This document contains the press clippings for the 4th Quarter of 2014 (Oct. – Dec.), gathered by the Department of Public Information, Communications & Media, so that you can stay informed about the contributions the Peralta Colleges make to the community and the interest this generates in the press.

Enjoy reading about the newsworthy events that took place at the colleges and within the District during the past three months, and please share this report with colleagues in order for everyone to benefit from this information.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or comments.
Gilmore, Spencer vie for mayor

Island is on verge of significant developments

By Peter Hegarty

ALAMEDA — Just two candidates are running for mayor this November and both are well known to Island voters.

Incumbent Marie Gilmore, elected four years ago, is seeking a second term. Trish Spencer, a trustee of the Alameda Unified School District since 2008, is challenging her.

The winner will step into the job at a time when the city is on the cusp of significant change: Efforts are underway to create a "waterfront town center" to help jump-start overall redevelopment at Alameda Point, and new neighborhoods are proposed or in progress at Alameda Landing and along the Oakland-Alameda Estuary, whereas many as 1000 homes may be built.

Next month, the U.S. Navy will also transfer land at Alameda Point to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for a health care center and a columbarium, a milestone in the transformation of the former Naval Air Station.

Before becoming mayor, Gilmore served on the City Council for seven years. Her background also includes a stint on the city Recreation Commission and eight years on the Planning Board, including two as its president.

Among her accomplishments as mayor, Gilmore said, was acquiring Alameda Point at no cost to residents, increasing city reserves, and working out deals with city unions that led them to shoulder more pension and health care costs.

The biggest challenges facing the city are Alameda Point, and providing recreational support for residents, Gilmore said. Both require fiscal responsibility, she said, noting that infrastructure upgrades at the former Navy base are projected to cost about $900 million.

The city's plan for Alameda Point calls for business and jobs and open space first, then housing, she said.

"We are also working on a plan for a world class ferry system with Alameda as the hub of that system, which will not only help us move people on and off our Island, but it will also help resolve our regional traffic problem that so adversely impacts Alameda, especially at the tube," Gilmore said.

She said her leadership has brought stability to City Hall through the hiring of a permanent city manager, fire chief and other department heads.

"Residents should vote for me because I am the best candidate to continue moving Alameda forward and managing the inevitable change Alameda faces — whether that is mandated by the state or otherwise," Gilmore said. "My track record is clear: I work well with others and I turn visions into reality. Residents do not have to speculate about what my plans are or whether I will keep my promises.

Spencer, who still has two years left on her school board term, also said redevelopment remains the city's biggest challenge. But she said the scale of it is threatening people's quality of life.

"Large new housing projects mean more people, more traffic, more police, more fire services, more schools, thereby eating up most, if not all, of any tax base gains," Spencer said. "More retail development means more low-paying jobs and more competition for the retail centers that already exist on the Island.

As mayor, Spencer said she would work to protect parks, support development that avoids traffic gridlock, and would work to overcrowded schools, and urge more fiscal transparency.

She supports the restoration of wetlands and the adaptive reuse of existing buildings at Alameda Point, where she said any new residential neighborhoods should be built last.

"Alameda is at a crossroads," Spencer said. "Change is rapidly being pushed through by City Hall that best serves developers, not Alamedans."

Spencer said she is proud that as a school district trustee she helped save Woodstock Child Development Center when the loss of state funding meant it might close.

"I am a principled, dedicated, detail-oriented leader who welcomes public input," Spencer said. "My decisions are unbiased and based on thorough research. I am willing to ask serious questions for the good of the community and do not simply rubber-stamp proposals.

Along with the school board, Spencer serves on the Peralta Colleges Foundation Board, which provides scholarships to community college students. She also served as co-chair of the Alameda Youth Collaborative, an umbrella organization of 35-plus service groups, and was president of the Alameda PTA Council.

"The time is now for new leadership," Spencer said. "We cannot afford another four years of the current leadership."

Reach Peter Hegarty at 510-748-1654 or follow him on Twitter.com/PeterHegarty.
Five candidates vie for District 2 seat

Crowded field varies on issues of services, home prices, crime

By Matthew Artz
martz@bayareanewsgroup.com

OAKLAND — With Council President Pat Kernaghan retiring, the five people seeking to replace her in District 2 are nearly as diverse as the central Oakland district they are seeking to represent.

The most familiar face belongs to former KPIX news anchor Dana King, who moved two years ago to Oakland where she owns an art studio.

King has been embraced by several business leaders and developers, while her best-funded opponent, Peralta Community College Board President Abel Guillen, has the backing of several labor organizations and much of the city's political establishment, including Kernaghan.

Andrew Park, who started his own community nonprofit

See DISTRICT 2 Page 2
and works with neighborhood kids, claims endorsements from several school district leaders. Meanwhile, Kevin Blackburn and Ken Maxey say they are running to make Oakland more business-friendly.

In a district that spans from Chinatown to inner East Oakland and extends up to the city’s wealthy Trestle Glen neighborhood, the issues being raised by candidates reverberate through the entire city: crime, soaring home prices, dilapidated roads and declining services.

King’s home and art studio is in one of the district’s poorer neighborhoods where prostitutes walk the street at night and graffiti vandalism has spiked. “I think quality-of-life issues are really important,” said King, who is working on neighborhood partnerships to reduce graffiti blight and street trees. “Every time my neighbors walk out their door they see prostitution, they see ugliness.”

As a recent arrival from San Francisco, King is sensitive to the backlash against transplants from the other side of the bay whose migration to Oakland in recent years has pushed up housing costs and displaced local residents.

“Birthright does not trump love of Oakland for me,” she said. “I chose to come here. I wanted to be in Oakland and build the second half of my life in Oakland. Why people have a problem with that is beyond me.”

King and Guillen both say the race shouldn’t be seen simply as a business-versus-labor battle. King said she had leadership roles in her newscaster’s union and that she wouldn’t seek to force retroactive pension concessions on city workers. Guillen noted that he also has support from several business leaders and said that he would not have been on board with council members this year when they voted to use one-time revenues to pay for ongoing costs.

“We need someone on the council who understands public finance,” said Guillen, who works for a firm that handles school facility bond initiatives. Guillen has the longest track record in local politics. In addition to being president of the Peralta board, he narrowly lost a bid for state Assembly two years ago. “My biggest issue is making sure that the residents have confidence in City Hall,” he said, “that we’re responsive to the needs of the residents and that we work together.”

Park, an administrator at UC Berkeley, has spent nearly his entire life in the district, where he founded the nonprofit Trybe, which serves teens and young adults in East Oakland.

Park, an ordained Baptist minister, also chairs his neighborhood crime prevention council and helps organize neighborhood events in the San Antonio district where he lives with his wife and four children.

Although he wants Oakland to have more police officers, Park said the solutions to crime often come from within neighborhoods. He noted an effort he took part in to get more adults to spend time in a park where young men were doing drugs and playing dice.

“I know how to make neighborhoods safer and healthier even if we don’t get more police officers,” he said. Park also supports the creation of a citizen police commission to oversee Oakland’s police department — a proposal opposed by the police union.

Like Park, Blackburn has lived nearly his entire life in central Oakland. An executive for the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, Blackburn said he is dissatisfied with the pace of business attraction and home development in Oakland.

“I think a lot of the frustrations that Oaklanders on the whole are dealing with can be cured by providing a better business environment and a thoughtful, comprehensive housing policy for the city,” he said.

As you grow the economy, you grow the ability of the city to address the fundamental issues that the city is facing.”

Blackburn wants to make it easier for developers to build in Oakland and to allow taller buildings on city corridors.

Maxey, director of government affairs for Comcast, fell in love with Oakland when he arrived five years ago. “This is a place where diversity thrives and that is what I represent,” he said.

Maxey, who serves on the boards of the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the pro-business Jobs and Housing Coalition, said he would emphasize partnerships between the city and private industry.
Brooks faces three challengers

Candidates say cutting crime, attracting new business biggest issues

By Malaka Fraley

OAKLAND — Three candidates in the November election are trying to unseat longtime Oakland City Councilwoman Desley Brooks in District 6, arguably one of the city’s most underserved areas, plagued with crime and lagging in economic development.

An attorney first elected in 2002 and running for a fourth term, Brooks has held every major city government job, but polls show she has remained popular with constituents in the densely populated district that covers more than a third of East Oakland and includes neighborhoods ranging from affluent to some of the poorest in the city.

Calling out for new leadership, Brooks, Johnson, Moore and Nosakhare are three civically involved challengers: District 4 staffer Shereda Nosakhare, health care executive Michael Johnson and small-business expert James Moore.

All the candidates agree the main issue for District 6 — making the Police Department more proactive and getting more results out of city committees are among Nosakhare’s goals.

Johnson, 53, is calling for financial incentives to police officers living within the community and to discourage them from leaving to other departments after they are trained on the city’s dime. Johnson has a plan to increase the number of officers on the streets by making the department a less “top-heavy” organization with more officers per every eight officers.

Johnson wants to work with Merritt and Mills College to bring development around the campus to benefit both students and residents.

As far as big business, he said he wants the city to be more aggressive in attracting companies that will bring jobs to the district.

“I don’t think people understand the development process and how long it takes to get a project through from conception,” Brooks said.

Brooks, who at 31 is the youngest candidate in the race, says she’s uniquely suited for the job because of her work as policy analyst and community liaison for city councilwoman Libby Schaff in District 4.

“I’m hearing from residents that City Hall is not responsive to their concerns,” Nosakhare said.

“I want to provide great constituent services in District 6.”

See DISTRICT 6, Page 8

District 6

Continued from Page 1

thoroughfares and corridors, including Seminary, MacArthur, 66th and 73rd avenues and International and Foothill boulevards that she says will attract new businesses.

She has been criticized for District 6 not having a major grocery store chain, but she notes a site on 66th Avenue earmarked for a store was close to getting a Foods Co. before the project, like many others, was derailed by the dissolution of the redevelopment agency.

While the search for a store for the site continues, Brooks points to other successful projects like Seminary Point, which is expected to be an anchor for other new retail once it is constructed in 2015.

“We have done a lot of innovative projects,” Brooks said.

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

SHEREDA NOSAKHARE

Age: 31

Job: Policy analyst and community liaison for District 4 Oakland City Councilwoman Libby Schaff

Education: B.A. in political science from University of Portland, M.A. in public policy from University of Michigan

MICHAEL JOHNSON

Age: 53

Job: Health care executive, associate pastor at Beebe Memorial Cathedral in North Oakland.

Education: B.A. in psychology from University of Oklahoma; M.S. in public health from UCLA

DESLEY BROOKS

Age: 53

Job: Incumbent Oakland City Councilwoman for District 6, elected in 2002

Education: B.A. in political science from University of Washington, J.D. from Seattle University

JAMES MOORE

Age: 62

Job: Owner of a small-business consulting firm and an entertainment booking agency, director of the African American Business Exchange

Education: A.A. in community service from Merritt College; business studies at San Francisco State

Follow Malaka Fraley at Twitter.com/malakafraley.
ELECTION 2014
WHO IS GOING TO REPLACE PAT KERNIGHAN?

Four candidates are running to take over for the longtime representative of Oakland City Council District Two.

By Bert Johnson

Four candidates with differing visions for Oakland’s future are vying for the open District Two council seat. Candidates Kevin Blackburn and Dana King both want to grow the city’s economy and develop lots of new housing. Abel Guillen is advocating for more affordable housing construction and wants to prevent the displacement of longtime residents. And Andrew Park has made improving public safety and expanding community policing the top issue of his campaign.

The four candidates are running to replace longtime councilmember Pat Kernighan, who decided not to seek reelection this year. District Two includes the Grand Lake, Eastlake, and San Antonio neighborhoods, and the area around Laney College.

Of the four candidates, Guillen is the only one with experience as an elected official. He will soon finish his second term on the Perata Community College Board of Trustees, a panel that oversees Laney and Merritt colleges, Berkeley City College, and the College of Alameda. In 2013, he nearly won a seat in the State Assembly, losing a close race to Rob Bonta. Assemblymember Bonta has now endorsed Guillen’s council candidacy, as has Kernighan.

Guillen said he originally decided to run for state office to push an education agenda in Sacramento. “I ran for my students, basically,” he said in an interview. But the Oakland resident said that when Kernighan announced that she was not running again for council, he decided to launch a campaign because the council is “where the rubber hits the road” in terms of local issues. A liberal Democrat, Guillen has been endorsed by the Democratic Party leadership and by organized labor.

