

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR



### Parking Meters Proposal - Your Input Needed

Many residents in the District have called or have written to our office recently about the Municipal Transportation Authority's (MTA) preliminary studies and proposal to expand parking meter hours in various neighborhoods throughout San Francisco.

Recently, on October 20<sup>th</sup>, the MTA Board of Directors heard the staff report on these proposals. Many residents and advocates attended the meeting to testify culminating in several hours of public comment. Although action was not taken at that time to implement the proposals, I highly encourage you to voice your thoughts on this issue before any final decisions are made by the MTA Board.

While changes in meter policy may be received differently depending on the area, I believe that the MTA should be more surgical in their approach. Not only should the MTA take a look at circulation and congestion on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood level, but they must also take a look and assess how the economy has impacted various areas before implementing any changes. I have heard from many merchants of how increased meter hours could impact their businesses adversely. It would be important to let the MTA Board of Directors know how a meter expansion will personally affect you.

The MTA Board can be reached at [MTABoard@SFMTA.com](mailto:MTABoard@SFMTA.com).

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## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

With two of the longest above-ground routes in the City here in the Sunset, Supervisor Chu has been concerned with the safety of passengers getting off the L-Taraval and N-Judah. Both Taraval and Judah Streets have heavy automobile traffic, and some motorists continue driving past a stopped train, unaware that people are attempting to disembark. Supervisor Chu worked with the SFMTA on better signage to remind motorists that failing to stop when a streetcar stops is a violation of the State Vehicle Code Section 21756(A).



The SFMTA created the decal for placement on all Muni Light Rail Vehicles (LRV), which reinforce the on-street signs that alert motorists to the need for caution. Both the decals and signs are part of an ongoing effort to make pedestrians near Muni vehicles safer. More than a dozen pedestrian incidents have occurred on the N-Judah and L-Taraval Muni lines over the past five years.

"The Sunset District contains some of the longest stretches where Light Rail Vehicles are above ground and pedestrians are more prone to the dangers of vehicles," said Supervisor Carmen Chu at a press conference announcing the new signage. "I have seen many near misses, and I commend the SFMTA for taking this important step to address safety for pedestrians around LRVs."

### Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone: (415) 554-7460 Fax: (415) 554-7432 Email: [chustaff@sfgov.org](mailto:chustaff@sfgov.org)  
Legislative Aides: Katy Tang & Cammy Blackstone

## SUPERVISOR CHU'S ANNUAL COSTUME DRIVE FOR KIDS A SWEET SUCCESS



Safeway on Noriega Street was a festive, spooky, sparkly whirl of commotion on Saturday, October 24, as dozens of children eagerly combed the racks and dug through overflowing boxes of Halloween costumes. Supervisor Chu's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Halloween Costume Drive for Kids was a month-long effort to collect costumes and then distribute them to kids who need them. Most of the costumes were collected from donation drop-off locations throughout the Sunset District, with a huge contribution coming from San Francisco's 311 department. Over 150 children were provided with Halloween costumes this year. This has become an annual tradition for Supervisor Chu, so if you have an outgrown or extra costume after this Halloween, you can donate to the costume drive next year.



## CAPTAIN CHIGNELL TO MOVE FROM TARAVAL STATION



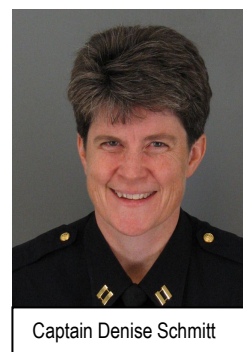
Captain Paul Chignell

In late October, Police Chief George Gascon announced changes in command for the San Francisco Police Department. One of those changes is to move Captain Paul Chignell to Night Captain, and bring in Captain Denise Schmitt to Taraval Station.

Captain Chignell has been a wonderful, engaging and effective Captain during his term of over two years at the Taraval Station. He has been responsive to the residents of the Sunset, pro-active and diligent in problem areas such as illegal marijuana grows, prostitution, pedestrian safety, and quality of life crimes. He has encouraged public safety through his daily emails, his own monthly community meetings, regular attendance of other community meetings, and consistent attention and support of neighborhood Watch, SAFE groups, and merchant and neighborhood associations.

We all appreciate the great job Captain Chignell has done for the Sunset District over the last two years. He will be at Taraval Station until **November 14**, so if you would like to send him a note to thank him for his dedicated service or wish him well, you can write to him in care of Taraval Station, 2345 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116.

