

skyline · newSnote · 11.18

First note in the mail bag this month:

News from me: the **Big 96** is coming on Dec. 17. John Hills

Meanwhile George and **Carol (Vierra) Szymkiewicz** have been running around the world demonstrating alternatives to Bay Area transit congestion, while the Ya-Ya's are a bit more conventional as biker girls in Mendicino.

Donna Smith, Karen (Juul) Mihok, Sue (Collins) Anderson, Linda Roesch and Elaine Walker.



I write the blog Economics Without Greed, <http://benL8.blogspot.com> — — you'll see, I write a lot, get few readers.

It is mostly a curiosity I have about society, how it must evolve and embrace all members.

Ben Leet



Rick Steen looks on as **Diane (Breen) Helman, Maureen Sarment, and Gary Sommer** anticipate a piece of **Gay Parker's** birthday cake, ready to be served by **Barbara (Uhlig) Harbidge and Cynthia (Young) Harelson**. **Cheryl/Tom LaMarre** also helped to celebrate.

For your social calendar, Kaspers will be November 12 and December 10

from an old posting (2015-06-01): **Janet Leslie Streb (Greenwood)**

Occupation:psychotherapist/business owner Website:www.marriagehealers.com Marital Status:Married No. of Children:3; Living in Fair Oaks, outside of Sacramento.

So many life chapters it is hard to know where to start. I was married initially right out of high school. That flight of fantasy lasted for 4 years and produced my son who is 46 years old, a lawyer at Oracle and a great guy. The next chapter I remarried and returned to school to become licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist, Art Therapist, Registered Nurse and eventually earned my PhD in psychology. We adopted our two wonderful daughters from Peru who are now 22 and 25, both are amazing young women and a huge joy in my life.

Life is short so live it to its fullest is my motto. A lot of changes have happened in my sixties....currently married to my fantastic wife, travel a lot and love being semi-retired.

My website is marriagehealers.com stop by and visit!*

BTW out shopping these days I noticed quite a few body parts available for reasonable (\$1) prices: brains, feet, hands, eyeballs, etc

In the spirit of the season I give my THANKS to all of you in this quirky extended family. sdc

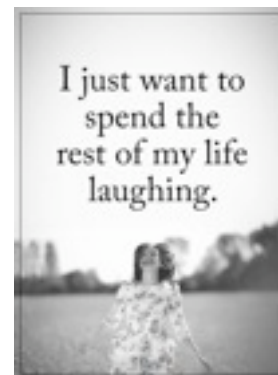
Birthdays

November

- 01 Barbara Bowles Holt
03 Clint Rylee
Karen Dodge Wetherbee
04 Steve Whitgob
05 Sheila Oxley
06 Barbara Renouf
08 Sidney Cummings
Joel Kuechle
11 Joetta Christopher
10 Barbara Smith Stott
Jennifer Foreman Williams
11 Tom Smith
12 Lorrie Miller
Marlene Siegel Anthony
13 Carol Vierra Szymkiewicz
14 Tom LaMarre
Kent Willis
15 Carlee Wells King
Joann Torbutt
17 Cathi Trebotich Beaubien
19 Gayle Smith
20 Ron Wofford
21 Nancy Klinkner Mulligan
26 Christopher Perry
27 Diane Breen Helman
Rick Steen
28 Diane Squaglia Fly
29 Jeff Prevost
30 Calvin Brugge

December

- 02 Peggy Tisdell Cross
03 John Lyman
04 Dennis Bushnell
07 Dennis Cooney
Judy Tonini Rezendes
09 Susan Buikema
12 Marsha Standish
12 Margaret Pachner
12 David Walker
17 Joe Peak
Jan Descombes Bassett



17 John Hills (96)



- 18 Jon Rawitzer
- 25 Pete Ramos
Valerie Ranche
- 26 Linda Conradi
Joan Fieberhouse Bannon
- 27 Phil Bateman
- 27 Diane Breen Helman
- 27 Shirley Donaldson Whipple
- 29 Rodney Burge
- 30 Sharon Lawrence Tuttle
- 30 Marylaird Wood

Klinger and Hot Lips at ages 83 and 80.



