

# THE POTRERO VIEW

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## Planning for Pier 70 Development Continues

BY KEITH BURBANK

Under the most recent development proposal for Pier 70, space would be set aside for start-up companies that incorporate small-scale manufacturing, crafts, and the arts, with an emphasis on maintaining the site's historic character. The proposal calls for a 270,000 square foot "creative core" within a sub-area termed the "Waterfront Site," which consists of 25 acres located between Illinois Street and the Bay, and 20th and 22nd streets. The core could also include galleries and a cultural/performance venue.

"The creative core will reflect the diversity of the neighborhood, create an economic engine and be a place where residents will want to spend an evening or day," said Alexa Arena, vice president of Forest City's San Francisco office, at a standing-room-only presentation held at the Noonan Building, on 20th Street, in late-January.

The creative core is one of four major components planned for the Waterfront Site, which would also include offices, parking and open space. And Forest City wants to construct 1,000 residential units, twenty percent of which would be affordable, spread among market-rate units. Open space will extend from the pier's eastern edge, where the site meets the Bay, and continue westward into the center of the creative core. A network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways will crisscross the pier. And the Blue Greenway, a 13-mile greenway/waterway network that extends from China Basin to the City's southern edge, will traverse the site.

Two and a half million square feet of office space would flank the creative core's north and south sides. Forest City is hoping to draw technology companies to pay premium rents for offices in the pier, as a way to subsidize rents in the core. Square, a mobile app that enables credit card transactions to be made over a smartphone or tablet, is

Above left Proposed vision of the Pier 70 waterfront by Forest City. RENDERINGS BY FOREST CITY

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## Emergency Animal Care Can Be Costly

BY SASHA LEKACH

The San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SF SPCA), located at 201 Alabama Street, serves as an adoption center, animal shelter and veterinarian clinic. SF SPCA first opened as a nonprofit almost 80 years ago. Its current facility, at the western edge of Potrero Hill, was completely renovated in 2009. SF SPCA cares for more than 20,000 paid clients, and provides free services for 5,000 homeless animals a year.

Emergency care for animals is notoriously pricey. Tenderloin resident, Erin Cameron, a documentary film producer, had a particularly harrowing experience when her five-year-old Chihuahua, Wink, suffered a

cracked tooth that had abscessed. The day before Christmas, SF SPCA staff told Cameron that her dog needed emergency care at a cost of \$1,700. After Cameron's research indicated she should treat the infection before exposing the cracked molar, she declined care, and found a veterinarian in Pacifica who extracted the tooth for about \$400. According to Cameron, after she refused their services SF SPCA contacted the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control (ACC) and reported her for animal abuse. She received a call the day after Christmas from ACC authorities, to whom she explained that she'd sought alternative treatment.

"I felt they bullied me in there," she said about the SF SPCA, whom she said too quickly decided that emergency surgery was essential for her pet. "It felt like it was bad medicine all around." After she declined SF SPCA's services, Cameron was asked to sign papers that stated that she refused treatment for her pet, a document she declined to endorse since she'd made arrangements for Wink to be cared for elsewhere.

According to SF SPCA vice president of hospital administration, Kanishka Agarwal, "our goal is to make sure the animal is safe and taken care of...We save animal lives." Agarwal explained that SF SPCA wants an animal to receive treatment in a life-threatening situation, no matter who renders the service. "If it is urgent life-threatening care that's



SPCA volunteer gives some love to a cat in the adoption program. PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

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## Potrero Hill Could Tax Itself through an "Infrastructure Financing District"

BY CHRIS ROBERTS

Forget spending locally. That's passe. For Potrero Hill, the future may be taxing locally.

Finding an alternative to traditional public financing sources may be the only way Southside San Francisco will get the schools, parks, and other infrastructure improvements community members say the area needs, and that the coming tsunami of residents of just completed or under construction new condominiums and apartments expect.

Starting four years ago, development in Potrero Hill and many adjacent neighborhoods became subject to impact fees. But fee revenues aren't enough to cover the cost of necessary improvements. And developers don't pay a penny until shovel goes into ground; then they only pay 10 percent of the fees; the other

90 percent is paid when the project is completed.

What's more, fee monies paid by developers are meant to fund improvements for a vast swath of San Francisco. Too little money has to be spread too thin to make much of a difference on Third Street, 18th Street, or a local park or school that needs upkeep or a new building, City officials have told neighborhood activists.

**"There's a lot of development without a lot of benefits."**

JANET CARPINELLI, DOGPATCH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

"They [Recreation and Park Department] told us flat-out that they don't have the money for new parks," said Janet Carpinelli, Dogpatch Neighborhood Association president. "There's a lot of development," she observed, "without a lot of benefits."

Some projects, like the Live Oak School community garden, have taken a Silicon Valley-age approach to rais-

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## PUBLISHER'S VIEW

## Zombies

BY STEVEN J. MOSS



ILLUSTRATION BY AMY CURKENDALL

**R**ECENTLY I ENGAGED IN AN ACCIDENTAL EXPERIMENT. I got drawn into watching AMC's "The Walking Dead," a ghastly television program that revolves around a zombie apocalypse. The show is so full of stomach-twisting mutilations—bloody decapitations, disembowelments, and amputations—that while viewing it I had to set aside my usual habit of TV snacking. Once the season ended I ordered the compilation of comic books on which it was based—almost five inches of death pornography—and topped that off with a 330 page prequel-like novel. Over the course of a few weeks, I became a reading zombie, gorging on dark depictions of depravity, torture, and killings.

I can't easily explain why I was attracted to this gloomy entertainment. But I do know that the gory consumption binge impacted me emotionally. Like the fictional characters I was following on pages and screens, I became more fearful, distrustful, and morose. I worried that the rustling of the wind indicated an unpleasant surprise in the attic, or that a door was closed for a morbid reason. Three inches into the zombie compilation I felt like I was changing my brain chemistry, with a heightened sense of paranoia that mimicked what might happen after too many hits of the wrong kind of marijuana. Even as I recognized what the zombies were doing to me I kept at until, until, my mind bloated, I finished the last comic book.

I'm recovering from all that now, but the episode got me wondering how what we watch or read impacts us. We've long attached warning labels to shows and movies that have violent or sexual scenes. We used to censor or ban provocative books. Recent attempts have been made to regulate rap music and video games, lest they incite youth to aggressive acts. Liberals,

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## SHORT CUTS

## Mayor Speaks

At a roundtable held for neighborhood newspapers last month, **Mayor Ed Lee** outlined some of his priorities for the Southside neighborhoods. The mayor is actively seeking private sector contributions—\$10 million or more—to help jumpstart redevelopment of the Potrero Annex-Terrace and Sunnydale housing complexes, which have remained largely the same as they've ever been due to a lack of funding. "Can we afford to have pockets of poverty?" Lee said he was asking possible donors, echoing **President Barack Obama's** State of the Union speech, as part of his funding pitch. The mayor also revealed that he was a big fan of community benefits districts; while he hadn't heard of nascent efforts to develop a green benefits district in Potrero Hill he supported the concept. And Lee is serious about tearing down Interstate 280's northern spur. "I'm trying to get all the political support together to get Caltrans to include that idea in their EIR. It has great potential," he said. In response to concerns that removal of a part of the freeway would put more traffic pressure on Highway 101, Lee stated that he wants to construct a wide network of boulevards in the area that spreads cars, people, and pedestrians through speedy transportation corridors.

Lee was less enthusiastic about rounding-up the large sums needed to fill in infrastructure gaps as Southside grows. "There's never enough money for what you want to do," he said. "Support is being requested by everyone, all of the time." Lee then switched the subject to the importance of rejuvenating alleys, based on his experience in Chinatown. "I'm thinking of an alleyway project across the City," he giggled. He also was down on community choice aggregation, a program that would enable San Franciscans to buy electricity through

the **San Francisco Public Utilities Commission**. "I think it's going to be an economic challenge," he said, about CleanPowerSF. "The power is going to be less clean than they thought, and all of the dollars would be shipped to Houston, Texas," referring to SFPUC's contract with Shell to provide electricity under the program. The bottom line: if Southside residents want better roads, parks, and schools to accommodate the tsunami of population moving into the area, they need to start pressuring their supervisor and mayor, hard.

## Dog Bites

Last month Dogpatch resident **Adam Zolot** was attacked by a pair of off-leash dogs while visiting the Potrero Hill Recreation Center. The incident occurred shortly after Zolot arrived at the park with his children. Zolot was on his son's skateboard when two small brown haired dogs confronted him; one of them bit him. Zolot asked the dogs' owner—a woman in her early-50s, medium to small build, wearing a bright pink vest—to control her animals. The two humans argued, with the woman insisting that the skateboard was inappropriate, and triggered the attack. After Zolot threatened to call the police, the dogs' owner fled down the path from Arkansas toward Missouri. "I'm more upset that she would suggest anyone could be to blame for her dogs attacking someone on a skateboard at this park," said Zolot. "There are no restrictions on riding around the park, and our children should be able to play freely and safely. She should have verbal control over her dogs. She should also not flee from an attack."...**Rocketfish Sushi** was broken into again earlier this year, with the thieves coming in from the roof.

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# Letters to the Editor

**Editor,**

I was pleased to read the View's responsive and responsible coverage of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House's financial problems ("Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Faces Financial Challenges," February). The Nabe, the View and the Potrero Merchants Association, together with the schools, are probably the most important community building and caring institutions on the Hill, and they have strong mutual interests to help one another.

Reporter Keith Burbank wrote about the sale of the corner lot across from the Nabe, which had troubled many residents when they learned about it. The low price, especially in the context of the View's lead article on Hill real estate ("Potrero Hill Rental Market Competitive, Pricey") was surprising, particularly given that the story didn't indicate what the plot was going to be used for. However, Burbank gave a great overview of the important City treatment and service programs housed at the Nabe, and the sources of government funding for the nonprofit. The facts were there for Hill residents to read them.

Working within the requirements of professional fundraisers will help to identify program purposes, policies and facts, and undoubtedly be useful to the

Nabe's administration.

Margaret Keyes, Wisconsin Street

**Editor,**

I can't believe that the City is even considering demolishing the portion of Interstate 280 that transmits cars into South-of-Market, Downtown and the Embarcadero. This headless—and hapless—development juggernaut has been "floated," and yet its impact on the nearby neighborhoods hasn't been considered. Not a single Potrero Hill or Dogpatch resident was quoted in a recent San Francisco Chronicle article outlining the proposal, which promises to push thousands of cars into our neighborhoods for no apparent reason.

Supervisor Scott Weiner, who doesn't represent District 10, thinks it's a dandy idea. And what of District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen? Silence. Yet another development plan begins to take shape in District 10 that will negatively impact our quality of life, and our absent Supervisor sits idly by.

Woe unto us in District 10. We continue to bear the brunt of an uncoordinated development spree whose impact can only make traffic, noise and pollution worse for us all.

David Fierberg, Texas Street

# What to Do About Guns in America



ILLUSTRATION BY PETER LINENTHAL

BY MONISHA MUSTAPHA

In February the Potrero Hill Democratic Club's monthly meeting, held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, focused on gun violence in America. Robyn Thomas, Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence's executive director, Bayview Police Station Captain Robert O'Sullivan, and San Francisco Assistant District Attorney (DA) Mike Maffei shared their expertise and engaged in a thoughtful discussion.

The massacre in Newtown, Connecticut on December 14th, while horrific and tragic, may well have been the tipping point for addressing gun violence in the United States. Since that day, more than 10 states have introduced gun control legislation. New York State, by passing a bill requiring background checks for ammunition purchases, now has stricter legislation than California. U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein recently introduced federal legislation that would ban assault weapons, and 10 new bills were

introduced in the California State Legislature on the day the Club met. More than 92 percent of Americans agree on the need for background checks; this type of legislation has the best chance of being enacted at the federal level.

What can ordinary citizens do? Thomas relayed that during the ten-minute wait before meeting with Senator Feinstein she heard the Senator's staff field more than a dozen angry calls from gun advocates, and not one call in support. Thomas suggested calling Senator Feinstein's office—as well as the offices of other lawmakers who have recently proposed gun control legislation—to thank them for their work. "When they do something good, make the call," said Thomas, who promised to keep the Club apprised of developments.

There are approximately 3,000 gun deaths per year in California. Captain O'Sullivan and Assistant DA Mike Maffei discussed issues closer to home. 17 of the 18 homicides in the Bayview District last year involved guns, with an additional 46 non-fatal shootings reported. The DA's office takes a hard line when prosecuting gun crime, which means choosing a felony charge over a misdemeanor charge, and mandating jail time, whenever possible.

Eighty percent of criminals get their guns from private sellers without background checks, and most seized firearms in the Bayview District are stolen. An important, practical action citizens can take is to encourage federal and state legislators to continue to stay focused on the gun issue into the future, and to pursue universal background checks in conjunction with federal legislation regarding gun trafficking.

Early intervention can avert future violence. The DA's office uses Neighborhood Courts with restorative, not punitive, justice to resolve nonviolent crimes, and the Bayview Police Station works with Dr. Nadine Burke at the Center for Youth Wellness to identify and refer youth with post-traumatic stress. Captain O'Sullivan strongly urged people to mentor at-risk youth.

Among Club members' suggestions: reaching out to different communities

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**Power Goes Out**

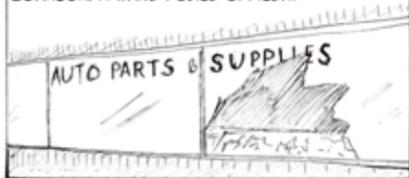
In late-January, shortly after midnight on a Sunday, the power went out at 159 homes on the 700 block of Vermont Street after two electrical fuses blew-out. "We immediately responded," said Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) spokesperson Joe Molica. According to Molica, the company replaced the fuses with larger ones, and power was restored in an hour. The outage may have been caused by a spike in

electricity demand in the area. PG&E installed larger fuses to accommodate the increase, and as a safety precaution. Devin Swischer, co-owner of 733 Vermont Street, lost electrical service, while a resident of the 600 block of Vermont Street said he had power throughout the night...Perhaps more electrifying, new sidewalks have been installed around McKinley Square... And the power is definitely on at **The Ramp**, which, in celebration of its new heaters, will have a Brazilian Carnival-

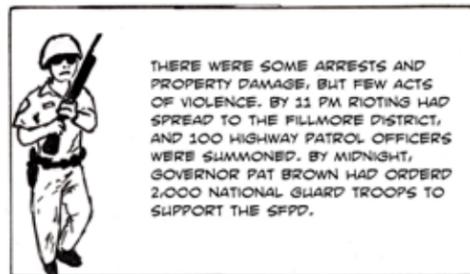
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**MCKINLEY PARK** BY SIMON STAHL

AT 7:35 PM ON SEPT. 27, 1966, THE SFPD REPORTED A RIOT CONDITION ON THIRD ST. EARLIER THAT DAY, 16-YEAR-OLD MATTHEW JOHNSON, AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN, HAD BEEN SHOT TO DEATH BY ALVIN JOHNSON, A WHITE POLICE OFFICER.