Guillen’s passion is education — he works as public education financial consultant — but he says his priorities, if elected, include improving public safety and creating jobs for city residents, in addition to building more affordable housing in the city. He also advocates for more diversity in the Oakland Police Department, and said he will push for OPD to hire more city residents. “What would it look like if we actually had a police force that reflected the diversity of the community?” he said. He plans to meet more with the Perata colleges and OPD to enable greater numbers of students to train as officers.

In the case of displacement, Guillen sees the housing shortage as being the primary culprit. “It’s incumbent upon us to be able to provide affordable housing,” he said, so that teachers, cops, firefighters, and working-class families can find homes in Oakland. He wants the city to finance affordable housing construction using development grants funded by cap-and-trade proceeds. Those state funds can be used to subsidize housing construction along public transit corridors, with the goal of reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. He also wants to help create an in-lieu-subsidized housing policy, which Oakland currently lacks, that would convince developers of market-rate housing to also build or fund affordable units.

All four candidates are political newcomers and former longtime TV news anchor, contends that her background in broadcast news is a strong qualification for elected office. “I’ve been in the public sphere for 25 years,” she said. “I know how to navigate on behalf of the city.”

While her lack of experience in policy-making sets her apart from Guillen, she argues that her years of experience in the newsroom have prepared her well for the demands of being on the council. She said her ability to communicate is a skill that is currently lacking in City Hall. She contends that as a reporter she adhered to working on a deadline, thinking on her feet, and taking research and implementing it.

King wants to attract new businesses to Oakland and solve the city’s crime problem. She argues that the Occupy Oakland movement drove business out of the downtown area and contends that some neighborhoods are now “a ghost town.” “We lost a lot of these small businesses,” she said, “and they’re not coming back.” To entice new businesses, King said she would work to implement an assembly line-style city-permit approval process for business proposals that fall within a predefined set of standards. She also views San Francisco’s business tax incentives as a possible model for growth, citing Twitter’s move to the Tenderloin as an example. Although such incentive might result in Oakland losing tax revenue in the short term, she argues that new businesses serve as anchors in a neighborhood and will attract further investment.

In terms of public safety, King advocates for increased staffing for the Oakland Police Department, but said she also wants to help develop a tiered personnel structure, with community service officers, traffic officers, and patrol officers all receiving different pay rates. She would also advocate for civilianizing certain positions within the department and using sworn officers who are on disability to perform light duties, such as clerical work.

Blackburn, meantime, comes from a background in local policy. He currently serves as the assistant vice president for Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at the Federal Home Loan Bank. What Oakland lacks, he says, is a viable long-term plan for the city. Like King, he advocates for more economic growth and development, including the construction of additional market-rate housing and attracting more tech businesses to the city.

Blackburn also wants to entice more major retail outlets to Oakland, noting that the city loses $1 billion a year in retail sales to other cities, and thus is missing out on millions in sales tax revenues each year.

Blackburn also views the tech industry as a vehicle for reducing poverty and crime. He points to tech initiatives that train underserved youth in coding and software development, and contends that such programs end up generating economic growth and thus more investment from tech companies. He advocates for offering employment, city-owned offices as free incubator space to start-ups. He also said he would work to schedule meetings between city lawmakers and tech executives to ask, “What is it going to take for you to consider putting a satellite office in Oakland?”

For Blackburn, displacement comes down to supply and demand. To ease the pressure on Oakland’s residents, he wants to see 50,000 new housing units added to the market in the coming years, roughly three fourths of which would be market-rate housing. He also advocates for “walkable, livable communities that are sustainable,” which would include approving more rapid bus transit routes to entice residents to drive less. He would also work to have much of the International Boulevard corridor rezoned to allow for taller, mixed-use buildings that offer retail space on the ground floor and multi-family housing above. The combination of better public transit, more retail, and higher home ownership rates would bolster Oakland’s economy, while also improving public safety through greater population density, he argues.

As for Park, his focus is on crime reduction. As co-chair of his Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council and founder of a community-building nonprofit, he says he acts as a liaison between the community and law enforcement. He told me about being asked by OPD to help locate a young man in his neighborhood who had an outstanding warrant. The young man, however, was convinced that police would shoot him. Park said that when the community service officer contacted him, he asked the officer, “Is there any possibility that they’re going to take him down hard?” After receiving assurances from the police that they would work with Park to resolve the situation peacefully, he used his network in the community to let the young man know that he could safely turn himself in, which he did.

When I asked about his vision for community policing, he told me that he would work with police leadership to assign dedicated problem-solving officers to each beat in the city and that he would advocate for police officers to spend more time out of their cars while they were on patrol. Park also wants to hire more civilians in the police department to staff sworn officers, who draw much higher salaries, could be assigned to crucial duties, such as crime prevention and investigation. But the most important improvement, according to Park, is to increase cooperation between residents and law enforcement. “Oakland will never be truly safe until the police and the community work together for our safety.”

“IT’S INCUMBENT UPON US TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING,” GUILLEN SAID. “SO THAT TEACHERS, COPS, FIREFIGHTERS, AND WORKING-CLASS FAMILIES CAN FIND HOMES IN OAKLAND.”

NEWS & OPINION EASTE XPRESS.COM OCTOBER 8, 2014
22nd annual Indigenous Peoples Day Powwow & Indian Market, Oct. 11

On Saturday, October 11, the entire community is welcome to attend the 22nd annual Indigenous Peoples Day Powwow & Indian Market at Civic Center Park. This year’s powwow will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a Grand Entry at high noon. This year’s celebration will feature Intertribal dancing, contest dancing, round dancing, exhibition dancing, also Native American foods, Arts & Crafts, and American Indian culture. Admission is free.

This Powwow is considered sacred by the Native American community, since the City of Berkeley was the first to honor Indigenous Peoples Day – on October 12, 1992, 22 years ago, coincident with the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the struggle of the Indigenous People of the Americas to retain their culture and identity under the extremely difficult conditions of European colonization.

This event is co-sponsored by the City of Berkeley and the Indigenous Peoples Day Committee. For more info, call the message line (510) 595-5520, or contact Committee member John Carl, (510) 526-9324.

Powwow schedule
10 a.m. – noon: Exhibition Dancing, featuring Native California and Aztec dancers.
Noon: Grand Entry.
12:30 – 6 p.m.: Contest dancing, Intertribal dancing, Giveaway/Honor songs. The Prettiest Shawl Contest in honor of Millie Ketcheshawno is sponsored by Leslie Deer and Family. Also, this year’s powwow is being organized in the memory of Don Littlecloud Davenport.

Powwow Head Staff
Emcee: Earl Naconie (Kiowa); Arena Director: Randy Pico (Lazeno); Head Man Dancer: Justin Goggles, Jr. (Blackfeet/Northern Arapahoe); Head Lady Dancer: Teresa Littlebird (Northern Cheyenne); Head Drummer: David Wilson (Apache); Host Northern Drum: All Nations Drum; Host Southern Drum: Aaron Bow & Co.; Head Judge: Henry Johnson (Paiute); Contest Coordinator: Anika Johnson; Powwow Coordinator: Gino Barichello (Mvskoke); Vendors Coordinator: Hallie Frazier (Lica).

Event history
The idea of replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas, held in Geneva, which passed that resolution. In 1990 representatives from 120 Indian nations from North and South America met at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance in Quito, Ecuador, along with many non-Native human rights activists, and resolved to transform “Columbus Day” into “an occasion to strengthen our process of continental unity and struggle towards our liberation.” Upon return, Indian people of Northern Californian organized the Bay Area Indian Alliance, and resolved to commemorate “October 12, 1992 as International Day of Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples.” The final day of the conference, at Laney College in Oakland, was opened to non-Native people, and together they organized a broad coalition to coordinate 1992 activities with Indigenous leadership, called Resistance 900.
Berkeley, CA
(Alameda Co)
Berkeley Times
(Cir 23M 32,000)

OCT 9 2014

Berkeley City College to celebrate 40th anniversary, Friday, Oct. 17

In a recent news release, Berkeley City College (BCC) announced a celebration of its 40th anniversary on Friday, October 17, the entire community of Berkeley – including students, their families and friends – is welcome to attend the celebrations that will take place on campus, located at 2050 Center Street in downtown Berkeley.

Two events will launch a year-long celebration of the college’s 40 years in Berkeley, first as the Berkeley Learning Pavilion, then as the Perotta College for Non-Traditional Study, then as Vista College and Vista Community College, and finally as Berkeley City College.

The first event, organized by BCC students, takes place next Friday from noon to 2:30 p.m. in the college’s auditorium and atrium and will feature entertainment, a panel on multimedia arts, food, music, and even door prizes.

Then at 5:15 p.m., there will be a dedication ceremony for "From the Ground Up: Among the races," a stunning new community mural, directed by BCC instructor Tito Araiza and designed by True Colors Mural Project/BCC students, with Eduardo Pineda, takes place in the college’s atrium.

Photo captions: 1. Berkeley City College was previously located at the corner of Milvia & Center Streets. • 2. An exterior image of Berkeley City College today – near the heart of the Berkeley Arts District. • 3. A view of the interior atrium.

Tours of campus will be held 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more details about the mural and its dedication, see below. For more details about the 40th anniversary, go to berkeley-citycollege.edu/wp/40th-anniversary.
About the mural created in honor of BCC’s 40th anniversary:

From the Ground Up / Desde las raíces

Beginning in fall 2013, BCC student artists developed, and in spring 2014 implemented, this tribute to the history of BCC and Berkeley, the community that helped to inspire and build Berkeley City College. The mural also serves as an affirmation of the City of Berkeley’s and BCC’s contributions to East Bay social justice movements.

The mural was directed by Tiros Araiza, designed by True Colors Mural Project students, with Eduardo Fineda. Painting assistance from Juana Alicia, Rob Gibson, Miguel-Angel Mondragon-Ayala Bounce Perez, Nadya Vaynovskaya, Berkeley City College Students and Community Volunteers; with assistance from all of the following BCC student artists:

Vivian Allen  Michelle Munyer, T.A.
Natalie I. Contreras  Arielle C. Ramonda
Alya A. Emel  Heather S. Reaney
Angelica M. Foreman  Parul Sharma
Sara Freeman  Shanna M. Strange
Zachary A. Klusty  Benjamin Triana
Bee Marrone  Amanda B. Walker
Andrea Melendez  Jan A. Zawislanski
Caitlin Moore

True Colors Mural Project, Public Art Program, Berkeley City College ©2014, All Rights Reserved.
B.A.R. picks in SF, regional races

San Francisco isn’t the only city where LGBT candidates are seeking local office. In fact, this year a bevvy of out candidates is running for positions in city council, college board, and municipal districts in the East Bay and San Mateo County.

San Francisco races

First though, recommendations in a few more San Francisco races.

For San Francisco Superior Court, we endorse attorney Daniel Flores in the June primary. Flores is a straight ally who stands out to us because of his experience on the civil and criminal sides of the legal profession. More than 20 judges have endorsed his candidacy and he would be an asset to the bench.

For assessor-recorder we endorse incumbent Carmen Chu, who has been effective in running the office. Chu, a straight ally, is unopposed.

For public defender, we endorse incumbent Jeff Adachi. He has recruited top attorneys who represent some of the city’s most vulnerable defendants. A straight ally, Adachi is unopposed.

Now on to our recommendations for regional races.

Oakland City Council

For District 2 on the Oakland City Council we recommend Abel Guillen, a former Peralta Community College trustee. District 2 includes Lake Merritt, Grand Lake, Crocker Highlands, Cleveland Heights, and Gold Coast. Pat Kernighan of District 2 and the current council president has endorsed him. Public safety is his top priority and he wants to expand walking, beat, and bike police patrols, smart moves in a district with a lot of public space and merchant corridors. According to his website, he will also work on citywide efforts to create more affordable housing options linked to public transit. Guillen, who identifies as two-spirit, would be an important voice on the council for LGBTQ youth funding, a critical issue this year.

Berkeley City Council

In District 7, we endorse longtime incumbent Kriss Worthington. A gay man who is a 17-year veteran of the council, Worthington has led on issues affecting UC Berkeley students, tenants, and others, including LGBTs. On affordable housing, according to his website, Worthington successfully sponsored a ballot measure to protect seniors and disabled tenants. On diversity, Worthington appointed students, Asians, Latinos, Native Americans, and women commissioners. He also helped small businesses by sponsoring a diversity study to encourage more such shops, as well as local work and minority-owned contracting opportunities. Worthington is an effective councilman and deserves another term.

