

June 1999

Notes From Kerry

That pesky mouse is back again! No not the ones the press wrote about back in March, but the one that owns a movie studio. That's right... Disney is returning to City Hall for it's second time to work on Bicentennial Man. This time they will be filming a ballroom scene in the Rotunda with a complete stage and orchestra. Again, you will see a set come to life as they build it each evening starting June 14th. Filming will occur at night and they will be leaving Sunday June 20th. So... please pardon our dust, we will try to inconvenience your days as little as possible. Congratulations to everyone who helped make our first fire drill such a success. The Fire Department was most impressed with our smooth exit and orderly system. Due to everyone's cooperation and preparation, we are proud to announce we got everyone safely out in 8 minutes! Our goal was to be under 10. Applaud yourself!!

p.s. Not everyone used the designated entrances to come back into the building. It took 16 minutes to search people during the re-entry. In the future, we could cut this in half by having everyone use the assigned entrance to come back inside. If you do not know your re-entry door, please call your department head. Each department was given a map, otherwise call Building Management for a current map (554-4799). Thanks again for your cooperation.

San Francisco City Hall

KERRY A. PAINTER
BUILDING MANAGER

1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE
ROOM # 368
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102
(415) 554-4799 TELEPHONE
(415) 554-5736 FAX

AIDS Walk San Francisco
by Stephanie Mendez,
Mayor's Press Office

The Mayor's Office would like you to join this year's AIDS Walk, team #4200.

Employees of the City of San Francisco will join with thousands of individuals and hundreds of corporate and community groups to raise money for the fight against AIDS in the 13th Annual AIDS Walk San Francisco, to take place on Sunday, July 18, 1999. The 10 kilometer (6.2 mile) fundraising walkathon benefits the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) and dozens of other Bay Area AIDS organizations that provide a wide array of life-sustaining services to thousands of men, women, and children living with and impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Together we will send a
message that the war
against AIDS is not over!!

Celebrities, along with Mayor Willie Brown, will be at the AIDS Walk to cheer on the crowd, and walk alongside the thousands of women, men and children expected to participate in this year's event. Last year, more than 26,000 people, raised over \$3.6 million.

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Funds for AIDS Walk San Francisco are raised by individual walkers who seek sponsorship from family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors for each kilometer they will be walking. Many participants have collected several thousand dollars each. Any amount raised is greatly appreciated and urgently needed.

There is no fee to participate in the AIDS Walk, but I ask that you please pre-register your family and friends and join our team, #4200. We are currently organizing a picnic/lunch. If you would like to help us organize this please call Stephanie at 554-6121.

To register, please contact your department team leader, Eddie Phillip's at the Mayor's office at 554-6687 and let him know that you want to join the City of San Francisco - Mayor's Office team, #4200. You can also register on-line at www.aidswalk.net/aidswalksf/index.html

Commission Hearing Rooms
Vicious and Dangerous
Dog Hearings
by Jeannie Taulealo

Reporting on City Hall's hidden treasures ... do you enjoy watching Judge Judi, Judge Mills and/or Judge Brown? Strange as this may sound, we hold similar hearings on many issues, but this particular hearing is different because, not only will you hear about people, you'll hear about dogs ... In order to help protect our community, Supervisor Jim Gonzales, in 1987 introduced the City's first Vicious and Dangerous Dog Ordinance. Every other Thursday in Room 408, from two to six cases are heard in front of representatives from the Health, Police and Animal Care & Control Departments.

These hearings are held to determine if an animal should be declared vicious and dangerous. Testimony is heard from all participants that will assist the "Hearing Officer" in rendering a decision whether to declare a particular animal "vicious and dangerous." Depending on the particular circumstances of the bite, attack or injury caused by the animal, the "Hearing Officer" will determine whether the animal should be humanely destroyed or placing special restrictions upon the animal to protect the public.

If you have time ... pop in and view a case. Sure adds new meaning to the term "every dog has his day" doesn't it? Arf! Arf!

Art in City Hall
by Rupert Jenkins, SF Art Commission Gallery Director

Temporary exhibitions of artwork continue in the refurbished City Hall. Of special interest this June is the 1999 World Press Photo exhibition, on display June 11-July 1 in City Hall and at the Main Library. It is co-sponsored locally by the San Francisco Chronicle.

