC chair. Chiu garnered 51 percent of the vote during that election. Walker thinks that the divisiveness of that race is behind the two political figures; they're both working on strengthening the Democratic Party. She's pleased with Chiu's legislative work, particularly his support for affordable housing measures, LGBT and women's rights, and domestic violence issues.

"People want to be inspired by candidates who have real solutions," said Walker. "David does that across different ideologies. Our leadership represents all of us; we all focus on what matters to us individually, but everyone else does that as well. David listens to people with different perspectives and that's something we need desperately. Our issues are so deep and complicated here that it's easy to get sidetracked away from what's happening in Washington. We need someone who can be effective at addressing issues on both the local and national levels."

Fellow Alabama Street resident Mari Eliza is similarly pleased with Chiu's record on social justice issues that impact women, children and im-

migrants, as well as work he's done to protect public health and safety. Chiu spearheaded AB 418, which bolsters protections for domestic violence survivors by allowing them to terminate their rental lease without penalty so they can find safer accommodations. He voted in favor of AB 569, which prohibits the firing of employees who've had an abortion, and AB 671, a measure to bolster air quality regulations. However, Eliza is concerned that Chiu will support higher taxes.

"Gentrification has become a major topic," commented Eliza. "Living standards are plummeting as the cost of living goes through the roof. Most voters are tapped out. They cannot support more taxes for public capital improvements. His stand on taxes will effect Chiu's popularity during the next election."

MALIA COHEN from page 5

good job representing District 10, but it was concerning that the Supervisor allegedly declined invitations to attend Potrero Hill Democratic Club meetings. Kelly stated that Cohen has only appeared twice at PHDC meetings since 2012, both times to ask, unsuccessfully, for election endorsements. Her aides have also been reportedly absent from PHDC meetings, but have attended Potrero Boosters gatherings.

"She's had an open invitation to Boosters meetings, and her staff have attended them from time to time," said J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president. "We have very good communication between her office; there's open communication. I feel that we have developed a good working relationship and I

look forward to that continuing for the remainder of her term."

Eppler, who is contemplating running for the District 10 seat, commented that the Supervisor was instrumental in brokering a deal between the City and real estate developer Forest City to reduce the upper range set aside for commercial office uses slated to be built at Pier 70. He hopes that Cohen makes the neighborhood's infrastructure needs a top priority for the remainder of her term.

"I personally think that she's done a really great job as Supervisor," said Frank Gilson, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president. "She's very responsive to us. When we call her office, we get a call back. Also, either she or her staff have attended Merchant's meeting, so we've definitely had access to her."

Gilson echoed the sentiment that with the wealth of new development coming to Southside neighborhoods, infrastructure, such as roads, transit and open spaces, needs to be updated, hopefully with Cohen's assistance. Gilson owns Potrero Chiropractors & Acupuncture, on Division Street, and has noticed more homeless individuals congregating outside his practice over the past year, which has negatively affected business. He hopes that Cohen will address the increase in homeless encampments in the community.

The range of legislative activities sponsored by Cohen in recent months has been broad, including a repeal of the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017, an amendment to the health code to prohibit retailers from selling

MALIA COHEN continues on page 18

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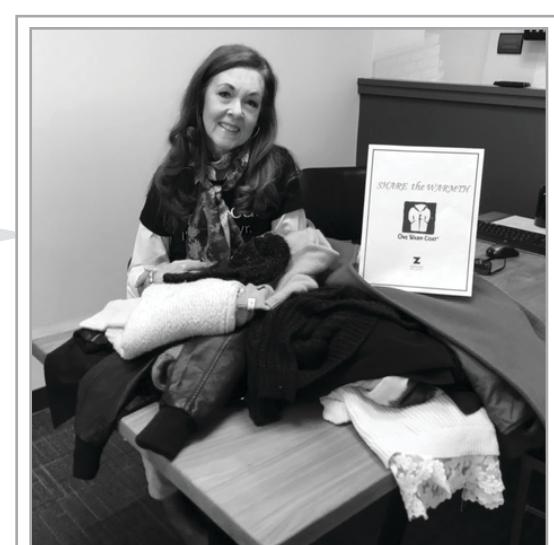
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Pier 70



THANK YOU!

For ten years, you've been active in shaping the future of Pier 70. From all of us at Forest City: thank you! The unanimous Pier 70 project approvals by the city reflect the incredible dedication, commitment and insight by the community, the city and the Port of San Francisco to create plans for a great new waterfront neighborhood. We are also grateful to Supervisor Malia Cohen for her leadership during the planning process. Early next year, we'll begin our work to rehabilitate historic buildings, add parks, build significant affordable housing, and create space for artists, local manufacturing and commercial uses. During construction, our collaboration with you will continue. Thanks to you, the next chapter at historic Pier 70 can now be written.

We're excited to get started!



www.pier70sf.com

PIER 70 from front page

historic buildings, add parks, build significant affordable housing, and create space for artists, local manufacturing and commercial uses."

