

# SSF Connections

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## Did You Know?

- The City of South San Francisco website ([www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net)) offers residents the opportunity to view live and archived videos of City Council meetings, Planning Commission meetings, City events, and other informative videos online. For questions regarding the use of this application, please contact the Information Technology Department at 650-829-3915.
- Our Permit Center has updated its online services. It is now possible to check the status of your plan check or inspection results. Information is available related to permits, parcels, code enforcement cases, projects, and so on.
- On November 11, 1979, Orange Memorial Park was dedicated to the memory of the men of South San Francisco who gave their lives for democracy. Two plaques list the names of men who died in WWI, WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The plaques are located under the flag pole near the swimming pool parking lot.
- You can recognize a friend or family member by purchasing a commemorative tree, seat wall plaque or brick in the new Centennial Way Plaza by calling 877-8550 or visiting us on the web at [www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net).



## Inside:

- ✦ **Out and About in SSF** ..... Pg. 2
- ✦ **Got E-waste?**..... Pg. 2
- ✦ **South San Francisco Citizen's Academy** ..... Pg. 3
- ✦ **Sign up for the City of South San Francisco's E-Notify System**..... Pg. 3
- ✦ **2008 the Centennial in Review** ..... Pg. 4

## Got E-Waste?

Phil White, Fire Chief



A FREE E-Waste Disposal and Recycling Event will be held at the South San Francisco Fire Department Station 61, 480 North Canal Street on February 27th and 28th. This event is being sponsored by the South San Francisco Community Preservation Task Force and Electronic Waste Management (EWM), a state-approved e-waste

collector.

Electronic waste, commonly referred to as e-waste, is a major environmental issue in California. Each year, Californians dispose of at least 500,000 tons of e-waste such as TVs, monitors, computers, and other electronic devices. The volume of waste is not the only issue, many electronic items contain hazardous materials like lead, cadmium, and mercury that are harmful to humans, pets, and the environment.

In fact, because of the toxins found in many of these electronic devices, California has made it illegal to throw away unwanted electronic equipment. As a state-approved collector of e-waste, EWM provides an opportunity for the public to properly dispose of and recycle their e-waste - and at no cost! Any California business, school, government agency, organization, or resident is welcome to bring their unwanted electronic equipment to the event, and there is no limit to the amount of e-waste people can bring.

E-waste items accepted include TVs, monitors, computers and components, scrap metal, wire, and more. Sorry, we cannot accept household appliances, smoke detectors, or furniture.

All e-waste items collected are recycled by a state-approved e-waste recycling company, where the items are broken down to their primary components such as metals, plastic, glass, and so on. These components are then re-used to make products such as cars and other electronic equipment. For questions or a complete list of accepted items, please call toll free (866) 335-3373 or visit [www.noewaste.com](http://www.noewaste.com).

## Out and About in SSF

Mike Lappen, Economic Development Coordinator and Gerry Beaudin, Senior Planner

Throughout 2008, City Staff has been working on numerous projects to improve the lives of our residents. An overview of completed, ongoing and potential projects are explained here for your information.

Several projects are taking place in the El Camino/Chestnut Avenue area. The City has purchased 1 Chestnut, 80 Chestnut and the Public Utilities Commission property and studies are being done to determine the most advantageous use for this 50-acre area. The South San Francisco Historical Society has been relocated from its former

location on the ground floor of the Magnolia Senior Center and now occupies 80 Chestnut. The new location allows for greater exposure and access to the Museum. Visiting hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. While the land use study is taking place, 1 Chestnut



*South San Francisco Historical Society Museum*

has been leased to the Green Building Exchange (GBE) which will give residents the opportunity to learn more about how they can make their homes, cars, and lives more energy-efficient and cost effective. The GBE, as they are known, has examples of products that will conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions. Another project done in cooperation with GBE and volunteers from Pepsi-Co is the Green X-Ray House. A City-owned property at 109 Longford was refurbished to highlight green alternatives in and around the home. More information on this will be available in the Spring. Once it is up and running, local residents will be able to tour the home and learn more about energy and cost-saving options for their homes. Another proposed project along the El Camino Corridor is an upgrade to the Safeway/Long's shopping center at the corner of El Camino Real and Spruce Avenue.