AFTER MAYOR SHELLEY, CHIEF CAHILL, AND SUPERVISOR TERRY FRANCOIS FAILED TO CALM THE GROWING MOB AT THE BAYVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER, POLICE IN RIOT GEAR WERE DEPLOYED TO DISPERSE THE CROWDS.



THERE WERE SOME ARRESTS AND PROPERTY DAMAGE, BUT FEW ACTS OF VIOLENCE. BY 11 PM RIOTING HAD SPREAD TO THE FILMORE DISTRICT, AND 100 HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICERS WERE SUMMONED. BY MIDNIGHT, GOVERNOR PAT BROWN HAD ORDERED 2,000 NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS TO SUPPORT THE SFPD.

THE SITUATION COOLED OFF OVERNIGHT, BUT ON WEDNESDAY THE RIOTS RESUMED. WINDOWS WERE SMASHED, DEBRIS WAS THROWN, FIRES WERE STARTED. AT 5:43 PM, OFFICERS REPORTED BEING HIT BY THROWN DEBRIS, AND ADDITIONAL SQUADS WERE SENT TO THIRD ST. AND MENDEL.



THE POLICE REPORTED GUNFIRE AND MALATOY COCKTAILS COMING FROM THE BAYVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER, AND FIRED ON THE BUILDING FOR SEVEN MINUTES. WHEN POLICE FINALLY ENTERED, THEY FOUND NO GUNS OR FIREBOMBS, BUT SOME 200 CHILDREN HUDDLED IN TERROR. THIS INCIDENT WAS UNREPORTED IN THE MEDIA, AND OMITTED FROM THE OFFICIAL POLICE REPORT.



SEVEN PEOPLE SUFFERED NON-CRITICAL BULLET WOUNDS OUTSIDE THE CENTER, SIX OF WHOM WERE PEACE PATROL MEMBERS TRYING TO NON-VIOLENTLY DEFUSE THE SITUATION.



ON THURSDAY, MOST OF THE RIOTING INVOLVED JUVENILES, AND SCHOOLS WERE DISMISSED EARLY. THAT NIGHT, HIPPIES AND STUDENTS IN HAIGHT-ASHBURY PEACEFULLY DEMONSTRATED AGAINST THE CURFEWS AND NATIONAL GUARD PRESENCE. 85 WERE ARRESTED, AS POLICE REPORTEDLY IGNORED CLEAN-CUT PROTESTERS BUT ARRESTED BLACKS AND LONG-HAIRED HIPPIES WHETHER THEY WERE DEMONSTRATING OR NOT.



THE RIOT GRADUALLY PETERED OUT, AND AT 11 PM SUNDAY, AFTER 128 HOURS, THE STATE OF EMERGENCY WAS ENDED. THERE WERE ONLY 161 INJURIES REPORTED, 30 SERIOUS. 487 WERE ARRESTED, OVER HALF FOR CURFEW VIOLATIONS, AND ONLY 4 FOR ASSAULTING POLICE. \$135,000 IN DAMAGE (UNDER \$1M IN TODAY'S MONEY) RESULTED FROM LOOTING, SMASHED WINDOWS, AND 625 SMALL FIRES.



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# Commission Tables Vote for Slovenian Hall Permit



BY KEITH BURBANK

Slovenian Hall on Vermont and 18th. PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

The San Francisco Entertainment Commission tabled a vote last month on Slovenian Hall's application to serve as an entertainment venue. The Commission postponed action pending a Planning Department determination that the hall's activities are legal, non-conforming uses under municipal code, but heard comments from people about the application. The 88-year old hall, which opened long before San Francisco had an Entertainment Commission, has been operating without a permit since 2002.

"We want to do everything to be a good neighbor," said attorney Thomas J. Brandi, who was representing the Slovenian Hall and the nation of Slovenia. "There's no reason we can't co-exist." Brandi said he's willing to talk to neighbors who have concerns about how the hall operates. "I'm sure these things are easily fixable," Brandi added. According to Brandi, the venue has no more than 30 events a year, two-thirds of which are related to the Slovenian community.

According to Hill resident, Doug Palmer, in general the hall has been a good neighbor. But it tends to hold events with extended hours. "I'm going to lobby for some restrictions to their permit," he said. A Vermont Street resident said that although she doesn't want to hurt the community, the neighborhood is concerned about safety, security, and the hall's hours of operation. She said bottles end up in the street and cars get scratched and dented after events. She also complained that the permit notice was posted on the hall's second floor; she needed binoculars to see it. And she said the hall's members didn't talk to enough of their neighbors before making their application.

A place of entertainment permit is typically required for fixed-place

venues that hire a disc jockey and/or have live entertainment, according to the Entertainment Commission's website. If the venue will be open to the public after 2 a.m., it likely needs an extended hours permit. The hall will have to pass building, electrical and sound inspections, as well as assessments from the San Francisco Public Health and Fire departments, and will need to present a security plan, before a permit is issued. The San Francisco Police Department "will weigh in on security conditions," said Nicolas King, the Commission's deputy director.

After the meeting, Dennis Brahney, who serves on the hall's board of directors, said there have been some problems with people disturbing the neighborhood after they leave the venue. According to Brahney, the hall has to rent to responsible people, and perhaps those who aren't too young. "We have to work on our system a bit," Brahney said. People are supposed to leave before 2 a.m., he told the commission. Brahney said that the Slovenians need to rent the hall to pay the building's bills. Otherwise it won't exist. The hall is "a cultural heartbeat of a small community," Brandi said. He added that Alcoholic Anonymous meetings are held at the space, and people receive language lessons, among other gatherings.

Diane Brahney, Dennis' wife, said she grew up on the Hill and at the hall, where she and her husband were married 51 years ago. She said the hall was a Pacific Gas and Electric Company substation before the Slovenian's bought and remodeled it. When the freeway came and people moved away, they still came back to the hall to get together. "It's an institution," she said.

## SPCA from Front Page

needed and the client is not willing to provide that care to the animal, at that point we are obligated to call [ACC] and get them involved," Agarwal said.

Deb Campbell, spokeswoman for ACC, which serves stray, injured, abandoned, and mistreated animals, and enforces animal care and welfare laws, said that sometimes pet owners can't pay for emergency care and surrender their animal as a result. ACC intervenes if there are obvious signs of abuse and neglect. Since ACC doesn't offer services to the general public it often partners with SF SPCA, which usually takes the lead on working with clients on how they'll pay for services, and follows up with treatment plans. Cameron said that after she explained her situation to ACC, she was told that abuse reports from SF SPCA were an issue, and that ACC didn't like to get involved with cases that aren't related to serious abuse, since more often than not reported abuse cases end up being clients who sought alternative care.

According to Agarwal, SF SPCA strives to be transparent about estimated veterinarian costs and treatment plans, and encourages clients to "shop around." But he stressed that in extreme, urgent care situations the animal's health is a priority. "We have a very high bar on when we will call ACC," he said. Many clients do choose to receive care at SF SPCA, and if they go elsewhere most clients follow up with SF SPCA to demonstrate that their animal was treated, he said.

Agarwal acknowledged that emergency pet care can be costly. SF SPCA offers payment plans subsidized by donors and full-paying clients for qualifying City residents, in part as a way to avoid pets being abandoned, a problem that tends to spike during poor economic times. To qualify clients must show financial need and proof of income, have pets spayed or neutered, have exhausted other available programs, and have an urgent or life-threatening case. SF SPCA also offers no or low-cost specialty programs oriented to new pet owners, seniors, and low-income households who need to spay or neuter their pet.

Last fall, 18th and Missouri

streets resident Colleen Bradley's nine-year-old terrier, Flo, jumped out a third-story window and landed on the sidewalk near Chez Papa Bistrot. Miraculously, Flo avoided serious internal injury, but she dislocated her hip. Bradley rushed the animal to SF SPCA for emergency care, which ended up costing roughly \$600. "My main concern was that she was taken care of," said Bradley, who noted that SF SPCA staff was careful and unperturbed by the logistics of dealing with a dog that Bradley was in the process of adopting, and who normally was treated by a South San Francisco vet. "Everything was wonderful," she said about the care provided her dog, now nicknamed "Flobot" after all the procedures triggered by her fall.

According to Bradley, SF SPCA suggested that Flo receive additional treatment after the emergency care, including dental work that needed to be done imminently. The nonprofit staff told Bradley that if she didn't show proof that she was taking care of her dog they'd report her to ACC. Bradley was able to work out a treatment plan with her regular veterinarian, avoiding any further issues with SF SPCA.

Kimberly Broz, who lives at 18th and Utah streets with her husband, and who owns a Dogpatch-based import business, said she's had multiple "fantastic experiences" with SF SPCA related to her late mixed Great Pyrenees-Shih-Tzu-miniature-poodle mutt, Botwin. Botwin passed away last October, but before the older dog died from an untreatable cancer Broz had him treated for a cyst at the Alabama Street-based VCA San Francisco Veterinary Specialists. "\$6,000 and a bunch of negative experiences later" we found out there was nothing we could do about the dog's condition, Broz summed up.

Broz turned to SF SPCA, talking with a veterinarian who had treated her dog previously about his philosophy on euthanasia for pets. According to Broz, the vet spent an hour counseling her through the daunting task of putting down her dog, at no cost. Broz spent the next two months visiting SF SPCA for emergency care before Botwin died. "I felt the SPCA

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**INFRASTRUCTURE from Front Page**

ing funds: asking for donations to “crowfund” green space. Others, led by the Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association, are promoting a “Green Business Improvement District,” under which property owners in a select area would agree to pay a parcel tax, the revenues of which would go to parks.

Another financing mechanism being considered is the development of “infrastructure financing districts” (IFD), in which local tax money that would otherwise be directed to the City’s general fund is diverted to community improvements like parks and schools. The “lost” general fund revenue is then “recovered” through municipal bonds secured by the IFD. The bonds are, in theory, paid off in the future by an increase in property tax revenue brought on by the improvements. IFDs emerged as an option for San Francisco and other municipalities in 2010, when the State Legislature authorized them under a bill sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Ammiano. So far only one, at Rincon Hill, has been adopted.

**Best Things in Life Are Fee**

At first glance, the plan sounded perfect: developers building in the Eastern Neighborhoods would pay for the roads, parks, and schools needed in those neighborhoods to serve their growing populations. The locally collected money would be expended locally, with a group of citizens tasked with telling City leaders—the Planning Department, Board of Supervisors, and

Mayor—where to spend it.

The problem is, the Eastern Neighborhood development fee area is vast, encompassing much of South of Market, and nearly all of the area between the Mission to Dogpatch, extending from Guerrero Street to the Central Waterfront. “About 25 percent of the City,” said Tony Kelly, Boosters president. Development-crazy Mission Bay isn’t included in the giant fee impact area, since it was established as a redevelopment district, a separate, more lucrative, though now no longer available, infrastructure financing scheme.

Fee revenues are vastly insufficient to pay for the infrastructure demanded by development, even by the City’s own math. Each square foot of residential development “costs” \$21.21 in accompanying transit, child care, library use and other needs created by the associated population influx, according to a 2008 study. The top fee any developer pays for residential development is \$16.48 per square foot, and that’s only if the building requires a 30-foot or more height increase.

Although things started off slowly after the fee was introduced in 2009, over the last couple of years there’s been an emerging wave of development in the Eastern Neighborhoods. But fee revenue has been a trickle, with developers paying a total of \$619,117 to date. In fiscal year (FY) 2011, the most-recent data available, nine developers, working on projects located from Natoma Street to Valencia Street and over to York Street, paid \$134,924. “The impact fees are woefully inadequate to address

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# Historic Trolley Cars Proposed to Serve Pier 70

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

Market Street Railway—a nonprofit that collaborates with the San Francisco Municipal Railway (Muni) to preserve and deploy historic trolley cars—wants to extend the proposed E Embarcadero Line to Pier 70. Market Street Railway advises Muni about paint and color preservation on the antique cars, fields volunteer educators, and hosts a museum and gift shop along the F line that offers souvenirs and cable and street car information.

Trolley cars are considered historic if they were built before 1956 and conform to California Public Utilities Commission standards. Historic trolley cars currently operate along Market Street between the Castro and the Embarcadero Station; and north from the Embarcadero Station along the waterfront to Jones Street. The cars date to 1912, and come from different states and countries, including Australia, England, Portugal, and Italy.

Market Street Railway proposes to expand San Francisco Municipal Transit Agency’s (SFMTA’s) plans to link AT&T Park to Fisherman’s Wharf on a new E Embarcadero Line. The nonprofit wants the new E Line be extended one mile west of Jones Street to Fort Mason, and south from Fourth and King streets to Pier 70. The new lines would offer passengers a one-seat ride along the Embarcadero on historic



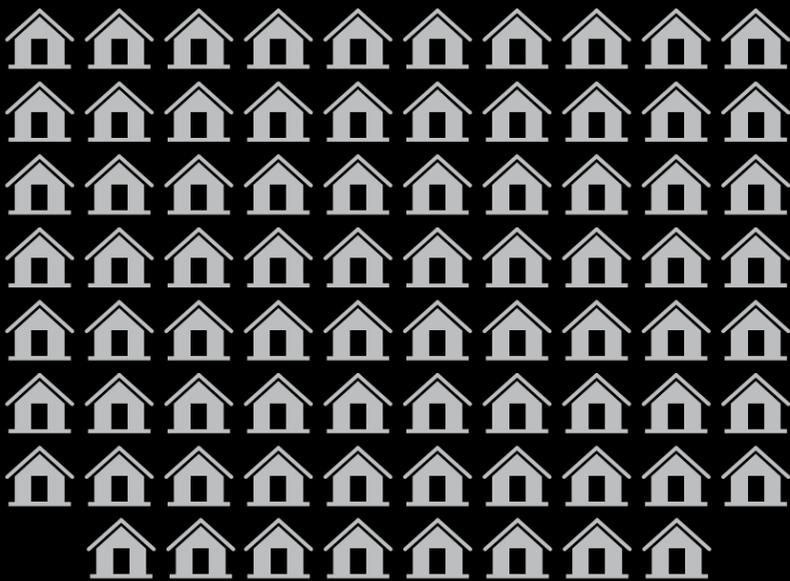
ILLUSTRATION BY SHINN TSE

trolley cars, providing five and a half miles of rail service, enabling riders to travel between Pier 70 and Fort Mason without transferring.

