

The METNA News

Newsletter of the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association

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Visit us at: metna.org

February 2018

CAR BREAK-INS CONTINUE TO BE A SERIOUS PROBLEM THROUGHOUT S.F.

The year 2017 saw in excess of 30,000 reported auto break-ins in San Francisco. That figure represents over 82 car break-ins a day, an increase of 24% from 2016. There was an uptick of 12% in the Taraval Police District. All ten police districts in San Francisco saw an increase in vehicle break-ins, with half the break-ins in the City coming from the Northern, Central, and Southern precincts, located in the north-east section of San Francisco.

Supervisors Norman Yee, Hilary Ronen, and Katy Tang held a press conference along with Police Chief William Scott at the Taraval Police Station on January 8th to address the proliferation of vehicle break-ins and measures to combat the epidemic. Police officers are being deployed to specifically work on auto break-ins plus other solutions including working with the District Attorney and the courts are being discussed. Two

months ago Chief Scott created a citywide General Crimes Investigation Unit. The unit is focusing on auto break-ins along with home burglaries, robberies, and bicycle thefts.

Educating the public with a new campaign titled "Park Smart" is underway—"Take ALL of your valuables with you." The way to prevent your vehicle from becoming a target and reducing the chance of a break-in revolves around a few simple precautions:

- >Park in a well-lit and busy area. Avoid isolated areas if possible.

- >Vehicles are targeted that have valuables showing. Remove all personal or valuable items from your car especially when parked in shopping areas.

- >Remove all electronic devices, including garage door openers, GPS mapping systems, FASTrak toll readers, and removable stereo products when parked overnight.

- >Prior to traveling to your destination, place all necessary valuable in your trunk or other non-visible spot.

- >Do not shop and drop off packages in your vehicle and then return to shopping. Thieves are watching!

- >Reduce your profile of being targeted by using common sense. Do not take items that you will not use on your trip.

- >Call 9-1-1 if you see someone peering into vehicles, tampering with a vehicle, or if you see a crime in progress.

- >Report all break-ins and theft to the SFPD at 415-553-0123. Make sure to file a report at any district police station or on-line at www.sfpd.org. This is important to show the police where crimes are occurring and to identify neighborhoods that need additional police patrols.

TWIN PEAKS TUNNEL OPENS ON FEBRUARY 3, 1918 AMID FANFARE

This article is **PART THREE** 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 date of February 3, 1918 is a milestone day, and a transportation dream come true for San Francisco. It's the day the Twin Peaks Tunnel opened for rail service for its "Iron Monsters." What were affectionately known as the Iron Monsters were street cars, built of steel and wood, that weighed 51,000 pounds (that's 25 ½ tons!).

At the height of service, after 1928, the Municipal Railway had 213 Iron Monster streetcars that first began service in 1912.

With the opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel the K-Ingleside streetcar line was established on February 3, 1918, from the St. Francis Circle, West Portal Avenue, via the Twin Peaks Tunnel, to Market Street, then on Van Ness Avenue to Pine Street. The K was expanded on February 21, 1919 from Ocean Avenue at Miramar to the Ferries at the foot of Market Street. Then, on May 18, 1919, from Brighton and Grafton, to Ocean, Junipero Serra, West Portal, Twin Peaks Tunnel, Market Street to the Ferries. Beginning on January 15, 1939 alternate streetcars went to the Transbay Terminal. By March 23, 1949 all streetcars, inbound, terminated at the Transbay Terminal on Mission Street. Service was extended to the Balboa BART station on April 25, 1979, for supplemental weekday LRV service, while regular service continued for the K at the Phelan loop. Then with the completion of the Muni Metro Subway under Market Street, the K-line along with the other Muni Metro lines had the inbound

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METNA MEETING

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
7:00pm, Palmetto Meeting Hall
640 Palmetto Avenue
(between St. Charles and Chester)

Invited Guests

Mark Farrell
Acting Mayor, San Francisco

Supervisor Norman Yee
District 7
SF Board of Supervisors

Robert Yick, Captain
Taraval Police Station

Woody LaBounty, Historian
Western Neighborhoods Project

Michael Mossman
Citivist

ALL NEIGHBORS WELCOME

EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER PLAN

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the San Francisco Fire Department no longer have designated fire hydrants available for emergency water supply in case of a major disaster. The program that was in place several years ago is no longer being considered. With that in mind, it is important that all residents keep a supply of water on hand in case of a major disaster. Below is a guideline of what you and your family should do to prepare for an event that cuts off the drinking water supply to your home.