In District 8, we recommend Lori Drost, a lesbian mom who told us the council lacks the perspective of someone with a young family. She is also concerned with housing affordability, and safety issues, from safe streets for pedestrians to sexual assaults. Drost has been active in the city of Berkeley for years. She is the chair of the city’s Commission on the Status of Women and vice chair of the Alameda County Human Relations Commission, so she has local government experience. The district includes the Elmwood neighborhood.

Emeryville City Council

Emeryville, which borders Oakland, has a competitive race for its City Council and we recommend John Bauters. A two-year resident of the city, Bauters, a gay man, is a policy director for a nonprofit housing agency. His top priorities, he told us, include affordable housing for families, particularly city staff, and the city’s schools. Long known for its commercial corridors and big box retailers, young families are moving to the area. Bauters has the support of lesbian City Councilwoman Ruth Atkin and gay Berkeley City Councilman Darryl Moore.

El Cerrito City Council

Voters in El Cerrito have an opportunity to elect a gay man who has deep experience in city government. City Council candidate Gabriel Quinto. He serves on the city’s Human Relations Committee and on the Aging. Quinto is also concerned about affordable housing, particularly near the city’s two BART stations. Quinto told us that he realizes the importance of being one of the few elected officials living with HIV, should he win. But it’s a sense of community — he’s a 17-year city resident — that drove Quinto to seek a council seat. And he would tackle the basics — ensuring adequate funding for public safety and first responders — if he’s successful in his race. He would be a good fit for the council.

Peralta Community College Board

The Peralta Community College District includes campuses in Berkeley, Oakland, and the city of Alameda. In the race for Area 7 we recommend Richard Fuentes, a gay man who came up short in his bid for an Oakland school board seat two years ago. This time around, Fuentes has better organization, some name identification, and the support of numerous elected officials, including Assemblymember Rob Bonta (D-Oakland), Richard Gordon (D-Menlo Park), and Assemblywoman Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley). If elected, Fuentes would succeed the aforementioned Guillen in the seat. Fuentes has been involved in education issues for many years. He stated on his website that he is committed to ensuring that students have access to community colleges and that the schools have the programs that will meet students’ needs in this new economy.

East Bay Municipal Utility District

In the race for EBMUD Ward 3, we endorse Marguerite Young, who is keenly aware of the significant challenges ahead given the drought and its effects on the East Bay’s primary water board. Young is a lesbian who is a third generation Californian and a 24-year Oakland resident. The agency’s ability to deliver reliable and adequate supplies of clean water also depends on infrastructure. Young says on her website, effective response to fires and earthquakes also...
depends on this. Much of EBMUD's 4,000 miles of pipelines are reaching the end of their lifespan and Young wants to be part of the change that is needed in the district. She is endorsed by key EBMUD board members (current and retired), and water officials from other agencies. She would bring a fresh perspective to the board.

In the Ward 4 seat, incumbent Andy Katz has our endorsement. Katz is a first man who was first elected in 2006. He's a clean air attorney and public health advocate for Breathe California. He supports the district's efforts to expand water conservation programs and double recycled water projects. According to information on the EBMUD website, Katz initiated policies protecting tenants in apartment buildings from water service termination and expanded the district's customer assistance program for low-income households.

Richmond City Council

Recent media accounts have publicized the anti-gay verbal bullying that lesbian Richmond City Councilwoman and Vice Mayor Jovanka Beckles has endured since winning her seat four years ago. Now she is up for re-election and we strongly urge voters in the East Bay city to return her to office. In her first term, she initiated a minimum wage increase in the city, assisted in the creation of a workplace bullying policy, and improved police-community relations, according to her website. Beckles helped small business owners and supported efforts to bring more jobs to the Port of Richmond. She's a strong progressive voice on the council who has worked effectively with residents and community leaders to improve the city.

San Mateo County Harbor Commission

For this municipal race, we recommend incumbent Robert Bernardo, a former South San Francisco planning commissioner. Bernardo, who is a gay man, works at the Port of Oakland but has long lived in San Mateo County. The harbor district oversees the operation of two public harbors, Oyster Point in South San Francisco and Pillar Point near Half Moon Bay. During his first term, according to information on the harbor commission website, Bernardo championed a budget to pay off the district's $19.7 million debt a year ahead of schedule. He has been an effective commissioner and will continue working for policies to enhance the harbors.
Raising standard of care in Vietnam

Nguyen gathers medical supplies for poorest areas

By Laura Casey
Correspondent

ALAMEDA — College of Alameda dance instructor Danny Nguyen has made multiple trips to his native Vietnam on missions, visiting some of the poorest regions in the rural areas of the country.

Each time, he's inspired to do whatever he can to help raise attention to the plight of the postwar Vietnamese population.

On Nguyen's last trip to the country this past summer, he visited medical clinics in villages in the Thanh Hoa province. The medical conditions in these clinics prompted him to make a video, which inspired doctors across the country to donate approximately $100,000 worth of medical supplies to the regions' centers. Now, Nguyen is asking for the public's help to raise what could be $10,000 in costs to ship the supplies to Vietnam.

"In some clinics, they only have stethoscopes," he said, adding that the Thanh Hoa province is the third largest in terms of population in Vietnam. "They need these blood test machines and ultrasound machines to find out what is wrong with these patients."

Nguyen hooked up with Cheri Barnette, president of the Oakland Sister City International Development Team, and showed her the video. In it, Nguyen tours around a clinic where patients are receiving IVs and sometimes sleeping two per bed. He promises a clinic doctor that he will help get modern medical equipment so she can properly care for these patients.

Barnette saw the video and immediately reached out to the network of doctors she's in touch with to see if there are any excess ultrasound machines and other equipment in American hospitals and clinics that could be donated to the Vietnamese people.

"The doctors were able to assess exactly what is needed," Barnette said. "In that region, there was recent flooding so we want them to be prepared at every level."

In just a few months, the response was overwhelming. Barnette and Nguyen received enough donations to fill a shipping container. Once the medical supplies arrive, doctors will be visiting the area to instruct medical professionals on how to properly use the equipment.

Now Nguyen is determined to raise money to have the medical supplies shipped over to Thanh Hoa province. He's putting together a new dance with his College of Alameda students addressing the political struggles between the communist and non-communist people in Vietnam and showing it at the college to raise money. The dance, which is yet unnamed, will debut Dec. 5 in Alameda.

Next year, on the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, he will show this new dance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

"It's about both sides needing to forgive and forget," he said, adding that an element of the dance incorporates stories of the Vietnamese people trying to escape the country on boats and 80 percent of them drowning in the ocean.

Nguyen is also accepting donations for the shipping costs through his website, www.dannydancers.org.

"Danny works tirelessly for the rural areas of Vietnam," Barnette said. "It's these people he really wants to help."
Job-training center rises from rubble

Students in the pre-apprentice training program attend the life skills class Tuesday at the Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland.

Kenneth Ward, left, gets tips from Charles Simmons Jr., supervising lead instructor, during hands-on construction training at the Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland on Tuesday. The center offers training to minorities, women and veterans.

Built in aftermath of Loma Prieta quake, facility offers opportunity

By Lou Fancher
Correspondent

OAKLAND — Out of horror comes hope.

The hard-to-believe phrase is made a reality every day at the Cypress Mandela Training Center, a free, no-nonsense, 16-week construction industry boot camp operating out of a 25,000-square-foot industrial warehouse in West Oakland.

Founded in 1993 in response to the Loma Prieta earthquake, which collapsed the elevated portion of the Cypress Street Viaduct on Interstate 880 on Oct. 17, 1989, the program was designed to provide local, unemployed West Oakland residents with training in freeway repair.

In the late 1990s, the Women in Skilled Trades program, founded in 1987, joined Cypress, aiming to increase the participation of women in training for nontraditional occupations. Women, minorities and veterans over the age of 18 are encouraged to apply.

Approaching the 25th anniversary of the earthquake that also ruptured sections of the old Bay Bridge, set off massive fires in San Francisco's Marina district, and caused roughly $6 billion in damage, Cypress Mandela's program has expanded to include more green sector jobs, but its mission remains unchanged.

See TRAINING, Page 6
Training

Continued from Page 1

Cypress Mandela students attend classroom and hands-on courses in applied math, computer skills, alternative energy, environmental remediation, and cement, electrical, plumbing, welding, safety, CPR and other construction trade skills. In addition, the Monday to Friday, 7½ days include calisthenics and behavioral training that adds "Yes, ma'am" and "Yes, sir" to students' vocabulary. Graduates of the rigorous program exit with certificates in areas of specialization, up to seven college credits from UC Berkeley, UC Davis or Laney College, and training leading to employment in a wide variety of construction trades.

Most important is what they leave behind — their pasts — and what they carry with them: a career defining their futures.

"Careers come with adequate medical care, pensions, real work that changes them into loving, caring, taxpaying citizens," Executive Director Art Shanks said. "They become people whose money goes back into their communities."

Most often, students arrive from communities crushed by poverty, drug and sex trafficking, domestic violence and other crimes. Shanks said he sees 18-year-old women with three children, 8-year-olds who are chemically dependent, young people with no skills or ambition, and an educational system that he said fails everyone and doesn't allow young people "to flower like they should."

It's poetic language for a man more often prone to blunt, truthful assessments. "I want to stem the tide of African-Americans in prison," he said. "We once had Scouts, home, art, sports — we gave it all away. These kids are socially deficient, even if they're technically intelligent." While inviting students with violence scarring their transcripts, he insists they must learn skills that save lives, not take lives.

Shanks is particularly proud of putting the first African-American woman — a Cypress graduate — on the tower cranes during the new Bay Bridge construction. "Women are the best workers. They succeed far more than men," he said. "They wind up foremen, earning $34 per hour over a male journeyman, who earns $28."

But even with men, Cypress Mandela's numbers hold up to scrutiny. With a waiting list of 300, each 16-week session accepts only 30-40 students. Boasting a roughly 80 percent job placement rate and 2 percent attrition, 1,449 men and 394 women have found employment during the program's 20-year history. With alumni who've worked on the Oakland Coliseum, Oracle Arena, Kaiser in Oakland and the new Bay Bridge — and taking into account the impact on students and their families — it's no exaggeration to say that thousands of people benefit from Cypress Mandela daily.

Alaina Gadson, 23, said she was getting into trouble before coming to Cypress.

"I was going to lose my freedom forever — or my life," the San Leandro resident said. Asked if being a woman in the construction industry is an obstacle, she said, "I'm the only obstacle: It comes down to my inner self."

Douglas Butler, program manager-instructor, said careers reduce crime, and giving students AIR — accountability, integrity and responsibility — inspires enthusiasm.

For Vince Martinez, a 24-year-old father of two with a child with disabilities, earning $15 an hour at three low-skill jobs while driving 100 miles between hospital and home was exhausting. He said Cypress Mandela promised a career, not a dead-end job.

"This program will help me develop the skills I need to help my family long term. I'm working to be an electrician with PG&E — I'll take care of my girl," Martinez said. Like Martinez, Dawn Taylor, 37, of Oakland, is seeking a better life for her child.

"I wanted a change. A job is, go to work every day. A career is a foundation," Taylor said. "I want to pass along what I'm learning to my daughter. Some people think construction's a man's job, but it's not. A woman can do anything she wants to do. If I'm motivated, I won't let anyone tell me what I can do."

Cypress Mandela is funded by federal grants, state funds, foundations and private support. Shanks said that after a six-year weak period in the construction market, industry tax incentives and a newfound respect for vocational-technical careers is making application numbers robust. He's hoping to see more veterans in the program and said prospective fuel refinery action by Chevron, Delta strip oil refineries and increasing green sector jobs will provide major opportunities.

For details on the Cypress Mandela Training Center, go to www.cypressmandela.org.

San Mateo, CA
(San Mateo Co)
County Times
(cir D 23,381)

OCT 1 2 2014

Kenneth Ward, of Oakland, left, gets tips from Charles Simmons Jr., supervising lead instructor, on Tuesday at Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland.

Job-training center arises from rubble

Facility providing opportunities after Loma Prieta

By Lou Fancher
Correspondent
Job-training center arises from rubble

Fremont, CA
(Alameda Co.)
Argus
(Cir. D. 32,400)
(Cir. S. 33,300)

Other Newspapers
Carrying Same Story

Students in the pre-apprentice training program attend the life skills class Tuesday at the Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland.
ELECTION 2014

VOTE LIBBY SCHAAF FOR MAYOR OF OAKLAND

We also endorse Abel Guillen for Oakland City Council, and we urge "yes" votes on measures N, CC, DD, EE, and FF.