The development's total cost is expected to be about \$2 billion. Roughly \$765 million of public benefits are associated with it, including, under Proposition F, 30 percent on-site affordable housing, a waterfront park, historic building restoration, infrastructure improvements, transportation demand management, workforce programs, preservation of the Noonan Building artist community, and space dedicated to the arts, manufacturing and retail. About \$35 million will be directed to Hope SF, an initiative to revitalize public housing at Hunters View, Potrero Annex-Terrace, Sunnyvale and Alice Griffith.

"Pier 70 will be a neighborhood for all San Franciscans," said Port Commission president Willie Adams. "The project will create more than 500 affordable housing units, job training and 28,000 new jobs, in both construction and for office and retail workers. With its commitment to Local Business Enterprise contract opportunities and local hire, this project represents the City's values."

Over the course of Forest City's numerous meetings with community members, the vision for the project portion encompassing historic Irish Hill shifted to preserve a view of the Hill from Illinois Street. According to Peter Linenthal, Potrero Hill Archives Project director, Irish Hill historically spanned six or seven blocks; a mere remnant remains. He and others gathered more than 200 signatures on

a petition to save the view of Irish Hill from Illinois Street.

"The new amended plan is terrific, I'm really pleased," Linenthal commented. "They didn't really understand how significant Irish Hill was. Their attention was on the historic buildings on 20th Street. Irish Hill was overlooked because it's not initially impressive and people weren't aware of the history."

Local historian, Steven Herraiz, explained that between World Wars I and II the land encompassing Irish Hill became progressively flatter; entities such as the United Iron Workers and PG&E would blow up parts of the rock to level the hill for development. Many Irish Hill residents were poor and worked at Pier 70. From his research, Herraiz determined that the most historically relevant view of Irish Hill is from Illinois Street, from which the gradual elevation and shorn face of rock showing that it'd been repeatedly excavated can be seen.

Other landmark hills in the City have also diminished over the years. Rincon Hill no longer has any remarkable elevation, but Herraiz pointed out that much is known about its history through stories and photographs. "Irish Hill is the only hill in San Francisco that doesn't have a documented history," claimed Herraiz. "People have never known much about it because there were poor people living there. After 100 years people are saying that it's important, which speaks volumes to the importance of Irish Hill's history today."

The area around Irish Hill will feature a children's playground and interpretive history displays, though it's unclear if Forest City or another entity will develop those elements. Instead of installing signs with old photographs

and descriptions, the development team and involved community members are brainstorming creative ways to commemorate the site's past. Ideas include the use of interpretive murals, play structures evocative of history, and artistic tiles. The Irish Hill playground is one of six publicly accessible outdoor spaces that'll be incorporated into the Pier 70 Special Use District. Notable among them is the Waterfront Park, which'll connect with the Bay Trail, and, according to Sylvan, will be a local destination designed to reflect Pier 70's gritty character. The park will stretch north to south along the Bayfront, with a portion running through the project's center, between 21st and 22nd streets.

Plans currently show purely commercial uses on the property's northern boundary, in part because it shares a border with what's hoped to be an active ship repair yard; offices will provide a buffer between industrial and residential uses. According to Sylvan, the property's southern end can be dedicated to either commercial or residential activities. The balance between homes and offices is somewhat dependent on future market conditions. The Potrero Boosters advocated for the upper end of the housing range, to help alleviate shelter shortages and because homes have less transit impacts than commercial buildings.

"More residential helps with traffic and transportation needs for the area," said J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president. "We're in a housing crisis, and having a more residentially oriented project will provide more of both affordable and market rate housing. Office space creates the need for more housing. Pier 70 can be part of

the solution rather than contribute to the housing shortage."

In the weeks preceding the Board of Supervisors approval hearing, a compromise was reached that limited the amount of office space that could be built, but that also provided land use flexibility given the adjacent industrial properties and uncertainty regarding if and when those uses would change. The original upper limit for commercial use was 2.3 million square feet, which was reduced to 1.75 million. The compromise was achieved through collaborative efforts by community members, Potrero Boosters, District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, Office of Economic and Workforce Development staff, and Forest City.

Sylvan explained that in the planning processes' early stages it'd taken the Port awhile to become comfortable with having any residential component to the project; that slowly changed due to public support. "They weren't used to the idea at first," said Sylvan. "The history of the Port has always been industrial and maritime, and they had concerns about having an existing industrial use next to residential, that's why the northern end is only office."

During Forest City's outreach efforts, concern was expressed about traffic impacts caused by an influx of residents and workers to the area. Forest City's Pier 70 and the San Francisco Giant's Mission Rock projects will generate up to \$100 million in combined transportation impact fees over the next ten years. San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has committed to spending fee revenues on transportation improvements that'll

PIER 70 continues on page 19

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THEO ELLINGTON from page 6

"I would not have entered this race if I didn't think I could win," he insisted. In October, his campaign filed a public disclosure marking that financial contributions had exceeded \$10,000. His campaign's first major event was a birthday fundraiser at the Sea Star in Dogpatch, which, by Ellington's estimation, about 150 people attended. "I was quite proud of that because we had a diverse mix of folks who came out," he said.

Ellington called his candidacy "a leap of faith," but affirmed that he's "totally confident. I think that this is where my heart has been since the age of 13, and if you look at everything

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I've done since then, it points right back to the neighborhood that I know and love."