In the downtown area, visitors will notice the new Centennial Clock, the installation of several benches, and the implementation of the new outdoor dining ordinance. Additional downtown improvements include the construction of a new parking garage on Miller Avenue, a proposed mix of residential and commercial development at the former Central Fire Station at 201 Baden, and the purchase of the former Big Bite property on Linden Avenue which is also targeted for mixed-use development.

Development east of 101 continues to focus on biotechnology. The current total of existing Research and Development/Office space is 8,246,351 square feet with another five million square feet either approved or proposed. We are actively involved in creating partnerships that will benefit residents and existing businesses. We continue to work with local employers, high schools, Skyline College, and the Community College system to upgrade workforce skills and create appropriate certificate programs to better prepare our students, residents, and employees in other trades for jobs in this ever-growing and expanding field.

South San Francisco has also taken a proactive approach to addressing climate change and environmental issues. We have taken steps toward sustainability through water conservation, reduction and conservation of energy, recycling and waste reduction, and climate change mitigation measures.

In the area of water conservation, staff has utilized alternative landscape design and drought tolerant landscaping. We also turn the water off within the park system between November and February taking advantage of the rainy season. Irrigation is performed only if necessary and to keep valves operating properly. We have also

Continued on Page 3

Continued from Page 2

begun to install piping to allow for the use of recycled water in areas such as Centennial Way once that option is available.



*Grand Oak Apartments*

A solar panel system was installed on the Grand Oak Apartment project and the electricity generated by the panels helps power the garage doors, elevators, and site lighting. A similar system is planned for installation on the new downtown parking garage. Other energy conservation efforts include the use of energy efficient lighting, computer monitors, light bulbs, and appliances in City facilities.

The City's Green Food Packaging Ordinance went into effect on October 1, 2008. This ordinance bans the use of Styrofoam and other non-recyclable, non-biodegradable food containers by all businesses that sell food directly for consumption. All of our facilities have recycling containers for paper, plastic, bottles and cans which can be used by both employees and the general public. The City also participates in programs for recycling printer cartridges and electronic waste.

South San Francisco has long been a leader in alternative commute options with an aggressive ordinance in place requiring participation by many of our large companies in a shuttle program that sees 25-30% of their employees using some form of transportation other than a single-occupant vehicle to get to work. The Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance works with the City to manage this shuttle program. Other efforts include the use of alternative fueled vehicles. The City currently has four hybrid vehicles, three electric carts, one propane operated sweeper, and four Police cars capable of running on Ethanol, bringing us into compliance with California Emissions Law before the 2020 deadline. We have also retrofitted 20% of our vehicle fleet to allow for the use of bio-diesel fuel with a goal of 60% in 2009.

The City is excited about these new and ongoing projects and our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. We will provide the community with updates as they are available and will continue to strive to keep South San Francisco a great place to live and work.



## South San Francisco Citizen's Academy

Susan Kennedy, Assistant to the City Manager

This dynamic and fun eleven-week course is designed to offer you a comprehensive "hands-on" overview of your city government and provide you with the tools and understanding to help strengthen our City. As staff shares our V.I.S.I.O.N. of South San Francisco, you will learn the importance we place on Values, Integrity, Service, Insight, Optimism, and New Ideas (V.I.S.I.O.N).

During these sessions, you will tour various city facilities from the Main Library to the Water Quality Control plant; the new Central Fire Station to numerous Redevelopment projects to City Hall and everything in-between. In the process, you will meet City Council members, Executive Staff, and various department members who get the job done. This is a great opportunity to get an inside view of where the City is going and how we can work to create a great community together.

How are City decisions made? How are City funds allocated, especially in tight budget times? How do city departments coordinate with each other? You will get the answers to these questions and more as well as getting the opportunity to sit down with City Council members to discuss issues which are important to you. By getting engaged and learning more about how City government operates, our communication will improve and in the process help us build a stronger community together.

Our Spring 2009 Academy sessions will take place from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. each Tuesday evening from March 10 through May 19, and each session will include dinner. A graduation ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at the City Council meeting, and each participant will receive a graduation certificate at that time.



