



# under the dome

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City Hall Building Management  
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A City Hall Building Management newsletter created specifically for City employees

## Dear City employees who work in City Hall:

Introducing City Hall Building Management's new monthly electronic newsletter entitled "under the dome," created specifically for City employees who work in this wonderful building. Each month "under the dome" will provide you with a variety of City Hall news and information including building safety tips, preservation updates and art attractions. On the lighter side, regular features such as "Transformations" and "Scene & Heard" will introduce you to fellow City employees who work in City Hall and provide hot tips on hip lunch spots, movies, music and more. It is with great pleasure that I bring this resource to you. I hope that you enjoy working under the dome as much I do.

Happy New Year!  
**Lesley Nolan**  
Building Services Manager  
City Hall Building Management

## We Welcome your Feedback!

City employees can send "under the dome" questions and suggestions to [lesley.nolan@sfgov.org](mailto:lesley.nolan@sfgov.org)

## YOU asked for it

As Valentine's Day fast approaches, romance is in the air at City Hall. All month long a steady stream of couples surrounded by friends and family will be seen heading into, and out of, the County Clerk's office. Recently I was asked, "Who are those people in the black robes?"

My investigation began early on a Monday morning in the County Clerk's office with Margaret Tseng, Deputy County Clerk. Margaret confirmed that February is always a very busy month for the County Clerk's office. This year over eighty wedding ceremonies will occur on Valentine's Day alone! Margaret explained that the people in the black robes are Deputy Marriage Commissioners, who are officiants authorized to perform ceremonies for the County Clerk's Office. All County Clerk staff are Deputy Marriage Commissioners. In addition, there are approximately fifteen regularly scheduled volunteer Deputy Marriage Commissioners and seven floaters who are on-call. The volunteer program was founded by the Director of the County Clerk's Office's, Nancy Alfaro, in 1993. Nancy and her team rely on these wonderful volunteers and truly appreciate their dedication.

After hearing so much about these fantastic volunteers, I had to meet them. We gathered at the Rotunda stairs for a group photo and interview. I learned that Amada D. Cubias, Bernice Frucht, Valerie Walker and James M. Illig have been volunteering as Deputy Marriage Commissioners for over ten years! It was clear that all the volunteers love working with Nancy Alfaro and her team. They all seem to be romantics and they enjoy making people happy. Andrea Schneider Goldman said, "I found love in San Francisco and I want that for everyone." Sean Martinfield told me, "I'm hanging in for the same sex marriages!" Bernice Frucht gushed, "I love it! The couples I have married come back to City Hall and remember me."

It was my turn to wear the robe. I went back to Margaret, raised my right hand, and repeated my oath after her. In minutes I was a Deputy Marriage Commissioner with the authority to perform one civil ceremony at City Hall. Veteran Commissioner, Andrea Schneider Goldman, stood by me as I married a young couple. Although I was nervous, it was thrilling to be part of this couple's special moment. It was definitely an experience I will never forget.



Margaret Tseng



**Top Row:** Sean Martinfield, Valerie Walker, Lucas Rebston, Andrea Goldman, Sharon Olague  
**Middle:** Jennifer Venegas **Front:** Estrella Bryant, Maribel Jaldon, Bernice Frucht, Ruth Loutchek, Cathryn Jenkins, Dean Paquette

Right now, the County Clerk's office is looking for outgoing, professional volunteers with flexible schedules to be on-call floaters Monday – Friday from 10am-3pm. To find out more about becoming a floater Deputy Marriage Commissioner please call Jennifer Venegas at 554-4960 or email her at [Jennifer.Venegas@sfgov.org](mailto:Jennifer.Venegas@sfgov.org).

## Art in City Hall

### The Art of Recycling

Now through February 15th be sure to check out "The Art of Recycling" in the South Light Court of City Hall. The exhibit is organized by the Mayor's Office Of Neighborhood Services. This group exhibit is the second art show in a new space set aside to feature local artists (The first show exhibited work by Jerry Garcia). You are invited to see the exhibit any time that City Hall is open to the public: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed on City Holidays). The show includes work from 13 previous artists who participated in the Artist In Residence Program at SF Recycling & Disposal (a subsidiary of Norcal Waste Systems) working at the art studio at the San Francisco dump and making art from recyclable materials found in the City's trash. Concurrent with the Light Court Show, be sure to see the life-size Styrofoam Hummer exhibited in the Art Commission Gallery Window across from City Hall at 155 Grove Street. For more information about the program at the dump: [www.sfrd.com](http://www.sfrd.com) or 415-330-1415.

### Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Exhibit

Also in the South Light Court, be sure to check out the historical exhibit of photographs and memorabilia from Saint Francis Memorial Hospital over the past 100 years. This exhibit will be up until March 31st. The 1906 earthquake demolished the first Saint Francis Hospital. It was rebuilt and Saint Francis helped San Francisco survive through the aftermath.

## Transformations

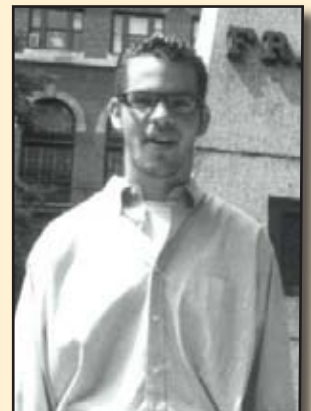
Do you recognize this City employee who works in City Hall?



*SMILE!*



*Gucci baby!*



*Ready for City Hall!*

Lane Kasselman, Mayor's Policy and Budget Office

## Surfing the Building Management Intranet Site...

Did you know that you have access to the hearing and conference room schedule online? Have you ever needed access to an electronic version of our City Hall Employee Safety Handbook? Interested in finding an electronic version of our work order form to download to your computer? Know someone that would be a great candidate for our internship program? Check out the links below to help you get the assistance you need from Building Management in the quickest, most efficient manner.

### Building Management Main Page

<http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallBuildingMgmt/Default.htm>

### Media Services Division

[http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallCalendar/home\\_calendar.htm](http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallCalendar/home_calendar.htm)

### Building Services Division

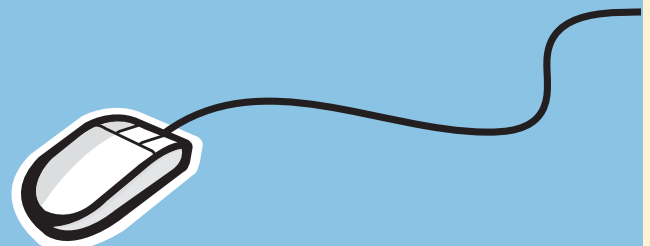
<http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallBuildingSvcs/Default.htm>

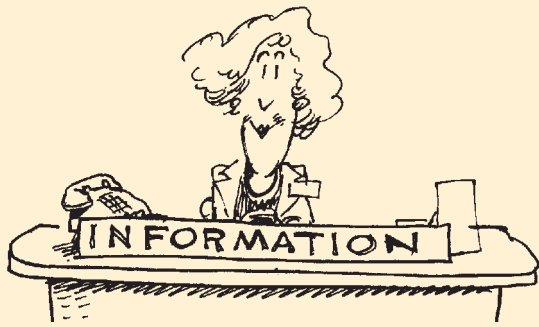
### Building Safety and Emergency Information

<http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallSafety/Default.htm>

### Building Management Internship Information

<http://admweb/AdminServices/CityHallInternship/Default.htm>





## The Information Kiosk

Situated between the freight and passenger elevators on the Goodlett side of the building is our beautiful information kiosk. Despite its enormous size and floral decorations it is often overlooked in the morning rush to get to work. The kiosk is a valuable resource for City Hall visitors and tenants alike.

Posted on the kiosk is the Daily Building Calendar. The Board of Supervisor meetings and every meeting scheduled through

Building Management are listed with their start time and location. If you ever need to know where a meeting is being held, the kiosk should be your first destination. If you have a meeting that you would like placed on the calendar or are aware of any cancellations, please let us know so that we can inform the rest of the building.

The kiosk also serves as the assembly point for daily public tours at 10, 12 and 2. In addition to the wealth of knowledge the docent tours provide there is all sorts of tourist and city information available at the kiosk counter. City publications and Visitors Bureau brochures live side by side at the kiosk counter enabling you to remain informed about the happenings around City Hall and beyond.

