



Happy Friday! This week kicks off the annual national celebration of Black History Month. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. This year's theme for Black History Month, "Black Resistance," looks at how African Americans have fought repression from America's earliest days. From escaping the plantation to the rise out of poverty and the struggle for equal housing and education to the struggle for voting rights, the resistance lives on even into the 21st century. While February is the designated month of observance, acknowledging the experiences and accomplishments of the Black community doesn't have to end there.

In this week's Mayor Update, you will find more information on the following:

- COVID-19 Test-to-Treat Sites Closing February 5, 2023
- Half Moon Bay Victims Fund
- Residents with Storm Damage Expenses Can Apply for Federal Disaster Assistance
- Introducing the new Adult Bocce League
- Cultural Activities Grants Available
- SSF Improving Public Places Committee: Sellick Park
- South San Francisco Adult Education starts Spring classes
- Senior Services Tax Prep at the Teglia Center with Parks and Recreation & AARP
- SSF Parks and Recreation Senior Congregate Meal Program
- FREE Caltrain Go Passes
- High gas prices expected this winter
- What can you get from the Inflation Reduction Act?
- Water under your home?
- A Vision for Water-Based Transportation and Emergency Response on the San Francisco Bay
- San Mateo County Board Invests in Training Opportunities, Mentoring for Entrepreneurs and Job Seekers
- Upcoming Library Events

In closing, while sayings don't begin to scratch the surface of African Americans' impact, they do provide profound messages that can influence the masses. I leave you with this quote from Vice President Kamala Harris, *“If you are fortunate to have opportunity, it is your duty to make sure others have opportunities as well.”*

As always, if you know of a friend or neighbor who does not receive these important City updates, please forward this to them, and they can [sign up here](#).

Your Mayor,
Flor Nicolas

HEALTH UPDATES

- **REMINDER! COVID-19 Test-to-Treat Sites Closing February 5, 2023**
The state announced that most of the LHI/OptumServe COVID-19 Test-to-Treat sites in San Mateo County will be closing by Sunday, **Feb 5, 2023**, due to December utilization rates below 50%. Below are the affected locations in South San Francisco.
 - Orange Memorial Park, 781 Tennis Drive
 - Mater Dolorosa Church, 307 Willow Avenue
- Testing sites that will remain **OPEN** past 2/5/23:
 - **San Bruno** – Bay PLS Labs, 841 San Bruno Ave. W, Suite 100
 - **San Mateo** – College of San Mateo (Drive Thru), 3401 CSM Drive

LOCAL NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

- **Half Moon Bay Victims Fund.** There is no way to describe the overwhelming loss of life that took place in Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay, and the toll these tragedies have taken on the Asian American, Latinx, and farm worker communities in California and across the nation. If you are looking for ways to get involved, STOP AAPI HATE, and their co-founding partner, Chinese for Affirmative Action, have started the Half Moon Bay Victims' Fund, which will put resources in the hands of those affected by recent incidents of gun violence. 100% of donations will go to the victims and families of Half Moon Bay and the community-based organizations providing direct services.
- **Additional Resources:**
 - Emergency and Disaster Relief Fund (organized by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF))
 - Half Moon Bay Strong Fund
 - Half Moon Bay Support Fund (organized by The Asian Pacific Fund to increase access to AAPI resources and services support and to aid community nonprofits to provide in-language and culturally appropriate services for the survivors and families who are affected by this tragedy)
- **Residents with Storm Damage Expenses Can Apply for Federal Disaster Assistance.** The deadline for homeowners and renters to apply is March 16, 2023. Homeowners and renters in San Mateo County with damage or losses due to the series of New Year's storms can apply for federal disaster assistance. Disaster assistance may include grants to help pay for temporary housing and essential home repairs and other serious disaster-related needs such as medical and dental expenses, transportation, childcare and moving and storage expenses. The deadline to apply to FEMA is March 16, 2023. Read more in the County's News Release.

