

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 5, 2026

**TO:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

**SUBJECT:** Parks and Recreation Department Update

**Seniors Program**



*Senior participant having blood pressure taken by nursing student.*

The Roberta Cerri Teglia Center welcomed nursing students from the University of San Francisco who provide valuable support throughout the Center. The students assist on the second floor with the Adult Day Care program, where they support participants with wellness monitoring, observing daily health needs, and engaging in structured activities. Their involvement promotes safety and supports overall well-being. The students also provide companionship, and assist with light mobility support and recreational activities, contributing to a nurturing and supportive environment for Adult Day Care attendees.

On the third floor, nursing students offer free health screenings for seniors that provide important preventative health monitoring and allow participants to stay informed about their health. The students take time

to explain readings, answer general wellness questions within their scope, and encourage participants to follow up with their healthcare providers when appropriate. This added support increases their access to basic preventative services in a comfortable and familiar setting. The nursing students are at the Roberta Cerri Teglia Center every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In addition to their clinical support, they take time to walk around the Center and engage with the seniors, helping them build meaningful connections through conversation. Their presence enhances both the health services offered and the overall sense of community, providing a positive and enriching experience for the senior participants.



*The nursing students engage in a variety of activities to support senior participants.*

## **Cultural Arts Program**

### *February 2026 Art Show Opening Recap & Additional Exhibit Period*



*Artwork titled "Embraced:  
A Return to Love"*

The first 2026 Cultural Arts Program art show opened on February 6 and 7. Titled "What Is Love?," the show featured visual artworks that explored unique and thought-provoking perspectives on love.

Nearly 100 guests, including a lively group of artists and community members, attended the Friday, February 6 opening. They were treated to a musical presentation by the Department's South City Folk Jam classes group. The ensemble is composed of musicians of all skill levels who enjoy playing traditional and contemporary music together. Their spirited performance inspired guests to join in on a sing-along of well-known melodies.

On exhibition were 45 artworks by 35 artists. The two-dimensional and three-dimensional entries were judged by the chair of the San Mateo County Arts Commission, Victoria Magbilang. Ten artists received awards. Best in Show was awarded to Ashley Blanco for her artwork titled, "Embraced: A Return to Love." The Cultural Arts Commission Award was given to artist, Gabriela Garcia, for her work, "Por Mi Papa Amo San Francisco." The award-winning artists were acknowledged at the Tuesday, February 24 Cultural Arts Commission meeting.

An extended exhibit was available to the public from February 9 through 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The gallery was also open until 8:00 p.m. for special evening viewing on Tuesday, February 24. A virtual exhibit of the award-winning art may be viewed at [ssfoculturalarts.padlet.org/culturalarts1/Feb2026ArtShow](https://ssfoculturalarts.padlet.org/culturalarts1/Feb2026ArtShow).



*Por mi Papa Amo San Francisco*



*South City Folk Jam participants*

## **Public Outreach at the Library | Parks & Recreation Center (LPR)**

The Library | Parks and Recreation Center's (LPR) Community Resource team plays an important role in welcoming visitors to LPR, assisting with wayfinding in the facility, and general navigation

of resources in the broader community. The Community Resource team is also integral to collaborating with various organizations and bringing pop-up outreach efforts to visitors at LPR.

### *South San Francisco Aquatic Club (SSFAC)*

The South San Francisco Aquatic Club (SSFAC), co-sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department, engaged the South San Francisco community through outreach efforts to increase membership and building greater awareness of the swim club. SSFAC representatives shared information about the program and provided guidance to children and families, highlighting what it means to be a part of a swim team and the benefits of swimming, both in general and through club participation.



*SSF Aquatic Club members*

### *Rise South City*



*Outreach table at LPR*

On February 13, Rise South City conducted outreach at LPR and shared information about its environmental initiatives. In partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department, Rise South City is continuing to distribute free trees for residents to plant in their yards. This collaborative effort aims to strengthen urban forests and combat climate change. Staff and volunteers provide the trees and educational guidance on proper planting and care, with residents taking ownership of the tree by watering and caring for it.

## **Rentals Program**

### *City Meeting and Event Support*



*Lunar New Year hosted at the LPR*

The event spaces at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) host approximately 35 to 40 meetings and gatherings each month. These events include Cultural Arts Commission meetings, Planning Commission meetings, Parks and Recreation Commission meetings, City Council meetings, Town Halls, Human Resources interviews, South San Francisco Fire Department assessments, staff meetings, library presentations, steering committees, management forums, book readings, performances, and many other community and organizational events. Successful execution requires extensive communication and planning

to ensure rooms are properly set up, audiovisual equipment is functioning correctly, and spaces are cleaned and reset promptly in preparation for the next meeting, class, or event. An example of these events is the annual Lunar New Year event hosted by the Library which had over 800 people in attendance on February 7. The setup, event logistics, and breakdown for the event were completed by the Rentals team.