Application forms are available online at [www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net), by calling 829-6603, or by e-mailing [vision@ssf.net](mailto:vision@ssf.net). Applications must be completed in full and received in the City Manager's Office by Friday, February 20, 2009. You may e-mail, fax, mail or hand-deliver your application. A maximum of 30 participants will be accepted for participation on a first-come, first-serve basis. Your participation will be confirmed by March 2, 2009.

South San Francisco's progress depends on our diverse communities and each individual's sense of responsibility for making our City a better place for all of us. We want you to be involved and to help share our V.I.S.I.O.N. for strengthening our City and making it better and better.

## Sign up for the City of South San Francisco's E-Notify System

Doug Hollis, Director of Information Technology

Stay updated on what is happening in your City. Receive emails regarding: City Council Agendas, Planning Commission Agendas, SSF Business Updates, RFP/Bids Notifications, Special Events, and much more!

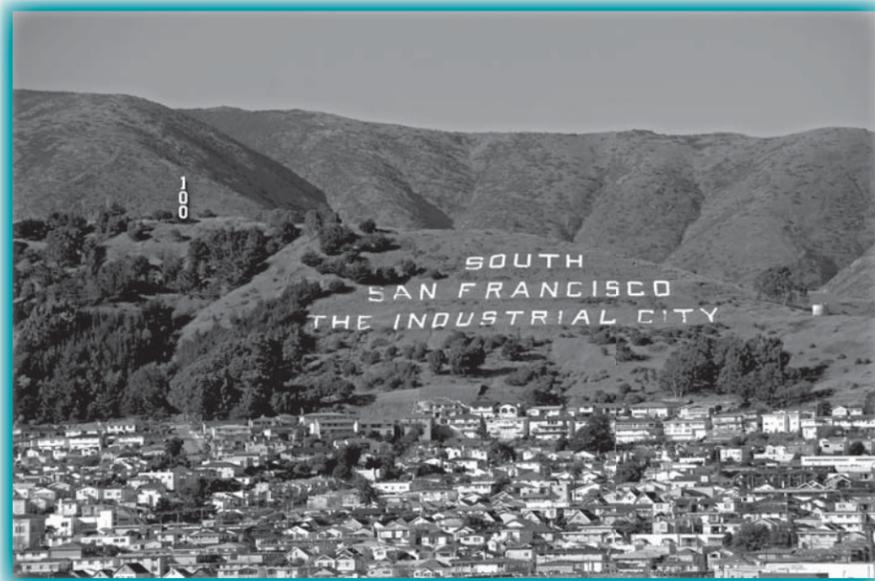
Signing up is easy!

1. Visit our City's website at [www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net).
2. Click e-Notify under "Other Options" on the homepage.
3. Click "New Subscription."

## 2008, the Centennial in Review

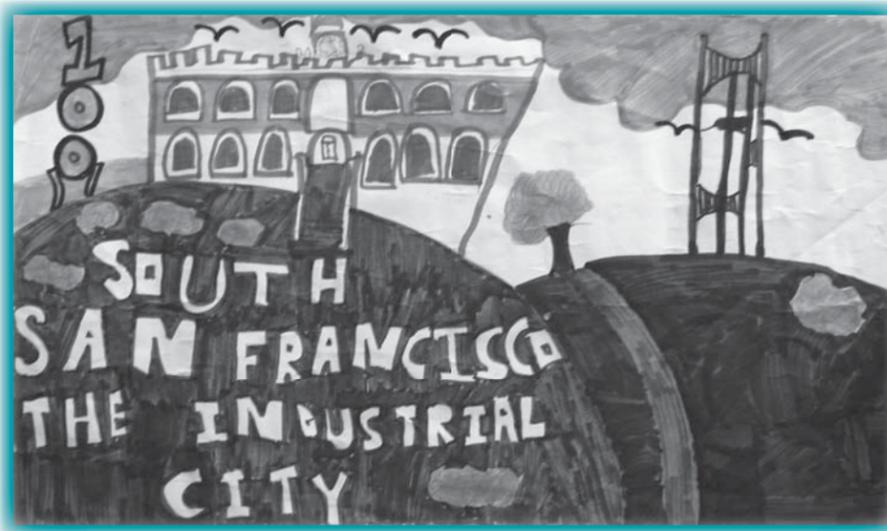
### Centennial Committee

The City of South San Francisco kicked off its Centennial Celebration on New Year's Eve with a festive Centennial Gala at the South San Francisco Conference Center. The Gala featured live music from All-Star Jukebox and the dance floor stayed busy all night. Another highlight was a lighted "100" atop Sign Hill that was first lit on New Year's Eve through the City's birthday on September 19, 2008.