Captain Denise Schmitt is a San Francisco native. She grew up in the Richmond District and attended St. Thomas the Apostle Grammar School and St. Rose for high school. She was a lieutenant at Taraval Station from 2001 – 2004, and as a Captain, served as Night Captain and most recently Captain of the Police Academy. Captains Chignell and Schmitt are working together to ensure a seamless transition. Come meet Capt. Schmitt at the Taraval District Public Safety meeting on **Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00pm**.



Captain Denise Schmitt



## SAN FRANCISCO POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Pictured: Diarmuid Philpott, Rick Bruce, Kurt Bruneman, Ray White

Photo by: Michael Micael/DP&A, Inc.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of San Francisco's Police Activities League. Supervisor Chu honored founding members Gus Bruneman and Ray White, and the P.A.L. organization, at the Board of Supervisor's Meeting on October 6. From its' humble beginnings with just a few police officers acting as coaches, and some money borrowed from the Police Officers Credit Union, the P.A.L. quickly became a vibrant program offering coaching and instruction in Seahawks football, judo, soccer, baseball, boxing, cheerleading, basketball and a law enforcement

program. Serving over 5,000 young people a year, the P.A.L. continues to be an incredible asset to the youth of our City. If you would like to find out how to become involved with the S.F. P.A.L., or make a donation, please visit their website at [www.sfpal.org](http://www.sfpal.org)

## BE HEPATITIS FREE

Hepatitis B is a viral infection that attacks the liver and can cause both acute and chronic disease. Approximately 2 billion people worldwide have been infected with the virus and about 350 million people live with chronic infection. An estimated 600,000 people die each year due to the acute or chronic consequences of Hepatitis B. The disease is most common in China and other areas of Asia. With our large Asian American population here in San Francisco, officials are trying to get the word out that this serious and life threatening disease is preventable with a safe and effective vaccine. At a recent Hep B Free Campaign event sponsored by Asian Week Foundation, Supervisor Chu joined Senator Mark Leno, Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Board President David Chiu, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, to bring attention to this disease and the vaccine.

For more information, visit <http://www.sfhpbfree.org>



## SUPERVISOR CHU TAKES PRINCIPALS & PTA PRESIDENTS ON FIELD TRIP

Usually it's the school principal or the PTA organizing outings for students, but last month Supervisor Chu took Sunset District school representatives on a special tour of the King Tut Exhibit at the de Young Museum. This is Supervisor Chu's second annual PTA field trip. "There are a lot of great ideas coming out of our schools and PTAs," said Supervisor



Chu, "This is a way for school leaders to make contacts that can help move their schools forward."

In addition to learning all about Tutankhamun, the principals and PTA presidents had a chance to chat and share ideas. "We had a great discussion which centered on the realization that there are a lot of things we do that could be done more efficiently if we pooled our resources," said Matt Brauer, PTA president of Sunset Elementary.

## MERCHANT SPOTLIGHT: Henry's House of Coffee

By Jeff Schwartz, volunteer at Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

### Henry's House of Coffee

1618 Noriega Street  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
(415) 681-9363  
[www.coffeesf.com](http://www.coffeesf.com)

When Sunset residents want coffee, they often head to Henry's House of Coffee. Henry Kalebjian prides himself on using only the best hand selected coffee beans, which he roasts himself right there in the store. Henry believes quality beans make a more even roast and an unsurpassed cup of coffee.



Henry learned about coffee working with his Armenian father at their family's grocery store, originally located on Irving Street near 20th Avenue. In 1970, the family moved the store to its current location on Noriega Street near 23rd Avenue.

Henry took over ownership and management in 1982. As he watched the neighborhood change, he realized his store needed to adapt to the times. Many residents of the neighborhood enjoyed drinking his coffee, so he decided that coffee would be his focus. His excellent brew quickly found a small circle of coffee drinkers. To grow the circle, he began offering free coffee to draw new customers into the store. The circle grew. And grew.

Today, Henry's House of Coffee has an international reputation and does brisk business – wholesale, mail order and, of course, retail. He has shops in both San Francisco and Burlingame. Looking back over the years, Henry says he "worked very hard... it wasn't easy". At nearly 70 years old, Henry is considering retirement. He hints that anyone interested in buying a successful shop might want to drop by for a cup of the finest coffee around.