The annual World Press Photo exhibition is shown each year at about 65 venues in 35 countries all over the world and many of you will remember last year's exceptional World Press show at the Veterans Building. This year's exhibition features almost 200 prizewinning photographs chosen by an international jury in Amsterdam from more than 30,000 entries. The images depict political turmoil in Kosovo, Kenya, South Korea, and Indonesia, as well as compelling human interest photo essays from Bangladesh, New York City, Tibet, and the Phillipines. Science and Technology, Nature and the Environment, and The Arts, are other categories to be shown.

Lower Level exhibitions through June 1999:

V.I.P - Very Important Photography. Works from the First Exposures Youth Photography Program (in the corridors and City Hall Café, reception Thursday, June 3, 5:30 pm);

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World Press Photo 1999 (also in the Jewett Gallery, SF Public Library, Civic Center)

Hospitality House - group show Art in City Hall programs are supported by the San Francisco Art Commission and funded in part by the Grants for the Arts program of the Hotel Tax Fund.

Do's & Docents

Continuing our educational efforts, here are some more fun facts about San Francisco City Hall.

Serious damage from the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake compromised City Hall's structural integrity.

Closed in March of 1995, the building underwent a 4 year renovation process including historic restoration and seismic retrofit.

An average of 600 people worked daily to complete the job in time for the grand re-opening on January 5, 1999.

At the direction of City Architect, Tony Irons, four goals were realized:

1. To preserve and restore the building to its original grandeur.
2. To provide complete accessibility to all citizens.
3. To utilize cutting-edge seismic retrofit building techniques to ensure future earthquake safety.
4. To install premier state-of-the-art telecommunications systems.

As always, please feel free to join a docent led tour Monday through Friday at 10 AM, noon & 2 PM. Saturday & Sunday tours are at 12:30 PM & 2 PM

Posting of Notices & Information in City Hall

Locations in City Hall where notices and miscellaneous information can be posted or distributed as handouts is at the following:

The Information Center (Kiosks) on the Goodlett and Van Ness entrances are able to post and distribute handouts as long as you provide them with the appropriate information (call Daarina 554-4972 or Jewel 554-4904).

2nd Floor Board of Supervisors call 554-5184.

4th Floor by elevators near Room 400 is a stand alone bulletin board for committee hearing rooms 400, 406, 408 and 416

4th Floor hearing rooms 400, 406, 408 and 416 each have bulletin boards for committee postings.

If you have any questions, call Building Services at 554-4799.

Elevator or Freight Elevator

Now which elevator should I use ??? Hummm ...

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Here's a big hint! Bodies only in elevators. If you can carry it comfortably in your arms you can use the elevator. So guess what!? That means everything else, e.g., boxes, hand trucks, large displays, etc., must be routed to freight elevators.

If unsure where a freight elevator is, ask any of the Sheriffs" stationed at all of four entrances; ask at the Information Centers (Kiosk) at any of the 2 main entrances; or call Building Services, 554-4799.

Please don't feel put upon if building staff ask you to use the freight elevators. It is for the comfort of many in the building and the public. It costs us all in safety, monetary, as well as, wear and tear. Ding ... Going Up!?

Meetings.. Meetings.. Meetings ...
Any Meetings Held In City Hall

In order to better facilitate and/or route citizens inquiring about meetings in City Hall, various departments should fax upcoming meetings on a week to week basis to:

Mayor's Front Office
Room 200
554-6160 (Fax)

Any questions should be directed to 554-6141 or Building Services 554-4799.

You're Invited:
Community Events for the Month of June

June 3rd
Art Commission Cocktail Party
Location: Ground Floor by Cafe and in Cafe
Time: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Event Contact: Kerry Painter at 554-4799

June 11th - 13th
Fiesta Filipina
Location: Civic Center Plaza

June 14th
Now We Sing the City Concert
Location: Rotunda & Grand Staircase
Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Event Contact: Lexi Peyer at 554-6137

June 26th - 27th
Gay Pride Weekend
Location: Rotunda and Light Courts
Time: 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM
Number of Guests: 2,500
Event Contact: Julie Ottini at 554-6137