

The METNA News

Newsletter of the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association

Volume 18 Number 1

Visit us at: metna.org

November 2017

ENROLLMENT GROWS AT FREE TUITION CITY COLLEGE

City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has had an increase in student enrollment due to the new free tuition policy enacted this fall. Fall registration has increased by close to 5,000 students over the same period as last year.

Last January, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges announced its decision to grant CCSF full accreditation for the next seven years.

With the accreditation issue settled, City Supervisors enacted a two-year "Free City College" pilot program. The funds to establish free tuition come from a voter-approved tax on San Francisco properties that sell for at least \$5 million. The tax is expected to raise \$44 million annually for the City. CCSF has eleven principal locations throughout San Francisco, including the main campus at 50 Phelan Avenue at Ocean Avenue. In addition to the

principal location, CCSF offers many classes at ten other campuses throughout the city: Airport, Chinatown/Northbeach, Civic Center, Downtown, Evans, Fort Mason, Gough Street, John Adams, Mission, and Southeast.

To qualify for free tuition residents who live in San Francisco must have lived in California for a minimum of one year. Residents must pay \$20 per semester, of which \$17 is a required health fee, plus a \$3 web user fee. The \$46-per-credit for classes is waived. A full time student with 15 semester credits will save individuals \$690 while 12 semester credits saves \$552. The majority of funds City College receives come from the state based on enrollment electronically. Refer to www.ccsf.edu/Services/Financial_Aid/Forms/EmailFAQ.pdf for more information for an official CCSF email account.

The CCSF catalog of courses and

schedule of classes can be accessed at www.ccsf.edu/en/educational-programs/ccsf-catalog.html and www.ccsf.edu/Schedule/ respectively.

Answers for online registration are available Monday through Thursday, 8:00am to 4:30pm, and on Friday, 8:00am to 2:00pm by calling 415-239-3732. In addition you may email your questions to register@ccsf.edu. Spring classes will begin during the second week of January.

Chancellor Dr. Mark Rocha of CCSF has accepted an invitation to attend the November 14th METNA meeting. "Free City" director Leslie Milloy will also attend to give details on enrollment procedures for the Spring 2018 semester. For more information on the free college tuition program go to: www.ccsf.edu/FreeCity.

TWIN PEAKS TUNNEL TURNS 100 YEARS OLD IN FEBRUARY

This article is **PART TWO** of a three part series on the area west of Twin Peaks and the opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel in February of 1918.

The west side of San Francisco became a very valuable real estate commodity when the Twin Peaks Tunnel opened streetcar service on February 3, 1918.

According to a 1913 Ingleside Terraces brochure equating the opening of the Panama Canal to the eventual opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel, "The Panama Canal unites the Atlantic and Pacific. The Twin Peaks Tunnel unites San Francisco and Ingleside Terraces." One 1913 advertisement for Ingleside Terraces stated, "Present conditions justify higher values, but when the Twin Peaks Tunnel starts prices will soar."

Chief City engineer Michael O'Shaughnessy, responsible for much of the new street infrastructure and expansion in post-earthquake San Francisco, oversaw construction of the Twin Peaks Tunnel. Excavation work on the Twin Peaks Tunnel began on November 14, 1914. The prediction at the time was that the tunnel would open in the spring of 1917. When the United States entered World War I on April 6, 1917 most materials and manpower were directed at the war effort. Despite the slight setback the Twin Peaks Tunnel was nearing completion. Mayor James Rolph, Jr. (mayor 1912-1931) and the Municipal Railway were eager to complete this monumental project.

Mayor Rolph had been mayor just a short time, when Muni began. Under his administration the Municipal Railway became a cornerstone

cont'd on page 4

METNA MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2017
7:00pm, Palmetto Meeting Hall
640 Palmetto Avenue
(between St. Charles and Chester)

Invited Guests

Naomi Kelly
City Administrator

Supervisor Norman Yee, District 7
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Ahsha Safai, District 11
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Dr Mark Rocha, Chancellor
Leslie Milloy, Office of the Chancellor
City College of San Francisco

Robert Yick, Captain
Taraval Police Station

Darcy Brown, Executive Director
San Francisco Beautiful

ALL NEIGHBORS WELCOME

ARE YOU PROVIDING FOOD, WATER, AND SHELTER FOR RATS?

Neighbors have reported an increase in rats in the neighborhood in recent months. This problem is not unique to the neighborhood and is prevalent throughout San Francisco and Bay Area communities. The San Francisco Department of Public Health has a Vector Control Program that informs residents how to control the rodent population.