## Halloween fun in the sunset



Principal David Wong and students  
of Francis Scott Key Elementary



Students in costume at Lawton  
Alternative School



Supervisor Chu visits students at  
Sunset Elementary



## SUNSET RESERVOIR SOLAR PROJECT



ReCurrent Energy CEO Arno Harris chats with Lincoln High School student Guadalupe Troncoso and Green Academy Consultant Vanessa Carter

Construction of the solar project on Sunset Reservoir is scheduled to begin this month. Supervisor Chu worked closely with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to pass legislation to get this project built. By entering into a public/private partnership with ReCurrent Energy, the City was able to leverage tax benefits that lowered the price of the project substantially. The construction of the project created 70 jobs, and once built, the Sunset Reservoir Solar Project will triple San Francisco's solar energy production.

On October 30, ReCurrent Energy offered coffee and donuts to the neighbors, along with information and discussion about how the construction and installation will affect the neighborhood. The construction of the Sunset Reservoir solar installation coincides with the launch of nearby Lincoln High School's Green Academy, the first such program in San Francisco. Led by Vanessa Carter, Environmental

Service Learning Initiative Site Coordinator, the focus of the Green Academy students is sustainability, renewables and the environment. ReCurrent Energy has committed to work with these students as the Sunset Reservoir solar project progresses. For more information about the project, visit: [www.recurrentenergy.com/sunset/](http://www.recurrentenergy.com/sunset/)

## CONGRATULATIONS VALERIE ZIEGLER: TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD



It's quite an honor to be named Teacher of the Year. Each year, five of the 310,000 California public school teachers are selected as the best of the best, and for the first time ever, a teacher from SFUSD has been chosen.

Big congratulations to Valerie Ziegler from the Sunset District's Abraham Lincoln High School! Supervisor Chu will honor Ms. Ziegler with a Special Commendation at the Board of Supervisor's meeting on November 17.

## HELP SELECT ART FOR THE NEW SUNSET REC PLAYGROUND

We are getting closer to the renovation of the Sunset Recreation Center and playground. This \$13 million project includes many improvements and upgrades to the Recreation Center, seismic retrofitting, landscaping and completely renovating the playground. Construction should begin in December 2010, and as part of the final planning stages, San Francisco Arts Commission invites you to view the upcoming exhibition of artist proposals for Sunset Playground. Three proposals for public art for the newly-renovated playground will be on display in the Sunset Playground Recreation Facility Lobby and on the San Francisco Arts Commission's website for two weeks starting on November 20th. The project finalists (Jefferson Mack, Bryan Tedrick and Amy Blackstone) have each developed public art concepts, one of which will be selected for implementation through the Arts Commission in conjunction with the Sunset Playground renovation project.

The Arts Commission invites members of the public to preview and comment on the competing proposals. The Commission will provide a comment book onsite so that community members will be able to contribute their feedback. They will also accept comments via email until 11:59 PM on **December 4th**. For further information about the selection process or the artwork proposals, contact Jennifer Lovvorn, Project Manager, at 252-4637 or by email at [jennifer.lovvorn@sfgov.org](mailto:jennifer.lovvorn@sfgov.org)

## FREE SIDEWALK LANDSCAPING DESIGN & INSTALLATION

Sidewalk gardens can not only make our streetscapes beautiful, but also help recharge the aquifer and reduce sewer overflow contamination of the ocean.

Plant\*SF and the San Francisco Parks Trust are offering the free installation of a demonstration sidewalk landscaping garden in the Sunset District using native and drought tolerant plants and permeable pavers. Corner properties are especially encouraged to apply.

To have a property be considered to receive free sidewalk landscaping, interested parties should email their contact information and property address to [info@PlantSF.org](mailto:info@PlantSF.org) by 5pm **December 10, 2009**. See [www.plantSF.org](http://www.plantSF.org) for examples of sidewalk gardens.