We think there are four good progressive candidates running for mayor of Oakland in 2014 — Libby Schaaf, Jean Quan, Dan Siegel, and Rebecca Kaplan — and so we wish that Alameda County’s ranked-choice voting system allowed us to pick our top four candidates rather than just three. Yet even with this year’s solid field, we think one candidate stands out: Councilmember Libby Schaaf. She’s extremely smart, has an admirable work ethic, is dedicated to open and transparent government, and has the charisma and communication skills to bring together differing factions in the city in order to find solutions to Oakland’s numerous problems.

We also admire Schaaf’s courage. She was one of the first major candidates to strongly back Measure FF, the Lift Up Oakland ballot measure, which would have raised the minimum wage in the city to $12.25 an hour next March. She knew her unwavering support for the measure would likely cost her votes and endorsements from the city’s business community. And no surprise, both the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the San Francisco Chronicle have endorsed the only major candidate in the race who opposes Measure FF — Bryan Parker.

Of the seven major candidates running for mayor, Schaaf is also the most consistent advocate for good-government reform. She co-wrote Measure DD, which would give the power of redistricting in Oakland to an independent commission, and she’s a staunch supporter of Measure CC, which would greatly strengthen the city’s political watchdog agency, the Public Ethics Commission.

Schaaf’s an environmentalist, too. She’s a strong advocate for smart growth and mass transit, and for making Oakland more walkable and bike-friendly. She also will work to grow small businesses and the local economy and build more housing, especially affordable units, while working to prevent displacement of longtime residents. We also support her call for the Oakland Police Department to focus more on community policing and crime-solving. And we like that she’s a thoughtful public official — a person who prides herself on conducting extensive research and listening to numerous opinions on issues before deviating solutions.

Schaaf also understands how to get things done in City Hall, having worked in both the executive branch as an aide to former Mayor Jerry Brown and as a legislator on the city council. And we believe when she promises to move forward with progressive initiatives backed by Mayor Jean Quan, and think she will be effective in doing so.

Quan, meanwhile, is our close second choice. Unlike some, we think Quan has been a good mayor overall, and we think that many Oaklanders, unfortunately, have a skewed view of her because of overly negative press coverage during the past four years — especially from the Chronicle.

We also think that the city, under Quan’s leadership, is on the right track. The city’s finances are in much better shape than they were when she took office, unemployment has tumbled, violent crime is down significantly this year, and OPD is finally making progress on its court-ordered reform efforts. In addition, the city’s food, arts, and cultural scenes are booming. Plus, Quan deserves credit for jumpstarting two giant projects: the redevelopment of the former Army Base and the Brooklyn Basin housing development. But having said all that, she’s not our number-one choice this year because of the missteps she has made, including her mishandling of Occupy Oakland and her decision to hire police chiefs and city administrators who weren’t good fits for the city.

Finally, we like Siegel and Kaplan, and we think either one would be good third choices on ranked-choice ballots. In fact, we probably agree with Siegel more than we do with any other candidate, but we have concerns about his ability to work effectively with the council and with his lukewarm support for building large amounts of housing in Oakland, despite the fact that the city is facing an extreme housing shortage, and the fact that we should be constructing more housing in cities to curb greenhouse gas emissions. As for Kaplan, we like her buoyancy, upbeat attitude about Oakland, and her work to promote smart growth, mass transit, and bikeable streets. But we’re concerned about her work ethic and her tendency to avoid taking tough stances on issues, and about whether she’s up for the hard job of being mayor of Oakland. We’re also concerned about her recusing campaign finance issues.

In terms of the other top candidates, Joe Tuman is bit too far to the right for us. We’re worried that he’ll place too much emphasis on expanding the size of the police force, curtailing public employee pensions, and cutting government spending. We also strongly oppose his plan to relax city parking rules, because that will just incentivize more driving. Parker, likewise, is too moderate for us. We don’t agree with his tough-on-crime policies or his stance on the minimum wage. As for Courtney Ruby,

wishing she would have remained city auditor.

We have endorsed her for reelection to that post, but she’s simply not prepared to be mayor.

In Oakland’s city council District Two race, Abel Guillen is the clear choice, and we think he’ll make a terrific addition to the council, because he’s a born legislator.

In fact, we endorsed him in 2012 for state Assembly because of his progressive positions and clear understanding of local and statewide issues. This year, no other candidate in the race to replace longtime Councilmember Pat Kernighan even comes close to him. That’s why Kernighan has also endorsed the longtime member of the Peralta Community College board of trustees.

We’re concerned about the candidacy of former TV news anchor Dana King, who has been endorsed by the chamber of commerce.

Most of the polls so far have shown King, a moderate, with a sizable lead — probably because of her strong name recognition. But King is a recent arrival to the city and is ill-informed on the issues. For example, on the campaign trail, she’s had the dubious claim that many downtown businesses have yet to recover from Occupy Oakland, when, in fact, there is no evidence that Occupy had any lasting economic impact on the area. We think either of the other two candidates — Andrew Park and Kevin Blackburn — in the race would be a better choice than King.

On ballot measures, we urge Oakland voters to approve N, FF, CC, DD, and EE. As noted above, FF, the Lift Up Oakland measure, would raise the minimum wage for all employees in Oakland to $12.25 an hour in March. Numerous academic studies have shown that increasing the minimum wage is one of the best ways to boost the local economy and close the income gap.

The good-government measures — CC and DD — are also no-brainers. Oakland’s Public Ethics Commission has long been starved of the funds and the authority it needs to adequately perform its watchdog role, and Measure CC would go a long way toward fixing that problem. In addition, politics have too often played an inappropriate role during redistricting in Oakland, and Measure DD will help make the process more transparent by giving the authority to draw council and school board district lines to an independent commission. As for Measure EE, it’s a straightforward proposal to reduce costs in the city’s old retirement systems for public employees.

Measure N, meanwhile, is a parcel tax that would fund programs in Oakland public high schools that reduce the dropout rate and prepare students for college. Our only concern about Measure N is that some of the funds would go to privately run charter schools. But we think that tradeoff is worth making in order to help students in the city’s cash-strapped public high schools.

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News & Opinion
LOCAL SCHOOLS

Pathway to higher education

City college, office of mayor partner to start program for local students

By Robert Tooke | Staff
rtooke@dailycaal.org

Berkeley City College and the office of Mayor Tom Bates are launching the Berkeley Pathway to College, a program that aims to create a college-going culture for students in the city.

The new partnership, called the Pathway, is between student ambassadors and ambassador alumni from Berkeley City College, or BCC, and Bates, and it is designed to educate students in middle schools, high schools and community programs about attending community college or higher education institutions.

"(The Pathway) allows students to go through school in an affordable manner and also allows students to enter a career pathway so they can go from school to a career," Bates said. "We are making fabulous progress, and we are excited that BCC has been in the community for 40 years now. I hope that the students who graduate will be critical thinkers, make a contribution to our society and give back to our community."

The program’s ambassadors, which include students and BCC alumni, will go to schools during the year and speak with students and parents about the existing opportunities in higher education.

The college is also working with Berkeley Unified School District, guaranteeing those who graduate with a C average or better and who attend Berkeley schools will be admitted to the community college. BCC will also provide resources and training for students who choose to join the workforce.

"I have seen the difference education has made in my life. Being an ambassador has allowed me to give back what I have been given," said Esteem Brumfield, a BCC alumnus. "It allowed me to go into the community and say, 'Hey, this is my experience - what can I do for you?' We really want to empower everyone in the community to be successful academically."

The educational outreach services include informing middle and high school students and their parents about the resources available at BCC. While Pathway was in the process of being created last year, the partners hope to see if students take advantage of the program when they graduate in the spring of 2015.

The collaboration is a part of 2020 Vision, a citywide initiative that aims to promote academic success among youth in Berkeley as well as close the achievement gap in the school district by 2020.

Rodrigo Lemes, a BCC ambassador alumnus and graduate of the Haas School of Business, said he wants to encourage students to attend community college.

"When I came to Berkeley City College, there is such a warm community feeling, and that is really transformative when you come from a minority," Lemes said. "The transition from a city college to a four-year university was really challenging — not just because I went to Cal, but because it is one of the best in the world."
Labor puts focus on council elections

Unions pouring money into races for Districts 4, 2

By Matthew Artz
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OAKLAND — Organized labor so far is keeping most of its money out of the Oakland mayor’s race, choosing instead to pump funds into electing two union-friendly City Council members.

Campaign finance reports filed this past week show that the Alameda County Central Labor Council and SEIU Local 1021 have teamed up to spend more than $35,000 apiece on behalf of Annie Campbell Washington in District 4 and Abel Guillen in District 2.

The influx of cash, made through the unions’ independent expenditure committee, gives both candidates a sizable financial advantage over their business-backed opponents with early voting already underway.

For SEIU Local 1021, which represents more than 2,500 city workers, its spending on behalf of Campbell Washington and Guillen dwarfs what it put into electing council candidates two years ago.

“Our members want us to be more aggressive in electing labor-friendly candidates, and we’re trying to do it,” said Pete Castelli, the union’s executive director.

Castelli said he wasn’t sure if the union also would set up independent expenditure accounts for the mayor’s race, but it appears to have little incentive to do so. SEIU has endorsed Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan and Mayor Jean Quan, who have been placing first and second in recent polls.

Independent expenditure accounts are not subject to campaign contribution limits and are separate from a candidate’s campaign fund.

Even without the union’s support, Campbell Washington and Guillen have raised more money than their best-funded opponents. As of the end of last month, Guillen, a Peralta Community College trustee, had raised $82,404, compared to $66,920 raised by former newscaster Dena King. Campbell Washington, an Oakland school board member, had raised $92,371, compared to $78,621 for Jill Broadhurst.

The union expenditures, which include money for phone-banking and promotional materials to hang on voters’ front doors, also trigger a clause in Oakland’s campaign law that lifts campaign expenditure limits. That leaves all candidates free to spend as much money as they can collect.

Broadhurst and King both said they were not surprised to see the unions backing their opponents. They touted their independence on dealing with union issues, if elected, including SEIU Local 1021’s labor contract, which expires next year.

“I would take everybody’s interest at heart and make the best decision for the financial well-being of the city,” Broadhurst said.

Campbell Washington said the support from city labor groups — she also has the backing of the firefighters and police officers unions — stems from her many years of work inside local government including the administration of former Mayor Jerry Brown.

“They know that I won’t always agree with them,” she said. “But they also know I will be fair, and they appreciate having a positive working relationship with me over the years.”
October is the month that brings us jack-o-lanterns, witches, goblins and all manner of tricks and treats.

Our local community colleges received an early Halloween treat when the Peralta Community College District learned that its public information department had won two regional first place awards and its cable TV station, Peralta TV, a national silver medal for best college television program.

The Peralta Colleges' two gold Medallion Awards came by way of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations' District 6 region, which includes community colleges in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Territory of Guam.

The first gold Medallion was for best original photograph for a picture of a Lane College student by department staffer Faiza Ali. The runners up were Western Nevada College and San Diego Mesa.

The second gold Medallion Award was for best online advertising for the new enrollment look on the Web pages of Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College and the social media efforts to build enrollment. NCMPR District 6 judges specifically noted the award-winning use of Facebook and Twitter to reach students.

With more than 2,000 community college nationwide in the running, Peralta TV, also part of Peralta's public information department, won a national NCMPR Silver Paragon Award for original programming. The station's monthly public affairs program, "Peralta Matters," hosted by the department's Jay Callhoun, took the silver award for a two-part series, "The Summer of Science," that profiled several Peralta students as well as many of the exceptional science programs offered by the Peralta Colleges. Watch the program and hundreds of other videos about the Peralta Colleges on Peralta TV's YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/peraltatv.

Peralta is particularly proud of the online Gold Medallion as the colleges have worked hard to build up Peralta's social media and outreach efforts over the past several years — and it appears to be an effective way to reach students and the community. You can sign up for social media messages from the Peralta Colleges at http://web.peraltacol.edu.

Speaking of online advertising, Google's Anna Patterson will present a talk, "Search Engines Through the Ages: A Brief History of How We Seek Information," at Berkeley City College at 7 p.m. Oct. 22, in the auditorium, 2050 Center St. Patterson will take us back before "goggling" became the synonym for searching the Web, and will look at the different ways we've searched for information, from taxonomies to text to algorithms and beyond. Her talk is part of the "Not on the Test: The Pleasures and Uses of Mathematics" series of six public lectures in 2014-15, which are jointly presented by the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute and Berkeley City College. Details about the event are at http://www.msri.org/general_events/2009/.

