Highlights for October 17-23, 2010

Seven SFUSD schools will be installing new large rain water storage tanks, called cisterns, this year. SFUSD’s Director of Sustainability Nik Kaestner will be joining SFPUC General Manager Ed Harrington to discuss a citywide rain barrel and cistern discount program, and how valuable rainwater will be used for school gardens instead of going down the city’s drains. Students at Lafayette Elementary will show how they use their 3,500 gallon cistern to garden. Lafayette is one of five San Francisco schools with cisterns funded by the SFPUC. The cisterns are now being made available to SFUSD at a large discount via the SFPUC’s Rain Barrel and Cistern Discount Program.

When: Tuesday, October 19 / 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Where: Lafayette ES / 4545 Anza St.

Afterschool programs help San Francisco’s youth succeed in school and are crucial support for working families. After five years of working together to increase access to after school programs, the collaboration of city, private funders, parents and community partners known as Afterschool for All has reached some major milestones, including a 25 percent increase in the number of available spaces for youth in programs. The “Lights on After School” event will be highlighting this and other successes.

When: Thursday, October 21 / 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Where: Tenderloin Community School / 627 Turk St.

All SFUSD schools, child development centers and administrative sites will take part in the state-wide “ShakeOut Drill,” an earthquake exercise coordinated by the Department of Emergency Management. Students and staff will practice reacting safely during an earthquake (“drop, cover and hold”) and site staff will report attendance to the district’s emergency operations center during the drill, just as they would after an actual earthquake.

When: Thursday, October 21 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (drill takes place at 10:21 a.m.)

Marina Middle School students, their families and teachers will be walking from the Marina district to Hyde Street Pier for an exercise called “Ship Shape Walk” that will conclude with free admission to the historic ships located at the Hyde Street Pier, and a performance of the Marina MS band. PE teacher Cynthia Harb conceived of the walk while working as a park ranger on Hyde Street Pier last summer as a way to both promote healthy activity for the school community and to introduce families to one of the many national parks in California.

When: Saturday, October 23 / 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Where: Marina Boulevard & Laguna Sts (9:00 a.m.) Hyde St. Pier (11:00 a.m. band performance)

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