Reminder: Birthday list is not finite.....always welcoming corrections/additions!

Advice from An Old Farmer *(this is what Sue Jones Conner had sent last month)*

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
 Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
 Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
 A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
 Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.
 Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
 Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
 Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
 It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
 You cannot unsay a cruel word.
 Every path has a few puddles.
 When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
 The best sermons are lived, not preached.
 Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
 Don't judge folks by their relatives.
 Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
 Live a good, honorable life... Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
 Don 't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.
 Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around..

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just kill you.

Most times, it just gets down to common sense.

Welcome Skyline Titans!

We are pleased to announce the formation of the Skyline High School Alumni Association (SHSAA). Skyline High School holds a special place in all our hearts. For many of us, the time we spent as students at Skyline offered an opportunity for a great education and to form friendships that have lasted decades!. The purpose of re-launching the Alumni Association is to get you involved, share updates, and also create opportunities for current students or recent SHS graduates. As part of the SHSAA we will email quarterly newsletters with alumni updates, upcoming class events, Skyline events, Alumni Association meeting dates and much more. Alumni receiving this newsletter, please pass on to your contact list. We hope to hear from you all soon.

Skyline Alumni Association Executive Board

Co-presidents: Nancy Phan (2012) & Seán Kohles (2009) Vice President: Don Routh (1970)

Treasurer: Jack Nelson (1972) Secretary: Javier Alvarado (2007)

Outreach Coordinators: Alan Marcus (1974) & Joyce Walker (1976)

Meet the Principals

This school year, Skyline High School welcomes new co-directors in the Administrative Leadership Team, Nicole A. Pierce and Bianca D'Allesandro. Together, they have more than 30 years of experience in education. They both have worked as teachers, Dean of Students, assistant principals, and principals in OUSD. Nicole and Bianca have worked closely to develop a TK-12 continuity framework that supported students outcomes from transitional kindergarten to graduation They hope their knowledge and experience will benefit the students at Skyline.

New Block Schedule

Skyline began its new hybrid block schedule on Monday, August 13, and with it comes a new bell schedule. While the school hours remain the same, (8:05 AM - 3:05 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 8:05 AM - 1:27 PM on Wednesday) the bell schedule during the school day has been altered to incorporate the hybrid block schedule. The decision to shift to a block schedule was based on several key reasons and criteria:

- a manageable student caseload so teachers and students can form meaningful relationships

- fewer transitions during the day so that there can be improvement in climate and culture
- time to allow deep levels of collaboration for pathways and small Professional Learning Communities
- the ability to provide more intervention and acceleration opportunities such as, credit recovery or dual enrollment (college courses)
- an extension of the instructional periods to allow for deeper learning opportunities
- a viable sustainable design when coupled with master course schedule, budget, and AC Transit.

Ride For A Reason Donates \$19,000 to Skyline

Last April more than 250 students, parents, teachers and community members pedaled to Sacramento with *Ride for A Reason* to support public school students and rally for increased education funding. We raised \$153,000 for eight Oakland schools including Skyline. Skyline hosted a rest stop and had a team of 10 riders. Recently at the Skyline PTSA meeting *Ride for A Reason* parent volunteers Jen Ryden and JT Mates-Muchin presented our co-principals and PTSA president with a check for \$19,200. These funds will support teacher mini grants to ensure students have the supplies and books they need to learn. Skyline has been invited to join the ride again this spring on April 27, 2019. Check out R4Rschools.com for more information.

Gary Payton Makes a Donation to Skyline's Basketball Program

NBA Hall of Famer and Skyline alumnus, Gary Payton along with fellow alumni Nikki Shaw (Celebrity Chef) and Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf were joined with staff from the Oakland Athletics and presented a check for \$5000 to the school's sports programs, aimed specifically at supporting the basketball program.

