



Happy Friday! March is upon us, and among the many things we celebrate this month, we also celebrate Women's History Month. During Women's History Month, we celebrate the countless women who have fought tirelessly and courageously for equality, justice, and opportunity in our Nation. We also reaffirm our commitment to advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls in the United States and around the world. Did you know that women couldn't get credit cards on their own until 1974? When you think about it, that wasn't even that long ago, which is hard to believe. Until

Congress passed the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, women couldn't get credit cards in their own name. Often, they had to bring a man along to cosign for them, according to Smithsonian Magazine. Legal work done by late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg laid the foundation for the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, as well as many other fundamental rights women have today, including the ability to attend state-funded schools, protection from pregnancy discrimination at work, and the ability to serve on juries, according to USA Today. Read here about 25 facts regarding Women's History Month; these facts about women's history are great for kids, teachers, and anyone looking to learn. It's 2023, and while many strides have been made for women in the past few decades, there's still a long way to go.

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

- Meet with SSFUSD about "Portrait of a Graduate."
- Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Event in SSF
- Summer Camp Public Lottery Registration
- Youth Art Show
- Youth Baseball Parade
- Cultural Activities Grant
- The San Francisco Opera is Coming to South San Francisco
- Spring Camp Registration: Availability is still open
- "Abundance" Two-Dimensional Art Show Extended Exhibit
- SSF Chamber of Commerce Annual Recognition & Business Awards
- Board of Supervisors Ends the COVID-19 State of Emergency
- COVID-Related CalFresh Allotments Ending
- Caltrain Temporarily Reduces Weekend Service to Expedite Electrification Construction
- SM 101 Express Lanes Open March 3
- Upcoming Webinar: Dispelling COVID-19 Misinformation
- Low-interest federal disaster loans available to California businesses and residents
- Upcoming Library Events

Since we're on the topic of Women's History Month, I want to share with you

all that we will be hosting a **Women's Leadership Conference** in South San Francisco on August 26, 2023. This conference will feature many speakers, including Congresswoman Jackie Speier (Ret.), and San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus. Look for more updates as we get closer to this exciting event!

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

Your Mayor,
Flor Nicolas

LOCAL NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

- **Meet with SSFUSD about "Portrait of a Graduate."** Last fall, the South San Francisco Unified School District (SSFUSD) heard from more than 3,500 SSFUSD community members through surveys, SSC and PTA meetings, focus groups, and interviews. Their diverse Visioning Working Group, made up of 21 SSFUSD parents, alums, staff, and community partners, used this input to develop a draft "Portrait of a Graduate." This "Portrait of a Graduate" describes what they want for all their students when they leave SSFUSD. They are excited to bring our community together to talk about what they've heard, and make sure we are clear about their priorities for its students. Please join us for their upcoming Community Conversations on March 4. See below for details, and how to register. If not, please you share your thoughts with us via a 5-minute survey. Please review their 1 page PDF that can be printed or shared via email. They also have digital flyers for social media that you can download. All are in English and Spanish.
- Register for a Community Conversation on March 4
- Share your thoughts via a survey

- **Household Hazardous Waste Program Drop-off Event in SSF.** The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program is hosting a drop-off event in South San Francisco on Saturday, March 4, 2023, 9:00am-12:00pm. Accepted items include cleaning products; fertilizers and garden chemicals; pesticides, herbicides and rodenticides; solvents; flammable liquids; fluorescent lights (compact and tubes), paint thinner, acids/bases, aerosol cans, and automotive supplies (car batteries, motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, brake fluid). All waste collected is reused, recycled, or stabilized for proper disposal to achieve zero waste and prevent any items from going to the landfill and contaminating our water and soil. No electronic, radioactive, explosive, or medical waste is accepted. *This event is open to all who live in San Mateo County.* To participate, you must schedule an appointment at San Mateo County's HHW Program: smchealth.org/hhw-appt or by calling (650) 372-6200. The event location is disclosed once your appointment is confirmed. Limit 10 gallons or 50 pounds per appointment (per carload). If you have greater than 10 gallons, you must schedule additional appointments for every 10 gallons and make separate vehicle trips for each appointment—no commercial waste is allowed. Residents unable to attend this event can still dispose of household hazardous waste for free at San Mateo

County's permanent HHW facility Thursdays-Saturdays (except major holiday weekends). You must make an appointment at smchealth.org/hhw-appt or call (650) 372-6200. Recycling/safe disposal of paint, fluorescent lights, household batteries, and used motor oil/filters can be done at a local collection center – no appointment needed. Visit smchealth.org/post/hhw-most-wanted for local drop-off sites. For more information, visit smchealth.org/hhw