Emergency Drinking Water: Are you Prepared?

Every San Francisco household should be prepared with an emergency drinking water supply for at least the first 72 hours following an earthquake or major disaster. Here are some tips to make sure you do not run dry:

- Store a gallon of water per person per day; plan for at least a 3 day and preferably a 7 day supply: *Family of 4 means 4 gallons times 3-7 days = 12-28 gallons of water.*
- Store additional water if you have pets.
- Seal water containers tightly in a clean food grade plastic container. Label them with a date, and store in a cool, dark place.
- Rotate and replace tap water every six months. Prepackaged bottled water should be rotated once a year.
- Keep a small bottle of unscented liquid bleach to purify water.
- If you have concerns about your stored water quality, at the time you use it, add 8-12 drops of bleach to each gallon of water. Use pure household chlorine bleach only—not products with scents or other additives. Shake or stir, then let stand for 30 minutes to help insure disinfection. A slight chlorine taste and smell is normal.
- If it is safe to do so, you may also boil water for at least 5 minutes, let cool, then drink or use to prepare food.
- If you run out of water, use additional water by straining and treating water from your hot water heater. To strain the water, pour it through a clean cloth or layers of paper towels. Treat the water by following the directions above.

Water storage

A case of factory sealed bottled water is best. It has a shelf life of over one year, if stored in a cool, dark place. Many common household food-grade containers are suitable for emergency water storage. However any storage container must be sanitized before using. Plastic containers that once held beverages, such as water bottles and 2 liter sodas bottles, must first be sanitized prior to reuse. For more information on sanitizing and reusing storage containers, visit www.sfwater.org.

For further information on disaster preparedness and developing a plan for your family, call the Division of Emergency Services at 415-558-3800, or visit www.sfdem.org.

MET COMMUNITY CONNECTORS FOR SENIORS

The Merced Extension Triangle Community Connectors (METCC) program has been offering free exercise classes for seniors two days a week since November.

Located at the Golden Gate Church, 201 Head Street at Upper Palmetto, the Always Active exercise class has been a success. Currently the class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am to 11:00am. There is room for additional seniors (60+) to attend.

METCC is looking to expand its community seniors program. Drop by 201 Head Street, two blocks east of OceanView Village and offer suggestions for the activities you would like to attend.

This program is being funded through Supervisor Norman Yee's Participatory Budgeting and the S.F. Dept. of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). For more information regarding METCC contact Kim Mayor at KimMETCC@gmail.com or at 415-265-8885.

METNA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

METNA MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MET COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

10:00am at the Golden Gate Church
@201 Head Street (at upper Palmetto Ave)
currently on Tuesdays and Thursdays

POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

A new schedule of dates, times, and locations of the Police Community Meetings is available on line at:

TARAVAL POLICE STATION WEBSITE:
www.taraval.org

OCEANVIEW VILLAGE HOA MEETING

@ OceanView Village HOA Office.
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 7:00 pm
Tuesday, May 15, 2018 7:00 pm

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

Secretary
Eric Berquist
233 Chester Ave.
415-939-2377
ericafton@gmail.com

Treasurer
Richard Zerga
1095 Clayton St.
SF 94117
rjz1@comcast.net

Sergeant at Arms
Glenn Rogers
3425 Alemany Blvd.
415 -333-9317

Neighborhood Improvement
Steve Heide
306 St. Charles Ave.
650 892-3648

Executive Committee

Neil Hunt
239 St. Charles Ave.
415-308-3486



DISTRICT 7 PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING FOR 2018

Participatory Budgeting is the democratic process that gives community members the opportunity to set budgeting priorities and make decisions on what community projects should be funded. Now in its fifth year under Supervisor Norman Yee in District 7, residents through the voting process will be able to decide how best to spend over half a million dollars—\$300,000 for general projects, and \$250,000 for pedestrian safety improvements within the district.

