The Long Road
It’s a long road from Richmond to Oakland. Lots of people are asking, when Alta Bates closes and everyone has to go to Summit, what will happen? There won’t be a place to receive vital health care for people anywhere between Richmond and Oakland. No wonder people all over the area have put up signs saying they’re against the closure.
It’s not just about the public, the same applies to us as workers. Where are we and our kids going to go when Alta Bates closes? Maybe some of us have Kaiser and can go there, but if we are on a plan that sends us to Alta Bates we are in the same situation as everyone else. It’s a long road between Richmond and Oakland and it applies to us at Alta Bates as much as it does to the community.

Boom and Bust
Census was down for much of the summer, but now it’s picking up and people are feeling it in some departments. Everybody is all of a sudden scrambling to do work with very few people because workers were sent home earlier when the census was low. That’s the thing! The census goes through sudden booms and busts, it doesn’t stay steady all the time. You could be quiet for hours and then all of a sudden three pregnancies arrive at the same time. Staffing is bad enough, but all this flexing out when the census is down is just adding to the strain.

No Such Thing as a Safe Retirement
Many of us, especially if we’re getting older, are watching our pensions – how much will we have to survive on and what will we do when the time comes to retire? Maybe your expenses are too high and you don’t know what you’ll do when you retire. Others of us might have something in our retirement account and things look ok. But we also know that if disaster strikes, we don’t have enough to take care of ourselves. No wonder so many of us don’t retire when we can. There’s really no such thing as a safe retirement and we’re all holding on for dear life to this thing called work.

Come Talk to Us
6:30AM-8:00AM and 3:00PM-4:30PM
Wednesday

Healthcare: A Deductible Story
Healthcare is under attack across the board. Are you a nurse? Are you a tech? A stationary engineer? EVS? It doesn’t matter, everybody is paying more – higher premiums, co-pays are introduced or raised, and deductibles guarantee that even if you’re covered you’re going to pay a lot of money for care – how many procedures aren’t covered or fully covered. Year after year, the quality of our healthcare is being deducted from us. We know the end of this story. Unless we fight for a change, they’re going to make it so the plans we’re paying for are the same as not even having health care!

A Positive Attitude is no Substitute
There’s simply not enough people to do the job. It’s about staffing. Management says it’s about a positive outlook and a well-organized work flow. Well it can’t be the work flow because management dictates it and we all know how bad it is. And a positive attitude doesn’t get all the work done no matter how wide we smile. A positive attitude is no substitute for staffing.

The French Yellow Vests Movement
(A Laborfest Event)
Since November of 2018 there have been weekly protests, sometimes involving hundreds of thousands of people, from students to housewives to workers to retirees, angry at the high cost of living and the government’s policies. Come and hear a presentation by a participant in the Yellow Vest Movement in Lyons, France.
July 7, 2019 Thursday, July 25th, 7pm Berkeley City College (Auditorium)
2050 Center St, Berkeley