SFMTA recently issued draft service proposals under its Transit Ef-

TROLLEY CAR page 23

## 78 Sales on the Hill in 7 Years



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# Rebuild Potrero Project Launches Needs Survey

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

Under Rebuild Potrero, the existing Potrero Annex-Terrace complex would be replaced with 1,400 to 1,600 mixed income level housing units, as well as retail and 3.5 acres of open space, and a community center. The project is being led by Bridge Housing; KDG Enterprises, serves as Rebuild's planning coordinator. Although construction plans are in a holding pattern, as Bridge tries to secure necessary financing, last fall Rebuild entered the first phase of its Potrero Human Capital Master Plan, now called the P.A.R.A.D.I.S.E. Plan. The planning effort is being funded by a \$300,000 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Choice Neighborhood Planning grant.

The P.A.R.A.D.I.S.E. Plan was given its name at last month's Rebuild Potrero Community Building Group meeting, held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. The acronym stands for Practical and Realistic and Desirable Ideas for Social Enrichment. It was selected by meeting participants from a list of nominated names, which included: "Build a Community," "Potrero Thrive Plan," "The Future Dream," "Change," "Potrero Dream Plan," and other ideas that spoke of desired transformation on the Hill.

Community Building Group meetings are held the first Thursday of every other month, led by Emily Weinstein, Bridge Housing's community relations manager. Hill residents and non-residents from multiple demographics were in attendance at the February gathering. Bridge Housing and Hill activists loaded the get-together with community-building activities, such as a shared meal, an assignment that asked participants to mark with a sticker when they joined the Rebuild Potrero effort on a jumbo-sized Rebuild Potrero timeline, and a question and answer period.

Uzuri Green, an Annex-Terrace resident who works for Bridge Housing, announced a new project, the Potrero Hill Mural Concept, in which

open spaces on walls and buildings would become canvasses for large, colorful, community-specific murals, to be completed over the next year. "The project will enhance the skills that people already have, as well as get people to come together and work together to make the community the kind of community that everyone is



more proud of than ever," said Green.

The P.A.R.A.D.I.S.E. Plan consists of a five-phase process, extending from October 2012 to September 2014, during which programs will be designed to increase access to education, employment, technology, and health care, and reduce violence, for current and future Annex-Terrace residents. The phases include establishing an advisory committee, conducting a community assessment, hosting a community feedback period, shaping a Human Capital Master Plan—the P.A.R.A.D.I.S.E. Plan—and identifying next steps. "We need a community group that will put more time and energy into the plan and follow through," Weinstein contended.

Bridge Housing and KDG Enterprises will receive input from advisory committee members, who were selected by Rebuild Potrero Community Group attendees to serve for roughly 20 months, from February 2013 to September 2014, with a monthly time commitment of five to seven hours. Committee members include Evelyn Daskalakis, Greg Ferrell, Hellen Hale, Jarekhye Covarubius, Jasmine Bedalman, Keith Goldstein, Kevin Williams, Mauli Shah, Monica Ferrey, Patricia Gutierrez, Tony Kelly, Urell Pease, and Yael Chanoff. Kelley D. Gulley and Marco Montenegro, from KDG Enterprises Incorporated, will coordinate the effort.

The processes' second phase, conducting an assessment of the individual and community needs of Annex-Terrace residents, was launched last month. A needs assessment survey will be fielded by four part-time Hill residents. These workers, who will be paired with San Francisco State University (SFSU)

The Community Building Group meets the first Thursday of every other month, and is led by Emily Weinstein, Bridge Housing's communication's manager. PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER LINENTHAL

public health graduate students, will canvass the Hill's south side blocks.

The SFSU students are conducting separate research examining family mental health issues. The interview pairs will include an English- and Spanish-English bilingual worker. Survey participants can also opt to meet at the public housing office, located at the corner of 25th and Connecticut Streets, when they schedule their one-hour survey appointment. Survey results will likely be available by May, followed by feedback from residents and the advisory committee over the summer.

"I think that [the P.A.R.A.D.I.S.E. Plan] will bring more unity to the Hill as well as jobs and other resources that are very much needed in the community," Green emphasized. "It will give people a sense of hope and people will become even more motivated to stand up for themselves and for their neighbors."

SPCA from page 4

was really gentle, always putting the responsibility in my court and giving the best advice they could." Broz believed that the center understood that not all pet owners want to spend money on exploratory surgery.

Despite the sometimes frustrating and costly experiences associated with taking care of her dying dog, Broz remained pragmatic, "If you have a pet there is going to be expenses." She never felt SF SPCA was ripping her off, and appreciated their sliding scale prices and accommodations for low-income pet owners. After relying on their emergency services, Broz said she "is encouraged to donate to them" to support programs that help others afford care for their pets.

Shastine Keeney, who lives with her partner and 18-year-old son near SF SPCA at Bryant and 26th streets, said she'll no longer look to SF SPCA to care for her animals, though she recognized the important work the organization does. Keeney had a frustrating experience when her older cat, Mr. Mouse, suffered complications from diabetes. She was told by SF SPCA staff that Mr. Mouse was near death, and she couldn't bring him home. A veterinarian estimated the 24-hour visit would cost about \$800, which Keeney agreed to pay. After a day at the hospital, the vet strongly suggested that the cat continue treatment at SF SPCA. She was informed that the extended hospital stay would run her bill up to \$1,800, which she agreed to pay once her cat was released.

After four days at the hospital and no major surgery or procedures undergone, Keeney was billed nearly \$3,600, double what she thought she would be charged, because of what Keeney called "unfortunate communication. I don't think they were trying to deceive me," she said. But she felt that the cost for minimal treatment wasn't clearly spelled out before she agreed to leave Mr. Mouse in the facility's care. Keeney ultimately brought the cat back home and nursed him back to health. Mr. Mouse is still alive and well today.

According to Keeney, SF SPCA apologized profusely for the poor communication about pricing, and its inability to provide more care for the cost. But Keeney has decided not return to the facility for any future medical needs for her five other cats and a dog. "I think they do a lot of good work," Keeney noted, especially related to efforts to ease the burden of pet care costs for less affluent San Franciscans. Keeney never felt forced to continue with treatment at the hospital, but in retrospect realizes that she should have been more adamant about finding another vet. She said SF SPCA didn't seem open to the idea of her taking the animal home before being seen by a professional, so she didn't push that option. She also noted that the option of euthanasia didn't come up; something she thought should have been discussed given the age of her roughly 10-year-old cat.

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## Oyster Bed Changes with the Times, and the Neighborhood



BY BILL SLATKIN

Located at the edges of a steadily changing neighborhood, Oyster Bed Company has undergone its own transformations over the almost three decades it's been operating just south of Historic Dogpatch. There were no live/work buildings, condominium lofts, cafes or parks nearby when Glenn and Alexis McNulty set up their manufacturing facility at 24th and Tennessee streets in 1986, so long ago that their main initial product was a line of water beds.

By February 2000 — when the McNultys opened the Oyster Bed showroom adjacent to their manufacturing plant—residential projects had begun to sprout-up on surrounding parcels of land. New residential buildings were constructed on Indiana, 23rd

and Minnesota streets, where manufacturing facilities and warehouses once stood. During that period the company morphed into a “sleep shop,” with the storage, or “chest,” bed its main product. The furniture has two functions: serving as a place to sleep and, under the platform supporting the mattress, one or more drawers for stashing household goods. We've seen a lot changes,” said Alexis, both about the neighborhood and the way the company designs and sells its products.

The Oyster Bed name has persisted—even though there's no longer a connection with water—because it's become such a well-known brand. In the 1990s and early-2000s the company advertised in the color magazine included in the Sunday San Francisco Chronicle. “That was the way to advertise,” said Alexis. “People saw our ads.

They ran every week.”

Fast forward to today. Roughly 700 people live within a ten minute walk of Oyster Bed. The T-Third has replaced the 15-bus as the main public transit line to get Southside residents to and from Downtown. Food and beverage wholesalers and retailers, as well as clothing and accessories manufacturers, conduct business nearby. “We're still the primary chest bed provider in the Bay Area,” said Glenn. He noted that offerings have expanded to include other kinds of storage systems, such as office furniture and entertainment centers. “The company has evolved to be more of a custom oriented manufacturer.”

Alexis pointed out that a major trend today is “individualization. It means people can have exactly what they want. Most everyone have individualized cases for their cell phones,” said Alexis. “It seems that few people want stock products. They come for semi-custom furniture for the home.”

“We listen to the customer,” said Glenn. “He may want a desk like we have in the showroom, but with the drawers on the left hand side instead of the right. Or we may have to modify the height to accommodate a windowsill or something. We can match the color of the customer's furniture, up to 40 colors.” All items are produced in the shop. Glenn still works alongside employees, some of whom have been with the company for more than 25 years.

“We start with a basic configuration and then we customize it to suit what the customer wants.” The chal-

lenge, said Glenn, is to “keep the pricing reasonable. There's a fine line between affordability and style. That's where we are and without sacrificing either one.”

Other challenges have been the recession, during which consumer spending plummeted, and competition with importers of inexpensive mass-produced products. Glenn cited the disappearance of furniture manufacturers—as well as textile makers—from the southern United States as a consequence of foreign competition. “Most everything is made in China now.

OYSTER BED page 23



Oyster Bed has a shown room in Dogpatch adjacent to the manufacturing plant. Most pieces are often built to order to meet the customer's needs to match with other furniture, or fit into a small space. PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE

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# Heath Ceramics a Hub for Designers

BY MICHAEL ZHAI

After weeks of testing, the three big kilns in Heath Ceramics' 18th and Florida streets factory opened for business last month. Racks of colorful glazed tiles now regularly slide along tracks in the floor into the ovens to be fired. Separated by a glass wall, potters and curious passersby enjoying the store's adjacent café can watch the whole operation, from the glazing of the tiles to the drying ovens to their final formation in the kilns. "We believe in transparency," said Heath Ceramics' owner Robin Petravic, "Anyone can walk in and see how our ceramics are made. Nothing is hidden from the public."

With a manufacturing facility nestled nearby homes, offices and retail businesses, Petravic is aware of his business' potential environmental impacts. The company follows a zero-waste policy in its new Potrero Hill facilities. Any waste material generated during the production process is put back into a recycle clay body, and used in other products.

Heath Ceramics moved into the neighborhood last summer, occupying a three-story warehouse that was previously a laundry. The company's primary manufacturing plant is based in Sausalito, where the business was founded by Edith Heath in 1948. As the enterprise expands, more of its operations will shift to the Hill facility, which feature a retail store, a tile showroom and a factory viewing lounge that offers a Blue Bottle coffee bar. A restaurant will open in the space next year.

"We have a lot of design-savvy customers in the City, including many architects and interior designers. So we wanted to move to a more urban area to connect better with our customers," said Petravic, who with his wife, the designer Catherine Bailey, bought the Sausalito factory from the Heath family in 2002.

Petravic and Bailey have re-envisioned the business as a hub for designers. Last winter, Heath's factory floor became a stage for more than 30 vendors selling everything from perfume to children's toys at the Remodelista Holiday Market. The new facility is home to several artists, including resident designer Adam Silverman, whose cobalt blue pottery — which has a texture reminiscent of volcanic rock — is featured in the store.

The businesses' mainstay is its dinnerware and tiles. In the late-1940's, Heath developed a clay body that retains bright colors, even when fired under the high temperatures required to produce durable ceramics. Heath continues to rely on this material to make its tiles today, sourcing local clays, mainly from the Sacramento area. Heath's dinnerware retains many of Edith Heath's original mid-century designs, featuring modest hues and dignified forms. Heath's current team of designers, led by Bailey, has added new products in the same spirit, built to last through vigorous use and changing tastes.

*Heath Ceramics is now located in San Francisco at 2900-18th Street.*



Heath Ceramics' San Francisco factory at 18th and Florida streets sells ceramics products coveted by the design-savvy, and will be hub for them with a cafe serving Blue Bottle coffee inside and a restaurant to come next year. PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE

INFRASTRUCTURE from page 5

all the needs," said Keith Goldstein, owner of Everest Waterproofing and Restoration and Potrero-Dogpatch Merchants Association president. "There's just no money to make the improvements we think are needed."

Nearly all of the money collected over the last four years remains unspent; all but \$3,098 expended in FY 2009 on the Department of Building Inspection's permitting program. "We haven't collected enough money" to pay for anything, said developer consultant and longtime Dogpatch resident Joe Boss, who noted that the fees can be increased. A member of the Board of Supervisors merely needs to be convinced to take on developers — and his or her colleagues — to try and do it.

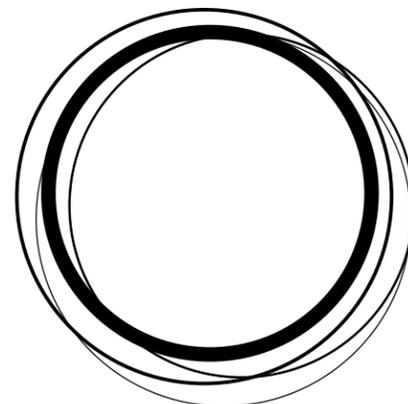
Meanwhile, developers can build their way around the fees. Fully code compliant projects can avoid triggering fees. And wealthier builders can absorb fees by directly providing services, an "in-lieu" scheme. The developers of Potrero Launch, at 2235 Third Street, for example, dodged a \$1.9 million fee by including in the building a child-care facility, which uses the space rent-free.

## Show Someone the Money

Potrero Hill residents have a direct say in how the fees are spent, or not spent...to a point. There's an Eastern Neighborhoods Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), but as the name states, its recommendations are advisory only, not binding. Spending is decided by the Planning Commission, subject to Board of Supervisors approval.