Donation Saves Girls Tennis and Golf for 2018-19 School Year

Anonymous community donors have provided more than \$38,000 specifically to restore Girl's tennis, golf and lacrosse programs across the District. Additionally, bowling is being converted to a club sport. All fall sports programs will continue uninterrupted. There is more work to be done to address winter and spring sports programming and work on a District-wide sustainability plan for all sports programs.

If you are interested in weekly Skyline newsletter, please contact the co-presidents of the Alumni Association.

Alumni Contribution Please consider supporting the efforts of the Alumni Association as we build out membership by donating now. Please click

Newsletter also included activities (homecoming football with special alumni section game and association meeting) but were in October so were not included. sdc

Every fall, Keep Oakland Beautiful provides FREE daffodil bulbs, native plants, and seeds to any group willing to plant them in visible public property locations in Oakland.

The giveaway will take place on Saturday, November 10, 2018 from 8AM-10AM at the Arroyo Viejo Park Amphitheater, 7798 Krause Ave, Oakland, CA 94605 For more information or to register please visit: www.oaklandadoptaspot.org/

Hi Oakland history people! I'm working on a book/film project about the history of immigration and migration in Oakland. What is your family's story? How did you end up in Oakland? Are you feeling pressured to leave now? I am talking to all ethnic groups, genders, sexual orientations, etc., and people with all sorts of points of view about politics and the events of history in Oakland that have had an impact on you. I'd like to interview YOU! Please send me a reply to this post and we'll set up a preliminary call. www.paulkott.wordpress.com

I am working on a book and feature-length documentary film about immigration, and the film looks in depth at two American cities, one of them being Oakland. I am interested in the whole history of Oakland especially as it relates to immigration, but I'm especially interested in hearing from:

1. Historians who study Oakland's history, from the Ohlone tribal groups to the present day
 2. Immigrants and immigrant rights and integration groups
 3. The Peralta family, Horace Carpenter's family (or anyone with ties to his armed mob or political/business machine)
 4. Gold rush families or groups of all ethnic backgrounds
 5. Railroad construction workers' descendants, especially Chinese and Irish immigrant families, or groups focused on this topic
 6. Families and groups with stories connected to the Chinese exclusion act
 7. Families and groups connected to early migrant laborers who moved to Oakland in the later 1800s to work in the industries that were popping up
 8. Key Train information, especially families and groups with ties to the companies running them
 9. Families and groups with connections to shipbuilding, automobile manufacturing, Railroads, the Port of Oakland, the aviation industry, and the canning industry
 10. Families and groups with ties and information about Mexican immigrants under the Bracero program, and Latino Americans who relocated here to work for Southern Pacific
 11. Families and groups connected to the poor southern blacks and whites who moved to Oakland during WW2
 12. Anyone with stories about the "zoot suit riots"
 13. Anyone with family history or groups focused on civil rights era African American life in Oakland
 14. Latinos, their families and descendants, and groups serving them who have immigrated to Oakland fleeing violence and terror (drug wars, political persecution, wars started/manipulated by the US government's regional interference, folks who feel the US was involved in a positive way in their home country but had to flee for other reasons, etc.
 15. Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Persian, Middle Eastern, and any other ethnic groups who have immigrated to Oakland in the post WW2 era, particularly after the tech booms began in the 1980s.
 16. Americans from anywhere in the US who have relocated to Oakland to work in the tech industry
 17. Families impacted by and groups focused on the impact of pressures of gentrification, and economic growth that is pushing long-term residents out of Oakland today.
- Please comment or PM me if you have material that would be helpful or if you are interested.



Loving Oakland

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If gentrifiers do not despoil it
which means getting rid of poor
and black and people of color
people
Oakland can be what it has been
for a long time: an urban Paradise.

It is a place where
the young blonde woman
crossing the street in front of your car
would look like a threat
to the neighborhood
except she's frowning
over some deep issue in her inner life
and wearing outrageous vivid blue shoes.

It is a place where
as you sit on the grass by the lake
a tall black man of a certain age
strolls by
blowing his saxophone.
You smile and bow,
he bows back,
with his horn. His day is mellow.
He's in the sun.
He has given mellowness
and sun, free of charge,
to you.