The next celebration was the Multicultural Event featuring food and performances reflecting South San Francisco's rich cultural heritage. Special thanks to Grand Palace, the Basque Cultural Center, Marcel et Henri, Raymond's Sourdough Breach, Ongpin Noodles, Goldilocks Bake Shop, La Tapatia, California Catering, Hernandez Bakery, and Dominic's for providing food for this event. Entertainment was provided by Wushu Martial Arts, Jordanian Dancers, Sentinnel Hip-Hop, Ukulele Players and Hula Dancers, Basque Storyteller, Kawayan Filipino Folk Dancers, Irish Dancers, and Japanese Dancers.

The Youth Art Show gave the young people of our community an opportunity to showcase their talents by creating posters with a Centennial theme. There were winners at each grade level, and two of the posters were reproduced as postage stamps to commemorate the Centennial.



Winning entry by 3rd grader Annabella Reyes

The Historical Society's annual Victorian Tea and South San Francisco Night at the Giants were both very successful events. The dedication of Centennial Way, while a bit cold and blustery was also a great success, and this bicycle/pedestrian path has been extremely popular with many of our residents taking advantage of the beautiful addition to our community. Phases 2 and 3 should be complete in late April, providing a link from San Bruno to South San Francisco BART.

The 4th of July Picnic and Concert in the Park featured a Salsa-Making Contest and kids games and was a great opportunity to show off the new Joseph A. Fernekes Recreation Building in Orange Memorial Park. A 4th of July Bingo event sponsored by the SSF Foundation for Youth was well-attended and benefited the 4th of July picnic.

The City's 100th birthday was September 19th and was commemorated by the dedication of the Centennial Clock on Grand Avenue near Galli's Bakery. The clock was a project of the South San Francisco Historical Society who solicited donations from local community organizations. The clock will serve as a long-term reminder of the Centennial Celebration.



Day in the Park recognized the Centennial Celebration as well. Orange Memorial Park was once again the location for the community fair. An estimated 10,000 people enjoyed perfect weather in the afternoon and all the attractions the event had to offer. More than 200 groups were represented, including non-profits, schools, youth groups, local government, crafters, and a host of others. There was something for every interest, from motorcycles to teddy bears and crafts. Groups varied from volunteer groups, youth sports groups, community groups, service clubs, local business, local elected officials, and city departments. In honor of the City's Centennial, event-goers had the opportunity to purchase a Centennial postcard and a Centennial first class stamp. Many people took advantage of the opportunity to take their postcard purchases to the post office booth where a cancellation stamp designed just for the City's Centennial was used. In addition to the commemorative postcard, any piece of mail dropped off at the post office booth was sent from the fair and stamped with the Centennial cancellation stamp. Complimentary cake to honor the City's 100th birthday was served to celebrate the occasion.



The South San Francisco Historical Society held its annual dinner, and in honor of the Centennial also held a Vintage Fashion Show featuring the Goodwill Bags and the premier showing of the DVD, *South San Francisco From Baden to Biotech: A Centennial Celebration*. This film highlights the early beginnings of South San Francisco and follows its transition from its blue collar roots as the Industrial City to the Birthplace of Biotechnology. Copies of the DVD are available through the South San Francisco Historical Society.

While the celebration is now over, wonderful memories linger and our appreciation goes to the volunteers who worked to make all of the events possible. We also thank our Centennial sponsors for their support. We hope the next 100 years brings all of the success and progress of the first 100 years.

City Hall belongs to South San Francisco's residents. We'd like to hear what you have to say about the jobs we do.

Write your comments or questions here (type or print clearly)

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Write your name and address here

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If you would like to be contacted by phone, include your telephone number here

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Clip and return to:

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