This year, METNA is sponsoring the Resilient Merced Extension Triangle Preparedness Block Champions Program. In partnership with the Neighborhood Empowerment Network's empowered communities program (ecp), the Block Champions Program is requesting funds from the District 7 Participatory Budget for 2018. Funding will provide first aid training, CPR/Rescue Breathing training, power generation supplies, communication supplies, temporary shelters and emergency supply kits for block captains and neighborhood residents to be used in emergency situations. Having the neighborhood prepared in case of a major disaster is in everyone's best interest. The training and supplies being requested would allow the Merced Extension Triangle (MET) to meet basic needs and assist neighborhood residents until professional help becomes available, which may be many days after a disaster.

Voting for the Resilient Merced Extension Triangle Preparedness Block Champions Program as well as other District 7 proposals will take place (tentatively set) from March 12th to 22nd. All District 7 residents, 16 years and older, may vote either on-line, or in person.

Voter information will follow in a neighborhood flyer. For questions contact: Erica.maybaum@sfgov.org or at 415 554-6517.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

PARKMERCED GROUNDBREAKING

The latest timeline on groundbreaking at Parkmerced shows that the Street Improvement Plan first phase will begin in February. Soon after the Street Improvement Plan is underway, groundbreaking will take place at 199 Vidal Drive, where 4-5 story buildings will be built, 64 new homes, including 40 replacement units, along with groundbreaking at 300 Arballo Drive, where an 8-story, 89 home building will rise.

Then two 11-story towers with 248 new homes will be built at 455 Serrano Drive and 850 Gonzalez Drive. At the same time groundbreaking will take place on the eastern edge at 1208-1218 Junipero Serra which includes a 14-story and 5-story component that will contain 299 new homes.

Later in the year two 14-story towers will be built at 95-99 Chumasero Drive near the north-west intersection of Junipero Serra Blvd. and Brotherhood Way which will contain 313 new homes.

NEW CURB RAMP CONSTRUCTION IN THE MET

Under the direction of Public Works, work will soon begin on curb ramps in the MET. New curb ramps are planned for Chester & Palmetto and at Palmetto & Victoria. No parking barricades/signage will be posted at least 72-hours prior to the beginning of work. Work hours will be Monday to Friday from 7:00am to 5:00pm.

Expect minor traffic impacts, parking restrictions, and pedestrian routing. No streets will be closed during construction.

THE LATEST FROM SISTERHOOD GARDENS

The grand opening celebration of Sisterhood Gardens will tentatively take place on Saturday, April 21st. The public is invited to attend.

DOG PARK REFURBISHED

On January 13, a Public Works crew along with a few neighborhood residents worked to refurbish the Alemany-Brotherhood Dog Park. Due to the rain only some tree trimming was done and the decomposed granite will be added at a later date.

METNA DUES INCREASE AS OF FEBRUARY 1st

Beginning February 1st the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association (METNA) will be increasing its annual dues for individual memberships to \$20. The dues increase is the first since METNA was founded in 2000, due to increased operating expenses that include the printing of the METNA News distributed free to all neighborhood residents, and the food provided at no cost to those who attend our quarterly METNA Meetings even though we continue to get a sizeable discount from our neighborhood merchants.

Business memberships remain at \$50, plus those who wish to contribute to METNA can join at a sponsorship level of \$100, or by being a benefactor staying at \$250.

Please consider supporting METNA—your neighborhood association that supports you. Over the past eighteen years METNA has been involved with over twenty-five projects that have improved the safety and quality of life for our community. We continue to do so with an outstanding executive committee, working with various city, regional, and state agencies to advocate for improvements to our area of the City. Through the METNA leadership we have formed Resilient MET, to plan, inform, and support residents in case of a major disaster, and recently formed METCC, Merced Extension Triangle Community Connectors, to offer programs and support for our seniors and disabled citizens.

We look forward to each household in the Merced Extension Triangle, including all residents at OceanView Village, to join our unique neighborhood association, attend our informative quarterly meetings, and when possible join our volunteer community team to support various projects in the neighborhood.

SAN FRANCISCO MAYORAL FORUM

A mayoral candidates forum will take place at the United Irish Cultural Center on 45th & Sloat Blvd. in San Francisco on Wednesday, February 28th at 7pm (Doors open @ 6pm)

*A panel discussion and Q&A
With candidates for San Francisco Mayor:*

* Angela Alioto * London Breed *

* Jane Kim Mark Leno *

Attendance is FREE but RSVP is required to secure your place at the Forum. Please e-mail your name & address to:

FORUM4MAYOR@OUTLOOK.COM BY
FEBRUARY 15TH



Mayor Rolph at the controls of the first street car out of the West Portal of the Twin Peaks Tunnel

Photo courtesy of SFMTA
February 3, 1918

Twin Peaks contd from page 1

terminal underground at the Embarcadero Station as of February 18, 1980. Later in 1980 the outbound terminus was located next to the Balboa BART Station.