Some see the CAC as too friendly with developers. CAC member Joe Boss, for one, works for the developers of the Corovan site, which is slated to be turned into a Kaiser Permanente medical building and housing. Another member, Dan Murphy is a developer

INFRASTRUCTURE page 23



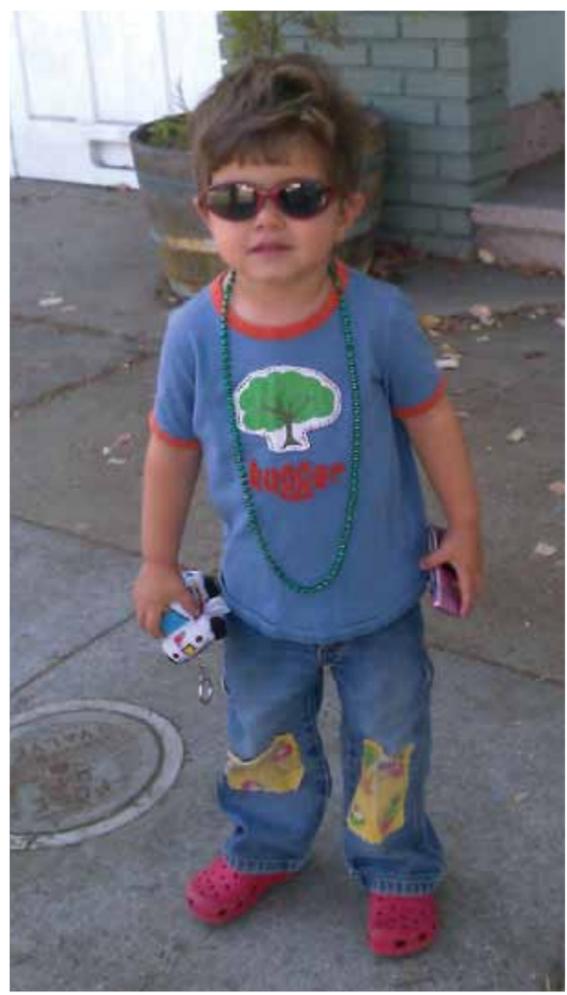
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PIER 70 from Front Page

leasing space in another Forest City project, 5M, a four-acre development at Fifth and Mission streets. That space had been unoccupied, but is now serving as a testing ground for the kind of enterprises that will be housed in buildings designed for companies



like 5M. Forest City wants to do the same kind of testing at the Waterfront Site.

Seventy percent of Waterfront Site buildings would be 50 feet or lower, with five percent 90 feet or higher, including sections as high as 235 feet. The thin sides of the tallest buildings would face Potrero Hill; ships that dock at the pier are as high as 240 feet. According to Forest City, the high rise office buildings are necessary for the development's economic viability. The site's density, as proposed, would be similar to Dogpatch's, and less than Mission Bay's.

In response to the presentation, Dogpatch resident, Bruce Huie, said that he appreciated that Forest City was taking the time to talk with residents about the new development. According to Huie, Pier 70 is "sorely underutilized" economically and recreationally. He praised the proposal as having a good mix of uses.

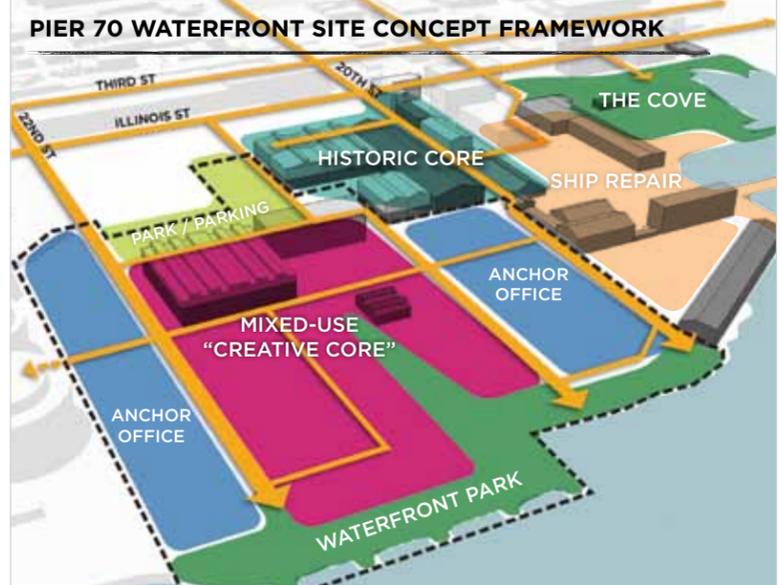
**Parking and Other Challenges**

On-street and garage parking, consisting of a total of 2,600 spaces, would be concentrated on the site's western side. Parking would also be included with the office and residential space. Except for one street, no parking

**Now—above** The area is a series of derelict buildings and waterfront beaches in disrepair with evidence of a bygone shipping era.

**Future—right** The map illustrates how the area would be redeveloped and beautified to become a place where people would want to spend time.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE. // MAP COURTESY OF FOREST CITY.



would be within the creative core. Forest City projects that that the site could support 12,000 jobs. During World War II, 18,500 people worked at Pier 70, according to Jack Sylvan, Forest City's vice president of development in San Francisco.

According to Gabriel Metcalf, San Francisco Planning + Urban Research Association's executive director, Forest City faces some challenges. "From a design perspective, the key challenge is how to knit it [the project] into the existing urban fabric of Dogpatch and Pier 70." But he thinks the developer has "solved the problem of how to make it feel like an authentic San Francisco neighborhood. It's a lot more like Dogpatch than Mission Bay. It's going to be a place people actually want to spend time in. Which is very unusual for a new development. From an economic feasibility perspective, the challenge is how to pay for all the infrastructure

costs; all the money that has to be invested just to get the site ready to develop."

Improvements to the area's sewers, water supply system and electricity and natural gas infrastructure could cost \$150 million, according to Forest City. Another \$90 million will be spent to rehabilitate historic edifices, principally Building 2—a concrete structure that was used as a storehouse, and would become residences under the plan—and 12, which was used in the shipbuilding process, and is proposed as a marketplace.

Ellen Joslin Johnck, an environmental and cultural resources consultant who lives in the Northeast Waterfront Historic District—a neighborhood between the Embarcadero and Montgomery Street and Broadway and Greenwich Streets—was

impressed with the proposal, which she thought suggested that Forest City was trying to be community conscious. However, Johnck thought the development should include a museum or educational exhibits.

"I thought it was well done," said Dogpatch resident Therry Frey, of the presentation. According to Frey, the proposed development would draw pedestrians 24 hours a day. And she liked the idea of the proposed waterfront access, without which she said there wouldn't be a neighborhood. "I am at peace with the high rises," she said.

**The Rest of the Pier**

The Waterfront Site is one of five Pier 70 sub-districts. The others are

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## Marjorie Goodwin Appointed to the Park Committee



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MARJORIE GOODWIN

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

## 291 Housing Units Proposed for Mariposa Street

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

Last November a proposal was submitted to the San Francisco Planning Department to demolish three one-story industrial buildings across the street from Jackson Playground and replace them with two mixed commercial and residential buildings. The application was filed by William A. Witte, the authorized

agent for the property owners, Michelle MacKenzie-Menendez and the Takayuki Itakura and Rieko Itakura Revocable Trust. The proposed project would include 5,300 square feet of commercial space and 291 residential units. Basement level parking would accommodate 235 vehicles.

Based on the proposal, the Planning Department determined that a transportation study is required

to proceed with the project, since it would generate an estimated 3,262 new daily trips, roughly 500 of which would be during peak evening traffic hours. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission found that the site might have the potential to flood during rainstorms. In addition to the transportation and drainage studies, an environmental review of the proposal development will have to be conducted.

According to Julian Bañales, Planning Department manager, the initial assessment "...is actually all we have on the site, there is no formal submittal. It is our official response to an unofficial project. We can't speculate about if the project will be submitted or when it will be built. With that said, there is nothing official. Until there is a formally submitted project this is just a preliminary assessment."

Last year, Potrero Hill resident and long-time McKinley Square volunteer Marjorie Goodwin was appointed by District 10 Board of Supervisor Malia Cohen, to the Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC). As a PROSAC member, Goodwin serves as a liaison between the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (RPD) and the District 10 community, which encompasses Potrero Hill, Bayview, and Hunters Point.

PROSAC hosts monthly gatherings to discuss RPD-related issues and community suggestions for renovations and improvements to neighborhood parks and green spaces. Goodwin, along with Linda Shaffer—another Hill resident and retired economics professor, who has served on the committee for five years—chairs the meetings. PROSAC makes recommendations to RPD based on meeting discussions.

Goodwin was born in the Bahamas to Haitian parents. Her family moved to Miami, where she grew up, when she was three years old. In 2005 she relocated from Washington D.C. to the Hill, where her boyfriend, Jeff Goodwin, lived. Led by their dogs through the streets, the couple fell in love with the neighborhood's parks. In 2010, they married after Jeff proposed at McKinley Square.

Goodwin works in communications at the Public Policy Institute of California. Her community activism

GOODWIN page 25

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS FROM SOMA TO BAYVIEW

## Muni T-Line Struggles to Reach its Promise



PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

BY BRIAN RINKER

While working in his dry cleaning shop on Third Street, Al McAfee heard a commotion erupting outside, on the light rail platform. He wasn't surprised; it was a weekday, at rush hour. According to McAfee, he often hears the frustrated mumbblings of people waiting for the T-Third train.

McAfee looked out the window and saw a small crowd walking down the street. They were T-Line passengers who'd been kicked off the train and forced to walk the rest of their journey. McAfee said he sees this type of transportation disruption all of the time, with passengers prematurely discharged at 23rd Street because of a

switchback — Muni-speak for a train that switches tracks either to make up for lost time or to go off duty — maintenance problem or accident. Once service has been interrupted, it can take significant time before a replacement train arrives.

“The biggest problem with the light rail, which wasn't made clear before it was built, is that every time there is a problem, delay or accident, the whole system shuts down,” McAfee said. “I've complained vehemently about a backup system to support the light rail.”

When, in 1997, the City decided to replace the 15-bus with a new light rail along Third Street, the Dogpatch, Bayview, and Hunters Point neighborhoods were promised a more reliable

and efficient transit mode. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) speculated, and community members hoped, that the line would revitalize the derelict corridor, connecting isolated, underserved

The T-Line began regular operation in mid-2007, after years of construction that cost \$665 million. A total of 5.1 miles of new light rail track was laid from the Caltrans stop at King and 4th streets, south along Third Street, past former industrial buildings, now trendy restaurants and new condominiums in Dogpatch, and into Bayview, where

**“The biggest problem with the light rail, is that every time there is a problem, delay or accident, the whole system shuts down.”** AL MCAFEE, BAYVIEW BUSINESS OWNER

Southside communities with the rest of the City, by plugging the neighborhoods into the larger metropolitan transportation network. For Bayview-Hunters Point, which has a median household income of roughly \$45,000 and a 13 percent unemployment rate, compared with City's \$71,000 median income and seven percent unemployment, the T-line was supposed to serve as the economic engine that could.

Six years have passed since the T-Line train first started plying Third Street. Instead of being a significant catalyst for growth, the line has earned a reputation for being slow and unreliable. “It doesn't connect the community to the City the way the 15-bus did,” said Ben Kaufman, of the Transit Riders Union. According to Kaufman, the T-line has all of the makings of an effective rapid transit system, but falls short, not living up to its potential.

the rails are lined with palm trees. The line continues south onto Bayshore Boulevard, ending at Sunnydale in Visitacion Valley. The T-Line serves Downtown along the Embarcadero and into the subway, where it merges with the K-Line. The KT then passes through Downtown to West Portal, where the line continues on as the K to Balboa Station.

One of the T-Line's shortcomings that Southside residents find particularly troublesome is its indirect route: going past AT&T Park and looping by the Caltrans stop, where the train often sits for five minutes waiting for the light signal priority, which allows it to flow faster through traffic. The switchback at 23rd, where the train ride ends abruptly, is also an irritant.

T-LINE *Southside* page 15

## India Basin Neighborhood Looks Out at Waterfront Community

BY SASHA LEKACH

The India Basin Neighborhood Association (IBNA) continued its nearly two decades of advocacy on behalf of the pocket neighborhood wedged between Bayview and Hunters Point with their annual general meeting last month. The gathering served as an open house, winter get-together and opportunity for the association to showcase its accomplishments, lay out plans for the coming year and get feedback from members. The association supports a neighborhood that has roots in the 19th century boating and shrimping industry that became a key node for the U.S. Navy in the mid-20th century.

This month IBNA sponsors its 13th annual egg hunt at India Basin Shoreline Park. In early fall the association supports Kayak Day, a youth-oriented event of boating activities sponsored by America True, a San Francisco-based organization that teaches marine pastimes to children.

According to Jill Fox, a longtime IBNA board member who helped found the group in 1994, the association tracks development in the neighborhood in collaboration with other community organizations, such as Better Bayview and the Bayview Historical Society.



She recognized that India Basin, with a population of roughly 5,000, is part of the greater District 10; IBNA keeps a close eye on goings-on in Dogpatch and Potrero Hill. “We're not big, but we try to keep awareness on what's going on here,” said board member Sean Karlin. A large part of keeping tabs on the area is working with City agencies, such as the Port, Mayor's Office, Housing Authority, Planning Department and Recreation and Park

Department.

Pauline Peele has lived for decades at Innes Avenue and Third Street, and was part of the group's predecessor, the Innes Avenue Coalition. She contended that “we are not anti-development,” but instead claimed that the group wants to create a neighborhood hub, rather than high-rises on the waterfront.

The association helped obtain landmark status for 900 Innes Avenue, the Shipwright's Cottage that was

Many long-time residents nearby India Basin welcome development to the neglected waterfront.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

built in 1875, and is now working to improve the neglected building by pushing for Rec and Park to purchase and maintain it and the surrounding area. The group is also monitoring redevelopment of the Hunters View housing complex and the Hunters Point Shipyard, a San Francisco Redevelopment Agency project — an agency that was dissolved in 2011 — in which large amounts of residential buildings will be erected on the former naval base, with connecting green spaces to the Blue Greenway and Bay Trail, a bike and walking trail.

According to board president and Earl Street denizen Michael Hamman, the neighborhood is “an amazingly well-kept secret,” but to improve the area more people need to understand it and be engaged. One of the association's biggest achievements was establishing and revitalizing India Basin Shoreline Park in the early-2000s, and the improvements to Heron's Head

INDIA BASIN *Southside* page 14

# Board of Appeals Grants Re-Hearing on Bayview-Berkeley Farms Demolition

BY KEITH BURBANK

The San Francisco Board of Appeals voted four to nothing to grant a rehearing to a community group that wants to reverse a decision on a building permit granted to 2065 Oakdale Avenue, which used to house a Berkeley Farms facility. Commissioner Hurtado, the fifth member of the board, was absent. “This evidence demands a rehearing,” said Michael Hamman, an India Basin resident and general contractor, who supported advocacy group Bayview Office for Community Planning’s request for a rehearing.

“You’ve been misled. As have we,” said Dan Dodt, BVOC’s director told the board. “The property owner [of 2065 Oakdale Avenue] promised to act one way and has acted in the opposite way.”

The owner, Jack Tseng, has been tagged with multiple violation notices. One was issued for doing work without a permit; another for failing to follow proper procedures when power-washing the exterior of a warehouse located on the site. Residents claim that the paint on the building’s exterior, or what’s left of it after it was partially demolished last year, has lead in it, which can be harmful to humans, especially children.

