



Yesterday, I attended the San Mateo County Veterans Commission's 8th Annual Veterans Recognition Luncheon and was deeply touched by the stories that were shared. Congratulations to the Awardees; namely: PGA HOPE NorCal (Enterprise of the Year), Peggy Toye (Patriot of the Year), and Al Adreveno and John Muller (Veterans of the Year). Today, this Veterans Day, we honor the generations of men and women who have served and sacrificed for our country. They put their lives on the line (or lost their lives) to protect our democracy, values, and freedom and we honor these veterans for their sacrifice. If you or a loved one is a veteran and in need of assistance with information or referrals relating to state and federal benefits, or services such as housing, employment, or training, please visit the County of San Mateo Veterans Services Office (CVSO). More information may be found [here](#).



At Wednesday night's City Council meeting, we honored two of our hometown heroes who also put themselves in danger in the service of others. I had the honor of presiding over the Presentation of the Medal of Valor to Sergeant Chris Devan and Officer Matt Zander for their bravery and courage after saving two passengers in a vehicle fire. Because of their heroic and quick-thinking actions, two lives were saved. A huge thank you to our officers who keep our

city safe.



We also heard from fifth graders at Martin Elementary School, led by their teacher, Mrs. Deborah Carlino, on the importance of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. Ruby Bridges is an American civil rights activist who was the first African American child to desegregate the William Frantz Elementary School in Louisiana in 1960. Please support our children by joining them for the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day on Tuesday, November 14th at City Hall (400 Grand Avenue) at 7:30 a.m. Our Grand Avenue Library will also be celebrating Ruby Bridges all day on November 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. with special games, activities, and books throughout the day. Let's be more aware on the road this day as many children will be walking to school.

Along the lines of keeping our pedestrians and bicyclists safe, the City of South San Francisco now has an online reporting portal through the city website for traffic measures relating to bicycle safety. Online reports can be submitted [here](#).

A reminder that City buildings and departments will be closed today in honor of Veterans Day. Emergency services remain operational. Our free South City Shuttle is running its regular operations. Please download the South City Shuttle app or check www.ssf.net/shuttle for shuttle schedule and real-time information.

The registration for the 50th anniversary of the Thanksgiving Fun Run to be held on November 18th is closed due to its popularity. There will be NO day-of registration that will be accepted.

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

2023 Holiday Toy Drive

Help brighten a child's holiday this season by donating to the city's holiday toy drive! Accepting toy donations for children ages 0 to 10 years old and monetary donations for children ages 11 to 17. Please no stuffed animals and new toys only. Toys can be brought to Fire Station 61 (480 N. Canal Street) or the Police Department (1 Chestnut Avenue). Monetary donations may be made [here](#).

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day Ceremony

All South San Francisco students are invited to meet at City Hall on November 14th at 7:30 a.m. as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day officially begins. The ceremony will conclude at 8:00 AM so that students can gather with their classmates to begin their walks (please check with your child's school for your designated starting location).

South San Francisco Farmers' Market

The South San Francisco Farmers' Market will be open this Saturday at Orange Memorial Park! Come to the Farmers' Market this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Orange Memorial Park for fresh, delicious fruits and vegetables straight from the source! Additional features include a food truck, fresh hummus, fresh baked goods, candles, plants, crafts, and much more!

The SSF Farmers' Market operates every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Orange Memorial Park parking lot behind the Joseph A. Fernekes Building at 781 Tennis Drive. We hope to see you there!

PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

Holiday Wreath Making

Create a gorgeous natural holiday wreath with fresh materials on December 9, 2023. This workshop provides basic materials as well as hands-on instruction so you can make your own holiday wreath. There is also "take home" kit option as well. For more information, please go to www.ssf.net/departments/parks-recreation and click online registration. Then go to the special events tab to register.

Santa Comes to Town! New Location!

Santa Comes to Town on Saturday, December 2, 2023 at the new Library | Parks and Recreation Center at 901 Civic Campus Way from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come and meet and greet Santa. This fun and festive event is free to the public.

Private Rentals at the new Library | Parks and Recreation Center

The new Library | Parks and Recreation Center will have a Banquet Hall and a Social Hall available to rent for private events. If you are interested in renting

this facility, please visit <http://bit.ly/3Qzbt8V> and submit your interest form. By submitting this form your name will be placed on an interest list, this does not guarantee your event date. Please visit <https://bit.ly/3FUhrwm> for rental fees for this facility. For questions, please contact the Recreation Administrative Office at (650) 829-3800. Photos and room diagrams coming soon.