- **Summer Camp Public Lottery Registration.** Registration will be accepted over the counter at the Fernekes Building, 781 Tennis Drive, starting March 13. This year's summer camp programs will begin Monday, June 5 and operate through Friday, August 4 and families can register by the week! For questions call (650) 875-6900 or email kim.morrison@ssf.net or cristina.simmons@ssf.net.
- **Youth Art Show | Friday & Saturday, March 10 & 11, Municipal Services Building.** Back after a 3-year hiatus, the *YOUTH ART SHOW*, presented by the SSF Cultural Arts Commission, in partnership with the SSF Unified School District, celebrates the artistry of SSFUSD students. This amazing program *features* hundreds of artworks highlighting works in various media, from kindergarten through high school. Friday's show will be from 4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. and Saturday's show will be from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.ssf.net/culturalarts.
- **Youth Baseball Parade | Saturday, March 11, 9:30 am. Alta Loma Park: Rozzi Field.** The annual Youth Baseball Parade is a celebration of the start of spring and the upcoming baseball season. The co-sponsored program celebrates over 300 children and 100 volunteers each year. Please rsvp to Mike Mulkerrins, Recreation Supervisor of the Rentals and Sports Programs, at mike.mulkerrins@ssf.net or 650-877-8679.
- **Cultural Activities Grant.** 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 entering 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 are available at the Municipal Services Building located 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.
- **The San Francisco Opera is Coming to South San Francisco | Friday – Sunday, March 17 – 19, Orange Memorial.** The San Francisco Opera is taking opera out of the Opera House and bringing it to Orange Memorial Park, on a shipping-container-turned-stage. Audiences will be able to enjoy a free, one-hour version of Puccini's famous *La Bohème* performed live in Italian with English narration and keyboard accompaniment. These free performances on a state-of-the-art mobile stage will bring powerful

emotions and soaring arias in a relaxed, intimate environment. Opera start-times will be 7:30 pm for the Friday and Saturday shows and 2:00 pm for the Sunday show. Admission is free and pre-registration is requested. For more information or to register visit: www.ssf.net/culturalarts or www.ssfopera.com/box.

- **Spring Camp Registration: Availability is still open.** Spring Camp will be held at the Joseph A. Fernekes Recreation Building (781 Tennis Drive) on Monday, March 27, 2023, through Friday, March 31, from 7:30 am – 6:00 pm daily. Eligible participants include children who are currently enrolled in kindergarten through 5th grade. Space is limited. For questions call (650) 875-6900 or email kim.morrison@ssf.net or cristina.simmons@ssf.net.
- **“Abundance” Two-Dimensional Art Show Extended Exhibit** | Through March 31. Online. Artists reflected on the meaning of abundance at the two-day January art show sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission. Visitors enjoyed viewing exceptional two-dimensional works including painting, photography, collage and other 2-D media. Thirty local and Bay Area artists displayed fifty amazing works. Seven entries were awarded. The Commission thanks all the participants and congratulates the finalists of this art gallery event. For information: www.ssf.net/culturalarts.
- **SSF Chamber of Commerce Annual Recognition & Business Awards.** March 23, 2023 | SSF Conference Center | 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The Annual Recognition and Business Awards Dinner is an event that cannot be missed! We will recognize businesses, organizations, and individuals in the categories of Business of the Year, Excellence in Small Business, Mayor’s Award, Lifetime Achievement, Minority/Woman-Owned Business, Special Recognition, Innovation, Legacy/Family-Owned Business, and Chamber Board Director of the Year. We are honored to have Congresswoman Jackie Speier (ret) as our emcee. Special Event Sponsorships are available. Call the Chamber for more information at 650-588-1911, or email info@ssfchamber.com. Advance reservations and payment are required. RSVP to <https://www.ssfchamber.com/2023-business-awards.htm>. Early Bird price: \$110.00. After March 16: \$120.00

COUNTY UPDATES

- **Board of Supervisors Ends the COVID-19 State of Emergency.** The Board of Supervisors today ended the County’s state of emergency due to COVID-19. The 5-0 vote aligns the County with the state of California. “While this vote ends the emergency phase of the pandemic, it does not end the County’s continued and focused effort to combat COVID-19,” said Dave Pine, president of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. “The County will continue to work closely with community- and faith-based organizations to educate residents about residual risks, vaccination recommendations and programs to buffer economic impacts,” Pine said. [READ MORE](#).
- **COVID-Related CalFresh Allotments Ending.** CalFresh Emergency

Allotments authorized by Congress during the COVID-19 pandemic to all CalFresh households will be discontinued after they are issued for the February 2023 benefit month in late March 2023. Emergency allotments temporarily provided \$95 increases in benefits in addition to the normal amounts. CalFresh recipients will continue to receive their standard monthly financial assistance on an EBT card to help them purchase healthy foods. More information at <https://cdss.ca.gov/calfreshcovid19>.