While we're at Berkeley City College: You won't want to miss BCC's 40th anniversary celebration, which takes place from noon to 7:30 p.m. Friday at the downtown Berkeley campus, 2050 Center St. The college will be honoring its 40 years of transforming lives with student celebrations from noon to 2:30 p.m., and a host of evening celebrations from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be food, art, music, film, guest speakers and entertainment throughout the day.

BCC's anniversary celebrations are free and open to the public. Find out more at http://www.berkeleycitycollege.edu/wp/40th-anniversary or by calling Cynthia Reese at 510-881-2381. I hope to see you there!
Peralta department, TV station honored

Peralta department, cable show honored
Walnut Creek CA
(Contra Costa Co)
Contra Costa Times
(cir D 185,699)
(cir S 194,445)

OCT 18 2014

CC football 12-2
Laney 41, Fresno City 7:
Running back Keith Anthony
ran for three touchdowns and
quarterback Kurt Palandeck
ran for two scores and threw
for one as the host Eagles
(3-3 overall) won their Valley
Conference opener.

Anthony opened the scoring
with a 6-yard run in the first
quarter and after the Rams
(3-3, 0-1) tied the game at
7, Laney scored 28 points in
the second quarter to take a
35-7 lead. Palandeck (16 for
21, 212 yards) threw a 4-yard
touchdown pass to Matthew
Butler and then scored on
runs of 5 and 6 yards. An-
thony ran 3 yards for the final
Eagles score in the second
quarter. He finished the scor-
ing with a 15-yard run in the
fourth quarter and finished
with 15 carries for 52 yards.

— Scott Strain,
correspondent
Mayor Bates + BCC launch Berkeley Pathway to College

Source: The Mayor's Office & BCC

At a news conference at Berkeley City College (BCC) on Tuesday, October 14, in anticipation of the college's 40th anniversary celebration, Mayor Tom Bates and BCC President Dr. Deborah Budd held a press conference to announce the launching of the Berkeley Pathway to College—a new partnership between the Mayor's Office and the Berkeley City College Student Ambassadors and Ambassador Alumni designed to create and promote a college-going culture in the city's middle schools, high schools, and in the community.

"Berkeley City College is an invaluable community asset with one of the highest transfer rates in the state," said Bates about the college that he has championed since its inception. Then he added: "The partnership with Berkeley City College will help us achieve our 2020 Vision goals."

At the news conference, BCC Lead Ambassador Breanna Isabel Bowers (Development Studies Major) and Rodrigo Lemes (BCC '08, Cal-Haas '10) discussed their experience as college students and the role BCC has had in their academic and professional success. After their presentation, the Ambassadors and Ambassador Alumni met with members of the community to share information about the many transfer and certificate opportunities available at Berkeley City College.
CCSF's drama finally near end

Accrediting panel's reach, school's fate before judge

By Nanette Asimov

Now comes the denouement for City College of San Francisco.
As the trial begins Monday to determine whether a commission illegally moved to strip the vast college of its accreditation, an audience of students, taxpayers, faculty and public officials will behold a Shakespearean moment in San Francisco Superior Court when players in the 2-year-old drama come together for the first time to publicly unveil their version of events.

One judge — no jury — will write the end of this play. Either the Accrediting Commission for

CCSF continues on A7
Community and Junior Colleges will be permitted to proceed with revoking City College's accreditation or it will not, in which case the clock turns back to 2012 before the commission sanctioned the college and placed it on the brink of closure.

The climax of this emotional debate over the value of a beloved college versus an accrediting commission's right to hold it accountable pits San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera against three top law firms representing the commission headquartered in Novato.

Accrediting panel's case
Herrera's legal team will argue that the commission evaluated City College in 2012 and 2013 in a way that broke the state law prohibiting unlawful and unfair business practices, and violated federal regulations. The private, nonprofit commission is one of six regional accrediting agencies regulated by the U.S. Department of Education.

"We just want the commission to play by the rules and stop inventing rules as they go along," Herrera said. "We have an institution that serves 79,000 students and is part of the fabric of San Francisco, providing educational opportunity at all socioeconomic levels. Everyone is entitled to know that the accrediting process is fair and impartial."

The commission's lawyers will tell the judge that the accreditors are immune from the state law in question, and that the court should not insert itself into the accreditation process. In court papers, they say City College was amply warned of commission concerns over poor financial management and inadequate governance, and that college officials acknowledged on several occasions that they were out of compliance. When the college didn't fix the

problems within the time required by federal regulations, the commission had no choice but to vote to revoke accreditation.

"The evidence at trial will conclusively establish the enormous problems that were facing (City College) and that the commission's decisions were absolutely correct," the court papers say. The commission's lawyers declined to comment beyond what is in their papers.

According to Herrera, the commission first broke the law in March 2012 by appointing Peter Crabtree, a Laney College dean and husband of commission President Barbara Beno, to the 16-member team it sent to evaluate City College as part of the college's accreditation review. Herrera says Crabtree's participation created an appearance of a conflict of interest because the team is supposed to act independently of the commission.

City attorney's arguments
In court papers, Herrera alleges a host of other violations he says "tainted every step of (the commission's) evaluation of City College":

- The commission appointed the 2012 and 2013 evaluation teams without guarding against conflicts of interest and by using a process invalidated by the U.S. Department of Education.
- The commission included too few academics on both evaluation teams; Judge Curtis Karnow has already ruled that the 2013 team should have had more than one academic.
- The commission gave unclear and inconsistent signals before 2012 that City College was violating accreditation standards, and then gave the college no chance to respond to additional problems before voting to revoke accreditation in June 2013.
- The commission sanctioned City College in retaliation for students' and faculty members' activism against legislation requiring all 12 community colleges to prioritize students who want to transfer to universities or earn a vocational certificate, rather than spending limited funds on those taking classes for enrichment or fun. The commission supported the legislation, which became state law.

"With respect to each of these acts, the evidence will show that the harm from the (commission's) conduct outweighed any benefits," Herrera argues in court papers, referring to a 20 percent drop in enrollment of students taking classes for credit. In 2011-12, the year the commission first evaluated City College, 48,921 students took classes for credit compared with 39,191 in 2013-14, a loss of 9,730 students.

Lawyers for the commission say no harm has occurred.

"None of the (commission's) allegedly improper conduct was the cause of any cognizable or demonstrable harm," they say in court papers.

The lawyers go on to bat away each of Herrera's points.

While Herrera says that Crabtree, the president's husband, urged the evaluation team to lessen the complimentary tone of its report on City College, the commission's lawyers say he played only a "subordinate role" on the team.

Nor are any of the allegations about the evaluation teams a reason to invalidate the commission's decision to revoke City College's accreditation, they argue.

"Even when there are procedural irregularities, courts do not interfere with accreditation decisions" unless the irregularities would change the outcome. They say it would not.

As for retaliating against the college for political reasons, the lawyers defend the commission's right to make a public position and say Herrera has offered no evidence that the commission is biased.

Looking beyond ruling
Both sides are also arguing about the immediate future of City College after the ruling. The argument deals with City College's application to the commission for a two-year extension to come into compliance with accreditation standards. The commission will decide in January whether to grant the extension.

Herrera will ask the judge not to consider the extension as a solution because if it isn't granted, City College would immediately lose its accreditation and have to shut down. And if it is granted, he argues, the terms of the extension are so restrictive that the college could easily lose accreditation after two years and have no right to appeal.

The commission's lawyers portray the potential extension in the opposite light and say that the college has already had more than its allotted time to come into compliance.

The trial, The People of the State of California vs. Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, is expected to last five days.

 Nanette Asimov is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. E-mail: nasimov@sfchronicle.com
Accreditation Commission President Admits They Were Quick To Disaccredite CCSF

The president of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges testified in San Francisco Superior Court this afternoon that she did not provide the City College of San Francisco enough time to respond to perceived deficiencies during their accreditation process which threatens to close their doors.

This afternoon, on the second day of the trial of a lawsuit filed by San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera against the western regional branch of the ACCJC, the commission's president Barbara Beno took the stand as a witness.
Herrera filed the lawsuit last year on behalf of the people of California alleging unfair practices including a perceived or actual conflict of interest in the appointment of Commission President Barbara Beno’s husband, Laney College Career and Technical Education Dean Peter Crabtree, to a 2012 committee evaluating CCSF.

Beno said under oath and before San Francisco Superior Court Judge Curtis Karnow today that she and her husband didn’t speak about the accreditation of CCSF.

She said that when she found out that he was going to be on the team reviewing the college, she told him “Have fun.”

Beno said the Department of Education later sent a letter to the commission because they felt having her husband on the review team would appear to the public as a conflict of interest.

On Monday during the first day of the trial, CCSF English professor and faculty union leader Alisa Messer, was called to the stand and said she was shocked to learn after the evaluation that Beno’s husband was on the committee.

“It strained credulity to believe there was no conversation at the dinner table or anywhere else and that the decision was independent,” Messer said.

Herrera claims the commission violated the state’s Unfair Competition Law by using unfair, biased and illegal procedures when it decided in 2013 to terminate the college’s accreditation.

He is seeking a court order overturning that decision and requiring the Novato-based commission to start a new evaluation process.

The lawsuit also alleges that committee and a follow-up committee in 2013 had too few academic members, as opposed to administrators; that the commission failed to provide the college with due process to respond to its charges; and that it was biased against the college’s mission of “open access” to the community.

Beno was asked about her role in the commission’s decisions concerning CCSF and the timeline for the college to comply with the commission.

Herrera’s team asked Beno, “Subsequent to the time that the commission convened and voted to terminate City College, did it afford City College additional time to respond in writing to the perceived deficiencies before finalizing the termination?”

“No,” Beno said to the judge.

The termination of CCSF’s accreditation was originally due to take effect on July 31, but in January, Karnow issued a preliminary injunction suspending the termination until the completion of trial proceedings.
Karnow is hearing the case without a jury and is expected to issue a written decision sometime after the close of the five-day trial.

The commission in court filings has denied that it was prejudiced or unfair and contended the decision to withdraw the accreditation was “absolutely correct” and was based on “enormous problems facing CCSF.”

The group’s 2013 decision cited alleged problems with financial accountability, institutional governance and compliance with standards for instructional programs and student support services.

Another witness who took the stand today was David Bergeron, the vice president of secondary education at the Washington D.C.-based educational think tank Center for American Progress.

Bergeron previously served as the acting assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the Department of Education, where he worked in various roles for more than three decades.

He said the accreditation process has flaws, but is designed to assure the public that they are getting a quality education.

But he said he believes the accreditation system “leaves broad latitude for accreditors” because of the complexity and the diversity of U.S. institutions.

Bergeron said that this year $135 billion was dispersed in financial aid for students in the U.S. and that the accreditation process is the main evaluation standing between schools receiving or not receiving those funds.

Hannah Albarazi and Julia Cheever, Bay City News
Free Laney College Program to Train Youth for High-Demand Careers

Laney College is offering a free program for students ages 8-24 to prepare them for high-demand careers in manufacturing.

The class, Intro to Manufacturing, is a hands-on course where students receive introductory, supervised workshop training in welding, machining, carpentry, and wood technology.

Open to young men and women, no prior experience in manufacturing is necessary and tuition and books are free.

Students do need to be a Bay Area resident with a high school diploma or GED to enroll, but the instructor says, "curiosity is the only requirement!"

Oakland is at the leading edge of a new manufacturing boom, which includes new as well as traditional skills, and Laney College has aligned many of its programs to capitalize on this wave for the residents of Oakland and the East Bay.

This program is designed for students to gain an overview of the array of very well paying jobs in manufacturing. Participants will be exposed to a range of cutting edge procedures and learn about a new, growing manufacturing industry, which includes high-tech design and product prototyping and other advanced manufacturing techniques.

Students will learn how to work creatively and collaboratively to turn ideas into products and work in today's changing workplace environment.

Students who complete the course will receive National Career Readiness Training, California State Food Handler's Certificate, OSHA Safety Training, College Success Training, Computer Aided Design Workshop, Math Tutoring, and the satisfaction of trying something new.

The course also provides 4.5 college credits on transcripts, which can help high school students fulfill graduation requirements.

Guest speakers will include industry professionals imparting their knowledge of the ever-changing and high mobility fields, where prior academic success does not dictate advancement, but hard work, mastering of skills and creative energy.

The spring semester begins Jan. 20, and prospective students are encouraged to inquire early.