TONY KELLY from page 9

the garage. We have not gotten that assurance from anyone else," said Moore, who has known Kelly for roughly two decades.

The underground parking garage to which Moore referred is under construction in Bayview Hill. It'll serve a 550,000-square foot shopping center to be built at Candlestick Point, and may also accommodate new homes in the area. The garage site, located near Gilman Avenue, is close to Bret Harte

Elementary School and the True Hope Church of God in Christ, which has a preschool. Bayview Hill residents want the garage's entrance moved to face the Bay, which they believe will reduce Bayview Hill residents' exposure to polluting air emissions.

Raymond Tompkins, a retired City College of San Francisco professor, supports Kelly's campaign. Tompkins works in District 10, but doesn't vote there. "I think he has a good grasp of the problems that are facing the African American community. I haven't done my homework on all the candidates yet. When talking to Kelly over the years, not just during election time, he has always had a good grasp and understanding of the issues facing long-term residents of Bayview-Hunters Point...The residents of Bayview want and encourage community development. We want the development of this community to be done correctly and safely without injuring the population. We need affordable housing for the Black working class population of San Francisco. We need our representatives to look into the reasons why there is a Black exodus from San Francisco. We want effective policies that will stabilize the Black business community, as well as other employment opportunities throughout San Francisco," said Tompkins.

Ken Tray, former political director of the Board of United Educators of San Francisco, a union that represents San Francisco Unified School District teachers and paraprofessionals, and a member of its Board of Directors, said UESF hasn't started considering candidates to endorse. "Tony Kelly is a good guy. But we are also looking at other candidates, like Shamann

Walton," who is SFUSD Board of Education president. "(Shamann), while on the Board, asked two basic questions of policy proposals, is it good for students in the classroom and is it good for the teachers and staff who work with them? We need a candidate for District 10 who can be that kind of Rock of Gibraltar," said Tray.

According to Dr. Frank Gilson, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president, PDMA doesn't endorse candidates for supervisor. While he's mulling over his preferences, Gilson can't vote in District 10; he resides in District 6. "I think Tony studies the issues very thoughtfully. Tony's a lot more liberal than I am. I want what's best for our members, the small business people, and our community," said Gilson.

Kelly said he understands that voters may not agree on strategies and candidates. If he isn't elected this term, he'll continue to advocate for Southside neighborhoods. "Nothing is personal with any of the other candidates. We're all going to work together after election day. The future of the City depends on what we do here," said Kelly.

With the election to be held in the fall of 2018, the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club, which endorsed Kelly in 2014, and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition said it was too soon to consider endorsing a candidate for the District 10 race.

MALIA COHEN from page 15

flavored tobacco products, a resolution condemning the increase in incidents of anti-Semitism and other forms of bias,

MALIA COHEN continues on next page

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The Youth Commission is a body of 17 San Franciscans between the ages of 12 and 23. Created by the voters in 1995 through a charter amendment, the commission is responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on policies and laws related to young people. The commission is also charged with providing comment, recommendation, and feedback on all proposed laws that affect youth before the Board takes final action.

Commissioners work diligently to connect young people from all over the city with one another, develop their leadership skills and understanding of government, and make positive policy changes.

The commission meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 5:15pm in room 416 of City Hall. Their standing issue-based committees meet regularly in the Youth Commission office, City Hall Room 345.

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MALIA COHEN from previous page

and a hearing on historic protections for the old Potrero Police Station on Third Street.

However, most of her recent work has been on issues pertaining to marijuana. In October, the Supervisor hosted a Cannabis Forum to introduce the District 10 community to the legal cannabis industry landscape. Forum panelists discussed topics such as

criminal records expungement, job opportunities in the burgeoning industry and regulations

“It is critical that we gather feedback at this event about the implementation and investments that people with lived experiences want to see take place,” said Cohen. “In particular, we want to hear directly from communities disproportionately burdened by the War on Drugs.”

tionately burdened by the War on Drugs.

Last fall, Cohen co-sponsored an ordinance to establish an Office of Can-

nabis. Unanimously approved by the Board, the entity will be the main regulating municipal body for recreational cannabis, and work to increase economic equity in the industry. State voters legalized recreational use of the substance for adults, effective next month.

State Senator Scott Weiner has criticized legislation introduced by Cohen that imposed a temporary moratorium on permitting new medical cannabis dispensaries, stating that the policy communicates a poor message about San Francisco's attitude towards marijuana. The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce similarly characterized the measure as a form of prohibition.

pedestrian improvements. However, no specific commitments have been made; each transportation project will be subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Examples of possible projects include a new ferry terminal at Mission Bay, additional light rail vehicles for the T-Third Street Muni and new bus routes to better serve Dogpatch, Mission Bay and Potrero Hill. In addition, a shuttle service will be offered to residents, workers and visitors connecting to transit hubs and bicycle sharing stations. Subsidized transit passes will also be available to residents.

“We’re very appreciative that the \$100 million has been reserved for Dogpatch,” said Eppler. “It’s a good faith process, and we’ve come to an agreement much firmer than what we had previously.”



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