- **Introducing the new Adult Bocce League!** Bocce, also known as Italian lawn bowling, is one of the most widely played games in the world and is one of the oldest lawn or yard games. A Thursday night league will begin in the spring for both beginners and seasoned bocce players. Game times will be between 6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Registration is currently open! Sign up at www.ssf.net/rec-catalog. Contact the Parks and Recreation Office at (650) 829-3800 or email web-rec@ssf.net.
- **Cultural Activities Grants Available.** The Parks and Recreation Department and Cultural Arts Commission are pleased to announce the Cultural Activities Grant Program, created to support community organizations and artists who wish to offer free or low-cost events and activities that will expose the community to cultural and recreational activities and programming. Typical grant awards will range from \$500-\$2,000 and will require your organization to enter into a funding agreement with the City. If you are interested in applying for this program, applications and eligibility information are listed on our website: www.ssf.net/CulturalActivityGrant and available at the Municipal Services Building at 33 Arroyo Drive. The application period closes on March 15th at 3:00 p.m. For questions and additional information contact: 650-829-3809 or kari.jung@ssf.net.
- **SSF Improving Public Places Committee: Sellick Park | Saturday, February 4, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Sellick Park (off Appian Way).** Come join the Improving Public Place Committee for a day of fun and volunteer work at Sellick Park in SSF! Volunteers will help refresh landscaping at the front of the park and maintain and install native plants at the park's native pollinator garden! Wear closed-toe shoes and long pants. Also provided: hand tools, gloves, and light refreshments. Be ready for mud! To join, please RSVP at parks.volunteers@ssf.net.
- **South San Francisco Adult Education starts Spring classes.** Students interested in improving their English or completing their high school diploma or equivalency can begin classes this February. To learn more about the program, levels offered, and timing, please attend one of the orientations on Monday, February 6. For ESL classes, the in-person orientation takes place at 825 Southwood Dr, South San Francisco, at 9 am OR 6 pm. No registration is required. For high school equivalency (in English or Spanish), orientation will take place on Zoom at 10:30 am or 7:30 pm. [Register here](#). For more information, visit the [SSF Adult Education website](#).
- **Senior Services Tax Prep at the Teglia Center with Parks and Recreation & AARP.** Get your taxes prepared for FREE with the Parks and Recreation Department and AARP! This free tax preparation service is for low and middle-income people with preference given to senior citizens. There is no income limit. However, we cannot prepare complex tax returns such as rental and depreciated property. To schedule an appointment, contact the Senior Services Team at (650) 829-3820, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. All appointments must be made with a staff person and cannot be scheduled by voicemail. *Presented by: AARP Foundation Tax-Aide in partnership with the City of South San Francisco Senior Services. For details, call 650-829-3820.*

- **NEW! SSF Parks and Recreation Senior Congregate Meal Program.** The Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce a new Congregate Nutrition Program at the Roberta Cerri Teglia Center at 601 Grand Avenue. Lidia's Deli will serve a delicious catered lunch every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor. There is a voluntary contribution of \$3.00 for seniors (aged 60+) and a \$6.00 charge for guests, caregivers, or spouses under 60. Priority for the program will be given to low-income residents first. Applications deadlines are:
 - March meal service: Apply by Wednesday, February 15, 2023
 - Applications for future months must be in by the 15th of the month prior to the month you would like to participate in the congregate meal program.
- Applications can be picked up and turned in at the following locations:
 - Online – www.ssf.net/seniors. E-mail completed applications to kaseyjo.cullinan@ssf.net.
 - Roberta Cerri Teglia Center at 601 Grand Avenue
 - Municipal Services Building at 33 Arroyo Drive
- **Questions?** Call (650) 829-3820 or email kaseyjo.cullinan@ssf.net.

COUNTY UPDATES

- **FREE Caltrain Go Passes.** Commute.org and Caltrain have partnered to provide a new Caltrain Go Pass to San Mateo County residents. The Go Pass provides free train trips on Caltrain between zones at any time! To be eligible, you must make less than \$70,000/year, work or live in San Mateo County, and plan on using the card at least twice a week. Go Passes will be valid until 12/31/23 with limited supply. If are interested in learning more about the program, please send an email to gopass@commute.org or text (650) 538-7603 for more information. You can also view the [Caltrain Go Pass Flyer 2023 in English y español](#). To apply, please visit the [Commute.org website](http://Commute.org). Need help applying? Our Promotors are ready to assist! Contact us at promotores@ssf.net or 650-829-6680.
- **High gas prices expected this winter.** PG&E is projecting significant increases of about 20% in methane (aka “natural”) gas prices for the fuel you may be using to heat your home and water this winter. Take steps now to reduce your gas bill. If you are thinking of switching from fossil fuel combustion in your home to using electric appliances powered by clean electricity, Peninsula Clean Energy can help. Check out our [Zero Percent Loan program](#) and thousands of dollars of rebates. [Learn more here](#).
- **What can you get from the Inflation Reduction Act?** The Inflation Reduction Act can provide thousands of dollars in rebates and tax credits for households to go electric. Get an estimate of how much you may get with the [Household Electrification Savings Calculator](#). Learn more about the Inflation Reduction Act and what qualifies with this [helpful guide](#).
- **Water under your home?** Don't let mosquitoes add to your list of

worries. The San Mateo County Mosquito & Vector Control District can check for mosquitoes breeding in the water and keep them from growing. With the rains, there may be houses that might have flooding in their crawlspaces - the cool weather right now is keeping the mosquito life cycle slow. However, if the water continues to stand under houses until it warms up, there may be many mosquitoes! Detecting water now is key to helping everyone have a mosquito-free summer. Mosquito control is a service covered by tax dollars. Contact [San Mateo County Mosquito & Vector Control District](#) today for one of their certified vector control technicians to check under your home! Visit smcmvcd.org or call (650) 344-8592 to schedule a visit. Mosquito control is a taxpayer-funded service.