In addition to the violations, San Francisco police were called to the site when a building inspector felt threatened as he tried to enter the premises. One or more of Tseng’s workers allegedly intimidated the inspector, who was investigating complaints of non-permitted work, according to Bayview Police Captain Robert O’Sullivan. The workers departed the scene after the police were called.

According to senior building inspector, Joseph Duffy, in his experience police are called to assist an inspection perhaps once every ten years. During Duffy’s 14 years with the Department of Building Inspection the police have been called maybe two or three times. “It hasn’t been a pleasant project,” Duffy said during his testimony to the board. Before the commission took its vote, commissioner Honda said that Tseng is risking the public’s health and safety; commission board president Chris Hwang concurred.

For months BVOC has been calling on the City to revoke the alteration permit issued for work at 2065 Oakdale Avenue, and replace it with a demolition permit. In January the BOA ruled that the City granted the correct permit. With last month’s vote that decision has been set aside.

According to Dodt, BVOC will ask the Board of Appeals to reconsider revoking the alteration permit issued to Tseng, and instead require a demolition permit. A demolition permit would force Tseng to get approvals from a number of City departments or organizations, costing money and time.

Tseng, his attorney, David Silverman, and City code expert Pat Buscovich, declined to comment after the vote. During the hearing, Silverman said that Tseng’s renovation of the site will result in jobs and improved neighborhood safety, and that BVOC’s request doesn’t satisfy the requirements for a rehearing. Buscovich told the board that Tseng’s contractor fired the person responsible for the alleged threatening of the building inspector.

Dodt said it appears that Tseng is demolishing the remaining building as well, including interior walls and slab areas. “This new work is in direct violation of the requirements issued by the Board of Permit Appeals for 311/312 notices and applications for work unrelated to the existing” notices of violation, the BVOC wrote in its letter requesting the rehearing.

District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen has been working on legislation to require property owners to

notify neighbors when they tear down large sections of a building under an alteration permit, such as occurred at 2065 Oakdale Avenue. “We have been refining the structure [of the legislation] with the City Attorney’s Office, DBI and Planning,” said Andrea Bruss, a representative with the supervisor’s office.

INDIA BASIN from *Southside* Front page

Park, completed last year. In the past decade they also helped shut-down Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s power plant at 1000 Evans Avenue.

The group has created a Community Vision for the shoreline and shipyard, which Hamman said, hopes to “get people out here.” The board worked for several years with a consultant to compile a 30-page document outlining goals for the community. The Vision’s main tenets include transforming Jennings Street into “Restaurant Row,” building a boat center and festival pavilion along the waterfront, constructing new housing, connecting the Bay Trail to make a through-way to Jennings Street, and improvements to main thoroughfares, such as Jennings, Evans and Innes Avenue.

Member Cab Covay – who lives with his wife, Fox, in the historic Watch House on Innes Avenue, which was built in 1874 – said the neighborhood is often overlooked or disregarded as unsafe and rundown, but

INDIA BASIN *Southside* page 16



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**T-LINE from Southside Front page**

Bayview resident Manik Bahl knows first-hand about the frustration and potentially dangerous situations that can occur with the 23rd Street switchback. Roughly a year ago, when Bahl first moved to the neighborhood, he boarded the T-Line Downtown one night heading to the Kirkwood/LaSalle stop. He hadn't noticed that the train he was on ended at 23rd Street. After he was discharged from his train, instead of waiting 20 minutes for another one he decided to walk, and was mugged. The robber tried to take his iPhone; Bahl fought back. Although Bahl kept his phone, preventing its theft, he got pepper sprayed by the attacker in the process.

Between August 22, 2012 and January 15, 2013, eight robberies were committed on the T-Line or the boarding platforms from Kirkwood Street to LeConte Street. In seven of the robberies the victim was punched, pushed or dragged. One thief flashed a gun. According to Bayview Police Captain Robert O'Sullivan, a ninth robbery involving a gun occurred at a bus stop on Fitzgerald Street, near the T-Line. In six out of the eight robberies a smartphone was stolen, which is a common occurrence throughout the City. "While a robbery is a very serious crime there wasn't anything more serious than that, in terms of a homicide or sexual assault along the T-Line," O'Sullivan said. "My opinion is that the T-Line is safe along Third Street."

"I've become more cautious," said

Bahl, who was wrapping his hands in black tape while he waited for the T on his way to boxing class. "That incident taught me a lot." Bahl said he'd never walk home from 23rd Street again, nor would he board a train that ended at that stop, which at night is dark and lonely; "it's all bad." Other than that night, though, Bahl hasn't had any problems with Muni. On a scale from one to 10, he said, "I still give it a seven." The T-Line has good service in the mornings and afternoon, Bahl said, except when the train goes underground it can get crowded.

O'Sullivan suggested a common sense approach to reducing the risk of theft: be aware of your surroundings,

**"It doesn't connect the community to the City the way the 15-bus did."**

**BEN KAUFMAN, OF THE TRANSIT RIDERS UNION**

sit next to someone with whom you feel comfortable, pay attention when the bus comes to a stop. Don't sit next to the exits, unless it's near the driver. "The ones who are being robbed are those engrossed in a hand held device, distracted or they are sitting somewhere near the exit points and somebody will come up and either through force take it or snatch it and out the doors they go," said O'Sullivan, adding that you shouldn't fight back if you're robbed, instead focusing on being a good witness.

The KT-Ingleside/Third, the line's official name, serves 30,000 riders daily.

According to SFMTA, in 2012 the KT was on-time, at best, half of the time in February and March, and, at worst, 40 percent of the time in October. That same month the on-time average for all of Muni was 59 percent, higher than the KT train managed in any given month last year. Virtually none of the system is close to meeting the 1999 voter mandate that all transit be on time 85 percent of the time, a requirement Muni has never met.

Out of the KT's 108,128 scheduled hours last year, the line missed 1,179 hours—one percent—due to operator or vehicle unavailability. Not surprisingly, the T-Line is poorly rated on Yelp, with a two-star average out of 24 reviews.

maintenance system wide.

"I have heard from many people that the T is slow, infrequent and unreliable, and that it performs far worse than the 15 did," said Keith Goldstein, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president. "The T contributes minimally to the economic health of the community. I doubt that many clients of the businesses that are increasingly opening along Third Street are traveling from other parts of the City on the T."

"Having a discussion about the T-Line now is a bit like closing the barn door after the horse is gone," said La Shon Walker, Bayview Merchants Association vice president. "But people seem to be waxing poetic about the days of the 15-Third bus. For my money, the T-Line is fine. However, as far as businesses along the corridor go, I do think that the platforms down the center of the corridor make it that much more difficult for businesses to be seen."

According to Janice Harvey, a longtime Bayview resident, riding the T is better than driving. She takes the train to the Evans Station stop two to three times a week to connect with the 19-bus toward Polk Street. "It's a pretty good ride," she said, adding that some people can get a little crazy on the train, with their "unruly" and "loud" conversation, but nothing dangerous. "There's always something going on on the T train," Harvey said laughing. "But it's not as rowdy as the 15-bus was."

Rose said that fare inspectors or

**T-LINE Southside page 16**



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T-LINE from *Southside* page 15

community ambassadors — a City-funded program that provides safety and information escorts— frequently ride the T and other lines to help ensure passenger safety. “We are also starting to work with SFUSD to educate youth on appropriate behavior and etiquette while riding Muni,” Rose added. And in the last few months the San Francisco Police Department has increased its presence on Muni. “Every officer across every watch, day, night, swing, is required to ride a Muni bus or ride a rail line or walk a Muni platform, to do something Muni-related twice during their shift,” O’Sullivan said, adding that twice a week the police concentrates its efforts, assigning officers specific routes to ride.

Kaufman believes that the T-Line will eventually serve the community as expected. Once the Central Subway is completed, he said, the T-Line will have a more direct route, running from Chinatown to Powell Station and straight down Fourth Street, bypassing the Embarcadero and ballpark. To accommodate the Central Subway route, Muni is planning to build a turnaround at 18th, 19th and Illinois streets. The plan is to increase the number of trains, and have some double back at the turnaround instead of traveling all the way to Sunnydale. Once the Central Subway is complete, more trains will be added to the Chinatown-Bayshore route, increasing its frequency. However, the Central Subway won’t be completed until almost 2020.

McAfee has lived Southside for 37 years; for 22 of those years he’s run McAfee’s One Hour Martinizing Cleaners and Laundry. According to McAfee, he’s almost been put out of business during the time he’s waited for the T-Line to meet the promises initially made by the City. Before the line’s construction began, the dry cleaners drew upwards of 58 customers a day. Once construction started “for two years Third Street was nothing but dirt and mud.” Customer visits declined. McAfee drained his savings to survive, only holding on because he owns the building in which his shop is located. Many other Bayview shops didn’t make it.

After the T-Line opened business picked up, but it hasn’t returned to pre-construction levels, with customer

visits ranging from a high of 36 daily to a low of half that much. “It’s a slap in the face,” he said, adding that Muni had assured him that once the line was operating his business would flourish. Now, when he hears people complaining about the T outside his store or sees people walking in herds down the street, he thinks to himself, “It’s no big thing. It’s common. I just step outside and observe.”

INDIA BASIN from *Southside* page 14

countered that the area provides great weather, views, a quiet atmosphere and quirky vibe.

District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, who grew up in nearby Portola, and who remembers the shoreline before IBNA started advocating for improvements, attended last month’s meeting. Looking at a poster board displaying the Community Vision, Cohen said some of the plans are more likely to move forward than others, such as connecting the Blue Greenway into the area along India Basin Shoreline Park, and improving and establishing bike routes. Cohen also expressed a desire to underground overhead electric distribution wiring throughout the district, thereby opening up waterfront views, something she acknowledged is on her “wish list,” and not necessarily a top priority for the City.

Armed with IBNA pins and hard hats for board members to distinguish them for the work they’ve put into the community, meeting attendees mixed at the Speakeasy Brewery, on Evans Avenue and Keith Street, snacking and imbibing beer and soda. Last month’s meeting was held during the start of San Francisco’s “Beer Week,” which helped attract newcomers to the Bayview brewery, who, while exploring the local beer scene, also were exposed to IBNA. Speakeasy owner and Bayview resident Forest Grey is an active association member. The group often tables at the brewery with information about the association and its goals, soliciting memberships, which cost \$20 a year.

The association is volunteer-based, with about \$1,000 in reserves. Funds are used to support events, meetings and awareness campaigns. IBNA has roughly 40 dues-paying members, and a mailing list of more than 100 contacts.

For more IBNA information: [www.indiabasin.org](http://www.indiabasin.org)

## Demolition Complete on Third and Thorton



Long blighted buildings located on six lots just off the corner of Thornton and Third streets have been torn down after more than ten years of neighborhood complaints. The demolition occurred after the Department of Building Inspection’s acting director, Tom Hui, signed an Emergency Demolition Order last summer, perhaps the first such order ever issued in San Francisco for a blighted building. Demolition costs will be paid for by the property owner. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT DAVIS

A MONTHLY UPDATE  
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# REBUILD POTRERO

VOLUME 29 • FEBRUARY 2013

**We are excited to announce that in October 2012, HUD awarded a \$300,000 Choice Neighborhoods Planning grant to Bridge Housing to support BRIDGE’s Rebuild Potrero project!**

**The grant provides BRIDGE with a unique opportunity to engage the community and other Potrero stakeholders in a two year process to create a cohesive South Potrero Transformation Plan, concentrating specifically on family services for not only Potrero Terrace and Annex residents, but for the larger community as well.** We have spent the past few years creating a master plan focused primarily on the physical environment for the redeveloped neighborhood. This grant will allow us to focus on the social environment. In the coming two years, BRIDGE, along with our consultants KDG Enterprises, will work with neighborhood institutions and residents to create a cohesive strategy to deliver programs and services that increase opportunities and positive outcomes in the critical areas of education, employment, health, violence prevention, and technology for existing and future South Potrero residents.

BRIDGE is now working with the Potrero community to identify community leaders to serve on an Advisory Committee to guide the Choice Neighborhood Planning process. The Advisory Committee will serve as the key group to guide the work of KDG and Bridge Housing through a five phase process that includes:

- ✓ A thorough household needs assessment conducted by Potrero Terrace and Annex residents
- ✓ A community needs and capacity review of community organizations in Potrero
- ✓ Best practices research on comprehensive health programs in public housing
- ✓ An analysis of available resources with City Agencies
- ✓ Evaluation and Technology Integration Plans for key Potrero organizations
- ✓ Cohesive strategies to meet agreed upon outcomes related to education, health, job development and violence prevention

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Throughout this two year process, the Rebuild Potrero Community Building Group which meets on the first Thursdays of February, April, June, August, October and December at the NABE, will provide input on the research findings and help coordinate larger community convenings with the larger Potrero neighborhood. Additionally, the Advisory Committee will meet monthly to oversee the implementation of the planning process.

For more information, call 415-806-1429 or email [potrero@bridgehousing.com](mailto:potrero@bridgehousing.com) See more at [www.rebuildpotrero.com](http://www.rebuildpotrero.com)

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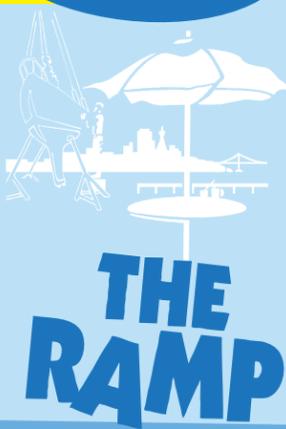
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# The Dance of Local Politics

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

## Becoming a Politician

Pastor Sampson's reaction to my running for office—mildly discouraging, followed by fully supportive—mirrored the responses from other friends and acquaintances. Some worried about the need to raise huge sums of money to be competitive; others praised me for having the courage to run for office. But the most common response I got was “Why they hell would you want to do that?!” Politics, especially San Francisco politics, was broadly seen as an ego-driven, petty, comedy of errors. At best a waste of time; at worst a downhill slope to purgatory.

“I support your candidacy,” David told me, “and I’ll remind you that my dad is a pharmacist, so if, in the course of your dealing with some of your new colleagues you need some Vicoden or Lexapro, let me know.”

Nani, David's, wife, who worked for San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, grimaced when I told her of my plans. “Might your skills be better applied elsewhere,” she encouraged. “I’ve been called a snake, and worse, by some of the supervisors. It’s a nasty place.”