- **Caltrain Temporarily Reduces Weekend Service to Expedite Electrification Construction.** On the weekends of March 4-5 and 11-12, Caltrain will be suspending rail service between San Francisco and Millbrae Stations to accommodate Caltrain Electrification construction and testing. Caltrain encourages riders to see how this change in service will affect their commute and to seek alternative transit options if they would better suit their transportation needs. Limited bus service, known as a bus bridge, will be provided to Caltrain-dependent riders traveling to or from the affected area. These will be the first of 31 weekends in 2023 in which service will be adjusted to accommodate construction and testing for electrified service, which is expected to launch passenger service in fall 2024. On February 18-19, Caltrain will operate on its regular weekend schedule. Read more here.
- **SM 101 Express Lanes Open March 3.** Caltrans, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, and the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County are pleased to announce that starting March 3, 2023, the SM 101 Express Lanes from Whipple Avenue in Redwood City to I-380 in South San Francisco will be open to all FasTrak® Flex users. Until March 3, 2023, the Express Lanes between Whipple Avenue and I-380 will remain open to HOV 3+ (vehicles with 3 or more passengers) and motorcycles only from 5 AM – 8 PM, Monday through Friday. Please note, you must have FasTrak® Flex to access the lanes and all violators driving in the lanes will be subject to a fine. Construction activities are weather dependent and subject to change without notice.
- **Upcoming Webinar: Dispelling COVID-19 Misinformation.** Please join Asha Shajahan, MD, MHSA, to learn conversation methodologies for talking with patients about COVID-19 misinformation, including COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics. Mar 8, 2023, 12:00 PM. Register here.
- **Low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to California businesses and residents because of the major disaster declaration.** We encourage people to complete the SBA application even if they are not sure if they need it yet. If approved, the loan becomes an option. If a homeowner or renter is declined, most are eligible to be referred to FEMA's Other Needs Assistance Program. Homeowners and renters who are sent the SBA application and don't complete it will not receive any additional assistance through the federal programs. FEMA has programs that are dependent on an SBA referral and programs that are not. **Unfortunately, this is a limited-time opportunity for recovery because the deadline is March 16, 2023.** Recently, there has been a policy change granting 12 months of no payments and 0% interest. This will benefit

disaster survivors and help them to decrease the overall cost of recovery by reducing the amount of accrued interest they must repay. **Homeowners:** up to \$200,000 to repair or replace real estate damage and up to \$40,000 to replace personal property. **Renters:** up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property. Interest rates can be as low as 3.305 percent for businesses, 2.375 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 2.313 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, survivors must first contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.disasterassistance.gov. Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information including details on the location of disaster recovery centers and download applications at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

LIBRARY EVENTS

- **Tie-Dye for Teens: St. Patrick's Day Socks | Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) | Saturday, March 4 at 3:00 PM.** Don't get caught without something green on St. Patrick's Day! Create a pair of tie-dyed socks worthy of a leprechaun's gold during this fun social hour for teens. Supplies are limited. To ensure fit, please bring your own pair of clean white socks. This program is for young adults.
- **Holi Color Party! | Main Library Parking Lot (840 W Orange Ave) | Tuesday, March 7 at 4:00 PM.** Celebrate Holi with South San Francisco Public Library as we decorate our parking lot with a splash of color! We will learn about Holi, the Festival of Colors, throw colored powder, blow bubbles, and dance to Bollywood tunes. We suggest you come wearing white, so you leave wearing a rainbow!
- **How to Design Business Cards in Canva | Virtual via Zoom | Thursday, March 9 at 12:00 PM.** Business cards not only provide information about how customers and clients can reach you, but they are the first impression you give of your business! Learn how you can give an amazing first impression using Canva! This program is presented in partnership with the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center. Click [here](#) to find out more. Registration is required.
- **Rebel Girl: Make your Own Zine for Women's History Month | Grand Ave Library (306 Walnut Ave) on Thursday, March 9 at 4:00 PM; and at Main Library (840 W Orange Ave) on Friday, March 10 at 1:00 PM.** Zines and the alternative press have been a significant part of the struggle for women's liberation throughout history. Exploring collection materials from the South San Francisco Public Library's History Room collection and using materials from the Library of Congress, we invite you to make your own zine in honor of Women's History Month! Explore the power of information production and distribution through this DIY medium and use your voice to disrupt the status quo. Zine-making materials will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own materials for your own

zine's topic. RSVP through the links above to participate. This program is for adult patrons, but teens are welcome. Patrons of any gender identity may attend.



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