To enroll go to the web page, (http://tinyurl.com/12m-)

Spring 2014, call the instructor Matt Trocker, at (510) 444-3 or (818) 314-4496, e-mail Trocker at matt.trocker@gr.com, or visit the Welcome Center on campus.
Oakland Post
ENDORSEMENTS

1. Dan Siegel
2. Rebecca Kaplan
3. Joe Taman
3. Libby Schaaf

Barbara Lee
Congress
Desley Brooks
District 6
Kevin Blackbum
District 2
Dana King
District 2
FOR MAYOR: 1) SIEGEL, 2) KAPLAN AND 3) TUMAN OR SCHAAF

BY PAUL COBB

A prodigious amount of thought and emotion has been invested by Oakland residents in trying to select the next mayor. Since the campaign began more than a year ago, Dan Siegel has been the best understood candidate on livable wage issues, equity for minorities and for all of us in jobs and community policing and the clearest supporter for our schools.

He is our first choice for mayor. Rebecca Kaplan is our second rank choice for mayor. She, like Siegel, is more than qualified to lead Oakland. Some say she is too nice to be mayor. We feel her respect for others could be modeled by our police force and city employees.

Karen Monroe County Superintendent of Schools

Karen Monroe has steadfast support for Oakland hiring policies and jobs for ex-offenders and minorities is admirable. She supports the active involvement of non-profits as a less expensive way to help deliver services. She and councilmember Dreyfus Brooks supported the Prompt Payment Policy.

For third choice, we were bartered by more than half of our clergy leaders to endorse Joe Tuman alone. But with the leadership of Bill Patterson, the respected Dean of Bay Area politics and the support of Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), the state's most influential Black women's political organization along with and several community and clergy leaders, we have added Libby Schaff's name as an option for the third selection.

For your third choice select either Tuman or Schaff.

Siegel and I registered voters in the south during the '60s, and we served together on the school board. I know him to be an effective advocate for our rights. He is fair. Kaplan and I have had private bible studies at my office for many years, and I have watched her. When it comes to fairness, openness and respect for all, Kaplan will keep the faith and surround herself with smart and caring people.

Oaklanders will like someone who follows the advice of the late King Louis H. Narcisse: "It's so nice to be nice and to let others know that you are nice."

Even though the polls, just a week from the election, seem to give the nod to Kaplan, Schaff, Tuman, Siegel and Bryan Parker, it should be noted that Mayor Jean Quan won as a dark horse last time against the most powerful politician in the state. She could repeat because she, more than any other candidate seems to have deciphered how to arrange combinations and play the election scenario like a multicard bingo player.

Quan, Siegel, Councilmember Noel Gall and I served together on the School Board. She is indelible. Saie Klassmoore should receive an honorable mention for his stand for integrity in politics.

Our ranked choice vote system makes every candidate a player and puts every vote in play.

While only one of 15 will emerge as mayor, nearly all will find a way to turn to each other while simultaneously running on each other's names, with each other's access to various community events, while seeking to cause their same momentary partners to lose

the end. It is a survival game of the wittle one who endures to the end of the count.
Park and Blackburn Are True

Oaklanders

What the article failed to mention is that two of the candidates recently moved into the district or into Oakland in order to be able to run for office. In order to keep his community college position, Abel Guillen moved into the one block in District Two that overlaps with his own Peralta Community College district. Is that the political experience voters are looking for — opportunity before community?

And Dana King got her urban-issue policy chops from being an artist and living in Marin. Just google her to find out what makes her famous as an artist.

Kevin Blackburn and Andrew Park didn’t have to move to qualify — they are Oaklanders. Park has a very long record working in the district, creating opportunities for youth, targeting crime hot spots, making neighborhoods safer, improving our schools, and helping local businesses thrive. His campaign office is in the too-long-shuttered original Parkway Theater — that’s only one example of his deep Oakland connections and passion.

Scott Adams, Chicago
E. Bay sees surge in out candidates

by Matthew S. Bajko

For the first time in recent memory there are more out candidates running for political office in Alameda County in next week's election than there are in San Francisco, which is both a city and a county.

Based on interviews with leaders of LGBT political clubs, and more candidates self-disclosing their sexual orientation, there are 11 out candidates running for local offices in Alameda County in the November 4 election compared to the 10 out candidates seeking public office in San Francisco.

The East Bay county, which includes the cities of Oakland and Berkeley, may be ahead of San Francisco by only one candidate. Nonetheless, it is reflective of the Bay Area's changing LGBT demographics and a widening of the LGBT community's electoral strength.

"I think we are seeing what is going to become the new normal. We are going to see more out LGBT candidates running in the East Bay," said gay Oakland resident Sean Sullivan, who lost his 2008 bid for a city council seat and this
year is helping his partner, Richard Fuentes, campaign for a seat on the board governing the Peralta Community College District. Fuentes, who lost his bid for an Oakland school board seat two years ago, said there “definitely are more LGBT candidates running” this time.

“One thing I am really excited to see is we all have open communications and check in how we are doing,” he said. “It is very supportive for the community we are building.” Since Harvey Milk’s historic supervisor victory in 1977, becoming San Francisco’s first out elected official, the city has long been seen as the political power center for the Bay Area’s LGBT community. The city is home to two influential LGBT Democratic clubs and has elected a host of LGBT politicians to both local and state offices over the last 37 years.

While other Bay Area cities and counties — San Jose in the South Bay, Hayward in the East Bay, and Vallejo in the North Bay — have had out elected officials, there hasn’t been the same steady succession of LGBT leaders cycling into public office as has happened with San Francisco’s LGBT community. But that pattern has been showing strains with each election cycle. Since the 1999 mayoral race, no out candidate has been able to claim victory to Room 200 at San Francisco City Hall.

Lesbians have not held a political office in the city since 2008, and next Tuesday, a straight candidate could win the city’s Assembly seat long held by out leaders. Meanwhile, due to soaring rents and housing prices in the city, a steady flow of LGBT people has decamped for the East Bay. That has been mirrored by the growth of a strong bench of LGBT leaders who

Oakland City Council candidate
Abel Guillen
are increasingly seeking elected office in Alameda County, particularly in Berkeley and Oakland. “I think it is all about representation. We have been here, we have always been here,” said Peralta Community College District Trustee Abel Guillen, who came out as Two Spirit two years ago when he ran for a state Assembly seat and is now running for an Oakland City Council seat. “I think it is great we are coming into our own, if you will, and taking these leadership roles. We lead for the entire community and not just one community.”

The candidates on the ballot next week run the gamut from lesbian Oakland At-Large City Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan, who polls show has a good shot at being elected mayor, and Berkeley City Council candidates Lori Droste, a lesbian, and George Beier, a gay man, to gay Emeryville City Council contender John Bauters and Marguerite Young, a lesbian single mom running for a seat on the East Bay Municipal Utility District board. Several incumbents are seeking re-election, such as bisexual EBMUD Board Member Andy Katz and gay longtime Berkeley City Councilman Kriss Worthington, while queer candidates are in the running for seats on the Berkeley Rent Board, James Chang, and the AC Transit board, Doreen Jones.

“They must have put something in the water at the White Horse,” joked Droste, referring to the Oakland gay bar, considered the country’s oldest, near the Berkeley border. “I do know a lot of LGBT folks are moving over to the East Bay because it is a lot more affordable than San Francisco. Certainly, people are attracted to Berkeley for the school; there is a really large presence of LGBT families here.”

The influx of new LGBT residents, many of whom are homeowners, is looking to see people like them in positions of power at city halls across the East Bay, said Sullivan. “Take West Oakland for example; a lot of the homes that have been refurbished are being bought by lesbian and gay owners coming from San Francisco. The same can be said of Emeryville, noted Sullivan. “The political reality is that we now have a constituency of people inclined to vote because they are now homeowners.”

And challenges remain for finding and mobilizing LGBT support, added Young. “I still think, in terms of boots on the ground, more money, and more clout; there is still more that can be done,” she said.

Having a large number of LGBT candidates on the ballot at once, said Young, “definitely is helpful. What it shows is that in the East Bay being LGBT and being a candidate for election is going mainstream, and that is great.”

[See page 18]
Tax measures, wage hike backed

Levies aimed at helping schools, fighting crime; organized labor scores victories in council races

By Matthew Artz
matthew@oaklandtribune.com

OAKLAND — City voters were in a giving mood Tuesday, approving two tax measures aimed at improving schools and fighting crime as well as an initiative that will sharply raise Oakland’s minimum wage.

Organized labor scored big victories both with the passage of Measure FF, which will increase the minimum wage next year from $9.00 to $12.25 per hour, and in three City Council races where union-backed candidates all appeared on their way to victory.

Measure 2, a proposed extension of the city’s signature public safety tax that includes funding for the equivalent of 50 police officers, won with 77 percent of the vote — well above the two-thirds majority needed for passage. Measure N, which will cost homeowners $120 per year to pay for progranms to help students graduate high school and get job training, won with 72 percent support.

Faring nearly as well with voters were Measure CC, which gives new authority and safeguards additional funding for Oakland’s Public Ethics Commission; Measure DD, which sets up an independent commission to redraw City Council and school board districts every 10 years; and Measure EE, which closes out an old city pension system.

The only close race for council was in District 2, where Peralta Community College Trustee Abel Guillen led Toffner newscaster

See RACES, Page 4
Races

Continued from Page 1

Dana King 52 percent to 48 percent in the initial ranked-choice runoff, conducted early Wednesday. With many votes still to be counted, King said she wasn’t conceding the race to replace outgoing Councilwoman Pat Kernighan in a district that includes Chinatown and several neighborhoods along Lake Merritt.

In District 6, which covers a large portion of East Oakland, Councilwoman Desley Brooks easily won a fourth term in office, defeating Shereda Nosakhare 55 percent to 45 percent in a ranked-choice runoff.

No ranked-choice tabulation was needed in District 4, where school board member Annie Campbell Washington defeated Jill Broadhurst, 63 percent to 32 percent, with Paul Lim far back in third place. Campbell Washington, who was Mayor Jean Quan’s choice of staff, will succeed Mayor-elect Libby Schaaf in the district that includes much of the affluent Oakland hills.

Meanwhile, in the two-person city auditor’s race, Brenda Roberts triumphed over Len Raphael 77.5 percent to 22.5 percent.

A final tally in the Guillen-King race might not come until next week as election officials continue counting thousands of absentee ballots that were dropped off at polling stations Tuesday. Additional ranked-choice tabulations will be released later this week as the votes are counted.

Early polling this summer showed King and Broadhurst with sizable leads. But Campbell Washington and Guillen scored several major endorsements and were the beneficiaries of one of the most aggressive union campaigns in recent memory.

Unions representing city workers spent about $100,000 apiece on independent campaigns to elect Campbell Washington and Guillen. That was roughly equivalent to all the money raised by Broadhurst and King, who were backed by the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.

Two of the unions entering the fray, the Oakland Police Officers’ Association and SEIU Local 1021, which represents many city office and maintenance workers, have contracts that expire next year.

"If you look at it strategically, we feel it was most important to have a council that is supportive of working people," SEIU 1021 Executive Director Pete Castelli said, explaining the union’s primary focus on the council races rather than Oakland’s mayoral election.

SEIU also played a leading role in the minimum wage hike, which faced no organized opposition. "If you look at the data, tens of thousands of workers just got a raise," Castelli said. "It’s a gain for all hardworking people who don’t make a lot of money."

Contact Matthew Artz
510-208-6465.
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LOCAL ROUNDUP

Pacific runner

The Record

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Laney 42, Delta 14

At Laney, the Mustangs (1-8, 0-4 Valley Conference) fell behind early but came back to within 21-14 before Laney scored a backbreaking touchdown on a Hail Mary pass as time expired in the first half on Friday night at Laney College. Delta moved the football but couldn’t find the end zone and Laney (6-3, 4-0) pulled away in the second half.

"I felt like our offense moved the ball really well between the 20s and it didn’t turn into points," Mustangs coach Gary Barlow said. "In the second half, we weren’t able to sustain consistent drives."

Evan Owens and Malcolm Miller had touchdown runs for Delta, which finishes the season at 1 p.m. Saturday at Modesto Junior College.
Laney on a championship quest
Eagles bringing a five-game winning streak into matchup with rival Chabot

Laney College football coach John Beam knew his team had the ingredients for success. He just had to get his players to believe it, too. Mission accomplished.

After a 1-3 start, the Eagles (6-3, 4-0 National-Valley Conference) have won five straight games heading into Saturday’s 7 p.m. showdown at rival Chabot (5-4, 3-1) to complete the regular season.