The following steps should be followed to control rats:

Step 1: Remove food and water

- Use garbage cans with tight fitting lids, and keep them closed at all times.
- Remove leftover pet food, unwanted fruits, nuts, and vegetables.
- Repair leaking water faucets. Eliminate standing water in old planters, gutters, and other places in and around your home.
- Have damaged garbage bins replaced by Recology. Call 415-330-1300.

Step 2: Eliminate rats

- After their food sources are removed, rats will readily accept trap or poison bait.
- Rat traps and poison may be purchased at hardware stores, most drugstores, and some supermarkets.
- Use large snap traps when rats have infested a home, since poisoned rats may die inside walls and cause odors.
- Use traps baited with peanut butter, bacon, or food that rats have been eating. Place traps where rats are likely to hide and where children and pets will not have access to the traps.
- Use caution when setting traps. Handle traps by the edges away from the baited portion of the trap.
- If using poisons, follow the directions and precautions. Only use bait boxes for poison. Place where children and pets cannot reach them.
- Place dead rats in plastic or paper bags and put them in your black garbage bin.
- Note that heavy rat infestations may cause flea or mite infestations as well. Treat area for fleas and mites, if necessary.

Step 3: Keep rats out of your building

- Repair damaged vent screens. Cover openings around pipes with sheet metal, or steel wool and caulk.
- Check the bottom of exterior doors. If the gap between the door and the floor is greater than 1/4-inch, rodents may enter the building. A rigid weather-stripping may be installed to eliminate the gap.
- Direct plug-in electronic pest repellers are available at most hardware stores. They can be plugged in to wall sockets. The device emits an ultrasonic wave that is nearly silent to humans and most animals. Most pests hear the ultrasonic sound and leave the area. They can be used successfully in basements, garages, and ground floor areas.
- Cover open sewer pipes and large cracks in pavement.

Step 4: Eliminate shelter

- Rats hide in: piles of lumber or firewood, old furniture, blackberry thickets, ivy and other densely growing plants, and in any other areas that are not disturbed.
- Store lumber and firewood at least 18 inches off the ground and one foot from walls and fences.
- Clean up and haul away any junk and debris.
- Cut back overgrowth of weeds and plants.
- Check in, around, and under any storage sheds on your property for signs of rodents.

Step 5: Clean up rodent droppings

- Droppings may have disease-causing organisms. Put on latex gloves for protection when cleaning up droppings. Spray the droppings with a mild solution of bleach and water. Wipe up with paper towels, and place in a plastic bag for proper disposal. Wash hands thoroughly when finished.

For additional help in solving an infestation or for further information call: The San Francisco County Department of Public Health, Healthy Housing and Vector Control Program at 415-252-3805.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

METNA MEETING SCHEDULE

7:00pm Palmetto Meeting Hall
@ 640 Palmetto Avenue
Tuesday, November 14, 2017
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
Tuesday, May 8, 2018
Tuesday, August 14, 2018
Tuesday, November 13, 2018

POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm @ Taraval Police Station, 2345 24th Avenue
TARAVAL POLICE STATION WEBSITE: www.taraval.org

OCEANVIEW VILLAGE HOA MEETING

@ OceanView Village HOA Office.
Thursday, November 16, 2017, 7:00 pm

NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (NERT) TRAINING

Check the NERT website for NERT training classes. Sign up & learn how to be an emergency response team member.
Website: < <http://sf-fire.org/nert>>