Sign Hill Stewards

You are encouraged to sign-up to help restore habitat and protect nature with the Parks and Recreation Department in South San Francisco. Join Natural Resource Specialist, Candace LaCroix, every other Friday and the last Saturday of the month on Sign Hill. Registration is required. Registration information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3u2R8kO>.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Both Main and Grand Avenue Libraries will be closed in observance of Veterans Day from Friday through Saturday, November 10-11, 2023. Main Library will be open on Sunday from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

2024 Young Adult Novelist Convention (YANovCon 2024)

Peninsula Libraries present the Young Adult Novelist Convention on February 3, 2024 at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center. Submit your short story submissions from December 1 through December 31, 2023 at bit.ly/ShortStoryContest2024.

All-Day Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day Celebration | Grand Library (306 Walnut Ave) | November 14, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate our South City students on Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day by joining us throughout the day for special activities, games, books, and more fun ways to honor this special occasion.

In 2021, the State of California established November 14th as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. California's recognition is the result of the work by fifth graders at South San Francisco's Martin Elementary School who planned and organized the first Walk to School Day in 2018 after learning about Ruby Bridges experiences and her continued work against segregation and racism. Learn more about Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day and the civil rights work of the Ruby Bridges Foundation [here](#).

Happy Baby Signs Storytime | Main Library, Youth Library, 2nd Floor (901 Civic Campus Way) | Wednesday, November 15, 10:30 a.m.

Teacher Bill incorporates ASL (American Sign Language) into his storytime series for children 0-6 years old and their parents and caregivers. Children will have fun laughing, signing and singing. To learn more, [click here](#).

Virtual Cookbook Spotlight: Modern Asian Baking at Home | Virtual Via Zoom: Registration Required | Wednesday, November 15, 6 p.m.

[Join us virtually](#) for a delicious baking demo, from our kitchen to yours. Learn basic techniques, tips, and tricks for using exciting, contemporary Asian-inspired ingredients to make satisfying treats for cooks of all levels, and find out what's new to discover in the South San Francisco Public Library cookbook collection!

Asian Art Museum presents Demons, Creatures and Monsters - Oh My! | Main Library, Community Room, 2nd Floor (901 Civic Campus Way) OR Virtual via Zoom| Thursday, November 16, 2:00 p.m.

Mythical creatures, legendary beasts, terrifying monsters... they are supernatural, mystical, often god-like or demon-like beings, and they have fascinated us since ancient times. Even today, they continue to thrill, terrify, entertain, and inspire us. They have filled folklore, stories, songs, and works of art. Presented by the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco Community Speakers Program. This program is made possible by the South San Francisco Friends of the Library. This program will be streamed LIVE via Zoom to watch from your home or at the Main Library in the 2nd Floor Community Room. To watch from home, [register via Zoom](#).

Project Read Tutor Roundtable | Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (520 Tamarack Lane) | Saturday, November 18, 10:30 a.m.

Are you looking to give back to your community? Want to help uplift an adult in their journey to improve their literacy? Take this opportunity and join Project Read to learn more about making a difference in our South San Francisco, Daly City, Town of Colma, and San Bruno communities. You don't need experience, Project Read and Literacy Services offers free extensive and interactive training for people like you to tutor adult learners.

RUBY
BRIDGES

WALK to SCHOOL DAY

in proud partnership with 



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023
CITY HALL, 400 GRAND AV. SSF

7:30 A.M.



OUR CHILDREN CREATED THIS DAY.

**WALK TO SCHOOL IN HONOR OF
RUBY & TO SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN!**

PLEASE CARRY POSTERS!

WE WANT RUBY TO GO NATIONAL!



This Year's Theme:

To Be You

Identity in the Age of Censorship

Prizes:

- 1st Place - Large Book Bundle & Journal
- 2nd Place - Medium Book Bundle & Journal
- 3rd Place - Small Book Bundle & Journal

Guidelines:

- Open to 8th - 12th graders who reside or go to school in San Mateo County.
- Work must be original.
- 500 words or less.
- Stories can be realistic, sci-fi, fantasy, mystery, dystopian, or any genre!

Winners to be announced at YANovCon on February 3, 2024 at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (901 Civic Campus Way, South San Francisco)

2024 SHORT STORY CONTEST

Open for submissions
December 1 - 31, 2023

Submit at:
bit.ly/ShortStoryContest2024



City of South San Francisco

2023 HOLIDAY DRIVE

Accepting toy donations for children 0 to 10 years and if you choose, a monetary donation for children 11 to 17.

Please no stuffed animals and new toys only.



Toys can be brought to
Fire Station 61,
480 N. Canal or the
Police Department, 1 Chestnut
South San Francisco
Questions...contact
Mary Ann Spediacci
holidaydrive@ssf.net or
650-877-8931

<https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/iaffl1507cf>

Please make donations by December 11, 2023.



Volunteers needed November 20, December 18 & 19, 2023

If interested, contact Marie.Patea@ssf.net or
650-829-6666.



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

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