Laney can earn its first outright conference title since 2009 and a postseason berth with a victory. A loss would mean a co-championship with the Gladiators, and Chabot would get the nod for the postseason.

The Eagles are coming off a 42-14 rout of San Joaquin Delta, in which quarterbacks Garrett Anderson and Kurt Pallandech were a combined 19-for-27 passing for 329 yards and five touchdowns.

“We went from not knowing how to win to finding ways to win,” Beam said. “We’ve had a number of injuries. The kids have really bought in to what it takes to win. It’s hard at community college because you bring in guys from 20, 30, 40 different schools.

“Some have been in winning schools, and some haven’t. You’re trying to teach them how to play as a team, and you’re trying to teach them how to win.”


“(Coach) Danny (Calzaghe) does a tremendous job at Chabot,” Beam said. “It’s a rivalry. They do a really good job of coaching their kids. ... It’s gonna come down to the team that makes the least amount of mistakes.”

Beam said he lost 22 sophomores, including 12 Division I players, from last season, so the Eagles were rebuilding on the fly early on.

The defense is led by lineman Anthony Potu, one the state’s hottest recruits; linebacker Charlie Davis, who shifted successfully from the outside to the inside because of injuries to teammates; and defensive back Yusef Sterling-Lowe, who is playing “unbelievable” right now, Beam said.

Freshman linebacker Nate MacDonald has also been solid, and the offensive line is “really jelling,” Beam said. Anthony Keith leads the balanced running game.

After routing Sacramento City in their season opener, the Eagles lost 31-13 to powerful City College of San Francisco and 30-27 to not-so-powerful Sierra.

After a 28-21 loss to Santa Rosa, the Eagles found it in a big way.

They crushed De Anza and Fresno City, both 41-7, then topped Modesto 29-28 on a Francisco Mendoza 29-yard field goal. Next came demolitions of Sequoias and Delta by a combined 105-21.

Over and above his current team’s success, Beam stays in touch with former Laney stars and current NFL players: C.J. Anderson of the Denver Broncos, Frank Summers of the Buffalo Bills and Sterling Moore of the Dallas Cowboys.

Unlike high school football, in community college everything starts over every two years.

“You’re trying to get 80 guys to play as one in a short period of time,” Beam said. “It’s a lot of work. It’s exciting.”

Contact Matt Schwab at mschwab@bayareanewsgroup.com, or follow him on Twitter at twitter.schwab.matt.
Lesbians pull ahead in East Bay races

by Matthew S. Bajko

After coming up short on election night, two lesbian candidates seeking East Bay seats have since pulled ahead at elections officials review and count the absentee and provisional ballots that remain.

Last week, Lori Drost had the most votes in the race for the Berkeley City Council District 8 seat when the first round of voting was released late Tuesday, November 4. But because she was well short of the 50 percent plus one needed under the city's ranked-choice voting system, she saw herself in second place 25 votes behind gay candidate George Beier after the instant-runoff calculations were factored in.

With additional ballots added to the mix, Drost moved into first place on Sunday, and as of Tuesday, November 11, remained in the lead with four votes more than Beier: Drost's tally was at 50.35 percent after four rounds of the RV process, and Beier had 2,054 votes, or 49.65 percent, according to the unofficial returns.

Having promised her wife, Carrie Gray, with whom she is raising two kids, 3-year-old Simon and 7-month-old June Gray Drost, they would take a vacation after the election, Drost decided to start monitoring the vote count and post updates to her Facebook page this week from Hawaii.

"While you all figure out what the heck is going on, here's a brief interlude," Drost wrote Tuesday in a post that featured a short video of birds singing in a lush island landscape.

Beier was also closely monitoring the vote counts this week, writing on his Facebook page, "I've been catching up in the polls! Only down 4 votes now."

A final tally was expected around 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 12 after the Bay Area Reporter went to press. Should she emerge victorious in the council race, Drost will be the first out lesbian to serve on the Berkeley City Council.

There are currently two gay councilmen serving on it. Darryl Moore and Kris Worthington, who won re-election last week to the newly configured District 7 seat.

Amidst the news came word on election night, Marguerite Young, a lesbian soon running for the Ward 5 seat on the East Bay Municipal Utility District board, is now holding a substantial lead in her race against the incumbent, Katy Faulkes, whose re-election bid appears headed for defeat.

Over the weekend, Young declared victory, and as of Monday evening, A former director of Clean Water Action, Young will serve alongside bisexual EB MUD Board Member Andy Katz, who was unopposed for his Ward 5 seat and endorsed Young in her race.

Out man wins Oakland City Council race

In another tight race involving an out candidate, Oakland City Council District 2 candidate Abe Guillen, who identifies as Two Spirited, was able to hold on to his election night lead and capture the seat. He bested former local CBS news anchor Dana King, who conceded Monday, November 11.

According to the latest count posted Tuesday, November 11, Guillen won the seat with 6,499 votes, or 53.12 percent, after five rounds of RV. King landed in second place with 5,777 votes, or 46.88 percent.

Guillen, who is stepping down from his seat on the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees, declared victory Saturday, November 8 in an email to his supporters.

"When I reflect on the months leading up to this victorious moment, what I see most are your faces," he wrote. "Your faces smiling at me, cheering me up during the difficult moments, celebrating the achievements that we built upon, step by step."

In a message to her backers this week, King wrote, "I have watched and waited because I wanted every single voter's voice to be heard and their vote counted. There is no more reason to wait. Abe Guillen is the winner of the seat for District 2 City Council. I wish for him the courage to do what needs to be done in order to lift up all in the district and city."

Guillen becomes only the third out candidate to serve on the Oakland City Council. He will join lesbian-at-large City Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan, who last week lost her bid to become Oakland mayor and has two years remaining in her council term.

The first LGBT person to serve on the council was gay councilwoman Danny Wan, who was appointed to the District 2 council seat in 2000 to fill a vacancy that he resigned in 2003 to care for his elderly parents and now works for the Port of Oakland.

Web Extra: For more queer political news, be sure to check http://www.wesb.us Monday mornings at noon for Political Notes, the notebook's online companion. This week's column reported on several electoral wins by Saxton's LGBT community.

Keep abreast of the latest LGBT political news by following the Political Notebook on Twitter @ http://twitter.com/politicalnotes...

Get a tip on LGBT politics? Call Matthew S. Bajko at (415) 892...
AAUW chapter gets into the holiday spirit of giving

Is it just my imagination or do the holidays come sooner each year? Thanksgiving is around the corner and before you know it, we'll be in the middle of the holiday season. And with the holidays comes a spirit of giving. For the College of Alameda, one of our local community colleges, the giving came early this year.

It was an honor to be invited to speak about our community colleges at a meeting of the Alameda chapter of the American Association of University Women. The event was held at the beautiful Bay Farm home of Pati Heinburger, the AAUW chapter president. Thirty women (and a handful of like-minded men) attended and were, not surprisingly, most interested in College of Alameda, one of the four Peralta Colleges—sister schools include Laney and Merritt colleges in Oakland and Berkeley City College.

Begun in 1881, AAUW is a national organization that improves the lives of girls and women through a range of activities, including educational scholarships that help girls and women succeed at schools, colleges and universities across the country. One key area of focus for the Alameda branch is "Tech Trek," a program designed to help girls sustain and continue an interest in science, technology, engineering and math during and after their middle school years.

But last Sunday, the focus was on college women. Generously, the Alameda members of AAUW decided to provide a scholarship through the Peralta Colleges Foundation, to a yet-to-be-selected woman at College of Alameda. Chair Perlas, dean of workforce development and applied sciences and Mary Beth Benvenuti, director of business and administrative services at the college, joined me to talk about the challenges facing today's students. It could not have been a better afternoon. The membership was engaging and wonderful — not to mention the incredible spread of appetizers the members had brought. The money raised was still being counted as the meeting wound down, but there is no doubt that the scholarship provided by AAUW to a College of Alameda student will be significant. If you would like more information about the amazing work that AAUW Alameda performs, please visit their website at http://alamedaaauw.net.

Speaking of giving and the Peralta Colleges Foundation, the final celebration of Peralta Community College District's 50th Anniversary events was held last month at Merritt College. And it happened. Billed as "celebrating the past and building for the future," more than 200 people attended the fundraiser put on the Peralta Colleges Foundation.

Roberta Gonzales of KPIX was mistress of ceremonies and the gala included sunset cocktails with Chancellor José Ortiz. Merritt's spectacular three-bridge view of San Francisco Bay provided the backdrop. There was live music, both inside and out, and capping off the evening was a keynote address by U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee. A new science and allied health building at Merritt College was dedicated in her name, and Lee could not have been happier. Lee, a product of the Peralta Colleges herself, raised the crowd with her own story of getting through college and how important education is to our community.

If you are in the mood for some early holiday giving, why not make a tax-deductible donation to help our community college students complete their education? The folks at the Peralta Colleges Foundation would be pleased to hear from you this holiday season. Find out more at http://www.peralta.edu/foundation/contribute-to-the-foundation.

Have a great Thanksgiving and I will be back next month with more stories about our local community colleges.

Reach Jeffrey Heyman at jheyman@peralta.edu.
AAUW chapter in holiday spirit of giving

AAUW chapter gets into the holiday spirit of giving
CITY COLLEGE OF S.F.

Judge now to determine school’s fate

By Peter Fimrite

The fate of City College of San Francisco is now in the hands of a judge after lawyers made their final arguments Tuesday about whether the beloved institution deserves to have its accreditation revoked.

Superior Court Judge Curtis Karnow said he will issue a written ruling in January on whether the school should lose its accreditation and close, a question that evoked impassioned pleas and a raft of accusations from the college about the accreditation process.

The emotional two-year debate turned into a crisis when the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges voted last year to revoke City College’s accreditation as of July 31, an order that is now on hold. The commission claimed that the college of nearly 60,000 students was so badly run that it should be shut down.

The revocation decision prompted San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera to file a lawsuit. The city attorney’s office argued that the Accrediting Commission’s evaluation of City College in 2012 and 2013 was both unfair and illegal and that the commissioners charged with the analysis had a conflict of interest, all accusations that commission officials vehemently deny.

Testimony in the trial, which was attended by crowds of students, taxpayers, faculty and public officials, concluded Oct. 31 in San Francisco Superior Court. The climax, however, was Tuesday, when a rapt audience packed the courthouse at 400 McAllister St. to listen as the city attorney’s office and representatives of the Novato-based commission had it out over whether the college deserved to have its credentials yanked.

“City College did not get a fair evaluation,” declared Sara Eisenberg, deputy city attorney, arguing on behalf of City College.

She argued that Peter Crabtree, a Laney College dean who was part of an evaluation team in 2012, had a conflict of interest because he is married to the commissioner’s president, Barbara Beno. She said Crabtree and Laney were likely to benefit financially from the closure because students from City College would probably transfer to Laney. The city attorney’s brief accused Beno of vindictively punishing the college in retaliation for City College activism against legislation narrowing access to Californian’s community colleges. The commission supported the legislation, which later became state law.

The city also claimed that there were not enough academicians — only three of 16 members — on the commission’s evaluation teams. Eisenberg accused the commission of giving unclear signals before 2012 that City College was violating accreditation standards and did not give the college an adequate chance to respond before voting to revoke accreditation in 2013.

Kenneth Keller, the lawyer representing the commission, accused the city attorney’s office of resorting to “character assassination” in a desperate attempt to reverse the decision.

“the college did not meet the standards, and that is why the accreditation was terminated,” said Kenneth Keller, the lawyer representing the commission. “There was no nefarious plot ... They could not show that they did comply.”

Keller said in closing arguments and in his 45-page brief that there is no evidence that Crabtree harmed City College by his presence on the evaluation team and that his relationship with Beno is not, by any means, a conflict of interest. He said the accusation that Beno influenced the 19 members to retaliate against City College “borders on the absurd.” She is a staff member who does not vote on the commission, he said.

Keller said there were plenty of academics on the evaluation teams — seven in 2012, and two out of seven in 2013. He said the commission used clear language and gave the college plenty of notice that it was in trouble starting in 2006.

“City College was given every opportunity to address deficiencies,” he said.

Karnow will issue a ruling on whether the revocation decision can stand. If not, it is expected that the commission would begin its evaluation process again. If it stands, accreditation would still not be revoked — at least not immediately. The commission will decide in January whether to give the college two more years to come into compliance with all accreditation standards; partial compliance is insufficient, according to its rules.