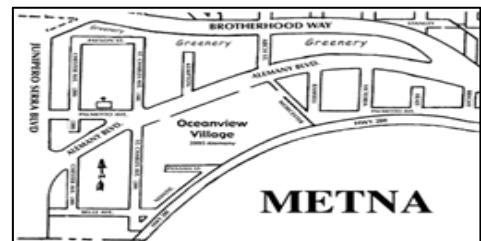
METNA OFFICERS

President Marc Christensen 60 Kempton Ave. 415 585-2465 christensen.marc. metna@gmail.com	Vice-President Glen Hatakeyama 207 Chester Ave. 415 333-0197 ragtime217@ gmail.com
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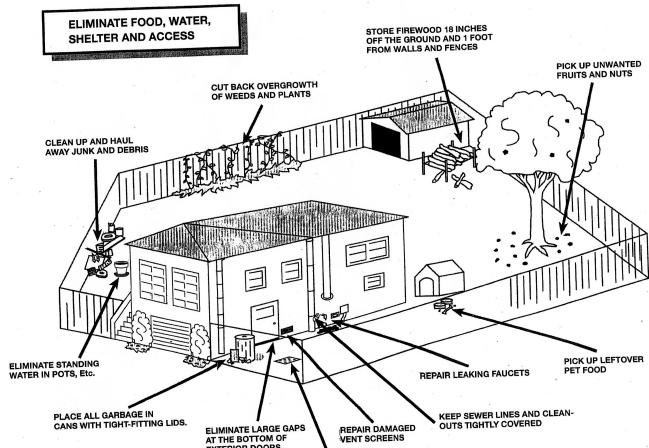
Secretary Eric Berquist 233 Chester Ave. 415-939-2377 ericafon@gmail.com	Treasurer Richard Zerga 1095 Clayton St. SF 94117 rjz1comcast.net
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Sergeant at Arms Glenn Rogers 3425 Alemany Blvd. 415 -333-9317	Neighborhood Improvement Steve Heide 306 St. Charles Ave. 650 892-3648
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Executive Committee
Neil Hunt
239 St. Charles Ave.
415-308-3486



Rat and rodent prevention around the house:



MET COMMUNITY CONNECTORS FREE EXERCISE CLASS FOR SENIORS

Seniors (60+) are invited to join the Merced Extension Triangle Community Connectors (METCC) program now being offered free at the Golden Gate Church, 201 Head Street, at upper Palmetto, two blocks east of OceanView Village. An hour long Always Active exercise program designed for seniors that will include cardiovascular, strength training, flexibility, and balance exercises is being offered and can be done in the group or on your own. Joining METCC will give you an opportunity to meet other community seniors and create the type of activities you would like to have such as, a coffee hour, pot luck lunches, lectures, workshops, field trips, and programs to educate and entertain in a supportive setting.

For current information and meeting times regarding the MET Community Connectors program contact Kim Mayor at: kimMETCC@gmail.com.

FIRST DUES INCREASE FOR METNA IN 18 YEARS

Beginning February 1, 2018 the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association (METNA) will be increasing its annual dues to \$20. The Executive Board voted to raise dues for the first time in 18 years due to increases in operating costs, including the printing of the quarterly METNA News, which is distributed free of charge to more than 700 neighborhood residents and to city officials.

Business memberships will remain at \$50 and those who wish to contribute to METNA can join at a sponsorship level remaining at \$100, or by being a benefactor staying at \$250. Those who wish to join METNA for 2018 may pay the current rate of \$15 from now until January 31st.

BART HAS NEW DISCOUNT FOR TEENS USING THE CLIPPER CARD

BART is encouraging teenagers 13-18 years of age with a new Clipper Card discount beginning January 1, 2018. It will expand a 50% youth price break, and let teens avoid paying a 50-cents-each-way surcharge for paper tickets. Previously, youth discounts only applied to ages 5-12. Youth under 5 years of age will continue to ride BART for free. BART is phasing out the orange discount paper tickets.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

COMMUNITY CLEAN TEAM CLEAN UP ON BROTHERHOOD WAY

Community Clean Team Day in District 7 produced good results for the Brotherhood Way Greenbelt. In July, District 7 Day resulted in a major pruning of trees and shrubs on the south side of Brotherhood Way from Junipero Serra to Alemany. Public Works crews, along with a community youth group and METNA volunteers cut and cleaned up the greenbelt. Area residents Joan Broer, Eliza Campbell, Andy Chang, Bonnie Freeman, Agneta Hayes, Chris Herman, Romeo Perez, Andie Rice, Terrence Tighe, and Benny Zhou joined METNA Executive Board members Marc Christensen, Glen Hatakeyama, Steve Heide, and Glenn Rogers in the cleanup effort.

The result is an improved planted area with better sightlines for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians along with limiting the potential fire danger for nearby homes. METNA

extends a sincere thank you to everyone who participated in the Community Clean Team Day.

SFMTA IMPROVEMENTS TO 19TH AVENUE/JUNIPERO SERRA

Work is scheduled to begin by November 1st at the 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra intersection, and along 19th Avenue where the M-Oceanview crosses 19th Avenue at its own right of way, between Winston and Eucalyptus Drives.

New pedestrian safety improvements and other safety measures at the Muni Metro entrance at the Junipero Serra and 19th Avenue median will be constructed. Construction is to last approximately four weeks. Northbound traffic normally turning on to 19th Avenue will be diverted on to Junipero Serra during at least two weekends, while 19th Avenue

northbound between Winston and Eucalyptus will be closed to all vehicle traffic during those weekends. Expect delays and traffic backups as all northbound traffic will travel on Junipero Serra to either Ocean Avenue or Sloat Boulevard before reconnecting to 19th Avenue.