“On my God!” responded Philip, who owned a popular pizza parlor on Potrero Hill. Two decades earlier he’d made an unsuccessful run for

supervisor, and remained actively engaged in politics. “Are you serious enough about running to raise a half-million dollars?” Philip questioned whether I was the right race to run in the district, which had historically been represented by an African-American, and was seen as one of the City's only secure “Black” seats.

I ignored the warnings. I thought I could raise the money—though not as much as Philip suggested—a task made easier by San Francisco's generous public financing of supervisorial candidates. And I while I hadn't realized how low the board's reputation had sunk—one supporter called them the “Board of Stupidvisors”—I'd been to enough board meetings to know what to expect.

In July of 2009 I sent a mass email to everyone I knew announcing my plans:

*I've decided to run for San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 10, when Sophie Maxwell terms out next November 2010. You know me well enough to understand why I want to take this step, even though it'll disrupt my family and lower my paycheck. I've been working in the community for nearly a decade, through the nonprofit I founded, San Francisco Community Power, www.sfpower.org, and the newspaper I publish,*

*the Potrero View, www.potreroview.net. I'm hoping that my professional experiences—at the White House Budget Office, teaching politics at San Francisco State University, not to mention working with the Government of Niger for the U.S. Treasury Department—will provide a good basis from which to get things done, even with the notoriously circus-like Board of Sups.*

*Spanning Potrero Hill, Bay View-Hunters Point, Visitacion Valley, and parts of Mission Bay, District 10 encompasses a number of distinct communities. It's probably the City's most challenging district, facing a host of unique problems. If elected I'll focus on job creation that's small business-based and green; support the development of affordable housing and thriving neighborhoods; and work for a better environment, including creating more open space and playgrounds, and cleaning-up the toxic legacy of years gone by. Relentless creativity in the pursuit of successful solutions can create opportunities to make the district a showcase for how to help low-income families become first, rather than last, in line for jobs and social innovations; and to keep middle-class families and small businesses in San Francisco.*

*Of course to win the seat and use it wisely, I need your help. No matter which district you live in, San Francisco needs City Supervisors who care about the issues that are important to them, and can approach*

*public policy in a thoughtful and effective manner.*

Money and pledges of support started to trickle in. Within a month I'd raised \$4,000, and pulled together a kitchen cabinet of friends to help me run my campaign. I was on my way.

In 1973, Eric Redman published *The Dance of Legislation*, relying on his two years as a member of U.S. Senator Warren Magnuson's staff to trace the drafting and passage of a single piece of legislation. The book, which became a classic description of the legislative process, provides a vivid picture of the bureaucratic infighting, political prerogatives, and Congressional courtesies necessary to make something happen on Capitol Hill. Throughout 2013, View publisher, San Francisco State University adjunct lecturer, and former Board of Supervisor candidate Steven Moss will publish installments of *The Dance of Local Politics*, highlighting the often humorous and sometimes teeth grinding process that makes up San Francisco politics. This is the second installment. This is the third installment in the series. If you'd like to support this project, either financially or by helping to secure a publisher for it, contact: editor@potreroview.net.

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- 324-326 Mississippi
- 481-483 Mississippi
- 437 Pennsylvania
- 1255 De Haro
- 417 Arkansas
- 1367-1369 Rhode Island
- 466 Missouri
- 534 Mississippi
- 232-234 Mississippi
- 1912-1914 20th Street
- 45 Southern Heights
- 701 Minnesota, #204
- 511 Mississippi
- 1420 De Haro
- 460 Vermont
- 775-775A Vermont
- 895 Wisconsin
- 1055 Carolina
- 86 Blair Terrace
- 357 Missouri
- 1536/1538 - 18th Street
- 609 Carolina
- 517 Mississippi



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- 1230 - 18th Street
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- 1808 - 20th Street
- 2136 - 18th Street
- 285 Mississippi
- 458 Arkansas
- 640 De Haro
- 275 Arkansas
- 701 Minnesota #106
- 856-860 Wisconsin
- 454 San Bruno
- 771 Wisconsin
- 534 Mississippi
- 1056 Carolina
- 380 Connecticut
- 1919 Mariposa
- 616 Arkansas
- 1808 - 20th Street
- 1076 Rhode Island
- 1064 Carolina
- 763 Kansas
- 1471 Kansas
- 548-552 Vermont
- 903 Kansas, #101
- 1633 - 18th Street
- 1304 De Haro
- 825 Rhode Island
- 815-817 Rhode Island

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## LIBRARY NEWS

BY LYNNE BARNES, POTRERO BRANCH LIBRARIAN

### MARCH

#### Programs for Adults

**eBook and eAudiobook Help Sessions.** Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad, or other eReader device with you and learn how to download books and other materials from the library website for free. For adults, 18 +. March 6, 13, 27, 6:30 p.m.

**Genealogy Research.** Learn how to conduct genealogy searches and find people using U.S. census data, vital records, directories, photos, and genealogical records. Learn to access and use the library's Ancestry and Heritage Quest Genealogy Search. For students, amateur genealogists, and novice researchers. March 17, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Earthquake Preparedness.** Learn how to prepare for and protect yourself and your family from the next big earthquake in the Bay Area. Matt Springer will discuss the things that you will need to keep your family safe. March 23, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

#### Programs for Children

**Early Literacy Workshop.** Children who start kindergarten with good pre-reading skills have an advantage and are ready to learn to read. With your support, prereading skills begin at infancy. Join Librarian Lia Hillman in this essential workshop, where you will learn how to help your child develop these skills. For adults who care for infants and toddlers. March 2, 3 to 5:00 p.m.

**Fratello Marionettes.** Watch as Aladdin thwarts the evil sorcerer, discovers the magical lamp, befriends the powerful genie, and saves the princess. Traditional music and intricate costumes showcase the most popular legend from *One Thousand and One Arabian Nights*. March 30, 1 to 1:45 p.m.

**Baby Rhyme and Play Time.** For infants up to 18 months old and their caregiver. March 5, 12, 19, 26, 1:15 to 1:45 p.m.

**Family Storytime.** Storytime features stories, songs, and rhymes. For children up to five years old and their caregiver. March 7, 14, 21, 28, 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

**Fun Flicks.** This film program is offered every second Wednesday of the month and includes short films based on children's books and stories. March's films will be *Come on Rain*, *Planting a Rainbow*, *Tops and Bottoms*, and *In the Night Kitchen*. For children ages three to eight years. March 13, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

**Homework Help.** A library volunteer will be available to help students K-6 with homework. March 5, 12, 19, 26, 4 to 6 p.m.

#### Library Sponsored Community Partnerships

**San Francisco Seed Library at the Potrero Branch.** In partnership with the San Francisco Seed Library, the Potrero Branch has seeds available for "checkout." Located on the first floor beneath the staircase.

**California Clean Money Campaign.** We are a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to pursue statewide support for public funding of election campaigns. We meet every third Saturday. Join us March 16, 1 to 3 p.m.

**The Potrero Hill Book Club** meets at the library every third Wednesday evening of the month. March's selection is *Hallucinations* by Oliver Sachs. March 20, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Creative Writing Workshop.** Join writer, filmmaker, journalist Shevi Rosenfeld Loewinger for a free class to help you write stories, develop characters, and find your own unique voice, all in a supportive and creative environment. March 7, 14, 21, 28, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Information:sheviro@gmail.com or 602.7961.



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### Teddy

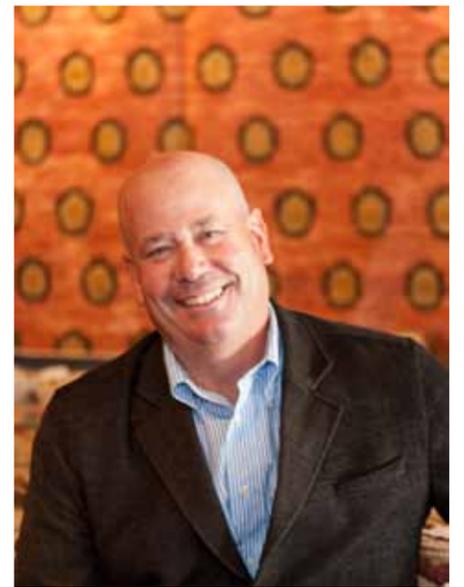
Found on the streets of Hong Kong as a pup, this bold and vivacious yorkeranian and his loving mother, Ivy, moved to Potrero Hill in 2005. Teddy quickly became a recognized and beloved member of the neighborhood.

Confident, loyal, and most handsome, Teddy could often be seen barking deliriously at large dogs, cunningly divesting diners of their food scraps along 18th Street, or persistently shaking down merchants for treats during his daily walks.

Teddy won the *Peoples Choice* award at Farley's Halloween dog parade in his 2006 debut as a French sailor. Three years later he took *Best in Show* as Smokey the Bear.

Teddy has passed on to greener sidewalks. He leaves behind his loyal and caring mother, Ivy; his ever-spoiling father, Dave; his best friend and baby brother, Bo; and his generous godfather, Tom.

We wish him the softest of laps,  
the meatiest of treats and the longest of walks.  
He will always remain  
our special little boy.



**Left** The Tony Kitz Gallery rugs have been sourced from all over the world. **Above** Tony Kitz inside his showroom. PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE

# A Life of Rugs

BY JIAN HONG

Selling carpets and textiles “is not my job; it is my life,” said Tony Kitz, owner of the eponymously-named rug shop on Kansas and 16th streets. “It’s not just coming to work every day.”

Growing up in San Francisco Kitz collected antiques. By the time he was sixteen years old he was buying and selling mid-century furniture. Kitz’s interest in carpets was sparked after he started working for a Baktiari rug gallery while attending San Francisco State University, where he earned a degree in business management. Since then he’s become a textile expert,

selling exquisite antique carpets to Bay Area designers and collectors.

“I think I know everything about [rugs],” said Kitz, who lives with his partner Susan and their children – Max, 19, Lindsey, 16, and Dane, 11 – in Potrero Hill. “If you show me a rug, I can easily identify it, tell you what it is, where it was made, and how old it is, from about one hundred feet.” he laughed, as he sat comfortably on a sofa in his spacious showroom. “It’s just when you do something for so long you just know what it is...I’ve been doing this business for thirty years, and owned my own gallery for twenty years now.”

Kitz said he didn’t specialize in any particular kind of carpet. “It’s about art and beauty, as opposed to just about rug,” he said. “It has to do with colors [and] their relationship to other objects, whether it’s classical or contemporary art.” Kitz appreciates that rugs can be harmonized with other intransient objects in the context of where they’re placed. “There are things that stand alone on themselves, but they also do relate to all different kinds of other objects between natural world, the architectural world...and they fit in that context.”

Kitz often travels to New York and Turkey to purchase rugs for the gallery and his clients. There’s always something new to find. “It’s very much like a treasure hunt because you’re always looking for the next beautiful great thing. It’s one of these things that you’re always interested in seeing what’s around the corner...What’s behind that? What’s under that stack? What’s behind that rug in the corner of someone else’s store?”

Kitz takes a collaborative approach to his business. When starting a project, he always confirms that he and his clients are on the same page. “When we have a client who has a certain need,” he said, “we will do everything we have to do to make sure that client is satisfied somehow. That happens almost every time.” He’s grateful to those who let him do what he does best, and takes pride in his clients’ satisfaction with the results.

Kitz wants to sell carpets for the rest of his life. “Let’s say you are a baker your entire life,” he said. “And all of a sudden somebody says, ‘Well, you are not a baker anymore and here you are fifty.’ What am I supposed to do? This is what I know how to do. Am I supposed to become a farmer now? Am I supposed to become an auto mechanic? I don’t know how to do that. You would have to start all over again.” He paused for a moment. “At certain point you kind of become what your profession is...I am an expert in this field. That’s what I do.”

*Tony Kitz Gallery is located at 300 Kansas Street, Suite 101.*



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# Get a Job

BY MAURI SCHWARTZ



The View asked Hill resident and career expert Mauri Schwartz to answer questions from job seekers.

**Q: I'm excited! I was finally able to land the job I wanted. Can you give me any pointers on how I should resign my current position?**

**A:** Congratulations! You didn't say what day your new job starts, but you will want to extend the professional courtesy of giving your current employer a minimum of two weeks advance notice. There may be other issues to consider. For example, if you are working in a sales position, most often your current employer will ask you to leave immediately. The same may be the case if you're working with highly confidential proprietary information. In these situations, the corporate policy regarding termination will reflect the intent to protect their assets by minimizing the amount of information you can provide to a competitor.

Do you think you may be persuaded to stay if your current employer makes a counter offer? Hopefully, your primary reason for accepting a job offer will not have been just to elicit a counter offer from your employer. However, sometimes it happens that they may be able to convince you to stay. If so, this will occur during that two-week window while they still have your attention. It is a possibility one should consider much earlier in a job search. What could they offer that would make you change your mind?

The primary thing to remember is that you don't want to burn any bridges, no matter what has happened during your employment. There is no reason to say anything negative. In this column, I have often emphasized that when you are interviewing you should not give a negative reason for leaving a company where you've previously worked, that you should focus on the positive reason for taking the subsequent position. Similarly, your resignation is not a time to rail against all the ills of your employer.

You need not give any details about where you'll be going. In fact, I encourage you not to include this in your resignation. Wait to a later time to share this information with your colleagues if you wish. You should give your resignation to your immediate manager in person. Not on the phone, not in an email, and definitely not in a text or tweet! Make an appointment to speak with her privately. Tell her verbally and provide a written copy in traditional letter format. Don't tell any of your coworkers before you speak to your manager. In addition to being proper professional etiquette, this is especially important should you accept a counter offer to stay. Otherwise, it could be awkward.

So, what should you say? Make it simple and compliment your employer. Tell her that you are leaving the company on such-and-such date, that you've accepted a position at another company. Express that you appreciate all that you've learned or how much your career has developed while working at this organization, and how much you enjoyed being able to contribute to the success of the organization. Even if you have a poor opinion about your boss, tell her that you appreciate her contribution to your experience there. If appropriate, reassure her that you will work to make the transition of your responsibilities to someone else as seamless as possible.

"I need to let you know that I have been offered a new position at another company and am resigning effective March 25. I have really enjoyed working here, and appreciate your guidance as well as the opportunity for me to contribute to the success of our program. I realize that transferring my responsibilities to someone else will be difficult, and I will do everything I can to make it easier."

Be prepared to discuss this with your manager. She will most assuredly ask you why. Remember to focus on the positive.

Mauri Schwartz is President / CEO of Career Insiders [www.Career-Insiders.com](http://www.Career-Insiders.com). To reach her directly, call (415) 391-1794 or toll free (866) 432-5278, or email [Mauri@CareerInsiders.com](mailto:Mauri@CareerInsiders.com). To address questions for publication in the Potrero View, send them to [Editor@PotreroView.net](mailto:Editor@PotreroView.net).