If you have information REGARDING CITY SERVICES that you would like represented at the kiosk, please bring it to Room 008 for approval so that we may place it there for you. WE DO ASK THAT YOU DO NOT PLACE THE INFORMATION YOURSELF WITHOUT INFORMING BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

## Scene and Heard

### What are you reading?

"I am currently reading Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin, and It's Not About the Bike by Lance Armstrong/Sally Jenkins is next on the list."

**Anthony Sarabia**  
*Department of Elections*



### What are you listening to?

"I am currently listening to the Notorious B.I.G. blended over Frank Sinatra melodies. It blends the magic of Frank Sinatra with the lyric of the Notorious B.I.G. and rhythmic hip-hop beats resulting in musical excellence. My colleague in New York runs a production company and they produced this masterpiece."

**Kevin Matthews**  
*Office of the Assessor-Recorder*



### What are you watching?

"The next movie on my Netflix queue is Kung Fu Hustle!"

**Leigh Phillips**  
*Office of the Treasurer-Tax Collector*



## Should I stay or should I go?

This is the question many of us find ourselves asking when considering exercise or relaxation after work. The gym will be crowded, just finding a parking spot could take hours and almost every elliptical trainer will be in use. It's too \_\_\_\_\_ (insert, cold, hot, rainy, foggy) to go for a run. Most of us can find any excuse in the book to get out of exercising, so why make the effort? Is there any harm in just going home and watching some TIVO? Perhaps not, but the list of benefits of exercise just keeps getting progressively longer.

It has always been relatively common knowledge that physical activity can make you feel good, improve muscle tone and increase flexibility, but researchers are now finally finding evidence that exercise also benefits brain mechanisms. That's right, exercise could make your brain function at higher levels by promoting growth in brain cells. When the brain cells are challenged by events like physical activity and social interactions, cells are more likely to be increased. This improves your decision-making skills, increases creative energy, and gives an overall boost to your mental health. Exercise can make you smarter!

So the next time you wonder why you may feel sluggish or less sharp than usual, clock a little bit of time on the treadmill or go for a swim and you will feel more like your usual self. Tivo can wait, that's the great part about it...its on YOUR time!

### References

1. *Exercise and the Brain, Society For Neuroscience*



# Monthly Safety Reminder

## HAZARDS

Broken glass, exposed wires, wet surfaces, suspicious odors and chemical fumes are examples of building hazards.

If you come into contact with something at City Hall that is hazardous:

## DO NOT

- Panic.
- Attempt to remove or touch the hazard.

## DO

- Remain calm.
- Report the hazard immediately by calling City Hall Security at 554-7251.
- Keep a safe distance from the hazard.
- Flush affected area with clear water for at least 15 minutes if toxic chemicals come in contact with your skin.
- Assist persons including senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

## HOW TO REPORT A HAZARD AT CITY HALL

- Contact City Hall Security immediately by calling 554-7251.
- Speak calmly and slowly.
- Provide your full name.
- Provide the telephone extension that you are calling from.
- Provide the location of the hazard including the floor and room number if possible.
- Provide a brief description of the hazard.
- Stay on the phone with City Hall Security until instructed to do otherwise.

## To report an **EMERGENCY:**

Call 911 then call City Hall Security immediately after at 554-7251.

DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY SAFETY TRAINING ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE NORTH LIGHT COURT AT 11:00AM.

## What are you doing for lunch today?

Consider spending it learning about the exciting history of City Hall and Civic Center Plaza. Spend 45 minutes discovering who those faces on the walls are, why there are vaults in the South Light Court and why this prime downtown real estate was available for construction back in 1870. Impress your friends and co-workers with the interesting tidbits of knowledge you will acquire in any one of our daily tours at 10 AM, 12 noon and 2 PM.

City Hall tours make excellent activities for new interns as they provide a wonderful opportunity to get out of the office while learning background information on City and County history. If our scheduled tour times don't work for you, tours for groups of 8 or more interns and City employees alike can be scheduled free of charge for anytime between 9 and 5. Please schedule your tour at least 4 weeks in advance so that we can arrange for one of our fabulous volunteer docents to guide you through the building.

No food or drink is allowed on the tour, so if you plan on taking the lunchtime noon tour please eat beforehand.

*Right: City Hall Rotunda*