Also, M-Oceanview Muni Metro service will be substituted by bus service during the weekends of construction. Buses will start late Friday evening and run through the end of the service schedule on Sunday night. Buses will run between West Portal and Balboa Park stations. There will be regular service during weekdays. Notices will be posted on M-line shelters and stops to inform transit riders of the exact stops along the route.

Allow for extra time heading north during the November construction period, especially on weekends during the closures.

cont'd on page 4



Mayor James Rolph during ceremonial laying of track at West Portal, Fall, 1917

Photo courtesy of SFMTA Photography Department

Twin Peaks cont'd from page 1

of his legacy. The Twin Peaks Tunnel would be his masterpiece.

Forest Hill, West Portal, St. Francis Wood, and Ingleside Terraces were in their infancy and flourished once the tunnel was completed. The land west of Twin Peaks became prime real estate property.

However, it would take another twenty-five years until residential construction reached to what is now known as the Merced Extension Triangle, from Stanley Street (now Brotherhood Way) to the San Francisco-San Mateo County Line. At the same time the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company began building a planned community stretching from Lake Merced on the west to 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra to the east, known as Parkmerced.

In the next issue of the METNA News, you will read about the opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel and the three streetcar lines that opened up the south-western side of San Francisco.

Neighborhood Watch from page 3
CURB RAMP WORK IN
THE MET

New curb ramps will be installed at the following intersections: Palmetto Avenue and Victoria Street, and Chester Avenue and Palmetto Avenue.

Construction is scheduled to begin in November and continue through March, 2018. A copy of the "30-day Notice" was recently mailed to adjacent property owners to be impacted by the work. Residents will receive a construction notice 10 to 15 days before work begins at each location. "No Parking/Tow Away" signs will be posted 72 hours in advance of the project work hours with parking restrictions.

Public works appreciates residents' patience as they make improvements to the neighborhood and San Francisco.

SISTERHOOD GARDENS
CONTINUES TO GROW

Additional planter boxes have been added to Sisterhood Gardens over

the past two Saturday workdays. On October 21st numerous native plants were added both inside and outside the fence by garden volunteers. The next build day at the site will be on Saturday, November 18th, and volunteers are always welcomed.

A grand opening celebration of Sisterhood Gardens will take place in either late March or April, and a date will be chosen after the first of the year. A kiosk and two-sided bulletin board will soon be added by Public Works inside the gate on Arch Street.

For questions and information on Sisterhood Gardens go to: www.facebook.com/sisterhoodgardens.

JOIN METNA

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MERCHANTS

CHASE BANK, N.A.
Financial Institution
Branch Manager: Jaclyn Crisostomo, Vice President
3981 Alemany Boulevard
Telephone: 650-756-6437
Facsimile: 855-323-5056
24/7 Service: 888-994-5626
jaclyn.crisostomo@chase.com
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-6:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am-4:00pm
Closed Sunday

Branch Manager Jaclyn Crisostomo was born in San Francisco and has remained a Bay Area native. She graduated from San Francisco State and has been in the financial industry for 8 years. She is excited and feels blessed to be working at Chase.

JP Morgan Chase bank is a full service financial institution with over 16,000 ATMs and 5,500 branches nationwide. Services include various savings and checking accounts, with a variety of online banking programs. Chase Mobil Apps, Chase Quick Deposit, and Chase Quick Pay are just a few of the many services offered. The Chase portfolio includes credit cards, business banking, Certificates of Deposit, auto loans, mortgages, home equity lines of credit, along with investment banking. Visit [chase.com/my chase](http://chase.com/my_chase) to learn more of the services offered.

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MERCHANTS

METNA REMINDER

PARKING VIOLATION FOR STREET SWEEPING

TRC 7.2.22 \$73 FINE

SFDPW AND SFMTA wish to remind motorists that vehicles parked on streets in the Merced Extension Triangle during street sweeping times are subject to a \$73 parking fine.

Mechanical street sweeping takes place twice a month within the area, and signs are posted on all streets. Street sweeping days and times are: 8:00am-10:00am 1st and 3rd Mondays
 9:00am-11:00am 1st and 3rd Wednesdays
 1:00pm-3:00pm 1st and 3rd Thursdays
 8:00am-10:00am 1st and 3rd Fridays
 1:00pm-3:00pm 1st and 3rd Fridays

Check the signs before you park to ensure that you move your vehicle in time, so that the street can be swept, and you do not receive a citation.