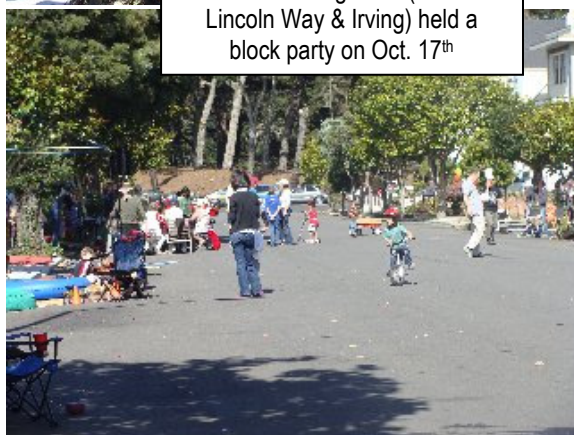
## IN THE DISTRICT



28<sup>th</sup> Avenue neighbors (between Lincoln Way & Irving) held a block party on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>



Supervisor Chu at The Big Rumble event with Sunset Community Convener Carol Mo & resident Matt Mitguard



The Big Rumble was a weeklong series of events in memory of the Loma Prieta earthquake



Supervisor Chu walked with students from Ulloa Elementary on Walk to School Day - October 7<sup>th</sup>



Supervisor Chu joined students from Sunset Elementary on Walk to School Day - October 7<sup>th</sup>



Tutti Melon at 2150 Irving Street celebrated its grand opening on October 24<sup>th</sup>





# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, Nov. 12**

**Nutcracker**

Sunset Branch Library

10:30am

1305 18th Ave. (at Irving St.)

Children of all ages will hear stories and see costumed dancers from "The Nutcracker".

753-7130.

**Saturday, Nov. 14**

**Inner Sunset Walking Tour**

Join City Guide Lorri Ungaretti on a historical walk through the Inner Sunset District. Free of charge, but donations to City Guides are accepted. Meet at 11:00am at Hugo and Arguello. Read more at the City Guides website: [www.sfcityguides.org](http://www.sfcityguides.org).

**Friday, Nov. 13 & Sat. Nov. 14**

**Holiday Bazaar at Incarnation Church**

1750 29th Ave. (between Noriega and Moraga)

Friday: 11:00am-2:00pm, Saturday: 10:00am-2:30pm

Needlework, handcrafted items, Christmas Boutique, collectibles, baked goods, raffles and silent auction. Loose Beads - including Vintage and Collectible.

Luncheon (\$9) served both days.

For further information, please call 564-2324.

**Saturday, Nov. 14**

**F.U.F. tree planting**

9:00am - noon

Meet at 1642 21<sup>st</sup> Ave.

Details at [www.fuf.net](http://www.fuf.net)

**Monday, Nov. 16**

**"Great Communication with Teens" Parent Workshop"**

RSVP to Carol Mo by 11/11/09

Phone: 415-759-3690 x 7303

Email: [cmo@smbc.org](mailto:cmo@smbc.org)

**Monday, Nov. 16**

**Parents for Public Schools.**

7:00pm

Learn about the elementary school enrollment process, hear from parents who have gone through the process, get tips and advice on key information and resources, and learn how parents are improving public schools in their communities.

Sunset Branch Library

1305 18th Ave. (at Irving St.)

(415) 355-2808

**Tuesday, Nov. 17**

**Police Community Relations Forum**

Taraval Police Station Community Room, 2345 24th Ave.

7:00pm

Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday. The forum is an opportunity for community members to hear from and express their concerns and questions to their police captain and officers. Meetings include a presentation on a different safety topic each month and refreshments are served.

For more information call 759-3120.

**Wednesday, Nov. 18**

**California Academy of Sciences Free Wednesdays**

California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park

Visit free of charge the third Wednesday of every month.

**Tuesday, Dec. 1**

**Recreation & Parks/City Fields Community Meeting**

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

Sunset Recreation Center

2201 Lawton St.

6:30pm

**Saturday, Dec. 5**

**Sunset Co-Op Nursery School Craft Fair & Bake Sale**

at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church - 999 Brotherhood Way

10:00am – 4:00pm

**Saturday, Dec. 5**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cider with Santa**

West Sunset Playground – 39<sup>th</sup> Ave & Ortega

10:00am – 2:00pm

Hosted by Friends of West Sunset Playground (FOWSP).

Community meeting & social event. Free cookies & cider.

Complimentary photo op with Santa. Seasonal music & carolers.

Visit [www.fowsp.org](http://www.fowsp.org) for more info.

For questions, contact our office at (415) 554-7460 or [chustaff@sfgov.org](mailto:chustaff@sfgov.org). You can also view our newsletters and obtain more updated information on upcoming community events at [www.sfbos.org/chu](http://www.sfbos.org/chu).

**Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu**

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 554-7460 Fax: (415) 554-7432 Email: [chustaff@sfgov.org](mailto:chustaff@sfgov.org)

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