Here
I have found a previously
unexplored
love of sports.
At least I love the Warriors.
Something about basketball
is so graceful, the players so serious,
skilled, non-violent
and intense; I sit grunting and groaning
like everyone around me; We are
for a short time, family, and these are our brothers
engaged in peaceful war.
I love it that the state house
wears blue and yellow

in long emphatic lights
the whole season
the team is playing
and that our waitress
wears blue and gold earrings
and shakes her curly dark hair
to make sure
we notice them.

Loving Oaklandia:
Frida and Diego would have.
Frida never liked Chicago and actually suffered
in New York City. In Oakland she could spread her
lovely dresses around her on the grass in that new place
designed for sitting and lying
at the far end of the lake.
Diego would appreciate the murals
that are sometimes several stories
high. He'd want to paint his own.
Of course he would!

Whoever said "there is no there there," and I think we are
wrong to think Gertrude Stein
meant this and wasn't joking
(though who knows what Oakland was in her time; or what
she was in Oakland's time)
when she is alleged to have said this
about Oakland.

Because, and thanks, many claim, to Jerry Brown's
foresight about cleaning up the lake,
there is plenty of "there" in Oakland.

It is not just its streets, its good places to eat and play
with one's children and families,
not just the lake, which people love
with so much devotion (though they might never
call it that); it is that smile that hits you in the heart
every time it happens
when a total stranger greets you on the path;
the way the hefty sistahs are admired
by all who see them as they hustle by, arms swinging,
knowingly improving the view
by making it real
and completely enjoying
their daily exercise; it is the sense

that something that was alive
for a very long time
is still alive. Not yet beaten into
submission
or oblivion
by those who kill everything
they touch
with money.



Those that enjoy overeating at the Job Corps Fine Dining will be saddened to know that Chef Ron has retired. As TI is rapidly changing, I do not know how long the facility will be there as all sorts of proposals are being made - like charging an entrance AND exit fee to the Island. Anyone want to go on November 7?

Want to have fun, share your knowledge and enthusiasm and work hands-on with the general public? Consider **becoming a Chabot Space & Science Center Volunteer**. By helping to lead engaging, hands-on activities in our newest exhibition spaces, you can help Chabot achieve its mission of providing opportunity and inspiration to students of all ages on the wonders of Earth and beyond. Our Exhibit Guides are trained to work with the public and lead daily activities in the exhibition galleries. Three of our newest exhibitions include a tinkering studio, and outdoor interpretive observation deck and an exhibition about how humans are pushing the boundaries of space exploration. Guides also help with popular events, like \$5 First Fridays, lectures and special programs. * You don't have to be a scientist or have a science background; we'll teach you! * Enjoy unique conversations with visitors on the exhibit floor * Educate and inspire over 50,000 visiting school children each year * Assist with special events and engaging public programs Shifts available Wednesday through Sunday, morning, afternoons and evenings We ask our volunteers to work 8 hours per month and for at least one year. For more information on our volunteer program and to RSVP for orientation, visit <https://chabot.space.org/> or contact the Volunteer Department at volunteers@chabot.space.org

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**And another great volunteer opportunity is to become a Red Coat at the Oakland Museum's Women's Board Warehouse (where the incredible White Elephant Sale**

takes place). Red Coats provide basic security, check people coming in and out of the building, direct some vehicular activities, and when stationed by the kitchen, have to taste-test for the cooks! It is never dull and here, too, are all kinds of conversations. And you get to see what is coming into the warehouse for the Sale. If you are interested please email [Lynnekelsoberg@gmail.com](mailto:Lynnekelsoberg@gmail.com) or call 510.333.4341



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**[Estuary Park Activities & Amenities Online Survey](#)**

Please join the City of Oakland to shape the future of Oakland’s Estuary Park! Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3G669CH> to share your vision through the Estuary Park Activities & Amenities Survey, which will be available online until November 7th at 11:59pm. Feedback collected from the survey will guide the future Estuary Park layout and renovation. Visit <http://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/estuary-park> to learn more about the Estuary Park Renovation and Expansion Project! #OaklandEstuaryPark