The second line through the Twin Peaks Tunnel was the L-line. L-Taraval service began on April 12, 1919 from West Portal originally to 33rd and Taraval, and then on January 14, 1923 to 46th Avenue. By then it also traveled through the Twin Peaks Tunnel to downtown, and in 1937 the line expanded to a terminal on Vicente Street, one block from the San Francisco Zoo and Fleishhacker Swimming Pool.

The M-Oceanview line began service on October 6, 1925, with the outbound terminal at Broad and Plymouth. The M-line traveled on Broad, Orizaba, Randolph, Worcester, 19th Avenue, then on the private right of way to St. Francis Circle, and on to West Portal Avenue to the West Portal of the Twin Peaks Tunnel. It was not until October 31, 1927 that service ran through the Twin Peaks Tunnel to Market Street and the Ferries. The M-line was discontinued prior to World War II on August 6, 1939, and then re-established back to full service on December 17, 1944. During that period bus service was provided in various forms over the western portion of the route. On June 6, 1948 the M-line moved its inbound terminus from the Ferry Building to the Transbay Terminal. Beginning in February of 1980, the M-Oceanview ran through the Muni Metro Subway, terminating at the Embarcadero Station. Plus, on August 30, 1980 the M-line track extension from the outbound terminus at Plymouth & Broad was moved to the Balboa Park BART Station via San Jose Avenue.

There is no doubt that the opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel in February of 1918 paved the way for development on the west side of the City, with the K, L and M-lines, and later with the N-Judah line beginning on October 21, 1928, through its own Sunset tunnel. Not only were homes built, but also retail communities opened up on West Portal, Ocean Avenue, along Taraval, and the Broad-Randolph corridors. Later, Parkmerced, then San Francisco State University and Stonestown were developed. Thus, the Twin Peaks Tunnel and its streetcar lines opened up vast areas of undeveloped land westward to the Pacific Ocean, and southward to the San Mateo County line. The Twin Peaks Tunnel has been a vital link for thousands of residents traveling daily to various parts of the City for the past one hundred years.

Western Neighborhoods Project historian, Woody LaBounty, will make a presentation on the opening of the Twin Peaks Tunnel and how it forever changed the landscape of the southwest corner of the City on February 13th at our quarterly METNA meeting.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MERCHANTS

SUBWAY

Sandwiches, food items & beverages

Owner-operator: Sean Pouyamehr

3911 Alemany Blvd. Suite 1004

Phone: 650-757-6100

Open Daily, 7:00am to 10:00pm

Sean Pouyamehr is the owner of Subway in OceanView Village. He has operated Subway at OVV since 2007. Sean has been a supporter of METNA during his entire time in the neighborhood. Sean has provided Subway sandwiches for all METNA meetings, as well as for Resilient MET meetings, at a major discount. METNA in turn offers the sandwiches free to all attendees. Sean states, "It has been a pleasure to be part of this lovely community."

Subway offers not only quality sandwiches, but also soups and salads. There is also a good selection of beverages, chips and cookies, plus daily specials. Currently, Subway has a \$4.99 foot-long sandwich special through the end of February.

Looking for a delicious, reasonably priced meal for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or snack time, consider Subway at OceanView Village. Eat fresh!

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MERCHANTS

METNA REMINDER

SIDEWALKS (Sec. 706, PWC) OWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

Under section 706 of the San Francisco Public Works Code, property owners are responsible for the maintenance and repair of sidewalks with frontage on their property. "Failure of an owner to maintain the sidewalks and sidewalk area set forth in this Section also shall constitute a public nuisance." This relates to trash, debris, weeds growing, cracked sidewalks, as well as missing sewer vent covers that can create a tripping hazard.

In July of 2017, Public Works took back the maintenance of street trees and cracks and uneven sidewalks due to tree roots. That is now the responsibility of Public Works. All other sidewalk maintenance is the property owners' responsibility.

Public Works encourages property owners to maintain their sidewalks to prevent tripping hazards as soon as possible in order to avoid fines and prevent pedestrian injuries that could lead to litigation.