## wear green, eat greens.

Make St. Patrick's Day extra green by enjoying one of our new organic salads. Or check out the rest of the delicious food items on our menu. **Sunday, March 17th** is also our **24th anniversary** and we're celebrating with live bagpipes in the morning and Irish music throughout the day.



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH 2013

## Through March Yoga: Yogasita Celebrates Eight Years

Celebrate eight years of yoga in Potrero Hill by doing yoga in the month of March. Join Yogasita's new classes, new styles of Yoga, new times, new teachers. Yogasita, 1501 Mariposa Street., No. 308. Information: yogasitasf.com



## 1-2 Music: SF Choral Artists, Voices of Women

Queens, mothers, and saints come together for a program by and about women. Celebrating the gifts of Hildegard von Bingen, Fanny Hensel, Isabella Leonarda, Emily Jiang, and others, their music pays homage to the all the women who have inspired, awed and revolutionized the world. San Francisco Choral Artists has premiered over 170 works and is the 2012 winner of the ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming, confirming its reputation for eclectic programming and stunning performances of music spanning 600 years. Tickets: \$25. St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, 500 De Haro St. Information: sfca.org

## 3 Kids: Pocket Full of Frosting Book Signing

Author Chris Porro and illustrator Chuck Whelon will be on hand to read and sign copies of *Pocket Full of Frosting*, a story about Naomi who says a forbidden shrinking spell. She enters a fantastical world of food-landscape where she performs a culinary obstacle course on her path to frosting. Sweat-stuffed and tired she decides to return to regular size. But that's a spell she doesn't know! Author's proceeds will be donated to Children's Day School. Free. 2 p.m. Farley's, 1315-178th Street.

## 6 Live Music: Soul Delights

The ever popular Soul Delights always draw a crowd at Farley's. Come enjoy the tunes. Free. 7:30 p.m. Farley's, 1315-178th Street.



## 7 Photography Exhibition: Depictions of Monumental Architecture, Adaptive Reuse, and Industrial Detrius

The Bayview Opera House presents David DeVries photographs taken during the 2006-2008 demolition of the Hunters Point Power Plant, as well as other monumental architecture. 6 to 8 pm. Bayview Opera House, 4705 Third Street. Information: www.bvoh.org.

## Through March, Opens March 8th Film: Birthstory, Ina May Gaskin and the Farm Midwives

*Birth Story: Ina May Gaskin And The Farm Midwives* captures a spirited group of women who taught themselves how to deliver babies on a 1970's hippie commune, rescued modern midwifery from extinction and changed the way a generation thought about childbirth. For showtimes, go to: roxie.com. Tickets: \$10. Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street. Information: call 863-1087

## March 9, 16 Safety: Neighborhood Emergency Response Training

This workshop prepares households and families for emergencies, such as an earthquake. Sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department. Free. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. USF Campus - McLaren Conference Center - enter campus on Golden Gate Ave. at Roselyn. To register go to: <http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=879> For more information, visit the website or call Lt. Erica Artereros at (415)970-2022.

## 9 Benefit: Bowl-the-Planet

Come and rock-out for the planet while bowling under blacklight—glow blowing—with rock music, pizza, and of course, those cool shoes. Bumper bowling is available for kids, and those who prefer it. The silent auction offeres prizes from the Bay Area's museums, restaurants and activities. The event raises funds to support global conservation projects and hands-on science education programs that reach over 800 Bay area classrooms annually. Tickets: \$35. To reserve a lane, to pledge, or volunteer, contact SaveNature.Org, 648.3392. Or go online at <http://bowltheplanet.eventbrite.com/>

## 10 Benefit Concert: John Calloway & Latin Jazz Ensemble, and Family Dance Party

Wear your dance shoes and be ready to shake it, this event begins with the lights dimmed, the disco ball turning, and a DJ mixing, to create a dance party for all ages. While guests dance, hip hop dancers will perform. Afterwards, renowned jazz artist John Calloway and the Latin Jazz Ensemble present a jazz concert. Food and drinks will be available. All proceeds to support Daniel Webster's fourth and fifth grade week-long trip, *Exploring New Horizons*. Dancing, 3 to 5 p.m. Concert, 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$10, children, free. Tickets at door. Café Cocomo, 650 Indiana Street. Information: 519.1373.

## March 11, 18, 25 Dance: Free Square Dancing Lessons

Bay Area veteran "caller" Jim Osborne, with more than 30 years of experience, leads an active group of dancers in Monday evening dancing. Dancers will learn beginning moves including 'dosado,' 'allemande left,' 'bend the line,' 'weave the ring,' 'step to an ocean wave,' 'right and left grand' and 'promenade home'. The first three classes are free and after that newcomers may join Monday night class specifically tailored for new dancers beginning April 1. Both partners and singles invited. No formal dress required. Free. 7 to 9:30 p.m. St. Paul's Church Hall, 1399-43rd Ave. Information: sfsquaredancing.com.

## 15 Voice: Voice Studio Showcase

Listen to the Voice Studio's recent graduates. Free. Farley's, 1315-178th Street.

## 16 Radio: West Coast Live at the Ferry Building

Join Sedge Thomson, Mike Greensill and their guests for two hours of conversation, music and play. Tickets: \$5-15. 10 a.m. to noon. Ferry Building, 1 Ferry Building. Information: wcl.org

## 16 Kids Art: MakeArt Workshop, Migajon Miniature Food Crafts

Join the Museum of Design and Craft to learn to make Migajon: an Ecuadorian clay made of bread and glue. As a group we will make a variety of colors of Migajon and distribute the colors equally. Then, use the Migajon to create miniature food inspired by the now-trending Japanese craft. This craft is not edible, so a snack will be provided. Kids age six to 12. Tickets: \$10. 1 to 3 p.m. Dogpatch Café & Gallery, 2295 Third Street. To register: 773-0303.



## 17 Green Celebration: St. Patrick's Day and Farley's 24th Anniversary

Live music throughout the day! Free. Farley's, 1315-178th Street.

## 22 Dance: Confessions of a White Girl

Under the artistic direction of Kelly Kemp, Number9 premieres its latest work, which considers how the human psyche copes with the mistakes we make over the course of a lifetime. A post-modern, non-traditional dance company, Number9 creates and organizes movement to consider hard questions and complicated ideas. Tickets: \$15. Dance Mission Theater, 3316-24th Street. Information: [dancemissiontheater.com](http://dancemissiontheater.com) or [number9dance.org](http://number9dance.org)

## 28 Stage: Vanessa Khaleel Full-Length Show

Laugh until you cry with comic storyteller Vanessa Khaleel who performs her one-woman show, musings about growing up, balancing marriage, parents, friendships, careers, babies, and how even taking a shower-life can be a real trip. Vanessa Khaleel was raised in the Bay Area. Since becoming a member of Bell's Solo Performance Workshop, she has performed at venues all over the Bay Area, including The Shelton Theater, and at the Annual SF Theatre Festival. Her solo pieces combine the visceral, take no prisoners humor of comedy clubs, combined with the intimacy of theater. Tickets: \$20. 8 p.m. Stage Werx, 446 Valencia Street. Information: [vanessakhaleel.com](http://vanessakhaleel.com).

## 30 Presentation: The Secret World of Slugs and Snails

In his most recent book, *The Secret World of Slugs and Snails: Life in the Very Slow Lane*, David George Gordon invites readers to "step into a world that, until now, you've only stepped on." During his one-hour presentation, he'll share his insight about West coast slugs and snails, their curious behaviors, relationships with native plants and fungi, and the many niches they fill in the natural world. He'll also explain how to forge a meaningful and lasting peace with these slimesters and offer tips for controlling their damage to our flower gardens and vegetable plots. A book signing will follow his talk. \$10-15. San Francisco Botanical Garden/ County Fair Building, 1199-19th Ave. Information: [asieving@sfbg.org](mailto:asieving@sfbg.org)





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PIER 70 from page 10

*Right* Proposed vision of the Pier 70 waterfront by Forest City. RENDERINGS BY FOREST CITY



Irish Hill, the future Crane Cove Park, ongoing ship repair operations, and the 20th Street historic core. All in, Pier 70 is roughly 67 acres. The park, historic core and ship repair operations take up eight, six, and 17 acres, respectively.

Orton Development is rehabilitating six buildings that are the heart of Pier 70's historic district. The edifices will be dedicated to a variety of uses, including office space, light manufacturing, retail, and a farmers market. Construction is expected to begin this year; the buildings may be ready for occupancy as soon as 2014.

Plans for Crane Cove Park include the reuse of a slipway, a sloped area where ships were built or repaired. The slipway will be renovated into a gathering space, as well as a place from which non-motorized boats can be launched. The two cranes at the site will remain. People will be able to walk or cycle through the park on the Blue Greenway, which will pass through other parts of Pier 70. The Port expects construction to begin on the park in late 2014.

Ship repair operations at Pier 70 will remain, especially in the wake of a \$12 million investment in infra-

structure upgrades recently made by the Port and BAE. That investment included installing shore side power, and expanding the facility so that BAE, which employs hundreds of workers, can service large modern ships. BAE is one of the Port's highest paying tenants; having repair operations in San Francisco is important to the cruise ship industry.

No plans have yet been developed for Irish Hill, but it will eventually become part of Pier 70's network of

open space, according to David Beaupre, Port of San Francisco's senior waterfront planner.

**Next Steps**

Forest City plans to carry on its research into residents' development preferences. The company is also continuing its negotiations with the Port Commission and Board of Supervisors, and will likely start the project's environmental review process later this year. The developer hopes to

garner municipal approval of its plans by 2015, and begin construction in 2016. The amount of time it will take to build the project will depend on the number of site uses and the economic conditions during its development.

"I'm very excited for anything that will happen here," said John Warner, owner, Dogpatch Café, which is located at the corner of 20th and Third Streets. He said 5M is awesome, but "it will be harder to create the magic here. But hopefully they'll hit it out of the park."

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**INFRASTRUCTURE from page 8**

with a least one active project in the area, and who was involved with the original plans for Daggatt Place.

That's no conflict of interest, according to the CAC's bylaws, which state that CAC members must avoid only a decision that would grant their own projects special treatment. According to Goldstein, himself a CAC member, members like Boss and Murphy, who may have developer connections, act for the good of the neighborhood, not an investor's bottom line. "It's a bunch of hard-working well intentioned people on there," he said, adding that anti-development activists like Save The Hill, which is staunchly opposed to the Kaiser development on 16th Street, might "[expletive] hate Joe Boss for some reason, he doesn't wear his developer hat when he's working on the CAC."

**Fighting City Hall**

If Potrero Hill residents decide they want an infrastructure financing district, the neighborhood may have to fight City Hall to get it. City officials dislike IFDs, for the same reason a community member might prefer one: money that would otherwise go to the City and County stays local. "The City doesn't like IFDs," said Goldstein, who nonetheless heard municipal staff present information on IFDs at a CAC meeting last fall. "They like the money to go to the general fund so they can control it."

Supervisor Malia Cohen, who represents the area following her 2010

election, declined to be interviewed by the View for this series. In a statement emailed from an aide, Cohen, while declining to address the possibility of infrastructure financing districts specifically, said she is "focused [on] ensuring that development proposals are mitigating their impacts."

*This is the last in a series of articles about development in Southside San Francisco.*

**GUNS from page 3**

on this issue, to show elected officials the diversity of people who want stricter laws. Visatacion Valley resident Marlene Tran proposed creating bilingual petitions aimed at San Francisco's Chinese-speaking population; Bayview resident Linda Richardson recommended reading the Bayview Station's newsletter, which can be subscribed to by emailing SFPDBayviewStation@sfgov.org, and visiting [www.sfcommitteetoendgunviolence.org](http://www.sfcommitteetoendgunviolence.org) to find out about local meetings and actions on the issue; Rick Hauptman mentioned a gathering thanking Nancy Pelosi earlier that day.

The Potrero Hill Democratic Club encourages View readers to help ensure that events like Sandy Hook and Columbine don't recur, by taking any of the following actions: follow the latest gun legislation on <http://smartgunlaws.org>; call legislators to thank them specifically for their gun control legislation; and be a mentor and positive role model for an at-risk youth.

**OYSTER BED from page 7**

That's what we're up against."

Alexis, who manages the showroom and the company's marketing, said the company no longer relies on newspapers to advertise. "We do some television commercials, and you'll see our ad when you do an Internet search using words associated with our products," she said.

Glenn pointed out that customer referrals and repeat customers "continue to bring in a substantial amount of our business. I like it when a guy who is 40, and who got his bed from us when he was 20, returns to buy a bed for one of his kids."

Alexis said another important change has been the use of the Internet to let customers know about the company's products. "We get orders from all over," she explained, including a customer in Sitka, Alaska, who ordered a chest bed. "She had done her homework and finally chose something from Oyster Bed. We had to ship it to Seattle and she took it from there. It went by barge up to Sitka."

**HISTORIC TROLLEY CARS from page 5**

fectiveness Project (TEP), a program to improve Muni travel time and reliability. The TEP's proposals include offering Muni transit via the new E Line. "The E Line proposed by the TEP is ready to be implemented," stated Bruce Agid, who serves on the Market Street Railway's board of directors.

Last October the E Line operated for two days to show off the historic trolley cars during the America's Cup, transporting passengers from Caltrain up the Embarcadero to Pier 39. This summer a draft Environmental Impact Report evaluating the TEP's proposed transit changes will be circulated for public comment. The TEP will likely be finalized by the spring of 2014.

There's increasing pressure to develop additional public transportation services for Southside San Francisco. By 2035, Mission Bay may add another 24,500 jobs and 5,000 housing units. Job and population growth is expected to be similarly rapid along the Central Waterfront. An extension of the E Line to Pier 70 would provide another transit option to accommodate future demand.

A route extension from Fourth and King streets to Pier 70 would require installation of curb-level boarding stations; existing stations are raised-level. Additionally, a track loop and terminal would have to be installed at Pier 70 to accommodate one-end operated historic trolley cars. SFMTA has an approximate \$850 million budget for fiscal year 2014. The cost of installing extension lines from Jones Street to Fort Mason is estimated at between \$40 and \$50 million. The Caltrain to Pier 70 extension will cost roughly \$10 million. Third Street rails are already in place to carry the historic trolley cars.

"Passengers will be riding history, from history to history," said Agid, referring to Fort Mason's historical district and the historical buildings along the Central Waterfront.