*Recreation Leader Spotlight - Lisa Liu*  
Qixia “Lisa” Liu has been a dedicated part-time Recreation Leader with the City of South San Francisco since February 2006. Lisa plays an essential role in our Senior Services Program, working every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday to lead the senior dances, which regularly welcome between 70 and 90 participants at each event. In addition to her work with the Senior Services Program, Lisa supports the Rentals Program on Sundays and assists with special events throughout the year. Lisa’s dedication, reliability, and strong work ethic make her extremely important to the continued success of the Parks and Recreation Department. We are truly grateful for her commitment and outstanding service to our community.



*Lisa Liu has been a key staffer for the Parks and Recreation Department for 20 years.*

## **Sports Program**

### *Pickleball*

Pickleball continues to grow in popularity, and the drop-in open gym format has been a great addition at Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center, which allows for the set up of four pickleball courts in the gymnasium. This structure allows players to participate without prior team assignment, making it easy for new and returning players to join while naturally encouraging social interaction and community building. In February, open gym pickleball was offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This kind of participation is one of the true highlights of steadily expanding open gym programs and reflects the strong sense of community developing around pickleball at Terrabay.



*Pickleball at Terrabay Gymnasium*

## **Aquatics Program: Operational Readiness**

### *Strategic Workforce Expansion for Dual-Pool Operations*

With the new Orange Memorial Park Aquatics Center nearing completion, the Aquatics Program has begun focusing on scaling operations, particularly the staffing resources required to run the

larger facility. Building on a successful year-round operation at Orange Memorial Pool, staff are expanding this model to meet the needs of the new state-of-the-art complex, which includes two separate pools, demanding a proportional increase in workforce to uphold high standards of safety and service over a broader area. The goal is to build a professional, safety-centric team that can manage the complexities of programming in a dual-pool environment while maintaining a community-focused culture.

#### *Operational Necessity: Scaling for a Dual-Pool Facility*

The updated deck layout of the new pool provides more surface area, necessitating additional lifeguard stations to ensure continuous visual oversight. Additionally, hosting lap swimming, water aerobics, and swim lessons simultaneously requires separate teams for lifeguarding, instruction, and deck management, all operating concurrently. Higher attendance also requires dedicated front-line staff to manage check-ins and facility flow, allowing the lifeguard team to focus exclusively on monitoring the water and pool decks.

#### *Recruitment Status and Ongoing Hiring*

To address the rising demand, the Aquatics Program has consistently hired throughout the winter, successfully onboarding seven new lifeguards and three swim instructors in recent weeks, laying a strong foundation for our staffing goals. Recruiting efforts will intensify through May, including targeted social media campaigns for local youth, collaboration with schools to promote lifeguarding as a career in public safety, and certification courses to train applicants. Staff's strategy centers on attracting individuals committed to maintaining stability and professional standards essential to the year-round municipal operations.

#### *Looking Ahead: Training and Onboarding*

Recruitment is just the first step. After hiring, the expanded team will undergo a thorough onboarding process tailored to the new facility. As outlined in earlier reports, the StarGuard Elite curriculum will play a key role in this training. Building a standardized, high-performance culture now will prepare staff for the aquatic center opening later this year.

### **Classes Program**

#### *Holi: Festival of Colors Celebration*



The Department is hosting a Holi: Festival of Colors celebration on Sunday, March 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center's Council Chambers. The program, Directed by Recreation Instructor Monita Sharma, will discuss the history of Holi, its cultural significance, and feature performances by class participants. Admission is free. This marks the second Holi celebration hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department, and we look forward to bringing our community together to honor and celebrate the City's diverse cultural traditions.



SSF PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



# HOLI

## FESTIVAL OF COLORS CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate Holi! Discover the history of this vibrant festival, how it's celebrated, and why it holds such cultural significance. Enjoy special performances by the Hindi Language & Culture classes from the participants in the SSF Parks & Recreation program with South San Francisco's Recreation Instructor, Monita Sharma.

**10AM-12PM**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026**

**LIBRARY | PARKS AND RECREATION CENTER  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
901 CIVIC CAMPUS WAY, SSF  
FREE ADMISSION | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

**Program Details: [www.ssfca.gov/PandREvents](http://www.ssfca.gov/PandREvents)**

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