



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

By Phil Faroudja

SUBMARINE MANEUVERS: Marina Submarine, at the corner of Union and Steiner, has been undergoing substantial renovations. How come? Well, the entire building which houses it, as well as 4 other retail stores and numerous apartments, was sold. An army of construction personnel has been laboring on the sandwich shop ever since. I'm curious how it will turn out. No word on whether the family that ran it will return ... New businesses continue to move in. "Dr. Treat" at the corner of Union and Laguna, now provides veterinary care, which should do well as many in our city own pets. That's useful and good to have nearby ... Does anybody want to buy a movie theater? The Clay on Fillmore is for sale. As previously reported the building was designated a landmark. Now, activists seek to restart it as a fully functioning cinema, as it was before.

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ELECTION RETURNS: A neighbor once told me he thought San Francisco was becoming less progressive. The recent elections may have shown this to be true. "Tough on crime" district attorney Brooke Jenkins was elected, while two conservative School Board members originally appointed by Mayor Breed were as well ... The big news, of course, is that Nancy Pelosi is stepping down as House Speaker. She worked for years on the Presidio. Back in 1994, when it closed as a military base, Congress considered all kinds of options, but she held out for it as a park. In collaboration with President Bill Clinton, she was able to preserve the whole facility and create the Presidio Trust ... Pelosi was instrumental in bringing George Lucas, as well as the Disney museum, to the Presidio, and two hotels. More recently, she was able to get \$100 million in the federal budget funneled to the park. As a result, the current "Tunnel Tops" and "Battery Bluffs" were finished in months ... And now, the Presidio is nearly complete, save for some buildings near

Crissy Field that are being remodeled. As a national park it is open to everyone, there's no charge, and there are many great things to see. It's quite an achievement.

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"Gee! There sure is a lot of news these days!"

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT: If you're looking for some laughs, but don't want to drive more than ten minutes, you may want to try Bats Improv at Fort Mason. They do improvisational shows Friday and Saturday nights; one is free form based on a few words, while the other is a family drama. My girlfriend and I went last week and saw some excellent comedians, and there were some very funny bits. For Christmastime Bats Improv will present "The Good, the Bad, and the Jolly"... For the young 'uns, there is "Sleeping Beauty" at the Presidio Theater in December. It is a musical mashup of true love, talking dogs, singing chickens, fairy magic, etc., and is performed by a London troupe in an old vaudeville style. See www.presidiotheatre.org ... The Marina Theater on Chestnut sometimes shows unusual films. A few weeks ago they screened a Mongolian comedy ... Save the date: our annual dinner will be Thursday, January 26 at the terrific Alegrias restaurant. This will be a chance to meet neighbors and hear updates about the city and local law enforcement. Happy Holidays, everybody!

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