Peter Fimrite is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. E-mail: pfimrite@sffchronicle.com Twitter: @pfimrite
# LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN OAKLAND

RANKED BY NUMBER OF OAKLAND EMPLOYEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name/Type</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Oakland Employees</th>
<th>Bay Area Employees</th>
<th>Companywide Employees</th>
<th>Business Type</th>
<th>Sample of Benefits</th>
<th>Top Bay Area Executive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>State of California (^1)</td>
<td>State Capital Building, Sacramento 95814</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>13,557</td>
<td>224,391</td>
<td>State government</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental,Vision</td>
<td>Jerry Brown, Governor</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kaiser Permanente (^2)</td>
<td>5000 Franklin St, Oakland 94612</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>30,324</td>
<td>173,076</td>
<td>Hospital and health plan</td>
<td>Retirement, charitable matching, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>Bernard Tyson, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>City of Oakland (^3)</td>
<td>One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland 94622</td>
<td>5,053</td>
<td>5,053</td>
<td>5,053</td>
<td>City government</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, commute</td>
<td>Jane Zhao, Acting Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Alameda County (^4)</td>
<td>1221 Oak St, Ste. 555, Oakland 94612</td>
<td>4,618</td>
<td>9,147</td>
<td>9,147</td>
<td>County government</td>
<td>Retirement, medical</td>
<td>Susan Maukashl, County Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oakland Unified School District (^5)</td>
<td>10000 Broadway, Oakland 94607</td>
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<td>4,159</td>
<td>4,159</td>
<td>Public school district</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental</td>
<td>Antwan Wilson, Superintendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland (^6)</td>
<td>513 39th St, Oakland 94609</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>Hospital and research institute</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, commute</td>
<td>Burke Luten, President and CEO</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Alameda Health System (^7)</td>
<td>1411 E. 33rd St, Oakland 94603</td>
<td>2,124</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>Health system</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, commute</td>
<td>Daniel Byngan, Jr., Interim CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Southwest Airlines Co. (^8)</td>
<td>P.O. Box 201047, San Francisco 94123</td>
<td>2,105</td>
<td>2,270</td>
<td>45,999</td>
<td>Airline</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, stock options</td>
<td>Steve Bognar, Station manager, Oakland</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sutter Health Alta Bates Summit Medical Center (^9)</td>
<td>350 Harkness Ave, Oakland 94609</td>
<td>2,034</td>
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<td>Health care</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>Chuck Reese, CEO</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) (^10)</td>
<td>2000 2nd St, Oakland 94602</td>
<td>1,598</td>
<td>2,054</td>
<td>3,032</td>
<td>Public transit agency</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, commute</td>
<td>Grace Criscuolo, General manager</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Peralta Community College District (^11)</td>
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<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>Community college</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>FedEx Corp. (^12)</td>
<td>One FedEx Way, Oakland 94621</td>
<td>1,008</td>
<td>4,003</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>Supply chain services</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, stock options</td>
<td>Frederick Smith, Chairman and CEO</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>East Bay Municipal Utility District</td>
<td>250 5th St, Oakland 94612</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>1,645</td>
<td>1,741</td>
<td>Public utility service</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, loans</td>
<td>Alexander Cote, General manager</td>
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<td>Internal Revenue Service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a></td>
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<td>1,400</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>Government tax agency</td>
<td>Medical, dental, vision, life insurance</td>
<td>John Koskinen, IRS commissioner</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Wells Fargo Bank</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wellsfargo.com">www.wellsfargo.com</a></td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>Financial services</td>
<td>Retirement, charitable matching, medical, dental, vision, commute, commuter, stock options</td>
<td>John Stumpf, Chairman, President and CEO</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>The Clorox Co.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.clorox.com">www.clorox.com</a></td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>Consumer packaged goods</td>
<td>Retirement, charitable matching, dental, vision, commute, commuter, stock options</td>
<td>Benno Giese, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>U.S. Postal Service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usps.com">www.usps.com</a></td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>Postal service</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, transportation</td>
<td>David Grimes, District manager, San Francisco</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Pandora Media Inc.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pandora.com">www.pandora.com</a></td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>Online media</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, loans</td>
<td>Brian McAndrews, Chairman, President and CEO</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Mills College</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mills.edu">www.mills.edu</a></td>
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<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>Independent liberal arts college</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>Alicia DeCarrasquilla, President</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Port of Oakland</td>
<td><a href="http://www.portoakland.com">www.portoakland.com</a></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Container port</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>Chris Lytle, Executive Director</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Safeway Inc.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.safeway.com">www.safeway.com</a></td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Grocery and drug store</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>Robert Edwards, President and CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>PG&amp;E Corp.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pge.com">www.pge.com</a></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Gas and electric utility</td>
<td>Retirement, charitable matching, medical, dental, vision, commuter, stock options</td>
<td>Anthony取得, Jr., Chairman, President and CEO</td>
</tr>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.actransit.org">www.actransit.org</a></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Public transit agency</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision</td>
<td>David Arezou, General Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sungevity</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Residential solar company</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, loans, commuter, stock options</td>
<td>Andrew Brink, CEO</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>URS Corp.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.urs.com">www.urs.com</a></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Environmental, architectural, engineering</td>
<td>Retirement, medical, dental, vision, commuter, stock options</td>
<td>Cary Hertog, President, CEO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list includes employers located in the city of Oakland. Bay Area employee figures include employees located in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties, and the city of Palo Alto.
New president chosen to lead College of Alameda

As we wind down the year — and celebrate the holidays — we also await the New Year. The holiday season is full of hope and anticipation, maybe even dreams of peace. New Year’s resolutions are made with optimistic longing for a better world and a better self. All is possible during the magic of the holidays, all is possible in the New Year. It's up to us to turn magic into reality.

For many, the New Year has already started. It sure has in a big way for our community colleges, Merritt College, Laney College, College of Alameda and Berkeley City College, where a new slate of board officers were elected, trustees sworn in — including a newly elected trustee — and a new college president appointed for College of Alameda.

At its December meeting, Peralta’s board of trustees elected its officers for 2015. Meredith Brown, who represents Peralta Area 2, was elected president of the nine-member board, and Dr. William "Bill" Riley, who represents Peralta Area 5, was elected vice president.

Juliana Bonilla, who was elected in November to represent Area 7, was sworn in by Abel Guillén, the outgoing Area 7 trustee who was elected to the Oakland City Council in November. Linda Handy and Riley, both re-elected in November's election, were sworn in, respectively, by former Assemblymember Sandra Swanson, the City of Oakland's deputy mayor; and Judge Gordon Baranco, of the Alameda County Superior Court.

Peralta Chancellor José M. Ortiz, read out a particularly touching resolution honoring Guillén for his service.

Continuing to serve on the Peralta board is Bill Withrow, the former mayor of Alameda, who represents Area 1; Nicky González Yuen, Area 4; and Cy Gulassa, of Area 6. Student trustees are Carl Oliver and Jeremy Kolley.

December's meeting didn’t stop there. The board voted to appoint Jo Lin Blake, the current vice president of student services for Skyline College in San Bruno, as the next president of the College of Alameda. Blake begins the position Jan. 8.

Blake has overseen admissions and records, counseling, veterans services and other areas at Skyline College. Blake also served as dean of student development and matriculation at San Diego Mesa College. In Washington, D.C., at the U.S. Department of Education, she helped to develop a national strategic plan for community colleges.

College of Alameda will be in good hands under Blake's leadership. Speaking of College of Alameda, 2015 is going to bring a new and exciting program to the college: The Working Waterfront Cohort Job Training Initiative. The program is being established by Bay Ship & Yacht, the 34-year-old Alameda-based company that builds and repairs yachts, commercial ships and military vessels, and College of Alameda. This innovative partnership will train workers for jobs on a working waterfront, combining the real-world experience of Bay Ship and teaching excellence of the College of Alameda.

Bay Ship and the College of Alameda invite the public to 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 8 to celebrate the establishment of the Working Waterfront Cohort. The celebration will be held at Bay Ship & Yacht, 2900 Main St., Alameda. Join Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty at the event. Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Bobby Winston at 510-205-1447.

There’s plenty more College Notes coming up in 2015, as I bring you stories from our community colleges. In the meantime, have a wonderful, peaceful holiday season and a very happy New Year.

Reach Jeffrey Heyman at jheyman@peralta.edu and follow him on Twitter at @JeffHeyman.
New Year brings new beginnings at Peralta Colleges

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At its December meeting, Peralta's board of trustees elected its officers for 2016. Meredithe Brown, who represents Peralta Area 1, was elected vice president of the nine-member board, and Dr. William "Bill" Riley, who represents Peralta Area 3, was elected president of the nine-member board. The meeting also included the election of a new trustee, who was elected to the College of Alameda. trustee who was elected to the College of Alameda.

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Reach Jeffrey Heyman at heyman@peralta.edu and follow him on Twitter at @JeffHeyman.
New Year brings new beginnings at Peralta Colleges

New Year to bring new beginnings at Peralta Colleges
Biomedical company joins local network

The Alameda-based biomedical company AllCells is a provider of hematologic and immunology-based human primary cells and tissue (healthy & diseased). AllCells' products and bioservices are used by research scientists worldwide, including for drug discovery and development, predictive toxicology, gene expression, stem cell research, cell therapy, regenerative and personalized medicine.

As part of the Biomedical Manufacturing Network, AllCells will have access to business assistance, technology transfer, education and training, and network-building services offered through a number of regional partners that are focused on growing and strengthening the biomedical industry in the Bay Area.

Funded through a three-year, $2.2 million grant supported by five federal agencies, the East Bay Biomedical Manufacturing Network is convened by a partnership of regional entities that includes UC Berkeley, Laney College, the Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County, and the Small Business Development Center's Tech Futures Group.
LOOSENING RULE

Schools vie for four-year degrees

Community colleges in running to offer affordable programs

By Katy Murphy kmurphy@bayareanewsgroup.com

Community colleges up and down the state are vying to be among the first to offer low-cost bachelor’s degrees as California eases a decades-old restriction meant to prevent competition with its public university system.

Seven Bay Area colleges are among 34 in the running to launch four-year degree programs — just one each that are unavailable in either the California State University or the University of California.

Walnut Creek CA
(Contra Costa Co)
Contra Costa Times
(cir D 185,699)
(cir S 194,445)

LOOSENING RULE

Schools vie for four-year degrees

Community colleges in running to offer affordable programs

By Katy Murphy kmurphy@bayareanewsgroup.com

Other Newspapers
Carrying Same Story

Hayward, CA
(Alameda Co.)
Daily Review
(Cir. D. 48,575)

Dec 28 2014

Allen's P.C.B. Est. 1888

LOOSENING RULE

Schools vie for four-year degrees

Community colleges in running to offer affordable programs

Hayward, CA
(Alameda Co.)
Daily Review
(Cir. D. 48,575)

Dec 28 2014

Allen's P.C.B. Est. 1888

Degrees

Continued from Page 1

applying to offer a bachelor's degree:

Foothill College in Los Altos Hills — dental hygiene

Laneey College in Oakland — sustainable facilities management

Napa Valley College — respiratory therapy

Ohlone College in Fremont — respiratory care

Skyline College in San Bruno — respiratory therapy

Solano Community College — biomanufacturing

Excitement over the long-awaited change has been tinged with disappointment that so few programs can take part — or even apply, said Michael Blaisdel, who directs Ohlone College’s respiratory therapy program.

The Chancellor’s Office accepted just one application from each of the 72 community college districts, even though some districts include more than one college.

"Many colleges have several very strong programs that could offer bachelor's degrees, and you have to draw straws almost," Blaisdel said.

The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office will make a recommendation to the system’s Board of Governors before their Jan. 20-21 meeting, when a final decision is expected, Chancellor’s Office spokesman Paul Peist said. If selected, some of the programs could start as soon as next fall, but all would be required to launch by the 2017-18 academic year.

California’s public respiratory-therapy programs are concentrated in the Bay Area, Blaisdel said — and while three of them have applied for the expansion, they don’t see it as a competition.

“We know that we won’t all get it, and we’re throwing all of our weight behind the programs that does,” he said.

This could just be the beginning for the state’s community colleges, he said.

“We really hope that the pilot program will be a huge success and that they will want to expand it and allow schools unlimited applications so they can do this,” he said.

Follow Katy Murphy at Twitter.com/katymurphy.
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Colleges vie to offer degrees

California to select 15 community schools to give low-cost bachelor's

By Katy Murphy
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Colleges vie to offer degrees