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**CRIME & SAFETY REPORT**  
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# What Police Say Averts Crime

BY AMBER HAWKINS

“Don’t commit crime within eyesight of a police station; the outcome is not likely to be in your favor,” wrote the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD), in one of last month’s bi-weekly updates to the Bayview District community. Seems like good advice. According to SFPD, the following items were stolen from automobiles in Bayview, Dogpatch, and Potrero Hill during the first two months of the year: power tools, purse, two stereos, two backpacks, clothing, GPS, Samsung tablet, soccer gear, laptop, and money. Even more expensive items have been taken from homes and businesses, including three laptops, five televisions, iPads, cell phones, and cameras.

The car burglaries demonstrating that nothing, even a soccer ball, should be left in an unattended vehicle. Other crime tips include the following:

> Always have a passcode on a smart phone, tablet, and laptop. Although having a code can be a hassle, passcode-protected devices can prevent information from being stolen, and make it more difficult for a criminal to recycle the item.

> Backup information on an external hard drive, or store a backup through a cloud service.

> Many applications are available to be downloaded that track devices if they’re lost or stolen. Popular tracking apps include Find My iPhone, Where’s My Droid, and Lookout.

> When in public, disguise devices so it’s not immediately obvious that thousands of dollars’ worth of electronics are walking around. Consider keeping laptops in a backpack or briefcase rather than carrying a laptop bag, which can put an immediate target on belongings. There are also multiple products that offer hidden compartments for cell phones and wallets; check-out the Contigo Autoseal Kangaroo water bottle with a storage compartment on Amazon.

> If a device is lost or stolen immediately contact the service provider to find out what to do. Many services can remotely deactivate a device, or mark it as stolen so it can be tracked if it’s reactivated using a serial number or unique International Mobile Equipment Identity number.

> Consider purchasing insurance on expensive belongings through product or service providers.

> File a police report immediately after a burglary

> Don’t let electronic devices out of your sight!

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– Janet J.



SHORT CUTS from page 4

style celebration on March 8th.

**No Christmas Lunch**

A senior, who preferred to remain “incognito,” contacted the *View* about last month’s article about the holiday period closure of **Potrero Hill Neighborhood House’s** senior lunch program (“Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Faces Financial Challenges”). According to the senior, no advance notice was provided that the Nabe’s lunch program would be suspended between Christmas and New Year’s. “We were locked out,” the senior said. “We missed our Christmas dinner day. It was arbitrary; it wasn’t on the lunch calendar.” The lunch staff didn’t know “...that they wouldn’t be working that week; they had to scramble for other jobs...” Alternative nonprofit senior lunch programs were available, but the bus ride and associated “walk to other lunch centers was really too much” for Hill seniors. Next time the Nabe may want to give its clients an advance warning before disrupting their schedules, particularly when it involves a meal during the winter high holy days.

**Another Mega-Project**

As reported in the January *View*, (“Developer Presents Vision for (Yt Another) Mission Bay Project”) another Mission Bay office park is in the works. Mission Bay Block 40 would have 995,000 square feet of offices spread between two “campuses,” each featuring a five-story building connected to other buildings of different heights, with

a maximum elevation of 180 feet. Six hundred and eighty off-street parking spaces would be included. Landscape plans call for a couple pocket parks scattered throughout. The lot hasn’t been previously developed because it’s an odd **triangle shape, bordered by 280 and Cal-Train tracks** on the westside. Block 40 is adjacent to the University of California, San Francisco Biomedical Research Campus and the three-hospital \$1.5 billion UCSF Medical Center at Mission Bay. The Mission Bay Citizens Advisory Committee endorsed the proposed project, but want to see the buildings’ design incorporate curvilinear features and have greater differentiation in design, as does the **Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association**, which wants more diversity in building types. The proposed design, land use, and development details have to be approved by the, get ready, Commission on Community Investment and Infrastructure of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency... The blue structure at 300 De Haro Street, where **Sally’s Restaurant** is located, is being developed into a six-story building. The speed of development in the area is hard to describe. Building rush? Mushrooming construction? Either way, it’s pretty dizzying...

**Political Milk**

With the exception of political parties, the top five fiscal year (FY) 2011 donors to sitting California Legislators were the California Association of Realtors, \$965,845, California Teachers Association, \$706,700, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, \$604,000, California State Council

of Laborers, \$571,700, and California Dental Association, \$553,090. The top five economic sectors that contributed to current legislators in FY 2011 were Labor, \$13,218,341, Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, \$7,752,533, Health, \$5,319,897, General Business, \$3,999,697, and Communications and Electronics, \$2,968,345. Does your state senator or assemblyperson return your calls?

**Corrections**

Axis Café’s spin-off restaurant, called “Aracely,” is owned by Linda Edson.

**GOODWIN from page 11**

started through volunteer work on Hill park renovation projects. “I was getting involved with the McKinley Square restoration to remove the foxtail weeds and plant native plants,” Goodwin explained. She learned about the McKinley Square Foundation, and helped write a grant in 2008 to the Community Opportunities Fund to install new vegetation, irrigation, staircases, pathways, a drinking fountain, and a kiosk at the Square. Today Goodwin serves as the Foundation’s treasurer.

“I want to be clear that anyone is welcome to attend PROSAC meetings, and I’m glad to be the voice for those District 10 residents who cannot [attend],” said Goodwin. “There’s so much more that can be done and so much room for improvement. Many areas lack open space. I want to be a part of improving that.”

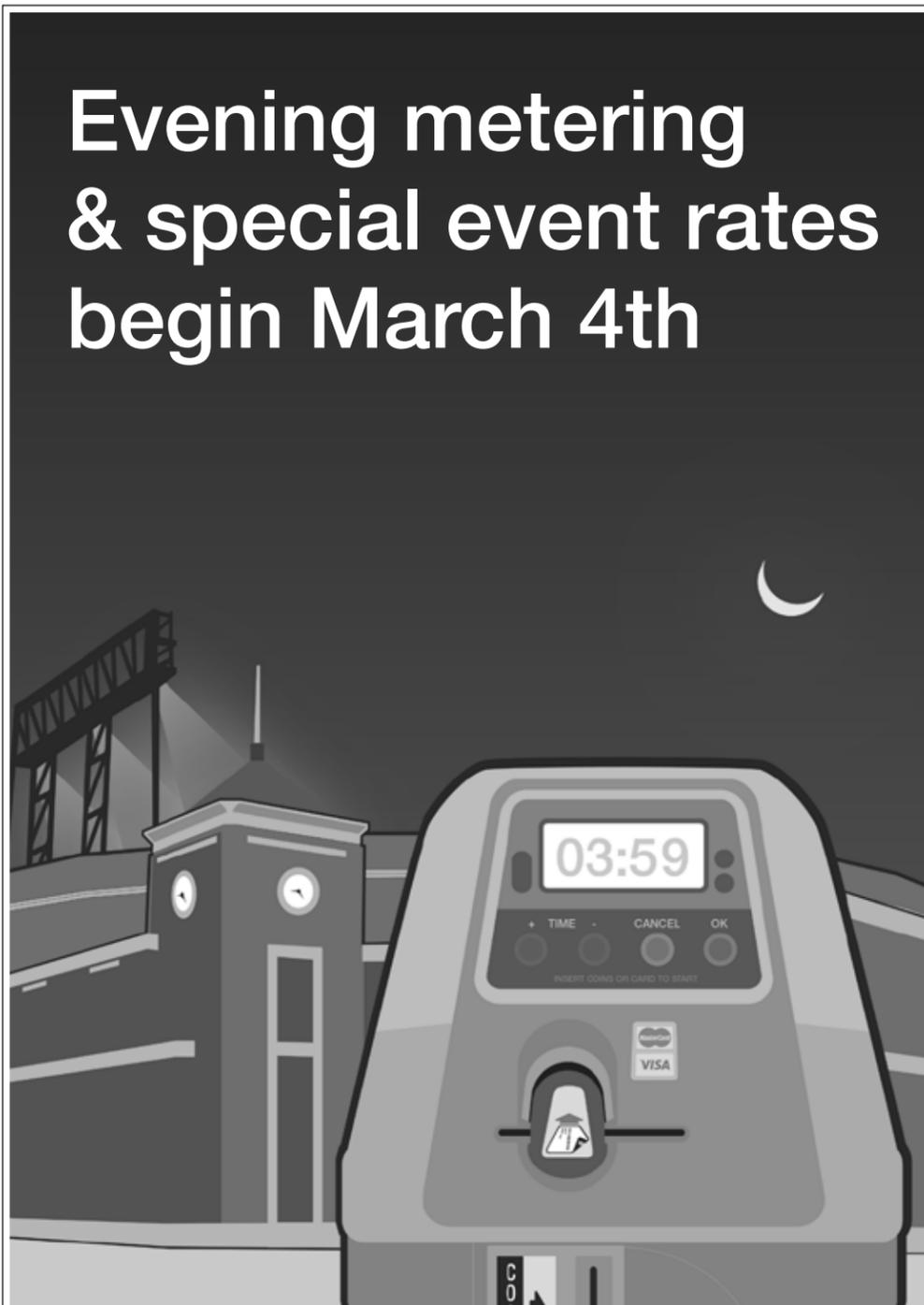
PUBLISHER’S from page 2

libertarians, and secular intellectuals have typically dismissed such efforts as liberty-stifling government over-reach. Up until now I’d have agreed with them. But my immersion into the zombie milieu has prompted me to reconsider.

Occasionally viewing or reading a brutal or sexual scene seems largely harmless, at least for grown-ups. But saturating ourselves with any set of images seems likely to mold our minds along particular channels. Billboards, magazines, books, and videos that feature ubiquitous skinny, large-breasted or chested models, fatty foods, and unrelenting acts of gun-related violence would seem to create a society obsessed with thin, well-appointed bodies, fattening fodder, and weapons. Did I just describe us?

What surrounds us, visually and otherwise, shapes who we are. Even our geography has its influences. In the 1970s Rodriguez, the newly rediscovered rock star, was recorded as saying Detroit’s problems stem, in part, from the fact that it’s the only city in American that doesn’t have any views. While we can’t always choose where we live, we can determine what we look at, and how we see it. Otherwise, we’re just walking around like zombies.

*A version of this column was aired as part of KQED-FM’s Perspective series last month.*



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**Bayview Police Station Captain's Community Meeting** is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Bayview Station, 201 Williams Avenue. Next meeting: March 5th, 6 p.m.

**Dogpatch Neighborhood Association** usually meets the second Tuesday of each odd-numbered month. Next meeting: March 12th. Voting membership is open to anyone living in or owning property or a business in Dogpatch. For more information or to join/pay online: mydogpatch.org

**McKinley Square Community Association** is a communication and discussion group regarding events and activities, clean up days, improvement and beautification, and other concerns, such as crime in the neighborhood. MSCA board meets approximately quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month. Look to the online discussion group for postings of upcoming meetings. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/McKinleySquareCommunity>. Locations vary between the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House and Downtown High School. For updates, including sustainable gardening and park workdays, and our grant progress, check out the MSCA blog at: [mckinleysquareblog.blogspot.com](http://mckinleysquareblog.blogspot.com).

**Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association** meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time begins at 6:45 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information: [www.potreroboosters.org](http://www.potreroboosters.org) or email [president@potreroboosters.org](mailto:president@potreroboosters.org). Next meeting: February 26th, 7 p.m.

**Potrero Dogpatch Merchant's Association** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Visit [www.potrerohill.biz](http://www.potrerohill.biz) or call 341.8949. Next meeting: March 12th, 10 a.m.

**Potrero Hill Democratic Club** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information: 648.6740, [www.PHDemClub.org](http://www.PHDemClub.org). Next meeting: March 5th, 7 p.m.

**Potrero Hill Garden Club** usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Discussions are held on organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's microclimate. Call 648.1926 for details.

**Starr King Open Space** The Starr King Open Space (SKOS) Board Meeting is on Tuesday, March 12th, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Public Potrero Branch Library. Stewardship Day is March 9th 9:30-12:30 am on the open space. Thank you for your donations & support! For more information: [www.starrkingopenspace.org](http://www.starrkingopenspace.org); email the Board of Directors at [starrkingboard@gmail.com](mailto:starrkingboard@gmail.com); voice mail 415-633-6756.

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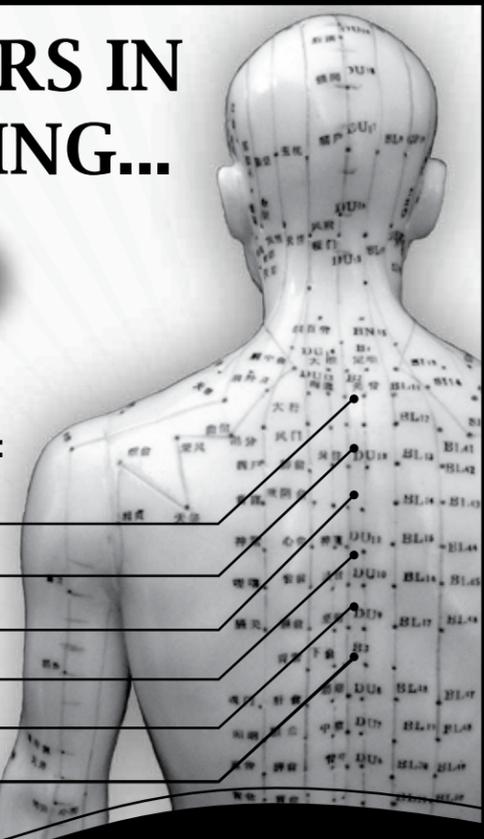


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FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ERICA HILTON (PROJECT LEAD), JENNIFER KING (PROJECT LEAD), MALIA COHEN (DISTRICT SUPERVISOR), MEAGAN SPENDLOVE (MURAL ARTIST), MARIA D'ANGELICO (SF PARK ALLIANCE), TYRA FENNEL (SF MURAL ARTS COMMISSION). PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHANIE WONG.



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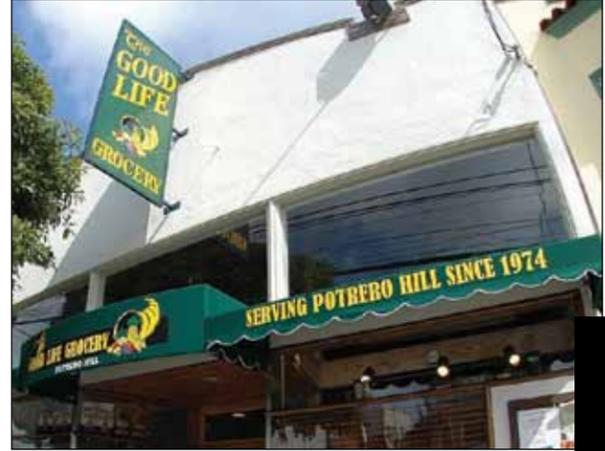
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