- **A Vision for Water-Based Transportation and Emergency Response on the San Francisco Bay.** Please take our 5-minute [public survey](#) to weigh in on what ferry service should look like on San Francisco Bay over the next 30 years. Survey participants will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a \$50 Clipper Card or a San Francisco Bay Ferry water bottle. This new survey is one of the last opportunities for the general public to participate in [Bay Ferry 2050](#). Tell us what is important to you for the future of the [San Francisco Bay Ferry system](#). [Take the survey here](#).
- **San Mateo County Board Invests in Training Opportunities, Mentoring for Entrepreneurs and Job Seekers.** The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously today to invest nearly \$1.5 million to help entrepreneurs launch businesses and make them grow. The funds will also help job seekers gain the skills they need to compete for in-demand careers. Programs that include how to gain access to capital will launch through the North Fair Oaks Economic Advancement Center. [Read more here](#).

LIBRARY EVENTS

- **Teen Internship Program – Accepting Applications | Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (520 Tamarack Ln) | Spring 2023.** Offering a hands-on and meaningful experience for current 9th - 12th-grade high school students. Teens will gain youth development skills and engage the community through service. Interns will work collaboratively with our after-school program staff to help implement an academic and enrichment program for elementary-age youth. Email web-clc@ssf.net or apply here or go to bit.ly/3kWc4p8
- **Puzzle-Piece Hearts | Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) | Saturday, February 4 at 2:00 PM.** We've discovered a crafty new way to play with puzzles that may be more fun than actually putting them together: we're using them to make Valentines! Join us to design and decorate your own heart-shaped wreath and give someone you love a piece of your heart! Recommended for children ages five and up.
- **Maker Mondays presents IF/THEN® | Grand Library (306 Walnut Ave) | Mondays, February 6, 13, and 27 at 4:00 PM.** IF/THEN® seeks to further advance women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by empowering current innovators and inspiring the next generation of pioneers. Each week, learn a different aspect of the

makerspace from 3D printing, virtual reality, video recording, coding, and more. Recommended for middle and high school students. All ages welcome!

- **Bouncing Babies Storytime | Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) | Wednesday, February 8 at 10:30 AM.** Join us for stories, songs, and rhymes while Teacher Bill takes a one-week break from Happy Baby Signs, which will resume on February 15.
 - **Understanding Advanced Planning and Transitioning Life Care | Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) | Wednesday, February 8 at 11:30 AM.** Workshop # 2 - Transitioning Life Care (TLC): helping the individual and families to transition from life to death and beyond. Dr. Jasmin T. Flores will present and lead a discussion on advanced planning, transitioning lifecare and end-of-life illnesses. Dr. Jasmin T. Flores leads a faith-based Mental Health Ministry at All Souls Parish. Her trade and training are as a Primary Care Associate and Doctor of Public Health, having been a clinician prior to spending more than 20 years in the biopharmaceutical industry in Clinical R&D and in Medical Affairs in specialty areas that includes Oncology.
 - **Book Munchers | Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) | Thursday, February 9 at 4:00 PM.** Book Munchers, a book club for ages 5-9, returns with *The Secret Explorers and the Lost Whales* by SJ King (AR 4.3). Read the book; then, we'll meet to discuss and work on an activity. Registration is required. Please register at the Orange Ave Library children's desk, call 650-829-3860, or email ssfyouth@plsinfo.org. To place a book on hold, click here or go to bit.ly/3QpCUAm.
 - **Valentine's Day Craft | Grand Library (306 Walnut Ave) | Friday, February 10 at 3:30 PM.** Join us for a quick fun craft! Using premade stickers, magnets, and shapes to create Valentine's Day Magnets. Supplies are provided in a single set prepackaged bag and are limited. While supplies last. All Ages are Welcome!
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CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



BLACK LIVES MATTER FLAG RAISING

Join the City of South San Francisco as we raise the Black Lives Matter flag on Monday, February 6 at City Hall. In addition, during the month of February, please join the Library for upcoming events ranging from an author talk to a storyteller focused on African American history. Please visit our calendar at www.ssf.net.



Monday, February 6, 2023 at 9:00 am
City Hall Steps
400 Grand Ave, SSF



City of South San Francisco | 400 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080

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